PROPOSAL 84

5 AAC 85.055. Hunting seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep.

Create a new archery only, drawing hunt for sheep in Unit 14C, that portion within the Eklutna River drainage area as follows:

I propose to create another tag that runs Aug. 5 - 12 to allow better opportunity as well as experience for bowhunters. This would cover the same areas as DS141. If permitted, ADF&G biologists can decide tag allotment between this new tag and DS141. I would be open to taking tags from DS141 and moving to this new tag. Currently, DS141 has 24 tags allotted. Splitting to 12 and 12 or whatever the board decides, would be beneficial.

Bow only draw tag for sheep hunt area: that portion of Unit 14C within the Eklutna River drainage upstream of the Eklutna River closed area excluding the East Fork Eklutna River.

Bowhunters: must be IBEP (International Bowhunters Education Program) certified prior to hunting in DSXXX. Call ADF&G for more information.

Hunt Area: that portion of Unit 14C within the Eklutna River drainage upstream of the Eklutna River closed area excluding the East Fork Eklutna River.

Season Dates Aug. 5 - 12.

Tag Allotment: Per ADF&G and/or Board of Game referral as stated above.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I have hunted DS141 (archery only Sept. 1 – Sept. 30) multiple times. Although the tag appears to cover a substantial area, the sheep are concentrated to small areas within the unit. I have experienced hunters hunting directly on top of each other. It takes away from the experience of the hunt and puts higher stress on the sheep population. There is also a rifle hunt adjacent to DS141 (DS 124) that runs August 10 - 22. Hunters often access this area via the DS141 tag area and push the sheep up and out of DS141, into DS124.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Watkins	(EG-F22-007)
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