


## Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Program

### Annual Report 4-10 March 2011



Becky Schwanke  
Glennallen ADF&G

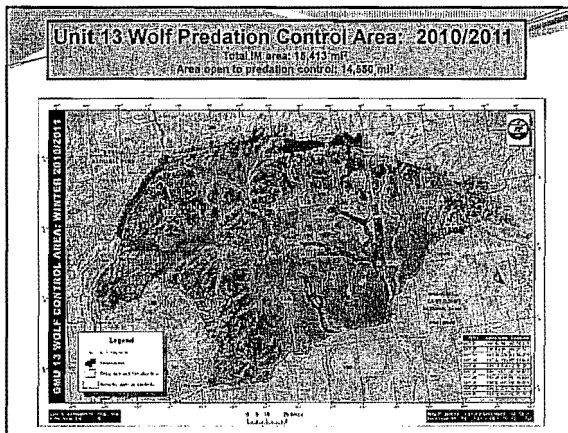
### Wolf Predation Control in Unit 13 TO INCREASE MOOSE

**PROGRAM DATES:**

**March 2000**      Unit 13 wolf control implementation plan passed BOG  
[Only a portion of 13A, 13B, and 13E were open to predation control]  
 [Same Day Airborne (SDA) take was not allowed by the administration until January 2004]

**March 2005**      Unit 13 wolf control implementation plan reauthorized by BOG  
[13C was added and the area open to predation control was expanded]

**October 2010**    Unit 13 wolf predation control plan reauthorized by BOG  
[set to expire 31 October 2016]



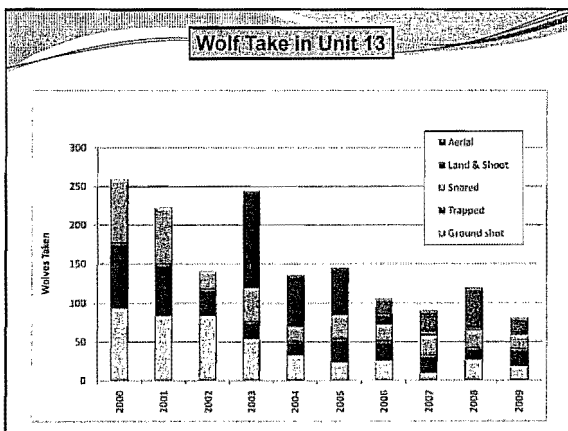
### Wolf Take in Unit 13

	Land & Shoot - Aerial	Ground shooting	Trapping	Snaring	TOTAL*
2000-01	N/A	93	84	62	239
2001-02	N/A	83	67	73	223
2002-03	N/A	81	36	26	143
2003-04	125 - N/A	51	28	42	246
2004-05	67 - N/A	32	19	18	136
2005-06	81 - N/A	23	31	30	145
2006-07	14 - 19	25	26	21	105
2007-08	6 - 27	9	24	24	90
2008-09	4 - 51	26	16	22	121
2009-10	4 - 19	18	23	17	81
2010-11 <i>prelim.</i>	10 - 87	6	1	3	87

The wolf predation control plan was passed in March 2000, though Land & Shoot take was not allowed until January 2004. Some wolves taken between 2000 and 2004 were taken by ground shooting with the use of a snowmachine; so some but not all in that category were taken using predator control means.

Aerial take was not allowed until 2006-07.

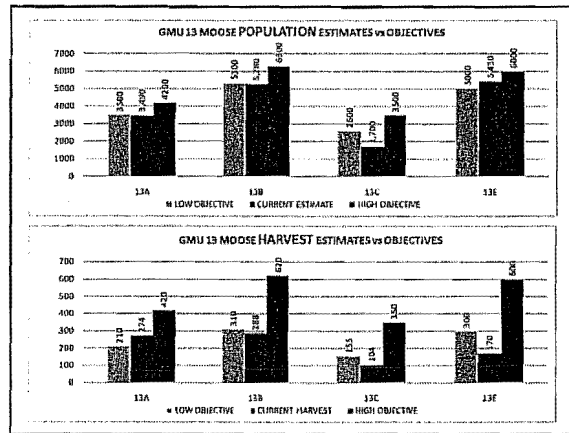
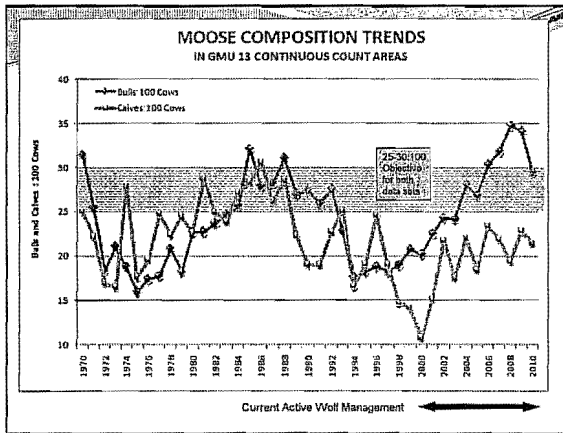
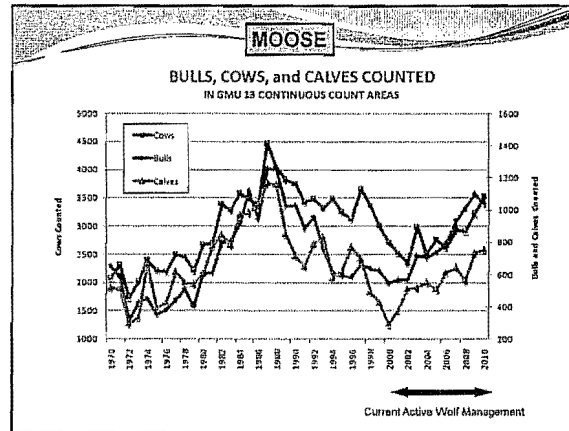
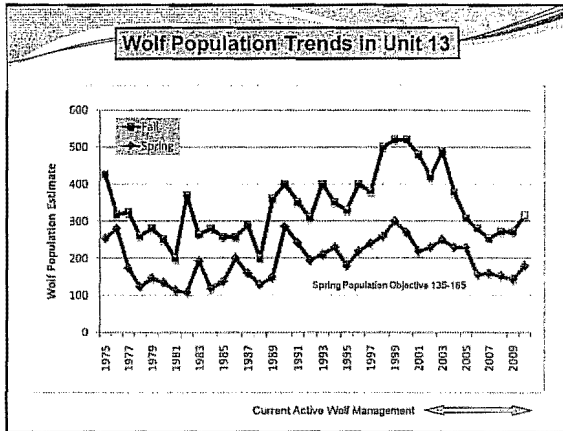
\*Includes unknown method of take



### Wolf Population Estimates in Unit 13

	SPRING	FALL
2000-01	270	520
2001-02	220	480
2002-03	230	420
2003-04	250	480
2004-05	230	377
2005-06	230	399
2006-07	157	280
2007-08	160	254
2008-09	163	273
2009-10	144	272
2010-11	160	285 - 348 <i>preliminary</i>

Years the spring wolf population estimate was within the population objective range 135-165



### 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 (4 of last 5 years)
  - > Moose numbers in count areas are increasing steadily
  - > Moose harvest is increasing steadily
  
- > Recent changes in moose hunting regulations have allowed hunters to take advantage of additional surplus bulls, but future harvests must be moderated if total bull numbers are to continue growing
  
- > Antlerless harvests will be necessary in the near future to take advantage of surplus cows in certain areas; the area open to predation control will be adjusted accordingly

**UNIT 13 WOLF PREDATION CONTROL AREA FOR MOOSE:**  
**DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT (IM) WITH**  
**PREDATION CONTROL**

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation

Version 1, Effective Date: 7 January 2011

**1) Description of IM Program<sup>1</sup> and Department recommendation for reporting period**

A) This report is an interim review X or renewal evaluation \_\_\_ for a predation control program authorized by the Alaska Board of Game (Board) under 5 AAC 92.125

B) Date this report was submitted by the Department to the Board:

1 February X (annual report) 1 August \_\_\_ (interim annual update<sup>2</sup>) Year 2011

C) Program name(geographic description/GMU and species/herd):

GMU 13 Wolf Predation Control Area/GMU 13/moose

D) Existing program has a separate *Intensive Management Plan* \_\_\_ / includes an *Intensive Management Plan* in regulation (5AAC 92.125) X. (if a separate *IM Plan* exists, list version: \_\_\_\_\_ and effective date: \_\_\_\_\_ )

E) Game Management Unit(s) fully or partly included in IM program area:

Units 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), and Unit 13(E)

F) IM objectives for moose:

Population objective for Unit 13 is 17,600 – 21,900 (including Unit 13(D)) and harvest objective for Unit 13 is 1,050 – 2,180 (including Unit 13(D)).

For those Units covered by the Unit 13 wolf predation control area, population objectives for Units 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), and 13(E) are 3,500 – 4,200, 5,300 – 6,300, 2,600 – 3,500, and 5,000 – 6,000 moose respectively and harvest objectives for Units 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), and 13(E) are 210 – 420, 310 – 620, 155 – 350, and 300 – 600 moose respectively.

G) Month and year the current predation control program was originally authorized:

March 2000 by the Board (minimal area covered in Units 13(A), 13(B), and 13(E); Same-day-airborne take first allowed January 2004); plan renewed March 2005 (IM area increased to include Unit 13(C)), plan renewed again October 2010 (current area open to predation control has been stable since 2006; current plan active through 31 October 2016)

<sup>1</sup> For purpose and context of this report format, see appendix.

<sup>2</sup> The interim annual update may be limited only to sections that changed substantially since prior annual report [e.g., only Tables 3 and 6 in areas with a fall ungulate survey and only wolf control]

- H) Predation control is currently active X or temporarily inactive \_\_\_\_ in this IM area
- I) If active, month and year the current predation control program began November 2010 or resumed \_\_\_\_ (if more than one predator species, list dates separately)
- J) Indicate if an habitat management program funded by the Department or from other sources is currently active in this IM area: (Y/N) Yes  
The Alphabet Hills Prescribed Burn plan is active and will be implemented given prescription conditions
- K) Size of IM program area (square miles) and geographic description:
  - 15,413 square miles
  - All lands within Units 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), and that portion of Unit 13(E) east of the Alaska Railroad, except National Park Service and other federal lands where same-day-airborne take of wildlife is not allowed
- L) Size and geographic description of area for assessing ungulate abundance within IM area:  
Continuous count areas (CA) 3, 5, 6, 10, 13, 14, and 16 across Unit 13 encompassing a total of 3,219 square miles
- M) Size and geographic description of area for ungulate harvest reporting (specify if different areas or multiple species):  
Unit 13 covering 23,367 square miles
- N) Size and geographic description of area for assessing predator abundance (specify if different areas or multiple species):  
Unit 13 covering 23,367 square miles
- O) Size and geographic description of predation control area (specify if different areas or multiple species):  
Total IM area: 15,413 square miles (14,550 square miles open to predation control in 2010-11; closures include populated areas and federal lands where same-day-airborne take of wildlife is not allowed)
- P) Criteria for evaluating progress toward IM objectives:
  - population abundance
  - calf:cow ratios
  - bull:cow ratios
  - harvest
- Q) Criteria for success with this program:  
Achieve population and harvest objectives (listed above) with the following composition benchmarks: a minimum of 25 bulls:100 cows for Unit 13, 25 calves:100 cows for Unit 13(A) and 30 calves:100 cows for Units 13(B), 13(C), and 13(E)
- R) **Department recommendation for IM program in this reporting period:**  
The Department recommends continuation of the program (details provided in sections 6)

**2) Prey data**

Date(s) and method of most recent [fall/spring] abundance assessment for moose (if statistical variation available, describe method here and show result in Table 1):

Fall trend count surveys are conducted annually November – December to determine sex and age composition of moose; most recent surveys November 2010. Trend count data, corrected for estimated sightability were extrapolated to estimate unit-wide population abundance in 2010.

Compared to IM area, was a similar trend and magnitude of difference in abundance observed in nearby non-treatment area(s) since program inception (Y/N)? **No** and in the last year (Y/N)? **Unknown.**

Describe comparison if necessary:

Abundance in CAs receiving treatment has increased, whereas CA 15 in Unit 13(D) is adjacent to the current IM area and has been relatively stable since inception of the IM program. CA 15 was not flown in 2009, but was flown in 2010.

Date(s) of most recent age and sex composition survey (if statistical variation available, describe method here and show results in Table 1):

Fall trend count surveys provide age and sex composition data; most recent surveys November 2010.

Compared to IM area, was a similar composition trend and magnitude of difference in composition observed in nearby non-treatment area(s) since program inception (Y/N) **No** and in the last year (Y/N)? **Unknown**

Describe comparison if necessary:

Same as above

**Table 1.** Moose abundance, age and sex composition in assessment area (L) since program reauthorization in Year 5 (2005) to reauthorization review in Year 10 (2010) in continuous CAs in the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area. Regulatory year is 1 July to 30 June (e.g, RY 2010 is 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011).

Period	RY	Moose observed (Estimated Abundance)	Composition (number per 100 females)			
			Young	Yearling bulls	Males	Total <i>n</i>
Year 5	2005	3871 (11,910)	18.8	7.3	25.3	3871
Year 6	2006	3845	23.7	8.3	28.9	3845
Year 7	2007	4334	22.1	10.6	30.5	4334
Year 8	2008	4310	19.4	11.6	33.4	4310
Year 9	2009	4875 (14,710)	22.9	9.3	32.8	4875
Year 10	2010	5112 (15,900)	21.4	9.7	28.2	5112

Description of trend in abundance or composition:

Moose across the Unit 13 control area have increased steadily since the IM program renewal in 2005. Cows continue to increase annually across the control area, though bulls declined between 2009 and 2010. Based on extrapolation of fall count area densities, corrected for estimated sightability, moose population estimates were calculated in 2005 by subunit: 2,720 moose in Unit 13(A), 3,970 moose in Unit 13(B), 1,170 moose in Unit 13(C), and 4,050 moose in Unit 13(E). Moose population estimates in 2010 by subunit were: 3,490 moose in Unit 13(A), 5,280 moose in Unit 13(B), 1,700 moose in Unit 13(C), and 5,430 moose in Unit 13(E).

**Table 2.** Moose harvest in Unit 13 (assessment area M). Methods for estimating unreported harvest are described in Survey and Inventory reports.

Period	RY	Reported		Estimated		Other mortality <sup>a</sup>	Total
		Male	Female/Unknown	Unreported	Illegal	Vehicle	
Year 5	2005	571	4	25	25	75	700
Year 6	2006	685	4	25	25	75	814
Year 7	2007	644	4	25	25	75	773
Year 8	2008	730	5	25	25	75	860
Year 9	2009	859	3	25	25	75	987
Year 10	2010*	907	1	25	25	75	1033

\*2010 data are preliminary

Describe trend in harvest:

The general trend in harvest has been consistently positive across the predator control portion of Unit 13 and relatively stable in Unit 13(D) which is outside the control area. Easily accessible road-side areas continue to receive the most hunting pressure. Harvest has increased in recent years in remote portions of the unit due to any-bull drawing permits for those areas (2009-current).

The reported harvest in Year 5 by subunit was 184, 149, 51, 63, and 109 in 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), 13(D), and 13(E) respectively. An additional 19 moose were reported in Unit 13(Z).

The reported harvest in Year 10 (2010 preliminary) by subunit is 274, 287, 100, 69, and 197 in 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), 13(D), and 13(E) respectively. An additional 7 moose were reported in Unit 13(Z).

### 3) Predator data

Date(s) winter 2009-10 and method of most recent spring abundance assessment for wolves (if statistical variation available, describe method here and list in Table 3):

The most recent spring abundance estimate for Unit 13 of 180 (spring 2010) was derived over the course of the 2009-2010 winter and is based on wolf and track sightings

gathered from staff biologists, hunters, trappers, and pilots, adjusted for documented harvest.

Date(s) fall 2009 and method of most recent fall abundance assessment for wolves (if statistical variation available, describe method here and list in Table 3):

The most recent fall abundance assessment of 272 wolves (fall 2009) was derived using the same methods. The preliminary fall 2010 abundance estimate is 285 – 348.

The wolf population in Unit 13 has been relatively stable since 2006-07. The annual take by all methods has reflected this trend.

**Table 3.** Wolf abundance objectives and removal in wolf assessment area (N) of the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area. The annual removal objective in Unit 13 depends on the fall abundance in relation to the spring objective of 135 – 165 wolves. No less than 135 wolves will remain by 30 April each RY in all of Unit 13. The annual removal since Year 1 (referred to in this report as 2005) has averaged 43% (range = 34% - 49%). If non-lethal predation control methods were used by Department personnel, clarify with footnote in control removal tally.

Period	RY	Fall abundance (variation)	Harvest removal		Dept. control removal	Public control removal	Total removal <sup>a</sup>	Spring abundance (variation)
			Trap	Hunt				
Year 5	2005	309	61	23	0	61	145	157
Year 6	2006	280	47	25	0	33	105	160
Year 7	2007	254	48	9	0	33	90	153
Year 8	2008	273	38	26	0	55	121	144
Year 9	2009	272	40	18	0	23	81	180
Year 10	2010 <sup>b</sup>	285-348	4	6	0	77	87	

<sup>a</sup>Additional removal may be unknown method, Defense of Life and Property, vehicle kill, etc.

<sup>b</sup>2010 data are preliminary

**4) Habitat data and nutritional condition of prey species**

Where active habitat enhancement is occurring or was recommended in the *Intensive Management Plan*, describe progress toward objectives:

Objective(s): N/A

Area treated and method: N/A

Observation on treatment response (specify which and use table if ongoing program):  
N/A

Evidence of progress toward objective(s) (choose one: Apparent Statistical)

Similar trend in nearby non-treatment areas (Y/N)? N/A

Describe any substantial changes in habitat not caused by active program (e.g., new wildland fires, flooding, insect mortality of vegetation, etc.): N/A

The only habitat improvement project currently planned in Unit 13 is the Alphabet Hills Prescribed Burn on the border of Units 13(A) and 13(B). This burn is contingent upon meeting burn prescriptions; no burn was conducted during this reporting period.

Winters have been mild and conducive to population growth across Unit 13 in recent years. The last severely deep snow winter across the majority of Unit 13 was 2004-05.

**Table 4.** Nutritional indicators for moose in assessment area (L) of the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area.

Period	RY	13A West Twinning Rate (radio-collared cows)	13(B)/13(C)/13(E) Twinning rates (random cows)
Year 5	2005		
Year 6	2006	35%	
Year 7	2007	14%	
Year 8	2008	26%	53%
Year 9	2009	27%	50%
Year 10	2010	30%	

Where objectives on nutritional condition were listed in the Intensive Management Plan, Describe trend in condition indices since inception of (a) habitat enhancement or (b) enhanced harvest (clarify which: N/A)(choose Positive, No change, Negative)

Evidence of trend (choose one: Apparent Statistical)

Similar trends in nearby non-treatment areas (Y/N)? N/A

**5) Costs specific to implementing Intensive Management**

**Table 5.** Cost (\$1000 = 1.0) of agency salary based on estimate of proportional time of field level staff and cost of operations for intensive management activities (e.g., predator control or habitat enhancement beyond normal Survey and Inventory work) performed by personnel in the Department or work by other state agencies (e.g., Division of Forestry) or contractors in the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area. Fiscal year (FY) is also 1 July to 30 June but the year is one greater than the comparable RY (e.g, FY 2010 is 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010).



Period	FY	Salary <sup>a</sup>	Operations and contracting			Total cost
			Federal Aid <sup>b</sup>	Public Funds <sup>c</sup>	Other <sup>d</sup>	
Year 5	2006	15.0				15.0
Year 6	2007	15.0				15.0
Year 7	2008	15.0				15.0
Year 8	2009	15.0				15.0
Year 9	2010	30.0				30.0
Year 10	2011					

<sup>a</sup>State Fish and Game fund matched 1:3 with Federal Aid (see footnote b) except for activities directly involving predator control (state funding only).

<sup>b</sup>Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (excise tax on firearms and ammunition)

<sup>c</sup>Capital Improvement Project or General Fund revenue from Alaska Legislature

<sup>d</sup>Grants, donations from private organizations, etc.

**6) Department recommendations<sup>3</sup> for annual evaluation (1 February) following Year 10 (2010) for the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area—skip in final year and go to section 7**

Has progress toward defined criteria been achieved? Yes

Has achievement of success criteria occurred?

Population estimates for Units 13(A) and 13(B) are very close to the low end of the objective range. The population in Unit 13(C) is slowly increasing, but remains well below the objective range. The population estimate in Unit 13(E) is in the low end of the objective range.

Calf-to-cow ratios in general remain below objectives in all subunits (small areas within Unit 13(A) and 13(E) are meeting objectives); ratios appear stable. Bull-to-cow ratios are being met in remote portions of Unit 13(A), 13(B), 13(C), and in all count areas in 13(E). Between 2009 and 2010 bull-to-cow ratios dropped below objectives in road-accessible portions of Unit 13(A), 13(B), and 13(C).

The reported harvest for Unit 13(A) is in the low end of the objective range. The harvest for Unit 13(B) is very close to the low end of the objective range. The harvests for Unit 13(C) and 13(E) are slowly increasing, but both remain well below their objective ranges.

Recommendation for IM practice(s) (specify practices and choose one action for each):

Continue   Modify   Suspend   Terminate

Predation control   **Continue**

Habitat enhancement   **Continue**

<sup>3</sup> Prior sections include primarily objective information from field surveys; Sections 6 and 7 involve professional judgment by area biologists to interpret the context of prior information for the species in the management area.

Harvest strategy **Modify** - the harvest strategy may need to be altered to ensure continued improvement in the number of bulls. As the moose population continues to increase, antlerless harvests may become necessary to maintain harvest and population objectives, as well as bull-to-cow ratios, at which time IM efforts will be suspended accordingly.

**7) Evaluation (1 February) for program renewal (following final Year 15 [2015]) and Department recommendations for the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Area**

Has progress toward defined criteria been achieved (describe)? \_\_\_\_\_

Has achievement of success criteria occurred (describe)? \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation for IM program (choose one): Continue Modify Suspend Terminate

Rationale for recommendation on overall program: \_\_\_\_\_

Other recommendations (if continuation is recommended, specific actions on individual practices): \_\_\_\_\_

**8) Appendix: Purpose and context of Department Report**

This document provides a standard format for area biologists in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Department) to periodically report on progress in intensive management (IM) programs with predation control to the public and the Alaska Board of Game (Board). Predation control programs are authorized in Title 5, Chapter 92, Section 125 of the Alaska Administrative Code (5 AAC 92.125). The Department Report is premised on the 10 November 2010 draft *Guidelines for intensive management of big game in Alaska*, which describes the legal background, scientific principles, and management factors of producing and maintaining elevated harvests of ungulates (caribou, deer, or moose) in selected areas of Alaska. For IM programs initiated or renewed after 1 January 2012, the intent is that details of rationale, decision criteria involving public process and other biological and management factors for specific IM programs will be found in the corresponding *Intensive Management Plan*.

IM objectives for deer and moose are determined by the Board for a game management unit (GMU), whereas those for caribou are determined by herd. The IM program area may be described by geography (drainage) or community(s) if it is focused in a smaller area than the one describing the corresponding IM objectives, or if the area is composed of multiple GMUs. A predation control area may be smaller, and contained within, the IM program area or the area used for assessing predator abundance in a game management unit. Thus, the number of wolves, black bears, or grizzly/brown bears remaining in the larger abundance assessment area on a specific date incorporates the potential for recolonization of the smaller control area by predators on surrounding lands (where hunting and trapping but not control methods are allowed), in addition to reproduction by predators remaining in the control area.

The Department Report to the Board documents evaluation of progress toward IM population or harvest objectives for ungulate or other objectives determined by public process for existing IM programs. Initially these reports will be only for areas with predation control to meet annual reporting requirements (Alaska Statutes, Title 16, Section 50, Part b), but they may be expanded to IM programs that only include ungulate habitat enhancement, diverse strategies for hunter access and ungulate harvest, and outreach programs (see *Guidelines*). Predator harvest is achieved through hunting and trapping regulations, whereas predation control typically removes predators by additional means such as by public participants (by special Department permit) or by Department personnel (non-lethal methods could also be applied). Report information will be used for Department recommendations and Board decisions on continuing, modifying, suspending, or terminating IM programs. The annual report will be issued on 1 February with an interim report on 1 August. These dates account for lag time in entering reported predator removal and ungulate harvest into an electronic database for archive and analysis. The August interim report will have the ungulate harvest and wolf removal from the previous regulatory year, whereas the February annual report will include most of the ungulate harvest from the prior fall and bear removal from the prior regulatory and calendar years. Report information is for a single program, but it may also be presented in a table showing multiple IM programs in a region or all IM programs statewide.

### GMU 11 and 13 PROPOSALS

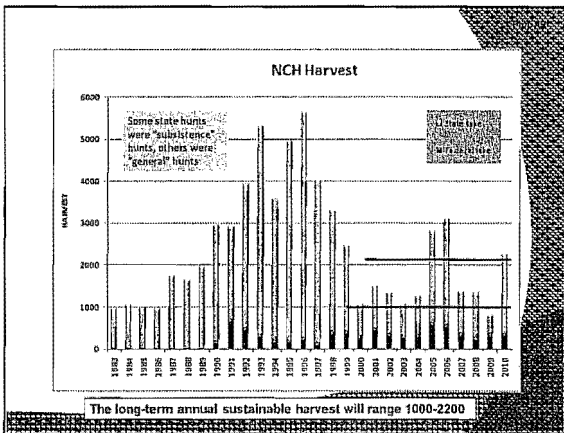
RIV Board of Game  
4-10 March 2011  
Becky Schwanke  
Area Biologist, Glennallen

### Proposal 49

**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** Modifies the Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (ANS) for Nelchina Caribou (GMU 13) from the current 600 – 1000 to 500.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** No Recommendation

Amend/Support – Copper Basin AC  
Amend/Support – Dora AC  
Support – Sitka AC



### Proposal 50

**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** This proposal provides an opportunity to review Unit 13 Nelchina Caribou seasons and permit conditions in effect for fall 2011 and spring 2012 hunting seasons (regulations adopted in October 2010).

These regulations are reflected in the most recent November – December Tier I/II and Drawing Hunt Supplements, and describe the hunt opportunities hunters applied for during that application period (November – December 2010).

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** Amend and Adopt

Updated GMU 13 Caribou and Moose Subsistence Use Findings are available on page 290

Amend/Support – Copper Basin AC

### AMEND AND ADOPT

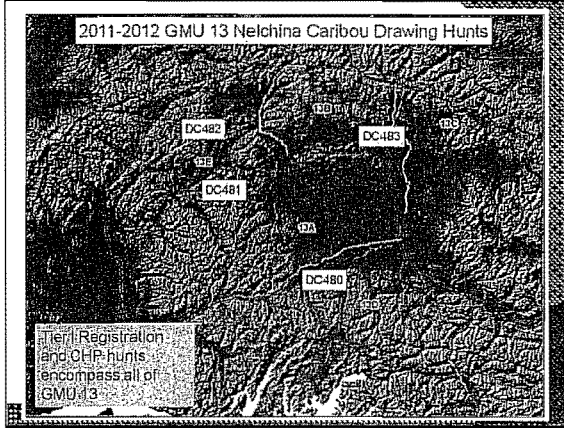
#### Guidance Needed on hunt management

- Two subsistence hunts: Tier I Registration and Community Harvest**  
RC52 from October identified the two hunts, but did not specify management preference beyond establishment of 'up to 300' caribou for the Community Harvest
- Drawing hunts**  
Again, the drawing hunt option was established, but there are no set guidelines when a drawing hunt should be held

5 AAC 85.025. Caribou seasons and bag limits.

(8)  
Unit 13 (Nelchina Caribou Herd)

	Resident Only	Participation / Interest
<b>COPPER BASIN CHP</b> 1 caribou per harvest report per regulatory year by community harvest permit only; up to 300 caribou may be taken; or	Aug. 10 – Sept. 29 (Subsistence hunt only) Oct. 21 – Mar. 31 (Subsistence hunt only)	Applications available March 15 <sup>th</sup> ; due May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2011
<b>TIER I REGISTRATION</b> 1 caribou every regulatory year by Tier I subsistence permit only; or	Aug. 10 – Sept. 29 (Subsistence hunt only) Oct. 21 – Mar. 31 (Subsistence hunt only)	3291 applications received by Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> 2010
<b>DRAWING HUNTS</b> 1 bull every regulatory year by drawing permit; up to 3000 permit may be issued	Aug. 20 – Sept. 20 Oct. 21 – Mar. 31	Hunt Applications DC480 DC481 DC482 DC483



**NELCHINA CARIBOU HUNT CONDITIONS**

**COPPER BASIN CHP**

- Group (of 25 or more AK residents) application due May 1<sup>st</sup>
- Individuals (or household members) must not have applied for any other caribou hunts, or any moose hunts outside of Unit 13
- One harvest ticket per person
- Household limited to hunting moose in CHP area and caribou in Unit 13
- Salvage requirements include all edible meat from the frontquarters, hindquarters, ribs, neck, backbone, as well as the heart, liver, kidneys, stomach, and fat
- Must comply with the C&T use patterns established for this hunt

**TIER I REGISTRATION**

- Household application due by December 31<sup>st</sup>
- One permit per household
- Household limited to hunting moose and caribou in Unit 13
- Proxy and permit transfer (within 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of kindred) options apply

**DRAWING HUNTS**

- Individual application due by December 31<sup>st</sup>
- Proxy options apply

All Unit 13 caribou hunts: Meat of the frontquarters, hindquarters, ribs, neck, backbone, as well as the heart, liver, kidneys, stomach, and fat

**2011 NCH HUNT SCENARIOS**  
(Herd is currently above population objectives)

<p><u>Average 2010-11 winter survival and average 2011 productivity</u></p> <p>Available surplus 3000 (800 cows and 2200 bulls)</p> <p><i>Rough estimates of take:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Cows</th> <th>Bulls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Federal</td> <td>150</td> <td>300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHP</td> <td>100</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tier I</td> <td>550</td> <td>1250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drawings</td> <td></td> <td>450</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There could be an Emergency Order Closure (EO) for cows, but the hunts will likely run through the end of March</p>		Cows	Bulls	Federal	150	300	CHP	100	200	Tier I	550	1250	Drawings		450	<p><u>Poor 2010-11 winter survival poor 2011 productivity</u></p> <p>Available surplus 2200 (500 cows and 1700 bulls)</p> <p><i>Rough estimates of take:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Cows</th> <th>Bulls</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Federal</td> <td>150 (EO)</td> <td>300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CHP</td> <td>100 (EO)</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tier I</td> <td>250 (EO)</td> <td>1000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drawings</td> <td></td> <td>200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There could be an Emergency Order Closure (EO) for cows for both subsistence hunts, and at least one will likely be needed for the drawing or all of the drawing hunts</p>		Cows	Bulls	Federal	150 (EO)	300	CHP	100 (EO)	200	Tier I	250 (EO)	1000	Drawings		200
	Cows	Bulls																													
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Tier I	250 (EO)	1000																													
Drawings		200																													

*GUIDANCE - NCH/CHP/REGISTRATION*

**AMEND AND ADOPT**

Guidance Needed on hunt management

- Two subsistence hunts: Tier I Registration and Community Harvest

RC52 from October identified the two hunts, but did not specify management preference beyond establishment of 'up to 300' caribou for the Community Harvest

- Drawing hunts

Again, the drawing hunt option was established, but there are no set guidelines when a drawing hunt should be held

**Proposal 43**

**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** Removes the hunting restriction for Tier I caribou in Unit 13 (moose and caribou cannot be taken outside Unit 13)

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** No Recommendation

Oppose - Copper Basin AC  
Oppose - Sitka AC

**Limits to Nelchina Tier I Registration participation:**

- 1) 1 permit / household
- 2) limited to hunting moose/caribou in Unit 13

3,291 households applied for this hunt

**Nelchina Drawing hunts - no restrictions**

- 4 drawing hunts
- 11,569 total hunt entries

Guidance - NCH/CHP/REGISTRATION  
RC52 from October 2010

**Proposal 46**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Allocates a set number of caribou permits, based on percentages, to the Nelchina Caribou drawing hunts in years that the harvestable surplus exceeds the ANS.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Amend/Support – Copper Basin AC  
Amend/Support – Sitka AC

**IF ALL ALLOWABLE SURPLUS above the ANS  
was allocated to drawing hunts**

**Scenario 1**

**Below Population Objectives**  
Allowable surplus is within ANS range of 600-1000  
Allowable surplus 1000 (1000 bulls)

	Cows	Bulls
Federal	0	200-600
CHP	0	300
Tier I	0	100-400 (EO)
Drawings	closed	0

Tier I hunt likely closes by EO, and may be able to reopen later if federal take is low

**Scenario 2**

**Within Population Objectives**  
Allowable surplus just above 600-1000  
Allowable surplus 1600 (200 cows and 1400 bulls)

	Cows	Bulls
Federal	67 (EO)	150-550
CHP	67 (EO)	250
Tier I	67 (EO)	500-900 (EO)
Drawings	closed	?

Tier I hunt likely closes by EO, and may be able to reopen later if federal take is low

OR, if all allowable surplus > 1000 was allocated to drawing hunts:  
Still no drawing hunts  
OR, if all allowable surplus > 600 was allocated to drawing hunts:  
Drawings would get 400 bulls, subsistence hunts 600

OR, if all allowable surplus > 1000 was allocated to drawing hunts:  
Federal 67 (EO) 150-550  
CHP 67 (EO) 250  
Tier I 67 (EO) 0-100 (EO)  
Drawings closed 500 (EO)  
Tier I hunt likely closes by EO, and may be able to reopen later if federal take is low

**If a PERCENTAGE of allowable harvest  
is allocated to drawing hunts (if meeting ANS)**

**Scenario 1**

**Below Population Objectives**  
Allowable surplus is within ANS range of 600-1000  
Allowable surplus 1000 (bull only)

	Cows	Bulls
Federal	0	200-600
CHP	0	300
Tier I	0	100-400 (EO)
Drawings	closed	0

Tier I hunt likely gets closed by EO, and may be able to reopen later if federal take is low

**Scenario 2**

**Within Population Objectives**  
Allowable surplus just above 600-1000  
Allowable surplus 1600 (200 cows and 1400 bulls)

	Cows	Bulls
Federal	67 (EO)	150-550
CHP	67 (EO)	250
Tier I	67 (EO)	600-900 (EO)
Drawings	closed	0

Tier I hunt likely gets closed by EO, and may be able to reopen later if federal take is low

OR, if no less than 10% of allowable surplus was allocated to five drawing hunts when surplus meets or exceeds 600-1000:  
Federal 0 200-600  
CHP 0 300  
Tier I 0 0-300 (EO)  
Drawings closed 100 (EO)

OR, if no less than 10% of allowable surplus was allocated to the drawing hunts when surplus meets or exceeds 600-1000:  
Federal 67 (EO) 150-550  
CHP 67 (EO) 250  
Tier I 67 (EO) 350-750 (EO)  
Drawings closed 150 (EO)

**NELCHINA CARIBOU**

Guidance Needed on hunt management

- Drawing hunts: to have one or not  
Again, the drawing hunt option was established, but there are no set guidelines when a drawing hunt should be held  
• If drawing permits are to be issued based on the relationship between the harvestable surplus and the ANS, consider:  
• Issuing drawing permits when the surplus is in the ANS range, or  
• Issuing drawing permits when the surplus exceeds the ANS range
- Two subsistence hunts: Tier I Registration and Community Harvest  
RC52 from October identified the two hunts, but did not specify management preference beyond establishment of 'up to 300' caribou for the Community Harvest
- Emergency Closure timing between all Nelchina hunts

**Proposal 47**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Modifies the Unit 13 caribou hunt  
- No more than 2000 Tier I household permits for one caribou will be issued annually (to account for the ANS); and  
- Allocates the remainder of the allowable surplus to the drawing hunts (bull only) and applies a bonus point system (only for drawing hunts, specified in AC comments)

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Oppose – Sitka AC

**Proposal 48**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Eliminates the Nelchina Caribou Community Harvest hunt

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Oppose – Sitka AC

### Proposal 42

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:

- Removes the hunting restriction for Tier I caribou in Unit 13 (moose and caribou cannot be taken outside Unit 13)
- Create a non-subsistence area in the center of Unit 13(A), leaving the Copper River communities in the subsistence area; and establish a drawing hunt for this non-subsistence area
- Consider separate fall and winter hunts

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Oppose - Sitka AC

### Proposal 44

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:

- Create a non-subsistence area in Unit 13; and establish a drawing hunt for this non-subsistence area

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Take No Action

Oppose - Copper Basin AC

### Proposal 45

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:

- Removes the hunting restriction for Tier I caribou in Unit 13 (moose and caribou cannot be taken outside Unit 13)
- Create a non-subsistence area in Unit 13 outside of traditional hunting corridors; and
- Allocate 30 - 50% of the annual allowable harvest to drawing hunts (in the non-subsistence area)
- Change the Paxson Closed Area (currently closed to the take of big game) to an archery only area for all species, require bowhunter certification for all big game hunting in the area, and create an archery only caribou drawing hunt for the area


DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Take No Action

Oppose - Copper Basin AC

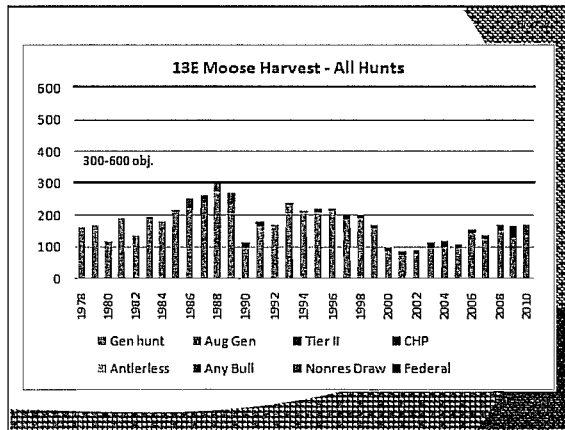
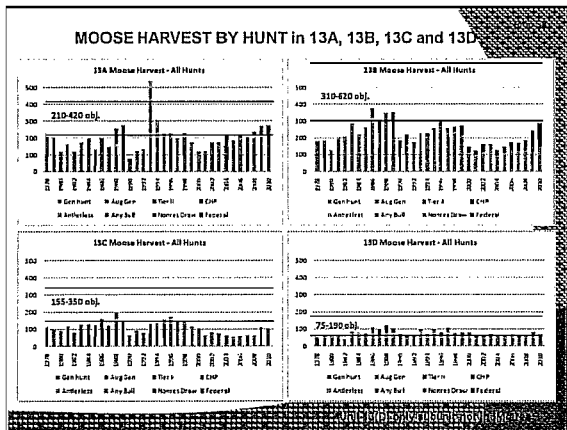
### PROPOSAL 58

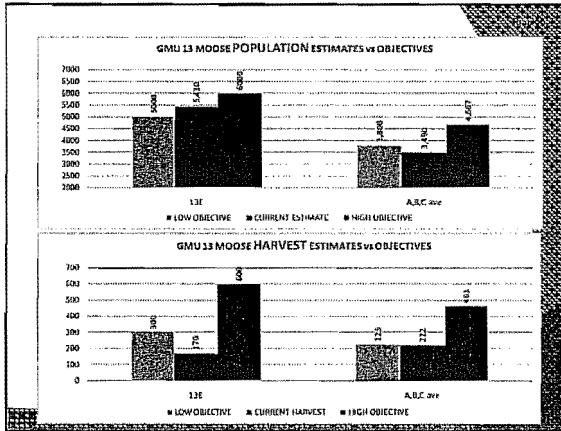
EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal reviews the population and harvest objectives for moose in Unit 13E

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation



Sub B





### PROPOSAL 59

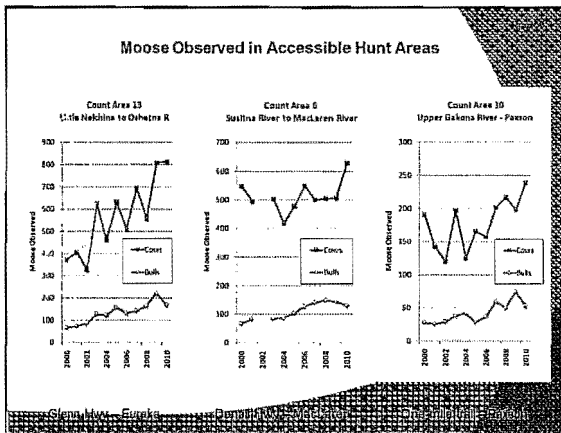
**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** This proposal would establish an early moose hunt in Unit 13

- Unit 13(B), 13(C), 13(D), and 13(E)
- Season dates August 19 – 25 (7 days)
- Bag limit Spike/Fork or 50" or 3 or more Brow Tines

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:**

Department Proposal – Do Not Adopt

Oppose 56 and 59 – Copper Basin AC  
Oppose 56 and 59 – Slans AC



### PROPOSAL 56

**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** This proposal would establish an early moose hunt in Unit 13

- All of Unit 13
- Season dates August 19 – 25 (7 days)
- Bag limit Spike/Fork or 50" or 3 or more Brow Tines

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** Take No Action

Oppose – Copper Basin AC  
Oppose – Slans AC

### PROPOSAL 64

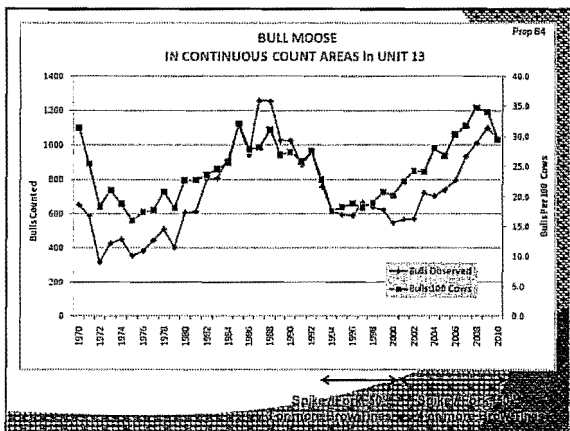
**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** This proposal would change the Unit 13 resident only 1 – 20 September general moose hunt from:

Spike / Fork, 50", 4 or more Brow Tines, to

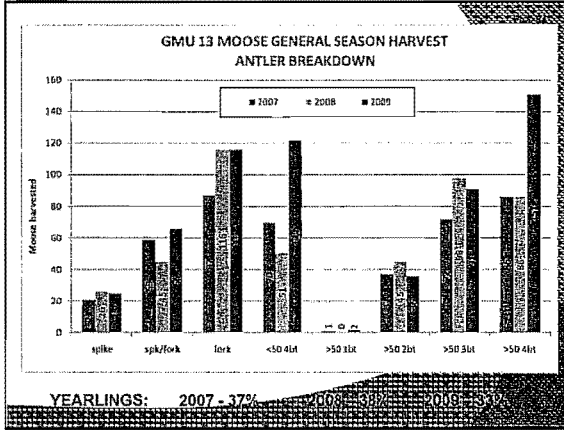
50", 3 or more Brow Tines

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** Do Not Adopt

Oppose – Copper Basin AC  
Oppose – Slans AC







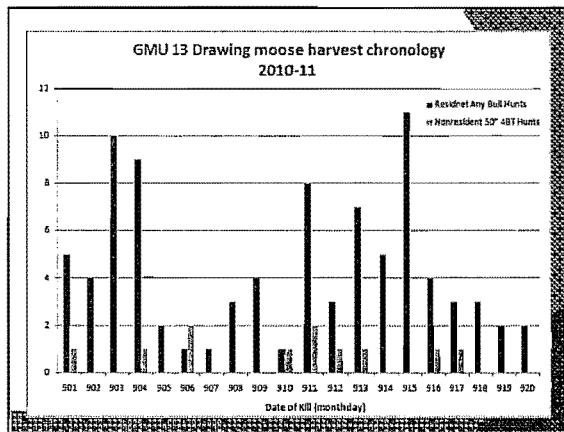
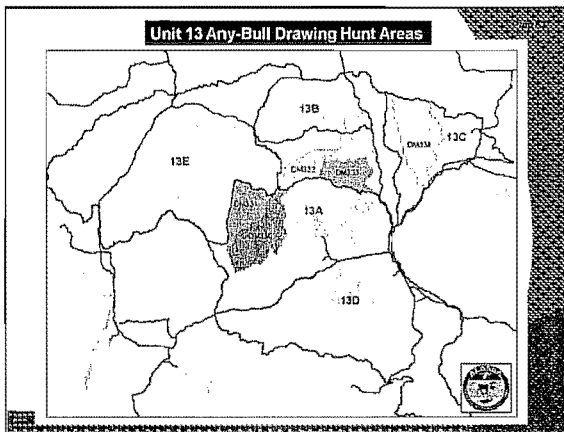
### PROPOSAL 63

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would shift the Unit 13 resident only any-bull drawing hunts from:

- 1 -20 September (concurrent with the general season), to
- 21 - 30 September

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose - Copper Basin AC  
Oppose - Stone AC



### Proposal 57

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would close nonresident moose hunting in subunit 13E (until population objectives are met).

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Oppose - Copper Basin AC

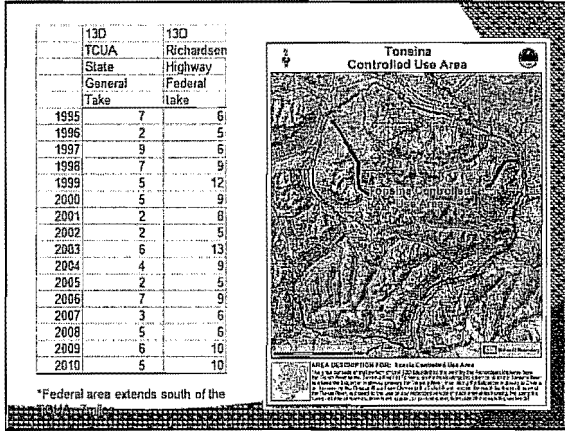
### Proposal 60

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would establish a late season moose drawing hunt in Unit 13(D) within the Tonsina Controlled Use Area

- Season dates November 20 - December 10
- Bag limit Any-bull
- Moose would not be able to be harvested within 2 miles of the Edgerton or Richardson Highways

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose - Copper Basin AC



### Proposal 61

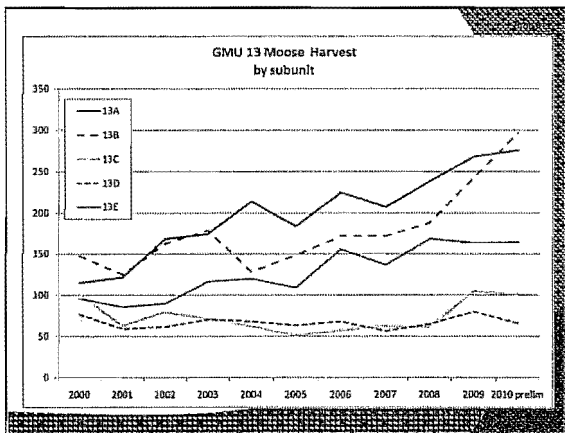
EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Retain existing moose hunt regulations from 2009 for Unit 13, including the Copper Basin Community Moose hunt

5 AAC 85.045(A)(9)-(11), and 92.072

(Changes made in July 2010 expired 120 days after the emergency Board meeting)

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation (retention of the Community Hunt); Amend if Adopted (bag limits / season dates)

Amend/Support - Copper Basin AC



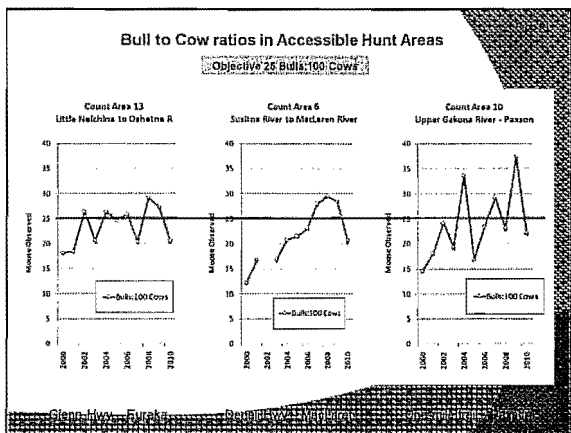
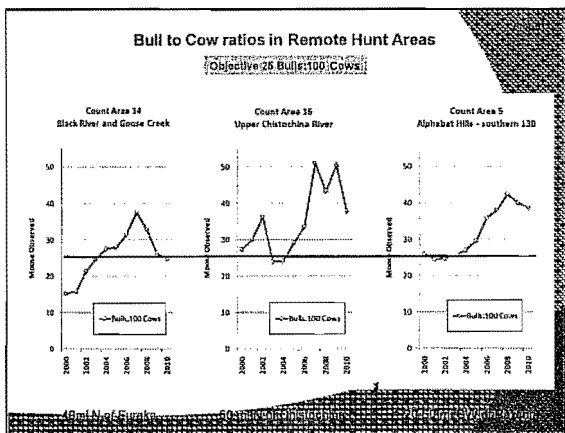
### 2005-2010 GMU 13 Moose Harvest by Hunt

Year	A					B					C					
	Sept	Aug	Year	Reg	HR	Sept	Aug	Year	Reg	HR	Sept	Aug	Year	Reg	HR	
	Gen	Gen	CHP	#	Draw	Gen	Gen	CHP	#	Draw	Gen	Gen	CHP	#	Draw	
2005	155	1	19	0	184	109	6	0	34	149	48	1	2	1	1	51
2006	200	1	25	0	229	120	15	0	30	172	58	1	1	1	1	57
2007	188	1	23	0	207	120	12	0	26	117	60	1	1	1	1	63
2008	212	1	26	0	238	120	18	0	41	194	59	1	0	1	1	61
2009	222	1	20	2	248	124	28	0	44	243	72	1	1	2	2	100
2010	164	1	14	1	179	119	29	0	48	2	62	73	7	1	1	103

Year	D					E					
	Sept	Aug	Year	Reg	HR	Sept	Aug	Year	Reg	HR	
	Gen	Gen	CHP	#	Draw	Gen	Gen	CHP	#	Draw	
2005	55	1	3	0	58	93	1	7	0	4	109
2006	53	1	1	0	54	114	8	0	4	156	
2007	50	1	1	0	51	126	1	8	0	2	137
2008	56	1	3	0	60	159	14	0	3	169	
2009	59	1	5	0	64	170	29	0	4	164	
2010	50	3	1	0	54	146	22	0	2	1	155

\*Some additional lake was reported with vague location and no clear boundaries



**Proposal 62**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Re-establish the Copper Basin Community Moose hunt

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Take No Action

Amend/Support – Copper Basin AC  
Oppose – Stone AC

**Proposal 67**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Eliminate the Copper Basin Community hunt (provisions) allowing an individual to take game for another person, except through established proxy regulations

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

In 2009, of the Community Harvest:

Of the 100 moose harvested, 34 were taken by designated hunters  
Of the 128 caribou harvested, 36 were taken by designated hunters

**Proposal 231**

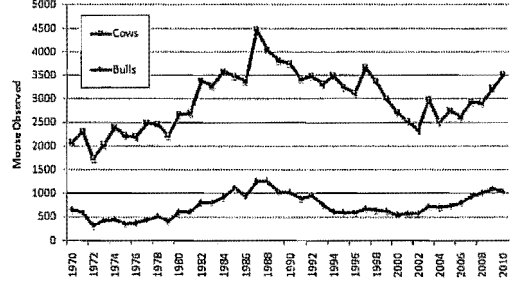
EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Establish a drawing antlerless moose hunt in GMU 13 (up to 200 permits); season dates 1 – 20 September

The only subunit that we would implement antlerless hunts in during the first year would be 13A – relayed to the Advisory Committees prior to their meetings

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Adopt - Department Proposal

Support – Copper Basin AC  
Didn't vote – but comments indicated opposition for 13E (2/27 said proposal was not in the best interest of the area)  
Support – Stone AC

TOTAL BULLS and COWS OBSERVED IN GMU 13 CONTINUOUS COUNT AREAS

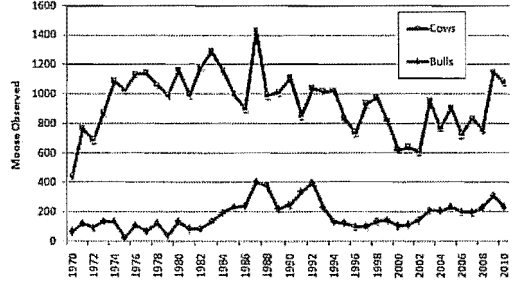


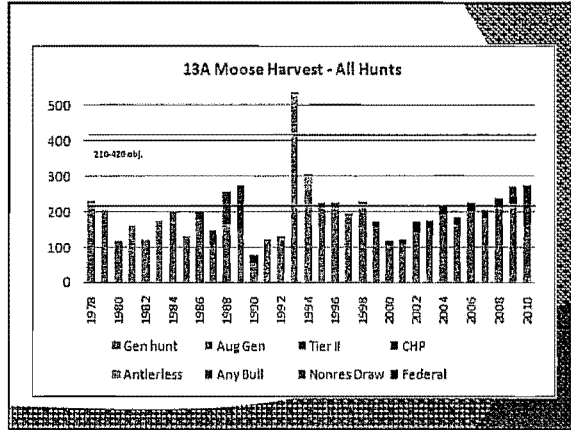
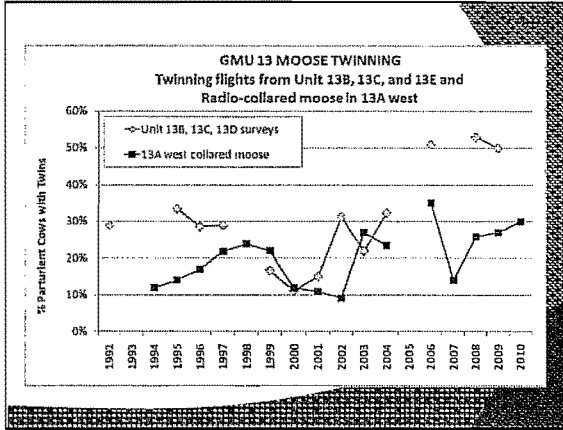
Unit 13 bull moose harvest

	A	B	C	D	E	13Z	Total
Objective	210-420	310-620	155-350	75-190	300-600		1050-2180
2000	115	148	101	77	96	25	562
2001	122	125	63	59	86	19	468
2002	169	163	80	62	90	10	574
2003	175	179	71	71	117	14	627
2004	214	129	82	68	120	23	616
2005	184	149	51	63	109	19	575
2006	225	172	57	58	156	14	692
2007	207	172	63	57	137	12	648
2008	238	188	61	65	169	14	715
2009	268	243	105	60	164	2	862
2010 prelim	275	297	101	66	165	7	912

\*13D is not in the Intensive Management Area, the population is not expected to increase like the other subunits

TOTAL BULLS and COWS OBSERVED IN GMU 13 (A) West - CAs 13 and 14





**Proposal 68**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Revise the Tier II points system for Unit 13 should the Community Harvest Hunt be eliminated

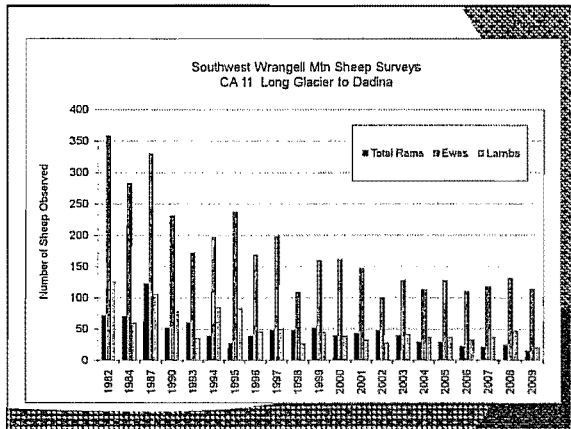
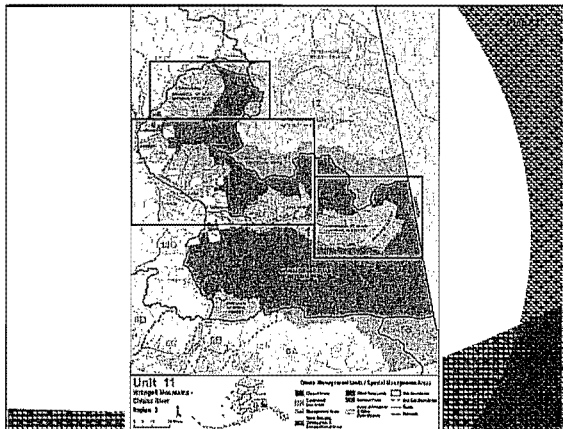
DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

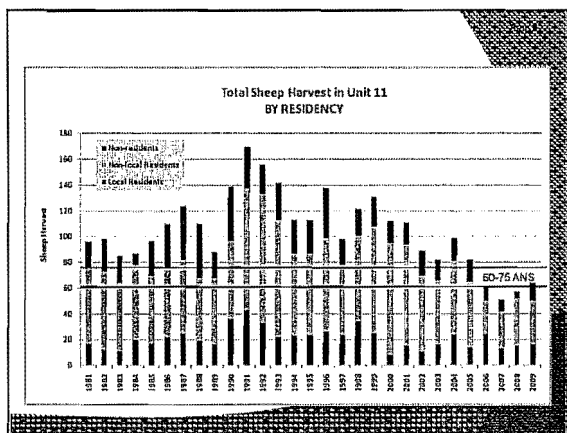
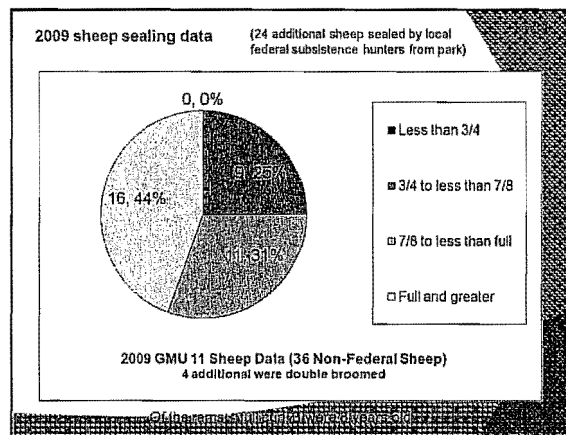
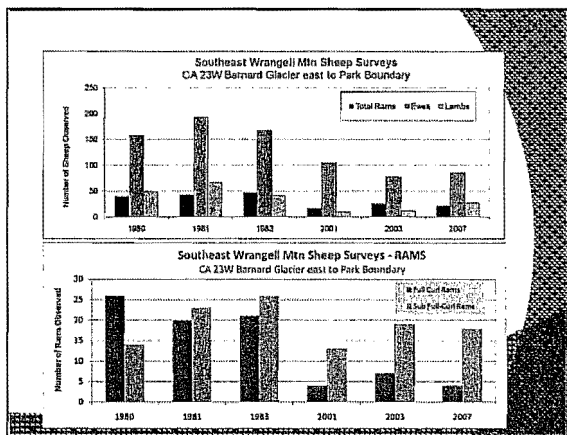
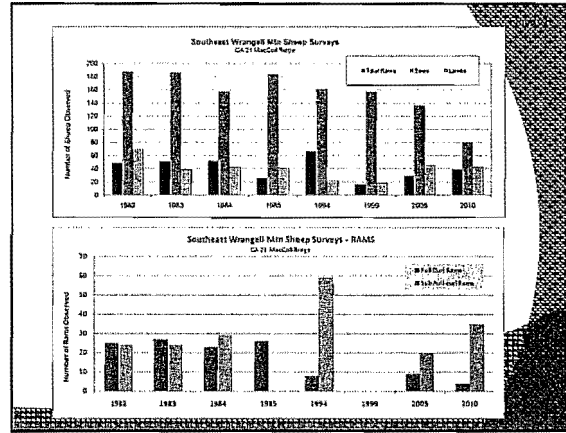
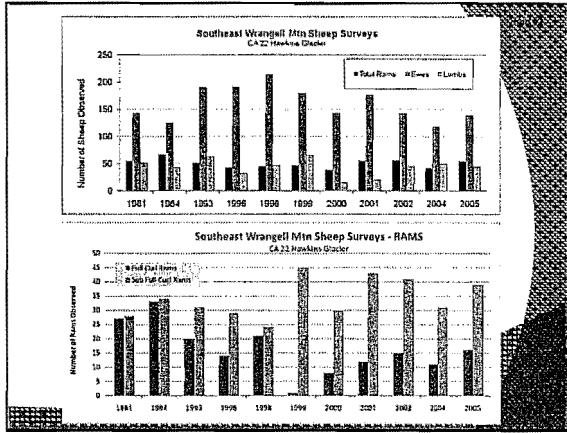
**Proposal 52**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would change the resident Dall sheep bag limit in Unit 11 from 3/4 curl to full curl, and the resident season to August 8 – September 20 (2 day earlier opener).

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose (Support 51) – Copper Basin AC  
Support – Denali AC  
Oppose – Siana AC





**Proposal 51 / 53**

**EFFECT OF PROPOSAL:** This proposal would change the resident Dall sheep bag limit in Unit 11 from 3/4 curl to full curl

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** Take No Action

Support - Copper Basin AC  
Support - Denali AC  
Oppose - Eklana AC

**Proposal 54**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would change the bag limit for sheep in all of Unit 13 to 1 ram, eliminate the drawing hunts, and would eliminate the sealing requirement for this unit only.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

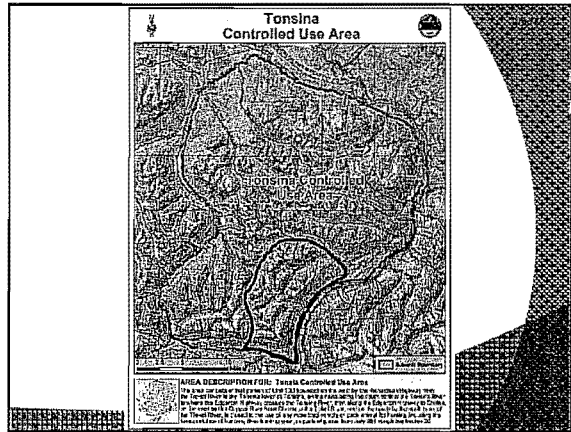
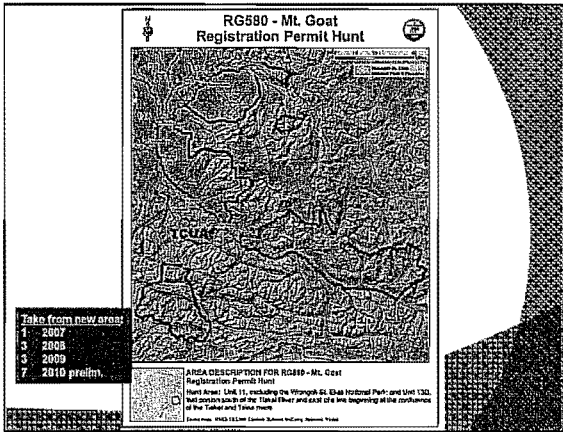
Oppose – Danell AC  
Oppose – Sierra AC

**Proposal 55**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would expand the Unit 11 / 13D registration goat hunt area into a portion of the Tonsina Controlled Use Area

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose – Copper Basin AC

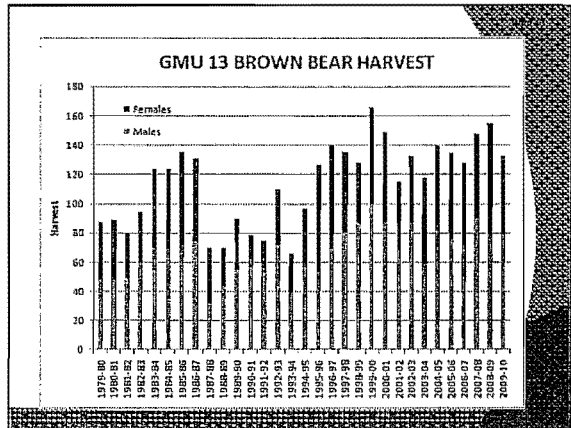


**Proposal 40**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would change the current year-round brown bear season, with a bag limit of 1 bear per regulatory year in Unit 13 to September 1 – May 31, and nonresidents would be restricted to 1 bear every four regulatory years.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose – Copper Basin AC  
Oppose – Danell AC  
Oppose – Sierra AC

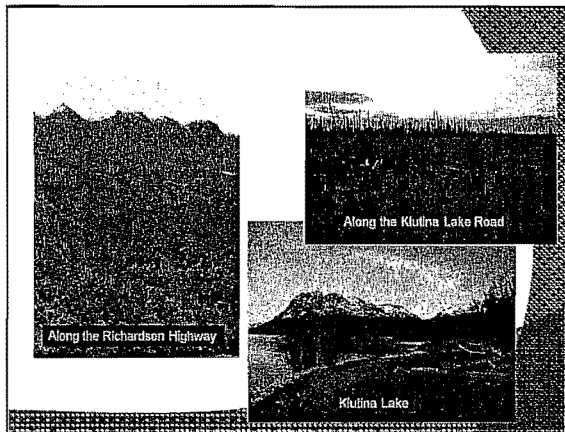
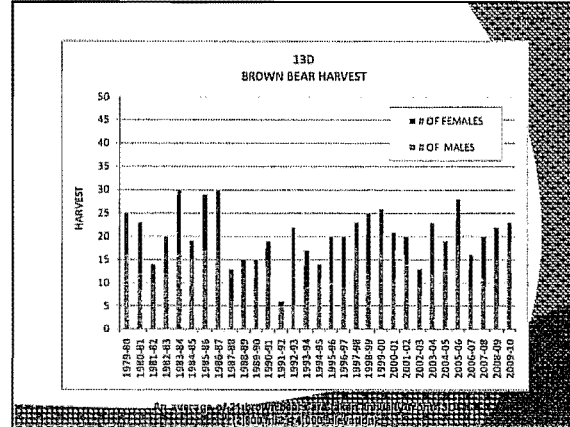


**Proposal 41**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Allow the take of brown bears over registered black bear bait stations in a limited area (subunit 13D), and only over existing bait stations (registered for the past three consecutive years). Registered bait station permittees and their relatives within second-degree of kindred would be allowed to take brown bears over these bait stations. Hunters would have to abide by all current brown bear regulations, including the 1 bear per year bag limit. Hunters would be required to report their take within 5 days. ADF&G could emergency close the taking of brown bears over bait if problems become evident.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation (no biological concerns)

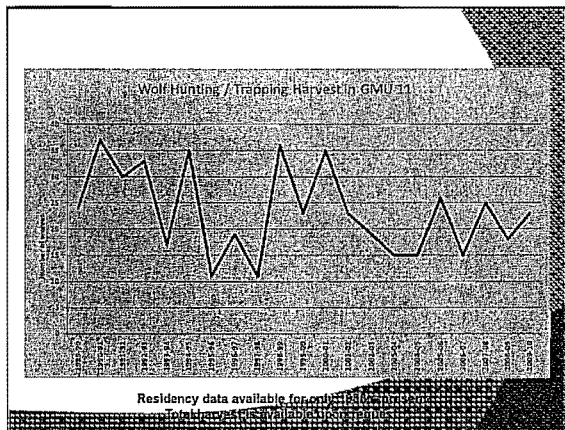
Oppose 4/5 - Copper Basin AC  
Support - Sitka AC  
Amend/Support - Paxon AC



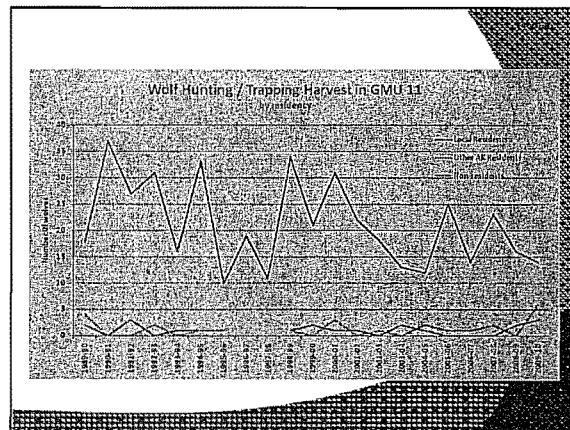
**Proposal 66**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Define the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence (ANS) for wolves and the Mentasta Caribou Herd in GMU 11

Oppose - Denali AC  
Oppose - Sitka AC  
Oppose - Paxon AC



Residency data available for only 84% of residents. Total harvest is available for 80% of residents.







**Proposal 69**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would modify the exceptions for the Clearwater Controlled Use Area (CUA) in Unit 13 to include all drivable surfaces at the Alpine Creek lodge

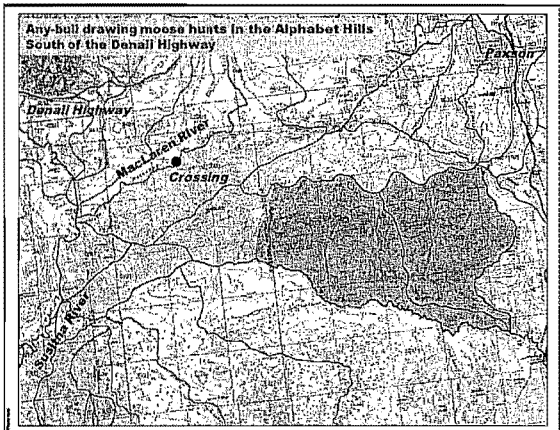
DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Amend and Adopt

**Proposal 70**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: This proposal would restrict the use of ORVs in subunit (13B) and (13E) within a ¼ mile corridor along the Maclaren River (with the exception of the recognized crossing of Moore's trail on the lower river) and along the Suslina River upstream of the confluence with the Oshetna River.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: No Recommendation

Oppose - Copper Basin AC  
Oppose - Dethall AC



**Proposal 39**

EFFECT OF PROPOSAL: Modify the ptarmigan hunting season dates in subunit 13B from the current Aug 10 – Nov 30 to Aug 10 – March 31

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: Do Not Adopt

Oppose - Copper Basin AC  
Amend/Support - Dethall AC

Unit 13 ptarmigan hunting season dates and bag limits history

Conventional season / dates

Up through 2004-05	Unit 13	Aug 10 – Mar 31	10/day 20 in possession
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Small late winter bag limit for 13A, 13B, 13E

2005-06	13C, 13D	Aug 10 – Mar 31	10/day 20 in possession
2006-07	13A, 13B, 13E	Aug 10 – Nov 30	10/day 20 in possession
2007-08	13A, 13B, 13E	Dec 1 – Mar 31	5/day 10 in possession
2008-09	13A, 13B, 13E	Dec 1 – Mar 31	5/day 10 in possession

No winter season for 13B

2009-10	13A, 13C, 13D, 13E	Aug 10 – March 31	10/day 20 in possession
2010-11	13B	Aug 10 – Nov 30	

