

# PROPOSALS

27 Feb - 9 March 2009

Game Management Units 11 & 13

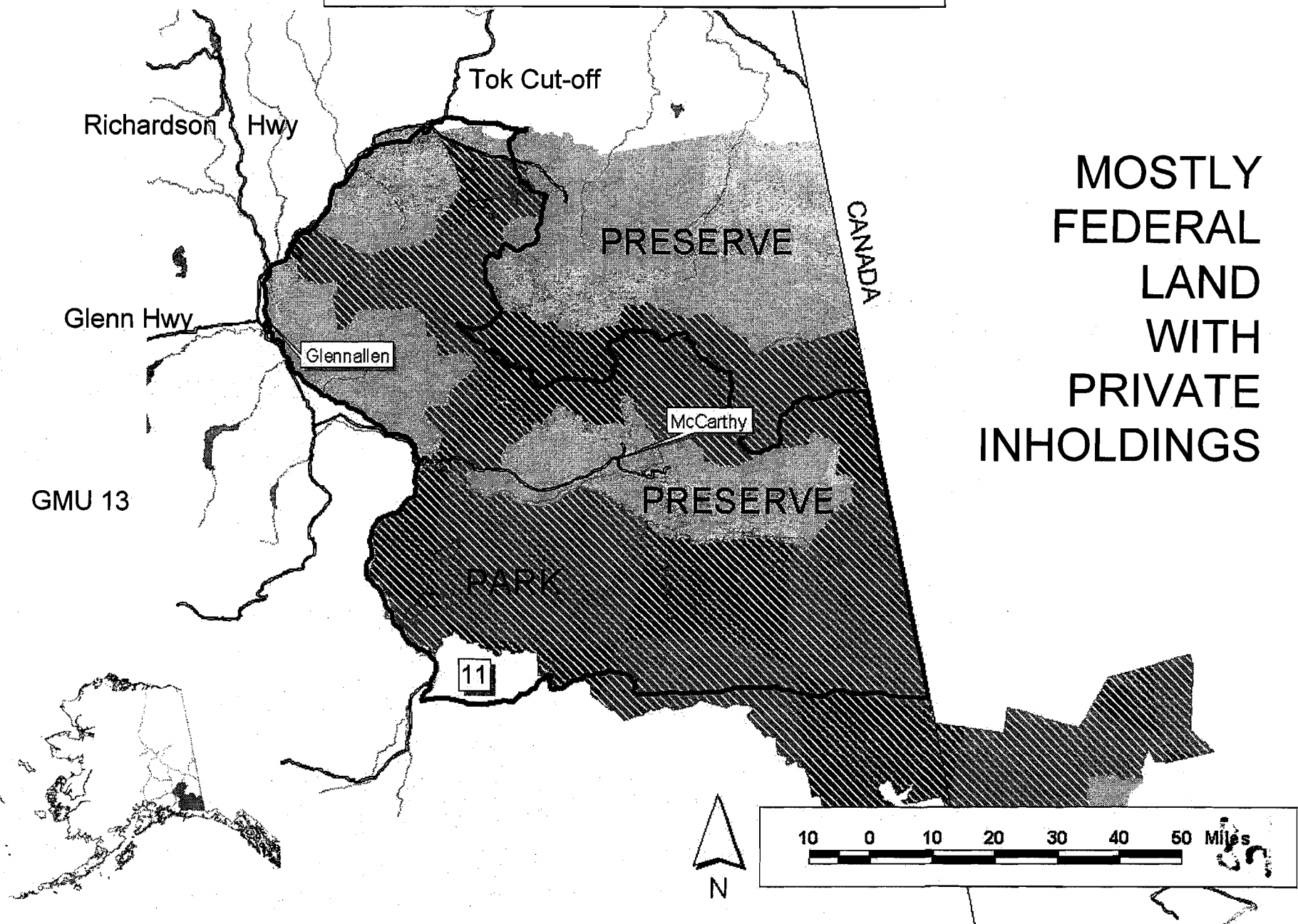
Glennallen

Bob Tobey

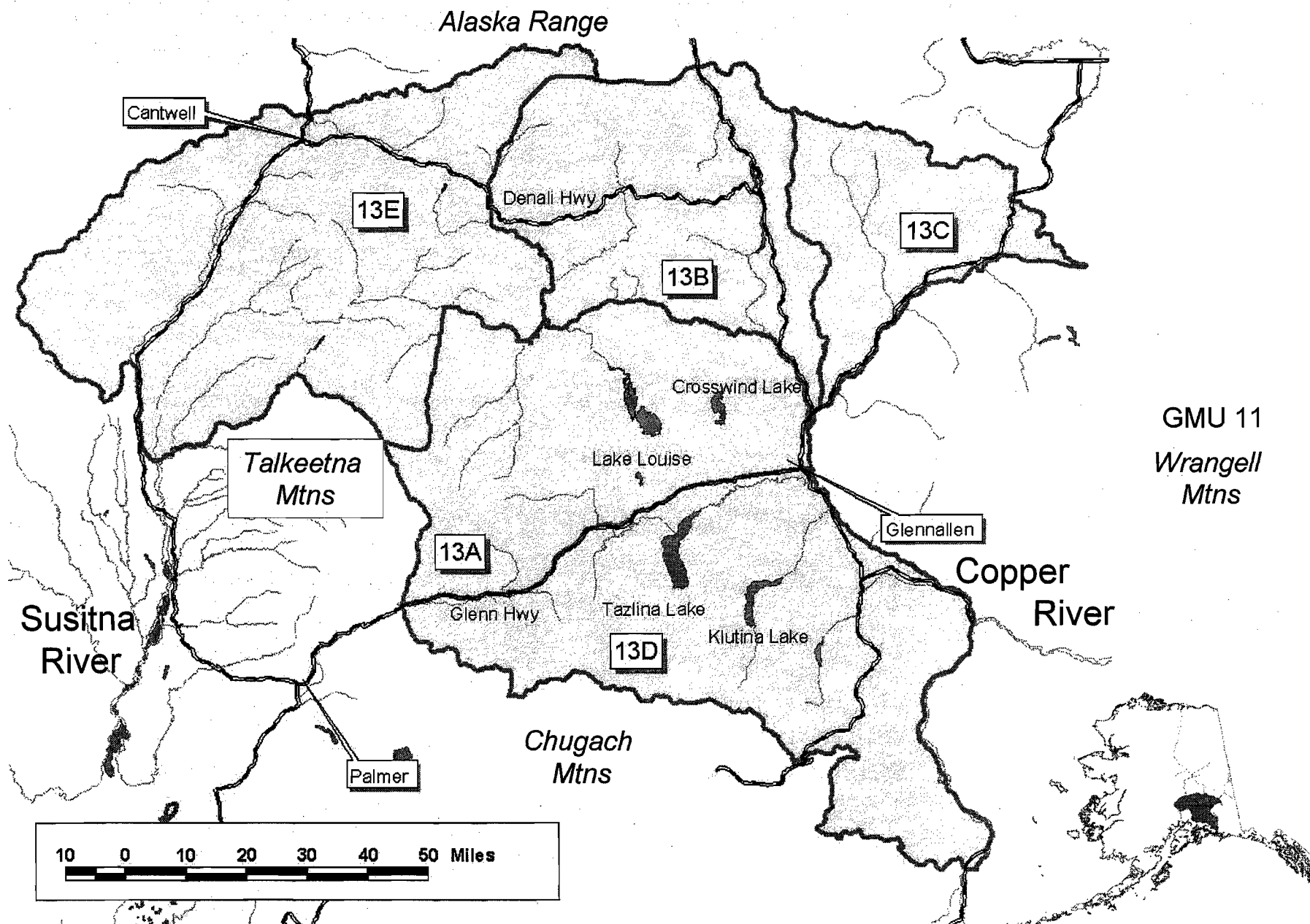
Becky Schwanke



# GMU 11 ~ 14,000 mi<sup>2</sup>



# GMU 13 ~ 23,000 mi<sup>2</sup>



# ***PROPOSAL 72***

➤ This proposal would increase the size of the Copper River bison hunt by moving the northern hunt boundary approximately 15 miles, from the Nadina River to the Klawasi River.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

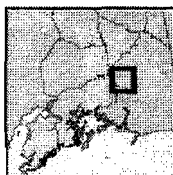
➤ **Adopt**



# DI454 - Bison Drawing Permit Hunt



Klawasi  
River



## AREA DESCRIPTION FOR DI454 - Bison - Drawing Permit Hunt

**HUNT AREA:** Unit 11, east of the Copper River, south of Nadina River, Nadina Glacier, and Sanford Glacier, and west of a line from Mount Sanford to Mount Wrangell to Long Glacier, and west of the Kotsina River, and that portion of Unit 13D east of the Edgerton Highway.

Source maps: USGS 1:63,360 Gulkana, Valdez

# ***PROPOSAL 196***

➤ This proposal would put a life time bag limit of 1 bison from GMU 11 and 13 and reduce the application waiting period for another bison permit from 10 to 5 years for unsuccessful bison hunters.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**

# ***PROPOSAL 80***

➤ This proposal would take the portion of the Tonsina walk-in area south and east of the Uranatina River and north and east of the Tiekkel Drainage out of the goat drawing permit hunt area (DG719) and put it into the GMU 11 and 13D registration hunt (RG580). The remaining goat habitat in the walk-in area would remain in the drawing hunt area.

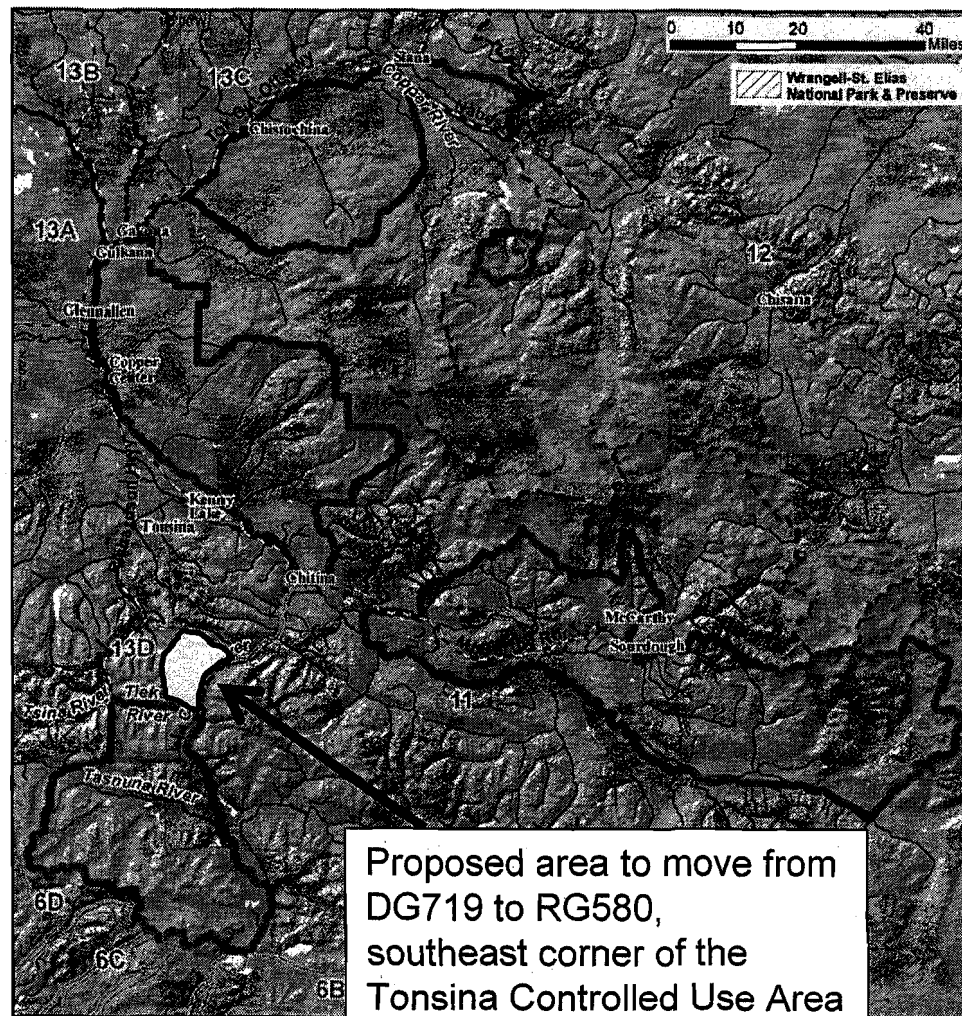
## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

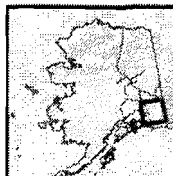
3 SLIDES



## RG580 - Mt. Goat Registration Permit Hunt



Proposed area to move from  
DG719 to RG580,  
southeast corner of the  
Tonsina Controlled Use Area



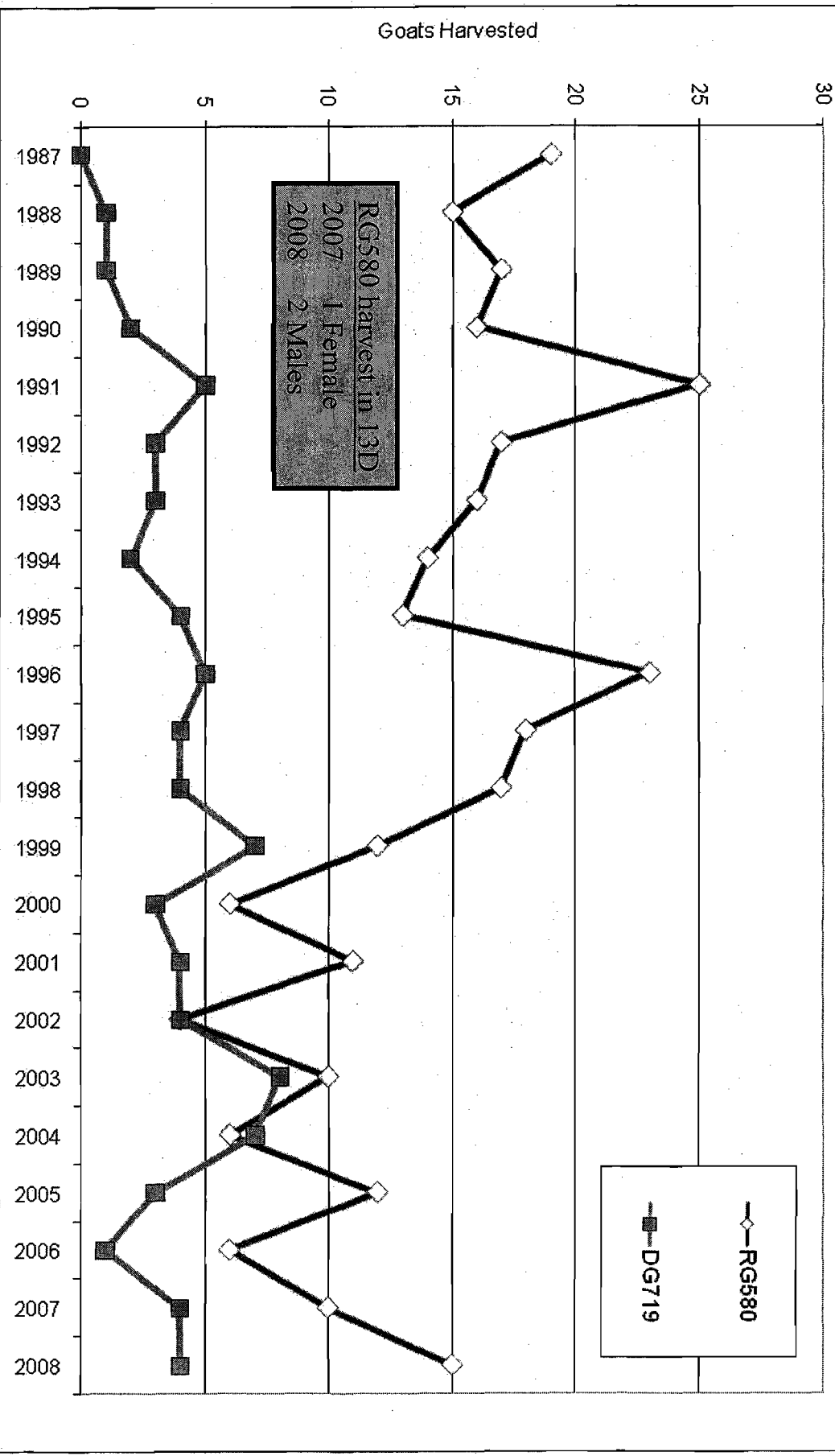
### AREA DESCRIPTION FOR RG580 - Mt. Goat Registration Permit Hunt

**Hunt Area:** Unit 11, excluding the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park; and Unit 13D, that portion south of the Tiekel River and east of a line beginning at the confluence of the Tiekel and Tsina rivers.

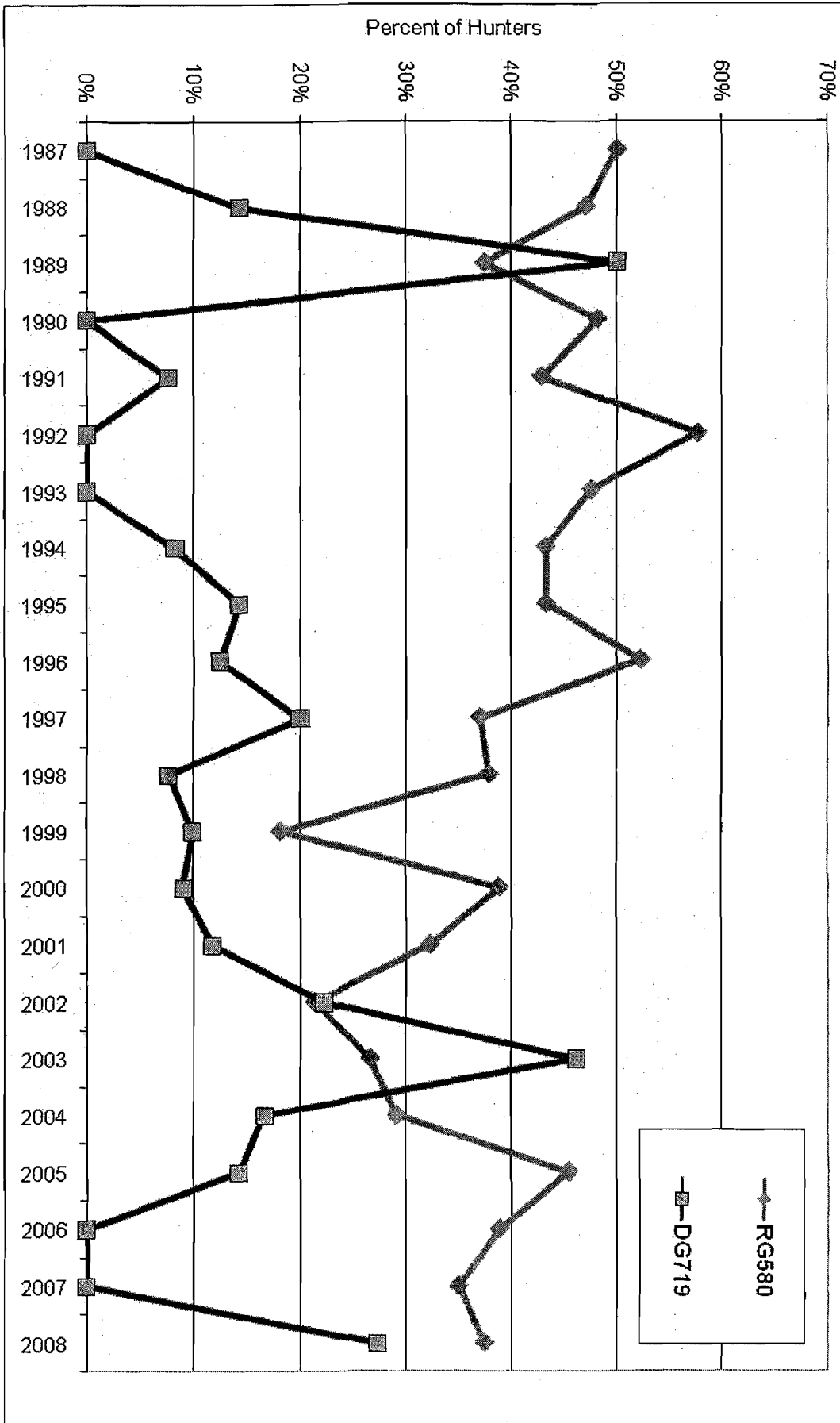
Source maps: USGS 1:63,360 Cordova, Gulikana, McCarthy, Nebesna, Valdez



# GMU 11 & 13 GOAT HARVEST



# GMU 11 & 13 GOAT HUNTS % NONRESIDENT HUNTERS



# ***PROPOSAL 96***

➤ This proposal revisits the Amount Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) for moose in GMU 13 (currently 600).

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**

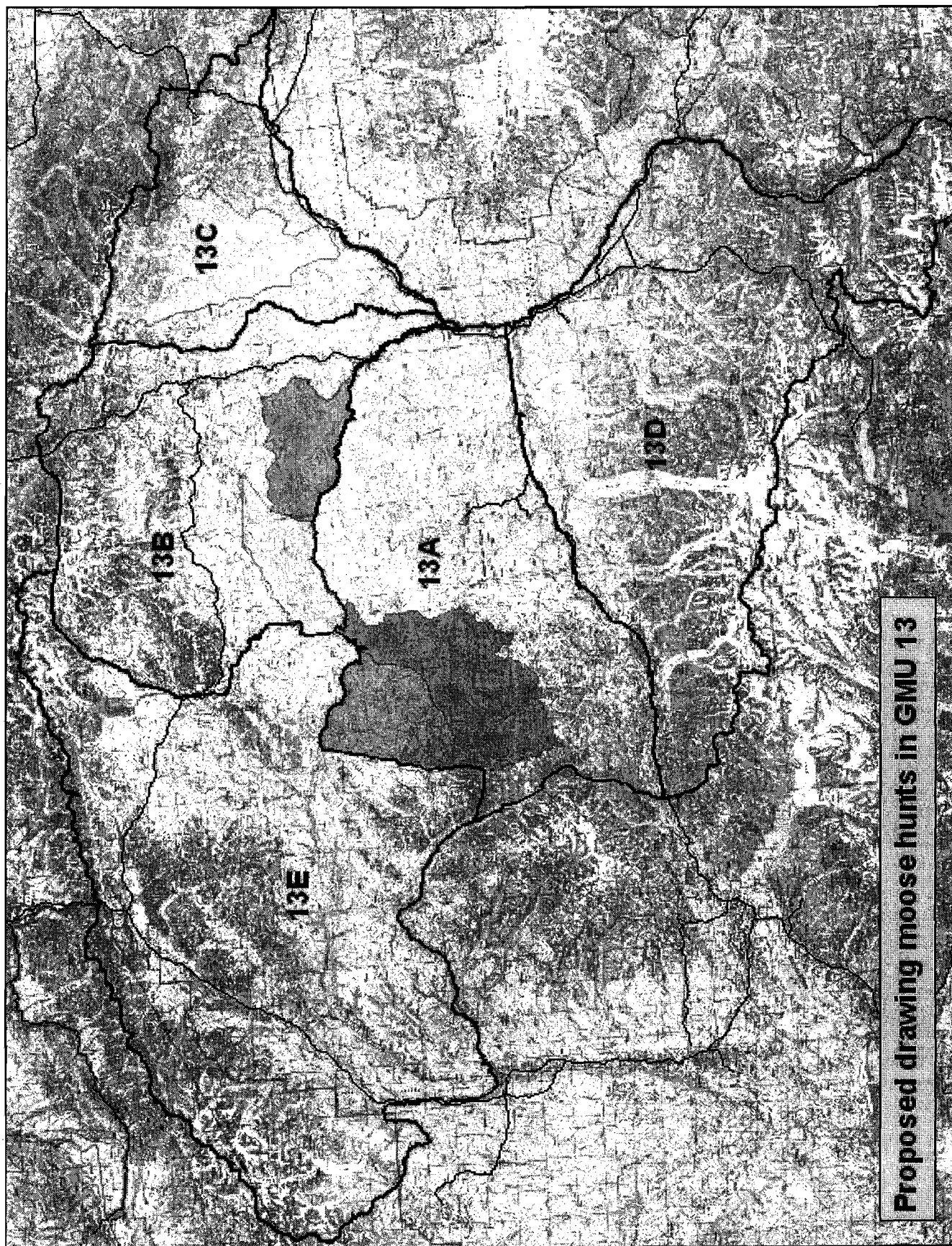
# ***PROPOSAL 95***

➤ This proposal creates drawing moose hunts for any bull in portions of Subunits 13A, B, and C from 1 Sept – 20 Sept.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

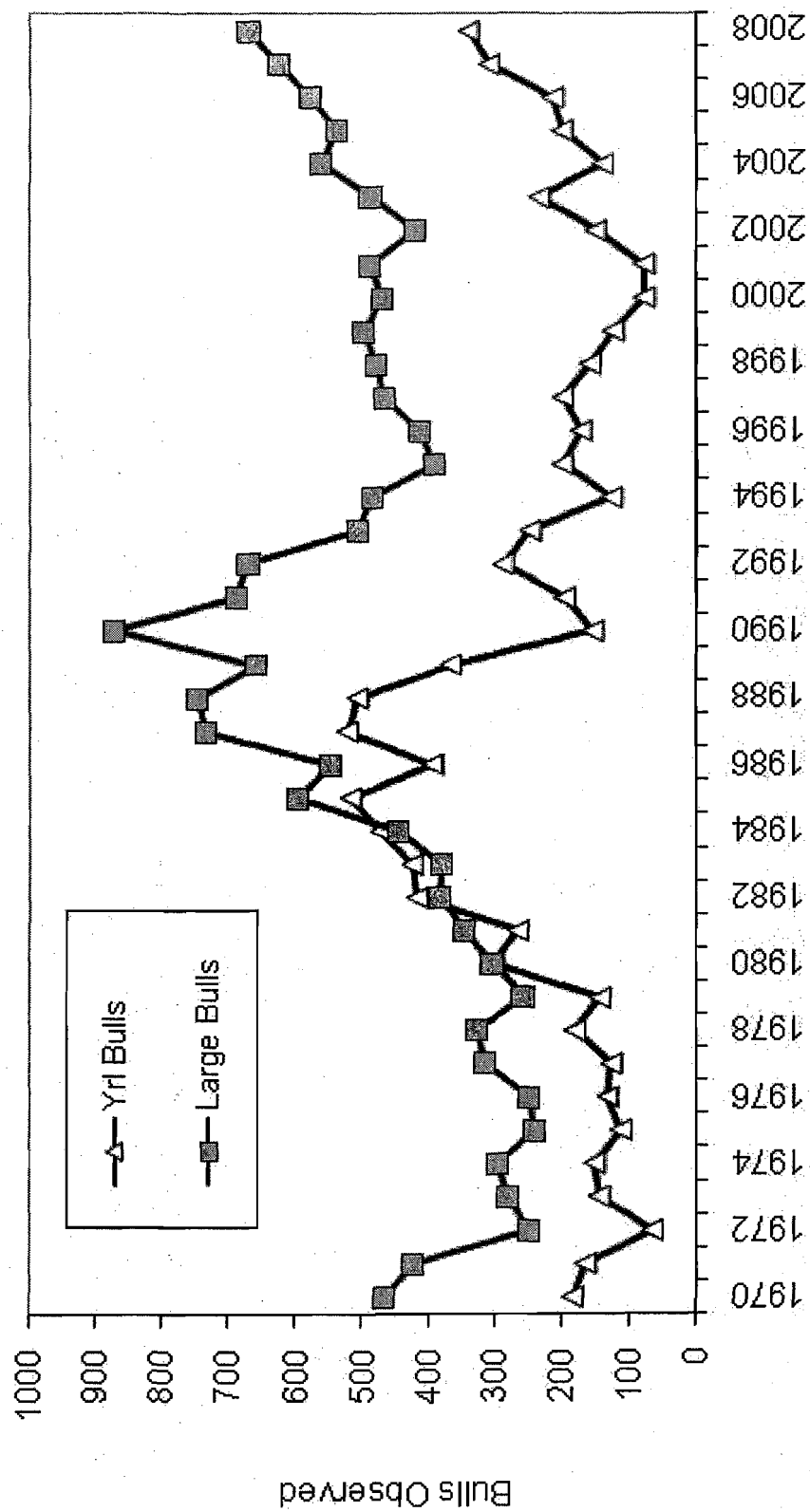
➤ **Adopt, Dept. Proposal**





Proposed drawing moose hunts in GMU 13

# **Bulls observed in GMU 13 Continuous Count Areas**

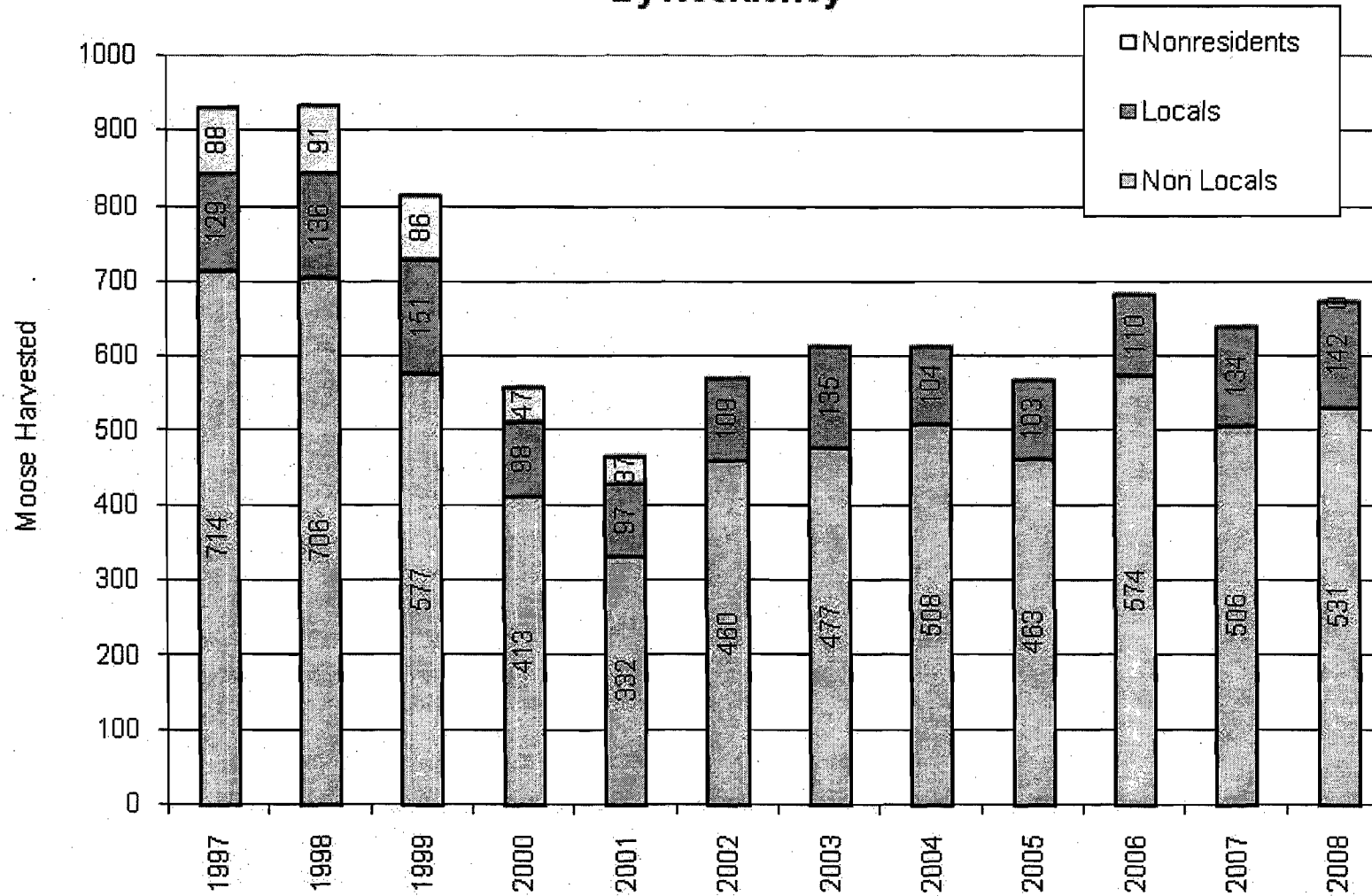


Seasons included any bull, SP/FK, and 36" spread

Spike/Fork, 50", 3BT

Spike/Fork, 50", 4BT

# Unit 13 Moose Harvest By Residency



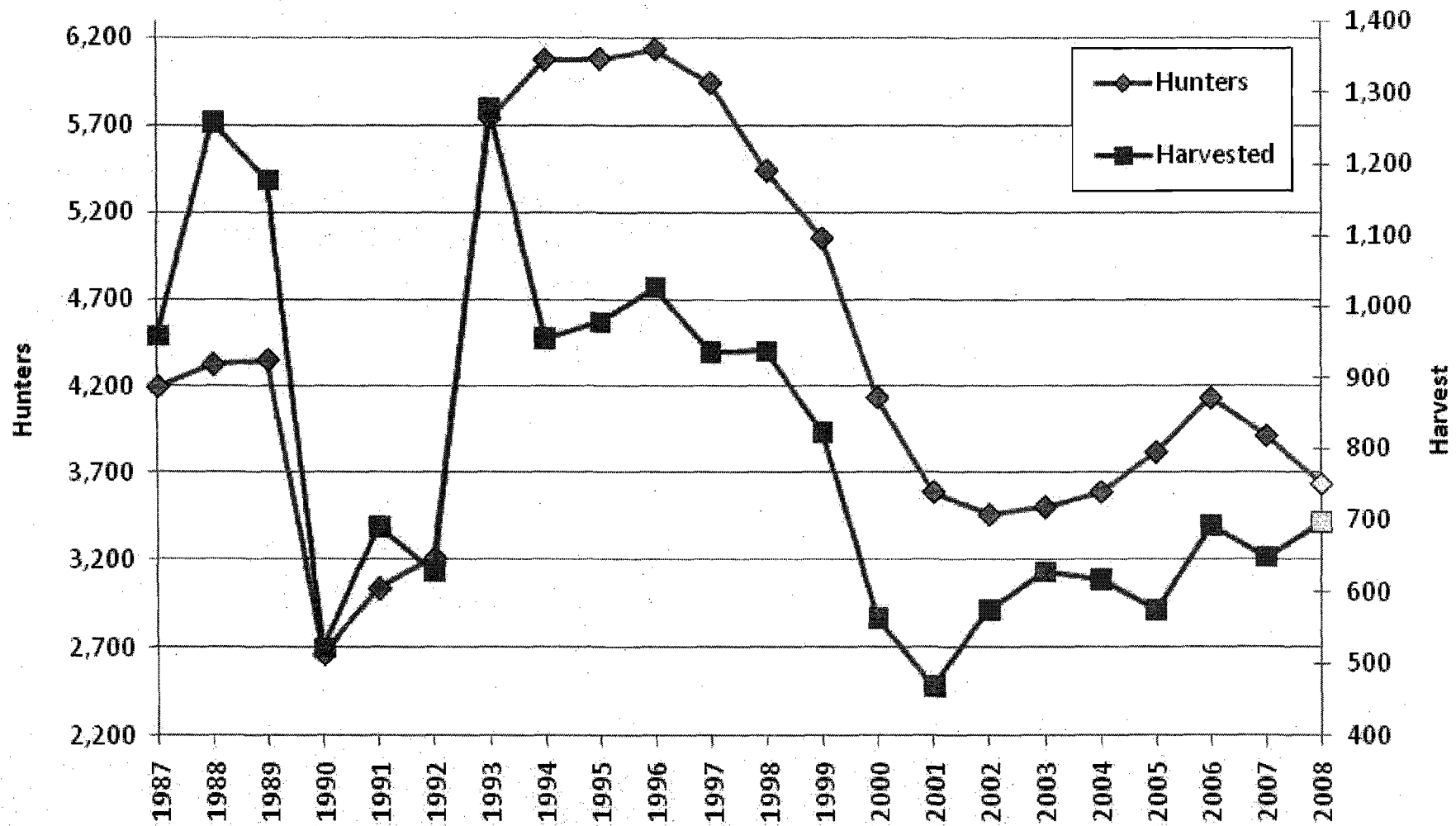
Spike/Fork, 50", 3BT

Spike/Fork, 50", 4BT

2008 data preliminary

## GMU 13 MOOSE HUNTERS AND HARVEST

### State and Federal Hunts



2008 data preliminary



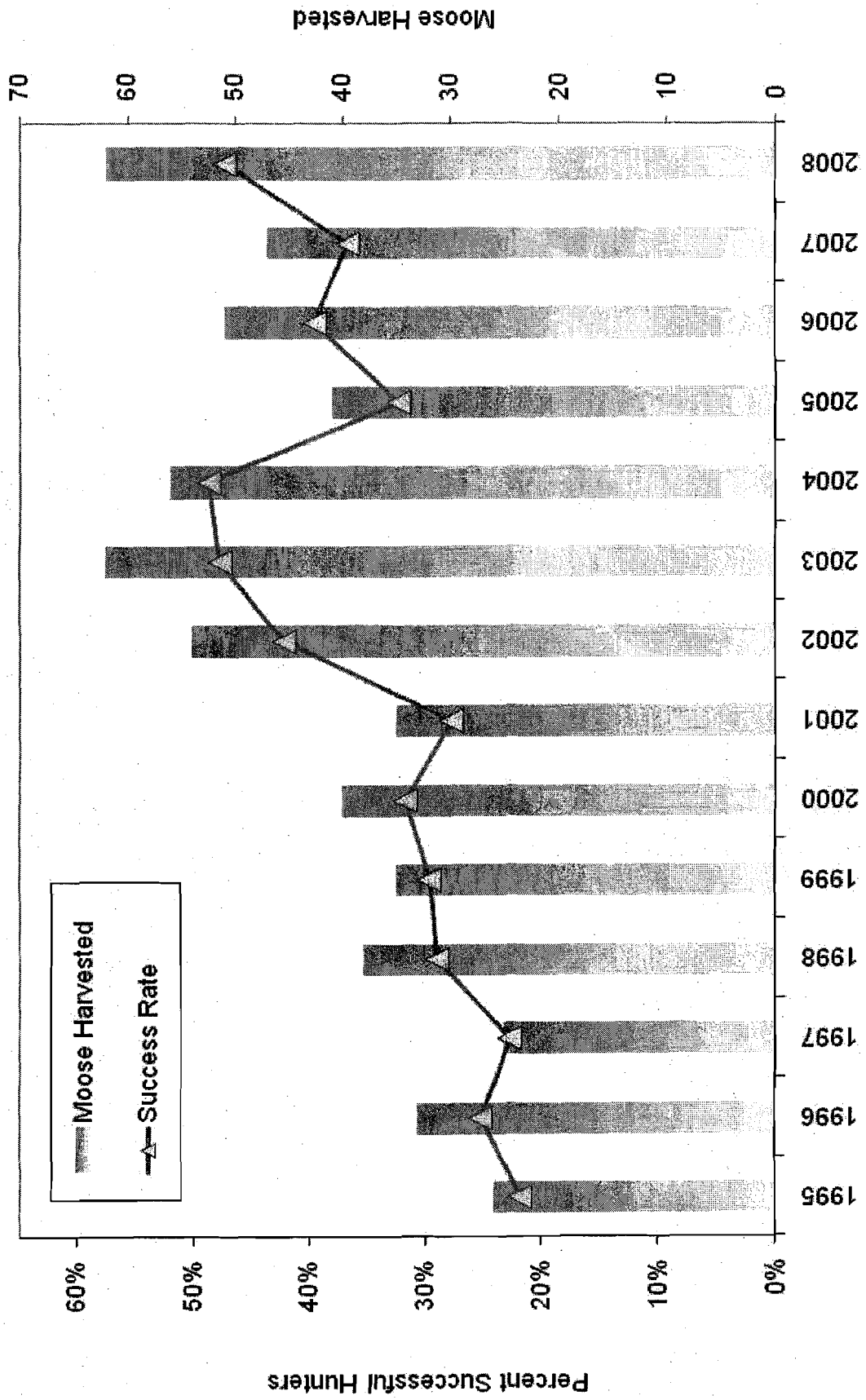
# ***PROPOSAL 94***

➤ This proposal increases the Tier II moose season by 20 days, going from 15 Aug – 31 Aug to 10 Aug – 20 Sept.

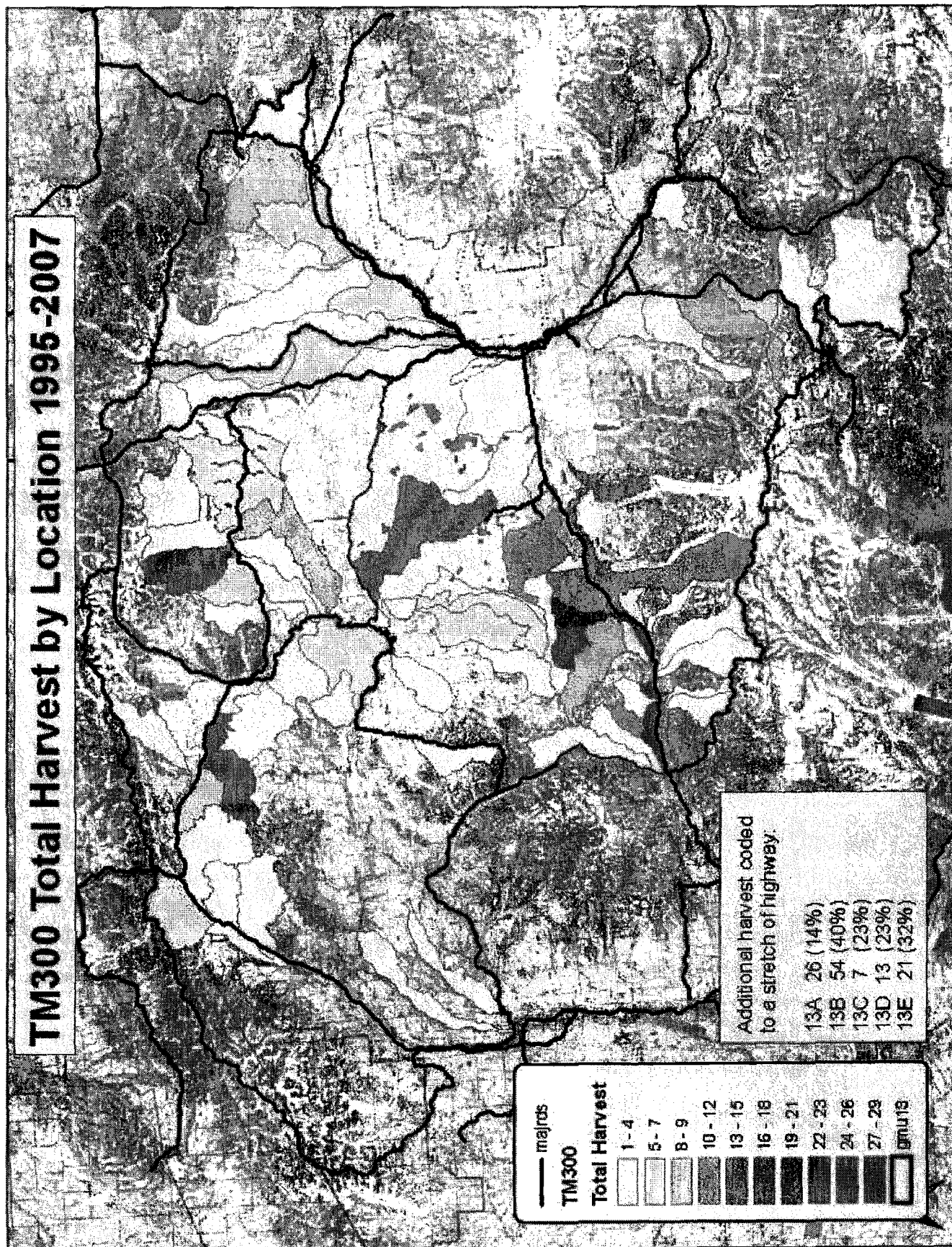
➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**

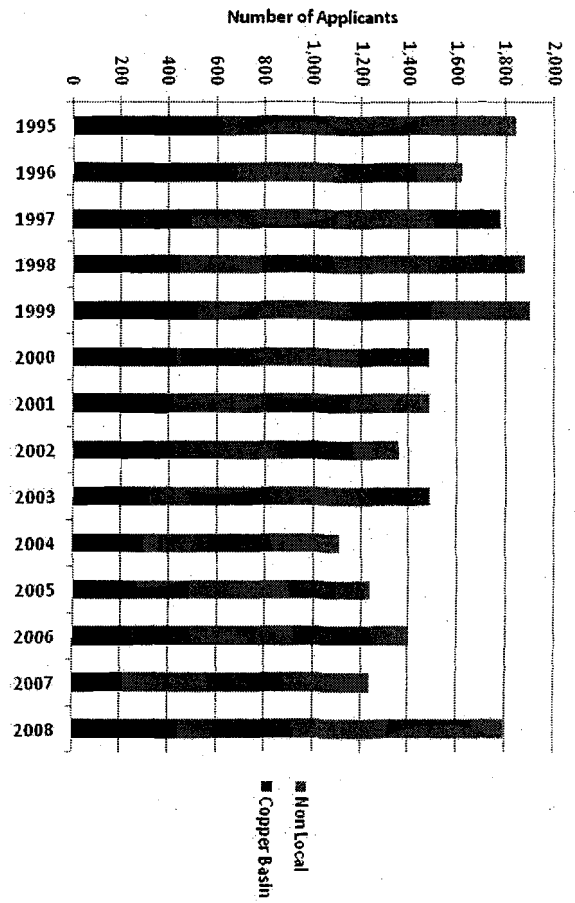
# GMU 13 TM300 Moose Hunt Hunter Success Rate



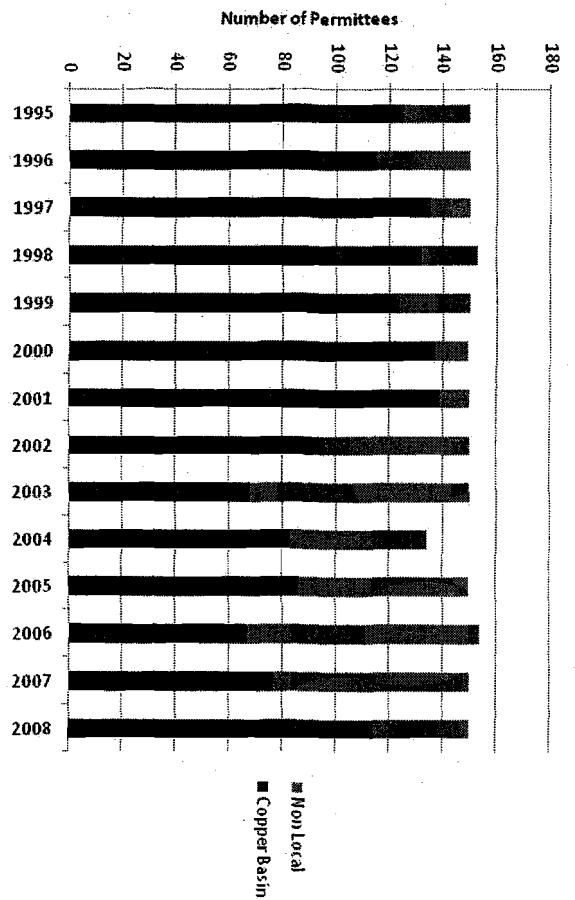
# TM300 Total Harvest by Location 1995-2007



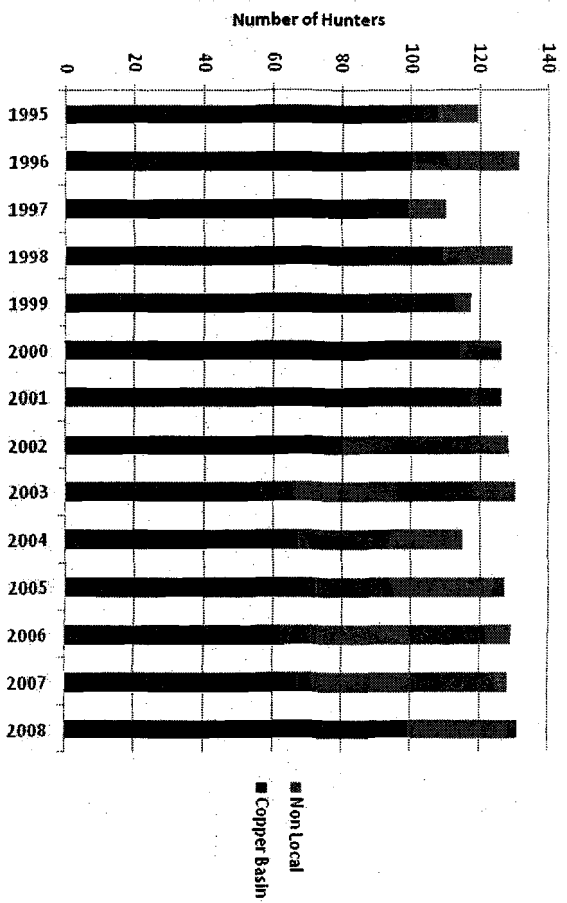
TM300 Applicant Residency



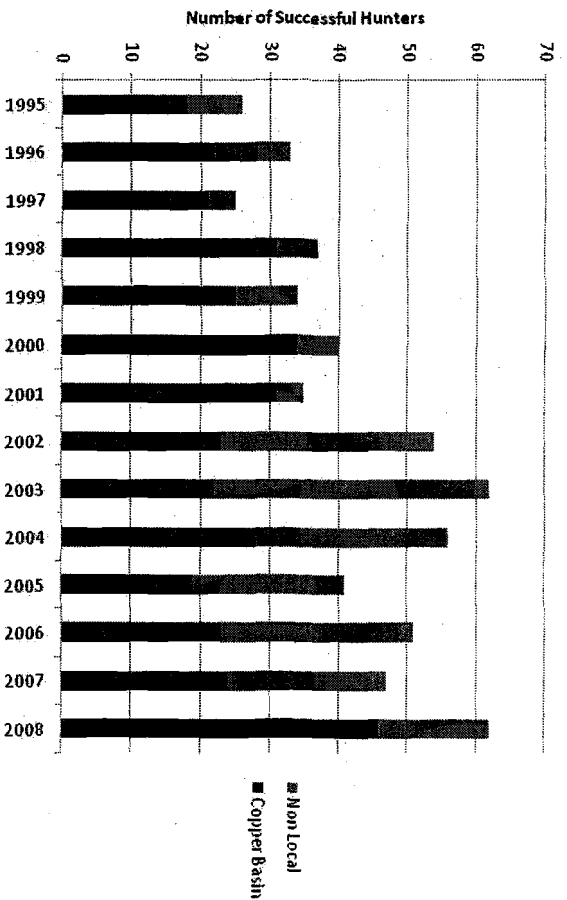
TM300 Permit Holder Residency



TM300 Hunter Residency



TM300 Hunter Harvest





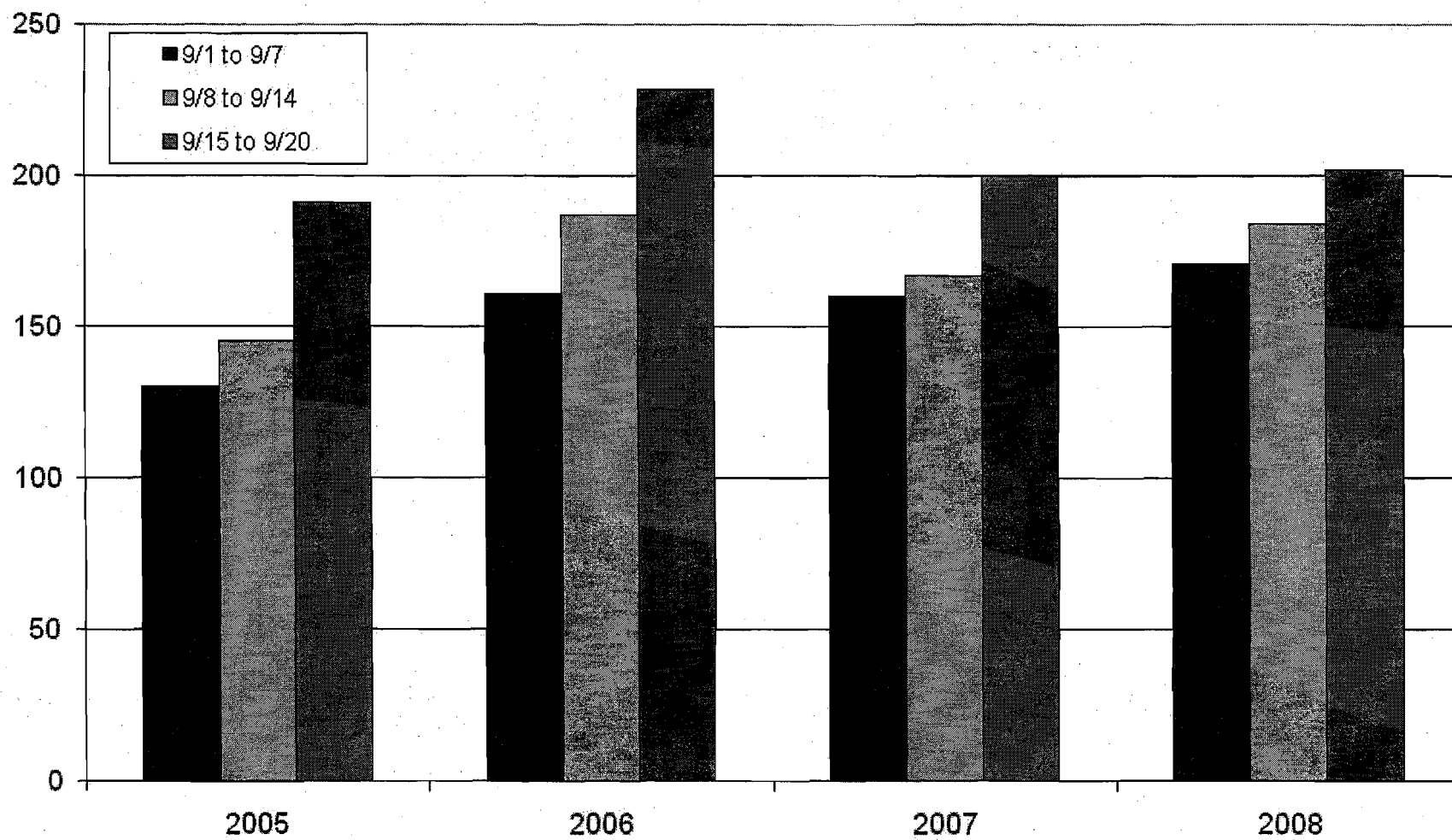
# ***PROPOSAL 99***

➤ This proposal lengthens the moose season by 1 day from 20 to 21 days and opens the season on 25 Aug. instead of 1 Sept. and closes the season on 15 Sept. instead of 20 Sept. It changes the bag limit from Spike/Fork, 50 inch, 4 BT to 36 inch, 3 BT for residents and creates a season for non-residents with 50 inch or 4 brow tines. It also creates a 1 moose household bag limit.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**

## GMU 13 General Moose Hunt Harvest Chronology



# ***PROPOSAL 98***

➤ This proposal changes the bag limit for moose in GMU 13 from Spike/Fork, 50 inch, 4BT to Spike/Fork, 50 inch, 3 brow tines.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**

# ***PROPOSAL 97***

➤ This proposal changes the bag limit for moose in GMU 13 from Spike/Fork, 50 inch, 4BT to 36 inch, 3BT and creates a nonresident season for 50 inch, 4BT bulls.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

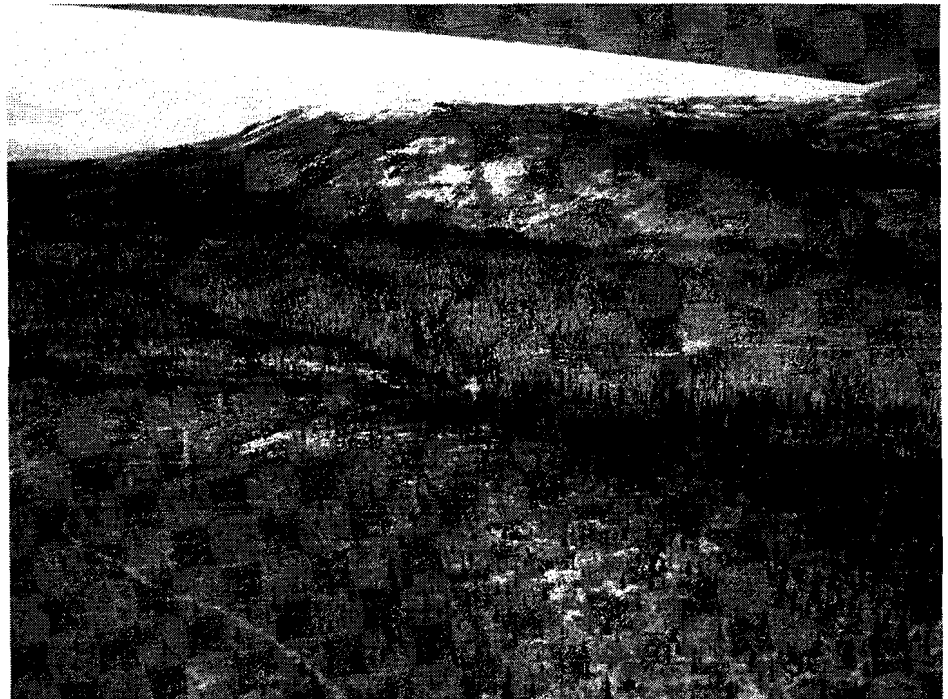
➤ **Take No Action**

# ***PROPOSAL 100***

➤ This proposal creates a resident and nonresident bow hunting season from 1 Nov – 10 Nov for 50 inch, 4 BT bull moose in GMU 13.

➤ **DEPT.  
RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**



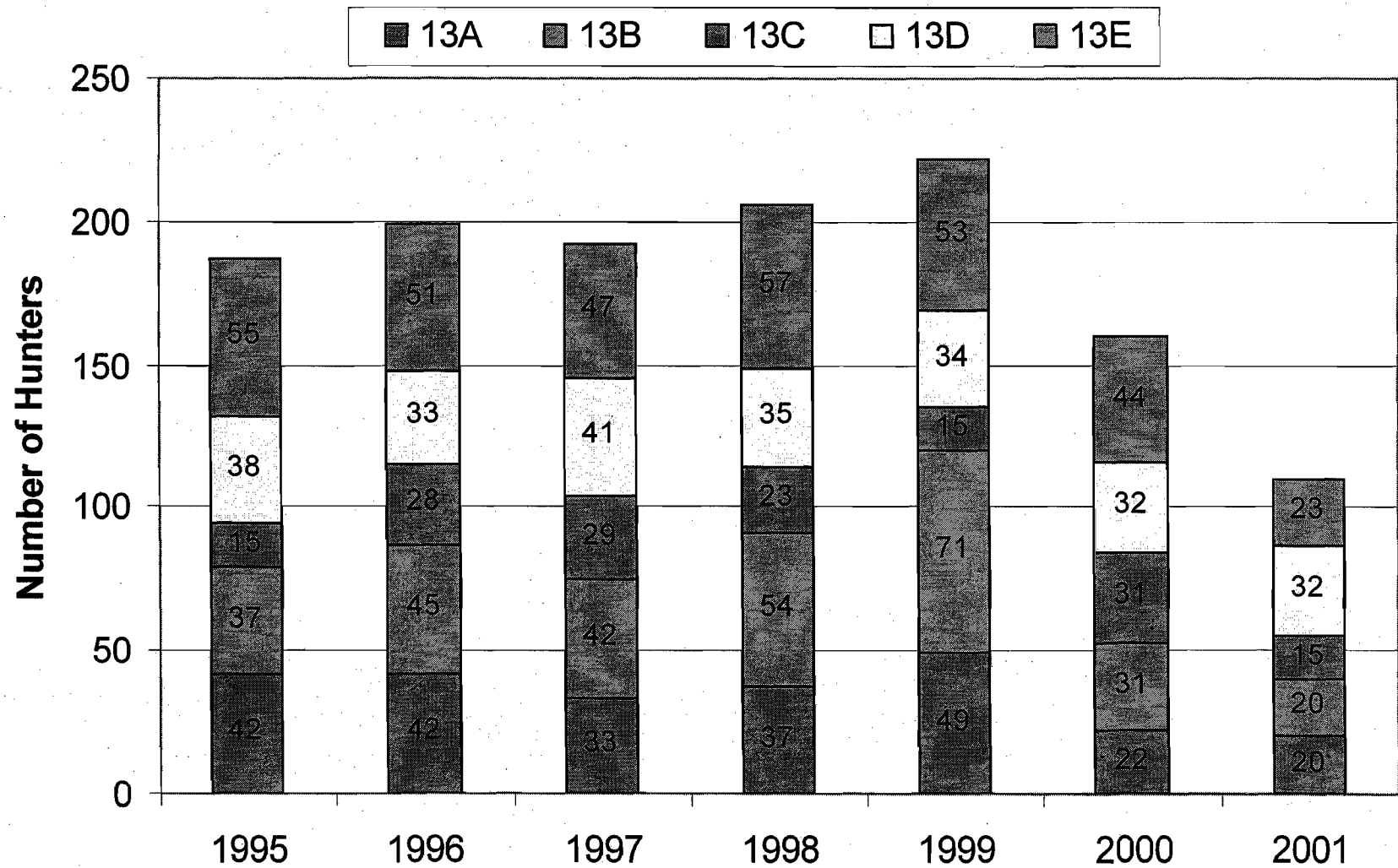
# ***PROPOSAL 103***

➤ This proposal establishes a nonresident moose hunting season from 8 – 17 Sept for moose with 50 inch, 4 BT in GMU 13.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

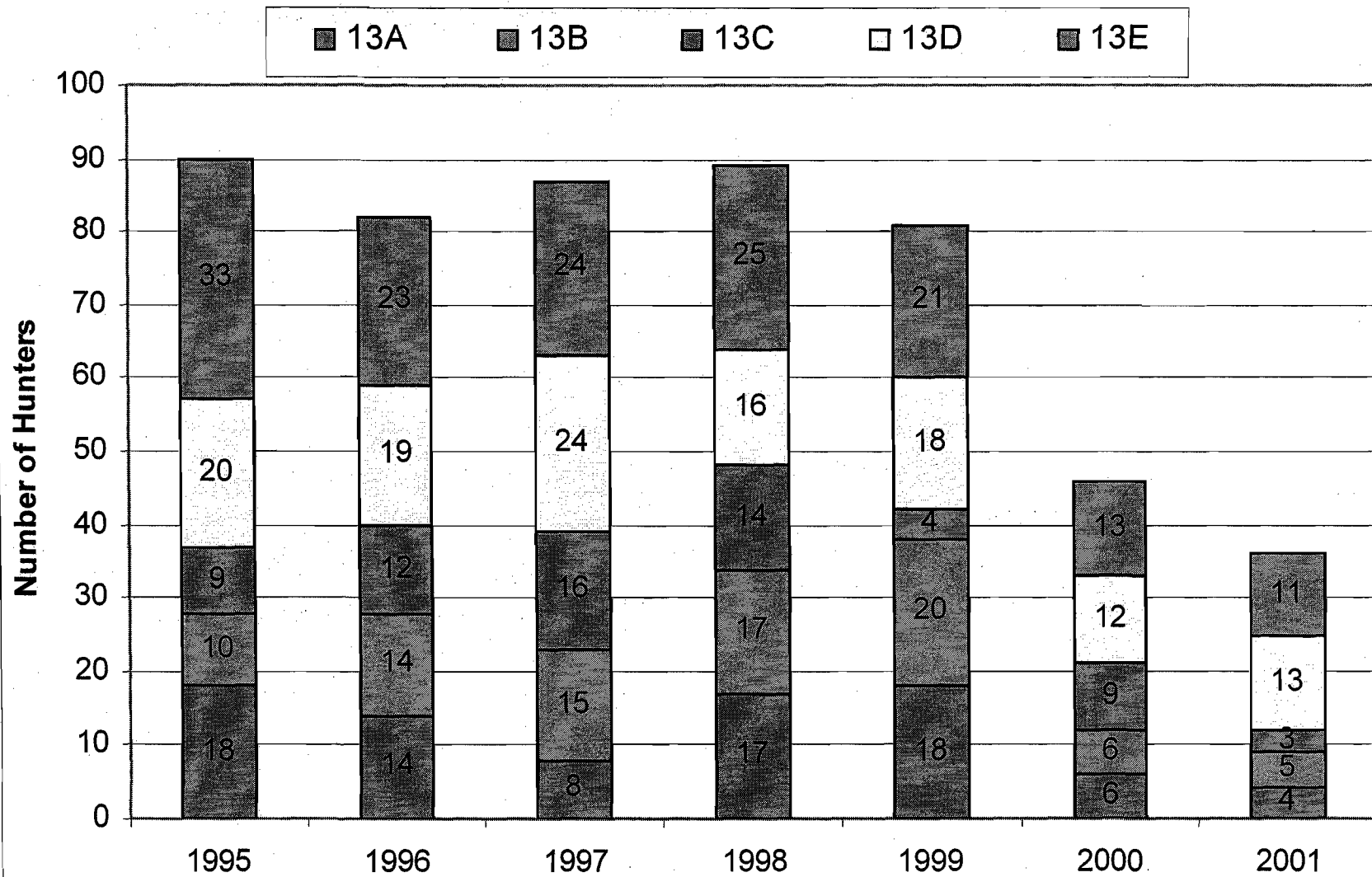
➤ **Do Not Adopt**

## Total Nonresident General Moose Hunters GMU13





# Successful Nonresident Moose Hunters by Subunit



# ***PROPOSAL 101***

➤ This proposal opens a nonresident season for bull moose with 50 inch or 3 BT requirement in subunit 13D.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 102***

➤ This proposal creates a drawing permit hunt for nonresidents in GMU 13 for 50 inch bull moose with season dates 10 Aug. to 20 Sept.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt,  
See Proposals #95 and 101**

# ***PROPOSAL 84***

➤ This proposal would create a community harvest permit administered by the Ahtna Tene Nene customary and traditional use committee. This committee would administer the hunt by determining who and how many permits would be issued to Ahtna tribal members. The committee would be responsible for all aspects of administering the hunt, including monitoring and reporting harvests. The season dates for moose would be 10 Aug to 20 Sept, a 21 day increase from the current fall season and a new 92 day winter season from 1 Nov to 31 Jan. The caribou season would be the same as the current season, 10 Aug to 20 Sept and 21 Oct to 31 Mar. The moose bag limit would be any bull and the caribou bag limit any caribou.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Under Consideration**

# ***PROPOSAL 81***

➤ This proposal would prohibit the use of magazines/clips that hold more than 5 rounds in rifles used in the Tier II Nelchina Caribou Hunt.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**

# ***PROPOSAL 83***

➤ This proposal would eliminate the salvage requirement for the kidneys, head, and hide of caribou taken in the Tier II NCH in GMU 13.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Amend and Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 82***

➤ This proposal would eliminate the requirement to salvage the head, hide, heart, liver and kidneys for the Tier II NCH in GMU 13.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**



# ***PROPOSAL 91***

➤ This proposal would eliminate the special GMU 13 subsistence moose and caribou hunt requirements of leaving the meat on the bone, and salvage of the heart, liver, kidneys, and the additional salvage of heads and hides for caribou.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**

# ***PROPOSAL 93***

➤ This proposal would eliminate the requirement to salvage the liver from subsistence moose shot after 10 Sept in GMU 13.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**

# ***PROPOSAL 92***

➤ This proposal would eliminate the special GMU 13 subsistence moose hunt requirement of leaving the meat on the bone.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Amend and Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 85***

➤ This proposal would repeal the requirement to destroy the trophy value of subsistence moose and caribou taken in GMU 13.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

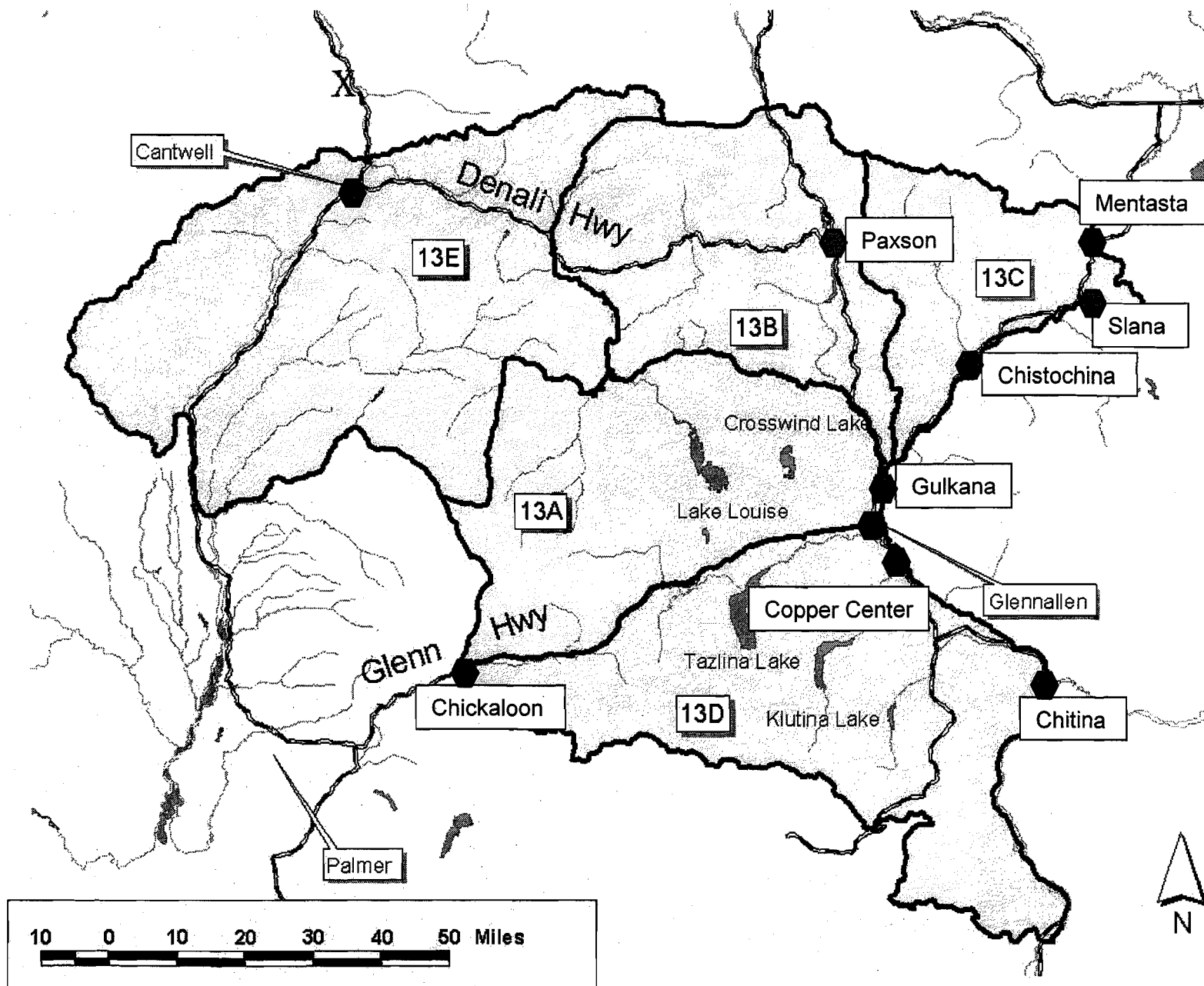
➤ **Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 86***

➤ This proposal would allow Tier II moose and caribou permit holders to hunt in other units. Currently Tier II permit holders for Unit 13 moose and caribou cannot hunt for these species in other units.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**



# **PROPOSALS 87-90**

- These proposals would revise the Unit 13 Tier II scoring system.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

- **No Recommendation**



# ***PROPOSAL 116***

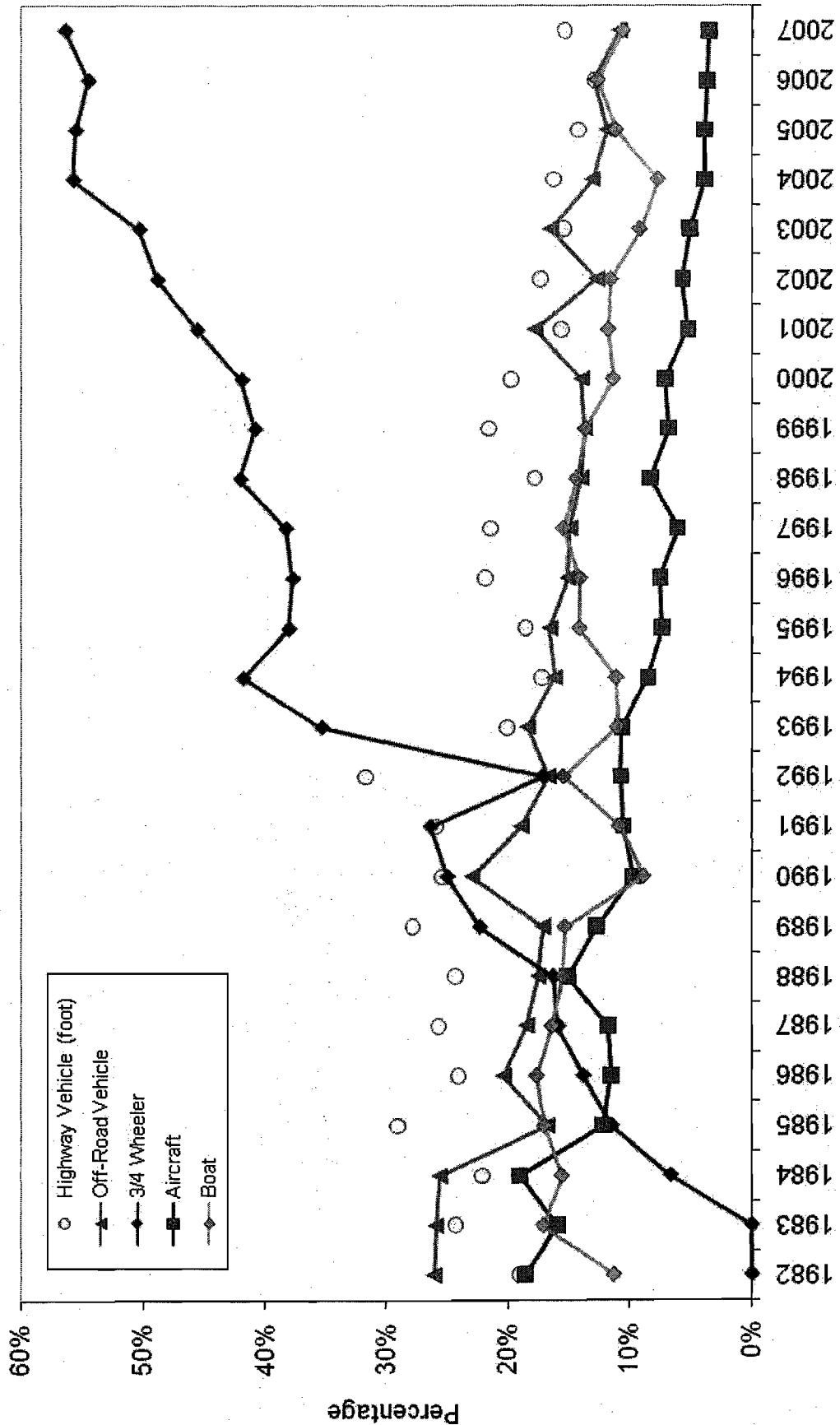
➤ This proposal would eliminate use of all motorized vehicles for hunting in GMU 13A from 1 August to 30 September, as well as restrict the use of aircraft for hunting purposes unless flying in to Department of Natural Resources permitted camps.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

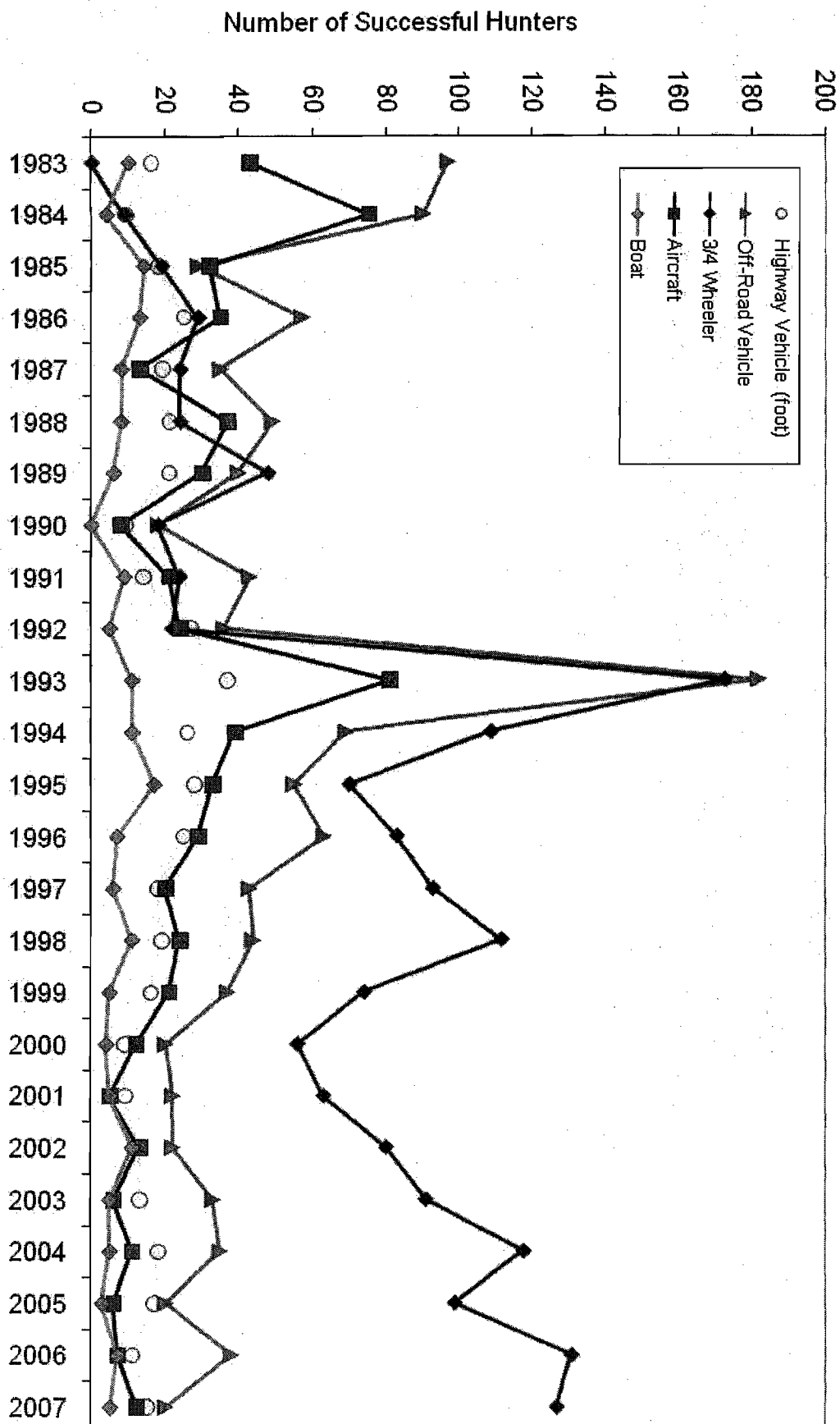
➤ **Do Not Adopt**

2 SLIDES

# GMU 13A General Moose Hunt Transportation - All Hunters



# GMU 13A General Moose Hunt Transportation - Successful Hunters



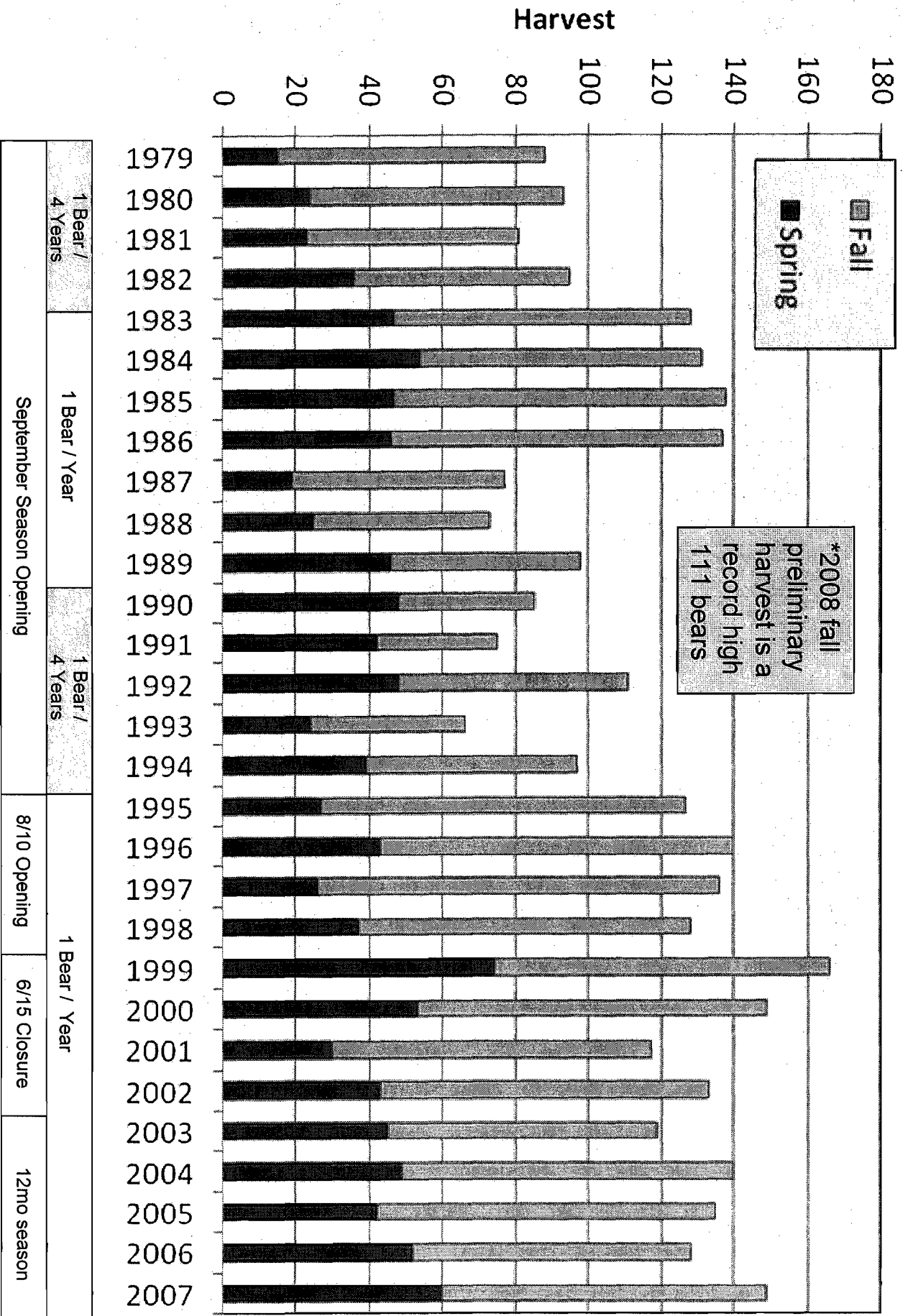
# ***PROPOSAL 79***

➤ This proposal would create a 2 brown bear bag limit per year in all GMU 13.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# BROWN BEAR HARVEST - GMU 13



# ***PROPOSAL 76***

➤ This proposal would create a 2 brown bear bag limit per year in subunit 13E.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**  
**(See proposal #79, unitwide)**

# ***PROPOSAL 78***

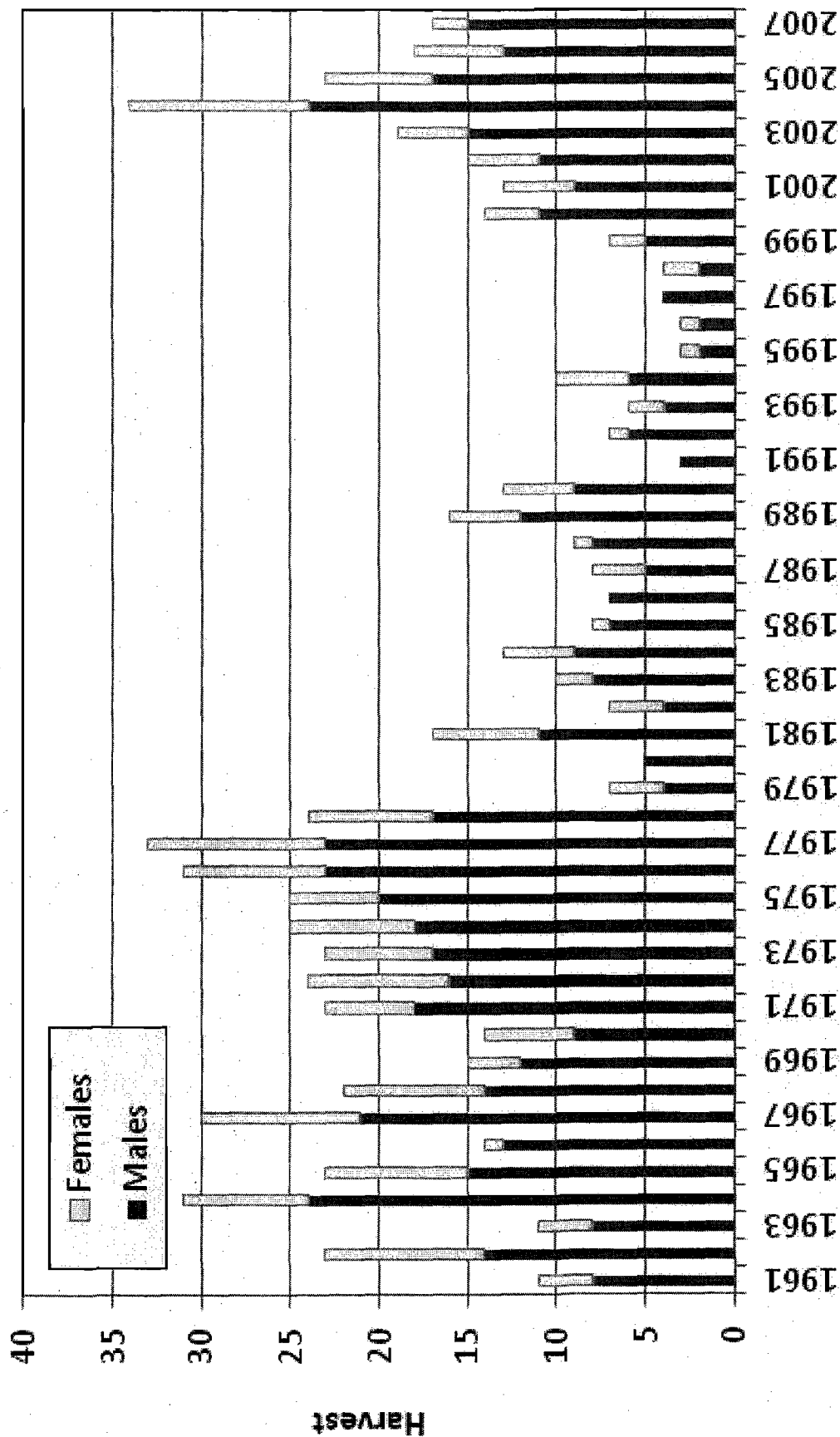
➤ This proposal changes brown bear hunting regulations by putting all brown bear hunting in GMU 11 by registration permit only and establishes a harvest quota of 16 bears in all GMU 11 per year. The season would be closed when the quota is reached.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**



# BROWN BEAR HARVEST - GMU 11



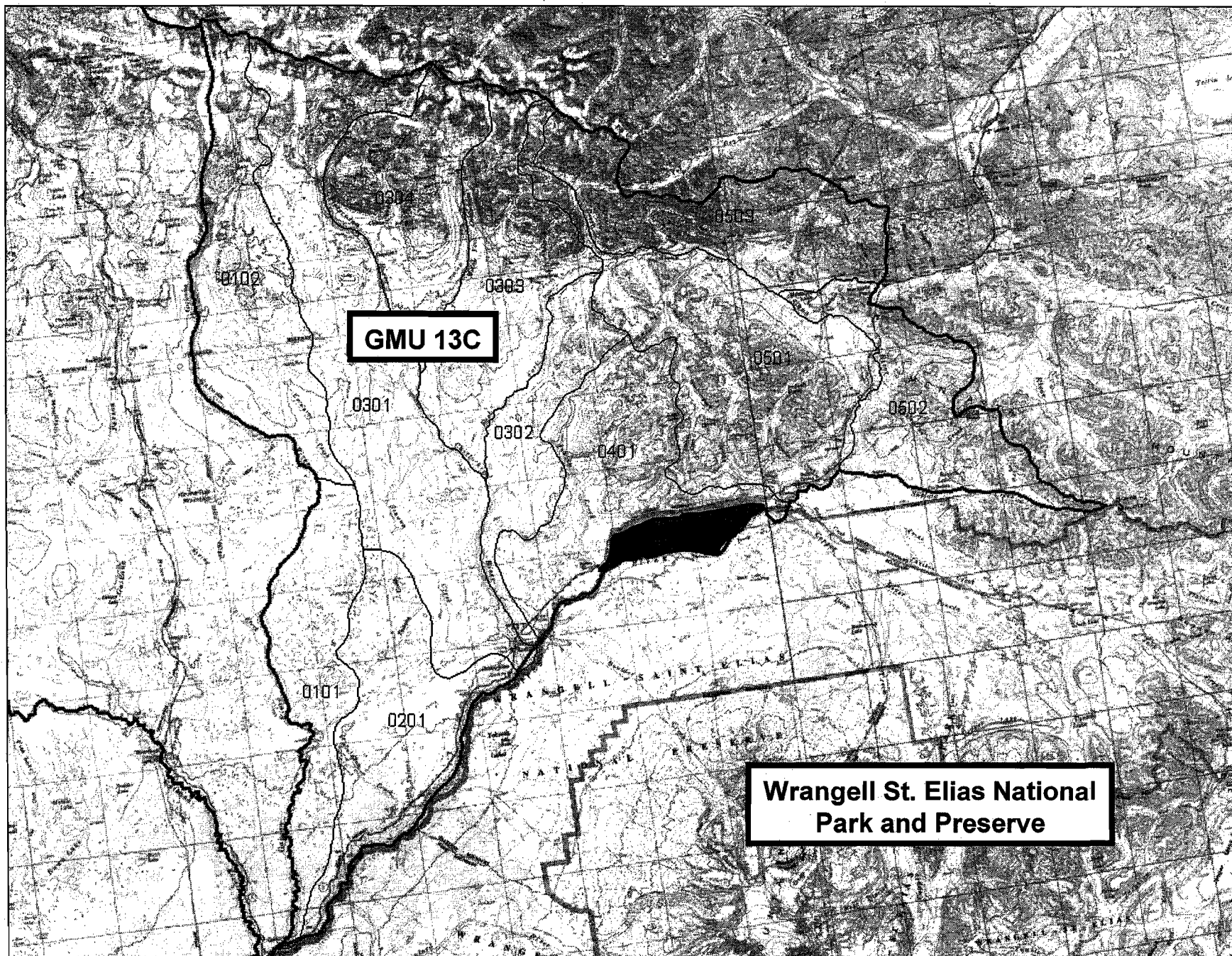
Unit 11 is ~ 14,000 square miles. The average annual brown bear harvest in recent years has averaged ~ 1 bear per 1,000 square miles.

# ***PROPOSAL 77***

➤ This proposal would shorten the brown bear season by 3 months going from year-round to 1 September – 31 May for the portion of subunit 13C within the Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**



\*The 13C boundary along the Copper River below this area is the same as the park/preserve despite discrepancies on this map

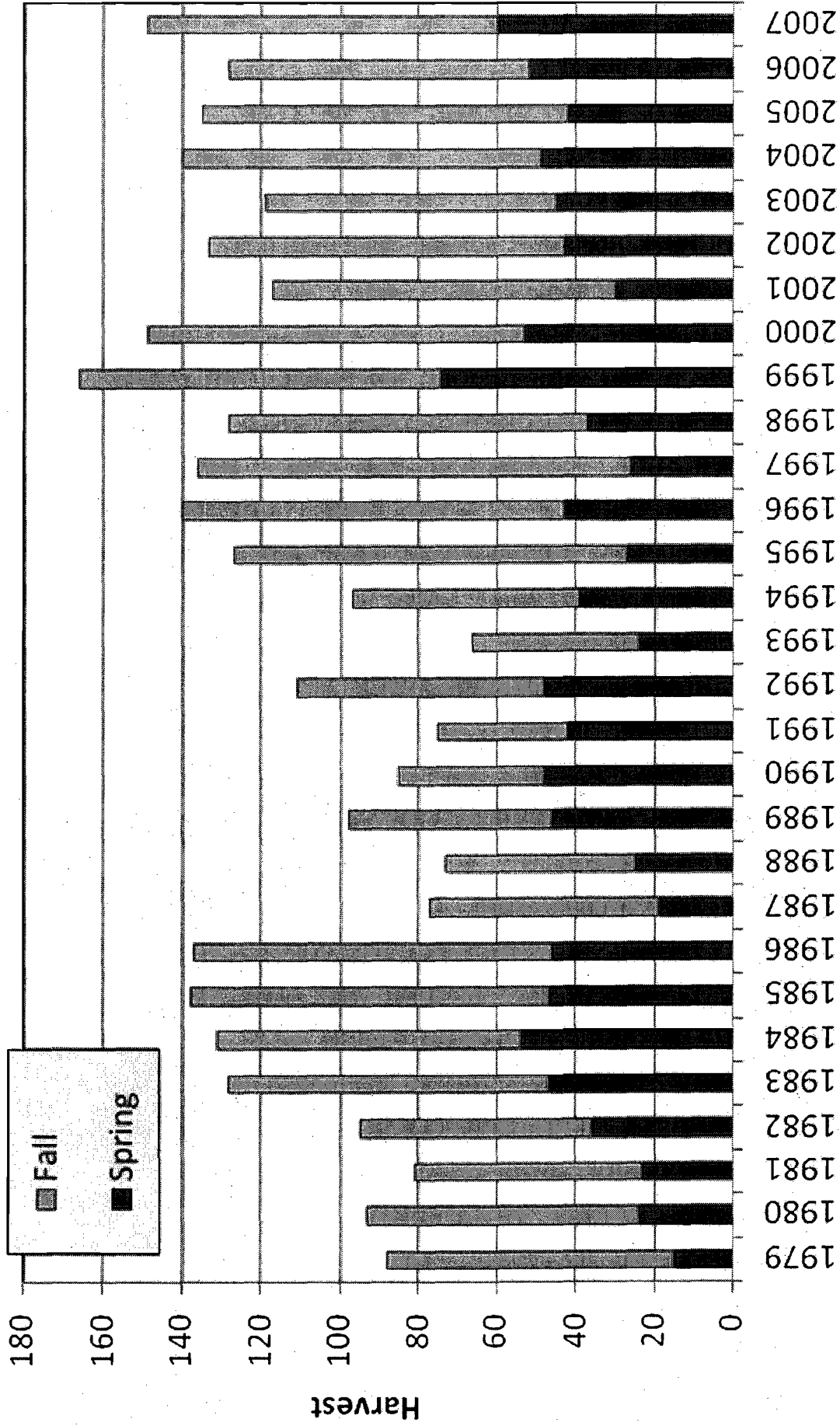
# ***PROPOSAL 75***

➤ This proposal would establish a bear control permit hunt in GMU 13 and would allow permittees to bait brown bears.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

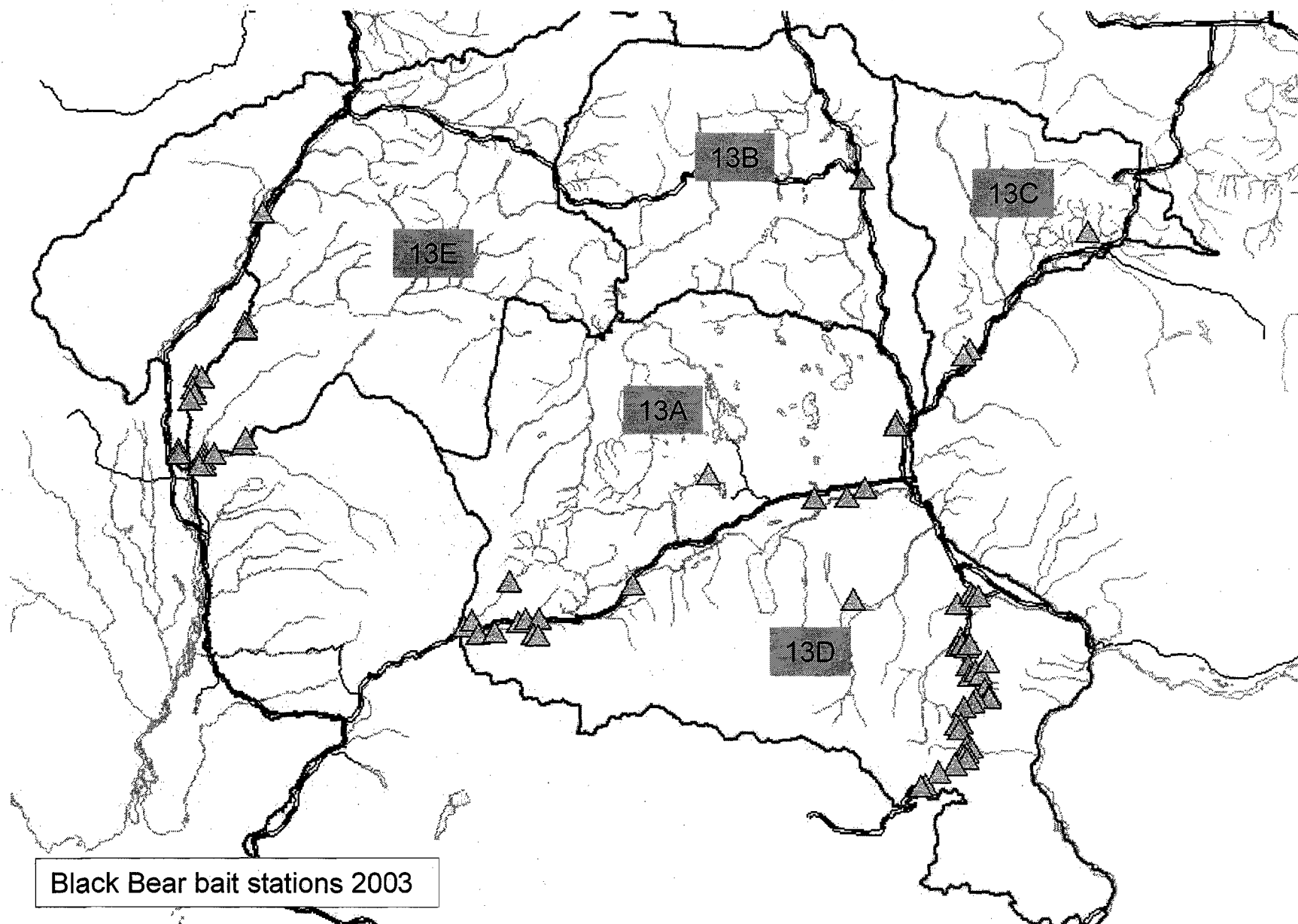
➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# BROWN BEAR HARVEST - GMU 13



1 Bear / 4 Years	1 Bear / Year	12mo season
September Season Opening		
8/10 Opening		
6/15 Closure		

Typical locations of GMU 13 black bear bait stations



# ***PROPOSAL 74***

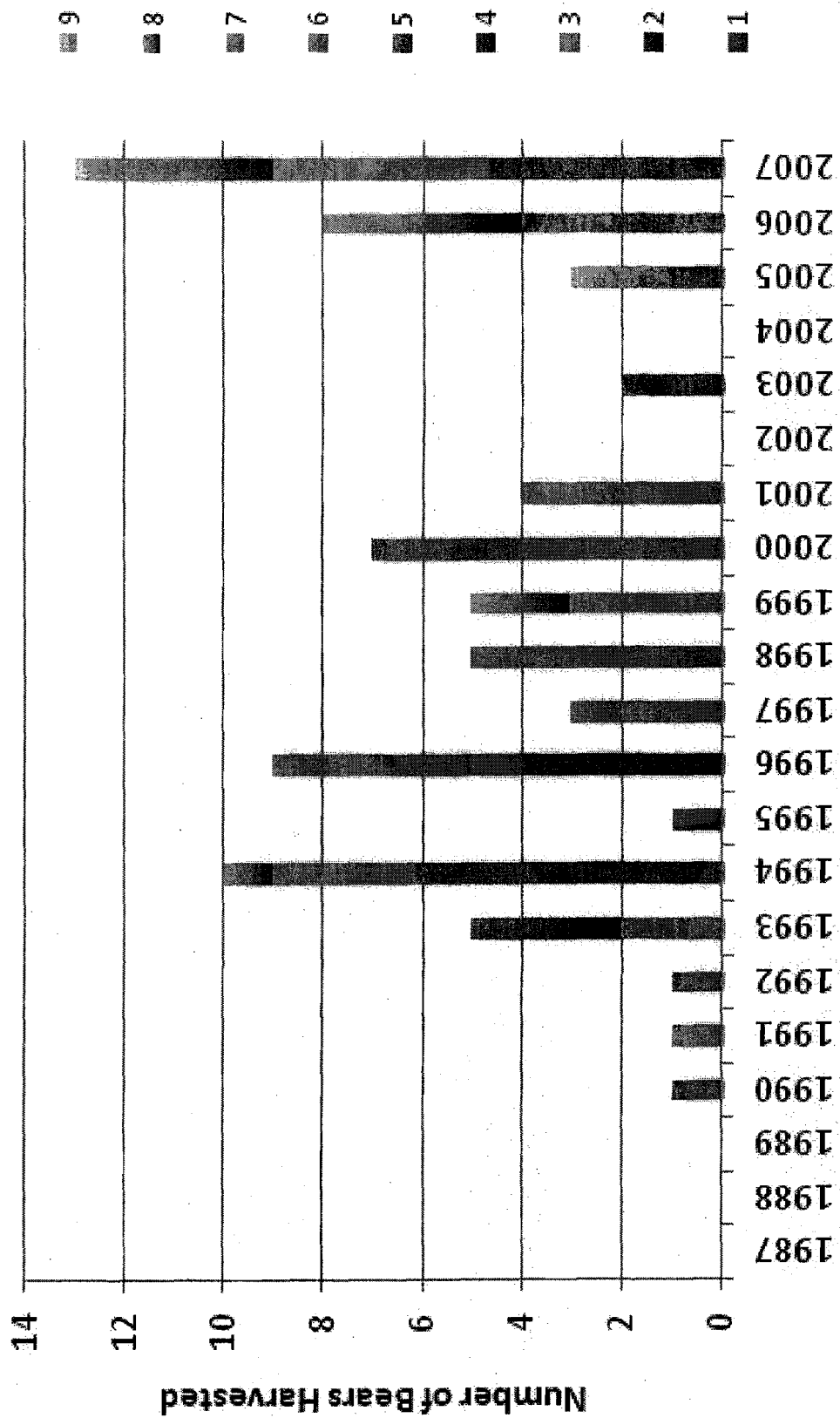
➤ This proposal adds 15 days (June 15-30) to the period black bears could be baited during the spring in GMU 11 and 13.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

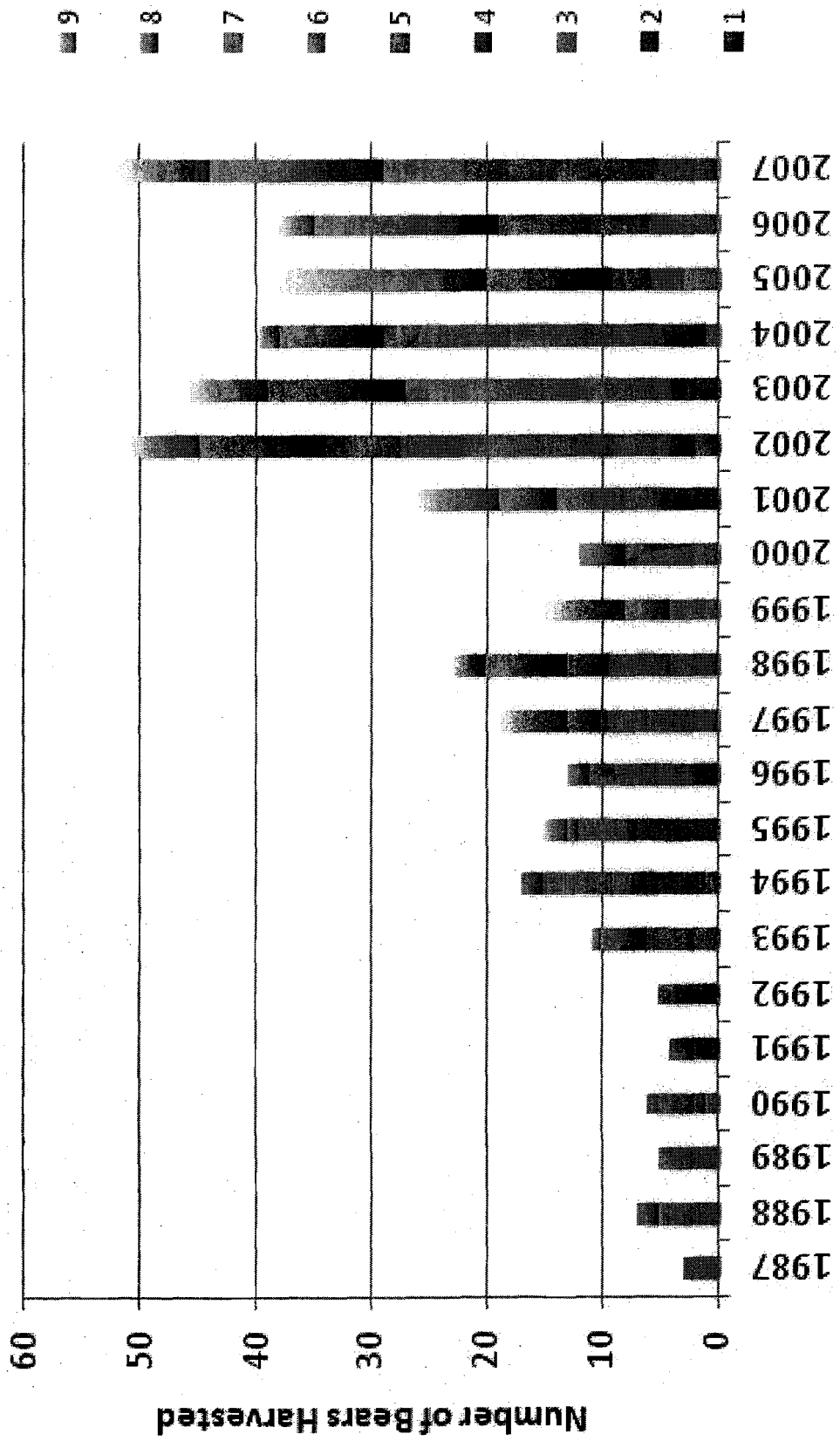
2 SLIDES

# GMU 11 Black bears harvested over bait - By week





# GMU 13 Black bears harvested over bait - By week

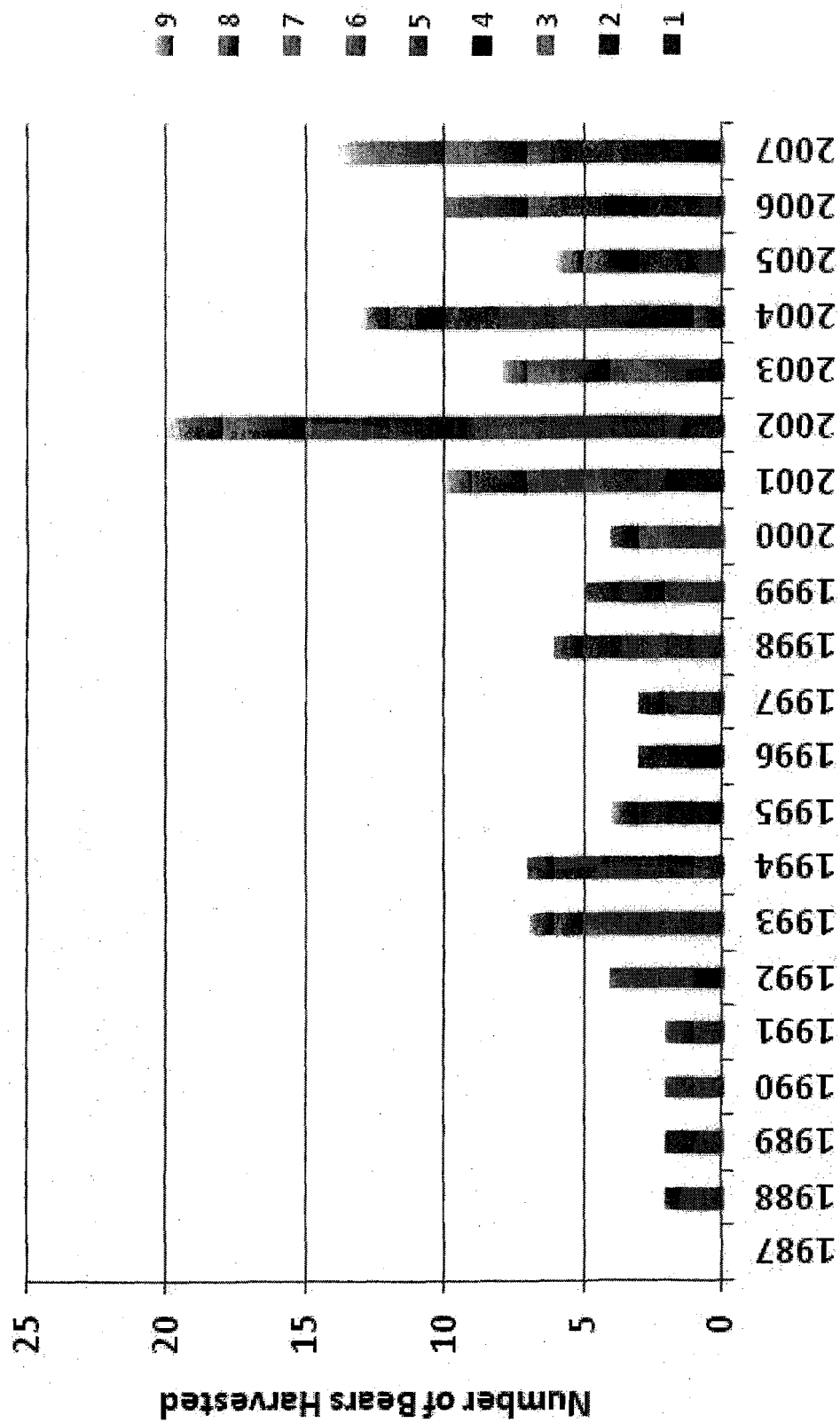


# ***PROPOSAL 73***

➤ This proposal adds 15 days (June 15-30) to the period black bears could be baited during the spring in Subunit 13E.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Take No Action**

[illegible]

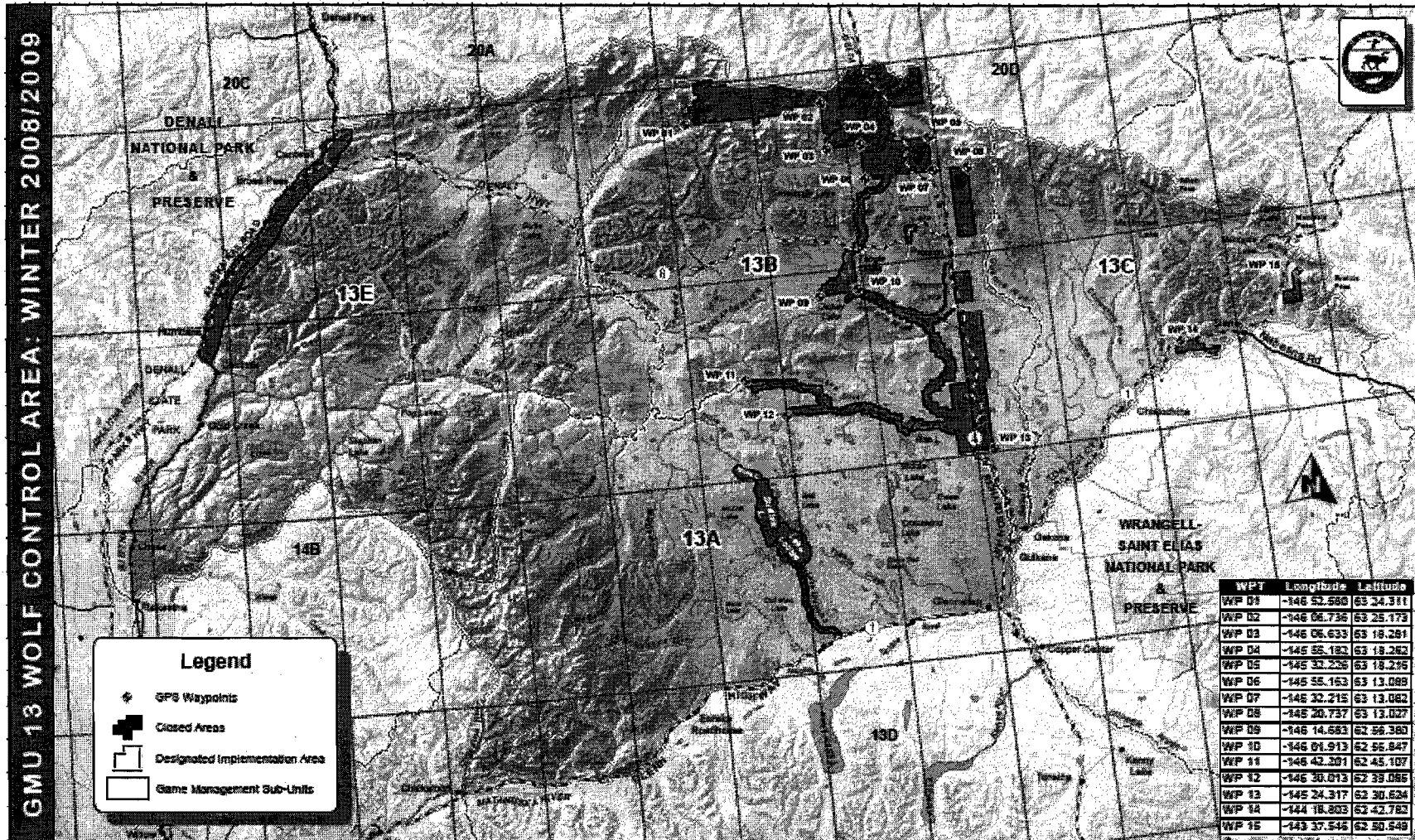
# ***PROPOSAL 113***

➤ This proposal would take a portion, the exact size and location not specified, of GMU 13A out of the wolf control implementation area in order to create a 'control' area not subject to wolf take.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# GMU 13 Wolf Control Implementation Plan Area



# ***PROPOSAL 112***

➤ This proposal would change the wolf bag limit of 13C that is in Wrangell St. Elias National Preserve from 10 to 5 wolves per day.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

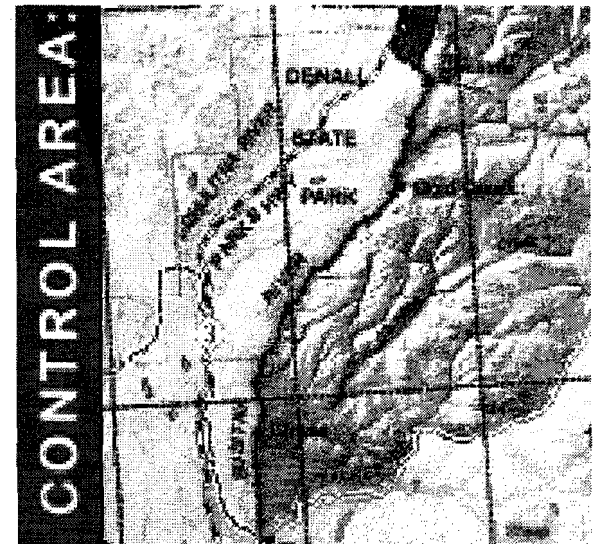
➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 114***

➤ This proposal would add the small strip of land between the Alaska Railroad and Susitna River from Gold Creek to the Talkeetna River into the wolf control area.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **No Recommendation**



\*Note: The eastern boundary of the Denali State Park is the RR, so ~ 20miles of this addition would fall in the park

# ***PROPOSAL 71***

➤ This proposal reduces coyote trapping season by 56 days, going from a 15 October – 30 April to a 10 November – 31 March season. This proposal would change the alignment of the current season from being the same as wolf to making the opening date align with lynx and fox seasons.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**



# ***PROPOSAL 70***

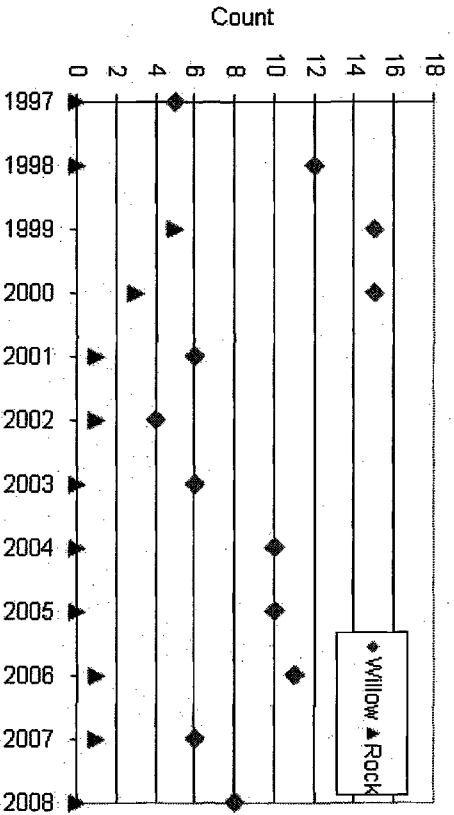
➤ This proposal closes ptarmigan season in subunit 13B on Nov 30 and increases the bag limit in 13 A & E to 10 per day for the entire season.

➤ **DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

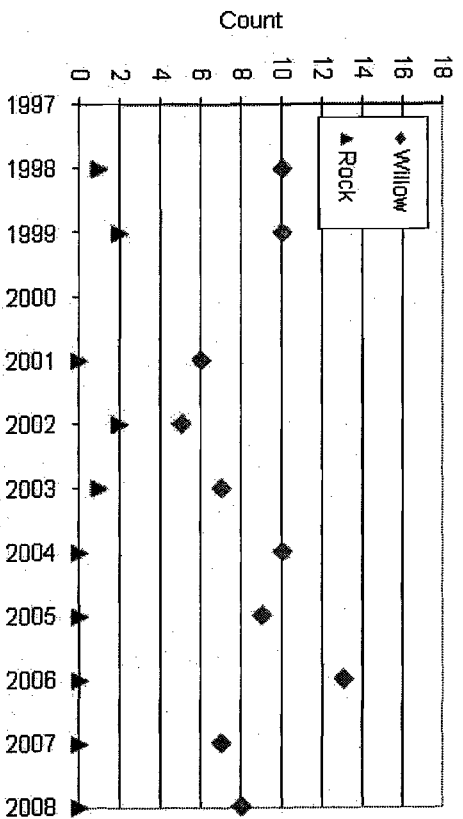
➤ **Adopt - Staff Proposal**

# Subunit 13B Ptarmigan Counts

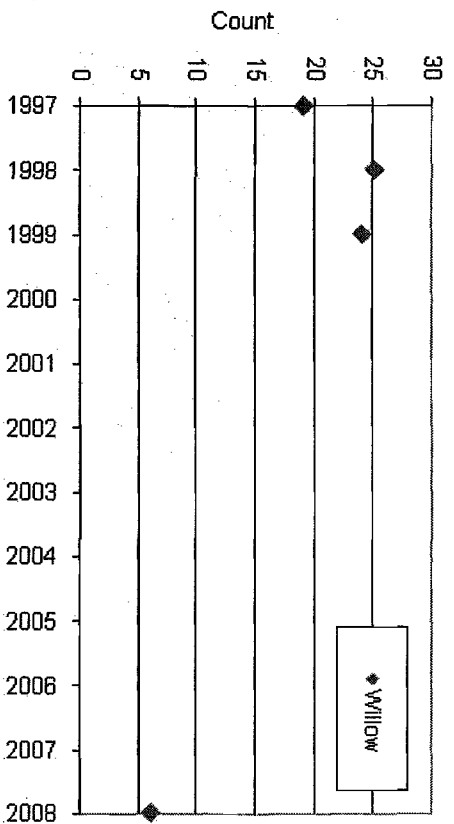
Mile 10-14 Denali Hwy  
Ptarmigan Breeding Counts



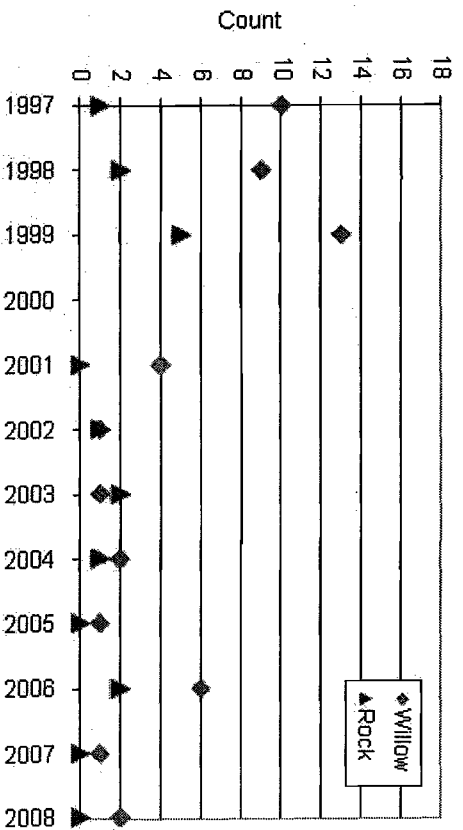
Mile 29-33.5 Denali Hwy  
Ptarmigan Breeding Counts



Mile 15-18 Denali Hwy  
Ptarmigan Breeding Counts



Mile 34-36 Denali Hwy  
Ptarmigan Breeding Counts



# ***PROPOSALS 104 and 105***

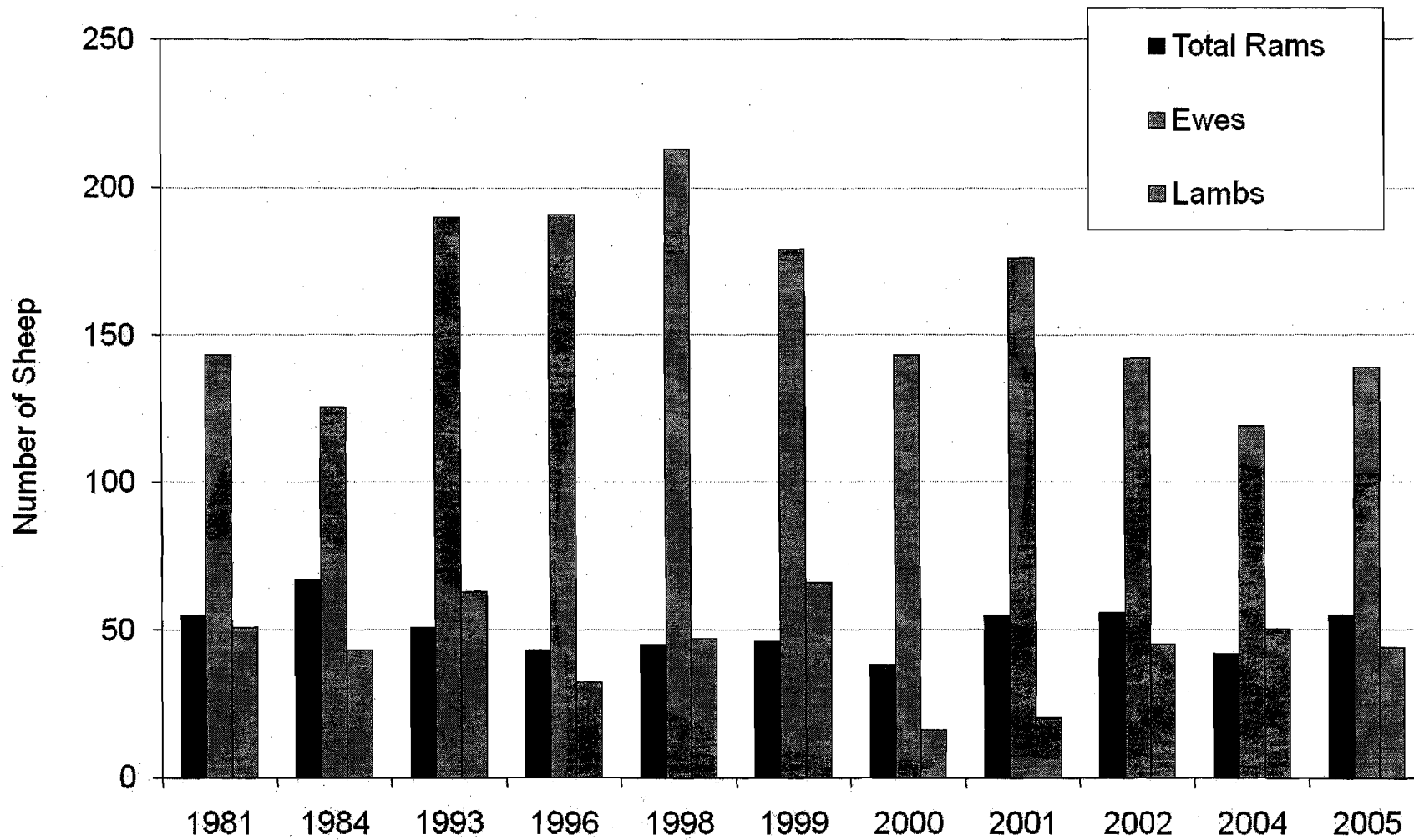
➤ This proposal would change the resident bag limit for Dall sheep in GMU 11 from  $\frac{3}{4}$  curl to full curl.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# Southeast Wrangell Mtn Sheep Surveys

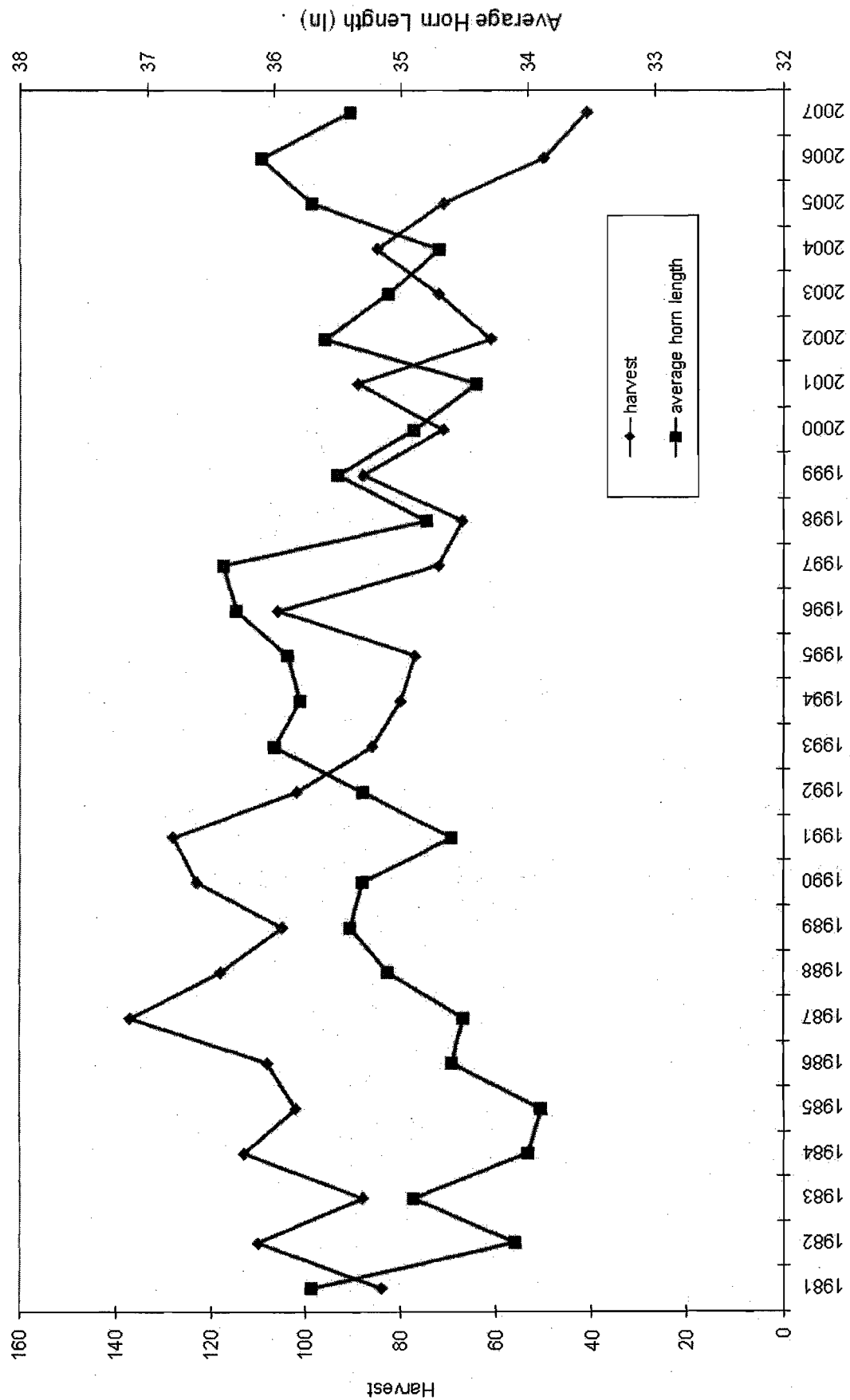
## CA 22 Hawkins Glacier



## GMU 11 Sheep Sealed

	<b><u>State Harvest</u></b>	<b><u>Full+</u></b>	<b><u>&lt;Full Curl</u></b> <b><u>8yrs+ or double broomed</u></b>	<b><u>&lt; 8yrs old</u></b> <b><u><math>\frac{3}{4}</math>-7/8</u></b>	<b><u>7/8-Full</u></b>	<b><u>Legal under <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> reg</u></b>
2006	32	22	5	4	1	5 (16%)
2007	26	13	6	4	3	7 (27%)
2008	35	14	7	7	7	14 (40%)

# GMU 11 Wrangell Mountains Full Curl Ram Harvest (>28")



# ***PROPOSAL 107***

➤ This proposal would create additional archery-only drawing permits for sheep in 13D from 10 August – 15 October, with a bag limit of 1 full curl ram.

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

➤ **Do Not Adopt**

# ***PROPOSAL 108***

➤ This proposal would do one of three things to sheep hunting regulations in GMU 13A:

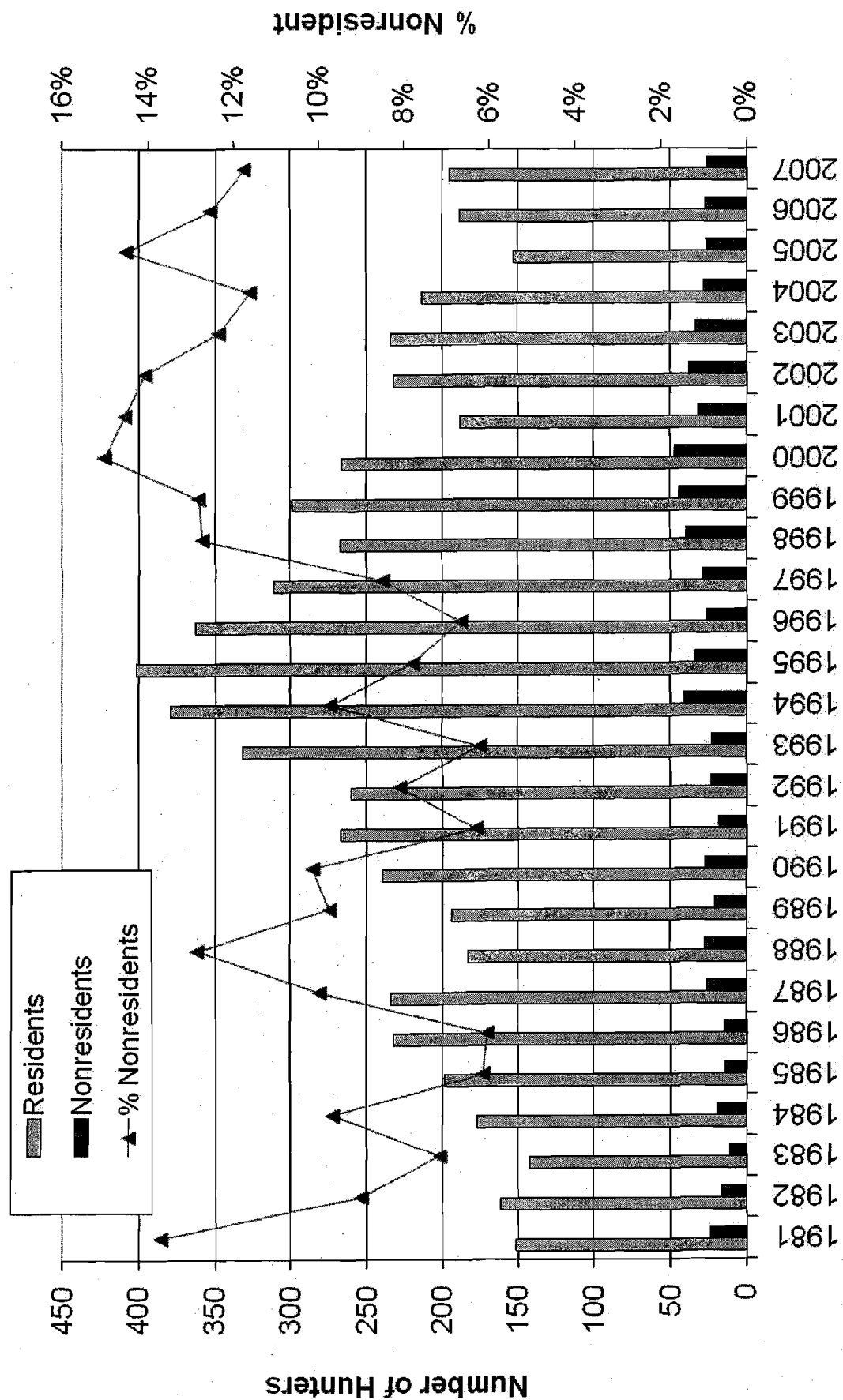
- create harvest quotas for residents and nonresidents and allow ADF&G to close the individual seasons once quotas are met
- create an early and a late season and allow ADF&G to close the individual seasons once quotas are met
- allow nonresidents to hunt only under a drawing hunt permit

## **➤ DEPT. RECOMMENDATION:**

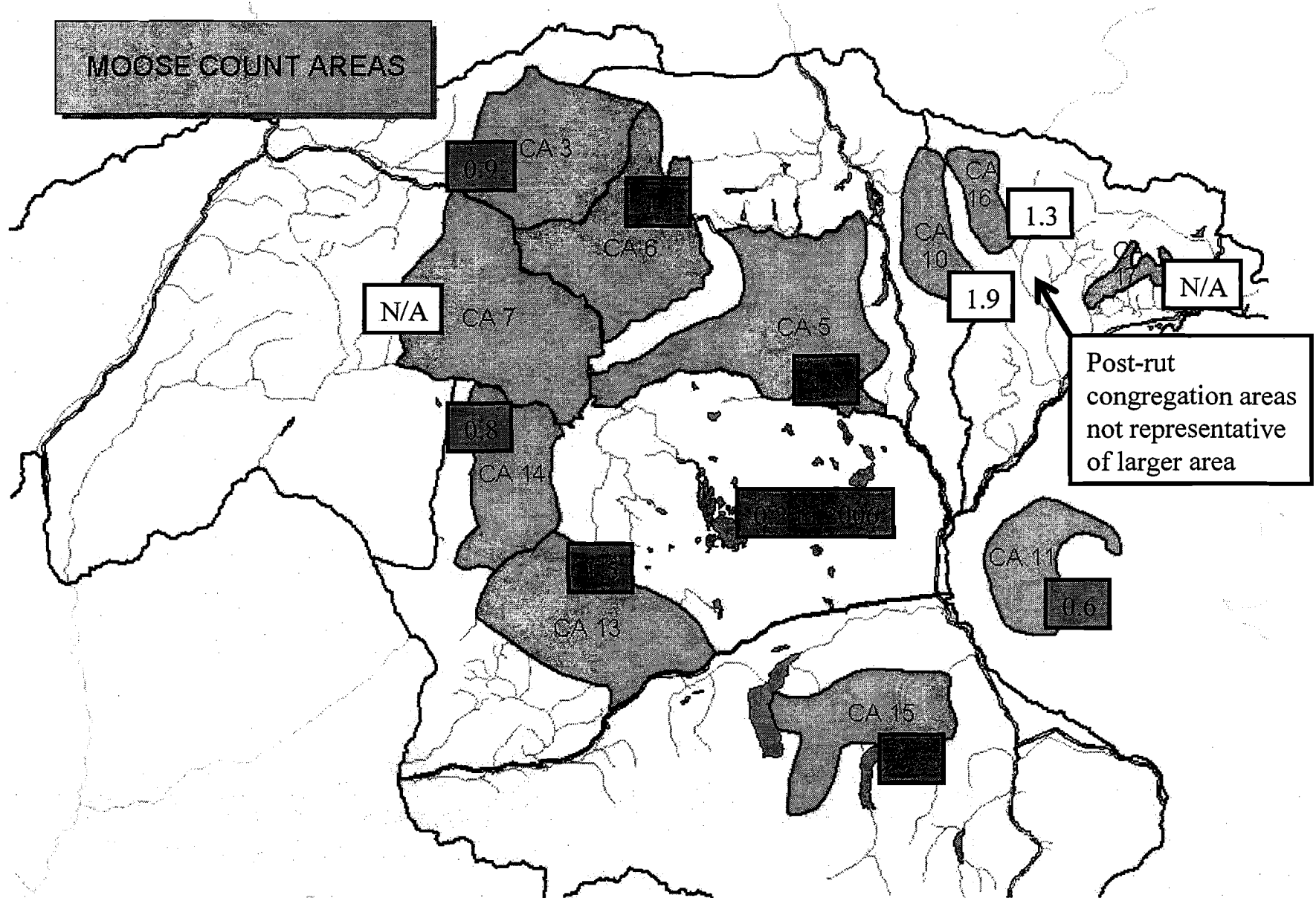
➤ **Do Not Adopt**

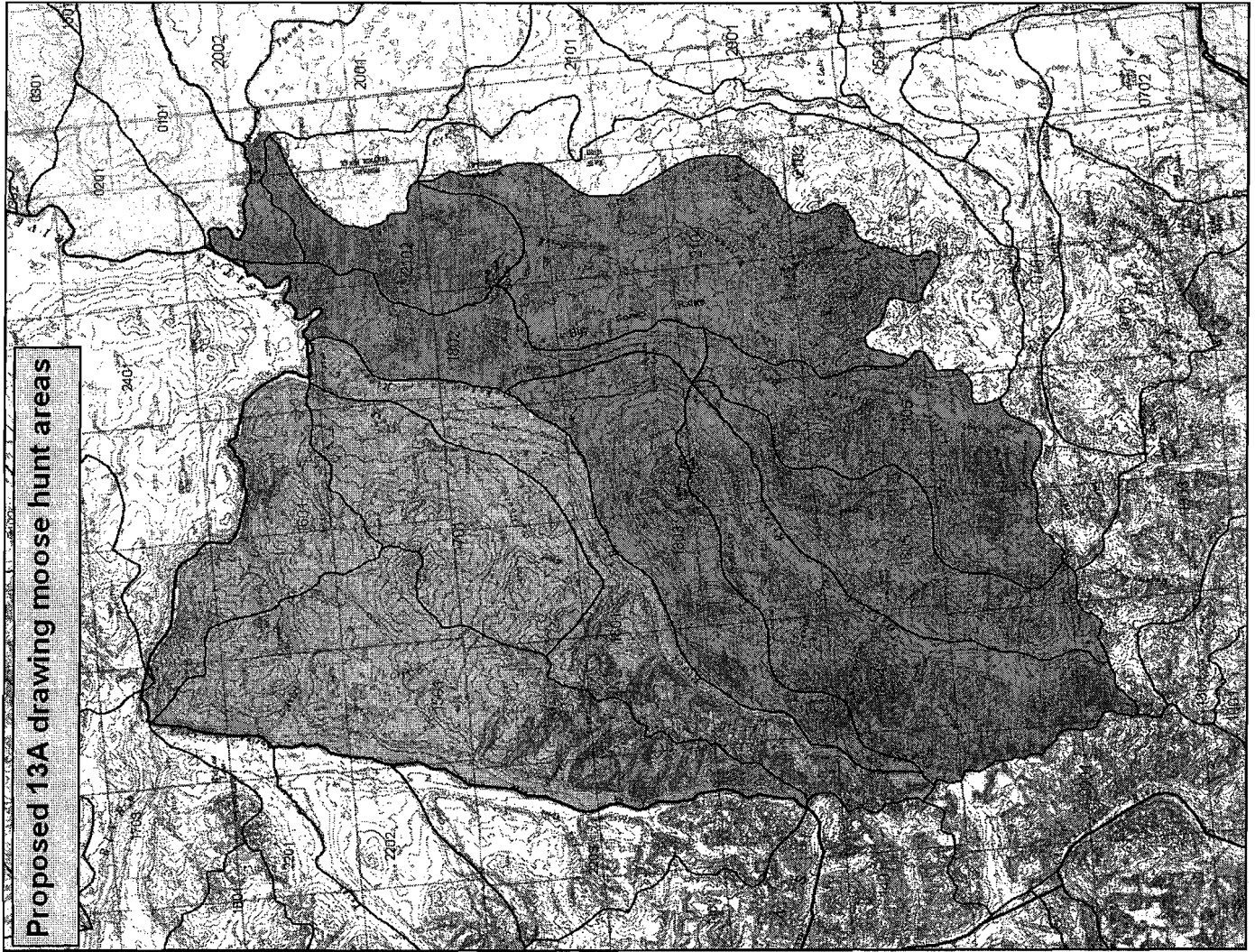


# Effort by Residency in the Eastern Talkeetna Mtns.



2007 and 2008 Average Moose Density (moose observed/km<sup>2</sup>)





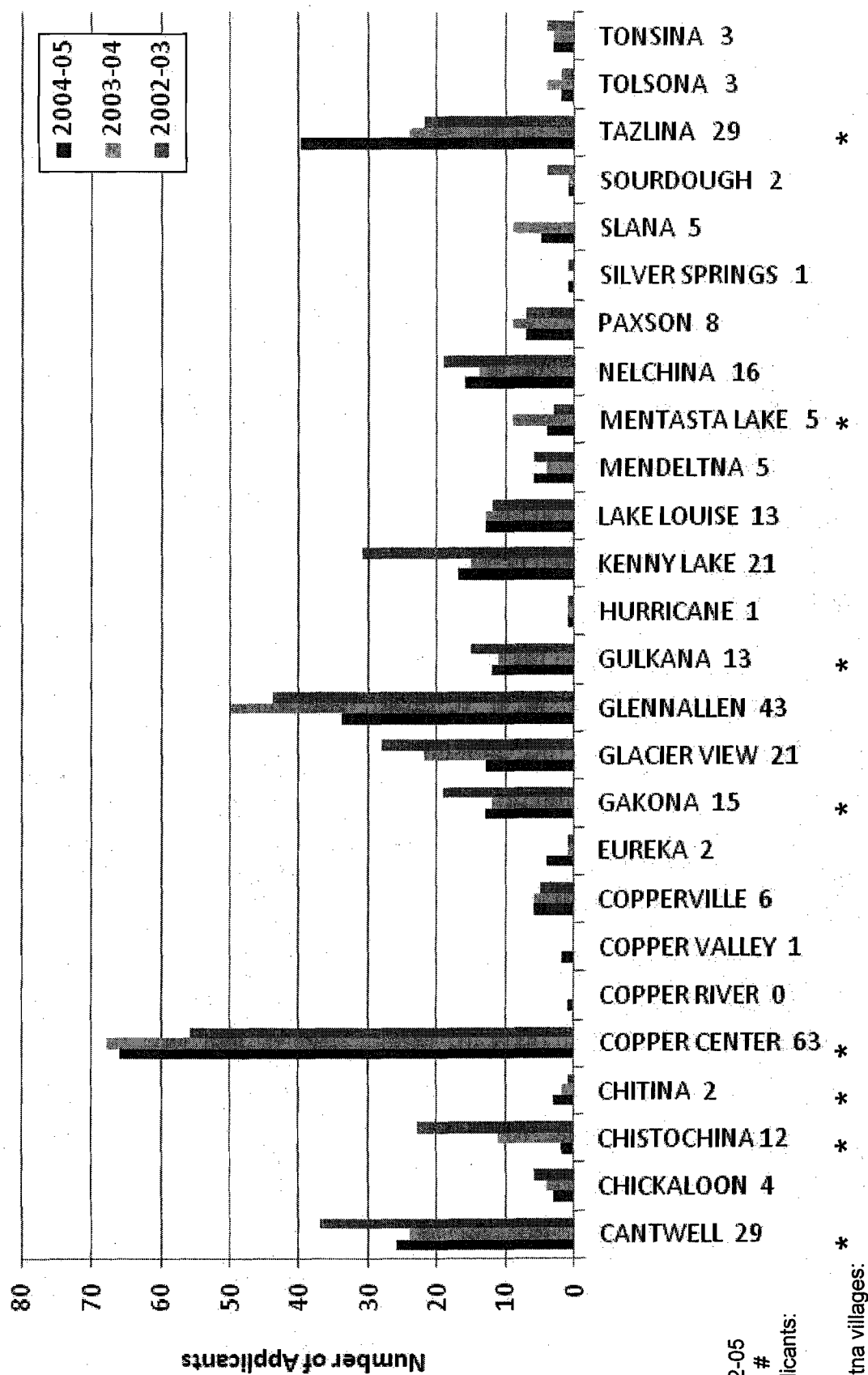
The map displays a rugged terrain with numerous contour lines indicating elevation. A large, irregularly shaped area in the upper central portion of the map is shaded in dark gray, representing the proposed drawing moose hunt in Subunit 13B. This shaded area is bounded by contour lines ranging from approximately 1400 to 1800 feet. To the west of the shaded area, a river flows through a valley, with several smaller tributaries. The map also shows various peaks and ridges, with some areas labeled with numbers such as 1802, 1701, 1602, 1502, 1402, 1302, 1202, 1102, 1002, 902, 802, 702, 602, 502, 402, 302, 202, 102, and 002. The map is oriented with North at the top.

Proposed 13C drawing moose hunt area





# Copper Basin TM300 Applicants



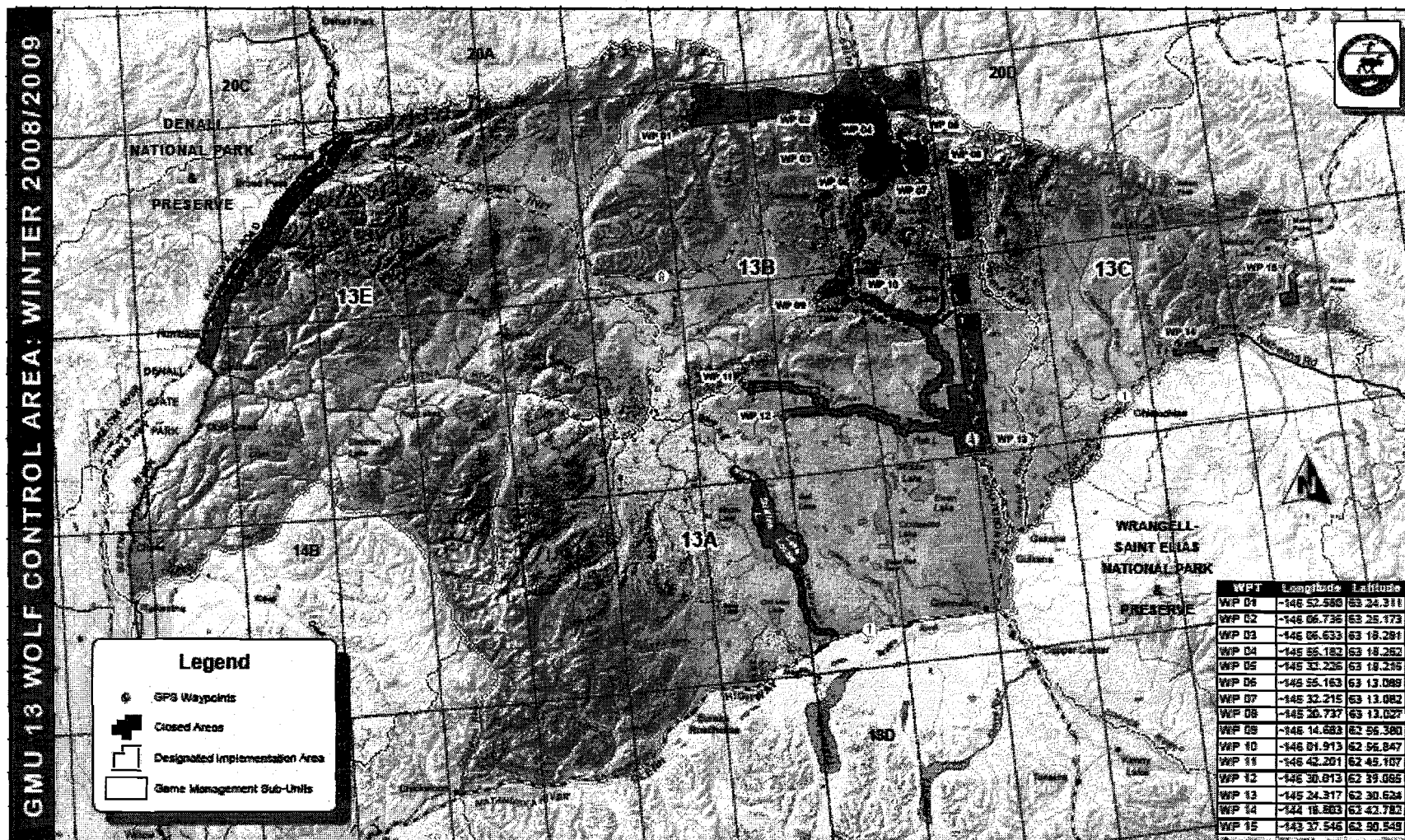
2002-05  
Ave. #  
Applicants:

\* Ahtna villages:

Average 168 applicants / year

RC 85

# GMU 13 Wolf Control Area: Winter 2008/2009



## **ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13**

### **PROGRAM DATES:**

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>March 2000</b> | <b>GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan passed BOG</b><br><br>[Same Day Airborne (SDA) take was not allowed by the administration until January 2004]  |
| <b>March 2005</b> | <b>GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan reauthorized by BOG</b><br><br>[17 January 2006 - Anchorage Superior Court Judge issued an order on motions for Summary Judgement in the case of Friends of Animals, et al., 3An-03-13489 CI, holding 5AAC 92.125 control plans invalid]<br><br>[25 January 2006 – BOG adopted Proposal 165 – temporarily reinstating the 5AAC 92.125 GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan]<br><br>[May 2006 – BOG adopted Proposal 165A – permanently reinstating the 5AAC 92.125(12) GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan] |
| <b>March 2010</b> | <b>GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan will again be up for reauthorization (set to expire 1 July 2010)</b>   |



## ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13

<b>UNITWIDE WOLF TAKE:</b>	<b><u>Same Day Airborne</u></b>	<b><u>Ground shooting</u></b>	<b><u>Trapping</u></b>	<b><u>Snaring</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL*</u></b>
2000-01	0	93	84	82	269
2001-02	0	83	67	73	223
2002-03	0	81	36	26	143
2003-04	125	51	28	42	246
2004-05	67	32	19	18	136
2005-06	61	23	31	30	145
2006-07	33	25	26	21	105
2007-08	33	9	24	25	91
2008-09 <i>prelim.</i>	53				

Given that the wolf control implementation plan was passed March 2000, some wolves taken after that point were taken using predator control means, by which snowmachines were used to position hunters/trappers to ground shoot wolves; so some but not all in that category were taken using predator control means.

\* Includes unknown method of take

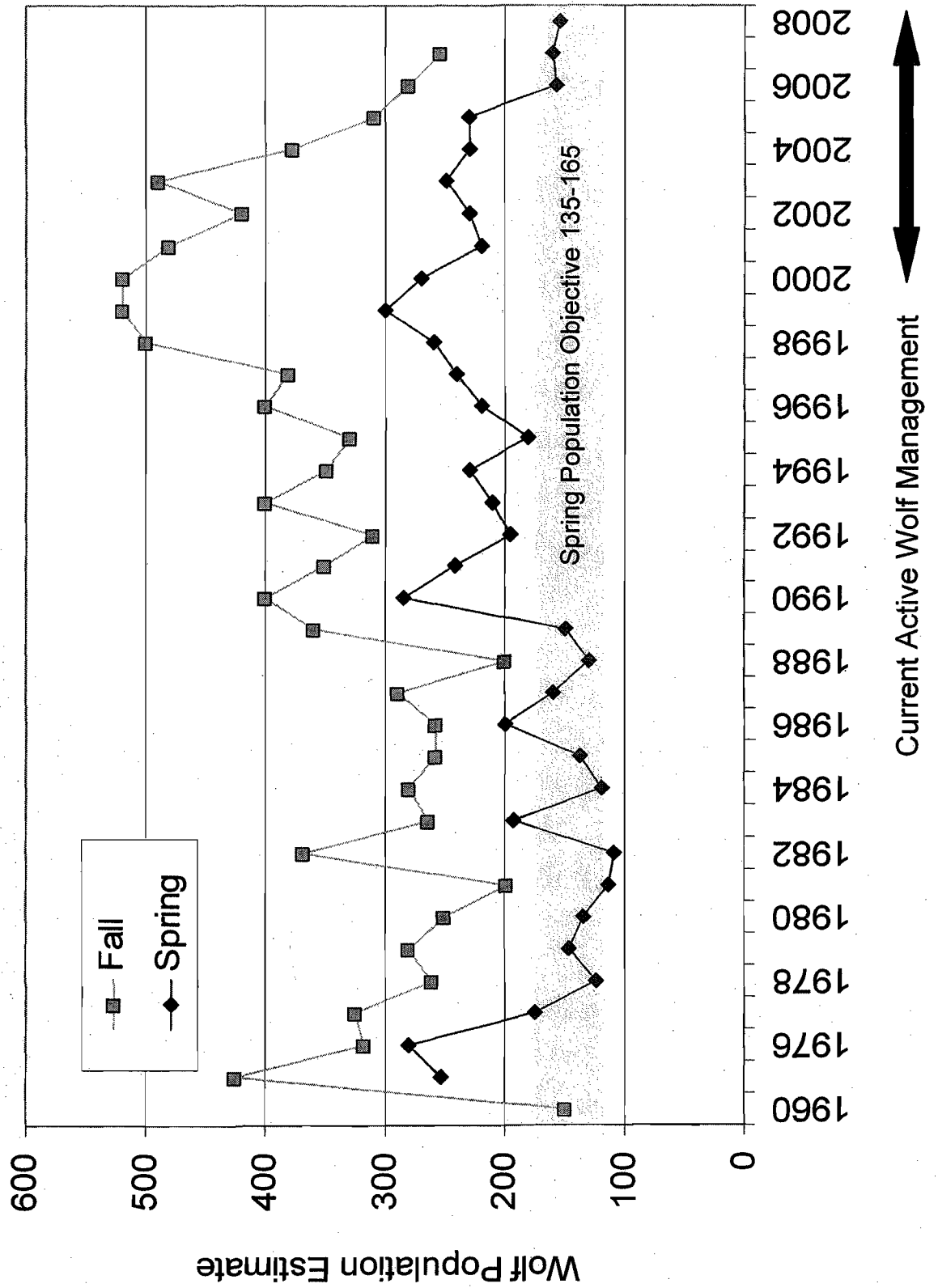
# **ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13** **2000 to 2008** **WOLF RESULTS TO DATE**

## **UNITWIDE WOLF POPULATION ESTIMATES:**

	<u><b>SPRING</b></u>	<u><b>FALL</b></u>	
<b>2000-01</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>520</b>	
<b>2001-02</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>480</b>	
<b>2002-03</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>420</b>	
<b>2003-04</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>[SDA began Jan04]</b>
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>377</b>	
<b>2005-06</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>309</b>	
<b>2006-07</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>280</b>	
<b>2007-08</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>254</b>	
<b>2008-09</b>	<b>153</b>	<i>265-300 (preliminary est.)</i>	

<b>GMU 13 unit-wide spring wolf population objective 135-165</b>
--

# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 WOLF POPULATION TREND



# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13

## 2000 to 2008

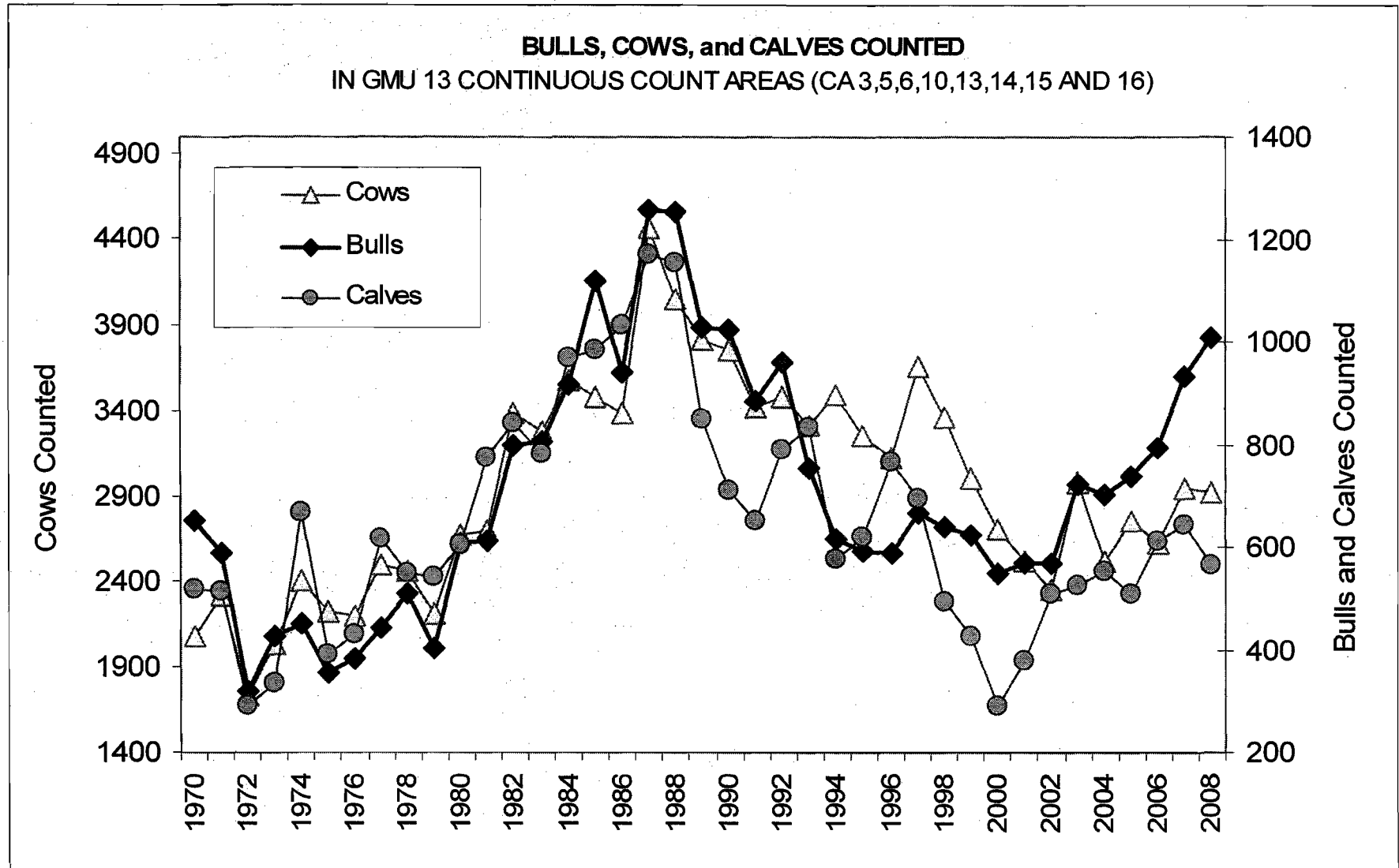
### MOOSE COUNT RESULTS TO DATE

Unit 13 moose numbers in standardized continuous count areas:

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Ave. annual % Change</u>
Bulls	547	1011	Up 85%	11%
Yrl Bulls	78	341	Up 337%	42%
Calves	292	563	Up 93%	12%
Cows	2710	2907	Up 7%	1%
<b>Total moose</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>4481</b>	<b>Up 26%</b>	<b>3%</b>

Opposed to strict census techniques, these survey counts are used mostly to assess population composition and indicate population trends over time.

# MOOSE COUNT TRENDS



Current Active Wolf Management



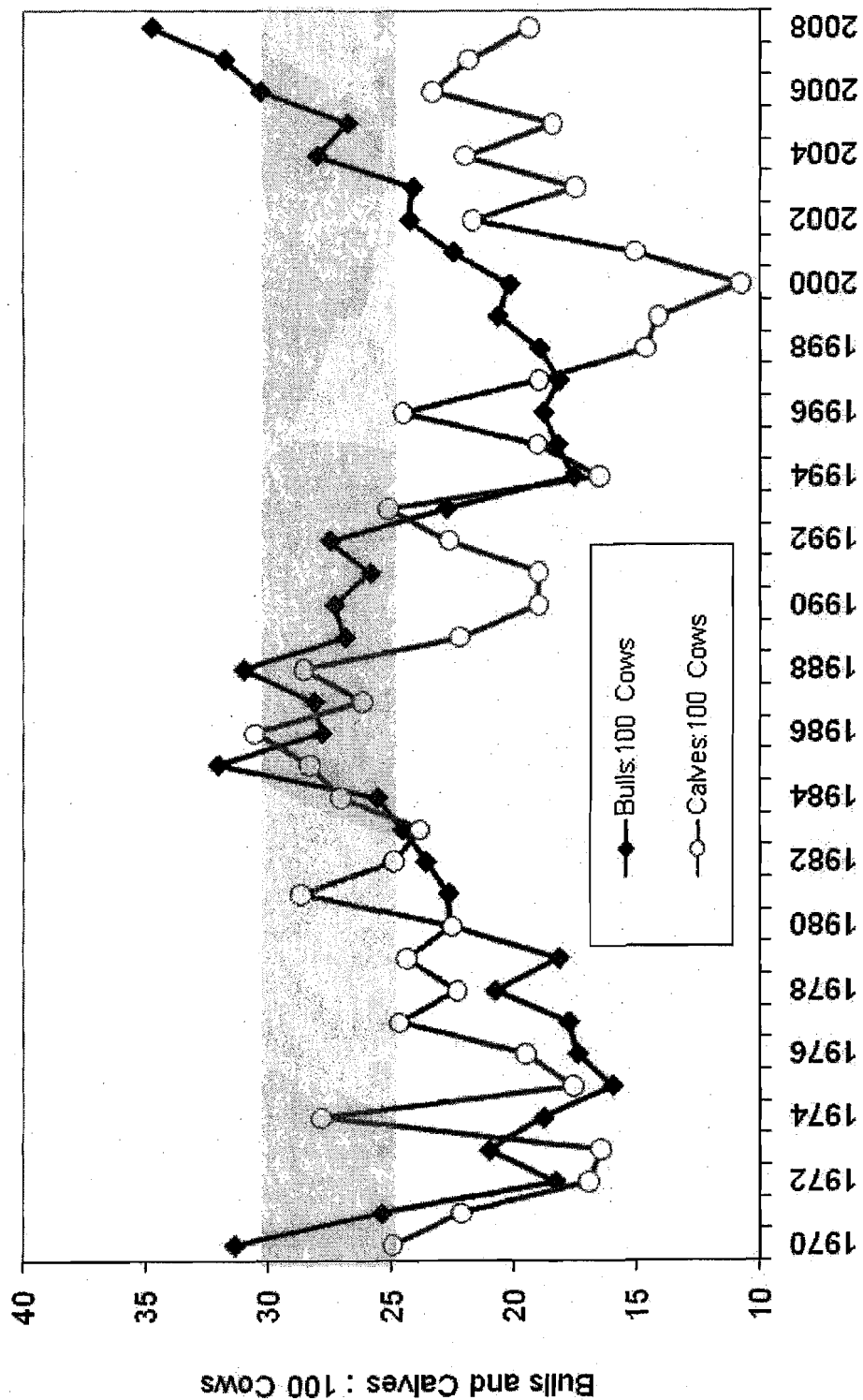
**ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13**  
**2000 to 2008**  
**MOOSE COMPOSITION RESULTS TO DATE**

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Ave. Annual % Change</u>
Calves:100 cows	10.8	19.4	Up 80%	Up 10%
Bulls:100 cows	20.2	34.8	Up 72%	Up 9%

Calf and Bull composition objectives are 25-30:100 cows

# MOOSE COMPOSITION TRENDS

BULLS AND CALVES :100 COWS  
IN CONTINUOUS COUNT AREAS (CAS 3,5,6,10,13,14,15 AND 16)



Current Active Wolf Management



**ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13**  
**2000 to 2008**  
**MOOSE HARVEST RESULTS TO DATE**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>A</b> <b>210-420</b>	<b>B</b> <b>310-620</b>	<b>C</b> <b>155-350</b>	<b>D</b> <b>75-190</b>	<b>E</b> <b>300-600</b>	<b>Total*</b> <b>1050-2180</b>
<b>2000</b>	115	148	101	77	96	537
<b>2001</b>	122	125	63	59	86	455
<b>2002</b>	169	163	80	62	90	564
<b>2003</b>	175	179	71	71	117	613
<b>2004</b>	214	129	62	68	120	593
<b>2005</b>	184	149	51	63	109	556
<b>2006</b>	225	172	57	68	156	678
<b>2007</b>	207	172	63	57	137	636
<b>2008</b>	220	178	58	60	159	675

\*Total includes moose from unspecified harvest locations; *2008 data preliminary*

It is important to note that while moose numbers have increased, the current harvest regulations are still restrictive, and do not allow for all the harvestable surplus to be taken.



## **ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

- **There are no immediate plans to change the current wolf control plan.**
  - **Wolf population objectives are being met (last 3 years)**
  - **Moose numbers in count areas are increasing ~3% annually**
- **Moose harvest numbers across the control area have been steadily rising due to substantial increases in the annual available surplus.**
- **With bull:cow ratios above objectives, changes in moose hunting regulations are now necessary to take advantage of additional surplus bulls.**

**5 AAC 85.060. Hunting seasons and bag limits for fur animals (a) ...**

<b>Units and Bag Limits</b>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
(1) Coyote		
...		
Units 6 – <u>11</u> , [8, 10, 11,] 13 - 17, 21, 24, 25, 26(B), and 26(C)	Aug. 10 - Apr. 30 (General hunt only)	Aug. 10 - Apr. 30
10 coyotes		
[UNIT 9]	[AUG. 10 - MAY 25]	[AUG. 10 - MAY 25]
[10 COYOTES]	[(GENERAL HUNT ONLY)]	

...

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game

**Larry Van Daele, Ph.D.**  
Area Biologist

**John Crye**  
Wildlife Biologist

**Vicki Vanek, DVM**  
Wildlife Veterinarian

**Doris Mensch**  
Program Technician





**Game  
Management  
Unit 8**

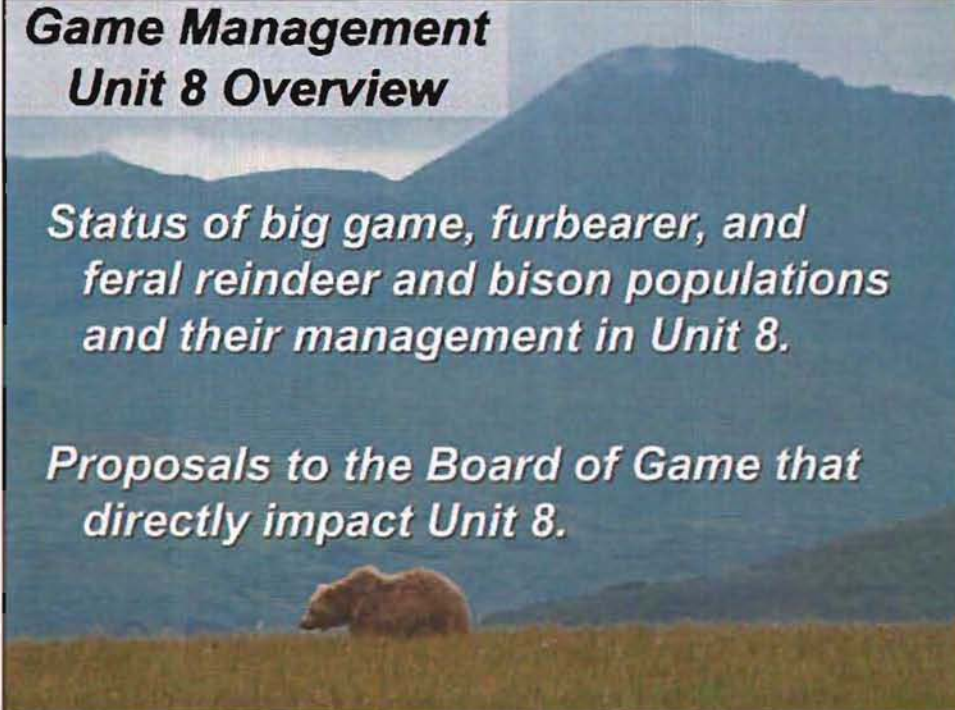
**Kodiak  
Archipelago**

*including, Kodiak,  
Afognak, Raspberry,  
Shuyak, the Barrens,  
Trinity, Chirikof,  
and other nearby islands*

**Game Management  
Unit 8 Overview**

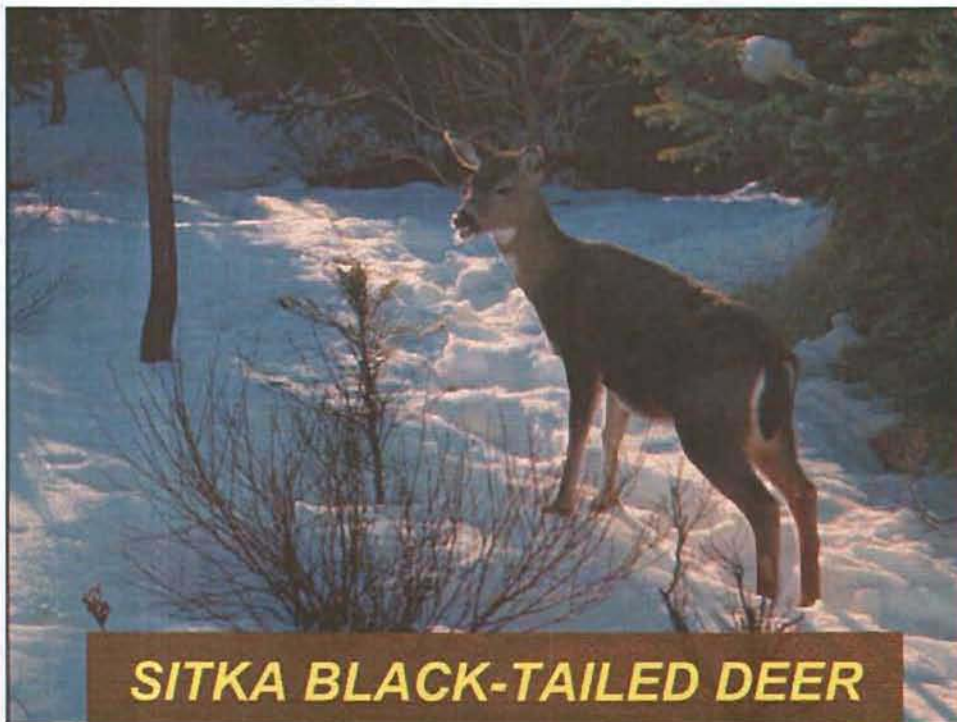
*Status of big game, furbearer, and  
feral reindeer and bison populations  
and their management in Unit 8.*

*Proposals to the Board of Game that  
directly impact Unit 8.*



## *Kodiak at a Glance*

- 5,000 square miles
- 60,000 Sitka black-tailed deer
- 3,500 brown bears
- 2,200 mountain goats
- 640 Roosevelt elk
- 14,000 people in Kodiak city, a Coast Guard base, and six outlying villages



**SITKA BLACK-TAILED DEER**



## SITKA BLACK-TAILED DEER

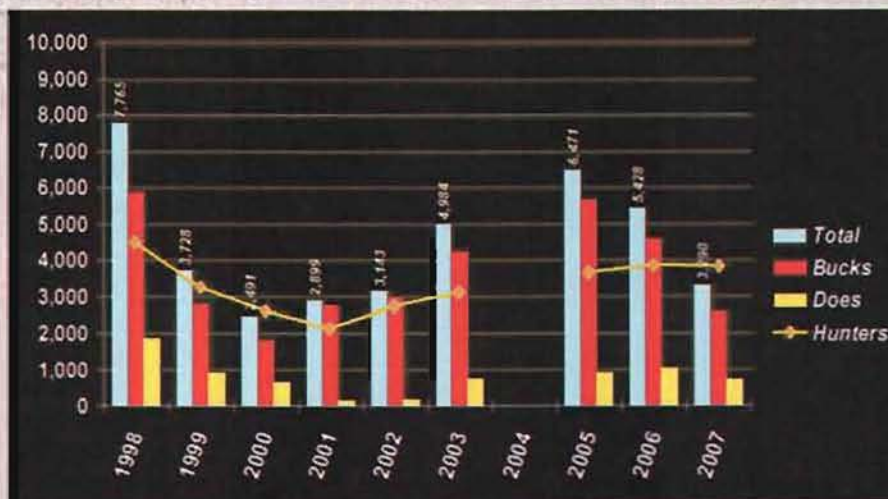
**STATUS:** Stable to declining at ~60,000 deer;  
Introduced in 1900; >50% decline in 1998/99;  
Occupy all major islands of archipelago

**MANAGEMENT:** Aug. 1 - Dec. 31 season; bag  
ranges from 1 buck to 3 deer; Federal season  
goes thru January.

**HARVEST:** now about 3,000 deer/yr, 85% male

**ISSUES:** 2006/07 winter mortality; CWD  
surveillance; KNWR habitat concerns

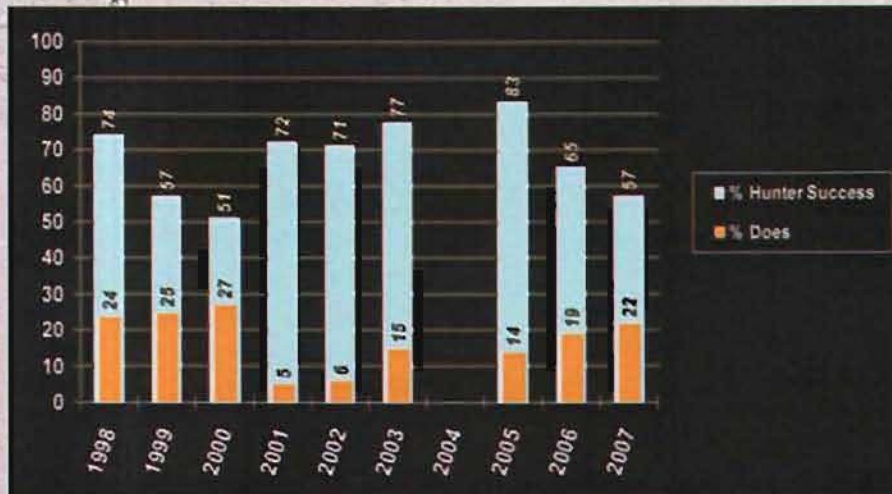
## KODIAK AREA DEER HARVEST and hunter effort 1998 - 2007



## DEER HUNTER SUCCESS

(Game Management Area 8)

1998 - 2007



## Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance

2003 - 128 deer; 8 elk

All negative

2004 - 394 deer; 16 elk

All negative

2005 - 402 deer; 21 elk

All negative

2006 - 192 deer; 10 elk

All negative

2007 - 185 deer; 13 elk

All negative

2008 - 97 deer; 13 elk

Results not yet received





## ROOSEVELT ELK



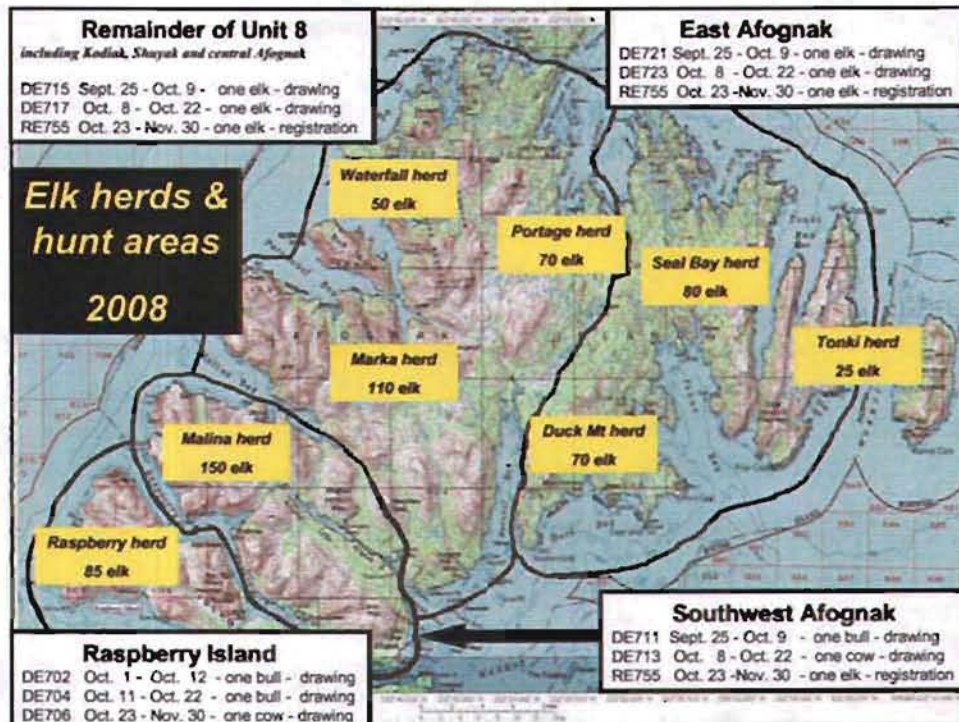
## ROOSEVELT ELK

**STATUS:** Declining at about 640 elk; Introduced 1929; Occupy Afognak & Raspberry Islands

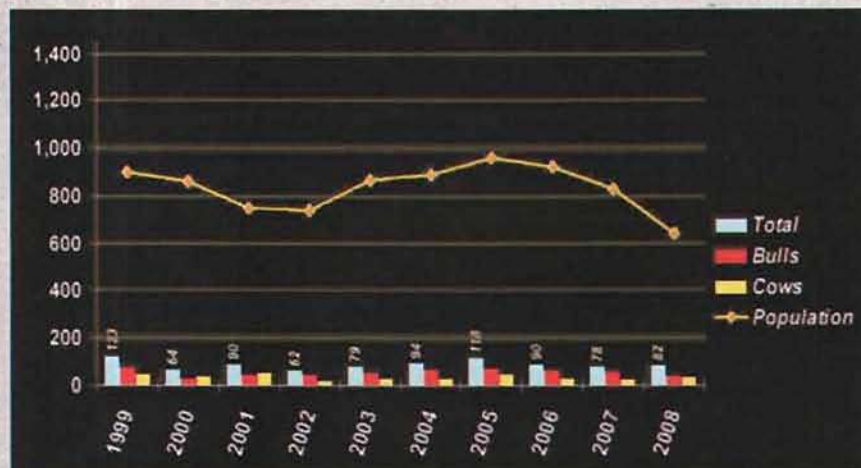
**MANAGEMENT:** Sept. 25 - Nov. 30 season; Nine drawing hunts (475 permits) and one registration hunt; Federal season starts Sept. 15

**HARVEST:** 92 elk/year, 66% bulls (5 yr average); managed by herd; harvest decreasing

**ISSUES:** Habitat alteration due to logging; Hunter access; Private Lands Wildlife Mgmt.

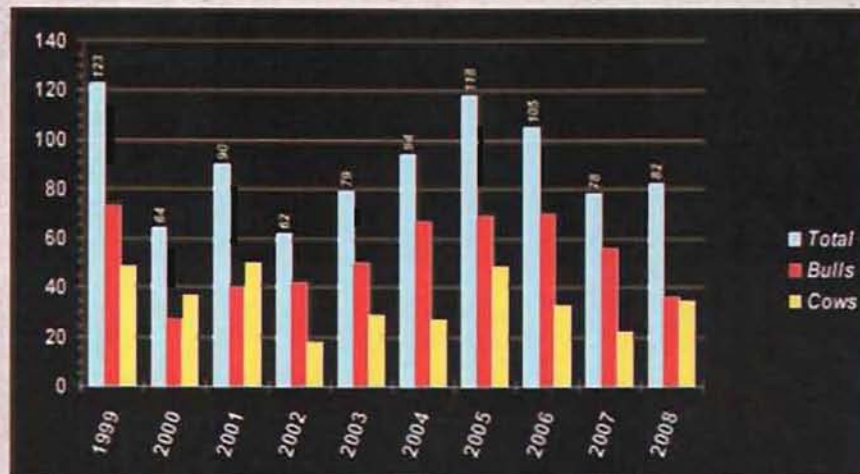


## AFOGNAK - RASPBERRY ELK POPULATION and total harvest 1999 - 2008





# AFOGNAK - RASPBERRY ELK HARVEST 1999 - 2008



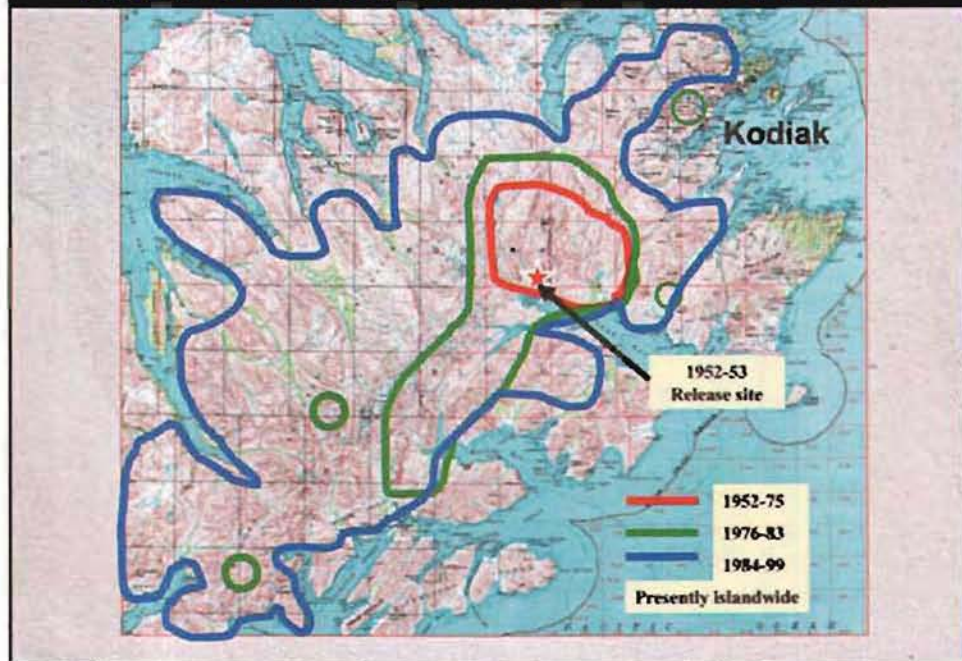
# MOUNTAIN GOAT



## MOUNTAIN GOAT

- **STATUS:** Stable to increasing at over 2,200 goats; Introduced in 1952; Occur throughout Kodiak
- **MANAGEMENT:** Nine hunt areas  
Drawing: Aug. 20 - Oct. 25 (500 permits)  
Registration: Nov. 01 - Dec. 15 (resident only)
- **HARVEST:** 148 goats/year, 63% male (5 yr average)
- **ISSUES:** Increasing population allowing increased hunter opportunity; Kodiak NWR concern about habitat alteration by goats.

## KODIAK MOUNTAIN GOAT EXPANSION





### 1999 Goat Density

900 goats



### 2008 Goat Density

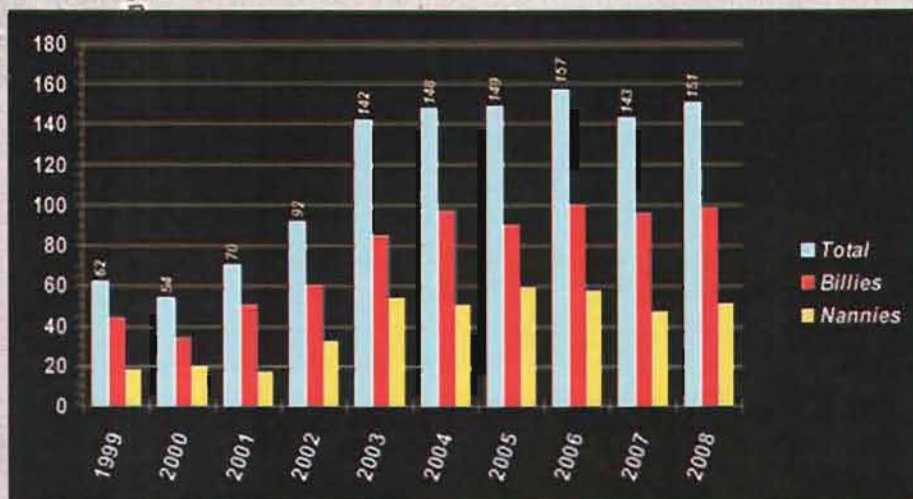
2,200 goats



## Goat Density Changes

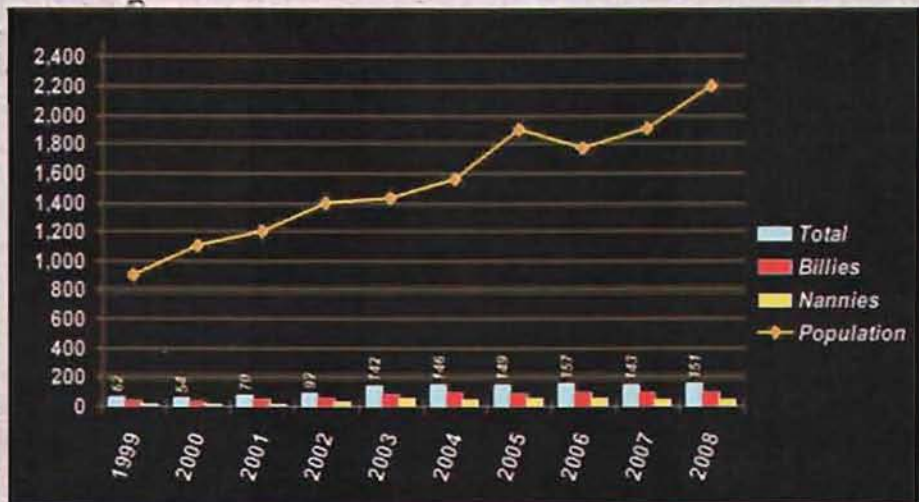


## KODIAK GOAT HARVEST 1999 - 2008





## KODIAK GOAT POPULATION and total harvest 1999 - 2008



## BROWN BEARS

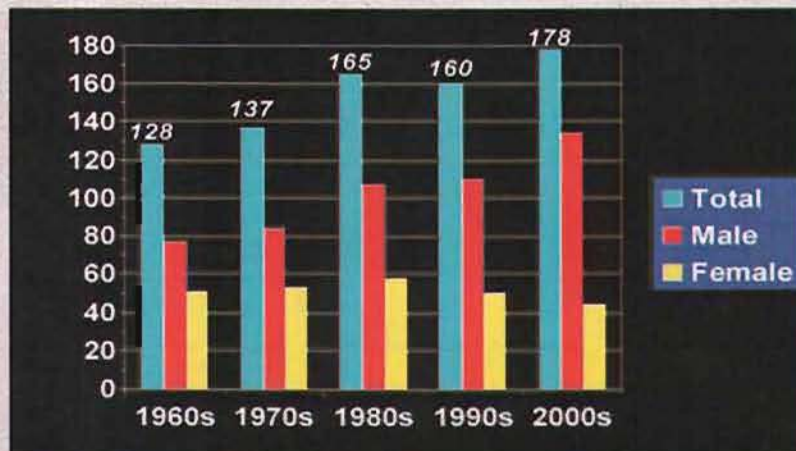
**STATUS:** Stable to increasing at ~ 3,500 bears; On all major islands of Archipelago

**MANAGEMENT:** Spring (319 permits) and Fall (177 permits) drawing hunts in 32 areas and one registration hunt.

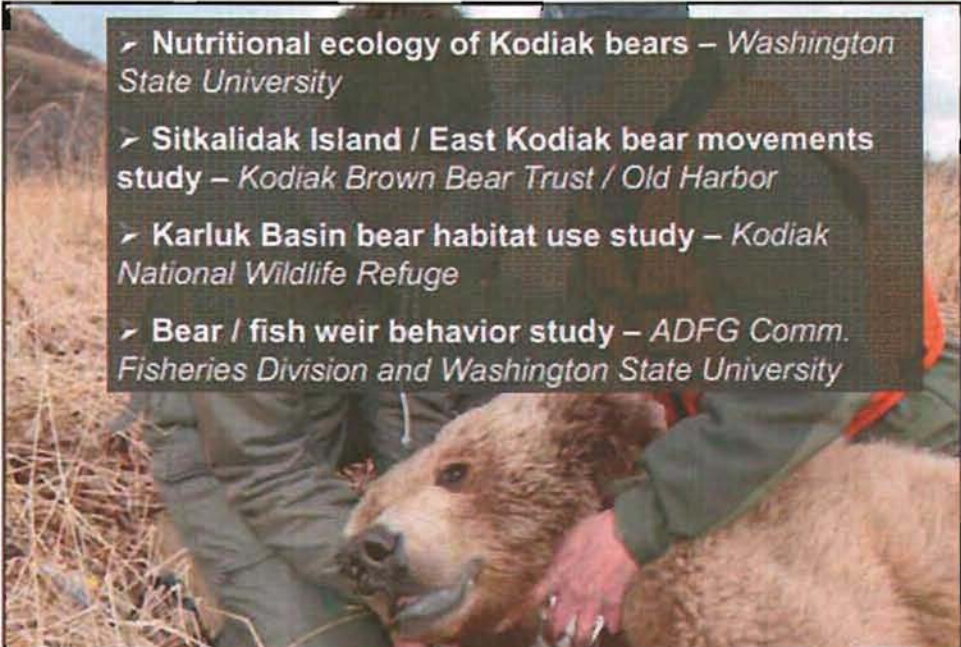
**HARVEST:** 186 bears/yr, 76% male, increasing

**ISSUES:** Bear viewing; Village dumps; Bear Management Plan implementation; Karluk basin and Old Harbor research; nutritional ecology research

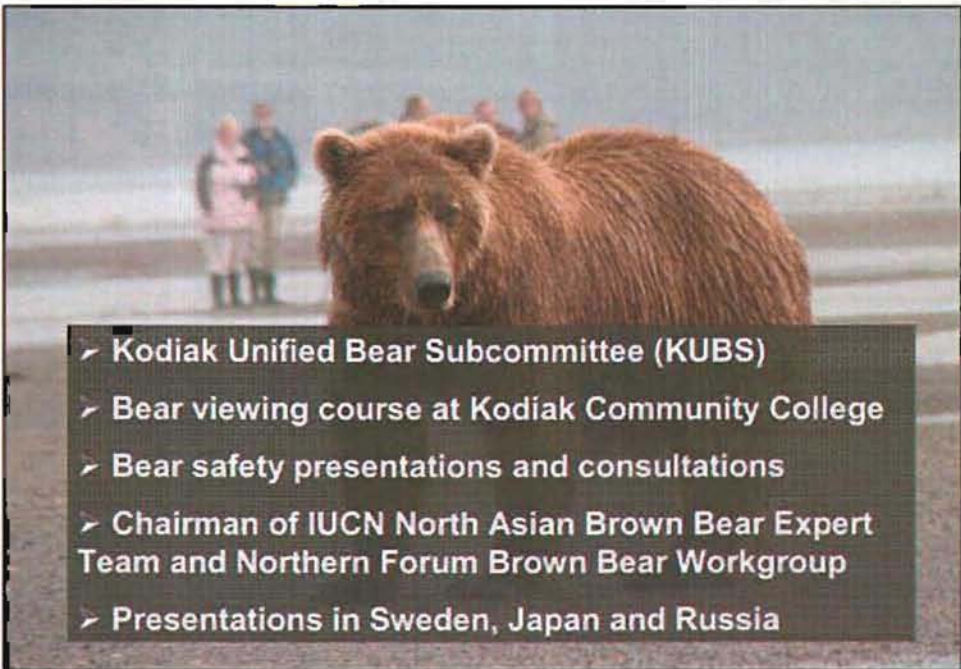
## KODIAK AREA BEAR HARVEST (average annual harvest by decade) 1960 - 2008



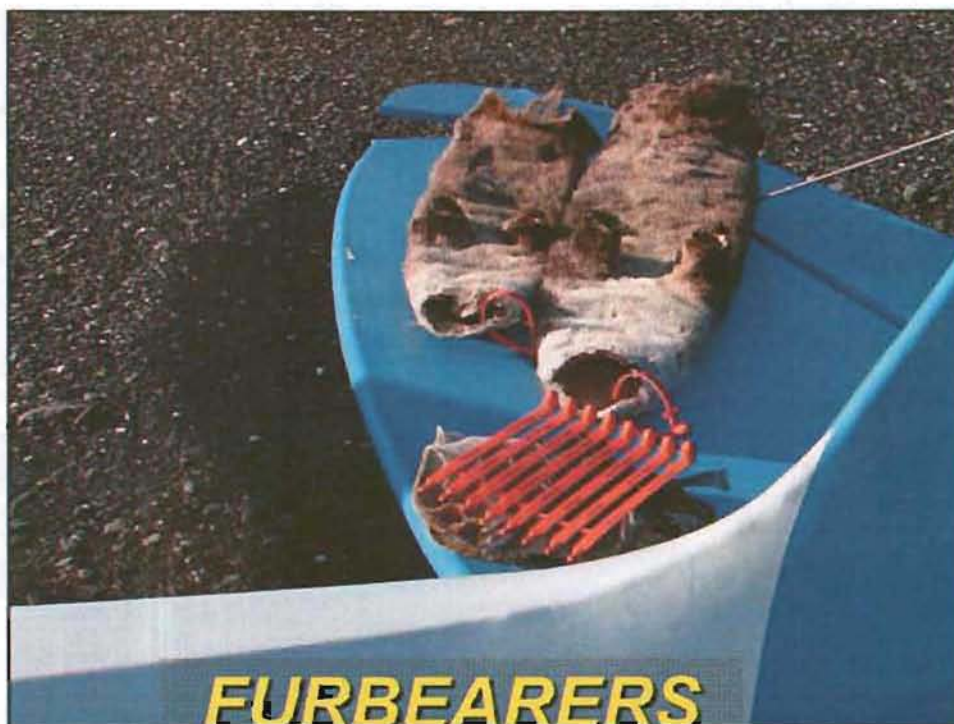
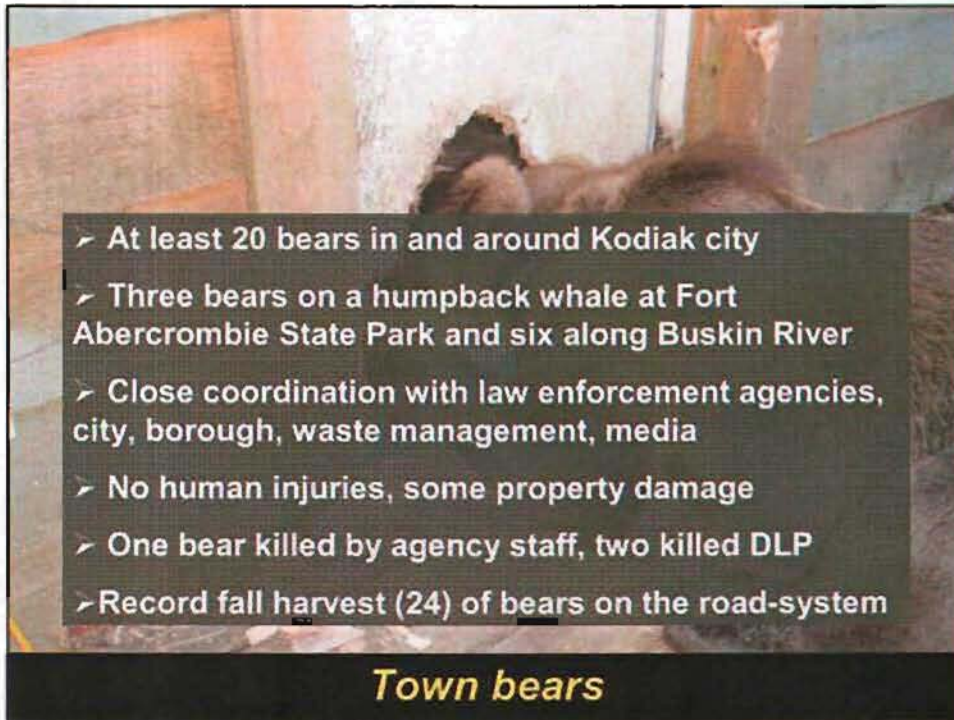


- 
- Nutritional ecology of Kodiak bears – *Washington State University*
  - Sitkalidak Island / East Kodiak bear movements study – *Kodiak Brown Bear Trust / Old Harbor*
  - Karluk Basin bear habitat use study – *Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge*
  - Bear / fish weir behavior study – *ADFG Comm. Fisheries Division and Washington State University*

### ***Bear Research***

- 
- Kodiak Unified Bear Subcommittee (KUBS)
  - Bear viewing course at Kodiak Community College
  - Bear safety presentations and consultations
  - Chairman of IUCN North Asian Brown Bear Expert Team and Northern Forum Brown Bear Workgroup
  - Presentations in Sweden, Japan and Russia

### ***Public Outreach***





## FURBEARERS

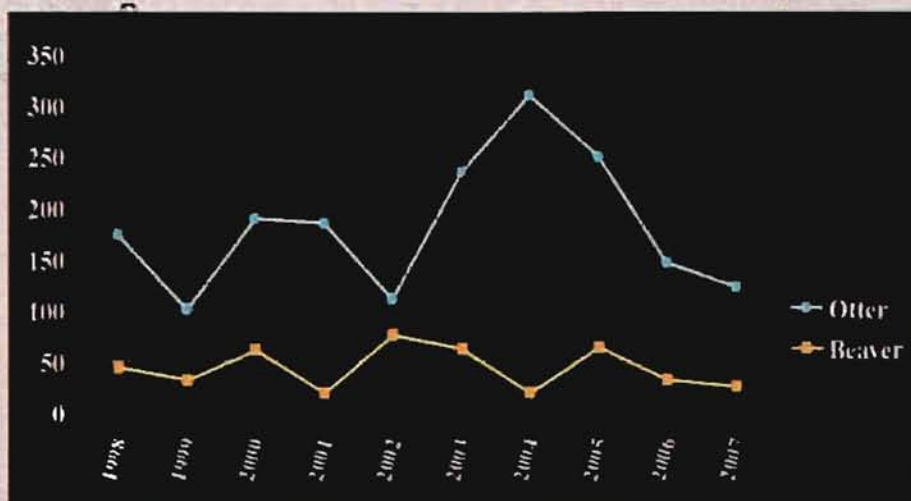
**STATUS:** Beaver, Land Otter, Red Fox, and Marten stable.

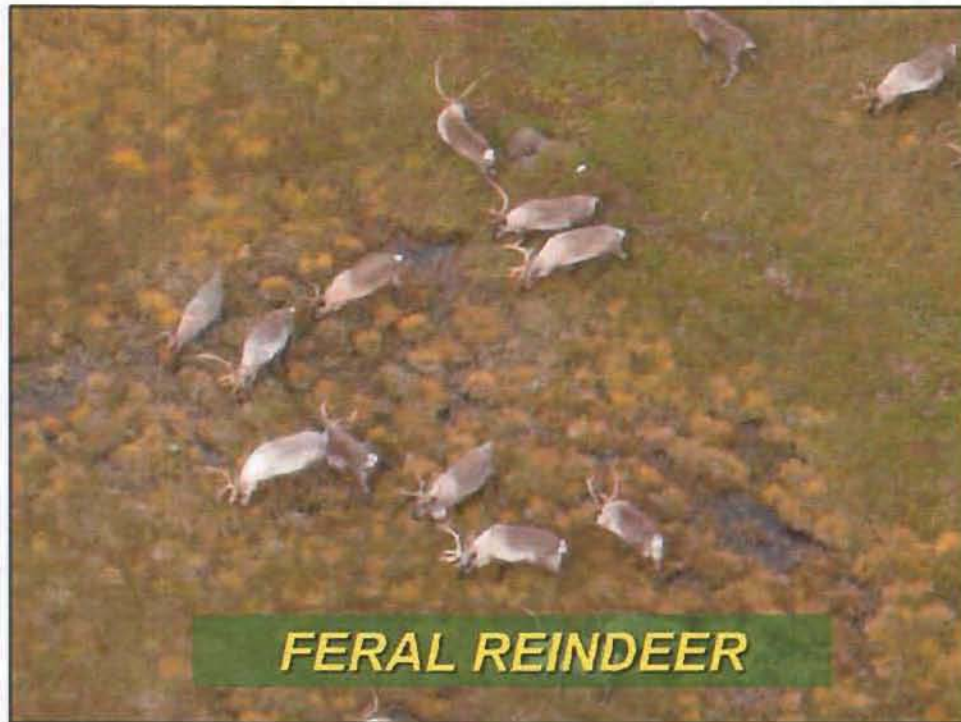
**MANAGEMENT:** Nov. 10 - Jan. 31 (otter & marten), Mar. 31 (fox), Apr. 30 (beaver);  
No limits

**HARVEST:** 39 beaver/year, 213 otter/year

**ISSUES:** Localized high harvests of otter, but drop in otter prices has reduced harvest

## KODIAK AREA FUR HARVEST (Game Management Unit 8) 1998 – 2007





## **FERAL REINDEER**

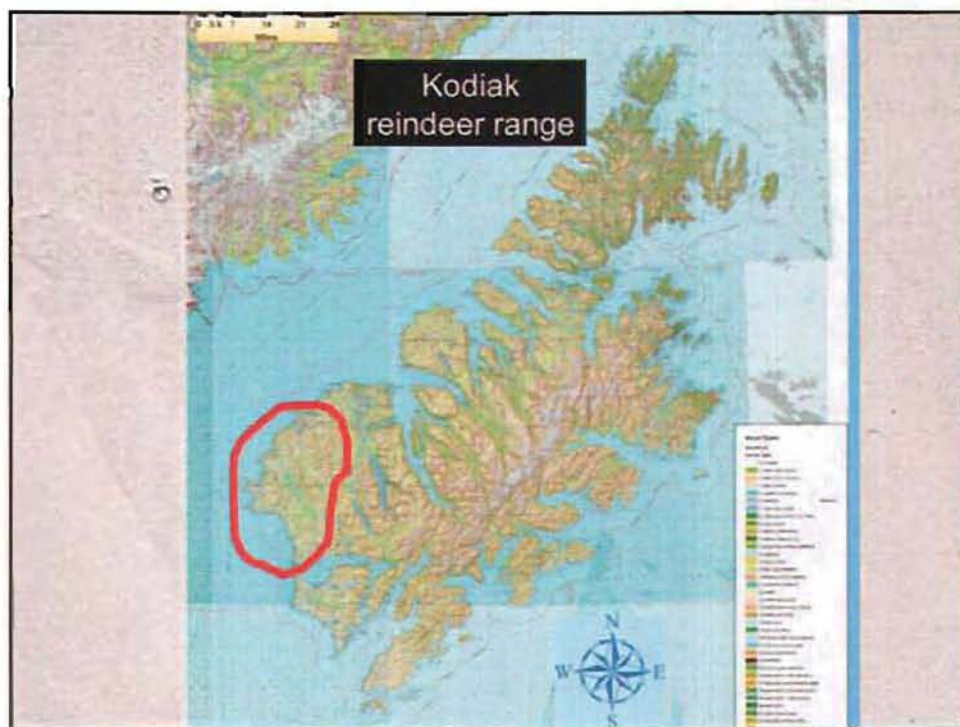
**STATUS:** Stable at 200 – 250 reindeer;  
Introduced 1921; Occupy southwest Kodiak  
Island (Ayakulik & Sturgeon River drainages)

**MANAGEMENT:** no closed season; no bag limit;  
same-day-airborne permitted; caribou harvest  
ticket/tag required; meat salvage required

**HARVEST:** 21 reindeer/year (5 year average)

**ISSUES:** Not managed for sustained yield;  
increased harvest and interest since SDA  
authorized in 2001.



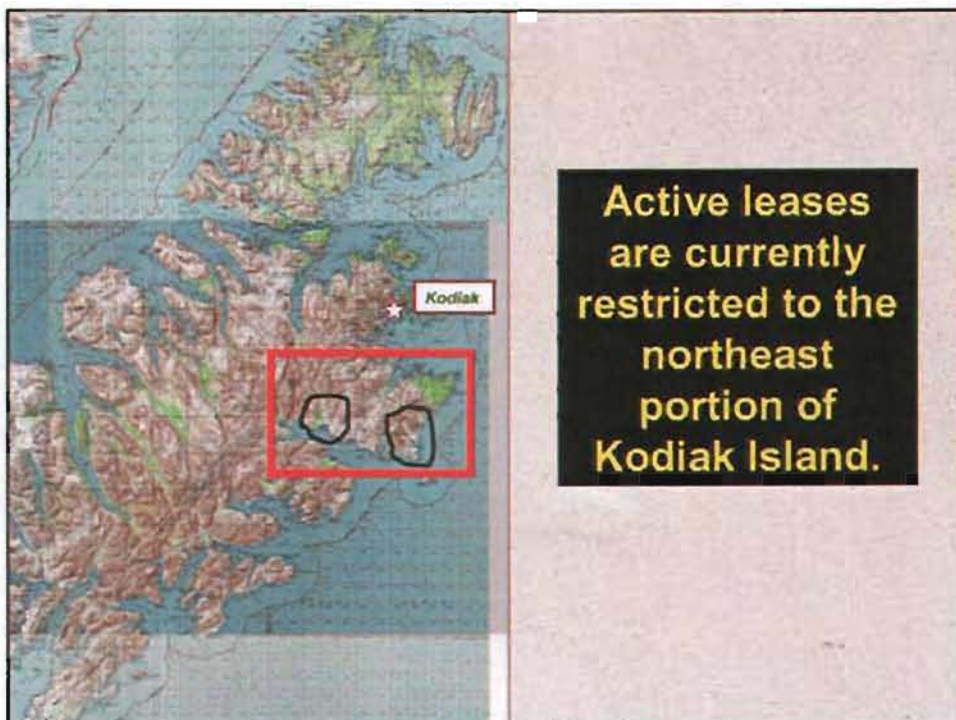
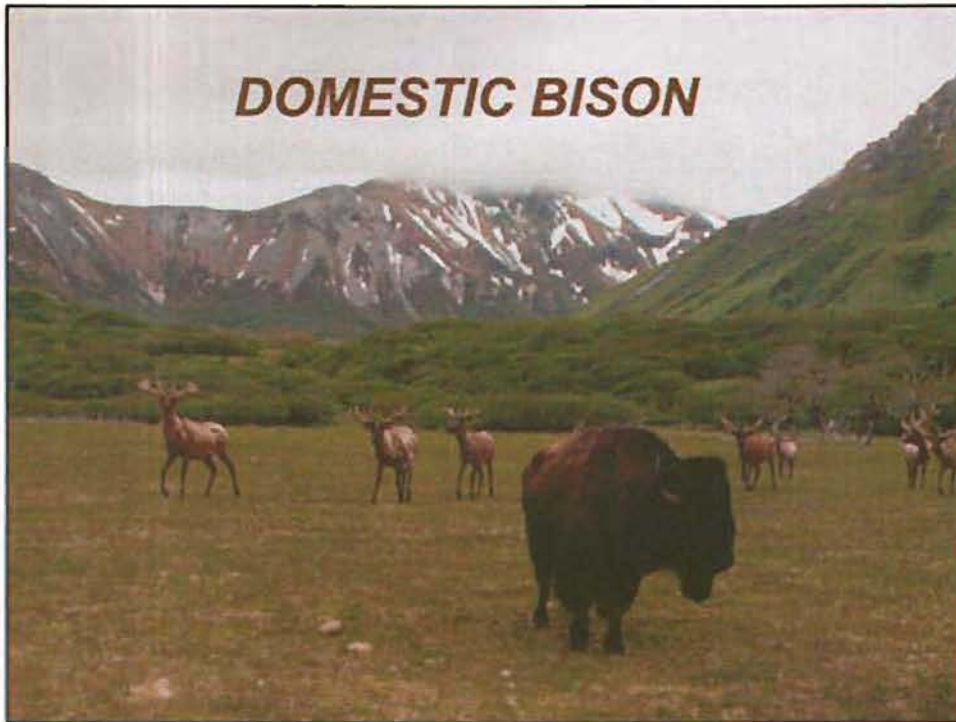


## ***Kodiak Feral Reindeer***

*Reported harvest 1998-2007*

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Res</u>	<u>NR</u>	<u>Unk</u>	<u>Total</u>
	1998	7	4	0	11
	1999	12	0	0	12
	2000	5	0	0	5
	2001	6	3	0	9
	2002	12	6	0	18
Same-day-airborne hunting authorized	2003	17	1	1	19
	2004	17	1	4	22
	2005	13	4	0	17
	2006	14	4	0	18
	2007	28	3	0	31

## **DOMESTIC BISON**



**Active leases  
are currently  
restricted to the  
northeast  
portion of  
Kodiak Island.**



**Bill Burton has ~500 bison**  
**Charlie Dorman has ~200 bison**



**Primary areas of concern are Chiniak and Hidden Basin.**







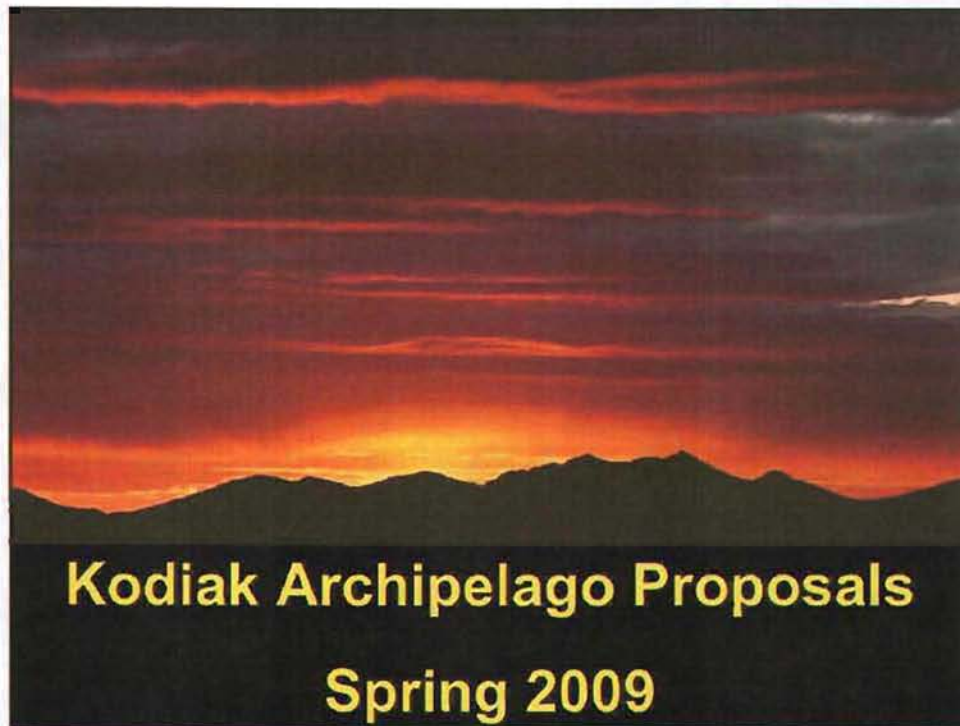
### In 2007 the Board:

- exempted Kodiak bison from marking requirement
- gave ranchers a 2 year grace period to get bison onto leases
- authorized a winter registration hunt opening at the Department's discretion
- bag limit of 1 bison/5 yrs



### Since then...

- one rancher has kept most bison on his lease and worked with ADFG to obtain permits to kill or retrieve wayward bison
- other rancher has been less successful and has not asked for permits
- he has recently been in communication with us and is seeking ways to improve fencing, and either herd or shoot wayward stock
- *ADFG is committed to working with ranchers to avoid having a hunt if at all possible*





## Proposal 158

### Allow Kodiak bear permitting/sealing off-island

- All Kodiak bear hunters must pick up permit in Kodiak and seal bear before it leaves the island.
- Restrictions implemented in 1976 to assure compliance to area specific regulations and data collection from harvested bears.
- Department personnel volunteer after hours and on weekends to seal bears.
- These are critical components that are necessary to keep this high profile, micro-managed hunt successful.
- *DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – Do not adopt*

### Kodiak Archipelago Bear Conservation and Management Plan



photo by Jonathan Fugle  
Sept. 11, 2001

February 2002

**Maintain the current bear-harvest monitoring regime, including permit reports, specimen requirements, and on-island bear sealing.**



### Top Ten Reasons for in-unit sealing / permitting

- **Number 6** – enhanced enforcement of complex regulations, illegal take, illegal guiding, sows with cubs
- **Number 7** – in-unit permitting gives hunters consistent, accurate orientation to area and regulations, declare 15 hunt period and sign log-in book
- **Number 8** – rapport with hunters provides information on hide quality, deer mortality, guide behavior, detailed harvest locations, wounded bears
- **Number 9** – with liberalized brown bear regulations across state bootlegging is an increasing concern
- **Number 10** – other area offices extremely busy in fall and it is unlikely all sealers will equal the quality of data collection that we have come to expect on Kodiak

### Top Ten Reasons for in-unit sealing / permitting

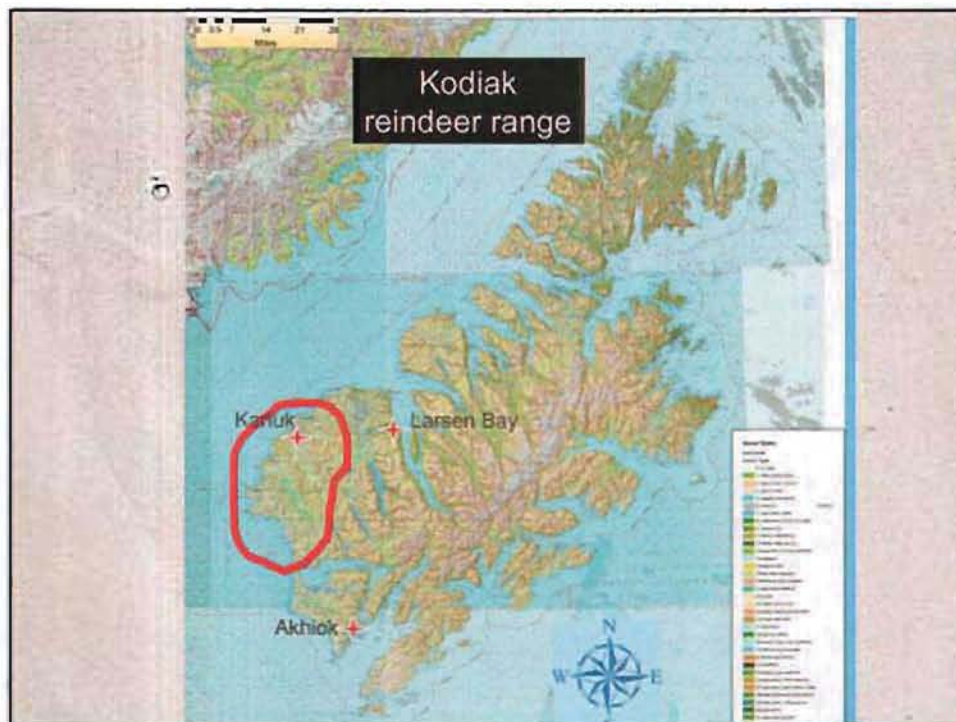
- **Number 1** – unprecedented long-term (32 yrs) large (>6,000 bears) consistent data set (mostly collected by 6 individuals) used to model population and harvest
- **Number 2** – complex micro-managed bear hunt (33 hunt areas \* 2 seasons \* 2 residency types = 132 hunts) with diverse land ownership and management
- **Number 3** – high profile “world-class” hunt that generates \$5 million/yr (\$25,000/bear); similar hunts (e.g. Delta bison) have area specific check-in / check-out procedures
- **Number 4** – bear viewing areas being established on Karluk Lake will increase demand for no-hunt areas -close scrutiny of harvest necessary to evaluate these proposals
- **Number 5** – biological sampling of hair, DNA, fat, brain tissue, tattoo recognition, nipple condition

## Proposal 159

### Restrict reindeer hunting season and bag limit

- About 200 – 250 feral reindeer on south and west part of Kodiak – herd stable to decreasing.
- Herd relatively stable for decades until enactment of same-day-airborne in 2002.
- Local desire for sustained yield management at a herd size of 200 – 500 reindeer.
- This proposal asks for a restricted season and bag limit.
- Kodiak NWR does not want herd to increase.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – None





### **Proposal 160**

#### **Prohibit same-day-airborne hunting of reindeer**

- About 200 – 250 feral reindeer on south and west part of Kodiak – herd stable to decreasing.
- Herd relatively stable for decades until enactment of same-day-airborne in 2002.
- Local desire for sustained yield management at a herd size of 200 – 500 reindeer.
- This proposal asks for elimination of same day airborne hunting.
- Kodiak NWR does not want herd to increase.

*DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – None*

### **Proposal 161**

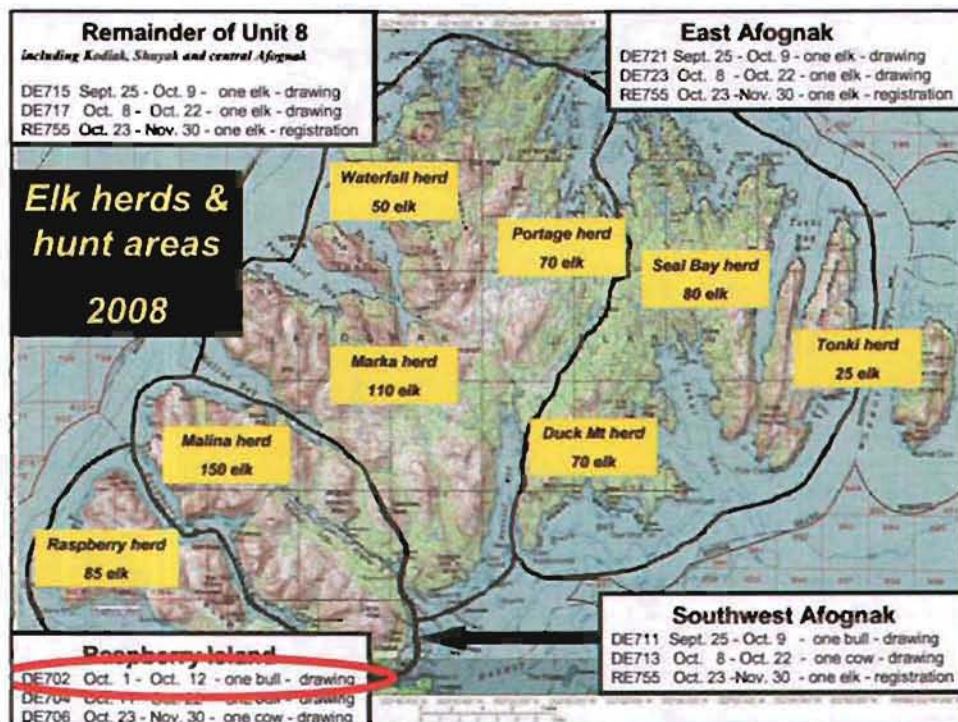
#### **Implement deer harvest report**

- Deer harvest data are currently collected by a deer harvest questionnaire sent to randomly selected hunters.
  - This method is cost effective and accurate.
  - New technologies may be implemented soon, but existing system is still best.
  - Proposed questions about testicular development could be included in questionnaire, but we cannot guarantee reporting accuracy.
- DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – Do not adopt*

## Proposal 162

### Extend elk season for archery-only hunt

- Elk herds are declining in past few years due to high winter mortality and low productivity.
- Expect to reduce allowable harvest next year.
- Inappropriate to expand season by 25 days, into the rut at this time.
- Department has no recommendation on establishment of an archery-only hunt if it does not expand current harvest.
- **DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – Do not adopt**





## Proposal 163

### Goat registration hunt for southern Kodiak Island

- Goat herds on the north end of Kodiak are stable, while those on the south end are increasing rapidly.
- Current regulations are not stemming the increase and unnecessarily restricting hunter opportunity.
- Liberal registration regulations may jeopardize local bands of goats, but these areas can be re-colonized from more remote regions.
- Emergency Orders can be used to close areas that are heavily harvested.
- *DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – Adopt*



## Proposal 164

Allocate 30% of goat permits to nonresidents

- Currently 500 drawing permits are issued for goat hunts in Unit 8 annually.
- Proposals for specific nonresident permit allocations have come before the Board several times in the past.
- The 10 year average participation of nonresidents in all goat hunts on Kodiak is 11.3%.
- The 10 year average participation of nonresidents in the drawing hunts on northern Kodiak is 14.1%.
- **DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – None**

## Kodiak goat hunter residency All hunts 1999 - 2008

Year	Resident	Non resident	Total	% non resident
1999	104	7	111	6.3%
2000	81	10	91	11.0%
2001	106	12	118	10.2%
2002	125	12	137	8.8%
2003	164	19	183	10.4%
2004	182	19	201	9.5%
2005	189	17	206	8.3%
2006	235	47	282	16.7%
2007	224	37	261	14.2%
2008	214	48	250	17.4%

**10 year average non-resident participation 11.3 %**



## Kodiak goat hunter residency Northern drawing hunts 1999 - 2008

Year	Resident	Non-resident	Total	% non-resident
1999	66	5	71	7.0%
2000	56	8	64	12.5%
2001	68	5	73	6.8%
2002	74	7	81	8.6%
2003	107	13	120	10.8%
2004	116	13	129	10.8%
2005	108	14	122	11.5%
2006	101	30	131	22.9%
2007	110	25	135	18.5%
2008	100	28	128	21.9%

*10 year average non-resident participation 14.1 %*

## Proposal 165

### Allow in-season registration for Kodiak goat hunts

- Currently drawing hunts are followed by registration hunts when harvest targets are not met.
- Permits issued to Alaska residents prior to the start of the season in the village closest to the hunt area.
- Restrictions are designed to reduce overharvest in easily accessible areas.
- Permit conditions annually determined by workgroup of KAC, KARAC, KNWR and ADF&G.
- Goat harvest opportunities may be greatly enhanced if Proposal 163 passes.
- *DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION – Do not adopt*

