

Palmer Proposals Units 14A&B and 16A&B

Chris Brockman, Palmer Area Biologist
Gerrit Van Diest, Asst. Area Biologist

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Proposal 64

Moose/14A & 14B

Reauthorize the antlerless moose draw permits
in Unit 14A and 14B

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

Mat Valley AC
Su Valley AC

Support (13-2)
Support (0-0)

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Proposal 64		Moose/14A & 14B
Current Regulations for Unit 14A		
Bag limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull (SF/50/3BT) by bow and arrow only	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19
1 bull (SF/50/3BT)	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25
1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; up to 2,000 permits may be issued	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25, Nov. 1 – Dec. 25	No open season
1 moose by targeted permit only; by crossbow, shotgun, or bow and arrow only; up to 200 permits may be issued	Winter season to be announced by emergency order	No open season
1 antlered bull by drawing permit only; up to 90 permits may be issued	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	No open season
14A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area		3

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Proposal 64

Moose/14A & 14B

Current Regulations for Unit 14B

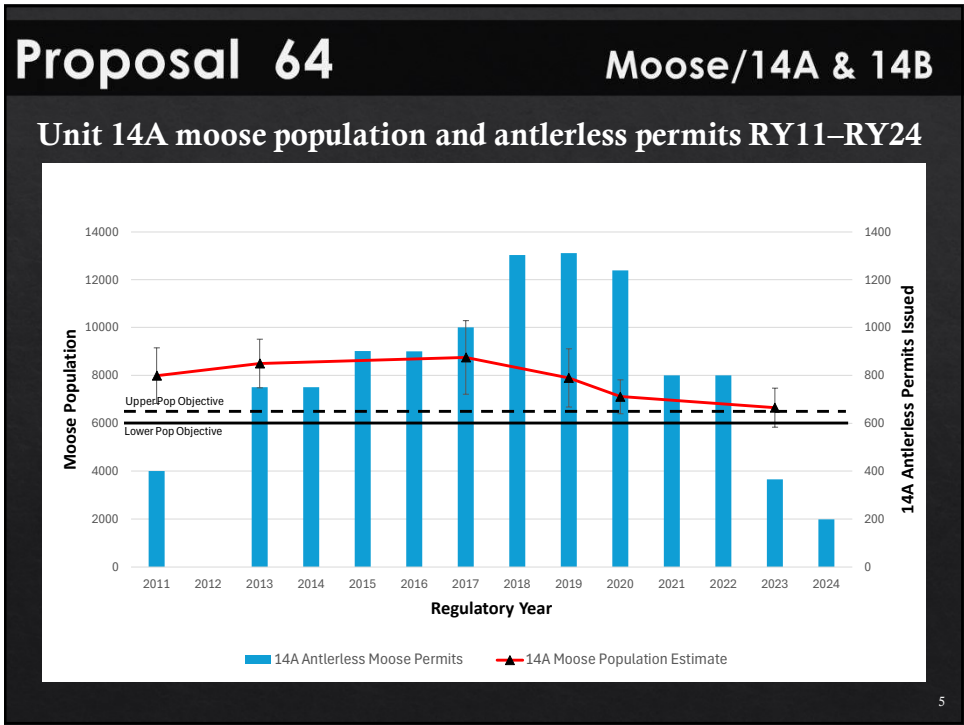
Bag limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull (SF/50/3BT) by bow and arrow only	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19
1 bull (SF/50/3BT)	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25
1 bull by draw permit only; up to 100 permits may be issued	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	No open season
1 moose by targeted permit only; by crossbow, shotgun, or bow and arrow only; up to 100 permits may be issued	Winter season to be announced by emergency order*	No open season

Unit 14B is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

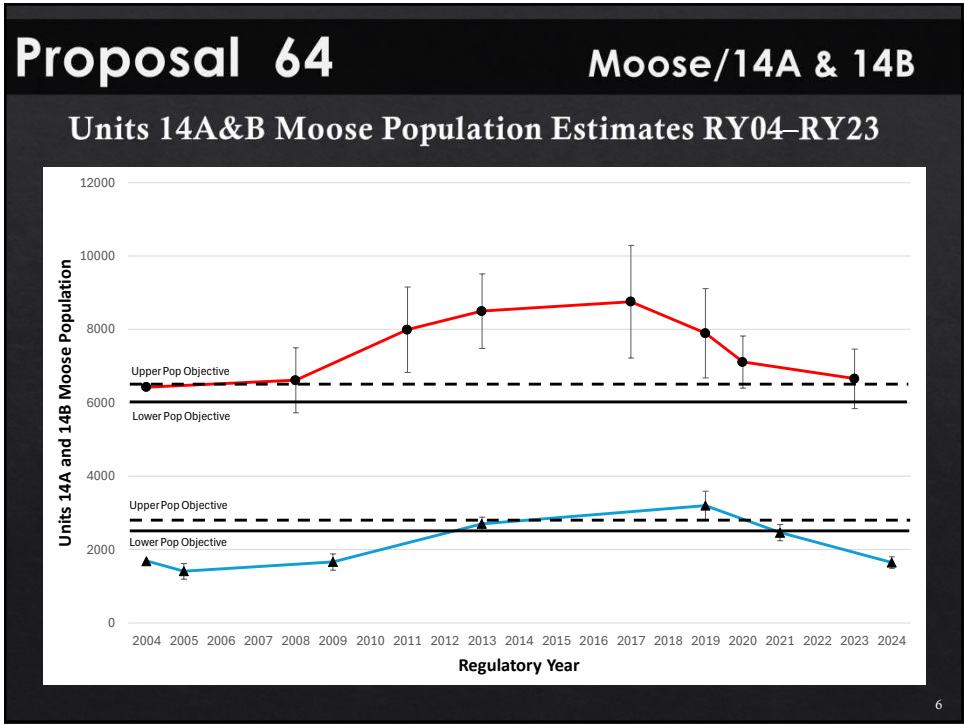
*RY2015 is the only year AM415 in Unit 14B - 5 bulls were harvested.

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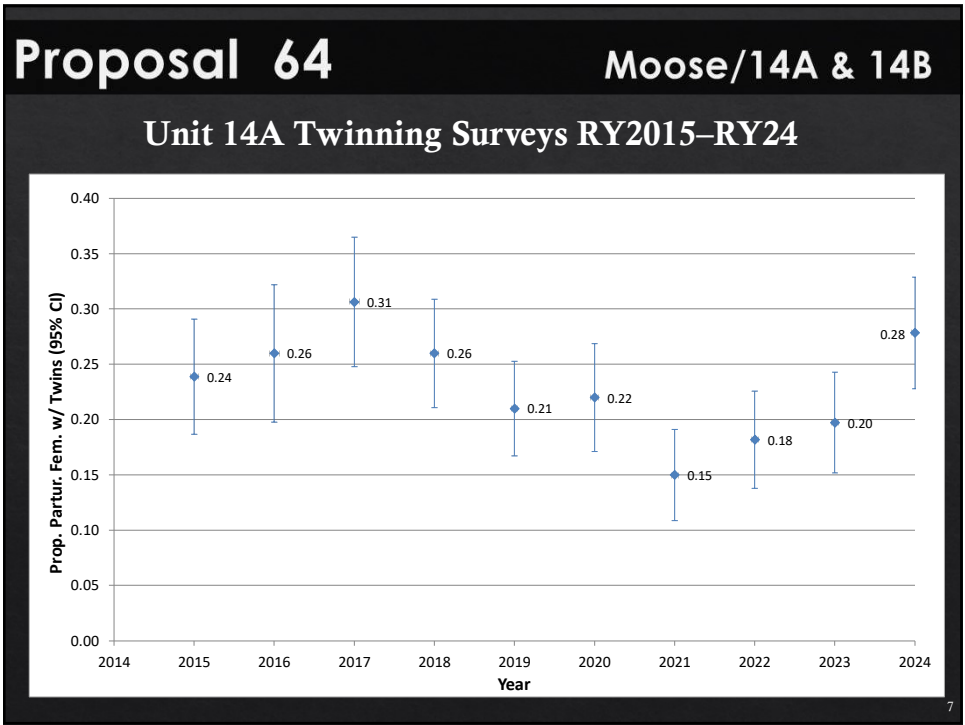
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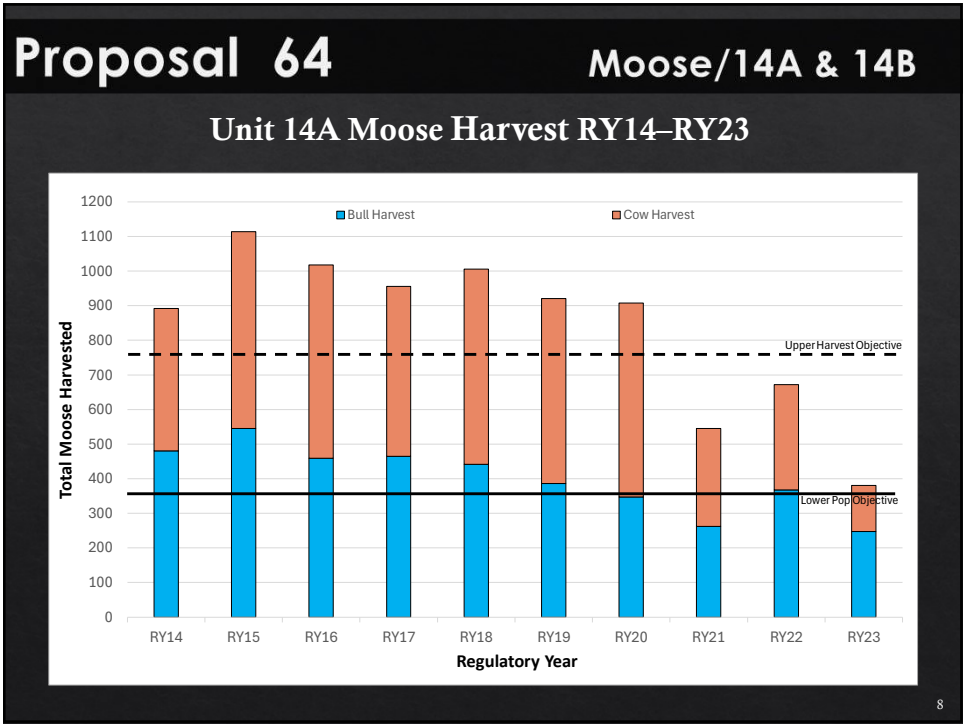
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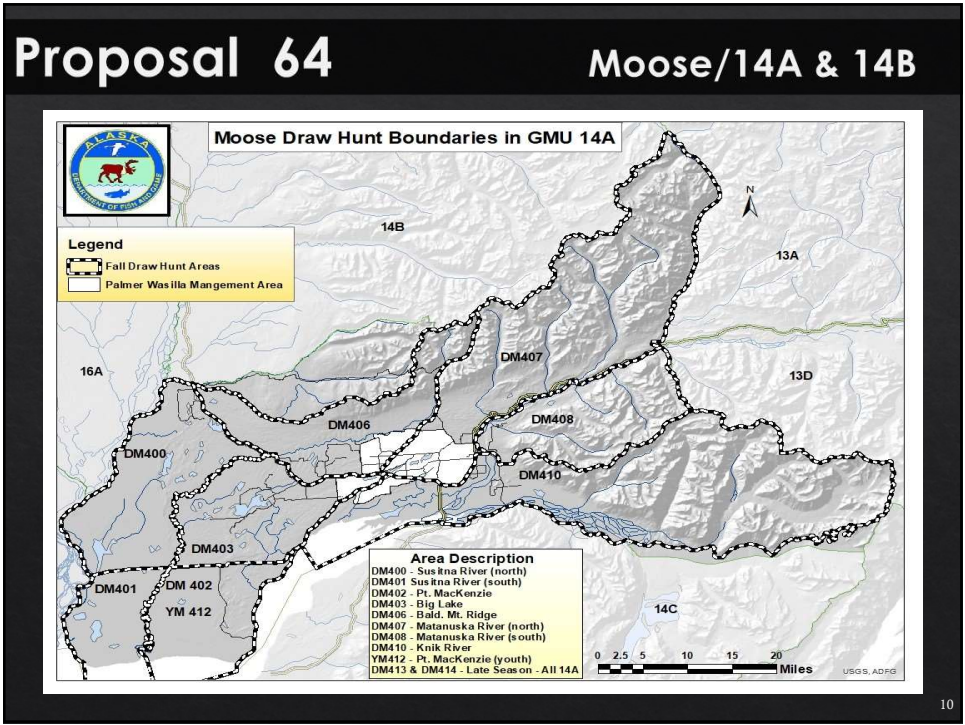
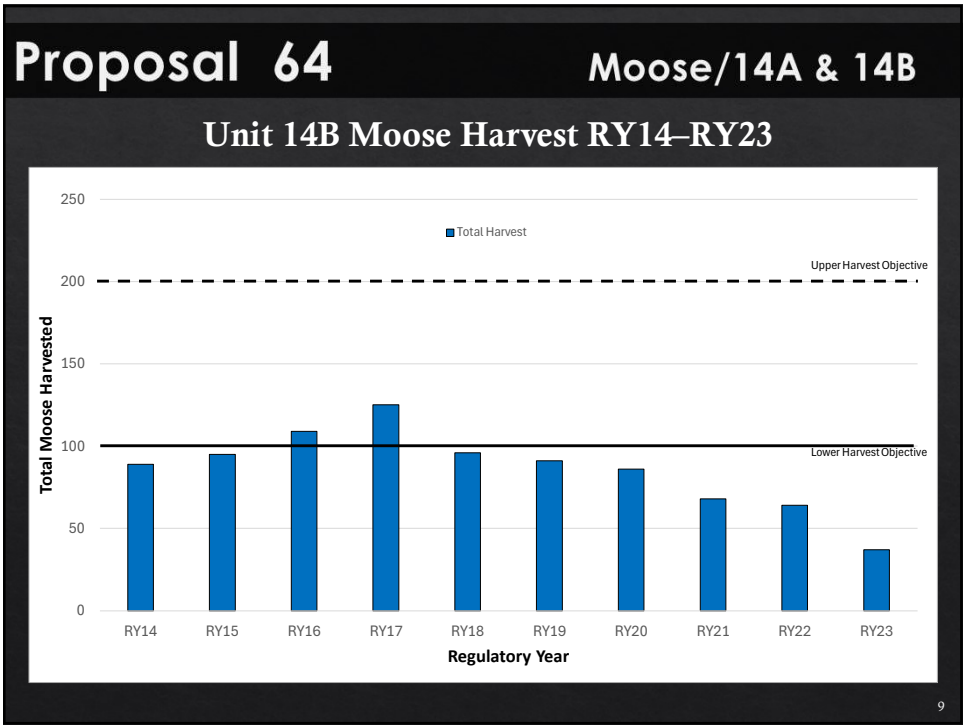
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Proposal 64

Moose/14A & 14B

Unit 14A, AM415 Permit Levels & Participation and Success
RY2013–2023

AM415	Permits	Females harvested	Males harvested	Success
2013	130	94	15	83%
2014	20	9	0	45%
2015	145	81	26	74%
2016	120	82	13	79%
2017	0	0	0	~~
2018	0	0	0	~~
2019	0	0	0	~~
2020	0	0	0	~~
2021	0	0	0	~~
2022	0	0	0	~~
2023	0	0	0	~~

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Proposal 64

Moose/14A & 14B

Summary

- Unit 14A population estimate is 6,557 (Nov 2023)
- 366 permits offered in RY23 and 199 in RY24
 - Success over the last 3 years steady at 49%
- Number of permits adjusted in accordance with population changes
- 2024 Twinning Rate is 28%, highest since 2017

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Proposal 64

Moose/14A & 14B

**Reauthorize the antlerless moose draw permits
in Units 14A&B**

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

Mat Valley AC
Su Valley AC

Support 13-2
Support

13

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

**Reduce the maximum number of permits to be issued
by the department
and
Break-up Unit 14A winter antlerless hunts into
separate hunt areas.**

Mat Valley AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral and Opposed

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

What this proposal would do

- Reduce total number of antlerless moose permits that may be issued in Unit 14A from 2,000 permits to 1,000.
- Break-up the Unit 14A winter antlerless moose hunts (DM413 and DM414) into separate areas matching the fall antlerless hunts
 - Creates 16 new hunts
 - Based on perception that most winter antlerless harvest is concentrated in a few areas

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

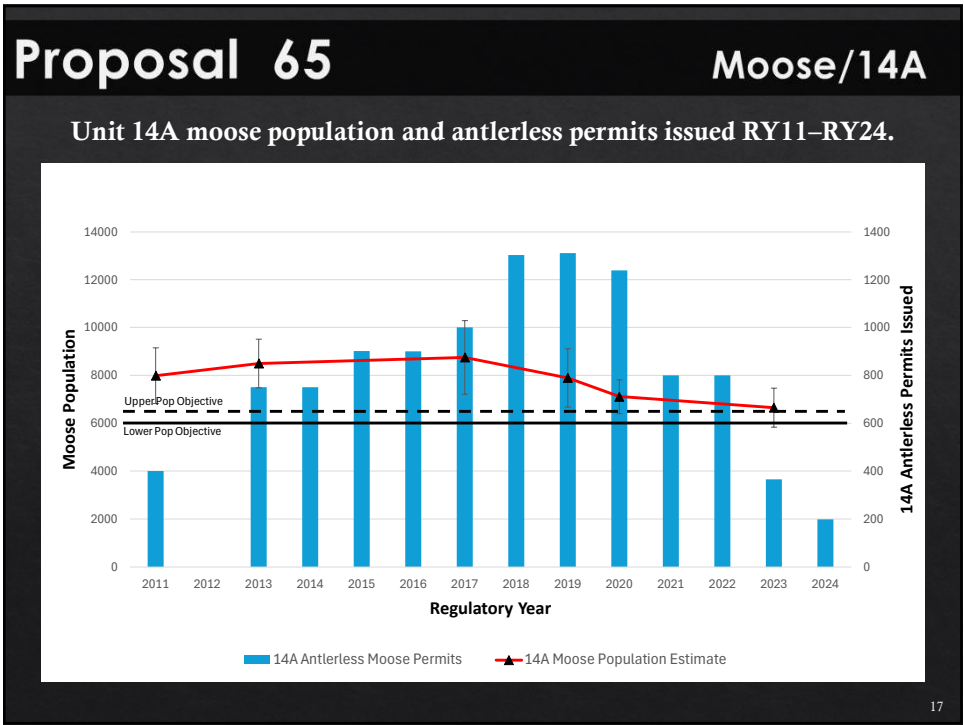
Current Regulations

Bag limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
1 bull (SF/50/3BT) by bow and arrow only	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19	Aug. 10 – Aug. 19
1 bull (SF/50/3BT)	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25
1 antlerless moose by drawing permit only; up to 2,000 permits may be issued	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25 Nov. 1 – Dec. 25	No open season
1 moose by targeted permit only; by crossbow, shotgun, or bow and arrow only; up to 200 permits may be issued	Winter season to be announced by emergency order	No open season
1 antlered bull by drawing permit only; up to 90 permits may be issued	Aug. 25 – Sept. 25	No open season

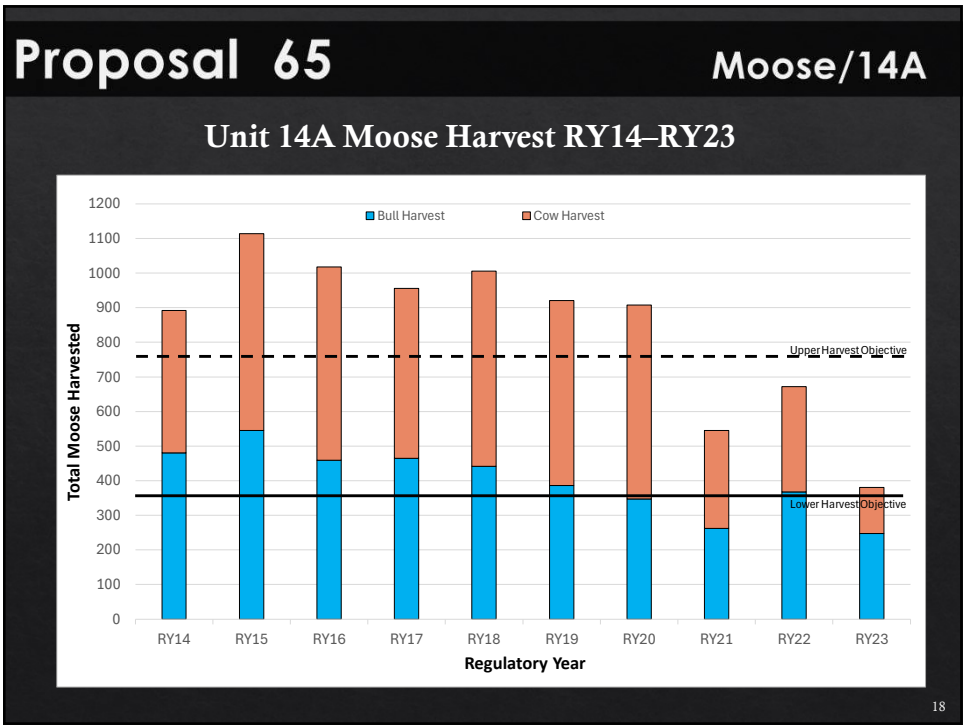
14A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

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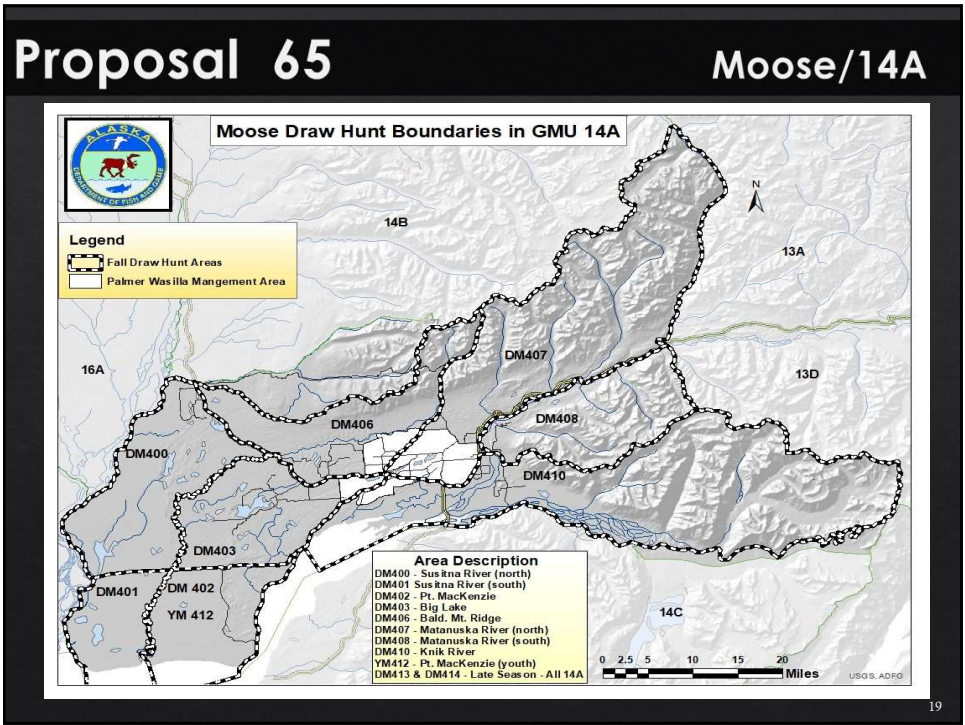
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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

Harvest locations for winter antlerless hunts DM413/ DM414
RY2019–2023

	RY19	RY20	RY21	RY22	RY23	Total	Percent of Total
Willow/Zero Lake/Bald Ridge	37	39	19	25	4	124	15%
Big Lake/Houston	66	73	34	36	13	222	26%
Pt. Mac/KGB	43	73	19	29	3	167	20%
Knik/Butte	21	33	27	24	7	112	13%
Sutton/Chickaloon	35	26	10	11	3	85	10%
Palmer Hay Flats	30	11	12	6	4	63	7%
Palmer Wasilla Management Area	17	27	17	4	7	72	9%

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

Things to consider

- GSPE conducted in November 2023 estimated 6,657 (± 810) moose; pop. objective is 6,000–6,500 moose
- Spring 2024 twinning rate of 28% ($\pm 5\%$) - highest since 2017
- Number of antlerless permits issued is adjusted in response to population changes
- Success rate for antlerless hunts over last three years remains steady at 49%

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

Things to consider continued

- Public perception can be that all effort for winter hunts is focused on 1 or 2 specific areas
 - Hunters typically disperse across the unit based on the location of their residency, their perception of local moose densities, and/or available access.
- Board approved increase from 1000 to 2000 permits in RY18
- If populations rise significantly above objective as in 2013–2017, a high maximum level of permits may be necessary to reduce populations.

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

Things to consider continued

- Public can only apply 6 times per species
- Currently issuing only 25 permits per winter hunt
- Department currently has the ability to break up winter hunts if needed
- Significant administrative burden by adding 16 new hunts

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Proposal 65

Moose/14A

**Reduce the maximum number of permits to be issued by the department
and
Break-up Unit 14A winter antlerless hunts into separate hunt areas.**

Mat Valley AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral and Opposed

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Proposal 66

Moose/14A and 14B

Open a fall archery only moose hunt in Units 14A&B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 66

Moose/14A and 14B

What would this proposal do

- Extend the general season moose hunt for archery by 5 days in Units 14A&14B from Sept. 26–Sept. 30
- Bag Limit: 1 bull moose with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least 1 side

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Proposal 66

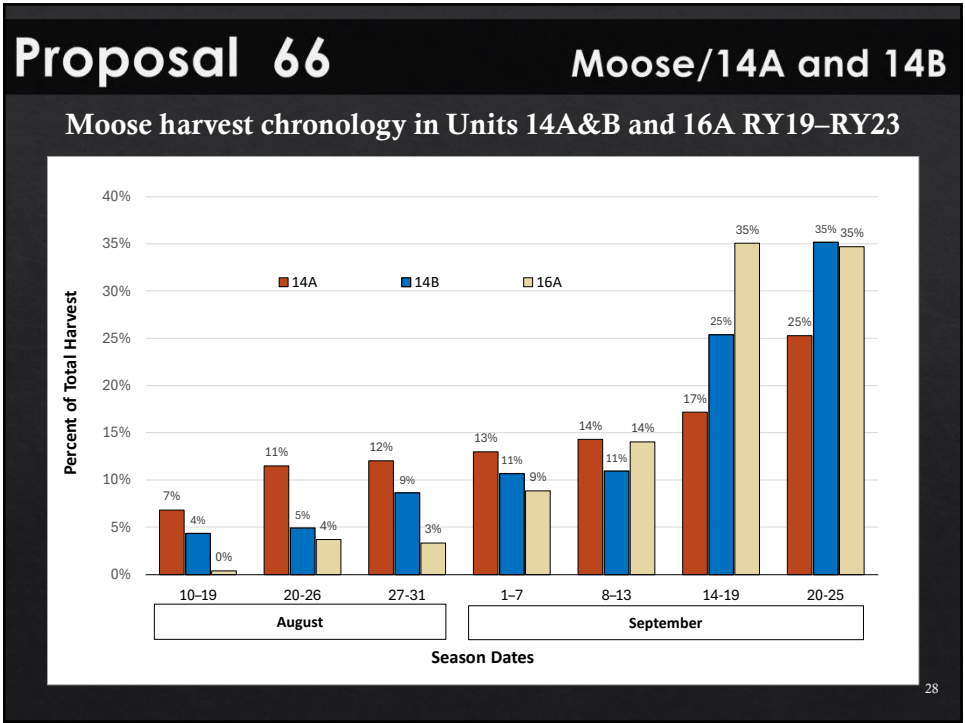
Moose/14A and 14B

Current Regulations

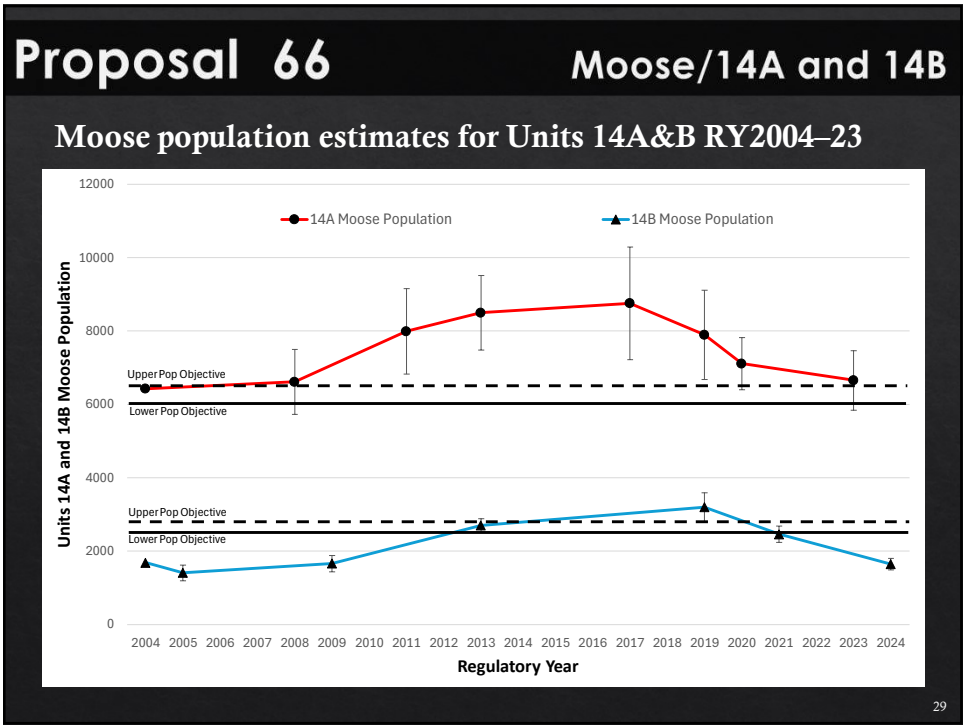
- Bag limit: 1 bull moose with spike-fork antlers, or 50-inch antlers, or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least 1 side
- Season Dates: Archery only Aug. 10–Aug. 19, general season without weapon restrictions Aug. 25–Sept. 25
- Additional drawing hunt opportunities exist for any-bull in Units 14A and 14B and antlerless moose in 14A
- 14A and 14B are in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

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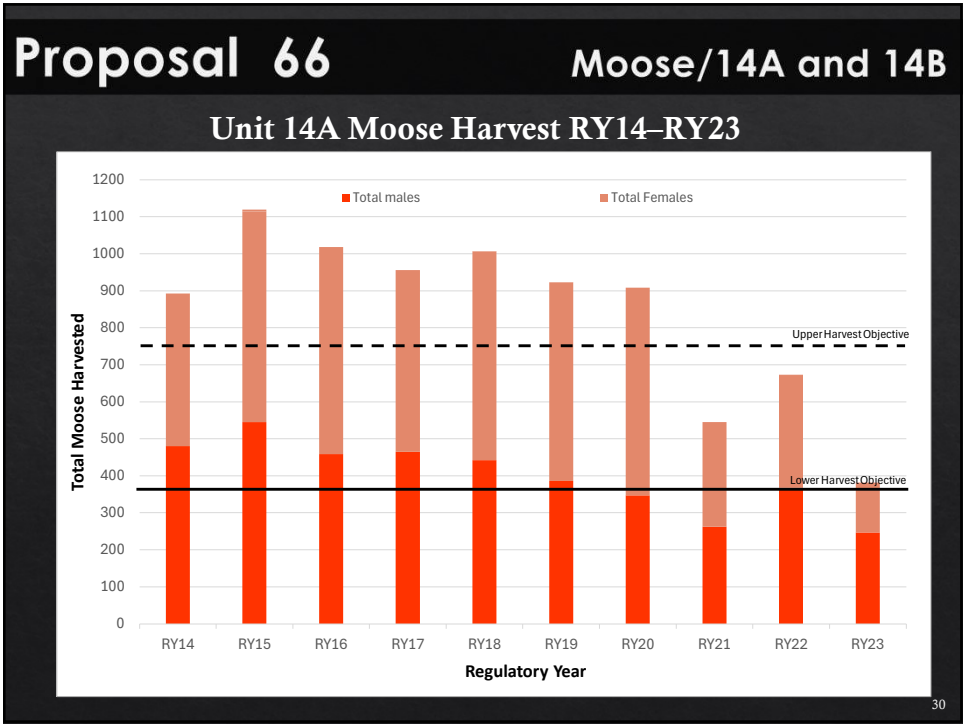
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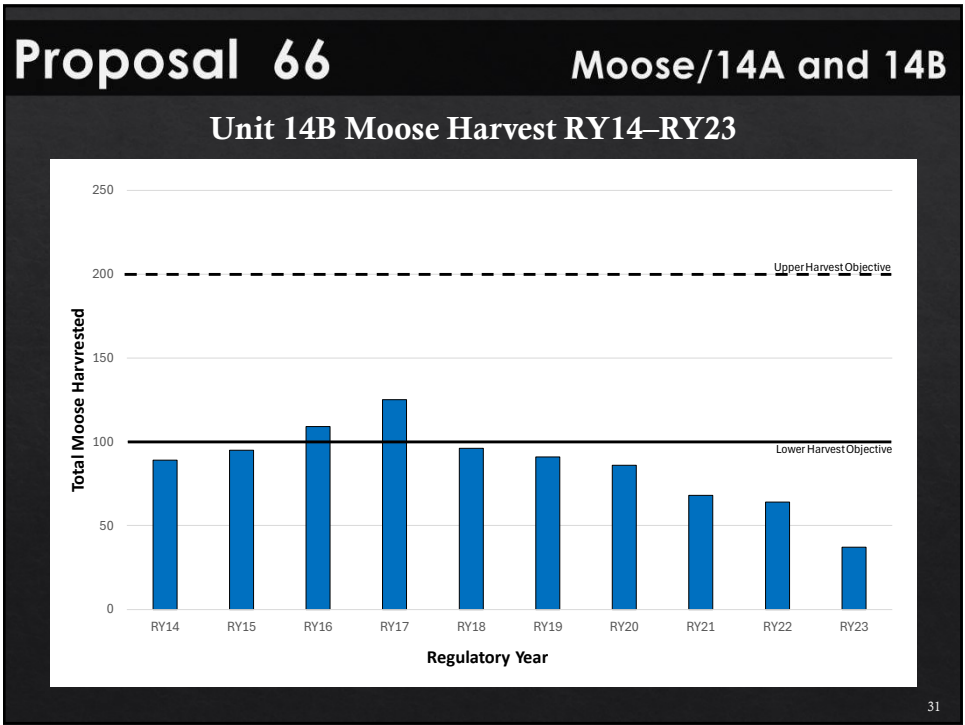
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Proposal 66

Moose/14A and 14B

Summary

- Archery only seasons adopted in RY95 for 14B and in RY98 for 14A.
- In the last 5 years 9.2% of moose harvested in 14A are by archery, 6.1% in 14B.
- Approximately 70% of archery moose are taken during the archery only season.
- Bulls will be more susceptible to calling in late September than during the August archery season and success rates will be higher

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Proposal 66

Moose/14A and 14B

Open a fall archery only moose hunt in Units 14A&B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 67

Moose/16A

Establish a late season archery moose hunt in Unit 16A

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 67

Moose/16A

What would this proposal do

- Extend the general season moose hunt in Unit 16A by 5 days from Sept. 26 to Sept. 30 for archery only
- Bag Limit: 1 bull moose with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least one side

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Proposal 67

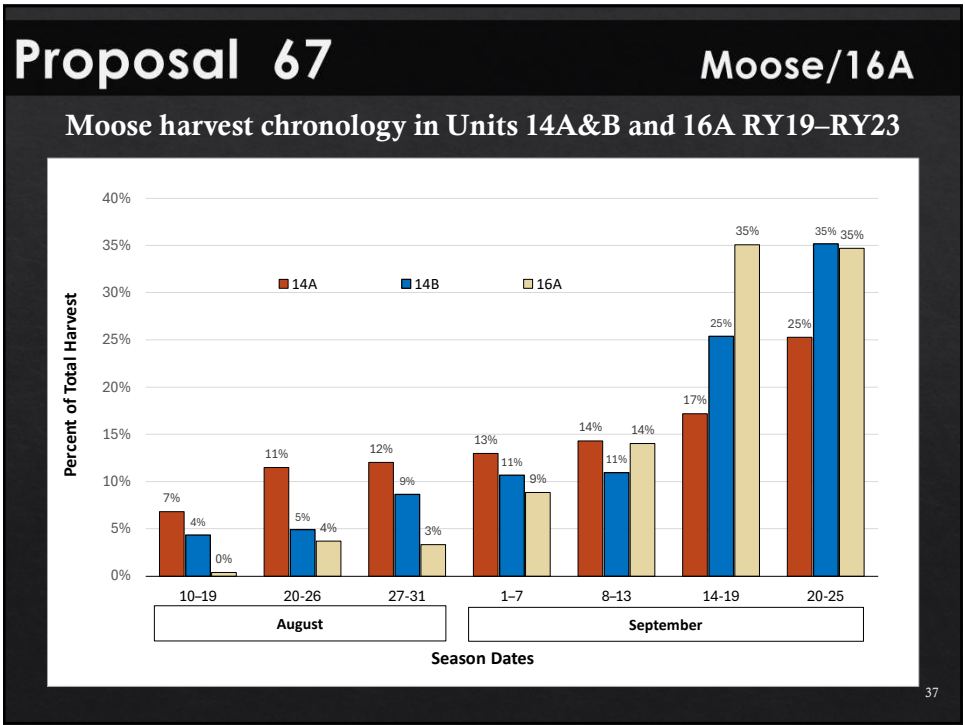
Moose/16A

Current Regulations

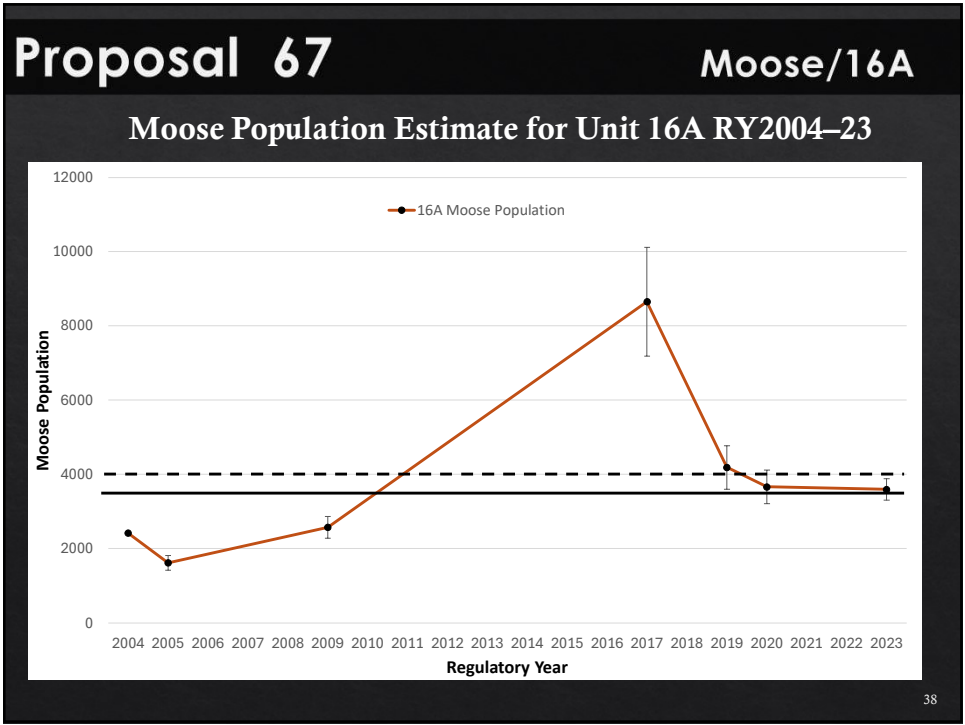
- Bag limit: 1 bull moose with spike-fork antlers, or 50-inch antlers, or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least 1 side
- Season Dates: Archery only Aug. 10–Aug. 19, general season without weapon restrictions Aug. 20–Sept. 25
- Previous additional drawing hunt opportunity for any-bull moose in Unit 16A – no permits offered in RY23 or RY24
- Unit 16A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

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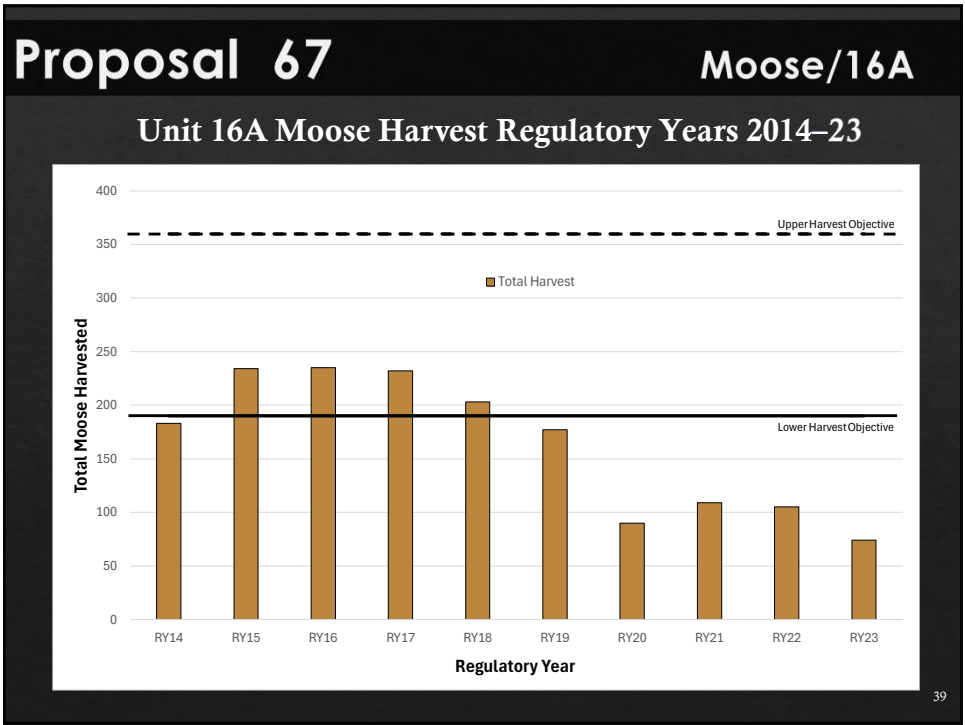
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Proposal 67

Moose/16A

Summary

- Archery-only seasons adopted in RY95
- Last 5 years, 7 moose taken by archery in Unit 16A (1.3% of the total harvest). One during the archery-only season
- Bulls will be more susceptible to calling in late September than during the August archery season and success rates will be higher
- Bull to cow ratio is 19 bulls:100 cows, managing for 20–25 bulls per 100 cows

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Proposal 67

Moose/16A

Establish a late season archery moose hunt in Unit 16A

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 68

Moose/16B

Change the bag limit for the Unit 16B Fall Tier II hunt to 1 bull moose

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 68

Moose/16B

Current Regulations

Bull Surplus	Hunt Type	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
<199	Tier II (up to 400 permits; Fall: SF/50/3BT, Winter: 1 bull)	Aug 20 – Sept 30, Dec.15 – Mar. 31; no general season	No open season
199 ≥ 240	Tier II (up to 260 permits); 1 bull	Dec. 15 – Mar. 31	
	Gen. Harvest (SF/50/3BT)	Sept. 1 – Sept. 20	No open season
> 240	Tier II (up to 260 permits); 1 bull	Dec. 15 – Mar. 31	
	Gen. Harvest (SF/50/3BT)	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25
>310 (all the above plus)	1 bull by draw permit; up to 600 permits w/ 75%/25% youth split	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25, and Nov. 15 – Jan 31 for youth	No nonresident permits
	1 bull by draw permit; up to 500 permits	Dec. 15 – Last day of Feb.	
	1 bull by registration permit	Dec. 15 – Last day of Feb.	

*If antlers from Tier II moose are removed intact from 16B, trophy value must be destroyed

Total ANS for 16B Moose: 199–227

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Proposal 68

Moose/16B

Unit 16B Tier II Moose Hunts

Unit 16B Tier II Hunt Areas

Legend

TM_565

TM_567

TM_569

Denali State Park

National Park & Preserve

Lakes

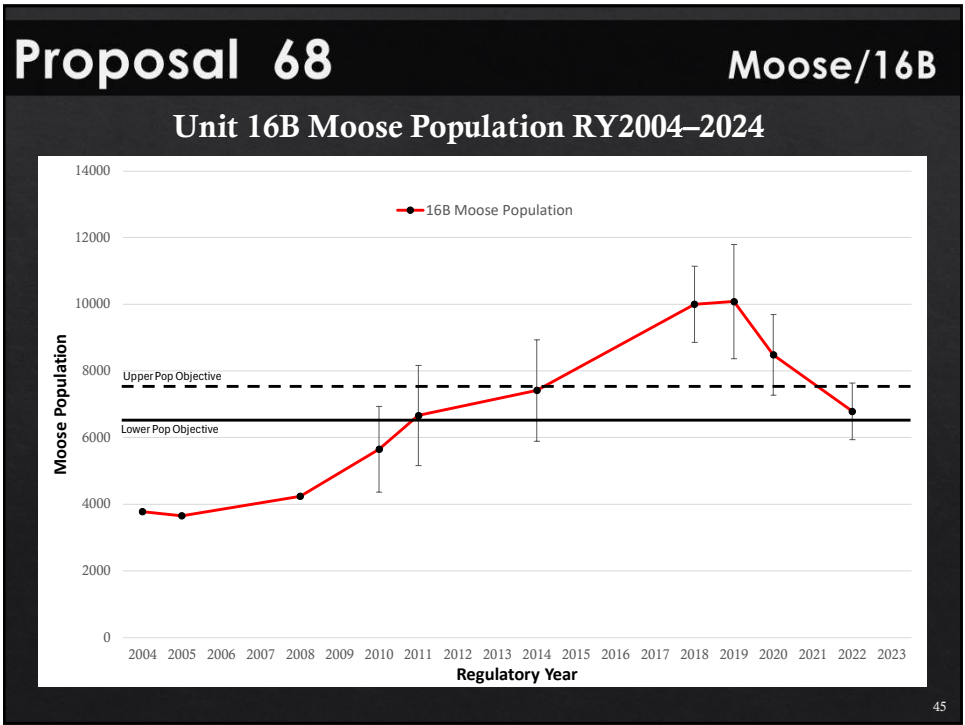
Rivers

Game Management Subunits

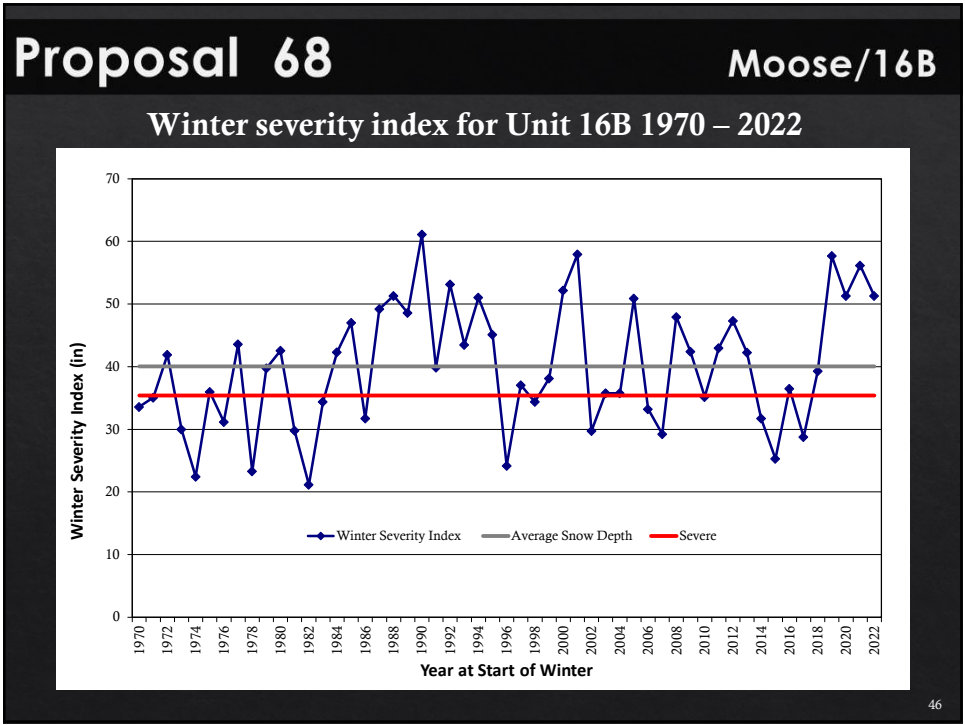
The map displays the geographical layout of Unit 16B, highlighting three specific Tier II hunt areas: TM 565 (outlined in red), TM 567 (outlined in purple), and TM 569 (outlined in black). These areas are situated within a larger landscape that includes Denali State Park (yellow hatched), National Park & Preserve (green hatched), and various game management subunits (orange outlines). Natural features such as lakes (blue) and rivers (light blue) are also depicted. The map is oriented with North at the top. An inset map in the bottom left corner shows the location of Unit 16B within the state of Alaska. A scale bar at the bottom right indicates distances in miles (0, 3, 6, 12, 18, 24). The Alaska Department of Fish and Game logo is visible in the top right corner of the map area.

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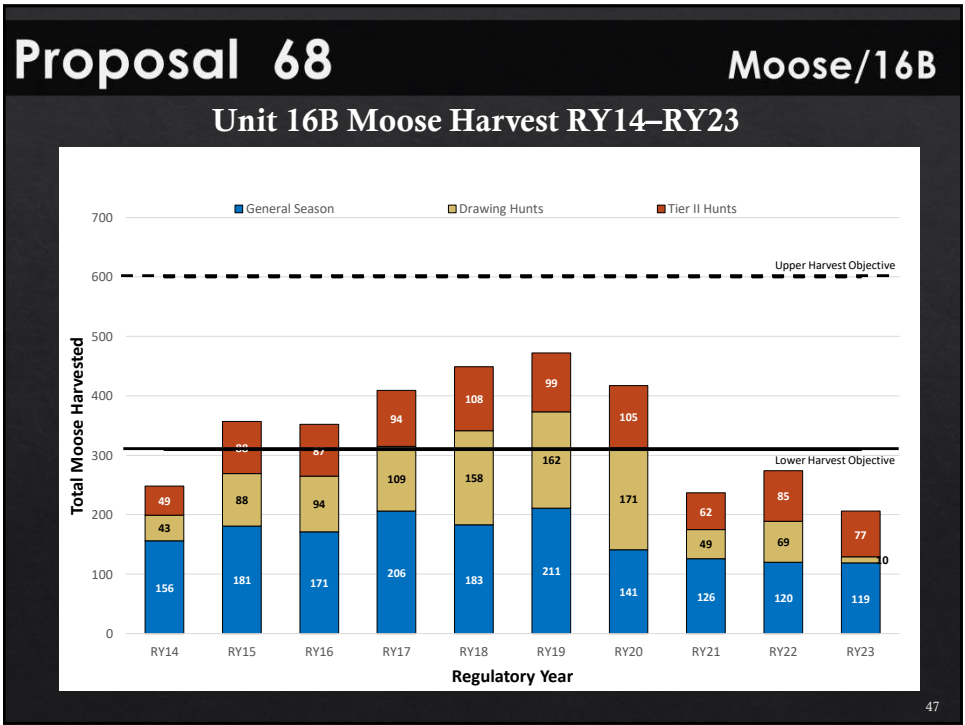
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Proposal 68

Moose/16B

Summary

- Population declined since peak in 2019 to ~ 6,789 (± 852) moose in 2022, within the objective of 6,500–7,500
- Harvest below objective since 2021
- The winter Tier II season is already any-bull with an average success rate of 47%
- Tier II harvest can be dictated by quantity of permits issued, if needed

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Proposal 68

Moose/16B

Change the bag limit for the Unit 16B Fall Tier II hunt to 1 bull moose

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 69

Moose/16B

Shorten the season for the Tier II moose hunt in Unit 16B, from Dec. 15-Mar. 31 to Dec. 15-Feb. 28

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 69

Moose/16B

Current Regulations

Bull Surplus	Hunt Type	Resident Season	Nonresident Season
<199	Tier II (up to 400 permits; Fall: SF/50/3BT, Winter: 1 bull)	Aug 20 – Sept 30, Dec.15 – Mar. 31; no general season	No open season
199 ≥ 240	Tier II (up to 260 permits); 1 bull	Dec. 15 – Mar. 31	
	Gen. Harvest (SF/50/3BT)	Sept. 1 – Sept. 20	No open season
> 240	Tier II (up to 260 permits); 1 bull	Dec. 15 – Mar. 31	
	Gen. Harvest (SF/50/3BT)	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25
>310 (all the above plus)	1 bull by draw permit; up to 600 permits w/ 75%/25% youth split	Aug. 20 – Sept. 25, and Nov. 15 – Jan 31 for youth	No nonresident permits
	1 bull by draw permit; up to 500 permits	Dec. 15 – Last day of Feb.	
	1 bull by registration permit	Dec. 15 – Last day of Feb.	

*If antlers from Tier II moose are removed intact from 16B, trophy value must be destroyed

Total ANS for 16B Moose: 199–227

51

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Proposal 69

Moose/16B

Unit 16B Tier II Moose Hunts

Unit 16B Tier II Hunt Areas

Legend

TM_565

TM_567

TM_569

Denali State Park

National Park & Preserve

Lakes

Rivers

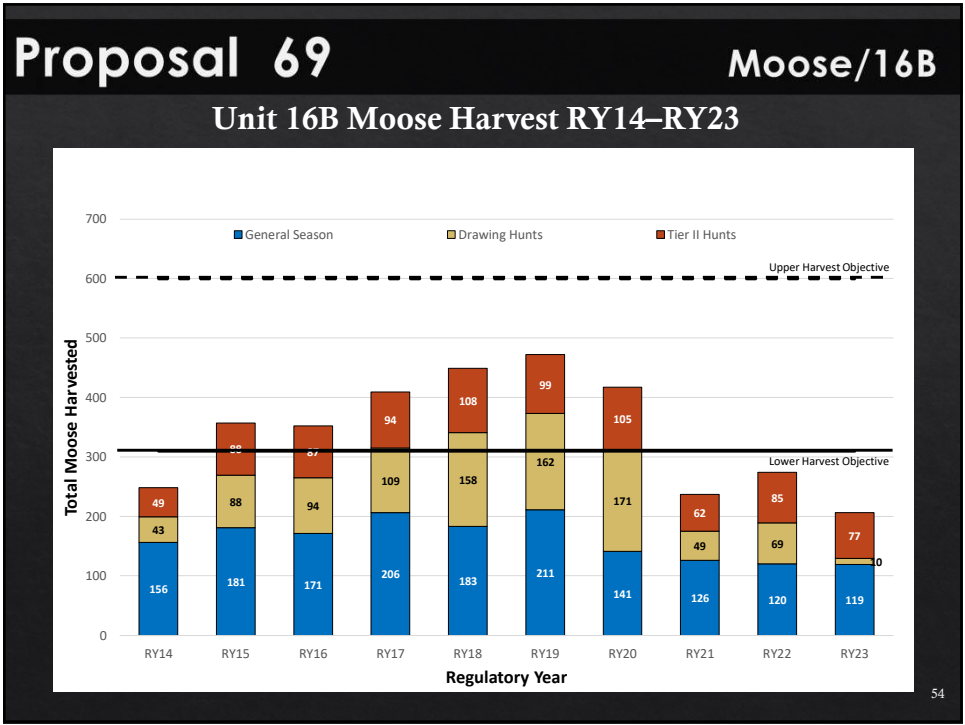
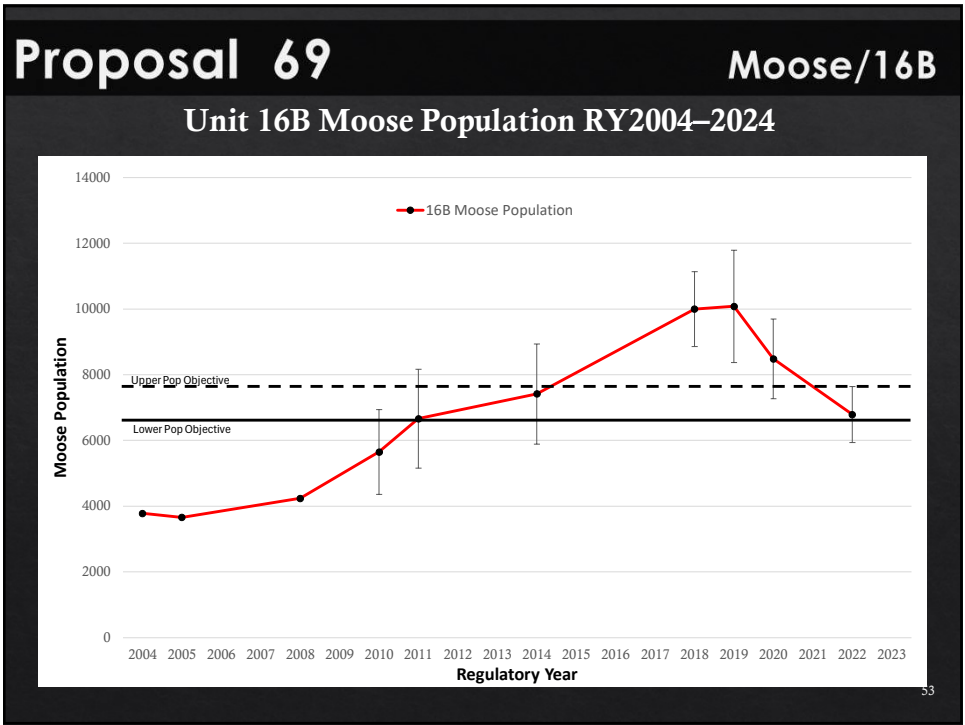
Game Management Subunits

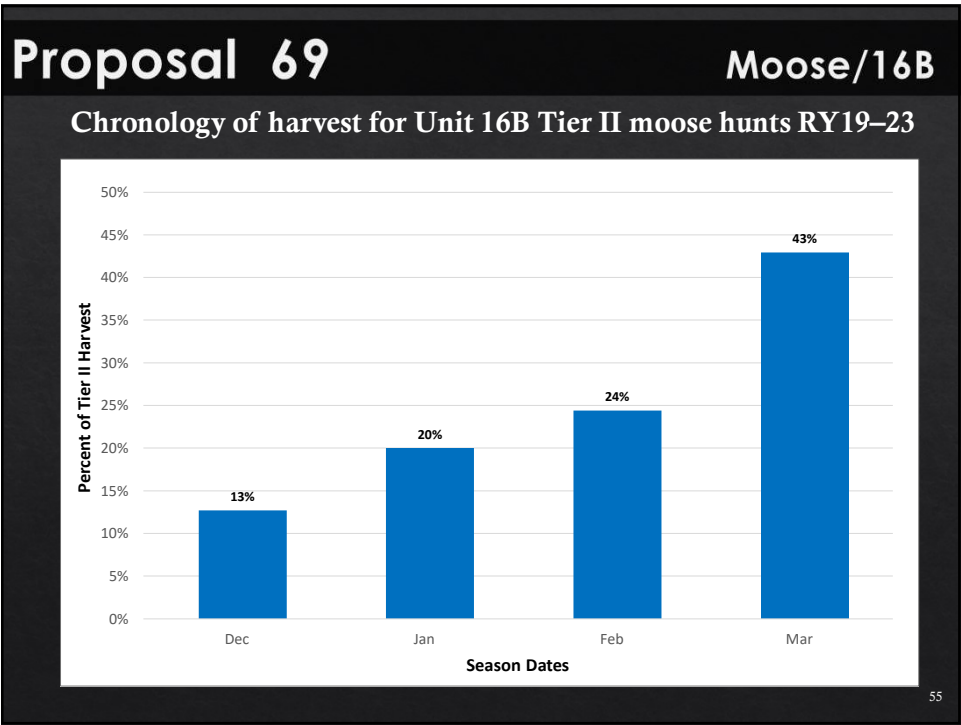
16B Total ANS: 199–227 moose

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Proposal 69

Moose/16B

Summary

- Population declined since peak in 2019 to ~ 6,789 (± 852) moose in 2022, within the objective of 6,500–7,500
- Harvest below objective since RY21
- Majority of Tier II harvest occurs in March (43%) as conditions are ideal for winter travel
- 2.5 months would remain to hunt if this proposal passed, but overall harvest would likely decrease.

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Proposal 69

Moose/16B

**Shorten the season for the Tier II moose hunt in
Unit 16B,
from Dec. 15-Mar. 31 to Dec. 15-Feb. 28**

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Units 14A&B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: SUPPORT with amendment
to extend the brown bear
season to June 30 in both
Units 14A&B

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Current Regulations

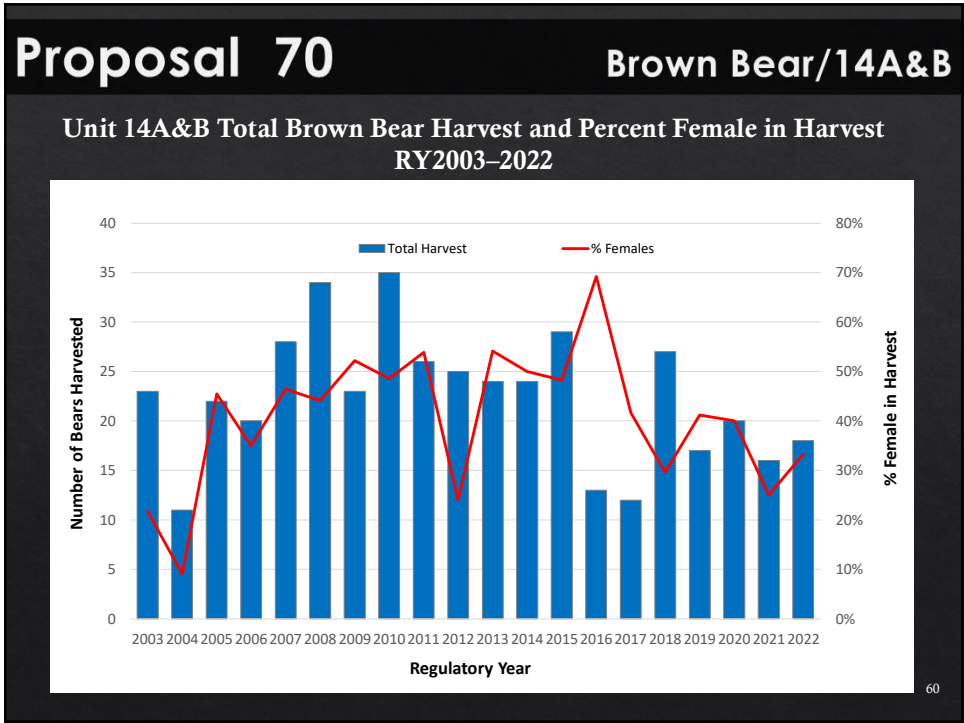
- Unit14A: 1 Brown bear every Reg year Sept 1–May 31
- Unit14B: 1 Brown bear every Reg year August 10–May 31
- Locking tags required for residents.
- Brown bears may be taken over bait in both Units 14A&B
- Bear baiting season is April 15–June 30.
- Units 14A &B are within the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area.

What this proposal would do?

- Extend the brown bear season by 15 days from May 31 to June 15 in both units.

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Chronology of Brown Bear Harvest in Units 14A&B RY2015–19

Reg Year	July	August		September		Oct – April	May		June	Total
	1–31	1–15	16–31	1–15	16–30	--	1–15	16–31	1–30	
RY18	0%	4%	12%	16%	4%	0%	0%	64%	0%	25
RY19	0%	0%	12%	18%	12%	6%	6%	47%	0%	17
RY20	0%	0%	16%	16%	21%	16%	11%	21%	0%	19
RY21	0%	0%	0%	13%	13%	20%	7%	47%	0%	15
RY22	0%	6%	0%	13%	44%	6%	6%	25%	0%	16

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Summary

- Management objective to maintain population that can sustain harvest of 25 bears per year composed of at least 50% males.
- 10-year average harvest for Units 14A&B from RY13–RY22 was 20 bears (average of 57% males).
- Brown bear harvest shifted toward the spring in RY18, shortly after brown bears were allowed to be taken at bait.

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Summary Continued

- No biological concern for bears and they appear to be stable or increasing.
- Would likely cause an increase in brown bear harvest but not likely to have a population level impact
- Would allow for taking of brown bears at bait stations further into the baiting season

63

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Proposal 70

Brown Bear/14A&B

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Units 14A and 14B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: SUPPORT

with amendment to extend the brown bear season to June 30 in both Units 14A&B

64

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

**Extend the brown bear hunting season
in Unit 14B**

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

65

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

Current Regulations

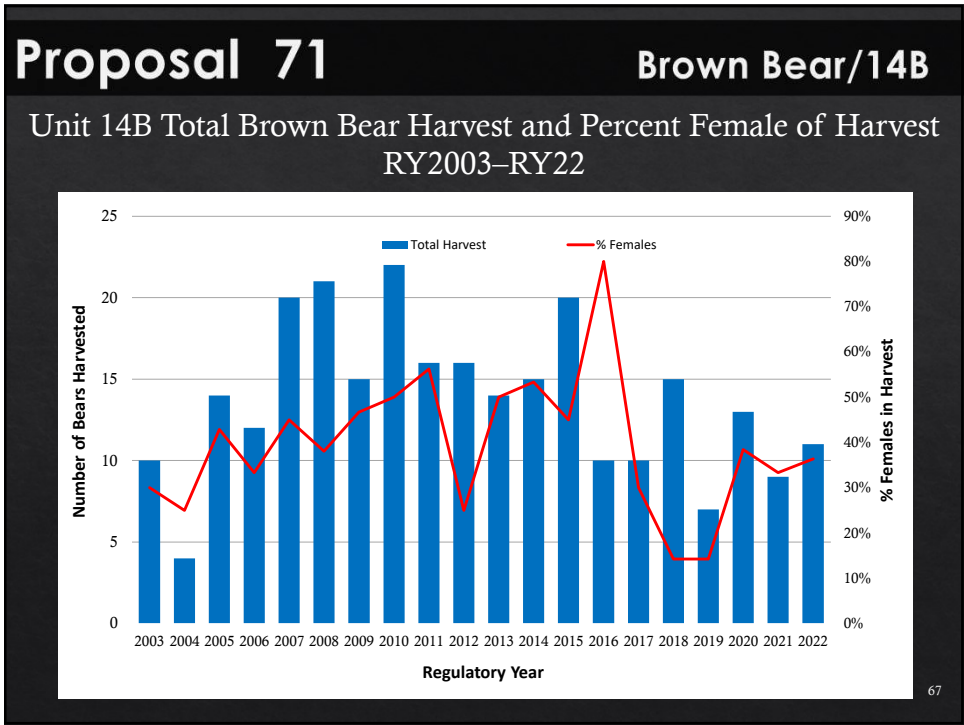
- Brown bear hunting season dates; Aug 10–May 31
- Bear baiting season dates; Apr. 15–June 30
- Bag limit - 1 brown bear
- Resident locking tag required
- Unit 14B is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

What this proposal would do?

- Extend the brown bear season by 30 days from May 31 to June 30 in Unit 14B

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

Chronology of the harvest of brown bears in Unit 14B RY2018–22

Reg Year	July	August		September		Oct – April	May		June	Total
	1–31	1–15	16–31	1–15	16–30	-	1–15	16–31	1–30	
RY18	0%	7%	21%	14%	7%	0%	0%	50%	0%	14
RY19	0%	0%	14%	29%	29%	14%	0%	14%	0%	7
RY20	0%	0%	25%	0%	33%	17%	17%	8%	0%	12
RY21	0%	0%	0%	13%	13%	38%	0%	38%	0%	8
RY22	0%	10%	0%	20%	30%	10%	10%	20%	0%	10

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

Summary

- Management objective to maintain population that can sustain harvest of 25 bears per year from Units 14A and 14B composed of at least 50% males.
- 10-year average harvest for Unit 14B from RY13–RY22 was 12 bears (average of 60% males).
- Brown bear harvest shifted toward the spring season in RY18, shortly after brown bears were allowed to be taken at bait.

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

Summary Continued

- No biological concern for bears and they appear to be stable or increasing.
- Would likely cause an increase in brown bear harvest but not likely to have a population level impact
- Would allow for taking of brown bears at bait stations throughout the baiting season

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Proposal 71

Brown Bear/14B

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Unit 14B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

Mat Valley AC

Su Valley AC

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Extend the brown bear hunting season in Unit 14B

Mat Valley AC

Department Recommendation: Support

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Current Regulations

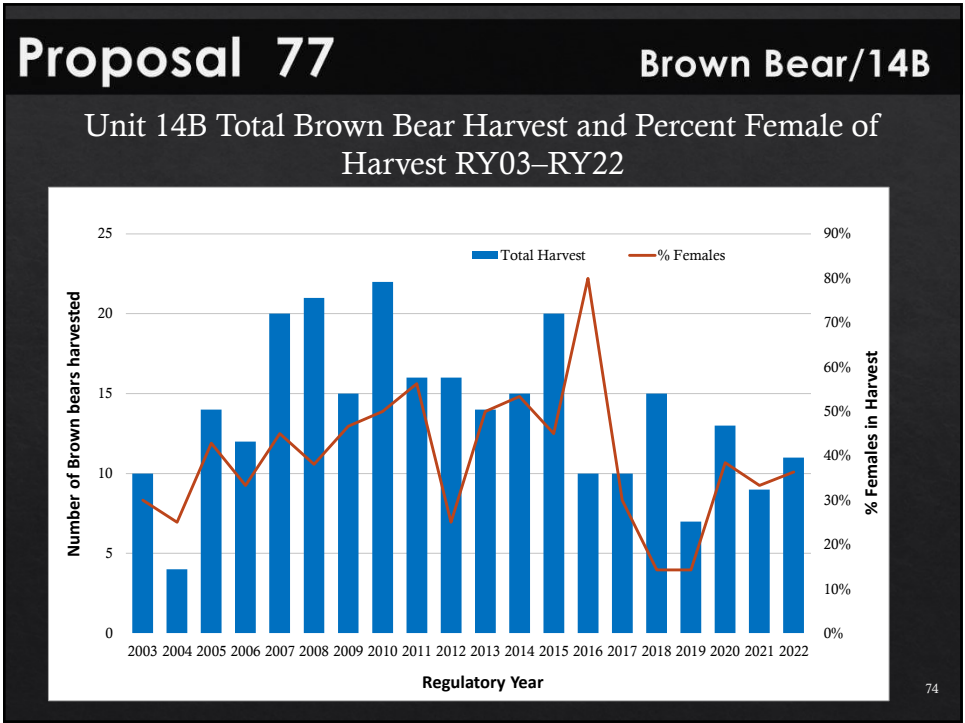
- Brown bear hunting season dates; Aug 10 – May 31
- Bear baiting season dates; Apr. 15 – June 30
- Bag limit - 1 brown bear
- Resident locking-tag required
- Unit 14B is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

What this proposal would do?

- Extend the brown bear season in Unit 14B by 15 days from May 31 to June 15

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Chronology of the harvest of brown bears in Unit 14B RY2018–22

	July	August		September		Oct – April	May		June	
Reg Year	1–31	1–15	16–31	1–15	16–30	--	1–15	16–31	1–30	Total
RY18	7%	7%	20%	13%	7%	0%	0%	47%	0%	14
RY19	0%	0%	14%	29%	29%	14%	0%	14%	0%	7
RY20	8%	0%	23%	0%	31%	15%	15%	8%	0%	12
RY21	0%	0%	0%	11%	11%	33%	0%	33%	11%	8
RY22	9%	9%	0%	18%	27%	9%	9%	18%	0%	10

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Summary

- Management objective to maintain population that can sustain harvest of 25 bears per year composed of at least 50% males.
- 10-year average harvest for Unit 14B from RY13–RY22 was 12 bears with an average of 60% males.
- Brown bear harvest shifted toward the spring season in RY18, shortly after brown bears were allowed to be taken at bait.

76

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Summary Continued

- No biological concern for bears and they appear to be stable or increasing
- Would likely cause an increase in brown bear harvest but not likely to have a population level impact
- Would allow for taking of brown bears at bait stations throughout the baiting season.

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Proposal 77

Brown Bear/14B

Extend the brown bear hunting season in
Unit 14B

Mat Valley AC

Department Recommendation: Support

78

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Proposal 72

Black Bear/16

Eliminate the harvest ticket requirement for black bear in Unit 16

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Opposed

Mat Valley AC

Su Valley AC

Tyonek AC

MT Yenlo AC

79

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Proposal 72

Black Bear/16

Current Regulations

• Harvest ticket required in all of Unit 16.

• Unit 16B, that portion within 1 mile radius of the mouth of Wolverine creek...

• 5 bear bag limit, Sept 15—May 31

• Remainder of Unit 16:

• 5 bear bag limit, no closed season

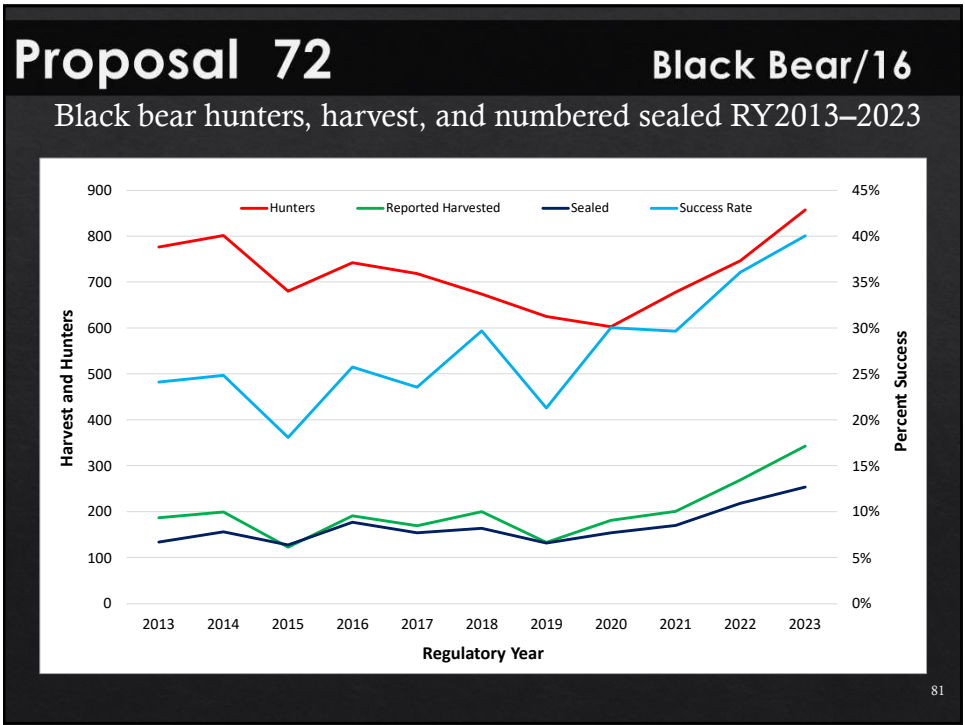
• Unit 16A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

• Unit 16B has a positive C&T finding, ANS is 15-40

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Proposal 72

Black Bear/16

Summary

- Harvest tickets are required in Units 1–7, 11–16, 19D, and 20 except when a permit is required.
- Harvest tickets provide the department information on effort for unsuccessful hunts.
- Consistency of regulations through time and across commonly traveled boundaries is beneficial to hunters and prevents common violations.
- No biological concern for black bears in Unit 16.

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Proposal 72

Black Bear/16

Eliminate the harvest ticket requirement for black bear in Unit 16

Mt. Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Opposed

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Proposal 73

Dall Sheep/14A

Change the bag limit for Dall sheep in Unit 14A Chugach to any-ram.

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

84

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Proposal 73

Dall Sheep/14A

Current Regulations

- Bag limit of 1 ram with full-curl horns or larger, both horns broken, or at least eight-years-old
- Area split into 3 sub-areas with an early and a late season
- Season dates Aug 10–25 and Aug 26–Sept 20
- Up to 100 permits may be issued
- 10% of permits allocated to nonresidents
- Aircraft restriction August 10–September 20
- Unit 14A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

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Proposal 73

Dall Sheep/14A

Background

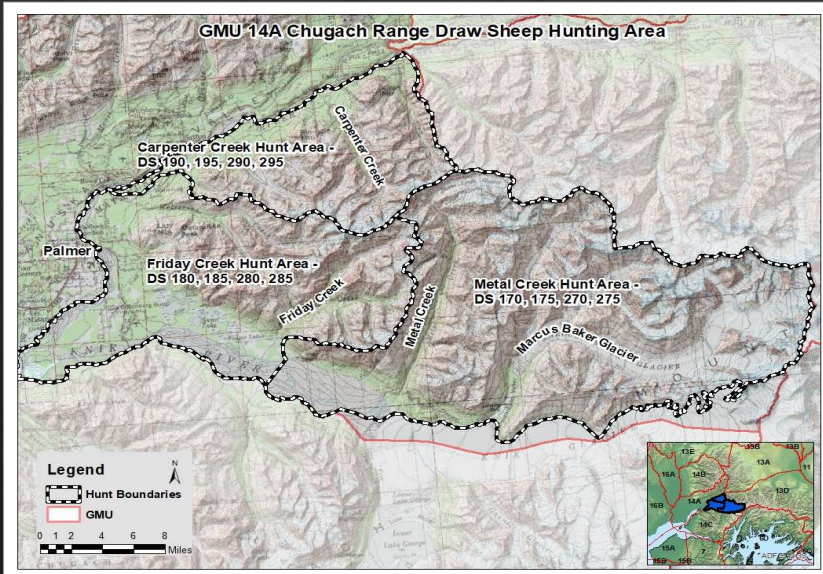
- Area went from general season full-curl bag limit to draw and any-ram starting in RY08
- Initial reason for going to a draw hunt was to address crowding
- Area changed from any-ram to full-curl in RY23
- Previous any-ram hunt structure received large amount of interest

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Proposal 73

Dall Sheep/14A



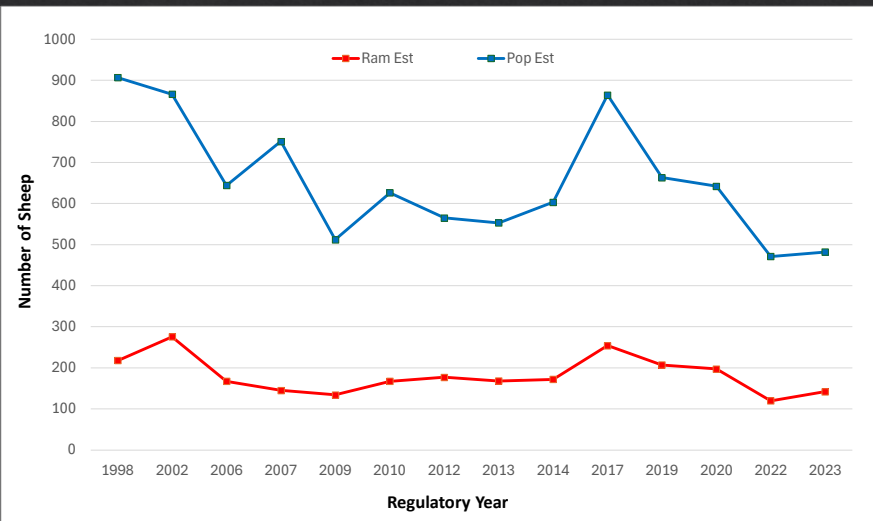
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Proposal 73

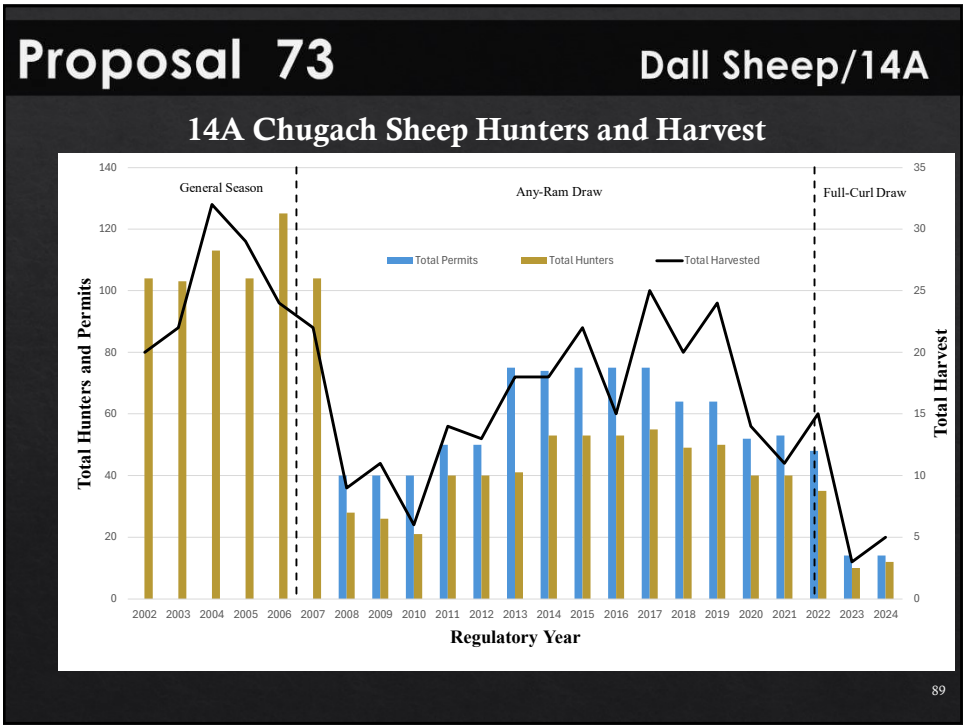
Dall Sheep/14A

14A Chugach Sheep Population



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89

Proposal 73

Dall Sheep/14A

14A Chugach Sheep Hunters and Harvest

Survey Year	Total Rams Observed	Total Sheep Observed	Total Harvested	≥ Full-curl Rams Observed	≥ Full-curl Harvested	% Full-curl Harvested ^b	Sub full-curl Observed	Sub full-curl Harvested	% Sub full-curl Harvested
1998 ^a	218	907	21	28	-	-	190	-	-
2002 ^a	276	866	20	19	-	-	257	-	-
2006	167	644	24	26	14	54%	141	10	7%
2007	145	751	22	18	7	39%	127	15	12%
Post Draw (Any-ram)									
2009	134	512	11	8	0	0%	126	11	9%
2010	167	626	6	14	3	21%	153	3	2%
2012	177	565	13	16	5	31%	161	8	5%
2013	168	553	18	11	7	63%	157	11	7%
2014	172	603	18	13	9	69%	155	9	6%
2017	254	864	25	14	7	50%	240	18	8%
2019	207	663	24	10	4	40%	197	20	10%
2020	197	642	14	14	1	7%	183	13	7%
2022	120	471	15	9	6	66%	111	9	8%
Post Draw (Full-curl)									
2023	142	482	3	13	2	15%	127	1	1%

a. No data on curl class until 2005

b. Percent full-curl harvested is based on the number of full-curls seen during surveys prior to the hunting season

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Proposal 73**Dall Sheep/14A****Summary**

- Nearly all full-curl rams were harvested annually in the last 5 years of the general season.
- Under any-ram structure averaged 39% of full-curls harvested.
- Hunts can be managed under either structure by adjusting permit levels to population and full-curl rams observed.

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Proposal 73**Dall Sheep/14A****Summary continued**

- Any-ram hunt was very popular
 - Provided average hunter opportunity to hunt sheep without pressure of determining full-curl
 - Was 2nd most popular draw sheep hunt in the state with 9,075 applicants in RY22
 - applications decreased by 54% after change to full-curl
 - Only 1 any-ram hunt without weapons restrictions remains in the state.

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Proposal 73	Dall Sheep/14A
Change the bag limit for Dall sheep in Unit 14A Chugach to any-ram.	
Public Proposal	
Department Recommendation: Neutral	

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Proposal 74	Dall Sheep/14A
Establish a resident, archery-only, sheep drawing hunt in the Chugach Mountain portion of Unit 14A	
Public Proposal	
Department Recommendation: Neutral	

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Proposal 74

Dall Sheep/14A

Current Regulations

- Bag limit of 1 ram with full-curl horns or larger, both horns broken, or at least eight-years-old
- Area split into 3 sub-areas with an early and a late season
- Season dates Aug 10–25 and Aug 26–Sept 20
- Up to 100 permits may be issued
- 10% of permits allocated to nonresidents
- Aircraft restriction August 10–September 20
- Unit 14A is in the Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area

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Proposal 74

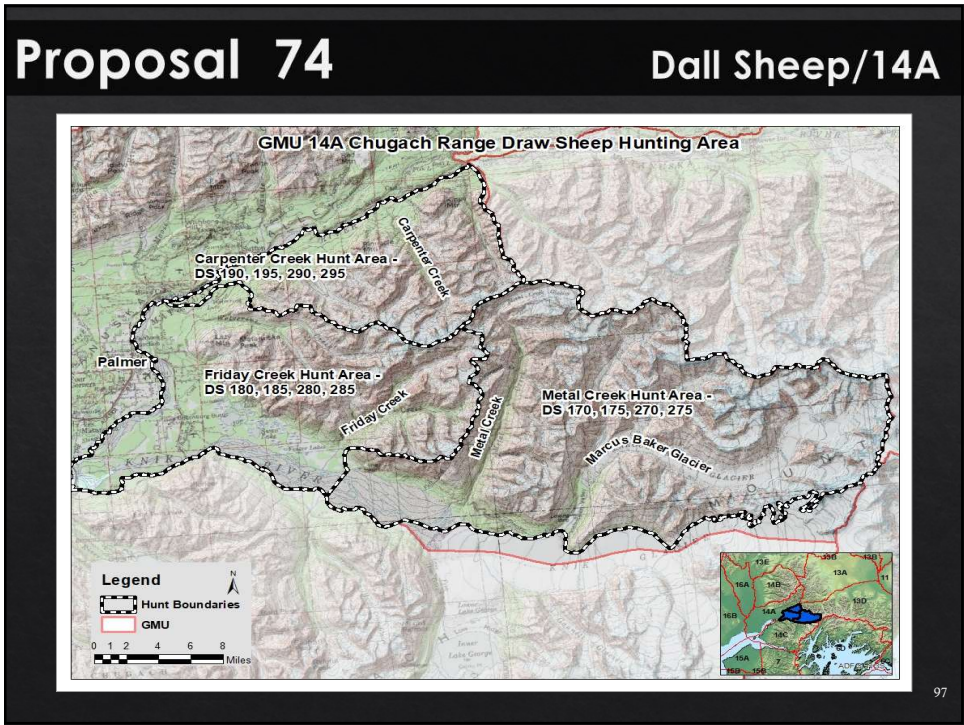
Dall Sheep/14A

What this proposal would do

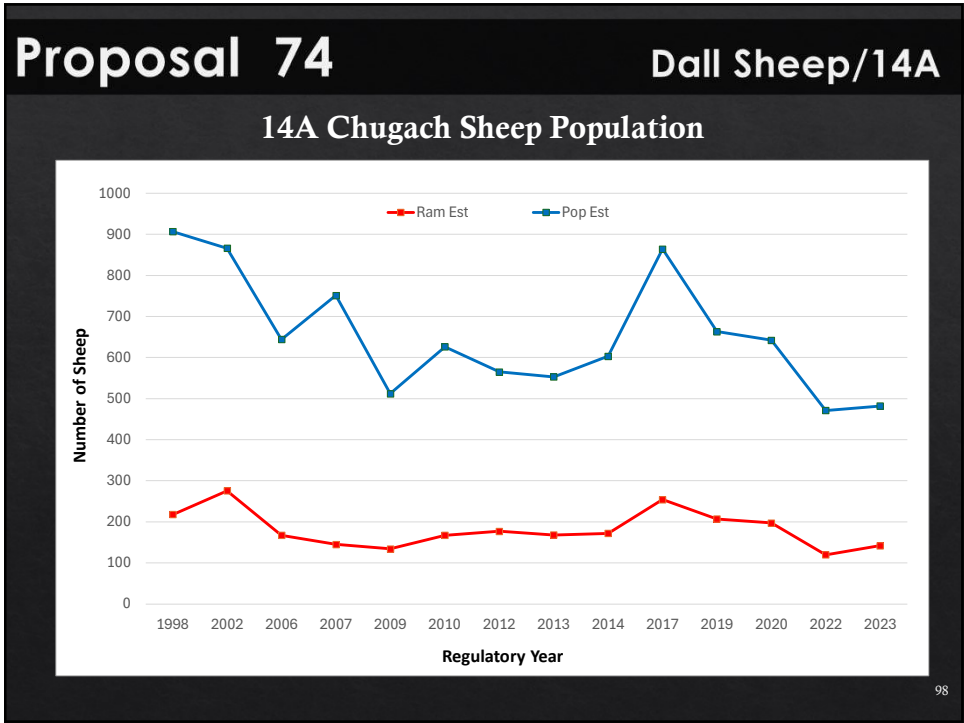
- Create an archery-only draw hunt for residents in the 14A Chugach mountains, combining the hunt areas of DS170, DS180, and DS190
- Season dates: October 1–October 15
- Bag Limit: 1 ram with full-curl horns or larger, both horns broken, or at least eight-years-old

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Proposal 74 Dall Sheep/14A

14A Chugach Sheep Hunters and Harvest

Survey Year	Total Rams Observed	Total Sheep Observed	Total Harvested	≥ Full-curl Rams Observed	≥ Full-curl Harvested	% Full-curl Harvested ^b	Sub full-curl Observed	Sub full-curl Harvested	% Sub full-curl Harvested
1998 ^a	218	907	21	28	-	-	190	-	-
2002 ^a	276	866	20	19	-	-	257	-	-
2006	167	644	24	26	14	54%	141	10	7%
2007	145	751	22	18	7	39%	127	15	12%
Post Draw (Any-ram)									
2009	134	512	11	8	0	0%	126	11	9%
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2012	177	565	13	16	5	31%	161	8	5%
2013	168	553	18	11	7	63%	157	11	7%
2014	172	603	18	13	9	69%	155	9	6%
2017	254	864	25	14	7	50%	240	18	8%
2019	207	663	24	10	4	40%	197	20	10%
2020	197	642	14	14	1	7%	183	13	7%
2022	120	471	15	9	6	66%	111	9	8%
Post Draw (Full-curl)									
2023	142	482	3	13	2	15%	127	1	1%

a. No data on curl class until 2005

b. Percent full-curl harvested is based on the number of full-curls seen during surveys prior to the hunting season

99

Proposal 74

Dall Sheep/14A

Unit 14C DS140 & DS141 Participation and Harvest RY14 –23

Reg Year	Permits	Hunted	Harvested	Participation	Success Rate
2014	81	43	3	53%	7%
2015	81	39	2	48%	5%
2016	82	55	4	67%	7%
2017	81	50	8	62%	16%
2018	81	54	5	67%	9%
2019	81	54	6	67%	11%
2020	81	56	7	69%	13%
2021	81	40	3	49%	8%
2022	81	47	5	58%	11%
2023	81	50	3	62%	6%
Average	81.1	48.8	4.6	60%	9%

100

Proposal 74

Dall Sheep/14A

Summary

- Archery sheep hunts typically have very low success rate.
- Some full-curl sheep observed during surveys survive through hunting season
 - During the any-ram draw period, 39% of full-curl sheep observed during surveys were harvested on average
 - RY23 in the full-curl draw season 15% of full-curles observed were harvested

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Proposal 74

Dall Sheep/14A

Summary Continued

- Access to area is difficult - primarily via aircraft.
- Hunt would be after aircraft scouting restriction.
- Area frequently has early winter conditions during the proposed hunt dates.
- Could cause conflicts between sheep hunters and registration goat hunters in the field

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Proposal 74

Dall Sheep/14A

Establish a resident, archery only, sheep drawing hunt in the Chugach Mountain portion of Unit 14A

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 75

Intensive Management/16

Add department removal of wolves, brown bears, and black bears to Unit 16 Intensive Management Plan (IM)

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

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Proposal 75 **Intensive Management/16**

Current Regulations

- 5 AAC 92.122 Intensive Management Plan VI...(4) authorized methods and means are as follows: (A) hunting and trapping of wolves by the public....
- (B) notwithstanding and other provisions in this title, the commissioner may issue public aerial shooting permits or public land-and-shoot permits as a method of wolf removal under AS 16.05.783
- (C) hunting of black and brown bears by the public in the Unit 16 predation control area...
- (D) the commissioner may issue public bear control permits to reduce the black bear and brown bear populations....

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Proposal 75 **Intensive Management/16**

Things to Consider

- If adopted, department staff would be added to the IM plan and would be authorized to conduct predator removals.
- Including staff is beneficial if public participation is insufficient to meet removal objectives of the IM plan.
- Predator removals are likely necessary to achieve and maintain the Unit 16 moose population within objectives.
- Public participation may not be sufficient to achieve predator reduction goals.

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Proposal 75

Intensive Management/16

Things to Consider

- SDA pilots report poor hide quality due to lice issues
- Other units being open creates a scarcity for experienced pilots

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Proposal 75

Intensive Management/16

Add department removal of wolves, brown bears, and black bears to Unit 16 Intensive Management Plan (IM)

Department Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

Allow the take of brown bear in Unit 16B-remainder the same day airborne

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

What this proposal would do

- Proposal would allow harvest of brown bears the same-day-airborne (SDA) in Unit 16B-remainder without the requirement to be at a permitted bait station provided they are 300 feet from the airplane.
- Allows the practice of spotting brown bears from the air and then landing to pursue them.

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

Current Regulations

- Unit 16 Bag limit: 2 bears every regulator year
- Unit 16A and 16B-remainder season dates: no closed season
- Unit 16B within 1 mile of the mouth of wolverine creek season dates: Sept 15–May 31
- It is unlawful to hunt or help someone else take big game until 3:00 am the day following the day you have flown.
 - This does not apply to regularly scheduled commercial or commuter airplanes.
- Unit 16B has a negative C&T finding

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

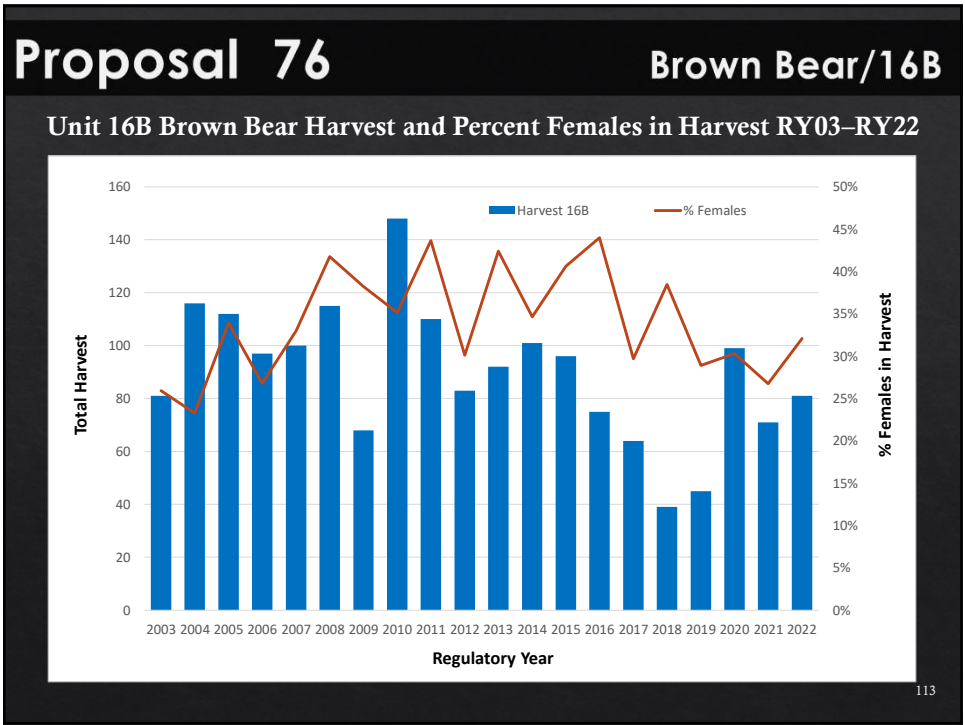
Current Regulations Continued

Exceptions:

- You may hunt deer the same-day-airborne (provided you are 300 feet from the airplane)
- In specified units (including Unit 16) black bears and brown bears may be taken at permitted bait stations provided you at least 300 feet from the airplane.
- You may hunt black bear in Unit 16 from Oct 1–Aug. 9 the same day you have flown, provided you are at least 300 feet from the airplane

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

Summary

- Most recent Unit 16 brown bear population estimate from 2007 indicated 625–1,250 bears
- No biological concern for brown bears in Unit 16
- SDA for black bear approved in 2022 in Unit 16
- Average of 19 black bears harvested by individuals who:
 - used airplanes
 - did not harvest at bait
 - hunted either 0 or 1 days.

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

Things to Consider

- May increase brown bear harvest
- Area is heavily forested making locations where you could spot a bear and immediately land and harvest it scarce
- Would allow for hunters/cabin owners to harvest a bear the same day they have flown
- Would align brown and black bear regulations and allow both to be taken SDA

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Proposal 76

Brown Bear/16B

**Allow the take of brown bear in Unit 16B-
remainder the same day airborne**

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 78

Intensive Management

Allow the same-day-airborne take of wolves in the active Unit 16 Intensive Management Area

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: TNA

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Proposal 78

Intensive Management

Current Regulations

- A person may not shoot or assist in shooting a free-ranging wolf or wolverine the same day that a person has been airborne. However, the Board of Game may authorize a predator control program that allows airborne or same day airborne shooting.
- A person who has been airborne may not use a firearm to take or assist in taking a wolf or wolverine until after 3:00 a.m. on the day following the day in which the flying occurred

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Proposal 78

Intensive Management

Summary

- By Statute, taking wolves using an aircraft SDA can only be authorized where a predator control program/Intensive Management (IM) is adopted and requires a permit
- The department limits permitted pilots for concerns of safety and increased tracking of the program.
- The board does not have the authority to authorize this proposal, because statute prohibits the take of wolves the same day a person has been airborne unless under the conditions of a permit issued as part of an intensive management program.

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Proposal 78

Intensive Management

**Allow the same day airborne take of
wolves in the active Unit 16 Intensive
Management Area**

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: TNA

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Proposal 79

Wolves/Unit 14A

Extend the wolf trapping season in Unit 14A

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

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Proposal 79

Wolves/Unit 14A

Current Regulation

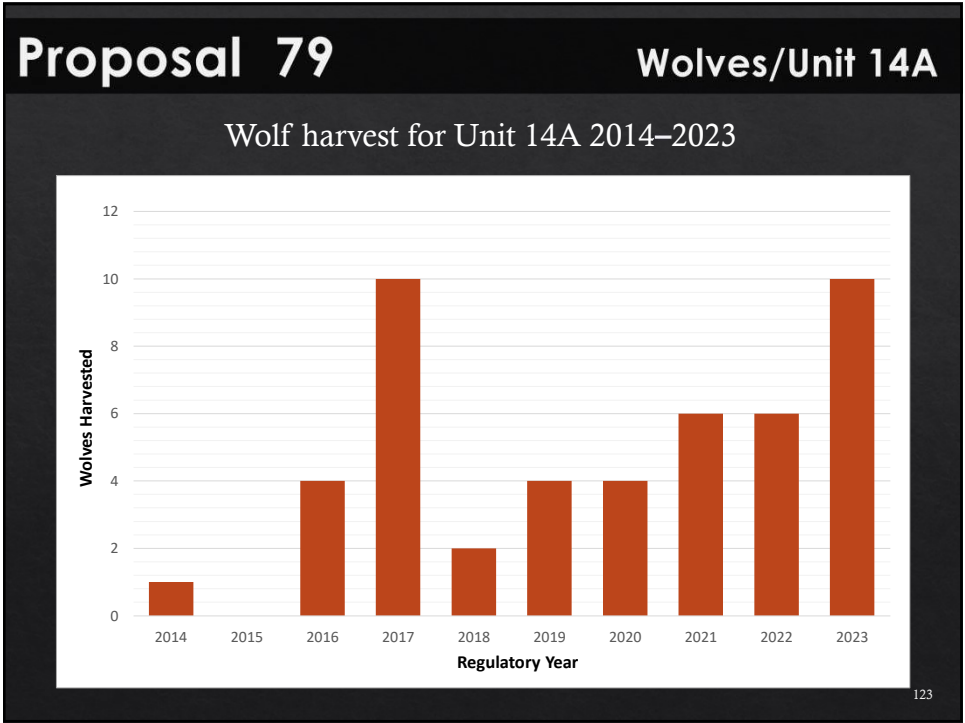
Trapping Season Dates: Nov. 10 – Mar. 31
Hunting Season Dates: August 10–April 30

What this proposal would do?

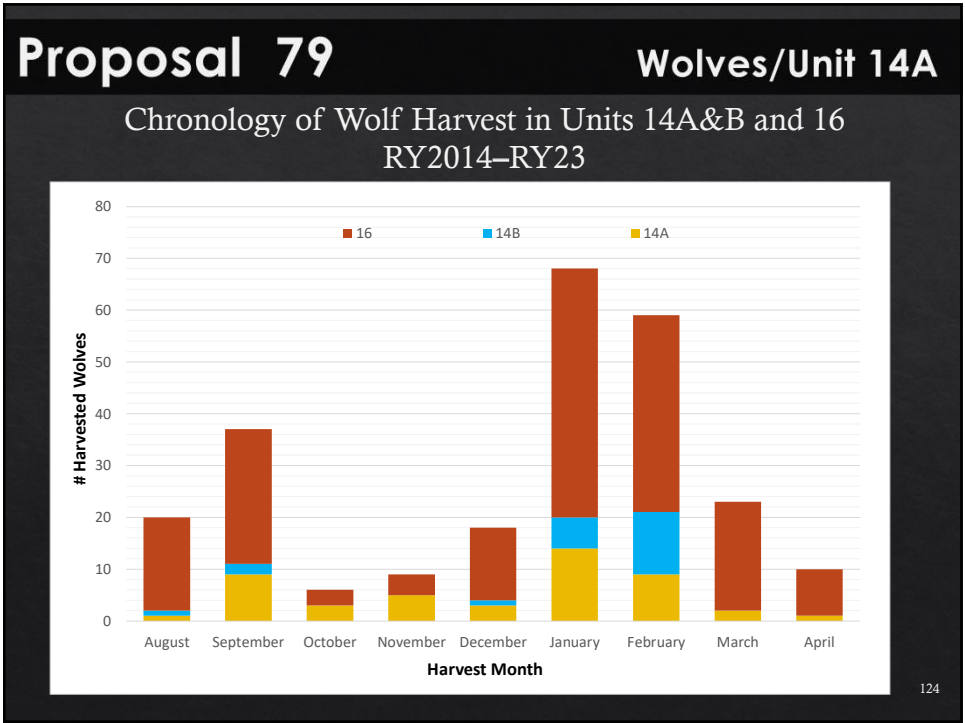
Extend the wolf trapping season in Unit 14A by 30 days
from March 31 to April 30

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Proposal 79

Wolves/Unit 14A

Summary

- Trapping season extends through April 30th in all other units of Region 4 except for units 14A and 11
- Average harvest 5 wolves per year
- In Units 16 and 14B harvest peaks in January and February, declines in March and April
- Average of less than 1 wolf per year trapped in April in Unit 16 in last 10 years
- Would align the trapping season with 14B and would align the trapping season with the hunting season in 14A

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Proposal 79

Wolves/Unit 14A

Extend the wolf trapping season in Unit 14A

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Support

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Proposal 80

Beaver/16

Require sealing of beaver taken in Unit 16

Mt Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 80

Beaver/16

Current Regulations

- Beaver taken in Units 9–11, 13, 14A&B, and 17 must be sealed within 30 days after the close of the season.
 - There is no sealing requirement in Unit 16.
- You may not disturb or destroy any beaver house or den.
- It is against the law to take a beaver by any means other than a steel trap, snare, firearm, or bow and arrow.
 - In Units 11, 13, and 16 from September 25–November 9, traps and snares must be submerged.
- Season dates in Unit 16: Sept 25–May 31

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Proposal 80

Beaver/16

Summary

- Beaver must be sealed in all Units in Region IV except Unit 16.
- Sealing requirement was eliminated in 2016 by the board
- The average annual harvest in Unit 16 from 2001 through 2010 was 86 beaver.
- Beavers appear to be wide-spread and abundant throughout most of south central/southwest and there is no population concern.

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Proposal 80

Beaver/16

Require sealing of beaver taken in Unit 16

Mt Yenlo AC

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 81

Furbearers/14A

Require traps and snares set within two miles of publicly maintained roads in Unit 14A be checked at least every 36 hours

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 81

Furbearers/14A

Current Regulations

- No requirements to check traps on a time sensitive scale in Region IV.
 - Only requirement in Alaska is in a portion of Unit 1C requiring traps to be checked every 3 days.

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Proposal 81

Furbearers/14A

Things to Consider

- Trappers consider the time interval of checking traps to achieve optimal catch rates and quality of hides
- Many traplines start and end within 2 miles of maintained roads
- Many trappers' daily lives would prevent them from checking traps every 36 hours
- Weather conditions often prevent reliable travel along even maintained roadways during trapping season
- This proposal would likely reduce trapping effort and hinder furbearer harvest

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Proposal 81

Furbearers/14A

Require traps and snares set within two miles of publicly maintained roads in Unit 14A be checked at least every 36 hours

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B

Require 50-yard trapping setbacks from known multi-use trails in Units 14A and 14B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B

What this Proposal Would Do?

▪ Restrict trapping within 50 yards of specific multi-use trails in Unit 14A&B unless traps are elevated 3 feet above the ground, under water, under ice, or enclosed

▪ Proposed Trails:

- Talkeetna Area (2)
 - Talkeetna Lakes Park trail system (XYZ lakes trails)
 - Dorothy Jones Trail System (Susitna Valley High School)

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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B

What this Proposal Would Do

Trails continued:

- Palmer/Wasilla Area (6)
 - Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area
 - Scout Ridge Loop
 - Reflections Lake Trail
 - Nelson Road
 - Rabbit Slough Boat Launch Access Road
 - Wasilla Creek Boardwalk (Nelson Road)
- Hatcher Pass Area (5)
 - Government Peak Recreation Area developed Trails system within Southern Development Area
 - Independence Mine Ski Trails
 - Gold Mint Trail to Mint glacier
 - Reed Lakes Trail to Lower Reed Lake
 - Archangel Road to the gate



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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B


Game Management Units 14A & B



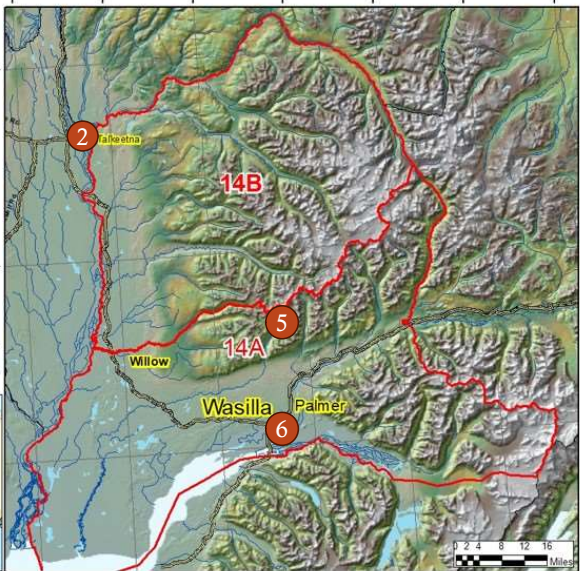
Legend

- Unit 14 Boundaries
- Roads
- Lakes
- Rivers

14A - 2,561sq. mi.
14B - 2,152sq. mi.



ADF-G, HDS



138

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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B

Things to Consider

- May result in decreased opportunity to take furbearers
- Impacts to conflicts between user groups unknown
- Department does not maintain records of pets caught in traps and reporting is inconsistent.
- The Matanuska-Susitna Burrough and State Parks have a restraint law.
- Department does not manage or monitor trails, trail openings/closures, or other changes that may impact trappers.

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Proposal 82

Furbearers/14A and 14B


Require 50-yard trapping setbacks from known multi-use trails in Units 14A and 14B

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: Neutral

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Proposal: 83Ptarmigan 16(A&B)

Extend the ptarmigan hunting season in Unit 16 (A&B) by 30 days through the month of April, with the option of a reduced bag limit in April.

Two proposed options:

1. August 10th – April 30th, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession)

OR


2. August 10th – March 31st, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession),
April 1st – April 30th, (bag limit 5/day, 10/possession)

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

141

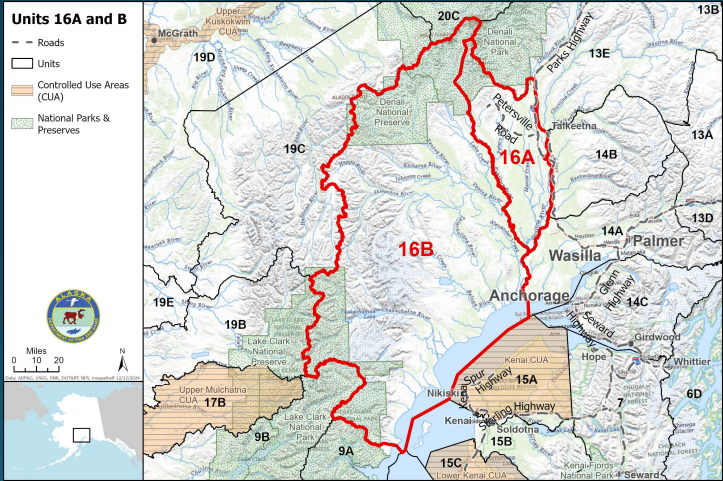
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Proposal: 83Ptarmigan 16(A&B)


Background:

Access into 16 (A&B):



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Proposal: 83Ptarmigan 16(A&B)

Background:

- Season length has been in effect since 1990 (35 regulatory years).
- Bag limit has been in effect since 1997 (28 regulatory years).

Current bag limit and season dates:


Unit	Ptarmigan Bag Limit	Current Open Season
16 (Both A & B)	10 per day, 20 in possession	August 10 – March 31

Ptarmigan: Includes rock, white-tailed, and willow ptarmigan.

C&T: Unit 16 - Positive
ANS: Unit 16 - No amount determined

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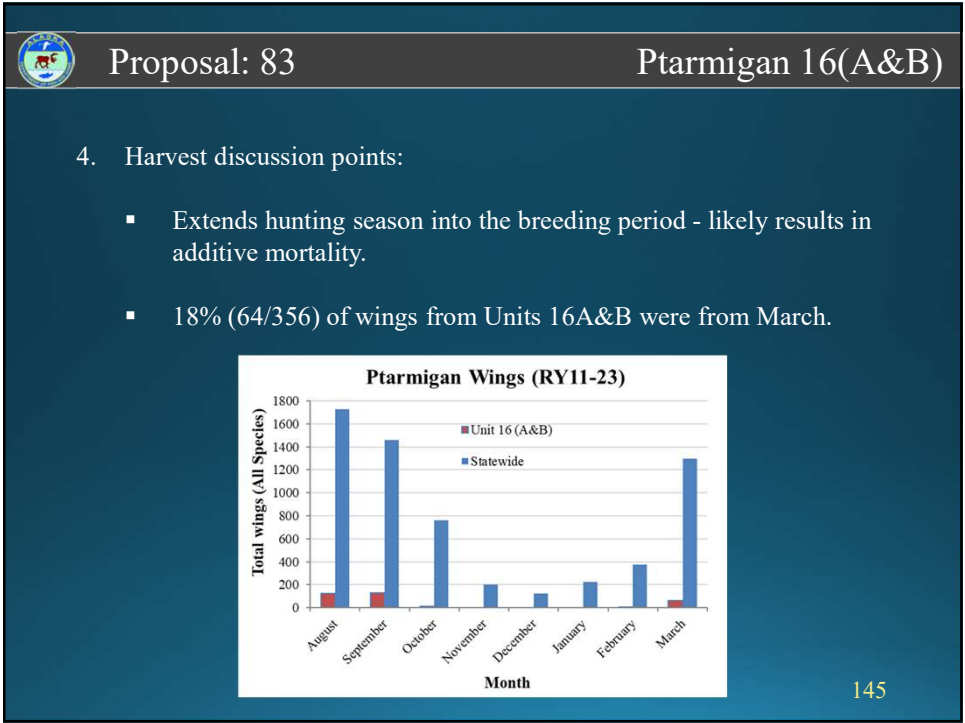
Proposal: 83Ptarmigan 16(A&B)

Background:

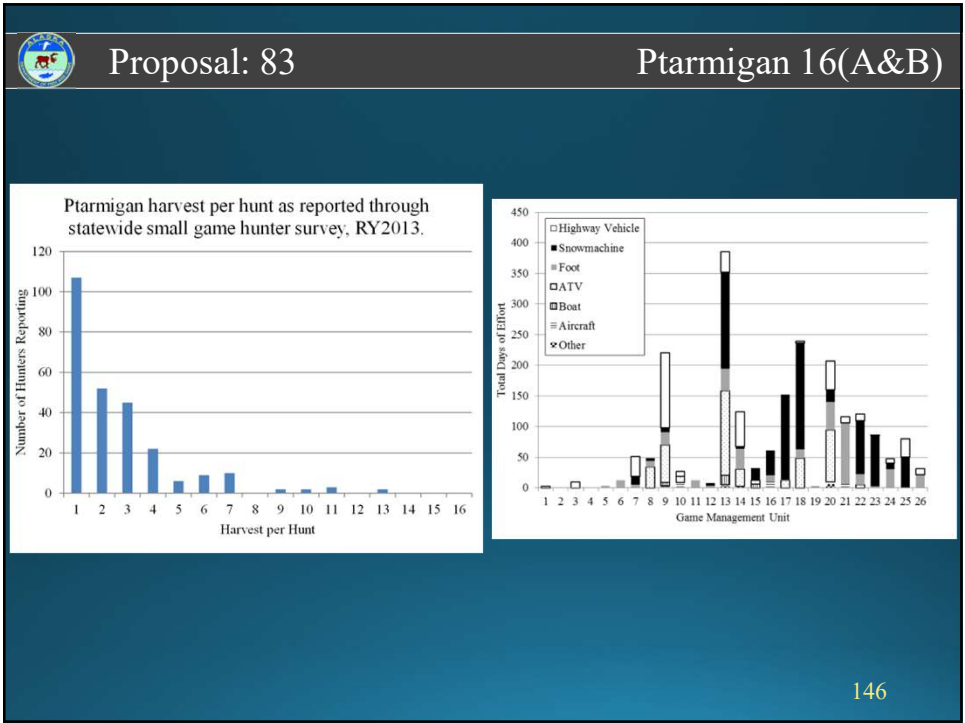
- General discussion points:
 - No identified conservation concern for ptarmigan (all species) in Units 16A and 16B.
 - No survey or capture data from these units.
 - Increased potential for localized depletion and reduced breeding densities around popular hunting areas.

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Proposal: 83Ptarmigan 16(A&B)

Extend the ptarmigan hunting season in Unit 16 (A&B) by 30 days through the month of April, with the option of a reduced bag limit in April.

Two proposed options:

1. August 10th – April 30th, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession)

OR


2. August 10th – March 31st, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession),
April 1st – April 30th, (bag limit 5/day, 10/possession)

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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Proposal: 84Ptarmigan 14A, 14B

Extend the ptarmigan hunting season in Units 14A and 14B by 30 days through the month of April, with the option of a reduced bag limit in April.

Two proposed options:

1. August 10th – April 30th, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession)

OR


2. August 10th – March 31st, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession),
April 1st – April 30th, (bag limit 5/day, 10/possession)

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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Proposal: 84


Ptarmigan 14A, 14B


Background:


Access into 14A, 14B:


Units 14A and B

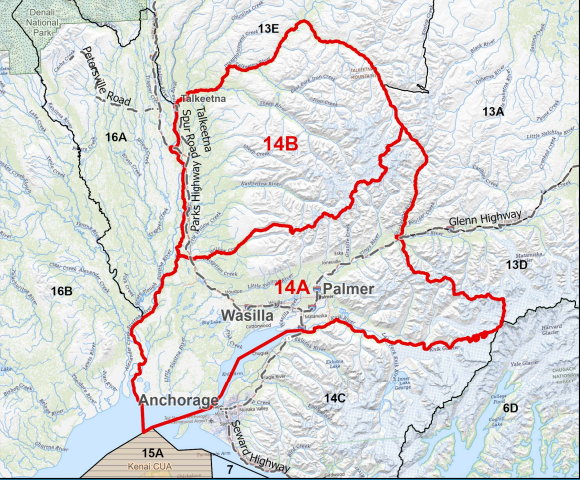
 Roads

 Units

 Controlled Use Areas (CUA)


 National Parks & Preserves





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149



Proposal: 84

Ptarmigan 14A, 14B

Background:

1. Season length has been in effect since 1990 (35 regulatory years).

2. Bag limit has been in effect since 1997 (28 regulatory years).

Current bag limit and season dates:


Unit	Ptarmigan Bag Limit	Current Open Season
14A, 14B	10 per day, 20 in possession	August 10 – March 31

Ptarmigan: Includes rock, white-tailed, and willow ptarmigan.

C&T: Unit 14A, 14B – ANC/Matsu Non-subsistence area

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Proposal: 84Ptarmigan 14A, 14B


Background:

3. General discussion points:

- No identified conservation concern for ptarmigan (all species) in Units 14A and 14B.
- Limited survey data and no capture data from these units.
- Increased potential for localized depletion and reduced breeding densities around popular hunting areas.

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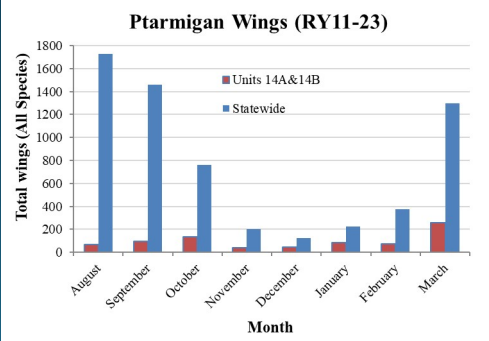
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Proposal: 84Ptarmigan 14A, 14B

4. Harvest discussion points:

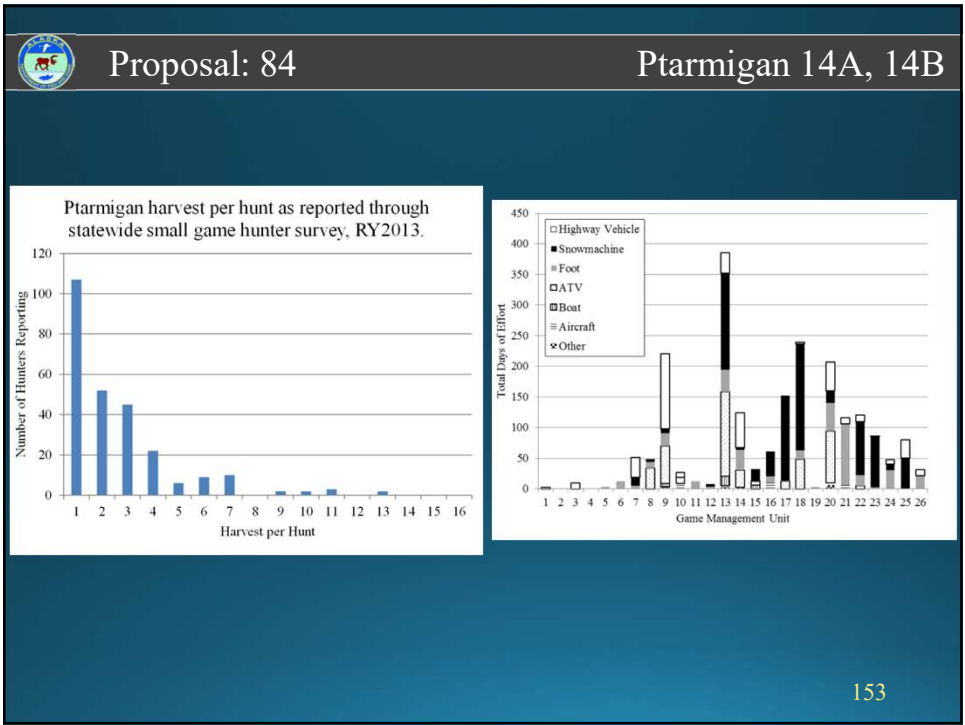
- Extends hunting season into the breeding period - likely results in additive mortality.
- 32% (260/813) of wings from Units 14A&B were from March.




Month	Units 14A&14B	Statewide
August	~100	~1700
September	~100	~1400
October	~150	~750
November	~50	~150
December	~50	~100
January	~100	~150
February	~50	~350
March	~260	~1300

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Proposal: 84

Ptarmigan 14A, 14B

Extend the ptarmigan hunting season in Units 14A and 14B by 30 days through the month of April, with the option of a reduced bag limit in April.

Two proposed options:

1. August 10th – April 30th, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession)

OR

2. August 10th – March 31st, (bag limit 10/day, 20/possession),
April 1st – April 30th, (bag limit 5/day, 10/possession)

Public Proposal

Department Recommendation: NEUTRAL

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