Proposal 1

Sheep/ Unit 23 and 26A

Open an Archery-only registration Hunt for sheep in Units 23 and 26A

Public Proposal

Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 1

Sheep / Unit 23 and 26A

If adopted, this proposal would create an archeryonly registration hunt for Dall sheep in Units 23 and 26A east and west of the Etivluk River to include the DeLong and Schwatka mountains within 23 and 26A.

- The bag limit would be one ram with full-curl horn or larger.
- The season dates would be August 10 –
 September 20, permits would only be available in person at license vendors in 23 and 26A.
- Harvest would have to be reported within 48 hours.

2

Proposal 1

Sheep / Units 23 and 26A

- Sheep hunting in unit 23 and western 26A was closed in 2014 by emergency order.
- The Board of Game adopted a proposal in 2015 to continue that closure due to conservation concerns over low population numbers.
- The Delong and Baird sheep populations declined between 50 and 80% from 2011 to 2015.
- In addition to population declines, lamb survival was poor and recovering was predicited to be slow.

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Proposal 1

Sheep / Units 23 and 26A

Opportunity for all residents and nonresidents in Units 23 and 26A (that portion west of the Etivluk River drainage) is currently closed.

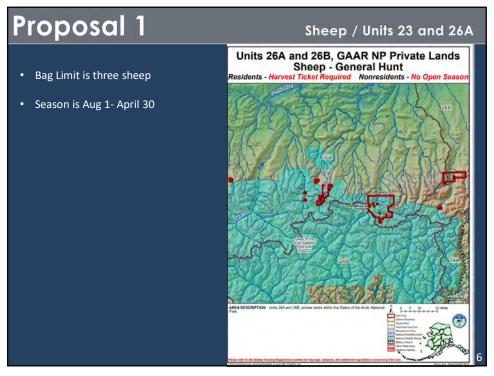


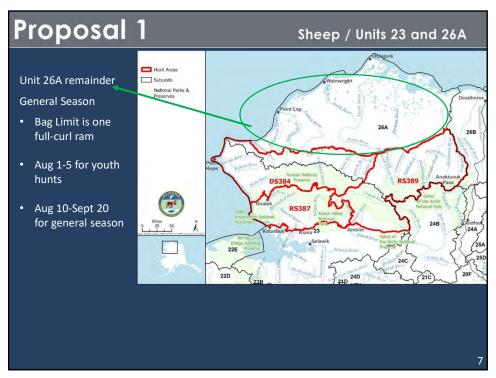
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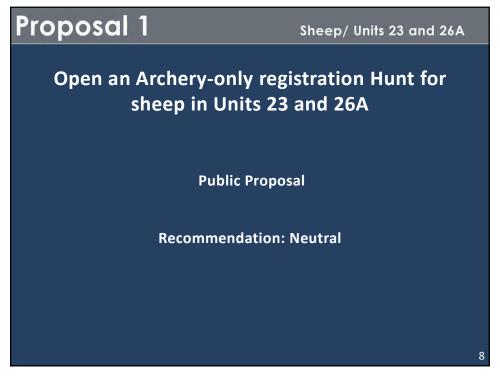
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Proposal 1 Sheep / Units 23 and 26A Unit 26A, East Etivluk River Sheep - General Hunt Residents and Nonresidents - Harvest Ticker Regulared Residents - Harvest Ticker Regulared

5







Proposal 2 PROPOSAL 2 Caribou/Multi-Unit Reduce the resident bag limit to 4 caribou annually, of which only 1 may be a cow in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A Proposed by Western Arctic Herd Working Group Department Recommendation Support with Modifications AC Recommendations Kotzebue Sound AC Support 8-0 North Slope AC Oppose 0-7

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Regul	ations	tions Caribou/Multi-U		J/Multi-Uni
Unit 23 Remainder Four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow [Five caribou per day], by registration permit only; however, calves may not be taken.	Unit 23 Four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow [Five caribou per day], by registration permit only; however, calves may not be taken.	Unit 22A, 22B Remainder, 22D (Kuzitrin River Drainage, excluding Pilgrim River Drainage and Agiapuk River Drainage), 22E Four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow [Twenty caribou total, up to five per day], by registration permit only	Unit 22A Remainder, 22C, 22D Remainder, 22E Remainder Four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow [Twenty caribou total, up to five per day], by registration permit only	Unit 22B, 22D (Pilgrim River Drainage) Four caribou per year only one of which may be a cow [Twenty taribou total, up to five per day], by registration permit only Resident Hunting
Resident Hunting Season Bulls: No Closed Season Cows: Sept 1 - Mar 31	Resident Hunting Season Bulls: No Closed Season Cows: July15 - Apr 30	Resident Hunting Season Bulls: No Closed Season Cows: July 1 - Mar 31	Resident Hunting Season May Be Announced	Season Bulls: Oct 1-Apr 30 Cows: Oct 1 - Mai 31





Proposal 2

Effects of the Proposal

Caribou/Multi-Unit

- Harvest in general, and cow harvest specifically, may be reduced
- High harvesters and the households they provide for will likely be impacted
- May place unnecessary restrictions on some communities that harvest from other herds

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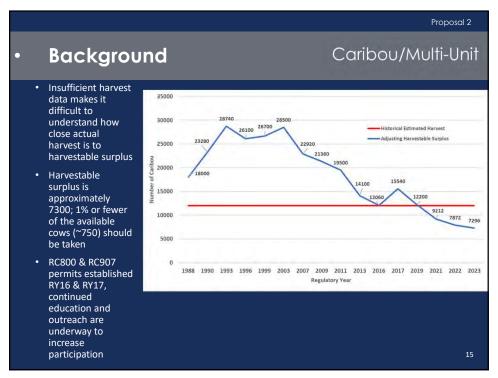
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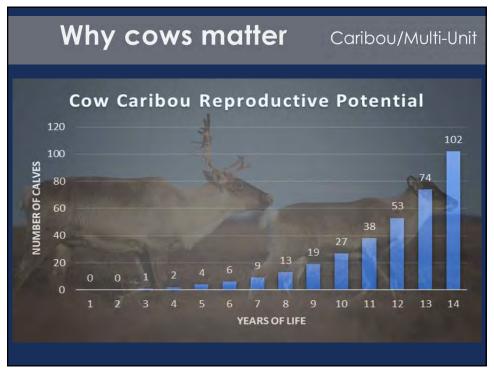
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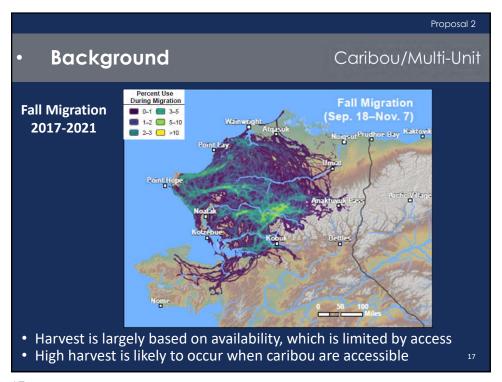
Proposal 2

Caribou/Multi-Unit

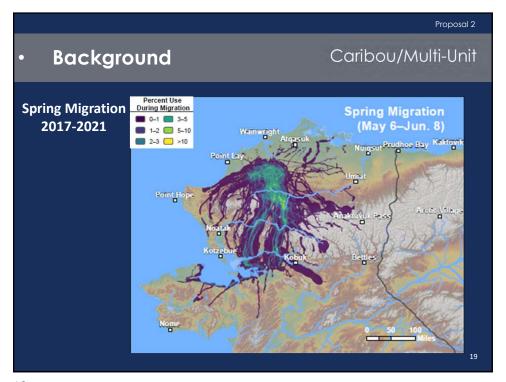
- · Harvestable surplus of cows is likely being exceeded
- Unit 23 bag limit has been 5 caribou per day for 30+ years
- Harvest up to 15 caribou per day has been allowed under federal regulations
- RY15 the board adopted an annual bag limit of 20 caribou in Unit 22

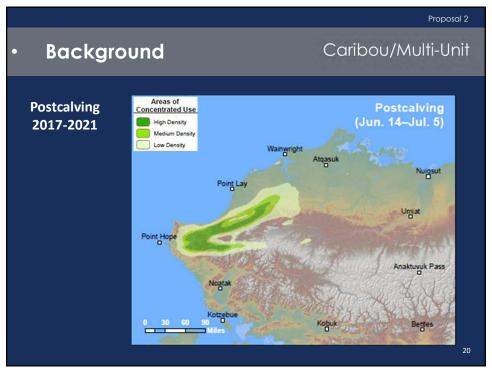


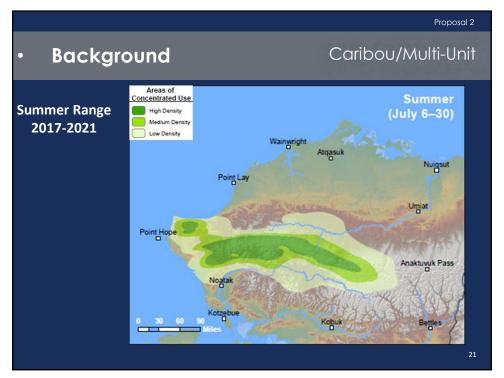




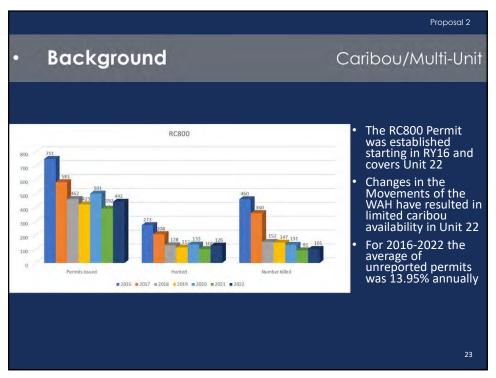


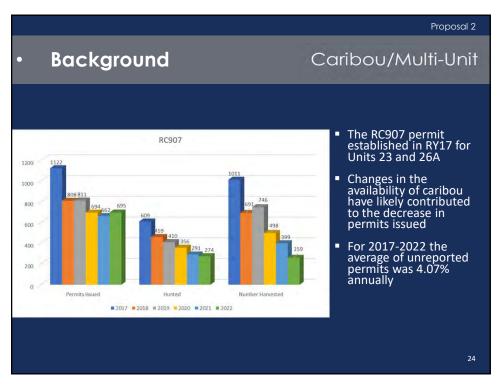


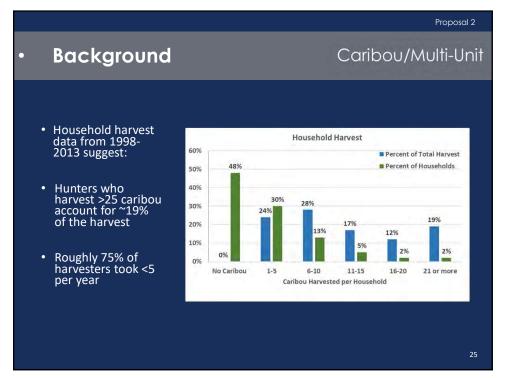


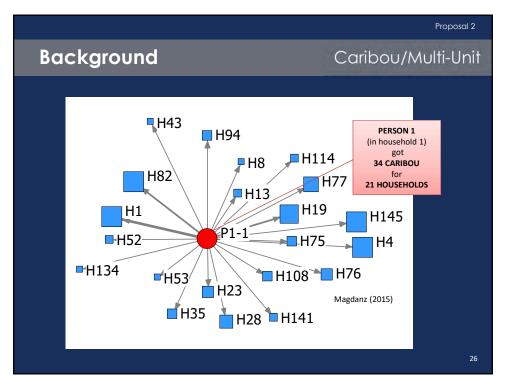












Proposal 2

Department Position

Caribou/Multi-Unit

- Support with Modifications
- The Department supports the proposal in Units 22 and 23
- The Department believes a modified solution is needed for Unit 26A, some communities within 26A harvest primarily from the TCH and CAH with little to no harvest from the WAH
- The Department requests the decision on Region 3 units (21D Remainder, 24B Remainder, 24C and 24D) be deferred until that meeting
- · Cow harvests have likely exceeded surplus in 2023
- The proxy hunting system will continue to allow users to harvest for qualified beneficiaries.
- Refined harvest information is necessary to provide a better understanding of harvest

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Proposal 2

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PROPOSAL 2

Caribou/Multi-Unit

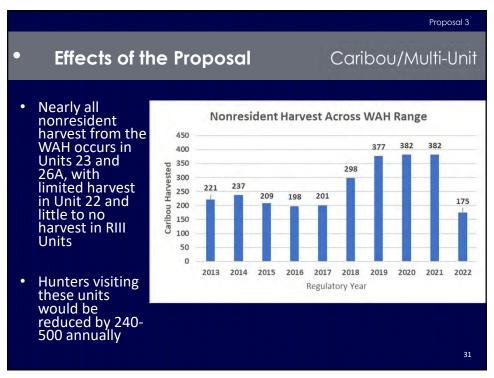
- Reduce the resident bag limit to 4 caribou annually, of which only 1 may be a cow in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A
- Proposed by
- Western Arctic Herd Working Group
- Department Recommendation
- Support with Modifications
- AC Recommendations
- Kotzebue Sound AC Support 8-0
- North Slope AC Oppose 0-7

28

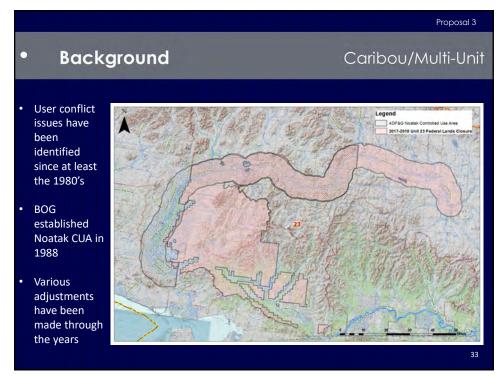
PROPOSAL 3 Caribou/Multi-Unit
 Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A
 Proposed by
 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group, Vern Cleveland, Chair
 Department Recommendation
 Neutral
 AC Recommendations
 North Slope 7-0 Support

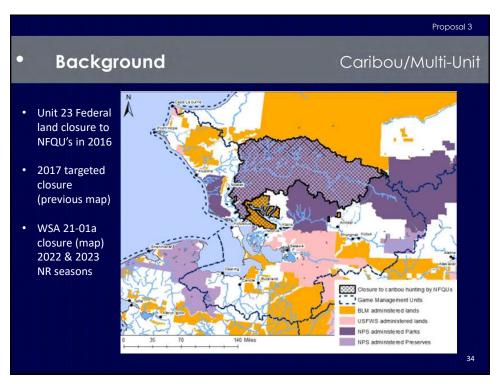
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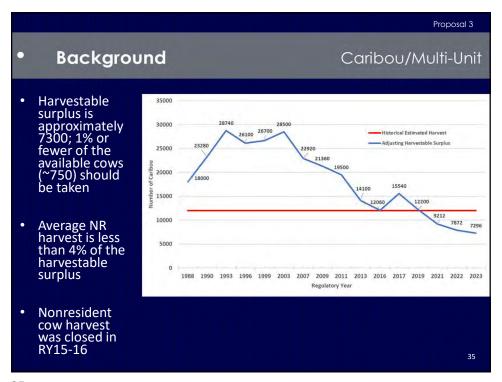
Current Regulations	Proposal 3 Caribou/Multi-Unit
 Unit 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D No Open Season [One bull]. 	Unit 26A No Open Season [One bull].
 Nonresident Hunting Season Bulls: No season [Aug 1- Sept 30] Cows: No season 	Nonresident Hunting Season Bulls: No season [July 15 - Sept 30] Cows: No season

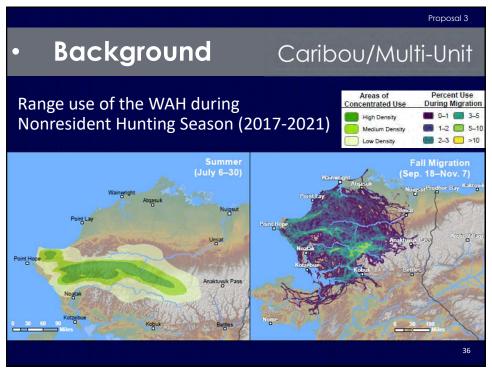


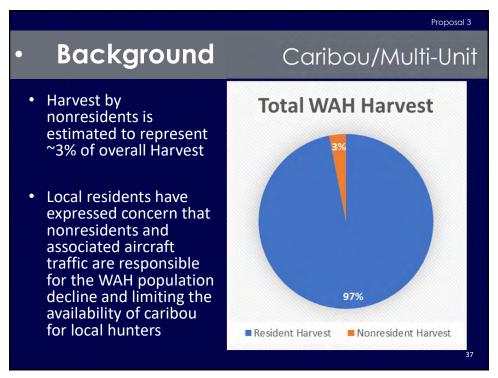
Background Caribou/Multi-Unit Unit 23 nonresident bag limit has been 1bull, Aug 1- Sep 30 since RY 15 RY17 the nonresident locking tag price was increased from \$350 to \$650 Annual nonresident harvest in all Units has averaged ~263 bulls, 5 cows, 268 caribou overall (2013-2022) The closure of federal lands under WSA21-01 has resulted in limited access for nonresidents in Units 23 and a portion of 26A

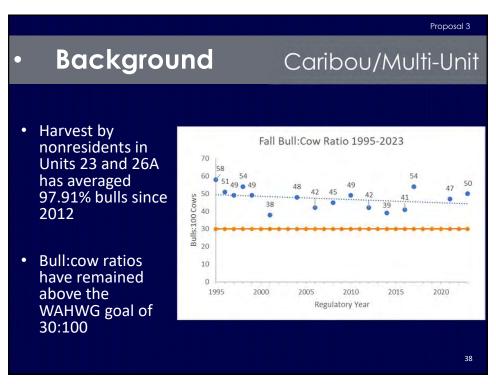








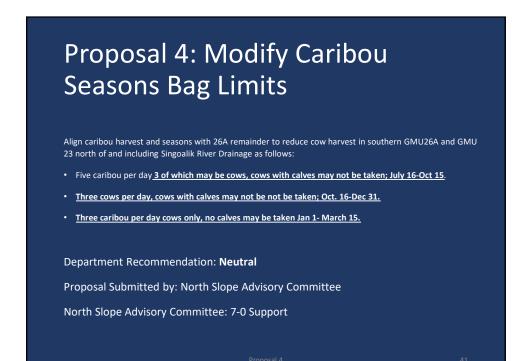


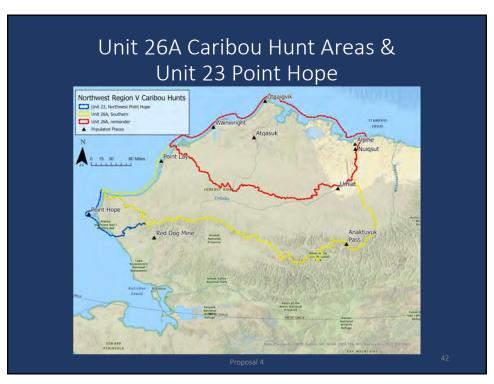


Department Position Caribou/Multi-Unit Neutral Little to no biological significance Allocative issue Deferment to Region III meeting may be warranted to address Region III units

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PROPOSAL 3 Caribou/Multi-Unit Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A Proposed by Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group, Vern Cleveland, Chair Department Recommendation Neutral AC Recommendations North Slope 7-0 Support

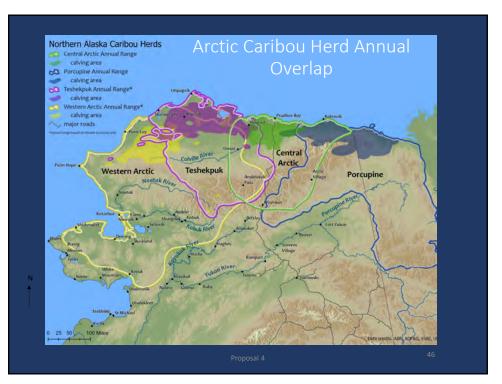




GMU	Bag Limit		Season	
Unit 23, that portion north of and including the Singoalik River	Five caribou per day	Bulls Cows	No closed season July 15-April 30	
drainage:		- "		
26A The Colville River drainage upstream from the Anaktuvuk	Five caribou per day by permit	Bulls	July 1-Oct 14 Feb 1-June 30	
River and drainages of the Chukchi Sea south and West of, and including the Utukok River drainage		Cows	July 15-April 30	
26A Remainder	Five bulls per day	Bulls	July 1-July 15 March 16-June 30	
26A Remainder	Five caribou per day, 3 of which can be cows, calves may not be taken	Cows	July 16-Oct 15	5AAC 85.025
26A Remainder	Three cows per	Cows	Oct 16-Dec 31	



GMU	Bag Limit		Season	
Unit 23, that portion north of and including the	Five caribou per day, <u>only three</u> maybe cows, cows	Bulls	[no closed season] July 16-Oct 15	
Singoalik River drainage:	with calves may not be taken.	Cows	July 16-Oct 15	
	[Five caribou per day], Three cows per day, cows with calves may not be taken	Cows	Oct 16-Dec 31	
	[FIVE] <u>Three</u> caribou per day <u>Cows only,</u> <u>no calves may be</u> <u>taken</u>	Cows	<u>Jan 1-Mar 15</u>	
26A The Colville River drainage upstream from the Anaktuvuk River	Five caribou per day, <u>only three</u> <u>maybe cows</u> , <u>cows</u> with calves may	Bulls	[July 1-Oct 14 Feb 1-June 30] July 16-October 15	
and drainages of the Chukchi Sea	not be taken.	Cows	July 16-October 15	
south and West of, and including the Utukok River drainage	[Five caribou per day], Three cows per day, cows with calves may not be taken	Cows	Oct 16-Dec 31	
	[FIVE] <u>Three</u> caribou per day <u>Cows only,</u> <u>no calves may be</u> <u>taken</u>	Cows	<u>Jan 1-Mar 15</u>	5AAC 85.0



Proposal 4: ADF&G Comments



- ADF&G supports efforts to reduce the harvest of cows in areas where the Western Arctic Herd is distributed.
- Prohibiting the harvest of any bulls during the Oct 16-Dec 31 may cause a loss of opportunity for residents who may want to harvest young bulls.
- This would require residents to take cows during a time, when we are trying to reduce cow harvest.
- Communities with high numbers of Teshekpuk and Central Arctic Caribou are encouraged to continue harvesting under the current regulations.

Proposal 4

47

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Proposal 4: Modify Caribou Seasons Bag Limits

Align caribou harvest and seasons with 26A remainder to reduce cow harvest in southern GMU26A and GMU 23 north of and including Singoalik River Drainage as follows:

- Five caribou per day 3 of which may be cows, cows with calves may not be taken; July 16-Oct 15.
- Three cows per day, cows with calves may not be not be taken; Oct. 16-Dec 31.
- Three caribou per day cows only, no calves may be taken Jan 1- March 15.

Department Recommendation: Neutral

Proposal Submitted by: North Slope Advisory Committee

North Slope Advisory Committee: 7-0 Support

roposal 4

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Proposal 5

PROPOSAL 5 Caribou/Units 23 & 26A

- Reduce the resident bag limit to 5 caribou annually, of which only 1 may be a cow and establish a nonresident registration permit with an annual quota of 400 bulls for Units 23 & 26A.
- Proposed by Public
- Department Recommendation

Neutral

AC Recommendations

None

49

49

Proposal 5 Current Regulations Caribou/Units 23 & 26A • Unit 23 Resident Hunting Season **5 Caribou annually only one may be a cow** [Five caribou per day], by registration permit only (RC907); however, calves may not be taken. · Bulls: no closed season Cows: July 15 – Apr 30 (Sept 1 – Mar 31 in 23 Remainder) Nonresident Hunting Season Registration permit [One Bull] Aug 1 – Sept 30 • Unit 26A Resident Hunting Season 5 Caribou annually only one may be a cow [Five caribou per day], by registration permit only (RC907); however, calves may not be taken. Bulls: July 1 – Oct 14, Feb 1 – June 30 Cows: July 15 – Apr 30 Nonresident Hunting Season Registration permit [One Bull] July 15 – Sept 30 Unit 26 Remainder Resident Hunting Season (RC907 permit) 5 Caribou annually only one may be a cow [Jan1- Mar 15: Five caribou per day (three of which may be cows) Mar 16 - July 15: Five bulls per day July 16 - October 15: Five caribou per day (three of which may be cows; cows with calves may not be taken) Oct 16 – Dec 31: Three cows per day] Nonresident Hunting Season

Registration permit [One Bull] July 15 – Sept 30

Effects of the Proposal Caribou/Units 23 & 26A

- Harvest in general, and cow harvest specifically, may be reduced
- Resident high harvesters and the households they provide for may be impacted
- Nonresident harvest is unlikely to be affected by the proposal

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Proposal 5

Proposal 5

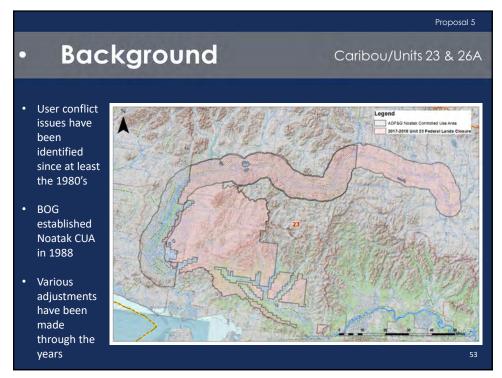
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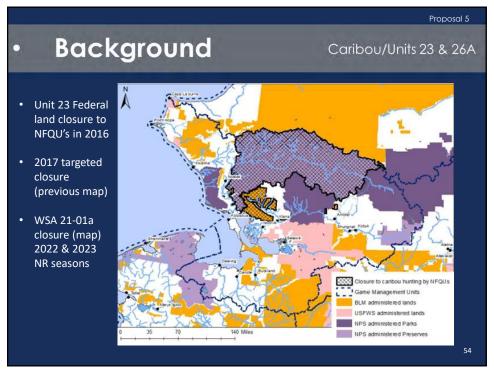
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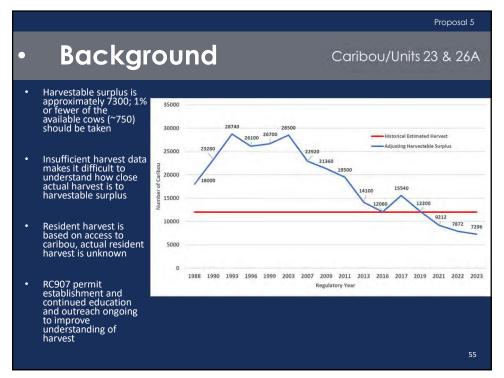
Caribou/Units 23 & 26A

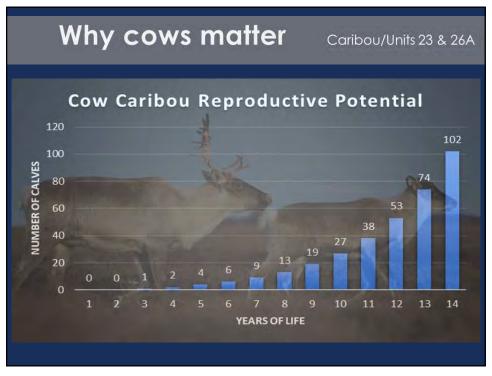
- Unit 23 bag limit has been 5 caribou per day for 30+ years
- Harvest up to 15 caribou per day has been allowed under federal regulations
- Nonresident harvest has been limited to bulls only since RY15-16, and access has been restricted by federal land closures

52



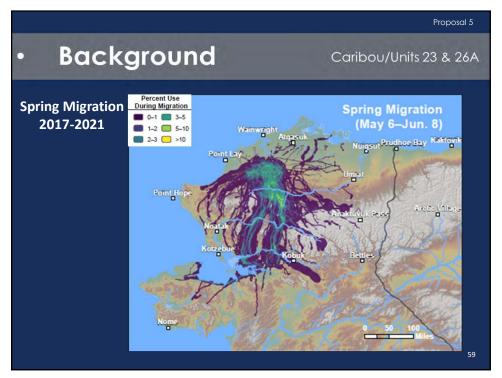




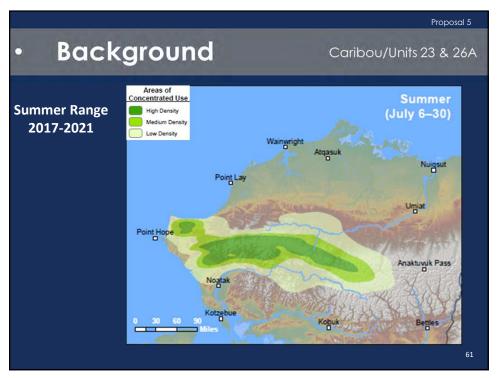




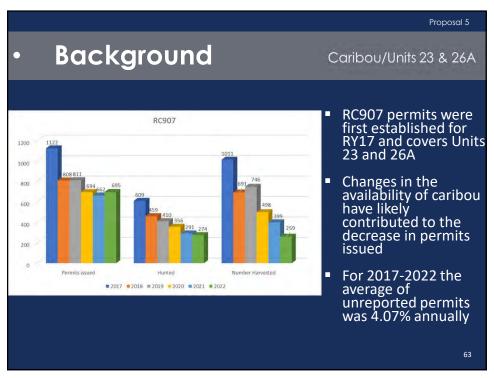


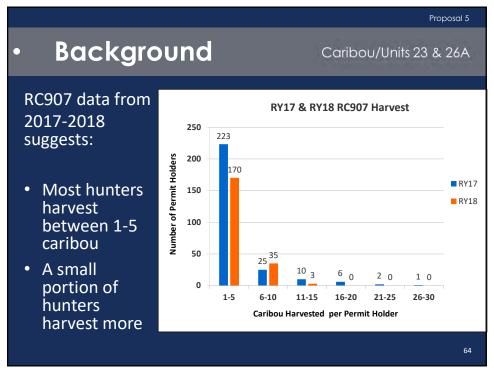


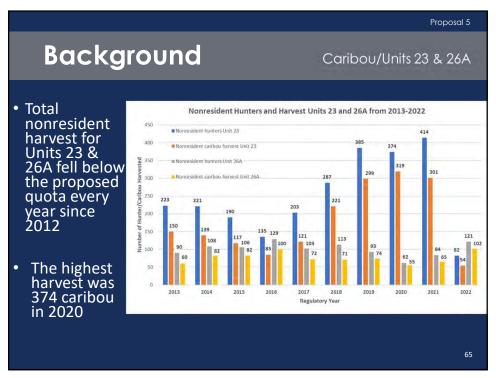


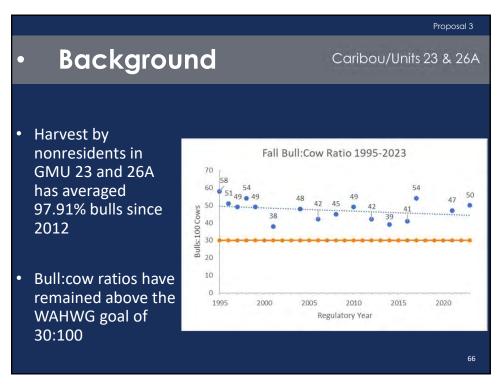












Proposal 5

Department Position Caribou/Units 23 & 26A

Neutral

- Cow harvest may exceed surplus if reductions are not taken
- The proxy hunting system will continue to allow users to harvest for qualified beneficiaries.
- Refined harvest information is necessary to provide a better understanding of harvest
- Nonresident registration permit and quota will not likely have an affect on harvest level

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Proposal 5

PROPOSAL 5 Caribou/Units 23 & 26A

- Reduce the resident bag limit to 5 caribou annually, of which only 1 may be a cow and establish a nonresident registration permit with an annual quota of 400 bulls for Units 23 & 26A.
- Proposed by Public
- Department Recommendation

Neutral

• AC Recommendations

None

58

Reauthorize the current resident brown bear tag fee exemptions in Region 5 Department Proposal Recommendation: Support

Proposal 190

Brown Bear

If adopted, this proposal waives the brown bear tag fee for brown bears in:

- Unit 18
- Unit 22
- Unit 23
- Unit 26A

Tag Fee exemptions encourage:

- Incremental increase in harvest
- Opportunistic harvest by residents
- Harvest by a wide range of users

70

Proposal 190 Reauthorize Brown Bear tag fee exemptions in Region 5 Department Proposal Recommendation: Support