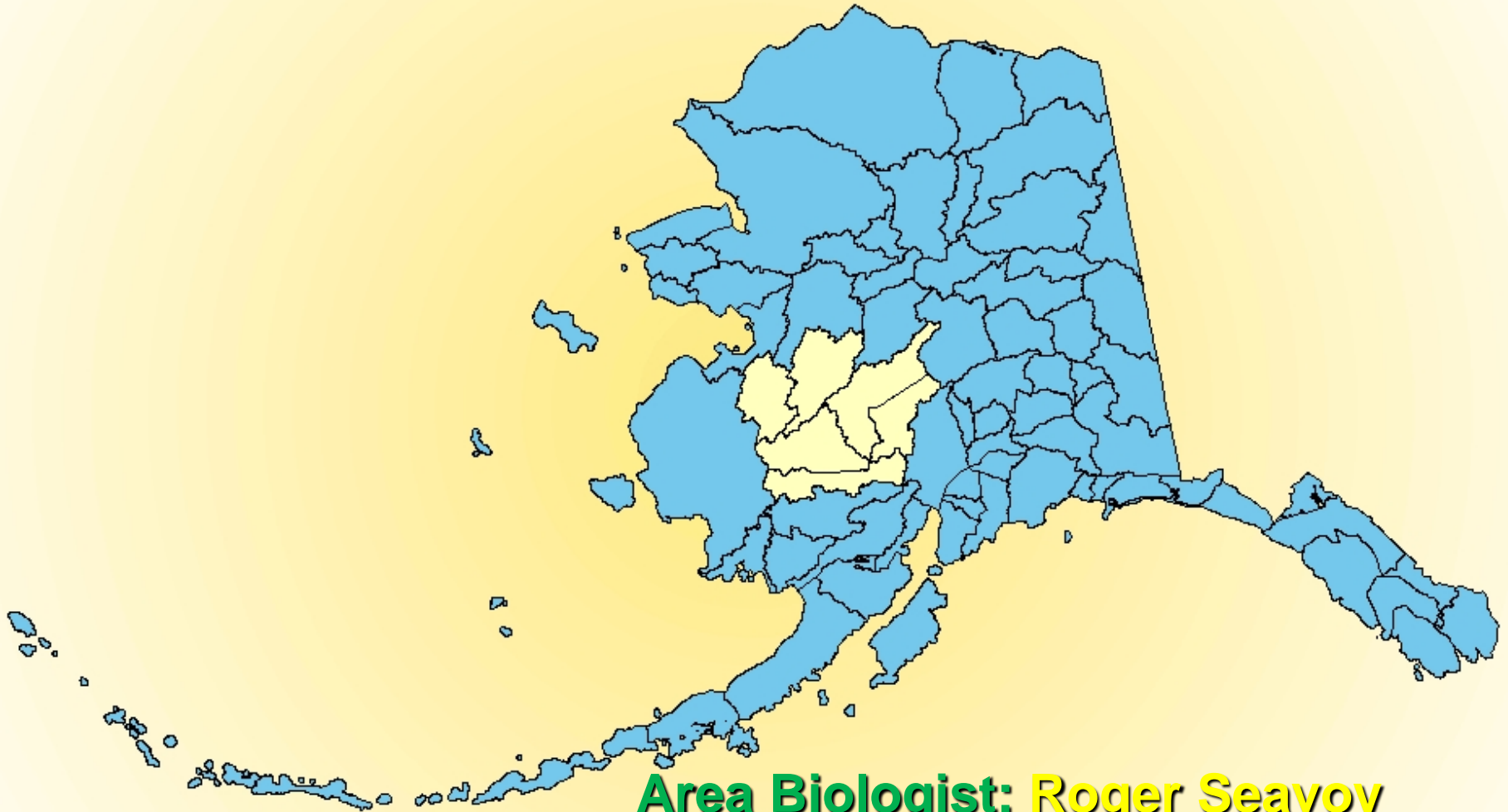


McGrath Area



Area Biologist: Roger Seavoy
Asst. Area Biologist: Joshua Peirce
Technician: Louise Standish



AK Wildlife Troopers:

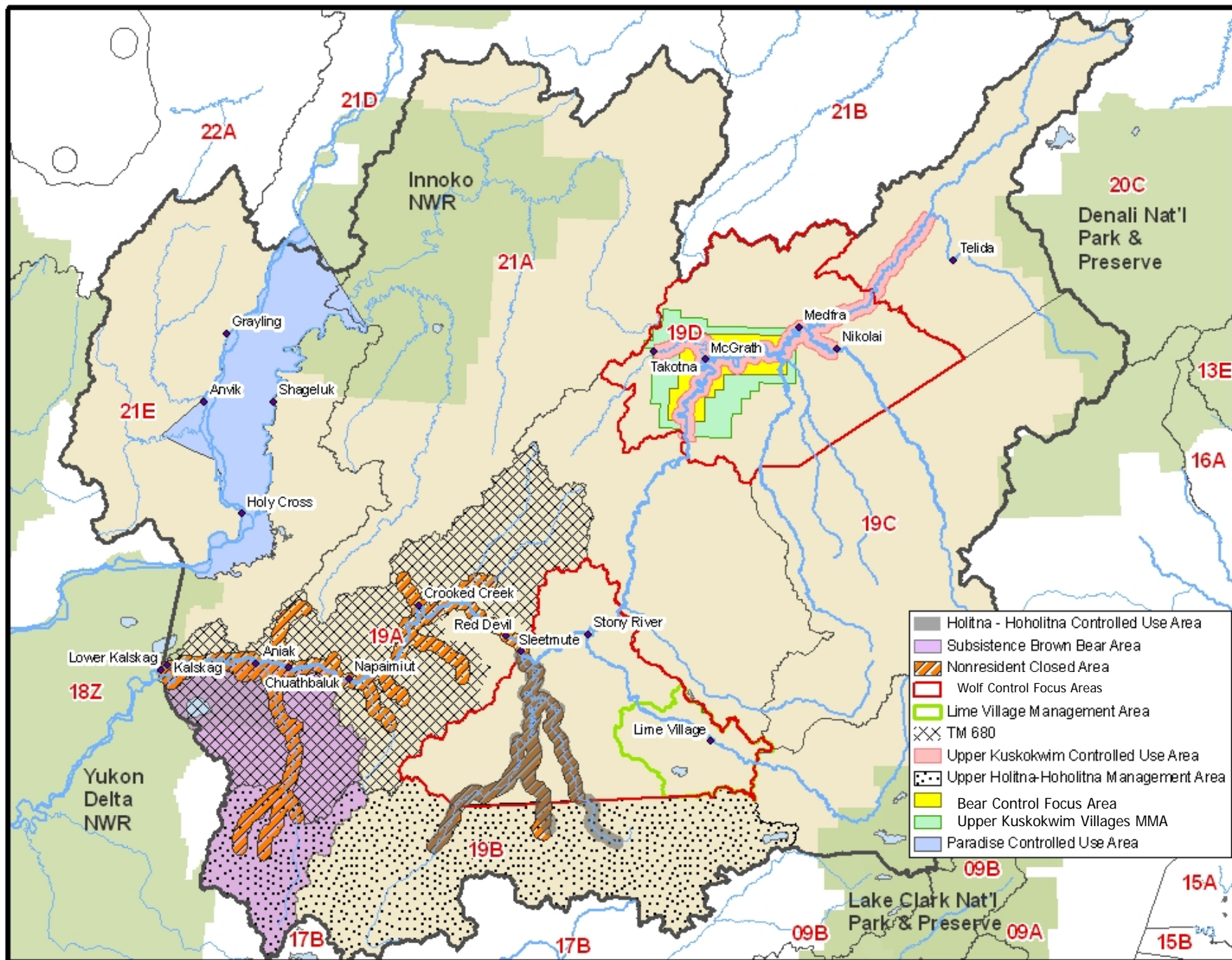
- Brett Gibbens, McGrath
- Tim Abbott, Aniak



Federal Partners

- BLM
- Innoko NWR, Yukon-Delta NWR
- NPS





Moose Management Plans

CENTRAL KUSKOKWIM MOOSE MANAGEMENT PLAN



Prepared by:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation

In cooperation with:

Central Kuskokwim Moose Management Planning Committee



June 2004

Yukon-Innoko Moose Management Plan For Game Management Subunits 21A and 21E



Prepared by:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
Division of Wildlife Conservation,
in Cooperation With
The Yukon-Innoko Moose Management Working Group

December 2006

Preliminary **Unit 19D East Adaptive Wildlife Management Implementation Program**

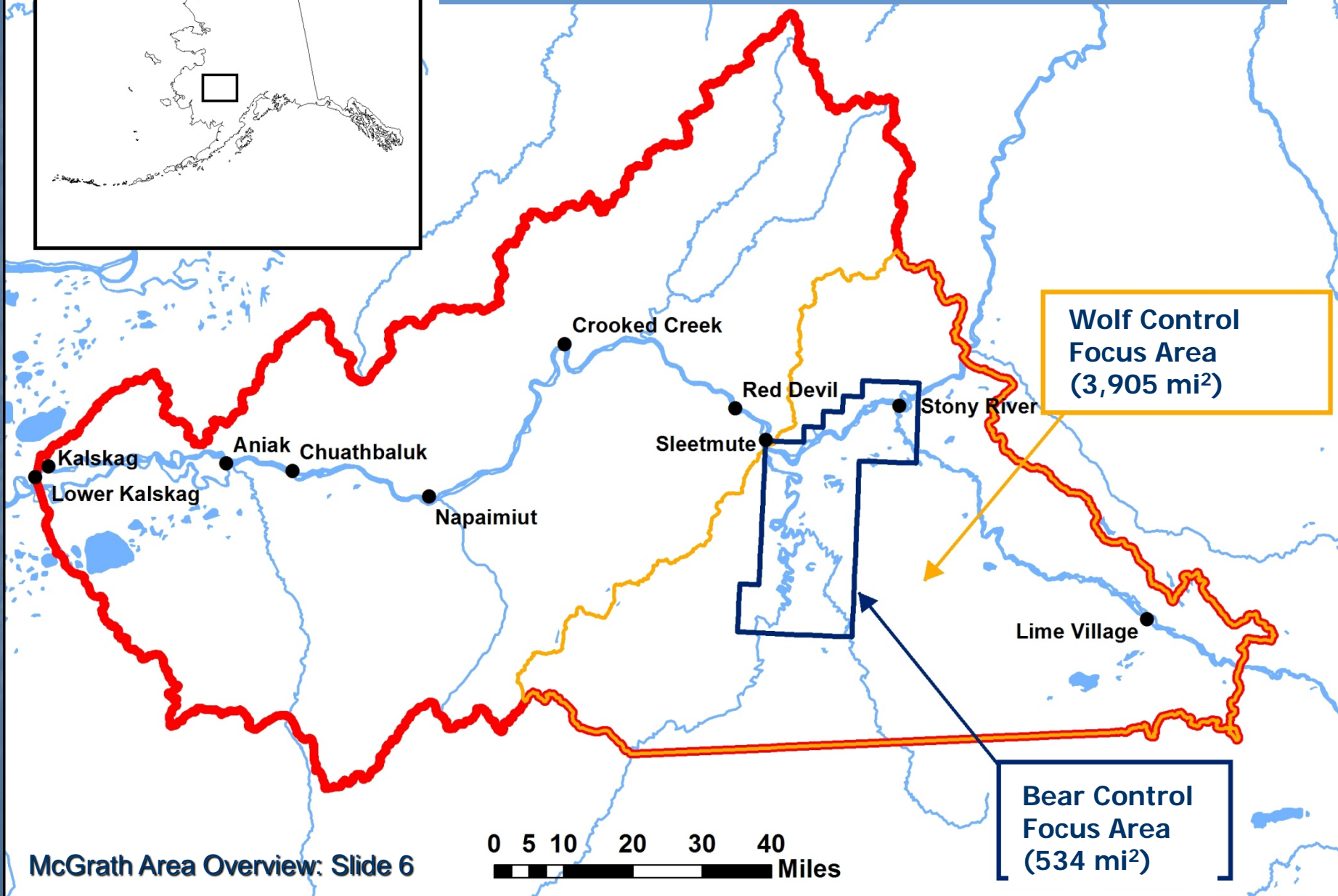
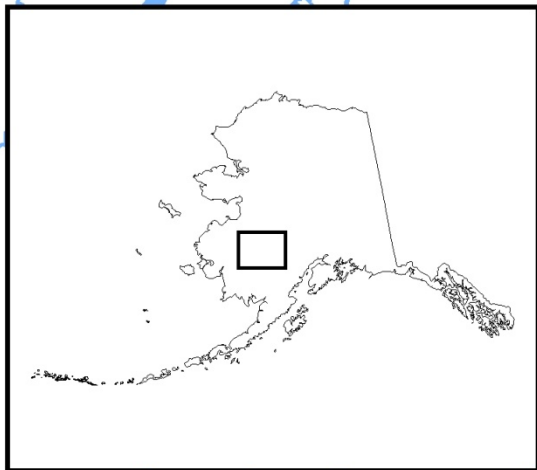
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Frank Rue, Commissioner

Division of Wildlife Conservation
Dr Wayne L Regelin, Director

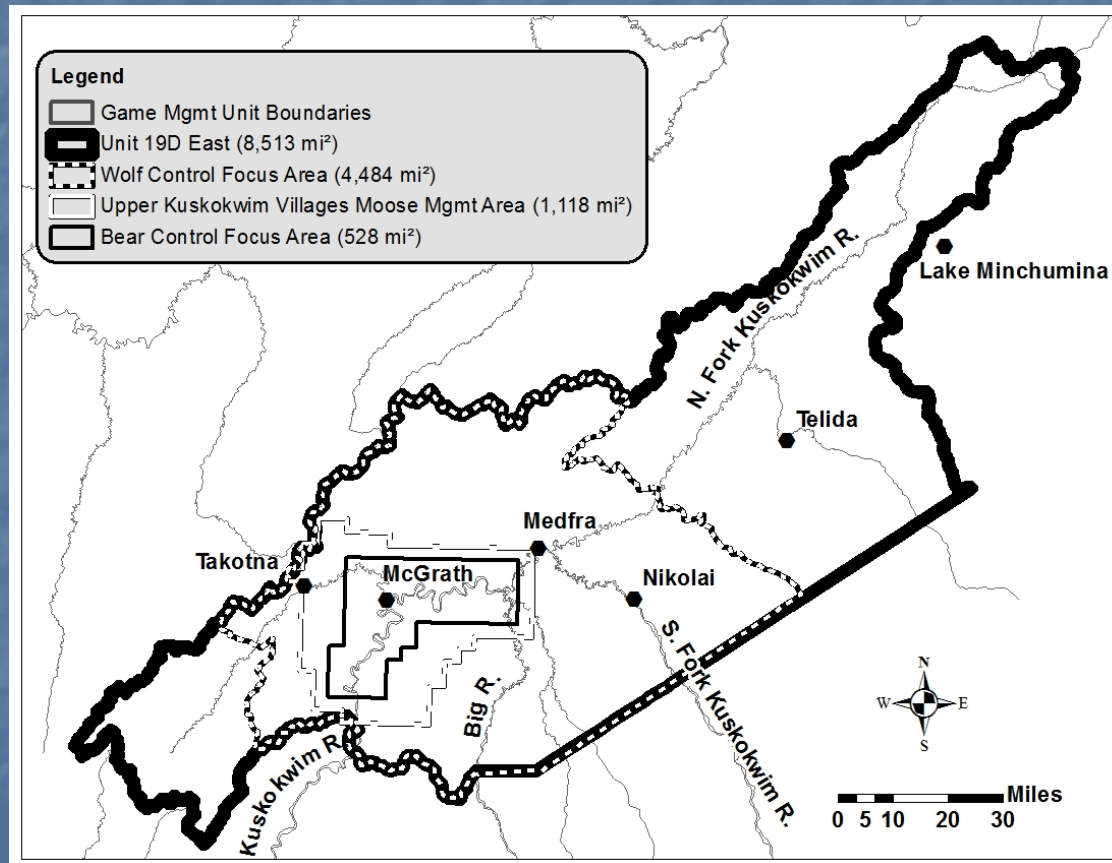


Initial Version, May 8, 2001

Unit 19A Bear and Wolf Control Focus Areas

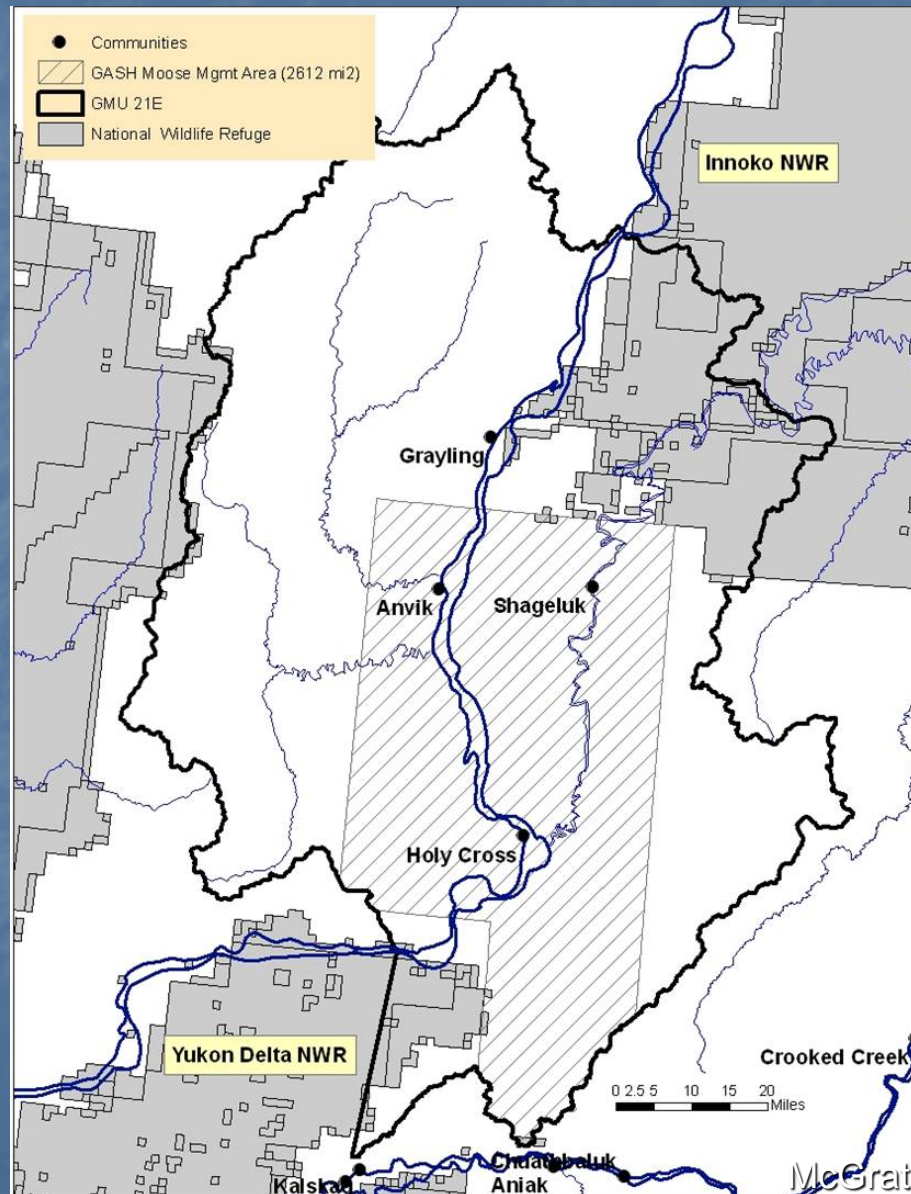


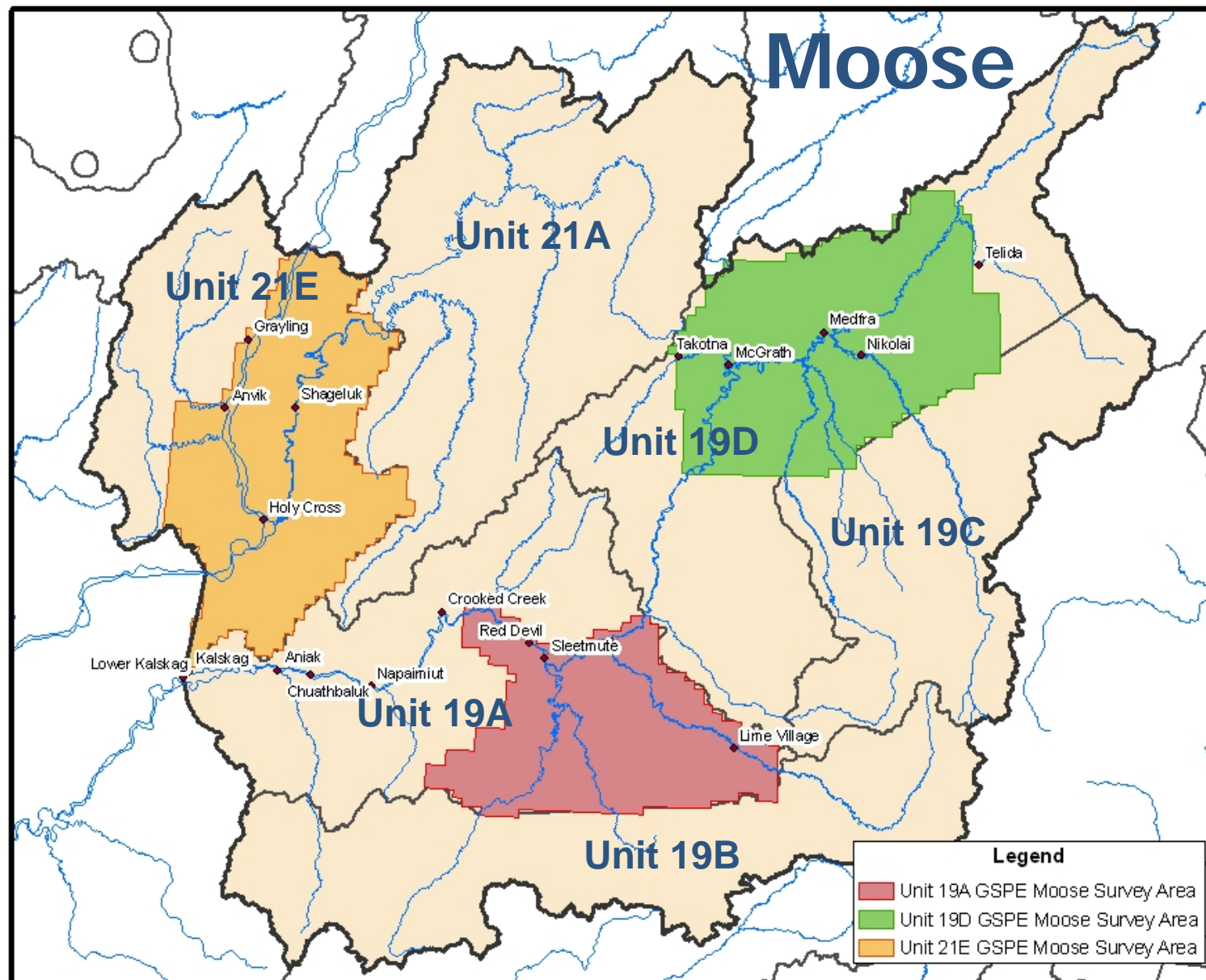
Predation Control Areas



Predation Control Areas

■ Unit 21E:





Black Bear



Summer bear control take

Year	Control take	All methods
2010	10	11
2011	15	21
2012	0	1
2013	0	~ 3 _{preliminary}

Grizzly Bears



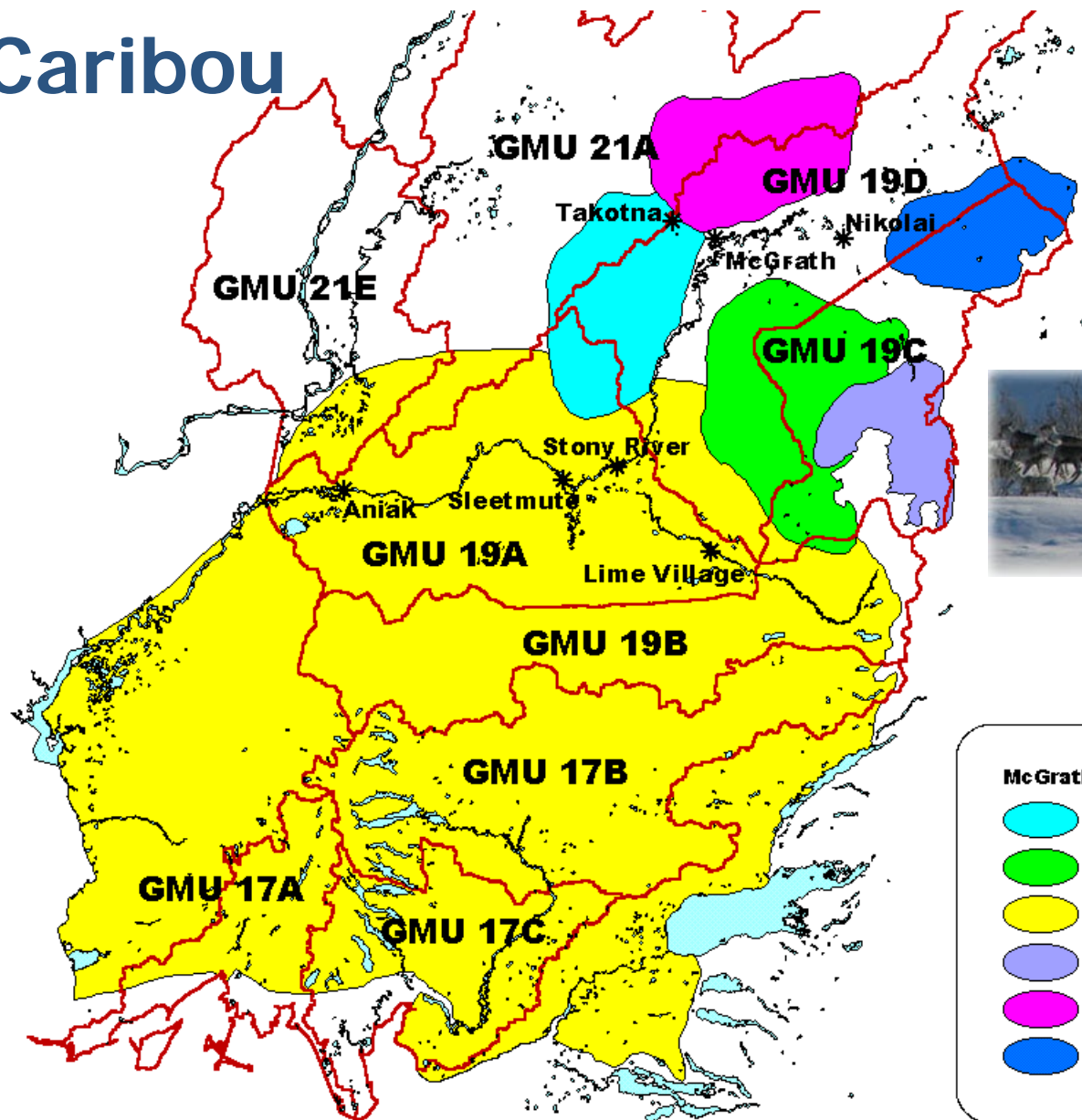
Bison



Recent June bison counts

Year	Adults	Calves	Total
2009	174	30	204
2010			
2011	200	61	261
2012	270	60	330
2013	235	25	260

Caribou



- McGrath Area Caribou Herds**
- Beaver Mountains
 - Farewell-Big River
 - Mulchatna
 - Rainy Pass
 - Sunshine Mountains
 - Tonzona

Furbearers

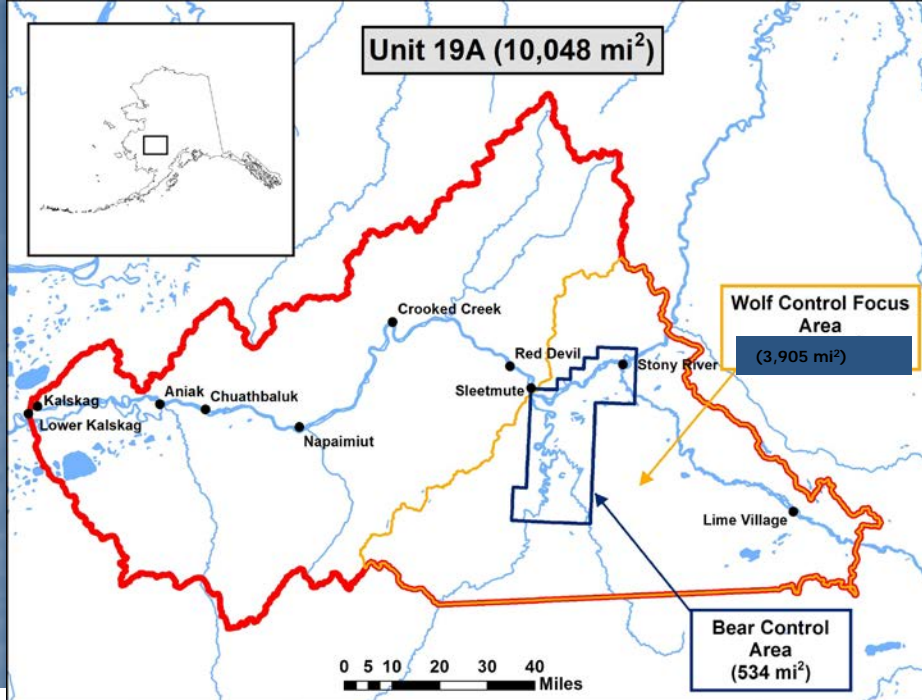


SHEEP



Wolf



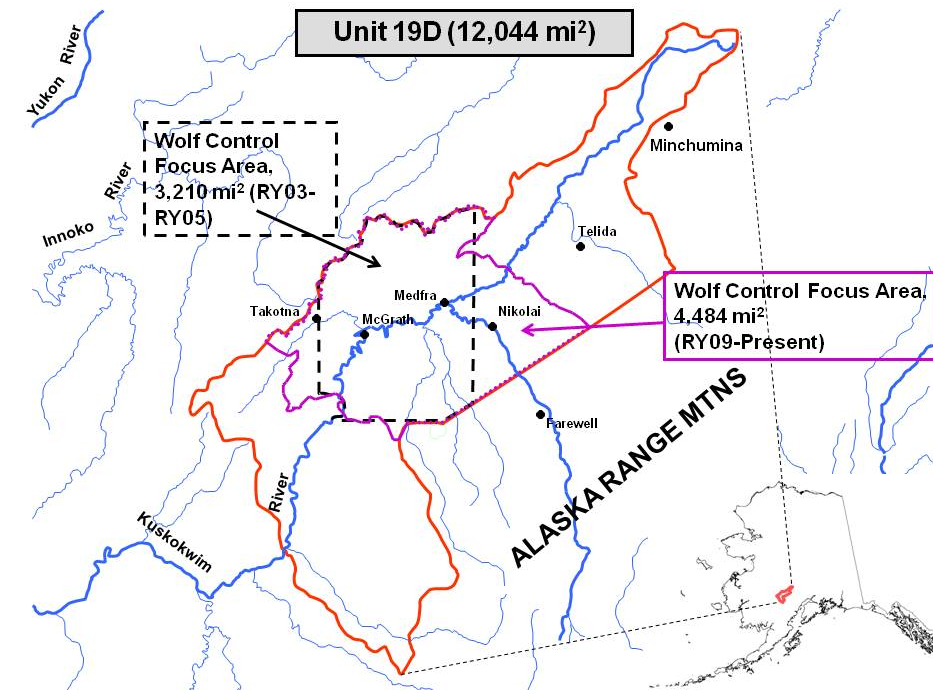


Regulatory Year	Post season wolf estimate in 19A WCA	% reduction from precontrol estimate of 75-100 in the 19A WCA
2004-05	31-56	44-59%
2005-06	5-7	91-95%
2006-07	9-10 ^a	87-91%
2007-08	12	84-88%
2008-09	7-13 ^b	83-93%
2009-10	13-16 ^c	79-87%
2010-11	19	75-81%
2011-12	13	83-87%
2012-13	22	71-78%

^a based on average of post season estimate RY05 - RY07

^b post season estimate based on pilot reports

^c based on average of RY08 and RY10 post season estimates



Regulatory Year	Post season wolf estimate w/in 3,210 mi ² area	% reduction from precontrol Estimate of 49 w/in 3,210 mi ² area
2004-05	11	78%
2005-06	11	78%
2006-07	(no estimate)	
2007-08	(no estimate)	
2008-09	15-17	65-69%

Regulatory Year	Post season wolf estimate w/in 4,484 mi ² area	% reduction from precontrol Estimate of 68 w/in 4,484 mi ² area
2009-10	22	67%
2010-11	12	82%
2011-12	23	66%
2012-13	20	71%

Muskoxen





Proposal 59

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Extend the nonresident moose season in Unit 21A.

Current Season:

Sept 5-Sept 20

Proposed Season:

Sept 5-Sept 25

Proposal 59

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

- NEUTRAL

McGrath AC

- Support

GASH and CENTRAL KUSKOKWIM AC

- Opposed

Proposal 59

- The YIMMP was endorsed by the Board in March 2006.
- The YIWG recommended no changes to the Unit 21A NR moose hunting season, which at that time was September 5–25.

Proposal 59

- At the March 2006 BOG meeting the Board shortened the nonresident moose season in 21A.
 - Concern of a declining moose population.
 - Aligned the season with 21E.

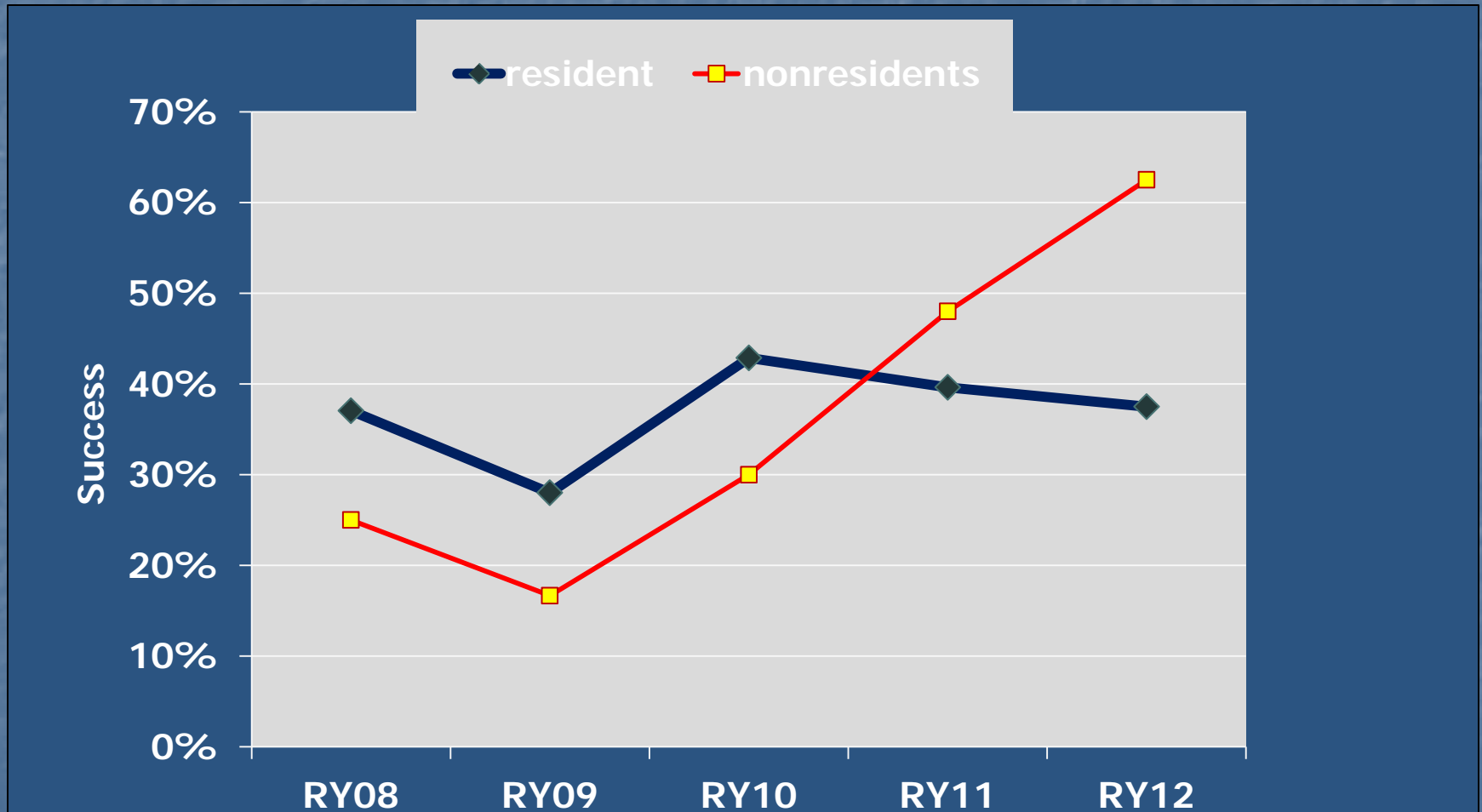
Proposal 59

- In 2010 the BOG extended the nonresident season in 21E to the 25th.
 - Season is no longer aligned with 21E.

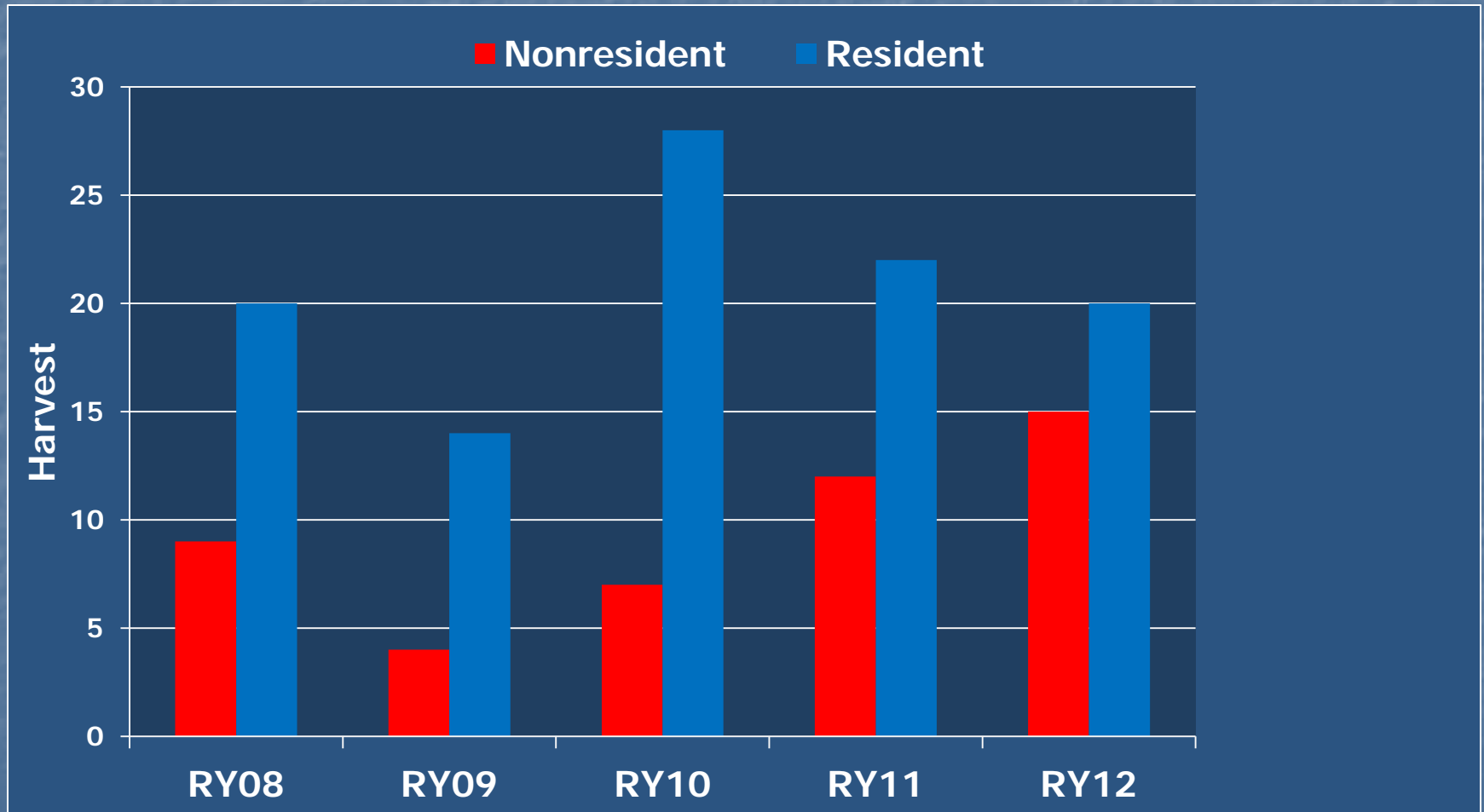
Unit 21A Population Data

- A survey was conducted in March 2013 and the current estimate of moose is 2442.
- Bull cow ratios are 77:100 (2011&2012)
- Harvestable surplus 98 moose

Unit 21A Harvest Data



Unit 21A Harvest Data



Proposal 59

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Extend the nonresident moose season in Unit 21A by 5 days.

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

- Neutral



END

Proposal 60

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Change the resident moose season in 21E from a general season hunt to a registration hunt.

Current Resident:

Sept 5-Sept 25

Any bull

Harvest ticket

Current Nonresident:

Sept 5-Sept 25

50" or 4 brow tines

Drawing permit

Proposal 60

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

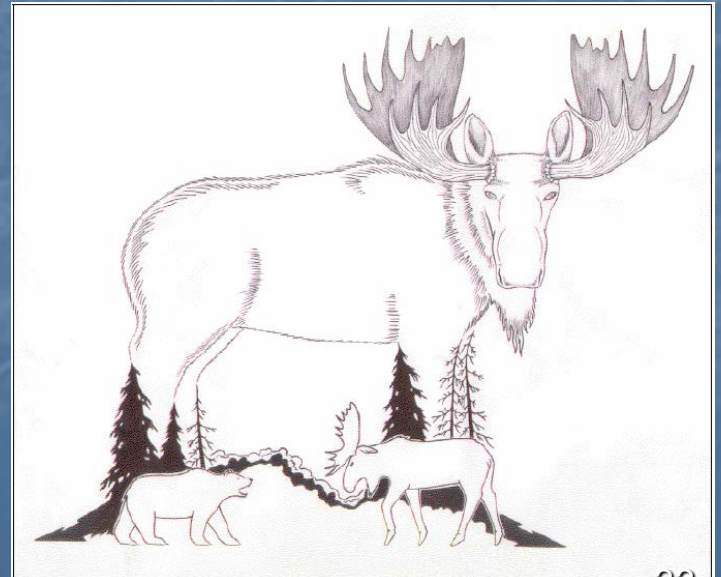
- SUPPORT

GASH AC

- SUPPORT

Central Kuskokwim AC

- SUPPORT



Proposal 60

- The YIMMP was endorsed by the Board in March 2006.

Yukon-Innoko Moose Management Plan For Game Management Subunits 21A and 21E



Prepared by:
Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
Division of Wildlife Conservation,
in Cooperation With
The Yukon-Innoko Moose Management Working Group

December 2006



Proposal 60

- Current population estimate 6959 moose.
- Harvestable surplus 278.



Composition in 21E

Year	Calves: 100 cows	Bulls: 100 cows
2008	37	62
2009	18	32
2010	51	61
2011	47	64

Proposal 60

- Harvest is difficult to assess.
- Subsistence household surveys show an average of 115 moose/year by residents of 21E.
- Reported harvest by residents of 21E during RY08-12 was 37 moose/year.

Proposal 60

- Harvest may average 180 moose/year.
- Better reporting would help guide future management decisions.

Proposal 60

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Change the resident moose season in 21E from a general season hunt to a registration hunt.

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

- SUPPORT

END

Proposal 61

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Change the allocation of unguided to guided nonresident moose permits in 21E from 80/20 to 70/30.

Current draw permits:

Sept 5-Sept 25

40 DM837 permits

10 DM 839 permits

Proposed draw permits:

Sept 5-Sept 25

35 DM837 permits

15 DM 839 permits

Proposal 61

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

- NEUTRAL

GASH and CENTRAL KUSKOKWIM AC's

- OPPOSED



Proposal 61

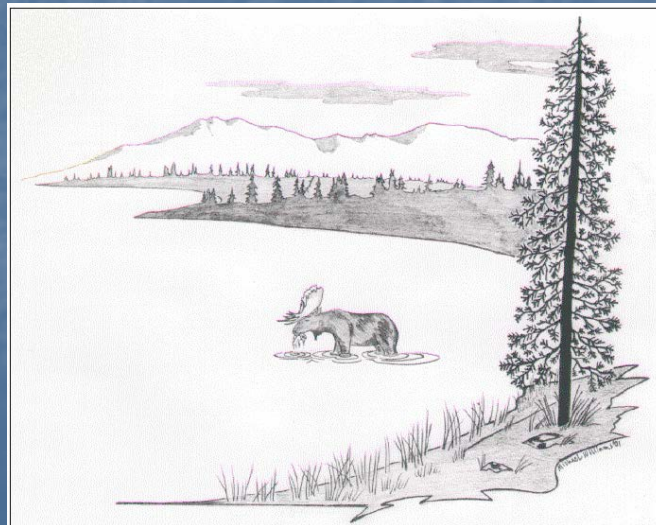
- The YIMMP recommended establishing a nonresident permit hunt.
- Recommended shortening the nonresident season by 5 days to end on Sept 20.
- Meant to cap nonresident harvest at 30.

Proposal 61

- The Board adopted both of these measures in 2006.
- The Board also allocated 80% of permits to unguided hunters and 20% to guided hunters.

Proposal 61

- In 2010 the Board returned the nonresident season to September 25th to create additional nonresident opportunity.



Proposal 61

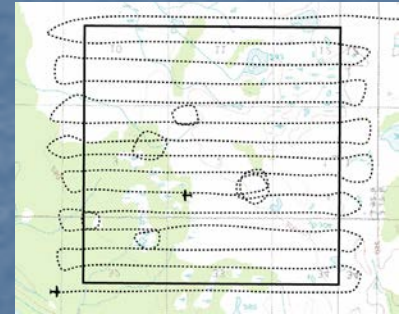
	DM837 Issued	DM839 Issued	Total Permits Issued
RY07	47	5	52
RY08	33	7	40
RY09	30	1	31
RY10	23	5	28
RY11	32	7	39
RY12	24	10	34
RY13	32	10	42

DM 837 & DM 839

	Unsuccessful	Successful	Total Hunters
RY07	33	12 (27%)	45
RY08	23	10 (30%)	33
RY09	16	7 (30%)	23
RY10	11	9 (45%)	20
RY11	14	8 (36%)	22
RY12	8	12 (60%)	20
RY13	18	19 (51%)	37

Biological Data

- 2-year average bull:cow ratio 63:100
- Current population estimate
 - 6959 moose
- Current estimated harvest 180



Proposal 61

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL:

- Change the allocation of unguided to guided nonresident moose permits in 21E from 80/20 to 70/30.

DEPARTMENT POSITION:

- NEUTRAL

END

Proposal 62

Effect of the proposal:

Reauthorize the Unit
19A Intensive
Management Plan



Department Recommendation:

- Support with an Amendment
- **Advisory Committee recommendations:**
 - Stony Holitna – Support
 - McGrath – Support
 - GASH – Support
 - Central Kuskokwim – Support



Regulations

Current vs Proposed

- **Current regulation:**
 - An Intensive Management Plan exists for Unit 19A and expires in June 2014
- **Proposed regulation:**
 - Would re-authorize the Unit 19A Intensive Management Plan for 6 years, expiring June 30, 2020
 - Amend to change the proposed harvest objective from 4% of the moose estimate in the BCFA to 120 moose from the WCFA

CKMMP






- **Framework for moose management**
- **Central Kuskokwim Moose Committee**
 - AC's
 - Guides
 - Transporters
 - Conservationists
 - Native organizations

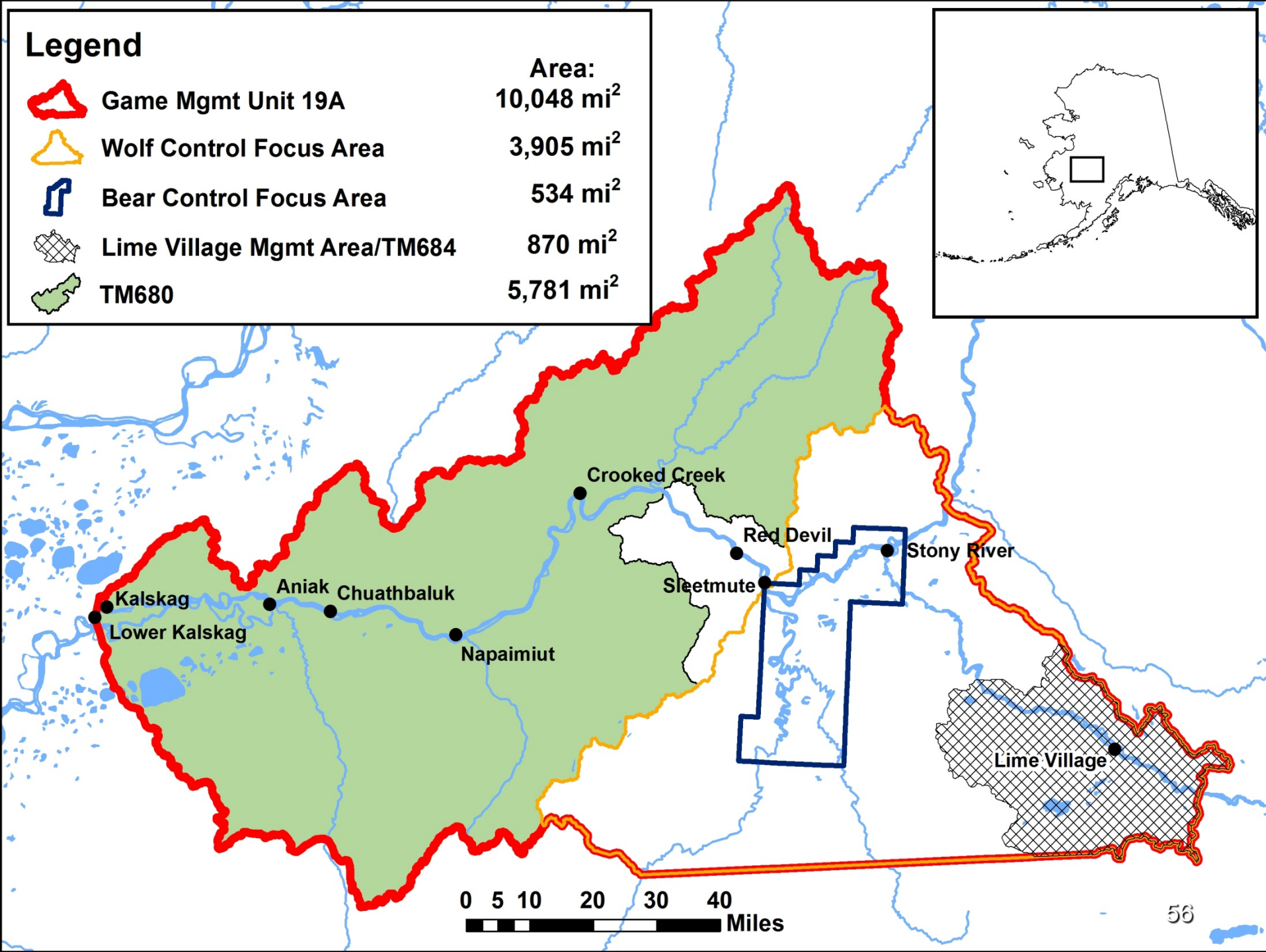
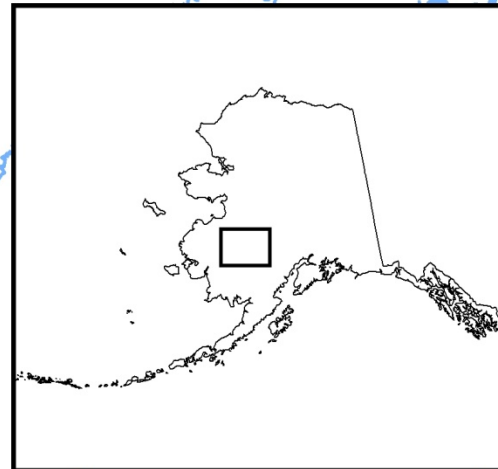


Unit 19A Intensive Management

- Adopted in 2004, reauthorized in 2009 through June 2014
- In 2009, aerial wolf control area restricted to approx. 3,905 mi² area to focus effort
- In 2012, bear control was added to a 534 mi² area

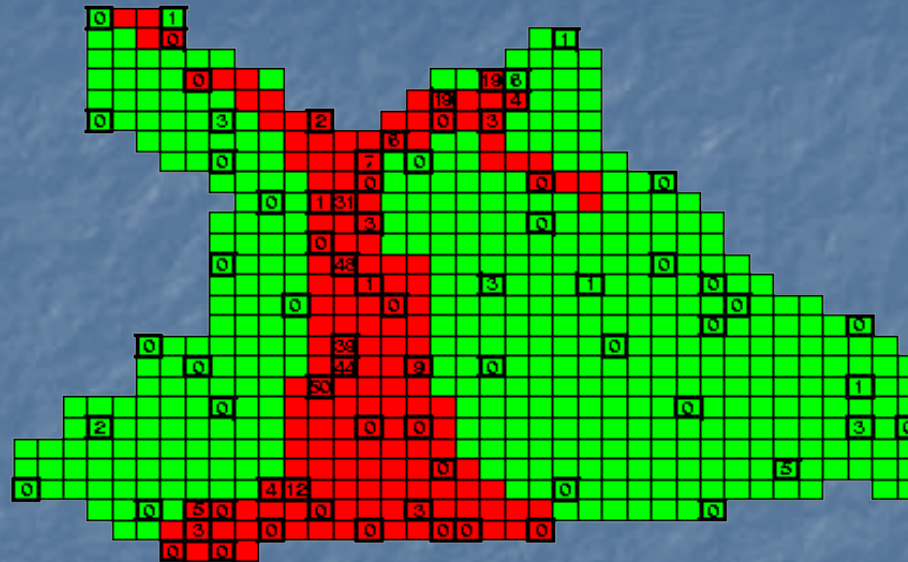
Legend

	Game Mgmt Unit 19A	Area: 10,048 mi ²
	Wolf Control Focus Area	3,905 mi ²
	Bear Control Focus Area	534 mi ²
	Lime Village Mgmt Area/TM684	870 mi ²
	TM680	5,781 mi ²



Moose density

(3874 mi²)



Year	Moose/mi ²	90% CI	Range
2005	0.28	± 17%	897–1270
2008	0.44	± 28%	1225–2181
2011 w/scf	0.43	± 36%	1066–2266

UNIT 19A COMPARISON OF IM OBJECTIVES AND POPULATION ESTIMATES

**IM Population Objective
7,600 – 9,300 (0.8-0.9
moose/mi²)**

**Population Estimate for 19A
2,791–5,782 (0.3-0.6 moose/mi²)**



Spring Twinning Surveys (BCFA)

Year	Cows with twins	Cows with calves
2007	7	11
2009	3	4
2010	12	19
2013	23	41



2013 Twinning
rate: **56%**

2006 browse removal
was 10%

Fall moose composition data: BCFA

Year	Bulls: 100 COWS	Calves: 100 cows
2008	34	27
2009	51	36
2010	48	19
2011	38	31
2013	55	50

Fall moose composition data:

Holitna

vs.

McGrath

Year	Calves: 100 COWS
2008	27
2009	36
2010	19
2011	31
2013	50

Year	Calves: 100 COWS
2003	56
2004	63
2005	51
2006	58
2007	56

UNIT 19A Moose Harvest

IM Harvest Objective 400 - 550	
YEAR	Reported Harvest for 19A
2008	73
2009	66
2010	88
2011	80
2012	115

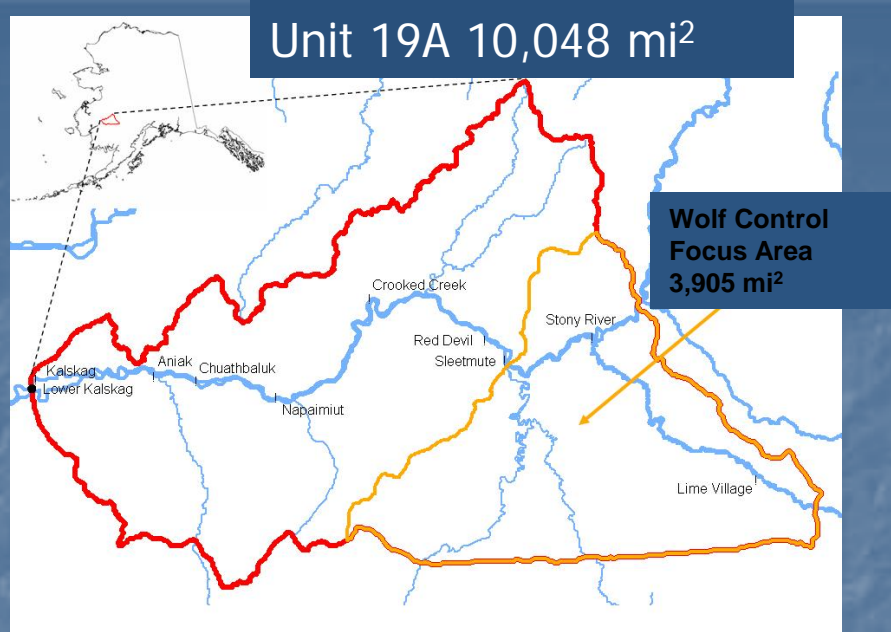


Moose Objectives

- Density objective
 - 2 moose/mi² in BCFA
- Harvest objective
 - 120 moose from WCFA

Wolf Take within the WCFA

RY	Hunting Trapping	Public control	Total removal
2004	3	40	43
2005	2	36	38
2006	0	7	7
2007	3	12	15
2008	1	19	20
2009	0	2	2
2010	1	10	11
2011	0	8	8
2012	2	0	2



Regulatory Year	Post season wolf control estimate in WCFA	% reduction from precontrol estimate of 75-100 wolves in the WCFA
2004	31 – 56	44 – 59%
2005	5 – 7	91 – 95%
2006	9 – 10	87 – 91%
2007	12	84 – 88%
2008	7 – 13	83 – 93%
2009	13 – 16	79 – 87%
2010	19	75 – 81%
2011	11–14	81–89%
2012	22	71–78%

Wolf Objectives

- 2004 pre-control estimate 125 – 150
 - (75 – 100 in wolf control focus area)
- WCFA temporarily reduce wolf numbers to the lowest level possible
- Minimum of 25 – 30 wolves unit wide



Unit 19A Bear Population

	Unit 19(A) estimate	BCFA estimate
Black bear	2,500 – 3,000	135 – 160
Grizzly bear	180 – 210	10 – 15



BCFA Black bear harvest

RY	Hunting (reported)	Dept control	Total removal
2012	1	84	85



5 bear bag limit
little effect on
moose calf survival

BCFA Grizzly bear harvest

RY	Hunting	Dept control	Total removal
2008	0	-	0
2009	1	-	1
2010	0	-	0
2011	0	-	0
2012	0	5	5

Bear Objectives

- Black bear in BCFA
 - lowest level possible
- Brown bear in BCFA
 - lowest level possible



Recap to this point:

- Tier II hunts and a large closed area since 2006
- Not meeting IM objectives
- Wolf numbers have been successfully reduced since 2005
- Bear control in 2013 and 2014

McGrath Model

- Keech, M. A., M. S. Lindberg, R. D. Boertje, P. Valkenburg, B. D. Taras, T. A. Boudreau, K. B. Beckmen. 2011. Effects of Predator Treatments, Individual Traits, and Environment on Moose Survival in Alaska. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 75(6):1361–1380.

Operational Plan

**OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT
OF MOOSE IN GAME MANAGEMENT UNIT 19(A)
DURING REGULATORY YEARS 2014–2019**



Prepared by:

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

December 2013

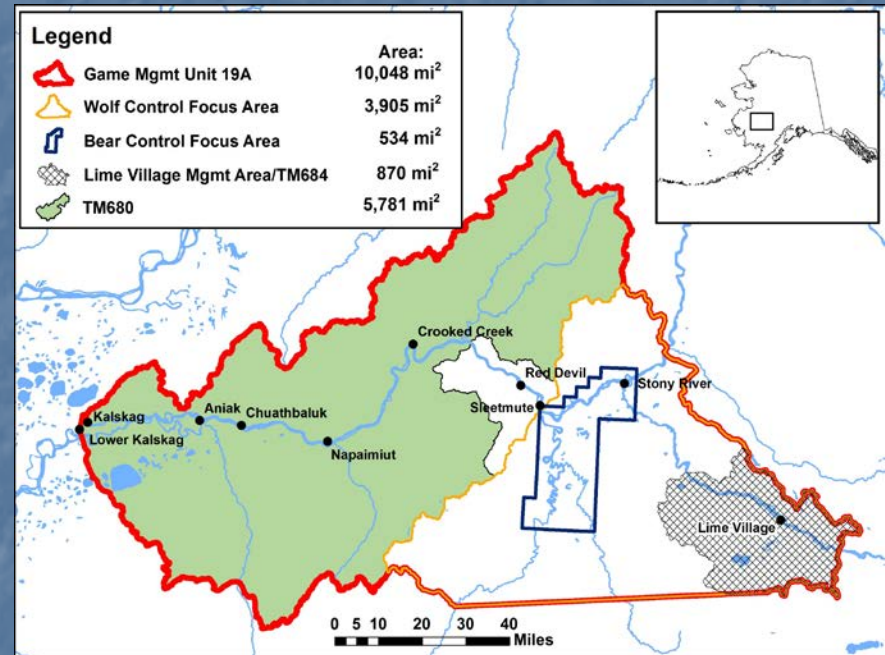
Twinning rate guidelines

2-year average

- **When above 20% - promote growth**
- **When 15 – 20% - stabilize growth**
- **When below 15% - reduce densities**

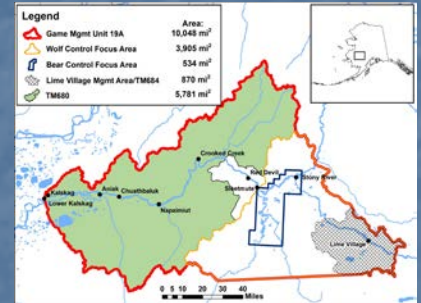
WCFA Objectives

- Temporarily reduce wolves to the lowest level possible
- Moose harvest objective is 120



BCFA Objectives

- Moose density 2.0 moose/mi²



- If above objective wolf control may be suspended after considering other biological factors such as twinning rates.
- If below the objective continue or initiate wolf control after considering other biological factors such as twinning rates.

BCFA Objectives

- Remain proactive to ensure densities do not fall too low.
 - Consider future department conducted bear control if densities fall below 1.2 moose/mi² and twinning rates are still above 20%

Summary

- **Effect of the proposal:**
 - Reauthorize the Intensive Management Plan for Unit 19A through June 2020
- **Department position:**
 - Support with an Amendment

END

Proposal 63

Effect of the proposal:

Reauthorize the
Intensive
Management Plan for
Predation Control in
Unit 19D East



Department Position:

- Support with amendments
- **Advisory Committee positions:**
 - GASH – Support
 - SHAC – Support
 - CKAC – Support
 - McGrath – Support with amendment to retain public bear control, including snaring



Current vs. Proposed comparison:

- **Current regulation:**
 - An Intensive Management Plan exists for Unit 19D East and expires in June 2014
- **Proposed regulation:**
 - Would re-authorize the Unit 19D East Intensive Management Plan for 6 years, expiring June 30, 2020
 - Amend to change the proposed harvest objective from 4% of the moose estimate in the BCFA to 180 moose from the WCFA

Unit 19D East Intensive Management

- **Program first authorized in 1995**
- **Updates/reauthorizations of this plan occurred in Jan 2000, Mar 2001, Mar 2003, Jan 2006, May 2006, and March 2009.**
- **Bear removal in 2003–2004**
- **Bear snaring permits were approved in spring 2009**
- **Aerial wolf control 2003 – present**

Research

- Keech, M. A., M. S. Lindberg, R. D. Boertje, P. Valkenburg, B. D. Taras, T. A. Boudreau, K. B. Beckmen. 2011. Effects of Predator Treatments, Individual Traits, and Environment on Moose Survival in Alaska. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 75(6):1361–1380.

Operation Plan

**OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT
OF MOOSE IN UNIT 19D EAST DURING REGULATORY
YEARS 2014–2019**

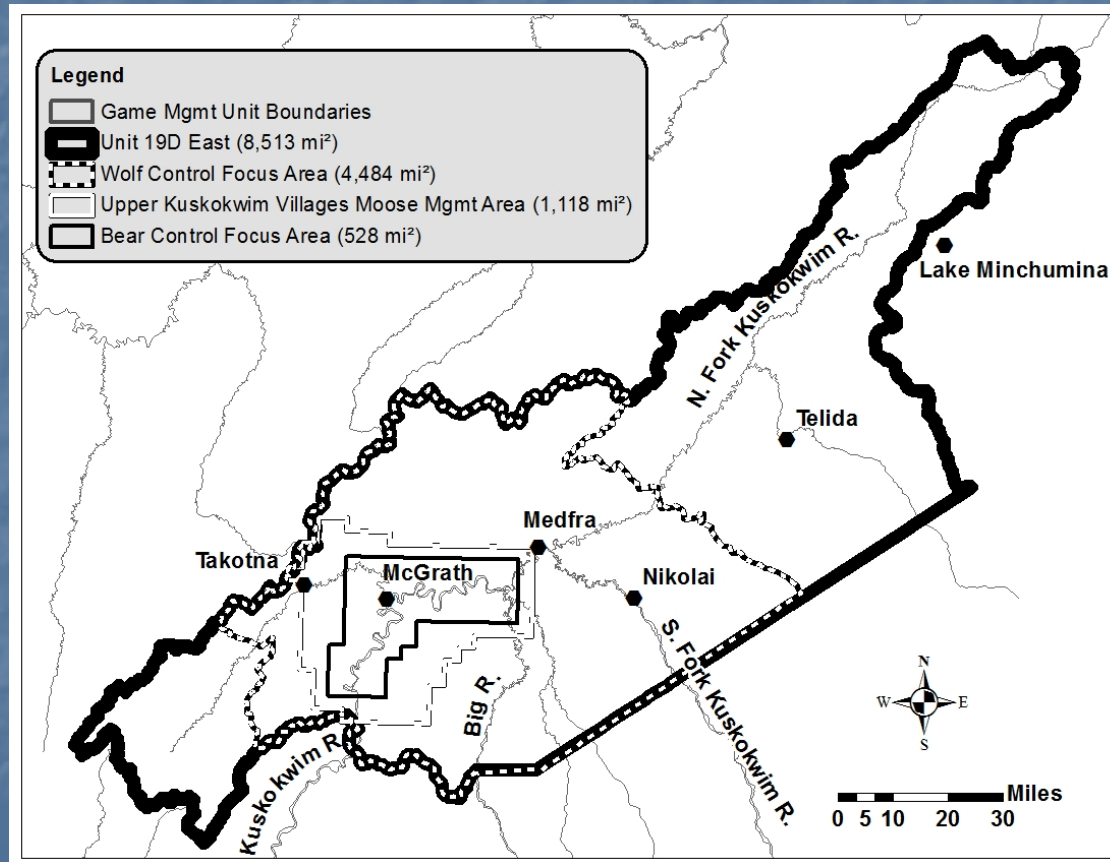


Prepared by:

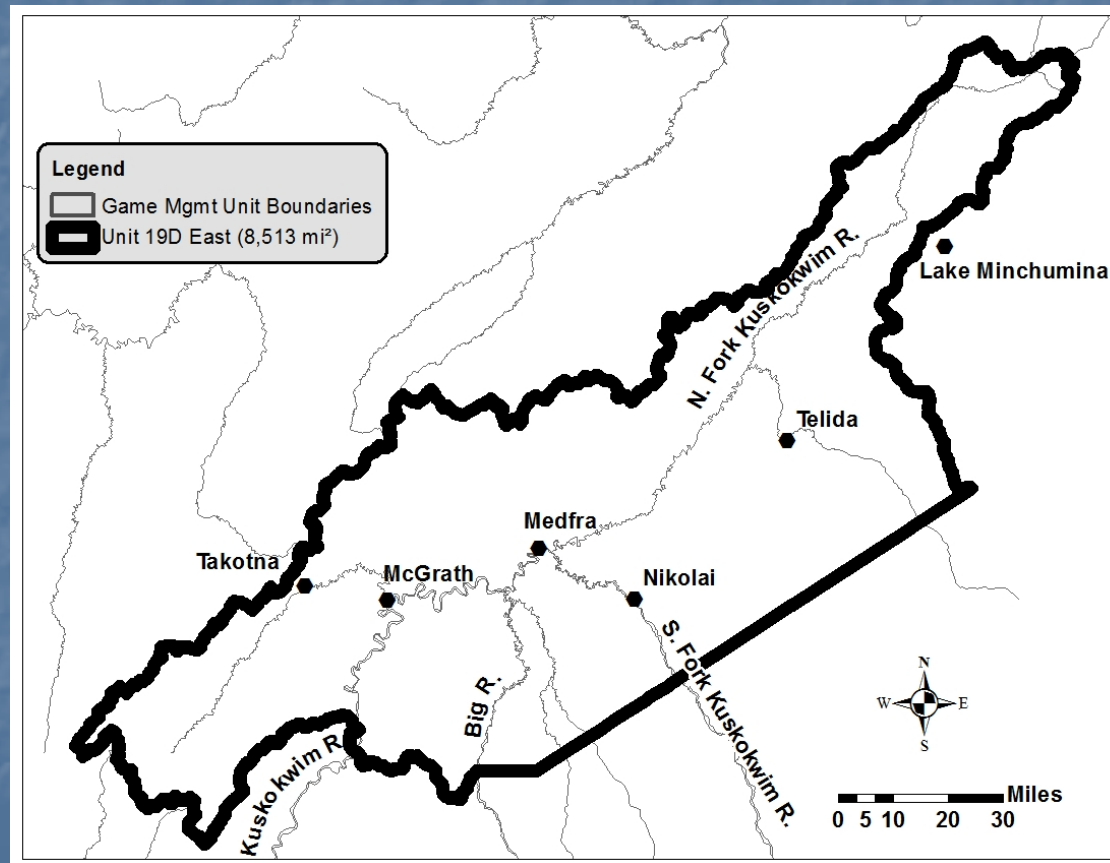
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

December 2013

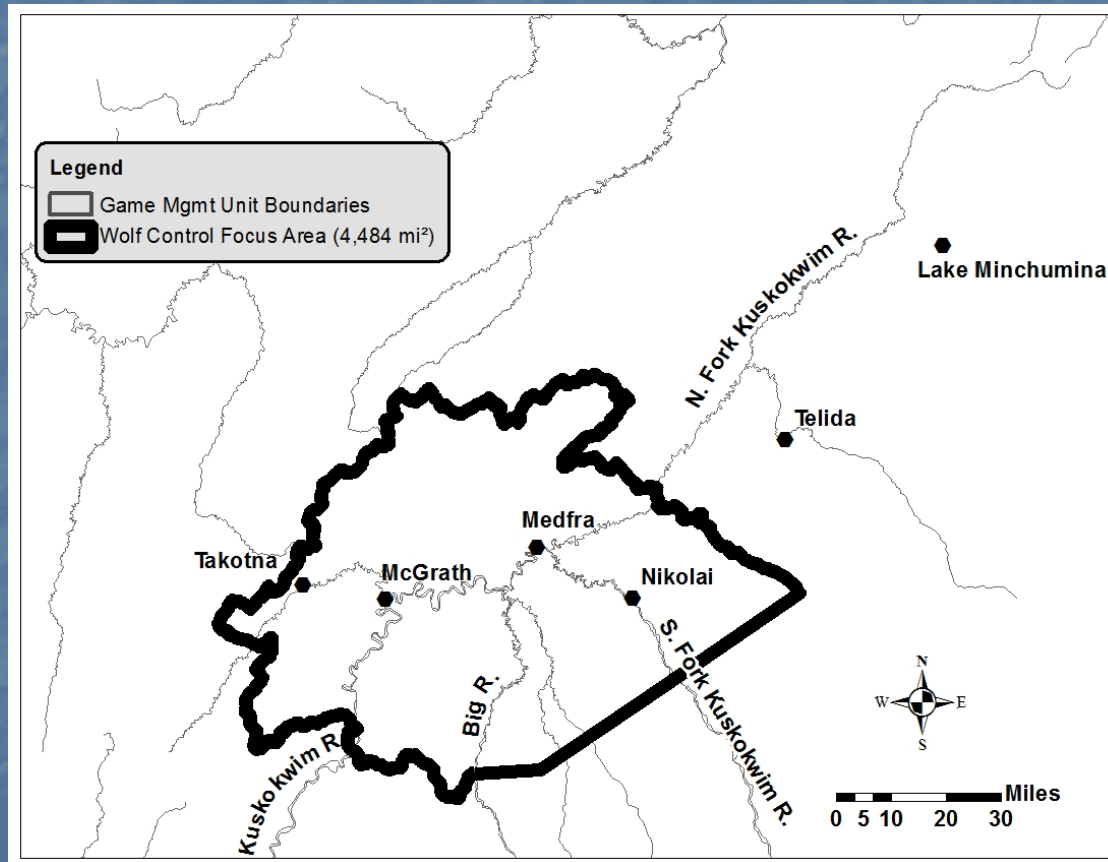
Areas and orientation



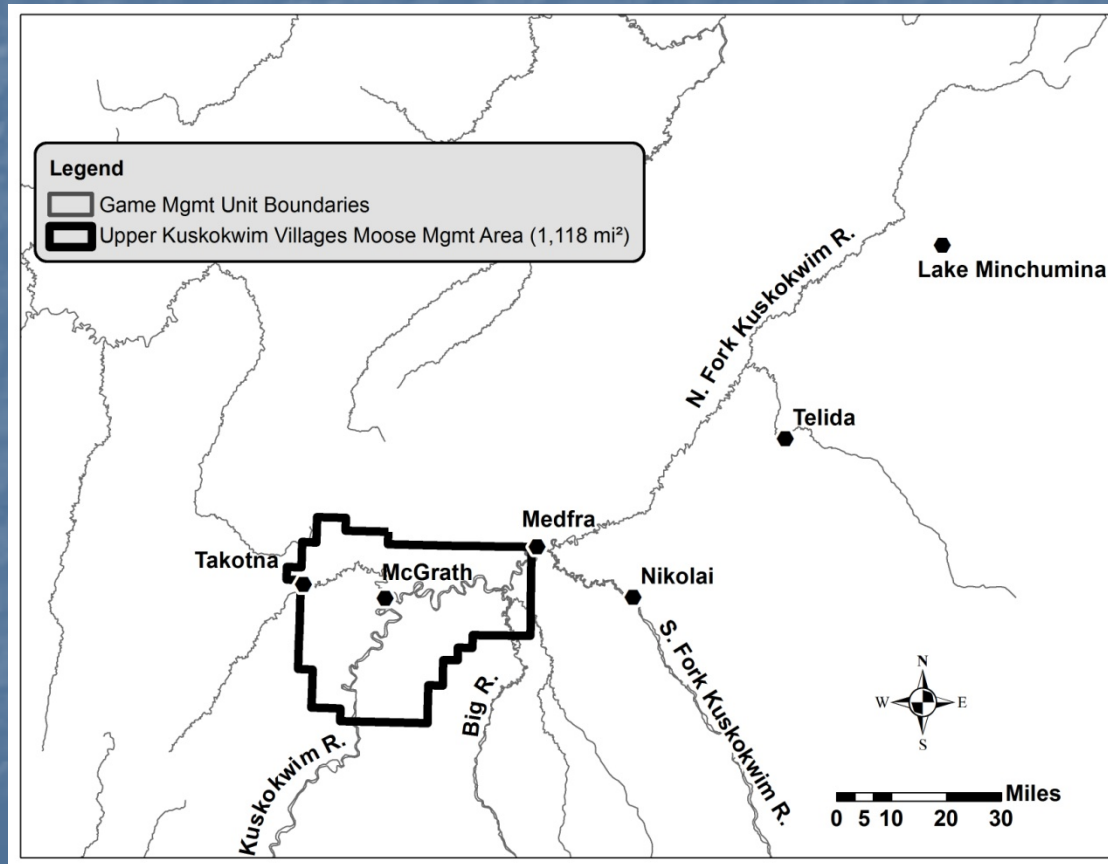
Areas and orientation



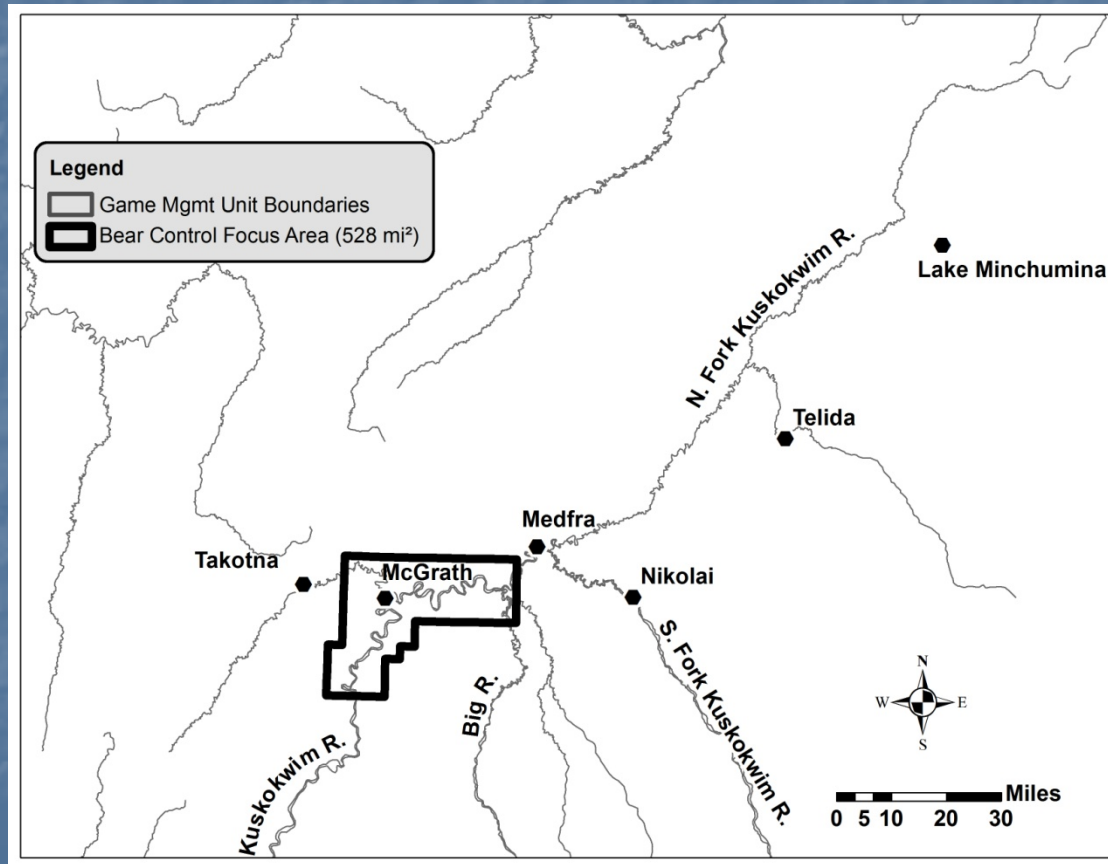
Areas and orientation



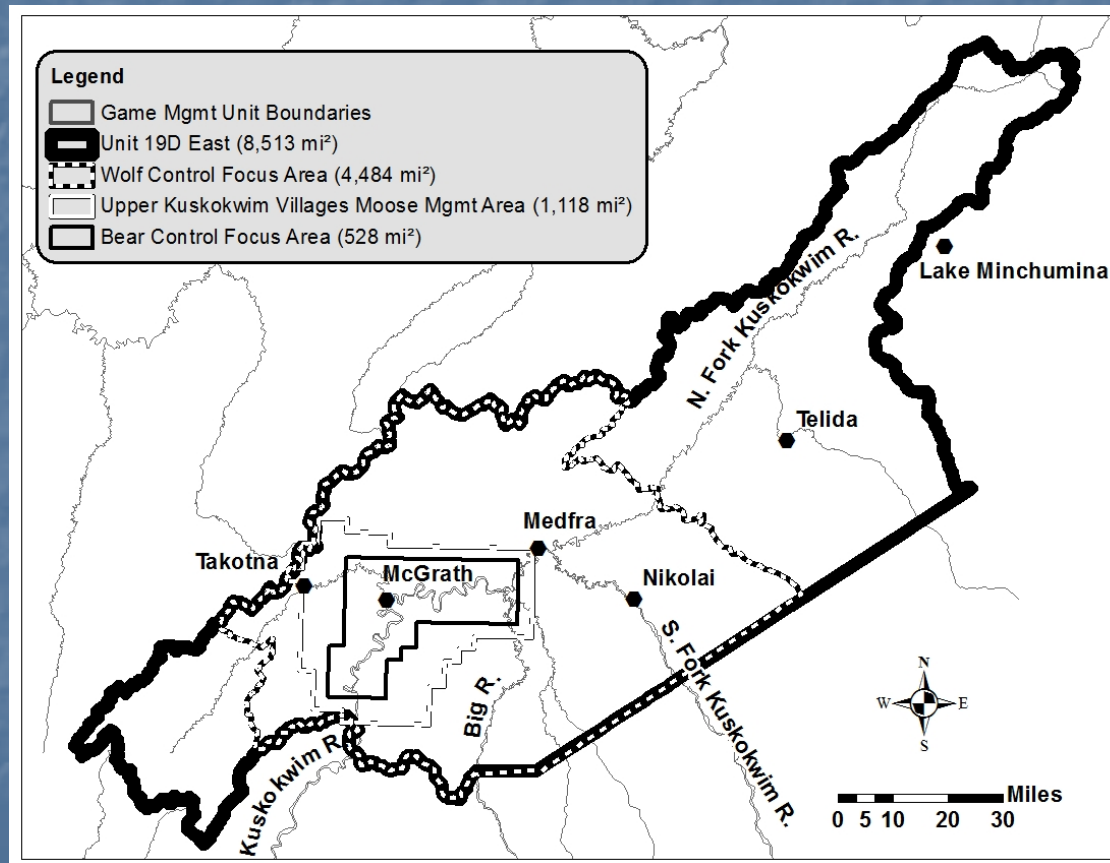
Areas and orientation



Areas and orientation



Areas and orientation



Year	BCFA (528 mi ²)	MMA (1,118 mi ²)
2001	525 (1.0)	868 (0.8)
2003	573 (1.1)	
2004	674 (1.3)	1192 (1.1)
2005	621 (1.2)	
2006	692 (1.3)	1308 (1.2)
2007	883 (1.7)	1720 (1.5)
2008	758 (1.4)	1718 (1.5)
2009	830 (1.6)	1820 (1.6)
2010	793 (1.5)	1796 (1.6)
2011	835 (1.6)	1647 (1.5)
2012	612 (1.2)	1337 (1.2)

Moose estimates (moose/mi²)



19D East COMPARISON OF POPULATION ESTIMATES AND IM OBJECTIVES

IM Population Objective
6000 – 8000
(0.7 – 0.9 moose/mi²)

Population Estimate for 19D East
(8,513 mi²)

5035 moose
(0.6 moose/mi²)



Unit 19D Moose Harvest Increased

- 2001 – 2006 Avg harvest was 76
- 2007 – 2012 Avg harvest was 107



UNIT 19D East COMPARISON OF HARVEST AND IM HARVEST OBJECTIVES

	Harvest Objective 400 – 600
YEAR	Reported Harvest for 19D East
2012-13	112



Moose habitat

- Browse surveys
- Snow depth measures
- Twinning rates



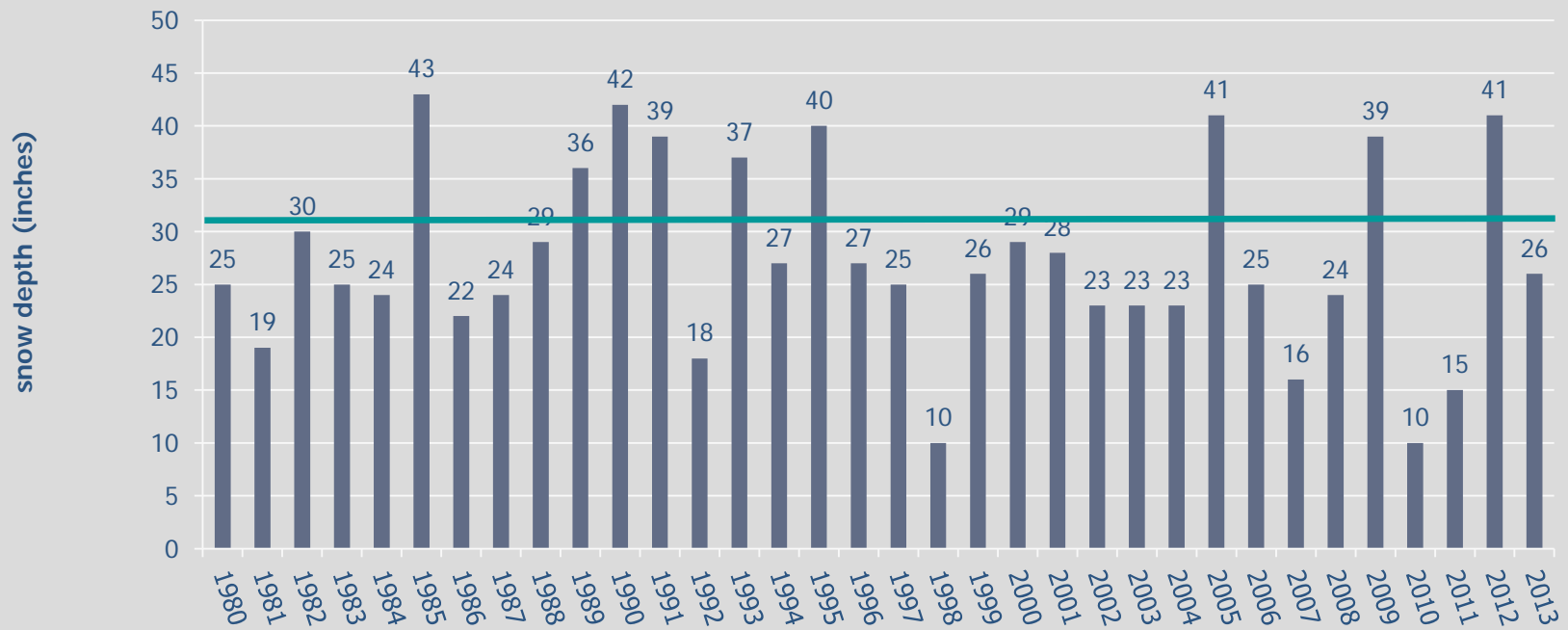
Browse surveys

- 40.5% browse utilization was measured in winter 2008-09



April 1 Snow Depth McGrath

(inches of snow)



Twinning rate guidelines

2-year average

- When above 20%; promote growth
- When 15% – 20%; stabilize growth
- Below 15%; reduce densities



Twinning Rates

■ **2012-13 => 28%**

Year	Twinning rate
2002	39
2003	36
2004	39
2005	50
2006	35
2007	50
2008	--
2009	26
2010	29
2011	37
2012	34
2013	22

Twinning Rates

- 2012-13 => 28%
- 2008-09 browse utilization => 40.5%

Year	Twinning rate
2002	39
2003	36
2004	39
2005	50
2006	35
2007	50
2008	--
2009	26
2010	29
2011	37
2012	34
2013	22

Twinning Rates

- 2012-13 => 28%
- 2008-09 browse utilization => 40.5%
- **Deep snow winters**
 - 2004-05
 - 2008-09
 - 2011-12

Year	Twinning rate
2002	39
2003	36
2004	39
2005	50
2006	35
2007	50
2008	--
2009	26
2010	29
2011	37
2012	34
2013	22

Twinning Rates

- 2012-13 => 28%
- 2008-09 browse utilization => 40.5%
- Deep snow winters
 - 2004-05
 - 2008-09
 - 2011-12
- **Moose numbers**
 - 2009 => 830
 - 2012 => 612

Year	Twinning rate
2002	39
2003	36
2004	39
2005	50
2006	35
2007	50
2008	--
2009	26
2010	29
2011	37
2012	34
2013	22

Twinning Rates

- 2012-13 => 28%
- 2008-09 browse utilization => 40.5%
- Deep snow winters
 - 2004-05
 - 2008-09
 - 2011-12
- Moose numbers
 - 2009 => 830
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Year	Twinning rate
2002	39
2003	36
2004	39
2005	50
2006	35
2007	50
2008	--
2009	26
2010	29
2011	37
2012	34
2013	22

Fall moose composition data in BCFA

Year	Calves: 100 COWS	Bulls: 100 COWS
2008	43	33
2009	44	31
2010	43	38
2011	49	31
2012	47	28



63% calf survival in
radiocollared sample 2013

Moose Objectives

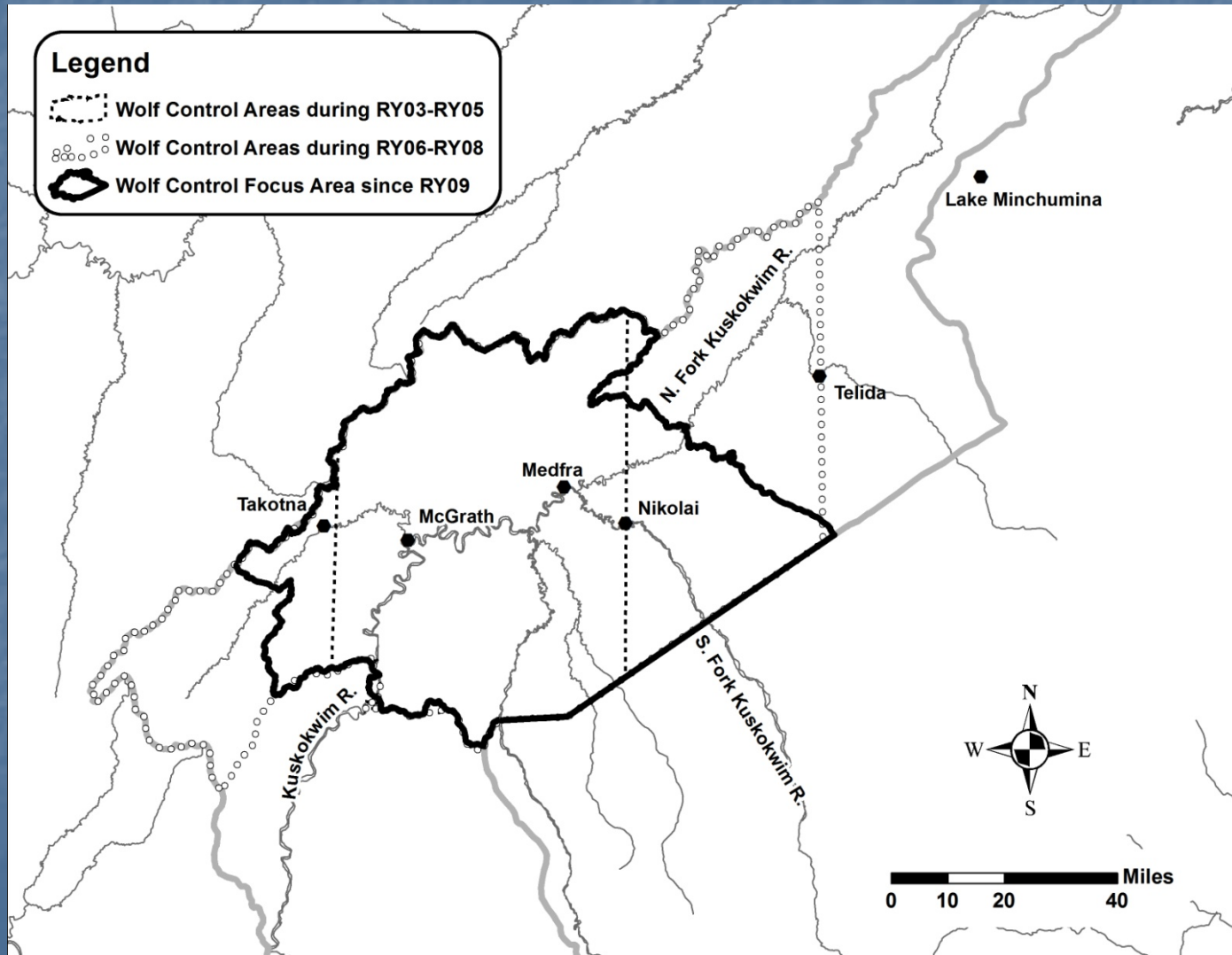
- **Density objective**
 - 2 moose/mi² in BCFA
- **Harvest objective**
 - 180 moose from WCFA

Wolf population

- 198 wolves in 19D East in 2001
 - 68 in wolf control focus area
- Our current wolf estimate in Unit 19D East is 68 – 72 wolves
 - 20 in wolf control focus area



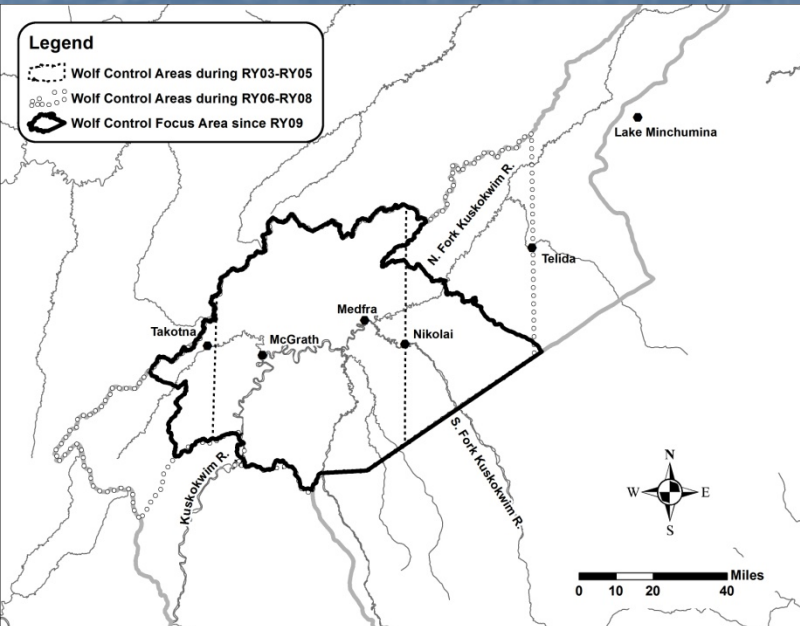
Wolf Control Focus Areas



Wolf Take from the WCFA

RY	Hunting Trapping	Public control	Total removal
2001	22	N/A	22
2002	33	N/A	33
2003	10	17	27
2004	14	12	26
2005	10	3	13
2006	14	2	16
2007	8	19	27
2008	7	19	26
2009	11	4	15
2010	6	13	19
2011	11	22	33
2012	5	8	13

Wolf Reductions



Regulatory Year	Post season wolf estimate w/in 3,210 mi ² area	% reduction from precontrol Estimate of 49 w/in 3,210 mi ² area
2004-05	11	78%
2005-06	11	78%
2006-07	(no estimate)	
2007-08	(no estimate)	
2008-09	15 – 17	65% – 69%

Regulatory Year	Post season wolf estimate w/in 4,484 mi ² area	% reduction from precontrol Estimate of 68 w/in 4,484 mi ² area
2009-10	22	67%
2010-11	12	82%
2011-12	22-24	65-68%
2012-13	20	71%

Department control option if permittees do not maintain wolf numbers below 60% of precontrol levels.

Wolf Objectives

- Control objective reduce wolves to lowest level possible in WCFA
- No fewer than 40 in Unit 19D East



Black bear abundance in BCFA

Year	Abundance of independent bears	SE	95% CI
2003 pre-removal	96	6.4	83–109
2004 post-removal	4	4.5	0–13
2007	70	6.9	56–84
2010	123	16.6	96–162

Unit 19D East Black Bear Numbers

Location	Area (mi ²)	Population estimate	Population Density (bears/1000mi ²)
19D East	8513	1700	200



Black Bear Take from the BCFA

R/Y	Hunting	Public control	Dept Removal	Total removal
2001	1	--	--	1
2002	4	--	67	71
2003	6	--	26	32
2004	1	--	--	1
2005	6	--	--	6
2006	0	--	--	0
2007	8	0	--	8
2008	6	0	--	6
2009	4	6	--	10
2010	4	17	--	21
2011	8	3	--	11
2012	1	0	--	1

Grizzly Bear Numbers

Location	Area (mi ²)	Population estimate	Population Density (bears/1000mi ²)
19D East	8,513	128	15
BCFA	528	9	17

Grizzly Bear Take from the BCFA

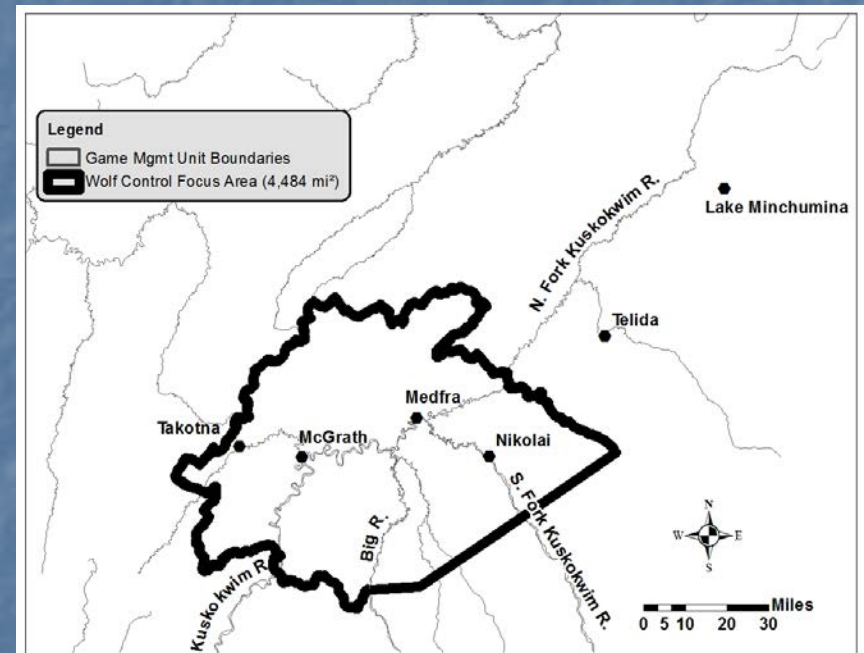
R/Y	Hunting	Public control	Dept Removal	Total removal
2001	0	--	--	0
2002	0	--	6	6
2003	0	--	1	1
2004	0	--	--	0
2005	0	--	--	0
2006	2	--	--	2
2007	2	0	--	2
2008	0	0	--	0
2009	2	0	--	2
2010	0	0	--	0
2011	0	0	--	0
2012	0	0	--	0

Bear Objectives

- **Black bear in BCFA**
 - lowest level possible
- **Brown bear in BCFA**
 - lowest level possible

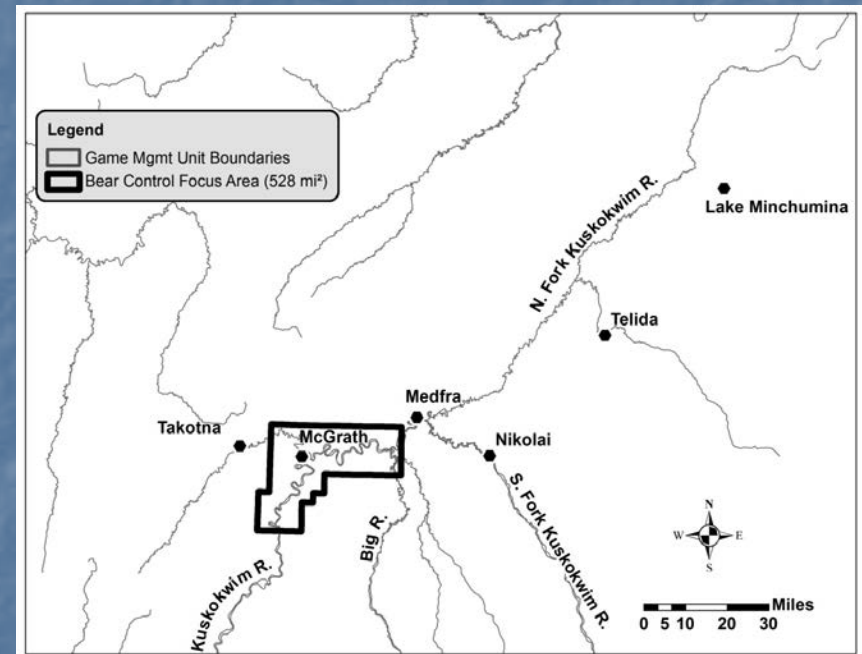
WCFA Objectives

- Reduce wolves to the lowest level possible by permitted public pilots using aerial methods
- Moose harvest objective is 180
 - Replaces 4% of the estimated number of moose within the BCFA



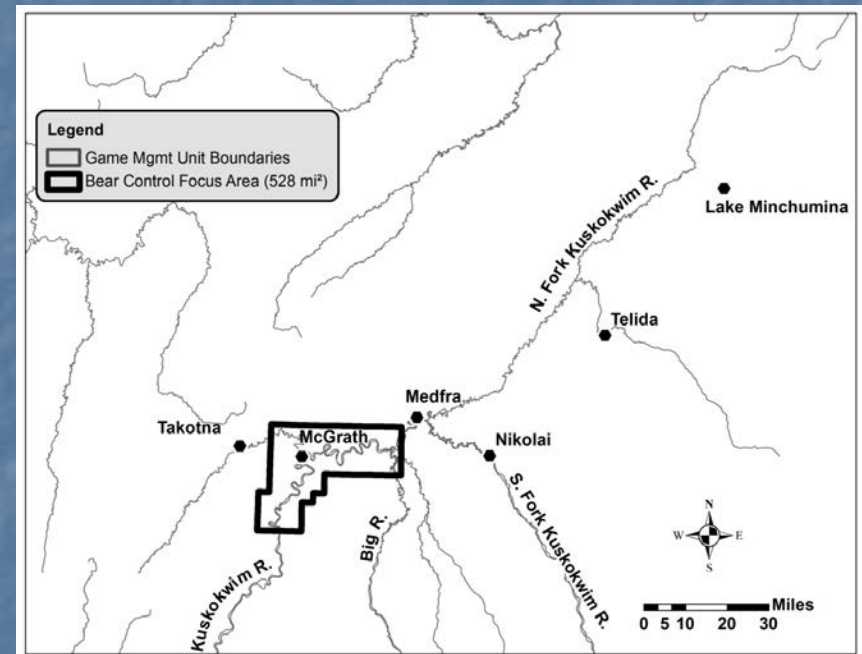
BCFA Objectives

- Moose density 2.0 moose/mi²
 - If above the objective wolf control may be suspended after considering other biological factors such as twinning rates.
 - If below the objective continue or initiate wolf control after considering other biological factors such as twinning rates.



BCFA Objectives

- Remain proactive to ensure densities do not fall too low.
- Consider future department conducted bear control if densities fall below 1.2 moose/mi² and twinning rates are still above 20%



Summary

- Re-establishes WCFA, with moose harvest objectives
- Re-establishes BCFA, with moose density objectives
- Eliminates public bear snaring as predation control tool
- Permits Dept predator control to prevent low densities in BCFA

Proposal 63

- Effect of the proposal:
 - Reauthorize the Predator Control Implementation Plan for Unit 19D East through June 2020
- Department position:
 - Amend and Support
- Advisory Committee positions:
 - GASH – Support
 - SHAC – Support
 - CKAC – Support
 - McGrath – Support with amendment to retain public bear control, including snaring

Proposal 64

Effect of the proposal:

Extend the Unit 19
lynx trapping season
through March 31

Department position:

Neutral

Advisory Committee positions:

SHAC – Support

CKAC – Support

McGrath – Support



Unit 19

Current vs. Proposed seasons:

- **Current lynx trapping season:**
- **Proposed lynx trapping season:**
- **Nov 1 – Feb 28 (or 29)**
- **Nov 1 – Mar 31**

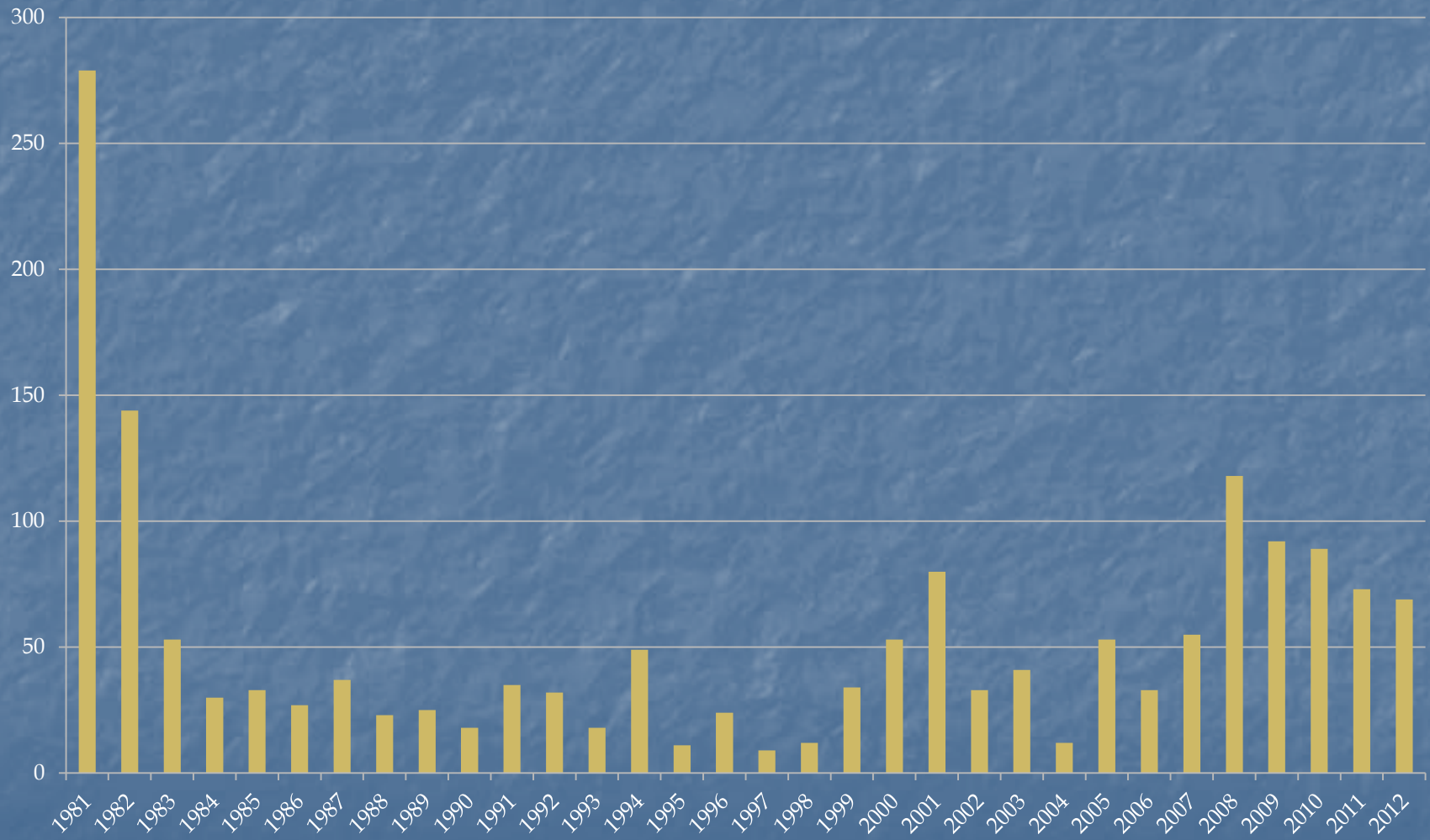
Considerations

- No conservation concerns
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- Partially aligns seasons
- Reduces incidental catch
- Opportunity increased
- Eases enforcement and administration

Considerations

- **No conservation concern**
 - March trappers are motivated by wolf and wolverine trapping
 - Little to no additional lynx trapping pressure expected
 - We expect nearly the same number of lynx to be taken if this season were to pass as are currently taken incidentally

Unit 19 Lynx Harvest data



Recent harvest

- RY08 – RY12
 - between 69 – 118 lynx taken
 - 0.2 – 3.2 lynx taken per 1000 mi²
 - Low harvest density – many untrapped areas

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- **Fur quality variable by end of March**
 - Late March lynx are said to have poorer quality fur
 - Variable fur quality seen in furs turned in to ADF&G in McGrath
 - Some trappers think fur quality is best in March

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- **Partially aligns seasons**
 - Units 17 and 18 end March 31
 - Aligned with Western AK
 - Unit 20C ends March 15
 - Units 21A and 21E end Feb 28
 - Unit 16 ends Jan 31

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- **Partially aligns seasons**
 - Units 21A and 21E end Feb 28
 - If the Board chooses to pass this proposal, amending it to include Units 21A and 21E should be considered to simplify McGrath area regulations.
 - McGrath AC supports Proposal 73
 - GASH AC did not support Proposal 73

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- Partially aligns seasons
- **Reduces incidental catch**
 - Changes incidental catch to legal catch

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- Partially aligns seasons
- Reduces incidental catch
- **Opportunity increased**

Considerations

- No conservation concern
- Fur quality variable by end of March
- Partially aligns seasons
- Reduces incidental catch
- Opportunity increased
- **Eases enforcement and administration**
 - Equal season length to wolverines
 - No need to store post season lynx

Proposal 64

Effect of the proposal:

Extend the Unit 19
lynx trapping season
through March 31

Department position:

Neutral

Advisory Committee positions:

SHAC – Support

CKAC – Support

McGrath – Support



Proposal 65

Effect of the proposal:

Create a resident winter registration permit sheep hunt for sheep smaller than $\frac{3}{4}$ curl in Unit 19C.

Department position:

Neutral

Advisory Committee positions:

McGrath – Support



Current vs Proposed comparison:

- **Current regulation:**
- **Residents and Nonresidents:**
 - General hunt
 - 10 Aug–20 Sep
 - 1 full curl ram
- **Proposed regulation (additional season):**
- **Residents:**
 - Registration permit
 - 1 Oct–30 April
 - One sheep < $\frac{3}{4}$ curl
 - No lambs or ewes accompanied by lambs
 - No rams with both horns broomed
 - Other conditions
- **Nonresidents:**
 - No winter season

Proposed regulation

-discretionary and other conditions

- No aircraft except through McGrath, Nikolai, and Telida
- Call-in to McGrath 3 days prior to and after hunt
- Report sheep harvested
- ADF&G can limit hunters in the field
- Close hunt by EO when total harvest approaches or reaches 10 sheep
- Horns sealed within 30 days of close of season (not 30 days after kill)
- Proxy hunting allowed for elders over 65

Sustainability of a small harvest

- **Small harvest (5 – 10) sustainable**
- **If the Board chooses to provide for a hunt, we need to assure a very low harvest**
- **Hunt conditions accomplish small harvest**

Administrative cost

- Gate-keeping costs
- Access to us for call-in and call-out and limits on numbers in the field
- EOs to close season
- Late horn sealing
- None of these are unfamiliar tasks

Sheep population

- 2013 estimate 4000 to 5000 sheep in 19C
 - Lower than 2010 due to fewer lambs
 - 292 lambs in 2010 (34 lambs:100 ewes)
 - 94 lambs in 2013 (19 lambs:100 ewes)
 - Weather related
- A small harvest of about 10 sheep would be a harvest rate of 0.20% – 0.25%
- Discretionary permit authority to avoid small areas of concentrated harvest

Unit 19C Sheep harvest

Year	Sheep	Hunters
2009	64	133
2010	68	139
2011	81	145
2012	84	138
2013	81	154
Ave₀₈₋₁₂	76	142
Success rate	54%	



Unit 19C sheep hunting and harvest by Alaska resident and nonresident

Year	Resident Sheep	Nonres Sheep	Sheep		Total residents	Total nonres	Total Hunters
Avg 2009 – 2013	20 31% success	52 72% success	76^a		64	72	142^a

^aUnknown/unreported residency data accounts for differences.

Unit 19C sheep hunting and harvest by Unit 19D residents

Year	Total Hunters	Sheep		Unit 19D Residents	Sheep
2009	133	64		3	2
2010	139	68		3	0
2011	145	81		4	0
2012	138	84		2	0
2013	154	81		2	0

Success rate for Unit 19D resident hunters was 14%
Avg of 0.4 sheep/year

Other considerations

- Interest in a winter hunt with no aircraft for small sheep is expected to be low
- Residents of Nikolai in particular are expected to be interested
- The McGrath AC supports this proposal.



Subsistence Law Implications

- During the 2010 Board meeting the 8 criteria established in 5AAC 99.010 to determine whether the herd is associated with customary and traditional uses were considered;
- A positive C&T determination was made and an amount necessary for subsistence of 1–5 sheep was established;
- The existing seasons and bag limits were found to provide for a reasonable opportunity for subsistence;
- The proposer states that regulations are inadequate to provide for the needs of Alaska residents, especially those living in Unit 19;
- The Board may chose to re-evaluate whether current regulations still provide for a reasonable opportunity for subsistence.

Proposal 65 Summary

Effect of the proposal: Create a resident winter registration permit sheep hunt for sheep smaller than $\frac{3}{4}$ curl in Unit 19C.

Department position:

Neutral
Subsistence considerations

Advisory Committee positions:

McGrath – Support



Proposal 66

Effect of the proposal:

Allow for a subsistence hunt on mainland muskox in Units 18 and 19 by close proximity communities.

Department position:

Neutral on allocation
Oppose Unit 19 hunt

Advisory Committee positions:

CKAC – Oppose



Current Unit 19

Muskox Regulation:

- **Unit 19:**

No open season



Proposed Unit 19

Muskox Regulation:

- **Unit 19:** Establish an open season
 - Seasons and bag limits are not specified
 - "subsistence"
 - "close proximity communities"



Hunt type

- **C&T and ANS:** not determined for Unit 19 Muskoxen



Hunt type

- **Close proximity communities:** Not an option under state regulations



Muskoxen in Unit 19

- **No established population:** Occasional sightings only
- **No harvestable surplus:** explains our position to not support this proposal



Proposal 66

Effect of the proposal:

Allow for a subsistence hunt on mainland muskox in Units 18 and 19 by close proximity communities.

Department position:

Neutral on allocation
Oppose Unit 19 hunt

Advisory Committee positions:

No positions



C&T and ANS

Proposal 67

Effect of the proposal:

Redefine the Unit 18, 19 and 21 boundaries

Department position:

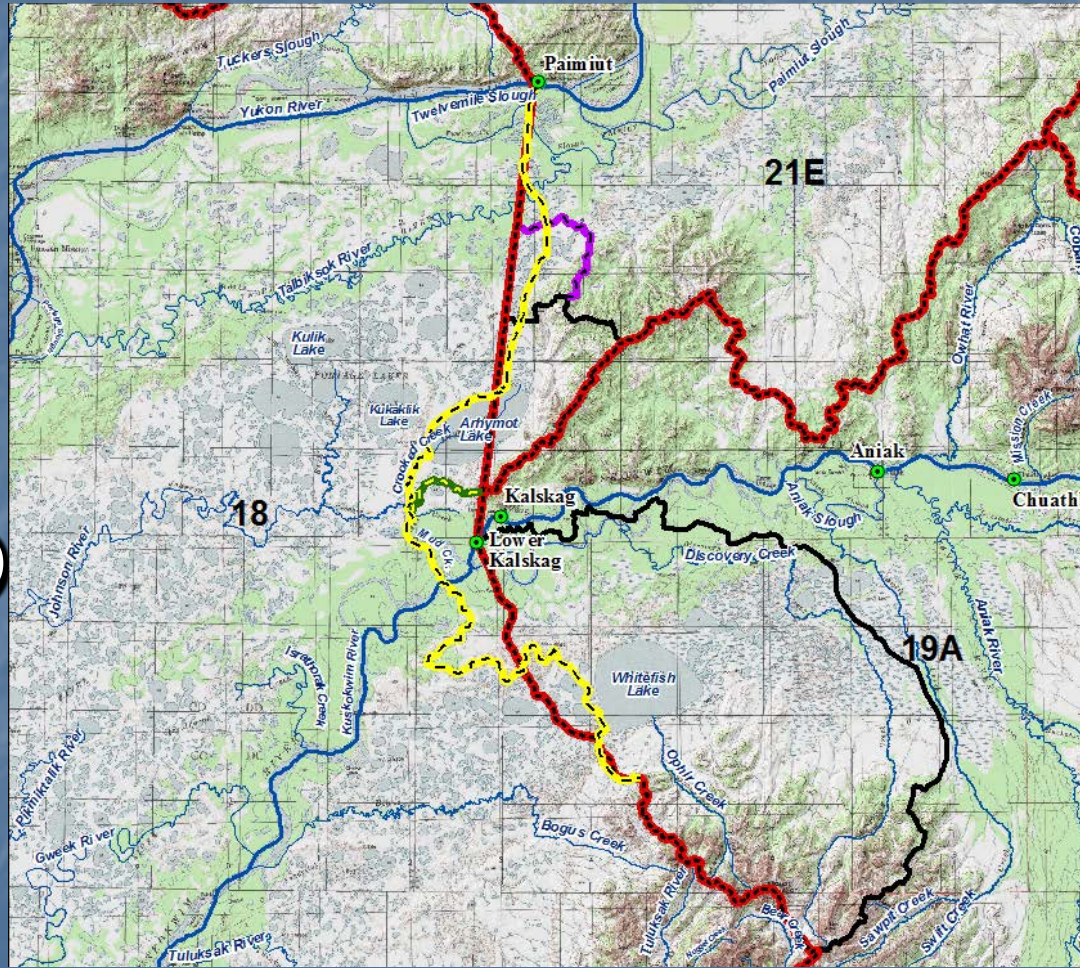
Neutral

Advisory Committee positions:

CKAC – Support (author)

GASH – Oppose

SHAC – Support



Considered by the Board in 2010, 2011, and 2012. TNA in 2012.

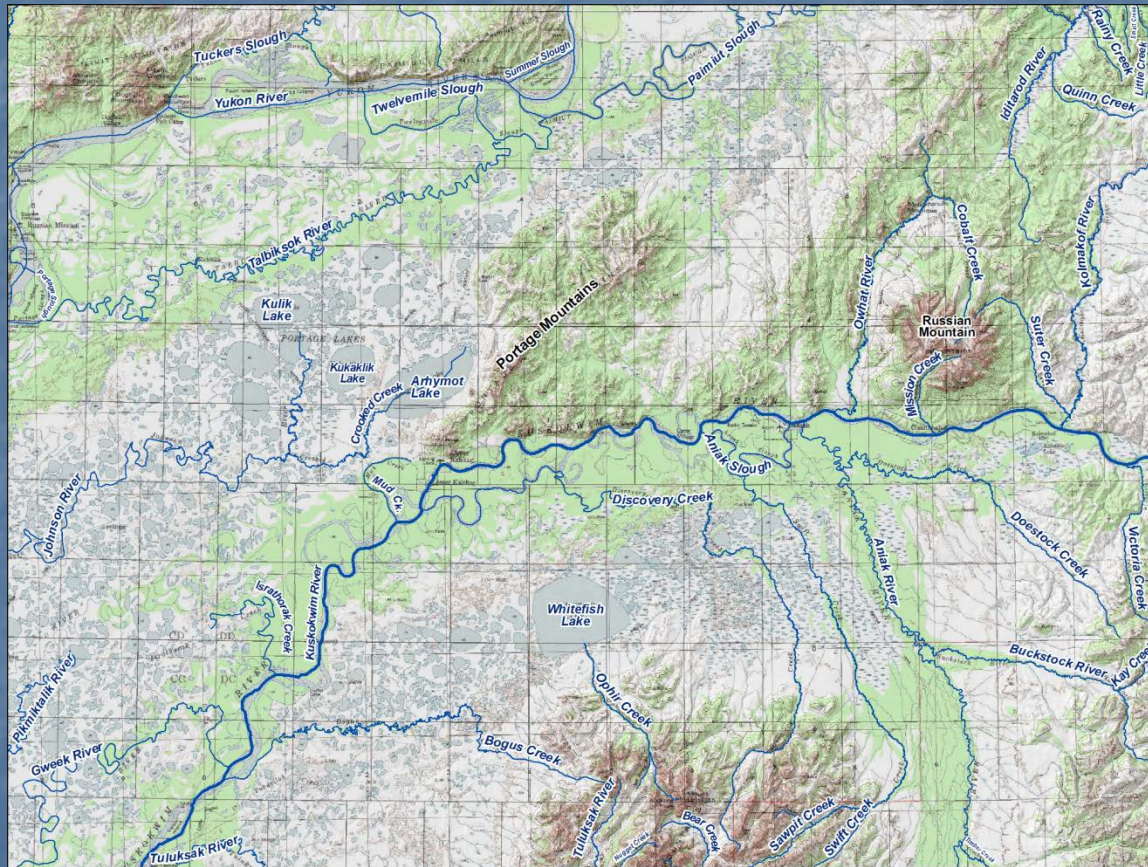
Current Regulation:

- **Unit 18:** That area draining into the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers downstream from a straight line drawn between Lower Kalskag and Paimiut and the drainages flowing into the Bering Sea from Cape Newenham on the south to and including the Pastolik River drainage on the north; Nunivak, St. Matthew, and adjacent islands between Cape Newenham and the Pastolik River and all seaward waters and lands within three (3) miles of these coastlines.
- **Unit 19:** All drainages into the Kuskokwim River upstream from a straight line drawn between Lower Kalskag and Paimiut.
- **Unit 21:** Middle Yukon drainages into the Yukon River upstream from Paimiut to but not including the Tozitna River drainage on the north bank, and to but not including the Tanana River drainage on the south bank, and excluding the Koyukuk River drainage upstream from the Dulbi River drainage.

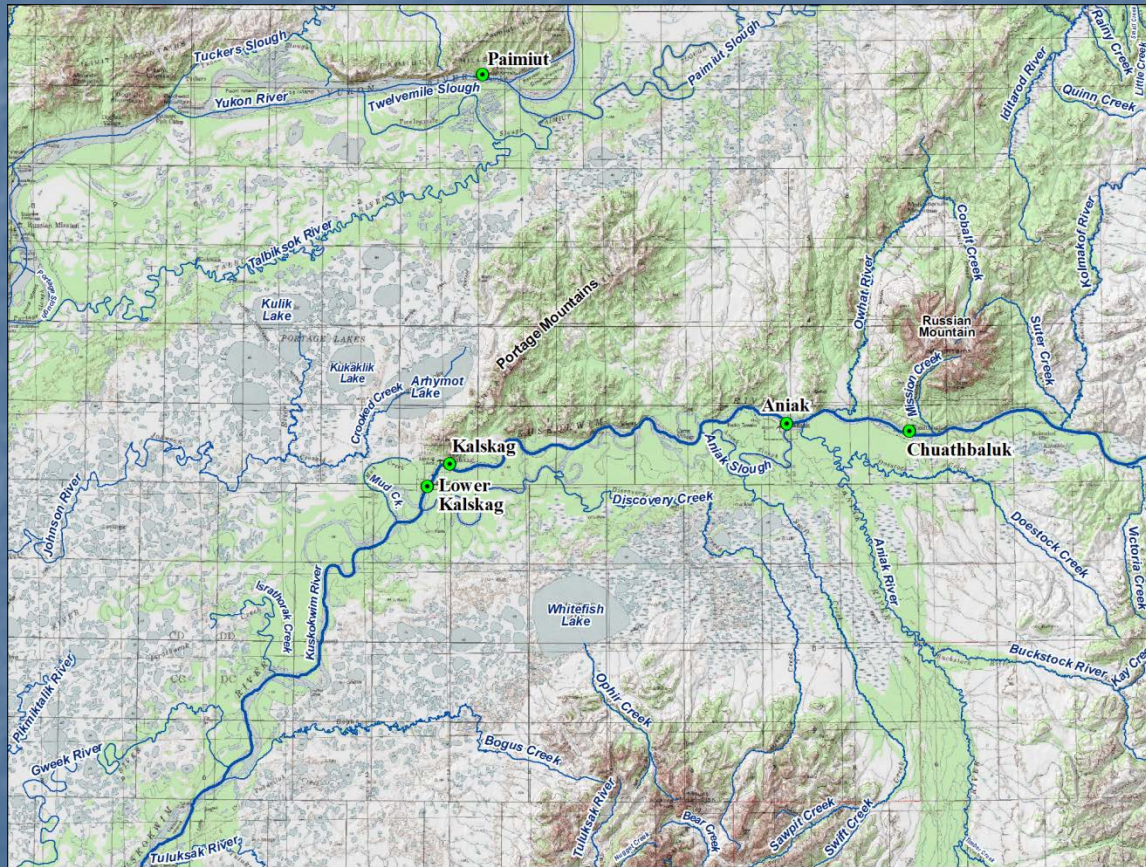
Proposed Regulation:

- **Unit 18:** The area draining into the Yukon River downstream from a line starting at the down river boundary of Paimiut on the north bank of the Yukon River then across the river to the south bank to the northern terminus of the Paimiut Portage, proceed south through the Portage to the mouth of Hooking Creek on the northeast corner of Arhymot Lake, follow the northern and western bank of the lake to the head of Crooked Creek, follow the north bank of the creek downstream to the northern terminus of the Crooked Creek to Mud Creek Tramway, follow the tramway south to Mud Creek, follow its west bank downstream to First Slough, follow the west bank of the slough downstream to its confluence to the Kuskokwim River,
- **Unit 19:** The area draining into the Kuskokwim River upstream from the confluence of the First Slough and the Kuskokwim River; and the area draining into Crook Creek's south bank upstream from the northern terminus of the Mud Creek to Crook Creek Portage Tramway.
- **Unit 21:** The area draining into the Yukon River upstream from the down river boundary of Paimiut on the north shore of the Yukon River and, directly across the river, the northern terminus of the Paimiut Portage on the south shore of the Yukon River.

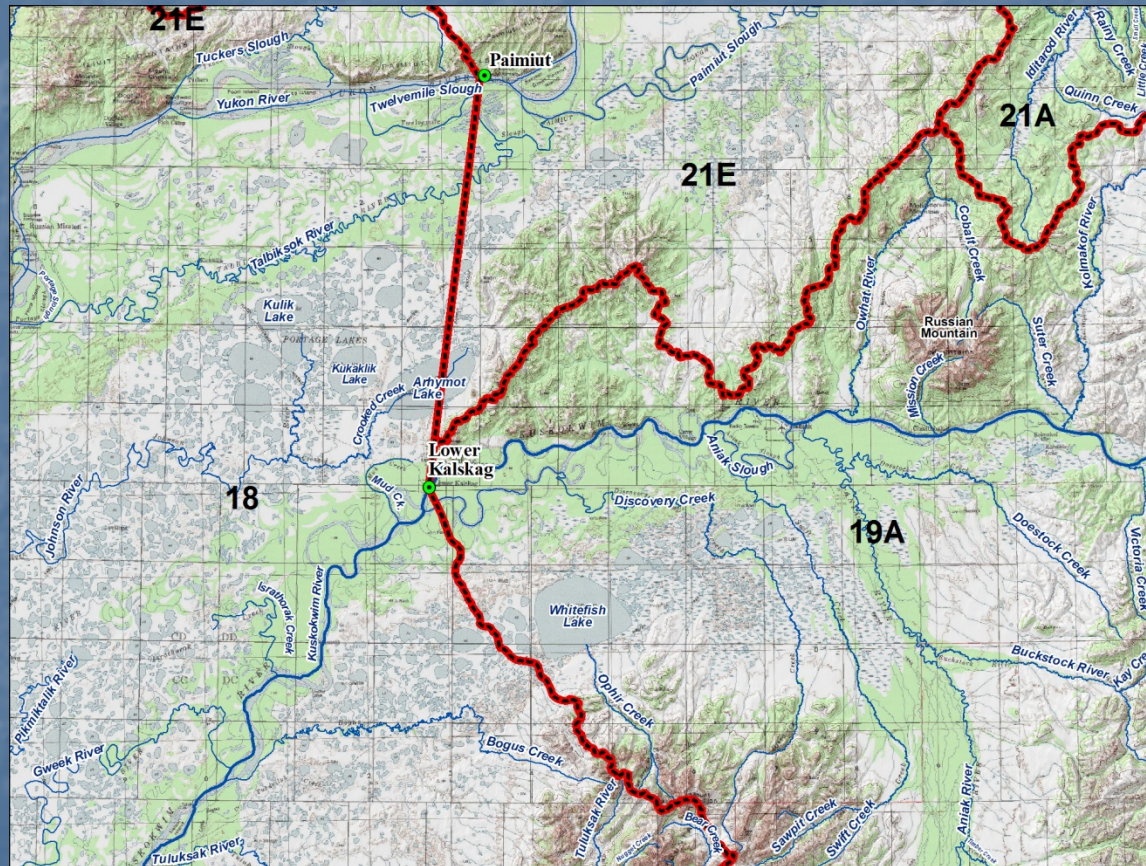
Orientation



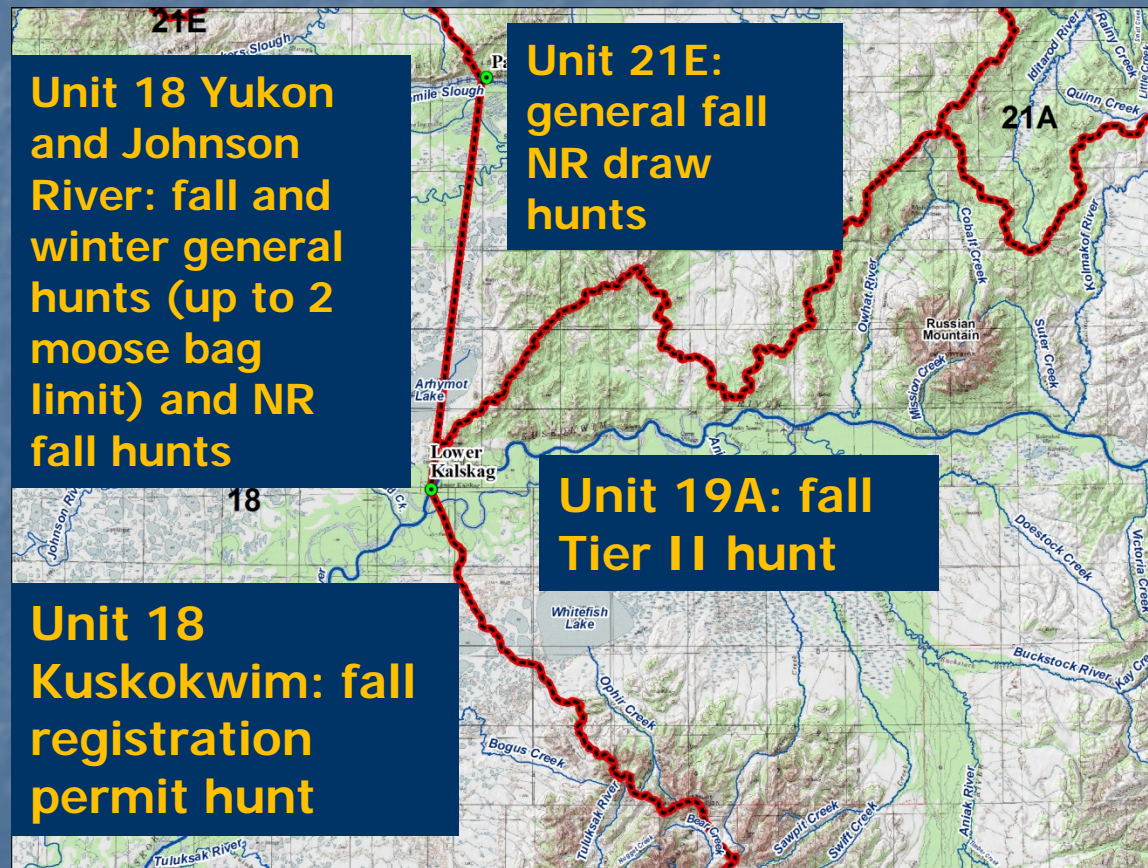
Villages near proposed change



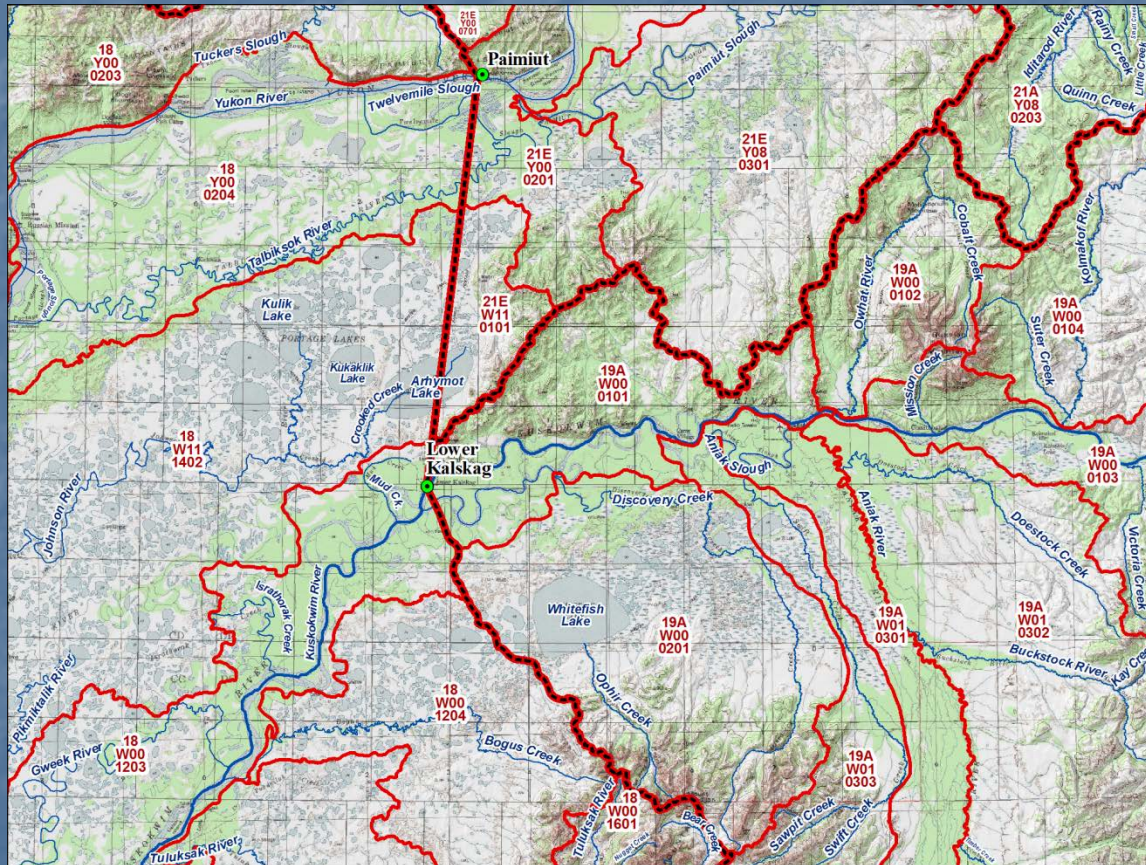
Boundary Currently Used

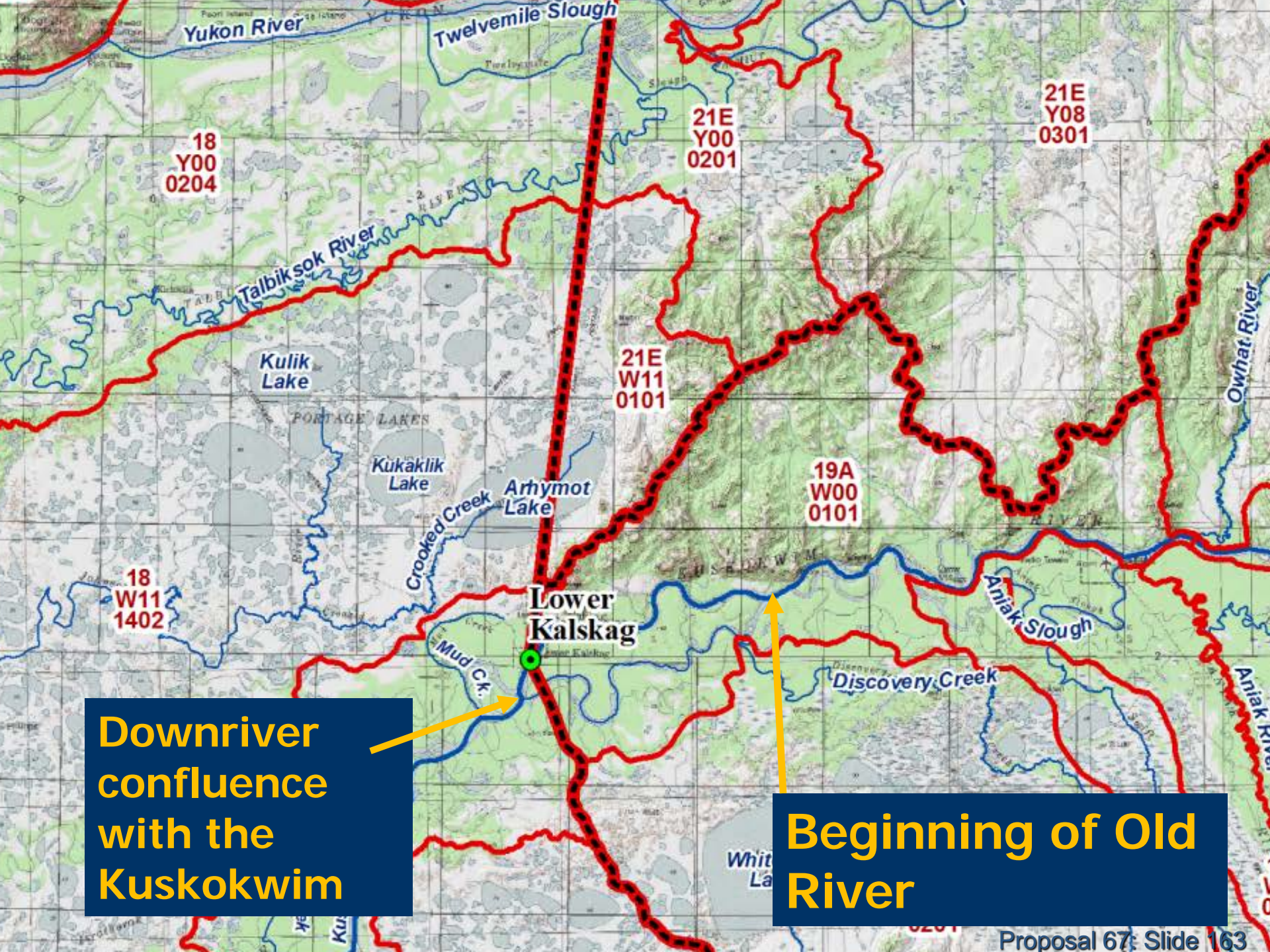


Moose hunts near boundary



UCUs most affected

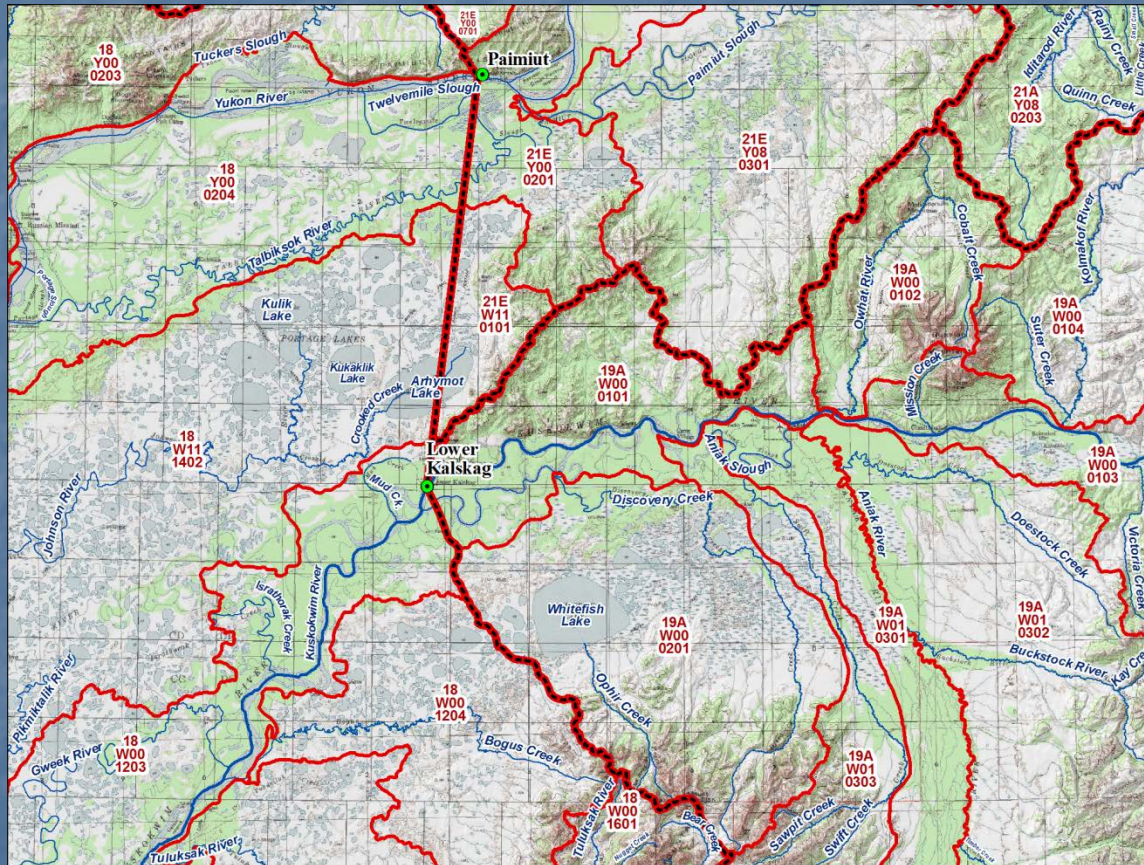




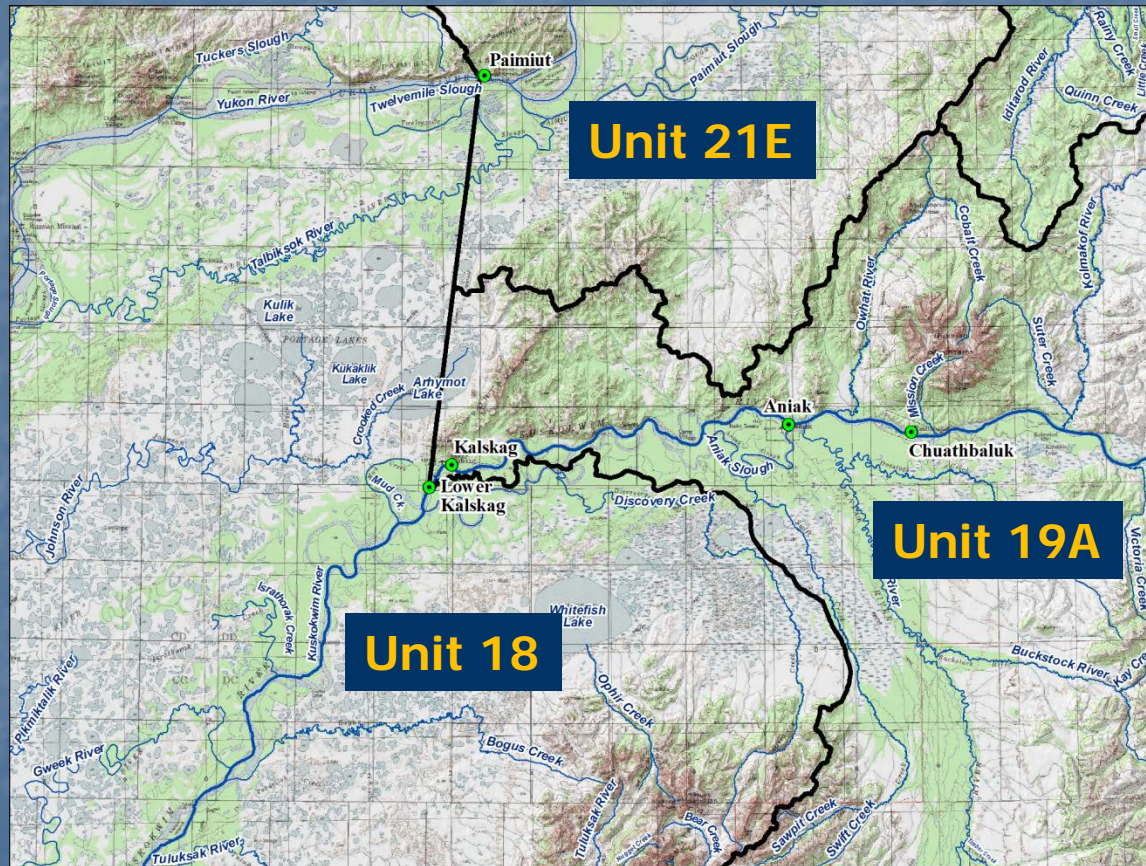
Downriver
confluence
with the
Kuskokwim

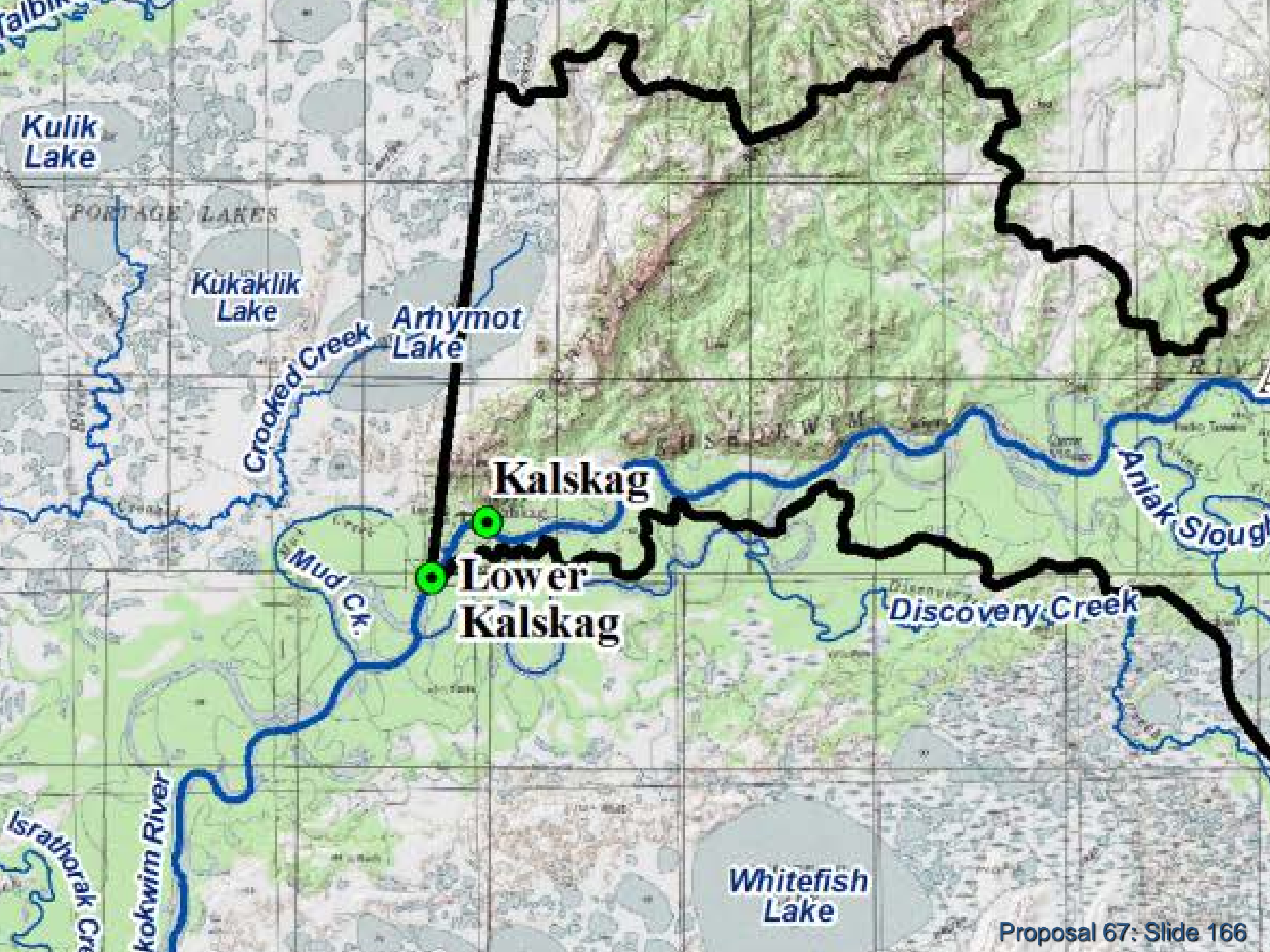
Beginning of Old
River

UCUs most affected

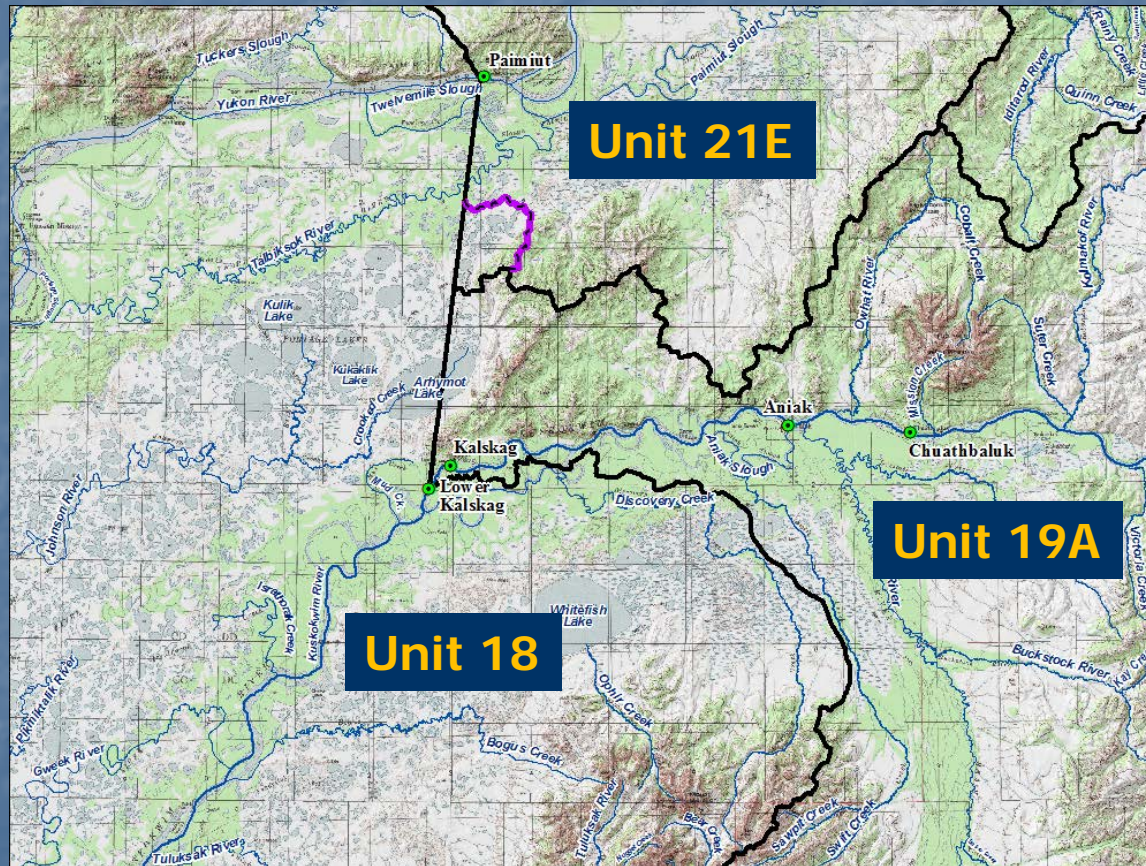


New Map Reflects Current Codified

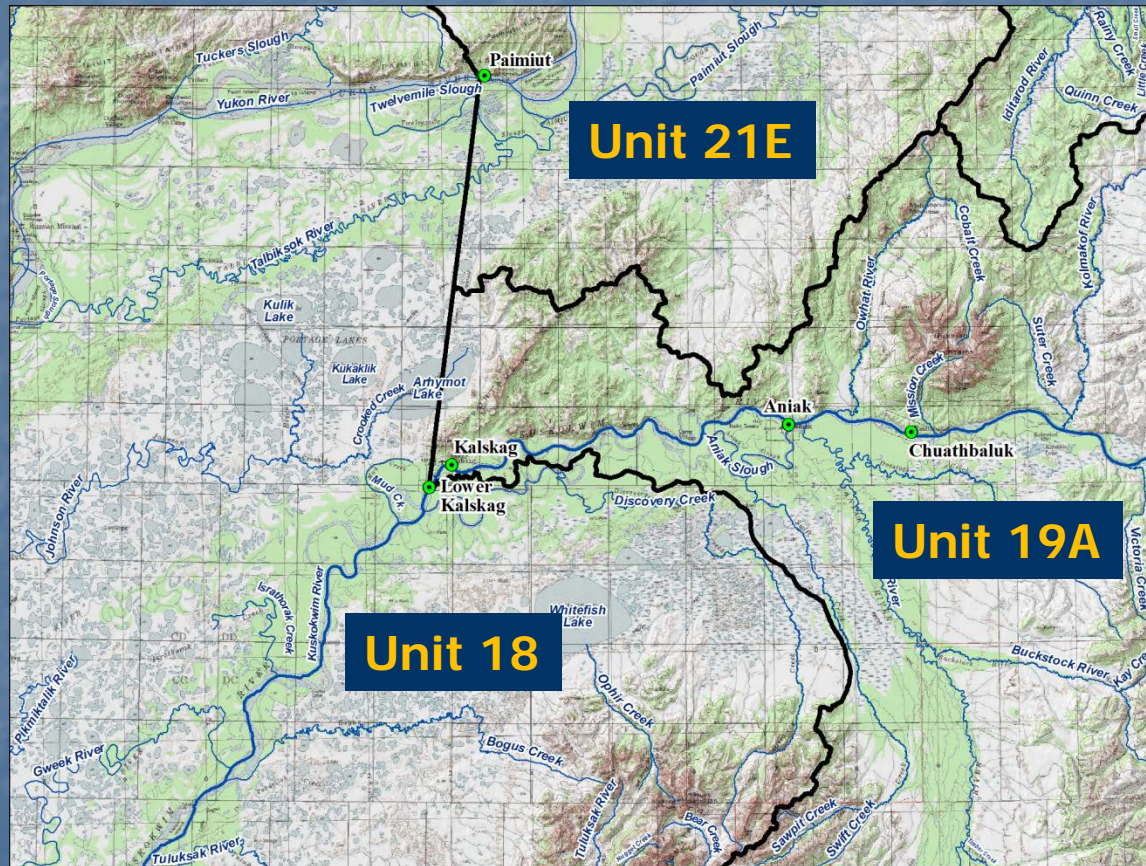




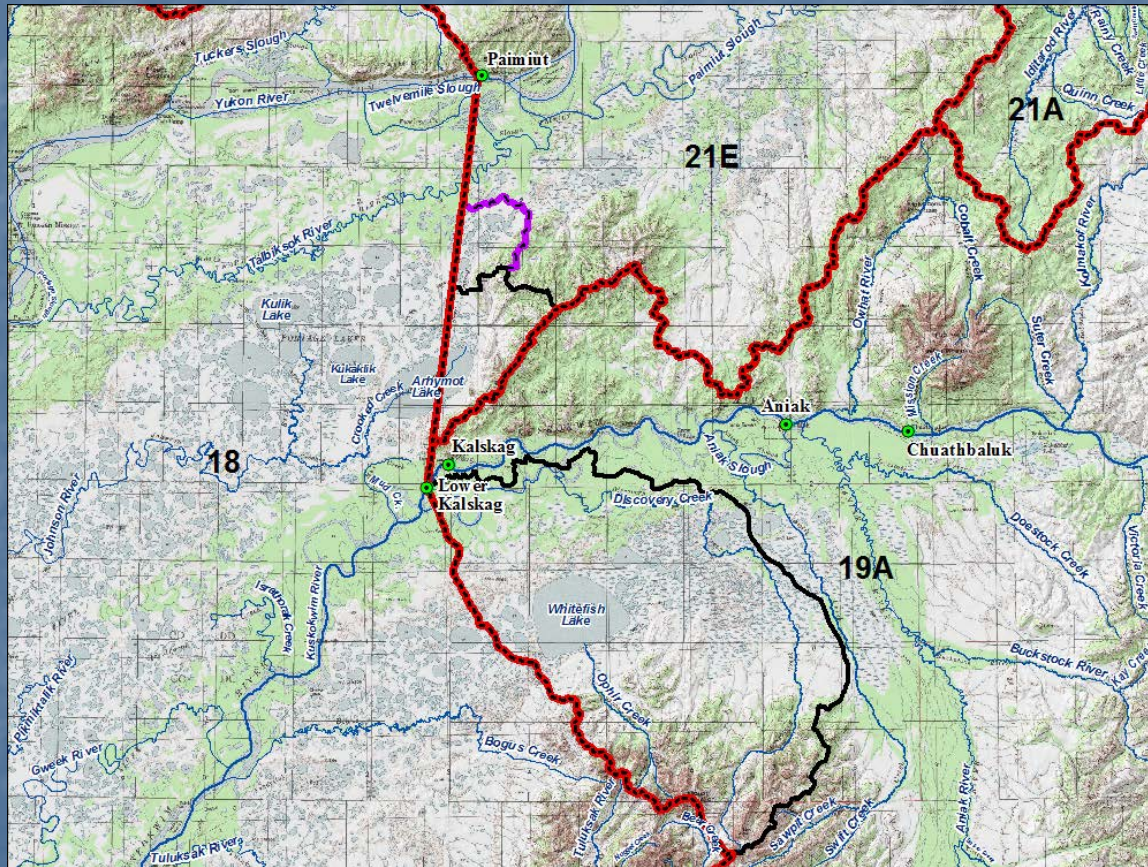
New Map Reflects Current Codified



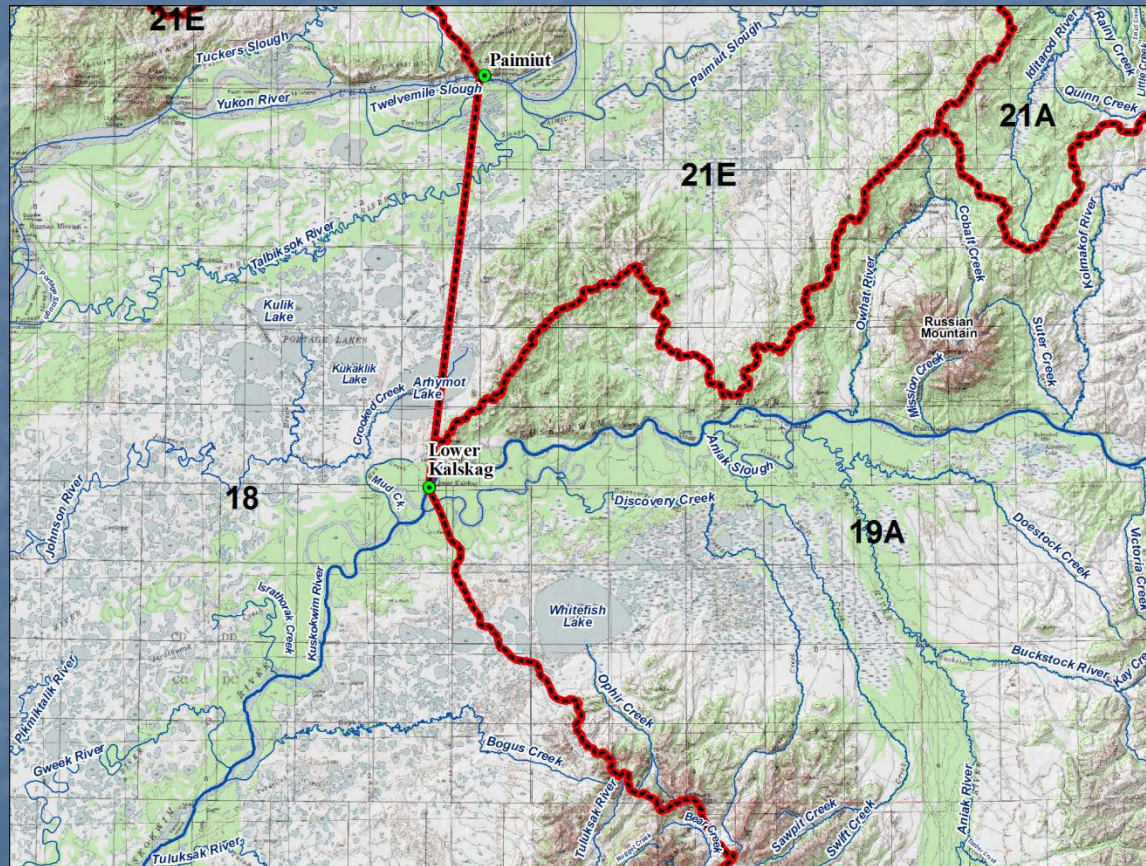
New Map Reflects Current Codified



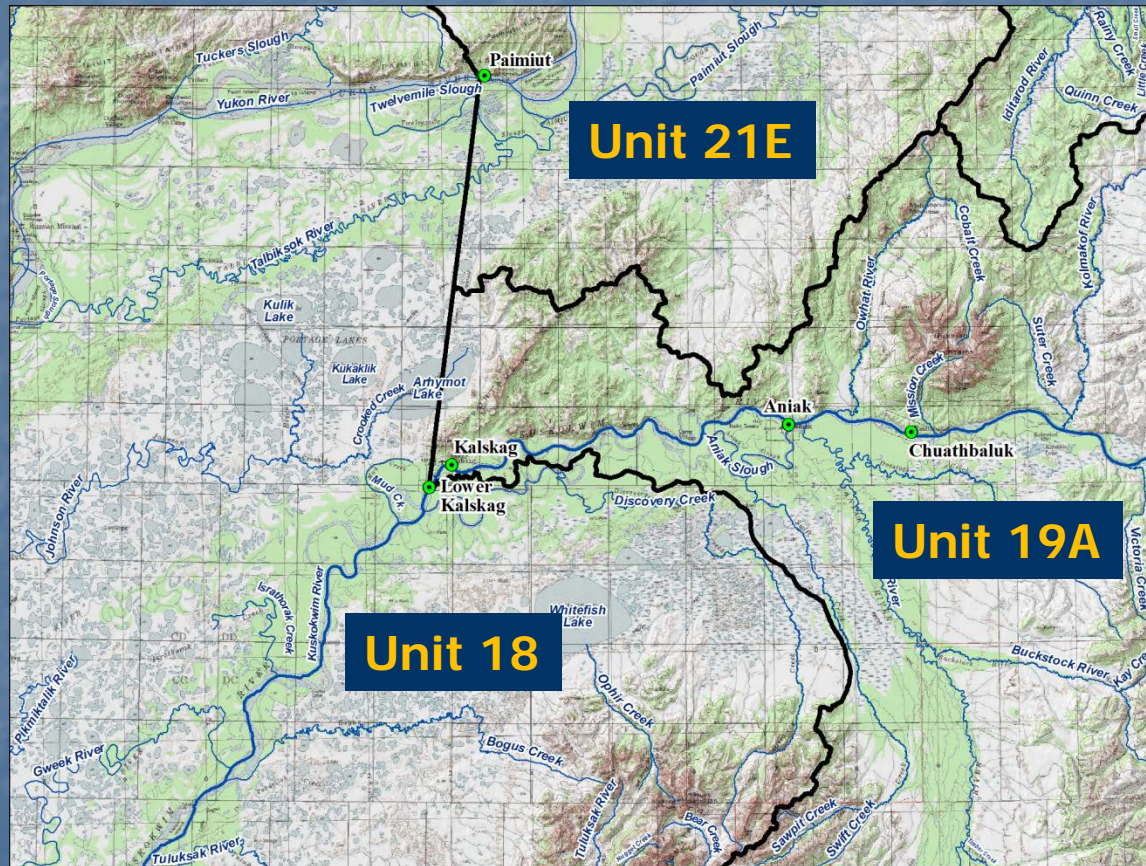
Current map vs. Current Codified



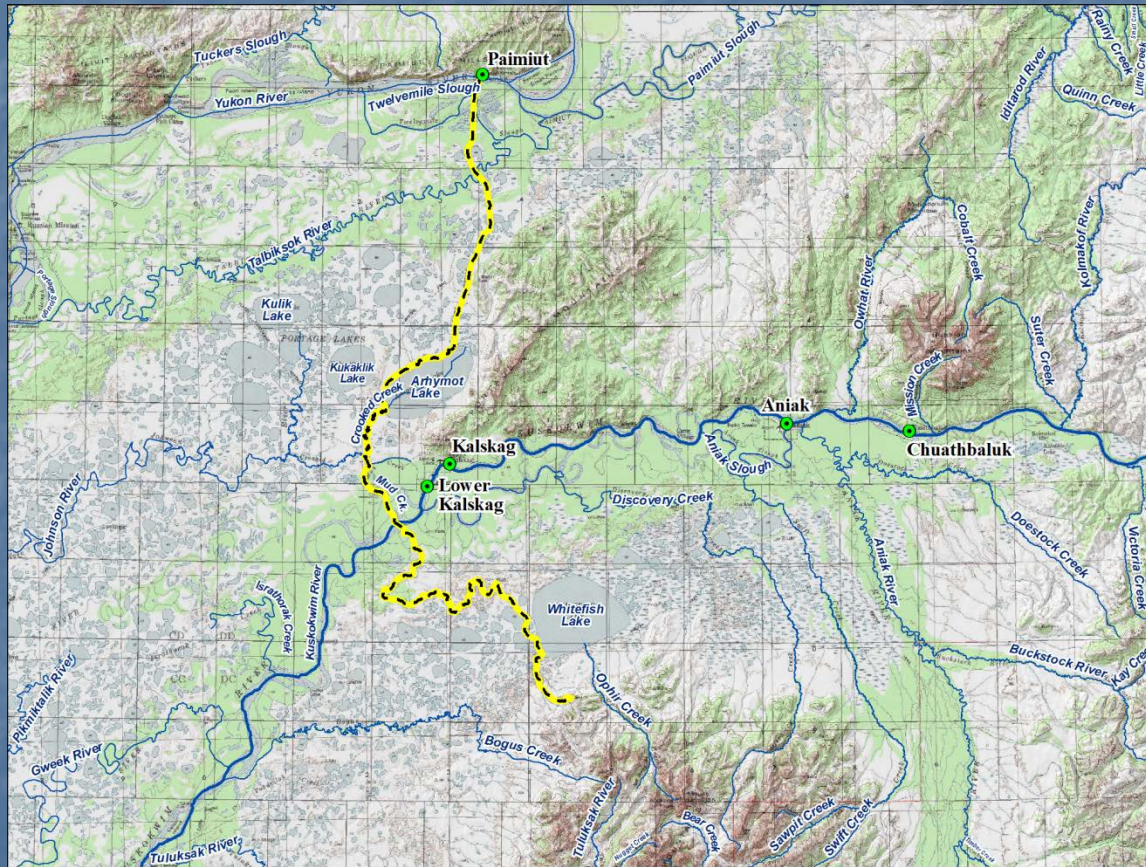
Current map vs. Current Codified



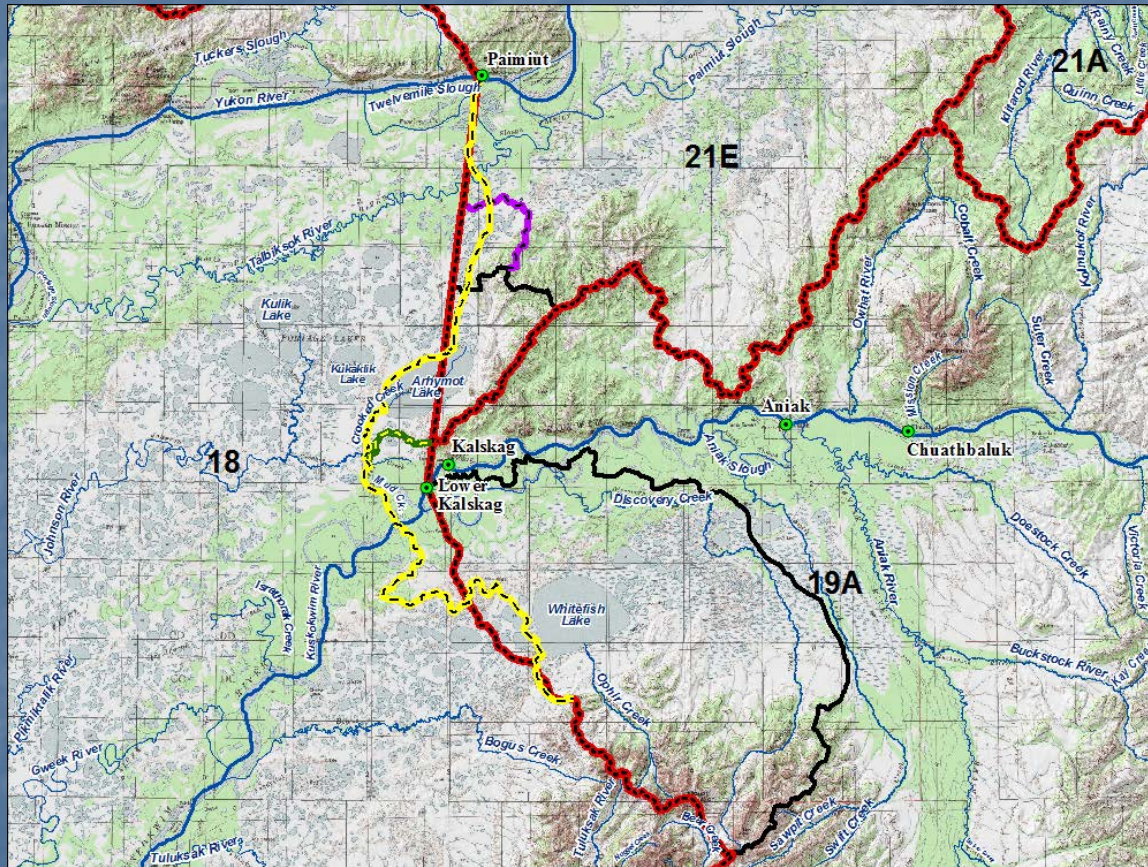
New Map Reflects Current Codified



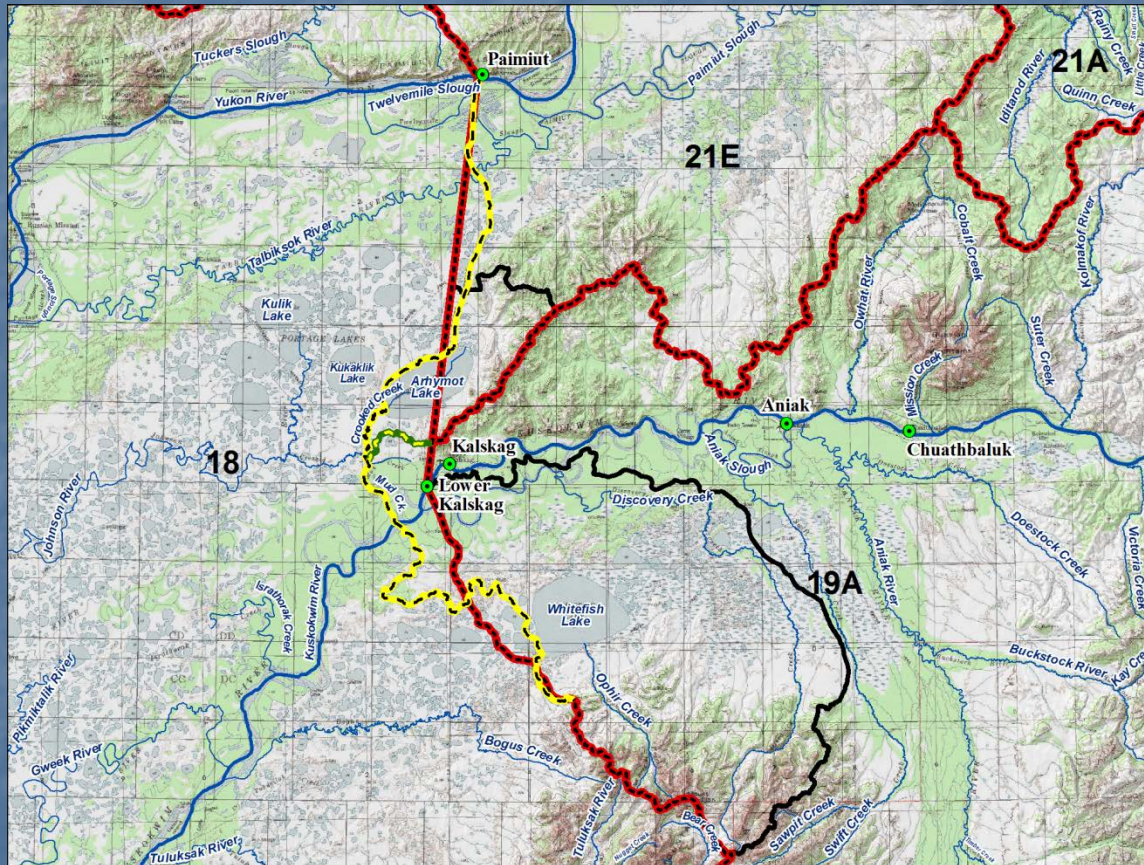
Proposed Boundary



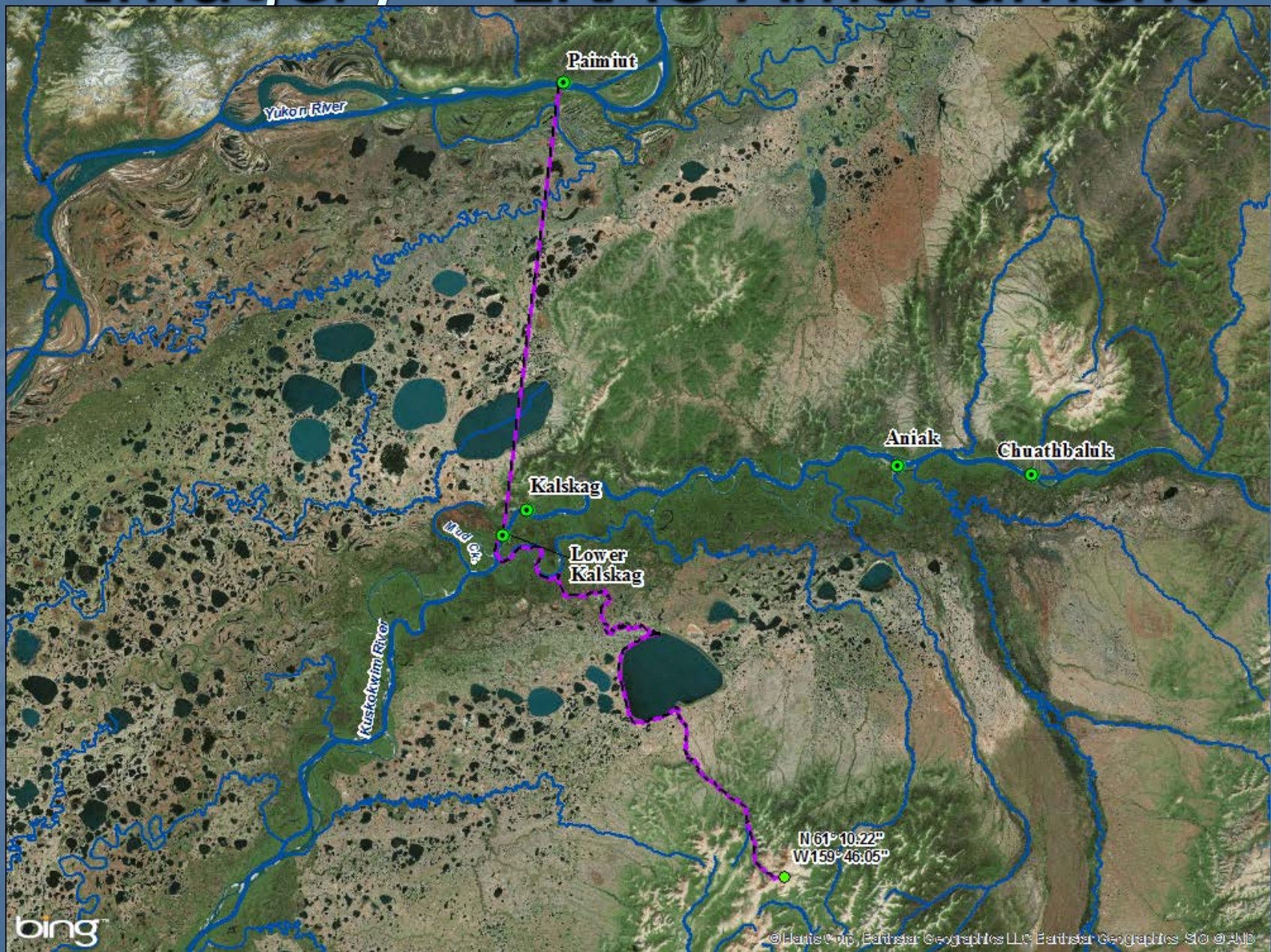
Overview



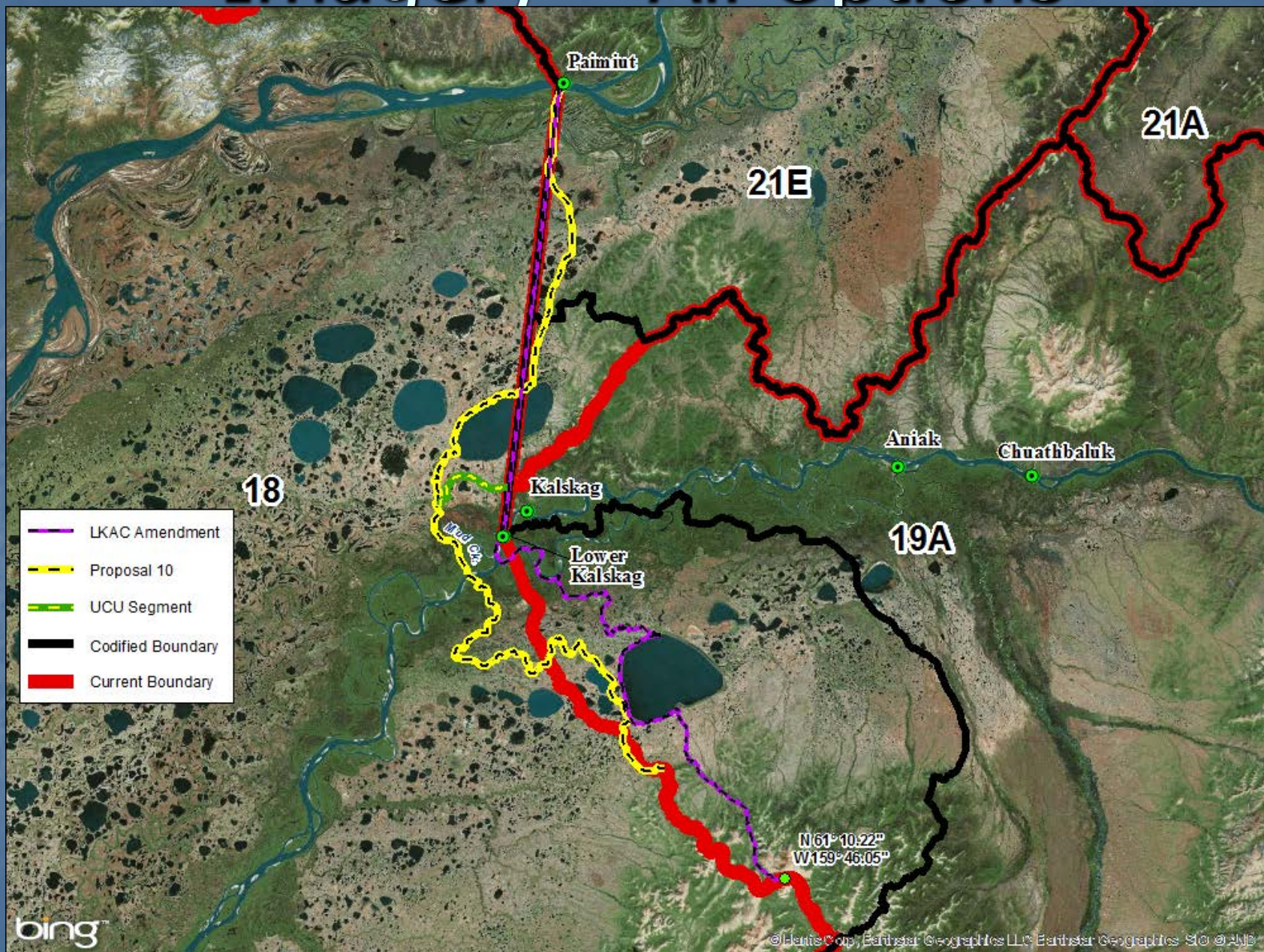
Overview



Imagery – LKAC Amendment



Imagery – All Options



Proposal 67

Effect of the proposal:

Redefine the Unit 18, 19
and 21 boundaries

Department position:

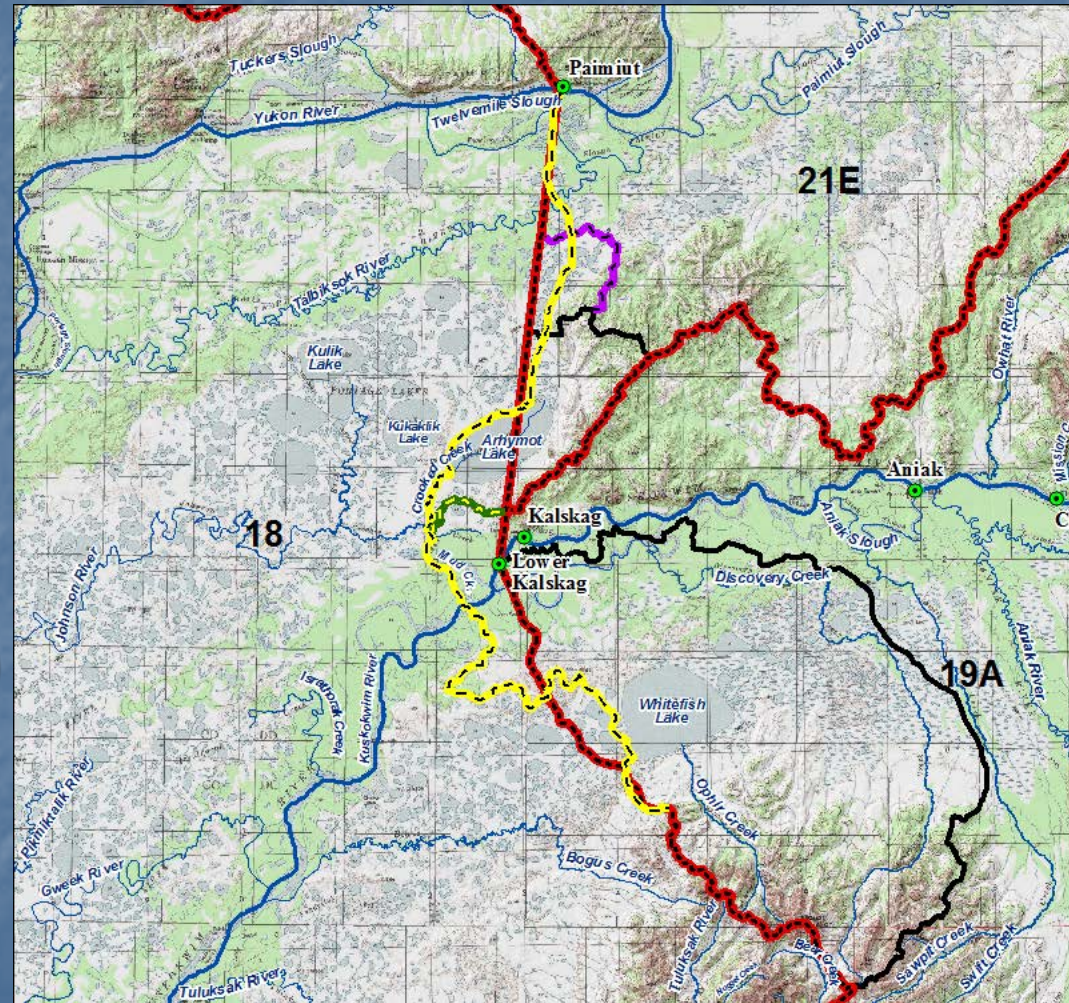
Neutral

Advisory Committee positions:

SHAC – Support

CKAC – Support (author)

GASH – Oppose



END

