

### **Extend the Mulchatna caribou season in Unit 17 to march 31**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (11-0) w/amendment*

*Togiak AC*

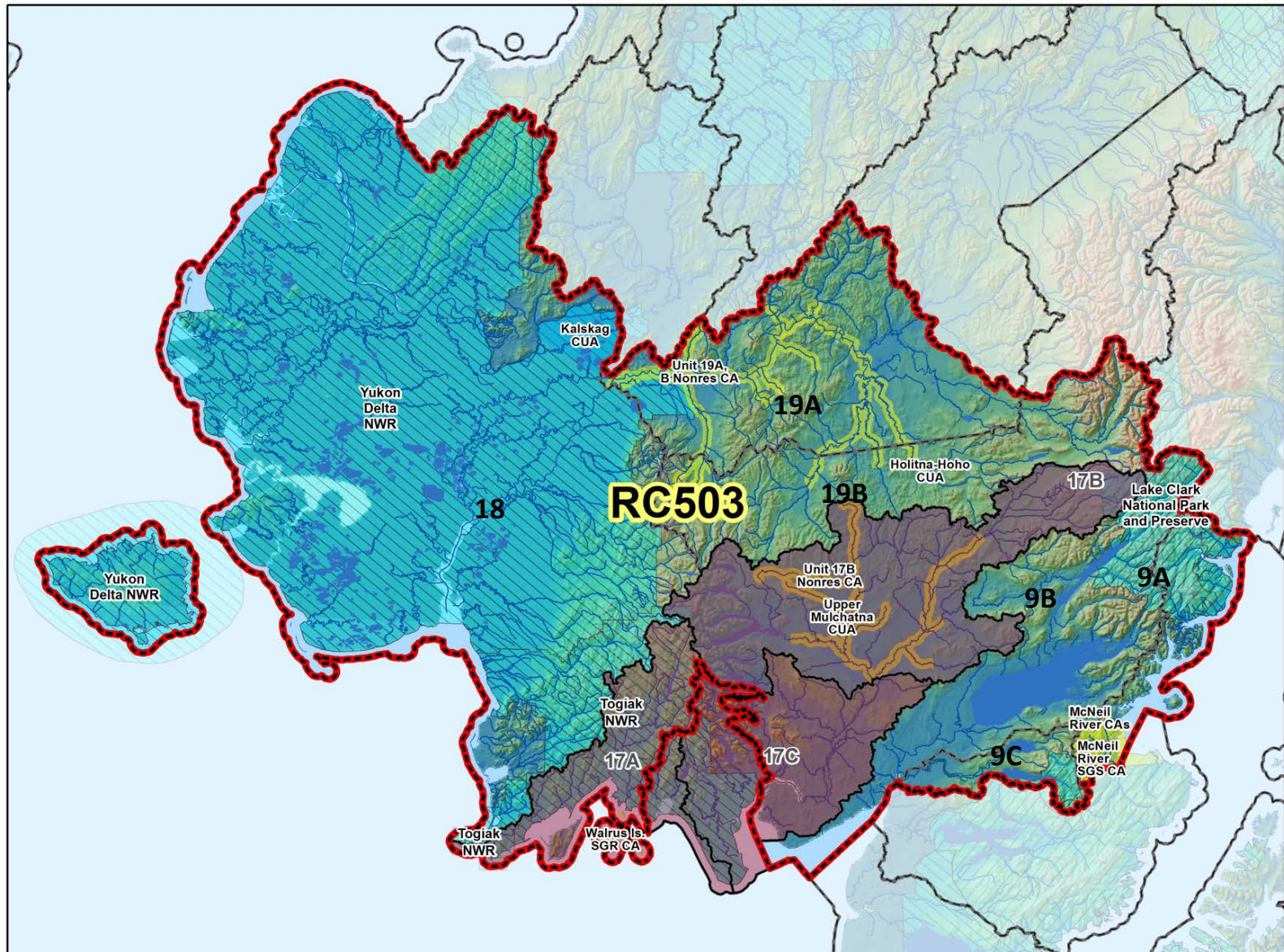
*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Support (7-0)*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*





### Mulchatna Caribou Hunt Regulations

#### Current regulations:

**Mulchatna Caribou**

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

*Portions of 17A&C are managed under a federal hunt, or RC501*

*Portions of 9C are managed under RC504*

**Season dates:**

**Aug 1- Mar 15**

#### Proposed regulations:

**Mulchatna Caribou**

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

**17**

**Season dates:**

**Aug 1- Mar 15**

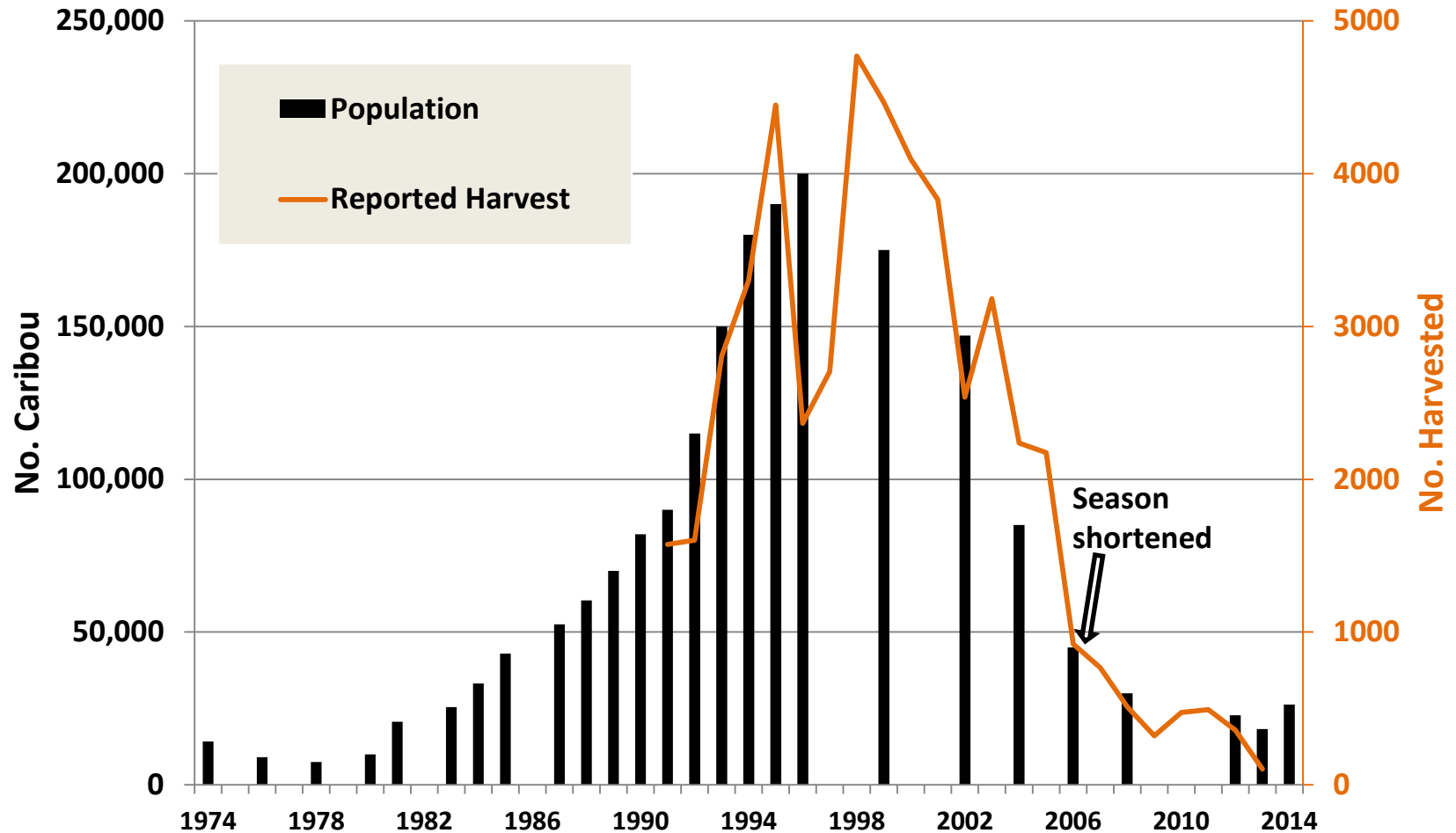
**Aug 1- Mar 31**

### Recent History on Season Dates

- **Prior to Fall 2006, season extended to April 15**
  
- **Shortened to March 15 due to decline in population and concern for high spring harvest**
  - **Airplane based hunters utilizing ski landings (SDA allowed up through 2006)**
  - **Snowmobiles dispersing from villages**



### MCH Abundance & Reported Harvest



### Status of Mulchatna Herd

- **Presently ~26,000**
- **Composition and reproductive indices are trending upward**
- **Current reported harvest is well below sustainable level**



### Tracking Harvest and Effort

- **Fall 2013 registration permit (RC503) replaces harvest ticket**
  - **Improves our ability to track harvest and effort**
  - **Five day reporting period provides timely harvest updates**
  - **First year of data (RY2013), 89% reported**

### Summary

- **Registration permit improves our ability to manage sustainably**
- **Surplus animals are available**
- **Access not abundance is limiting harvest**



### **Extend the Mulchatna caribou season in Unit 17 to march 31**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (11-0) w/amendment*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Support (7-0)*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

### **Extend the caribou season in Unit 9B & 17B to March 30**

*Proposed by: Igiugig Village Council*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT WITH  
AMENDMENT-change to march 31**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (11-0)*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Support (7-0)*

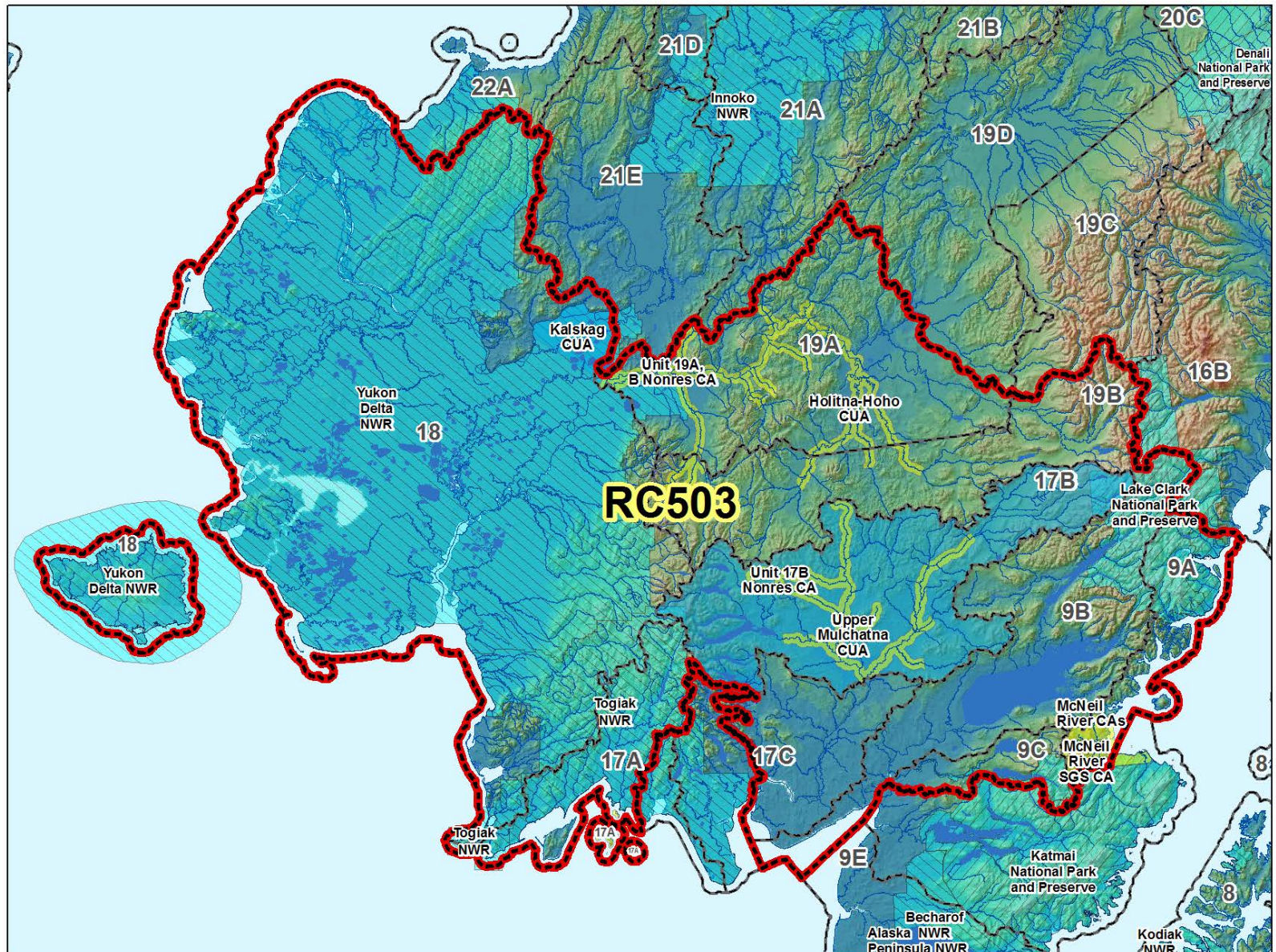
*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (8-0)*



# Proposal 48

## Caribou / Units 9B & 17B



### Mulchatna Caribou Hunt regulations

#### Current regulations:

**Mulchatna Caribou**

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

*Portions of 17A&C are managed under a federal hunt or RC501*

*Portions of 9C are managed under RC504*

**Season dates:**

**Aug 1- Mar 15**

#### Proposed regulations:

**Mulchatna Caribou**

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

**17B, 9B**

**Season dates:**

**Aug 1- Mar 15**

**Aug 1- Mar 30**

### Summary

- **Proposal 47 already addressed Unit 17B**
- **We recommend synchronization of season ending date with Unit 17**



### **Extend the caribou season in Unit 9B & 17B to March 30**

*Proposed by: Igiugig Village Council*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT WITH  
AMENDMENT-change to march 31**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (11-0)*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Support (7-0)*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (8-0)*

- 1) Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt
- 2) Extend the winter moose season in Unit 17A by one month
- 3) Restrict the taking of male moose to antlered bulls

### *Department Proposal*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT**

<i>Nushagak AC</i>	<i>Support (11-0)</i>
<i>Togiak AC</i>	<i>?</i>
<i>Lake Iliamna AC</i>	<i>No Comment</i>
<i>Naknek/Kvichak AC</i>	<i>No Comment</i>



### **17A Fall Hunting Regulations: bag limit/one bull**

**RM573: residents only/any bull**

**Season dates: Aug 25 – Sept 20**

**DM570: nonresidents only/50 inch or 4 or more brow tines**

**Season dates: Sept 5 – Sept 15**

### Unit 17A Winter Hunt Regulations

**Current: bag limit/two moose**

**RM575 (any bull permit)**

**May be announced**

**RM576 (cow permit)**

**(Up to a 31 day season may be announced Dec 1- Jan 31)**

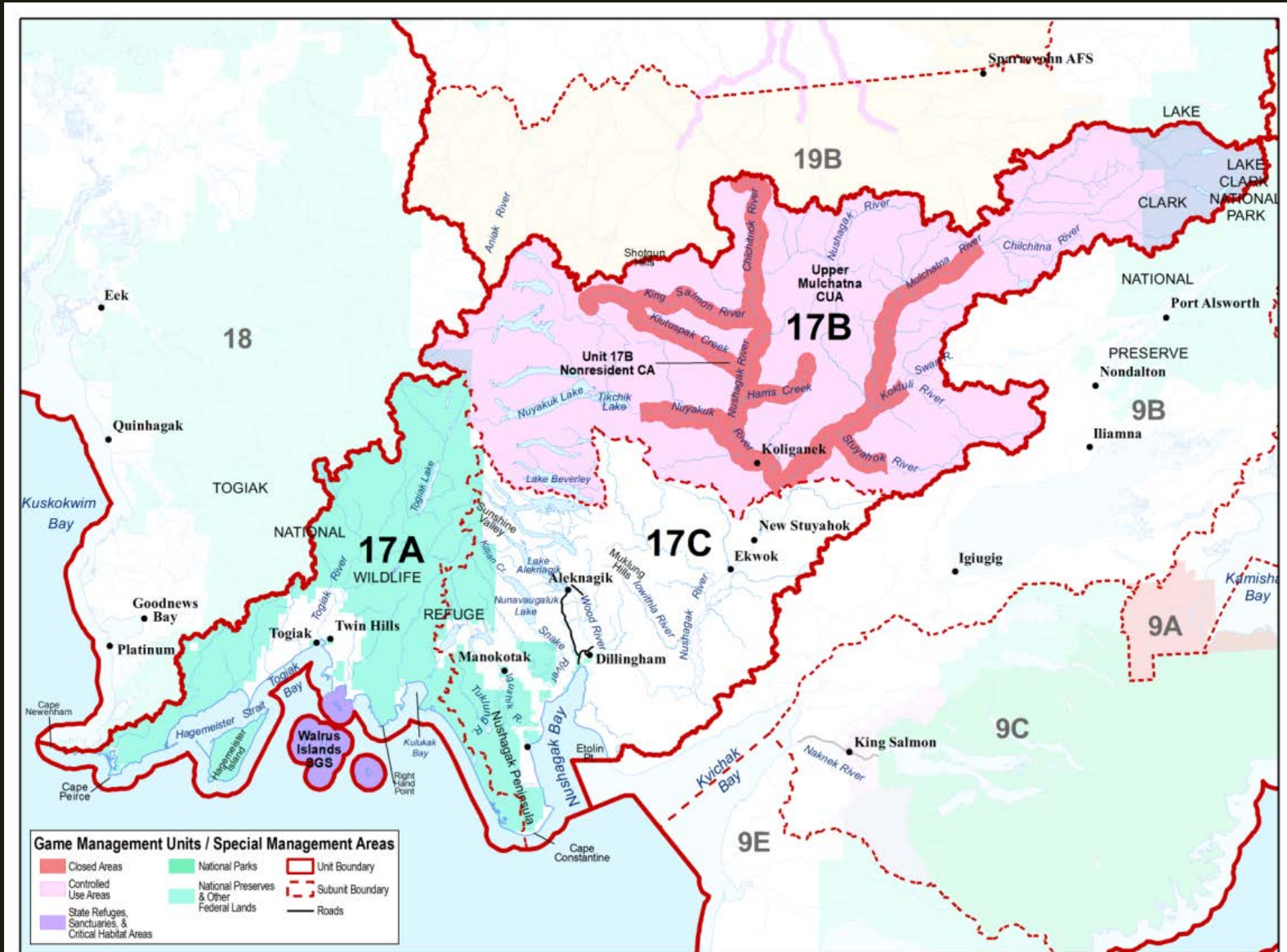
**Proposed: bag limit/two moose**

**RM575 (antlered bull permit)**

**May be announced**

**RM576 (cow permit)**

**(Up to a 31 day season may be announced Dec 1- end of Feb.)**



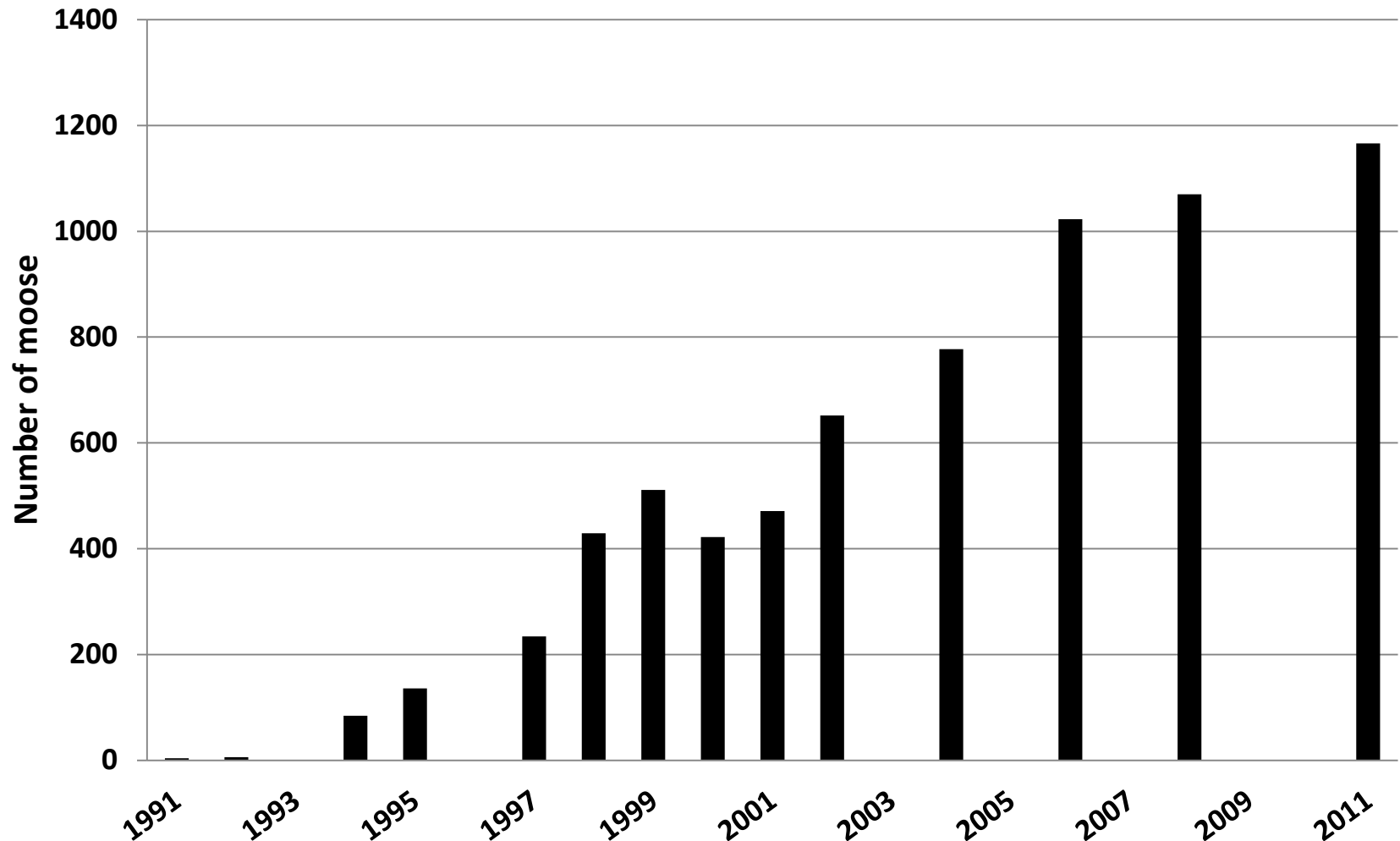
### Unit 17A Moose Management Strategy

- **Moose Management Group (MMG): Bristol Bay Federal Subsistence RAC, Nushagak and Togiak F&G AC's, Togiak NWR, ADF&G**
- **Unit 17A Moose Management Plan (MMP)**
- **Board recognition of MMG and MMP**
  - **Did not adopt plan**
    - **Adopted elements of the plan in regulation and findings**

### Unit 17A Moose Population Objectives

- **17A MMG management objectives for 17A moose: 800-1,200**
- **Most recent population estimate in 2011: 1166 moose**
- **Population trend and reproductive indices suggest moose are increasing and probably exceeding objectives**

### Unit 17A Moose Population Estimate (1991-2011)

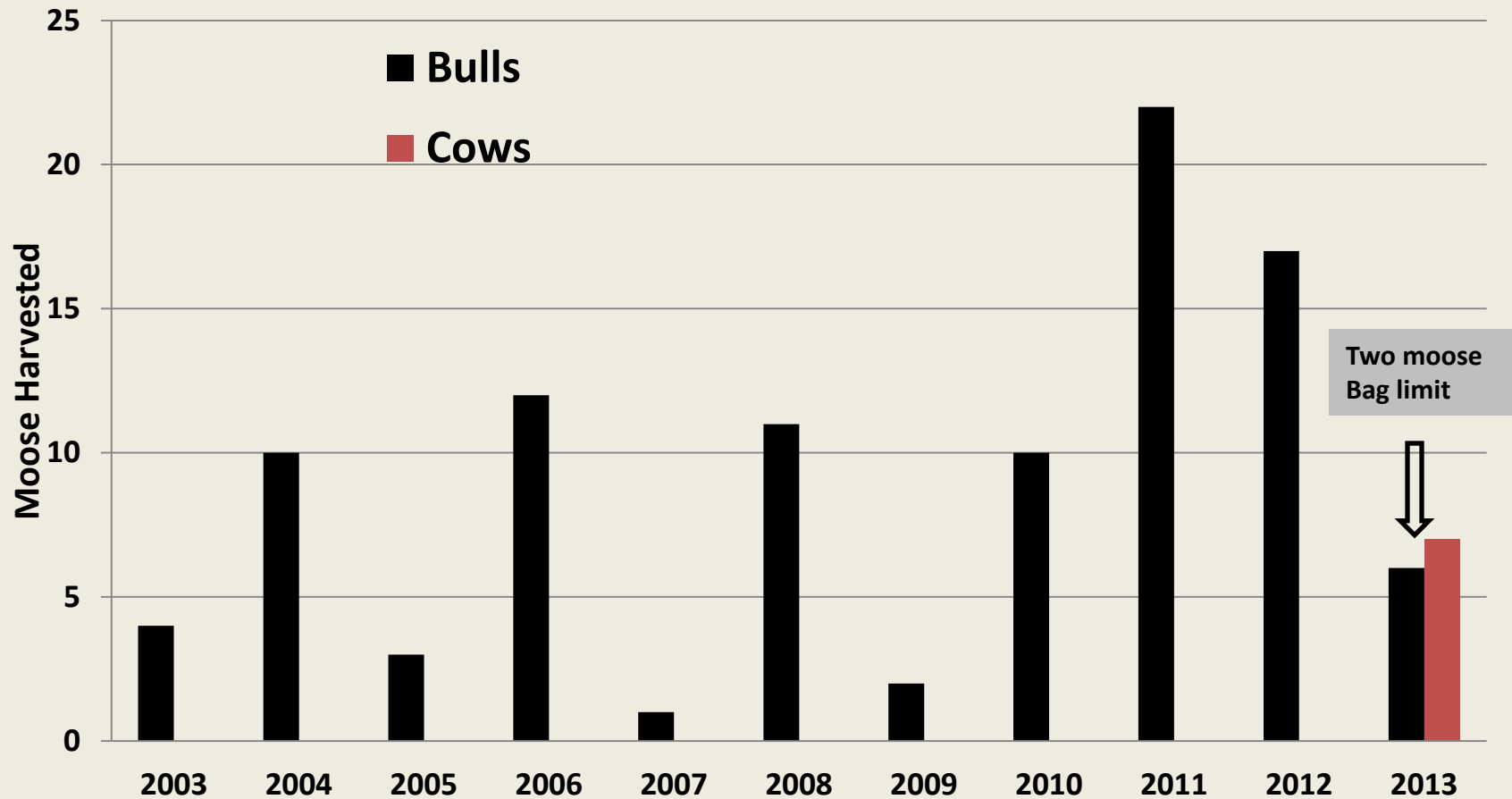




### Winter Hunt History

- **Initiated in 2003: RM575-one antlered bull**
  - **Dec. 1 – Jan 31 (a 14 day season may be announced)**
  
- **At 2013 BOG, two changes were adopted**
  - **Bag limit was increased to two moose**
    - **Discretionary authority to issue bull and cow permits**
  
  - **Season extended (a 31 day season may be announced)**

Unit 17A Winter Moose Hunt



### Summary

- **Longer season provides greater likelihood of hunter success**
- **Moose are at or above population objective**
- **Reauthorization of the antlerless hunt provides an important management tool**

- 1) Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt
- 2) Extend the winter moose season in Unit 17A by one month
- 3) Restrict the taking of male moose to antlered bulls

### *Department Proposal*

**Department recommendation: SUPPORT**

<i>Nushagak AC</i>	<i>Support (11-0)</i>
<i>Togiak AC</i>	<i>?</i>
<i>Lake Iliamna AC</i>	<i>No Comment</i>
<i>Naknek/Kvichak AC</i>	<i>No Comment</i>

### **Adjust the nonresident closed area in Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in Unit 17A and extend the nonresident season**

#### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Togiak AC*

*Oppose*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

### **Nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 17A**

- **DM570 (20 permits available)                      Sept 5 – 15**
- **One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side**
- **No aircraft use on or within 2 miles of specific rivers and lakes**

### DM570 Proposed Changes

#### ➤ Season extension:

- Present season: Sept 5 – Sept 15
- Proposed season: **Sept 5 – Sept 20**

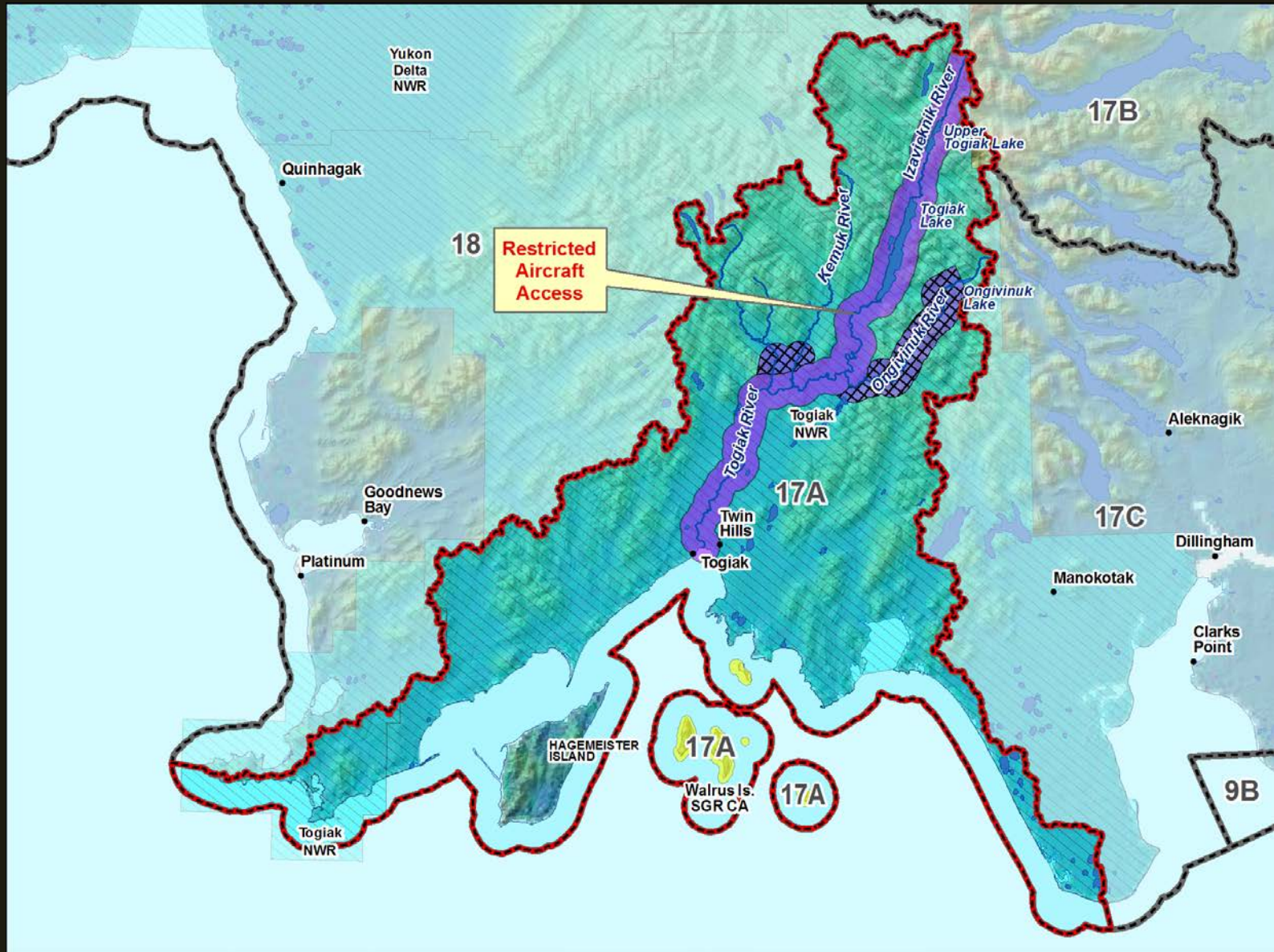
#### ➤ Aircraft restricted area:

- **Eliminate specific area restrictions**



# Proposal 52

## Moose / Unit 17



### Summary

- **DM570 hunt was initiated in fall 2014, allowing us only this single year to assess hunt**
- **Season dates and aircraft restricted areas were developed through the 17A MMG planning meetings**
- **Aircraft restricted area was supported in board findings @ 2013 meeting**

### Adjust the nonresident closed area in Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in Unit 17A and extend the season

#### *Public Proposal*

Department recommendation: **NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Togiak AC*

*Oppose*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

### Lengthen the season for the winter moose hunt in Units 17(B,C)

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: OPPOSED**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (10-1)*

*Take No Action*

*Support (7-0)*

*No Vote*

### Winter Hunt

- Winter Hunt in 17B&C is managed under a RM585 registration permit
- Hunters can harvest an antlered bull
- Hunt is managed without a quota

**Season dates:**

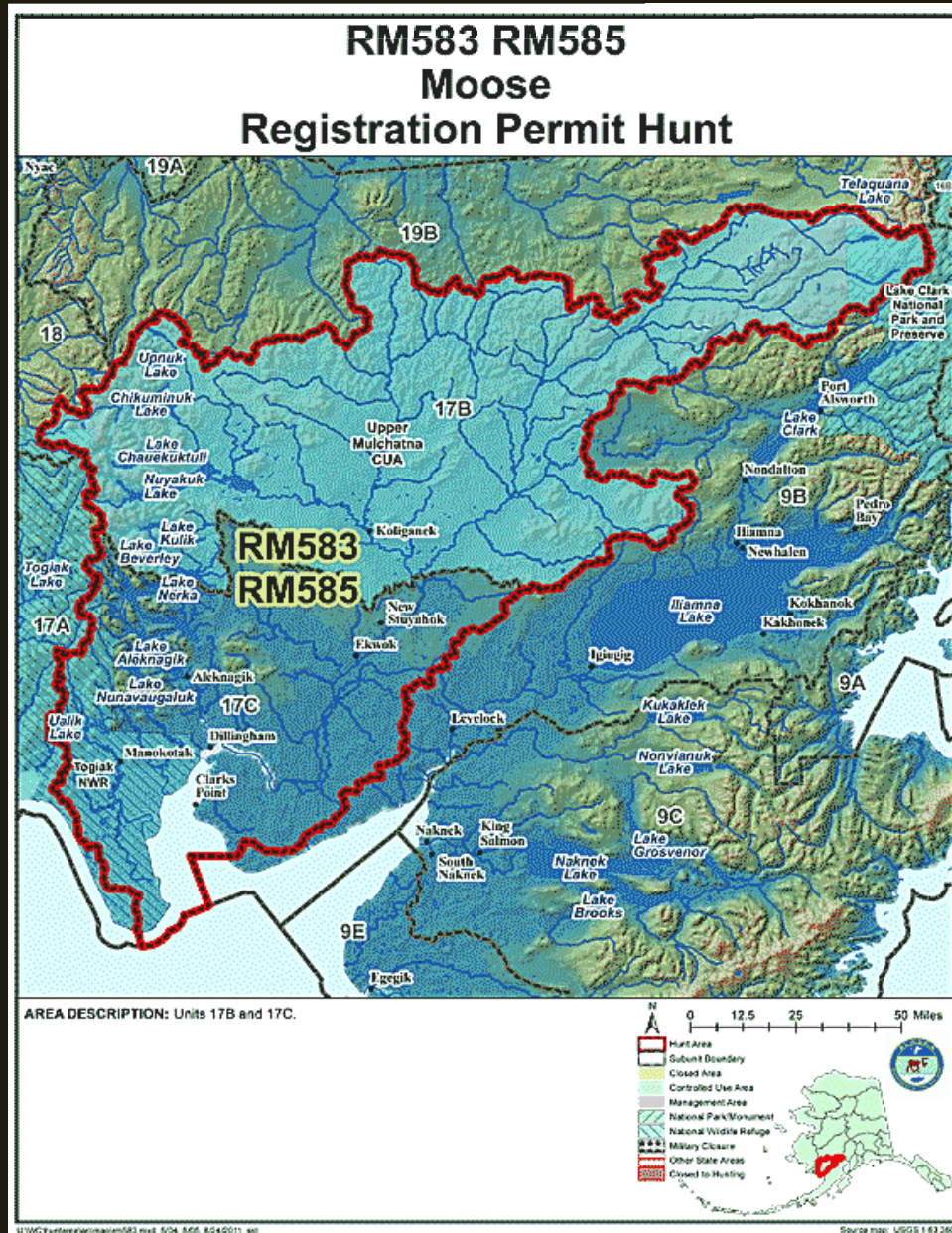
**Dec 1 – Dec 31**

**Proposed season dates:**

**Dec 1 – Jan 31**

**(January extension only in codified-not on permit)**



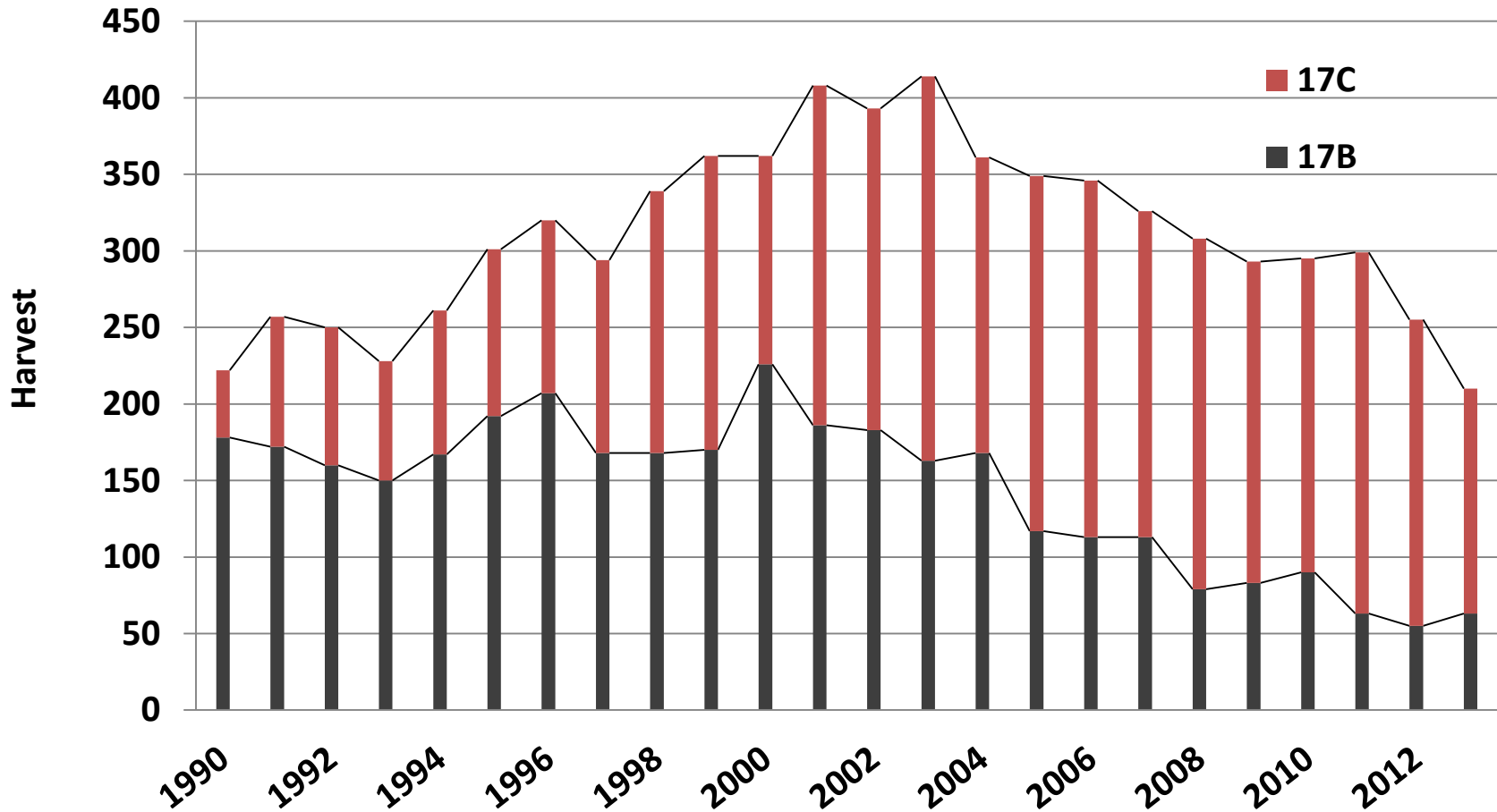


### **Recent History-Season Extension Requests**

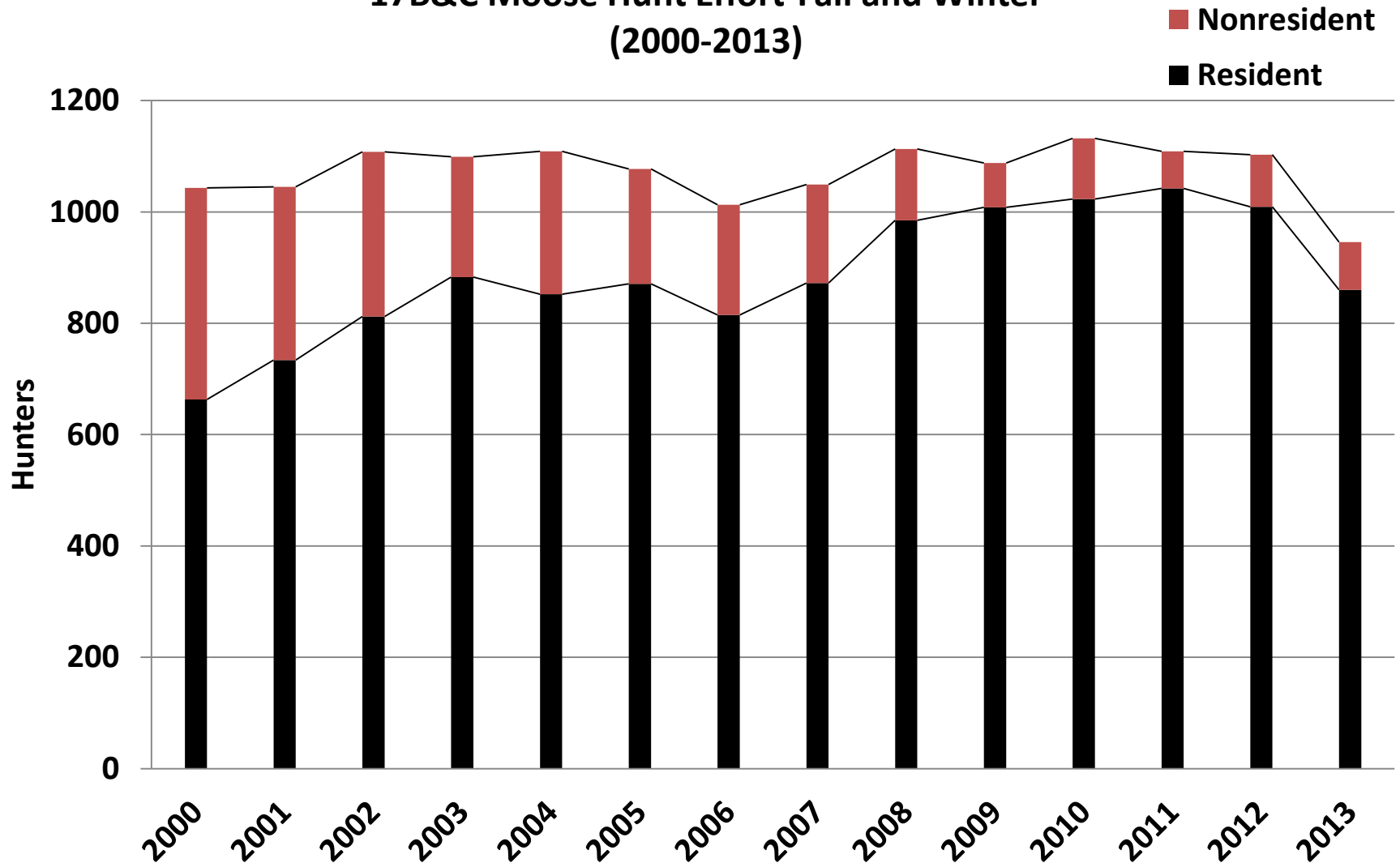
- **Department received requests in previous years**
- **These were not approved**
- **Declining bull harvest in 17B&C, and lack of moose composition data**



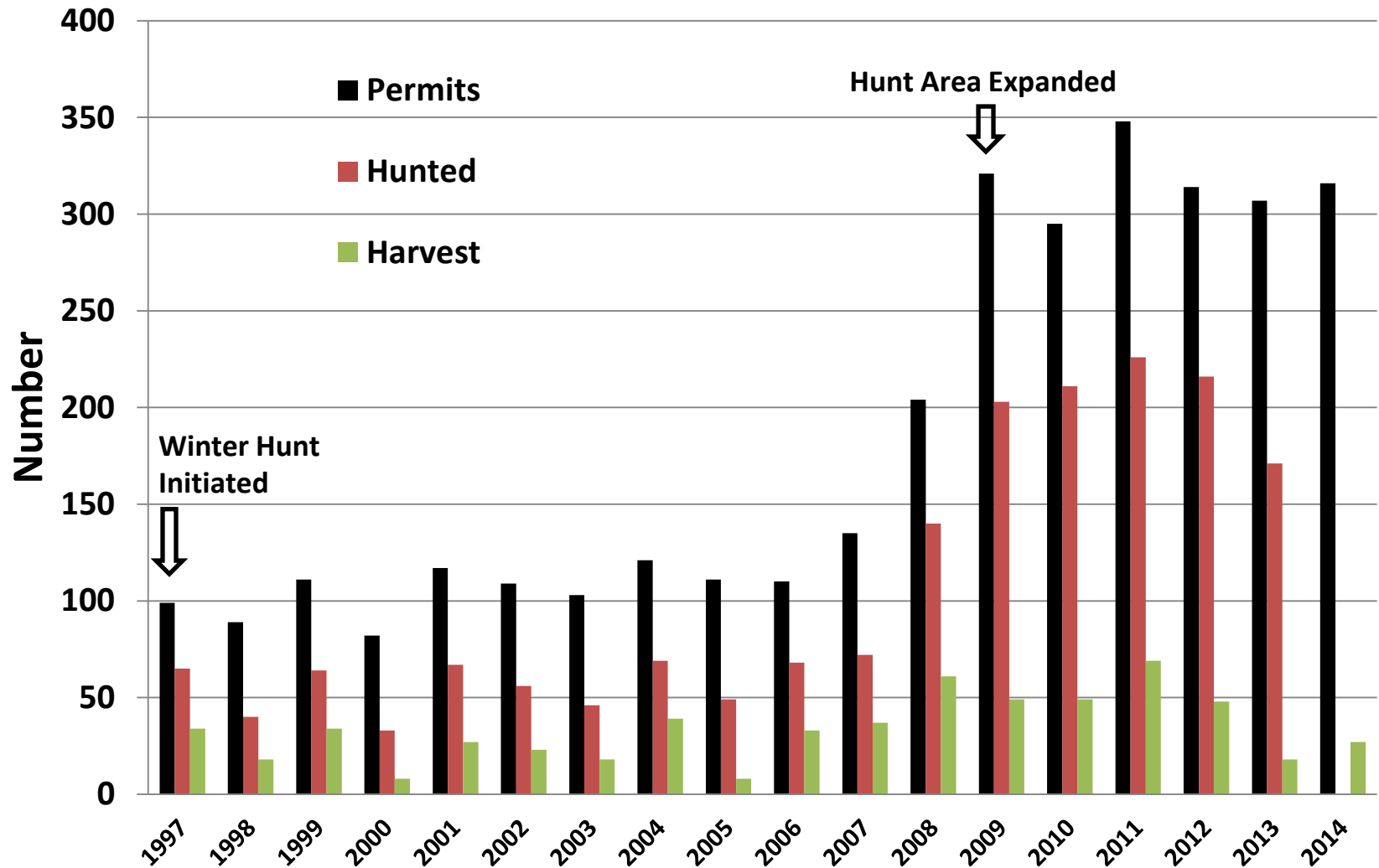
### Unit 17B&C Moose Harvest-Fall and Winter (1990-2013)



**17B&C Moose Hunt Effort-Fall and Winter  
(2000-2013)**

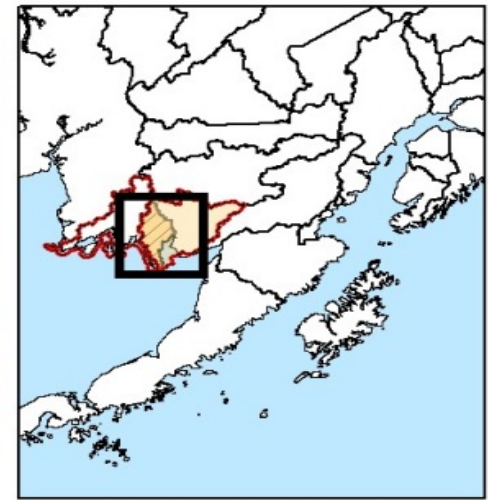
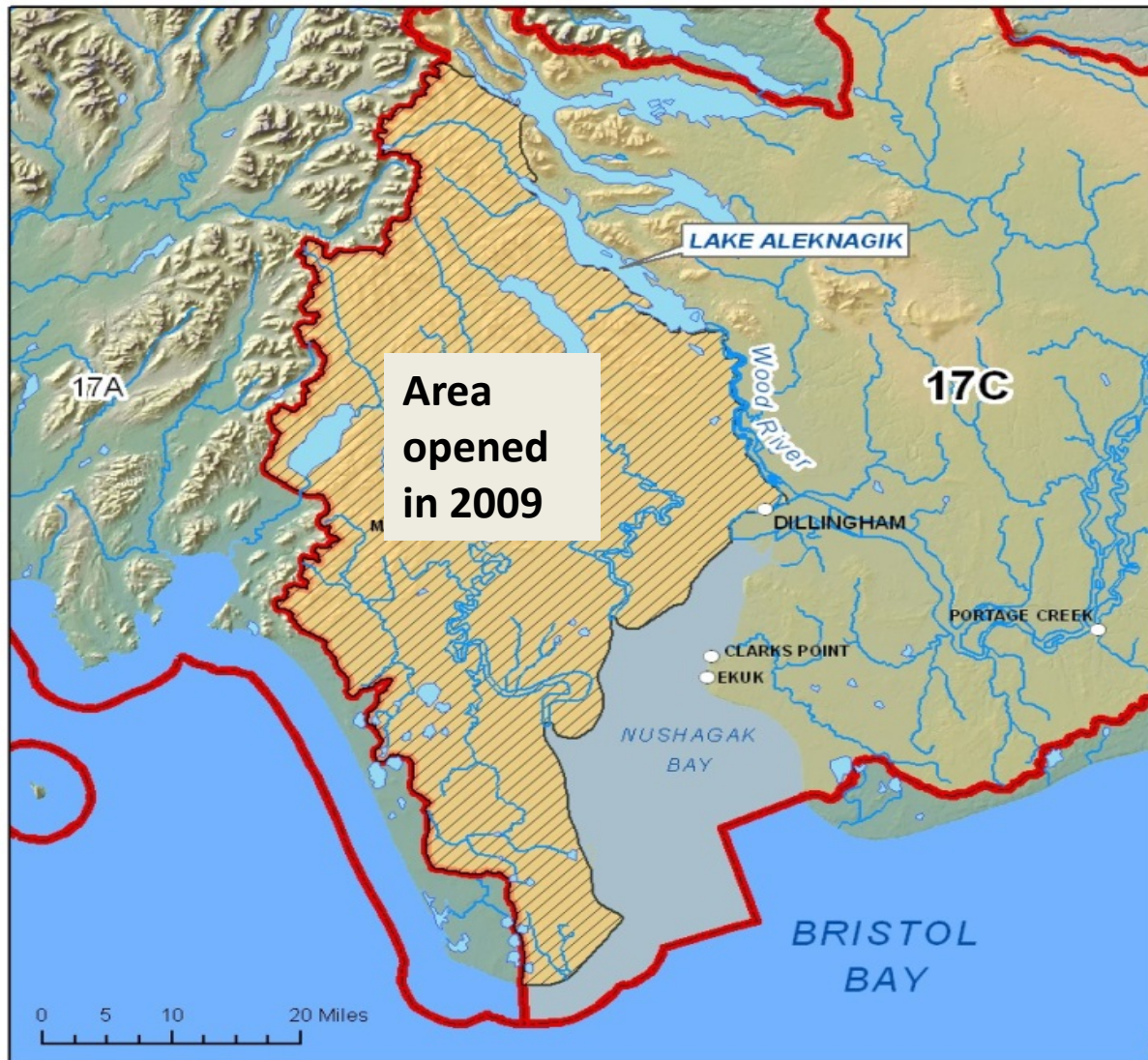



### RM585 Permits, Hunters, Harvest (1997-2014)



# Proposal 51

## Moose / Unit 17



 Game Management Subunits



### Summary

- **Declining harvest of bulls across Unit 17B&C is a concern**
- **Extending the season to enhance hunter opportunity and success may not be sustainable**
- **The area west of the Wood River already provides good access in poor snow years**

### Lengthen the season for the winter moose hunt in Units 17(B,C)

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: OPPOSED**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (10-1)*

*Take No Action*

*Support (7-0)*

*No Vote*



### **Change the locations for obtaining nonresident moose registration permits for hunting in Unit 17**

#### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Take No Action*

*No Vote*

*No Vote*

### Nonresident Registration Permit Hunt

➤ **Occurs only in Unit 17B**

#### Current hunt regulations:

**RM587 (nonresident only)**

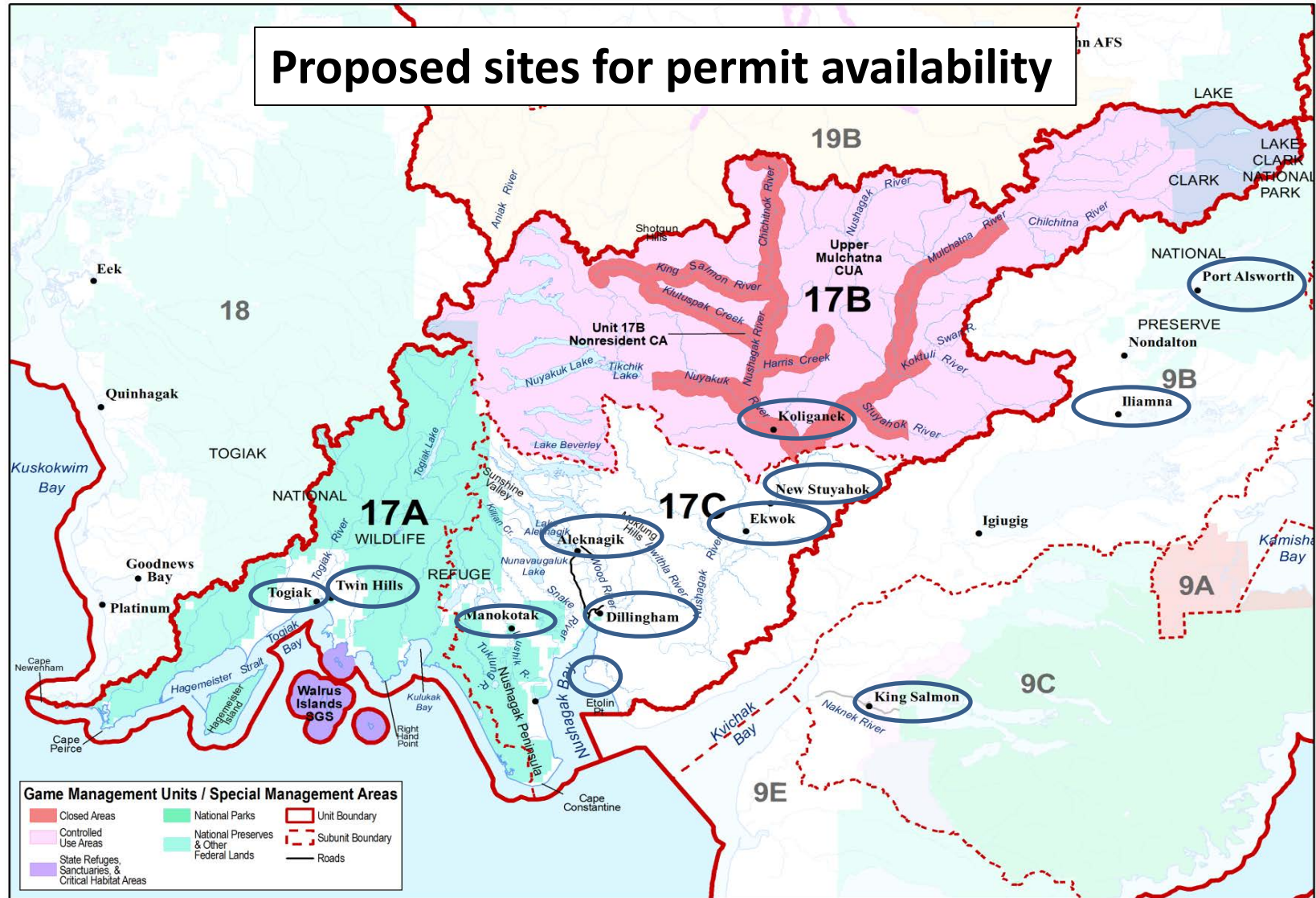
**Sept 5 – Sept 15**

**One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow  
tines on at least one side by permit **available in person in  
Dillingham (July 15-Sept 6)****

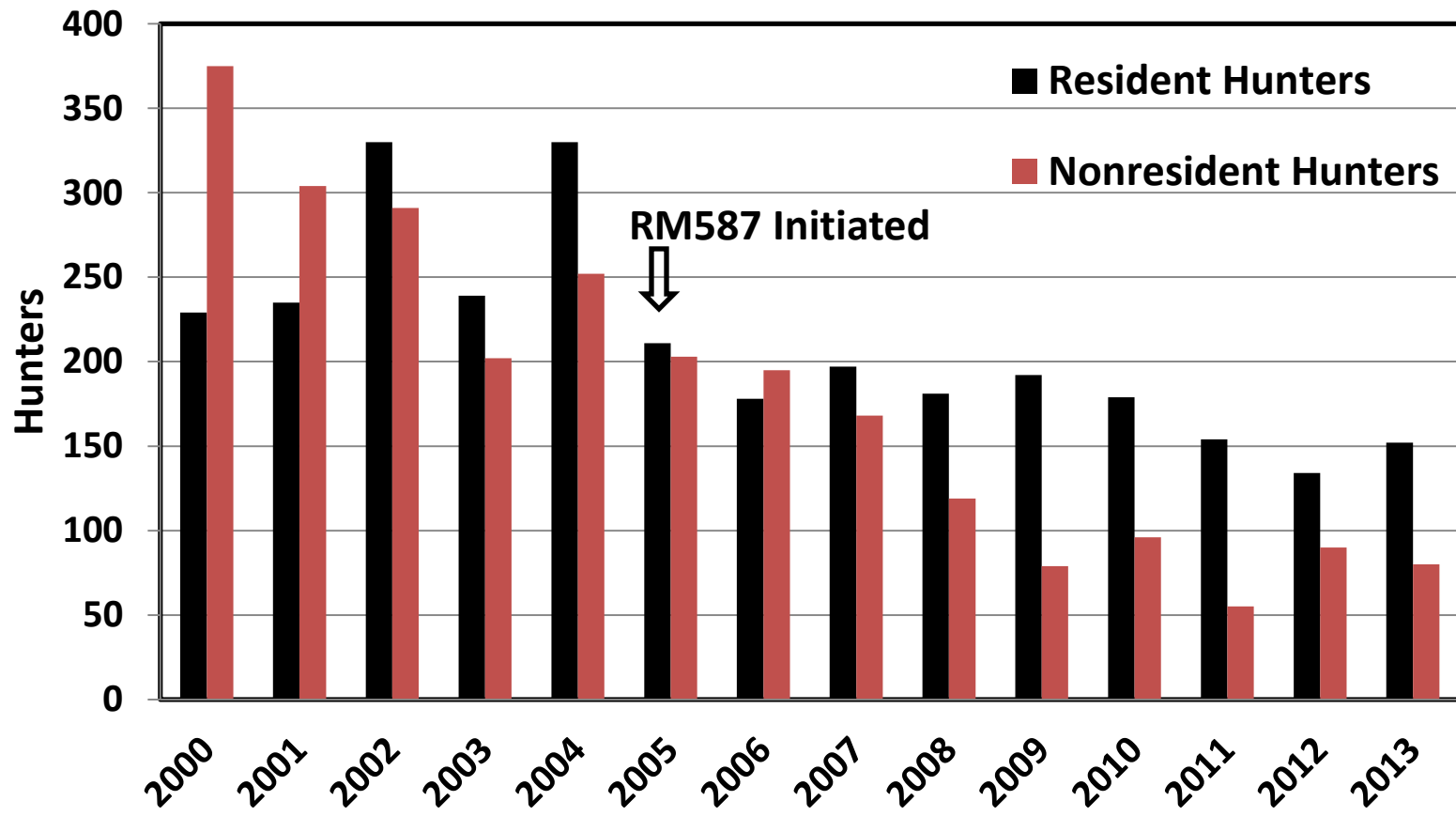
### Permit Hunt History

- **RM587 adopted by board in 2005 to address crowding and hunter conflicts**
- **Department uses discretionary authority to require orientation and limit where permits are available**
- **Permit requires hunters to view two videos, “Is This Moose Legal” and “Meat Care” prior to getting permit**
- **Hunters are also required to fill out a non-resident corridor orientation checklist at counter prior to getting permit**

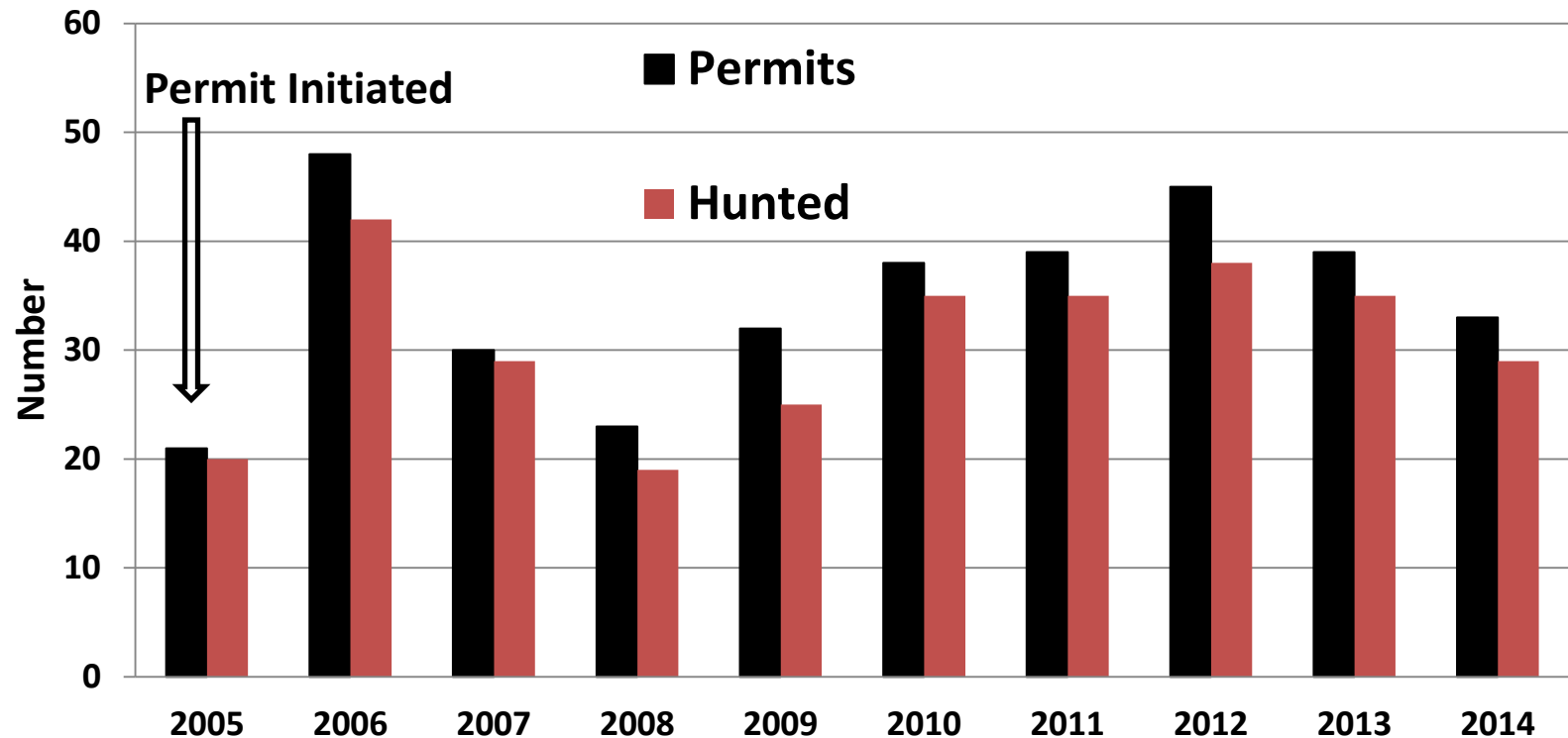
## Proposed sites for permit availability



### Unit 17B Fall Hunters (2000-2013)



### RM587 Permits and Hunters (2005-2014)





### Summary

- **Proposed change would allow hunters to obtain permits in all villages in Unit 17 plus several others**
- **Finding and training dedicated vendors in villages is a very difficult task**
- **If we do expand permit availability, we recommend using select ADF&G offices to fill this need**

### **Change the locations for obtaining nonresident moose registration permits for hunting in Unit 17**

#### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Take No Action*

*No Vote*

*No Vote*

- 1) Allow the use of bait and lures for taking brown bears
- 2) Allow the relocation of moose carcasses for baiting brown bears
- 3) Change the bag limit for brown bears

### *Public Proposal*

**NEUTRAL** on using bait and lures and changing the bag limit,  
but **OPPOSED** to relocating moose carcasses

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Togiak AC*

*Take No Action*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Oppose (0-7)*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

### Unit 17 Brown Bear Hunting Regulations

- **Two bears every regulatory year for resident and nonresident hunters**
- **Season dates are Aug 20 – May 31**
- **No permit or harvest ticket required except for the subsistence hunt for resident hunters**
- **No resident locking tag required**

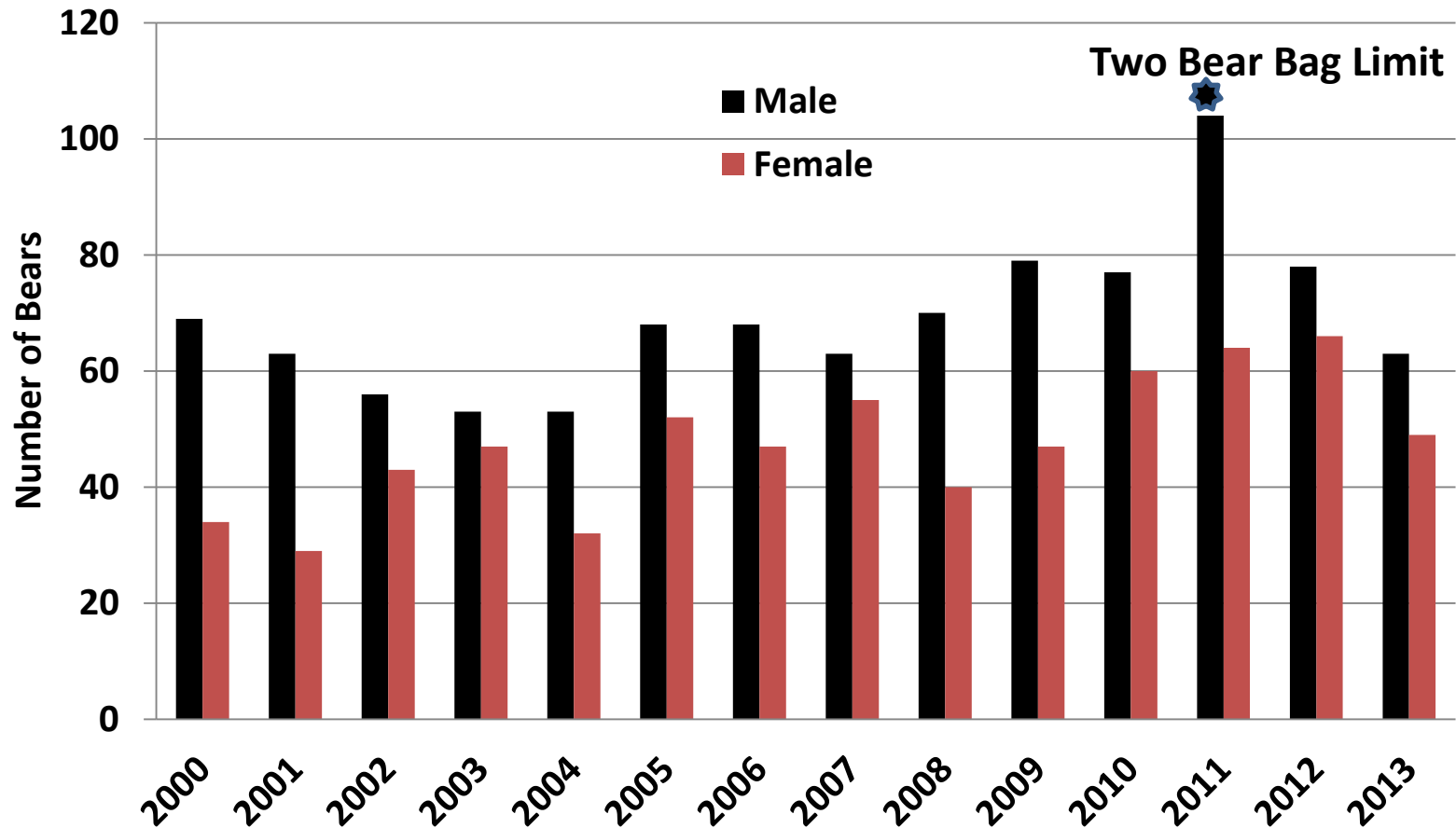
### Proposed changes - **use of bait:**

- **Baiting of brown bears under 5 AAC 92.044 is not legal in Unit 17**
- **5 AAC 92.210 is a statewide regulation that prohibits the use of a carcass of “game” that died of natural causes for bait if that carcass is moved from where it was found**

**Proposed change - reduce bag limit from 2 to 1 bears per regulatory year:**

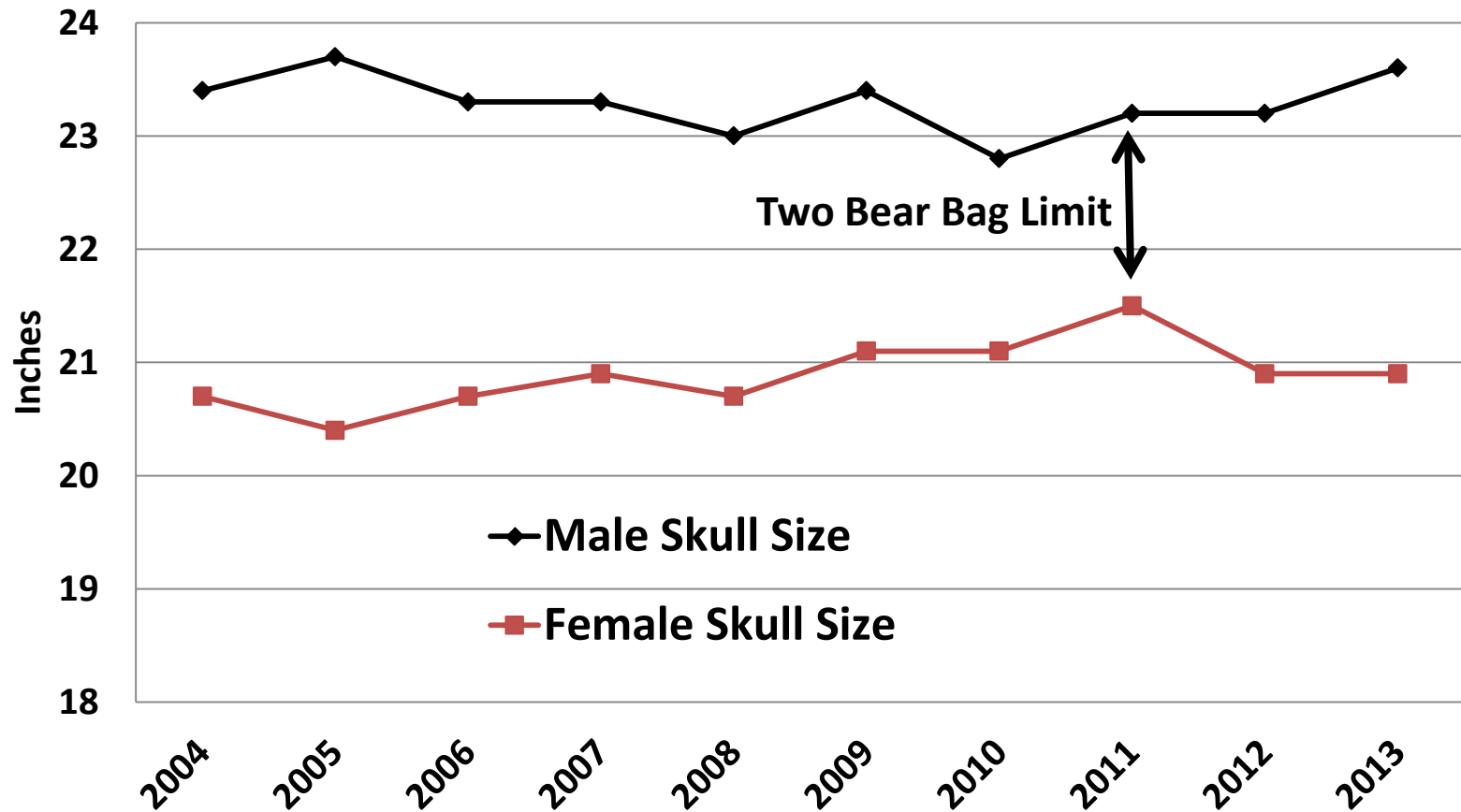
- The bag limit was changed from 1 to 2 bears in 2011
- The department supported this action

### Unit 17 BrBr Harvest (2000-2013)





### Unit 17 BrBr Skull Size (2004-2013)



### Summary

- **The department does not have concerns with the 2 bear/year bag limit**
- **Baiting of brown bears is allowed in many Units, although none adjacent to Unit 17**
- **The statewide regulation regarding the moving of moose carcasses is better addressed at statewide meeting**
- **If board chooses to adopt this proposal as intended by proponent, it must be amend proposal to change bag limit from two bears to one per regulatory year**

- 1) Allow the use of bait and lures for taking brown bears
- 2) Allow the relocation of moose carcasses for baiting brown bears
- 3) Change the bag limit for brown bears

### *Public Proposal*

**NEUTRAL** on using bait and lures and changing the bag limit,  
but **OPPOSED** to relocating moose carcasses

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (0-11)*

*Togiak AC*

*Take No Action*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Oppose (0-7)*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

**Allow the sale of brown bear hides and skulls  
in Unit 17 by resident hunters**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: OPPOSED**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (10-1)*

*Oppose*

*Support (6-1)*

*No Vote*

### **Statewide regulation against the sale of brown bear hides and skulls:**

#### **5 AAC 92.200. Purchase and sale of game.**

- **It is illegal to sell any part of a brown/grizzly bear except:**
  - **An article of handicraft made from the fur of a bear, and;**
  - **Brown bears taken in a brown bear control area may be sold by permit from the department**

**Allow the sale of brown bear hides and skulls  
in Unit 17 by resident hunters**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**Department recommendation: OPPOSED**

*Nushagak AC*

*Togiak AC*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*Support (10-1)*

*Oppose*

*Support (6-1)*

*No Vote*



**Modify the trapping season dates and bag limit for beaver in Unit 17, and prohibit the taking of beaver with firearm**

### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (2-8)*

*Togiak AC*

*Oppose*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

### Unit 17 Beaver Trapping Regulations

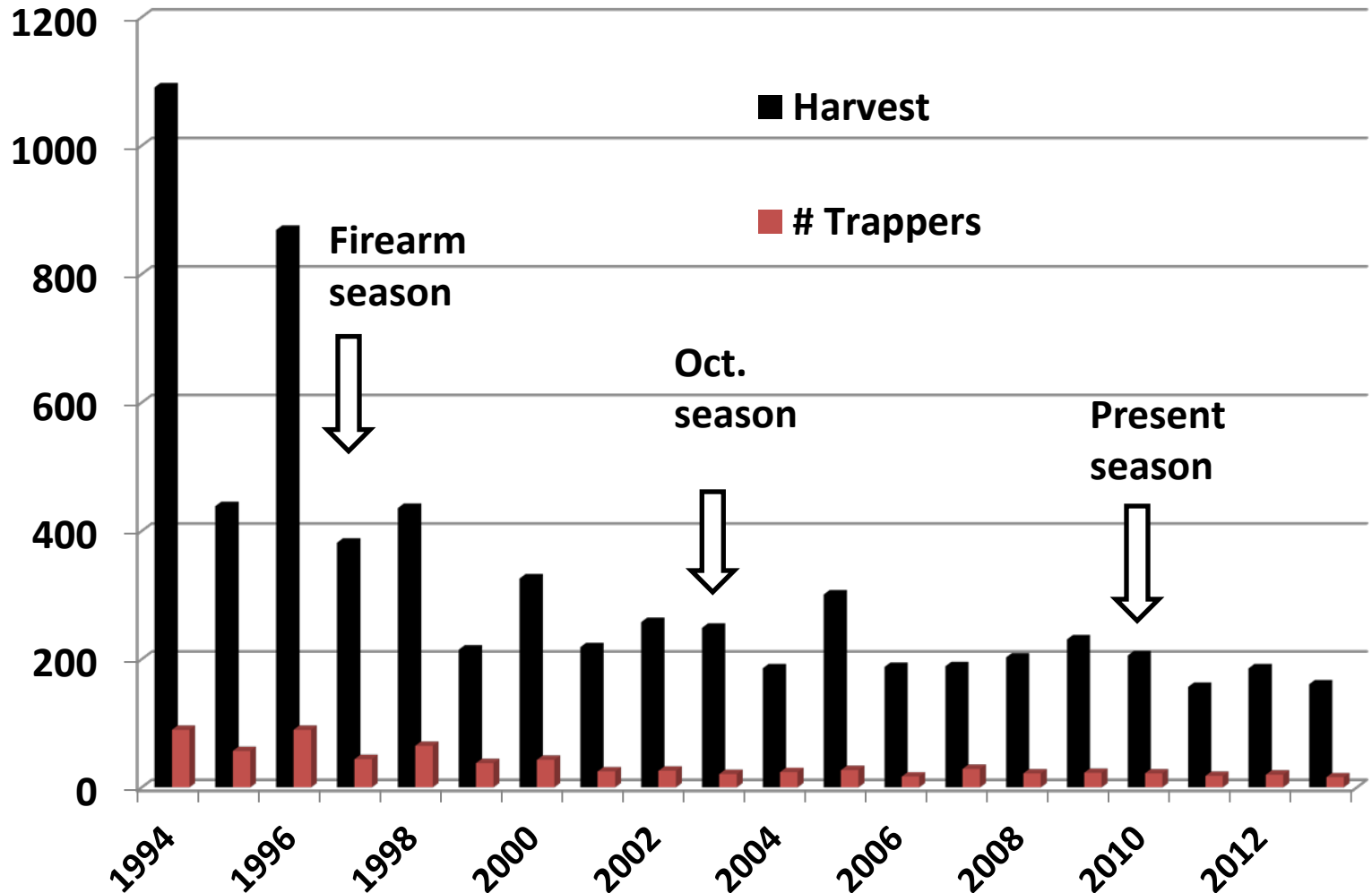
<b>Current: Season dates:</b>	<b>(Oct. 10 – May 31)</b>	<b>No limit</b>
	<b>(Apr. 15 – May 31)*</b>	<b>2 per day</b>

**\*During April 15 – May 31 firearms may be used to take up to 2 beavers per day provided the meat is salvaged for human consumption.**

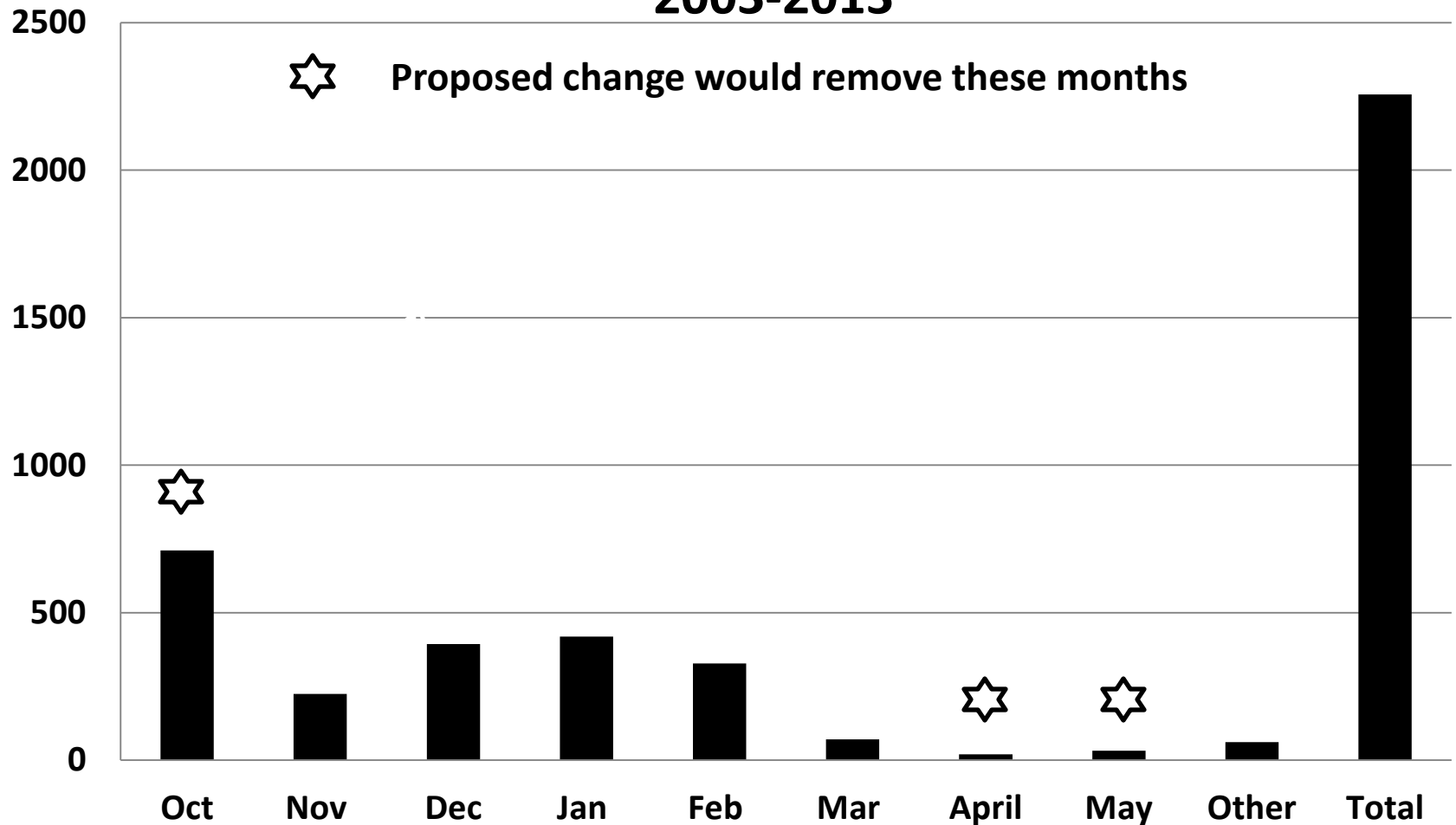
<b>Proposed: Season dates:</b>	<b>(Nov. 10 – Mar. 31)*</b>	<b>40</b>
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**\*It is against the law to take beaver by any other means other than a steel trap or snare.**

### Unit 17 beaver harvest 1994-2013

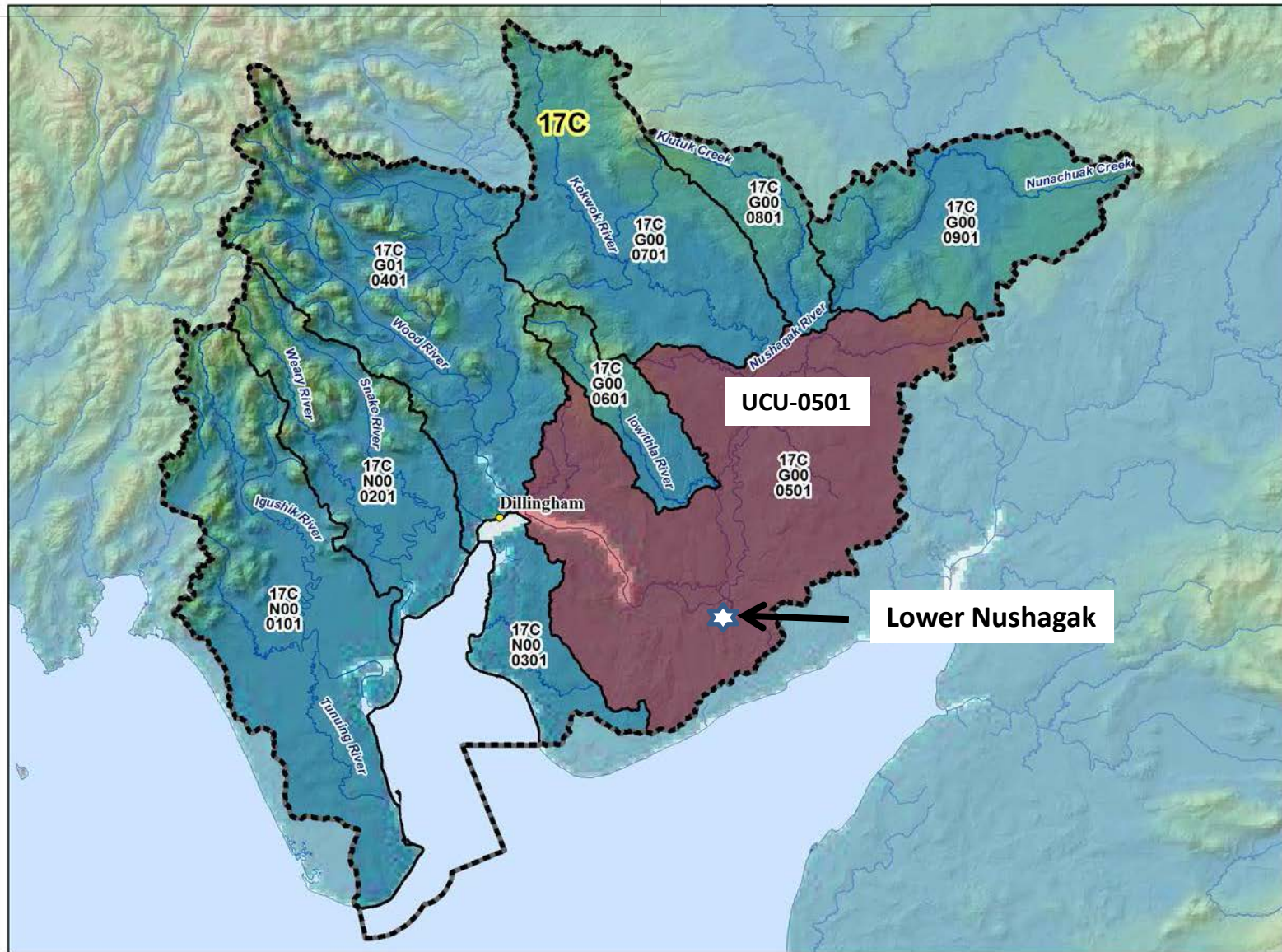


### Chronology of Unit 17 beaver harvest 2003-2013

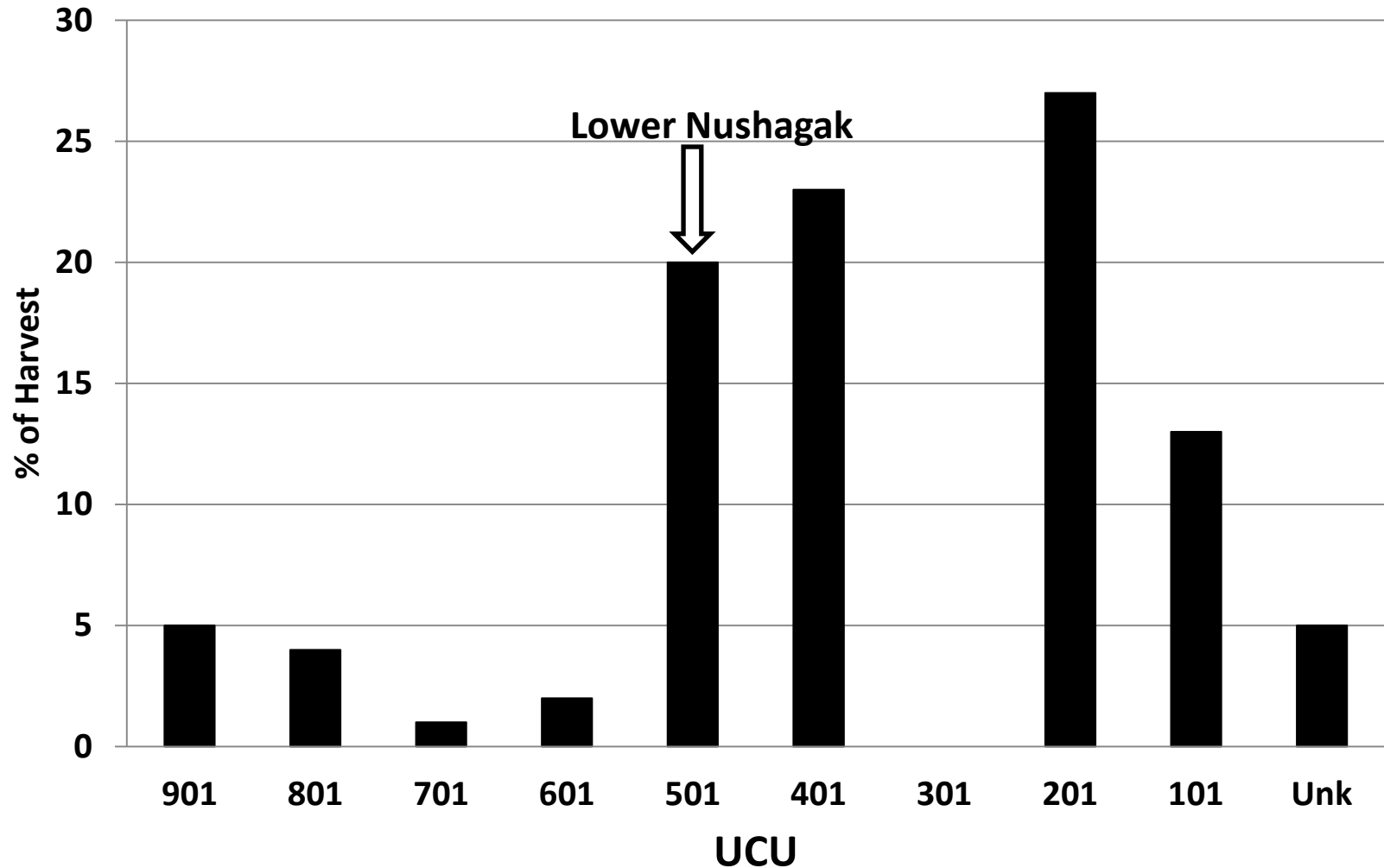


### **Most notable effects of proposed action:**

- **Remove October (attractive month for harvest)**
- **Remove firearm harvest**
- **Changes would impact all of Unit 17**
  - **Proponent identifies lower Nushagak as area of concern**

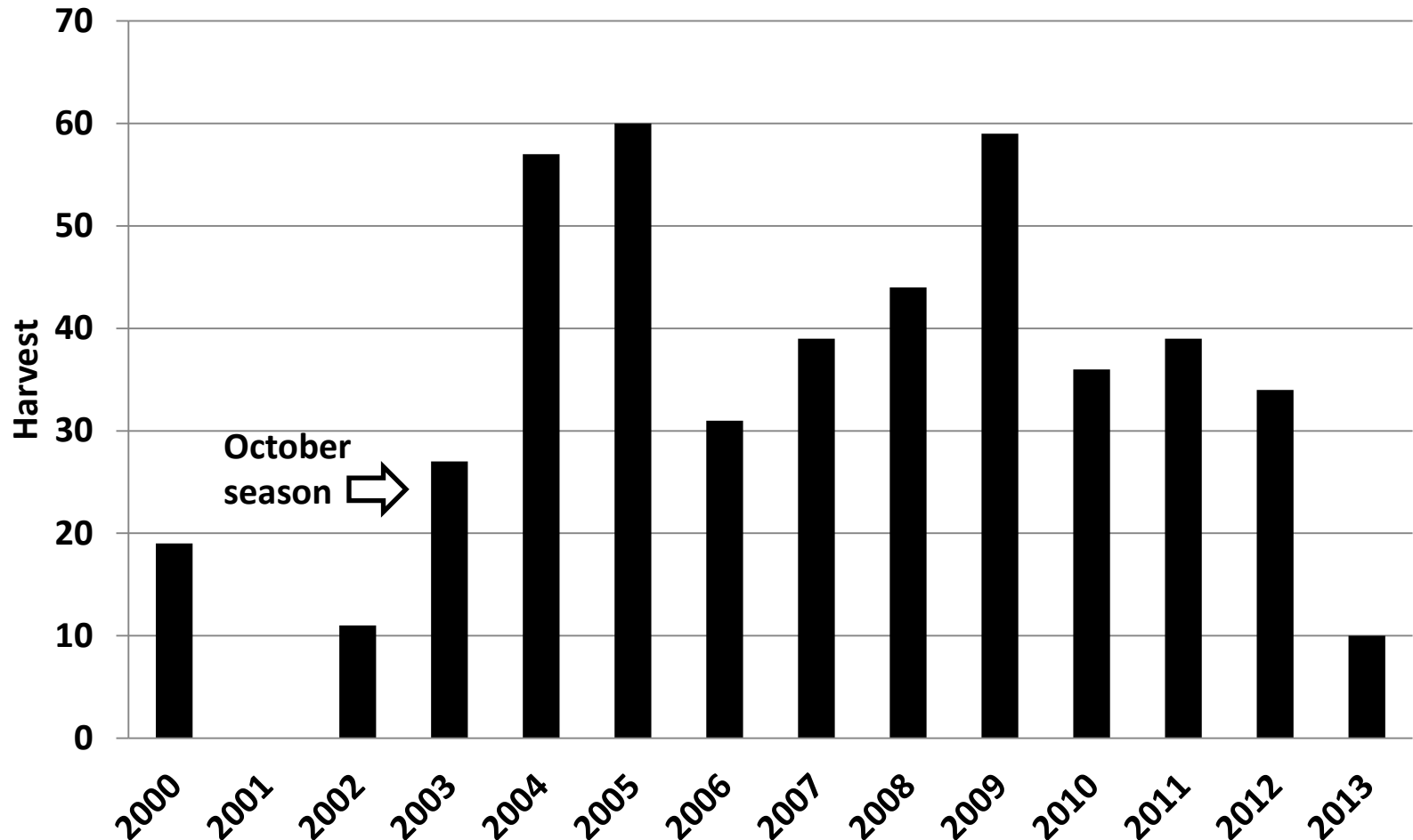


### Unit 17C Beaver Harvest 2000-2013-by UCU





### UCU 0501 Harvest (2000-2013) (Lower Nushagak)



### SUMMARY

- **ADF&G Trapper Questionnaire responses indicate beaver are common to abundant**
- **Anecdotal information suggests beavers are abundant in most of Unit**
- **Some local depletion may occur**

**Modify the trapping season dates and bag limit for beaver in Unit 17, and prohibit the taking of beaver with firearm**

### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: NEUTRAL**

*Nushagak AC*

*Oppose (2-8)*

*Togiak AC*

*Oppose*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

- 1) **Modify the salvage requirements for harvesting beaver with a firearm**
- 2) **Eliminate the bag limit for firearm harvest**
- 3) **Allow the harvest of beaver with a firearm and bow and arrow throughout the season**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**NEUTRAL on liberalization of harvest with firearm or bow and arrow, but OPPOSED to waving the sealing requirement**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (9-1) with amendment*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

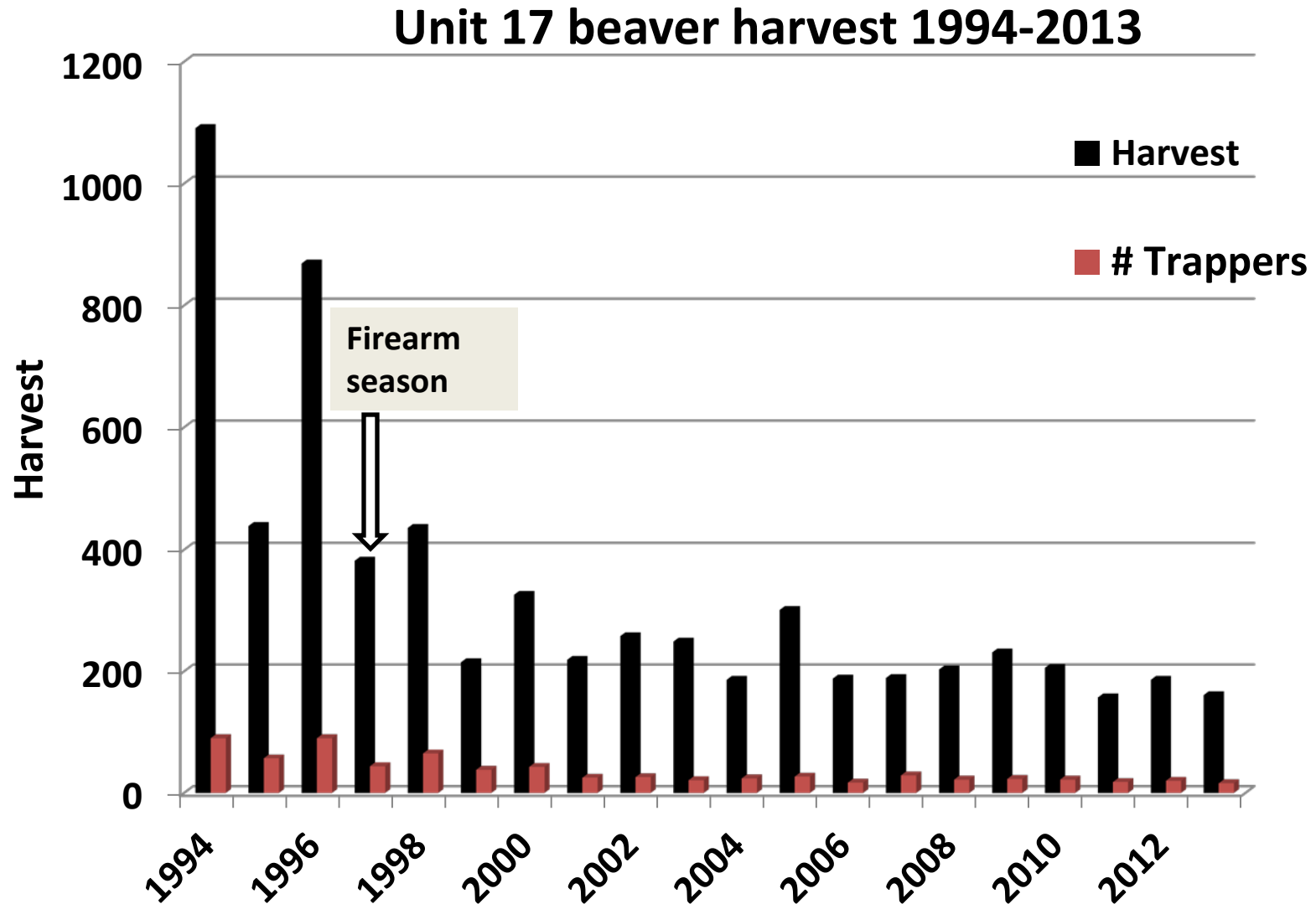
### Unit 17 Beaver Trapping Regulations

<b>Current: Season dates:</b>	<b>(Oct. 10 – May 31)</b>	<b>No limit</b>
	<b>(Apr. 15 – May 31)*</b>	<b>2 per day</b>

**\*During April 15 – May 31 firearms may be used to take up to 2 beavers per day provided the meat is salvaged for human consumption.**

<b>Proposed: Season dates:</b>	<b>(Oct. 10 – May 31)*</b>	<b>No limit</b>
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**\*Firearms and bow and arrows may be used, meat or hide must be salvaged.**



### Unit 17 Beaver Abundance

- **ADF&G Trapper Questionnaire responses indicate beaver are common to abundant**
- **Anecdotal observations from many users suggest beaver are abundant throughout Unit**
- **Decline in harvest coincides with decrease in trappers**



### Summary

- **Firearm season has little effect on beaver harvest**
- **Department does not have concerns with beaver abundance**
- **Department recommends retaining sealing requirement**

- 1) **Modify the salvage requirements for harvesting beaver with a firearm**
- 2) **Eliminate the bag limit for firearm harvest**
- 3) **Allow the harvest of beaver with a firearm and bow and arrow throughout the season**

*Proposed by: Nushagak ADF&G Advisory Committee*

**NEUTRAL on liberalization of harvest with firearm or bow and arrow, but OPPOSED to waving the sealing requirement**

*Nushagak AC*

*Support (9-1) with amendment*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*

- 1) **Modify the salvage requirements for harvesting beaver with a firearm**
- 2) **Remove the bag limit for firearm harvest**

### *Public Proposal*

**Department recommendation: Neutral, however, based on actions taken on proposal 55 the board may wish to Take No Action on this proposal.**

*Nushagak AC*

*Take No Action*

*Togiak AC*

*?*

*Lake Iliamna AC*

*No Vote*

*Naknek/Kvichak AC*

*No Vote*