

# Teshekpuk Herd: Proposal 202

## WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSAL DO?

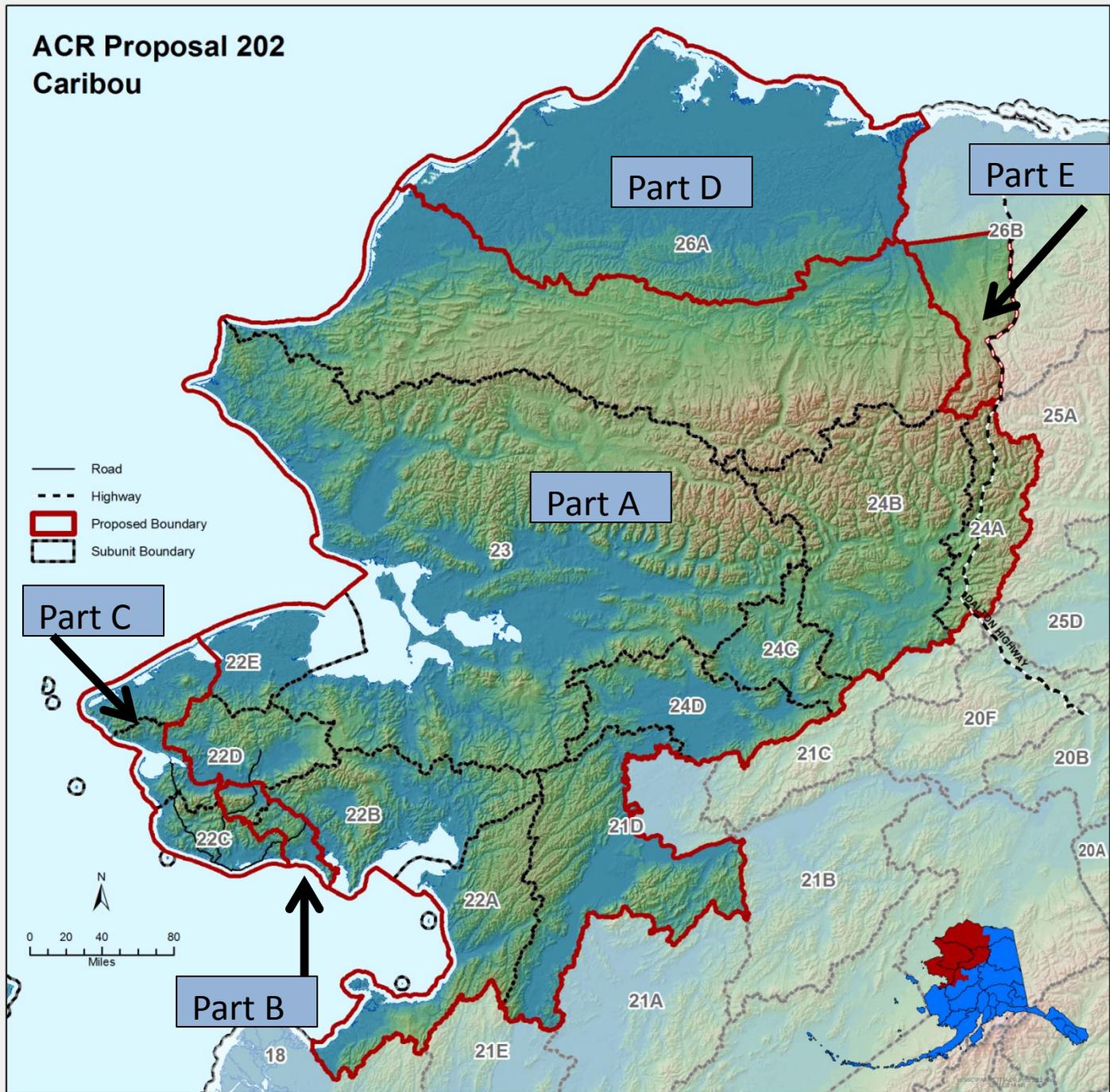
### For the TCH range (Part D):

1. Change the nonresident bag limit to 1 bull/year throughout the summer/autumn range of the TCH.
2. Reduce the non-resident caribou season in the summer-autumn range to 15 Aug.- 30 Sep.
3. Reduce resident bag limits for cows
4. Reduce resident seasons to only highest periods of use: ~30% reduction in harvest.
5. Prohibit the harvest of calves by all hunters.

### For combined TCH/CAH range (Part E):

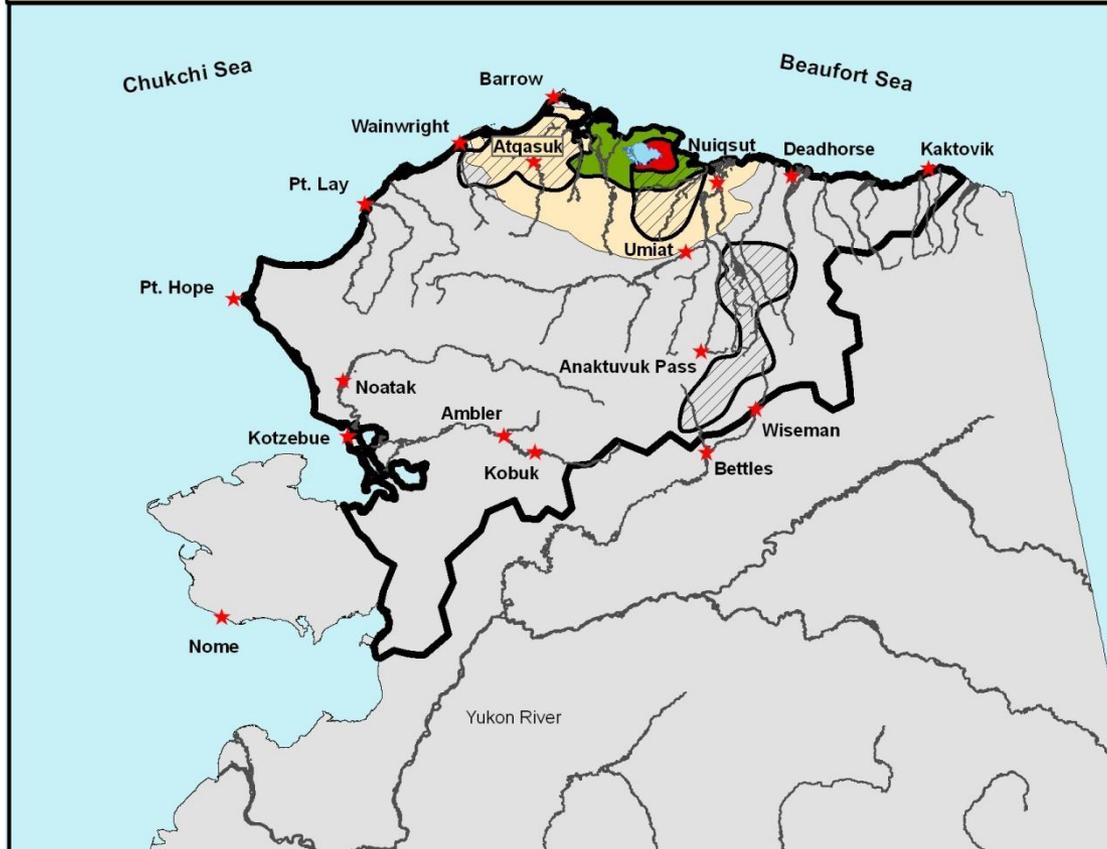
6. Close seasons when CAH are typically not present (Oct 11- May 15)

# ACR Proposal 202 Caribou



# Teshekpuk Caribou Herd Seasonal Ranges

Revised September 2010



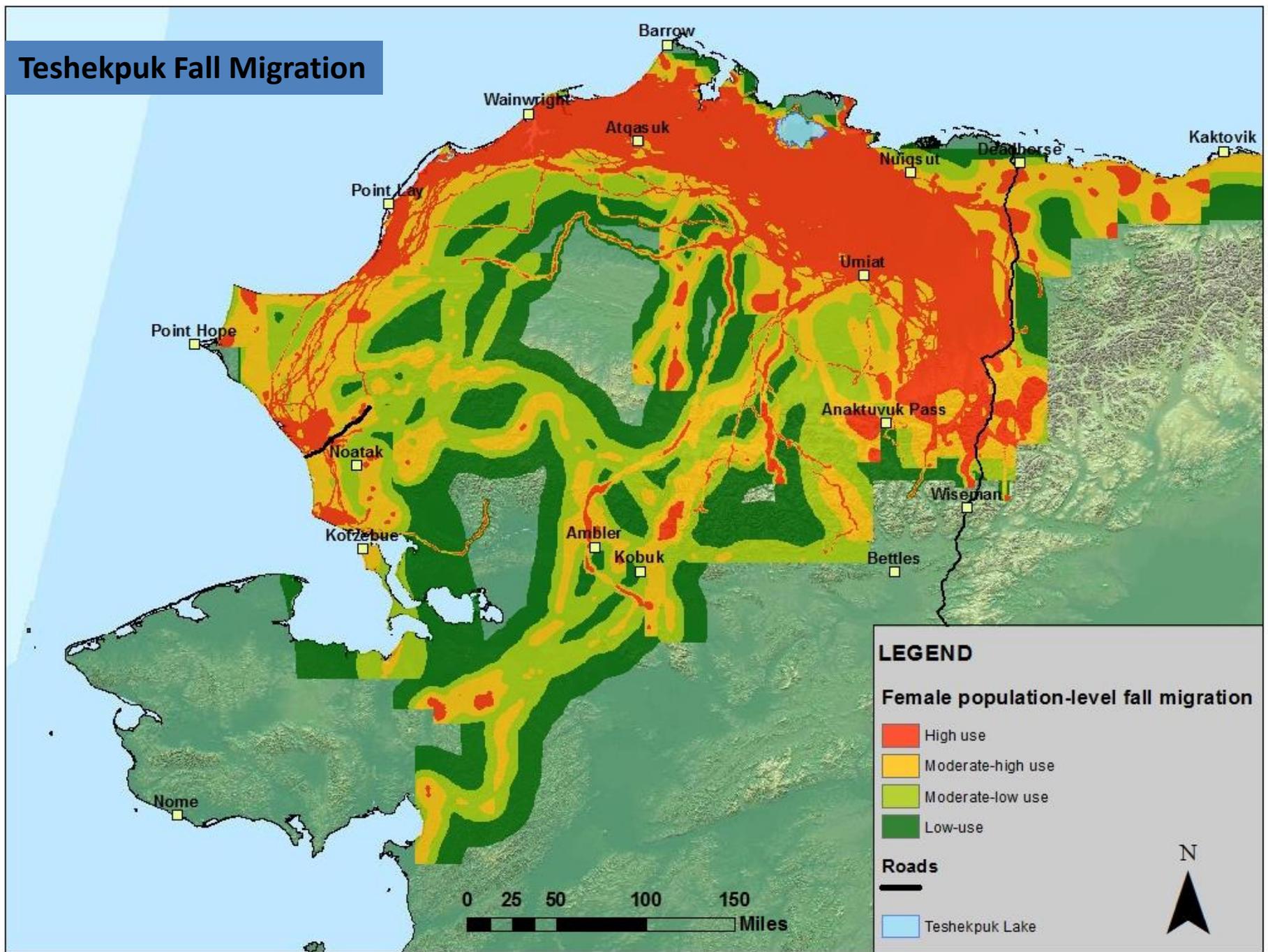
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game  
1300 College Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

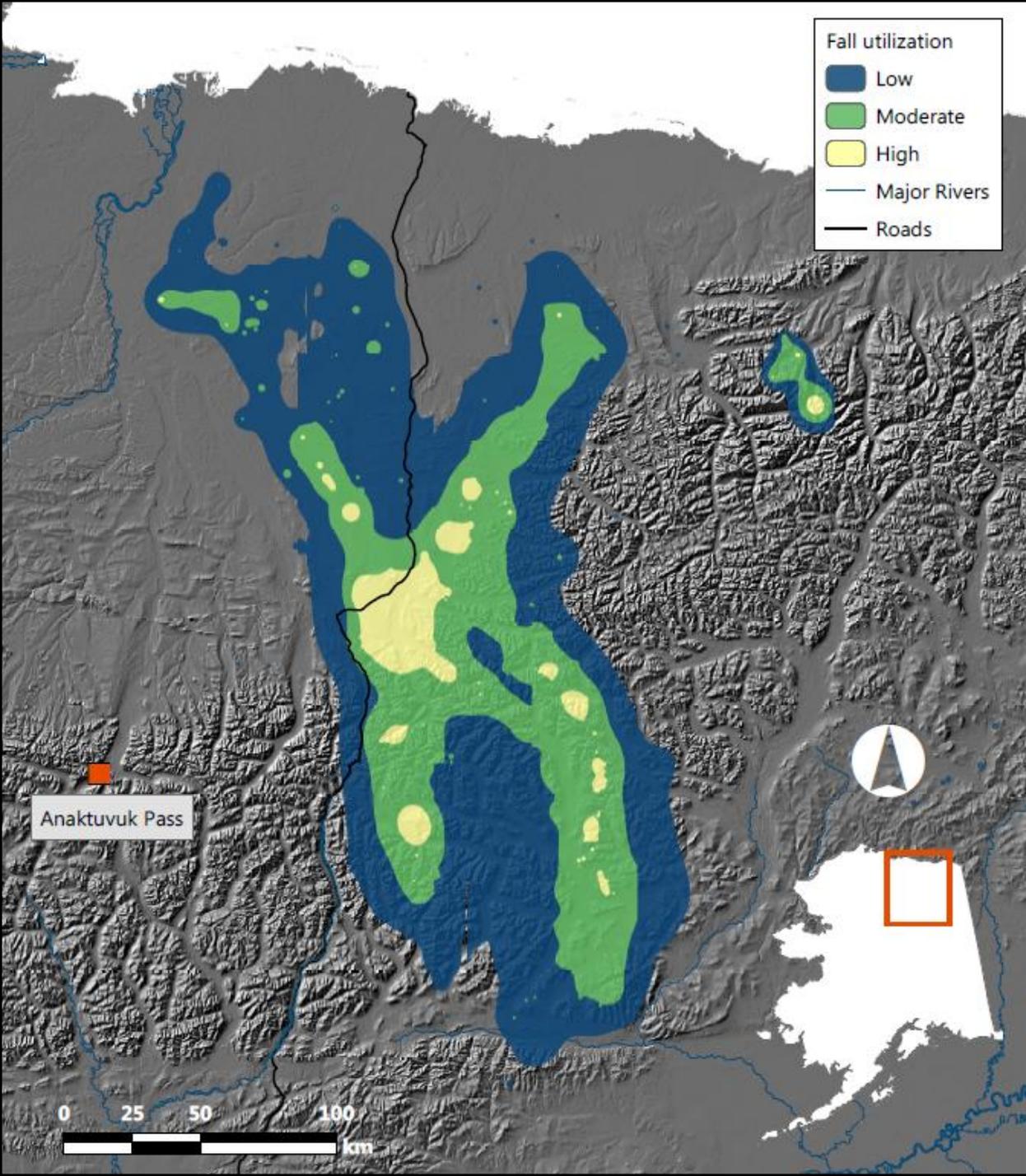


## Legend

- ★ Villages
- ▭ Extent of Range
- ▭ Summer Range
- ▭ Calving Grounds
- ▭ Core Calving Grounds
- ▭ Frequently Used Winter Range

# Teshekpuk Fall Migration





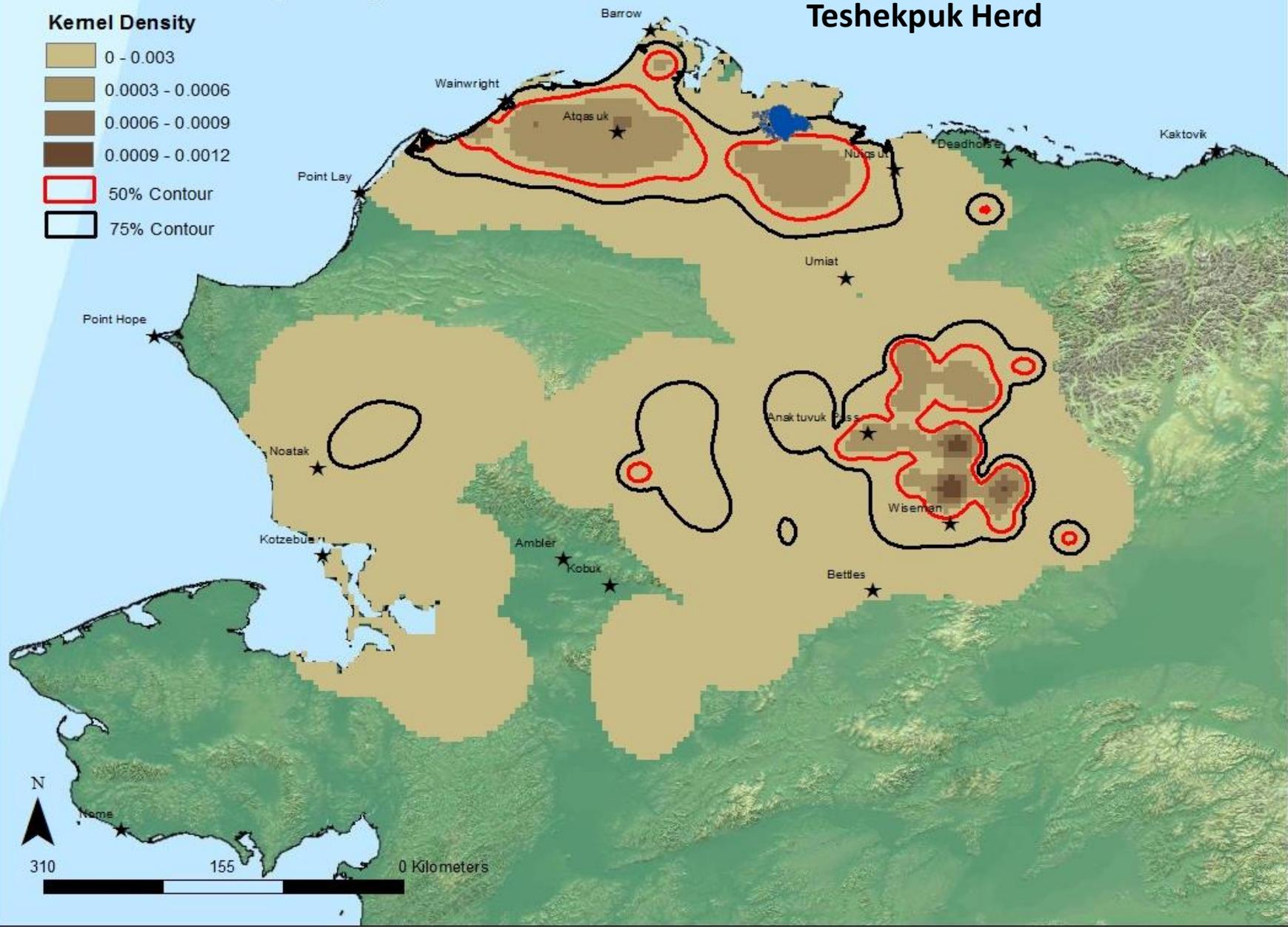
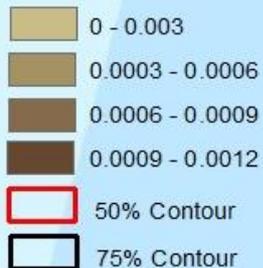
## Central Arctic Herd

### Fall Migration

# Cumulative Wintering Density 2008-2012

## Teshkepuk Herd

### Kemel Density

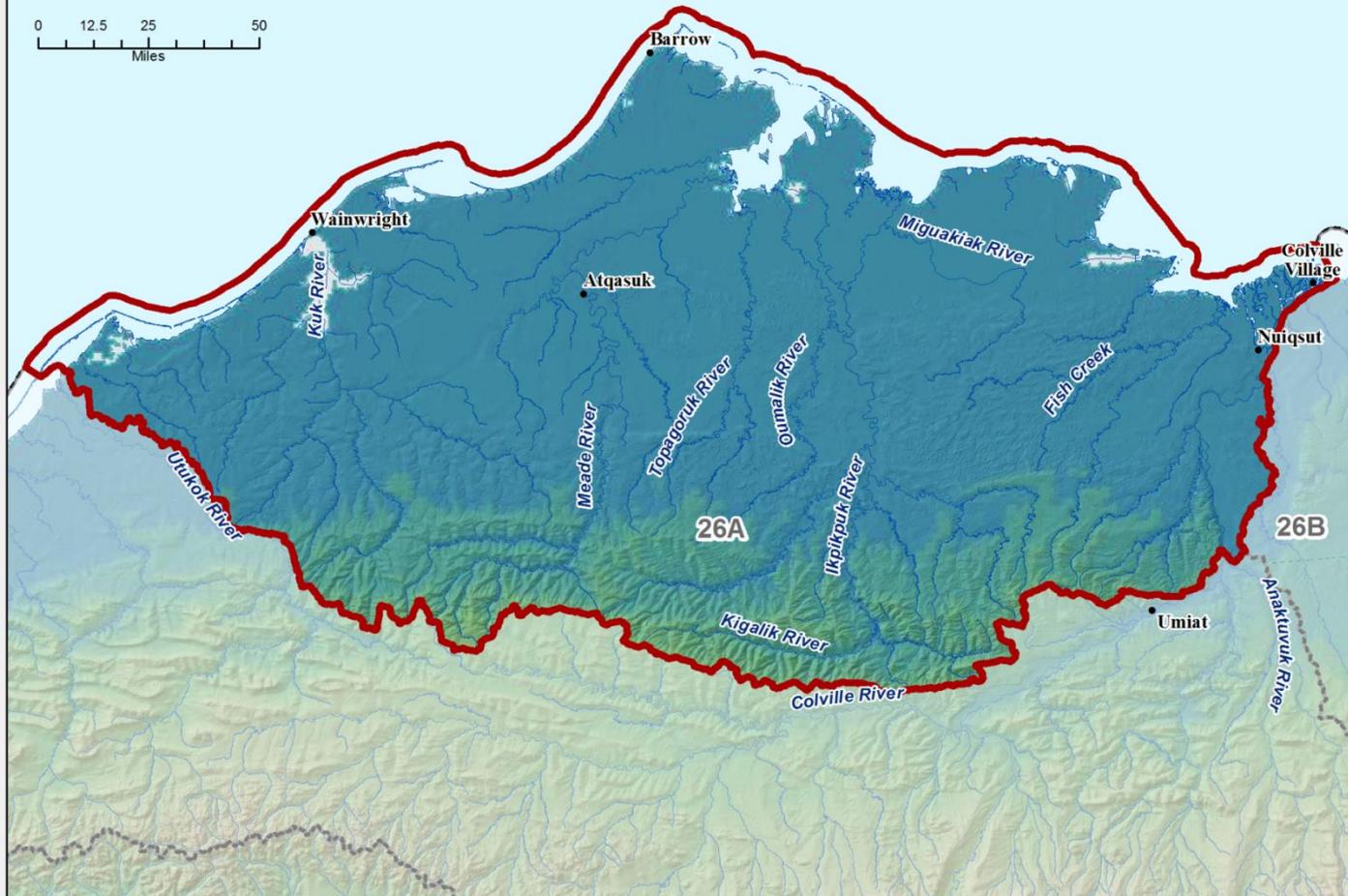
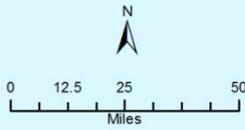


ACR Proposal 202  
Caribou  
Part D



- Proposed Boundary
- Subunit Boundary

**Part D -- Northern Unit 26(A) -TCH Range**



# Change TCH seasons – Northern Unit 26(A)

MAP D: Remainder of Unit 26(A); TCH Range --- Amendments from RC XX

## Units and Bag Limits

### RESIDENT HUNTERS:

5 bulls per day; however, calves may not be taken

3

3 cows per day; however, calves may not be taken

3

5 caribou per day; however, no more than 3 cows per day may be taken; calves may not be taken

1

### NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull; however, calves may not be taken

## Resident

### Open Season

(Subsistence and General Hunts)

Nonresident Open Season

July 1 – Sept. 30

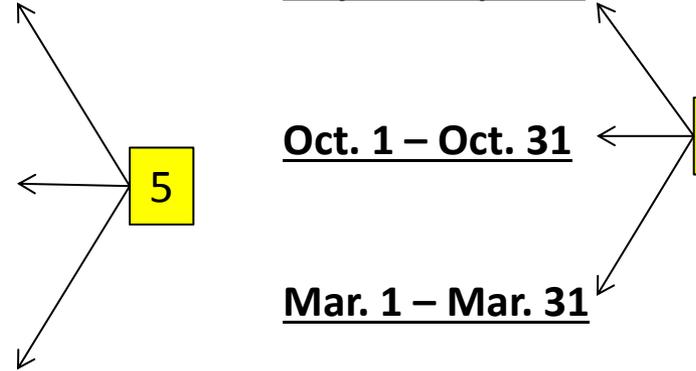
Oct. 1 – Oct. 31

Mar. 1 – Mar. 31

4

Aug. 15 – Sept. 30

2



ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

North Slope AC.....Support with Amendments

Amended Language:

Remainder of Unit 26(A)

**RESIDENT HUNTERS:**

5 bulls per day; however,  
calves may not be taken

July 1– July 15

5 caribou per day, no more than 3 of which  
may be cows; however, neither calves or  
cows with calves may be taken

July 16 – Oct.15

3 cows per day; however,  
calves may not be taken

Oct. 16 – Dec. 31

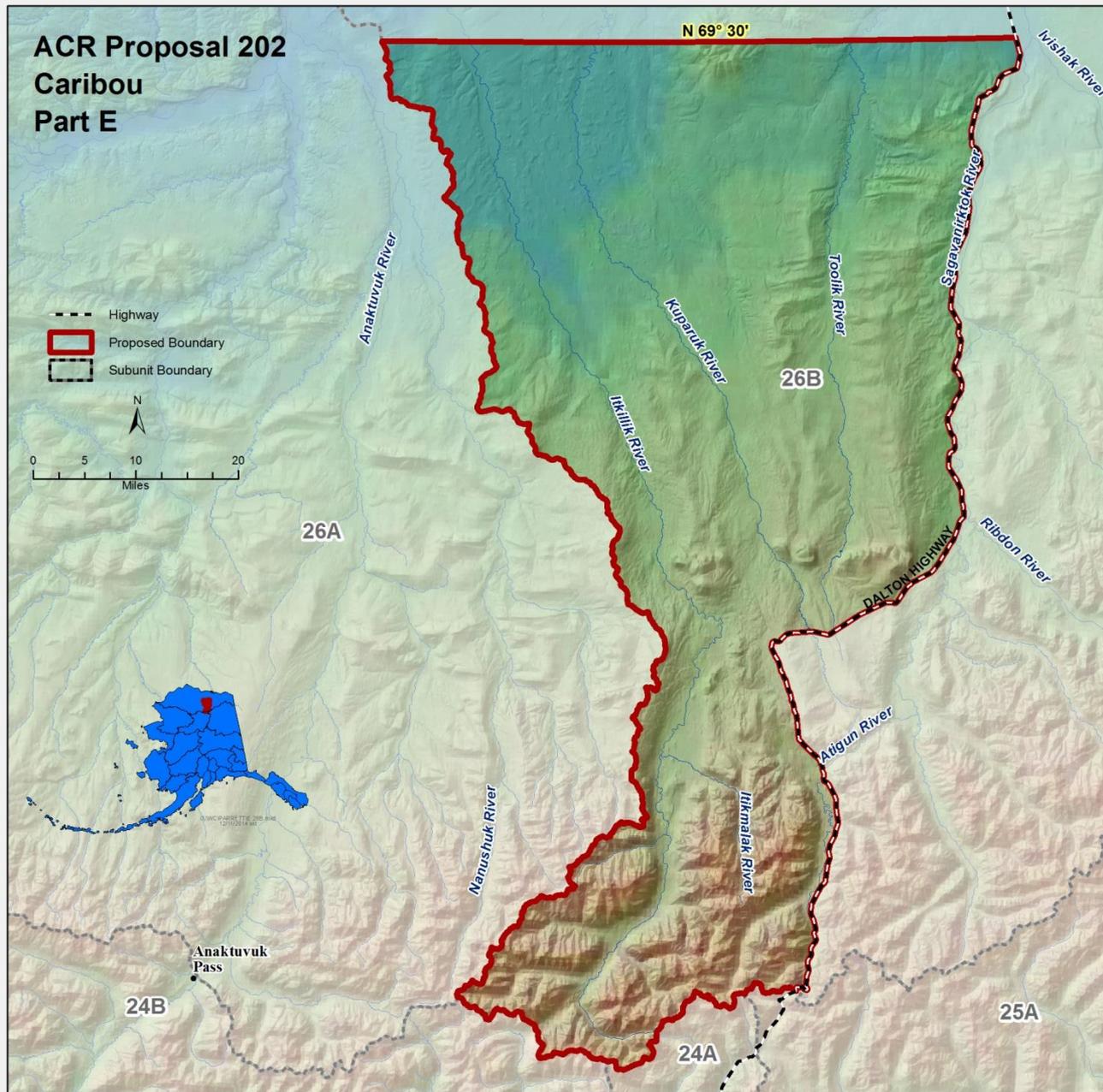
5 caribou per day; however, no more than  
3 cows per day may be taken;  
calves may not be taken

Jan. 1 – Mar. 15

5 bulls per day; however,  
calves may not be taken

Mar. 16 – June 30

# Part E -- Southwestern Unit 26(B) TCH overlap with CAH



# Change TCH seasons –Southwestern Unit 26(B) overlap with CAH

MAP E: Unit 26(B) west of the Dalton Highway and south of 69° 30' N Latitude; TCH overlap with CAH

<u>Units and Bag Limits</u>	<b>Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)</b>	<b>Nonresident Open Season</b>
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Unit 26(B), that portion south of 69° 30' N. lat. and west of the Dalton Highway

5 caribou; however, cow caribou may be taken only from July 1 – Oct. 10

July 1 – Oct. 10  
May 16 – June 30

6

July 1 – Oct. 10  
May 16 – June 30

Unit 26(B), that portion south of 69° 30' N. lat. and east of the Dalton Highway

5 caribou; however, cow caribou may be taken only from July 1 - May 15

July 1 – July 30

July 1 – June 30

Remainder of Unit 26(B)

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

5 caribou;

July 1 – Apr. 30

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

5 caribou

July 1 – Apr. 30

# TCH Population and Harvest Objectives

## Population Size

55,000 ..... 2011 photocensus  
32,000 ..... 2013 photocensus  
<25,000..... Predicted for 2015

## Current Annual Harvest

2350 ..... Resident Harvest  
<5..... Nonresident Harvest

## Available Harvest (based on 1% female, 15% male)

1,575 ..... from 32,000

## Amount Necessary for Subsistence (ANS)

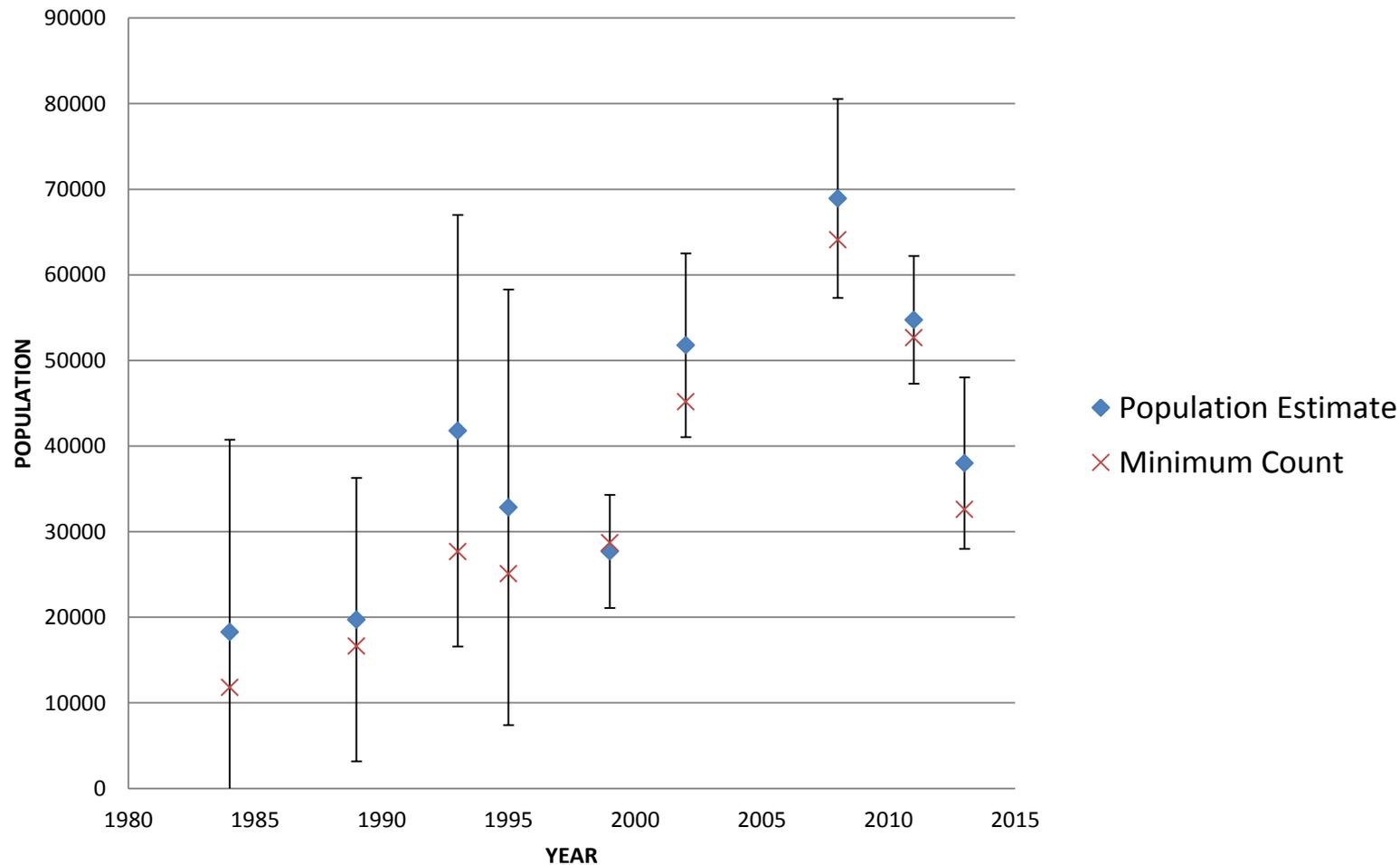
TCH +WAH ..... positive C&T(8,000 – 12,000)

## Intensive Management

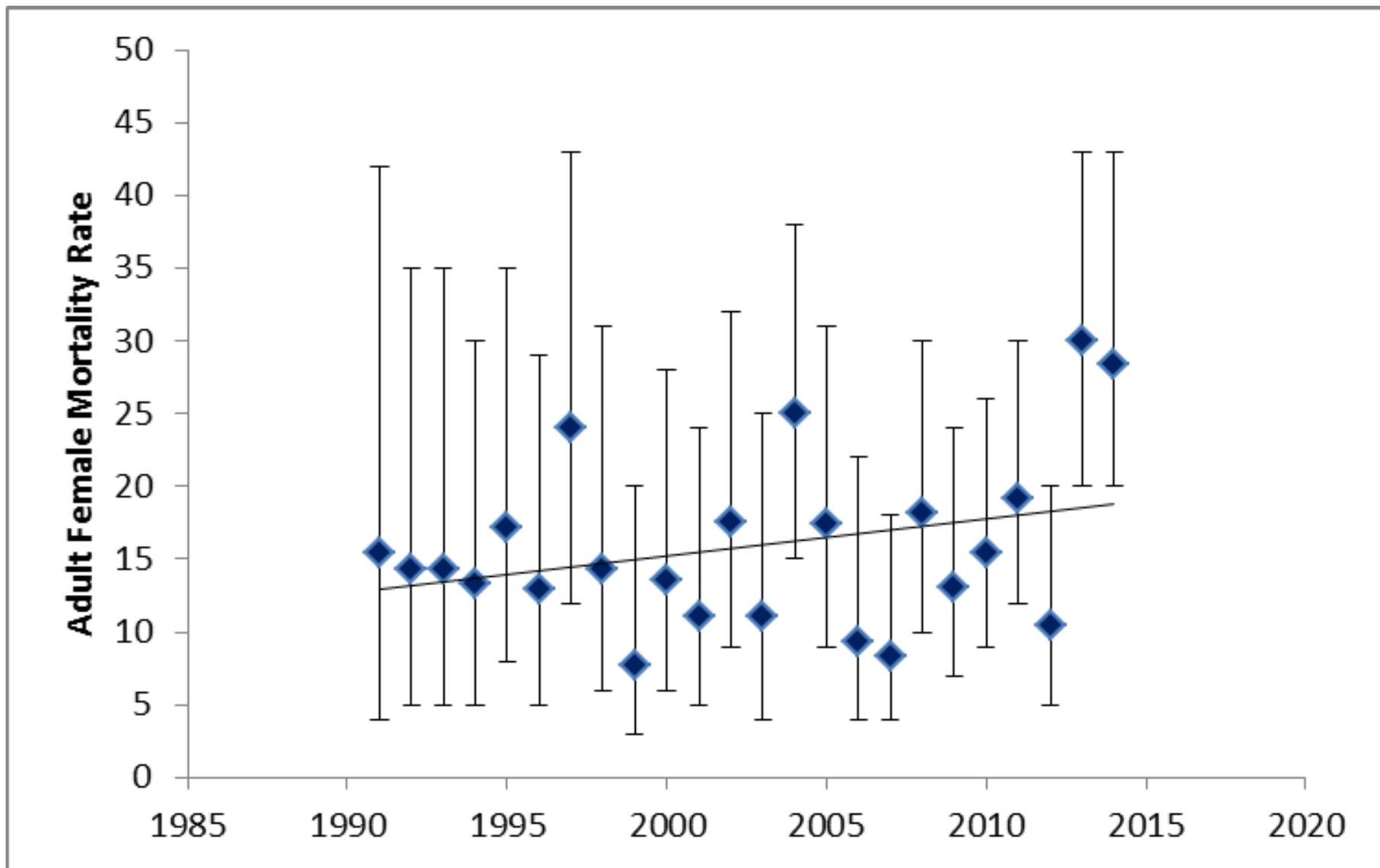
Population Objective: ..... 15,000 – 28,000

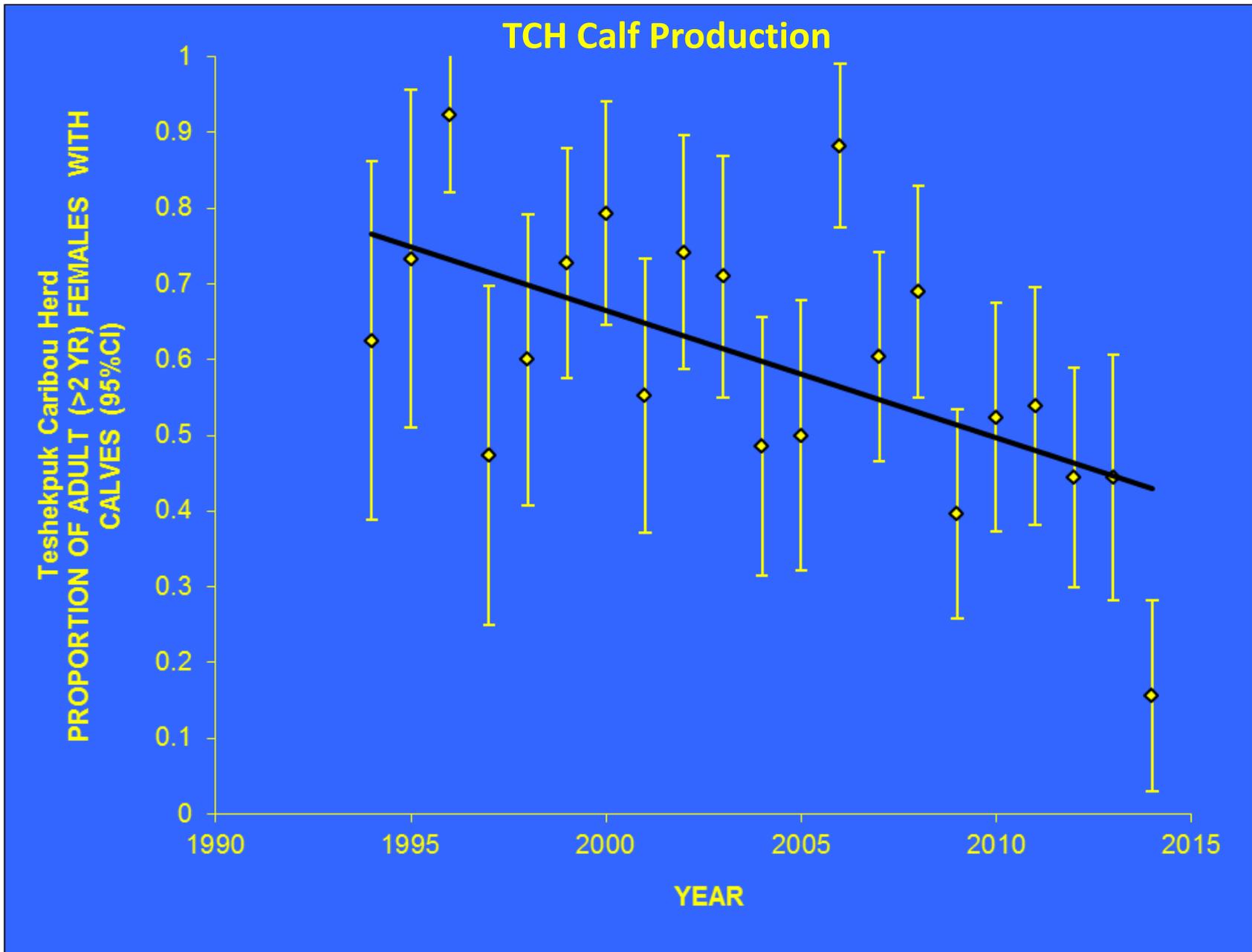
Harvest Objective: ..... 900 – 2,800

# TCH Abundance Estimates



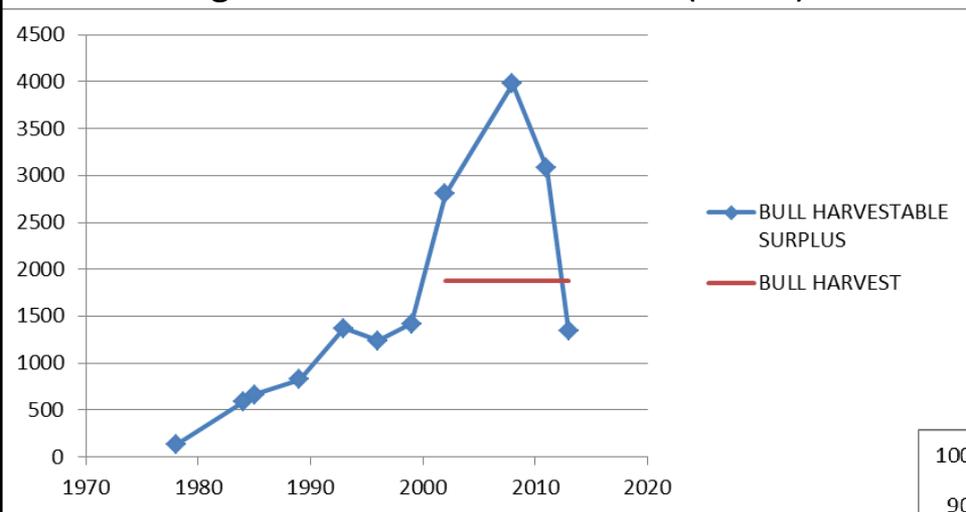
## TCH Adult Female Mortality Rate 1991-2014





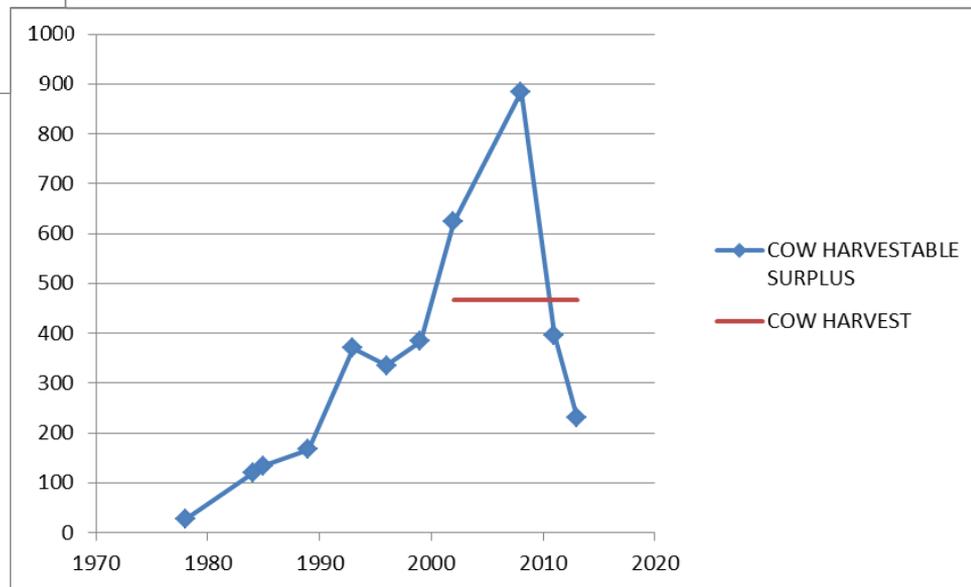
# Estimated Harvest Compared to Harvestable Surplus

Harvest estimates are based on per-capita averages from community harvest surveys, and average sex ratios in the harvest (80:20)

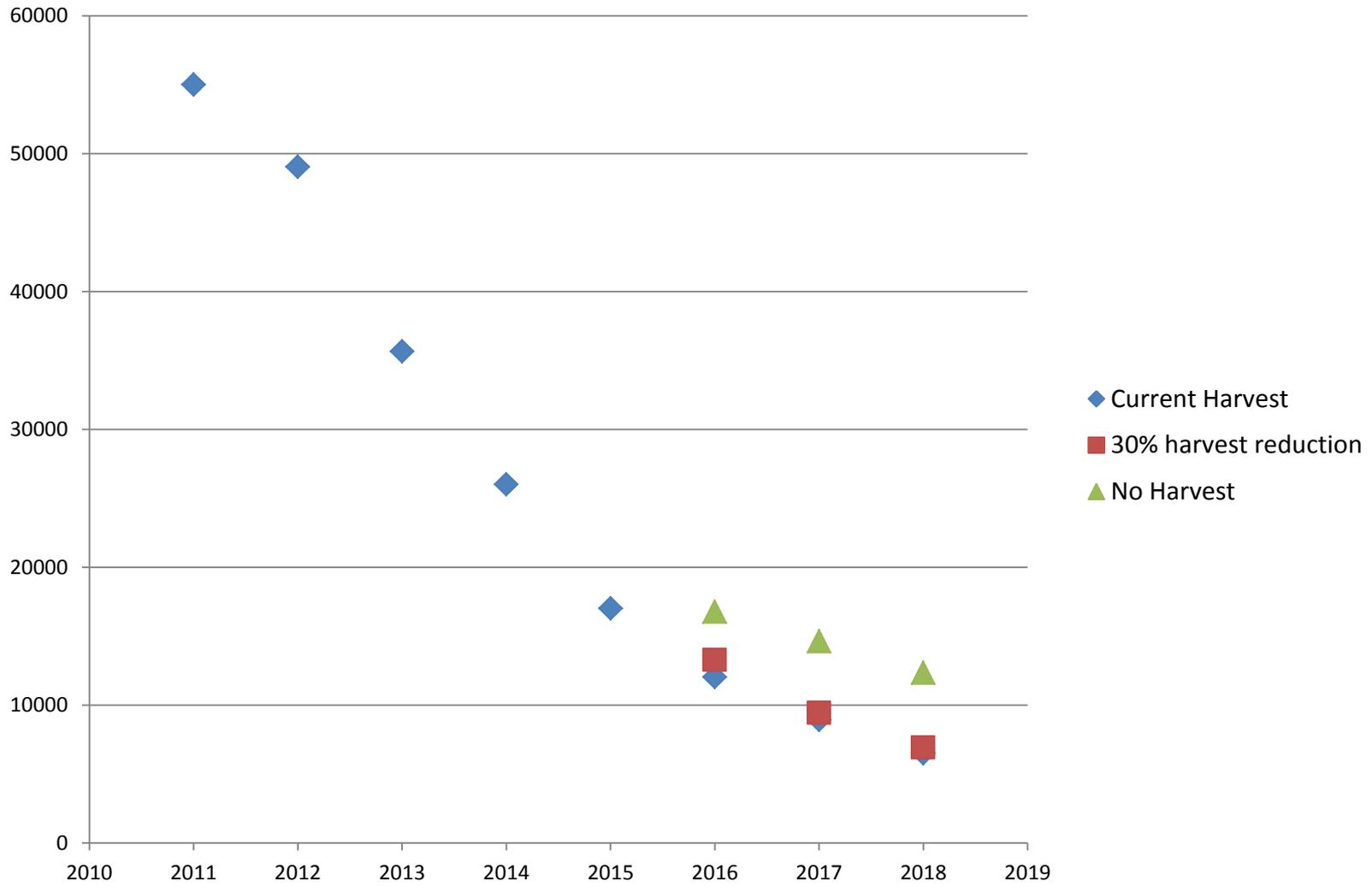


- 15% allowable harvest rate on **bulls**
- currently overharvesting by ~40%

- 1% allowable harvest rate on **cows**
- currently overharvesting by ~100%



# Recent Population Estimates and Population Projections



# PROPOSAL 202 - TCH CONCLUSIONS

- Decline is a due to a combination of:
  - Low and declining calf production
  - Poor calf survival (<30%)
  - High adult mortality rates (especially recently)
  - Disease incidence appears very low
- Underlying mechanisms are not totally clear, but are likely related to:
  - Poor summer and winter nutrition
  - High levels of predation on calves in winter
  - Nutritionally mediated risk of predation
  - Unstable age structure
- Harvest will play an increasing role in herd dynamics if the decline continues
  - The need for harvest data will necessitate a different approach to hunt reporting requirements
- Currently preparing an Intensive Management Feasibility Assessment
  - Poor productivity, high survival on calving grounds and land ownership patterns may limit our potential responses

**END OF TCH INFORMATION**

