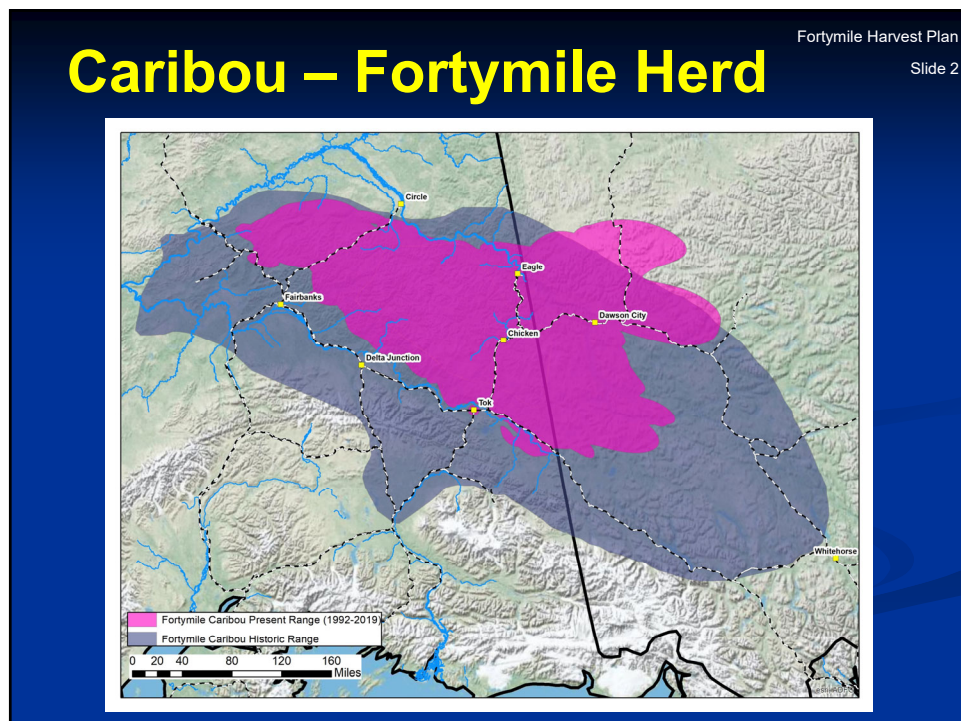




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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 3

Fortymile Herd Recovery Efforts

- Mid-1970s Herd Size ~5,000–7,000 (Low)
- 1995 Fortymile Herd Management Plan
- 1997–2001 Non-Lethal Predator Control Program (Alaska)
- 2001–2006 FCH Harvest Management Plan
- 2006–2012 FCH Harvest Management Plan
- 2006–2018 Lethal Wolf Control Program (Alaska)
- 2012–2018 FCH Harvest Management Plan
- **2019–2023 FCH Harvest Management Plan**

3

Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 4

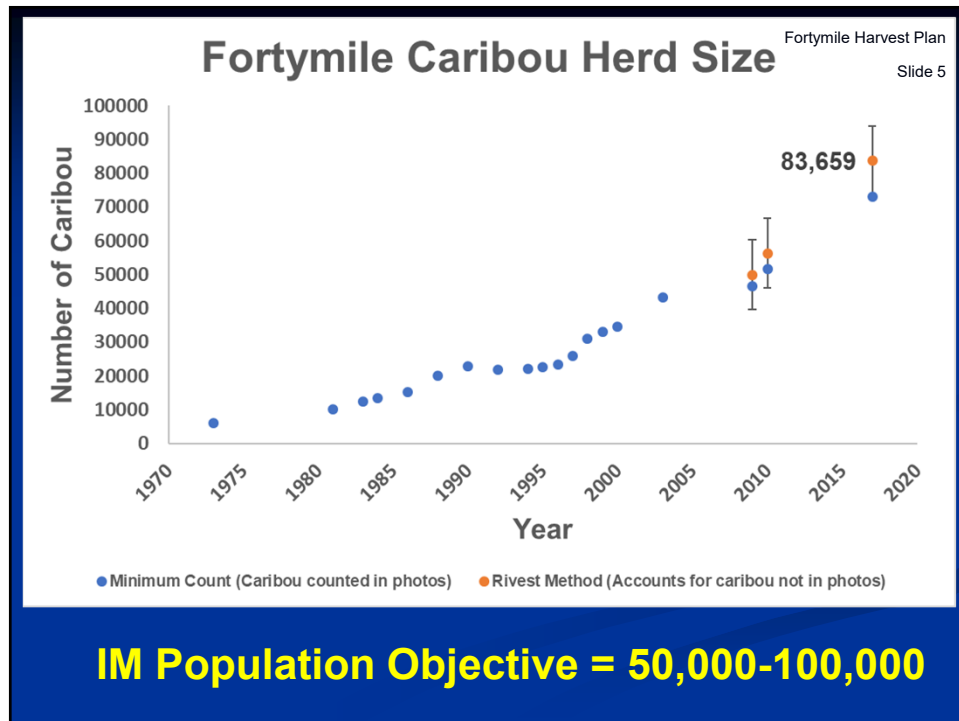
2001–2018 FCH Harvest Plans

- Guide FCH Harvest Management
- **Primary goal** = Herd Growth within sustainable limits
- **Secondary goal** = Increase harvest when herd grows

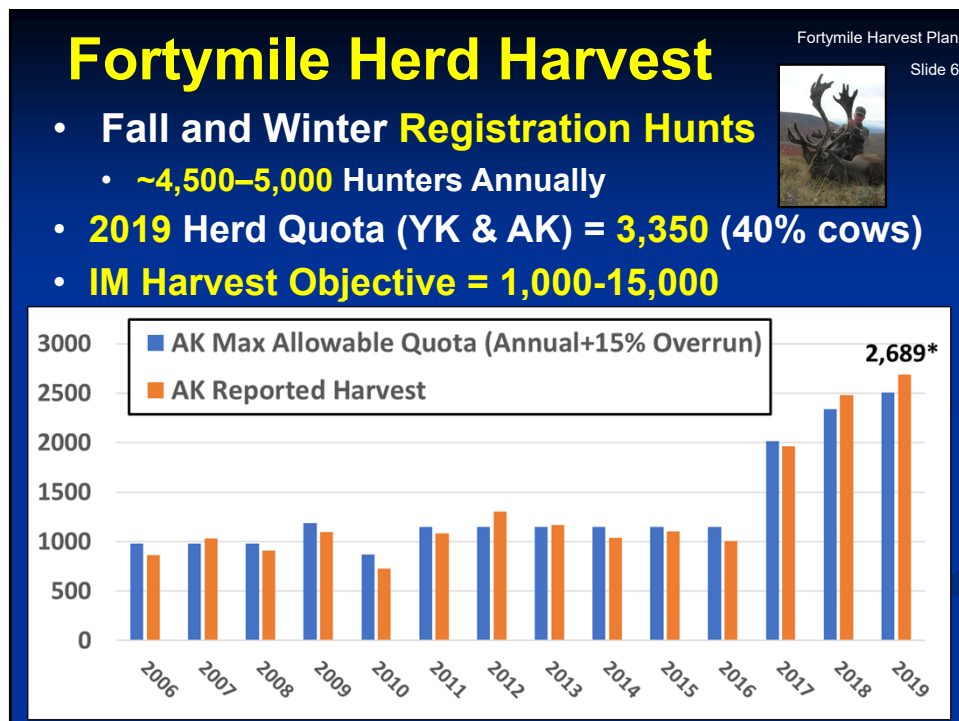
2019–2023 FCH Harvest Plan

- Retains previous goals
- More emphasis on Herd Health and Habitat
- Manage based on herd's nutrition status

4



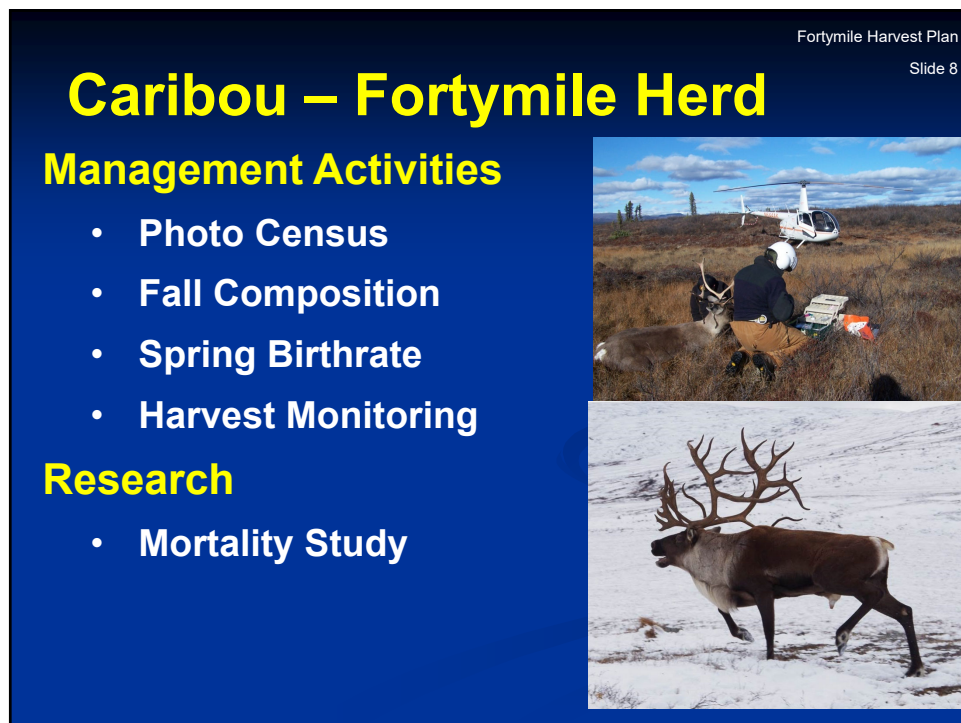
5



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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 9


FCH Nutrition Indices

- Parturition Rates (Birthrates)
- Fall calf weights
- Seasonal movements
- Range expansion

Fortymile Caribou Herd: Increasing Numbers,
Declining Nutrition, and Expanding Range

WILDLIFE TECHNICAL BULLETIN 14

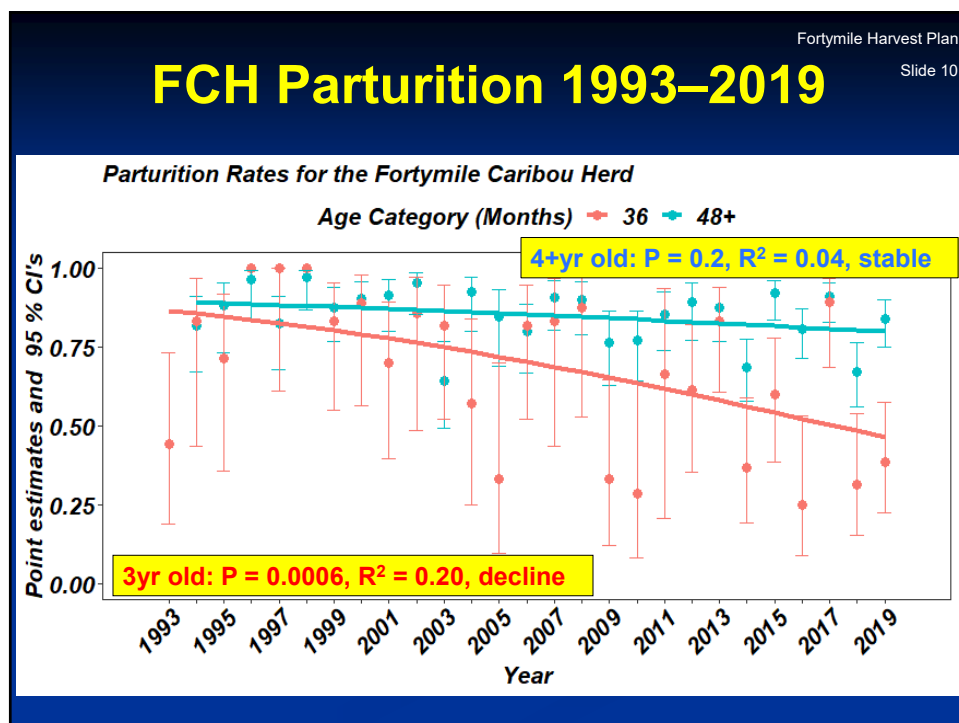
RODNEY D. BOERTJE
CRAIG L. GARDNER
KALIN A. KELLIE
BRIAN D. TARAS



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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation
2012

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Slide 11

Parturition as nutritional index

36-mo. more sensitive indicator

- Valkenberg et al. 2003
- Bergerud et al. 2008

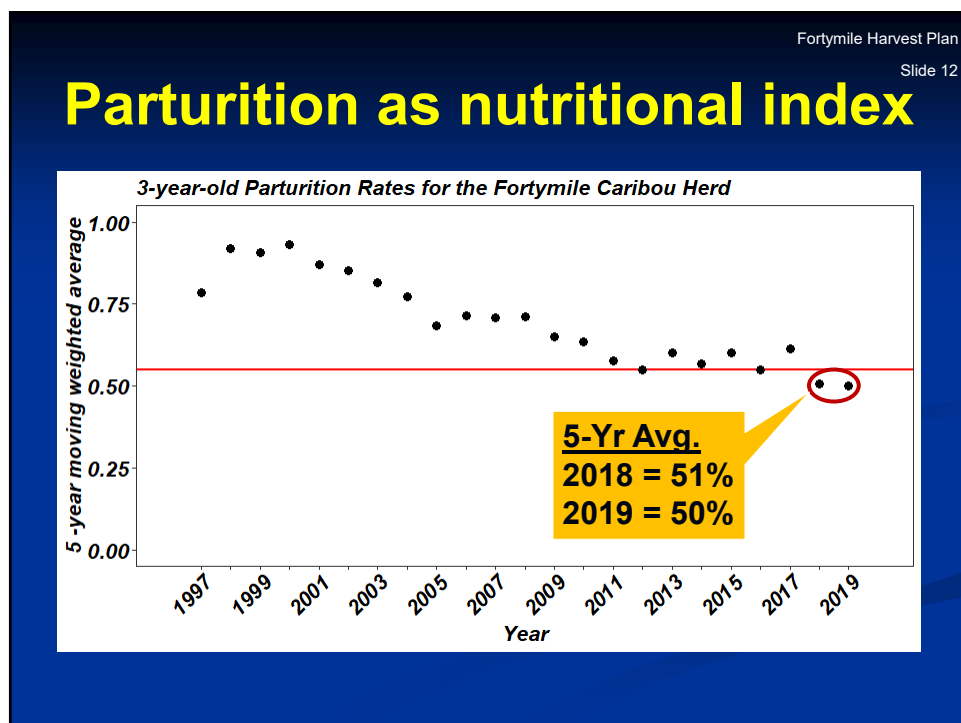
5-yr Moving Average

- **>60%** – sufficient nutrition for herd size
- 55-60% – cautionary
- **<55%** – nutrition may be compromised – alert HMC
 - 2+ yrs <55% stabilization or reduction considered

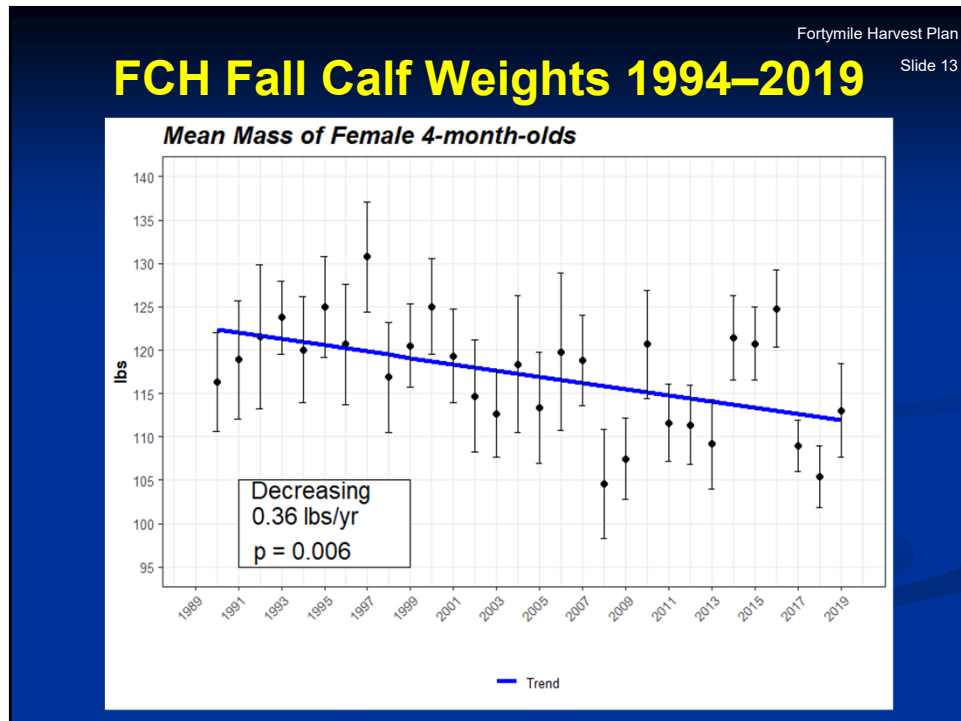
2015–2019 Avg. = 50%

- Stabilize or Reduce

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 14

Range Expansion

- **Since mid-2000s** - White Mountains
- **2013** – Expanding further in Yukon
 - Dempster Highway Area
- **2017–2019** Reached the Elliot Highway north of Fairbanks
- Range expansion has not resulted in improved nutritional status of the herd

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 15

2019–2023 FCH Harvest Plan

- **Harvest Objectives**
 - Annual quota set to achieve desired herd trend based on nutrition.
 1. Slow Growth
 2. Stabilization
 3. Reduction
 - **Harvest rate** = based on **demographic models** using:
 - Pre-hunt population size
 - Reproduction, composition and survival data
 - **Current** – slow reduction **until nutrition improves**
 - Harvest Rate **~4–7%**

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 16

2019–2023 FCH Harvest Plan

- **Alaska Allocation**
 - **65%** of total annual herd quota
- **Yukon Allocation**
 - **35%** of total annual herd quota
 - Little Harvest in Yukon to-date
 - 2001-2018 back to herd growth
 - Hunt strategies being developed
 - License hunting allowed after 25-year moratorium – Jan 1, 2020



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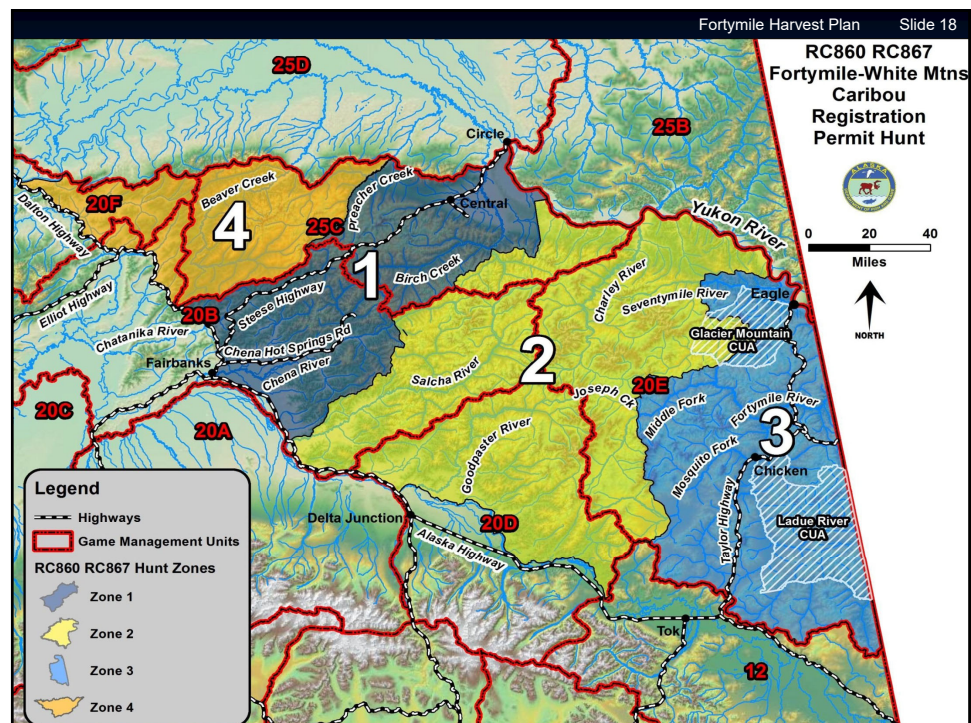
Fortymile Caribou Hunt - **Alaska**

Fortymile Harvest Plan

Slide 17

- **Fall Hunt** - Primary hunt
 - 75% of annual Alaska quota
 - Resident & non-resident hunting
- **Winter Hunt** - Residents only
 - 25% of annual Alaska quota

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 19

Fortymile Caribou Hunt - **Alaska**

<p><u>Codified</u> (5 AAC 85.025)</p> <p>Youth Draw Permit Hunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 1–21 • one caribou per lifetime <p>Registration Permit Hunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Residents:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 1–Sept 30 • Oct 21–March 31 • Up to 3 caribou • <u>Nonresidents:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 10–Sept 30 • one bull 	<p><u>2019-2020 Hunting Regulation Booklet</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Residents:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 1-21 • one caribou per lifetime • Fall Registration Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 11–Sept 30 (All Zones) • one caribou • Winter Registration Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 27–March 31 (All Zones) • one caribou • <u>Nonresidents:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fall Registration Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aug 10–Sept 30 (All Zones) • one bull
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Remainder of Fortymile caribou regulations - no change

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 20

Fortymile Caribou Hunt - **Alaska**

- **Registration Hunt – additional components**
 - Joint State/Federal Registration Hunt (Alaska)
 - 3-day reporting period for successful hunters
 - Seasons can be closed by EO if quota reached
- **Herd road crossings (Zones 1 & 3)**
 - Heavy Roadside Harvest
 - Harvest Control Issues for Managers
 - Safety Issues
 - Hunt quality

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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 21

Fortymile Caribou Hunt - **Alaska**


- **Recommendations for road crossings**
 - Temporary openings/closures in:
 - “specific drainages” or “clearly defined areas”
 - Targeted hunts
- **Department has used these strategies to achieve desired harvest numbers**



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Fortymile Harvest Plan
Slide 22

Questions?



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