

The Copper Basin Community Subsistence Harvest (CSH) Hunt



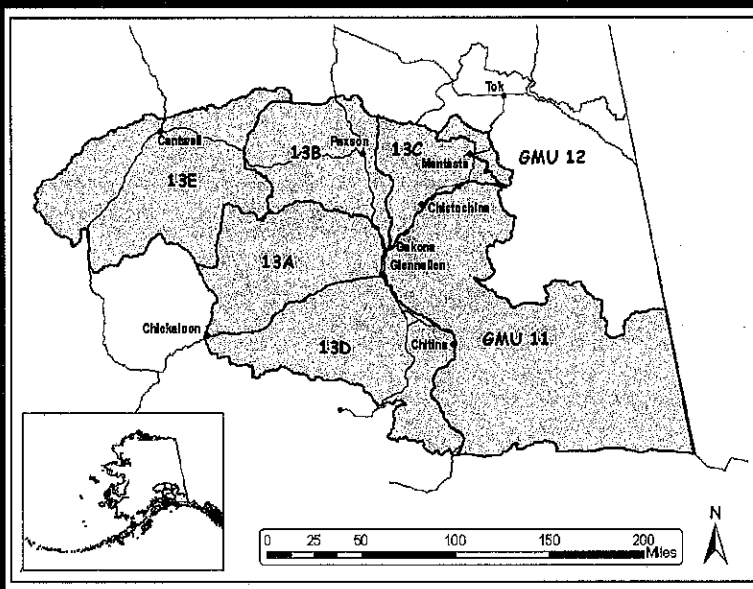
January 2013

Board of Game Meeting

Div. of Wildlife Conservation,
ADF&G



Copper Basin Community Subsistence Harvest Permit Area



Hunt History

Caribou

- Most hunting under Tier II from 1991-2008
- ANS was “all harvestable”
- Registration hunt in 1996 and 1997 to reduce herd to objectives
 - 36,000 permits
 - 19,000 hunters

Moose

- Tier II from 1995-2008
- General season with antler restrictions
- Both Species: Federal seasons

Problem

- Tier II criteria and scoring
 - “Virtually since its inception, the Tier II subsistence permit system has been plagued with public complaints about inequities, unfairness, and false applications” (BOG 2006).
- Shift in permits to older urban hunters and away from younger rural hunters (ADF&G 2009)
- Lack of any opportunity for many
- Hunts were not consistent with 8 criteria described by the Joint Boards
 - Many Unit 13 hunters are “not true subsistence users”

Attempted Solutions

- Tier II modifications
- Salvage requirements
- Trophy destruction
- Subsistence harvest area
- Non-subsistence area
- Community harvest

Community Subsistence Harvest

- CSH hunt area (5AAC 92.074) (5AAC 92.072)
- A custom of community-based harvest and sharing
- Other characteristics of C&T practices in the hunt area
- Existing or separate subsistence seasons and bag limits
- A community or group coordinator (CSH permittee)
- 25 or more members (harvest ticket holders)

Copper Basin CSH

- Copper Basin caribou: 1/household
 - May not hold any other state caribou harvest ticket or permit
 - May not hunt moose outside of the Copper Basin CSH hunt area
- Copper Basin moose: 1 SF50/person, 70 “any bulls”
 - May not apply for other state moose or caribou permits outside of CSH area or hold general season harvest tickets
- Designated Hunter, salvage requirements, no trophy destruction
- Coordinators apply in November/December
- Group members apply in May

Current Unit 13 Hunt Structure

- Developed between 2006 and 2009
- 2009, 2011, 2012 Hunts
 - Caribou
 - Tier I
 - CSH
 - Draw
 - Moose
 - General (SF50)
 - CSH (SF50 + 70 “any bulls”)
 - Resident Draw (“any bull”)
 - Resident Draw (antlerless)
 - Non-resident Draw (SF50)

**Copper Basin CSH Group History
CARIBOU HUNT (CC001)**

	No. of Groups	No. of Communities Participating	No. of Households	No. of Individual Participants	Total No. Caribou Harvested
2009	1	28	477		127

**Copper Basin CSH Group History
MOOSE HUNT (CM300)**

	No. of Groups	No. of Communities Participating	No. of Households	No. of Individual Participants	Total No. Moose Harvested
2009	1	19	246	378	100 (70 any bulls)

July 2010, Court Ruling

1. Because the Board did not adequately notify the public about its intent to change the Unit 13 caribou hunt from a Tier II to Tier I hunt, the regulation was invalid;
2. The Board's decision "to change the Unit 13 caribou hunt from a Tier II to Tier I hunt was arbitrary and unreasonable because it was not supported by evidence in the administrative record"; and
3. The creation of the community harvest permit (CHP) was unconstitutional because it was "fundamentally a local-residency based CHP".

Copper Basin CSH Group History CARIBOU HUNT (CC001)

	No. of Groups	No. of Communities Participating	No. of Households	No. of Individual Participants	Total No. Caribou Harvested
2009	1	28	477		127
2010	<i>no hunt held</i>				
2011	6	28	338	665	87
2012	17	29	403	828	122 (hunt still open)

Note: CM300 harvest tickets were issued 1 per individual participant; while CC001 harvest tickets were

Issued 1 per household. Harvest tickets were not picked up by all eligible participants.

**Copper Basin CSH Group History
MOOSE HUNT (CM300)**

	No. of Groups	No. of Communities Participating	No. of Households	No. of Individual Participants	Total No. Moose Harvested
2009	1	19	246	378	100 (70 any bulls)
2010	<i>no hunt held</i>				
2011	9	31	416	814	86 (59 any bulls)*
2012	19	29	460	969	98 (73 any bulls)*

*Emergency Orders were issued in 2011 and 2012 changing the bag limit from "any bull" to the general season antler restriction to keep from exceeding the limits of "any bulls" by subunit.

CSH Report Review

- Written report review guide developed.
- Reports reviewed to evaluate the extent to which each group is voluntarily attempting to participate in and establish a pattern of subsistence.
- Pattern needs to be consistent with the Unit 13 board findings and the 8 criteria of customary and traditional use.

CSH Review

- Department staff evaluated Annual Written Reports for 15 RY2011 CSH group hunts.
 - 11 Annual Written Reports were approved.
 - 4 received conditional approval.
- A majority of the CSH group's had never participated in a CSH hunt prior to RY2011.
- Staff offered suggestions in their review comments to group coordinators on how to improve their hunt efforts and reporting to meet the criteria in the future.
- Received 18 reports for RY2012.

2011 Unit 13 Hunt Results

Caribou - GMU 13

2011-12

	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Harvest</u>	<u>Date of EO Closure</u>
Draw	1127	319	Oct 28 th
Tier I	3148	1625	Dec 3 rd
Federal	N/A	302	-
CSH	338	86	Dec 6 th

(2011) (2012) (2013) (2014) (2015)

(2016)

Moose – GMU 11, 13, and portion of 12

2011-12

	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
General Season (13)	-	796
Draw	289	61
CSH	-	86*
Total Reported Harvest		943

* Emergency Orders (EO) were issued in August that changed the "any-bull" bag limit to the general season bag limit in 3 of the 8 hunt areas

2012 Unit 13 Hunt Results

preliminary

Caribou - GMU 13 2012-13

	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Harvest</u>	<u>Date of EO Closure</u>
Draw	3000		
Tier I	5045		
Federal	N/A		
CSH	403		

CSH 2013 and beyond

- 9 proposals Region IV BOG (Feb. 8, 2013)
- Pending litigation (2 cases)
- Ability and guidance to increase total harvest when necessary
- Increasing number of CSH groups
- Increasing number of participants

CSH Report Reviews: 8 Criteria

1. Consistent pattern of noncommercial taking, use, and reliance on Nelchina caribou, moose and other local wild foods.
2. Pattern of taking or use of wild resources from the Copper Basin CSH area that follows a seasonal use pattern of year-round harvest effort in the area.
3. Pattern of taking or use of wild resources in the Copper Basin CSH area that includes methods and means of harvest characterized by efficiency and economy of effort and cost.
4. Pattern of taking or use of wild resources that occurs in the Copper Basin CSH area due to close ties to the area and a familiarity with the terrain.
5. Processing and preserving wild resources from the Copper Basin CSH area that have traditionally been used by past generations.
6. Pattern of taking or use of wild resources from the Copper Basin CSH area that includes the handing down of knowledge of hunting skills, values, and lore about the Copper Basin CSH area from generation to generation.
7. Pattern of taking or use of wild resources from the Copper Basin CSH area in which the harvest is shared throughout the community, including customary trade, barter, and gift-giving.
8. Pattern that includes taking, use, and reliance for subsistence purposes not only on Nelchina caribou and moose, but also on a wide variety of wild resources in the Copper Basin area.

