Unit 1A Area Overview

UNIT 1A OVERVIEW 2023

Yakutat
Haines
Skagway
Juneau
Petersburg
Sitka
Craig
Ketchikan
Ketchikan AC

Staff

Tessa Hasbrouck
Assistant Area Biologist

Mallory LeBlanc
Program Technician

Ross Dorendorf
Area Biologist

Unit 1A Overview 2023
Deer

- High density on islands and low density on mainland
- Timber sales occurring on Gravina and Revilla
- Harvest objective being met
- Camera trap deer population monitoring project

Positive Customary and Traditional Use finding

Proposal 42

Unit 1A Deer Harvest

Intensive Management Objective = 700

![Graph showing deer harvest from 2012 to 2021]
Unit 1A Deer Hunters

- Hunters over time (2012-2021):
  - 2012: 517
  - 2013: 568
  - 2014: 584
  - 2015: 625
  - 2016: 673
  - 2017: 774
  - 2018: 851
  - 2019: 904
  - 2020: 995
  - 2021: 857

Unit 1A Average Days to Harvest a Deer

- Days per deer over time (2012-2021):
  - 2012: 8.3
  - 2013: 6.7
  - 2014: 5.9
  - 2015: 5.5
  - 2016: 4.8
  - 2017: 4.4
  - 2018: 3.7
  - 2019: 4.3
  - 2020: 3.9
  - 2021: 3.9
Black Bears

- Harvest stable
- Harvest ticket for residents and non-residents
- Spring hunting along road system and shoreline

Positive Customary and Traditional Use finding

Proposals 3
Nuisance Bears

- Few bears killed annually in Ketchikan
- Working with local police, AWT, and landfill managers
- Record information on all wildlife calls
- Hazing device and electric fence loaner program

Unit 1A Overview 2023

Unit 1A Brown Bear

- Concentrated on mainland and few on Revilla Island
- Harvest averaged 5 (1-9) bears from RY12-RY21
- Estimated population 150-300
- Positive C&T, ANS 2-3 bears outside the non-subsistence area
Unit 1A Mountain Goats

- Draw and registration hunts in Unit 1A
- New draw hunt DG008
- Introduced goats on Revilla Island abundant
- Adjusted management strategy

Positive Customary and Traditional Use finding

Proposals 43, 44
Unit 1A Moose

- Issue 40-70 registration permits annually
- Annual harvest ranges from 1-5 bulls (any bull hunt)
- Concentrated mostly along the Unuk River

No Customary and Traditional Use finding
Wolves

- Wolf population appears stable
- ESA petition pending for Southeast Alaska

Positive Customary and Traditional Use finding, ANS = 90% of the harvestable portion of the population
Unit 1A Reported Wolf Harvest Distribution by Month
Regulatory Years 2012 - 2021

Total reported harvest
RY2012 - RY2021 = 272

Proportion of harvest by month indicated by %

Hunting Season: Aug. 1 – May 31
Trapping Season: Nov. 1 – Apr. 30

Unit 1A Wolf Harvest

Harvest

15 26 25 31 30 30 27 26 28 33
Furbearers

Average Harvest 2012 – 2021

- Beaver 42 (19-65)
- Marten 256 (132-475)
- Northern river otter 42 (19-76)
- Wolverine 2 (0-7)

Positive Customary and Traditional Use finding, ANS = 90% of the harvestable portion of the population.

Proposals 6, 7, 8, 9

Small Game

- Sooty Grouse
- Ptarmigan
- Waterfowl
- Red Squirrel

Customary and Traditional Use findings vary

Proposal 5
### Proposal 5

#### Sooty Grouse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (males/stop)</th>
<th>Unit 1D-Haines</th>
<th>Unit 1C-Juneau</th>
<th>Unit 3-Petersburg</th>
<th>Unit 1A-Ketchikan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Confidence Interval</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Confidence Interval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.81</td>
<td>1.46 - 2.29</td>
<td>1.51</td>
<td>1.03 - 1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>1.42 - 2.47</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>2.00 - 2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>0.81 - 1.46</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td>1.78 - 2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.60 - 1.49</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.29 - 2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.54 - 0.90</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>0.98 - 1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>0.81 - 2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td>1.9 - 1.94</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.72 - 1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>NS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>0.62 - 1.17</td>
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</table>

*Only Mitkof Alternate was surveyed on Mitkof Island and no surveys occurred on Kupreanof Island.*

### Questions?

- **Unit 1A Overview 2023**

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**RC 4, Tab 6.1**
Unit 2 Area Overview

- ~3,600 square miles
- 12 communities
- ~3,500 residents
- Major employment
  - Commercial fisheries
  - Government
  - Tourism
  - Logging

Tessa Hasbrouck, Assistant Area Biologist
Advisory Committees

Craig
Klawock
East POW

Timber Harvest

Highest rate in Region 1
- Northern POW deer habitat reduced by 46%
- Southern POW deer habitat reduced by 18%

Current logging
- State – old growth sales
- Federal – young growth sales
Sitka Black-tailed Deer

• Population Monitoring
  – Historically used:
    • Deer pellet surveys
    • Aerial alpine surveys
  – Now testing:
    • Camera methods
  – Currently using:
    • Deer harvest reports
Unit 2 Deer Harvest and Number Hunters

- **Harvest:**
  - IM Objective: 2700
  - ANS: 1500-1600

- **Hunters:**

**Period:**
- 2012 to 2021

**Graphs:**
- GMU 4
- GMU 2
- GMU 1B/3
- GMU 1A
- GMU 1C
Local concerns

- Low deer harvest
  - Habitat loss from logging
  - Bear and wolf predation
  - Nonlocals harvesting deer

October 2022 – Deer Summit
- Factors that influence deer population and harvest: habitat loss, regulations and hunting, predation

Wolf

- Management is guided by:
  - Our constitutional mandate for sustainability for all species
  - Importance of deer to GMU 2 hunters

- Management history
  - Quota system 1997-2018
  - Season length system 2019-present
Wolf Management Strategy

• Population objective = 150-200 wolves

Estimate wolf population → Determine sustainable harvest range → Examine recent catch rates (ex. 2.6 wolves/day) → Determine season length and notify public → Close season by EO

Harvester Requirements

Harvest wolf → Sequentially number or mark wolf, and record date and location of take → Report harvest within 7 days of take → Seal wolf within 15 days of take
Samples Collected at Sealing

- **Skin Tissue**
  - Genetics
  - Diet analysis

- **Muscle Tissue**
  - Genetics
  - Diet analysis

- **Foreleg Bone**
  - Age class distribution (pup, yearling, adult)

### Unit 2 Wolf Management and Harvest

- **Harvest Guideline Level**
- **Estimated (w/ 95% CI)**
- **Harvested**

*Season closed by emergency order*
Unit 2 Cumulative Reported Wolf Harvest by Month, Regulatory Years 2017-2021

- Total reported harvest: RY17-21 = 391
- Proportion of harvest by month indicated by %:
  - Sep: 2%
  - Oct: 4%
  - Nov: 28%
  - Dec: 54%
  - Jan: 12%

State hunting season:
Dec 1 – Mar 31

State trapping season:
Nov 15 – Mar 31

Black Bear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residency</th>
<th>Bag limit</th>
<th>Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>2 bears, not more than 1 of which may be a blue or glacier bear by harvest ticket</td>
<td>1 Sep-30 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident</td>
<td>1 bear by harvest ticket and registered guide</td>
<td>1 Sep-30 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident</td>
<td>1 bear by drawing permit only (DL027) not using a registered guide (issued 50 permits in RY2022)</td>
<td>1 Sep-31 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident</td>
<td>1 bear by drawing permit only (DL028) not using a registered guide (issued 180 permits in RY2022)</td>
<td>1 Jan-30 Jun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Popular DIY hunt for nonresident hunters
- Low local hunter participation
- Guided hunts controlled by US Forest Service