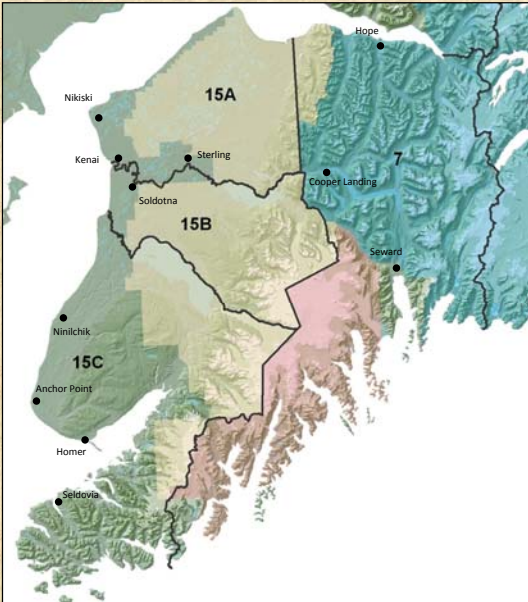




Homer
Asst. Area Biologist: Jason Herreman
Technician: Andy Pollak
Program Technician: Carolyn Bunker
Research Biologist: Thomas McDonough
GIS Analyst: Oriana Badajos

3

Kenai Peninsula Units 7 & 15



- 8,400 miles²
- Land ownership
 - 71% Federal
 - 29% State/Private/Borough/Native
- Human Population
~ 60,000

4

Furbearer Average Annual Harvest (2013–2017)

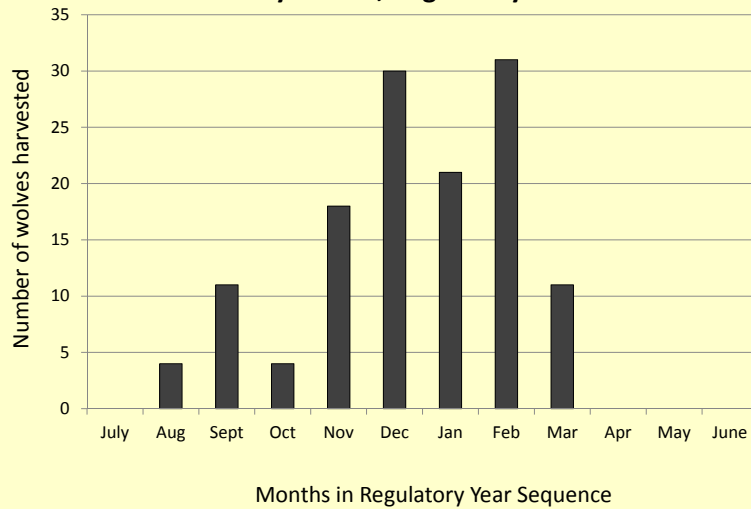
- Marten: 70
- Beaver: 94
- Wolverine: 12
- Otter: 52
- Wolf: 31
- Lynx: 307*



Proposal 89

5

Kenai Peninsula Cumulative Reported Wolf Harvest Distribution by Month, Regulatory Years 2013–2017



Hunting Season: Aug 10–Apr 30

Trapping Season: Oct 15–Mar 31

6

Lynx

- Harvest tracking strategy
- Lynx trapping closed since 2014
- Lynx hunting currently open: (ave. harvest since 2015, 9)
- Average annual lynx harvest: 307 (2008–2013, highest on record)



7

Caribou

4 small herds reintroduced from Nelchina herd

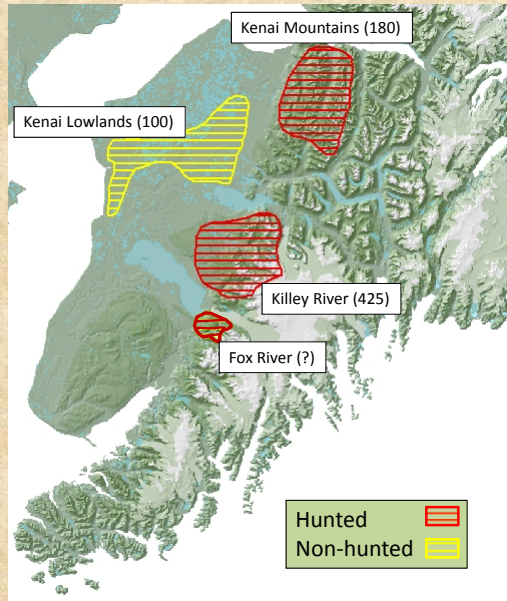
- Kenai Mountain herd (1965)
- Kenai Lowland herd (1966)
- Killey River herd (1985)
- Fox River herd (1986)



Proposal 59

8

Kenai Peninsula Caribou Herds



9

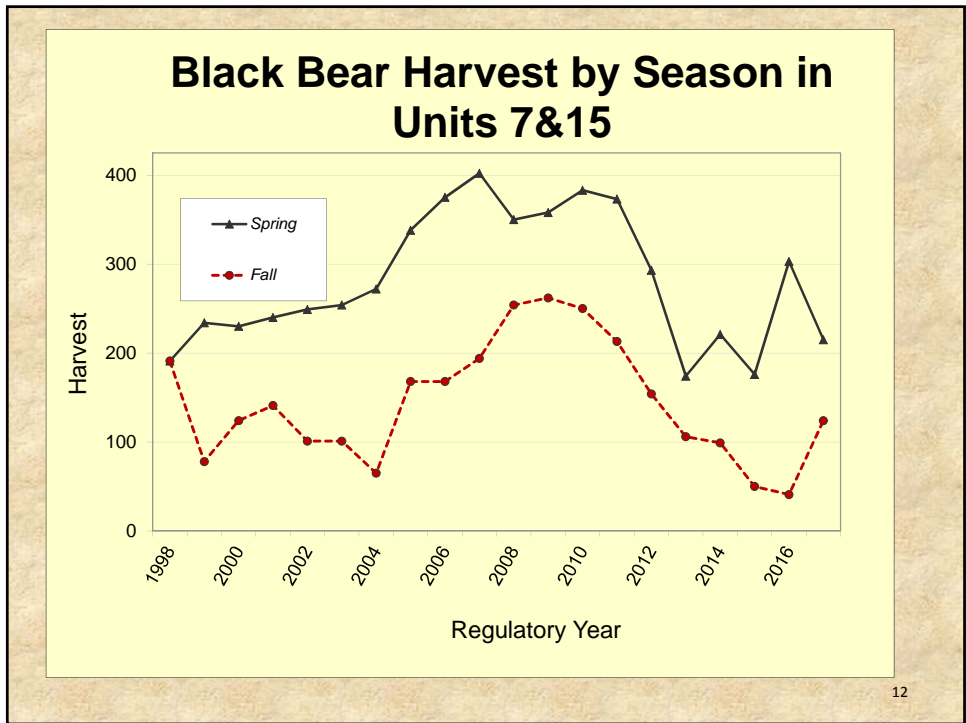
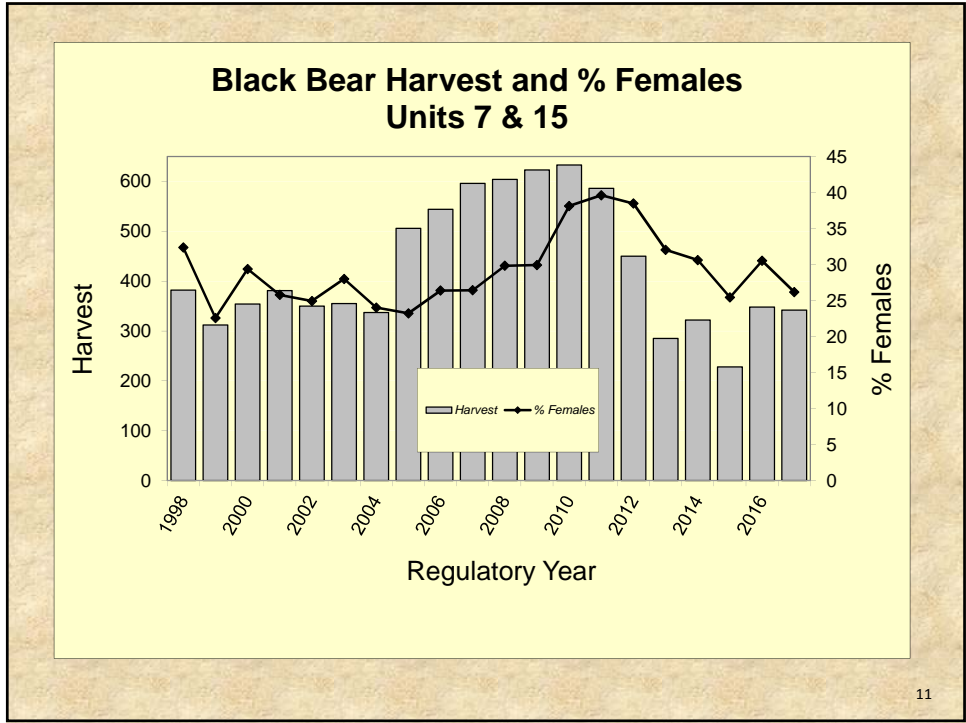
Black Bears

- No population estimate
 - 2018 initiated black bear research project
- 38% of harvest occurs in coastal areas south of Kachemak Bay and Seward (10 year average)
- Harvest has stabilized in recent years at about 350 bears



Proposal 85

10



Brown Bears



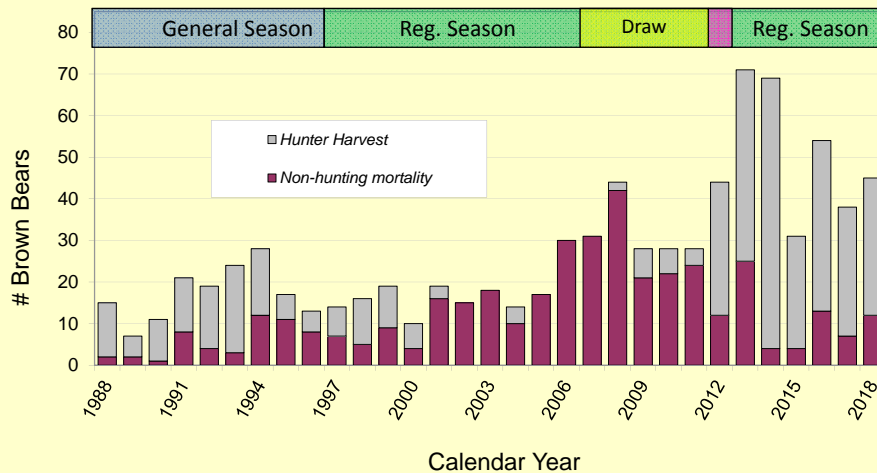
- Liberalized seasons/bag 2012–2014
 - 2012–2018 average human caused mortality: 50 (range 31–71)
 - 2012–2018 average harvest: 39 (range 27–65)

- Since liberalizing the hunt, nonhunting mortalities have declined
 - 2012–2018 average nonhunting mortality: 11 (range 4–25)

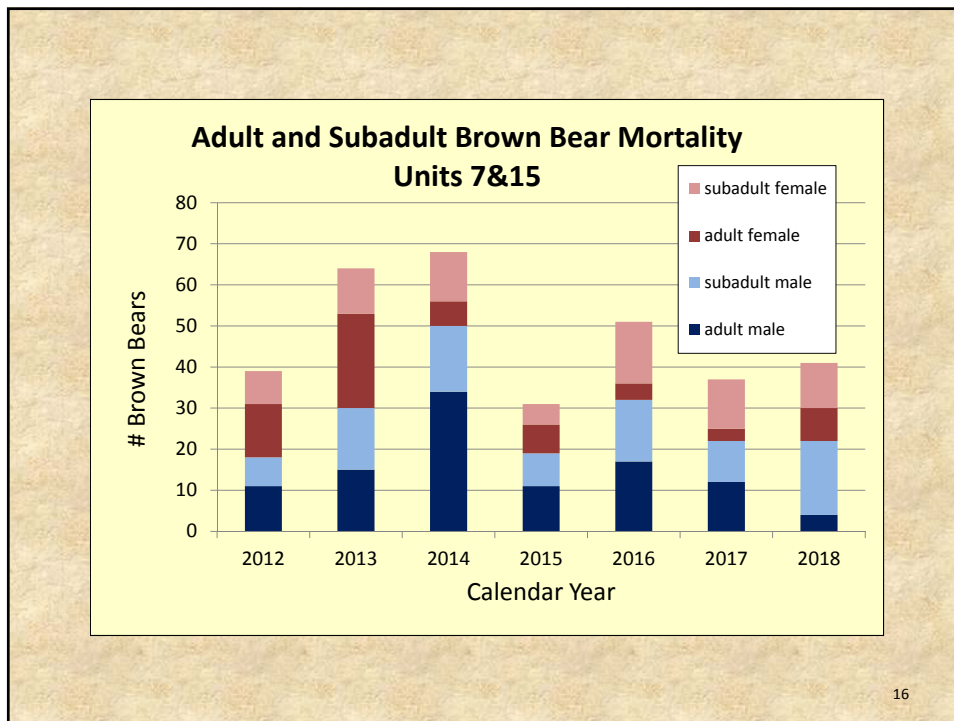
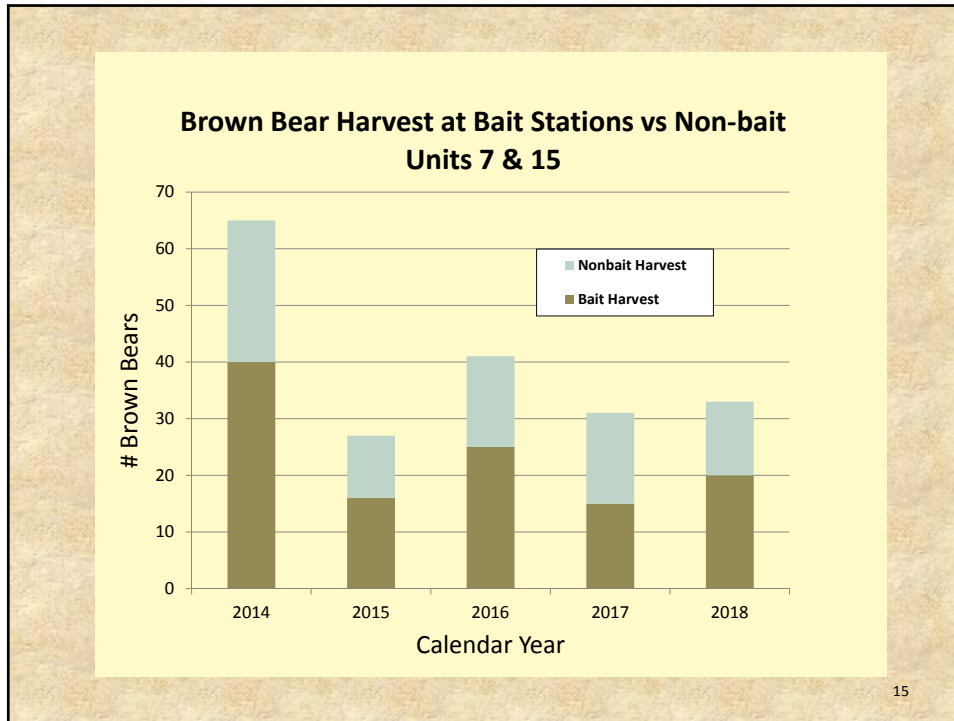
No brown bear proposals

13

Human-caused Brown Bear Mortalities Units 7 & 15



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Moose Population Trends

Unit 7: Declining

Unit 15A: Declining

Unit 15B: Increasing

Unit 15C: Stable/Increasing



Proposals 63–83

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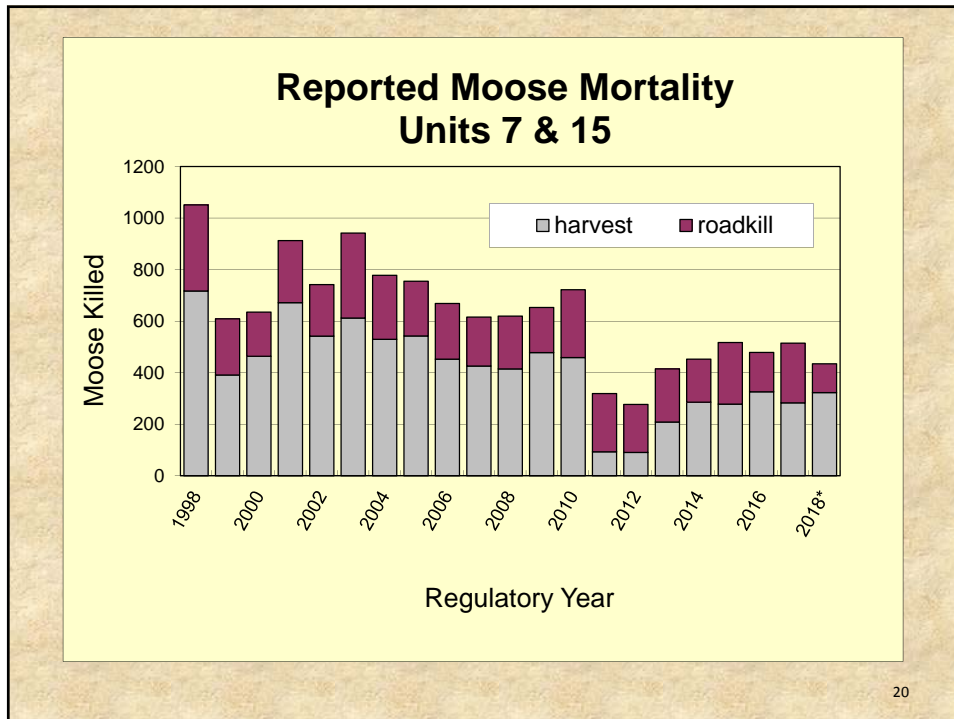
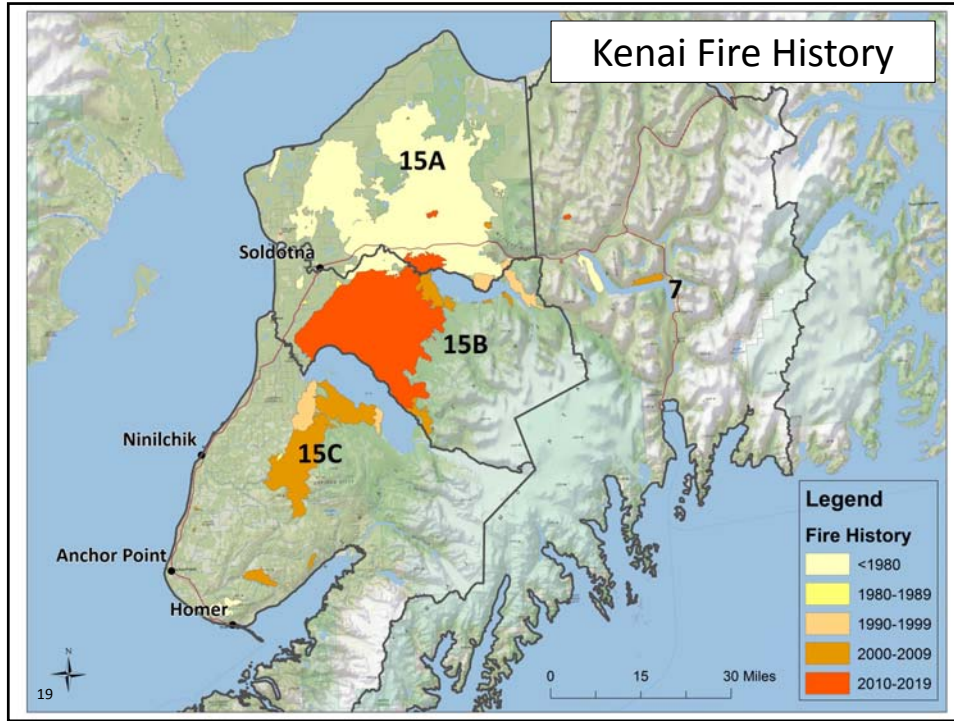
Moose

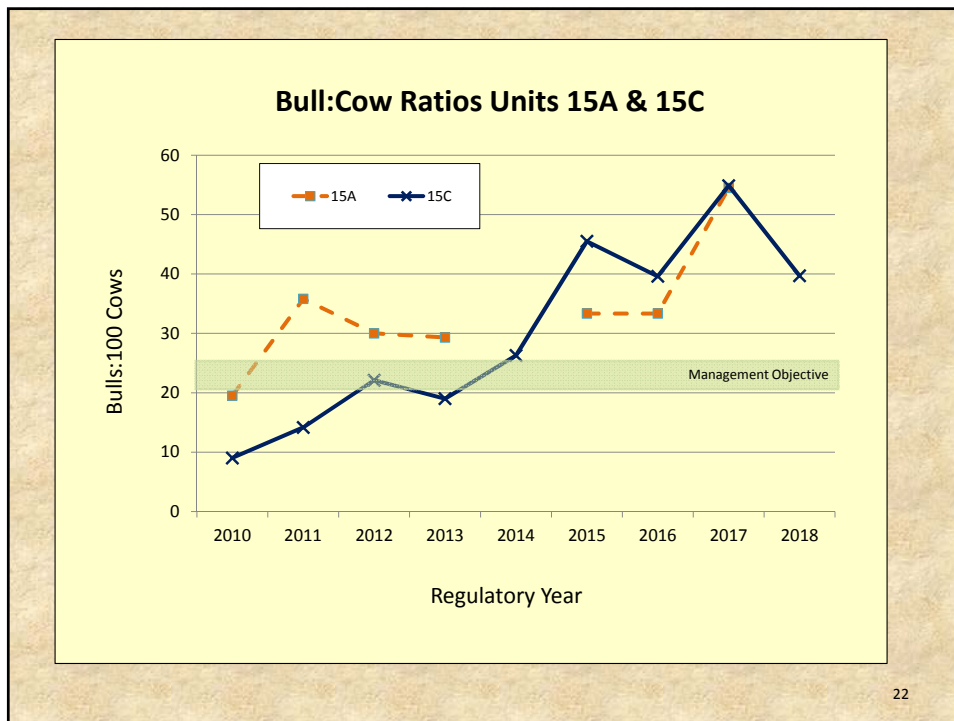
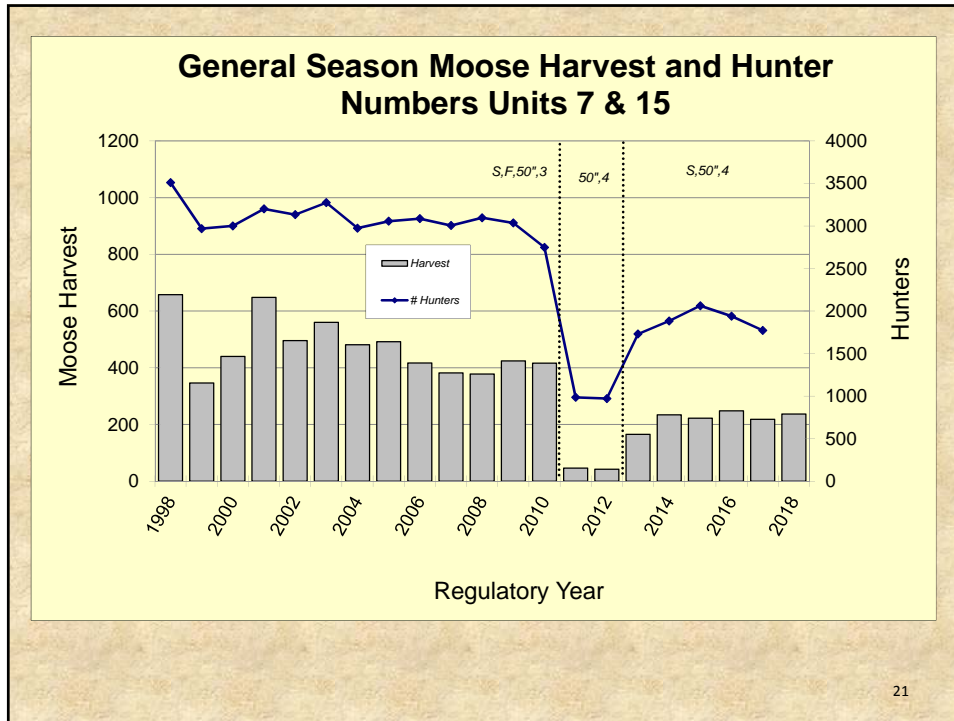
General Season Regulations History

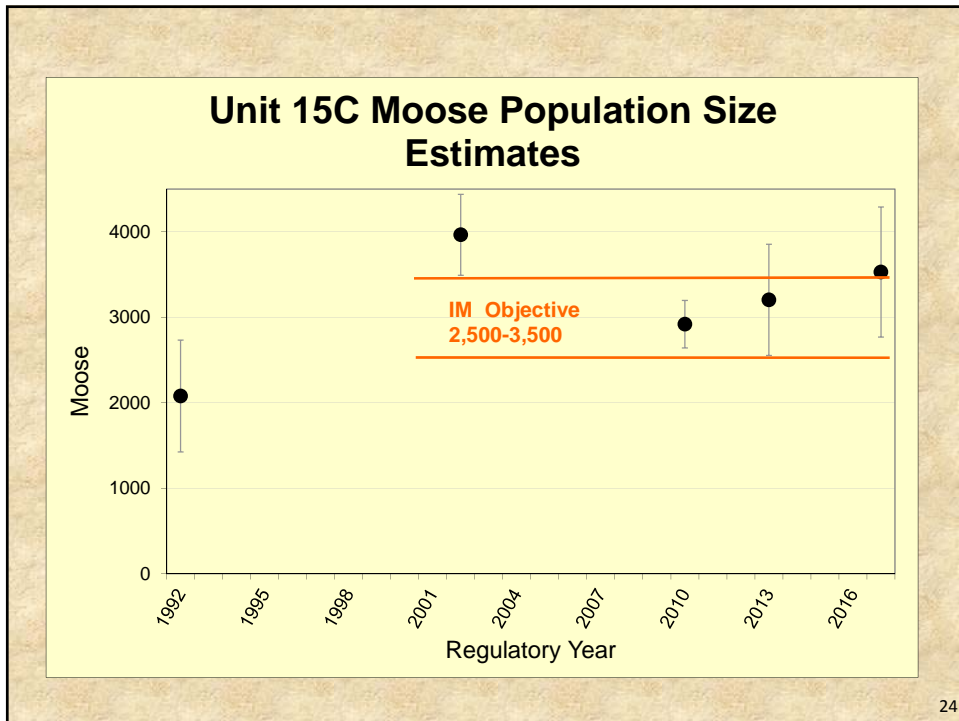
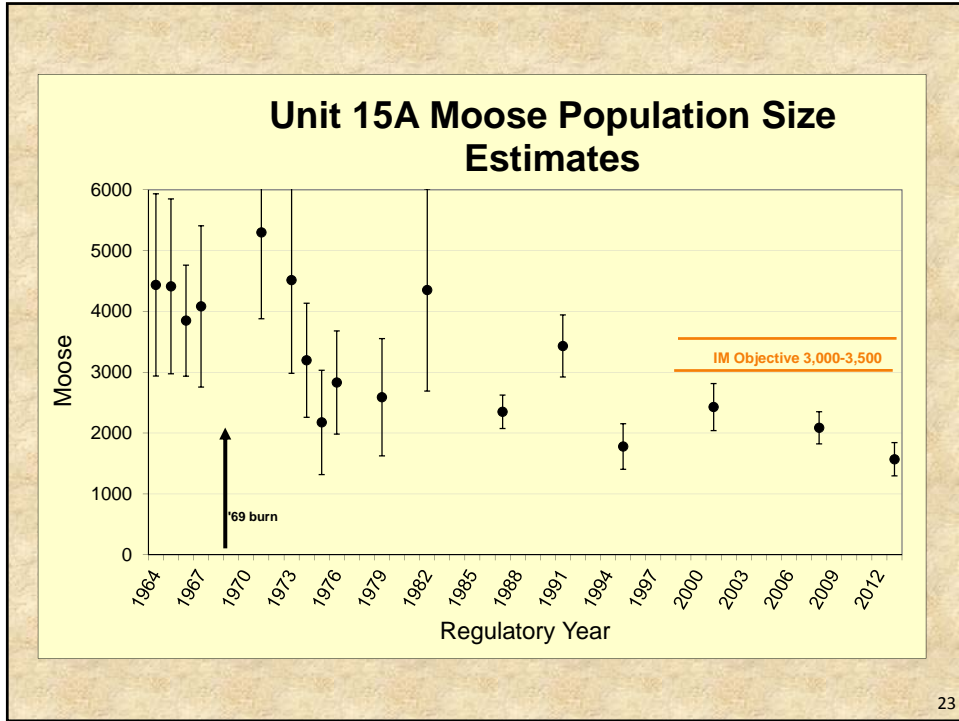
- 1987-2010: Spike, Fork, 50", or 3 brow tine antler restriction
- 2011-2012: 50" or 4 brow tine antler restriction
- 2013-present: Spike, 50", or 4 brow tine antler restriction
- Issues with hunter identification of legal animals in the field.

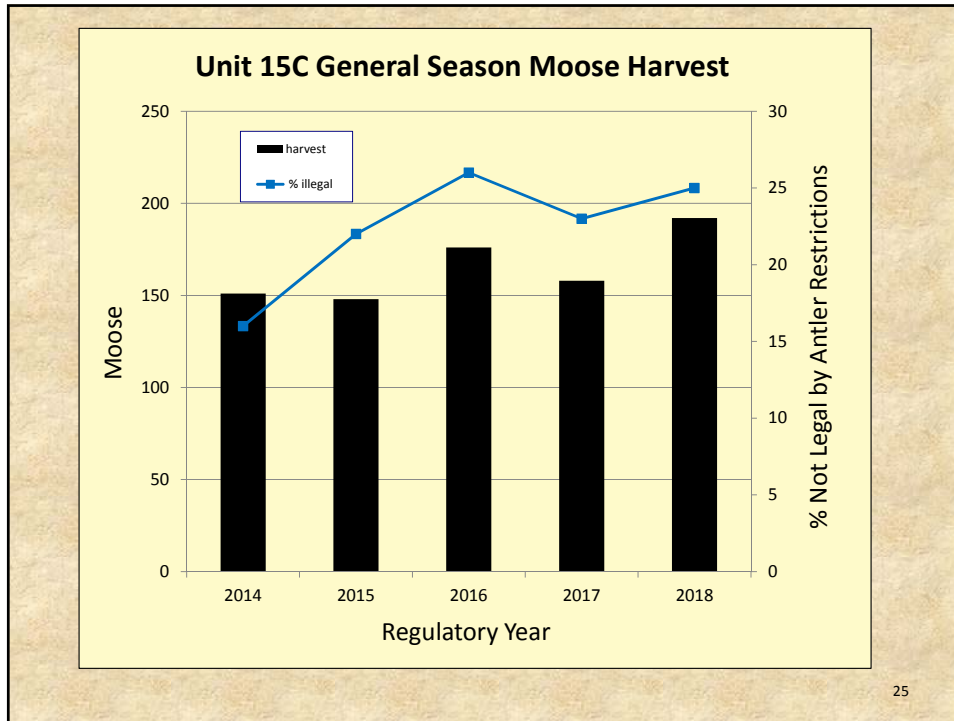


18









Units 7 & 15 Moose Summary

- Declining populations in Units 7 and 15A
- Increasing in 15B
- Stable–increasing in 15C
- Moose populations fluctuate based on fire history
- Opportunity exist for additional harvest in 15C and also likely in 15B in the near future

Proposals 63–83

26

Sheep

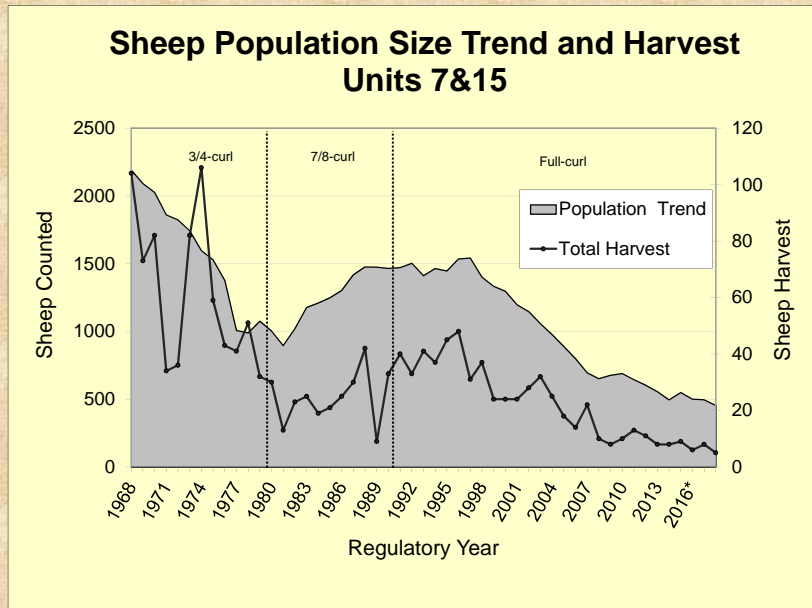


- Continued population decline from 1990s based on minimum count data
 - ~80% decline since 1960s (2200–2500)
 - ~500 sheep left on the Kenai Peninsula based on minimum counts

Proposal 84

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Sheep Population Size Trend and Harvest Units 7&15



28

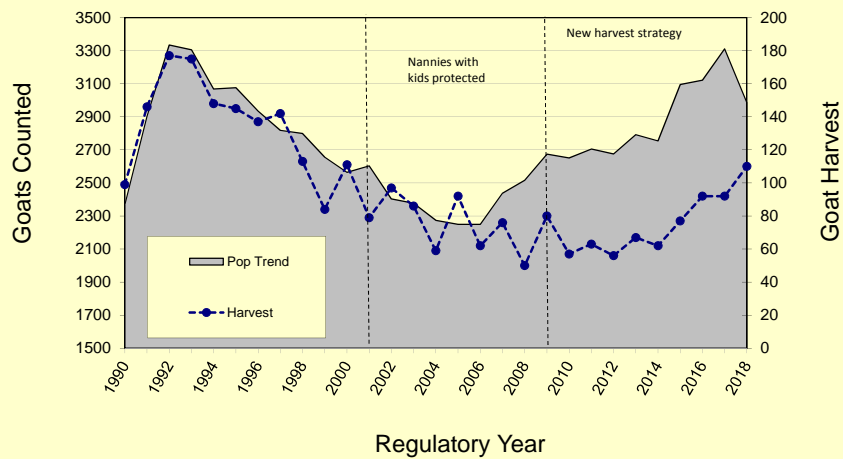
Mountain Goats

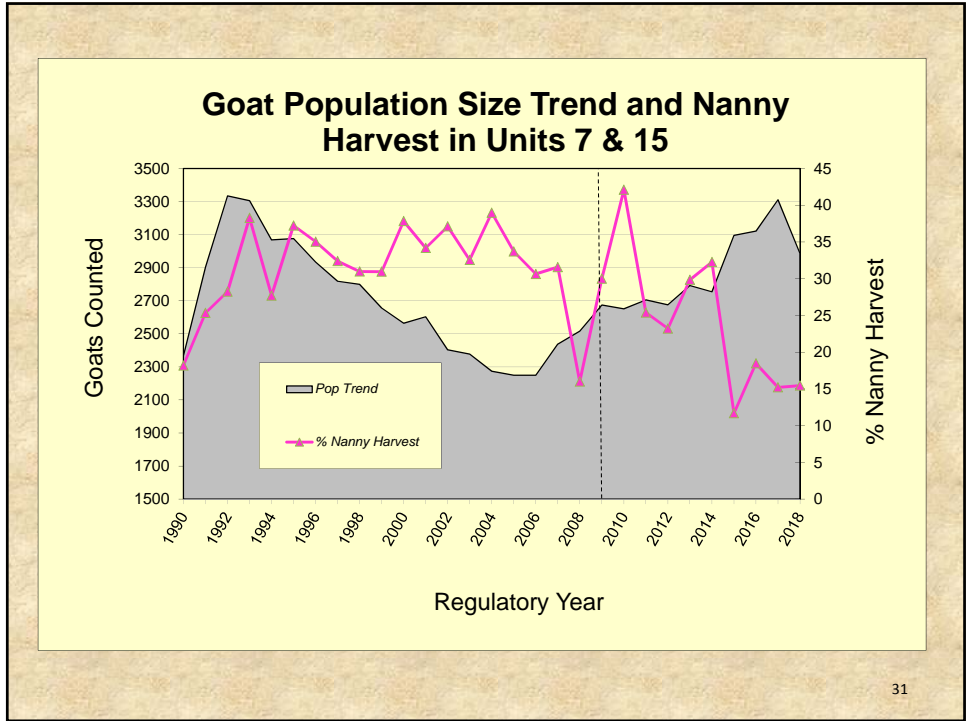


Currently stable to increasing

Proposals 60–62

Goat Population Size Trend and Harvest in Units 7 & 15





Small Game



- Conducted spring breeding surveys for ptarmigan since 2013
- Wing harvest collection spruce grouse/ptarmigan
- Hare population crashed 2011/12, likely increasing

Proposals 86,87,90,92

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Kenai Research and Habitat Projects

Moose

- Investigation of Kenai IM moose population dynamics, PI: Thomas McDonough
- Moose movements and nutritional status in early and late seral habitats, Units 15A and 15B, PI: Dan Thompson

Bears


- Brown Bear Population Demographics, PI: Sean Farley
- Black Bear Population Demographics, PI: Sean Farley

Wolves

- Population dynamics of wolves in Southcentral Alaska, PIs: Jeff Selinger and Dave Saalfeld


Habitat

- Wildlife habitat enhancement, PI: Sue Rodman
 - Prescribed fire planned in Unit 15A
 - Fuel break development to support prescribed fire 15A
 - Exploration of hardwood regeneration techniques 15C
 - Interagency Kenai vegetation map
- Unit 15C moose browse availability and nutritional quality, PI: Jason Herreman



33

Outreach and Education

Wildlife Safety and Education

- Boy Scouts, HoWL, Boys and Girls Club
- School presentations
- Kenai River Guide Aducation
- Hunters Education Programs
- Youth Warden Academy
- Boys and Girls Club of the Kenai Pen.
- Church groups
- Media spots 
- Kenai River Brown Bear Junior Hockey

Work With Local Conservation Groups





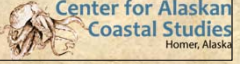

- Homer Soil and Water Conservation District
- Fox River Cattleman's Association
- Kachemak Heritage Land Trust
- Kachemak Moose Habitat Inc.
- Kachemak Bay Advisory Board
- Center for Alaska Coastal Studies
- Caring for the Kenai
- Wildlife Conservation Community Programs

Access and Trail Issues

- Snowmads
- Homer Cycling Club
- Kachemak Nordic Ski Club

Trapping Education

- Kenai Peninsula Trappers Association
- homer animal friends
- USFS outreach classes
- private organizations

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