

**PROPOSAL 99**

**5 AAC 92.085(8). Unlawful methods of taking game.**

Shorten the time period hunters are restricted from using aircraft to locate sheep or direct hunters to sheep, as follows:

My solution is to change the length of the restrictions and modify them after the first 11 days of the season as follows:

(8) From August 10th through August 20th [SEPTEMBER 20th] aircraft may not be used by and for any person to locate Dall sheep for hunting or direct hunters to Dall sheep during THIS PART OF the open sheep hunting season, however, aircraft other than helicopters may be used by and for sheep hunters to place and remove hunters and camps, maintain existing camps, and salvage harvested sheep DURING THIS PERIOD. From August 21st through September 20th aircraft cannot intentionally approach any closer than 1500 feet or 500 yards from any sheep for the purpose of hunting them.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I think the aircraft restrictions in 5 AAC 92.085 (8) are too long and overly restrictive and should be shortened and modified.

This regulation has been in place since 2015 and restricts anyone from using an aircraft to intentionally spot ANY sheep from ANY distance from the air during the entire general season, August 10th to September 20th for the purpose of hunting them. Most of the public thinks you can not even fly in sheep country during the open season under this regulation and resident hunters with their own airplanes fear being turned in to the troopers and don't even attempt to hunt later in the season because of it. Most of the sheep guides were adamantly against this regulation at first but changed their minds after they realized it had basically eliminated resident hunters after the first 10 days of the season. This was a board generated proposal that they said was to stop people from buzzing sheep and disrupting other sheep hunters hunts but it went way beyond that. It needs to be changed.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local fish and game advisory committee?** I developed this change and language myself.

**PROPOSED BY:** Dan Montgomery (EG-F24-076)

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