

# Game Management Unit 14C

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Assistant Area Biologist: Dave Battle

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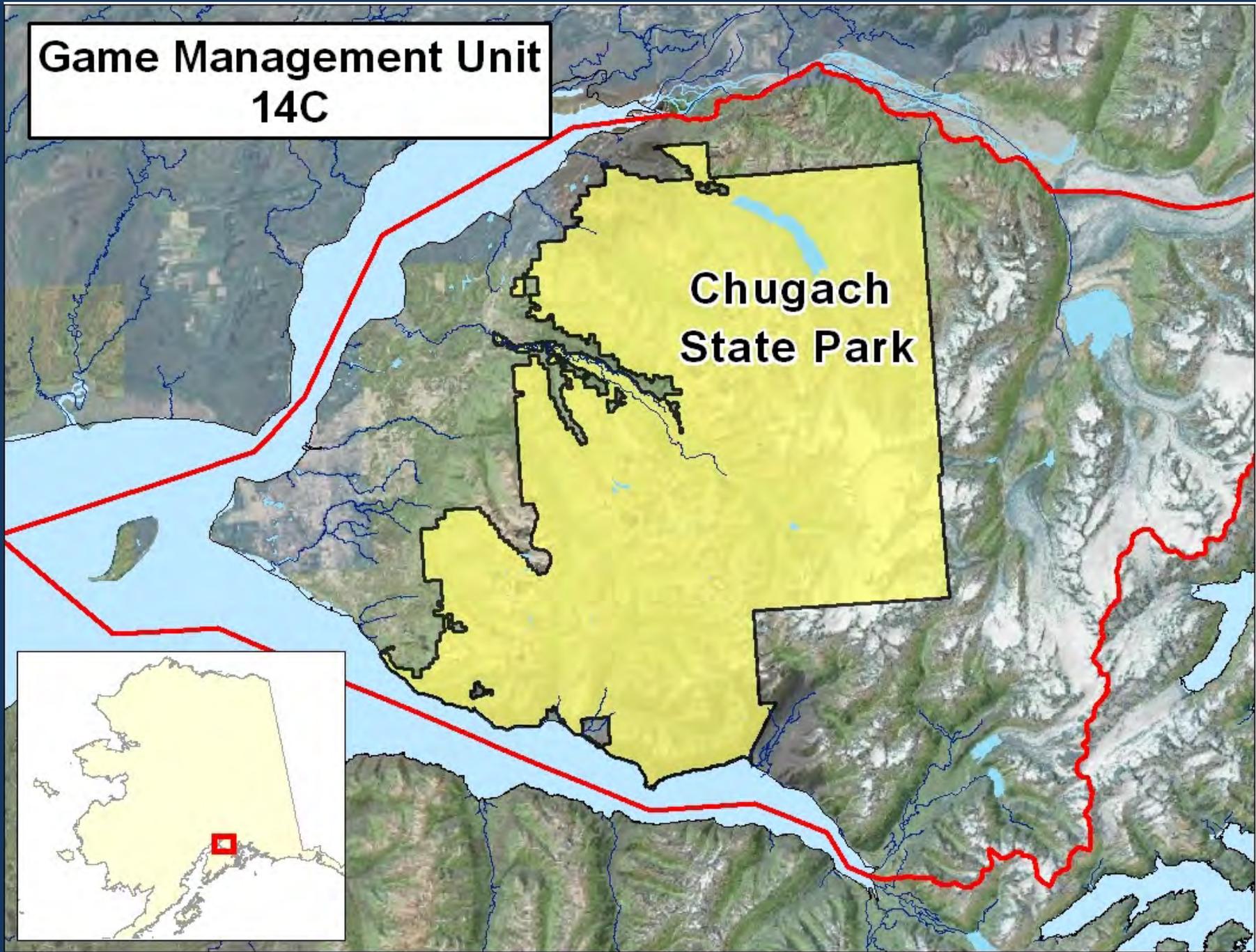
Kyle Smith (wildlife technician)

Jim Holmes (wildlife technician)

Cody Short (college intern)

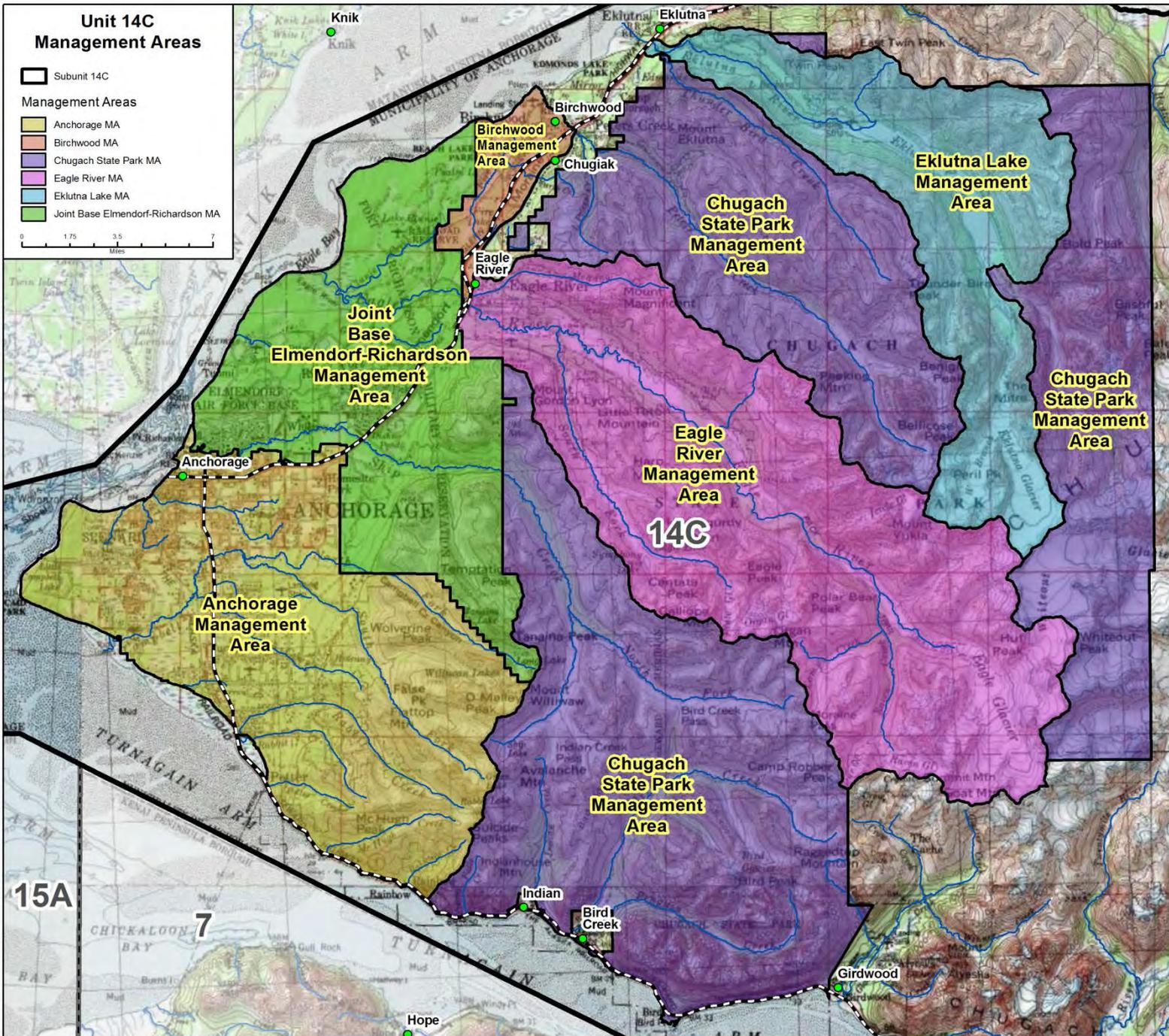
**Game Management Unit  
14C**

**Chugach  
State Park**



# Unit 14C Management Areas

-  Subunit 14C
- Management Areas**
-  Anchorage MA
-  Birchwood MA
-  Chugach State Park MA
-  Eagle River MA
-  Eklutna Lake MA
-  Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson MA



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14C

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"Dall Sheep" ©2001 Martin W. Grosnick

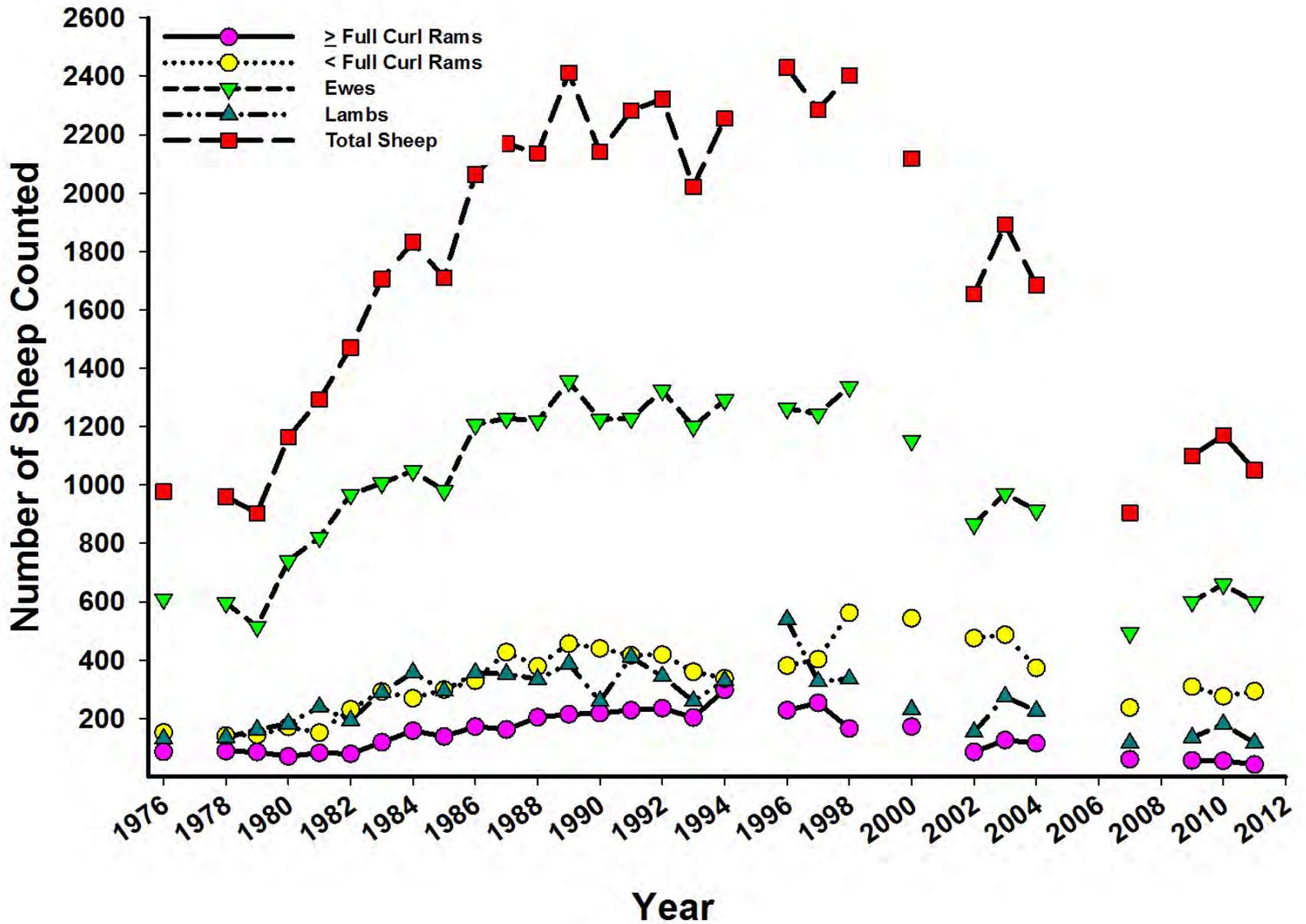
# Dall Sheep

**Status:** Approximately 1170 sheep

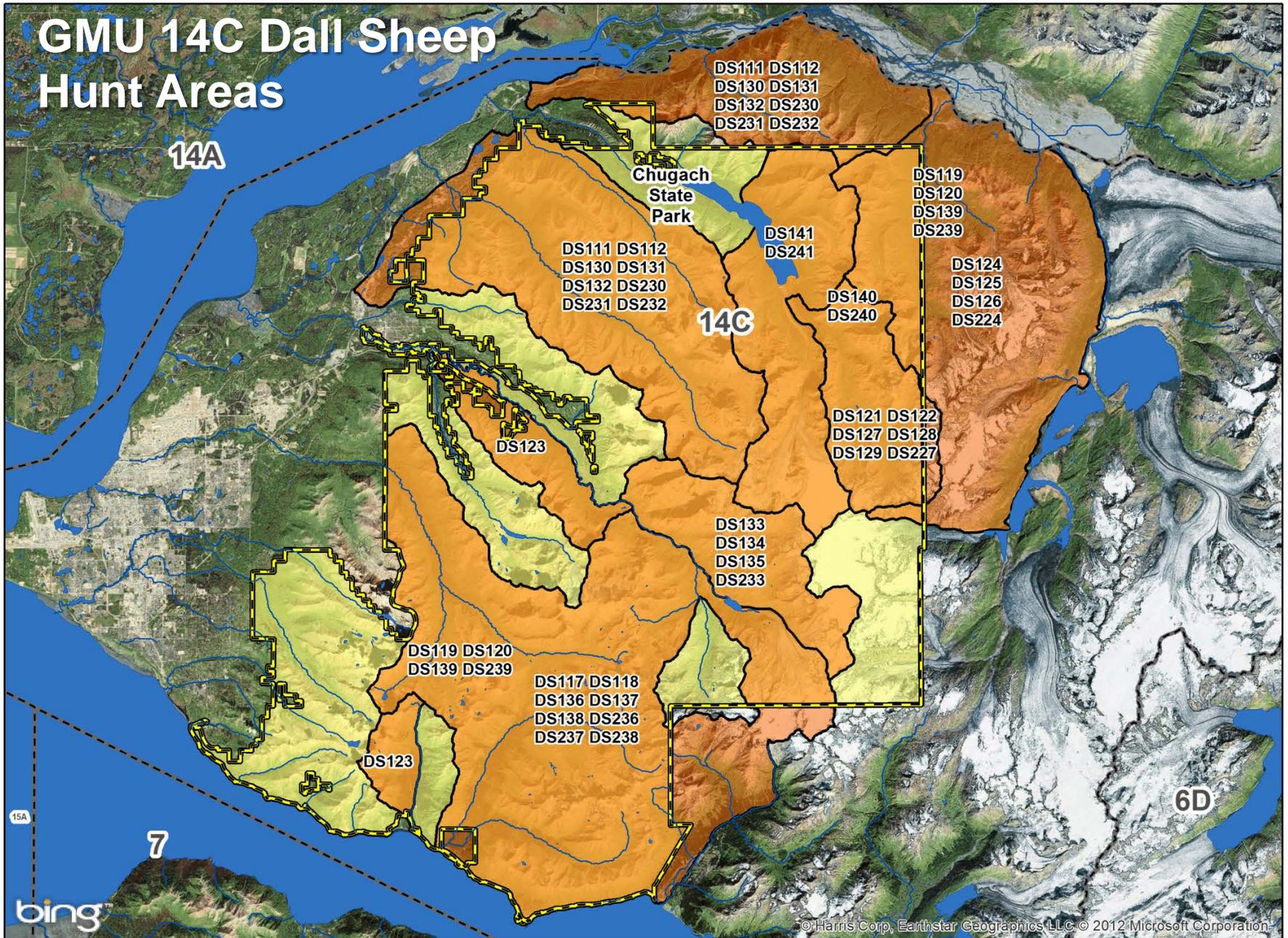
**Harvest:** Drawing permit hunts only  
Resident and nonresident hunts  
15 rams/year (5 year average)

## **Management Activities:**

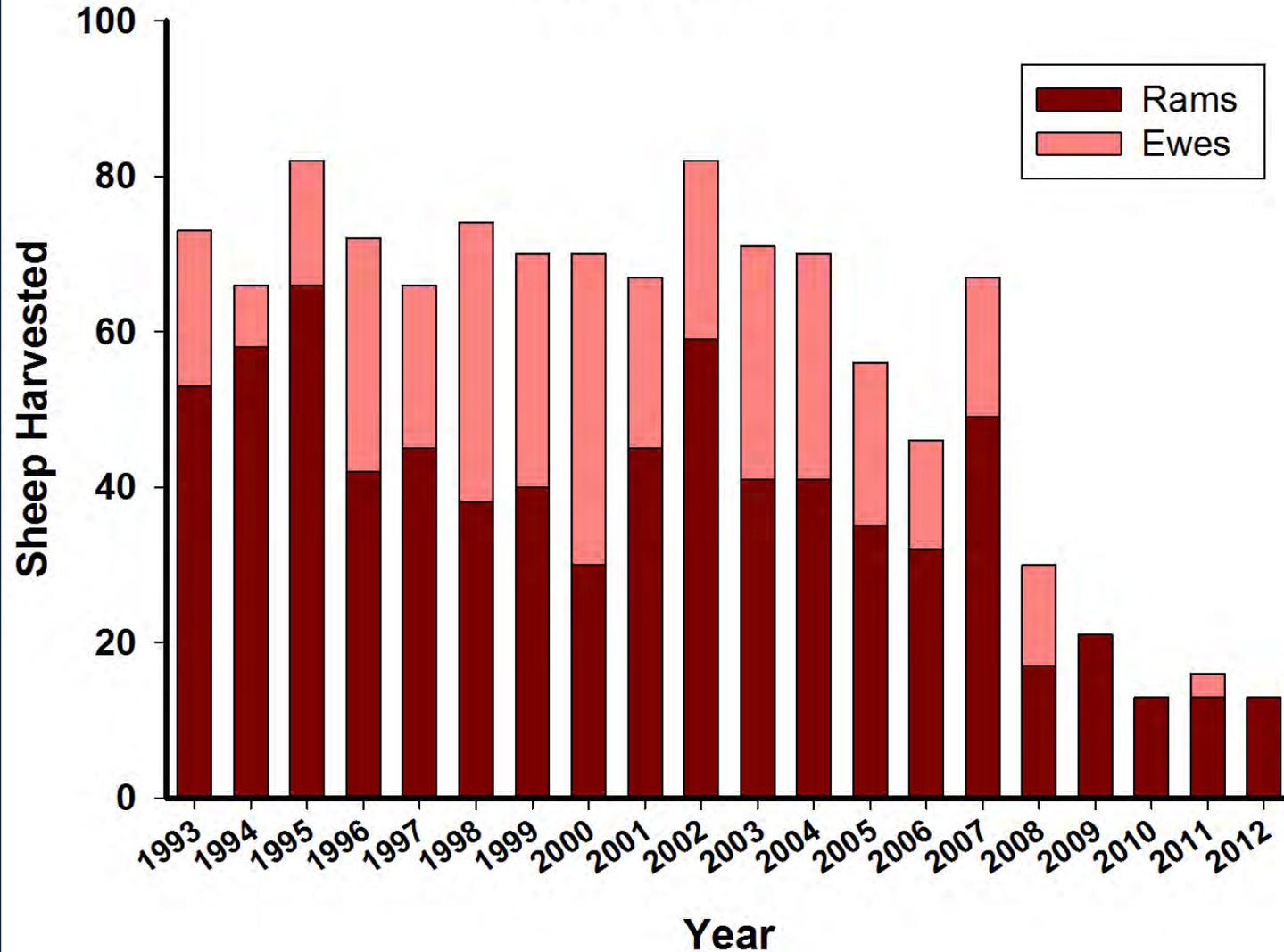
- Annual aerial surveys
  - *Last complete survey 2011*

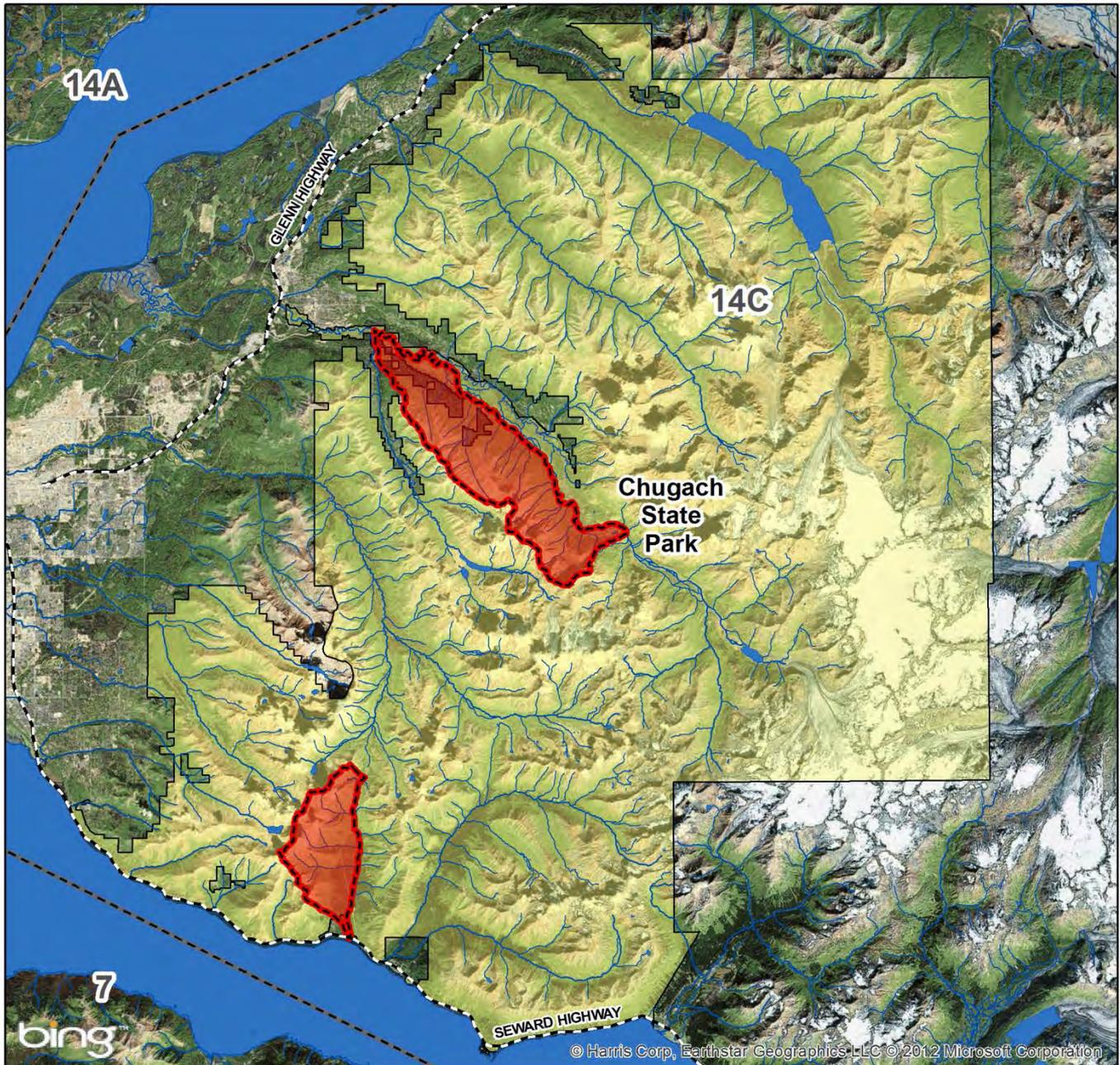


# GMU 14C Dall Sheep Hunt Areas



# GMU 14C Sheep Harvest (1993-2012)





# DS123 Sheep Drawing Permit Hunt

-  Hunt Area
-  Subunit Boundary
-  Chugach State Park

**AREA DESCRIPTION:** Unit 14C, that portion to include the following areas:

The Indian Creek drainage west of Indian Creek, excluding a 1/4-mile buffer along Powerline Pass trail; **and**

The south-side Eagle River drainage downstream of the Heritage Falls Creek drainage to, but not including, the South Fork Eagle River drainage.

These are non-contiguous areas and the permit holder can hunt one or both areas.



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# Dall Sheep

**Status:** Approximately 1170 sheep

**Harvest:** Drawing permits, full curl only,  
(53 full curl permits, 86 archery only)

## **Management Activities:**

- Annual aerial surveys
  - *Last complete survey 2011*

## **Issues:**

- Slowly increasing population numbers

**Proposals: 136-139**



Photo by James Hager

# Mountain Goats

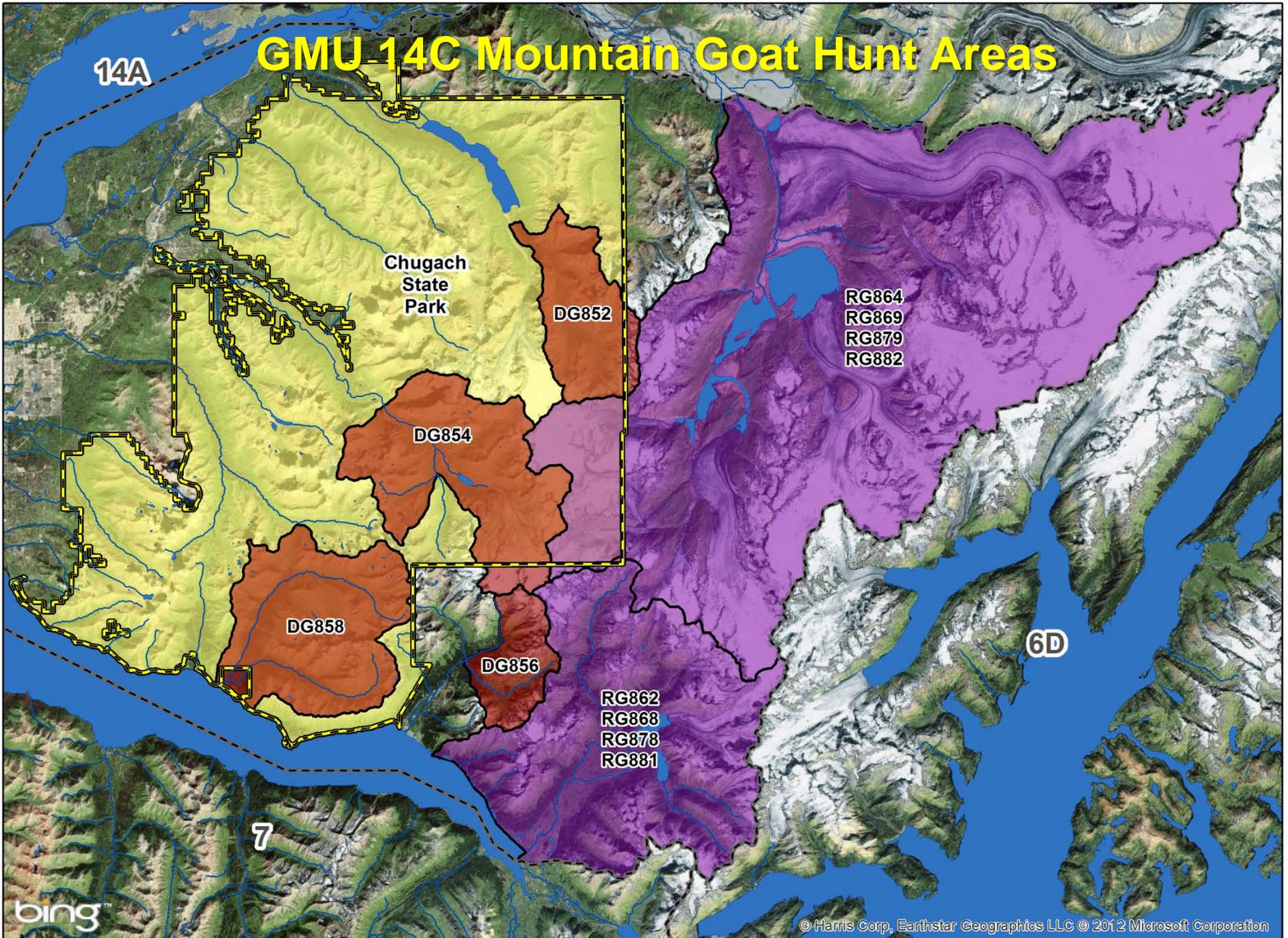
**Status:** 764 goats (survey 2011)

**Harvest:** 4 Drawing permit hunts  
6 Registration permit hunts  
28 goats/year (5-year average)

## **Management Activities:**

- Aerial surveys  
*(last completed 2011)*

# GMU 14C Mountain Goat Hunt Areas

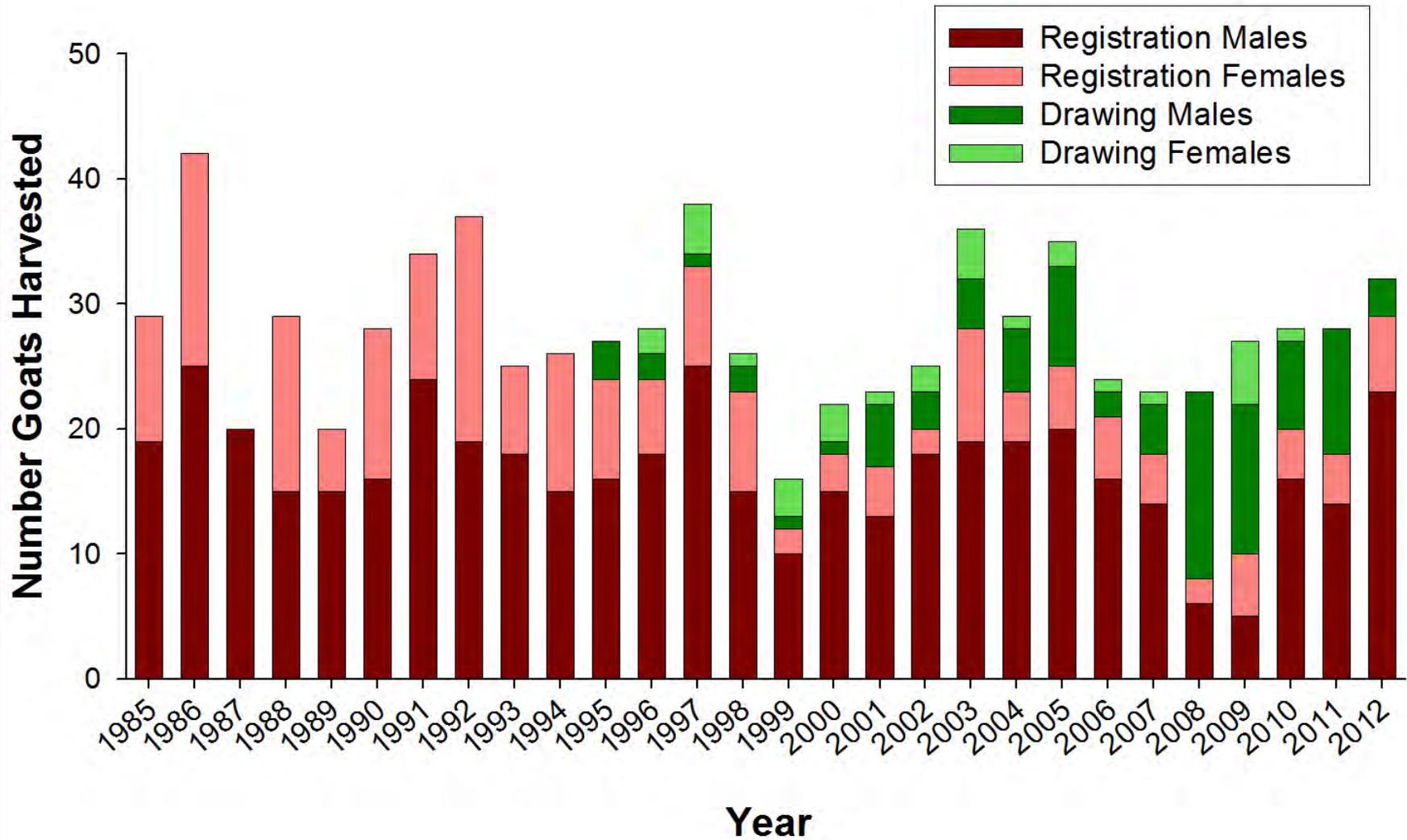


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# GMU 14C Mountain Goat Harvest 1985-2012



# Mountain Goats

**Status:** 764 goats

**Harvest:** Drawing and registration hunts

## **Management Activities:**

- Aerial surveys

*(last completed 2011)*

## **Issues:**

- Increased human winter activities
  - Helicopter assisted recreational activities



# Moose

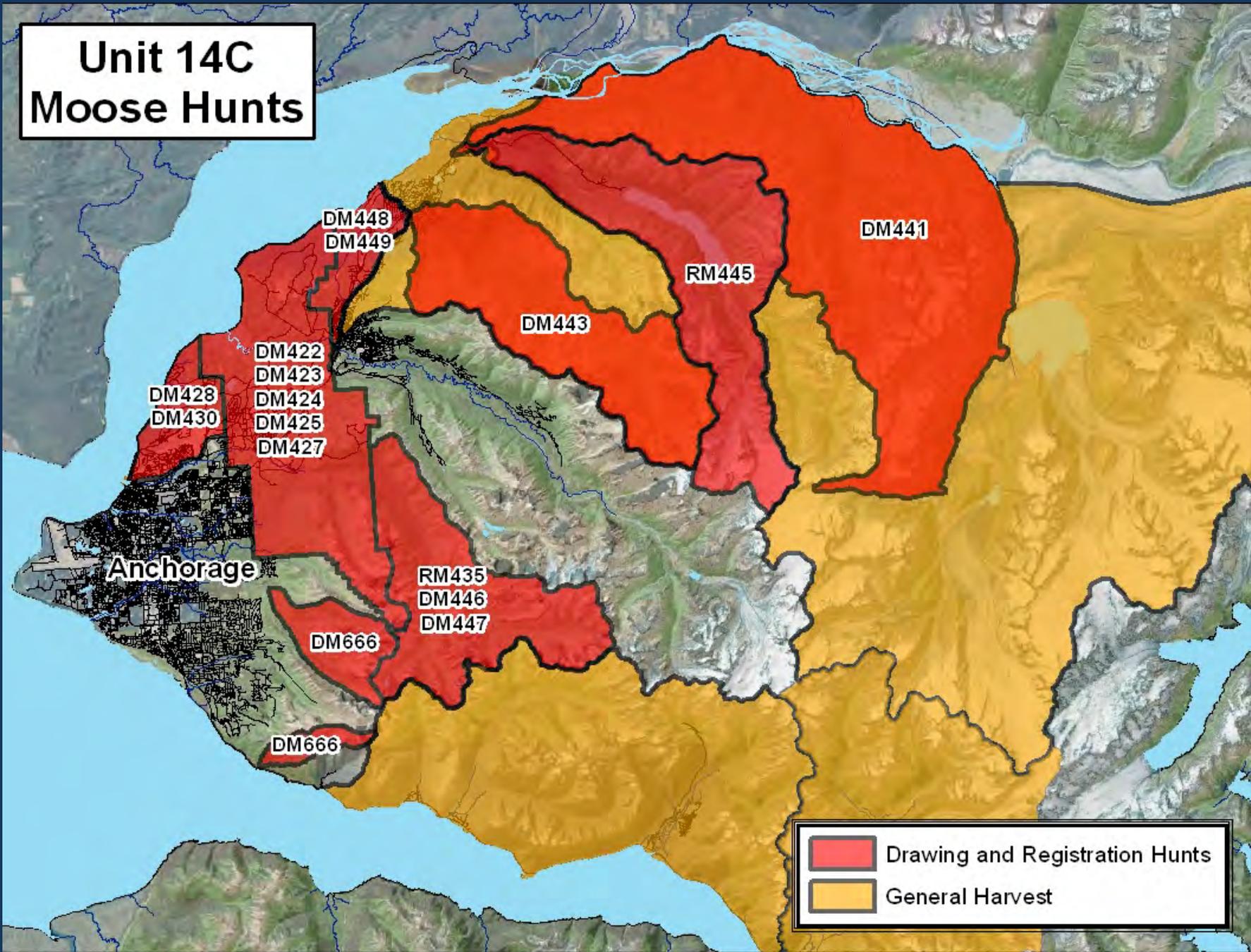
## Status:

- 1540 moose
- 32 bulls:100 cows
- 28-68 calves:100 cows

## Harvest:

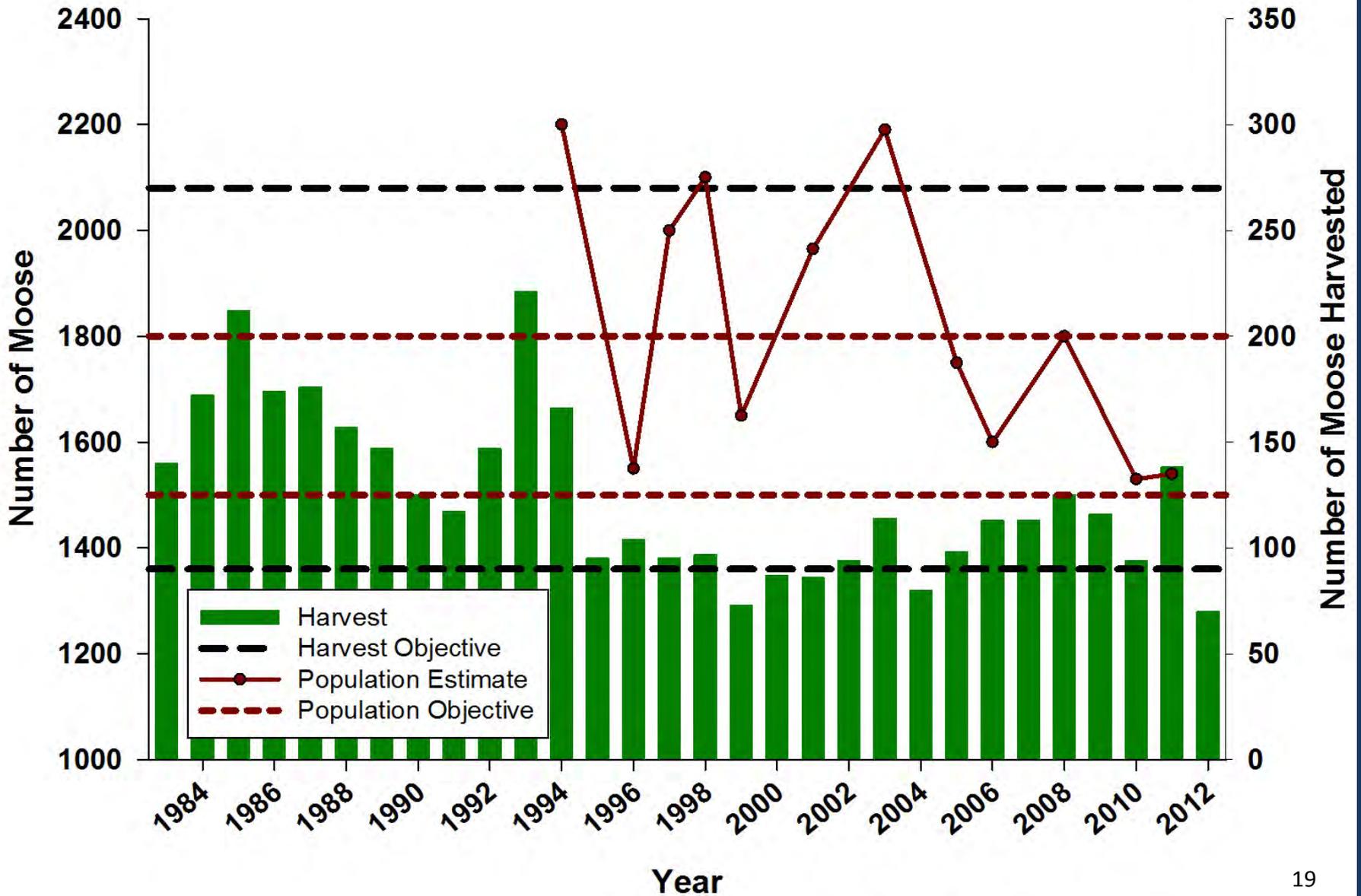
- 15 Drawing permit hunts
- 2 Registration permit hunts
- General Harvest
- Average 109 moose/year

# Unit 14C Moose Hunts

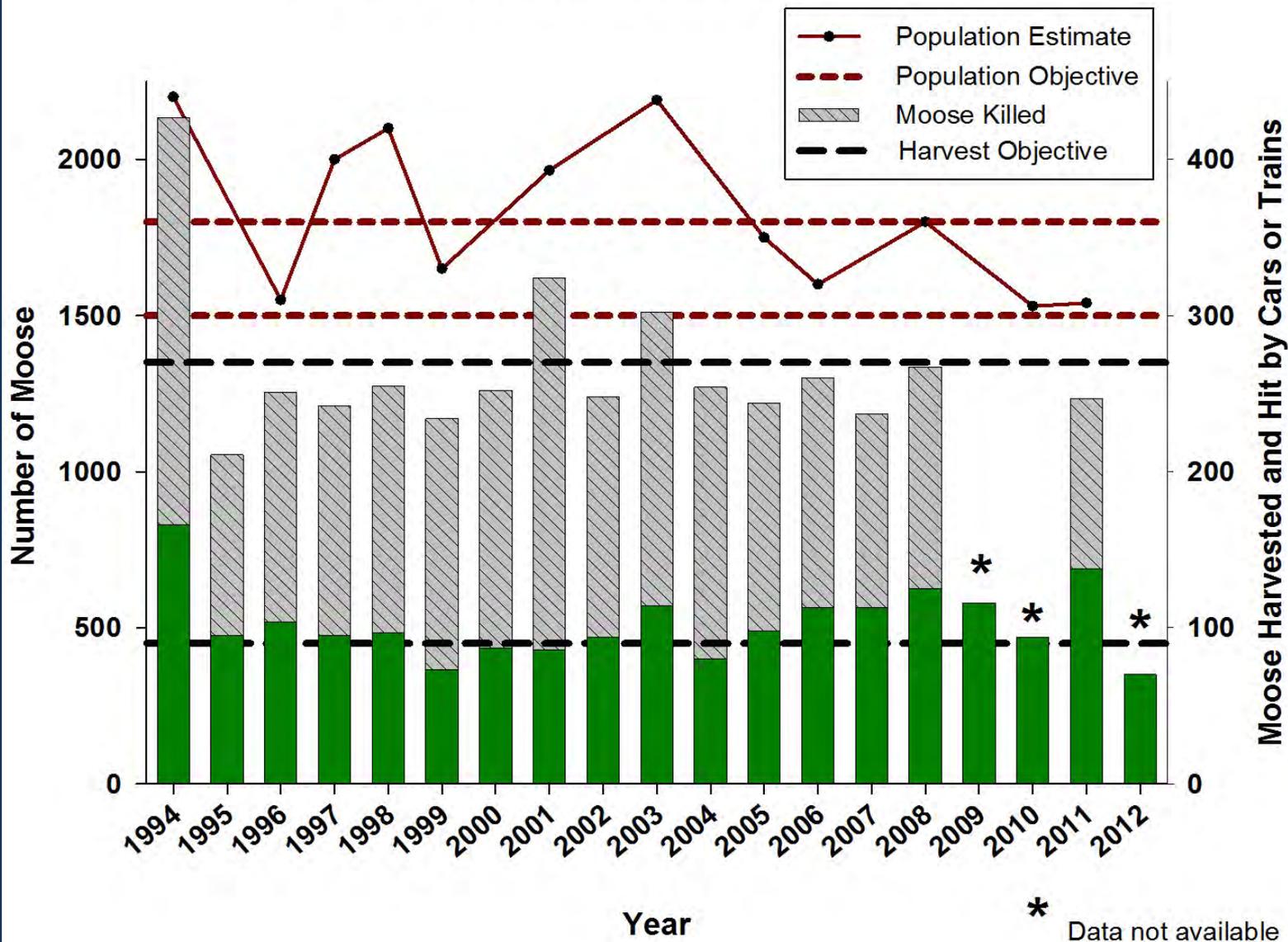


	Drawing and Registration Hunts
	General Harvest

# Unit 14C Moose Population Estimate and Harvest



# Unit 14C Moose Population Estimate and Human-Caused Mortality



# Moose

## Management Activities:

- Annual composition counts
- Annual census on JBER and upper Ship Creek Drainage
- Urban moose management

## Issues:

- Moose-vehicle collisions
- Over-browsing
- Habitat fragmentation and destruction
- MOA park hunts
- Intensive management

## Proposals 131-135



© Ron Niebrugge

# Brown Bears

**Status:** Stable population

## **Harvest:**

- Drawing permit and general harvest
- 9 bears/year average mortality  
(5-year average)

# GMU 14C

## Brown Bear Hunts

DB468

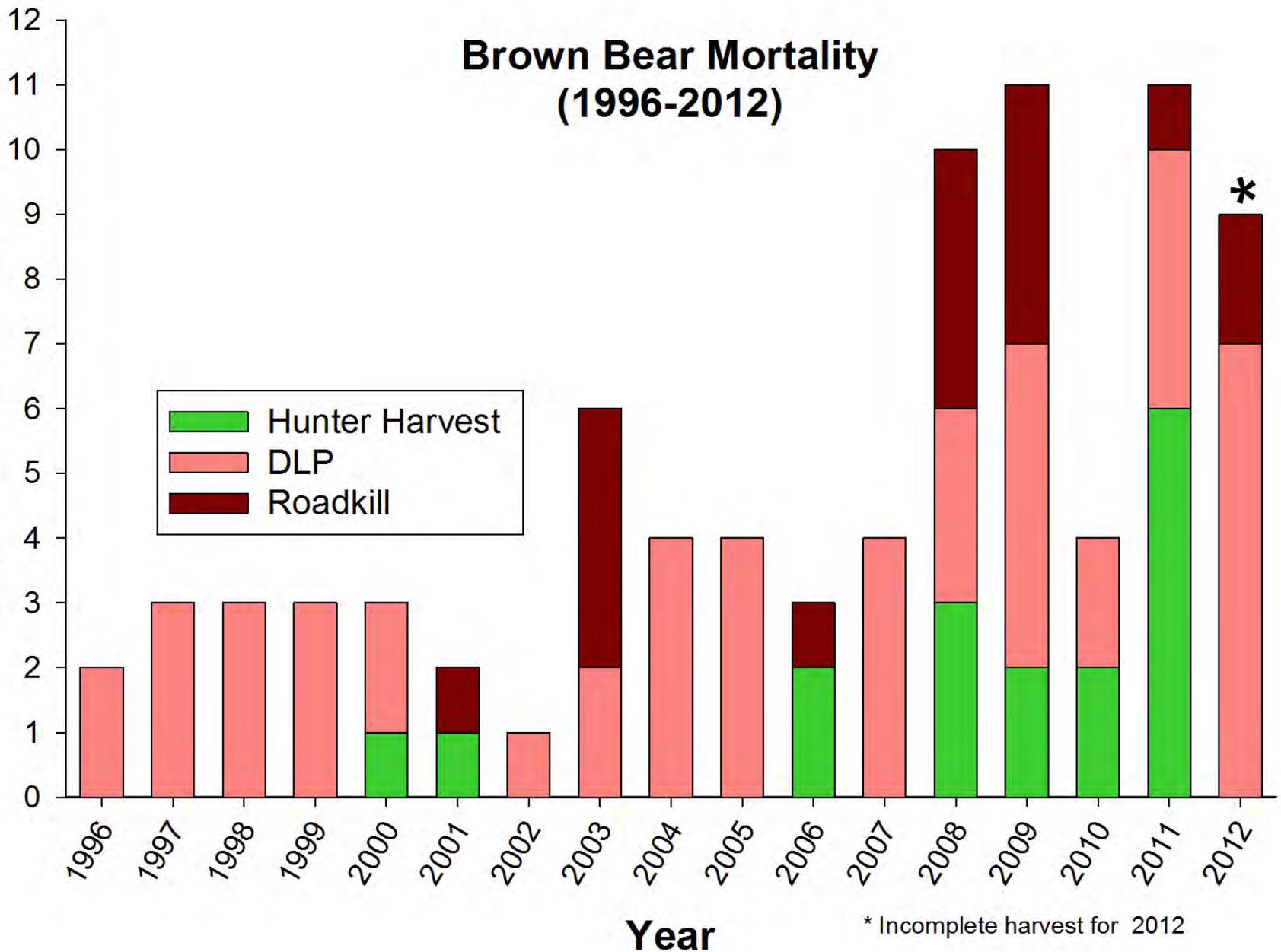
DB470

Remainder of 14C

-  Drawing Permit Hunt (Sept 7-May 31)
-  Archery Only Drawing Permit Hunt (Sept 7-May 31)
-  General Harvest (Sept 1-May 31)

## Brown Bear Mortality (1996-2012)

Number of Bears Killed



\* Incomplete harvest for 2012

# Brown Bears

**Status:** Stable population

**Harvest:** 9 bears/year average mortality  
(5-year average)

**Management/Research:**

- Monitoring of urban brown bears for public safety

**Issues:**

- Human/bear encounters
- Urban chickens
- Spawning salmon and moose calves in neighborhoods and city parks

# JBER Brown Bear Hunting

- By regulation, hunting of brown bears is legal within the JBER Management Area
- Harvestable surplus of brown bears within GMU 14C
- Coordination with JBER Natural Resources and Range Control
- Shotgun only



<http://www.bearstudy.org/website/index>

# Black Bears

**Status:** 250-350 black bears

**Habitat:** 2,665 km<sup>2</sup>

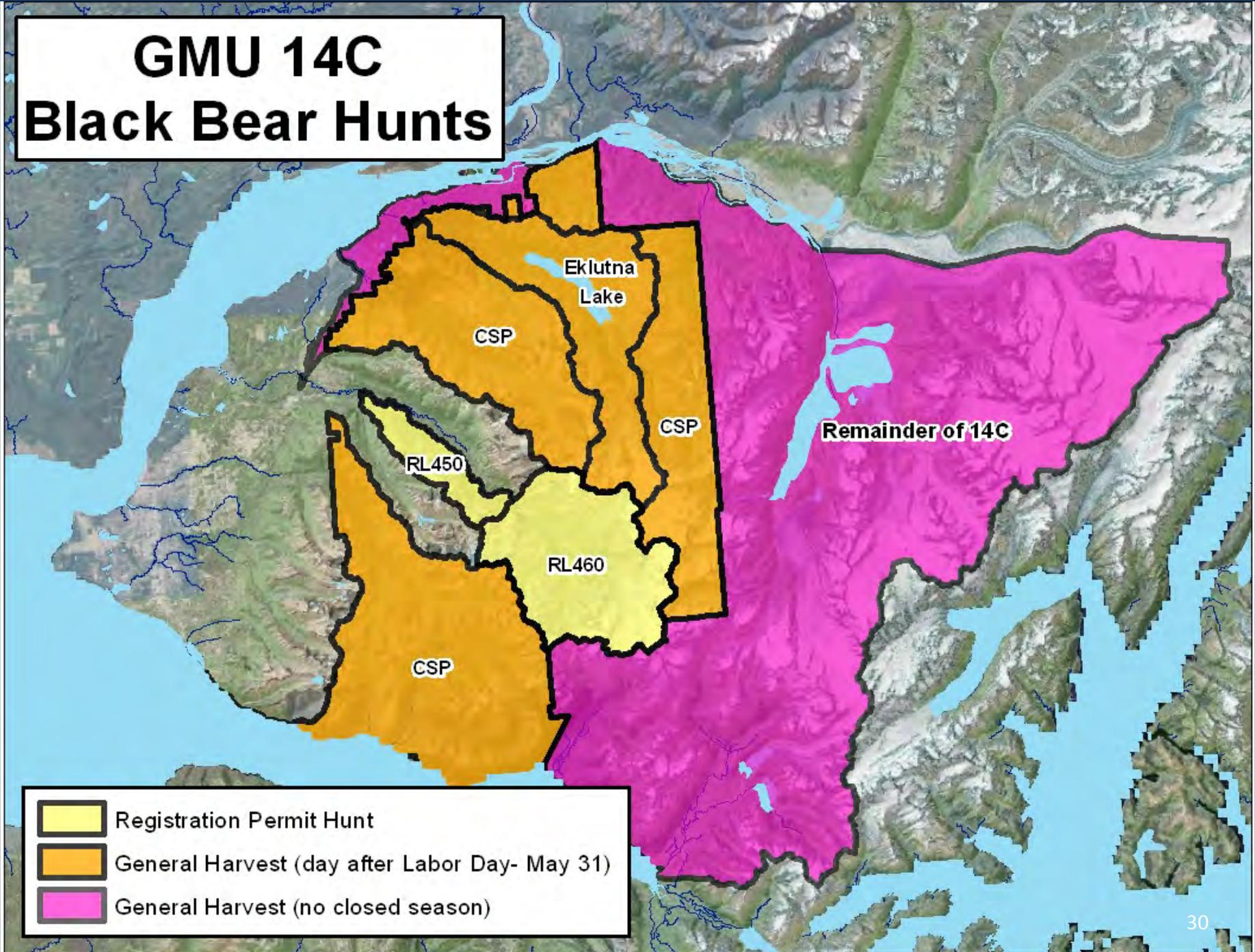
**Density estimate:** 90 bears / 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>

**Harvest:**

- Registration and general season hunts,  
(46 bears/year; 5-year average)
- DLPs and roadkills,  
(17 bears/year; 5-year average)

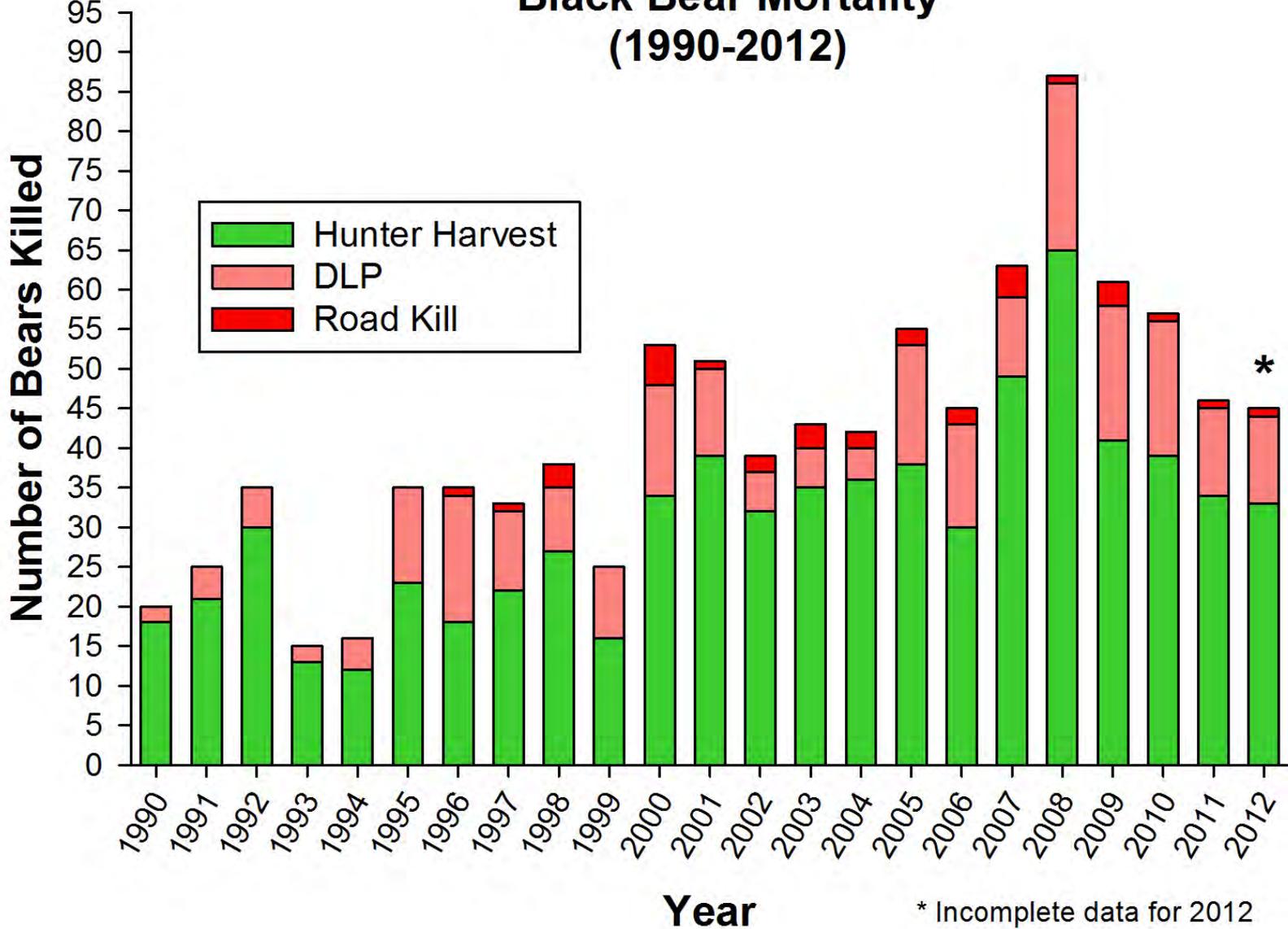
# GMU 14C

## Black Bear Hunts



-  Registration Permit Hunt
-  General Harvest (day after Labor Day- May 31)
-  General Harvest (no closed season)

## Black Bear Mortality (1990-2012)



\* Incomplete data for 2012

# Black Bears

**Status:** 250-350 black bears

**Harvest:** 46 bears/year plus 17 DLPs/year  
(5-year average)

**Management/Research:**

- Tracking urban bears
- Anchorage Bear Committee

**Issues:**

- Human/bear conflicts
- Garbage, birdseed, pet food, urban chickens

# JBER Black Bear Hunting

- By regulation, hunting of black bears is legal within the JBER Management Area
- Harvestable surplus of black bears within GMU 14C, address public safety concerns
- Coordination with JBER Natural Resources and Range Control
- Shotgun only



# Furbearers

**Status (fall):** ~200-300 beavers, 25-35 wolves (estimated 4 packs), 22 wolverines

**Harvest:** ~10-30 beavers, 0-4 wolves, 10-28 marten, 0-6 wolverines, 0-6 river otters, 0-5 lynx

## Management/Research:

- Fur sealing
- Monitoring populations

## Issues:

- Urban beavers
- Wolverine population status
- Illegal trapping in urban areas and parks

# Anchorage Resident Opinion Survey on Bear and Moose Population Levels and Management Strategies



2010

Conducted for ADFG by Responsive Management

# Wildlife Values and Knowledge of Wildlife

- Moose and bear population issues are important
- While some concerns, generally positive attitudes toward wildlife
- Wildlife is important part of community
- Majority indicate that wildlife encounters, despite the possible danger, make life interesting and special
- Do not want to see an increase in wildlife populations, but would like to see bears and moose numbers remain the same.

# Opinions on Wildlife Management

- Majority oppose having wildlife authorities destroy some bears and moose yearly to reduce the populations.
- Large majority support having wildlife authorities destroy specific bears when bears pose a threat to human safety.



# ADFG EDUCATION PROGRAM

## Safe Neighborhoods, Wild Bears

- 2008 – 2009: ABC, Alaska Waste, BP, MOA, ACE, Audubon AK, Defenders of Wildlife
  - Residential tipper cart program
- 2009: Dumpster Project
- 2012: Cooperative Bear Camera Project

