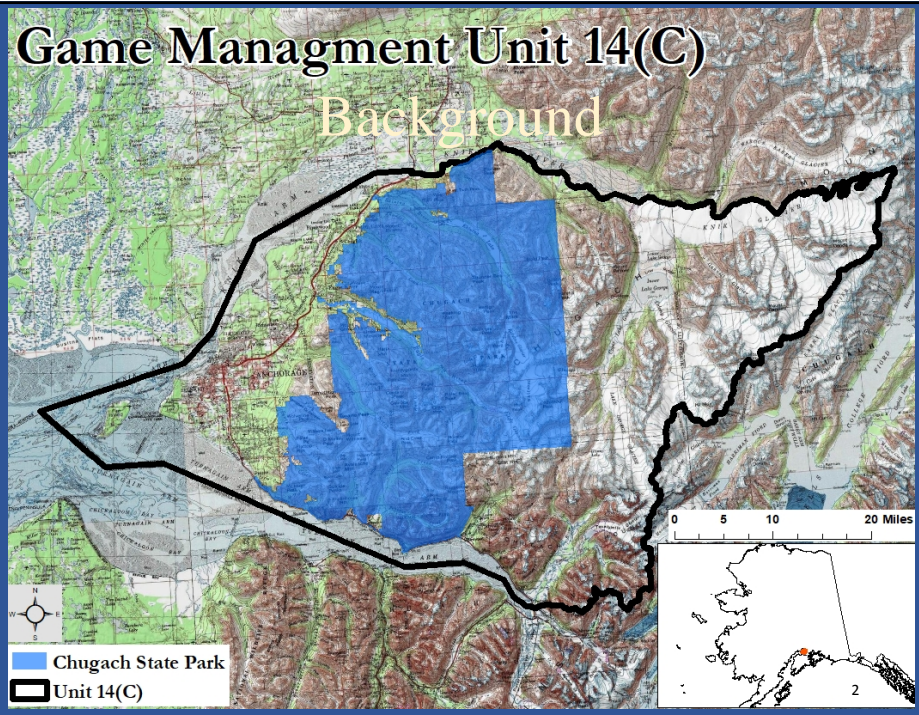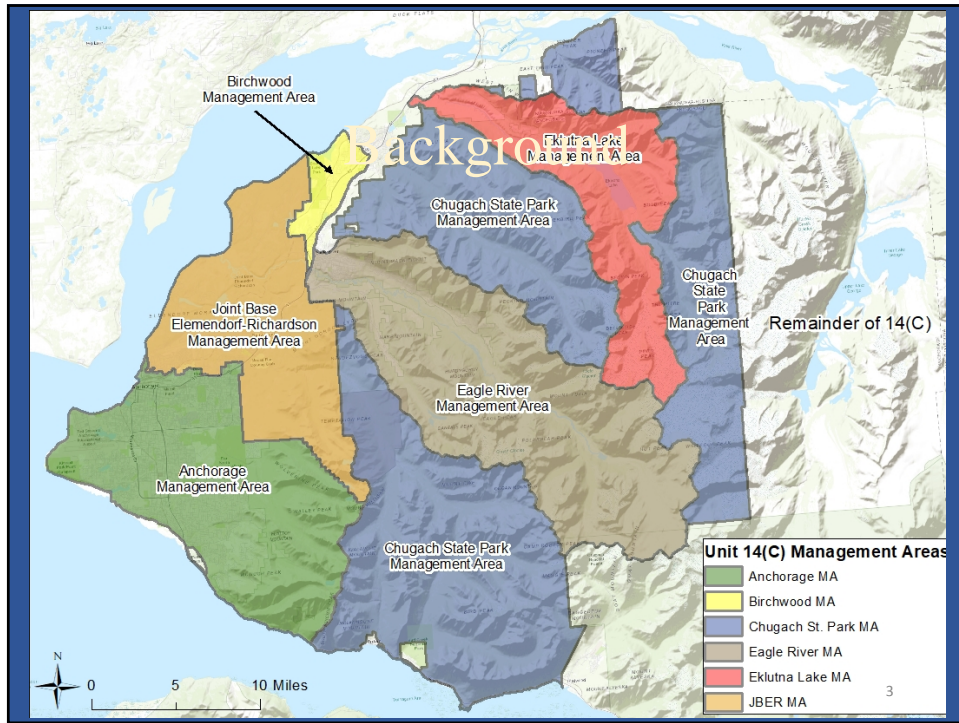# Game Management Unit 14(C)

Area Biologist: David Battle
Assistant Area Biologist: Cory Stantorf
Regional Biologist: Kyle Smith

Information Center Staff:
Wade Schock (Wildlife Biologist II)
Chris Harrington (Wildlife Technician)
Will Newberry (Wildlife Technician)
Erik Bollerud (Wildlife Technician)
Danner Shreve (College Intern)

1

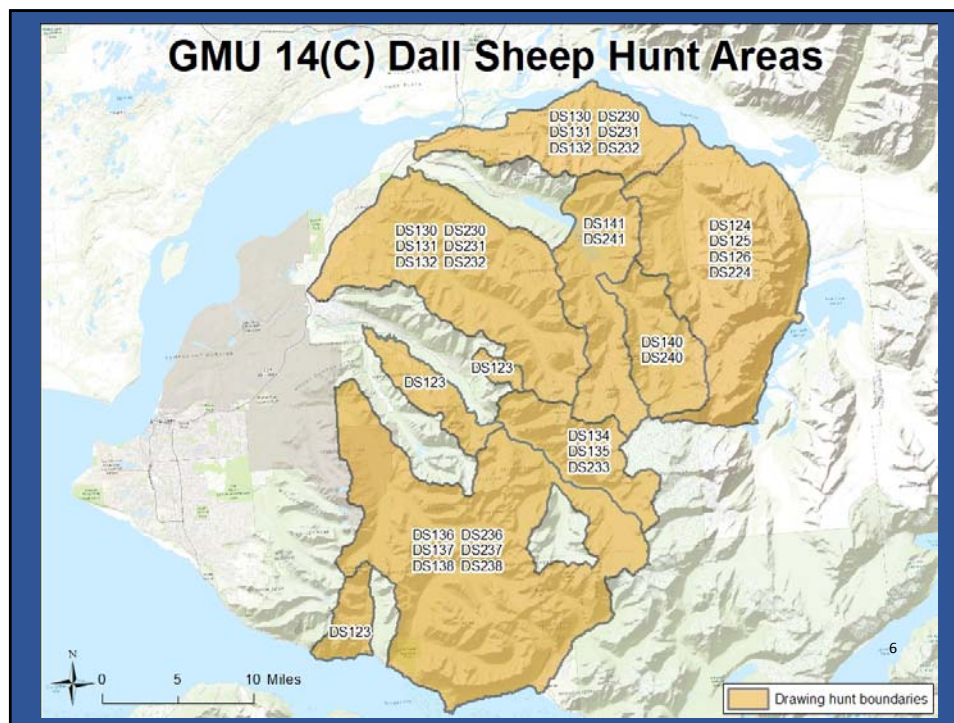# Game Managment Unit 14(C)
Background

Chugach State Park
Unit 14(C)

0   5   10   20 Miles

2

Unit 14(C) Management Areas
- Anchorage MA
- Birchwood MA
- Chugach St. Park MA
- Eagle River MA
- Eklutna Lake MA
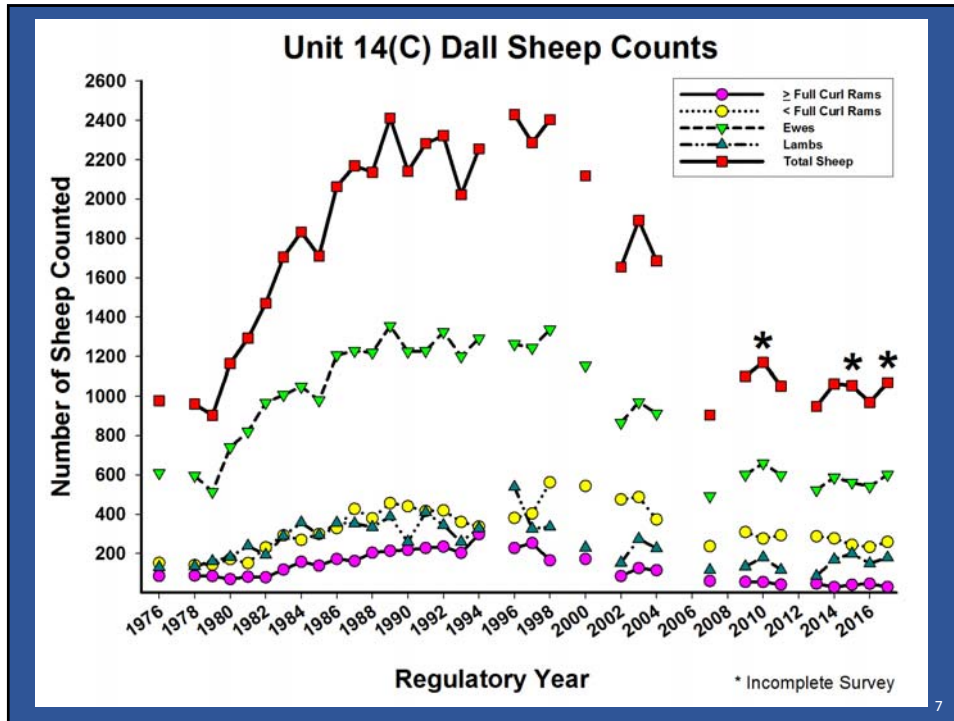- JBER MA

Dall Sheep

DALL SHEEP

Dall Sheep

Status: Minimum count of 1,069 sheep (2017)

Harvest: Drawing permit hunts only
- Aug. 10—Sept. 30 full curl ram only (53 Permits)
- Day After Labor Day—Oct. 10 one ram by archery only (85 Permits)
- Both resident and nonresident hunts
- Harvest over past 5 years has averaged 20 sheep per year

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GMU 14(C) Dall Sheep Hunt Areas

Unit 14(C) Dall Sheep Counts

Dall Sheep

Management Activities:
- Conduct annual aerial surveys
- Last complete survey conducted in 2017

Issues:
- Difficulty determining carrying capacity
- Low pregnancy rates and poor body condition suggest nutritional issue driven by weather, climate, and/or habitat
- Possible loss of habitat from shrub encroachment (Dial et al. 2016)

Proposals: 114 & 115

8

Mountain Goat

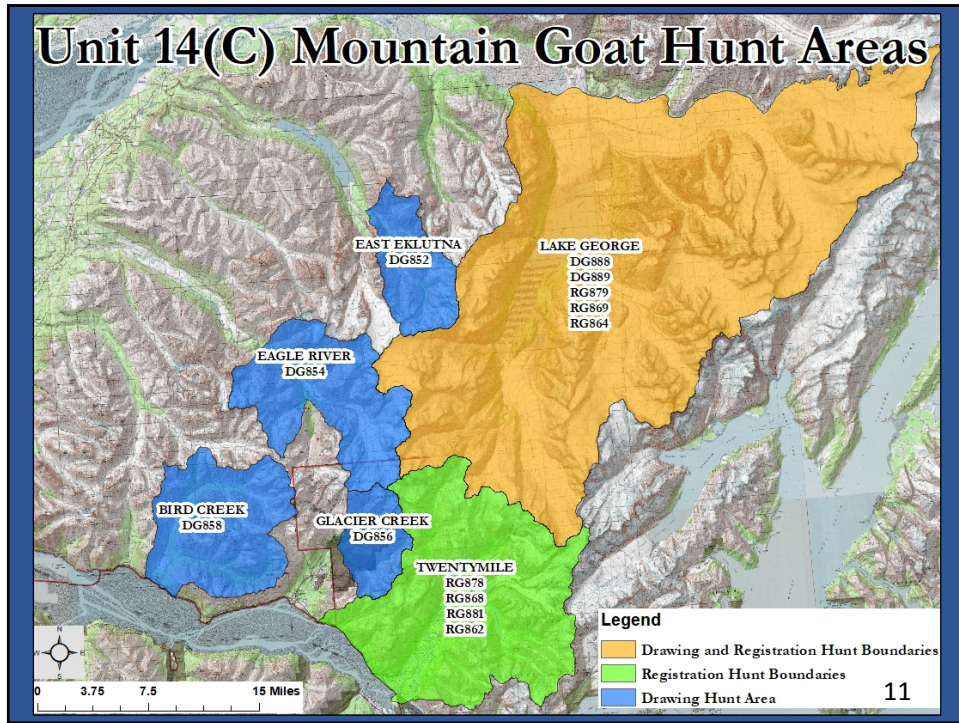ADFG – Phil Mooney

ADFG-P.Mooney 9

Mountain Goats

Status: 877 goats (minimum count—last complete survey 2015)

Harvest:
- 6 Drawing permit hunts
- 7 Registration permit hunts
- Average harvest of 27 goats annually (~78% males)

10

Unit 14(C) Mountain Goat Hunt Areas

EAST EKLUTNA
DG852

LAKE GEORGE
DG888
DG889
RG879
RG869
RG864

EAGLE RIVER
DG854

BIRD CREEK
DG858

GLACIER CREEK
DG856

TWENTYMILE
RG878
RG868
RG881
RG862

Legend

Drawing and Registration Hunt Boundaries
Registration Hunt Boundaries
Drawing Hunt Area

0   3.75   7.5   15 Miles

11

Mountain Goats

Management Activities:
- Aerial surveys *(last complete survey in 2015)*

Issues:
- Increased human activities (e.g., helicopter assisted recreational activities)

Proposals: 110
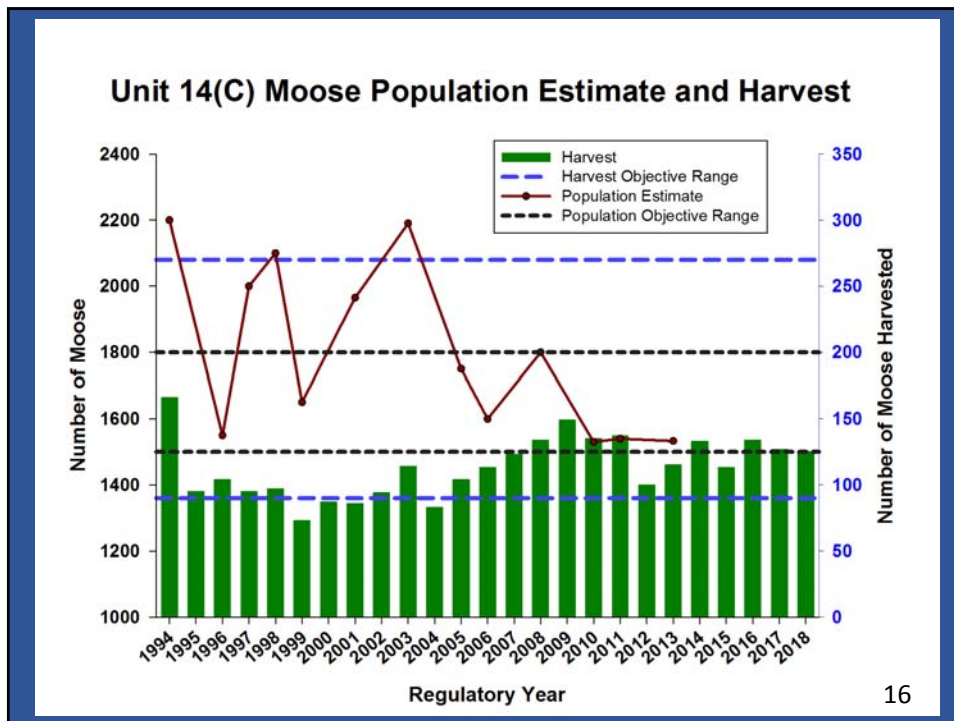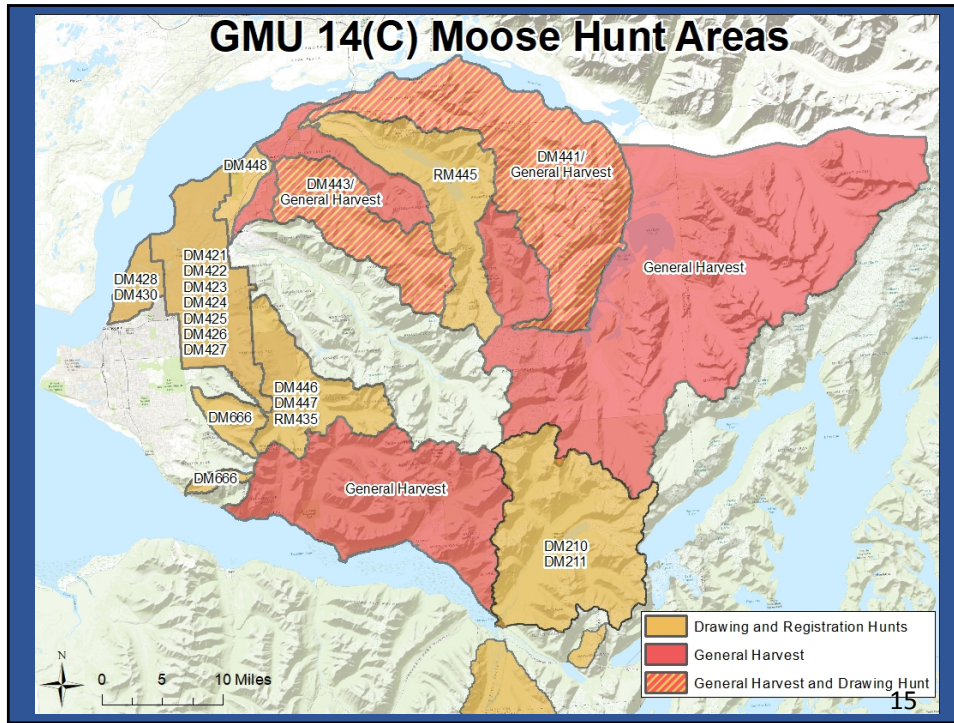
12

Moose

ADFG – Cory Stantorf

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Moose

Status: 1,533 moose (Estimate 2013), population appears stable
- 35 bulls:100 cows
- 22 calves:100 cows

Harvest:
- 15 Drawing permit hunts
- 2 Registration permit hunts
- General Harvest
- Average harvest of 126 moose/year

14

GMU 14(C) Moose Hunt Areas

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Unit 14(C) Moose Population Estimate and Harvest
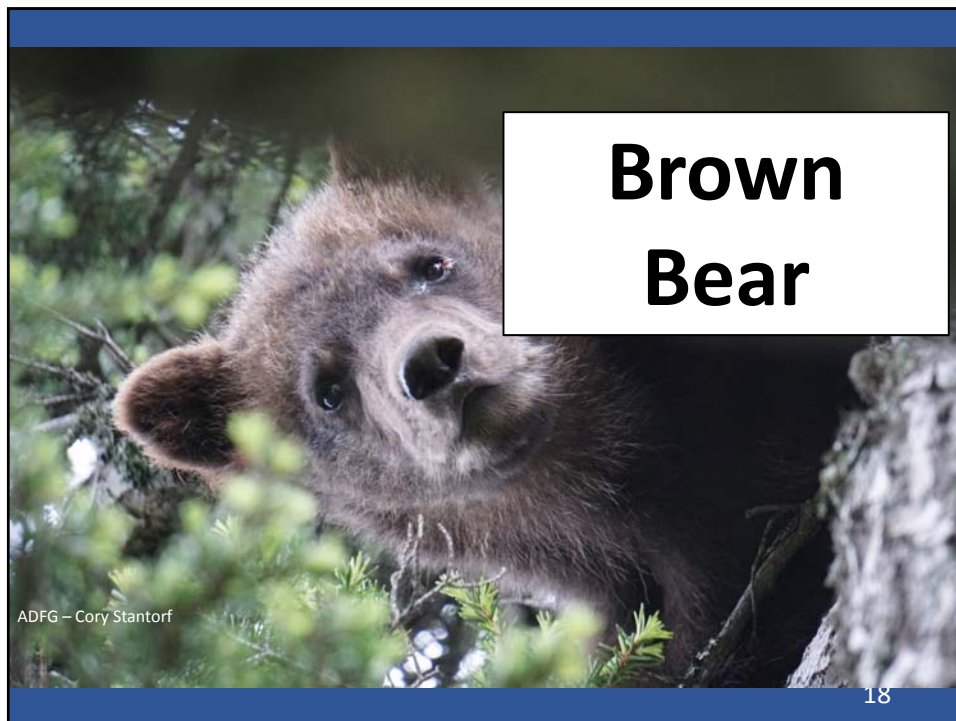
16

8

Moose

Management Activities:
- Annual composition counts
- Annual census on JBER and upper Ship Creek drainage
- Urban moose management

Issues:
- Moose-vehicle collisions
- Habitat fragmentation and destruction
- Difficulty flying aerial surveys in recent years

Proposals: 111-113

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Brown Bear

ADFG – Cory Stantorf

18

Brown Bears
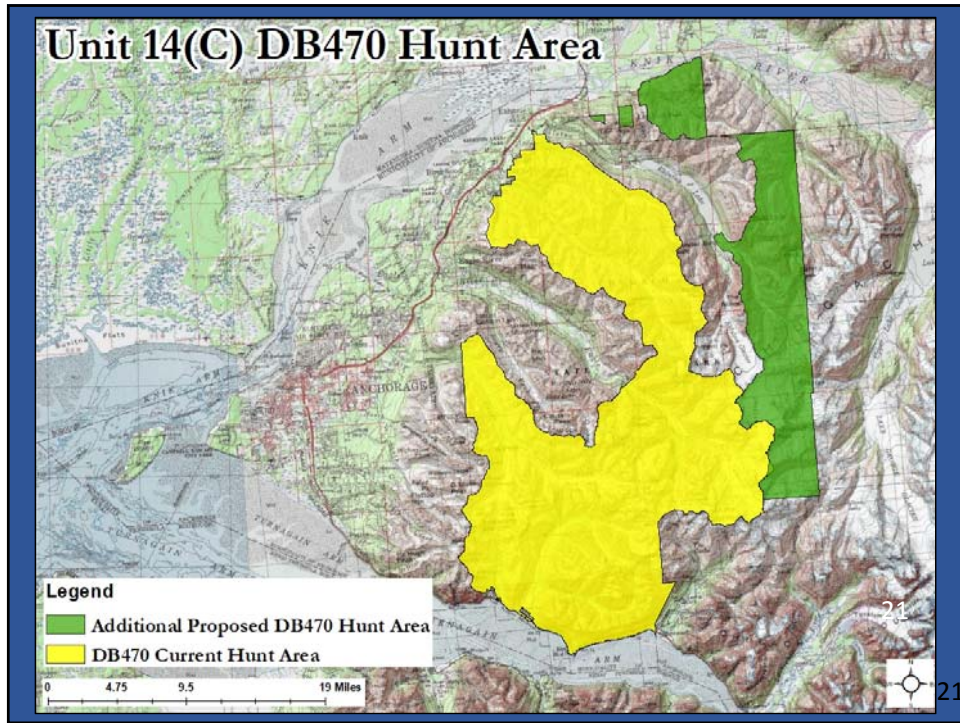
Status: Population appears stable

Harvest:
- Drawing permit and general harvest
- ~2 bears/year (5-year average RY13—RY17)

Other Human-Caused Mortality:
- 4 Agency kills, DLPs and roadkills/year (5-year average RY13—RY17)

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Unit 14(C) Brown bear mortality RY 2013 – 2018

RY	Hunter Kills	Roadkills	DLPs	Agency Kills
2013	3	1	1	1
2014	2	2	1	1
2015	2	2	2	1
2016	2	3	4	1
2017	6	0	0	7
2018*	1	1	3	5

*Mid-regulatory year; data incomplete

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Brown Bears

Management Activities:
- Monitoring of brown bears for public safety

Issues:
- Human/bear conflicts
- Improper trash storage
- Urban livestock
- Moose calves and spawning salmon in neighborhoods and city parks

Proposals: 116 & 121

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Black Bear
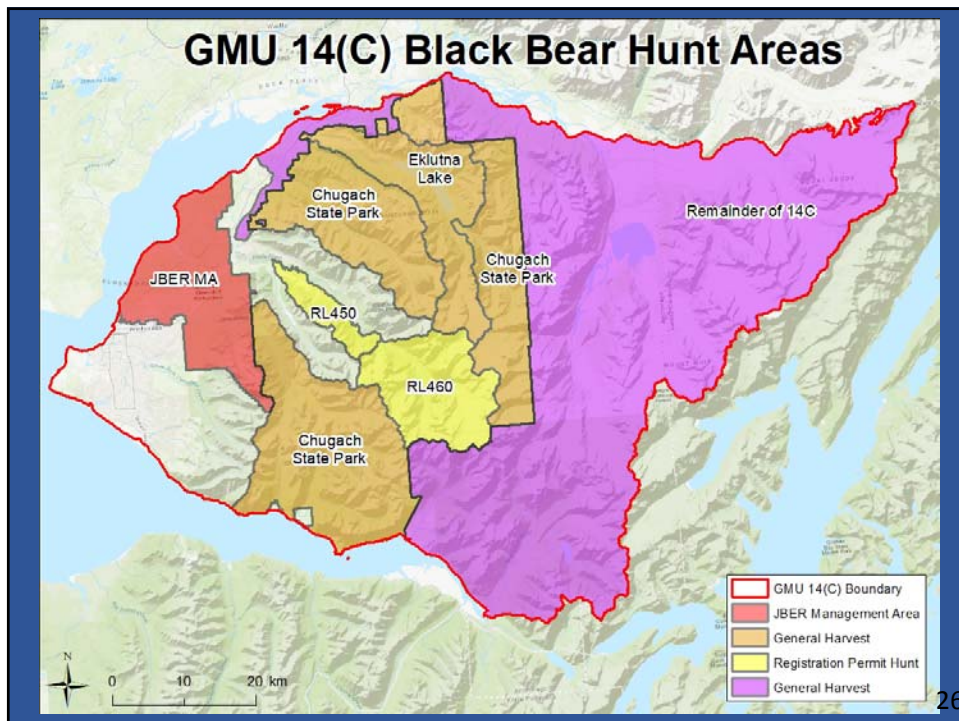
ADFG – Dave Saalfeld

24

Black Bears

Status: Population appears to be stable

Harvest:
- Registration and general season hunts
- 30 bears/year (5-year average RY13—RY17)

Other Human-Caused Mortality:
- 17 Agency kills, DLPs and roadkills/year (5-year average RY13—RY17)

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Unit 14(C) Black bear mortality RY 2013 – 2018

RY	Hunter Kills	Roadkills	DLPs	Agency Kills
2013	26	6	4	1
2014	31	2	11	8
2015	24	3	9	2
2016	33	1	7	7
2017	35	4	12	10
2018*	14	3	6	15

*Mid-regulatory year; data incomplete

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Black Bears

Management Activities:
- Monitoring black bears for public safety

Issues:
- Human/bear conflicts
- Improper trash storage
- Urban livestock
- Moose calves and spawning salmon in neighborhoods and city parks

Proposals: 117—119 & 121

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Furbearers

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Furbearers

Status: All species thought to be stable

Harvest (RY13—RY17):
　　　10—43 beavers, 0 wolves, 2—47 marten,
　　　 0—4 wolverines, 0—5 river otters, 0—6 lynx

Management Activities:
- Fur sealing
- Beaver damage to private property

Issues:
- Urban beavers
- Illegal trapping in urban areas and parks

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Furbearers

RY	Beaver	Marten	Wolverine	Otter	Lynx*
2013	21	8	4	2	6
2014	43	2	0	5	0
2015	32	19	0	5	0
2016	10	13	1	0	0
2017	15	47	3	0	0

*Lynx seasons closed since 2014

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Wolf Harvest

There has been no wolf harvest in Unit 14(C) in RY13—RY18.

In 2016, a wolf was struck and killed by a vehicle. This was the only wolf reported killed in Unit 14(C) in the last five years.

ADFG – Dave Battle

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Research Projects

Anchorage Moose Survey

- Effective management of moose harvest requires data on population size and gender composition

- Issues with surveying moose in Anchorage bowl:
  - Class C airspace
  - Recent environmental conditions

ADFG – Ken Marsh

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Research Projects

Anchorage Moose Survey

- We are testing methodology for estimating the size of the moose population in Anchorage with genetic-based identification from biopsy samples

ADFG – Ken Marsh

Research Projects

Bear Camera Collars

- 2013: 4 black bears, 2 brown bears
- 2017: 13 black bears
- All collared bears ate both natural and anthropogenic foods
- Higher percentage of time was spent on natural foods
- Terabytes of data to sort and analyze
- Data analysis ongoing

ADFG – Dave Battle

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Research Projects

Dall Sheep

- Population Drivers and Demographics (2012-2015)
  - Rates and causes of mortalities
  - Poor body condition, variable pregnancy rates, and poor recruitment

- Habitat and Weather Influences on Nutrition, Pregnancy and Recruitment (2016-Present)
  - Continue surveillance of prior study
  - Habitat Selection Study (ADF&G/APU – Kyle Smith)
  - Nutritional Content of Sheep Forage (ADF&G/UAA – Luke Metherell)

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Public Outreach

- Speak at local schools

- Coordinate the Anchorage Bear Committee

- Give presentations at Community Council meetings

- Conduct a variety of wildlife safety presentations

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Public Outreach

- Working with the Anchorage Assembly and Code Enforcement to improve local trash ordinances

- News interviews on wildlife safety, as well as specific projects and incidents

- Give presentation to Anchorage Police Department shifts and APD Academy on responding to wildlife calls

- Attempting to get access to the Nextdoor app in order to disseminate safety information in specific neighborhoods in a timely fashion

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Public Outreach

- Biologists and Education Specialists canvass neighborhoods in problem areas, talk to residents, and distribute wildlife safety information

- Developed online tool for reporting wildlife conflicts

Be a Good Neighbor –
Don't let this happen in your neighborhood!

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Questions?

JBER – Chris Garner

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