

Fairbanks Area

Game Management Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, and 25C

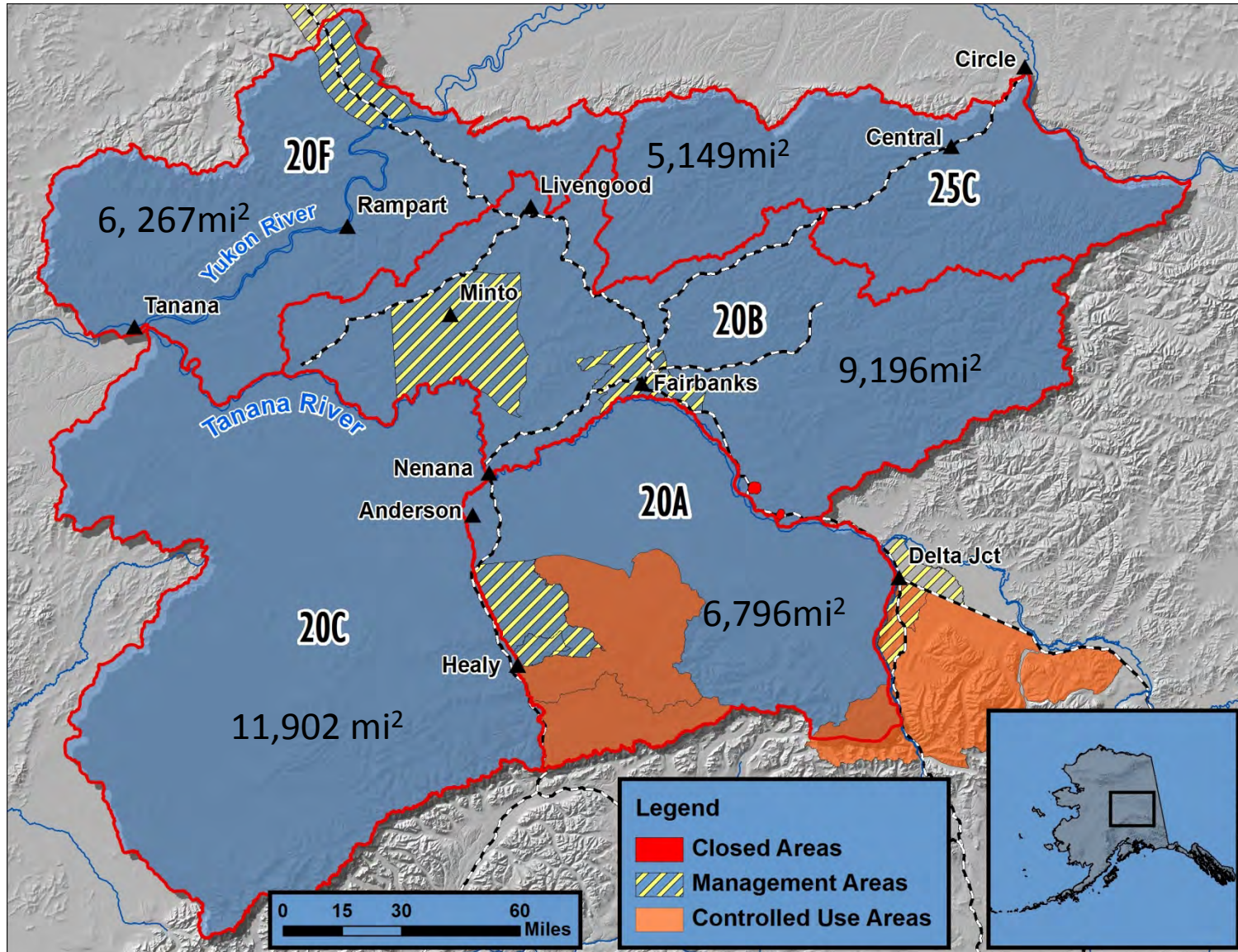
Area Biologist Don Young



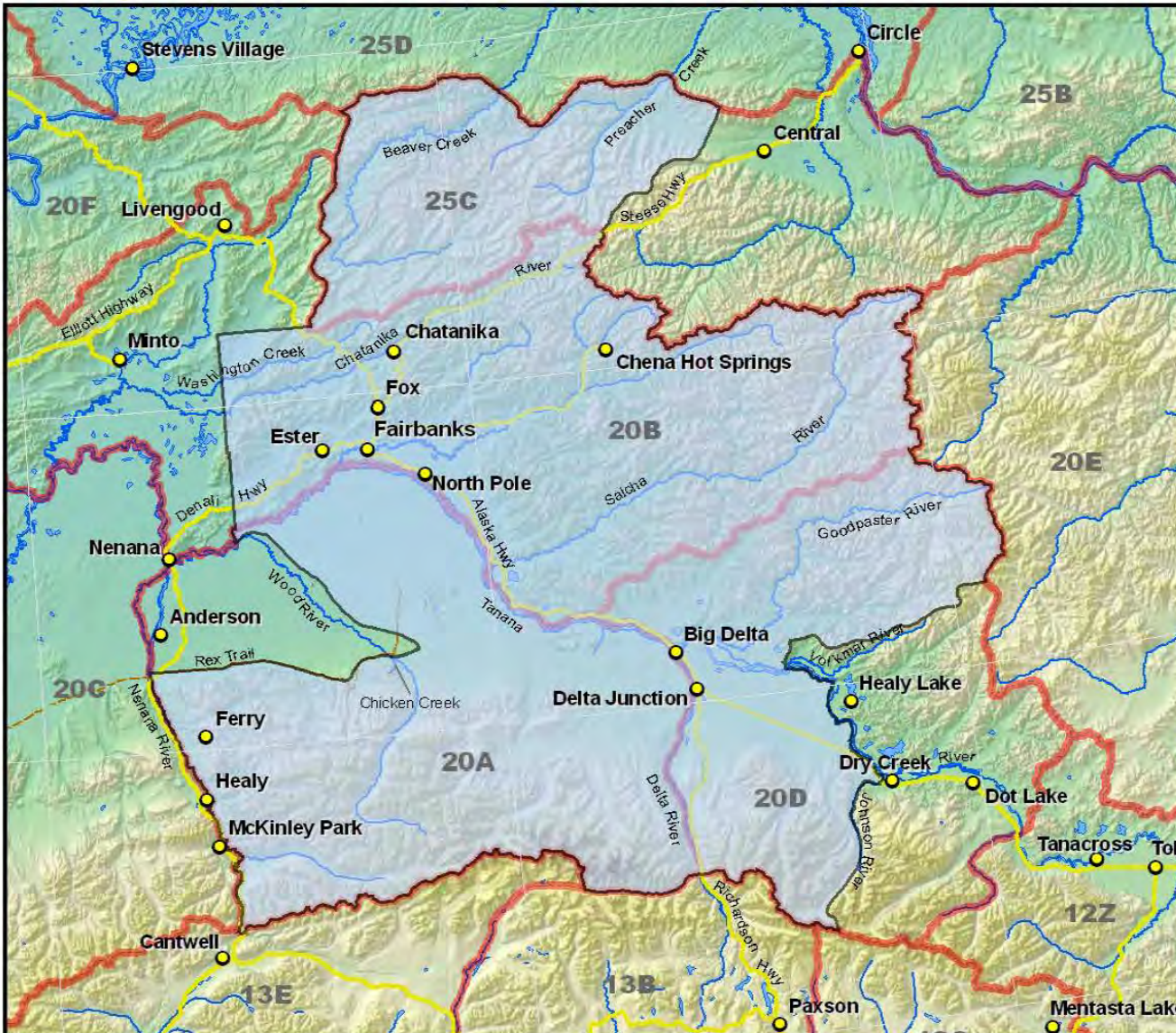
Asst. Area Biologist Tony Hollis



Fairbanks Area (39,310mi²)

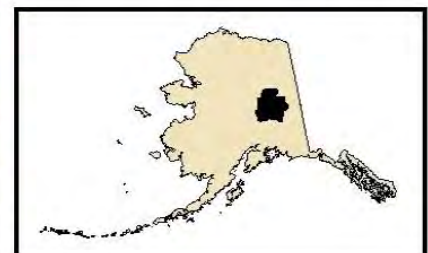
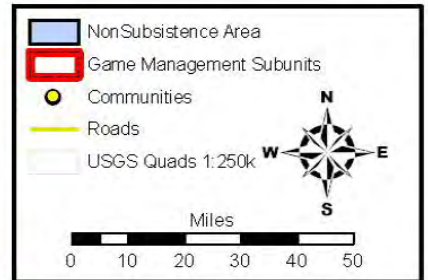


Fairbanks NonSubsistence Area



5 AAC 99.015 Joint Board nonsubsistence areas. (a) The following areas are found by the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game to be nonsubsistence use areas:

(4) The Fairbanks Nonsubsistence Area is comprised of the following: within Unit 20(A), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (A), east of the Wood River drainage and south of the Rex Trail but including the upper Wood River drainage south of its confluence with Chicken Creek; within Unit 20(B), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (B), the North Star Borough and that portion of the Washington Creek drainage east of the Elliot Highway; within Unit 20(D) as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(20) (D), west of the Tanana River between its confluence with the Johnson and Delta Rivers, west of the east bank of the Johnson River, and north and west of the Volkmar drainage, including the Goodpaster River drainage; and within Unit 25(C), as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(25) (C), the Preacher and Beaver Creek drainages.



Disclaimer: This map is not intended for navigational purposes.

Federal Lands

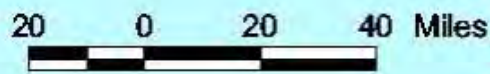


National Park
Denali Park

Military Lands
Eielson Air Force Base
Fort Wainwright
Clear AFB
Fort Greely

Wild and Scenic Rivers
Beaver Creek Wild & Scenic River
Birch Creek Wild & Scenic River

Recreation Areas
Steese National Conservation Area
White Mountains National Recreation Area



Fairbanks Area Overview

18 proposals for this BOG meeting

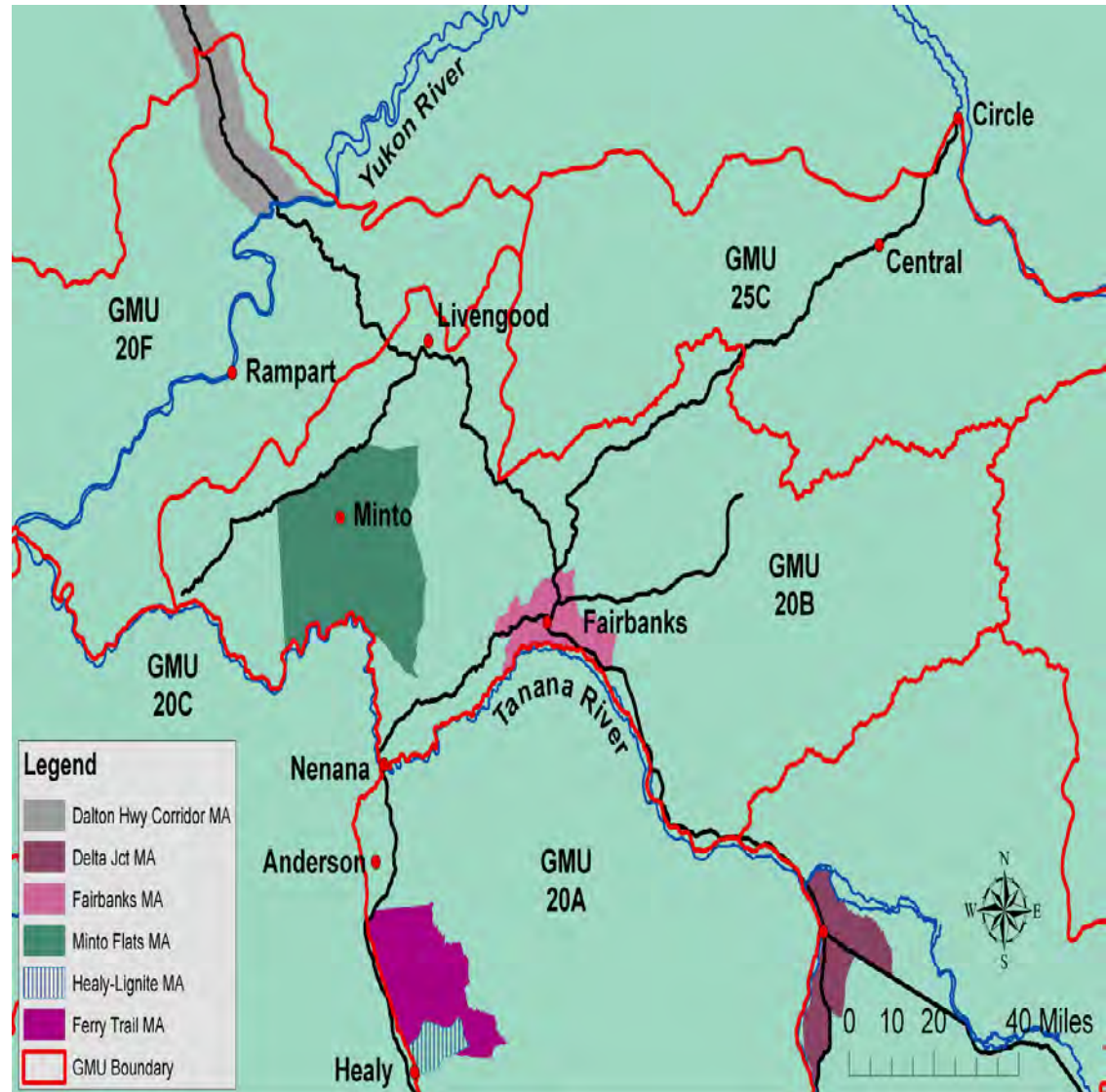
- Unit 20A = 5 moose proposals, 2 caribou
- Unit 20B = 3 moose proposals, 1 waterfowl
- Unit 20C = 1 wolverine proposal
- Unit 20F = 2 Brown bear proposals
- Wolf = 2 proposals near Denali National Park
- Brown Bear = 1 proposal for 20A and 20B
- Management areas = 1 proposal for 20B

Management Areas

5 management area

- Fairbanks MA
- Minto Flats MA
- Ferry Trail MA
- Healy-Lignite MA
- Dalton Hwy MA

➤ **1 Proposal for additional management area**



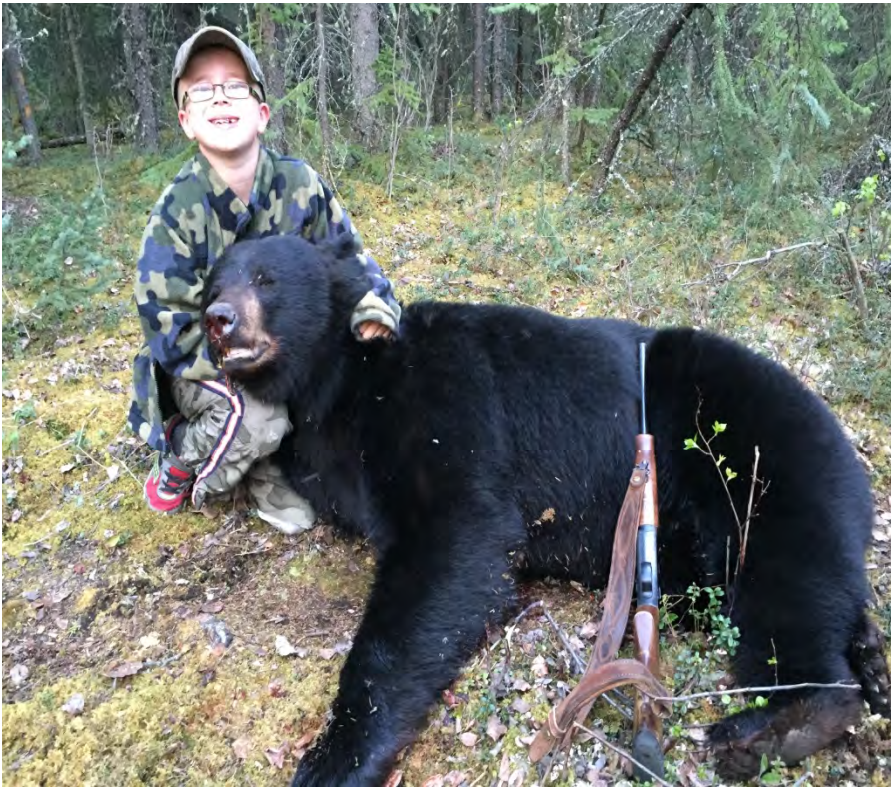
Furbearers



Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F and 25C harvest 2011-2015.

- Lynx = 346 per year
- Otter = 36 per year
- Wolverine = 57 per year
- Marten, mink, ermine, fox, coyote, muskrat and beaver = no harvest data.
- Species are common and we have no conservation concerns.
- 1 wolverine proposal

Black bears



Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, 25C

- Population appears stable.
- Harvest = average 225 per year.
- Most of harvest occurs during springtime over bait stations
- Area wide = 831 bait stations per year
- Unit 20B most popular – average 108 bears per year.

Brown Bears

- Average harvest of 62 bears per year 2011-2015. All units.
- No population estimates in the Fairbanks area units.
- Unit 20A
 - 2009-2013 = Harvest averaged 23 bears per year.
 - 2014-2015 (with baiting) = Harvest averaged 28 per year.

Brown Bears cont.

- Unit 20B
 - 2009-2013 = averaged 10 bears per year.
 - 2014-2015 (w/ baiting) = averaged 20 bears per year.

- Unit 20C
 - 2007-2011 = averaged 5 bears per year
 - 2012-2015 (w/ baiting) = averaged 17 bears per year.

Brown Bears cont.

- Unit 20F, 2011-2015 = 3 bears harvested per year.
- Unit 25C, 2011-2015 = 5 bears harvested per year.
- 3 proposals regarding brown bears

Caribou

- 3 herd in the Fairbanks area.
- Delta, Denali and White Mountains herd.
- Denali herd = not monitored
- Delta herd = stable at 2,000-3,000 animals
- White Mountains herd = Declining with less than 300 animals.



Caribou Cont.

Delta herd

- Issue 150 drawing permits annually
- 2011-2015 harvest = 55 bull caribou per year harvested.
- IM population objective = 5,000-7,000 caribou
- IM harvest objective = 300-700 caribou.

Caribou Cont.

Delta Herd

- Conduct annual composition surveys.
- Photocensus conducted when possible, but difficult.
- Delta herd often mixes with Nelchina herd.
- Emigration from Delta to Nelchina herds exist.

➤ 2 Caribou Proposals

Wolves

Average annual harvest by unit for 2011-2015

20A = 44 wolves

20B = 89 wolves

20C = 18 wolves

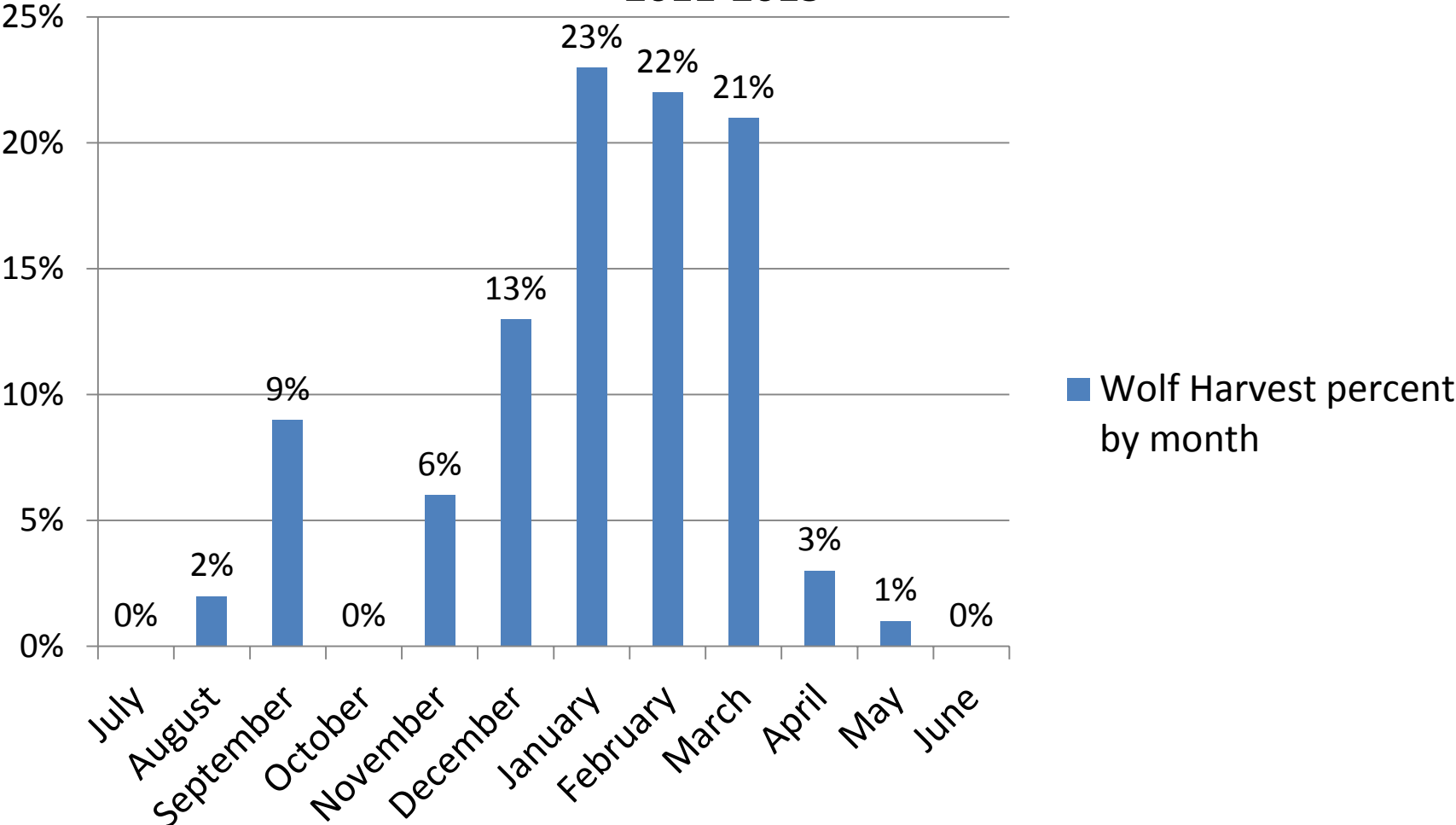
20F = 11 wolves

25C = 32 wolves



Fairbanks Area Wolf Harvest

**Wolf Harvest percent by month
2011-2015**



Wolves

- Only have wolf density estimates in 20A and 20C. No surveys have been conducted in 20B, 20F or 25C.
- Unit 20A
 - 2015 estimate = 22.3 wolves/1000mi²
- Unit 20C
 - 2012 estimate = 10.7 wolves/ 1000mi²

➤ 2 Wolf Proposals

Small Game



- Snowshoe Hare populations are increasing.
- Grouse populations are stable or increasing.
- Ptarmigan populations appear to be stable.
- **1 proposal regarding waterfowl.**

Sheep

- Alaska Range (20A) - Populations appear to be stable to slightly increasing. High ram numbers.
- 2012-2016 Harvest = Average 102 rams per year.
- 2012-2016 Hunters = Average 255 sheep hunters per year.

Sheep Cont.

- Units 25C (White Mountains) and 20B (Tanana Hills) – Population Declining– effort and harvest relatively low
- Average harvest = 8 rams per year
- Average number of hunters = 35 per year.
- **0 sheep proposals this cycle.**

Moose

- Fairbanks area units continue to have high effort and high harvest.
- 2011-2015 = 35,280 hunters harvested 8,763 moose.
- 7,056 hunters per year harvest 1,753 moose per year.
- Fairbanks area has a lot of access and a large population of people.

Moose Cont.

Game Units 20C, 20F, 25C

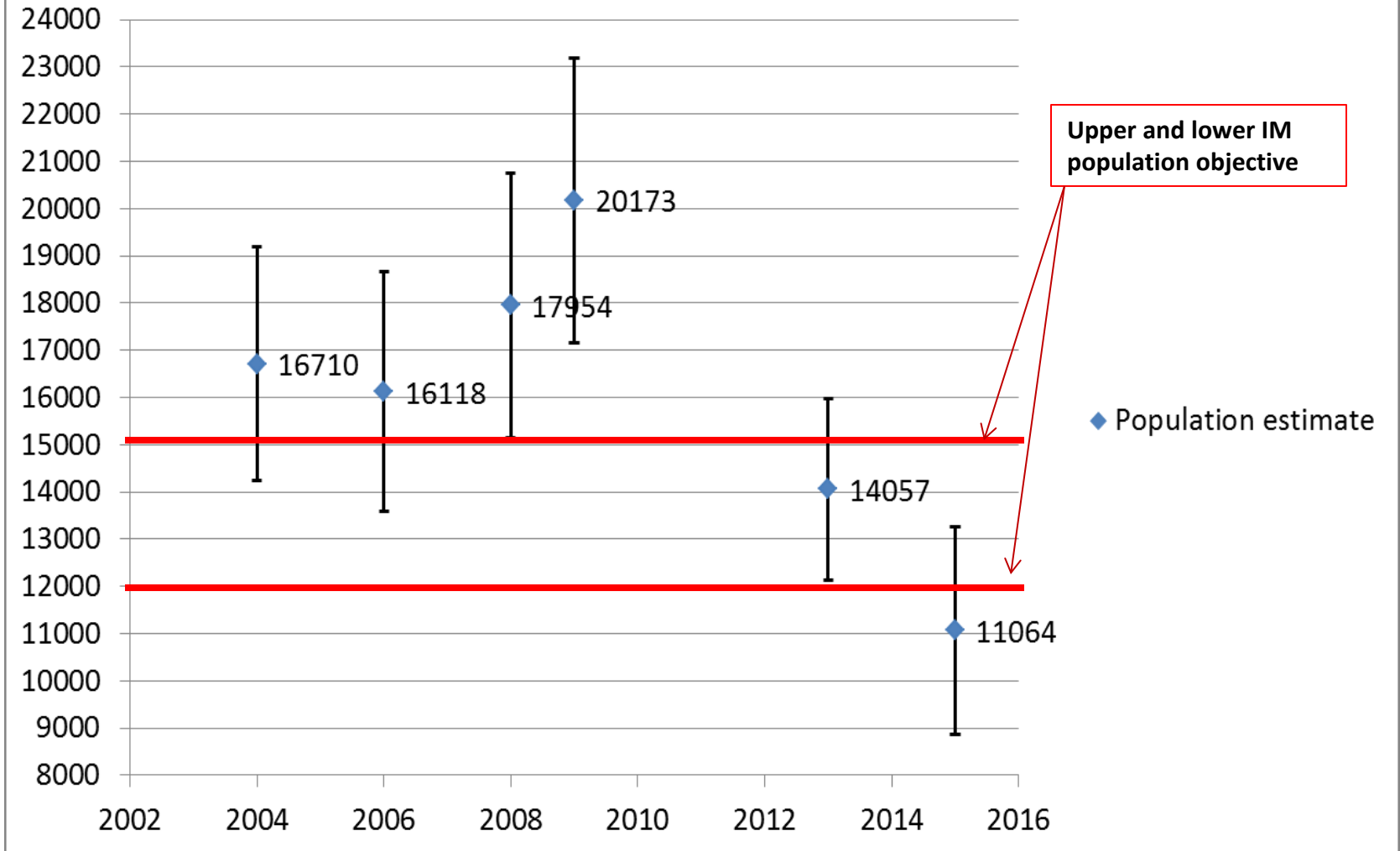
- Lower density moose populations
- For the most part don't get surveyed.
- Harvest and effort is monitored in these units.
- No antlerless moose hunts.

Game Units 20A and 20B

- High density moose populations.
- Survey moose regularly
- Population estimates and twinning surveys.
- Research conducted.
- Antlerless hunts exist.

Fairbanks Area Overview

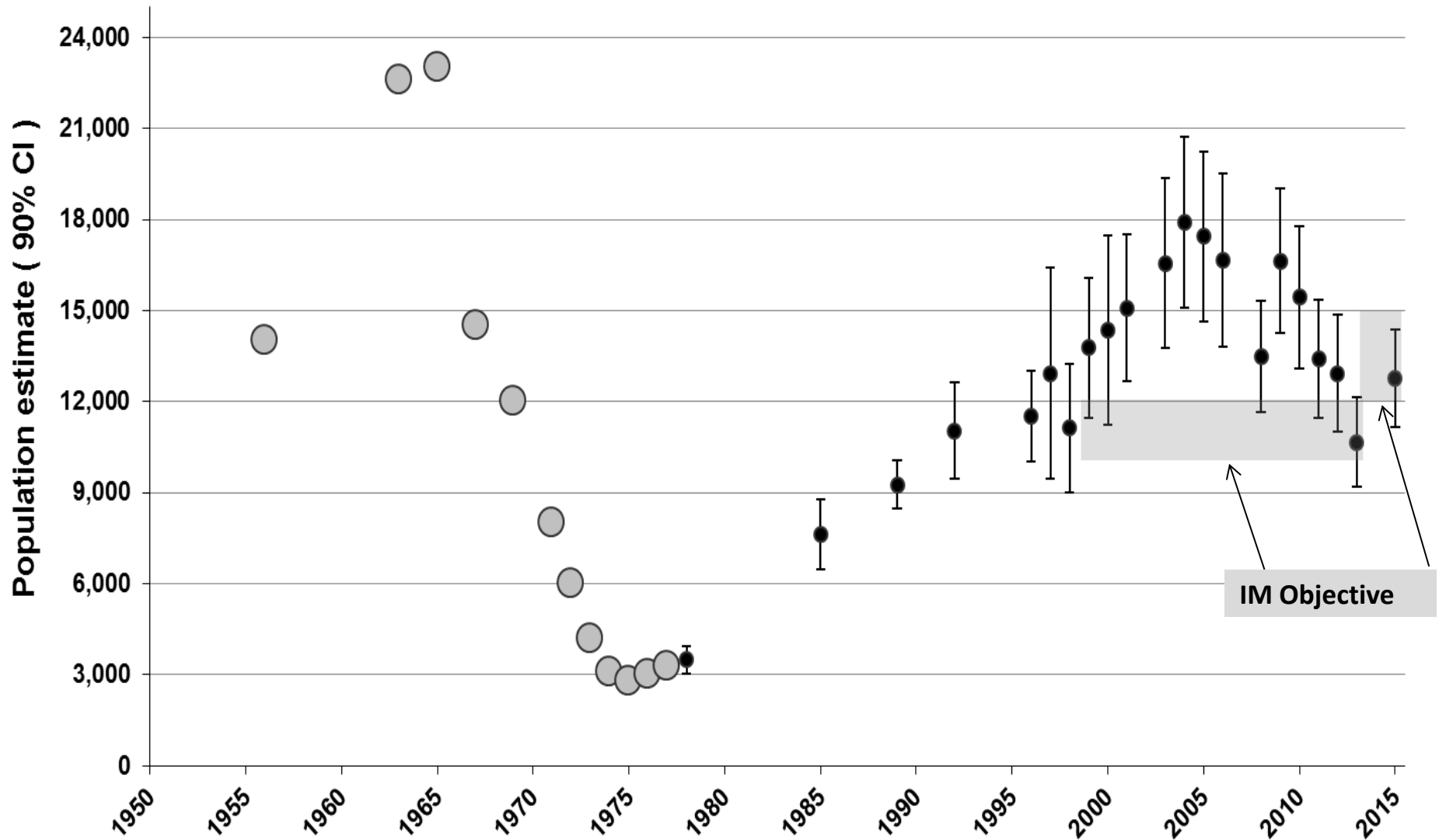
20B Population estimate



Unit 20B Moose

- IM Population Objective = 12,000-15,000
 - IM Harvest Objective = 600-1,500
 - 2011-2015 = 3,106 hunters annually
 - 2011-2015 = 612 bulls and 283 cows (decreasing) harvested annually.
 - Unit wide Bull:Cow ratio= 28:100
 - Unit wide Calf:cow ratio = 31:100
- 3 Proposals

Pre-hunt moose population estimates, Unit 20A, 1956-2015



20A Moose

- IM Population Objective = 10,000-15,000
 - IM Harvest Objective = 600-900
 - 2011-2015 = 1880 hunters annually
 - 2011-2015 = 480 Bulls harvested annually
 - Unit wide Bull:cow ratio = 31:100
 - Unit wide Calf:cow ratio = 31:100
- 5 proposals

Fairbanks Area Moose Issues

- Concerns about the new road to Tanana.
 - Provides access into new country.

- Survey data seems to be getting harder to get.
Lack of snow in the fall.
 - Influences antlerless moose harvest.
 - Results in more conservative harvest.

Fairbanks Area

Questions?