



## Session 2:

# Status and Trends

### VI. Muskox status and trends of muskox in Alaska

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Muskoxen (*Ovibos moschatus*) disappeared from Alaska and Yukon, Canada, by the late 1800's and remaining populations in other areas of Canada and in Greenland were in decline. Concerns that the species may become extinct were raised, and the United States government provided money to obtain animals and restore muskoxen to Alaska. In 1931, 34 young muskoxen, captured in Greenland, were transported to Fairbanks, Alaska, where they remained in captivity for 5 years. In 1935-1936, 31 surviving animals and offspring born in captivity were moved to Nunivak Island in the Bering Sea off the western coast of Alaska. By the late 1960's, this population had grown to > 700. For the next 14 years, muskoxen were translocated from Nunivak Island to 4 other areas in Alaska. The objective of this poster is to report changes in abundance and current distribution in these 5 populations of muskoxen in Alaska.

# MUSKOX HEALTH ECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM



**ABSTRACTS**