

Extend the Unit 22A Central resident fall moose season

Recommendation: Support

Southern Norton Sound AC Proposal

Northern Norton Sound AC

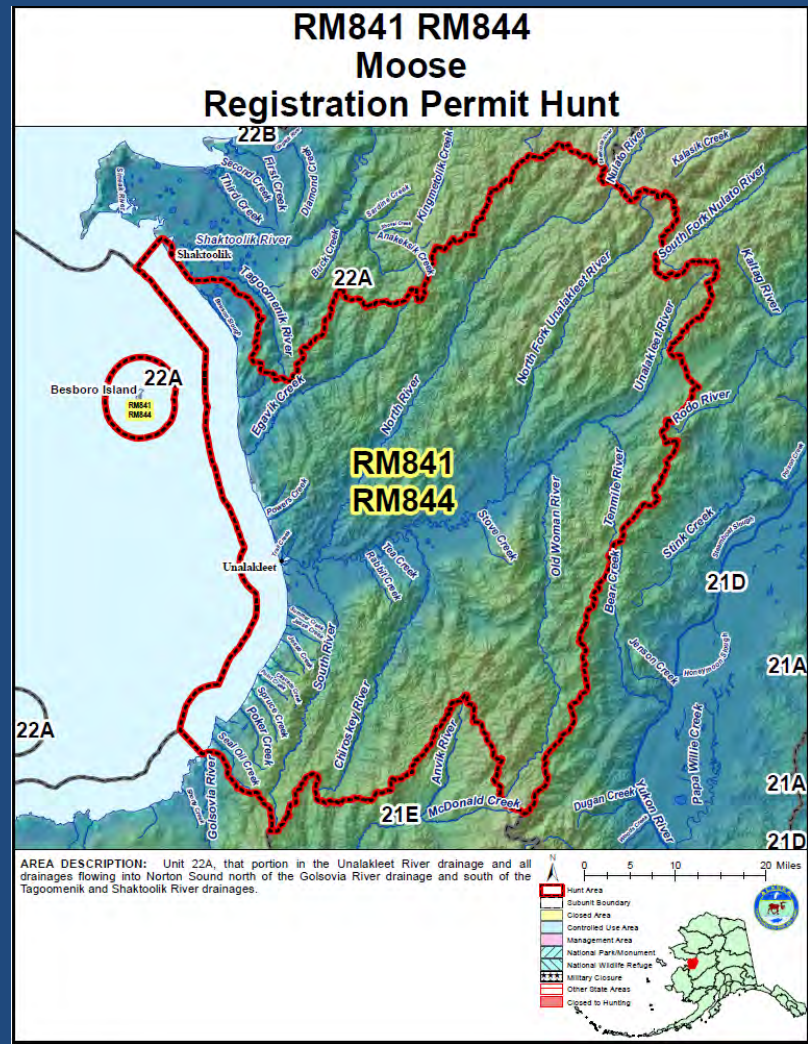
Take No Action

Southern Norton Sound AC

Support

Current Regulations

- Residents
 - RM841
 - September 1- 14
 - 1 Antlered Bull
 - RM844
 - December 1- 31
 - 1 Antlered Bull
 - Season May Be Announced
- Non Residents
 - No Open Season



Unit 22A Central Moose Population (History and Current Status)

- In 2004, local residents requested a moose season closure due to depressed moose numbers.
- The moose season was closed RY2005- RY2007, and resident hunting opportunity began again in RY2008

- 2012 GSPE Results
 - 545 moose (90% CI: 452-639)
 - 19% Short Yearlings
 - 2008-2012: Increased 13% Annually
 - Poor survey conditions 2015 and 2016

Extend RM841 Season

- **Proposed season closure date:**
 - **September 20**

- **Provides adequate protection for breeding bulls**

- **Registration permit**
 - **Harvest Quota in Place**

Extend RM841 Season

- Season Extensions
- Requested and authorized: 2011-2015

RY	Quota	Harvest	Season	RM844
2008	14	15	Sept 1-14	
2009	14	15	Sept 1-14	
2010	14	14	Sept 1-13	
2011	14	16	Sept 1-17	
2012	22	16	Sept 1-20	Yes
2013	22	21	Sept 1-20	

Extend the Unit 22A Central resident fall moose season

Recommendation: Support

Southern Norton Sound AC Proposal

Northern Norton Sound AC
Southern Norton Sound AC

Take No Action
Support

Extend the Unit 22A North Nonresident fall moose season

Recommendation: Neutral

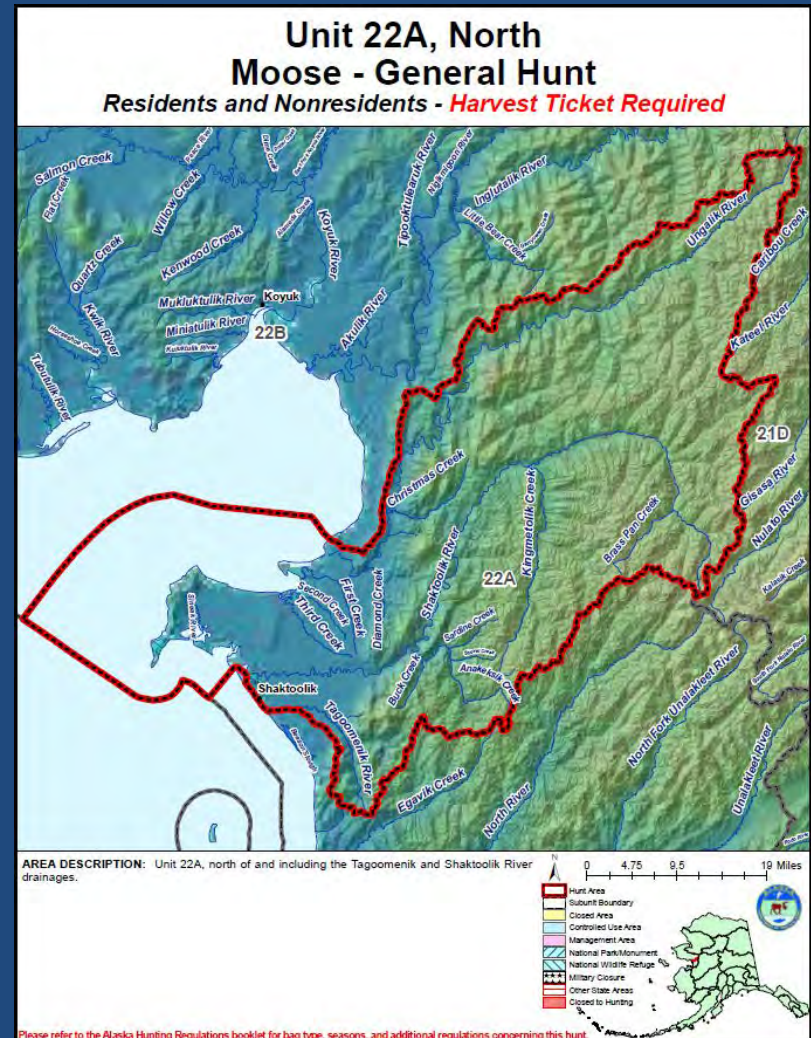
This is Public Proposal

*Northern Norton Sound AC
Southern Norton Sound AC*

*Take No Action
Opposed*

Current Regulations

- Residents
 - GM000
 - August 1-September 30
 - One Bull
- Nonresidents
 - GM000
 - September 1- 14
 - one bull moose 50-inch antlers or 4 or more brow tines



22A North Moose Population

- ≈400-500 Moose
 - Extrapolated from adjoining area with similar habitat

22A North Harvest

- Total Harvest
 - 10-15 moose annually
 - 2-4% harvest rate

Extend non-resident season

- Proposed season closure date:
 - September 20
- Provides adequate protection for breeding bulls
- Continue to monitor harvest
 - Harvest not to exceed 5%-6% without additional population information

Extend the Unit 22A North Non-resident fall moose season

Recommendation: Neutral

This is Public Proposal

*Northern Norton Sound AC
Southern Norton Sound AC*

*Take No Action
Opposed*

Close Nonresident Moose Hunting in Unit 22D Remainder and 22E

Recommendation: Neutral

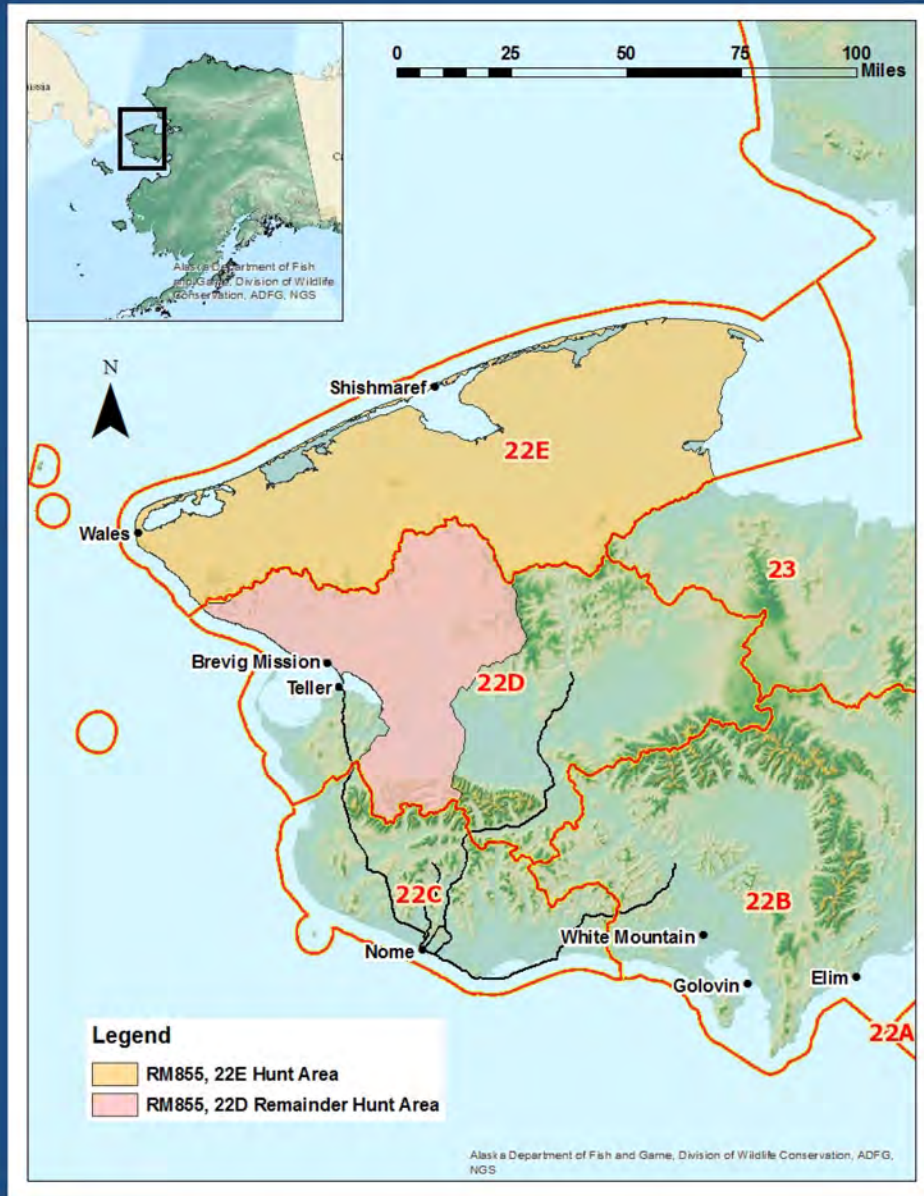
This is a Seward Peninsula RAC Proposal

*Northern Norton Sound AC
Southern Norton Sound AC*

*Amend and Adopt
Amend and Adopt*

Proposal 28

Moose / Unit 22



Nonresident Registration Moose Permit RM855 Seasons and Bag Limits

Unit 22D Remainder

Nonresidents:

- **September 1 – 14**
- **One bull moose 50-inch antlers or 4 or more brow tines**
- **Harvest Quota: 3 Bulls**

Unit 22E

Nonresidents:

- **September 1 – 14**
- **One bull moose 50-inch antlers or 4 or more brow tines**
- **Harvest Quota: 13 Bulls**

Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee Proposed Amendment

Unit 22D Remainder

Residents

- August 10 – September 1;
one bull moose
- October 1 – November 30;
one bull moose
- December 1 – January 31;
one antlered bull moose

Nonresidents:

- **No Open Season**

Unit 22E

Residents

- August 10 – December 31;
one bull moose
- January 1 – March 15;
one antlered bull moose

Nonresidents:

- September 1 – 14;
one bull moose 50-inch antlers or 4 or more brow tines
- Registration permit RM855
(Harvest Quota: 13 Bulls)

Moose Population

Unit 22D Remainder

- 2014 GSPE Results
 - 491 moose (90% CI: 422-560)
 - 18% Short Yearlings
 - 2011-2014
 - Declined 14% Annually

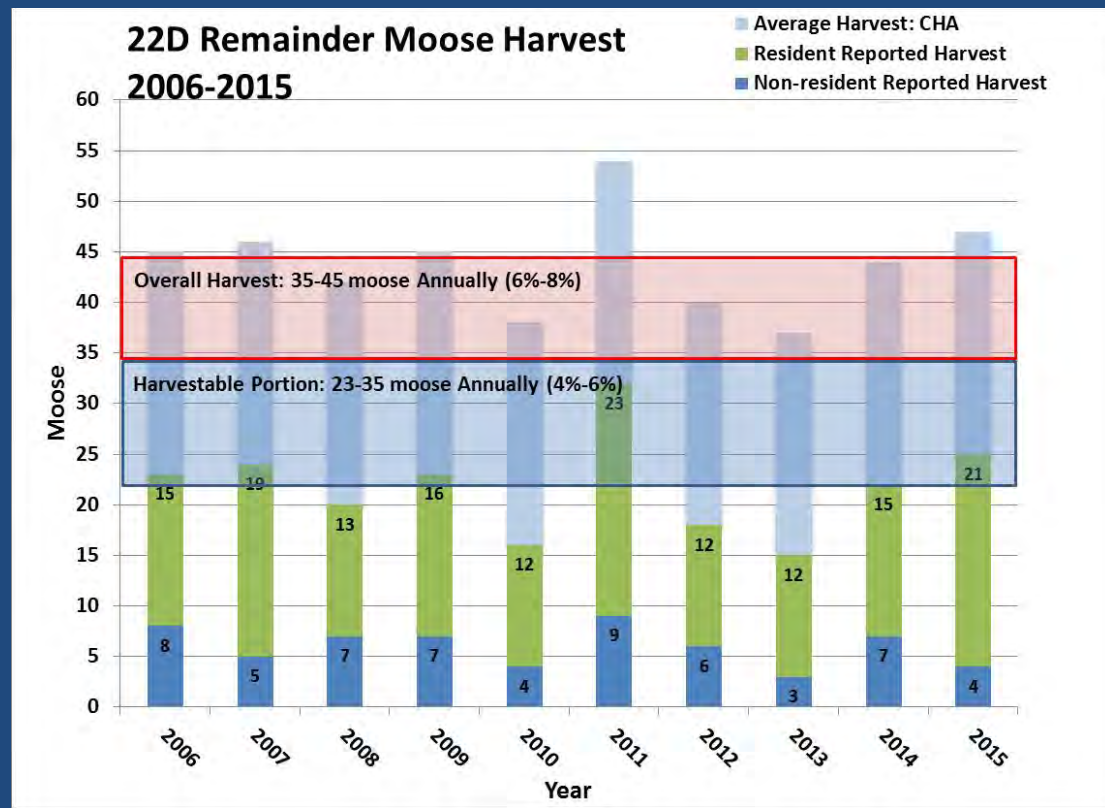
- Composition Survey Results
 - 2011: 35 Bulls:100 Cows
 - 2016: 23 Bulls:100 Cows

Unit 22E

- 2014 GSPE Results
 - 701 moose (90% CI: 603-799)
 - 13% Short Yearlings
 - 2006-2014
 - Increased 2% Annually

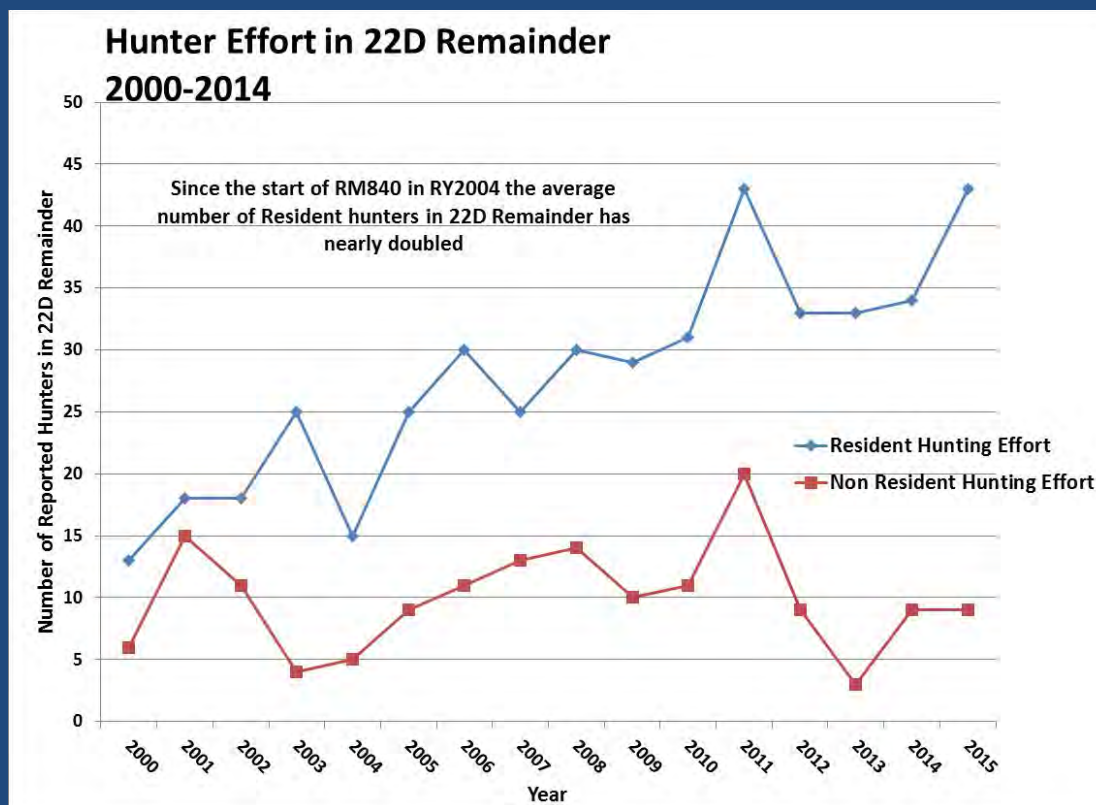
- Composition Survey Results
 - 2014: 41 Bulls: 100 Cows
 - 2016: 38 Bulls:100 Cows

Unit 22D Remainder– Moose Harvest



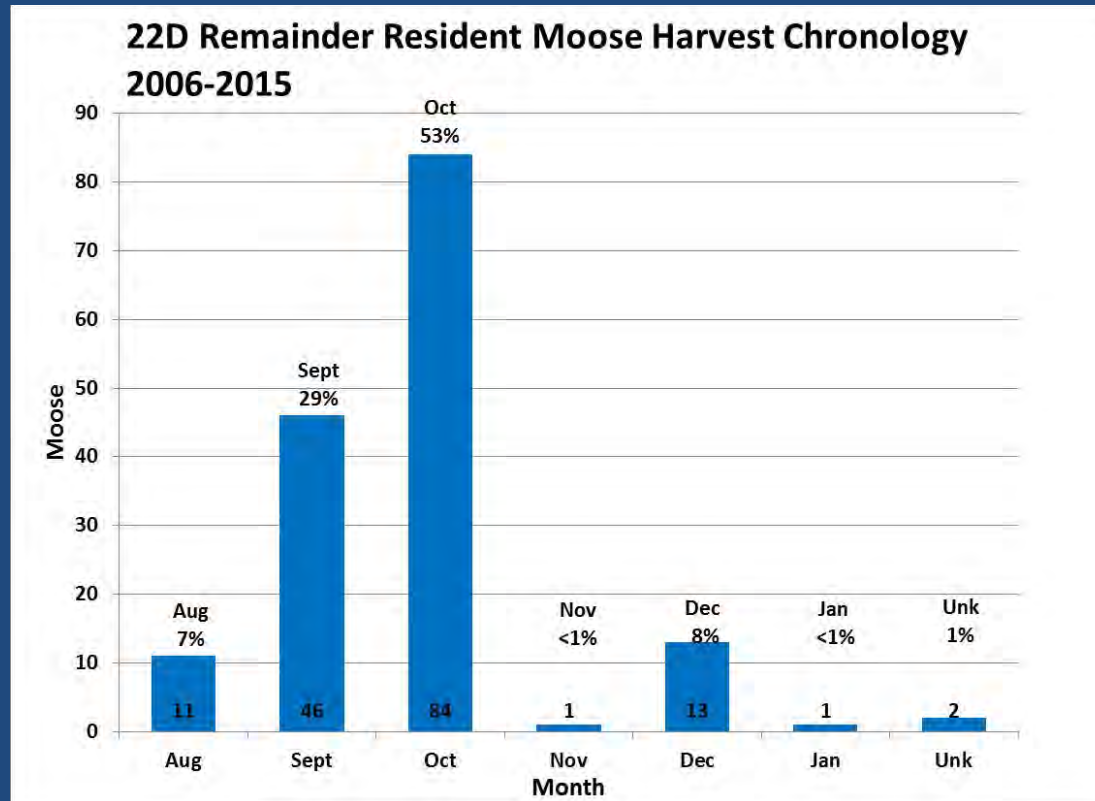
- Average Annual Reported Harvest: 22 Moose
- Community Harvest Assessment Surveys
 - Average Harvest 2000-2015
 - Teller: 5 Moose
 - Brevig Mission: 17 Moose

Unit 22D Remainder – Hunter Effort



- Resident Hunter effort increasing
- Restrictions may be necessary in order to maintain harvest at sustainable levels.

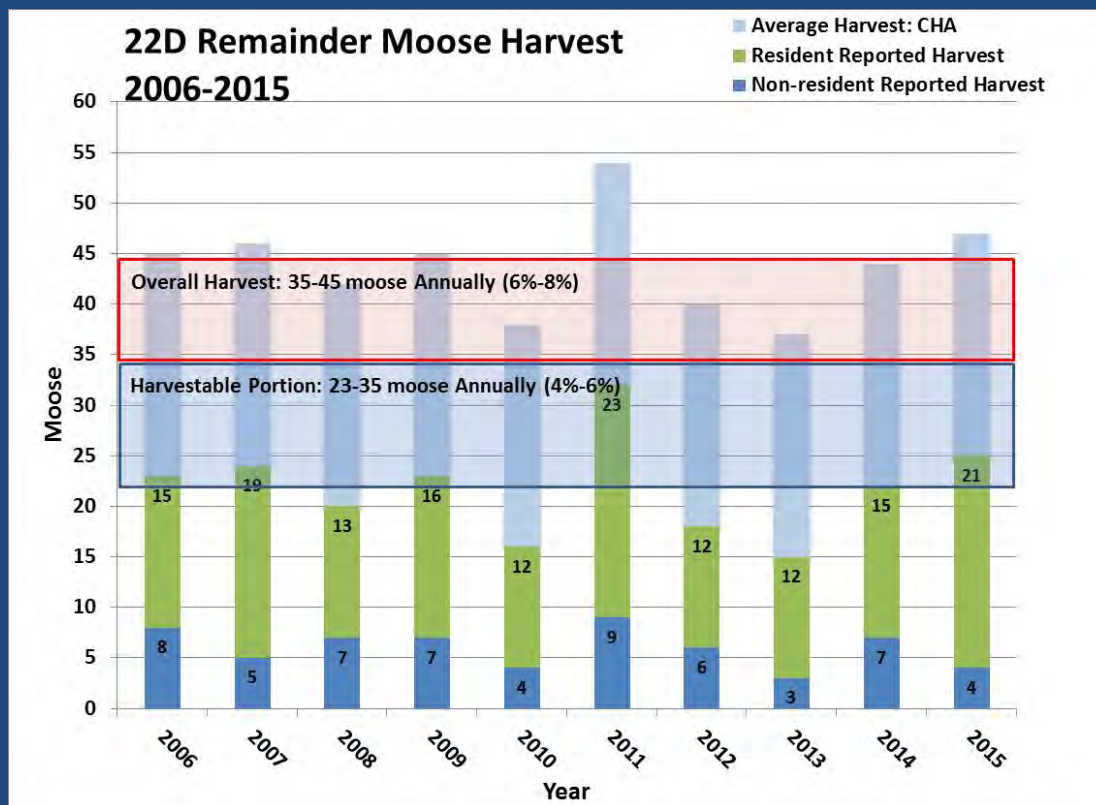
Unit 22D Remainder – Harvest Chronology



Residents

- Aug. 10 – Sept. 1; one bull moose
- Oct.1 – Nov. 30; one bull moose
- Dec.1 – Jan. 31; one antlered bull moose

Unit 22E – Moose Harvest



- Average Annual Reported Harvest: 16 Moose
- Community Harvest Assessment Surveys
 - Average Harvest 2000-2015
 - Shishmaref: 28 Moose
 - Wales: 5 Moose

Close Nonresident Moose Hunting in Unit 22D Remainder and 22E

Recommendation: Neutral

This is a Seward Peninsula RAC Proposal

*Northern Norton Sound AC
Southern Norton Sound AC*

*Amend and Adopt
Amend and Adopt*

Open a hunting season for caribou in Unit 22A South of and including the Golsovia River drainage by emergency order.

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Northern Norton Sound AC

Take no action

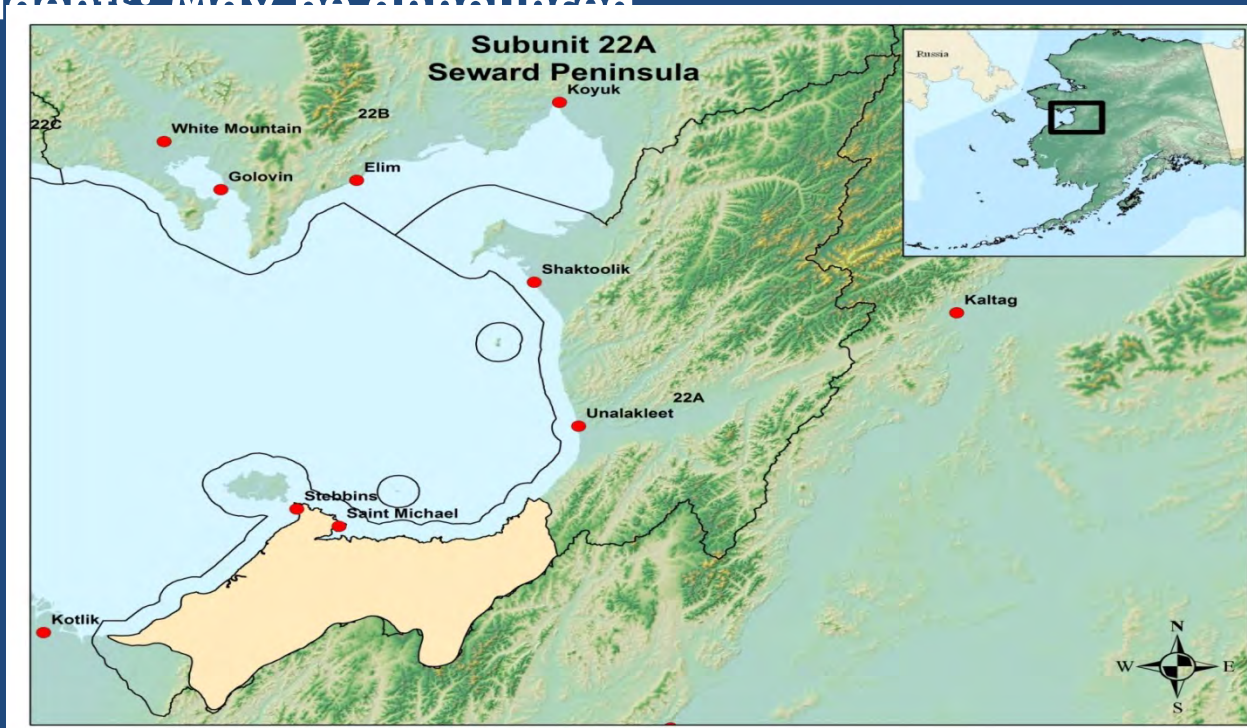
Southern Norton Sound AC

Take no action

Caribou Regulations

Unit 22A South Current Season and Bag Limit

- Residents: May be announced
- Nonresidents: May be announced



Open a hunting season for caribou in Unit 22A South of and including the Golsovia River drainage by emergency order.

Recommendation: Neutral

Public Proposal

Northern Norton Sound AC

Take no action

Southern Norton Sound AC

Take no action

Lengthen the spring season date in Unit 22C to April 1.

Recommendation: Neutral

Kawerak, Inc., Nome Eskimo Community

Unit 22C Current Season and Bag Limit

- **Fall: August 1 – October 31**
- **Spring: May 1 – May 31**
- **Residents: 1 bear every regulatory year**
- **Residents (subsistence): 1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit (RB699)**
- **Nonresidents: 1 bear every regulatory year by drawing permit**



- **Proximity to Nome**
- **Road accessible**

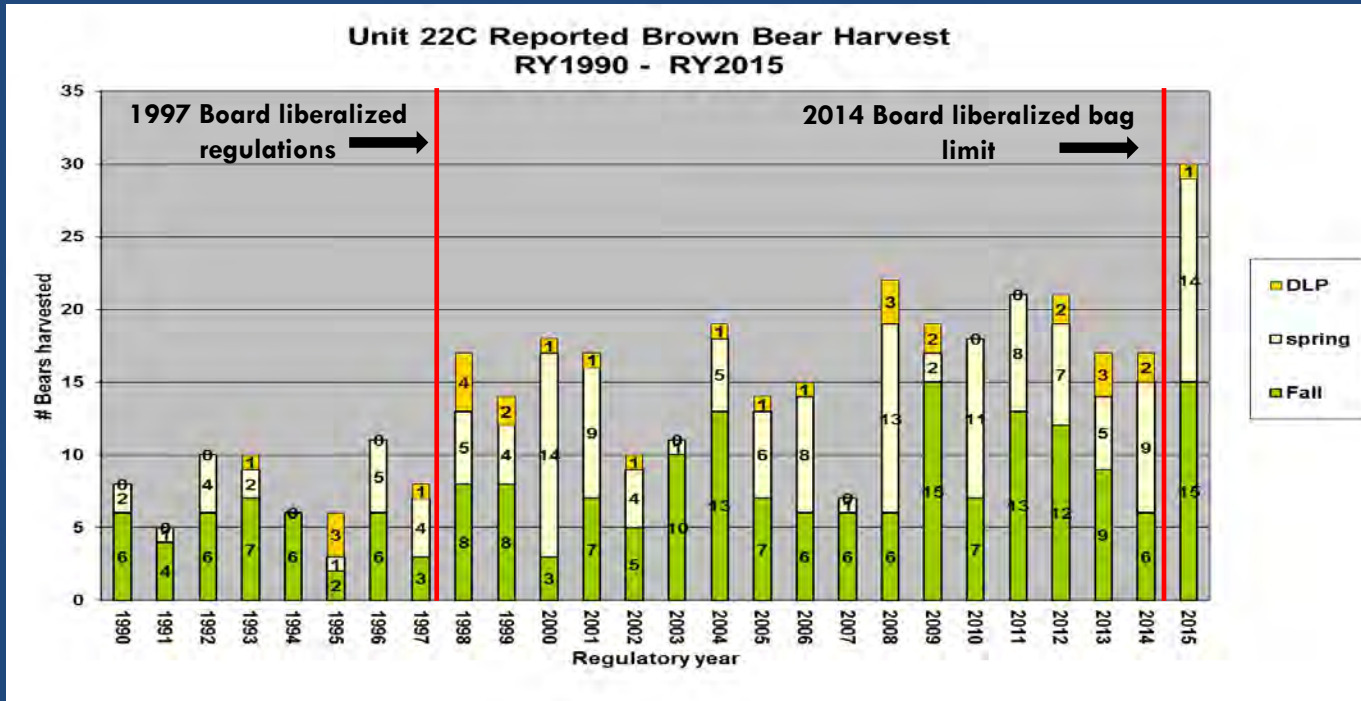
Unit 22C Bear Harvest

1990 – 1997

Average annual harvest = 8 bears

1998 – 2014

Average annual harvest = 16 bears

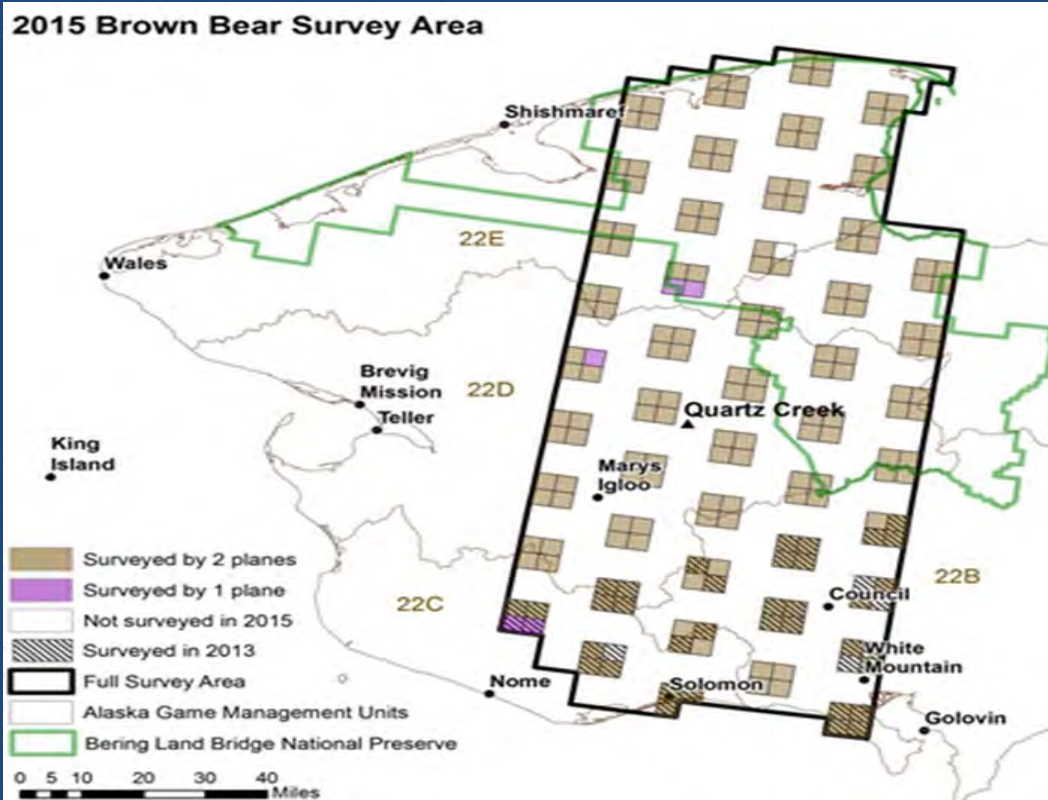


➤ The liberalized bag limit adopted in 2014 has only been in effect for 1 year

➤ The average annual 22C harvest for RY2015 increased 87%

2015 Unit 22 Bear Survey

National Park Service cooperative project

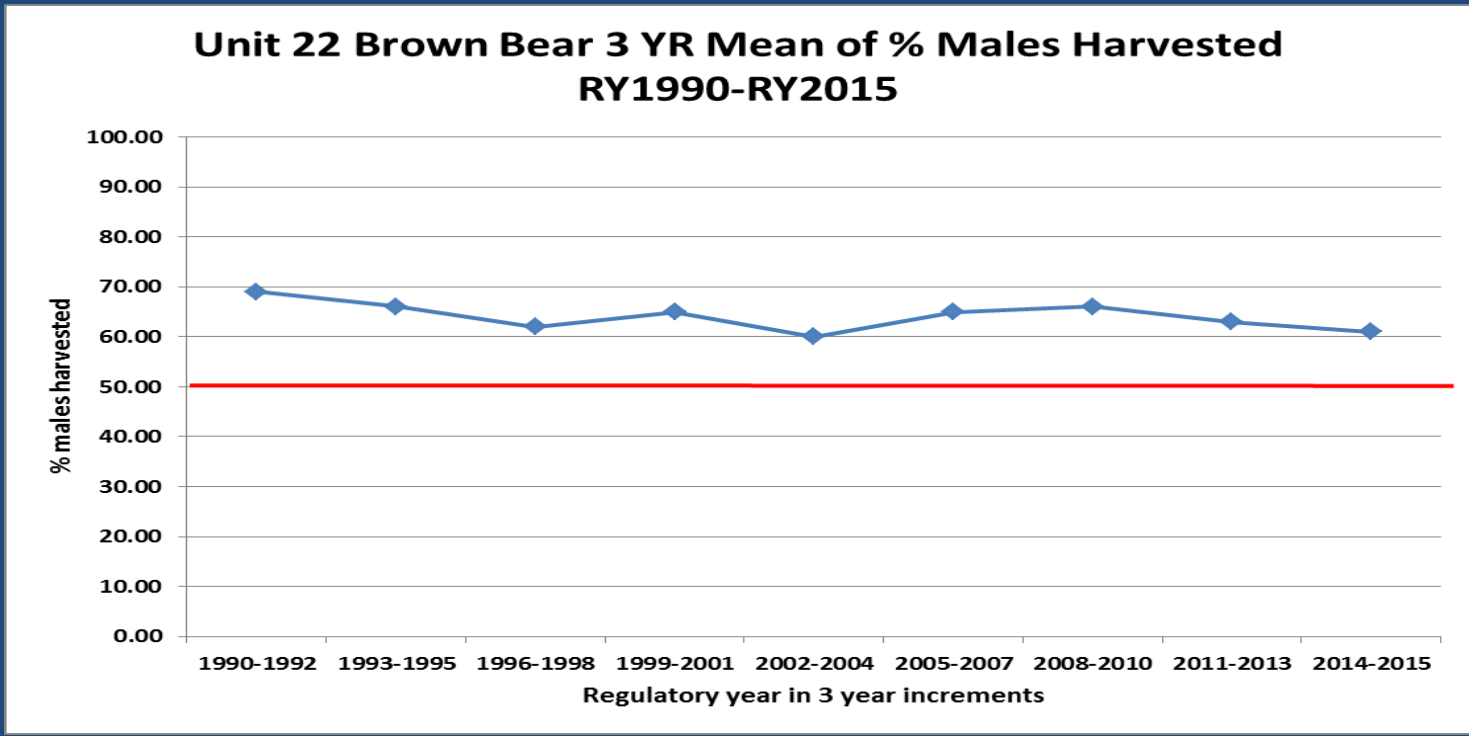


- Survey area 20,000 km²
- 36.5 bears/ 1000 km²

1991 ADF&G Survey

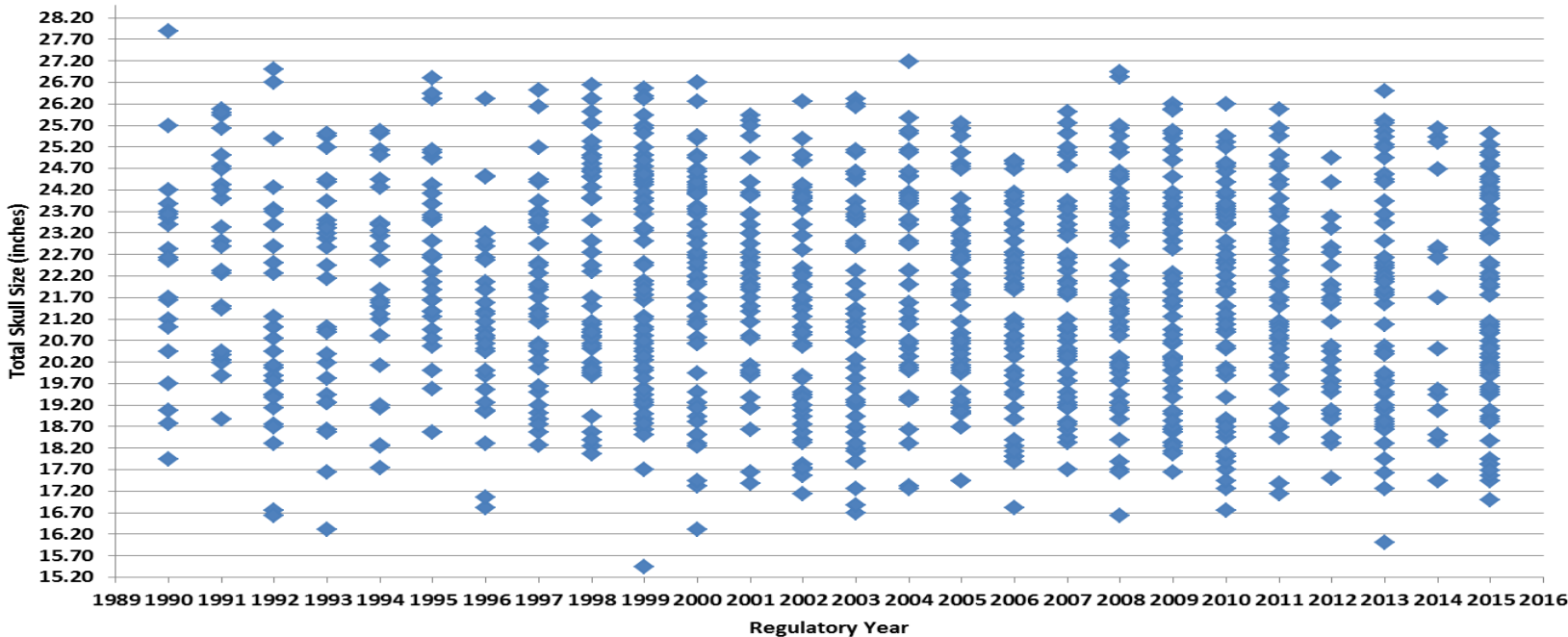
- Survey area 2,067 km²
- 29.1 bears/ 1000 km²

Unit 22 Brown Bear Male Harvest



Sub Unit	1990-1997	1998-2015
22A	70%	69%
22B	68%	63%
22C	52%	58%
22D	59%	63%
22E	77%	76%

Unit 22 Boar Brown Bear Skull Size by Regulatory Years 1990-2015

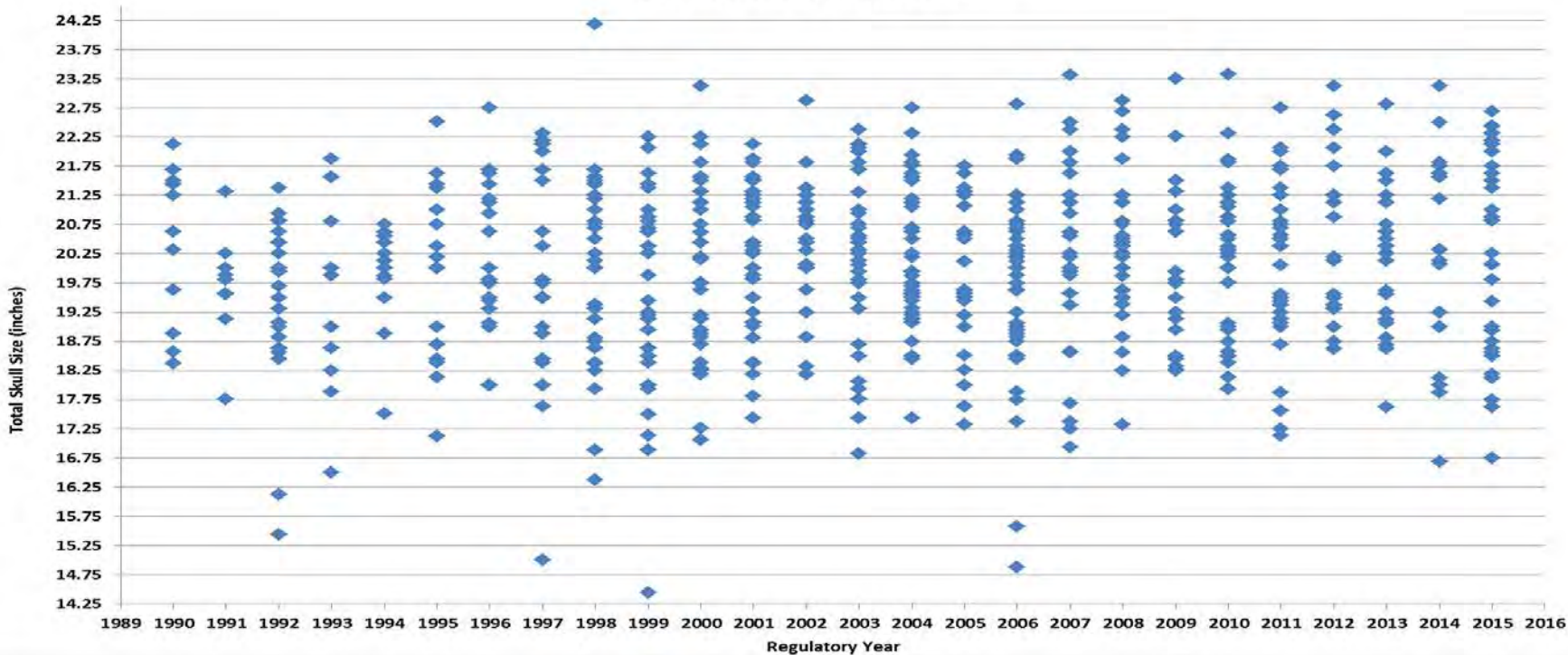


1990 – 1997
Average skull size = 22 inches
R Square = 0.0052
Average harvest age = 6 years old

1998 – 2015
Average skull size = 22 inches
R Square = 0.0055
Average harvest age = 7 years old

Non-selective harvest allows for a wide range of sizes to be consistent year after year

**Unit 22 Sow Brown Bear Skull Size by
Regulatory Years 1990-2015**



1990 – 1997
Average skull size = 20 inches
R Square = 0.0001

Average harvest age = 6 years old

1998 – 2015
Average skull size = 20 inches
R Square = 0.0045

Average harvest age = 7 years

Nome Urban Wildlife

- Increase in human-muskox interactions in Nome
- Document movement of muskox into City of Nome area
- Attribute to avoid bear predation
- Preliminary study documented brown bear predation on muskox calves
- Use Department authority to take game to promote public safety as defined in AS 16.05.050 (a)(5)
- Opportunity to hunt bears earlier may have a positive effect for



ANGIE GORN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS September 2011 photo



NEIL HANS

Lengthen the spring season date in Unit 22C to April 1.

Recommendation: Neutral

Kawerak, Inc., Nome Eskimo Community

Change the bag limit in Unit 22B to 2 bears every regulatory year

Recommendation: Neutral

Kawerak, Inc., Nome Eskimo Community

Brown Bear Regulations

Unit 22B Current Season and Bag Limit

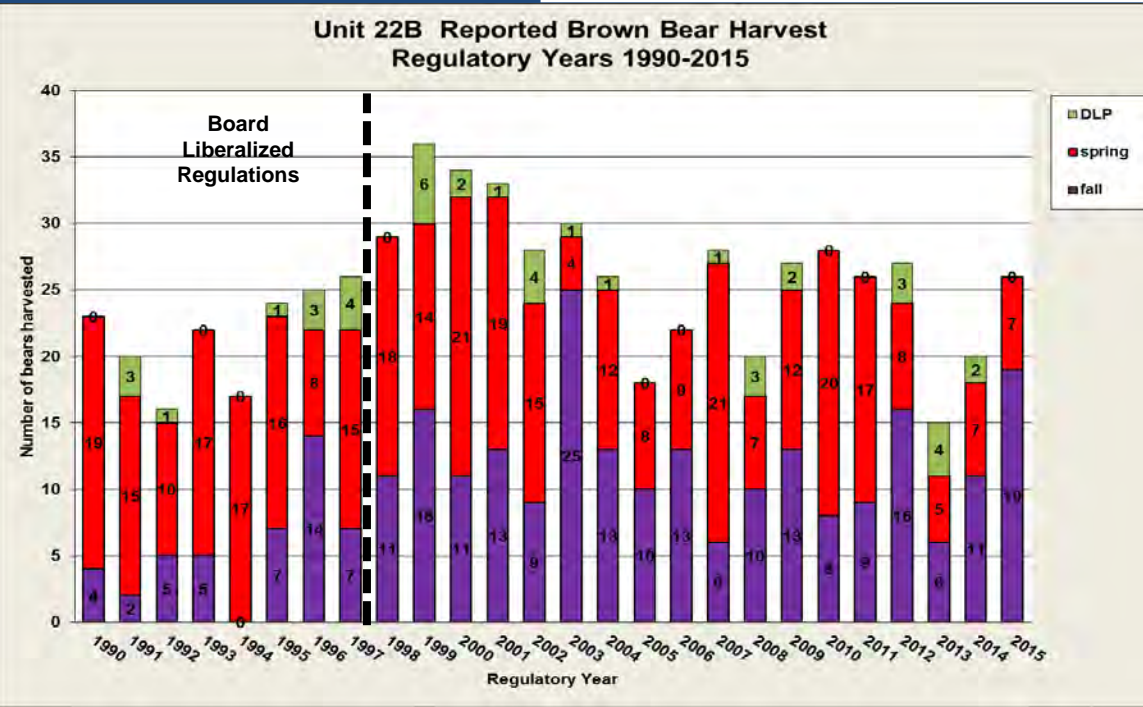
- **Fall: August 1 – May 31**
- **Residents: 1 bear every regulatory year**
- **Residents (subsistence): 1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit (RB699)**
- **Nonresidents: 1 bear every regulatory year by drawing permit (DB685)**



Proposal 31

Brown Bear / Unit 22B

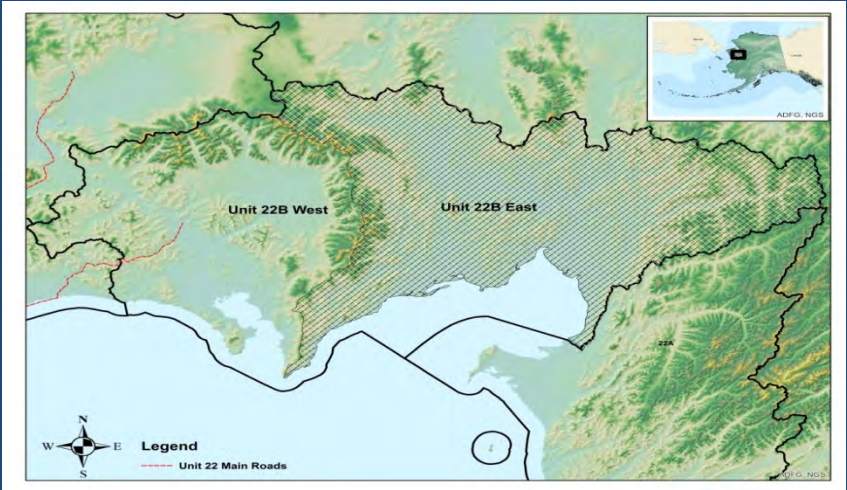
Unit 22B Brown Bear Harvest



1990 – 1997
Average annual harvest = 22 bears

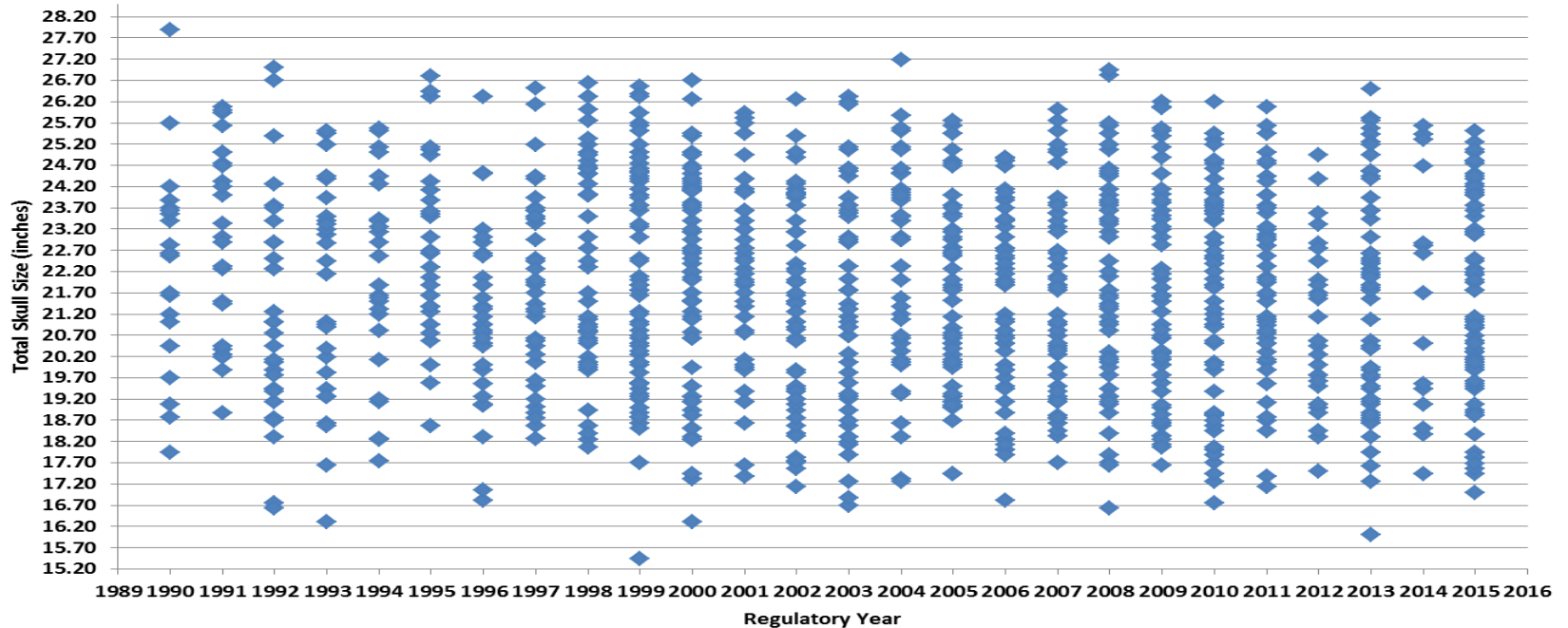
1998 – 2015
Average annual harvest = 26 bears
Harvest increased 18%

Spatial Harvest



- 60-88% of the annual 22B brown bear harvest is taken from West of the Darby Mountains.
- Unit 22B West average annual harvest = 20 bears/year
- Unit 22B East average annual harvest = 5 bears/year

Unit 22 Boar Brown Bear Skull Size by Regulatory Years 1990-2015



1990 – 1997

Average skull size = 22 inches

R Square = 0.0052

Average harvest age = 6 years old

1998 – 2015

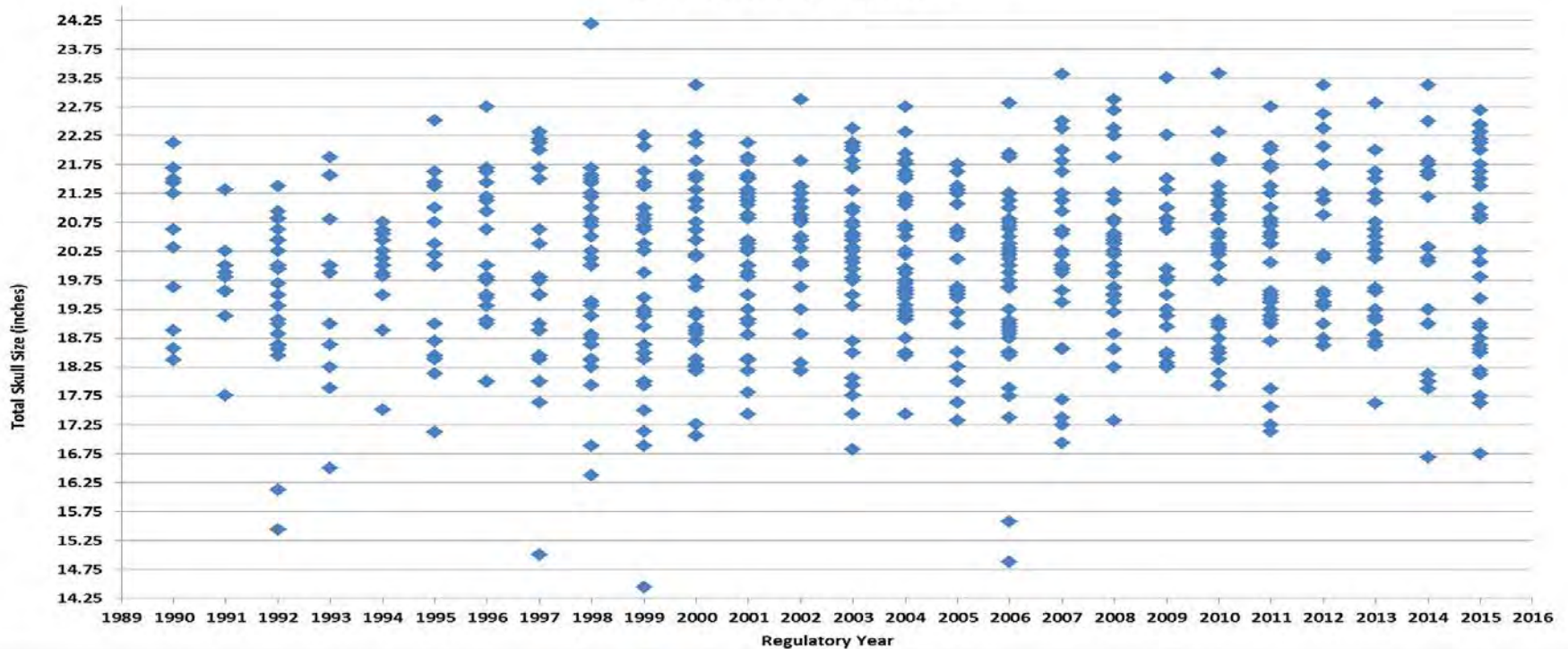
Average skull size = 22 inches

R Square = 0.0055

Average harvest age = 7 years old

Non-selective harvest allows for a wide range of sizes to be consistent year after year

Unit 22 Sow Brown Bear Skull Size by
Regulatory Years 1990-2015



1990 – 1997

Average skull size = 20 inches

R Square = 0.0001

Average harvest age = 6 years old

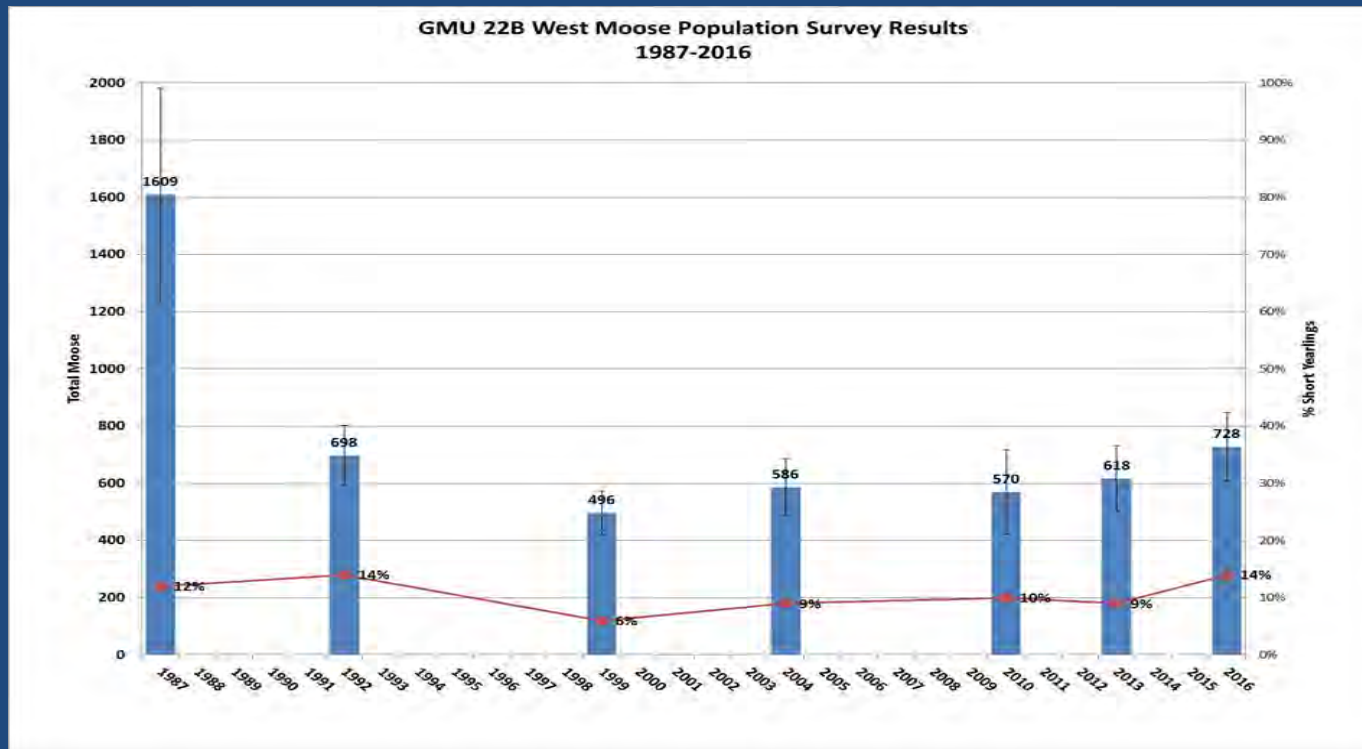
1998 – 2015

Average skull size = 20 inches

R Square = 0.0045

Average harvest age = 7 years old

Unit 22B West: Moose Population



- 2016 population estimate: of 728 observable moose (90% CI: 609 – 847 moose)
- 2016 spring recruitment: 14% short yearlings
- Highest recruitment 22B West has seen since 1992

Change the bag limit in Unit 22B to 2 bears every regulatory year

Recommendation: Neutral

Kawerak, Inc., Nome Eskimo Community

Lengthen the Unit 22A South brown bear hunting season to June 15.

Recommendation: Oppose

Public Proposal

Proposal 32

Brown Bear / Unit 22A

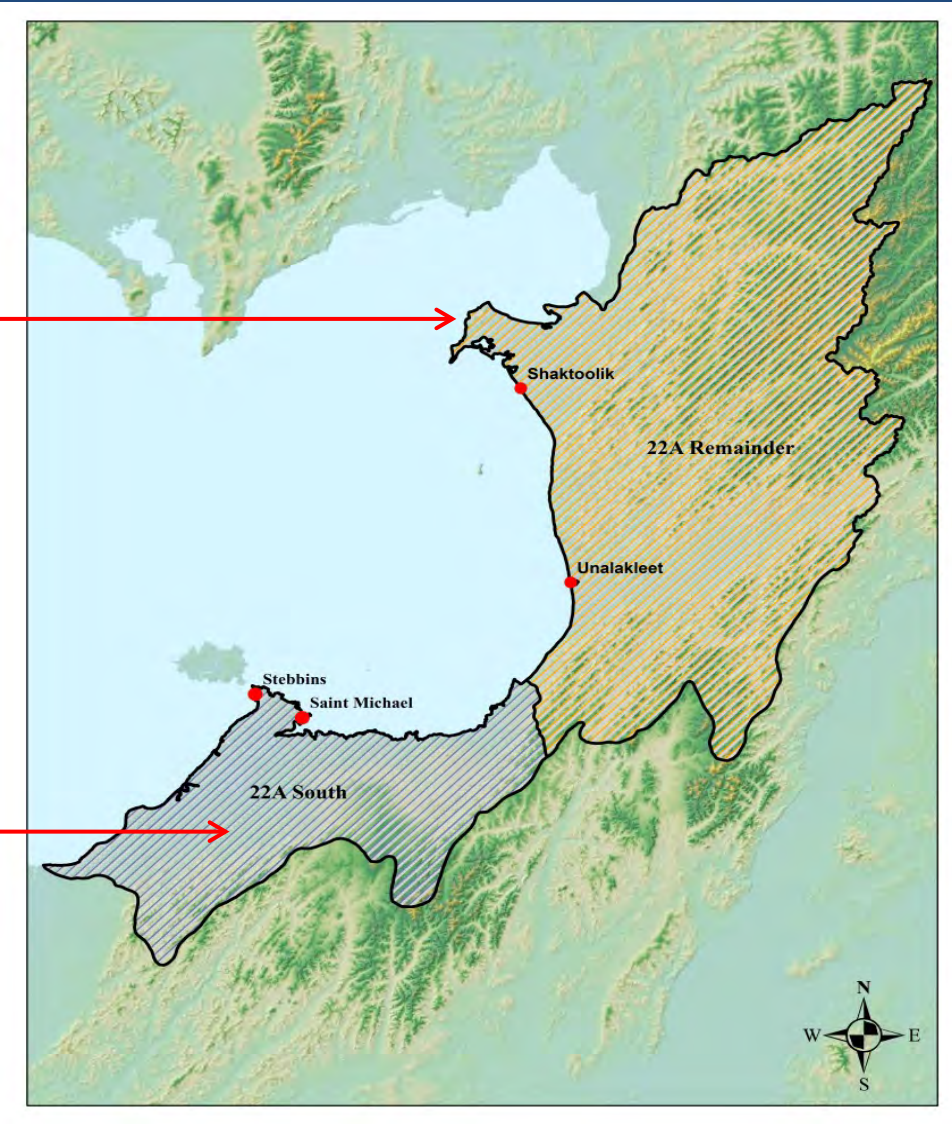
Unit 22A: Brown Bear Season & Bag Limit

Unit 22A Remainder

- August 1 – June 15
- Resident: 2 bears every regulatory year
- Resident (subsistence): 2 bears every regulatory year
- Nonresident: 1 bear every regulatory years

Unit 22A South

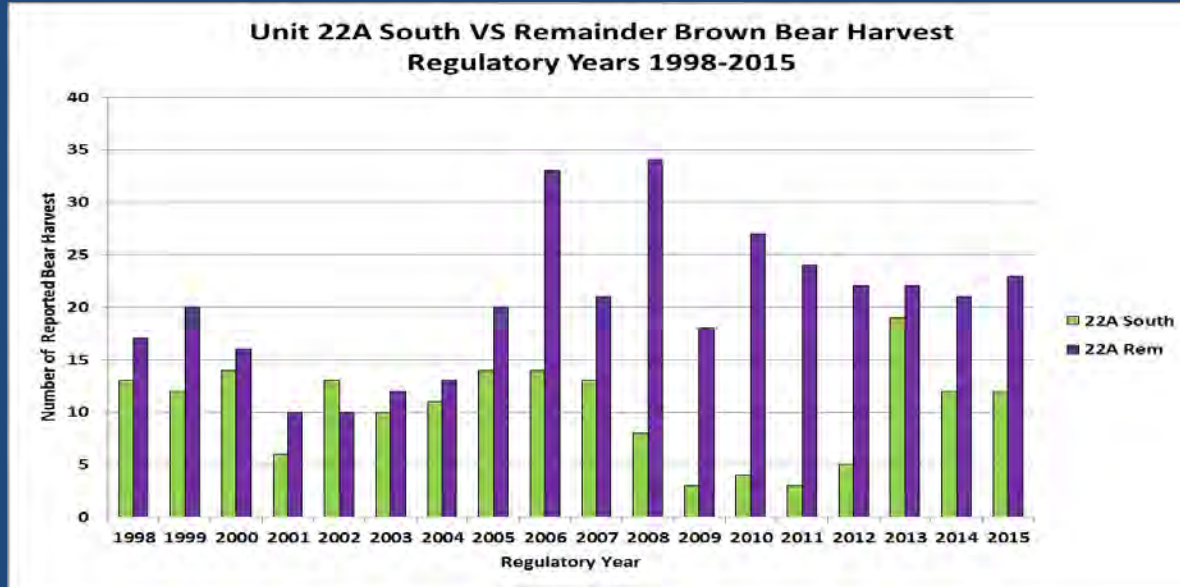
- August 1 – May 31
- Resident: 2 bears every regulatory year
- Resident (subsistence): 2 bears every regulatory year
- Nonresident: 1 brown bear/ regulatory years



22A South moose population:

- **The Department does not have a population estimate for this area. Unit 22A South has supported liberal hunting seasons.**
- **Resident: 90 day season by HT (has existed for 31 years)**
- **Nonresident: 30 day season by HT (has existed for 8 years)**
- **Brown bears do not appear to be adversely impacting the Unit 22A South moose population**

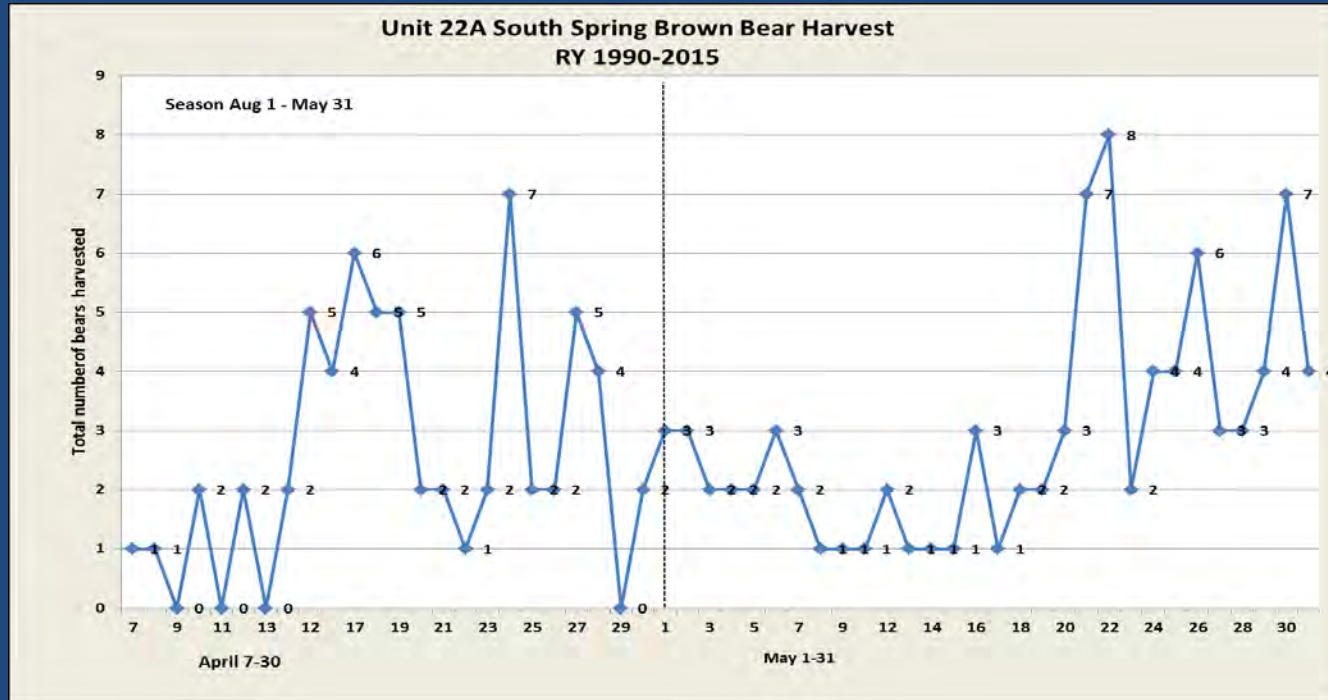
Unit 22A South and Remainder Brown Bear Harvest



Harvest Summary by Hunt Area 1998-2015

- **22A South: 34% (n = 186 bears)**
 - 75% by nonresidents
 - 25% by residents
- **22A Remainder: 66% (n = 362 bears)**
 - 82% by nonresidents

22A South: Chronology of Spring Harvest



- Brown bears congregate along the coast to feed on spawn-on kelp and spawning herring in early June.
- Bears are more visible and vulnerable to harvest when feeding on herring.
- Potential over harvest of brown bears with season extended

Lengthen the Unit 22A South brown bear hunting season to June 15.

Recommendation: Oppose

Public Proposal