

# Status of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd February 2015



# Outline

**Mulchatna Caribou Herd Background**

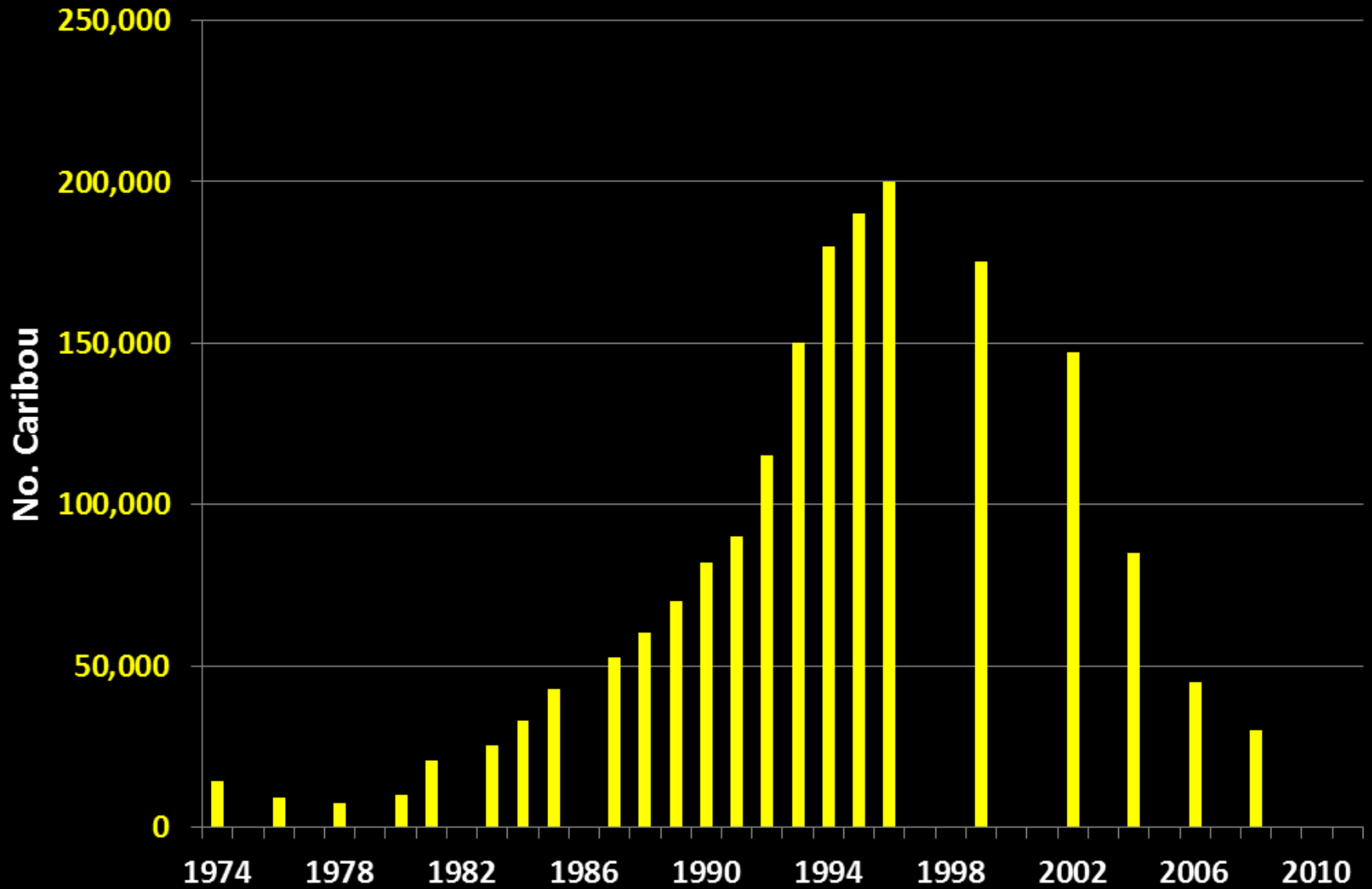
**Research Summary (2006-present)**

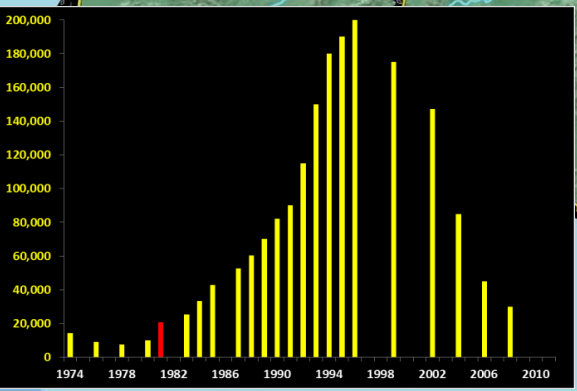
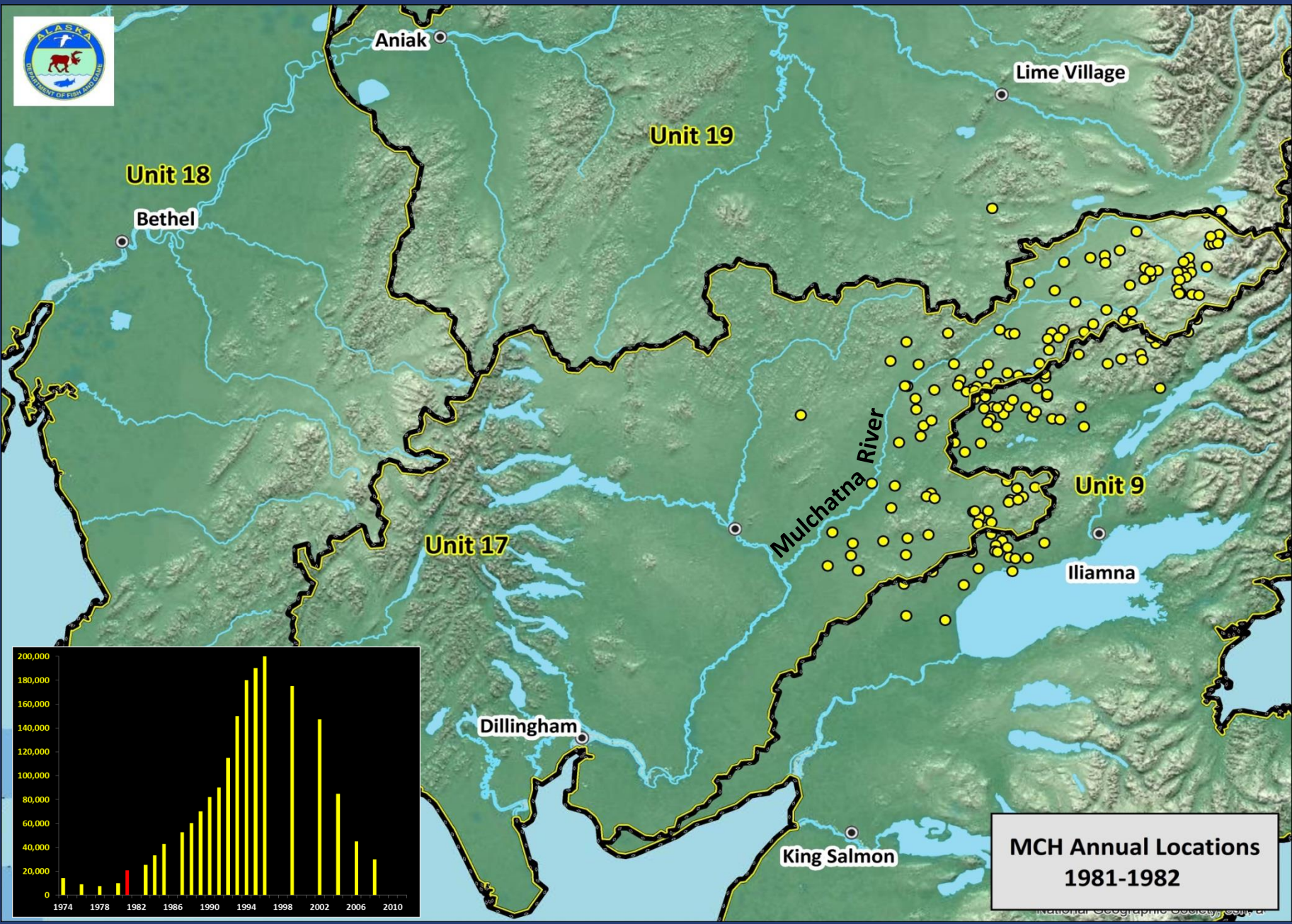
**2014 Survey and Inventory Results**

# Southwest Alaska Caribou Herds

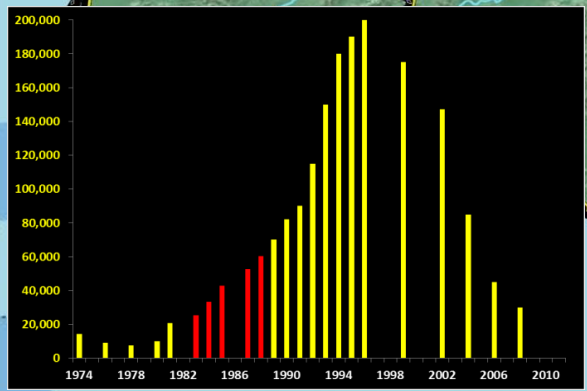
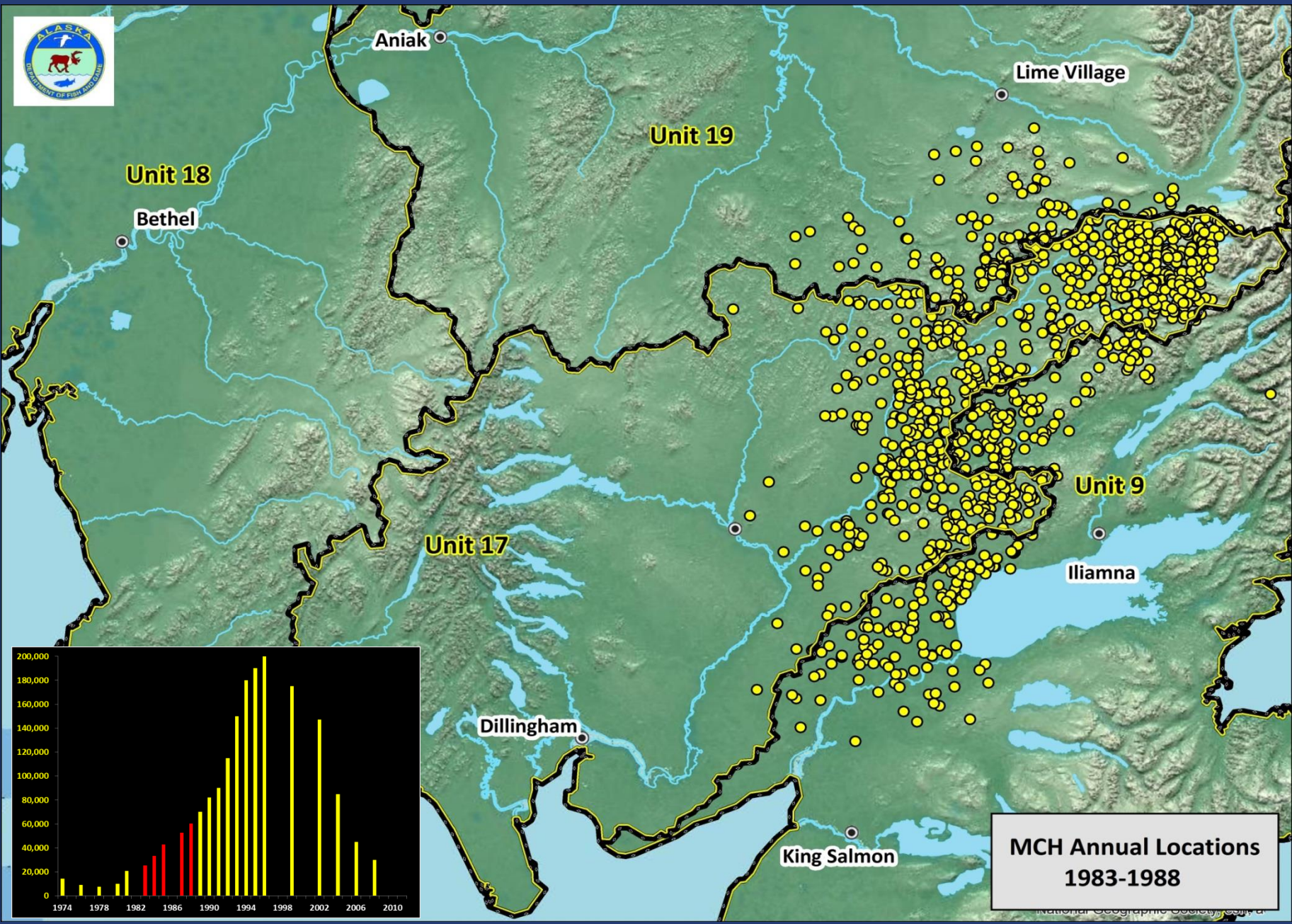


# MCH Abundance: 1974-2011

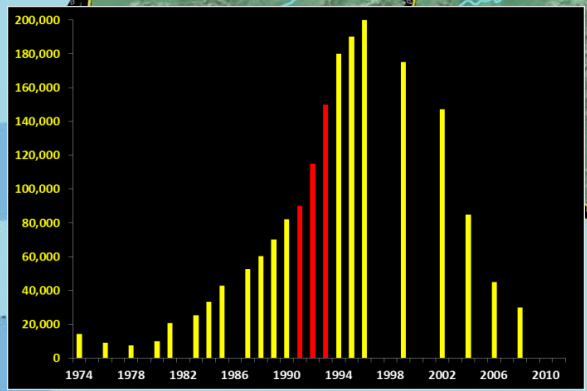
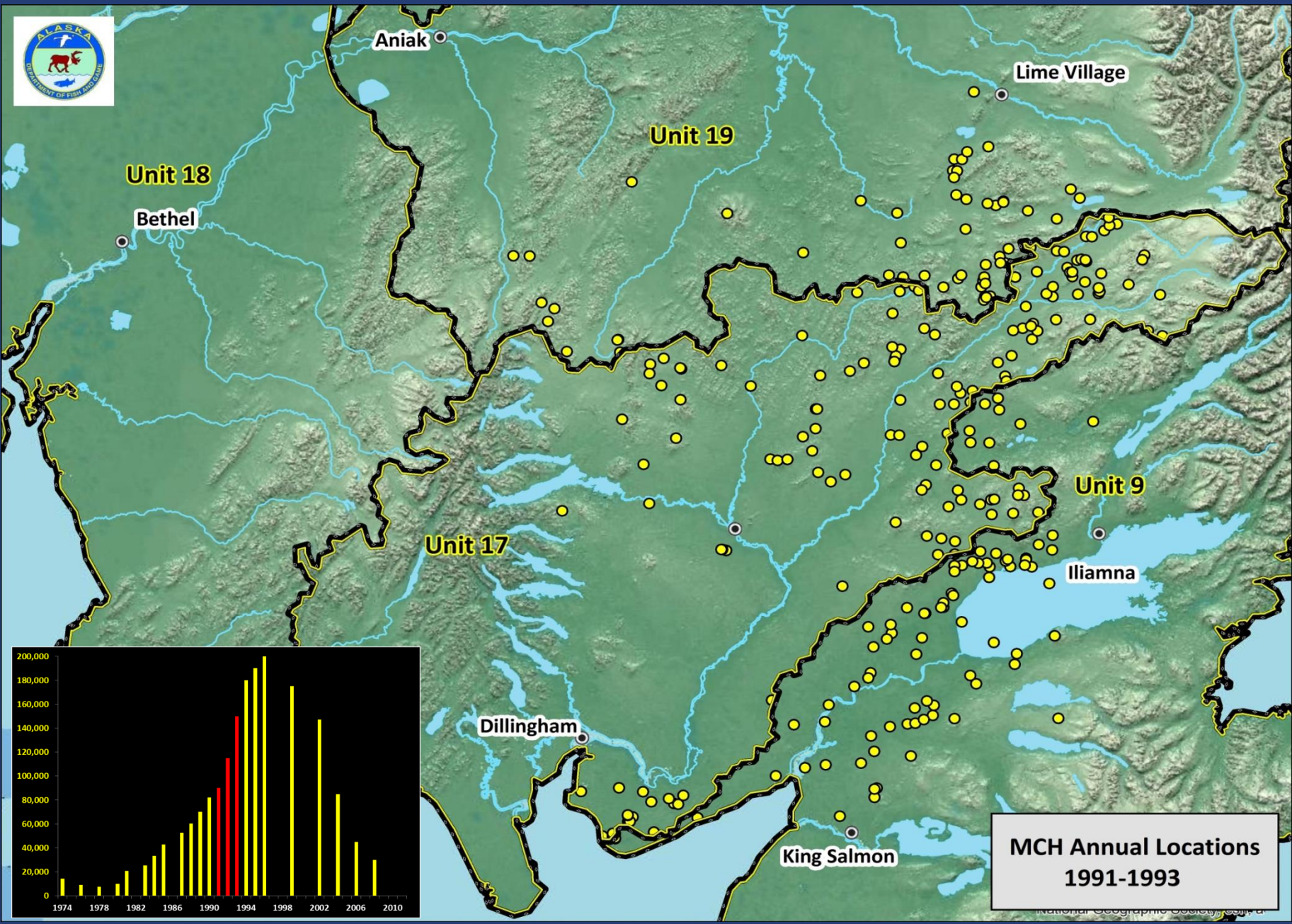




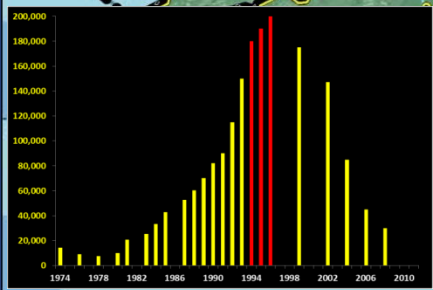
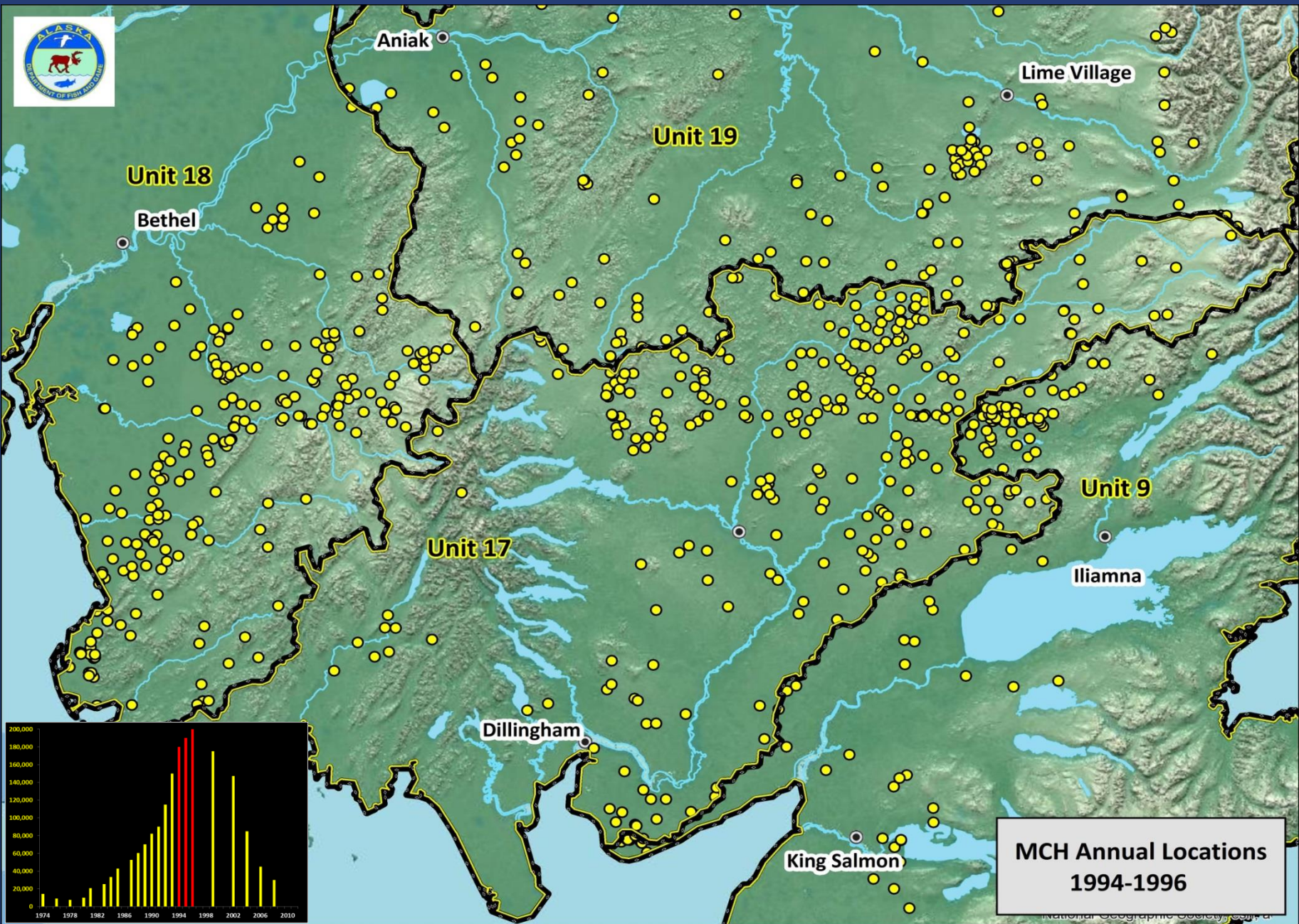
MCH Annual Locations  
1981-1982



**MCH Annual Locations  
1983-1988**

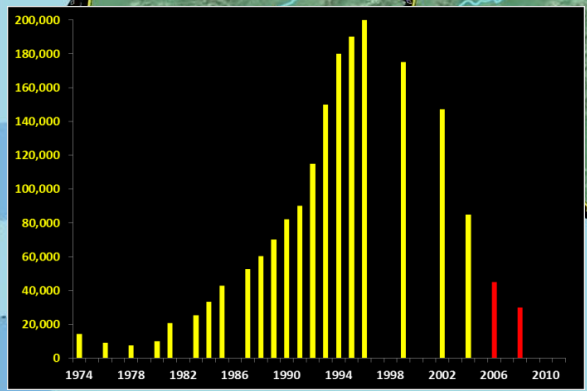
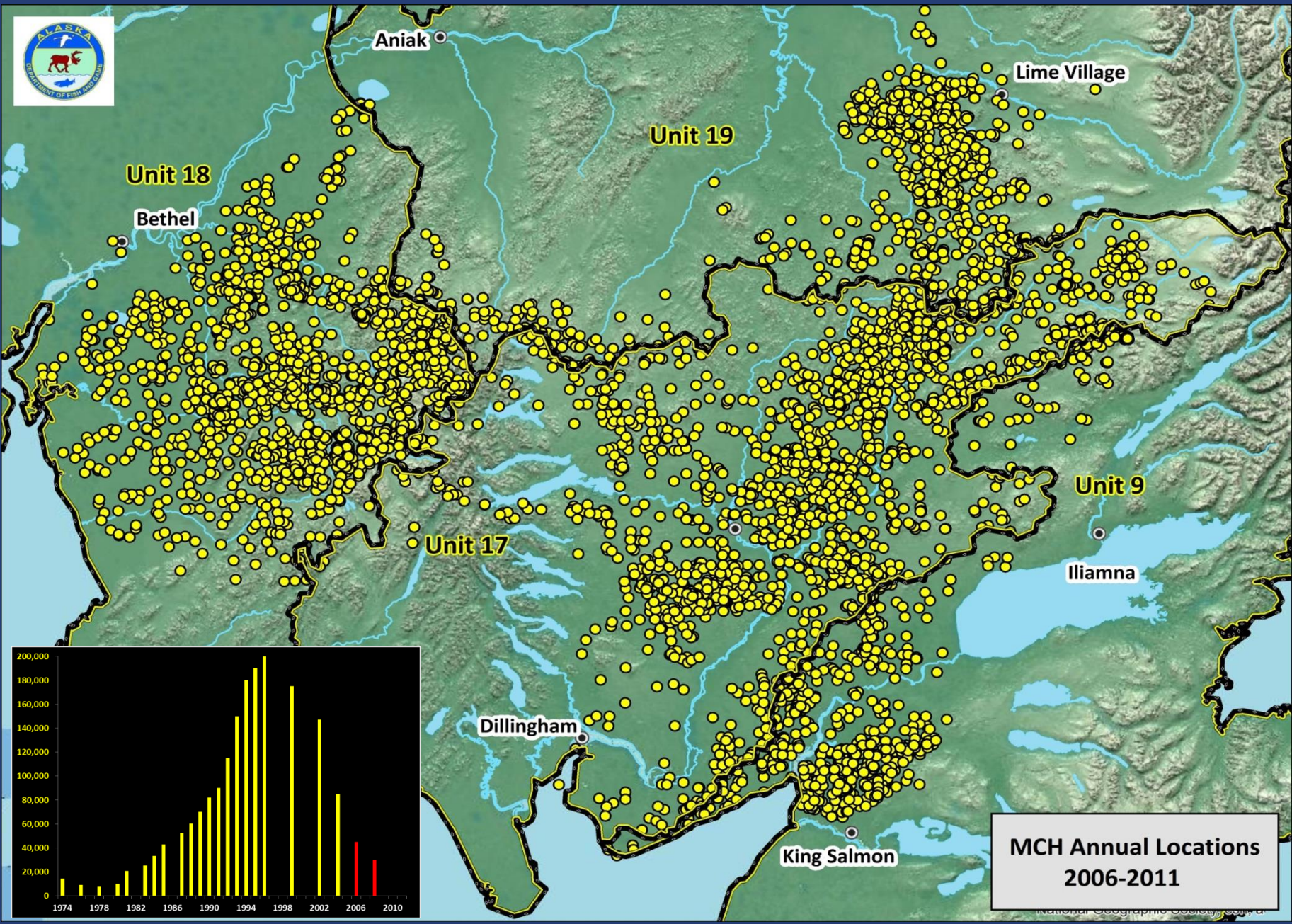


MCH Annual Locations  
1991-1993



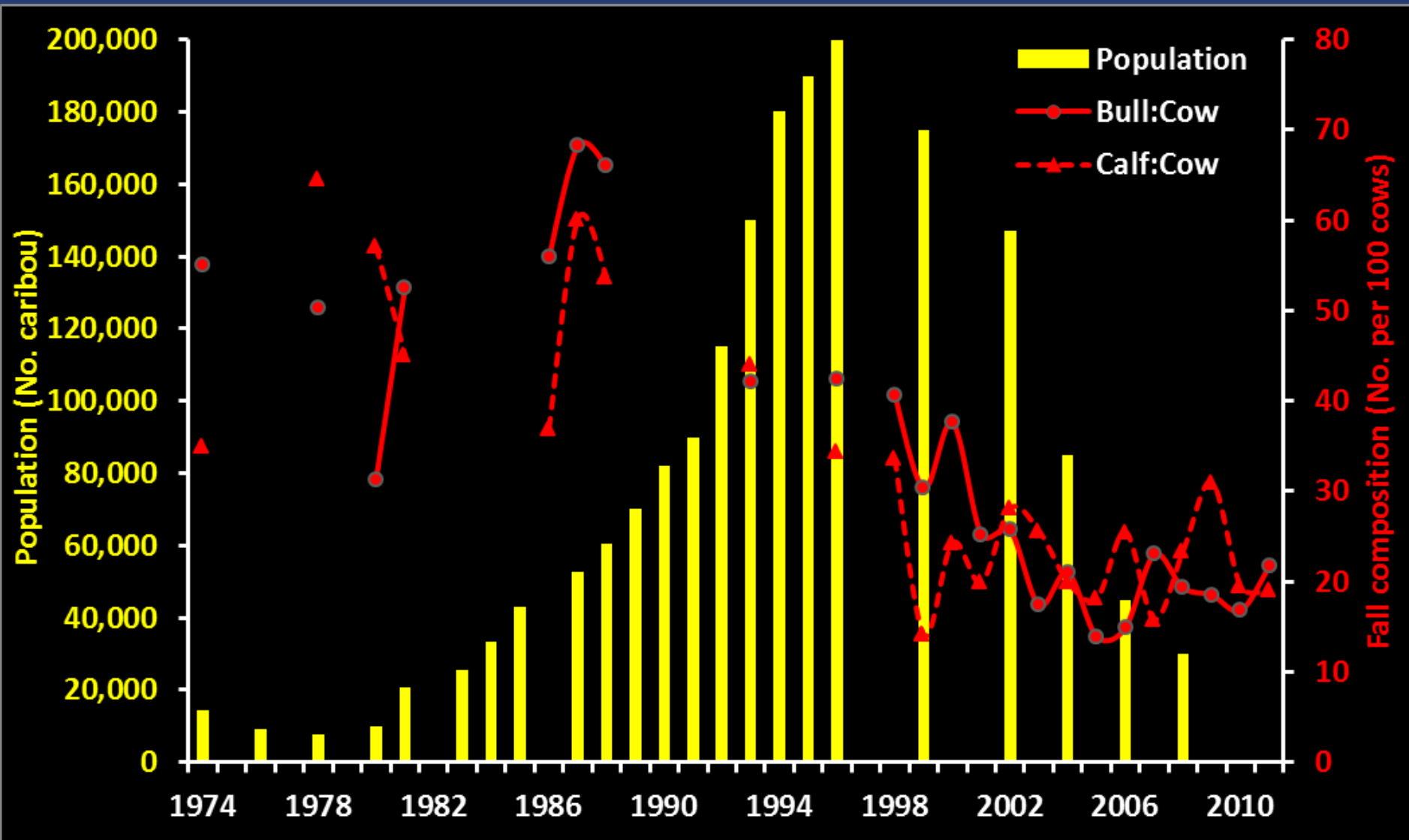
MCH Annual Locations  
1994-1996



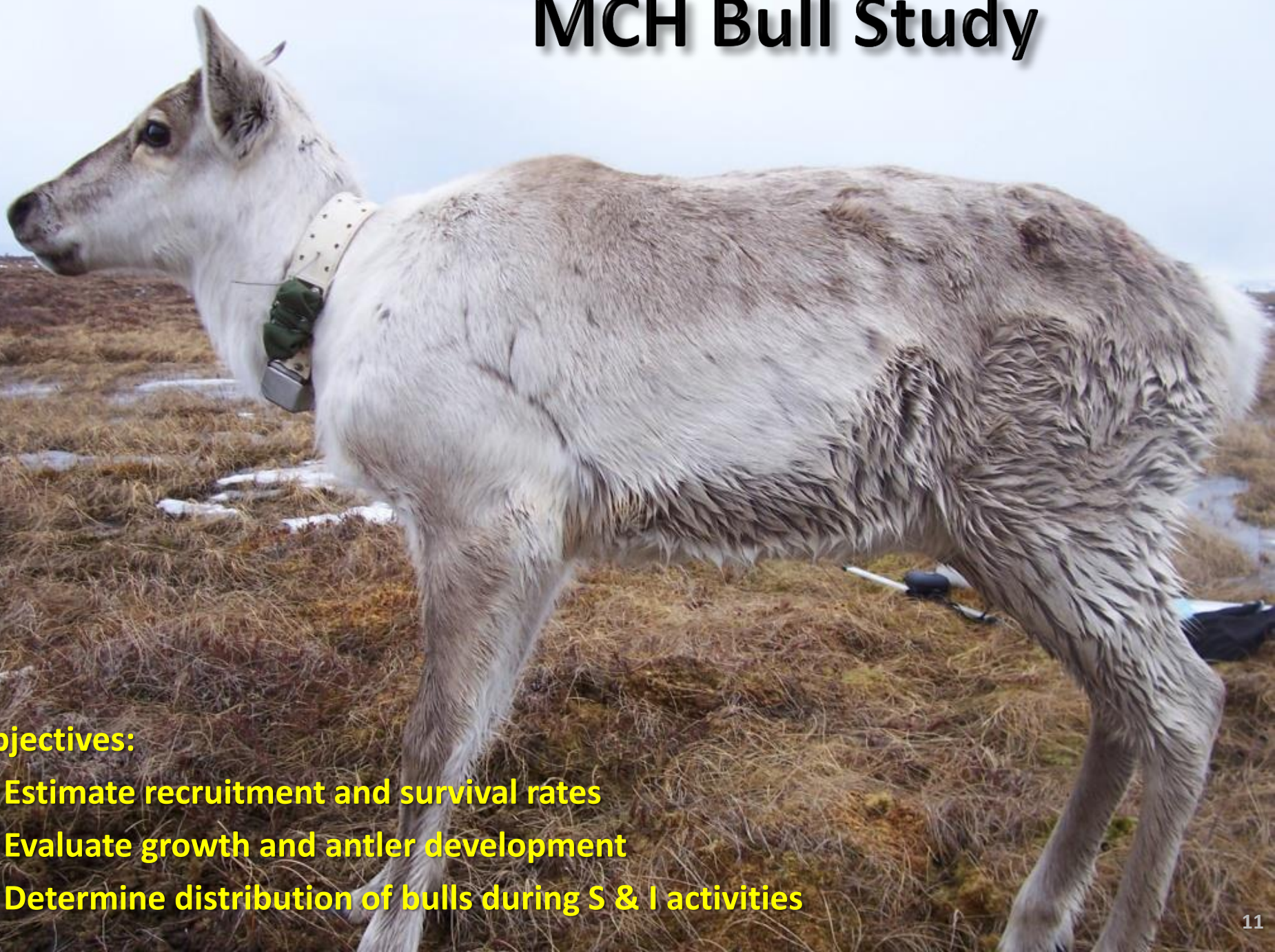


MCH Annual Locations  
2006-2011

# MCH Sex/Age Composition

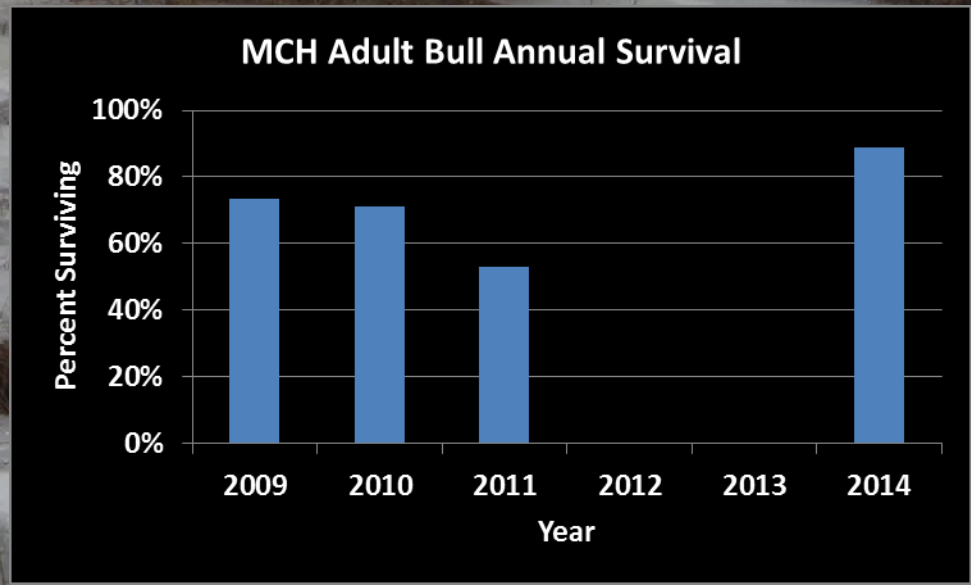
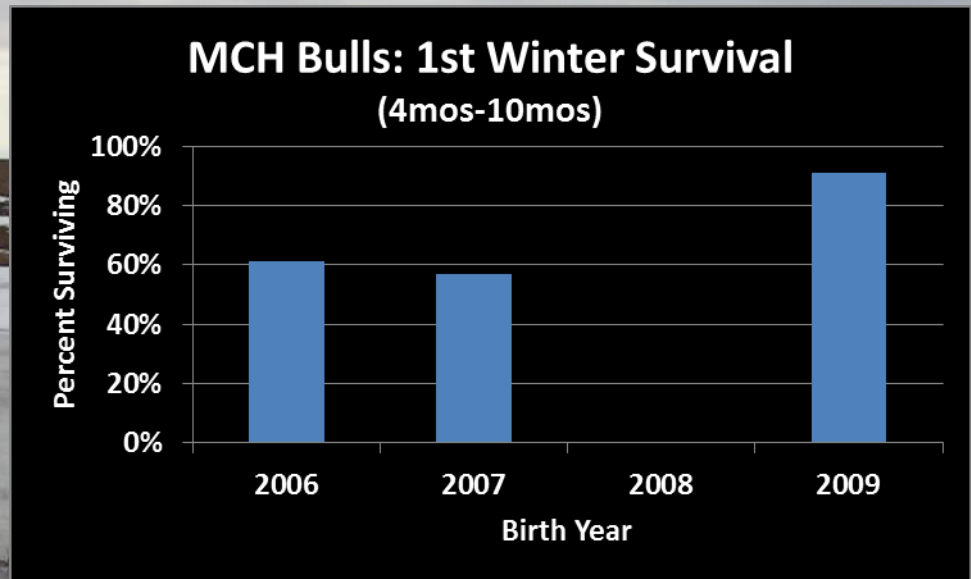


# MCH Bull Study



## Objectives:

- 1) Estimate recruitment and survival rates
- 2) Evaluate growth and antler development
- 3) Determine distribution of bulls during S & I activities



# Bull Antler Development

## Antler Size Category

Small

Medium

Large

## Age Class Assumption

1 & 2

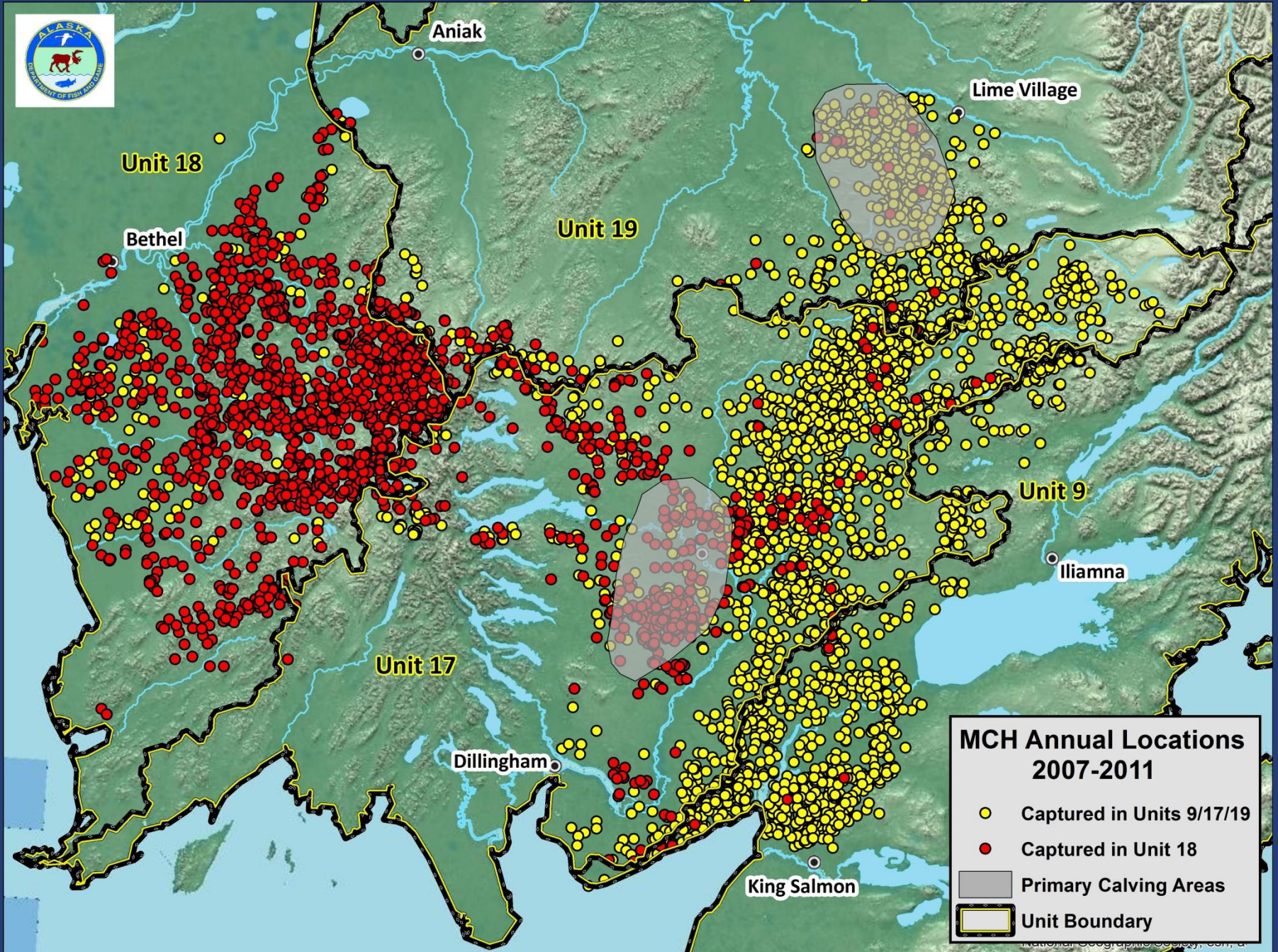
2, 3 & 4

4+

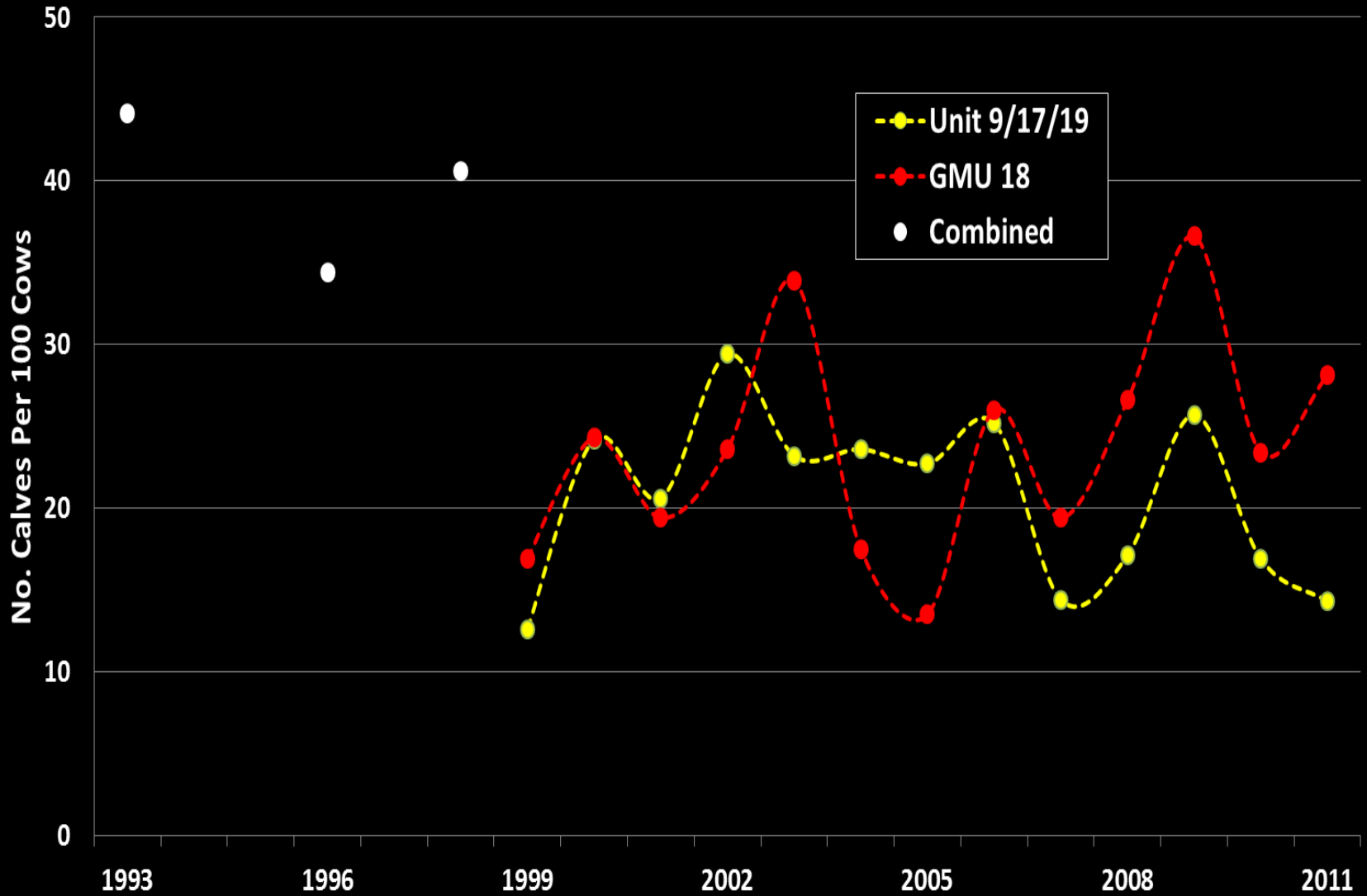
3-year-old Mulchatna bulls (2009)

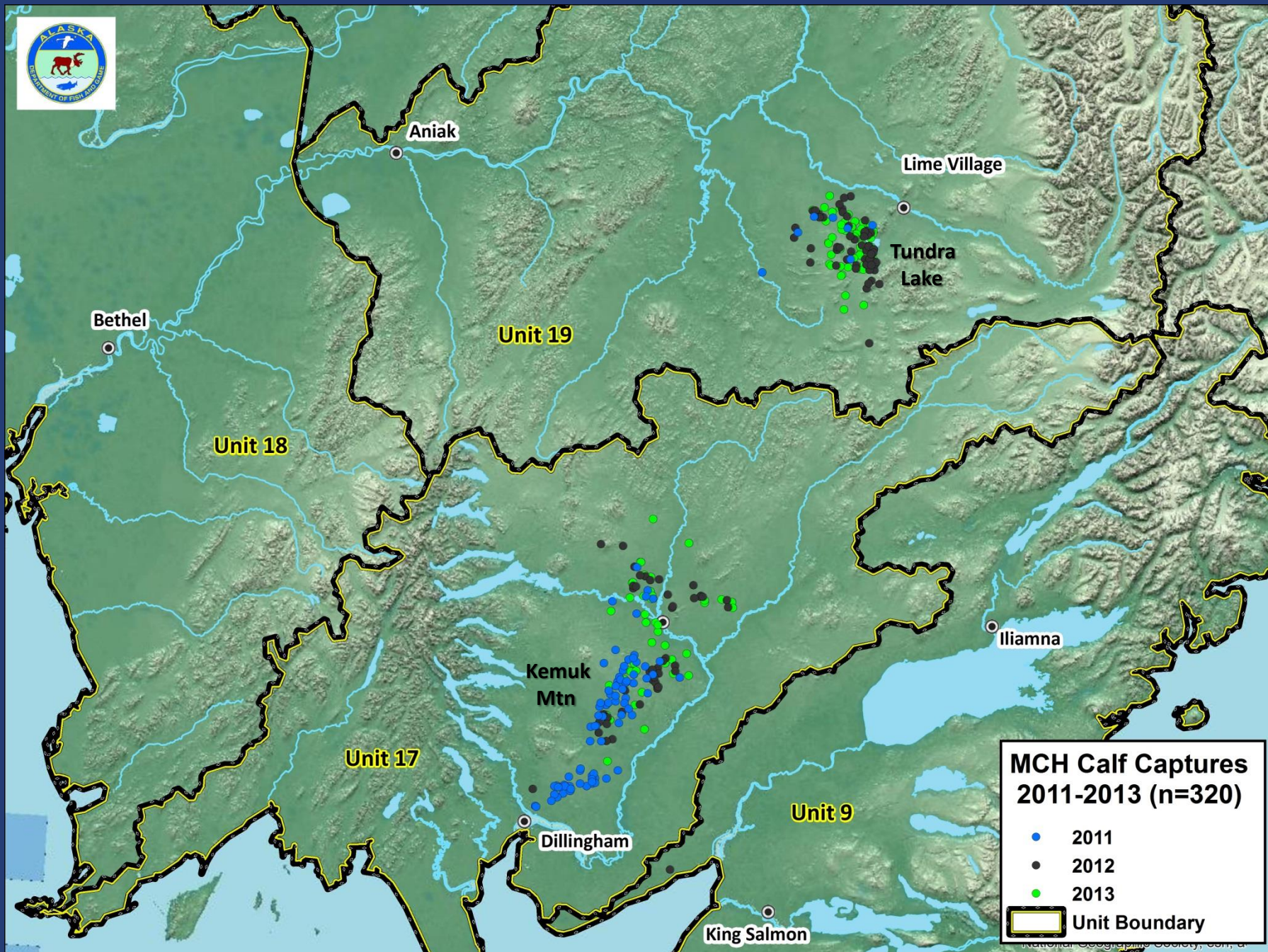


# MCH Calf Mortality Study



# MCH Fall Calf to Cow Ratio



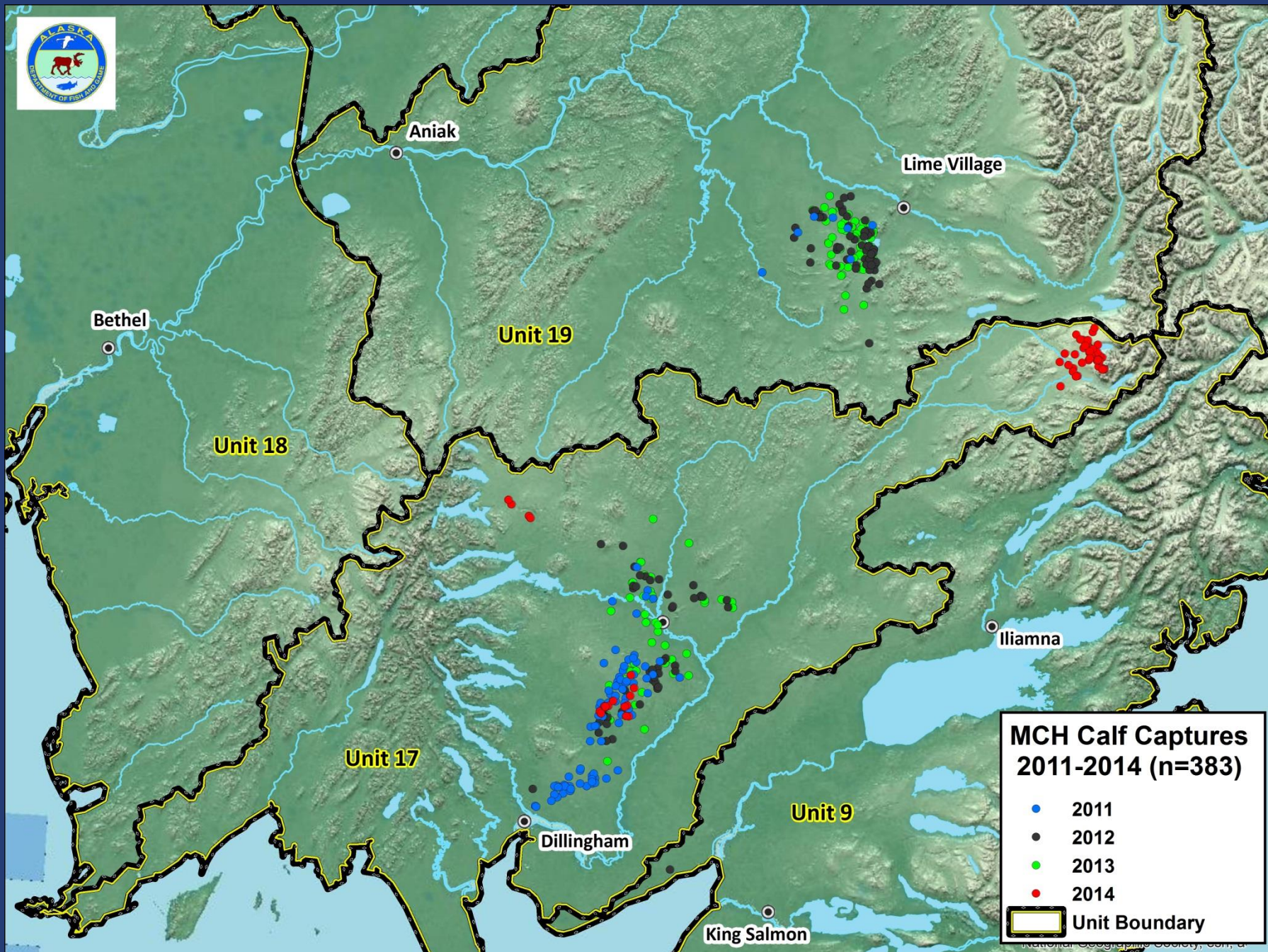


**MCH Calf Captures  
2011-2013 (n=320)**

- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- ▭ Unit Boundary

National Geographic Society, Inc., a





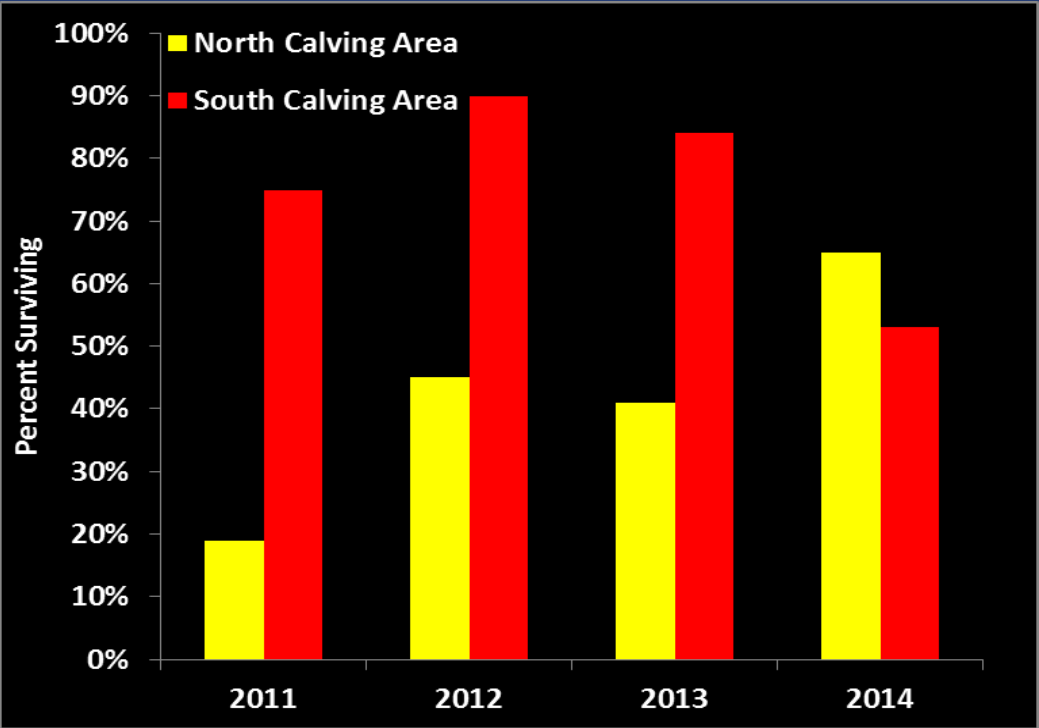
**MCH Calf Captures  
2011-2014 (n=383)**

- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014

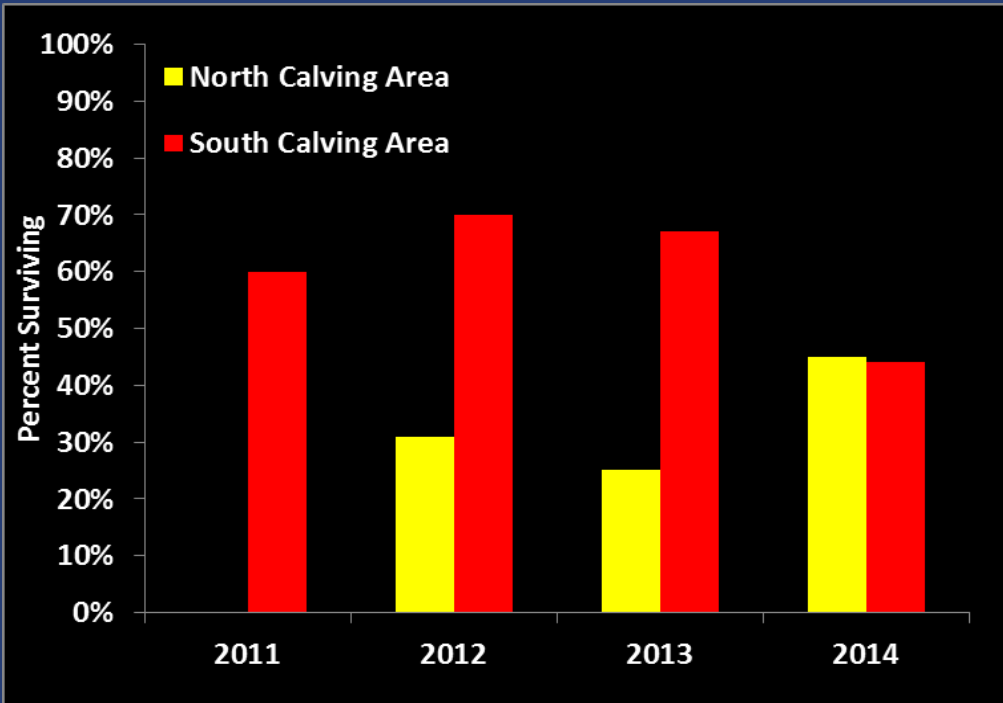
Unit Boundary

National Geographic Society, Inc., a

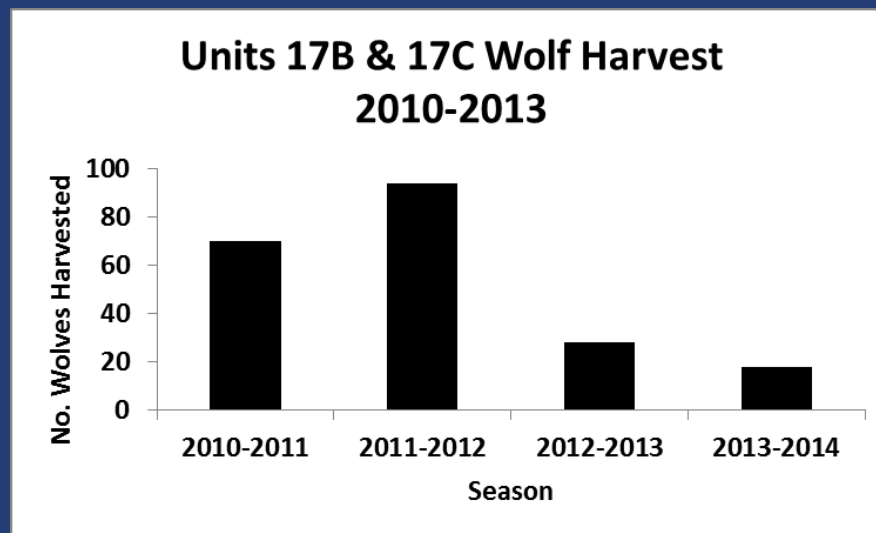
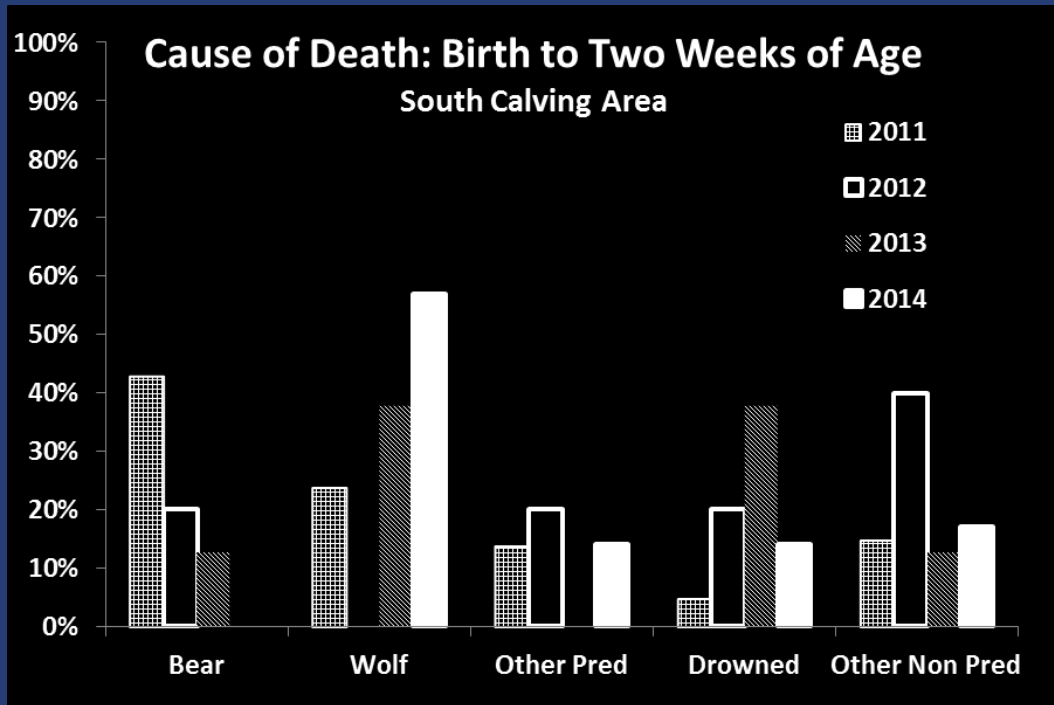
# Calf Survival to Two Weeks of Age

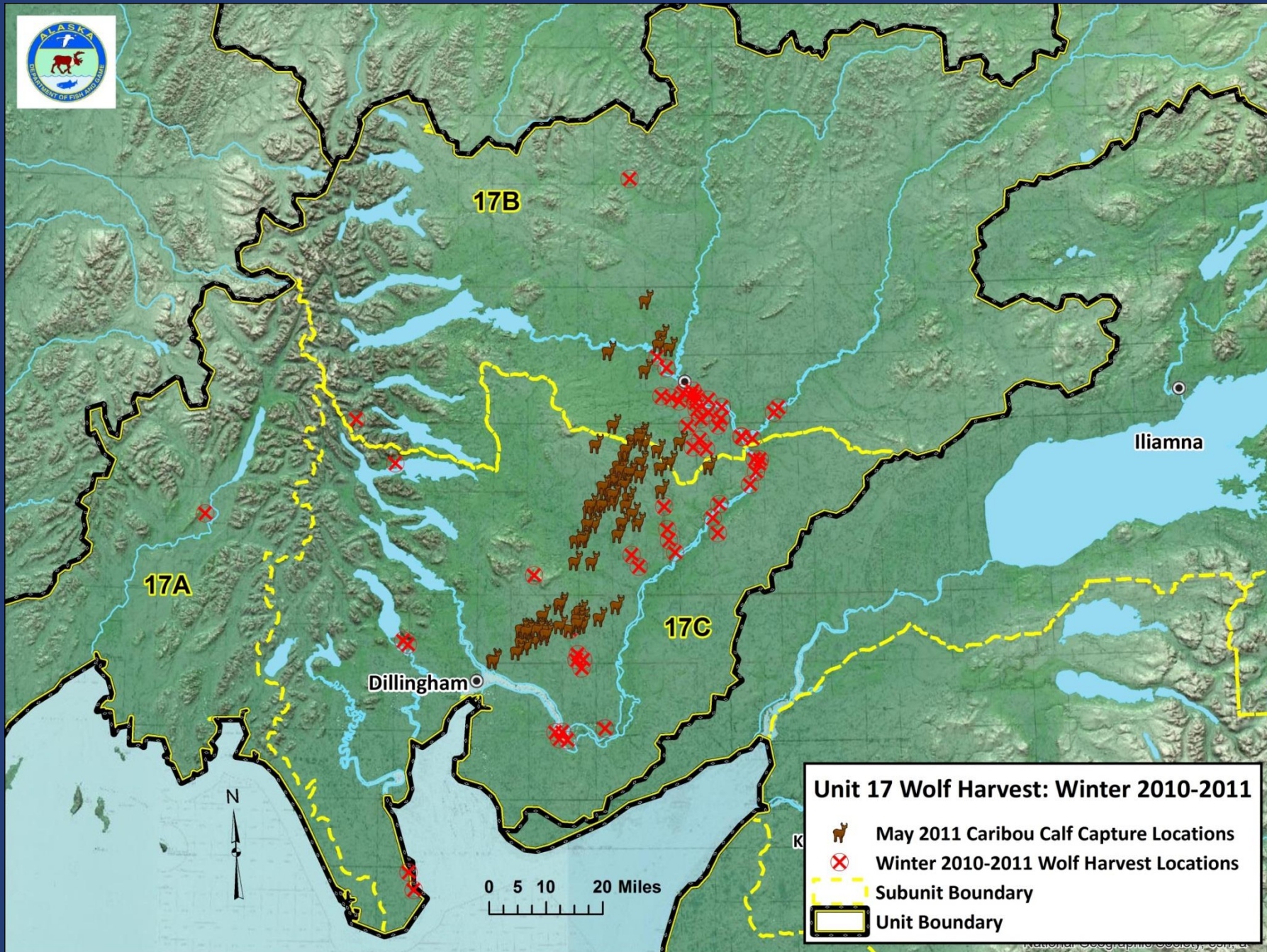


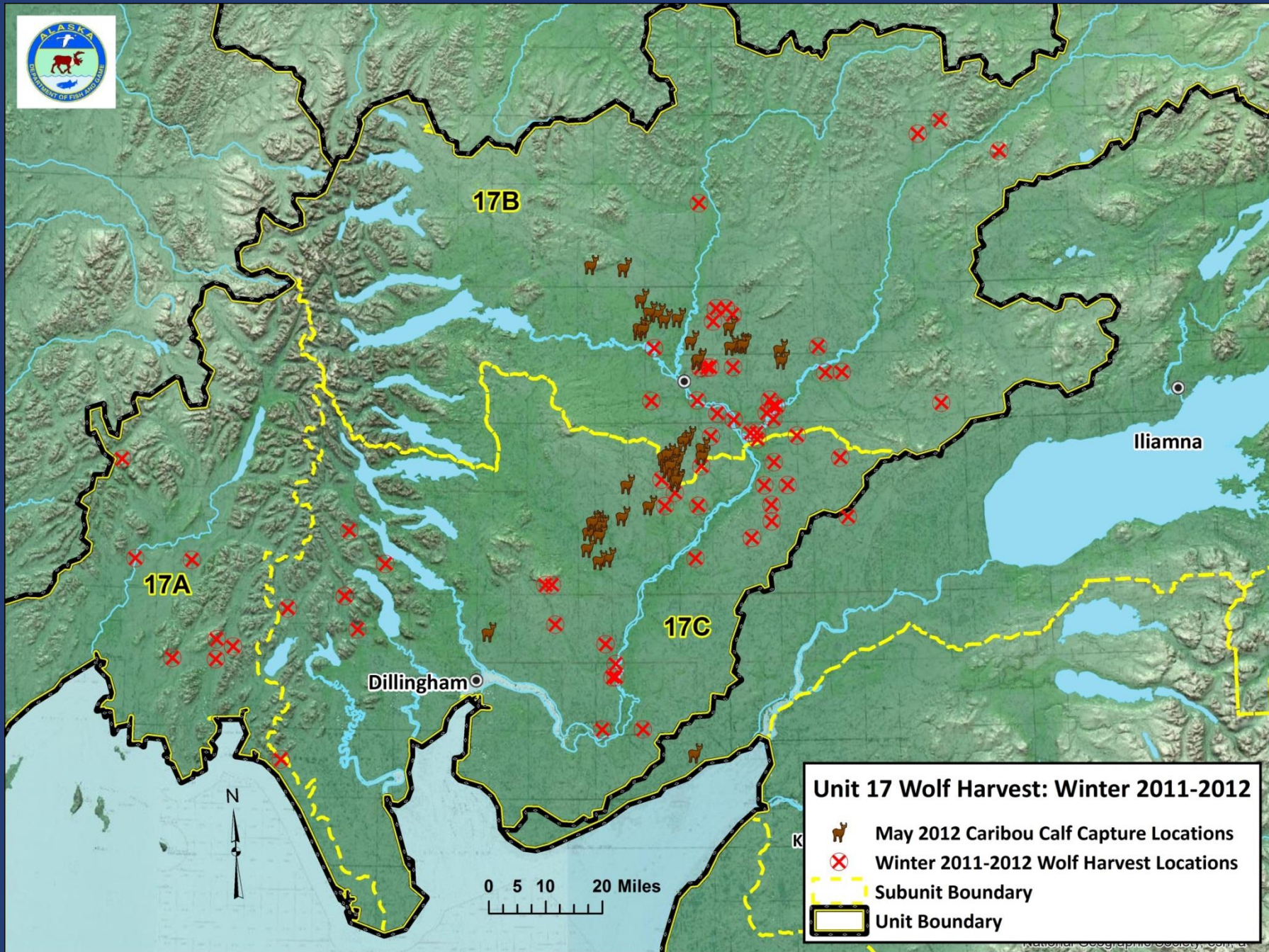
# Calf Survival to Four Months of Age

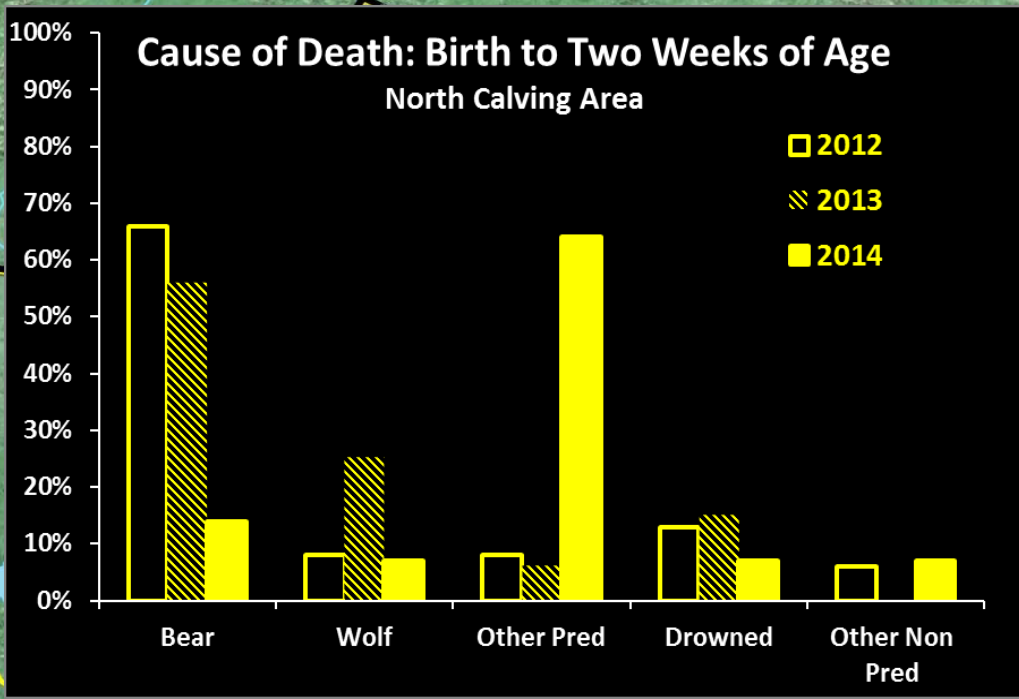
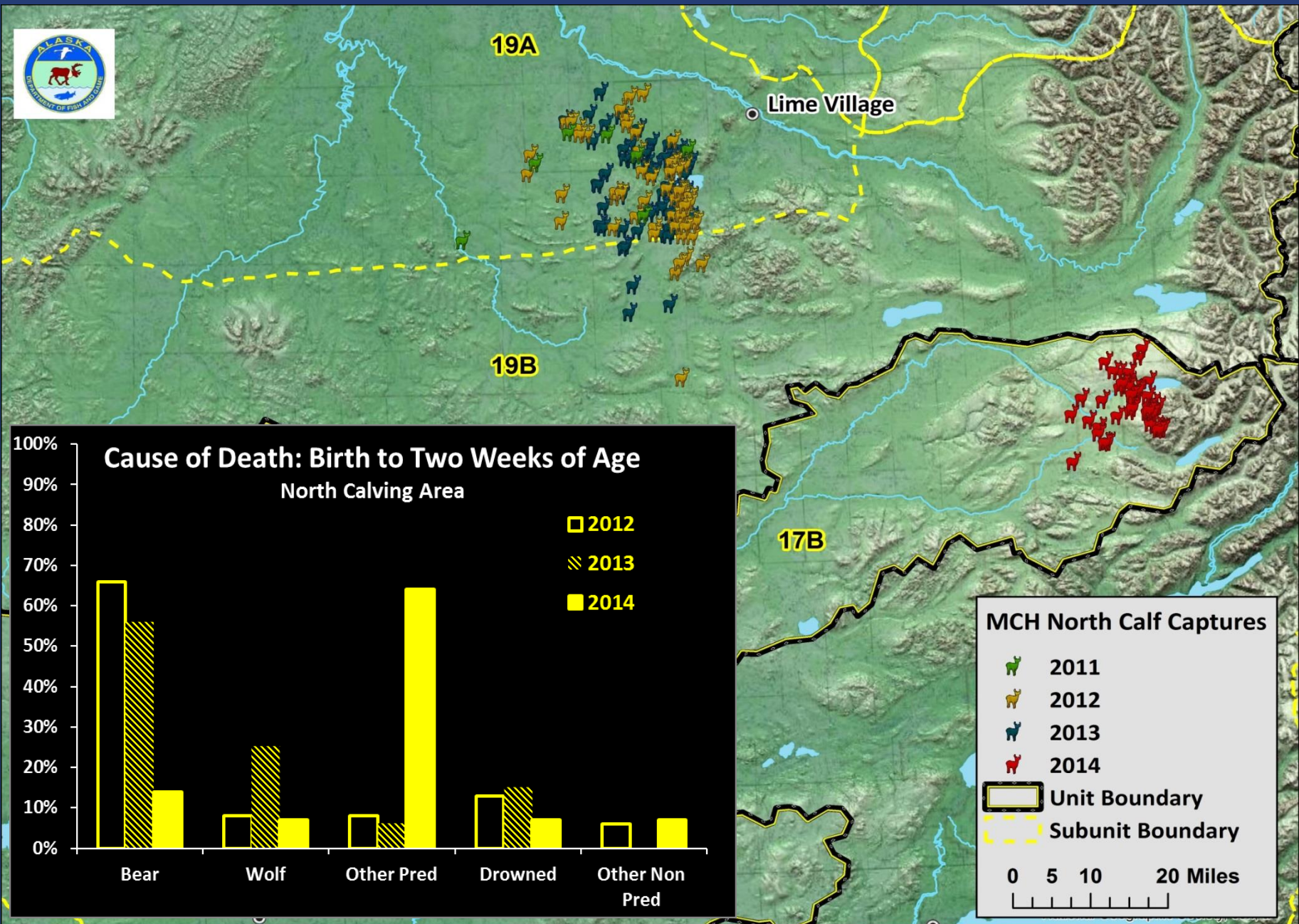


# Cause of Death: Birth to Two Weeks of Age







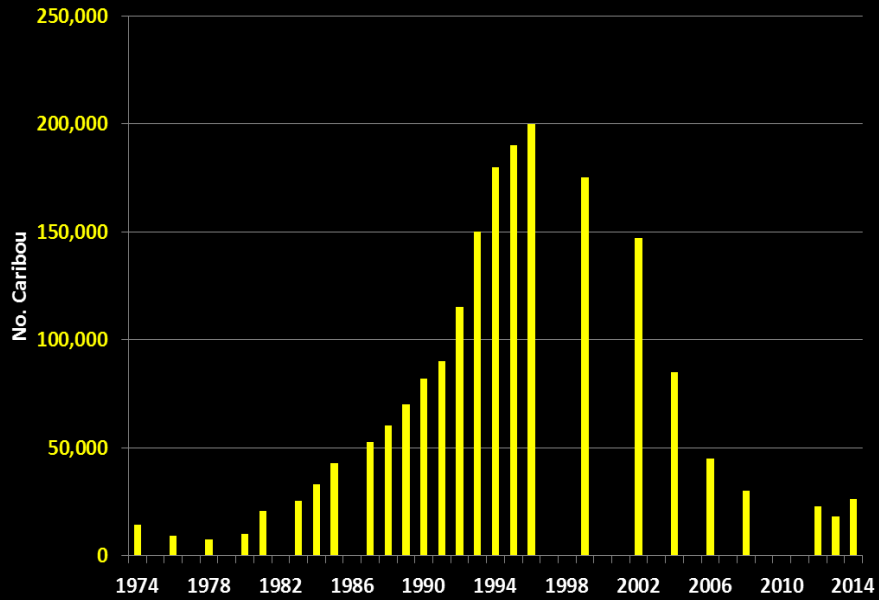


#### MCH North Calf Captures

- 2011 (Green calf icon)
- 2012 (Yellow calf icon)
- 2013 (Blue calf icon)
- 2014 (Red calf icon)
- Unit Boundary (Thick black line)
- Subunit Boundary (Dashed yellow line)

0 5 10 20 Miles

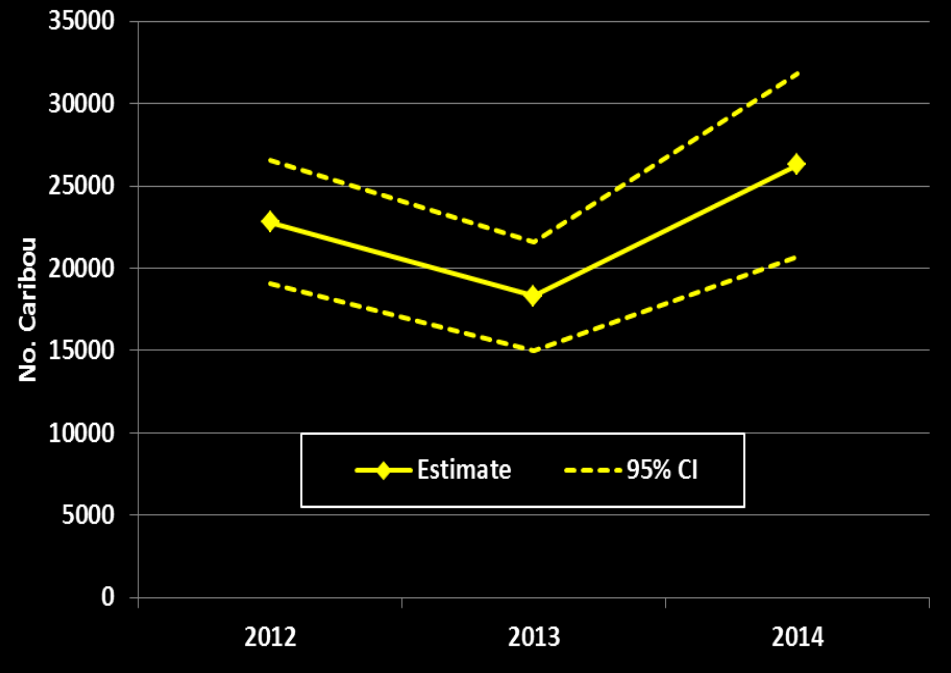
MCH Abundance Estimates: 1974-2014



# MCH Population Estimates

Rivest et al. (1998) Method

MCH Rivest Abundance Estimates

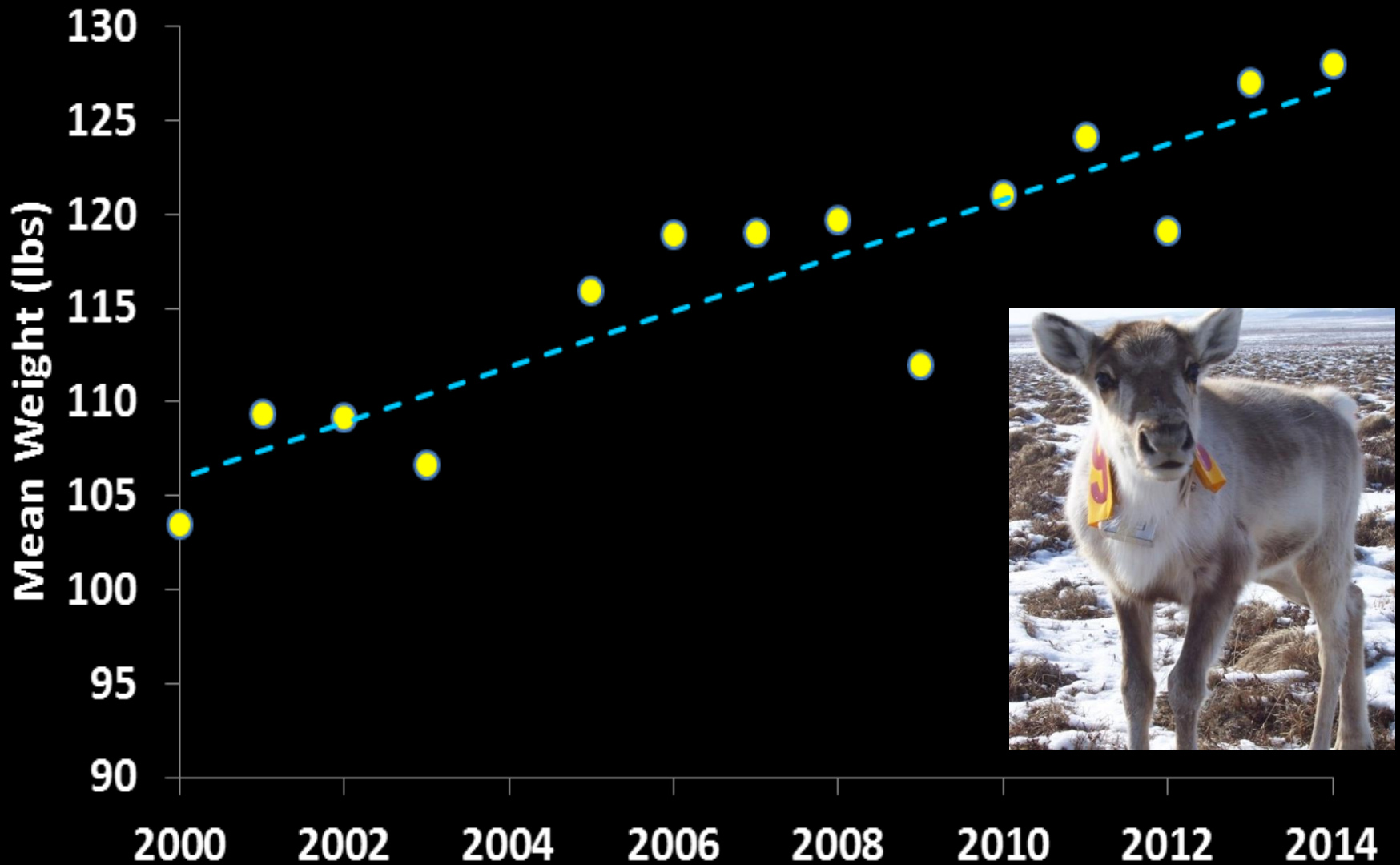




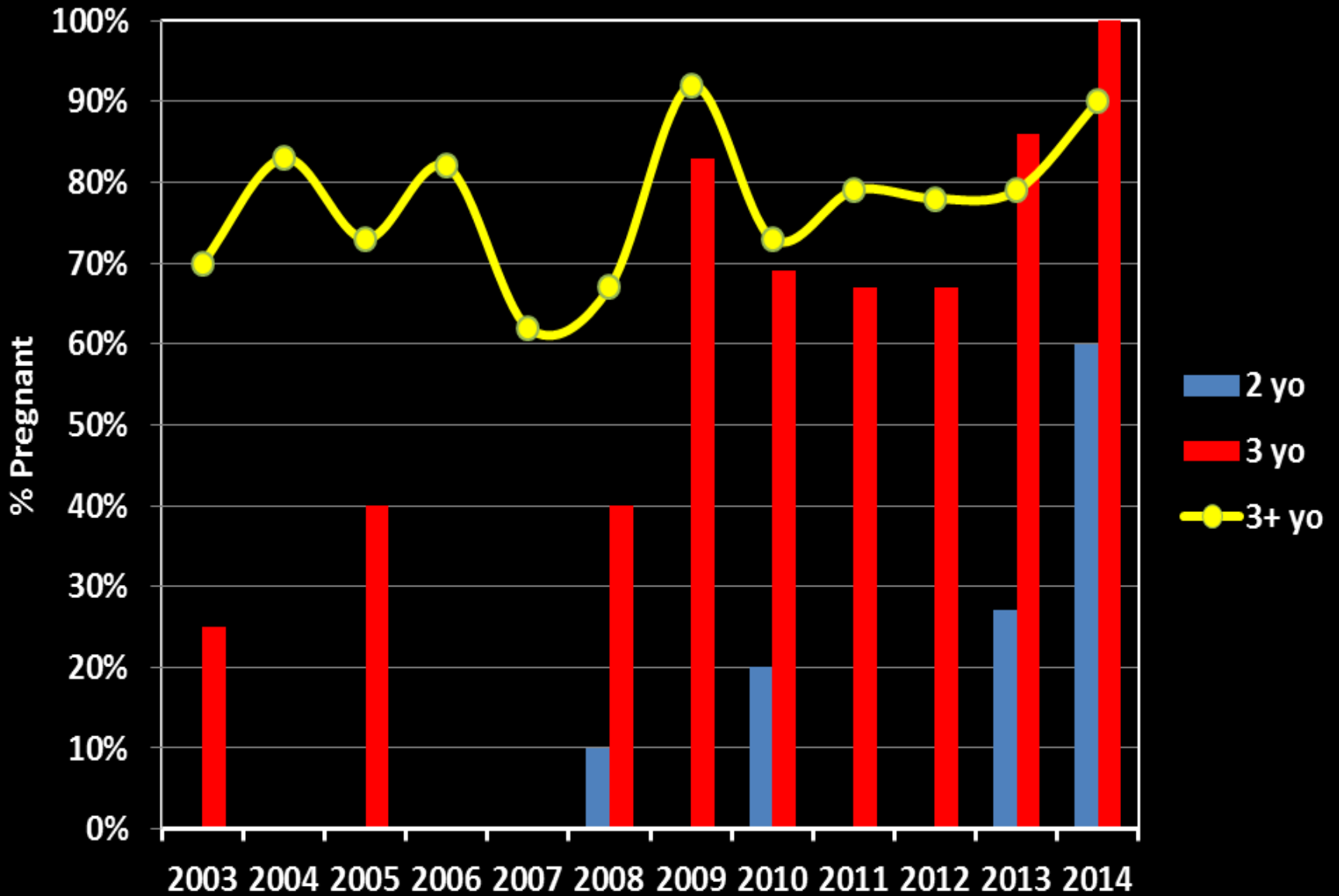
# 2014 Survey & Inventory Results



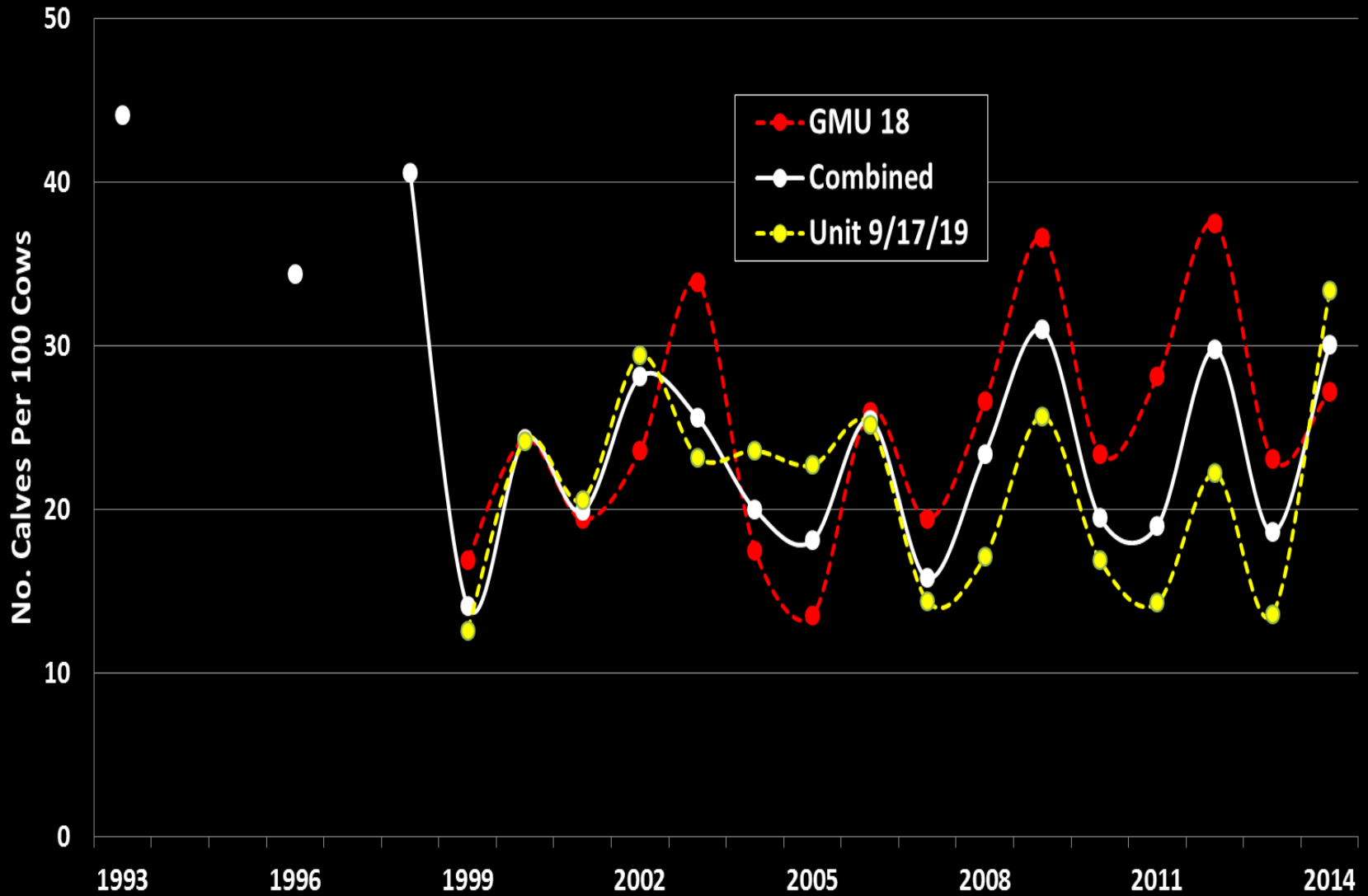
# MCH Short Yearling Body Mass



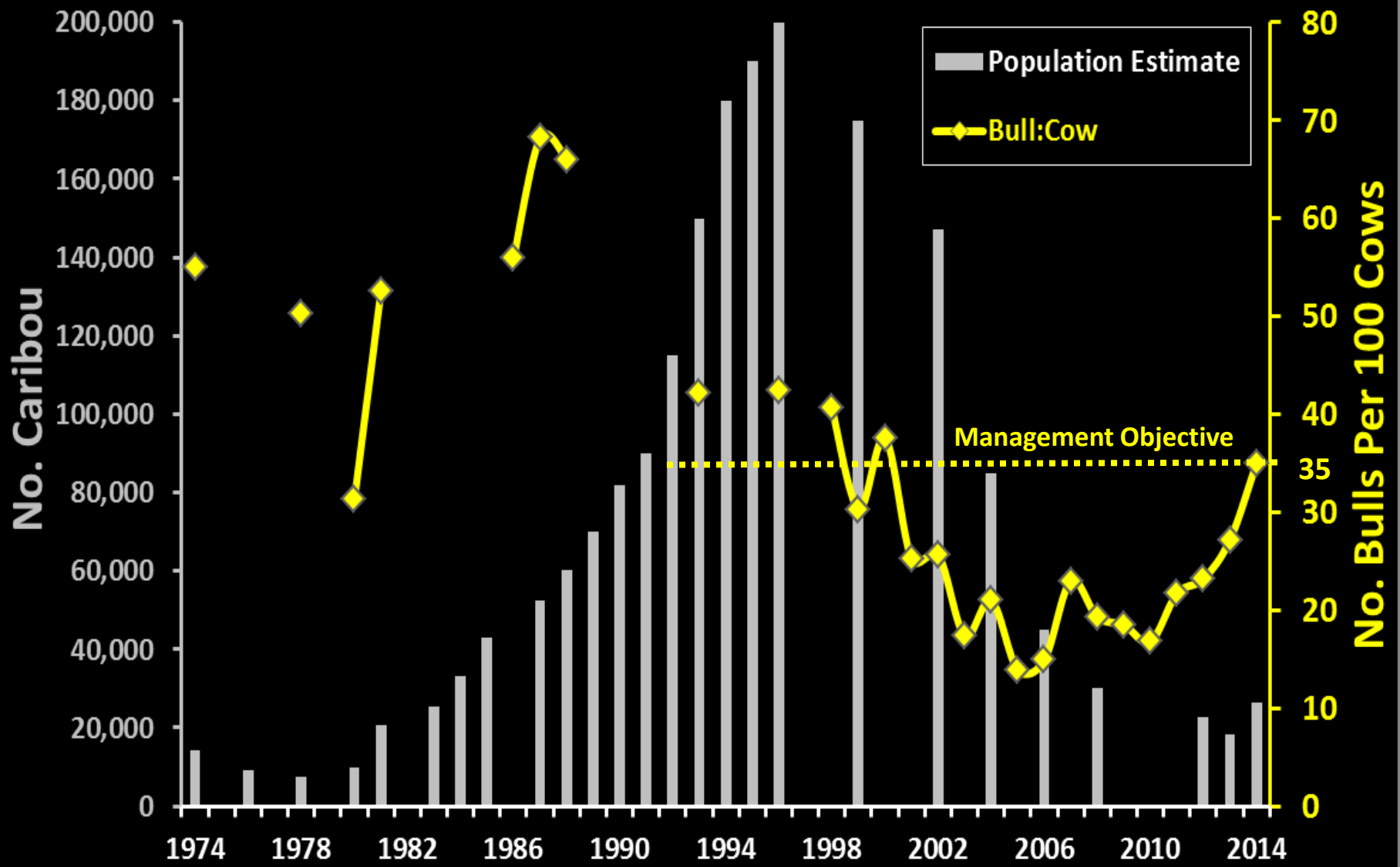
# MCH Age-Specific Pregnancy



# MCH Fall Calf to Cow Ratio



# MCH Fall Bull to Cow Ratio



**Questions?**

