



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve
4175 Geist Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709
(907) 457-5752

June 25, 2026

Anthony Christianson, Chair
Federal Subsistence Board
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office of Subsistence Management
1011 E. Tudor Road, Mail Stop 121
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Chairman Christianson,

The Federal Subsistence Board adopted wildlife proposal 26-76 to close sheep hunting to all users on Federal public lands within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve and Glacier Mountain Controlled Use Areas in Units 20E and 25C. Due to delays in Federal regulations being finalized and published, the National Park Service -Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve is submitting a wildlife special action as an interim closure for sheep hunting in Units 20E and 25C.

Action request: Close sheep hunting to all users on Federal public lands within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in Units 20E and 25C.

Current regulations: Until the 2026 Federal subsistence regulations are published, the regulation in Unit 20E and 25C is listed as 1 ram with full-curl horn or larger – August 10 to September 20.

Proposed regulations: Implement what the Federal Subsistence Board adopted. The proposed regulations are to close sheep hunting to all users on Federal public lands within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in Units 20E and 25C.

Unusual conditions: NA

Adverse effects: Should this Federal wildlife special action not be adopted, there will not be a seamless transition between July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026 wildlife regulations and July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028 regulations.

Request purpose: To maintain a federal sheep hunting closure for all users on Federal public lands within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in Units 20E and 25C due to significant declines in the sheep population and high conservation concerns.

Regulatory change timing: The goal is to have a seamless transition between July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026 wildlife regulations and July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028 regulations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

MARK DOWDLE

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Mark Dowdle
Superintendent, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve