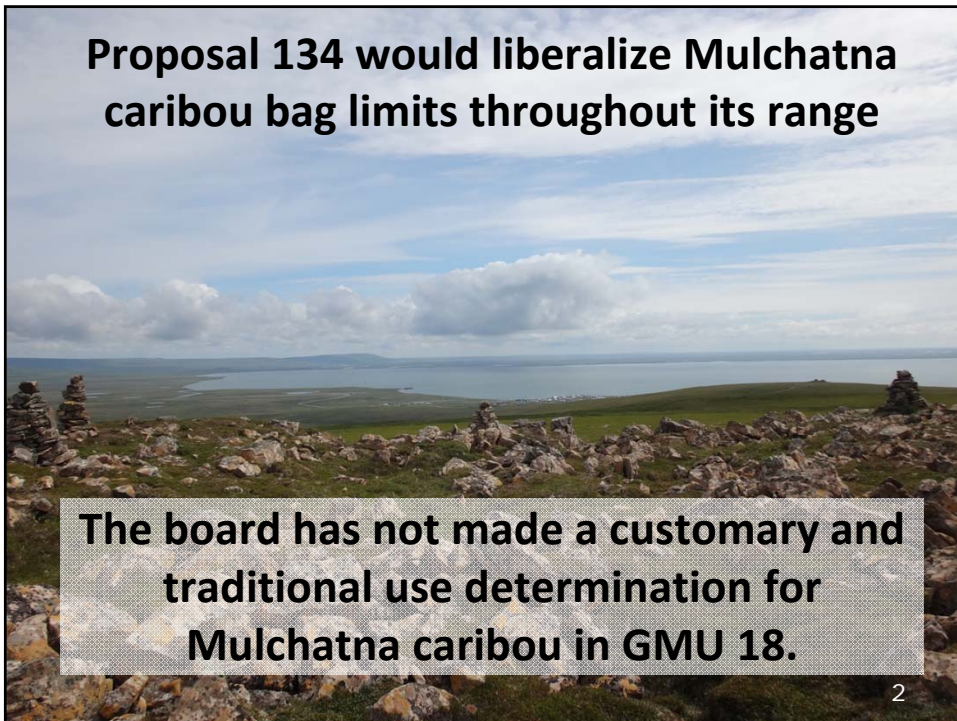


Customary and Traditional Use Worksheet, Caribou, Game Management Unit 18



David Runfola
Division of Subsistence
RC X, Tab X

Proposal 134 would liberalize Mulchatna caribou bag limits throughout its range



**The board has not made a customary and
traditional use determination for
Mulchatna caribou in GMU 18.**

CRITERION 1: Length and Consistency of Use



Excavated August 2014, *Nunalleq*; used by permission of Dr. Richard Knecht, Department of Archaeology, University of Aberdeen, 2014.

CRITERION 1: Length and Consistency of Use

Community	Study year	Percentage of households				
		Using	Attempting harvest	Harvesting	Receiving	Giving away
Yukon River Communities						
Alakanuk	2009	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%
Emmonak	2008	7.3%	0.9%	0.0%	7.3%	0.9%
Kotlik	2009	10.2%	2.0%	2.0%	10.2%	4.1%
Marshall	2009	16.3%	6.1%	4.1%	12.2%	6.1%
Marshall	2010	6.5%	2.2%	2.2%	4.3%	2.2%
Mountain Village	2009	7.9%	1.6%	1.6%	7.9%	1.6%
Mountain Village	2010	6.1%	0.9%	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%
Pilot Station	2013	6.4%	1.1%	1.1%	5.3%	1.1%
Russian Mission	2009	27.9%	4.7%	0.0%	23.3%	9.3%
Russian Mission	2011	10.9%	4.3%	4.3%	6.5%	4.3%

CRITERION 1: Length and Consistency of Use

Community	Study year	Percentage of households				
		Using	Attempting harvest	Harvesting	Receiving	Giving away
Kuskokwim River Communities						
Akiak	2010	78.0%	52.0%	37.0%	56.0%	33.0%
Aniak	2009	8.0%	11.0%	1.0%	6.0%	2.0%
Bethel	2011	54.5%	22.0%	16.3%	22.2%	41.0%
Bethel	2012	55.1%	19.5%	13.1%	44.7%	15.1%
Eek	2013	60.9%	37.5%	26.6%	34.4%	26.6%
Kalskag, Lower	2003	35.3%	38.2%	29.4%	17.6%	20.6%
Kalskag, Lower	2009	22.0%	11.0%	3.0%	19.0%	5.0%
Kalskag, Upper	2009	15.0%	17.0%	2.0%	13.0%	4.0%
Kwethluk	2010	87.0%	49.0%	39.0%	65.0%	32.0%
Napakiak	2011	75.0%	35.7%	32.1%	44.6%	30.4%
Napaskiak	2011	85.7%	50.0%	41.1%	51.8%	40.0%
Nunapitchuk	2012	42.0%	6.0%	4.0%	11.0%	41.0%
Oscarville	2010	92.0%	58.0%	50.0%	42.0%	50.0%
Tuluksak	2010	68.0%	35.0%	22.0%	51.0%	24.0%
Tuntutuliak	2013	19.4%	9.0%	7.5%	13.4%	6.0%

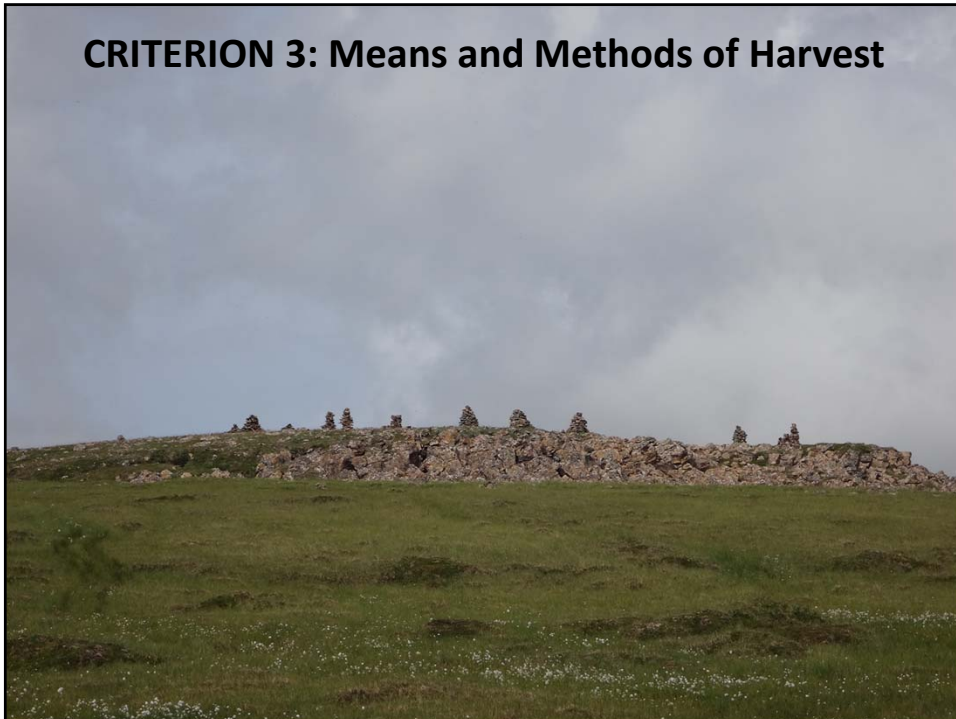
CRITERION 1: Length and Consistency of Use

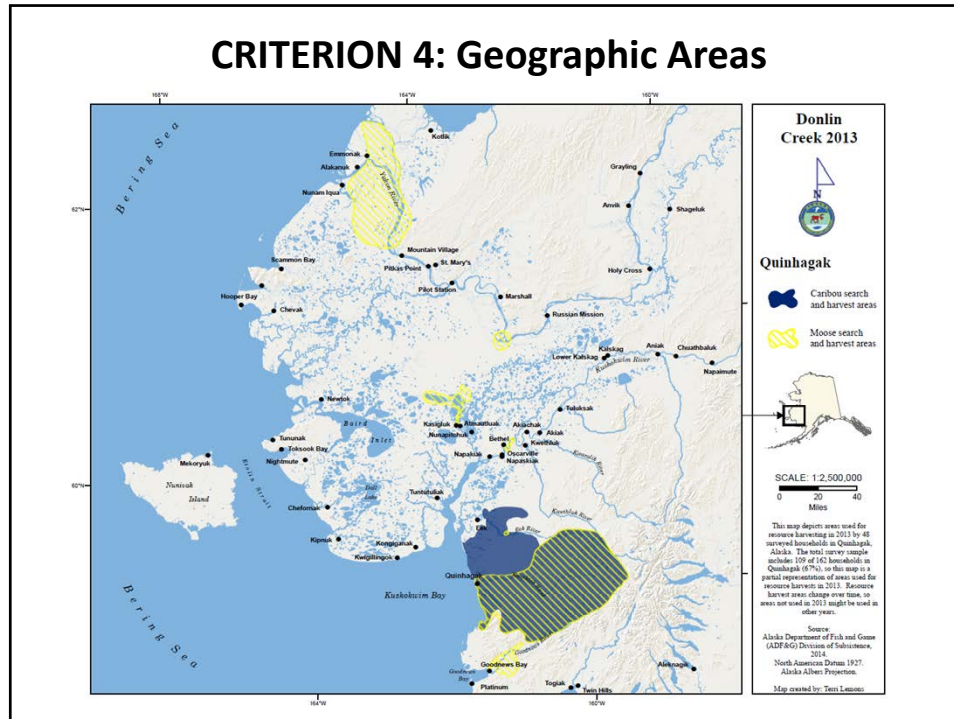
Community	Study year	Percentage of households				
		Using	Attempting harvest	Harvesting	Receiving	Giving away
Bering Sea Coastal Communities						
Chevak	2009	1.6%	3.1%	3.1%	18.8%	7.8%
Quinhagak	2013	65.1%	40.7%	29.4%	43.1%	23.1%
Scammon Bay	2009	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%	12.8%	10.6%
Scammon Bay	2013	20.0%	3.5%	3.5%	16.5%	5.9%
Bristol Bay Communities						
Togiak	1999–2000	70.6%	55.6%	47.4%	45.0%	40.6%
Togiak	2008	82.5%	38.8%	30.0%	65.0%	36.3%

CRITERION 2: Seasonality

- Dall reported seeing approximately 4,300 caribou fawn skins hanging to dry for later use as material for making clothing in June 1868.
- In the middle to late 19th century, European explorers observed that a common migration corridor extended southward from the Norton Sound region, across the Yukon River near Andreafsky, across the Kuskokwim River between the present locations of Aniak and Bethel, into the Kilbuck Mountains.
- A northward migration took place in the fall.
- Zagoskin reported that in addition to hunting caribou during spring and fall migrations, people also harvested caribou in the summer in the 1840s (e.g., Nunivak Is.).
- Recent research indicates that caribou are hunted in the fall and throughout the winter into spring.

CRITERION 3: Means and Methods of Harvest





CRITERION 5: Means of Handling, Preparing, Preserving, and Storing

- Caribou are used for a variety of purposes on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta today, as in the past:
 - Food; it is eaten raw, thinly cut and dried, cooked, and frozen; intestinal fat is saved and used; leg bones are cooked and cracked to extract marrow; back fat is also used in making aktutaq, Eskimo ice cream delicacy
 - Caribou hides used for clothing and handicrafts, as well as watercraft coverings
 - Caribou hair used for ceremonial headdresses and dance fans
 - Caribou sinew, bones, antlers, and hooves used for a variety of tools and handicrafts; caribou sinew continues to be used today

CRITERION 6: Intergenerational Transmission of Knowledge, Skills, Values, and Lore

- In addition to the skills of hunting caribou for food and manufacturing items from caribou products, oral traditions involving caribou continue to guide youth in how to act like a proper human being in order to ensure continued good luck in hunting and supporting a subsistence way of life.
- Numerous books, published in both Yup'ik and English to support existing bilingual and cultural education programs, detail a variety of traditional knowledge about caribou.
- For example, the Alaska Flag not only depicts the Big Dipper, but also *Tunturyuk* because the constellation resembles a caribou, which serves as an important navigation marker when modern equipment fails.
- Among some YK Delta groups, names of the month refer to the time of caribou antlers in velvet and when they begin to shed.

CRITERION 6: Intergenerational Transmission of Knowledge, Skills, Values, and Lore

- Despite recent absence of caribou in the Nelson Island area, oral traditions still mention caribou hunting as an important activity in a young man's hunting apprenticeship and rite of passage into manhood. Curiously, fishing, which certainly contributes proportionally more to the subsistence economy is never mentioned in these maturational scripts.
- The late Elders Michael John of Newtok (d. 2013) and Mike Angaiak of Tununak (d. 2001) both told versions of the same traditional story regarding caribou hunting during the bow and arrow days of the past. Mr. John's story was entitled "The Forbidden Mountain", while Mr. Angaiak's story was entitled "The Bear Woman".

CRITERION 7: Distribution and Exchange

- Zagoskin documented a list of fur and trade items and how many caribou skins of varying types such items would cost.
 - 1 prime black fox = 12 winter caribou hides and 10 fawn skins or about 1 pound of tobacco and a skin boat cover
 - 1 kettle, depending on its size = 5 to 15 caribou skins
- Tables 1 and 2 of the written report and slides 4-6 provide proportions of households using caribou and harvesting caribou and demonstrate the widespread sharing of caribou among households and among communities.
 - Yukon River community households harvesting caribou = 0-4%
 - Yukon River community households using caribou = 5-28%
 - Russian Mission in 2009 harvested no caribou, but 28% of households used caribou and 23% shared caribou with others.
 - 39% of Kwethluk households in 2010 reported harvesting caribou, but 87% of households reported using caribou, and 65% reported receiving caribou from other households.

CRITERION 8: Diversity of Resources in an Area; Economic, Cultural, Social, and Nutritional Elements

- Table 2 in the written report also includes caribou harvests as a proportion of total big game animals harvested and total subsistence harvests for each community.
- Caribou harvested from GMU 18 contribute variably to the overall fish and wildlife resources harvested by local residents.
 - For example, among Yukon River communities caribou represented from 1-3% of the total big game harvest, or about 3-10 lb per household, and 0.5% of the total wild food harvest.
 - In contrast, among Kuskokwim River communities caribou harvests contribute as much as 20-44% of the big game harvest, or about 3-97 lb per household, and up to 4-7% of the total wild food harvests.

Closing

- Questions?

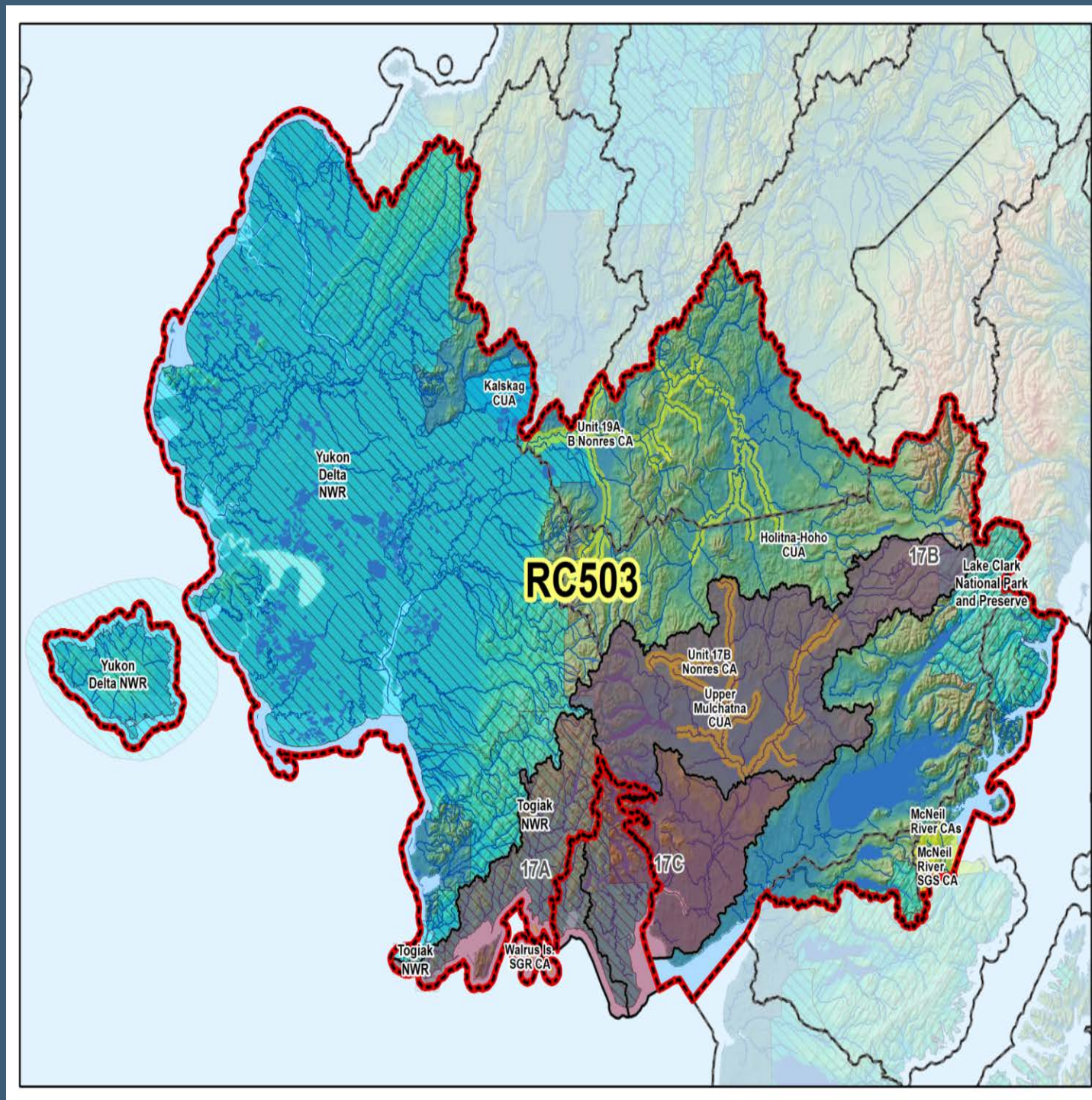
Proposal 134

Liberalize the bag limit for Mulchatna caribou
in Units 9AB&C, 17, 18, and 19A&B

Department: Support

Department Proposal

Proposal 134



Proposal 134

Mulchatna Caribou Hunt Regulations

Current regulations:

17(A,B,C), 18, 19 (A,B), 9(A,B,C)

Bag Limit

2 caribou, however
1 bull total

1 caribou

prior to Jan 31

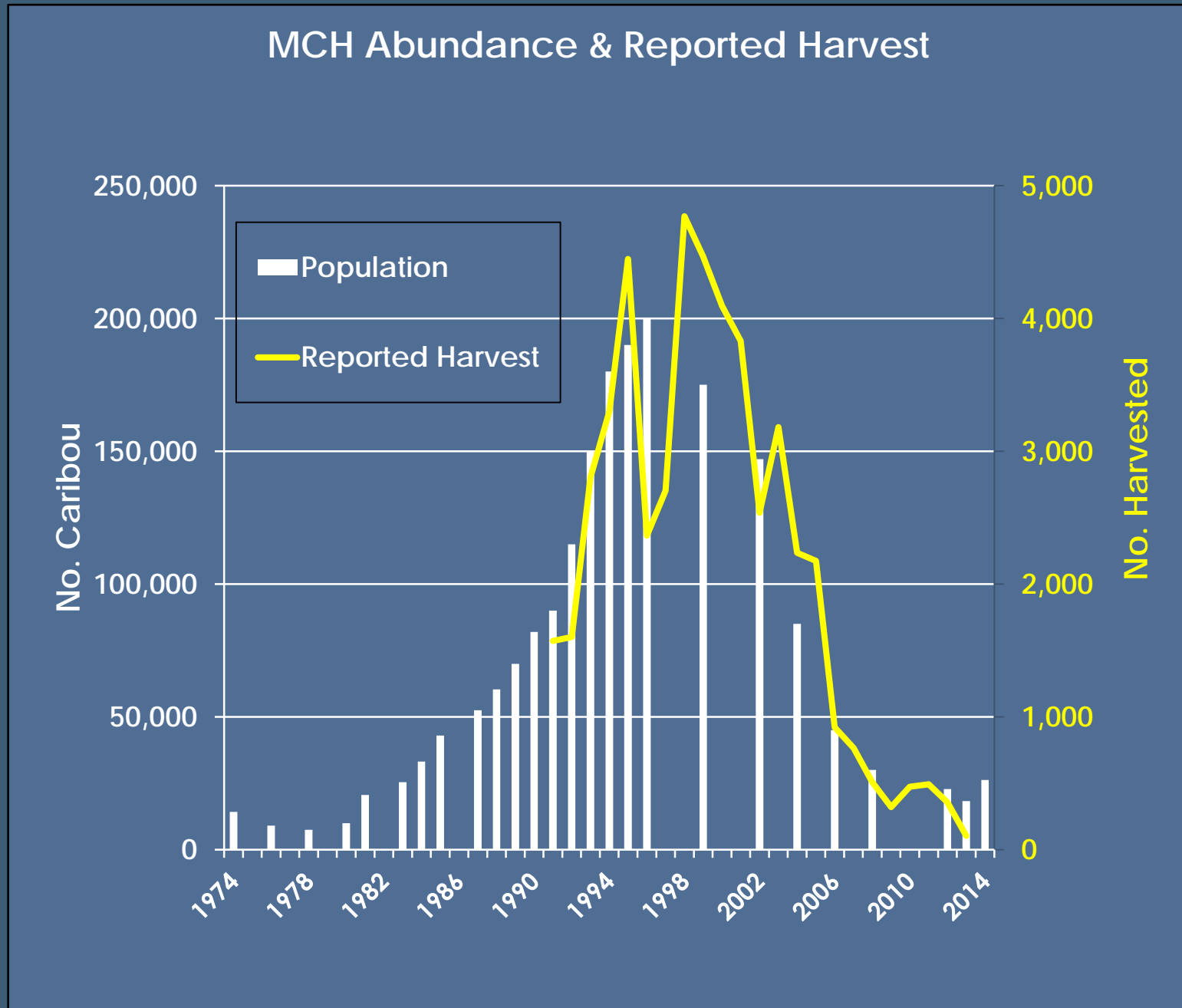
Proposed regulations:

18, 19 (A,B), 9(A,B,C), 17

Bag Limit

2 caribou

Proposal 134



Proposal 134

Status of Mulchatna Herd

- Presently ~26,000
- Composition and reproductive indices are trending upward
- Current reported harvest is well below sustainable level
- Reported concerns about harvest in Unit 18

Proposal 134

Liberalize the bag limit for Mulchatna caribou
in Units 9AB&C, 17, 18, and 19A&B

Department: Support

Department Proposal

Proposal 140

Revert resident caribou seasons and bag limits back to RY14 regulations, and establish an annual bag limit of 20 caribou and a harvest reporting requirement

- Department Recommendation: AMEND & SUPPORT
- Public proposal submitted as an ACR: Supported by the Northern Norton Sound & Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committees

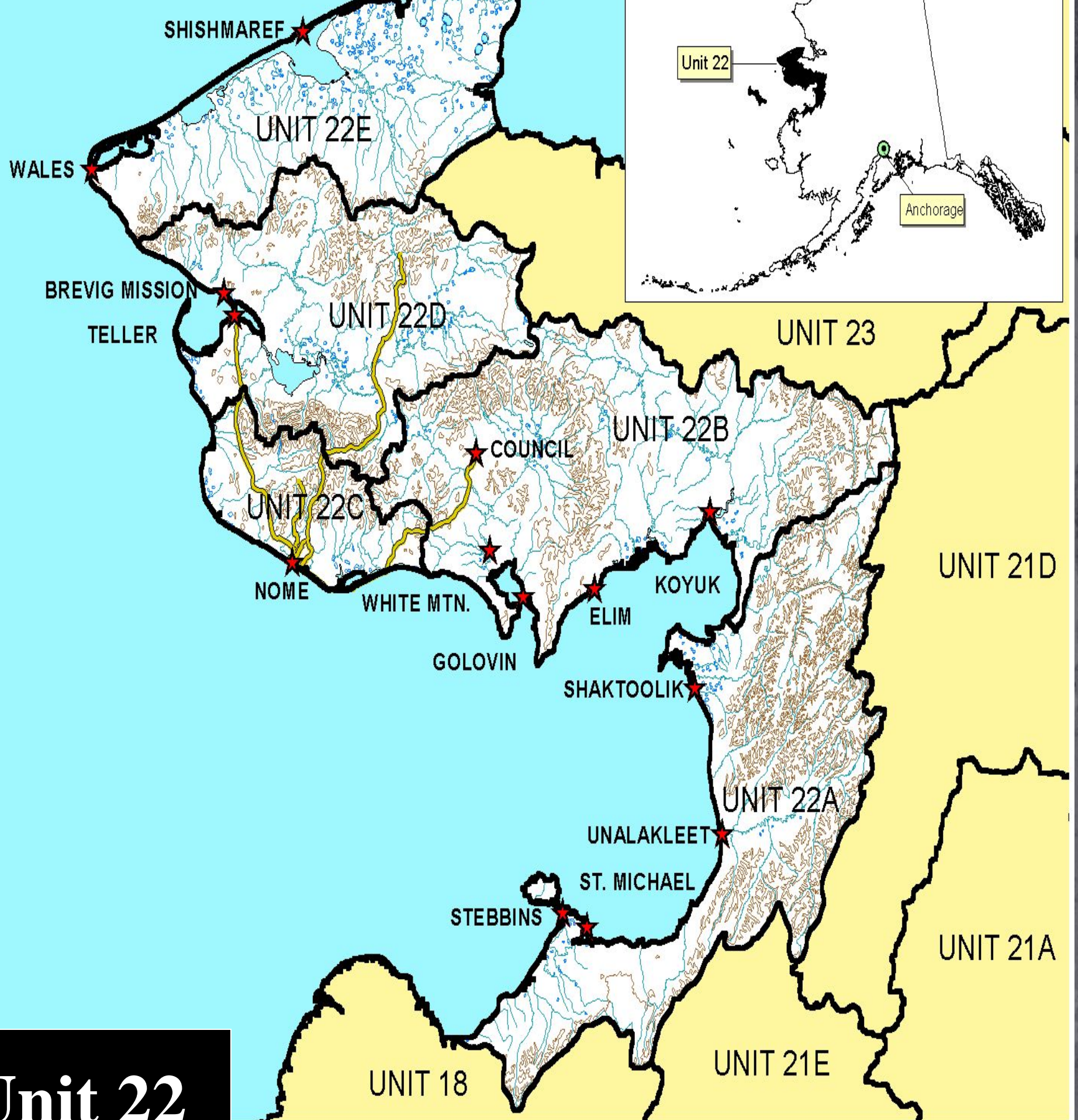
Background

Proposal 140

- Current regulations implemented at the March 2015 BOG meeting to address declining populations of Western Arctic (WAH) & Teshekpuk Lake (TCH) caribou populations;
- WAH caribou are not uniformly abundant in Unit 22 every year, and in many years, few caribou are found in Unit 22;
- In years when caribou migrate to Unit 22 to winter, animals typically don't arrive until late fall;
- During the fall of 2015, caribou arrived in large numbers onto the Seward Peninsula, and the closure of the bull season on October 14 resulted in some inadvertent take of young bulls.

Current Resident Regulations

- Reindeer protection areas (Units 22A Remainder, 22C, 22D Remainder, 22E Remainder): Season announced by EO
- Nome road-accessible areas (Units 22B West of Golovin Bay & 22D Pilgrim River):
BULLS: Oct. 1—Oct. 14, Feb. 1-Apr. 30
COWS: Oct. 1-Mar. 31
- All other areas in Unit 22:
BULLS: July 1-Oct. 14, Feb. 1-June 30
COWS: Sept. 1-Mar. 31
- Bag limit: 5 caribou/day; no take of calves



Unit 22

Proposed Regulation Change

- Reindeer protection areas: No change
- Nome road-accessible area (Unit 22D Pilgrim River area only):
BULLS & COWS: Oct. 1-Apr. 30
- All other areas in Unit 22:
BULLS & COWS: July 1-June 30
- Bag limit: 5 caribou/day; annual bag limit of 20 caribou
- Harvest reporting requirement: Harvest ticket or registration permit

Amendment Requested

- Reindeer protection areas: No change
- Nome road-accessible areas (Unit 22B west of Golovin Bay & Unit 22D Pilgrim River):
BULLS: Oct. 1-Apr. 30
COWS: Oct. 1-Mar. 31
- All other areas in Unit 22:
BULLS: July 1-June 30
COWS: July 1-Mar. 31
- Bag limit: 5 caribou/day; no take of calves; annual bag limit of 20 caribou
- Harvest Reporting Requirement:
Registration permit

Proposal 140

Revert resident caribou seasons and bag limits back to RY14 regulations, and establish an annual bag limit of 20 caribou and a harvest reporting requirement

- Department Recommendation: AMEND & SUPPORT
- Public proposal submitted as an ACR: Supported by the Northern Norton Sound & Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committees

Proposal 135: Brown Bear

This proposal affects brown bear hunting Unit 22 :

- Increase the number of nonresident brown bear drawing permits DB690 (Unit 22D & 22E).

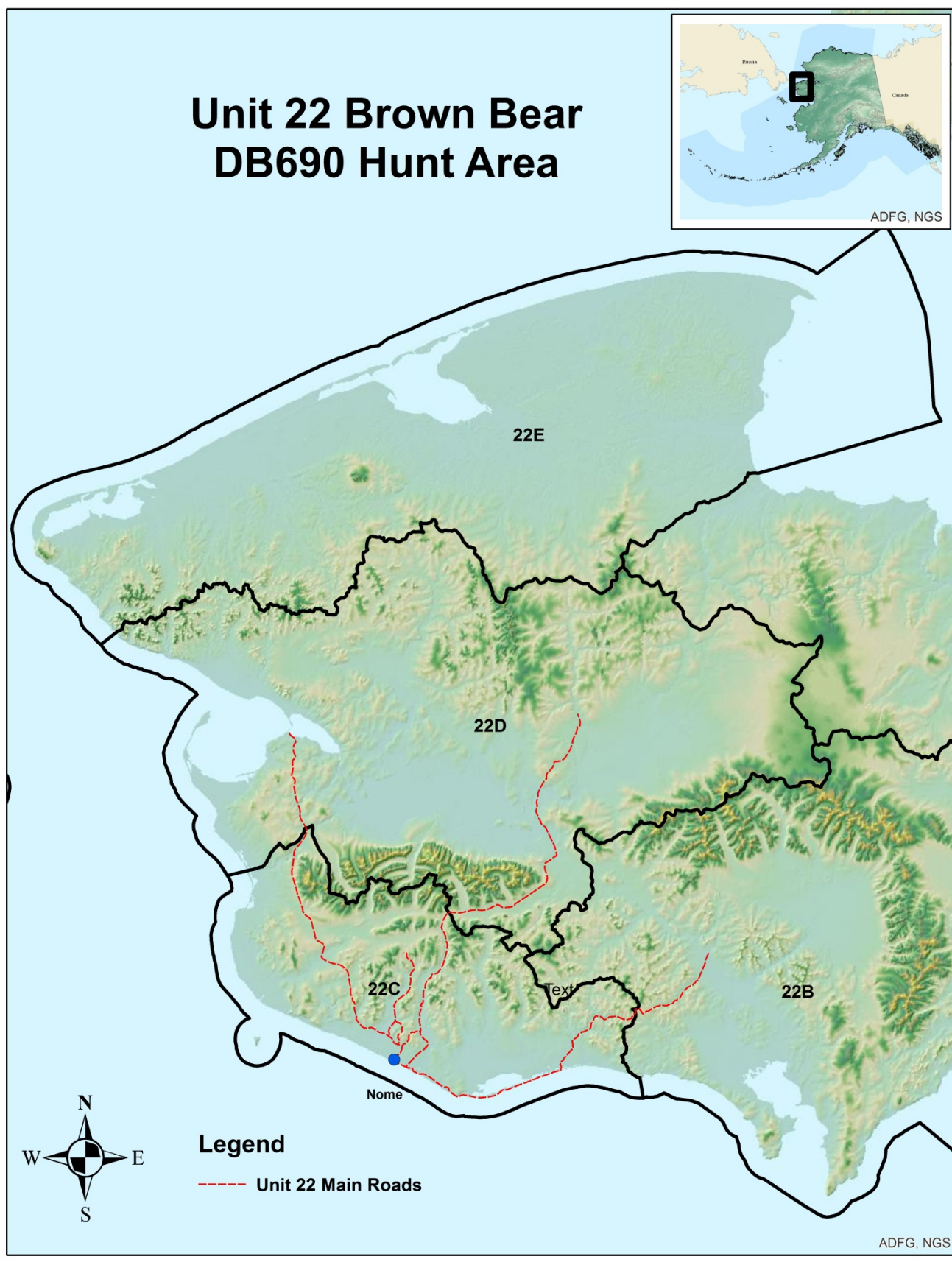
This is a Department proposal.

Department Recommendation:

- **Support**

Advisory Committee Recommendation:

- Northern Norton Sound AC Support
- Southern Norton Sound AC Support

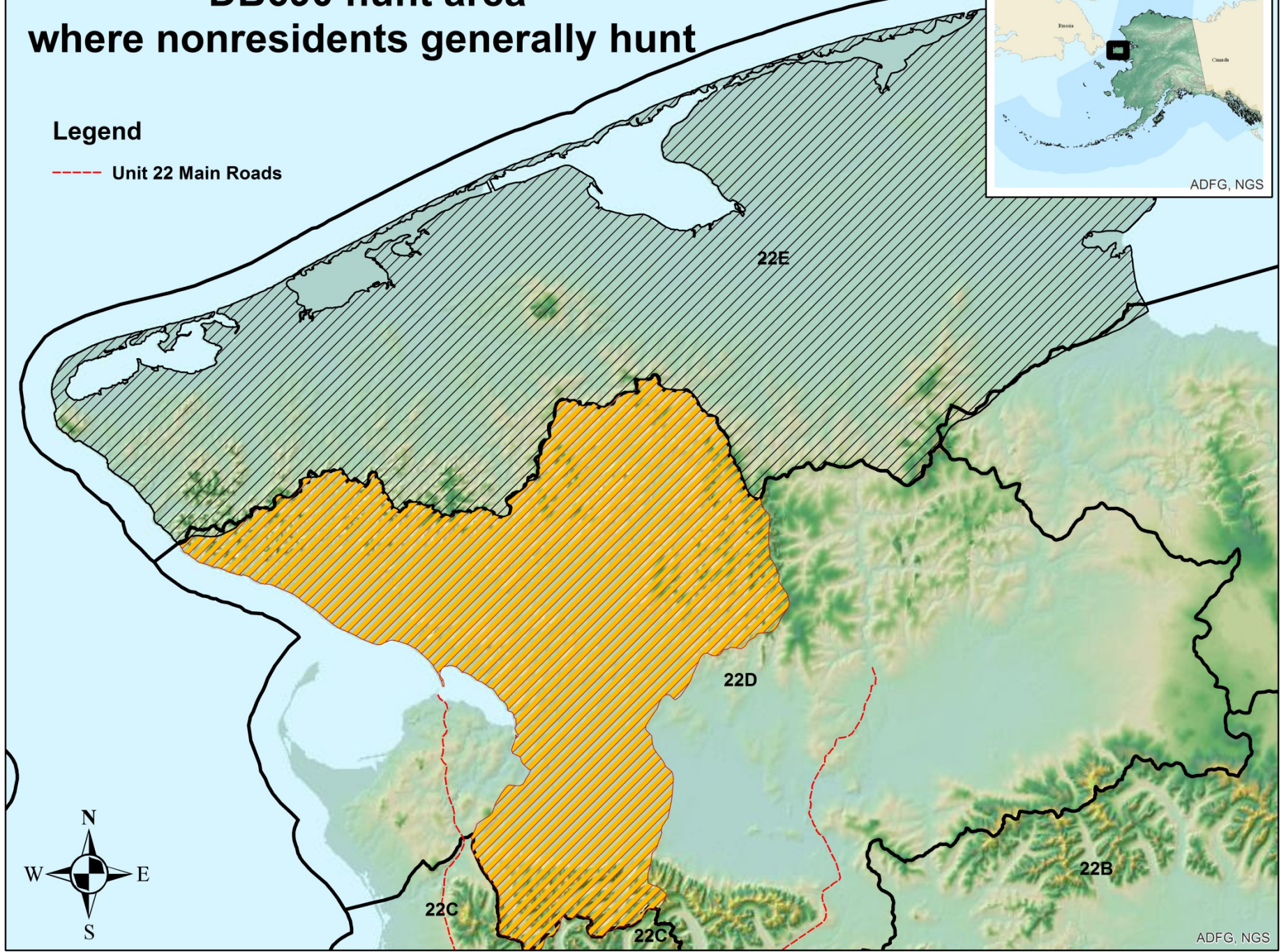


➤ A large portion of hunt area is not accessible by road

DB690 hunt area where nonresidents generally hunt

Legend

--- Unit 22 Main Roads



Brown Bear Regulations

Unit 22D/22E Current Season and Bag Limit

- Season: Aug 1 – May 31
- Residents general hunt: 1 bear every regulatory year
- Residents subsistence hunt: 1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit (RB699)
- Nonresident general hunt: 1 bear every regulatory year by drawing permit (DB690)

Unit 22D/E Nonresident Regulation Background

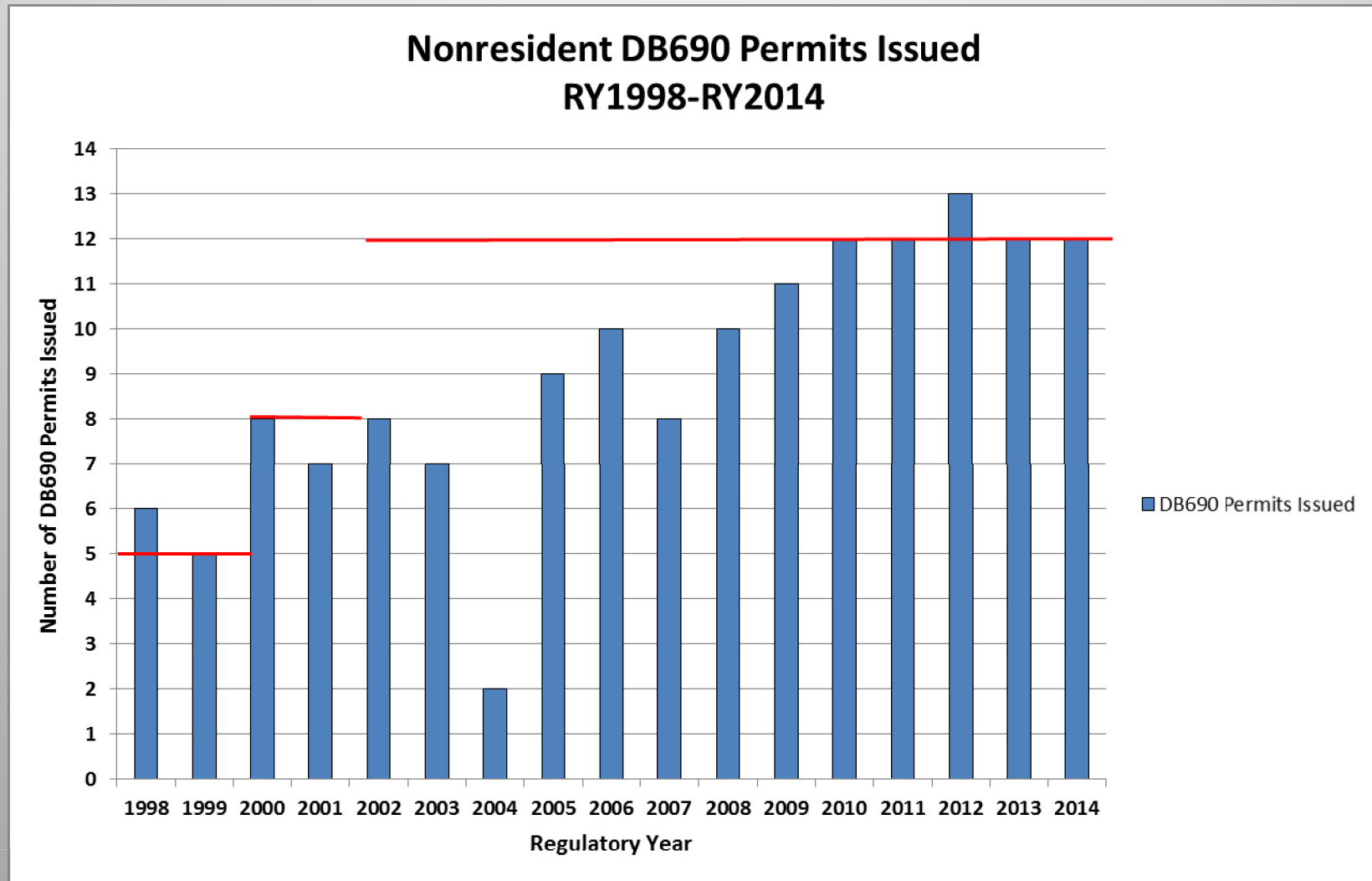
- RY1986 – RY1997
 - Fall Season: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31
 - Spring season: May 10 – May 25
 - Bag limit : One bear/4 regulatory years

- RY1998 – RY2001
 - Change in season date: Sept. 1 – May. 31

- RY2000 – RY2002
 - Increase DB690 permits from 5 to 8

- RY2002-present
 - Change in season date: Aug 1 – May 31
 - Change in bag limit change: 1 bear/regulatory year
 - Increase DB690 permits from 8 to 12

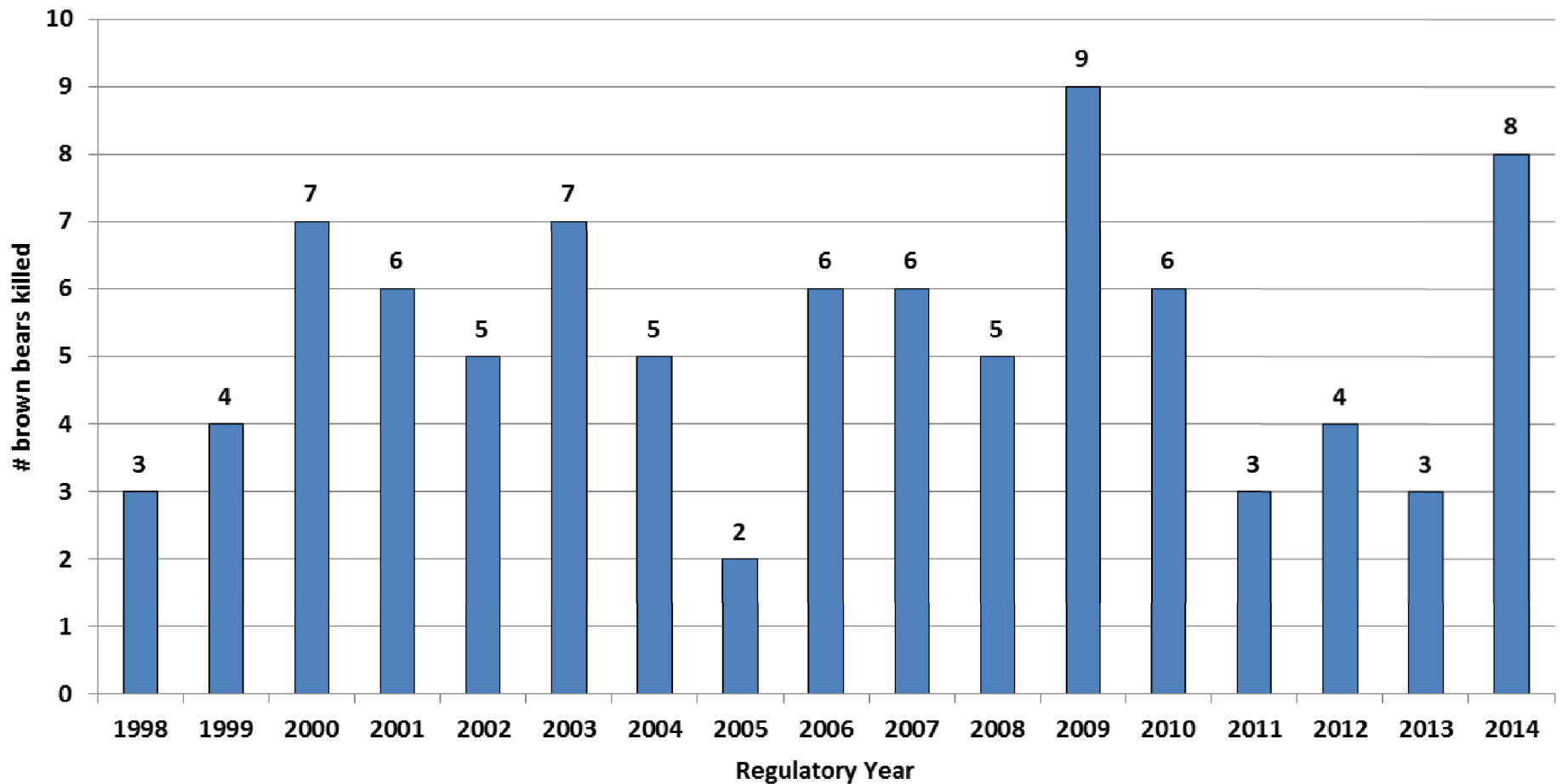
Unit 22 DB690 Nonresident Drawing Permit



- RY1998 - RY2000: 5 permits were awarded
- RY2000 – RY2002: 8 permits were awarded
- RY2002 – present: 12 permits are awarded
- DB690 has been fully subscribed since RY2010

DB690 Bear Harvest

Nonresident Brown Bear Harvest DB690 Permit RY1998-RY2014



- Between RY1998 to RY2014 an average annual harvest of 5 bears per year are taken by DB690 permit hunters.

Proposal 135: Summary

- The Board of Game last made changes to nonresident brown bear regulations in Unit 22D/E 14 years ago.
- The number of DB690 permits issued will increase by 9 giving a total of 21 permits available.
- The department anticipates increased harvest with more opportunity provided.
- Anecdotal information and public reports indicates that Unit 22 brown bear populations are high in number, and increased harvests not anticipated to be a problem.
- Historical Unit 22-wide harvest data has shown liberalizing regulations in RY1997 resulted in 74% increase in harvest, with an annual average harvest of 94 bears.

Proposal 135: Brown Bear

This proposal affects brown bear hunting Unit 22 :

- Increase the number of nonresident brown bear drawing permits DB690 (Unit 22D & 22E).

This is a Department proposal.

Department Recommendation:

- **Support**

Advisory Committee Recommendation:

- Northern Norton Sound AC Support
- Southern Norton Sound AC Support

Proposal 86

Remove the exception for harvest tickets and hunter reports for sheep hunting in Gates of the Arctic National Park



- Department: DEFER to the Region 3 and 5 Board meetings (Winter 2017)
- Public Proposal

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve



0 12.5 25 50 Miles



 Gates of the Arctic National Park
 Gates of the Arctic National Preserve

Background

Proposal 86

- Developed primarily for rural constituents hunting in Gates of the Arctic National Park;
- Used by very few hunters;
- Request to defer this to regularly scheduled board meetings to allow for adequate public and AC comment;
- Deferral will also allow staff time to ensure that license vendor support will meet the need.

Proposal 86

Remove the exception for harvest tickets and hunter reports for sheep hunting in Gates of the Arctic National Park

- Department: DEFER to the Region 3 and 5 Board meetings (Winter 2017)
- Public Proposal

Questions?