

WP14-29

Jack Reakoff, Chairman
Western Interior Regional Advisory Council
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1. What regulation do you wish to change? *(Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”)*

Moose 24B

Unit 24B---All drainages of the Koyukuk River Downstream from and including the Henshaw Creek drainage—1 antlered bull by Federal registration Permit (FM2402).	Aug. 25-Oct. 1 Dec. 15-Apr.15 (until Jun. 30, 2014)
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2. How should the new regulation read? *(Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written.)*

Unit 24B---All drainages of the Koyukuk River Downstream from and including the Henshaw Creek drainage—1 antlered bull by Federal registration Permit (FM2402).	Aug. 25-Oct. 1 Dec. 15-Apr.15
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3. Why should this regulation change be made?

The winter bull moose hunt (FM2402) is due to sunset in Regulatory year 2014. The Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council feels this hunt should continue to provide winter bull moose hunting opportunity in a portion of GMU 24B.

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

The opportunity for winter moose hunting spreads use of bull moose harvest into areas that cannot be hunted in the fall.

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

Individuals who did not harvest a bull moose in the fall hunt will have additional opportunity to take an antlered bull moose while trapping or wood cutting. This is a remote area that entails expensive travel and a low density moose population.

6. How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?
Please attach any additional information to support your proposal.

There is no user group adversely affected by the current regulation that is due to sunset.

WP14-30

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1. What regulation do you wish to change? (*Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state "new regulation."*)

Dall Sheep

Unit 24A---except that portion within the Gates of the Arctic National Park---1 ram with 7/8 curl horn or larger by Federal Registration permit (FS2404) Aug. 20-Sept. 30

2. How should the new regulation read? (*Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written.*)

Unit 24A---except that portion within the Gates of the Arctic National Park---**1 ram by Federal Registration permit (FS2404)** Aug. 20-Sept. 30

3. Why should this regulation change be made?

There is a need for a regulatory change for C&T qualified users to take 1-ram or 1-ram with ½ curl or larger in GMU 24A on Federal lands. There is no near-term change with State regulations and enforcement to address large numbers of guided and resident sport hunters taking most full curl and several of the 7/8 rams accidentally.

The BOG elected to not adopt a proposal in March 2012 to limit the number of guided hunters in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area (DHCMA), in GMU 24A.

The ram groups are displaced with this kind of hunting pressure, making it harder to find 7/8 legal rams for subsistence users. There are feasibility issues when hunting Dall sheep. Legal animals driven far away from the valley corridors are not easily found without aircraft use, which subsistence users do not use to locate Dall sheep. The current Federal regulation at this time is not fully providing a reasonable opportunity to harvest Dall sheep with the high and increasing competition from sport users.

The State Dall sheep regulations for subsistence hunts in GMU's 13D, 14A, 14C, portions of 23, portions of 24 B, 25A, 26A, and 26C allow either 1 ram or 1 to 3 any sheep limits.

Current Federal regulations in GMU's 9B, 23, 24 A&B, and 26C all have either 1 sheep, 1-ram, or ¾ curl ram limits for subsistence harvest.

The 24A Federal Dall sheep harvest regulations is one of the most restrictive to C&T qualified users on Federal public lands in Alaska.

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

There is no biological reason the Federal subsistence sheep regulations should only allow 7/8 curl excluding smaller rams in GMU 24A for C&T eligible users of Dall sheep. The subsistence user population and harvest is low, and well within sustainability of the Dall sheep population.

State of Alaska management feels the GMU 24A Dall sheep population is healthy enough to endure unlimited harvest of all adult rams by sport users. The current increase in sport use has affectively reallocated the adult Dall rams away from customary and traditional users in many areas of Federal lands in GMU 24A. The State BOG process has not addressed the increased sport harvest for the past 10 years of proposals.

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

A Federal regulatory change to 1-ram or 1 ram ½ curl or larger would continue to provide reasonable opportunity to harvest a Dall sheep by C&T qualified users in GMU 24A on Federal lands.

Of course subsistence users would much prefer to harvest adult rams, as there is 20%-30% more meat than on younger rams. If an adult ram cannot be found, a young ram will provide some sheep meat instead of nothing.

6. How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

Please attach any additional information to support your proposal.

If adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board, this regulatory change would not significantly affect non-subsistence users. This regulatory change would not have nearly the affect of petitioning the FSB to close portions of GMU 24A on Federal lands to non-subsistence users, as was done in the “Arctic Village sheep management Area”. This proposal does not address the sport hunters competing for, and displacing very limited Dall sheep ram bands from subsistence hunters while in the field. This regulatory change would still allow sport hunters to participate in Dall sheep harvest on Federal lands in GMU 24A.

WP14-31

1. **Organization:** Denali Subsistence Advisory Commission
Address: Denali National Park, PO Box 9, Denali Park, AK 99755
Phone: (Amy Craver, Denali Subsistence Coordinator) (907) 683-9544
E-mail: amy_craver@nps.gov
2. **New Regulation.** Create a community winter hunt in GMU 19C for Dall sheep for residents of Nikolai.
3. **How would the new regulation read?** *Under Unit 19 hunting regulations, sheep:* Rural residents of Nikolai -- Create a community winter hunt for rural residents of Nkiolai (a resident zone community of Denali Park) with a quota of 3 sheep; all rams or ewes without lambs October 1 to March 30.
4. **Why should this regulation change be made?** The residents of Nikolai have a long tradition of harvesting sheep in the Alaska Range, but the current season of August 10 to September 20 does not take place at a time of year when access to the mountains is possible without aircraft. By establishing a winter community harvest, residents can resume their traditional patterns of winter travel and harvest of sheep. If this regulation is not implemented the sheep numbers could decline from loss of habitat due to overgrazing. The people who have customarily and traditionally used the resource do not have access during the August and September hunt because they traditionally hunt after it snows by dog sled or snowmachine.
5. **What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?** The removal of a small number of ewes or young rams should not greatly affect local sheep populations. If possible, harvest would be shifted from year to year to avoid excessive impacts on one area. Many of the large rams are harvested by non-residents, people who are not from the immediate area. If sheep numbers are low the park superintendent will have the authority to close the season by emergency order.
6. **How will this change affect subsistence uses?** This change would provide an additional subsistence opportunity that is currently denied by the timing of the sheep hunting season before snowfall.
7. **How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?** The removal of younger rams would not affect immediate hunting opportunities, because state regulations restrict harvest to full-curl rams or larger.

WP14-32

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1. What regulation do you wish to change? (*Include management unit number and species. Quote the current regulation if known. If you are proposing a new regulation, please state “new regulation.”*)

21E Paradise Controlled Use Area boundary: extend the eastern boundary to two miles along the east bank of the Innoko River and along the east bank of Paimiut Slough.

The **Paradise Controlled Use Area** is closed during moose hunting seasons to the use of aircraft for hunting moose, including transportation of any moose hunter or part of moose. However, this does not apply to transportation of a moose hunter or part of moose by aircraft between publicly owned airports in the controlled use area or between a publicly owned airport within the area and points outside the controlled use area. The Paradise Controlled Use Area consists of that portion of Unit 21 bounded by a line beginning at the old village of Paimiut; then north along the west bank of the Yukon River to Paradise; then northwest to the mouth of Stanstrom Creek on the Bonasila River; then northeast to the mouth of the Anvik River; then along the west bank of the Yukon River to the lower end of Eagle Island (approx. 45 miles north of Grayling); then to the mouth of the Iditarod River; then down the east bank of the Innoko River to its confluence with Paimiut Slough; then south along the east bank of Paimiut Slough to its mouth; and then to the old village of Paimiut.

2. How should the new regulation read? (*Write the regulation the way you would like to see it written.*)

The **Paradise Controlled Use Area** is closed during moose hunting seasons to the use of aircraft for hunting moose, including transportation of any moose hunter or part of moose. However, this does not apply to transportation of a moose hunter or part of moose by aircraft between publicly owned airports in the controlled use area or between a publicly owned airport within the area and points outside the controlled use area. The Paradise Controlled Use Area consists of that portion of Unit 21 bounded by a line beginning at the old village of Paimiut; then north along the west bank of the Yukon River to Paradise; then northwest to the mouth of Stanstrom Creek on the Bonasila River; then northeast to the mouth of the Anvik River; then along the west bank of the Yukon River to the lower end of Eagle Island (approx. 45 miles north of Grayling); then to the mouth of the Iditarod River; then *extending two miles easterly* down the east bank of the Innoko River to its confluence with Paimiut Slough; then south along the east bank of Paimiut Slough to its mouth; and then to the old village of Paimiut.

3. Why should this regulation change be made?

This would clear up the defined boundary because transporters and guides are accessing lakes within two miles of the current boundary east of the Innoko River via aircraft to circumvent the present CUA boundary to hunt moose.

4. What impact will this change have on wildlife populations?

This change in CUA boundary will lessen the impact of hunters on the moose population. The Paradise CUA was created to protect resources for the villages of Holy Cross, Anvik, Grayling, and Shageluk.

5. How will this change affect subsistence uses?

This change would strengthen the protection of resources for subsistence uses.

6. How will this change affect other uses, such as sport/recreational and commercial?

Please attach any additional information to support your proposal.

There would be no effect on other uses such as sport/recreational and commercial because of existing public airports in the Paradise CUA.

Please attach any additional information to support your proposal.

Please see attached map (next page).

