Region II – small size, great responsibility
Region II includes:

- ~3% of the land mass in the state (25,600 mi²)
- 52% of the human population (375,505)
- Primary air-hub (5.0 million passengers/year)
- 2.25 million non-resident visitors annually
- >56% of the drawing hunts;
- >48% of the registration hunts (2008-2012)

Overall, our staff respond to up to 1,000 public inquires daily (490 calls, 230 e-mails, 280 walk-in), with the Anchorage information center alone handling 50–60,000 queries annually.
Region II is coastal and most is federal land

- 28.0% National Forest
- 20.0% National Wildlife Refuge
- 6.7% BLM
- 6.3% National Park
- 5.5% State Park
- 15.4% Other State/Municipal
- 13.5% Native Corporation
- 4.1% Other Private

61% Federal
SITKA BLACKTAILED DEER

5,286 harvested/year
BLACK BEAR
1,000 harvested/year
MOOSE
350 harvested/year
MOUNTAIN GOAT

344 harvested/year
BROWN BEAR

284 harvested/year
ELK
43 harvested/year

ADF&G
Game Management
Unit and Subunit Boundaries

REGION II
CARIBOU

42 harvested/year
SHEEP
22 harvested/year
We have 36 permanent staff in 6 offices
Cordova Area Office
Charlotte Westing, AB
We have 36 permanent staff in 6 offices:

- Cordova Area Office (1 Admin, 1 Management)
Unit 6 concerns and proposals:

- concerns about black bear population and harvest in western PWS (EO and new registration hunt established at February 2015 BOG meeting)
- antlerless moose reauthorizations (1 proposal)
- restrict harvest of female goats (1 proposal)
Kodiak Area Office
Nate Svoboda, AB

GMU 8
REGION II
We have 36 permanent staff in 6 offices:

- **Cordova Area Office** (1 Admin, 1 Management)

- **Kodiak Area Office**
  (1 Admin, 2 Management, 1 Regional Supervisor)
Unit 8 concerns and proposals:

- Cooperative research on bear and elk habitat on Afognak with Native land managers
- Public concerns about USFWS plans to eradicate foxes and cattle from Chirikof Island
- Supreme Court decision on feral bison
- Reduction of nonresident deer bag limit (1 proposal)
- Change bag limit restriction on brown bear (1 proposal)
- Modify furbearer regulations (4 proposals)
We have 36 permanent staff in 6 offices:

- **Cordova Area Office** (1 Admin, 1 Management)

- **Kodiak Area Office**
  (1 Admin, 2 Management, 1 Regional Supervisor)

- **Anchorage Regional and Area Office**
  (3 Administration; 6 Research; 5 Management; and 4 in Information Center)
Unit 14C concerns and proposals:

- nonresident goat hunt that chronically exceeds quota will probably have to be closed by EO this summer
- antlerless moose reauthorizations (2 proposals)
- new antlerless moose authorization (1 proposal)
- sheep residency and bag restrictions (3 proposals)
- goat residency restrictions (1 proposal)
- establish black bear hunt in JBER (1 proposal)
We have 36 permanent staff in 6 offices:

- **Cordova Area Office** (1 Admin, 1 Management)
- **Kodiak Area Office** (1 Admin, 2 Management, 1 Regional Supervisor)
- **Anchorage Regional and Area Office** (3 Administration; 6 Research; 5 Management; and 4 in Information Center)
- **Kenai Area Office** (1 Admin, 1 Research, 3 Management)
- **Homer Area Office** (1 Admin, 2 Research, 1 Management)
- **Moose Research Center** (3 Research)
Units 7 & 15 concerns:

- 2014 Funny River fire in Unit 15B – moose research
- continuing moose research in Units 15A and 15C
- wolf control efforts in Unit 15A
- brown bear hunting closure on Kenai NWR
Recent brown bear management actions on the Kenai

- Board direction in 2013 to reduce population and stabilize at a lower level

- No limit to bears killed by human causes 2013
  - seasons liberalized
  - baiting authorized (starting in spring 2014; not allowed on Refuge)
  - RB300 - Sept. 1 – May 31; one bear/yr; permits at ADF&G or on-line

- Annual cap of 70 bears killed by human causes starting in 2014
  - ADF&G intent to allow \( \leq 17 \) adult females killed by humans
  - Emergency Order closes season on Oct. 20, 2014

- Reported human caused mortalities: 2012 = 44; 2013 = 71 and 2014 = 69
  - estimated population decline of about 80 bears (13%) during that time

  - brown bear baiting closed year round on Refuge
The average kill by humans was 24.6 bears/year, including 5.2 adult females/year during the 10 years prior to 2012 (2002-2011)
**Management Actions**

- Manage for a stable population near the current level
  - sustainable hunter and non-consumptive opportunities
  - minimize adverse bear-human interactions
  - focus harvest on bears that routinely come near people

- Along with this harvest strategy, we are committed to:
  - expand efforts to minimize unnatural bear attractants (human and domestic animal food and garbage)
  - increase bear safety education
  - teach hunters how to increase chances of taking males

- Focus research efforts on gathering demographic data and exploring better ways of evaluating population trend
Management Actions

- For CY 2015 we anticipate a total harvest of 40 bears killed by humans, including no more than 8 adult females

- We will re-evaluate harvest annually as more harvest and demographic data become available

- We hope to increase hunter opportunity within the next few years
Harvest calculation

Estimates are from spreadsheet calculations using existing population, demographic and human-caused mortality data and making the following assumptions:

- Starting population level (2012) is the Kenai NWR/USFS 2010 estimate plus a 3% population increase for 3 years. This results in a 2015 estimate of 629 total bears.

- We used cub production and survival information from bears radio-collared on the Kenai and we assume they stay the same each year.

- No change in the unreported kill.

- No natural mortality or reproductive senescence.

- Females start reproducing at age 6 and have a litter every 3 years.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>year</th>
<th>start</th>
<th>new adults</th>
<th>total mortality</th>
<th>adf mort</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>629.00</td>
<td>16.86</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>618.71</td>
<td>17.26</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>582.23</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>546.56</td>
<td>17.76</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>542.08</td>
<td>18.77</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>539.61</td>
<td>19.88</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>539.36</td>
<td>21.10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>541.57</td>
<td>22.45</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>546.47</td>
<td>23.94</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>544.35</td>
<td>25.38</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>545.10</td>
<td>26.96</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>549.03</td>
<td>28.71</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>551.45</td>
<td>30.43</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Portions of the spreadsheet are omitted from this slide for clarity
Conclusion

To maintain the current population level for the next 5 years, the model suggests a maximum total human-caused mortality of 40 bears, including 8 adult females. This level of human-caused mortality translates to 7.3% of the population annually of which 40% are females (about half of those are adults).

These estimates are optimistic because of the assumptions noted earlier. Other modeling tools that are more complex and include data for those assumptions all result in more conservative human-caused mortality estimates.

Mortality rates higher than this will likely continue the population decline. Since harvestable surplus is a proportion of the population, lower numbers will mean reduced hunter opportunity.
Units 7 & 15 proposals:

- moose season and bag limit (13 proposals)
- brown bear season and salvage (5 proposals)
- sheep season (archery only) (1 proposal)
- trapping seasons and bag limits (5 proposals)
- ptarmigan seasons and bag limits (2 proposals)
- prohibit taking big game from boats (1 proposal)
- create Kachemak Bay management area (1 proposal)
Our FY15 budget is $5.2 million:

- 64% is for personnel
  (includes 4 administrative positions that are shared with other divisions)
- 17% for facilities/administrative costs
- 19% for research, management and education

- $4.2 million (81%) from Federal Aid
- $0.6 million (11%) from General Fund
- $0.4 million (8%) from Special Appropriations

Anticipate a lower budget for FY16
Active Region II research projects:

- Chugach sheep  (*Lohuis*)
- Otter & wolverine population assessment  (*Golden*)
- Brown bear demographics on the Kenai Peninsula  (*Farley*)
- Brown bear survey techniques  (*Becker*)
- Moose browse analysis  (*Crouse*)
- Kenai moose survival and productivity  (*McDonough*)
New Region II research projects:

- PWS black bear movements and harvest (Carnahan)
- PWS deer demographics (Carnahan)
- Afognak bear and elk habitat management (Svoboda)
- Impacts of Funny River fire on moose (McDonough)
- Moose thermoregulation (Thompson)
Wildlife Education

Timely, Applicable and Available

- Complements ADF&G management and research
- School-based
- General outreach and information
- Professional development and support for teachers
- Outdoor skills
- Wildlife Safety
Outdoor Skills
Connecting Children and Families With Nature

ADF&G is working with partnering agencies and organizations across the state to generate and strengthen people’s connection with the natural environment.

www.getoutdoorsalaska.org
Public Information

Information Officer   Ken Marsh

• Coordinates public affairs for the Regions II & IV
• Serves as a primary spokesman for division issues
• Reports Board of Game meeting results to public & staff
• Seeks proactive opportunities for communication & outreach
Special Areas

• Potter Marsh / Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge
  ➢ About 130,000 visits annually
  ➢ Used by school groups, summer camps, other educational groups

• Tugidak Island Critical Habitat Area
  ➢ Marine mammal surveys and marine debris clean-up

• Homer Airport Critical Habitat Area
  ➢ Wildlife viewing deck, trail and platform construction and improvement

• Copper River Delta Critical Habitat Area
  ➢ Airport interpretive display with US Forest Service

• Anchor River Fritz Creek Critical Habitat Area
• Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area
• Fox River Flats Critical Habitat Area
• Clam Gulch Critical Habitat Area
# Hunter Information & Training Program

## Region II

### 2014 HIT Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowhunter</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Ed</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>157</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,308</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Volunteer Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Classroom</th>
<th>Field Course</th>
<th>Live Fire</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowhunter</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Ed</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>2,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>871</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,195</strong></td>
<td><strong>469</strong></td>
<td><strong>852</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,387</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opportunities at Rabbit Creek Shooting Park

- Archery (Static and 3-D walkthrough)
- Handgun Range
- Center-fire Range (100 yards)
- .22 Rim-fire Range
- 2 Instructional Ranges
- 2 Five Stand, Sporting Clays Fields
- Hunter Ed Field & Bowhunter Testing Courses
Youth Opportunities

Region II

- Outdoor Youth Days
- Birchwood Youth Days
- Potter Marsh Discovery Days
- ADF&G Kids Days
- National Archery in the Schools
- “Bear Aware” and moose safety
- Youth-only hunts on Kodiak (deer) and on the Kenai (small game)