



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Fish and Game**

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
Central/Southwest

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January 21, 2016

An Agenda Change Request (ACR) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 85.040(a) Hunting seasons and bag limits for goat, Unit 14C.

With respect to the board's ACR acceptance criteria:

- (A) The department has not identified a conservation concern for the goat population in Unit 14C;
- (B) The department is unaware of an error in regulation.
- (C) The department has been unable to keep the goat harvest within the allocation prescribed by the board with the existing hunt structure.

The department recommends that the board considers accepting this ACR. During the 2015 season, the nonresident portion of the hunt was closed after being open for three days, and the nonresident harvest quota was exceeded during the three day hunt. In years prior, the nonresident portion of the hunt was also closed after very short seasons (less than a week) because the nonresident harvest quota was exceeded. Based on this pattern, the department has concluded that the registration hunt structure does not allow for timely management of harvest to achieve the allocation prescribed by the board and to keep the harvest within the prescribed quotas. The department request that the board consider a proposal to return the nonresident registration goat hunts (rifle season only) in the Lake George area to drawing permit hunts to give management biologists a better tool to keep the harvest from exceeding the quotas established annually by the department. There is also a resident registration hunt that occurs in the same area at the same time; however residents have a much lower success rate and are more easily managed under the existing hunt structure.

The department is not asking for a change to the allocation between nonresident hunters (guided vs. next of kin) or between residents and nonresidents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Dale".

Bruce Dale, Director,  
Division of Wildlife Conservation