

Region I Black bear staff report



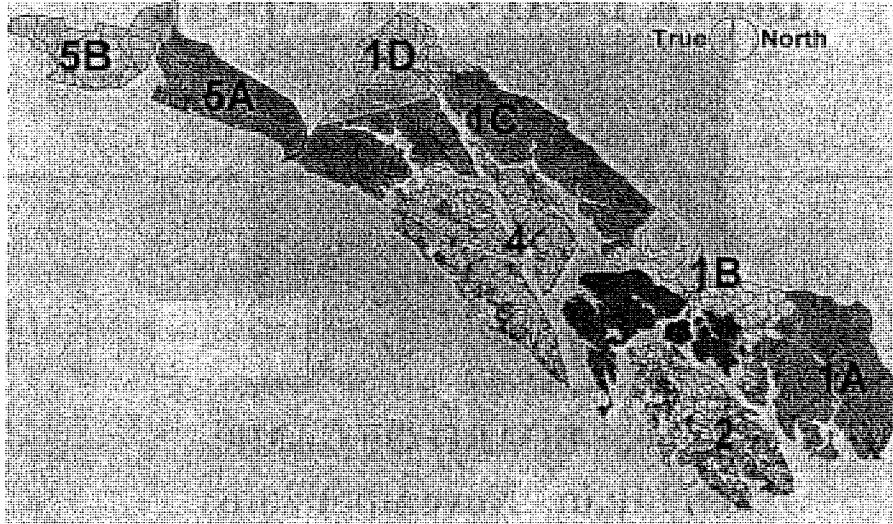
**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Ketchikan - November 2010**

Presentation Outline

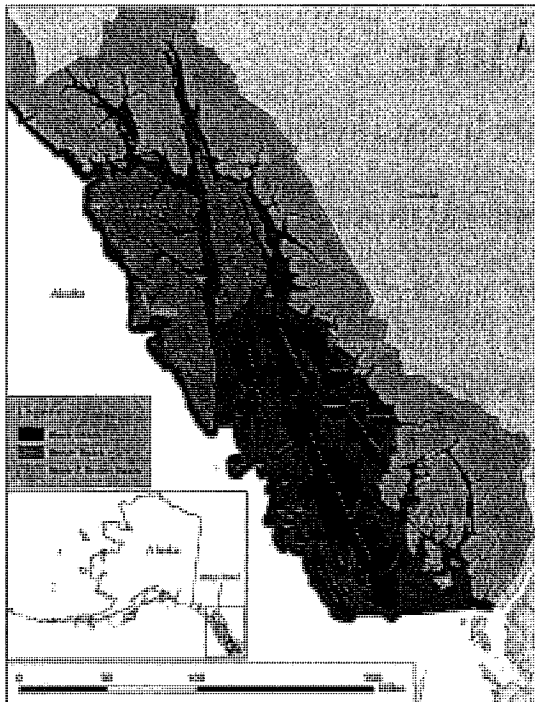
- **Distribution of black bears in Southeast Alaska**
- **Historical black bear harvest across region**
- **Monitoring bear harvest**
- **Kuiu Island: limiting harvest at 2000 board meeting**
- **Fall 2008 BOG actions on black bear management**
- **Black bear studies on Prince of Wales Island**
- **Where we are today...**

Staff Report

Southeast Game Management Units



Staff Report

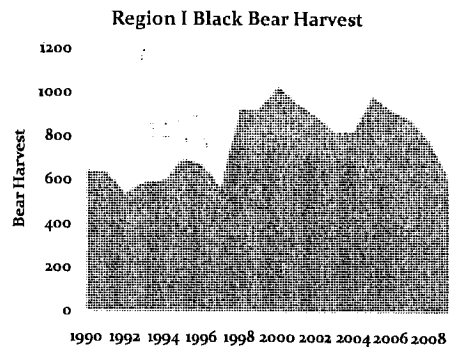


Black and Brown Bear Distribution within Region I

Staff Report

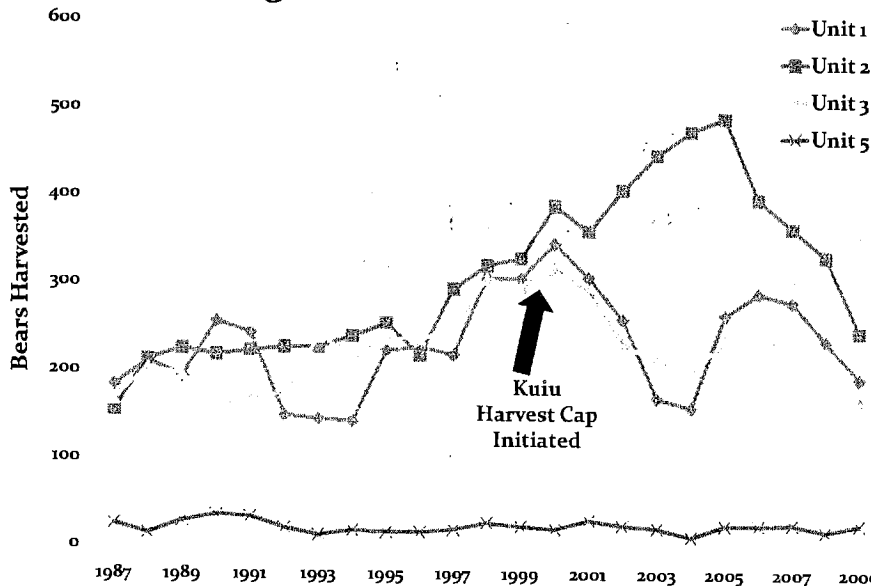
Black Bears in Southeast Alaska

- Highly prized trophy in Southeast Alaska
- Multiple values for bears: trophy, subsistence, viewing
- Density estimates as high as 4 bears/mile²
- Harvest escalated in late 1990s
- Hunters, guides, and residents concerned that bear numbers are declining in some areas
- ~ 75% non-resident harvest

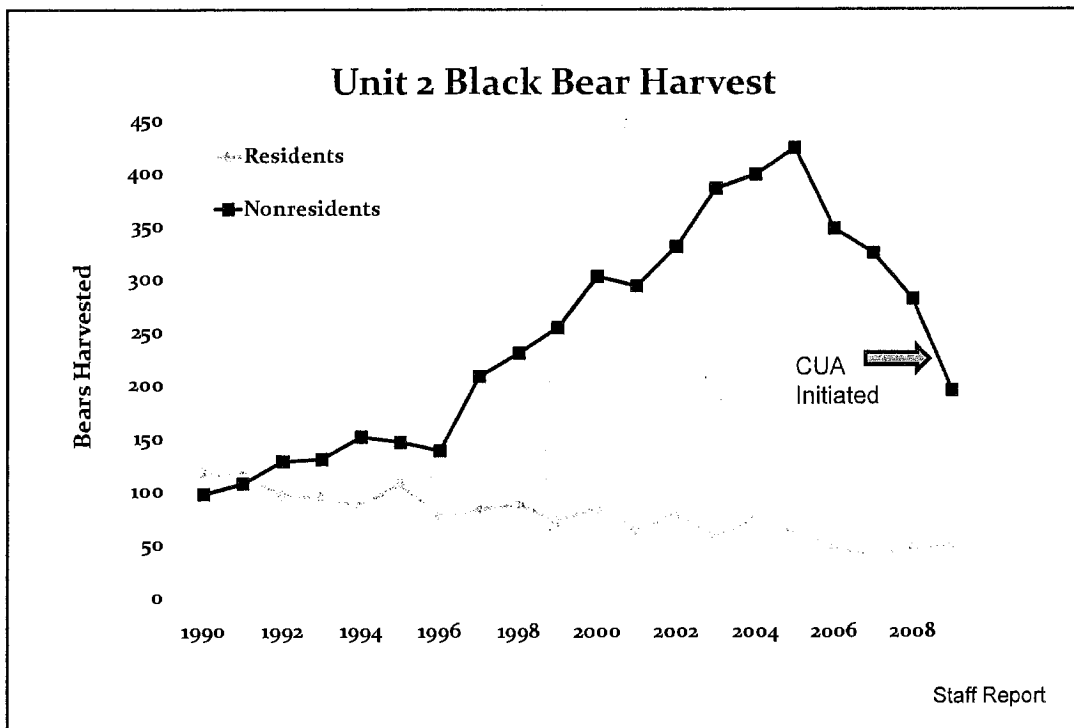
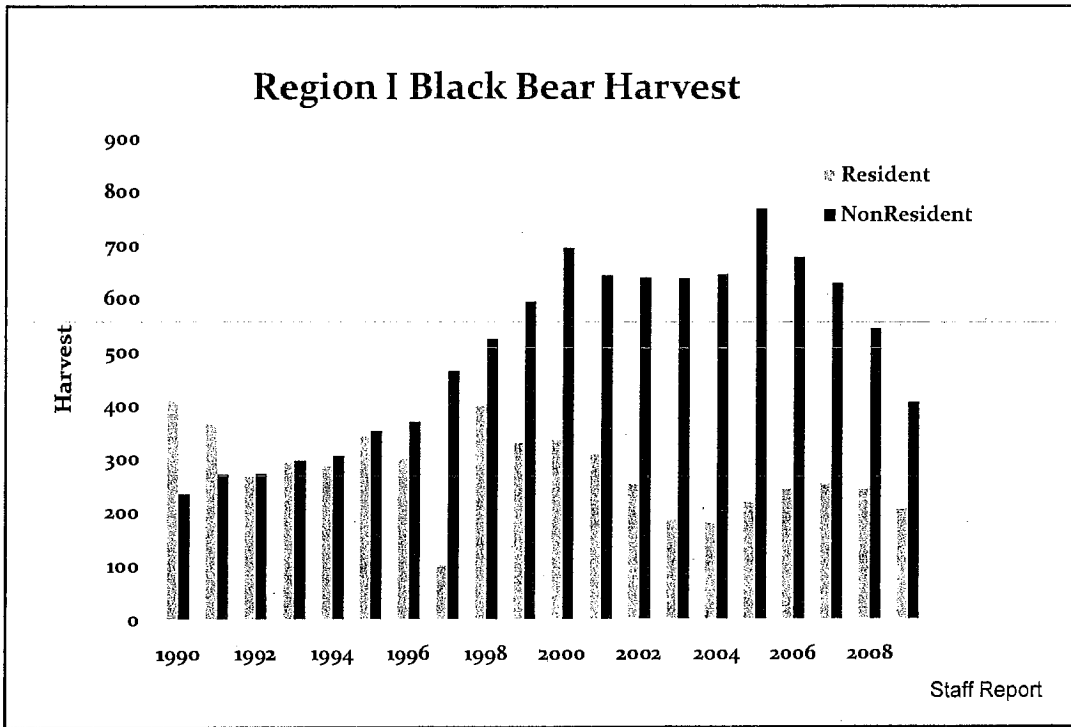


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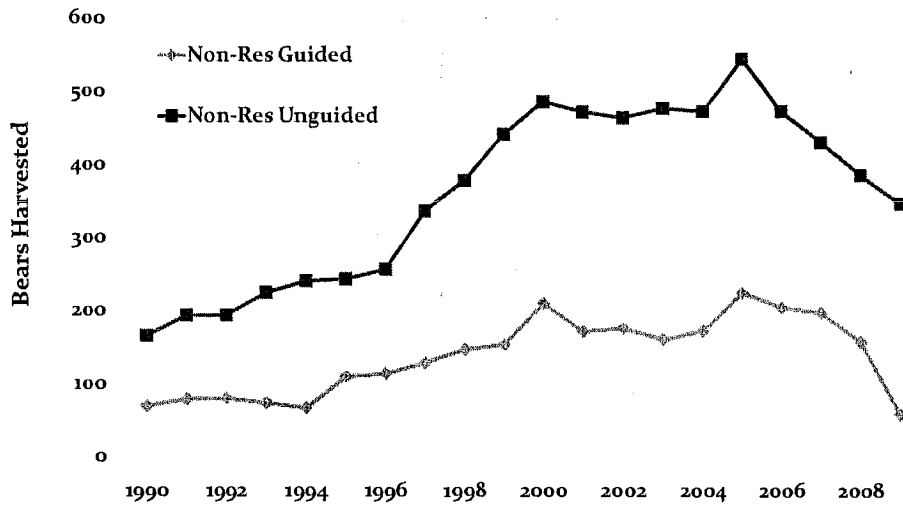
Region I Black Bear Harvest



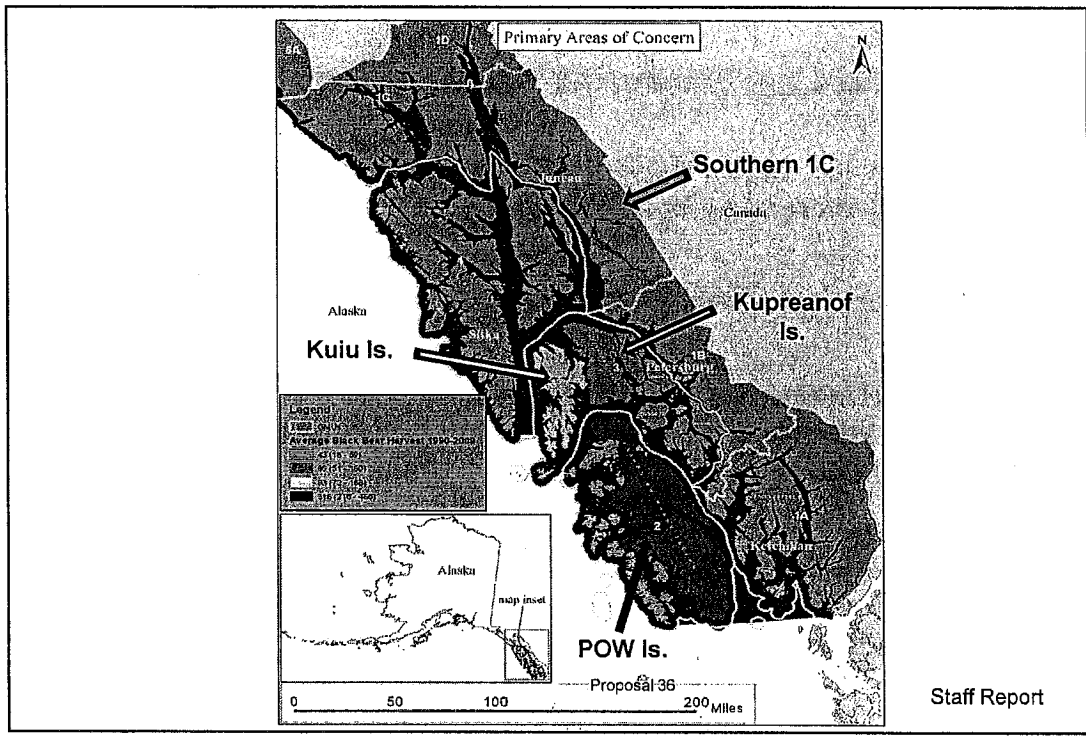
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Region I Nonresident Black Bear Harvest (Guided and Unguided)



Staff Report



Staff Report

Black Bear Management - Monitoring

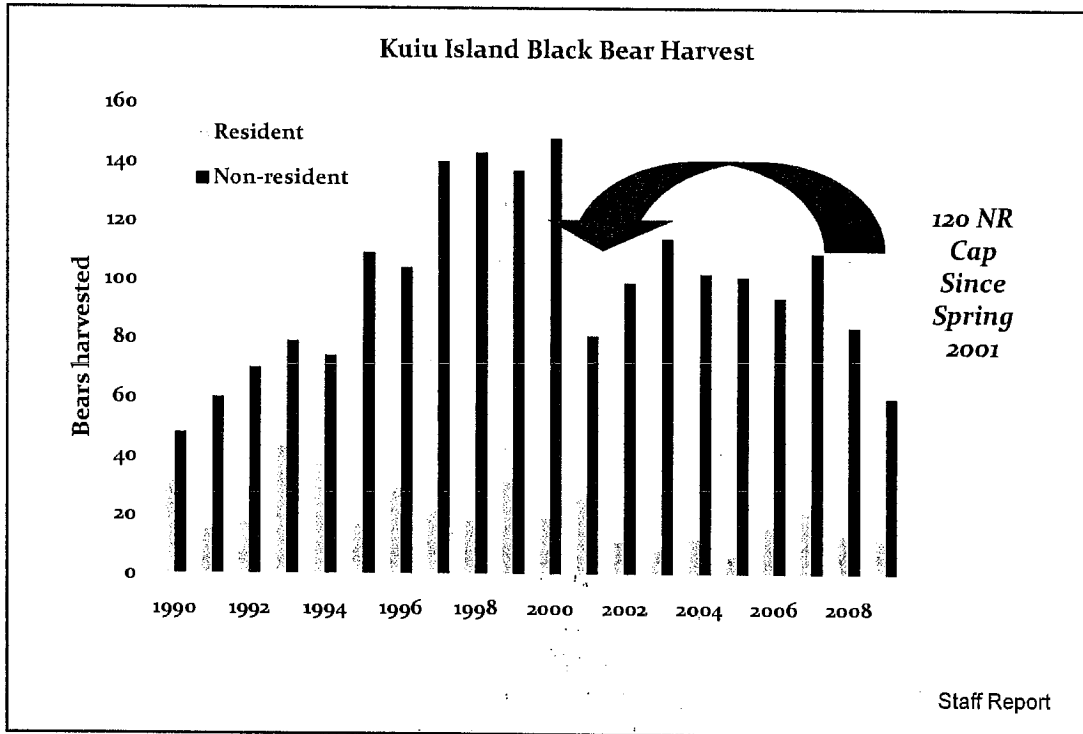
- **Biologists use indirect methods (harvest data) to monitor bear populations**
- **Sealing of bears provides information on the sex, age, skull size, and overall number of bears harvested**
- **Although the harvest is lower in some areas, no noticeable trends have been seen in the other data that suggests changes to bear populations in Southeast Alaska**
- **Biologists also gain insight into bear populations through personal observations, observations from guides, transporters, pilots, and from hunters during the sealing process**

Staff Report

Kuiu Island Case Study: We've Been Here Before

- **During the late 1990s, the Department had concerns about the rapidly increasing bear harvest on Kuiu Island**
- **Nonresident hunters accounted for most of the harvest**
- **The Department proposed changes in 2000; the board adopted a regulation implementing a harvest cap for non-residents at 120 bears**
- **The harvest cap was successful in lowering Kuiu harvest, but some evidence suggests population has been declining in spite of these efforts**

Staff Report



Status of Black Bear Populations

Population Size and Density

- Based on habitat suitability models in most areas
- Estimates from 1-4 bears/mi² of forested habitat
- Based on literature and on Kuiu Is. estimate

Population Studies

- **Kuiu (2003)**
 - Mark recapture effort: tetracycline marker and hunter recapture
 - Empirical data from Kuiu Is. estimated density of 4/mi²
 - Provided a density and population estimate
 - Harvest rate determined on northern part of island

Staff Report

Bear Population Studies

Prince of Wales (2007 – present) – study objectives:

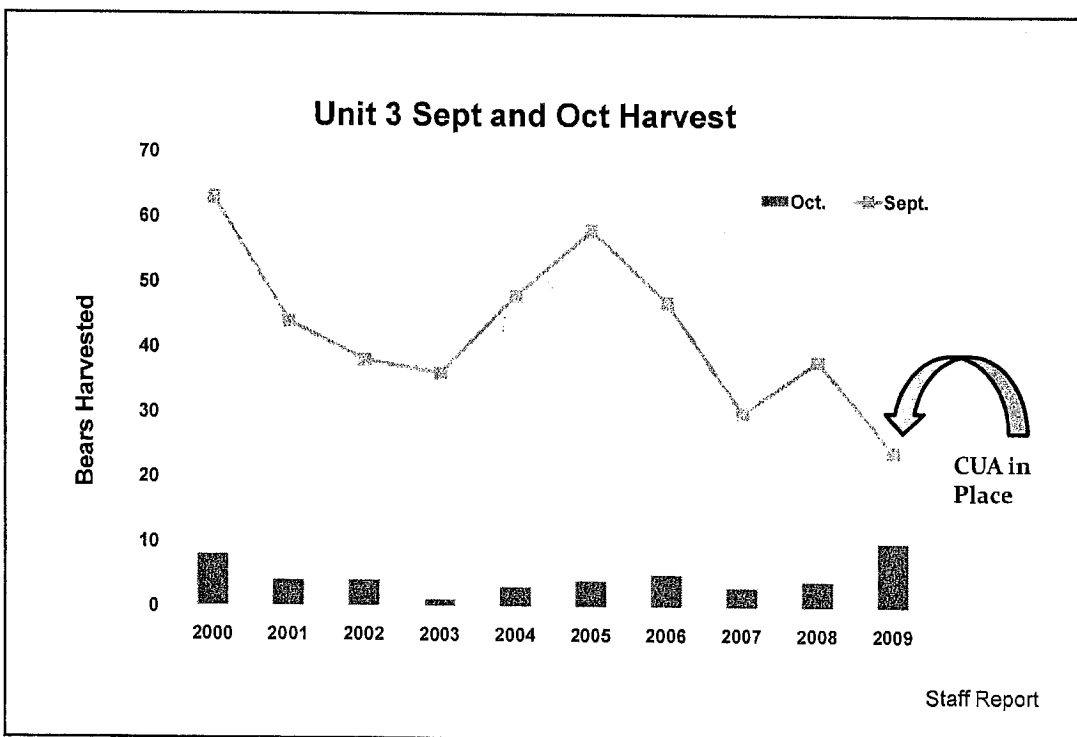
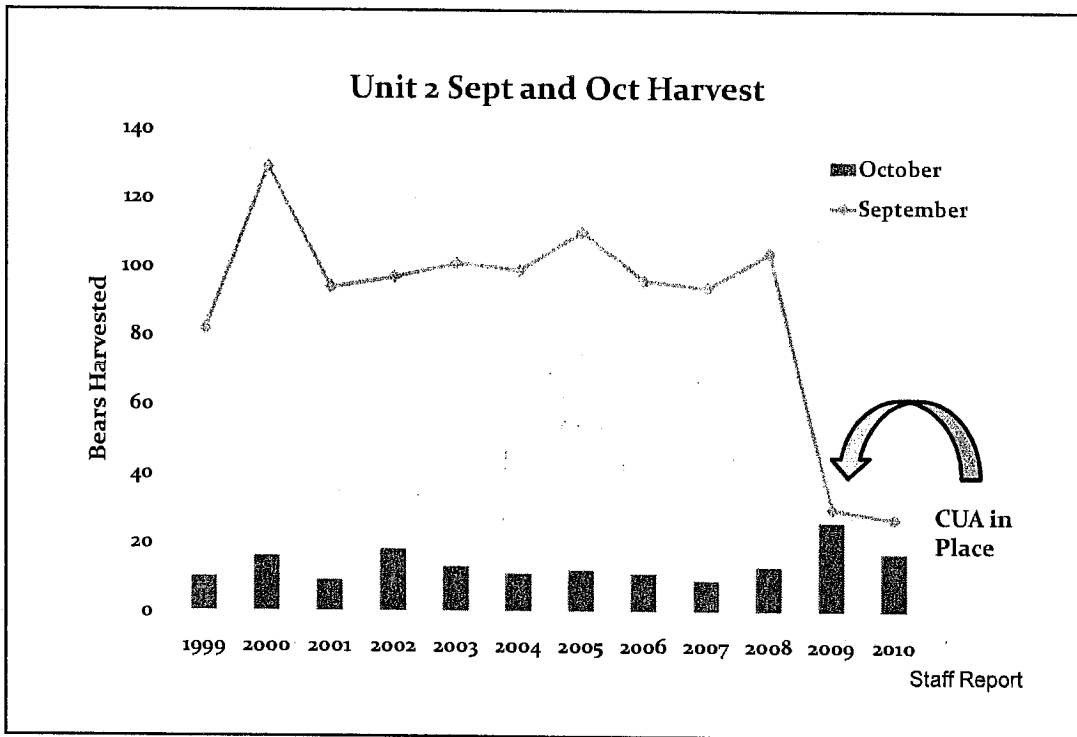
- **Use hair snares to collect DNA samples from bears to be used in a mark recapture for estimating harvest rate**
- **Radio collar black bears to determine home range, habitat use, den site locations, movement patterns, fecundity, vulnerability to harvest and cub survival**
- **Presently there are 10 GPS and 7 VHF collars deployed**

Staff Report

Revisiting the Past: Board of Game 2008

- **Black Bear management concerns generated 10 proposals**
- **Many of the issues were the same as today; concerns for over harvest in some areas and need to control harvest by nonresidents**
- **A proposal was passed creating a controlled use area in Unit 2 and 3; meant to limit fall harvest of female bears**
- **Unit 2 was considered the area with the most immediate need for limiting harvest**
- **Harvest ticket requirement for black bear hunters also adopted**

Staff Report



Other Factors Affecting Black Bear Harvest

- **Economics: hunters traveling to Alaska**
- **Forest management**
- **Wolf predation on bears?**



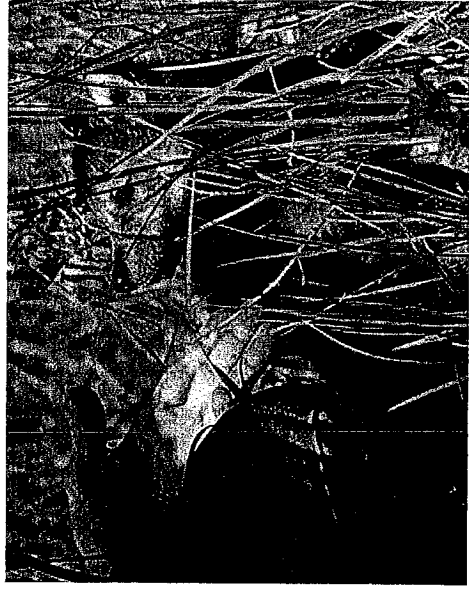
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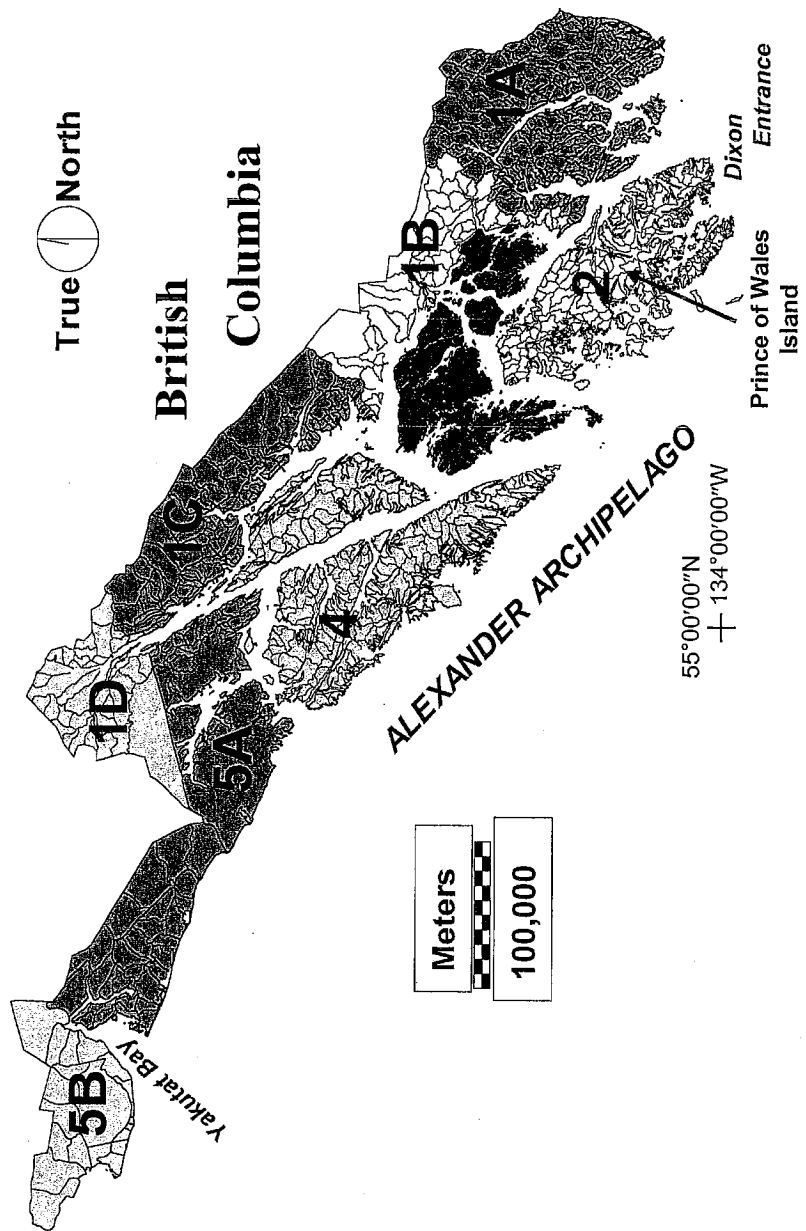
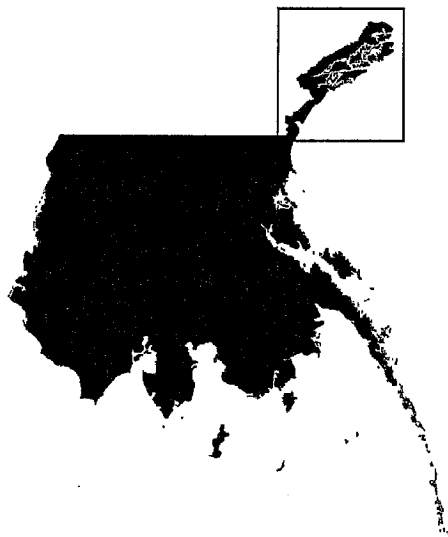
Conclusion

- **There are 19 proposals on black bears for the fall 2010 board meeting**
- **Black bears are a high profile resource with a multitude of users**
- **General sense by many is the need to limit harvest in some manner**
- **Department has authored proposal 36 to address bear harvest and conservation**

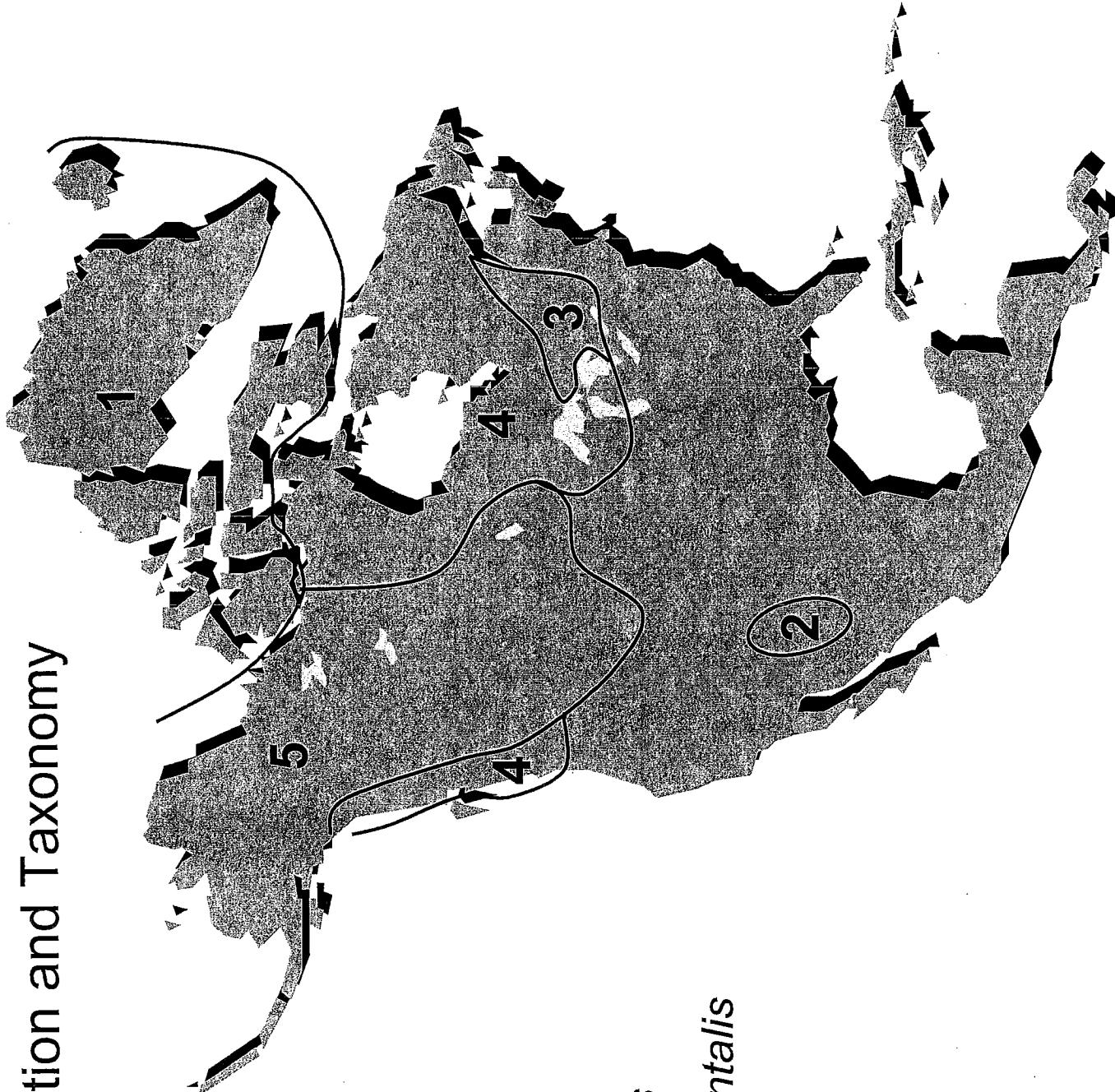
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Wolves in Southeast Alaska



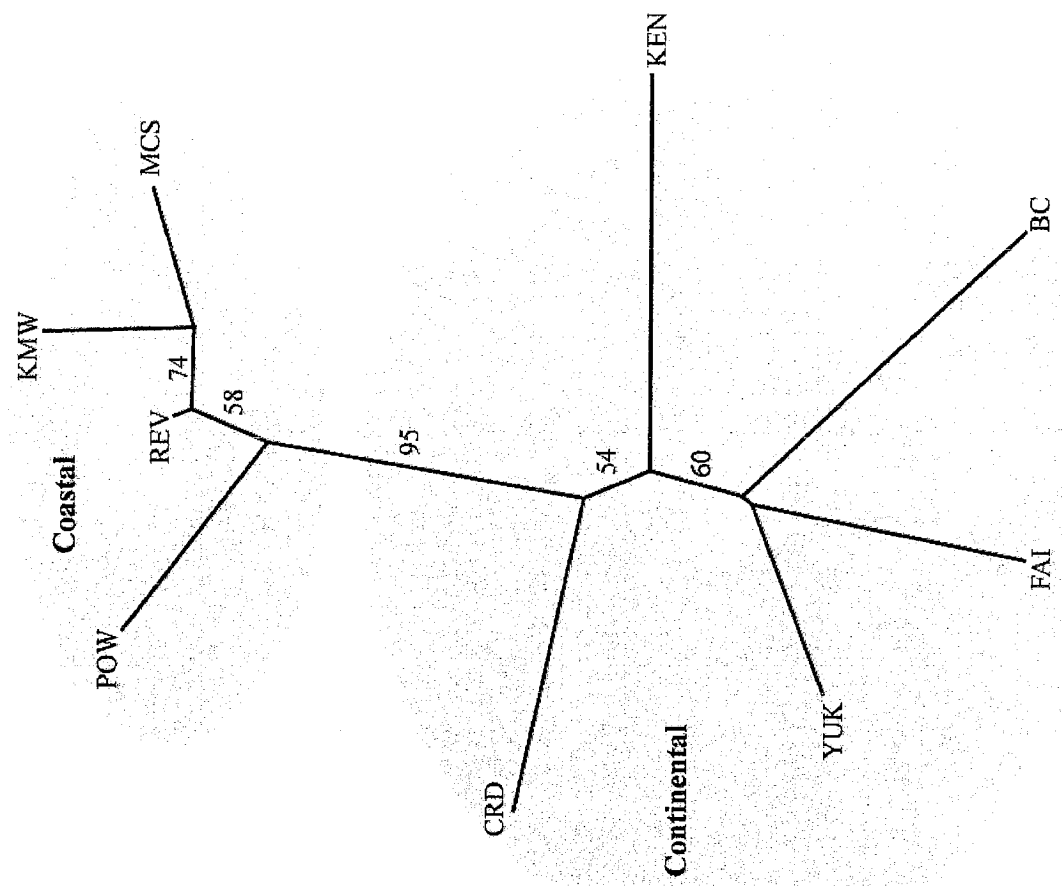


Current Distribution and Taxonomy

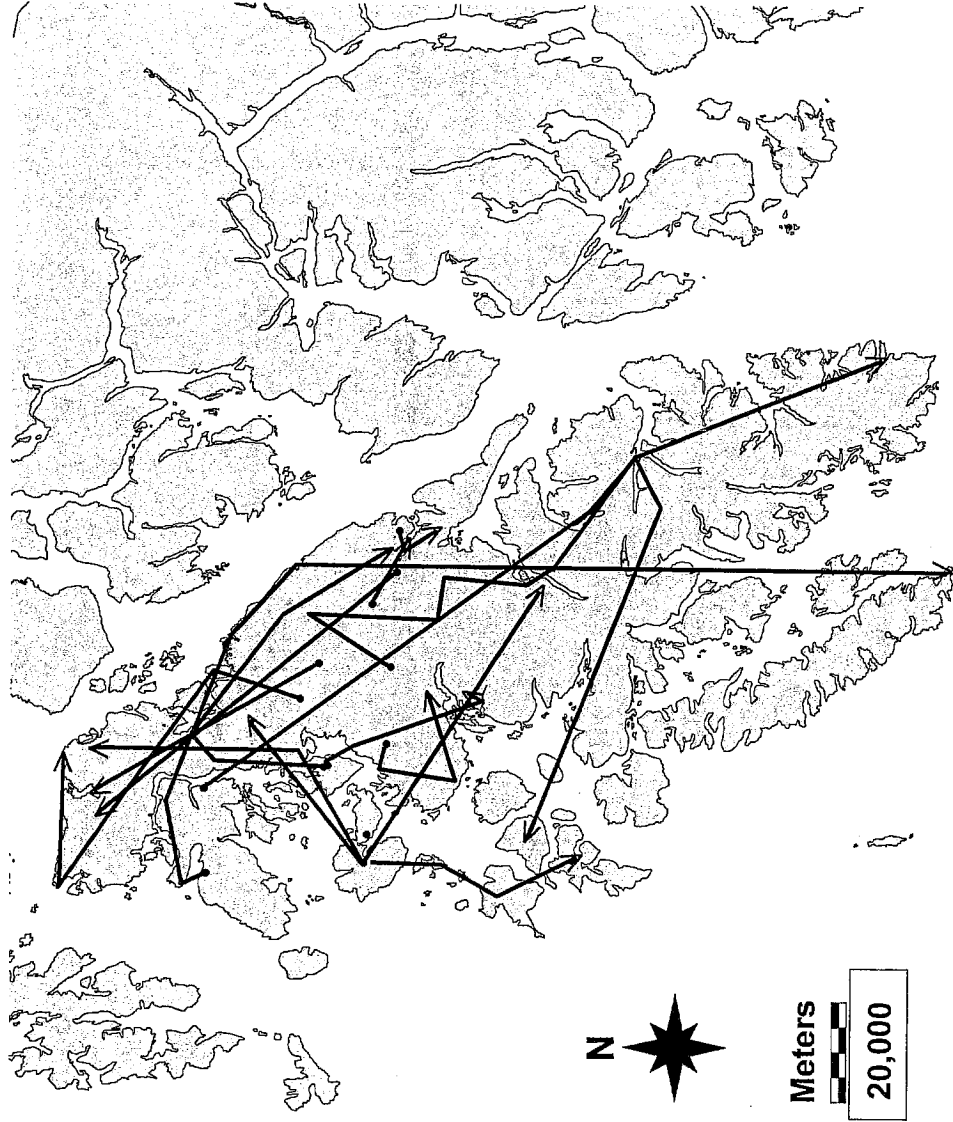


1. *C. I. arctos*
2. *C. I. baileyi*
3. *C. I. lycaon*
4. *C. I. nubilus*
5. *C. I. occidentalis*

Genetic Relations:
Coastal
Vs
Continental Wolves



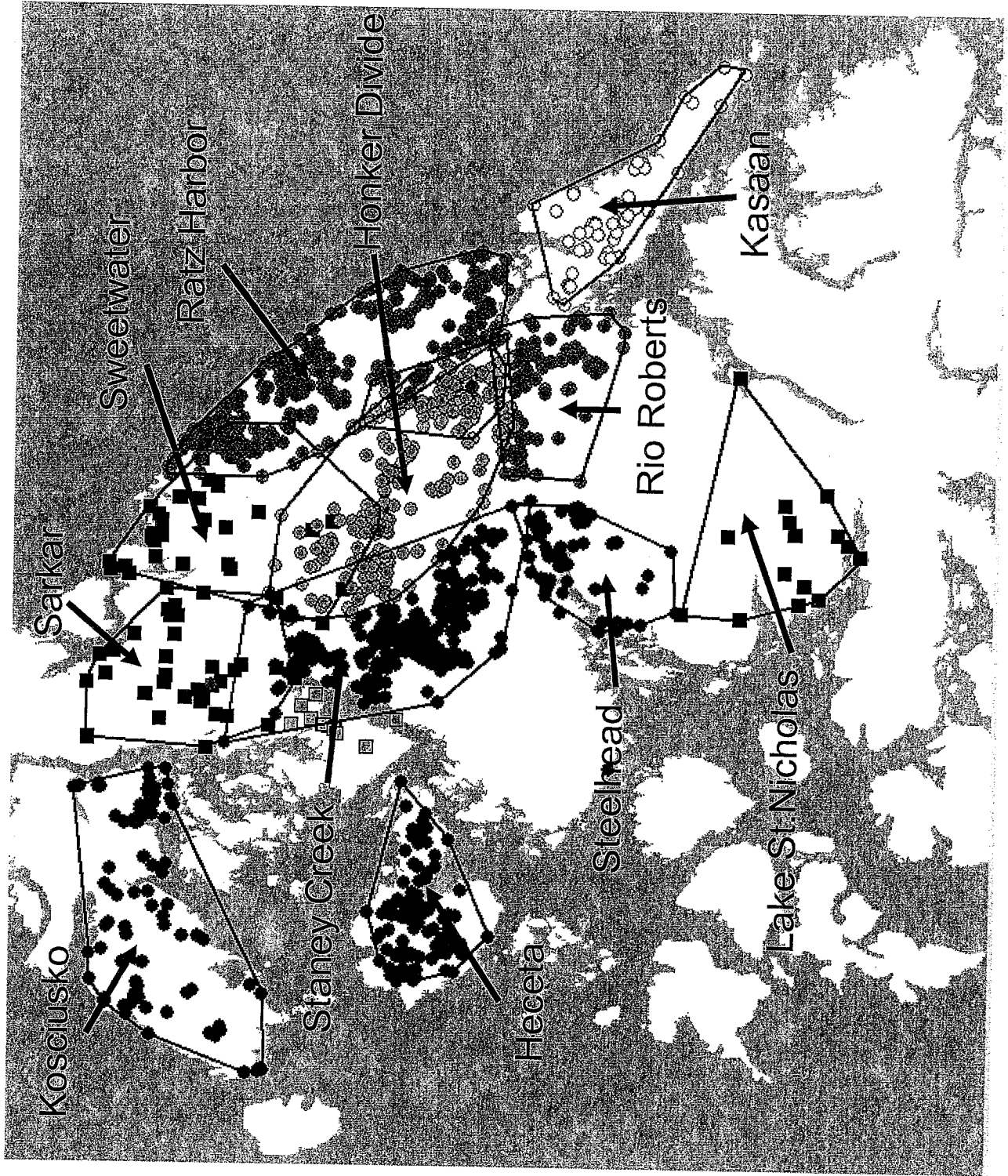
Wolf Dispersal

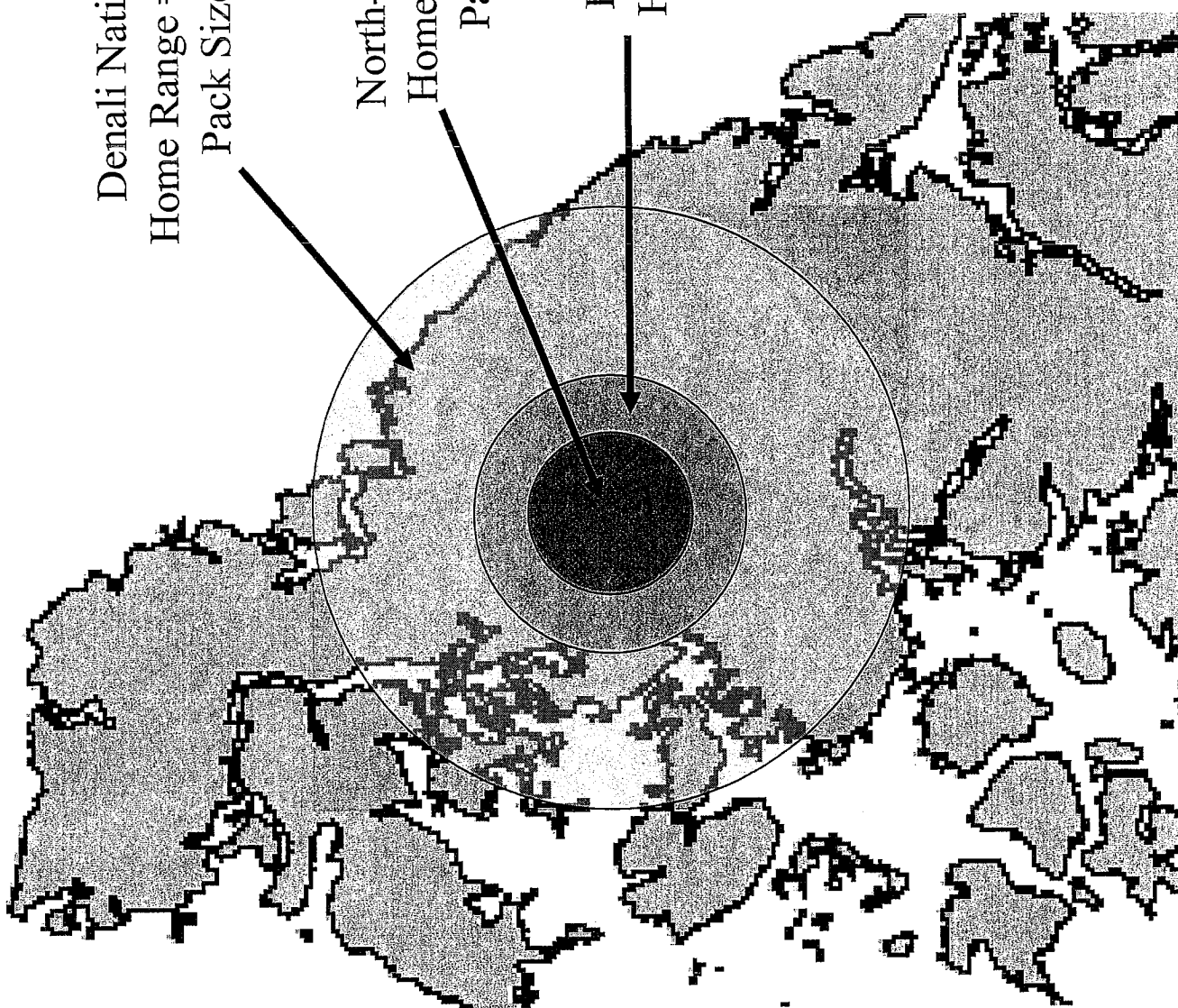


1. 1991-1994 - During development of TLMP conservation strategy, USFS and ADFG biologists selected a group of species for which there were potential concerns about conservation owing to forest management.
2. 1992 - Wolf research begun in GMU 2.
3. 1994 - Wolves and goshawks were petitioned for listing under the ESA as threatened and endangered, respectively. The plaintiffs cited loss of deer habitat and risks of unsustainable mortality owing to roads and human population growth as key issues.
4. 1995-1996 - USFWS concluded the petitioned warranted consideration.

5. 1996 - BOG meeting in Sitka passed a wolf harvest guideline for GMU 2 where concerns about unsustainable mortality and loss of deer habitat were greatest.
6. 1997 - TLMP revision completed and included conservation strategy developed by USFS, ADFG, and USFWS staff.
7. 1997 - Harvest cap was implemented.
8. 1997 - USFWS decides listing under ESA was not warranted because of provisions in TLMP, actions by BOG, and wolf research.

1. The Tongass land management plan includes SE Wolves as a management indicator species. Therefore, wolf populations and their predator-prey dynamics are considered indicators of ecosystem health, function, and integrity.
2. There are several S&Gs associated with wolves:
 - A. Road density guideline
 - B. Deer habitat capability
 - C. Timing of road and logging activity near den sites
3. Old-growth forest reserves are considered critical to wolf population viability as the managed matrix of lands between reserves expands and consumes productive habitats.
4. Provisions for wolves and deer in TLMP were a collaborative effort between USFS, USFWS, and ADFG.



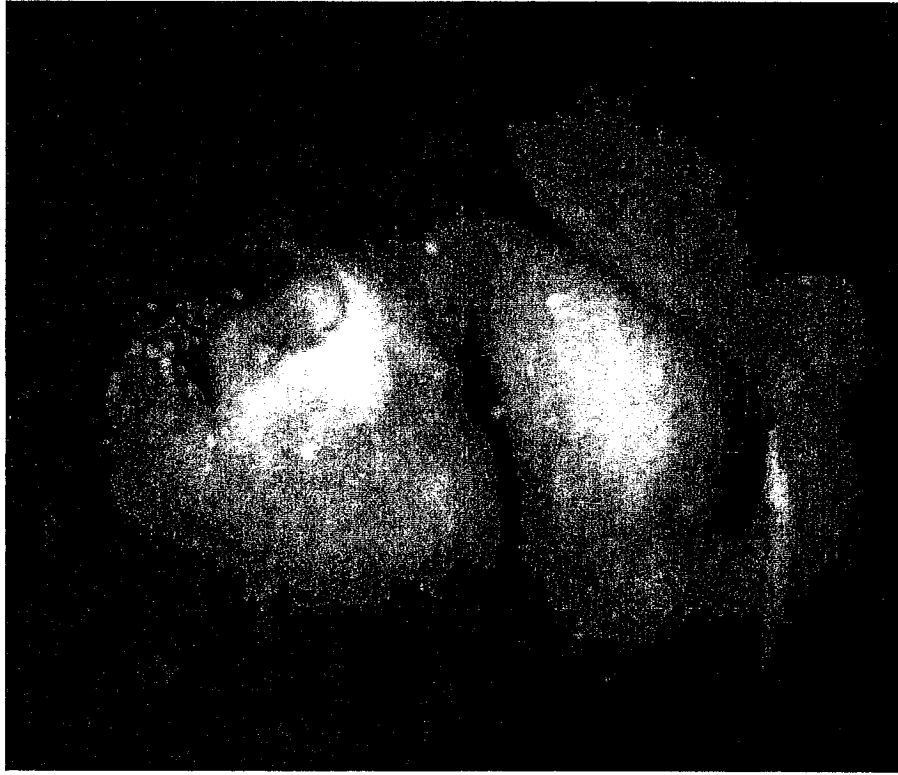
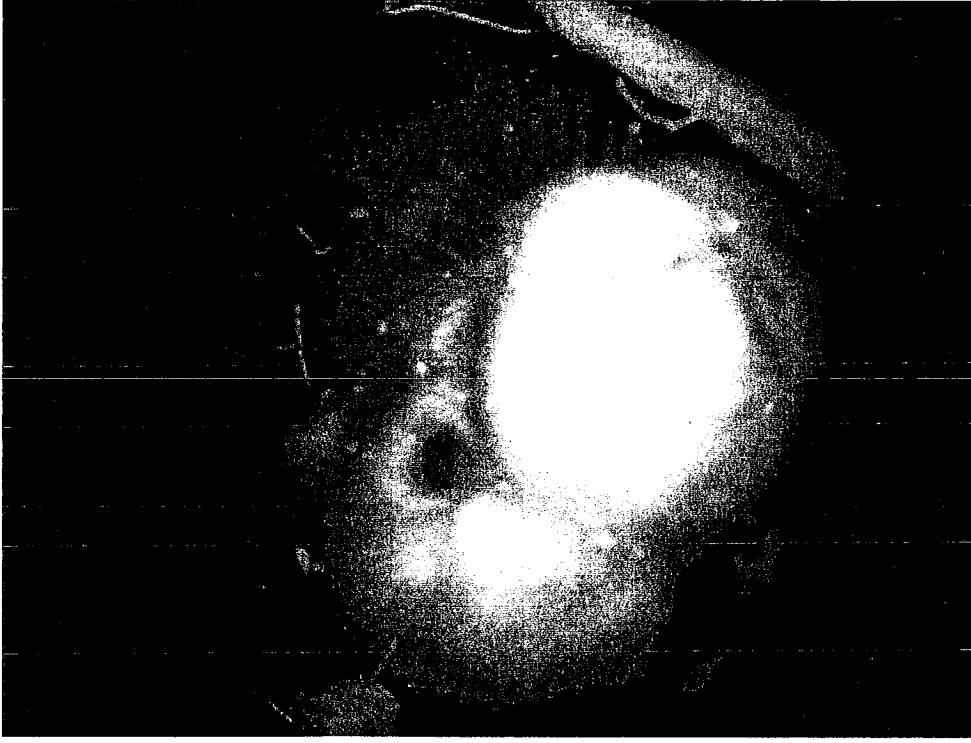


Denali National Park
Home Range = 1,300 km²
Pack Size = 7-8

North-central Minnesota
Home Range = 106 km²
Pack Size = 8-9

Prince of Wales Island
Home Range = 308 km²
Pack Size = 8-9

Mean Litter Size = 4.1,
SE = 1.7, N = 23



SOURCES OF MORTALITY

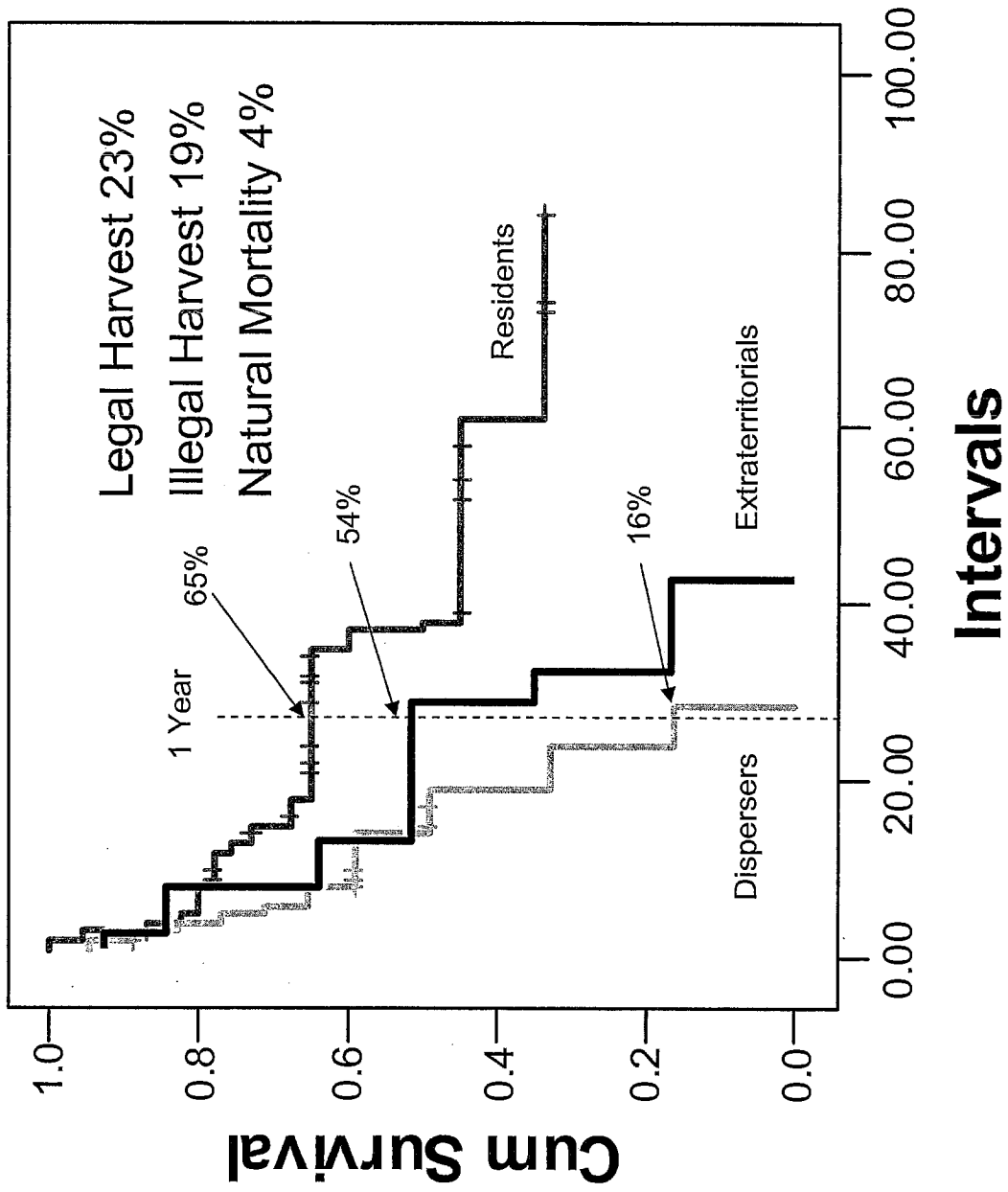
Legal Hunting or Trapping = 18

Unreported or Illegal Killing = 16

Non-human Related Mortality = 5

No Differences by Sex, Age, or Social Class

Survival Functions



Comparison Resident and Nonresident Survival

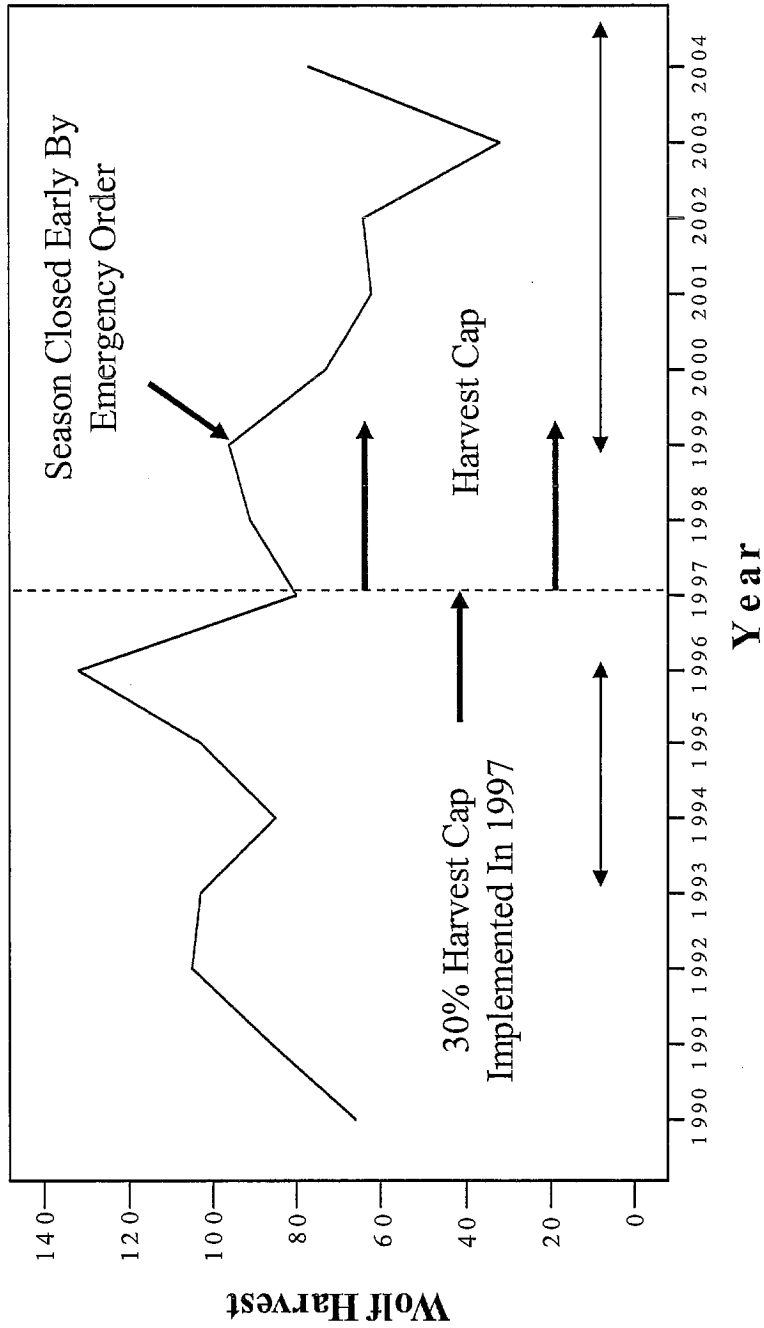
Resident Survival

65%	POW	Person and Russell 2008
73%	Kenai	Peterson et al 1984
81%	Copper River	Carnes 2004
67%	NC-Minnesota	Fuller 1989

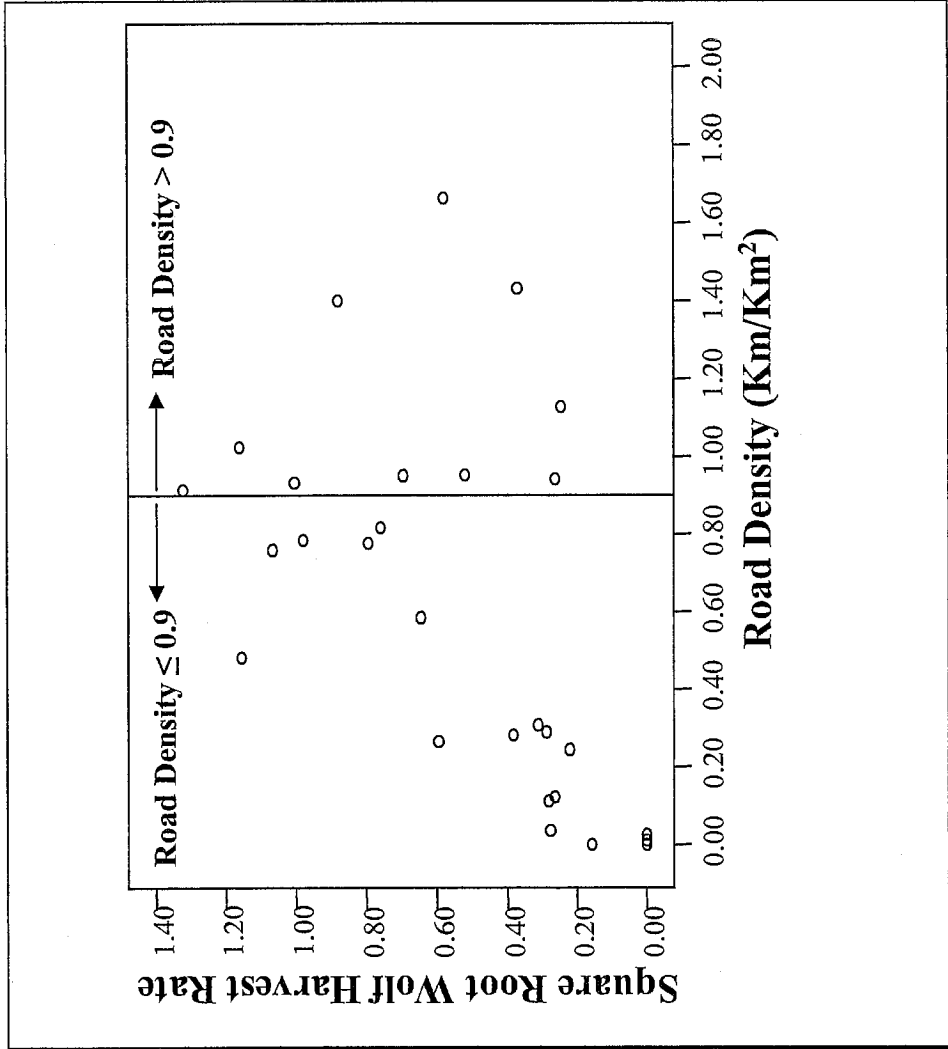
Nonresident Survival

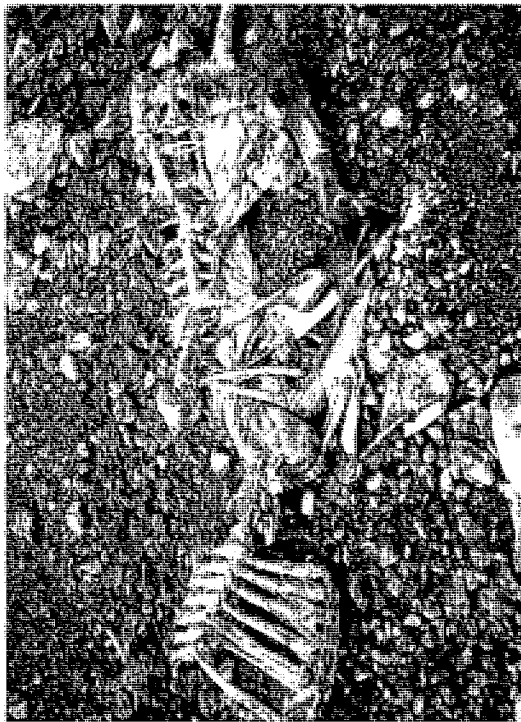
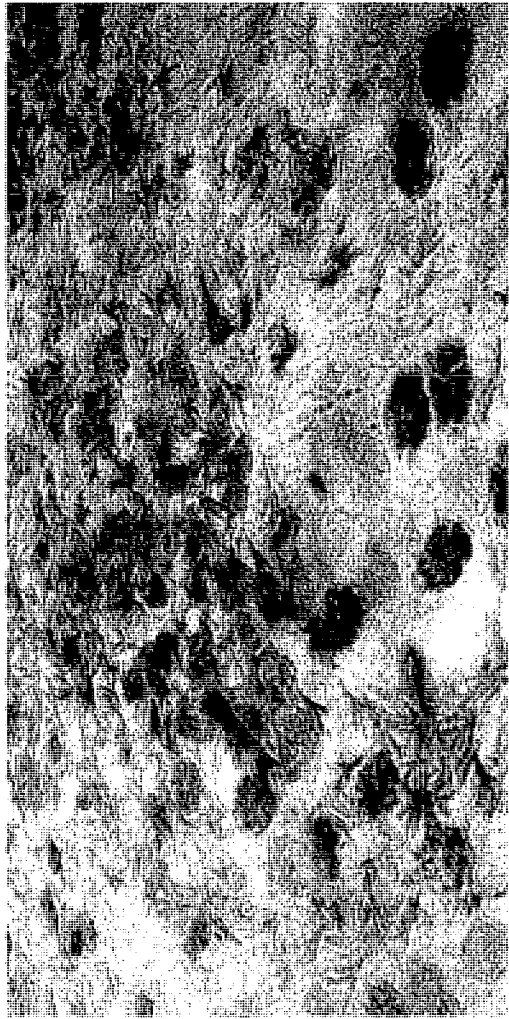
34% (16%)	POW	Person and Russell 2008
38%	Kenai	Peterson et al. 1984
52%	Copper River	Carnes 2004
52%	NC-Minnesota	Fuller 1989

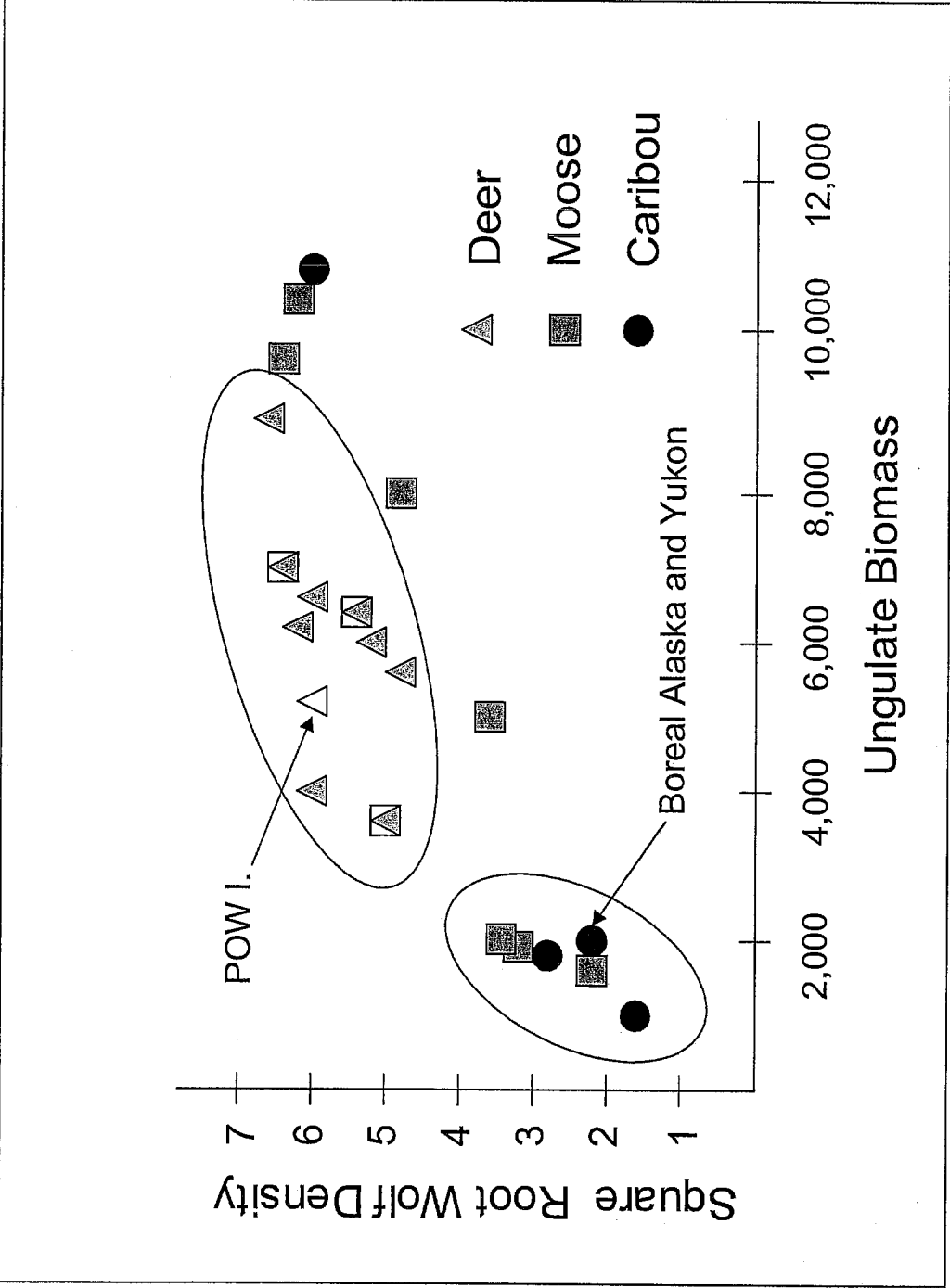
Wolf Harvest 1990 – 2004 Game Management Unit 2



Average Wolf Harvest 1990-1999 Versus Road Density







Deer Mortality

Study	Human	Wolf	Bear	Other	N	%Dead
POWI	9 (6)	7	23	2	80	52.5
Mitkof	16 (2)	15	0	5	55	65.4
Heceta	10 (4)	11	0	16	79	46.8
Total	35 (12)	33	23	23	214	53.3
%	16.4	15.4	10.7	10.7		

Deer Survival and Mortality

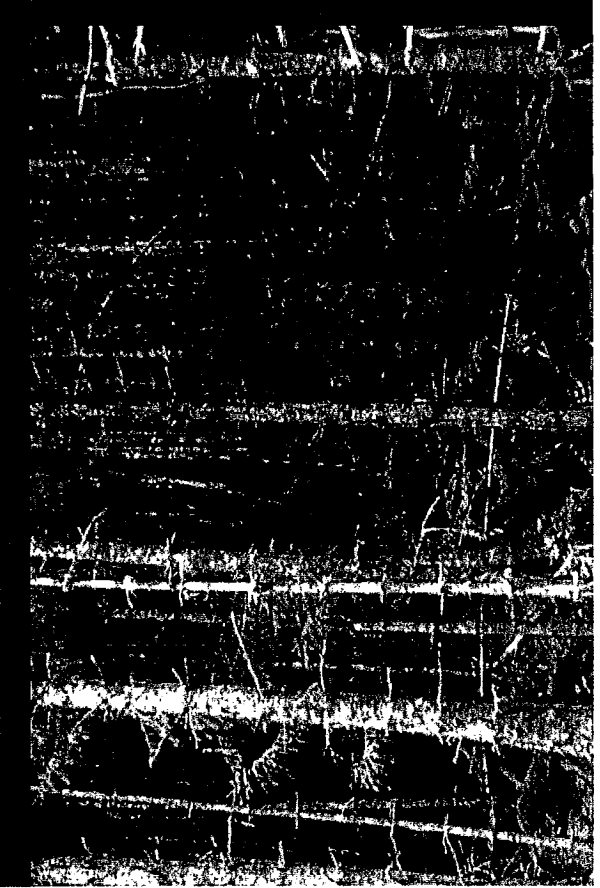
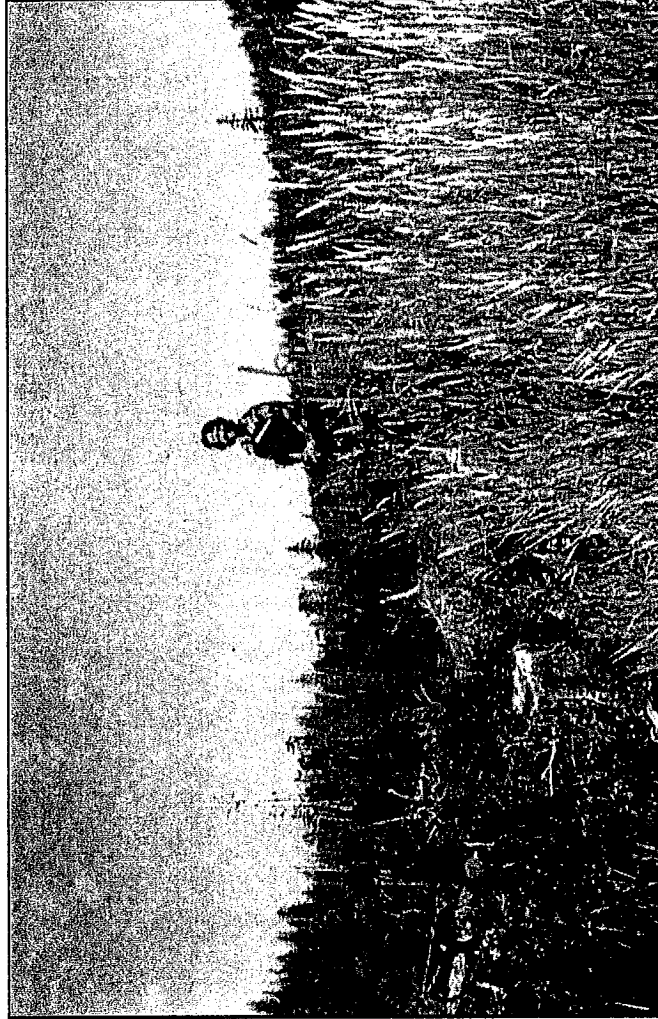
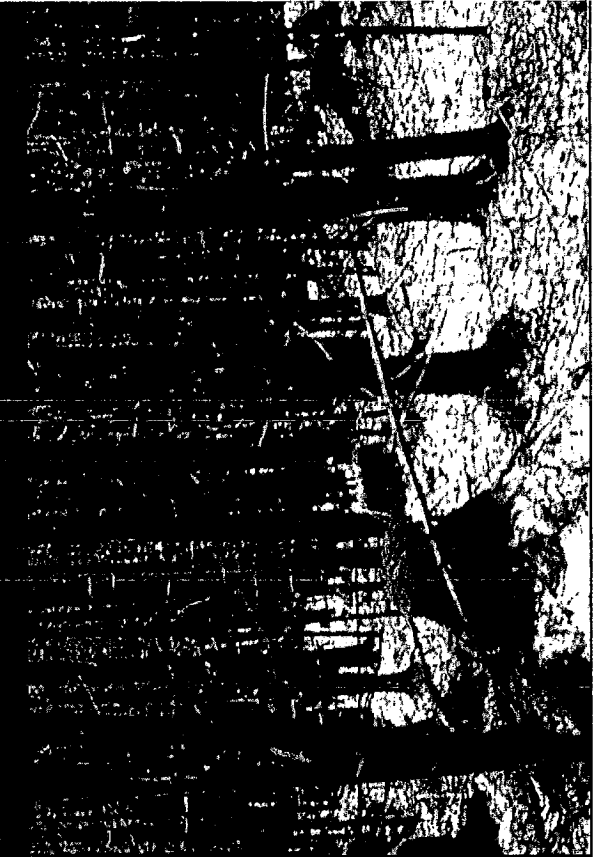
	N	Died	%
Mitkof	36	14	38.9
POW	49	20	40.8
Heceta	49	16	36.7
	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Mitkof	0.89	0.71	0.36
POW	0.88	0.77	0.60
Heceta	0.80	0.55	0.51

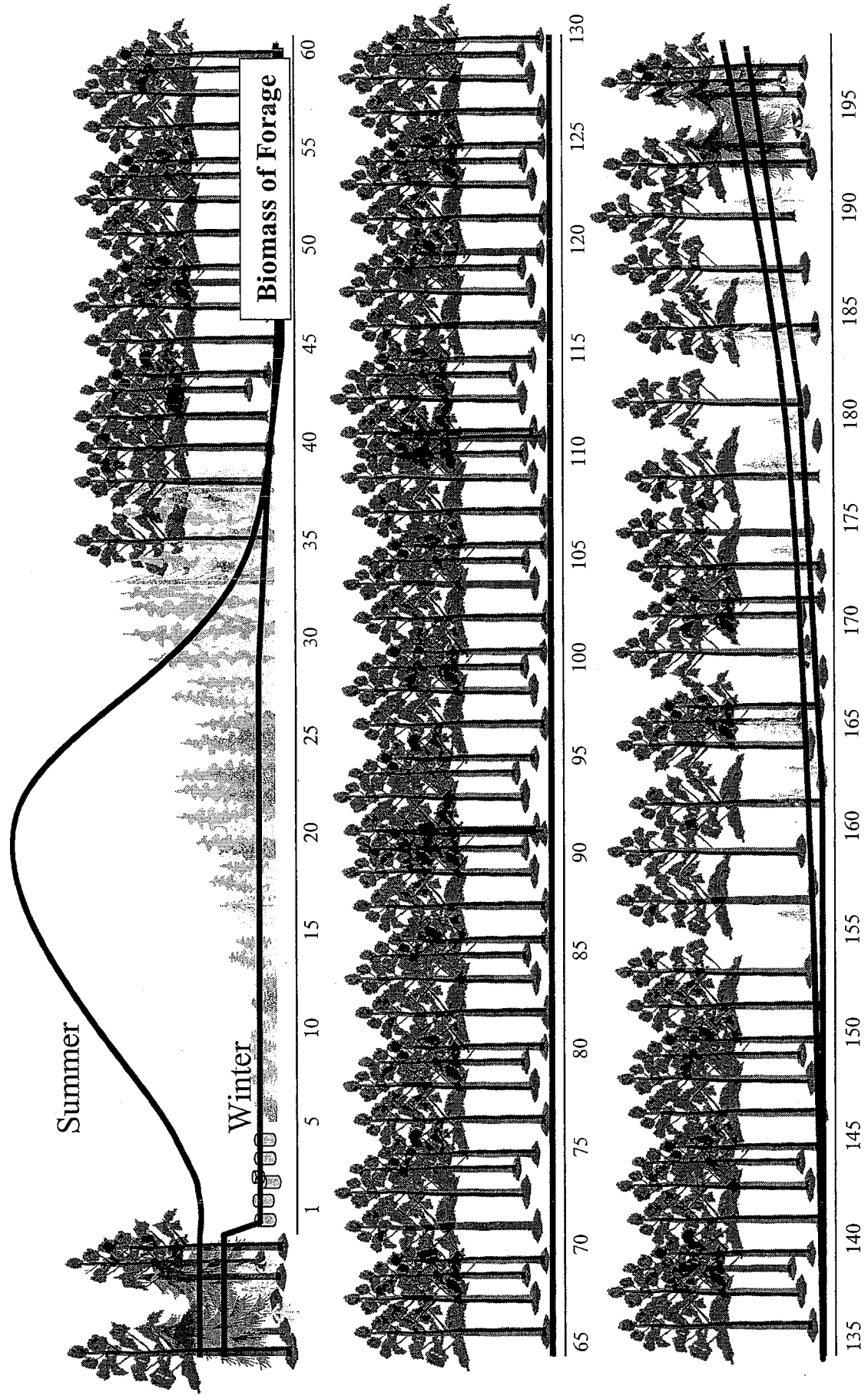
Annual Mortality Rates by Source of Mortality

	<u>Predation</u>	<u>Hunting</u>	<u>Maln</u>	<u>Other</u>
Mitkof	0.085	0.000	0.000	0.029
POW	0.063	0.044	0.021	0.000
Heceta	0.094	0.060	0.050	0.000

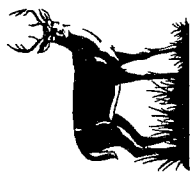
Annual % Deer Mortality (Heceta & POW)

	Human	Wolf	Bear	Other	Total
Adult & Yearling Fem.	5	5	3	4	17
Fawns	10	5	50	0	65
Adult & Yearling Males	28	5	0	5	38





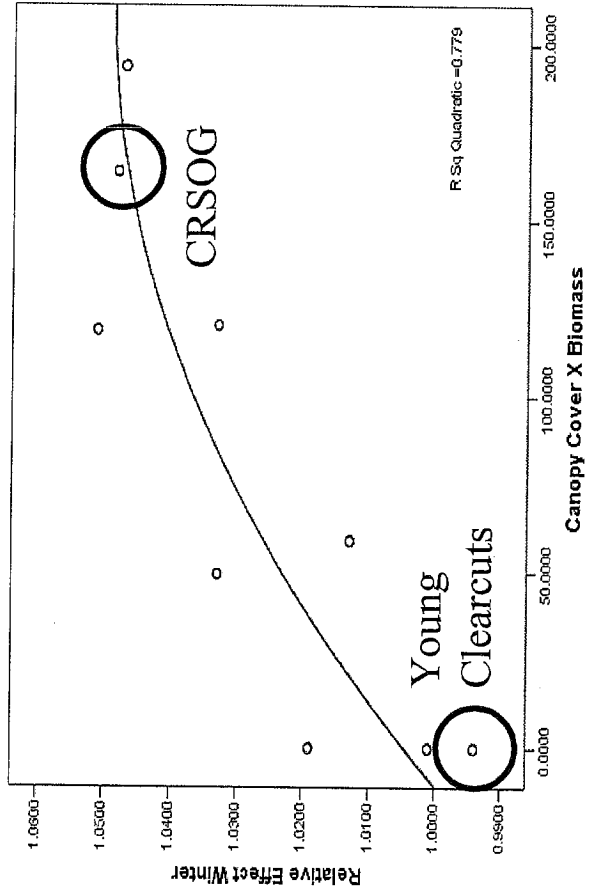
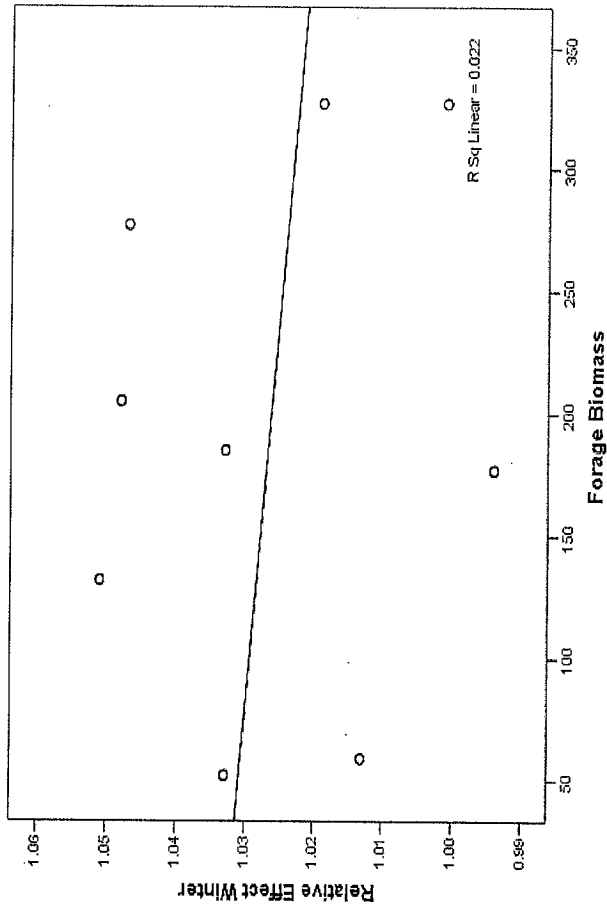
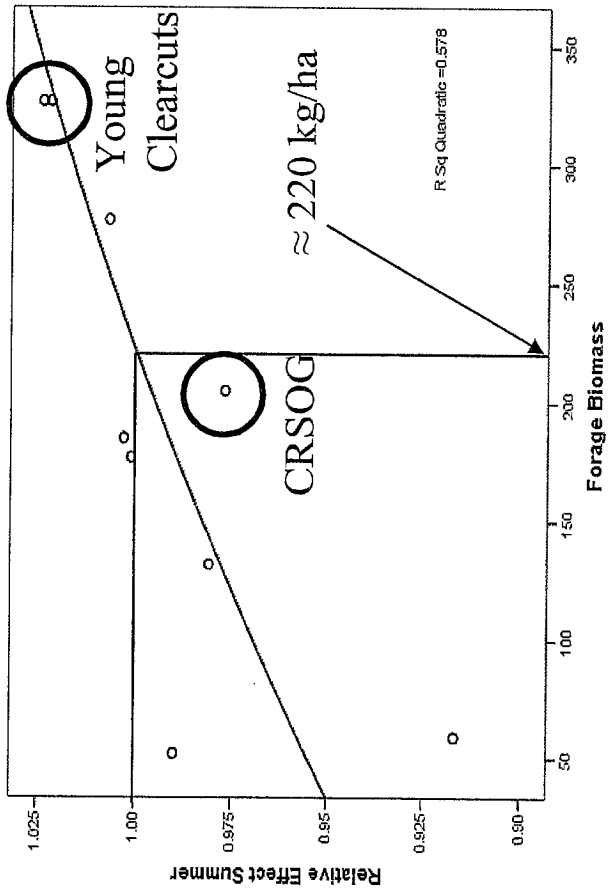
Sources: Alaback 1982 and ADFG



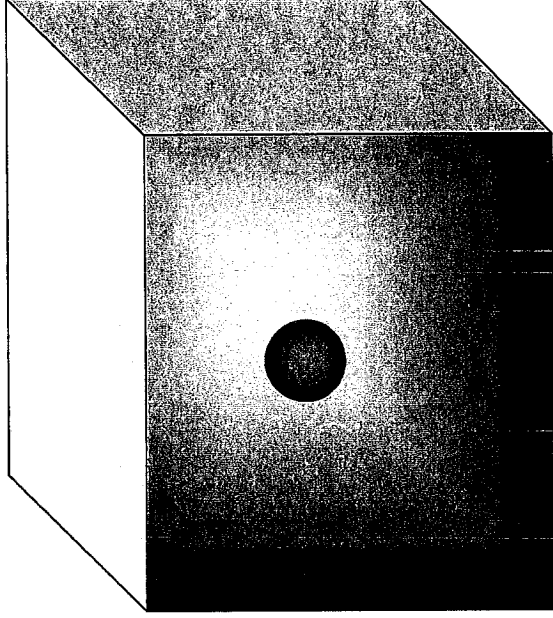
Forage Biomass During July (Current Annual Growth)

Clearcut <20 years old	327 kg/ha
Open-canopy old growth	277 kg/ha
Coarse-canopy old growth	205 kg/ha
Clearcut 20-29 years old	185 kg/ha
Muskeg heath	177 kg/ha
Closed-canopy old growth	132 kg/ha
Clearcut >39 years old	59 kg/ha
Clearcut 30-39 years old	52 kg/ha

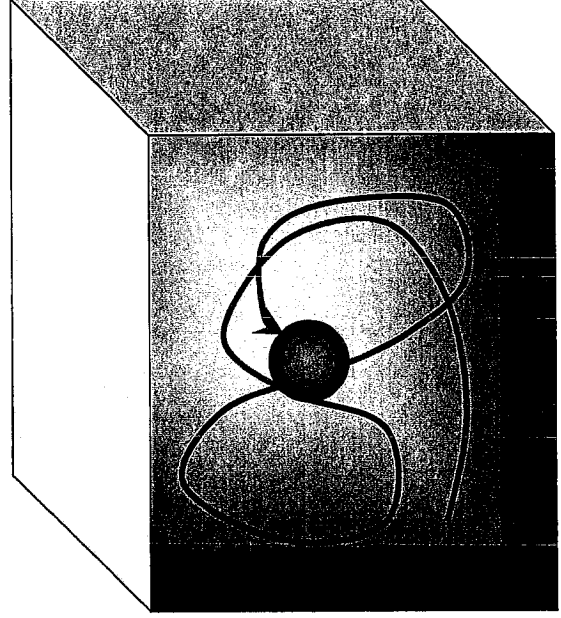
Forage Biomass (kg/ha) Versus Relative Effect



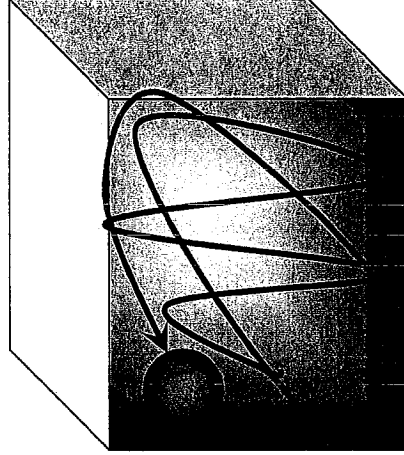
The Ball in the Box



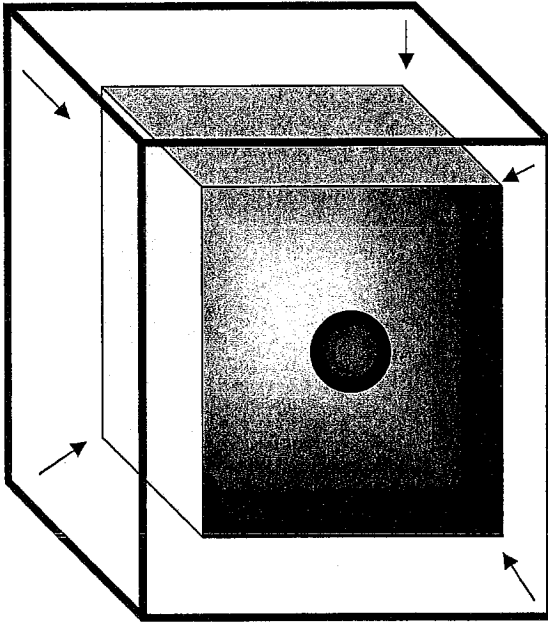
Balance of Nature?



Stability



Persistence



Resilience

DISCRETIONARY PERMIT HUNT CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES

- 5 AAC 92.052
- First implemented in 1985
- Created to provide the department with efficient and timely hunt requirements associated with management and conservation
- Twenty-three conditions identified in codified

"The department may apply any or all of the following additional conditions to a permit hunt, when necessary for management of the species hunted: a permittee shall or may:"

- Register at a designated station before entering, and upon leaving, the field;
- Not hold more than one permit for the same species in a hunt area at one time;
- Demonstrate the ability to identify the species hunted; identify the permit hunt area; and have knowledge of weapon safety and use;

"... a permittee shall or may:"

- Attend an orientation course;
- Carry an operative radio while in the field;
- Deliver specified biological specimens to a check station or to the nearest department office within a time set by the department; the trophy value of an animal taken under a subsistence permit may be nullified by the department;
- Be accompanied by a department representative;
- Not use specified mechanized vehicles for hunting big game or for transporting meat from the hunting area;

"... a permittee shall or may:"

- Notify the department if they cancel their plan to hunt, and within a time limit specified by the department;
- Acknowledge in writing that they have read, understand, and will abide by the conditions specified for the hunt;
- Hunt only during specified time periods;
- Be at least 10 years old;
- Submit, on a form supplied by the department, information requested by the department about the hunt, and within the time limit set by the department;

"... a permittee shall or may:"

- Hold a valid Alaska hunting license; however, this does not apply to a resident under the age of 16. An applicant's hunting license number must be entered on the permit application. A resident under the age of 16 shall enter their age instead of a license number;
- Complete a department-approved bowhunter education course to participate in a permit hunt that allows only the use of bow and arrow;
- Take only an animal of a sex specified by the department;
- Be limited to one big game registration permit at a time in Units 1, 17, 20E, 22, and 23;

"... a permittee shall or may:"

- Transfer the permittee's Unit 13 subsistence permit to a resident member of the permittee's family, within the second degree of kinship.

... additionally:

- Only a specified number of permittees may hunt during the same time period, and a permittee may hunt only in a specified subdivision within the permit hunt area;
- A person with physical disabilities, as defined in AS 16.05.940, with a special permit to hunt with a motorized vehicle, must be accompanied by another hunter who has a valid hunting license and is capable of assisting the permittee in retrieving game taken by the permittee;

- The number of registration permits that may be issued per household for a specified big game hunt may be limited;
- The permit hunt area authorized by the Board of Game may be subdivided into smaller permit hunt areas;
- Except as otherwise provided, if a drawing permit hunt is undersubscribed, surplus permits may be made available at the Division of Wildlife Conservation office responsible for management of the applicable hunt.



Black Bear Trapping Regulations

Proposal 36

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation



Review

- ◎ Historically, black bears have variously been treated as big game animals or furbearers in North America.
 - In Canada, sale of bear skins has been legal in all provinces for over 300 years without conservation issues. Trapping legal in most provinces (all if First Nations are considered)
 - In Alaska, black bears were variously classified as big game or furbearers by Alaska Game Commission—sale of black bear hides was allowed by BOG as recently as the 1960s
 - Maine has allowed trapping for many years—currently, 250 trappers take about 75 bears/year
 - **Board has received at least 18 proposals over the past 10 years to allow sale of bear skins or snaring**

Black Bears as a Furbearer

- Black bears added to the definition of “furbearer” at January 2010 meeting in response to Yukon Flats AC proposal to allow sale of black bear hides—1 July 2010
 - Does not automatically allow bear trapping.
 - Does allow board to establish trapping seasons if the Board chooses to do so.

Purpose of Trapping Proposal

- Be responsive to Alaskans who want help with bear/moose management issues
 - Problem animals around fish camps and cabins
 - Predation on moose calves in hunting areas around villages
 - Avoid having to implement more aerial wolf control
 - Convince people to use more selective methods in dealing with problem bears
- Provide examples of management situations that might be addressed with bear trapping
- Promote discussion among ACs, the public, the Board about how trapping could be used to help manage black bears

Policy Considerations

- Draft Bear Policy is before the Board.
- Trapping not intended to provide additional opportunity for harvest—it is a intended as a management tool
- Focus trapping into small areas where it is likely to solve existing problems, not create new ones

Practical Considerations if the Board

Authorizes Open Trapping Seasons

- Methods and Means
- Bag limit—any black bear
- Incidentally Caught brown/grizzly bears
- Nonresident participation
- Age Limit
- Same-day-airborne
- Uncaptured brown/grizzly bears near traps
- Periodic trap check requirement

Practical Considerations (con't)

- Bait-site/trap site considerations
- Commercial Use
- Controlled Use Areas
- Conservation Concerns
- Human Safety Concerns
- Land Status

Units Under Consideration, Seasons

- ◎ GMUs--with history of proposals for bear trapping
 - Unit 12, that portion north of the Alaska Highway and west of the Taylor Highway
 - Unit 16B
 - Unit 19A
 - Unit 19D
 - Unit 20E
 - Unit 21
 - Unit 25D, outside the Dalton Highway Corridor
- ◎ April 15 – June 30 and July 1 – Oct 15
- ◎ Trappers must register with ADF&G or registration permit required, may be closed by emergency order when xx brown bears are incidentally taken.

Areas Under Consideration

- Yukon Flats, McGrath, and middle Kuskokwim has been the focus of discussion, but Department worked with other ACs who also have concerns (e.g. 20C, 12-20E).
- Areas are large--intended to become smaller
- Smaller areas described in regulation?
- Smaller areas established under permit conditions?

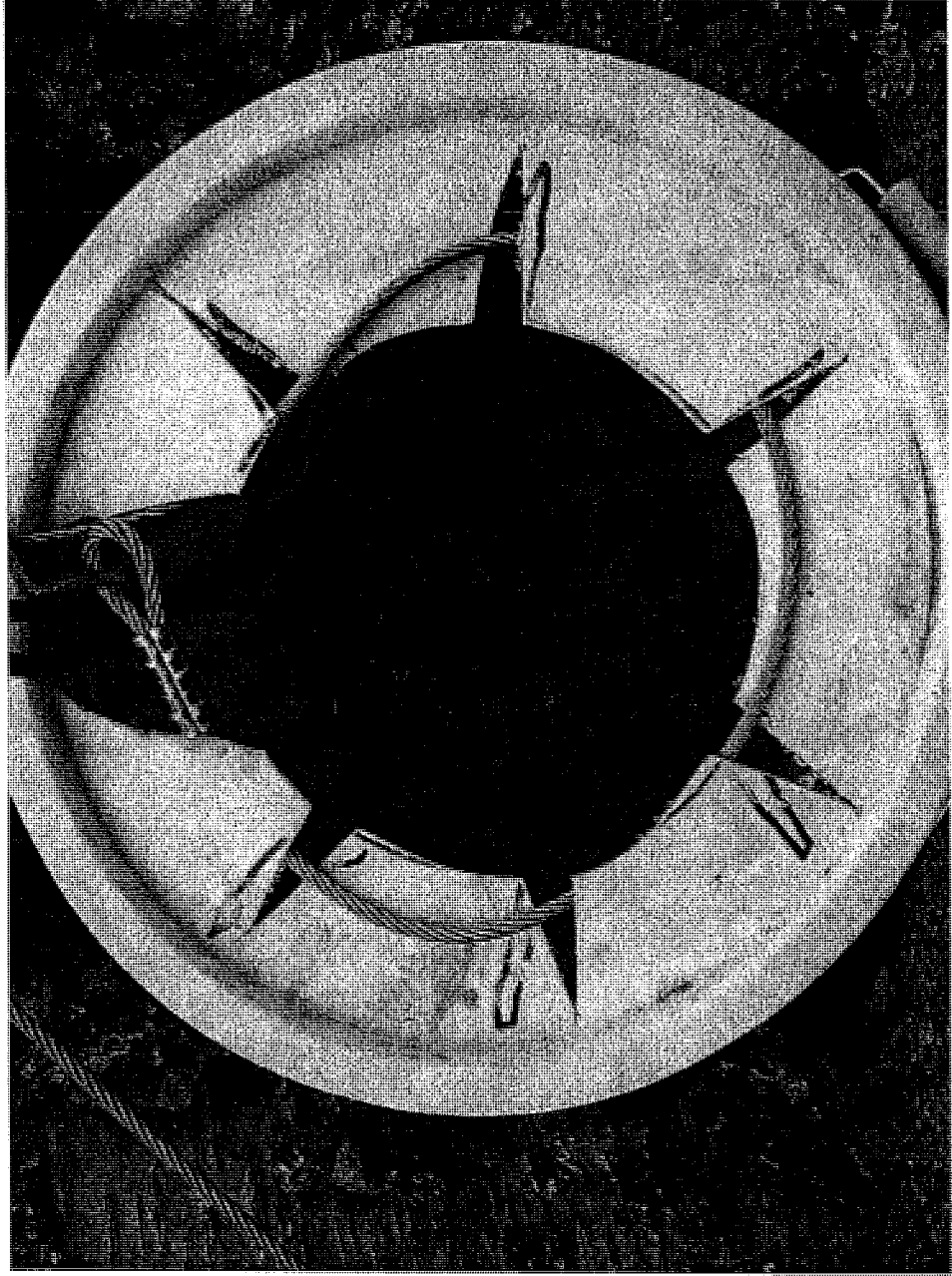
Salvage Requirement

- ◉ **Default**
 - Hides only
 - Meat can be sold
- ◉ **Recommend**
 - Either meat or hide
 - Meat cannot be sold
- ◉ **Considered**
 - No salvage requirements

Methods and Means

- ◎ **Default**
 - All snares, leg-hold traps
 - Firearms (rimfire and centerfire)
 - Archery
- ◎ **Recommend**
 - Bucket foot snares--selectivity, non-target catch
 - Centerfire firearms-archery not likely in rural areas
- ◎ **Considered**
 - Archery and Muzzleloader – this would entail developing minimum equipment standards similar to those used in big game hunts

Bucket Snares-Description



Bag Limit

- ◎ Default—must be defined by Board
- ◎ Recommend—any bear
 - Note: although bucket snares are quite selective, depending on how they are set, some females or cubs will be taken

Incidentally Caught Brown Bears

- ◉ **Default**
 - Remain property of the state
- ◉ **Recommend**
 - Remain property of the state unless moose management goals can't be achieved
- ◉ **Considered**
 - Allow trappers to keep brown bears
 - Harvested bears need to be skinned and hide and skull delivered to the department

Nonresident Participation

◎ Default

- Residents and non-residents

◎ Options

- Residents and non-residents (when a nonresident is accompanied by a resident over the age of 16 who is registered to trap bears)
 - Confounded by how incidentally caught brown/grizzly bears and protective or young bears are handled
- Residents only
- Require guide for nonresidents

Minimum Age

- ◉ Default
 - No minimum age
- ◉ Recommend
 - Age limit--16 years and older

Same-day Airborne Shooting of Black Bears

◎ Default

- Same-day airborne permitted for trapping

◎ Recommend

- Allow same-day airborne, greater than 300 feet of aircraft

Uncaptured Brown Bears Near Traps

- ◉ Default
 - Not allowed to be legally taken, except DLP
- ◉ Recommend
 - Allow protective or dependent bears to be killed if within xxx distance of trap

Trap Check Requirement

- ◉ Default
 - No requirement
- ◉ Recommend
 - Every 2 days

Note: Department does not recommend trap check intervals for other trapping in winter—primarily for safety concerns

Black Bear Bait Site Registration Trapping Permit Recommendations

- ◉ Must register with the department
- ◉ Must be clearly marked
- ◉ Must be cleaned up after use
- ◉ Must be away from public roads, trails and railroad, and houses or permanent dwellings, businesses and schools, and campgrounds and public recreation facilities
- ◉ Only biodegradable materials can be used for bait

Other Black Bear Trapping Recommendations

◎ Default

- Trappers can receive payment for taking people on traplines
- must report harvest of incidentally taken brown bears within 5 days

◎ Cub black bears and sows with cubs may be taken

Commercial Use

◎ Default

- Trappers can receive payment for taking people on traplines

Controlled Use Areas

◉ Technically, the following areas will be open for the use of mechanized vehicles for bear trapping (current regulations only apply to hunting) — probably not a major issue.

- Glacier Mountain CUA
- Ladue River CUA
- Upper Kuskokwim CUA
- Holitna - Hoholitna CUA

Conservation Issues

- ADF&G does not anticipate conservation issues with black bears or with brown/grizzly bears, even if the Board opens large areas to trapping.
- Number of bears taken will be relatively small
- Brown/grizzly bears much more resilient to harvest than previously thought—bears can tolerate higher percentage harvest than ungulates (where predation occurs)
- Relatively few people will participate
- Harvest cap on brown/grizzly bears
- Reporting/sealing requirements for brown/grizzly bears

Human Safety Concerns

- ADF&G does not consider this a major issue—probably similar to hunting brown/grizzly bears
 - Bucket snares are selective for black bears
 - Bear snaring clinics
 - Age limit—could be raised if Board thinks 16 is too young

Land Status

- Parts of some units include Regional Village Corporation Lands, NPS and USFWS lands
- Regional Corporation—access for non-shareholders
- NPS lands in 20E and 19D
 - No intension to allow bear trapping—no villages, no benefit
- Yukon Flats
 - USFWS supports Yukon Flats Moose Management Plan including reducing predation on moose—more discussion needed with Service

Status of Current Proposal

- Amended by the Board at October 2010 meeting—Units 16 and 19D removed from proposal and proposal deferred to March 2012 (Interior) meeting in Fairbanks to stay in existing Board cycle

Proposal 46

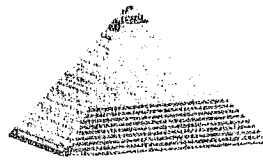


Random Draw



Bonus Point

Preference Systems for Distribution of Drawing Permits



Preference Point

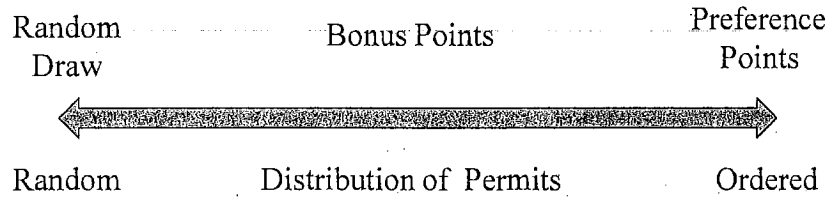
Hunter Concerns / Desires

Hunters desire better chance to receive popular drawing permits

- Fairness: some hunters receive coveted permits multiple times while others have never been drawn

Some hunters believe a system that rewards perseverance is preferred

Types of Selection Systems



Random Drawing



Put names in a 'hat' and draw them out randomly to determine winners

No memory of previous year's results

Relatively easy for hunters to understand

Random Drawing



Pros

- Everyone has an equal chance each year
- No penalty to new hunters / youth
- Inexpensive to administer program

Cons

- Equal chance does not mean equal success

Preference Points



Points are awarded to hunters unsuccessful in previous drawings

Permits are awarded to applicants with highest number of points

Requires memory of drawing results from previous years

Preference Points



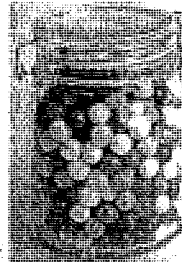
Pros

- Orderly distribution of hunting opportunity
- Rewards persistence

Cons

- Discourages new hunters
- Complex rules – more difficult to understand
 - Points for species or points for hunts
 - Disqualification for non-participation
- Costly to administer
- May take long time to see effect (distribute hunters w/ points)

Bonus Points

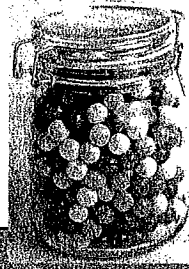


Applicants are given additional opportunities to be drawn based on previously unsuccessful applications

Many formulas for defining additional opportunity

Requires memory of previous years

Bonus Points



Pros

- Rewards persistence
- Everyone has some chance to win – albeit unequal

Cons

- Persistence does not guarantee success
- Discouraging to new hunters / youth
- Difficult to understand / predict success
- Costly to administer

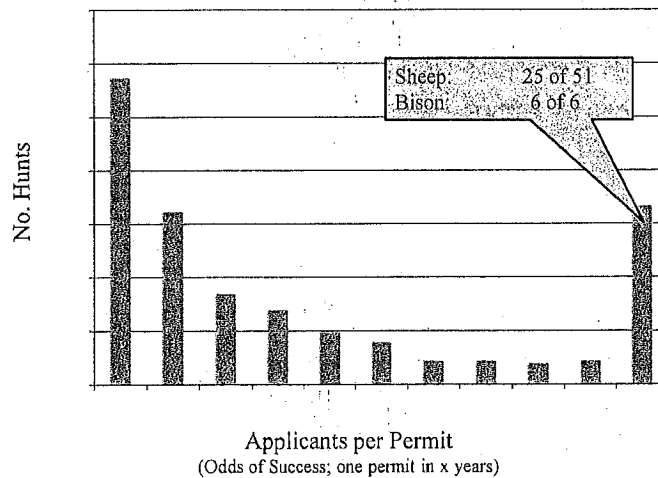
Alaska's Situation - Statistics

# Drawing hunts	400
# Applicants (hunters)	26,000
# Applications	130,000
Ave. applications / hunter	5
Odds of Success	1:1,500

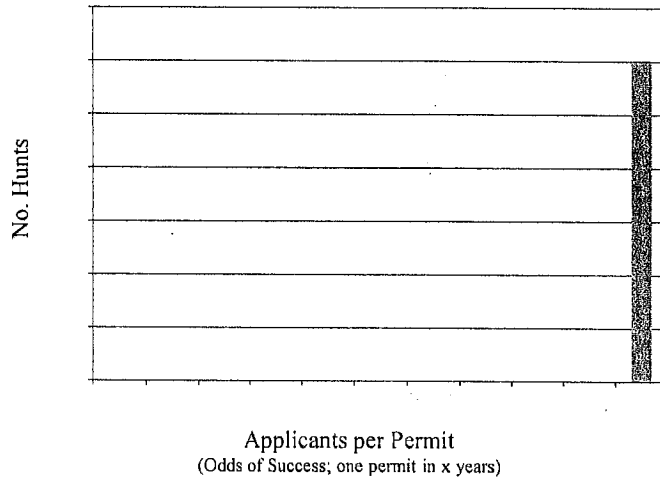
Drawing Hunts Characteristics

Species	# Draw Hunts	Random Draw Odds
Bison	6	1:60 - 1:200
Brown Bear	103	1:1 - 1:175
Caribou	4	1:12 - 1:25
Elk	12	1:3 - 1:65
Goat	36	1:5 - 1:200
Moose	117	1:1 - 1:100
Muskoxen	5	1:16 - 1:65
Sheep	51	1:3 - 1:500

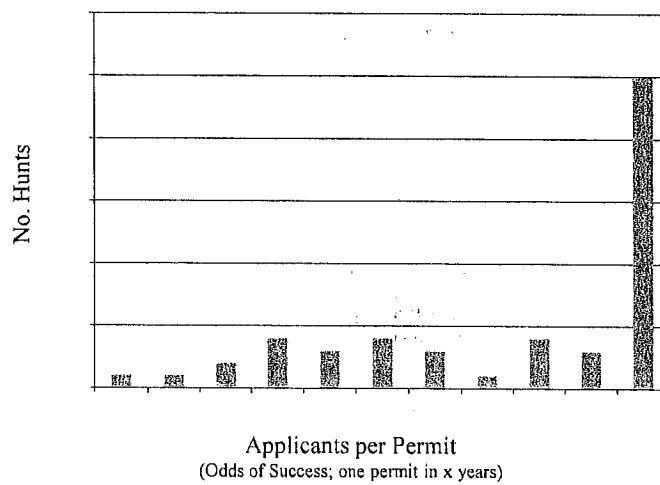
The Issue: Supply and Demand



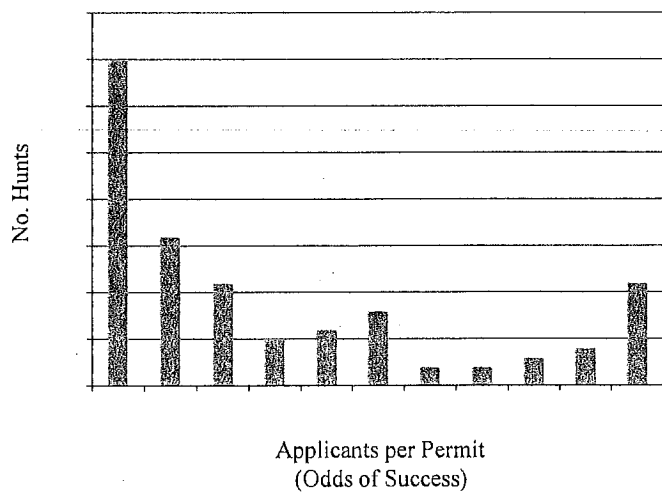
Bison



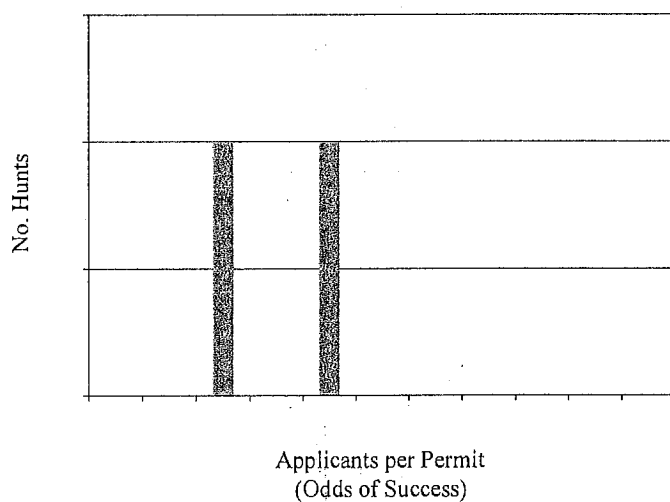
Sheep



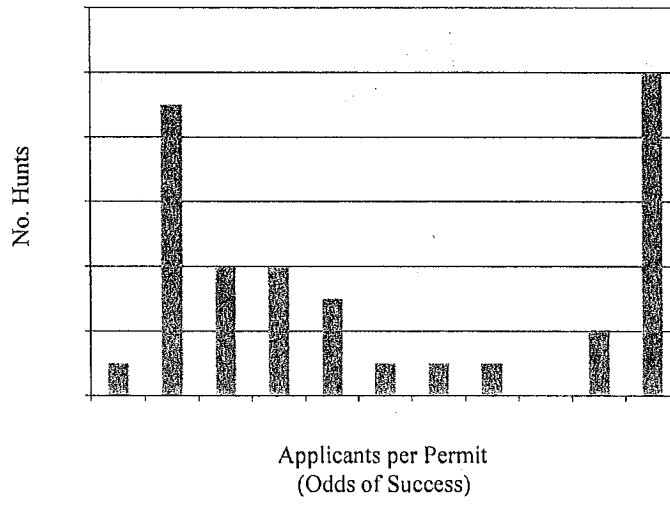
Brown Bears



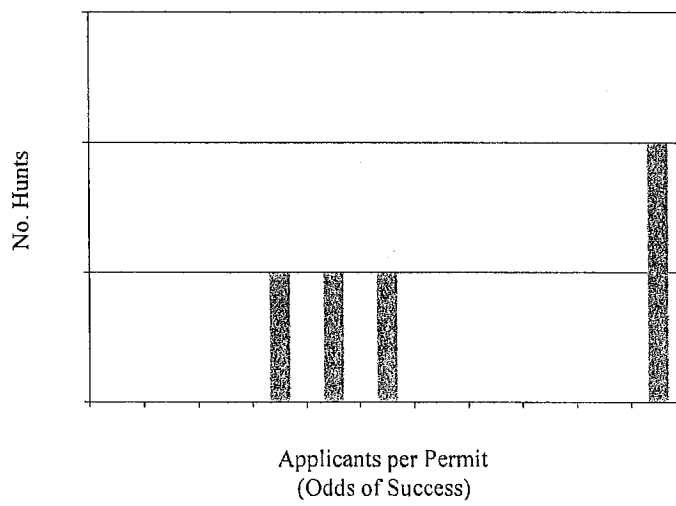
Caribou



Goats



Muskoxen



Comparison of Bonus Point and Random Draw with Removal

Characteristics of Preference System	Bonus Points	Random Draw w/ Removal
Discourage new hunters / youth	Medium - High	Low
Orderly distribution of permits	Medium - High	Low - Medium
Cost to develop and administer	High	Low
Ease for user to understand system	Medium	High

Random Draw with Removal

Drawing Hunt	Odds of Success	Current Restriction (after permit award)	Proposed Removal Period (after permit award)
Delta Bison	1:170	10 years	Once in a lifetime
Tok Sheep	1:70	4 years	Once in a lifetime
Muskoxen	1:25 - 1:50	--	25 years
??			

Cost of Developing and Managing Bonus Point System - Internal

Pros

- Able to integrate with other related systems
- Better control over system (operations, changes, quality control)

Cons

- Competing priorities for limited staff
- Need to add additional staff

Cost of Developing and Managing Bonus Point System - Contracted

Pros

- Much less impact on department staff

Cons

- Ability to modify the system quickly
- Requires contract administration
- Requires interface with internal systems
- Issues over customer support
- Costly to modify systems after constructed

Previously Adopted Preference System Language

(4) permit issuance:

(A) the department shall issue registration permits in the order applications are received and drawing permits on a lottery basis: the department may issue drawing permits on a bonus point system as follows:

1. An applicant for a bonus drawing hunt must have a current license to apply for the hunt and complete the appropriate drawing application. Since the application period will be Nov. - Dec. the dept will implement a requirement to purchase the next year's license.
2. An applicant must use consistent hunter identification each year when applying for a hunt. This permanent customer ID will be provided by the department the first time the applicant applies.
3. Applications and accompanying fees, that include nonresidents, shall only be made online.

4. The applicant will accumulate 1 point for the first year that he/she is unsuccessful in obtaining a permit for that species when included in the draw; after the first year of inclusion in the bonus point pool, points will be doubled each year thereafter : year 1 = 1 point, year 2 = 2 points, year 3 = 4 points, year 4 = 8 points, etc.

5. An applicant may choose to not apply for a species-specific bonus point system for two consecutive years and not lose her/his bonus points. All bonus points will be lost if the applicant fails to apply for each species-specific bonus point system after a two-year grace period.

6. An applicant may submit an application and accompanying fee and choose to not hunt for a species-specific bonus point system for a given year. The application and fee shall allow the applicant to accrue points for that year without being part of the draw.

7. Once an applicant receives a permit to hunt a species that he/she has been applying for under a bonus point system, his/her total points return to zero and they must start over to accumulate new points.

8. Drawings under the bonus point system:

A. Available permits for the specific hunt will be allocated on a 50%/50% basis..

1) 50% shall be available for everyone who applies for the hunt

2) 50% shall be allocated to those who choose to participate in the species-specific bonus point system.

3) Points accrue for each bonus point species and cannot be interchanged between species.

4) If the applicant has bonus points for a species, those available points are added to each hunt the applicant chooses.

B. Party hunt applications under the bonus point system shall only be allowed for Dall sheep

1) For party hunts, the average (.5 rounded up), of all points among applicants shall be used as the number of bonus points in the pool.

C. Points are accumulated by the individual and cannot be transferred.

D. The department will apply the bonus point system to the following hunts:

(i) All bison drawing permits.

(ii) All Dall sheep drawing permits.

Managing expectations

- Expectations - unsuccessful applicants frustrated by their lack of success
- Laws of probability
- No perfect system
- Establishing a bonus point system will take time before the effects are realized

Summary

- Bonus point systems are costly and can be complicated.
- By increasing the odds in favor of one group of applicants, you are decreasing the odds of others (e.g., young hunters).
- No matter which system you use, there are still no guarantees of drawing a tag for highly coveted permits.
- It takes several years for the systems to have any effect .

No perfect system

- No drawing method is perfect
- Each method has pros and cons
- Several states report satisfaction with their systems and they all report that they still have some dissatisfied hunters
- No matter which system is in use, there will be unhappy hunters who did not get drawn
- Numerous states recommend avoiding any move towards a bonus/preference drawing system