

Proposal 205: Unit 18 Muskox ACR

This proposal seeks to modify the permit requirement to harvest stranded musk oxen by allowing the immediate harvest of musk oxen on ice floes in Unit 18.

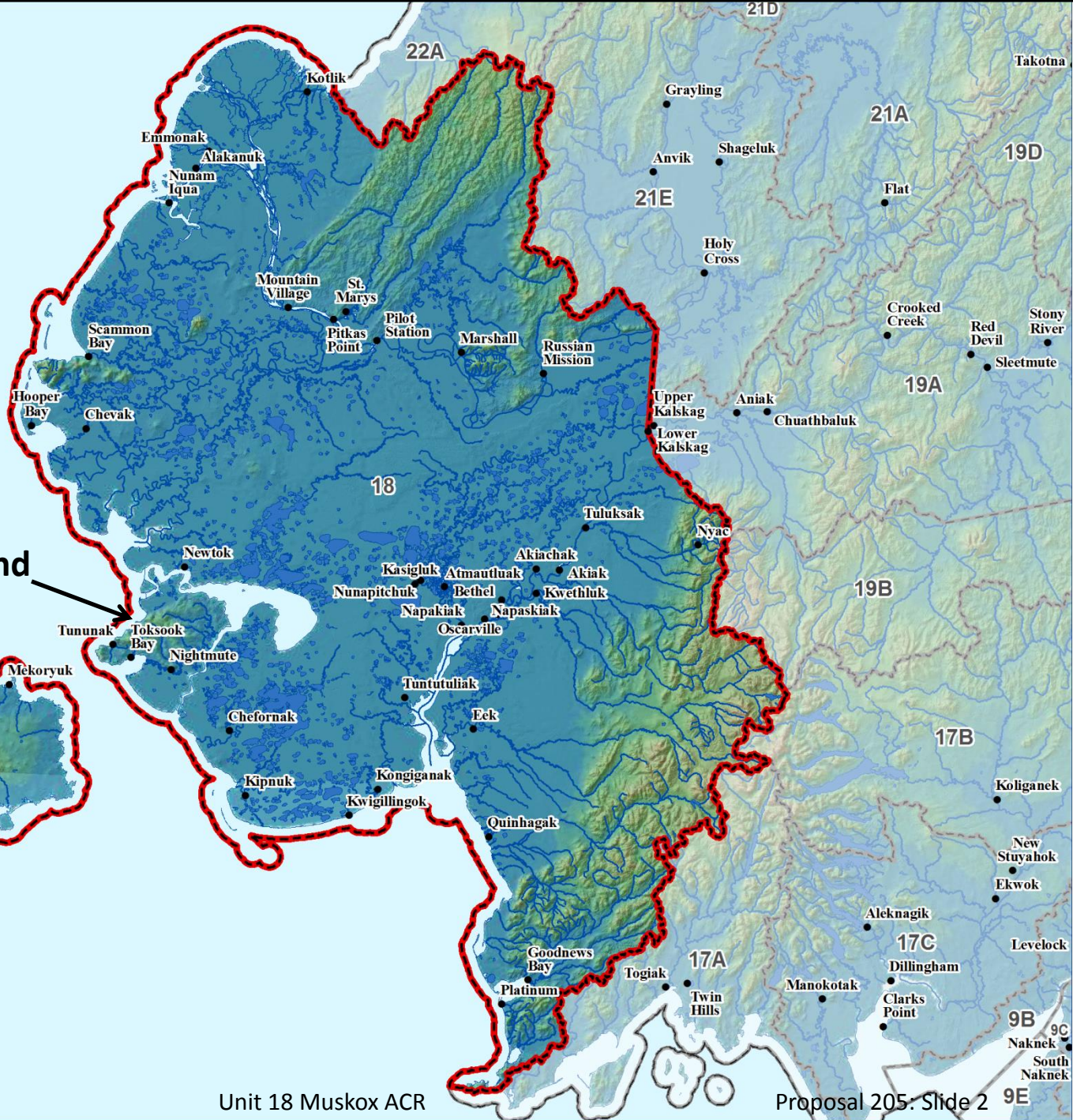
This is a public proposal.

Department Recommendation: **Neutral**

Unit 18 Advisory Committee Recommendations:

Bethel AC.....	<u>Support w/ amendment</u>
Central Bering Sea AC.....	<u>Support w/ amendment</u>
Coastal Lower Yukon AC....	<u>Support w/ amendments</u>
Lower Kuskokwim AC.....	No vote
Mid Lower Yukon AC.....	No vote

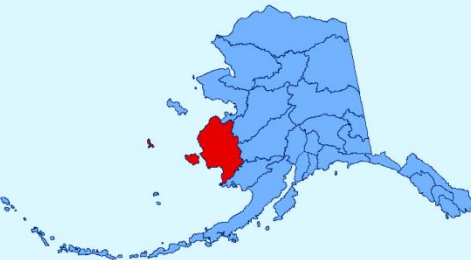
Unit 18



Nelson Island



Nunivak Island



Sea Ice March 2015

NOAA
Sea Ice Analysis
National Weather Service
Anchorage, Alaska

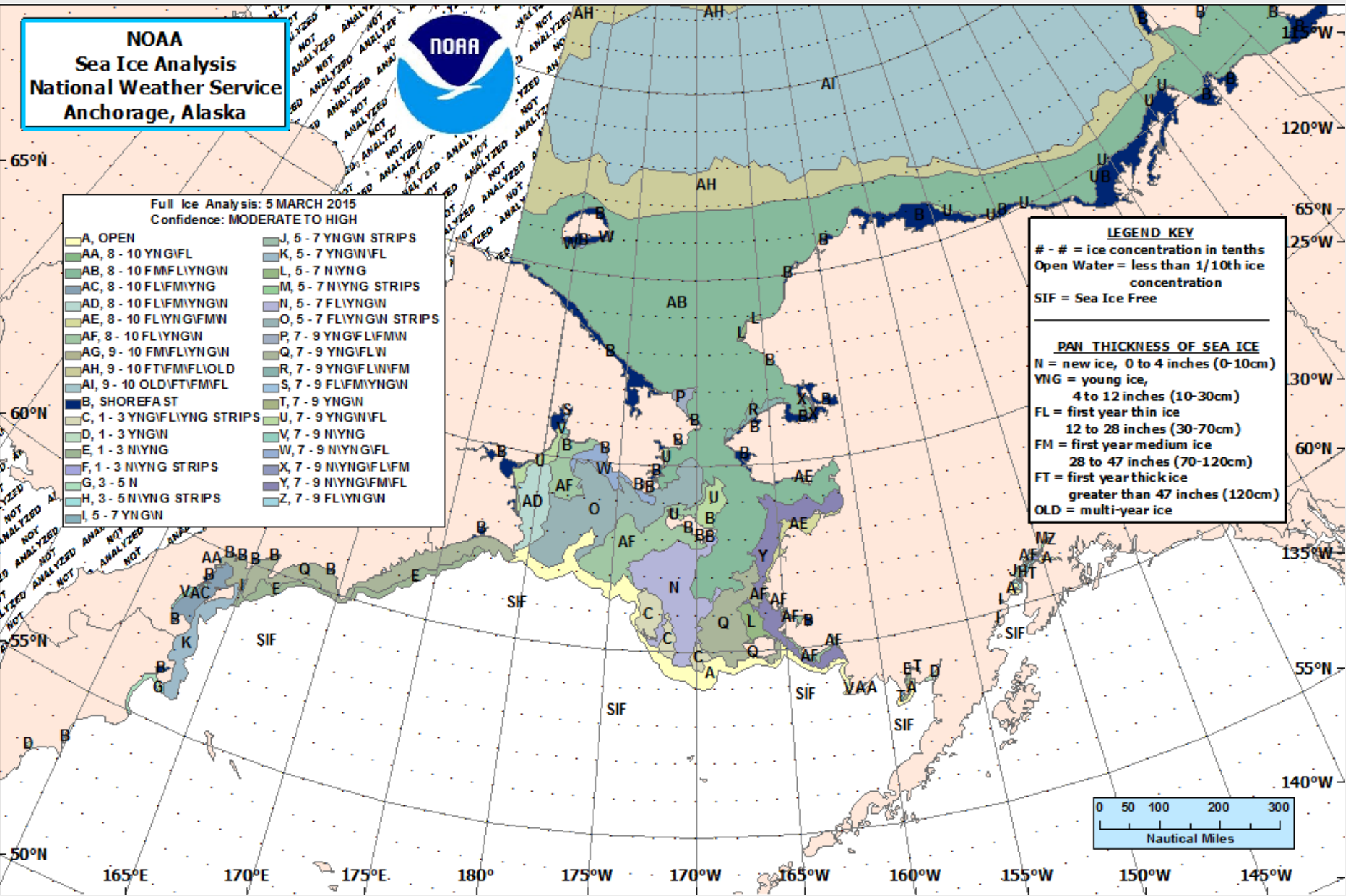


Full Ice Analysis: 5 MARCH 2015
Confidence: MODERATE TO HIGH

A, OPEN	J, 5 - 7 YNGW STRIPS
AA, 8 - 10 YNGIFL	K, 5 - 7 YNGWIFL
AB, 8 - 10 FMFLIYNGW	L, 5 - 7 NIYNG
AC, 8 - 10 FLFMIYNG	M, 5 - 7 NIYNG STRIPS
AD, 8 - 10 FLFMIYNGW	N, 5 - 7 FLIYNGW
AE, 8 - 10 FLIYNGIFMW	O, 5 - 7 FLIYNGW STRIPS
AF, 8 - 10 FLIYNGW	P, 7 - 9 YNGIFLMM
AG, 9 - 10 FMFLIYNGW	Q, 7 - 9 YNGIFLW
AH, 9 - 10 FTIFMFLIOLD	R, 7 - 9 YNGIFLWFM
AI, 9 - 10 OLDIFTFMFL	S, 7 - 9 FLFMIYNGW
B, SHOREFA ST	T, 7 - 9 YNGW
C, 1 - 3 YNGIFLIYNG STRIPS	U, 7 - 9 YNGWIFL
D, 1 - 3 YNGW	V, 7 - 9 NIYNG
E, 1 - 3 NIYNG	W, 7 - 9 NIYNGIFL
F, 1 - 3 NIYNG STRIPS	X, 7 - 9 NIYNGIFLFM
G, 3 - 5 N	Y, 7 - 9 NIYNGIFMFL
H, 3 - 5 NIYNG STRIPS	Z, 7 - 9 FLIYNGW
I, 5 - 7 YNGW	

LEGEND KEY
- # = ice concentration in tenths
Open Water = less than 1/10th ice concentration
SIF = Sea Ice Free

ICE THICKNESS OF SEA ICE
N = new ice, 0 to 4 inches (0-10cm)
YNG = young ice,
4 to 12 inches (10-30cm)
FL = first year thin ice
12 to 28 inches (30-70cm)
FM = first year medium ice
28 to 47 inches (70-120cm)
FT = first year thick ice
greater than 47 inches (120cm)
OLD = multi-year ice



Current Regulation

5 AAC 92.046 Permits for taking incidental or stranded musk oxen

The commissioner may open, by emergency order, a season for which the resident tag fee is waived and with a bag limit of up to 2 musk oxen per person by permit only in the areas and under the conditions specified below:

(1) in Game Management Unit 24, state managed lands in the Anaktuvuk Pass area within 2 miles of the John River and Unit 26A;

(2) statewide, if the musk oxen are stranded on sea ice or islands and the commissioner determines that the musk oxen have inadequate food and water resources for survival, or that they are doing severe damage to other resources of the island and that all reasonable effort has been made to remove them from the island or sea ice by non-lethal means.

Unit 18 AC Amendments

Bethel AC

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT include “ all AK Residents”.

Central Bering Sea AC

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT allow all Alaskan residents to harvest the musk ox.

Coastal Lower Yukon AC

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT all Alaska residents and to include a date stamped picture of the stranded animal, only on icebergs in saltwater, without need for permits or hunting license.

Lower Kuskokwim AC

NO VOTE

Mid Lower Yukon AC

NO VOTE

Summary of Unit 18 AC Amendments

(3) Residents of Alaska may harvest musk oxen found stranded on free floating sea ice within the coastal waters of GMU 18 without a permit.

Muskox that are harvested on free floating sea ice must be reported to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game within 48 hrs of leaving the field. Proof in the form of video or time stamped photos must be provided to the Department showing that the muskox were stranded.

Hunters are not required to have a hunting license.

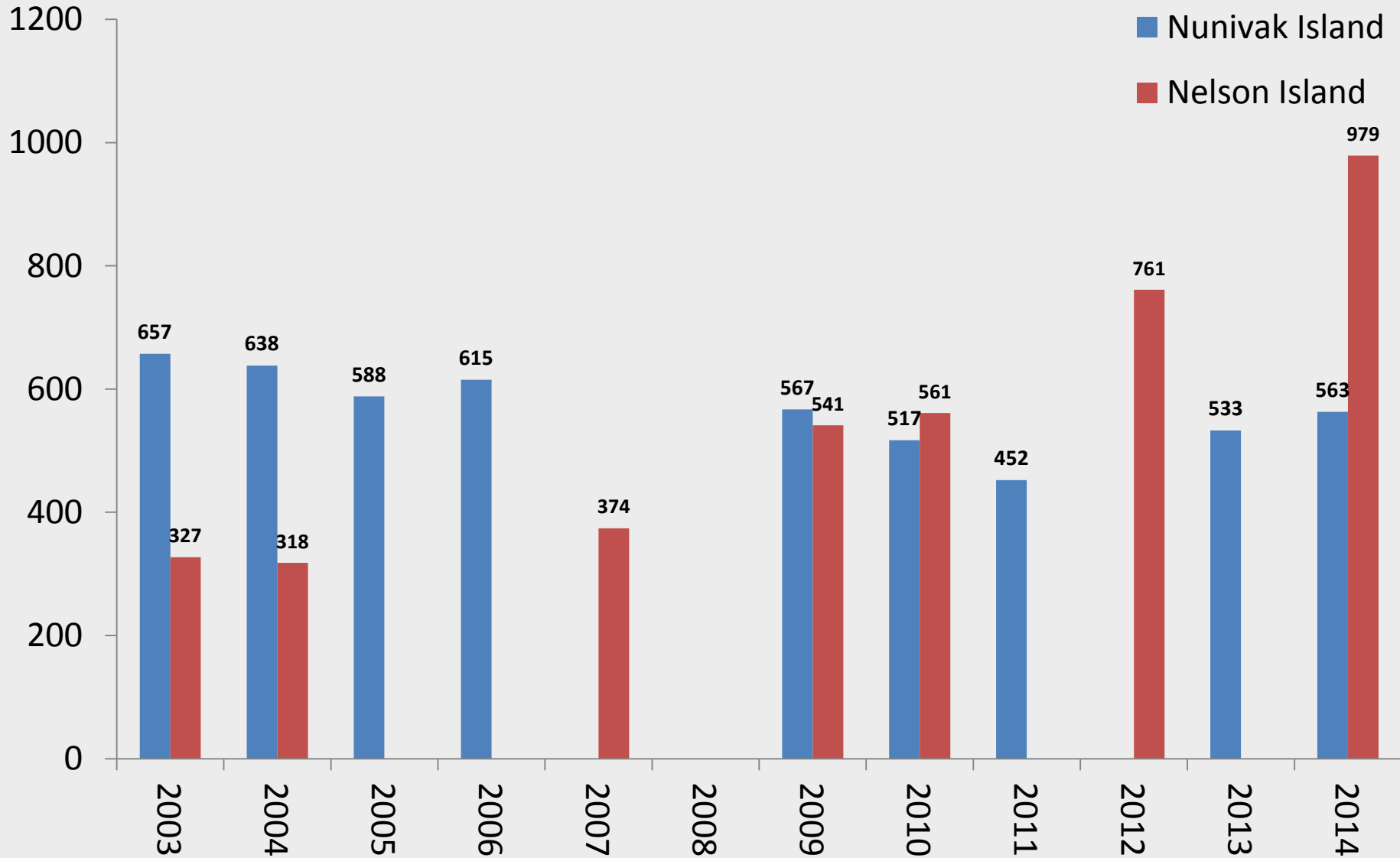
Potential AC Regulation

5 AAC 92.046 Permits for taking incidental or stranded musk oxen

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- (2) statewide, if the musk oxen are stranded on sea ice or islands and the commissioner determines that the musk oxen have inadequate food and water resources for survival, or that they are doing severe damage to other resources of the island and that all reasonable effort has been made to remove them from the island or sea ice by non-lethal means.
- (3) in Game Management Unit 18, if musk oxen are stranded on free-floating ice floes completely surrounded by salt water, residents of Alaska may harvest musk oxen without a license or permit; after harvest the hunter must demonstrate the ice floe conditions by submitting photographs or video to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game with 2 days of harvest.**

Nunivak & Nelson Island – Muskox Counts



- End -

Questions?

