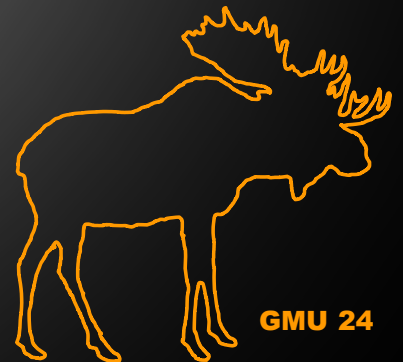


Galena Mgt. Area

BOG Proposals

2017





Proposal #94

Change fall moose season dates in Unit 21D

Proponent – Public

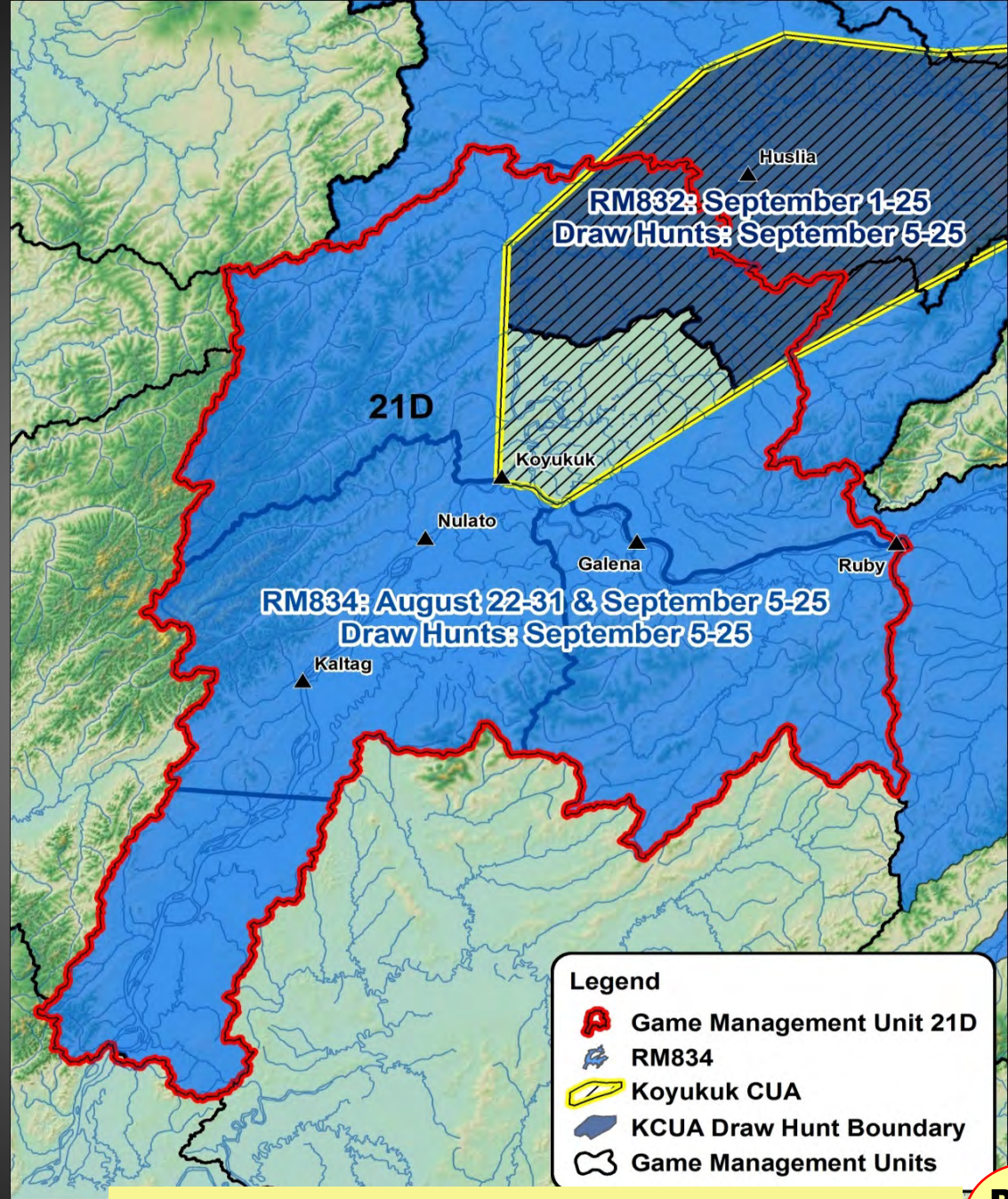
ADF&G – OPPOSED

KRAC – OPPOSED

MYAC – OPPOSED

Proposed Change

- Only that portion of 21D outside the KCUA
- RM834 only
- **Sept. 1-Sept 30**



Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-2**

Unit 21D – Moose Seasons

- ***Koyukuk CUA***

- Drawing permits
 - Resident/Non-Resident: Sept 5-Sept 25
- RM832
 - Resident: Sept 1-Sept 25

- ***Remainder 21D***

- Drawing Permits
 - Resident/Non-Resident: Sept 5-Sept 25
- RM834
 - Resident: Aug 22-Aug 31, (4 days closed), Sept 5-Sept 25

❖ August season initiated in 2006 in lieu of Dec 1-10 season

Proposal 94 – September Moose Season

Change in 21D

Concerns:

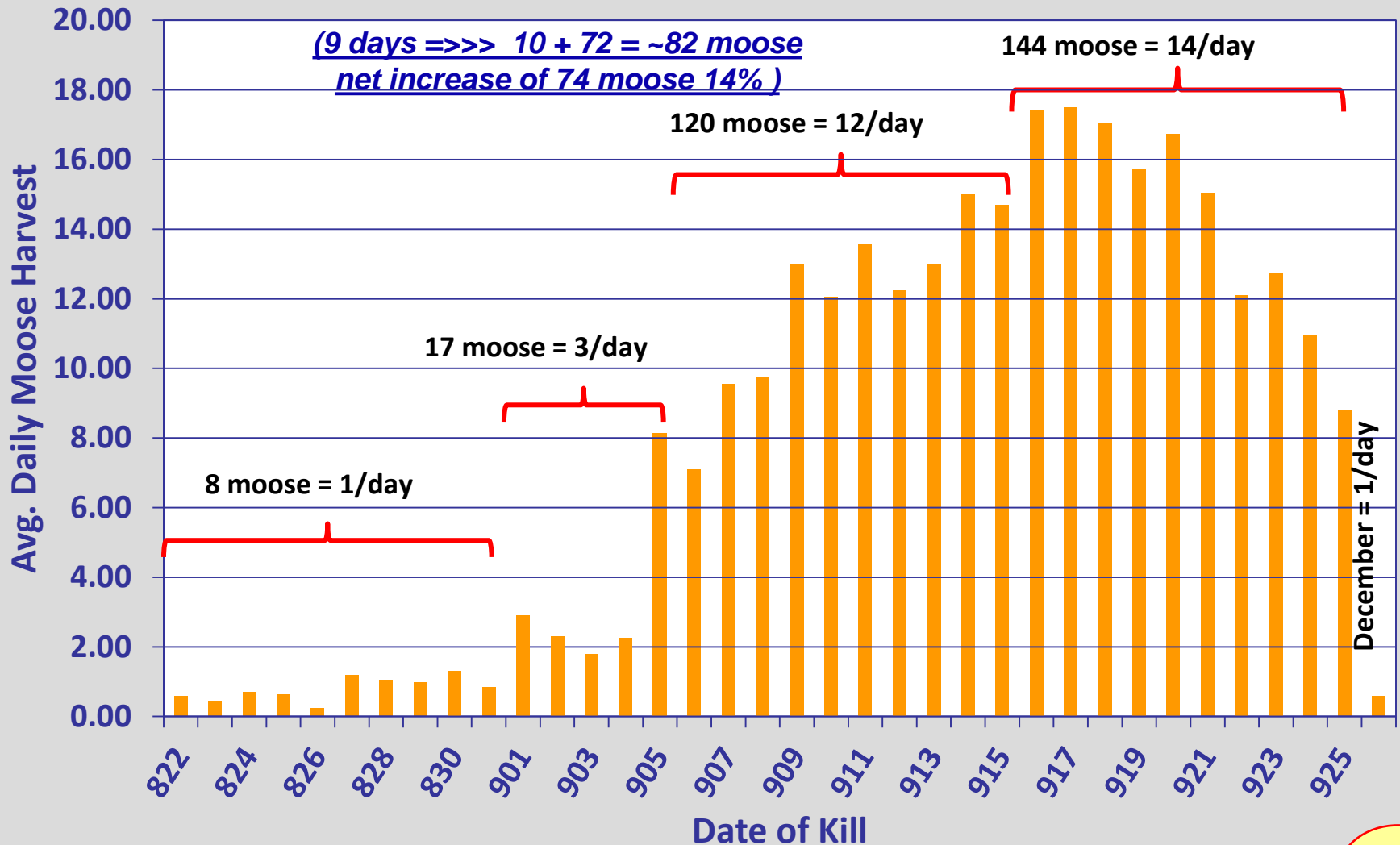
Hunt Management

- Current season addressed hunter conflict issues and meat spoilage concerns
- The climate change effects on hunting are not easily interpreted, therefore the management response is unclear

Biological

- 1) Increase harvest, 2) exceed harvestable surplus
 - Population estimate ----- 8,749 ↓ ↓ trend ↓ ↓
 - Management Objective (9K-10K)
 - IM objective (7K-10K)
- Proposed change (late Sept) will have uncertain biological impacts on productivity and survival

Unit 21D - Avg. Daily Harvest 1995-2014



Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-5**

Proposal 94 – September Moose Season Change in 21D

- This proposal is similar to previous proposals and several emergency requests related to climate change

- **PREMISE: Climate change is responsible for affecting fall hunting:**

Direct (weather) response:

- Temperature?
- Precipitation?
- Wind?
- Water levels?
- Leaf phenology?

Indirect (moose) response:

- Timing of rut?
- Moose behavior?
- Bigger bulls?
- Hunting conditions?

Hunters affected:

- Number of moose harvested?
- Hunter effort?
- Meat spoilage?
- Hunt quality?

Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-6**

Proposal 94 – September Moose Season Change in 21D

- This proposal is similar to previous proposals and several emergency requests related to climate change

- **PREMISE: Climate change is responsible for affecting fall hunting:**

Direct (weather) response:

- Temperature?
- Precipitation?
- Wind?
- Water levels?
- Leaf phenology?

Indirect (moose) response:

- Timing of rut?
- Moose behavior?
- Bigger bulls?
- Hunting conditions?

Hunters affected:

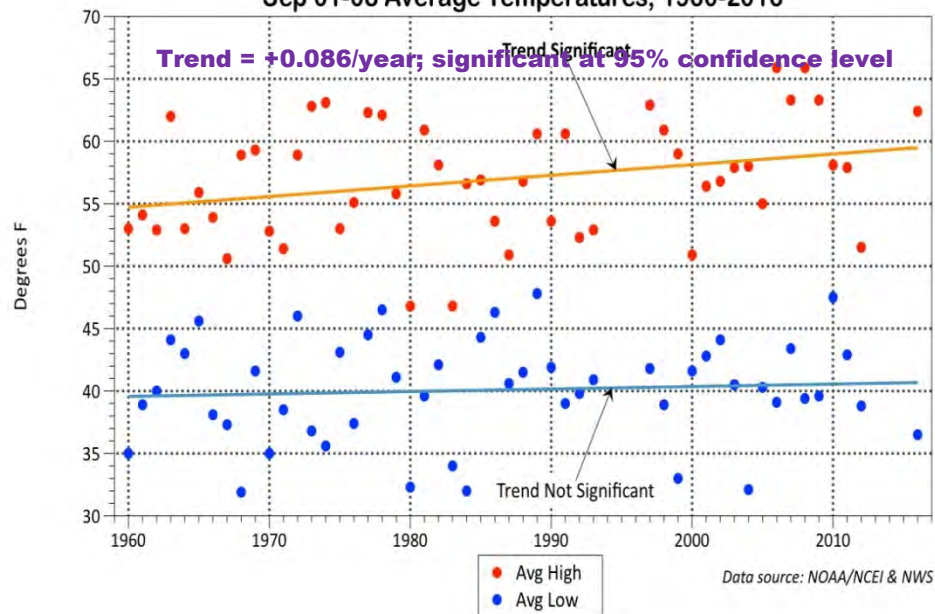
- Number of moose harvested?
- Hunter effort?
- Meat spoilage?
- Hunt quality?



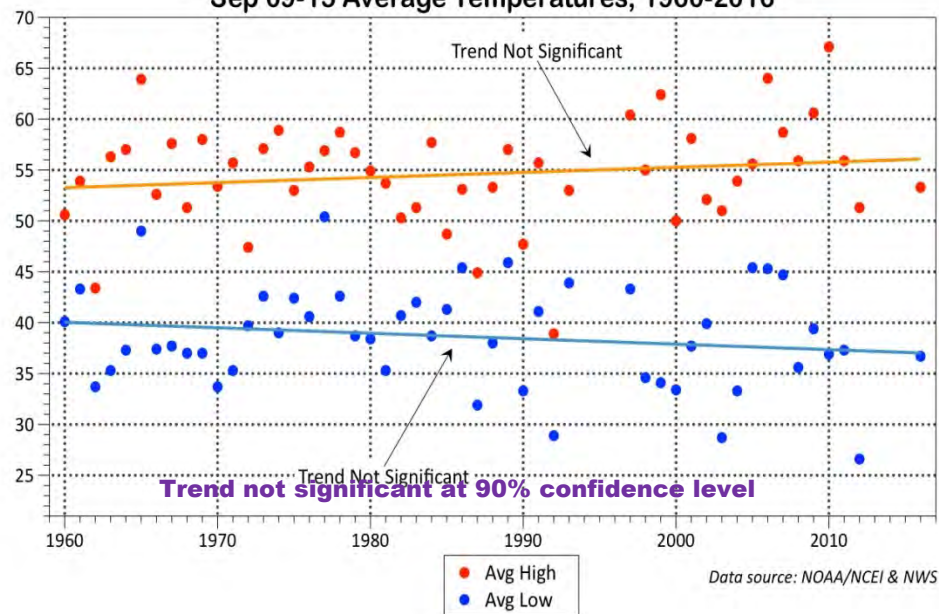
Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-7**

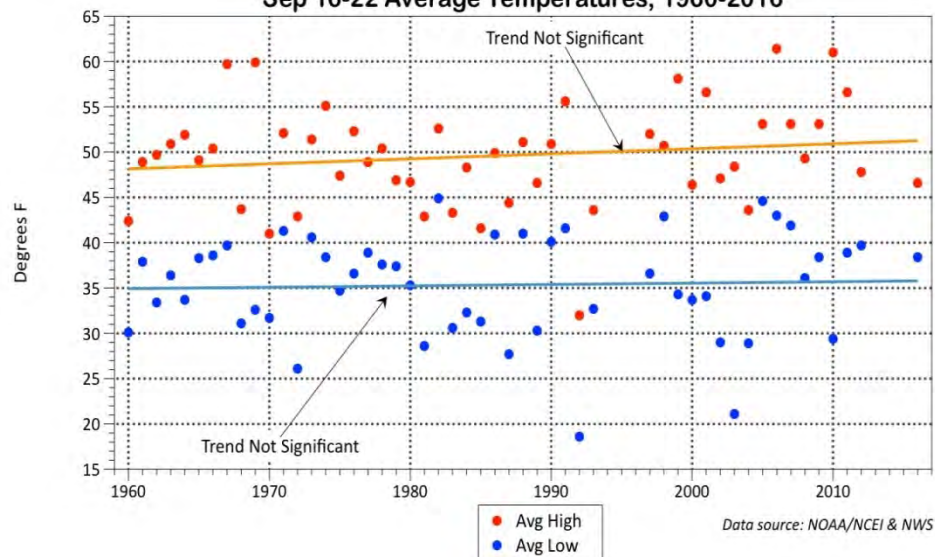
Galena, Alaska
Sep 01-08 Average Temperatures, 1960-2016



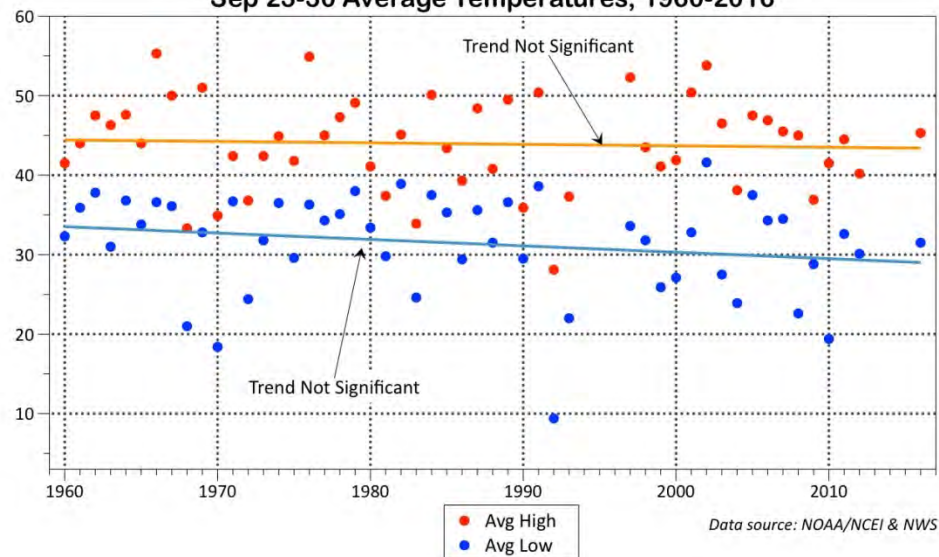
Galena, Alaska
Sep 09-15 Average Temperatures, 1960-2016



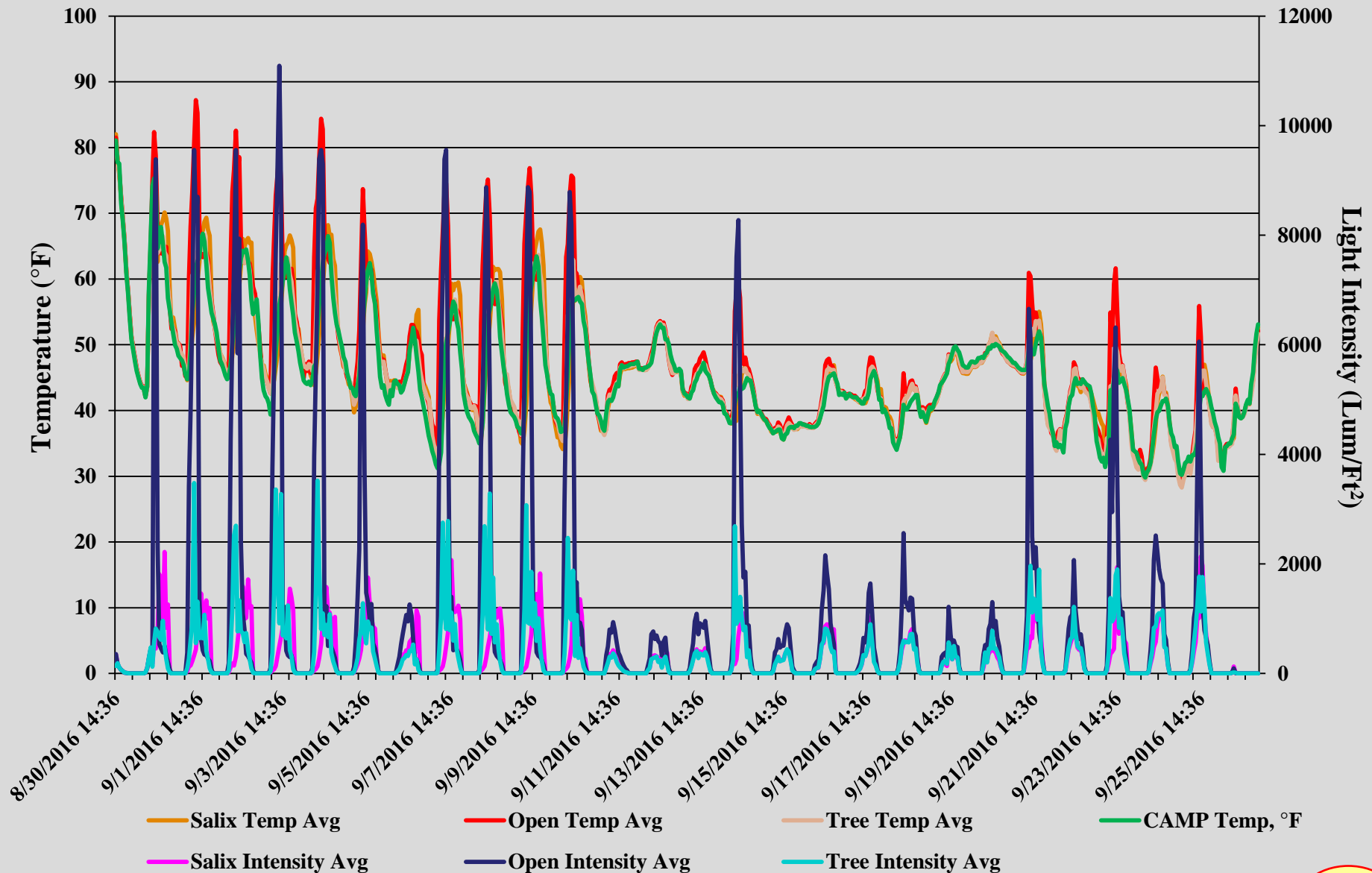
Galena, Alaska
Sep 16-22 Average Temperatures, 1960-2016



Galena, Alaska
Sep 23-30 Average Temperatures, 1960-2016



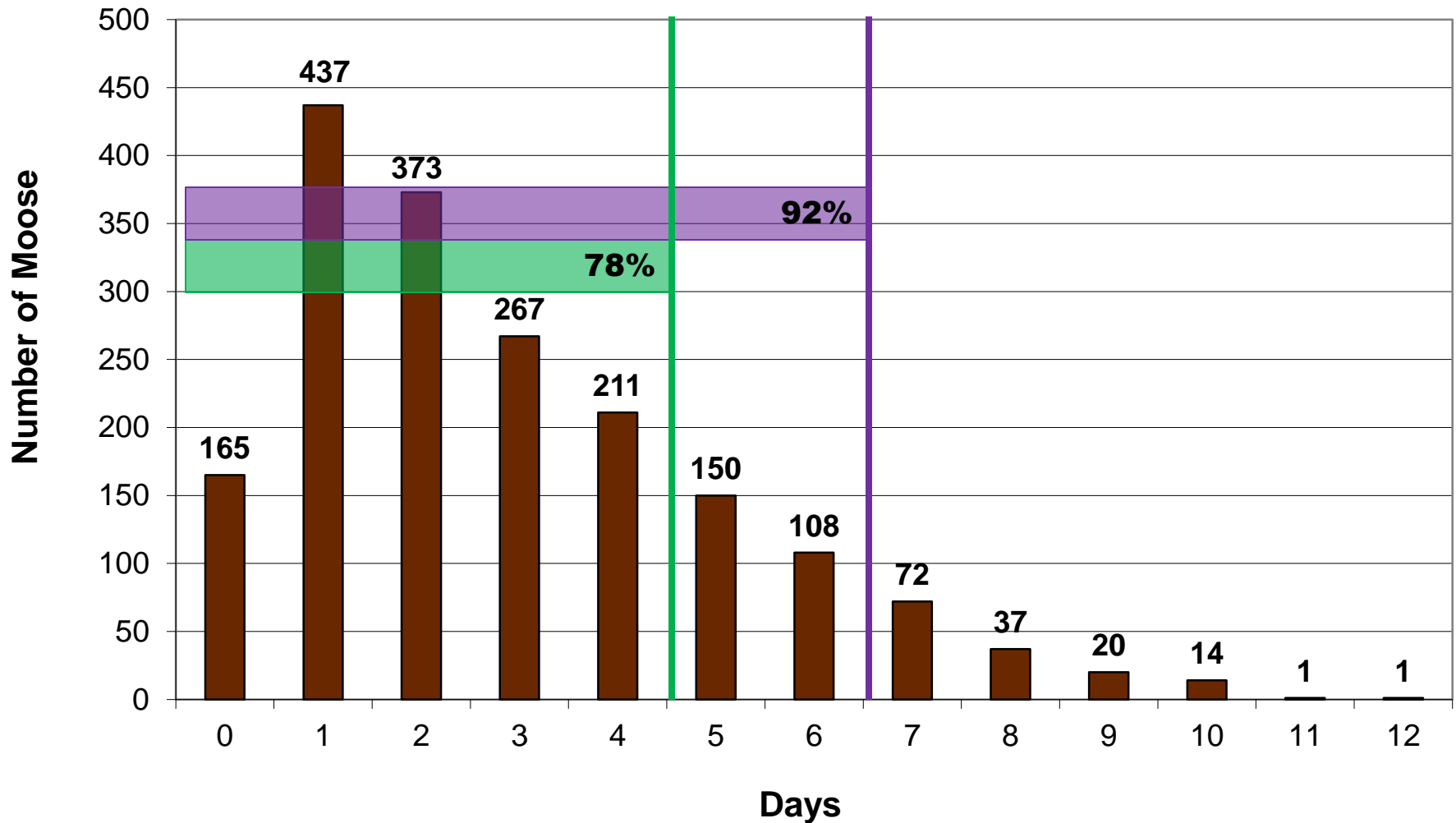
Temperature and Light Intensity of 3 Habitat Types on the Lower Koyukuk



Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-9**

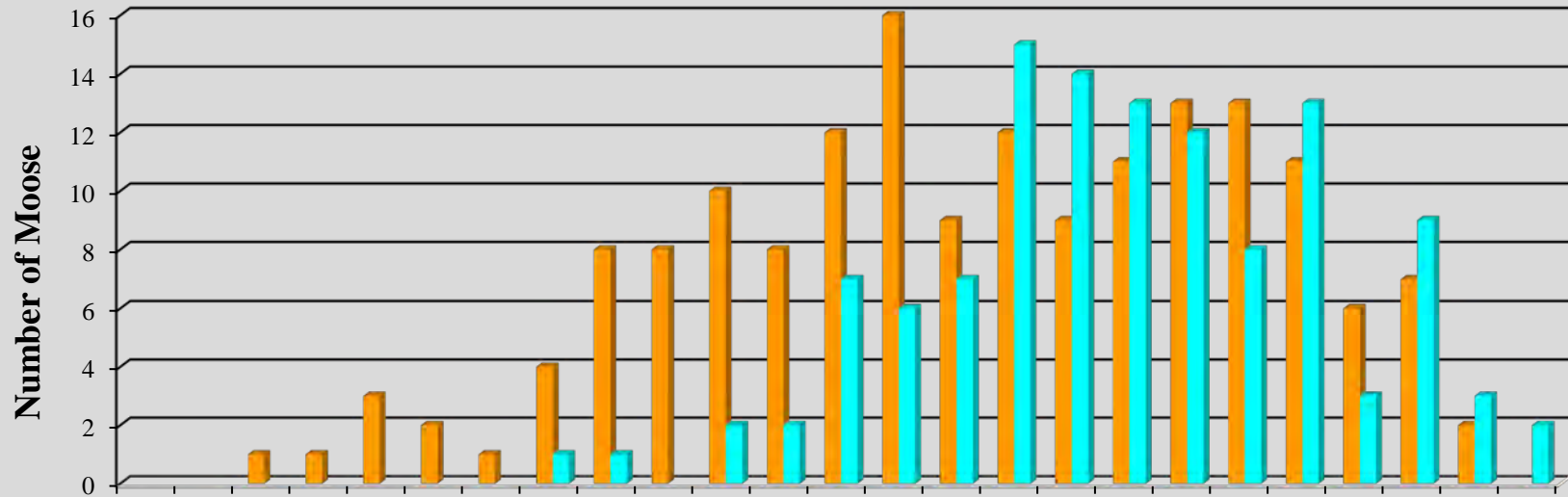
Number of Days Meat was in the Field Koyukuk Checkstation (2002-15) (n=1,856)



Change moose seasons in 21D

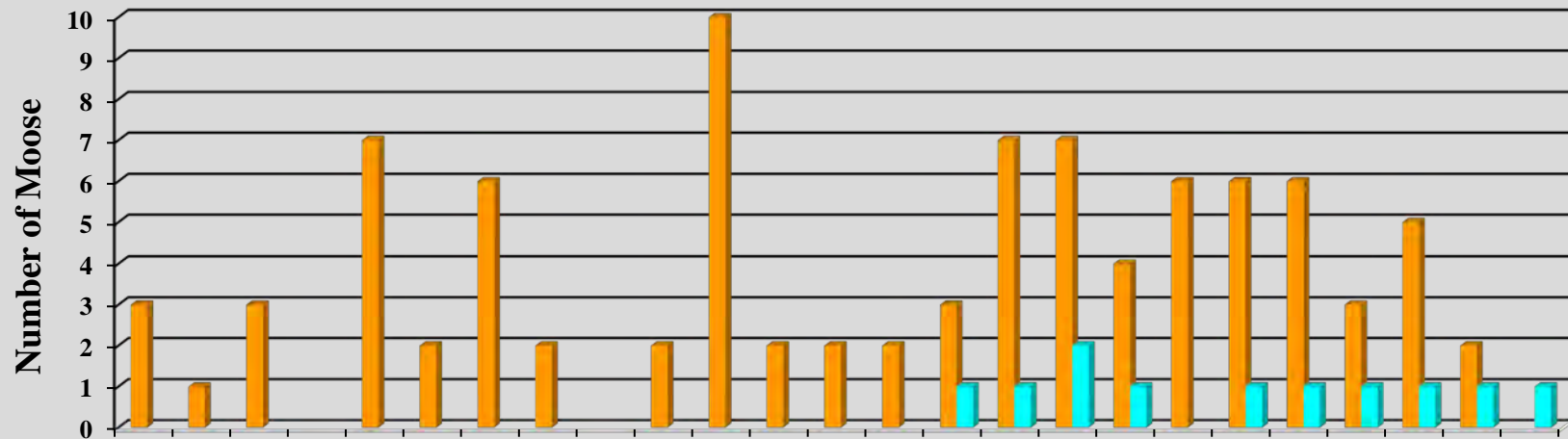
**Prop
94-10**

Nonlocal Harvest by Date and Calling



41%
called

Local Harvest by Date and Calling



11%
called

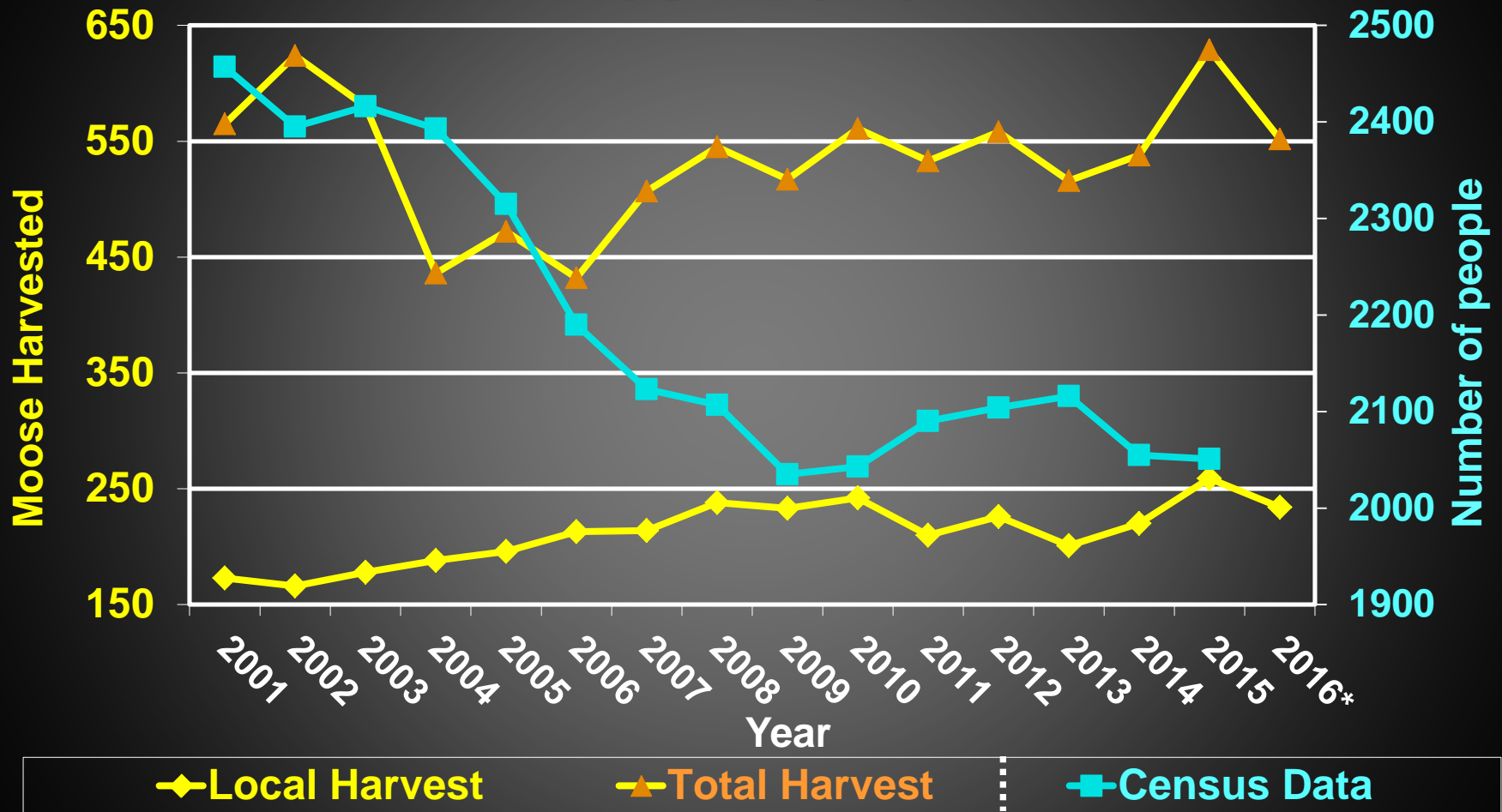
Local not called

Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-11**

Middle Yukon/Koyukuk - Reported Moose Harvest

2001-2016

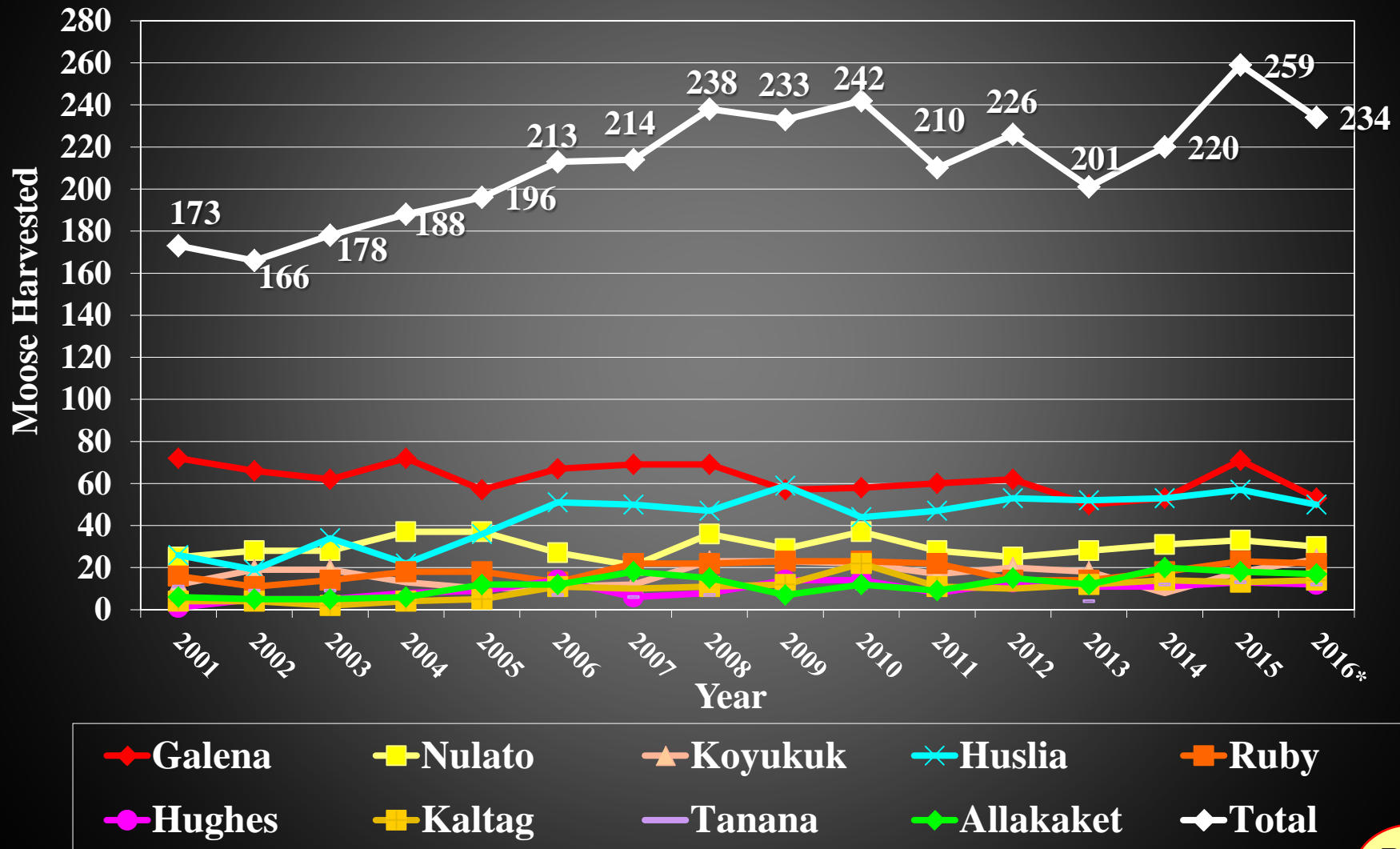


* Includes communities of Tanana, Ruby, Galena, Koyukuk, Nulato, Kaltag, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Evansville, Wiseman, and Coldfoot.

Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-12**

Preliminary ^(2/8/17) Local Resident Reported Moose Harvest 2001-2016



Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-13**

**Schwartz and
Hundertmark
(1993):**

**"Most heats lasts
for 15-26 hours.."**

**Mysterud et al.
(2002):**

**"It is well
documented that
the presence of
males can induce
estrus in females,
and that male age
may also be a
factor. In
populations with
both a skewed sex
ratio and a young
male age
structure, calving
is delayed and less
synchronous."**

Peak Breeding Season of Alaskan Moose

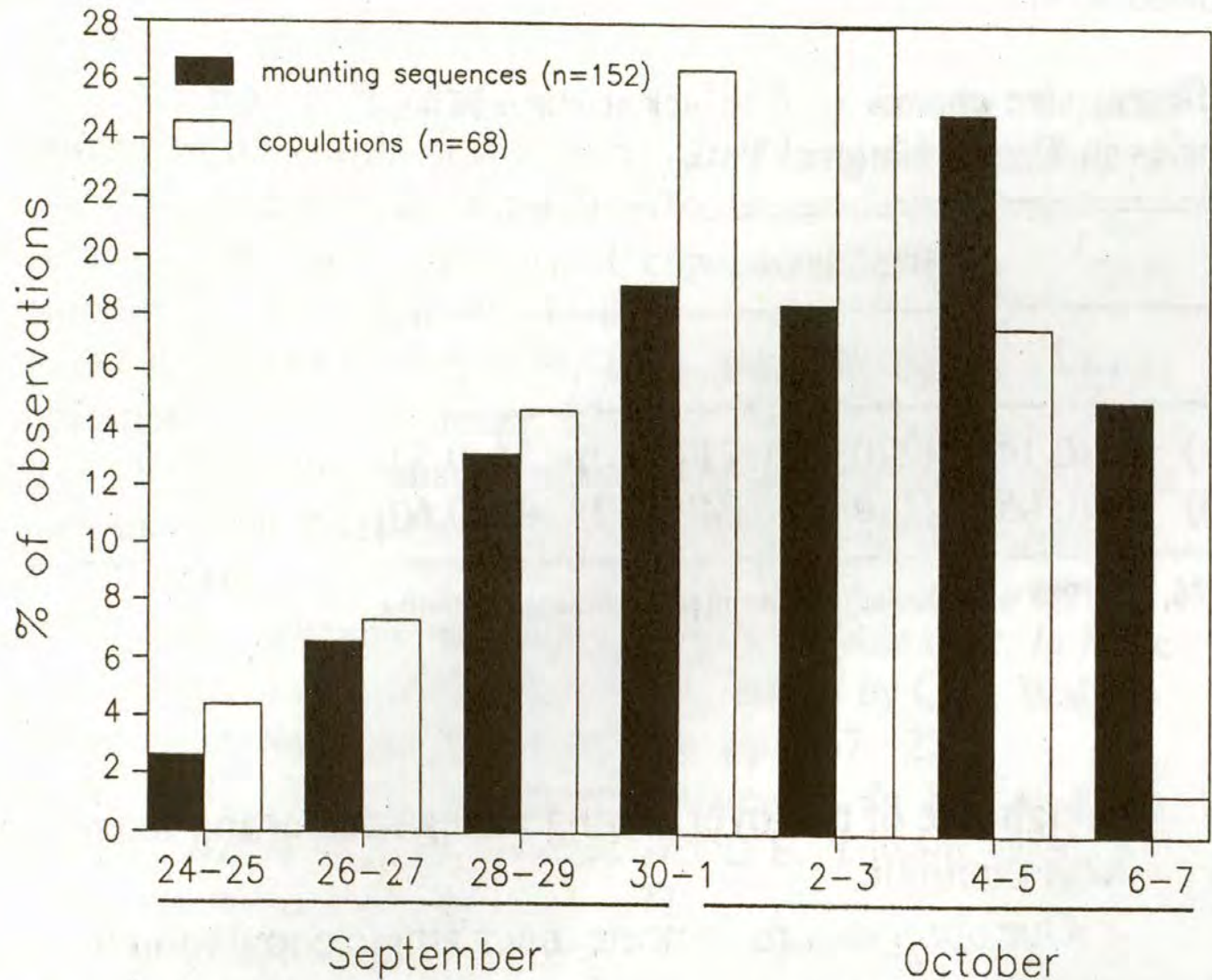


FIG. 1. Percentage of mounting sequences and copulations of moose by 2-day intervals observed during the breeding season in central Alaska (Schwartz and Hundertmark 1993).



Proposal #94

Summary

1. **Current seasons addressed hunter conflict and meat spoilage concerns.**
2. **No clear direct/indirect weather effects on harvest.**
3. **Harvest is stable, per capita harvest is increasing.**
4. **Harvest will increase and exceed harvestable surplus.**
5. **Accelerate population decline.**

ADF&G – OPPOSED

KRAC – OPPOSED

MYAC – OPPOSED

Change moose seasons in 21D

**Prop
94-15**



Proposal #95

**Change DM896 and
DM812 hunts and
portion of RM834, to
a Registration hunt**






Proponent – ADF&G

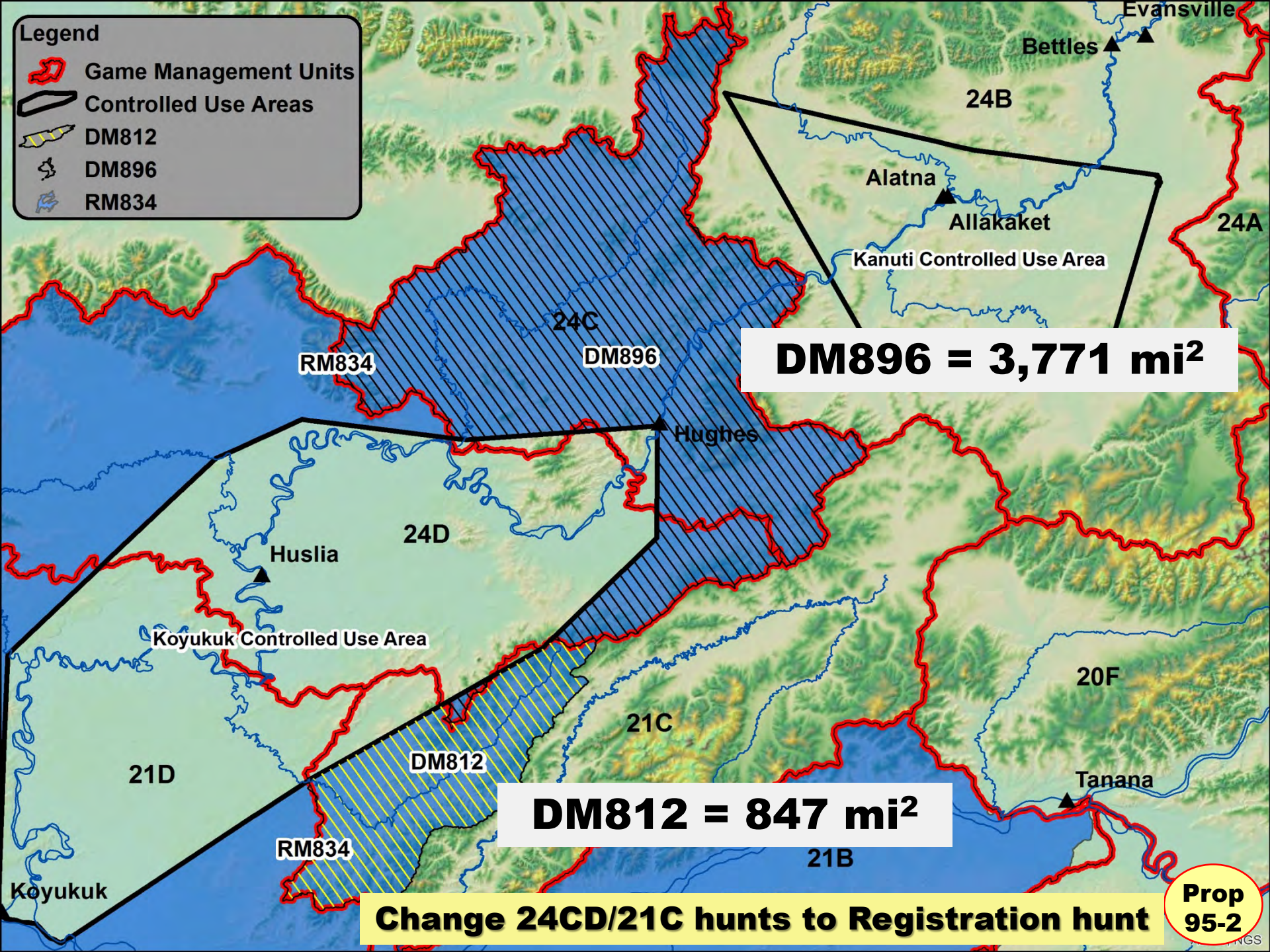
ADF&G – SUPPORT

KRAC – SUPPORT

MYAC – SUPPORT

Legend

-  Game Management Units
-  Controlled Use Areas
-  DM812
-  DM896
-  RM834







DM896 = 3,771 mi²

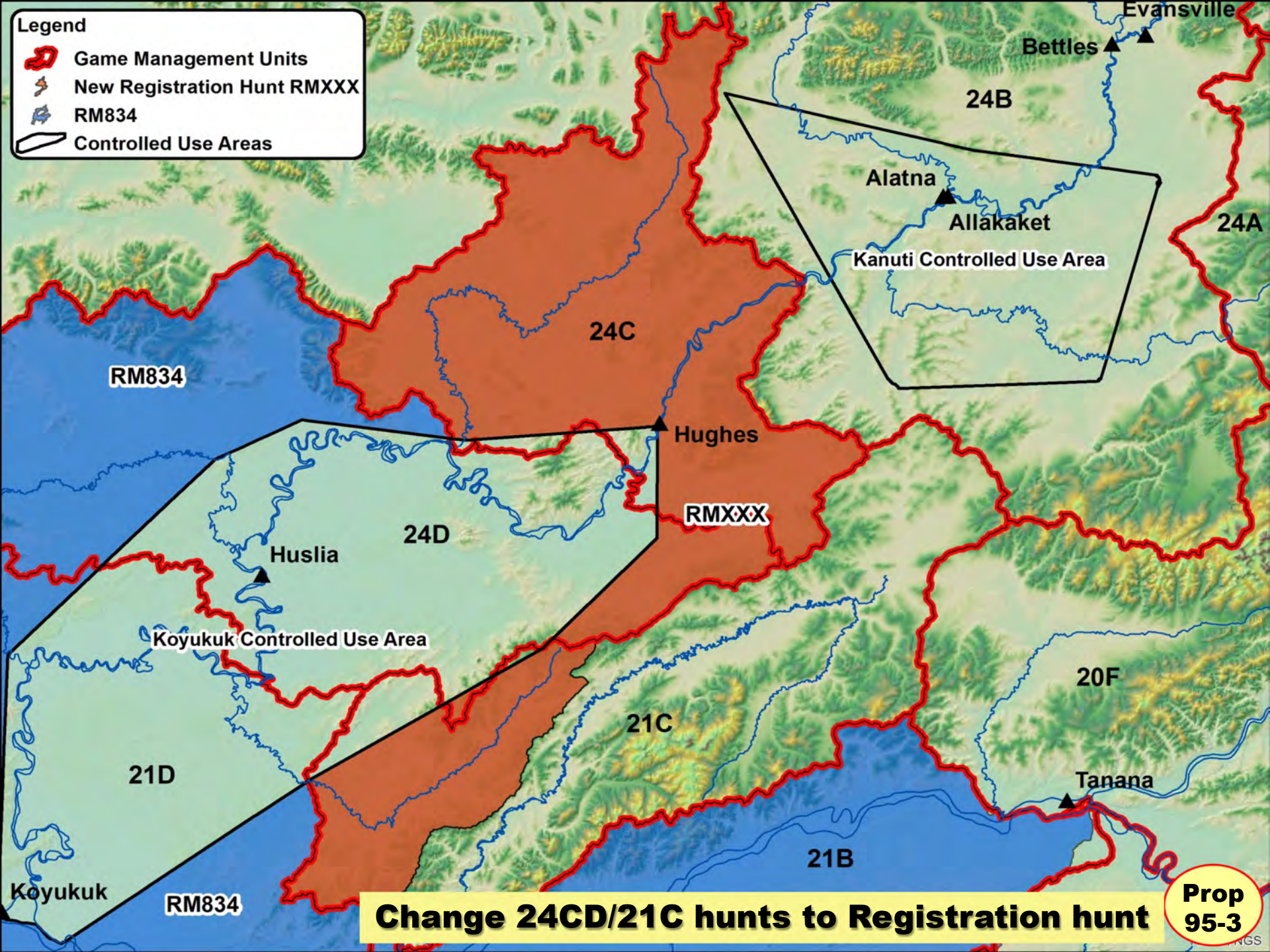
DM812 = 847 mi²

Change 24CD/21C hunts to Registration hunt

Prop 95-2

Legend

-  Game Management Units
-  New Registration Hunt RMXXX
-  RM834
-  Controlled Use Areas



Change 24CD/21C hunts to Registration hunt

**Prop
95-3**

Galena Mgt. Area – Moose Management Strategy

- Drawing Permit/Registration Permit system implemented in 2000, **2004**, and 2006
- Key Issues: 1) Moose population was below objective or declining, 2) declining bull:cow ratios, 3) declining local hunter success, 4) hunter conflicts, 5) illegal guiding
- Hunter Distribution, Bootlegging, High-grading
- Strategy has been successful

23

2007 Results

75 Bulls:100 Cows

14 Yrlg bull:100 Cows

43 calv.:100 Cows

0.36 moose/mi²

24C

24B

Hughes

Huslia

ntrolled Use Area

2010 Results

64 Bulls:100 Cows

10 Yrlg bull:100 Cows

27 calv.:100 Cows

0.49 moose/mi²

21C

Koyukuk

Legend

 GMU

Number of Observed Moose

 NOT SURVEYED

 0

 1 - 4

 5 - 30

 31 - 128

Change 24CD/21C hunts to Registration hunt

**Prop
95-5**



Proposal #95

Harvest

DM812 – est. 2004

- **Permits – 31 annually**
- **Hunters – 74% Did not hunt**
- **Harvest – avg. 5 moose annually (RM834 - 0.5 moose)**

DM896 – est. 2004

- **Permits – 52 annually**
- **Hunters – 51% Did not hunt**
- **Harvest – avg. 11 moose annually (RM834 – 6 moose)**



Proposal #95

Summary

- Both areas receive low use
- Remoteness is self-regulating
- Opportunity to reduce restrictive regulations
- Concerns can be closely monitored with registration permit
- The Board may want to consider whether removing antler destruction will affect subsistence opportunity
- No biological concerns

ADF&G – SUPPORT

KRAC – SUPPORT MYAC – SUPPORT

Change 24CD/21C hunts to Registration hunt

**Prop
95-7**



Proposal #93

Eliminate Bettles Winter Trail from DHCMA allowed motorized travel roads

Proponent – ADF&G

ADF&G – TAKE NO ACTION

KRAC – TAKE NO ACTION

Proposal 93 - Bettles Winter Trail

- **Proposal 93 is a “placeholder” proposal (re: BLM permit for City of Bettles winter road)**
- **Bettles Winter Trail is one of 6 exemptions for licensed highway vehicle travel in the DHCMA regulation**
- **The Bettles Winter Trail is the only legal overland egress in Unit 24 from the Dalton Highway for hunters**

Eliminate Bettles Winter Trail in DHCMA

**Prop
93-2**

Legend

-  Bettles Winter Road
-  Game Management Units
-  Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area
-  Kanuti CUA

DHCMA

**Bettles Winter Trail
~26.5 miles**

Wiseman

Coldfoot

24A

23

24B

Bettles

Evansville

MP 135

25A

Alatna

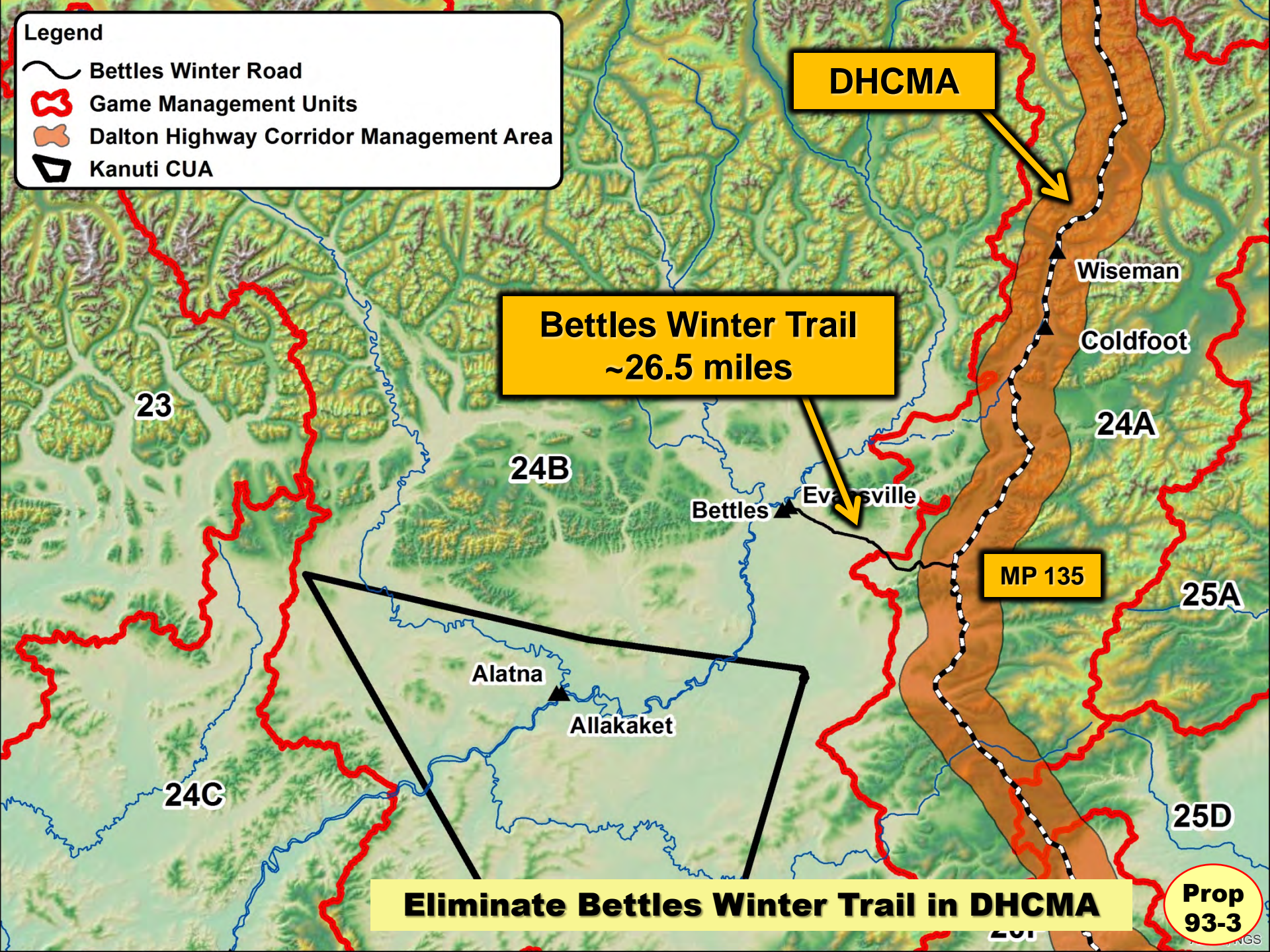
Allakaket

24C

25D

Eliminate Bettles Winter Trail in DHCMA

**Prop
93-3**



Proposal 93 - Bettles Winter Trail

Effect of the proposal

- **Historically, State and Federal hunting regulations allowed for public use**
- **October 2016, the BLM announced a Scoping Period with 7 options; The “No Action” option would limit public access**
- **BLM EA has not been released as of 02/14/17**
- **Not addressing the regulation will mislead hunters**



Proposal #93

Summary

- **This placeholder proposal depends on the final determination of a BLM Environmental Assessment, which has not been completed**
- **Regardless of the EA decision, the BLM has changed their interpretation, and use of the Bettles Winter Trail is no longer allowed for the general public**
- **Eliminating the road designation in the DHCMA description is needed to prevent confusion for hunters**

ADF&G – TAKE NO ACTION

KRAC – TAKE NO ACTION

Eliminate Bettles Winter Trail in DHCMA

**Prop
93-5**



Proposal #96

Expand RM833 winter hunt to the remainder of GMU 24B

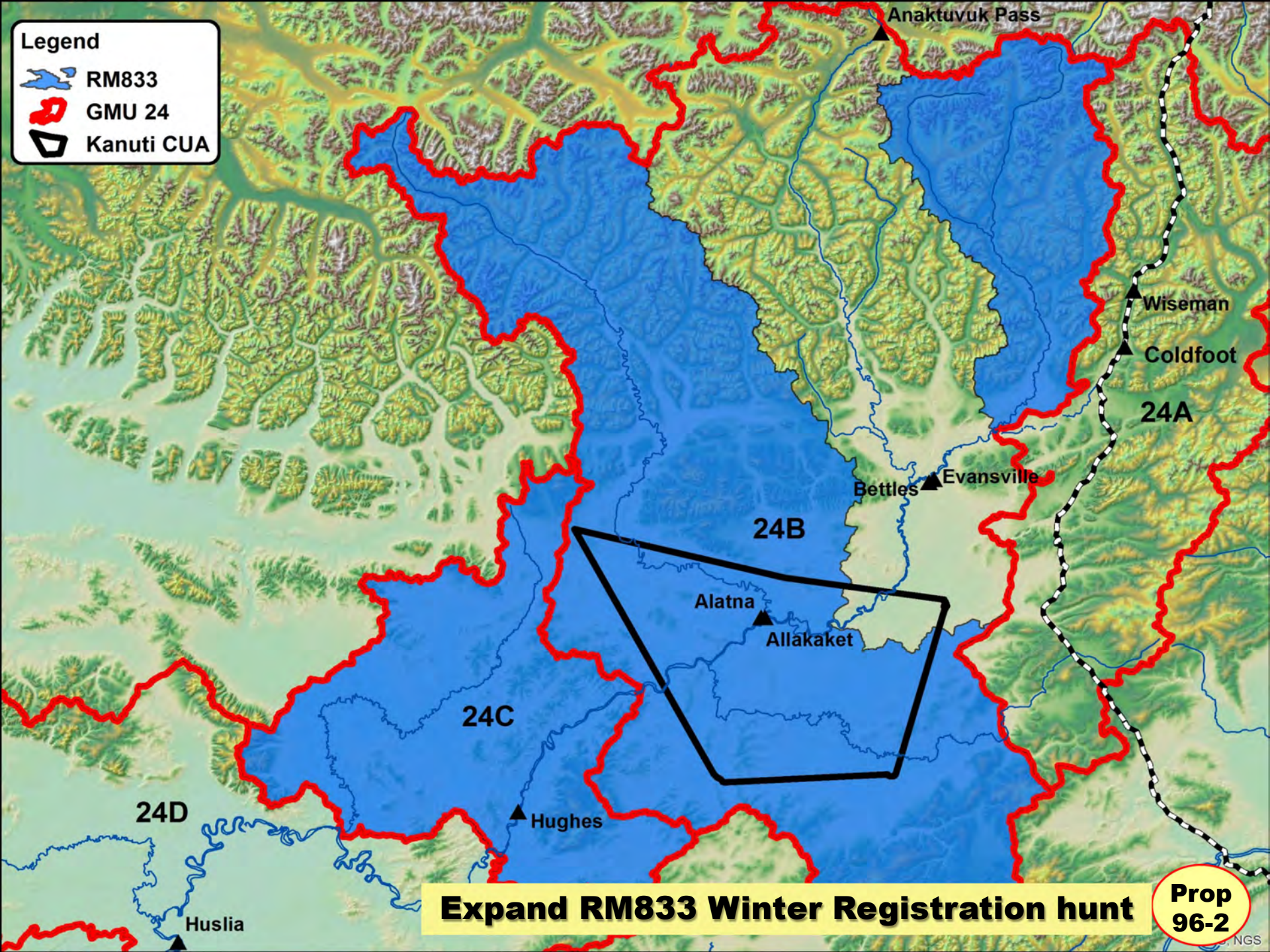
Proponent – ADF&G

ADF&G – SUPPORT

KRAC – SUPPORT

Legend

-  RM833
-  GMU 24
-  Kanuti CUA

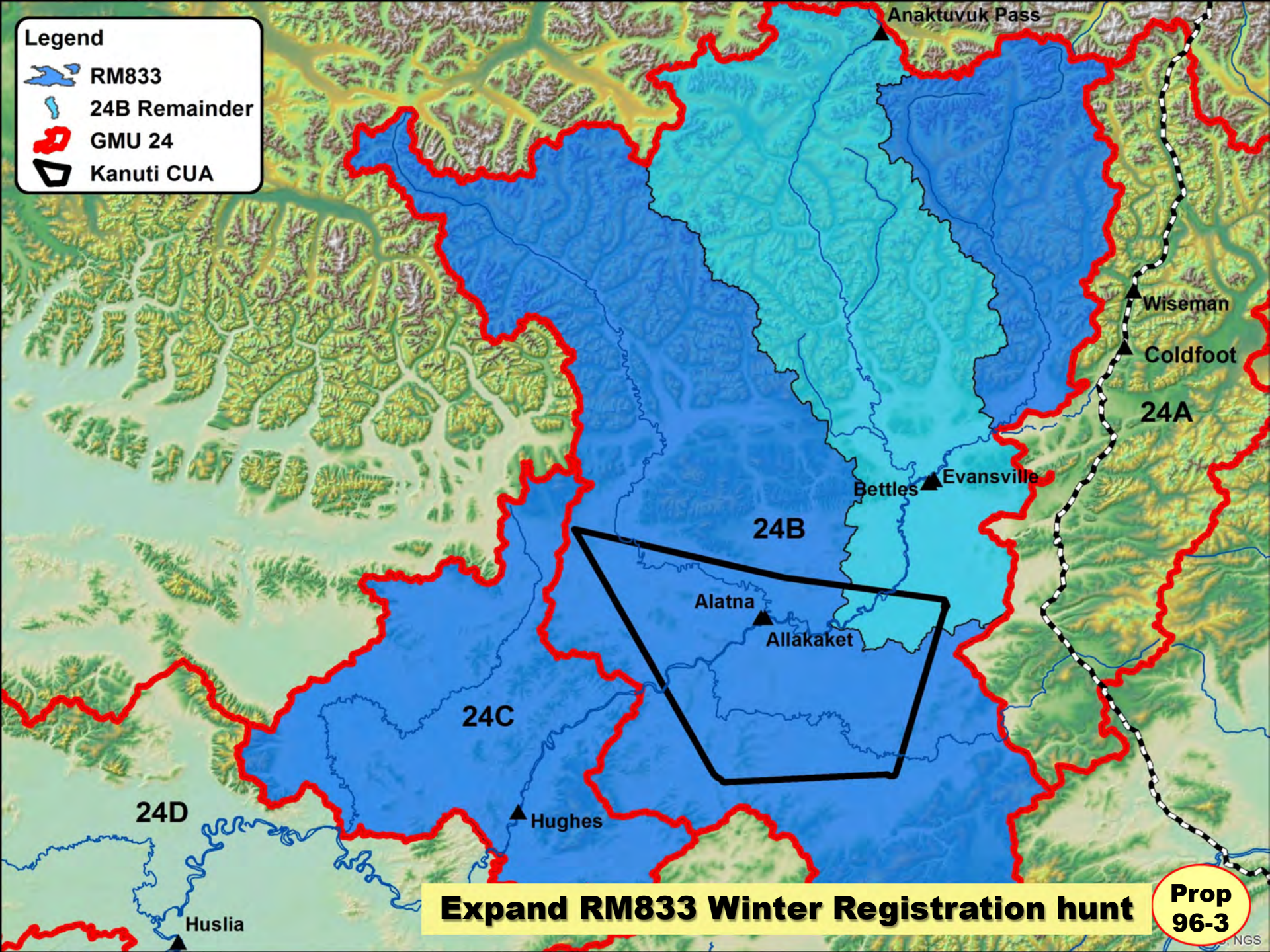


Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-2**

Legend

-  RM833
-  24B Remainder
-  GMU 24
-  Kanuti CUA

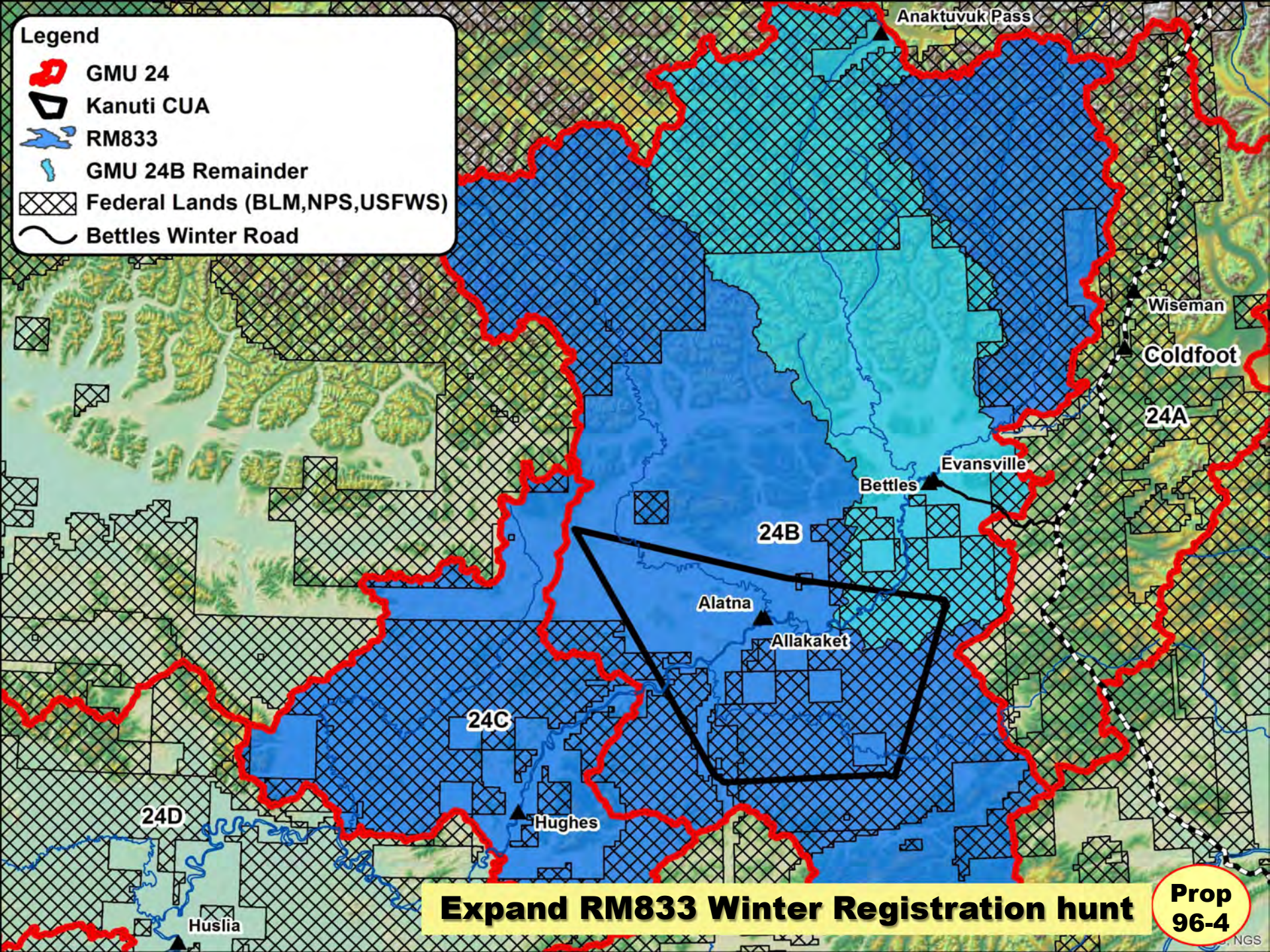


Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-3**

Legend

-  GMU 24
-  Kanuti CUA
-  RM833
-  GMU 24B Remainder
-  Federal Lands (BLM,NPS,USFWS)
-  Bettles Winter Road



Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-4**

NGS

Proposal #96

Regulation

- **December 15 to April 15; antlered bulls only**
- **Registration permit, residents only, subsistence hunt**

Permit Hunt Conditions

- **Permits available at vendors or online**
- **Aircraft not allowed**
- **5-day reporting requirement at vendor/ADFG**

Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-5**

Proposal #96

Moose Management Statistics

24B/C

- **Low density moose population (0.20-0.35 moose/mi² \approx 2,000-4,000 moose)**
- **High Bull:Cow ratios (50-70 bulls:100 cows)**
- **Large area (24B + 24C = 16,572 mi²)**
- **Few small villages (Hughes 69, Allakaket 85, Alatna 32, Bettles/Evansville 59, Coldfoot/Wiseman 35 = 280 people)**
- **RM833 - Since 2010 (7 seasons); 95 permits issued, 35 hunted, 1 moose harvested**

Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-6**

Unit 24C, 24D Survey Fall 2007

Legend

4,295 mi²



GMU

24C 24D Survey 2007

Number of Observed Moose



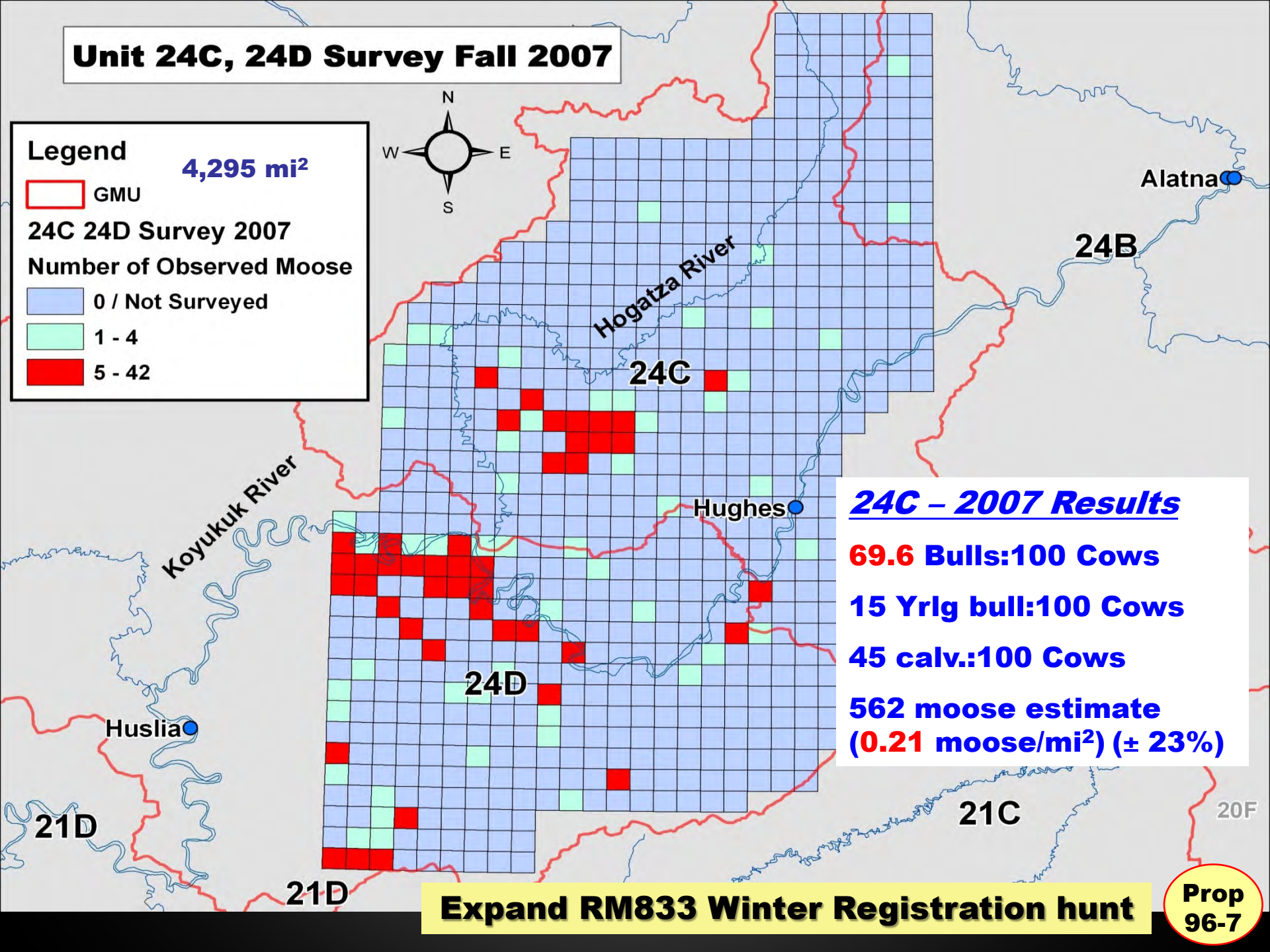
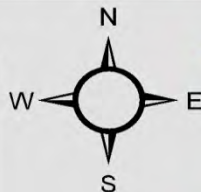
0 / Not Surveyed



1 - 4



5 - 42



24C - 2007 Results

69.6 Bulls:100 Cows

15 Yrlg bull:100 Cows

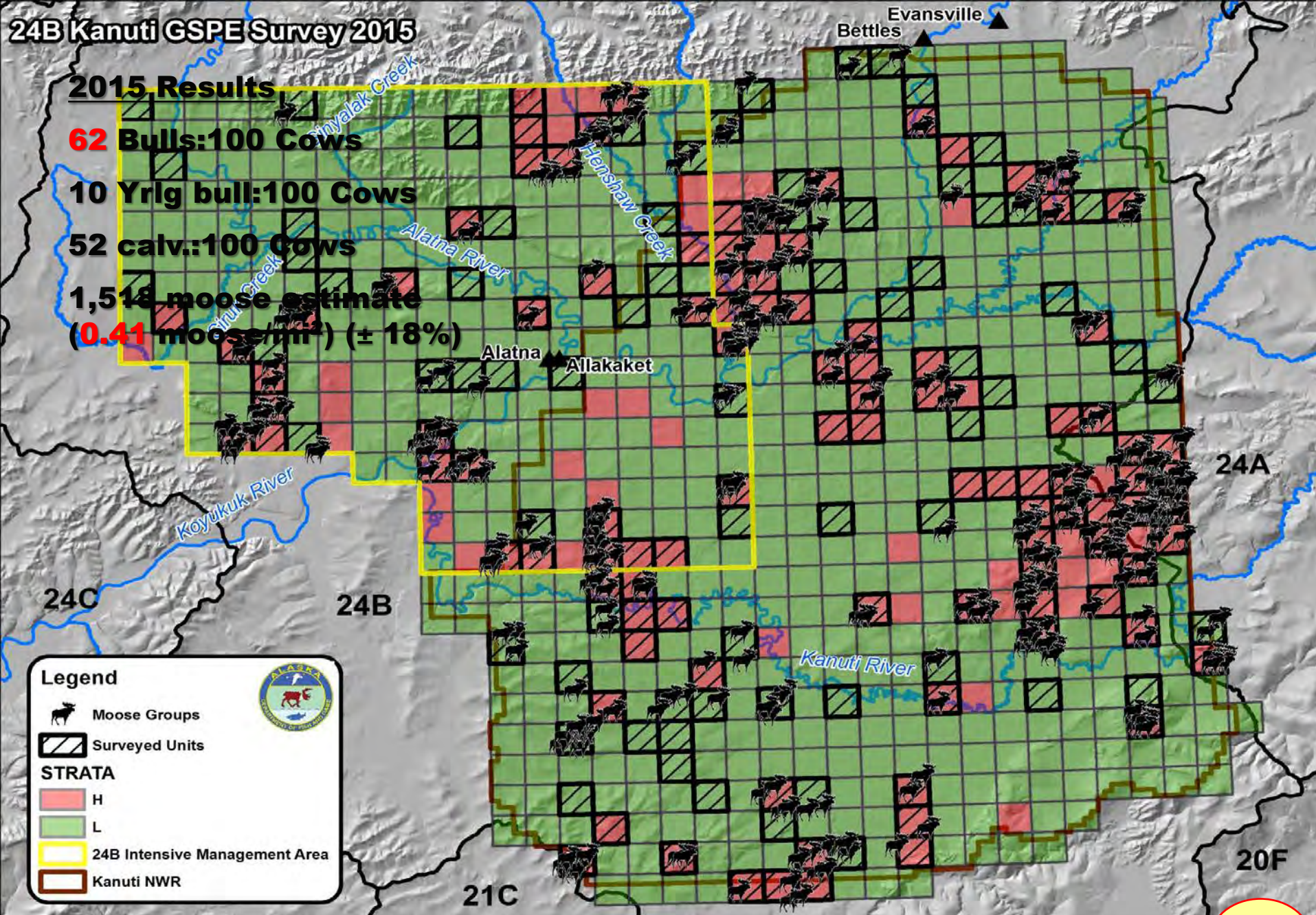
45 calv.:100 Cows

562 moose estimate

(0.21 moose/mi²) (± 23%)

Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

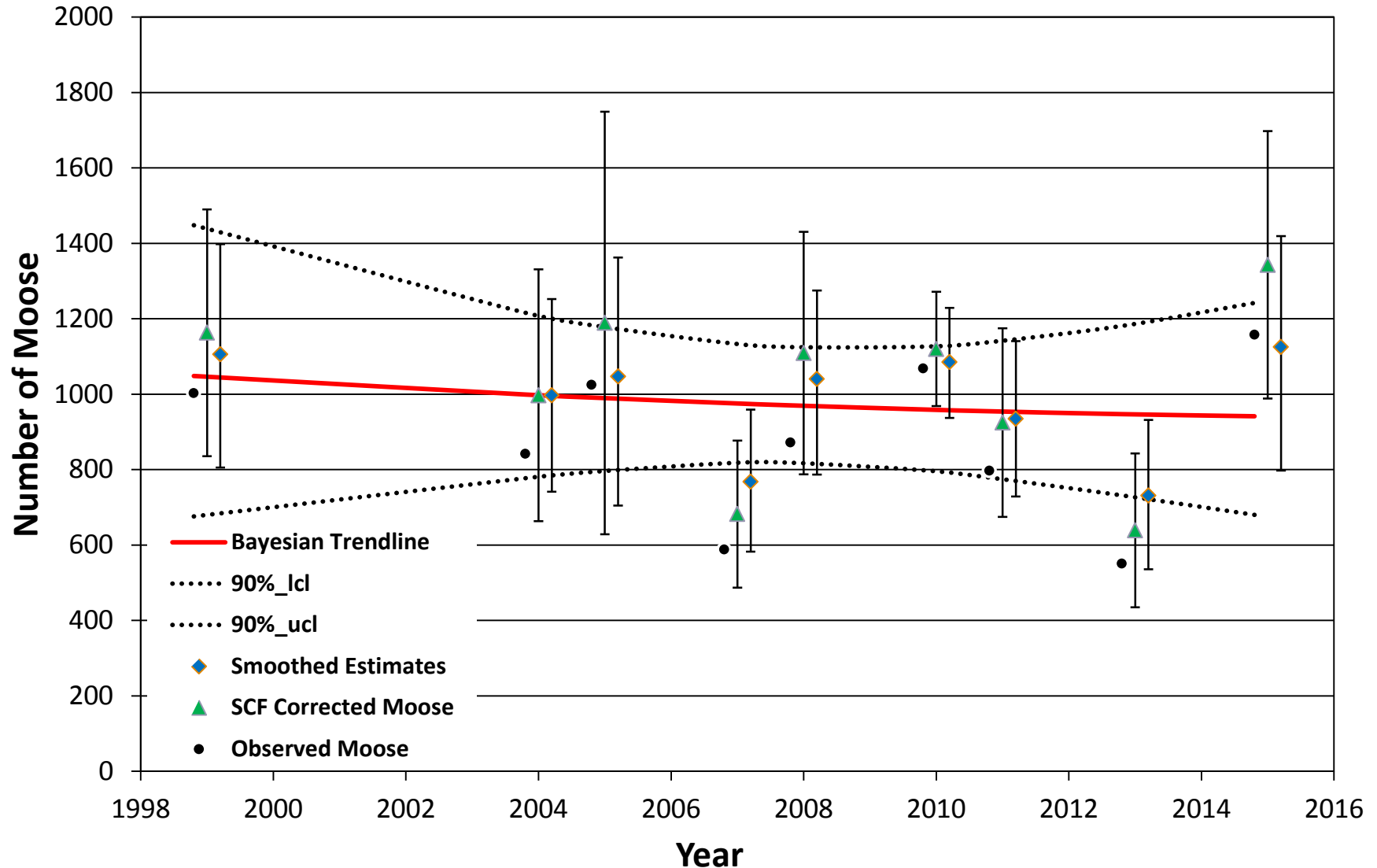
**Prop
96-7**



Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-8**

Kanuti Moose Abundance 1999-2015 (90% Confidence Limits)



Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-9**



Proposal #96

Summary

- **Align State with Federal Regulation change adopted by FSB in 2016**
- **Reduce confusion of land status**
- **Low demand for this hunt**
- **No biological concerns**

ADF&G – SUPPORT

KRAC – SUPPORT

Expand RM833 Winter Registration hunt

**Prop
96-10**

Proposal 97

Moose/ Subunit 21B,
Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

**Remove nonresident guide requirement for
moose drawing hunts in the Interior–Northeast
Arctic Region and change the permit allocation
in a portion of 21B (Upper Nowitna)**

Resident Hunters of Alaska

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

Middle Yukon AC: OPPOSE

Proposal 97

Moose / Subunit 21B,

Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

- Remove nonresident guide requirement for moose drawing hunts:
 - DM811: 21B Upper Nowina River corridor
 - DM819: 21D Bear Creek Drainage
 - DM823: 21D and 24 Koyukuk CUA, early season
 - DM825: 21D and 24 Koyukuk CUA, late season
 - DM839: 21E
- Change allocation of permits between residents and nonresidents to 90/10 instead of 50/50
 - DM809, DM810, DM811

Current Regulations

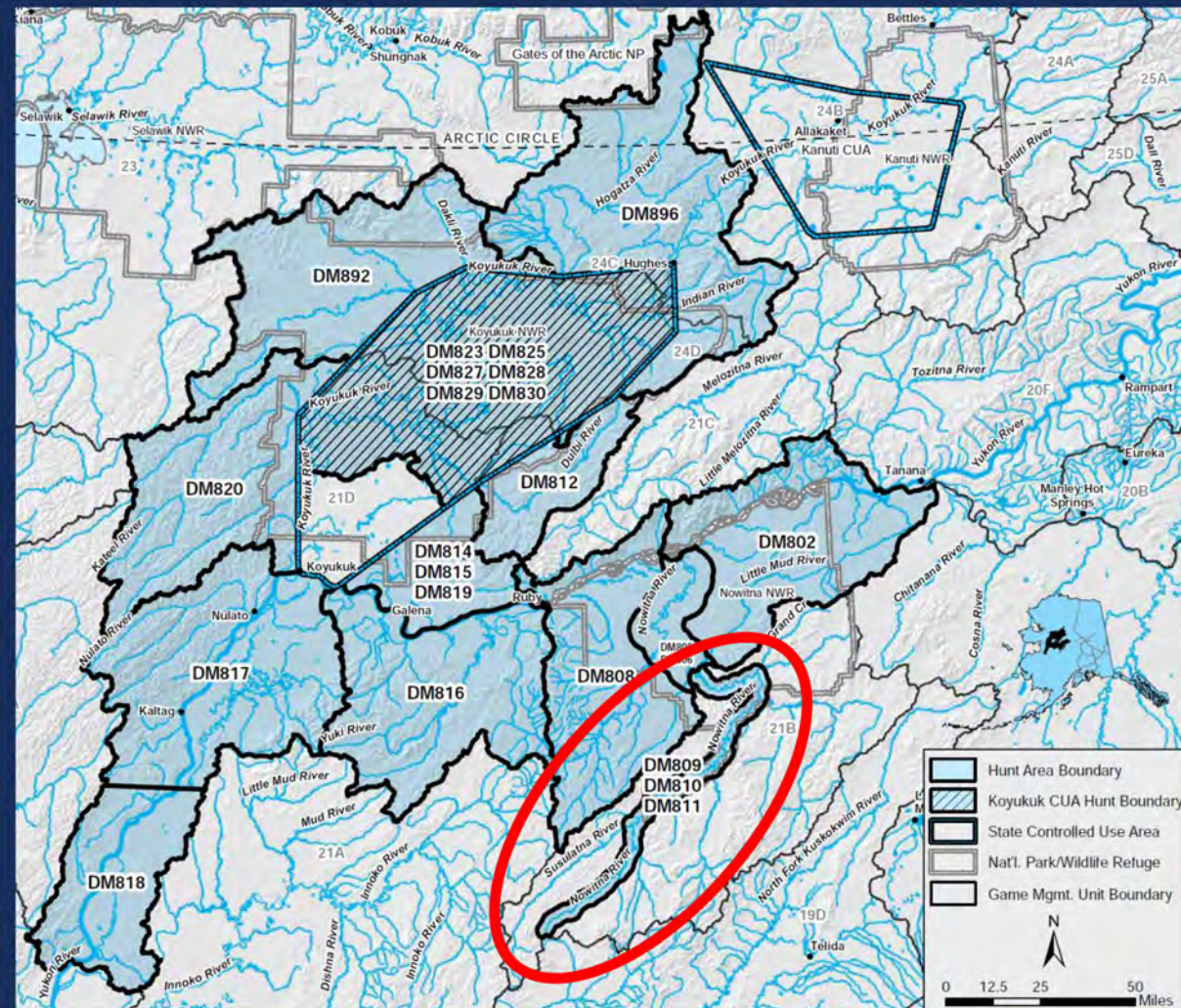
- **Nonresident hunters required to contract with a registered guide: DM811, DM819, DM823, DM825, DM839**
- **Unit 21B, Upper Nowitna corridor**
 - **50/50 allocation between residents/nonresidents**
 - **Among nonresident permits, 75/25 split between guided/nonguided**

Proposal 97

Moose/ Subunit 21B, Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

Current Regulations cont'd

- Upper Nowitna Corridor
 - Residents:
 - Registration (RM834)
 - Draw (DM810)
 - Nonresidents
 - Draw (DM809, DM811)
- Outside Nowitna Corridor
 - Residents:
 - Harvest ticket
 - Nonresidents
 - Harvest ticket



Proposal 97

Moose / Subunit 21B,
Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

Effect of Proposal

- Nonresident hunters would no longer be required to contract with a registered guide: DM811, DM819, DM823, DM825, DM839
- Permit hunts would be collapsed into existing nonresident hunts

- Unit 21B, upper Nowina permits DM809, DM810, DM811
- 90/10 allocation between residents/nonresidents

Proposal 97

Moose / Subunit 21B,
Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

Background

- Nonresident guide requirement:
 - Original requests because of difficulty for guided clients to draw permits
 - Proponents argued that requirement led to better meat care and meat remained in area
- Unit 21B, Upper Nowitna corridor allocation:
 - Allocation according to Board Nonresident Drawing Permit Allocation Policy (2007-173-BOG)
 - 2008: 50/50 Resident/Nonresident allocation approved based on historic use

Proposal 97

Moose/ Subunit 21B,
Interior–Northeast Arctic Region

**Remove nonresident guide requirement for
moose drawing hunts in the Interior–
Northeast Arctic Region and change the
permit allocation in a portion of 21B (Upper
Nowitna)**

Resident Hunters of Alaska

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

Middle Yukon AC: OPPOSE

**Allow harvest of brown bears at bear bait
stations in Unit 21C**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

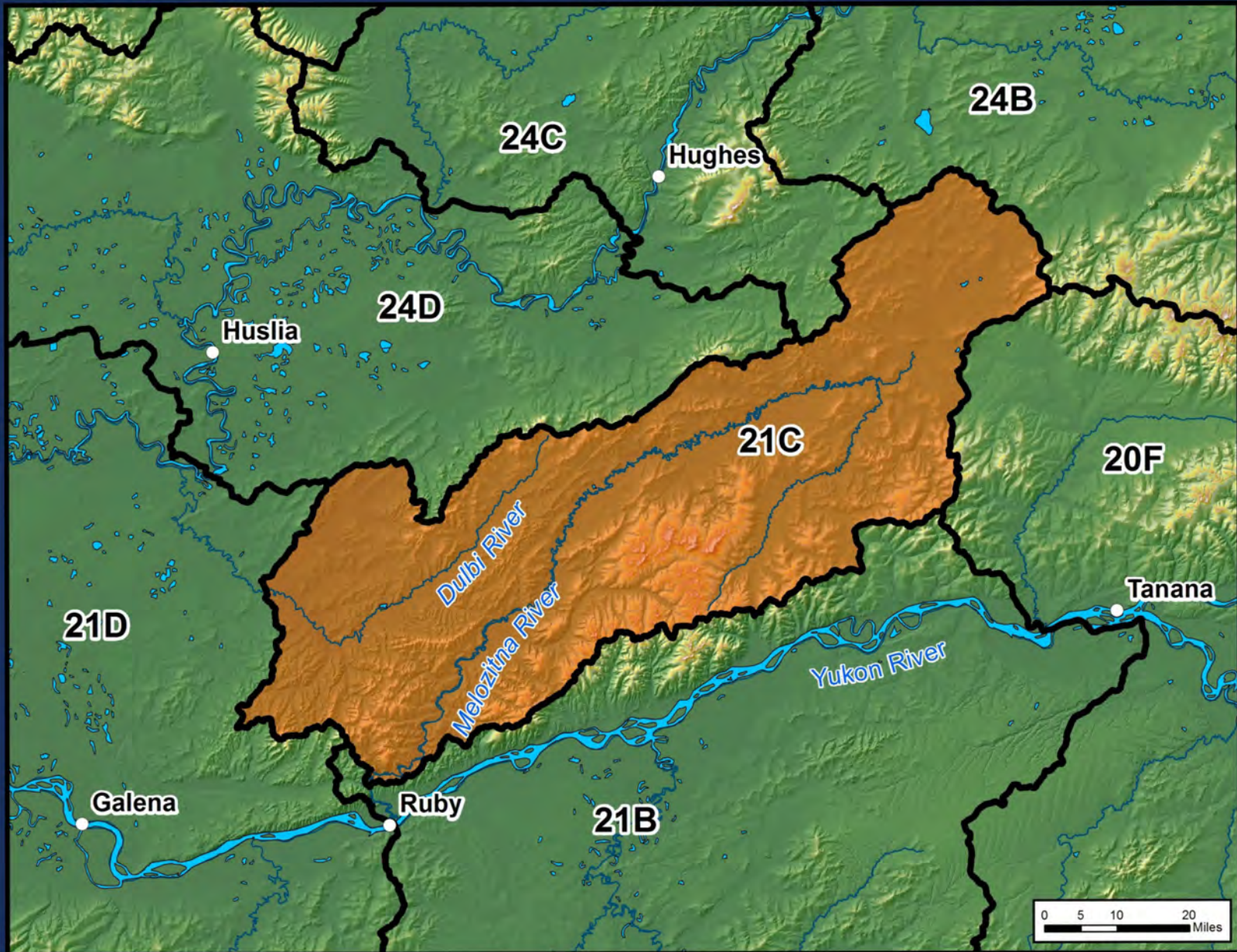
Middle Yukon AC: SUPPORT

**Current black bear baiting season in 21C:
April 15–June 30**

**Harvest of brown bears allowed at bait sites
in 21D, 24C, & 24D:
August 1–September 30
April 15–June 30**

Proposal 92

Brown Bear / Subunit 21C



Background

- **Brown bear harvest at bait sites approved for:**
 - **21D in 2012**
 - **24C & 24D in 2014**
- **RY 2012-2016*, 21D, 24C, & 24D:**
 - **2 brown bears have been harvested at bait sites**
 - **22 bait stations have been registered**

Background cont'd

- **21C brown bear harvest**
 - **RY 2012–2016: 8 bears total**
 - **Positive C&T finding for Unit 21 & 22 combined**
 - **ANS = 21–25 bears (21 & 22)**
- **If approved for 21C, unlikely that harvest would increase to unsustainable levels**

**Allow harvest of brown bears at bear bait
stations in Unit 21C**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

Middle Yukon AC: SUPPORT

Eliminate the requirement for a nonresident wolf tag in Unit 21

Middle Yukon Advisory Committee

Recommendation: TAKE NO ACTION

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

Middle Yukon AC: TNA

**Change the hunting season for wolves in Units
24, 25, 26B, and 26C to July 31–April 20**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: OPPOSE

Middle Yukon AC: TNA

Current regulations

Residents and Nonresidents

- Units 24 & 25: August 10–May 31, 10 wolves
- Units 26B & 26C: August 10–April 30, 10 wolves

Effect of Proposal

- Shift season to open earlier and close earlier
 - Units 24 & 25: decrease in season length of 30 days
 - Units 26B & 26C: no change
- Increase opportunity in late summer/fall
- Reduce general and subsistence opportunity in spring

Issues/Background

- Proposer seeking to increase opportunity for hunters who are in the field during fall seasons
 - Pelt quality less important than opportunity
- Average annual harvest RY2012–2016:

Month	GMU	Harvest
August	24	1
	25	4
	26B & 26C	5
April	26B & 26C	0
May	24 & 25	0

**Change the hunting season for wolves in Units
24, 25, 26B, and 26C to July 31–April 20**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: OPPOSE

Middle Yukon AC: TNA

Institute flight restriction days for caribou hunting in Units **21D, 22, 23, **24** and 26A**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

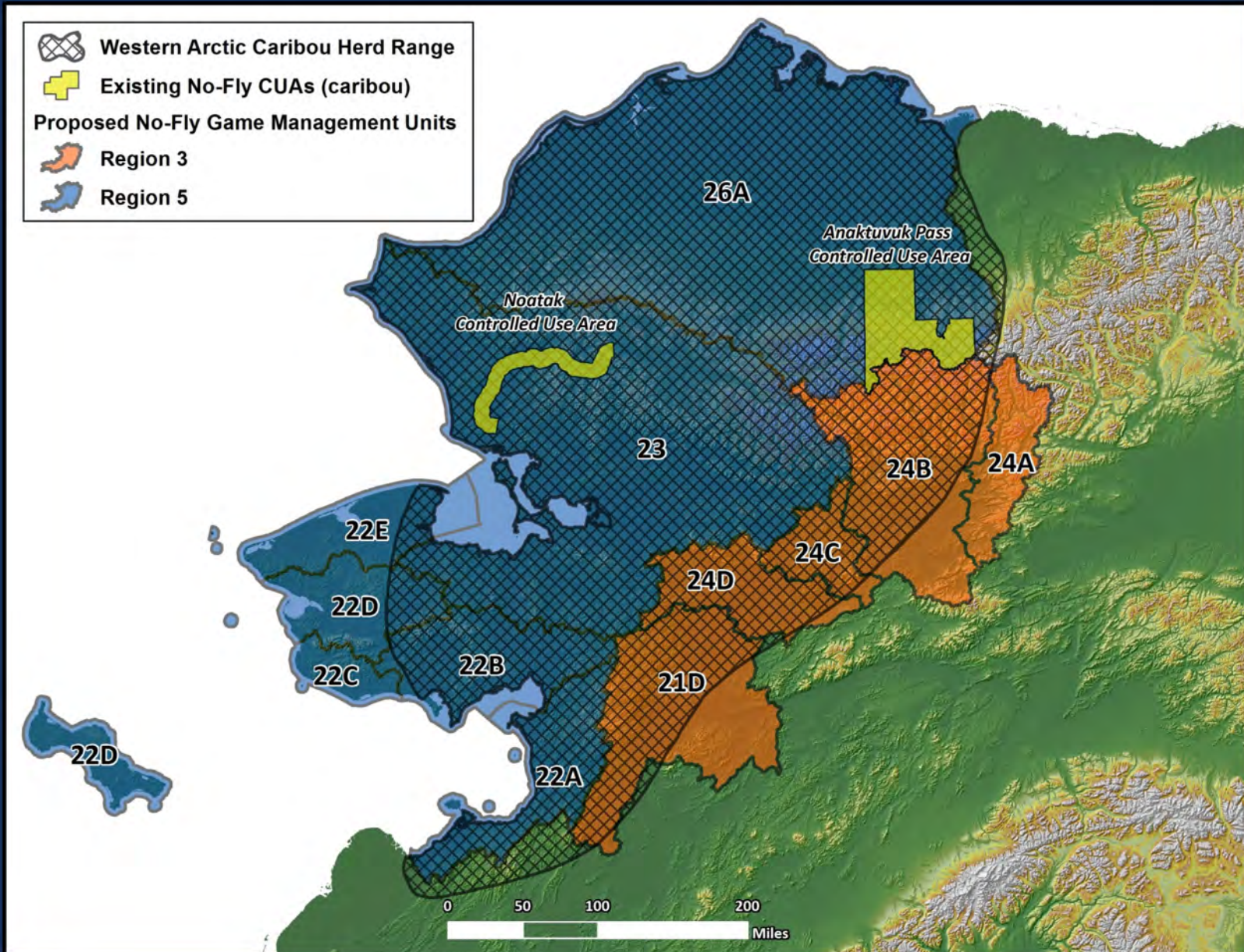
Middle Yukon AC: SUPPORT

Effect of Proposal:

- **Aircraft could not be used to transport hunters on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays**
 - **Year-round restriction as written**
- **Could reduce number of fly-in hunters and harvest if remaining days are limiting**
- **Unclear how it would apply to fly-in hunters holding both moose and caribou permits**

Proposal 100

Caribou / Units 21,22,23,24,26

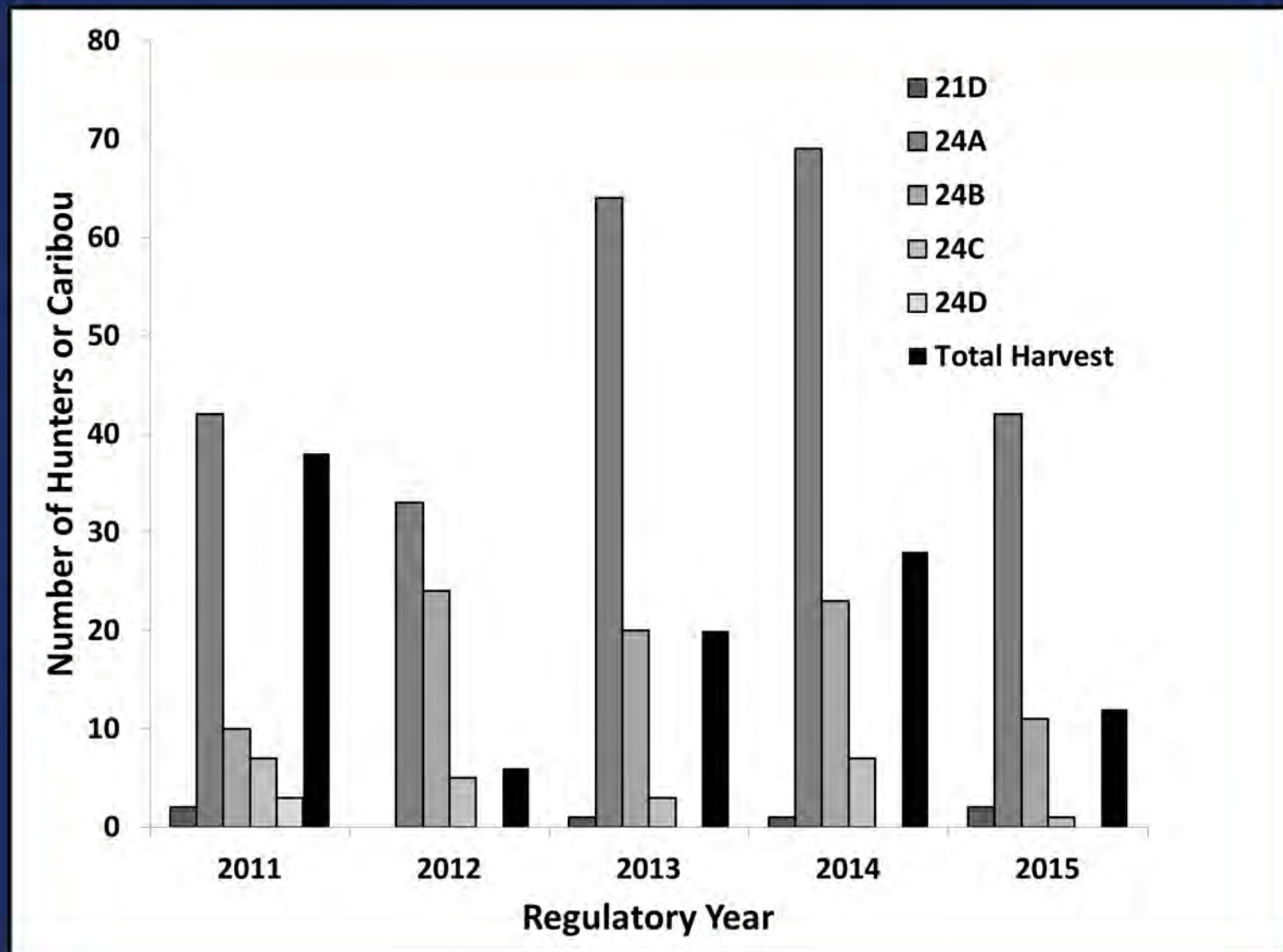


Issues:

- **Conflicts between user groups are common within the range of the WAH, less severe in 21D and 24**
- **The areas with the most persistent user conflicts are near Anaktuvuk Pass in 26A, and the Noatak River in Unit 23**
- **Existing CUAs prohibit access by aircraft for caribou hunting only during the fall season**

Proposal 100

Caribou / Units 21,22,23,24,26



Institute flight restriction days for caribou hunting in Units **21D, 22, 23, **24** and 26A**

Public Proposal

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Koyukuk River AC: TNA

Middle Yukon AC: SUPPORT

Galena Mgt. Area

2017



The End