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Proposal 26

Moose / Unit 26A

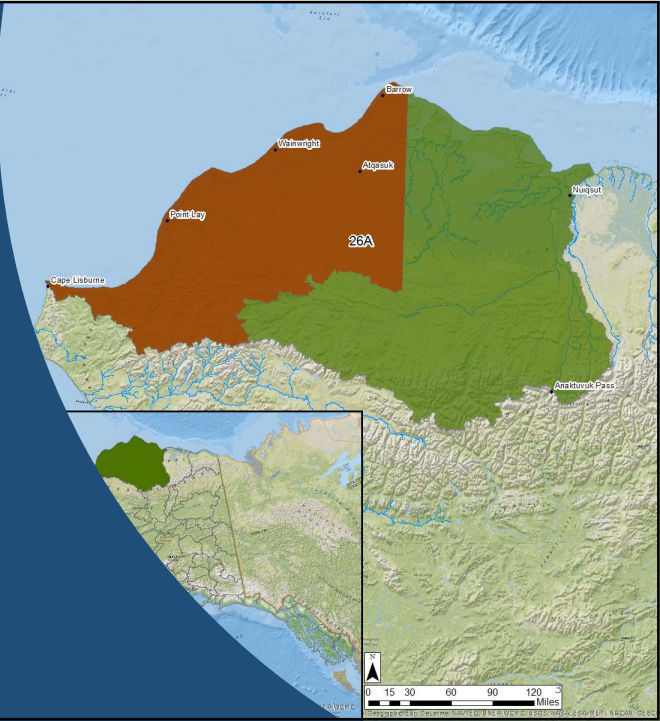
- Reauthorize the antlerless moose season west of 156° 00’ W longitude and north of the Colville drainage in Unit 26A
 - Department Proposal
 - Department Recommendation: Support
 - North Slope AC Position:

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Proposal 26

Moose / 26 A

- West of 156° 00' W longitude and north of the Colville drainage has a transient moose population
- Season: July 1-September 14
- There is a controlled use area for all 26A
July 1-September 30 and Jan 1-March 31st
- Four antlerless moose have been reported harvested in the past 11 years



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Proposal 26

Moose / Unit 26A

- Reauthorize the antlerless moose season west of 156° 00' W longitude and north of the Colville drainage in Unit 26A
- Department Proposal
- Department Recommendation: Support
- North Slope AC Position:

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Proposal 27

Caribou / Unit 26A

- Increase the nonresident bag limit for caribou in Units 26A, B, and C from one bull to two bulls per year

- Public Proposal

- Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Game Management Unit 26



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Proposal 27

Teshekpuk Caribou Herd

- C&T Finding: Positive
- Combined ANS: 8-12,000
- Harvestable Surplus: 2,500
- Intensive Management Objectives:
 - Population: 15,000-28,000
 - Harvest: 900-2,800
- Harvest:
 - Resident: 2,000-4,000
 - Non-Resident: 10-40

Caribou/ Unit 26A



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Proposal 27

Caribou / 26A

23:

- One bull August 1-Sept. 30, calves may not be taken

26A:

- One bull July 15-Sept 30, calves may not be taken

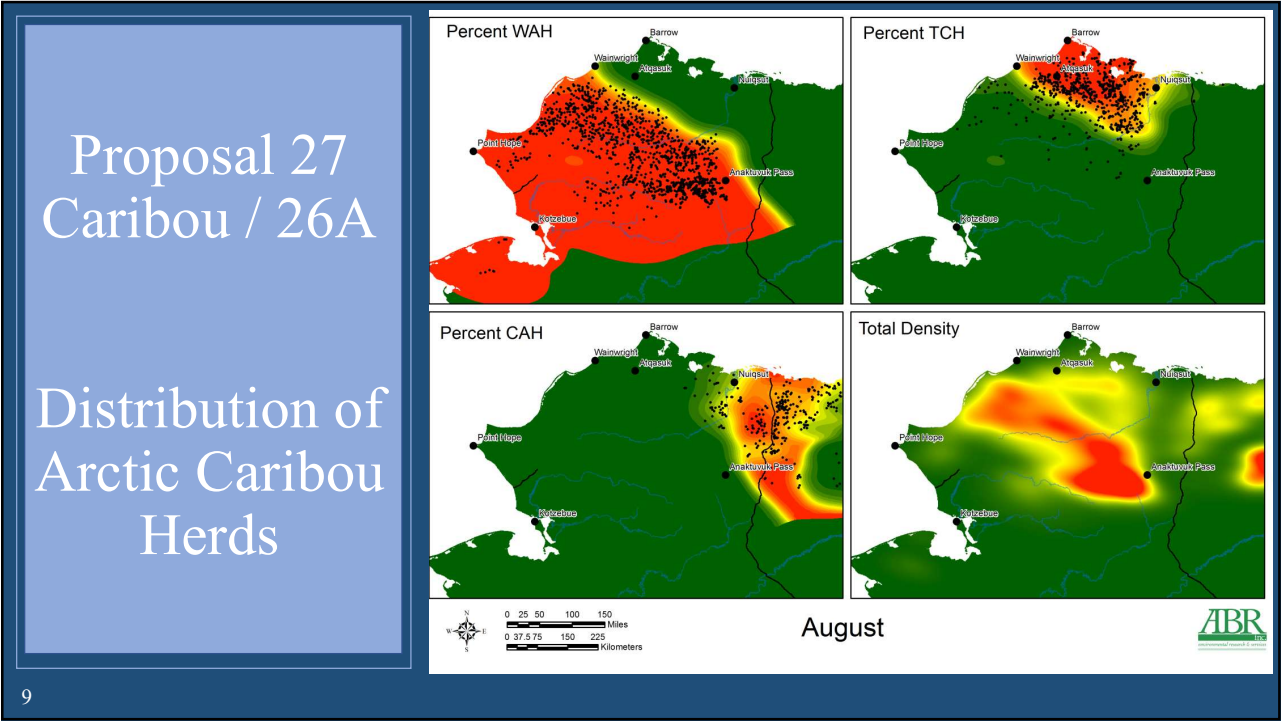
26A Remainder:

- One bull July 15-Sept 30, calves may not be taken



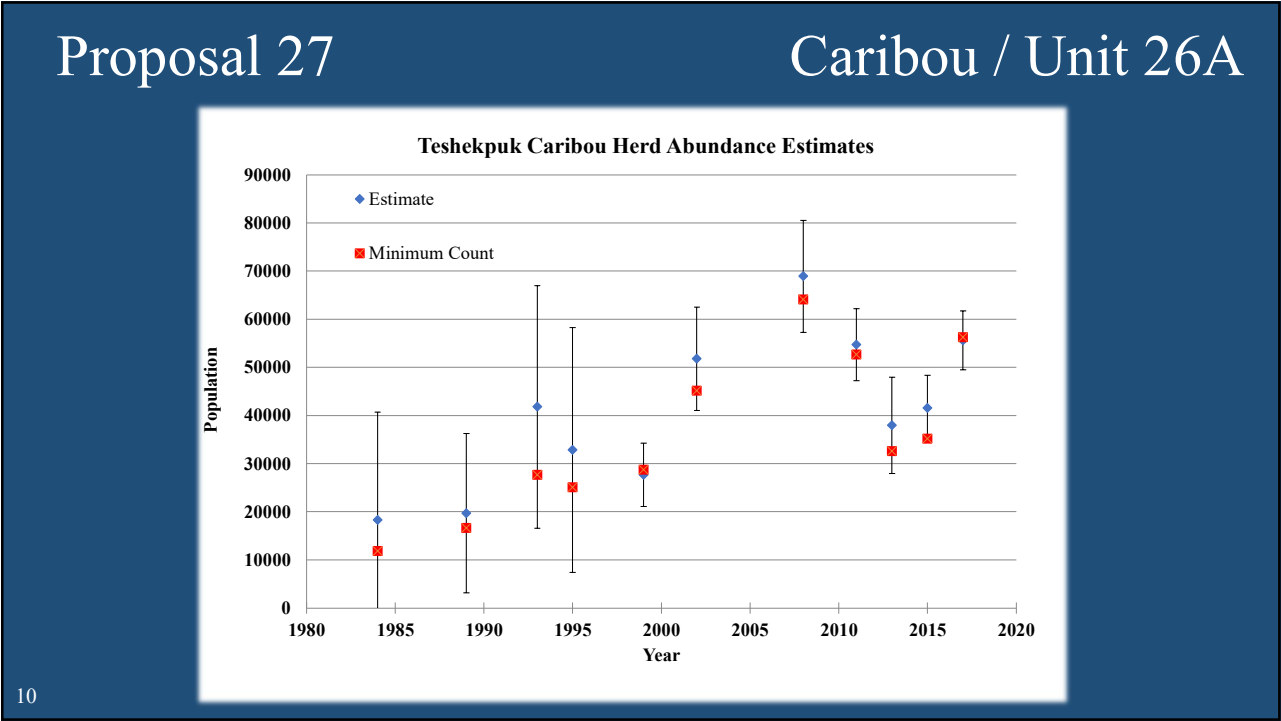
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Proposal 27

Teshekpuk Caribou Herd Vital Data

- Adult Female Survival – high (92%)
- Yearling Recruitment – average (18:100 adults)
- Yearling Weights– average (97#)
- Calf Production – average (65%)
- Oct 2016 Herd Composition
 - 28 bulls:100 cows - low
 - 48 calves:100 cows - high

Caribou / 26A



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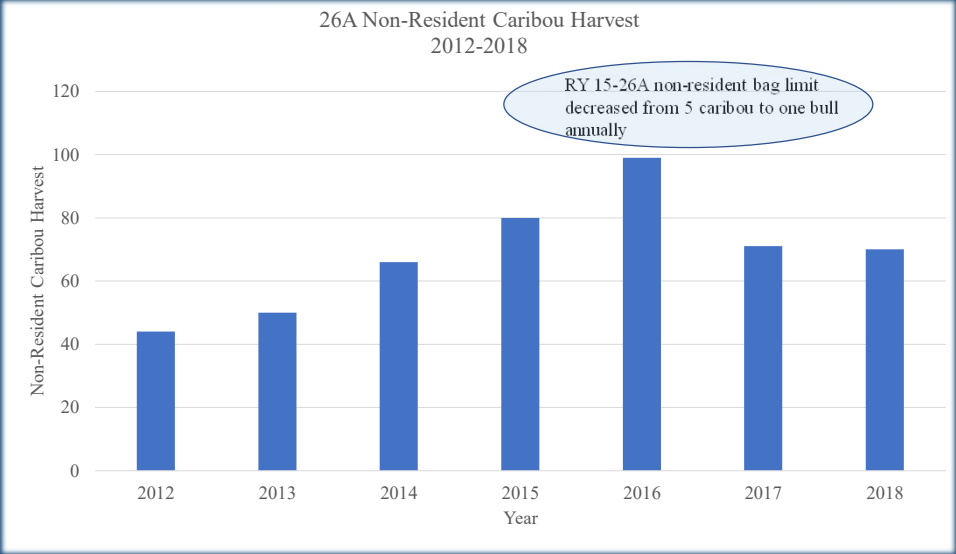
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Proposal 27

Caribou / Unit 26A

DCT(1)

26A Non-Resident Caribou Harvest 2012-2018



Year	Non-Resident Caribou Harvest
2012	45
2013	50
2014	65
2015	80
2016	100
2017	70
2018	70

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Slide 12

DCT(1 Try add more details here about dates for federal closures, guides being bought out, changes in CAH bag limits etc.

Daggett, Carmen T (DFG), 10/20/2019

Proposal 27

Caribou / 26A

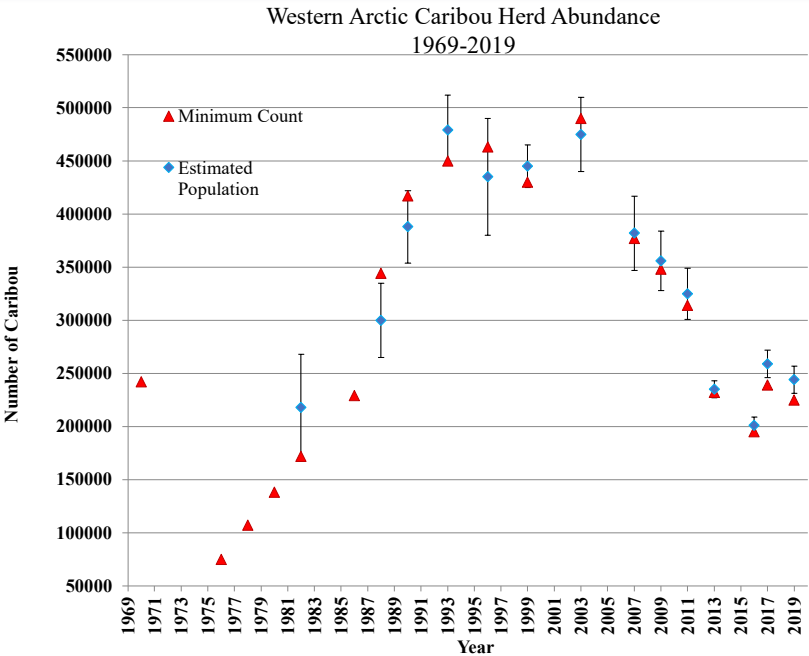
Western Arctic Caribou Herd

- C&T: Positive
- Combined ANS: 8-12,000
- Harvestable Surplus: 14,000
- Intensive Management Objectives:
 - Population: 200,000
 - Harvest: 12-20,000
- Resident Harvest: 12,000
- Non-Resident Harvest: 225



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Proposal 27

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Vital Data

- Adult female survival: 78% (below average)
- Yearling Recruitment: 18:100 adults (25-year average)
- Parturition 81:100 (2019 high)
- Calf Weights high (90#)
- Herd Composition 2017
 - 54 bulls: 100 cows (high)
 - 57 calves:100 cows (high)

Caribou / 26A



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Proposal 27

Caribou / Unit 26A

- Increase the nonresident bag limit for caribou in Units 26A, B, and C from one bull to two bulls per year
- Public Proposal
- Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Eliminate Caribou Registration Permit and Harvest Ticket Requirements for North Slope Residents

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

North Slope Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Proposal 78 at Region III/Interior BOG

Advisory Committee Votes

NS Advisory Committee: pending

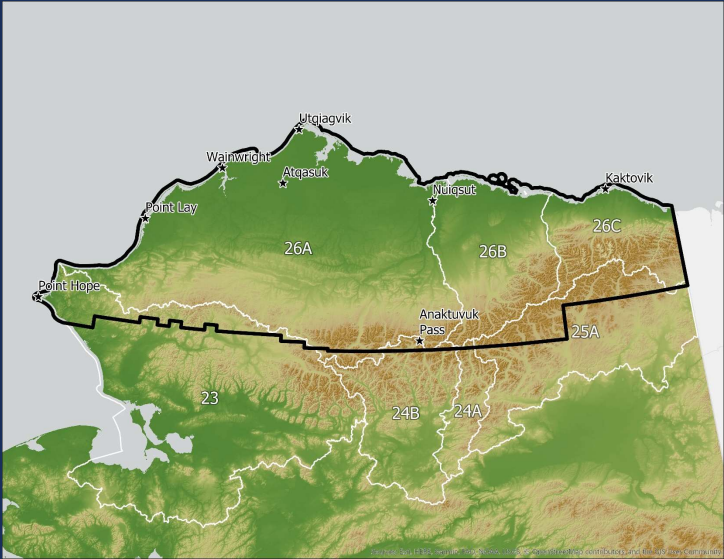
Western Arctic Herd WG: 9-9

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26



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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Harvest Data vs. Harvest Tickets/Permits

- **Serve separate purposes**
- **One is about harvest monitoring, one is about harvest management**
- **Can be independent or combined**

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

When Don't We Need Harvest Data?

When the resource tends to oscillate regardless (hares, grouse)

When the resource is super-abundant relative to demand.

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Proposal 28 **Caribou / Units 23,24,26**

Need For Harvest Data:

Is current harvest level sustainable?

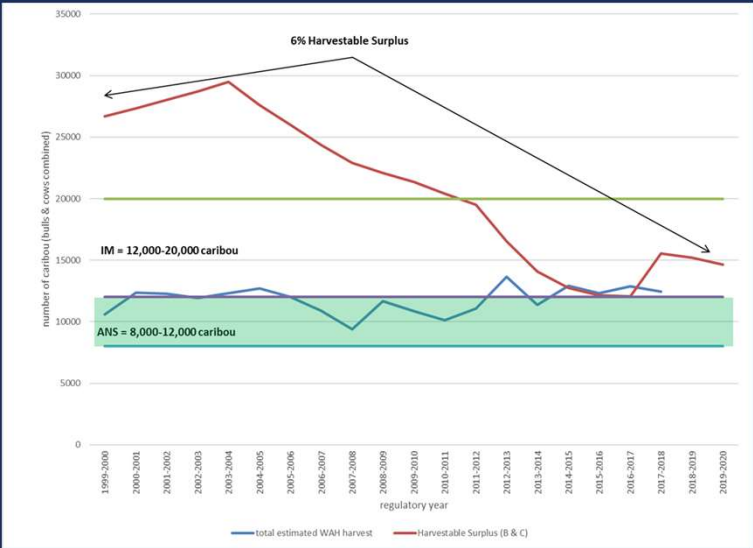
- **Harvest vs. Harvestable Surplus**
- **Need to know amount, and preferably ^{PLS(3)} sex of harvested animals, along with where and when**

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^{PLS(2)}

Proposal 28 **Caribou / Units 23,24,26**



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Slide 21

PLS(3 reference NR regulations and data in prop 27

Parrett, Lincoln S (DFG), 12/4/2019

Slide 22

PLS(2 This is the WAH graph; we can't make a similar one for the TCH because the data has historically been too spotty.

Parrett, Lincoln S (DFG), 11/28/2019

Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Need For Harvest Data:

Was harvest sustainable?

- **There is much to be learned from trial and error**
 - What was the effect of changes to seasons and bag limits in 2016?
 - What effects do controlled use areas and federal closures have?

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Need For Harvest Data:

What are historic patterns in harvest?

- **Establishing patterns**
 - **C&T**
 - **ANS**
 - **Practical Regulations**

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Need For Harvest Data:

What is harvest today?

- In-season management for closely monitored populations

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Need For Harvest Tickets or Permits:

Paper permits remain the default tool:

Enforcement Aspects

Is familiarity important?

Specific to Permit Hunts:

- More easily implement quotas/in-season management
- Discretionary Authority - adaptable in space and time

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Killing two birds with one stone:

Ideally, harvest tickets or permits meet all of those needs.

Agencies give individual hunters the responsibility to account for their own harvest and further take part in wildlife management

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Harvest Data, 1984-1992

Irregularly conducted CHA's
NSB, private industry, Subsistence Div.

“Arctic Caribou Harvest Report”

“Caribou hunters that live and hunt north of the Yukon River must register with the department”

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Proposal 28 Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Harvest Data, 1984-1992

- “Register with the Department” aka RC900**
- no license needed
 - follow-up letters
 - Georgette study:
 - response rate high, participation low
 - 70-80% of permittees responded
 - reported harvest was ~11% of concurrent CHA estimates

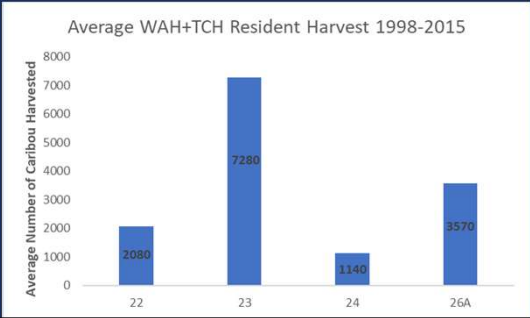
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Proposal 28 Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Harvest Data, 1998-2016

- **Stopped sending follow-up letters**
- **~3-5 CHA's per year**
- **TCH+WAH harvest model**
- **NSB attempts to obtain regular estimates**



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Proposal 28 Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Harvest Data, 2016- present

- ~3 CHA's per year through Subsistence
- NSB increases efforts to obtain regular estimates
- Extensive Outreach Efforts
 - RC800 , Unit 22 (RY16)
 - RC907 , Units 23 and 26A (RY17)

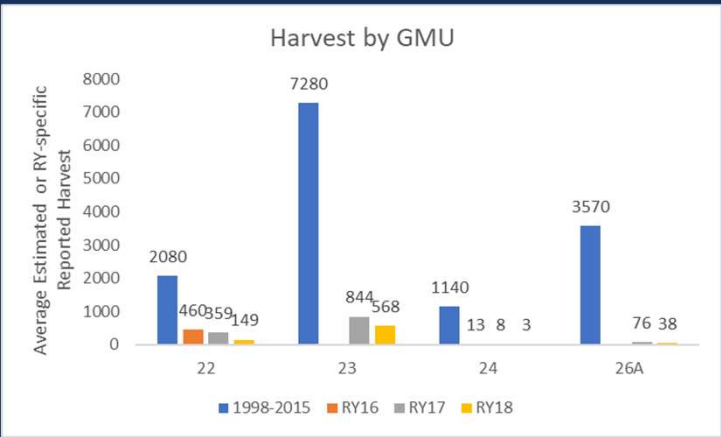
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Proposal 28 Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Historical Estimates and Incoming HT/RC Data

RC800 data (Unit 22) RC907 data (Units 23 and 26A) Harvest tickets (Unit 24)



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Proposal 28 **Caribou / Units 23,24,26**

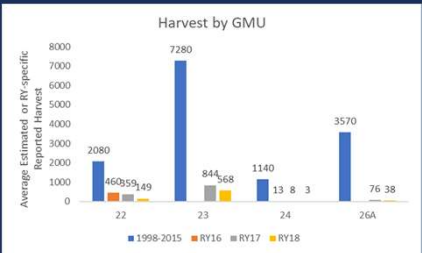
Difficult Comparisons

U22: Fewer WAH caribou available since 2016

U23: Caribou fewer and later since 2017

U24: Long-term trend toward fewer (mostly AKP)

U26A: More caribou in all seasons...



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Proposal 28 **Caribou / Units 23,24,26**

Difficult Comparisons

Bottom Line:
Averages can be misleading in any given year, but participation appears to remain low

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Current Situation

- WAH and TCH appear to be doing well
- Changes in timing and distribution
Likely resulting in:
 - Changes in sex ratio of harvest
 - Changes in regional and overall harvest
 - Changes in herd specific harvest

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

The Future

Are we prepared for change?

- What happens if these herds decline?
- How would we manage harvest?

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

The Obstacles

- **Getting licenses and permits**
 - Local vendors
 - Online access
 - Smartphone apps?
 - Staff visits to communities
- **Inconsistencies with other species**
- **Finding Common Ground**

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Proposal 28

Caribou / Units 23,24,26

Eliminate Caribou Registration Permit and Harvest Ticket Requirements for North Slope Residents

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

North Slope Fish and Game Advisory Committee

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Advisory Committee Votes
NS Advisory Committee: pending

Western Arctic Herd WG: 9-9

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Proposal 29

Brown Bear / 26A

- Increase the resident bag limit for brown bears in Unit 26A from one to two bears per year
- Submitted by: Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Council
- Department Recommendation: Neutral
 - North Slope AC Position

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Game Management Unit 26A



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Proposal 29

Brown Bear / 26A

- General Season:
 - One brown bear per regulatory year
 - No closed season
 - No tag fee
- RB697
 - One brown bear per regulatory year
 - No closed season



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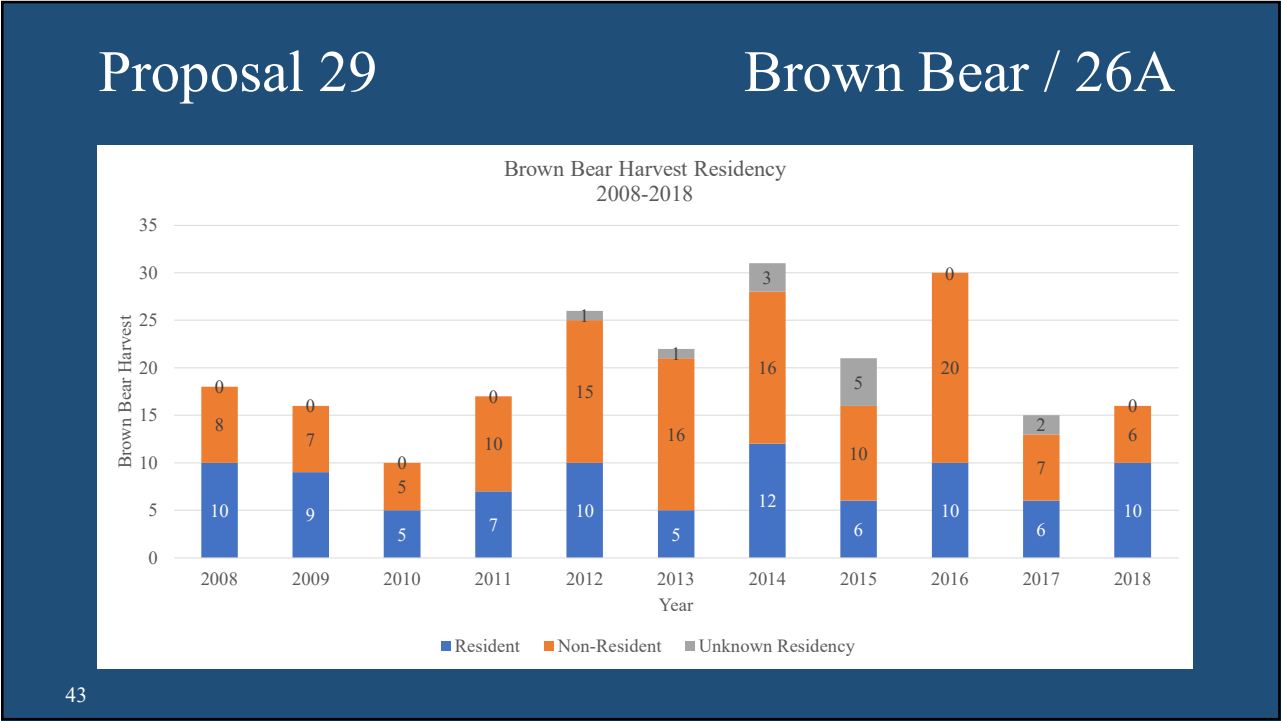
Proposal 29

Brown Bear / 26 A

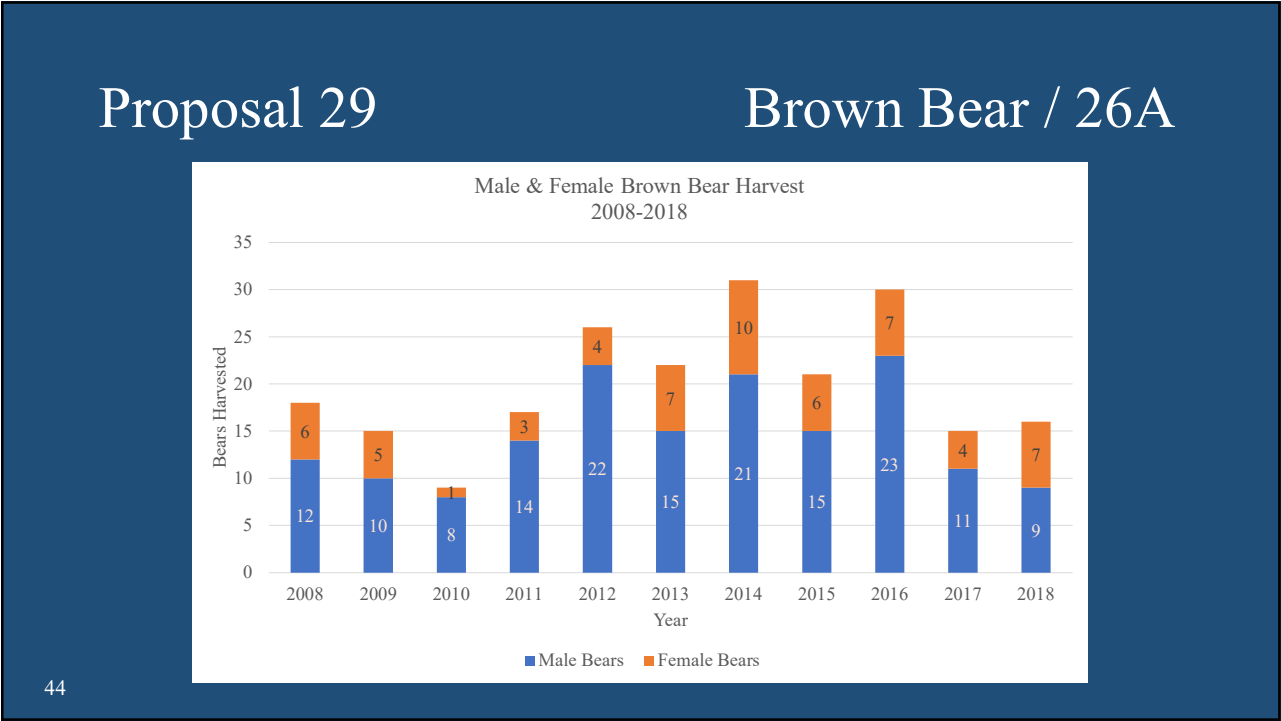
- Population Estimate: Unknown
- Harvest
 - Range: 14-28 bears per year
 - Average harvest: 23 per year
 - Household Surveys (85-14): 8 bears per year
- If adopted this would also allow the sale of hides and skulls

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Proposal 29

Brown Bear / 26A

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 - Department Recommendation: Neutral
 - North Slope AC Position

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