#### GMU 13 Wolf Control Area: Winter 2008/2009



#### **ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13**

#### **PROGRAM DATES:**

March 2000 GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan passed BOG
 [Same Day Airborne (SDA) take was not allowed by the administration until January 2004]

March 2005 GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan reauthorized by BOG
 [17 January 2006 - Anchorage Superior Court Judge issued an order on motions for Summary Judgement in the case of Friends of Animals, et al., 3An-03-13489 CI, holding 5AAC 92.125 control plans invalid]

[25 January 2006 – BOG adopted Proposal 165 – temporarily reinstating the 5AAC 92.125 GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan]

March 2010 GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan will again be up for reauthorization (set to expire 1 July 2010)

5AAC 92.125(12) GMU 13 wolf control implementation plan]

# **ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13**

WOLF TAKE:	Same Day Airborne	Ground shooting	<u>Trapping</u>	<u>Snaring</u>	TOTAL*
2000-01	0	93	84	82	269
2001-02	0	83	67	73	223
2002-03	0	81	36	26	143
2003-04	125	51	28	42	246
2004-05	67	32	19	18	136
2005-06	61	23	31	30	145
2006-07	33	25	26	21	105
2007-08	33	9	24	24	90
2008-09 prelim.	28				

Given that the wolf control implementation plan was passed March 2000, some wolves taken after that point were taken using predator control means, by which snowmachines were used to position hunters/trappers to ground shoot wolves; so some but not all in that category were taken using predator control means.

\* Includes unknown method of take

# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 2000 to 2008 WOLF RESULTS TO DATE

ESTIMATES:	SPRING	FALL	
2000-01	270	520	
2001-02	220	480	
2002-03	230	420	
2003-04	250	490 [SDA bega	n Jan04]
2004-05	230	377	
2005-06	230	309	
2006-07	157	280	
2007-08	160	254	
2008-09	153	217-265 (preliminary	rest.)

**GMU 13 unit-wide spring wolf population objective 135-165** 

### ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 WOLF POPULATION TREND



Current Active Wolf Management





# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 2000 to 2008 MOOSE COUNT RESULTS TO DATE

Unit 13 moose numbers in standardized continuous count areas:

Total moose	3549	4481	Up 26%	3%
Cows	2710	2907	Up 7%	1%
Calves	292	563	Up 93%	12%
Yrl Bulls	78	341	Up 337%	42%
Bulls	547	1011	Up 85%	11%
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>% Change</u> Av	ve. annual % Change

Opposed to strict census techniques, these survey counts are used mostly to assess population composition and indicate population trends over time.

# **MOOSE COUNT TRENDS**



Current Active Wolf Management



# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 2000 to 2008 MOOSE COMPOSITION RESULTS TO DATE

	<u>2000</u>	2008	% Change	Ave. Annual % Change
Calves:100 cows	10.8	19.4	Up 80%	Up 10%
Bulls:100 cows	20.2	34.8	Up 72%	Up 9%

Calf and Bull composition objectives are 25-30:100 cows

# **MOOSE COMPOSITION TRENDS**



Current Active Wolf Management



# ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 2000 to 2008 MOOSE HARVEST RESULTS TO DATE

	Α	B	С	D	E	Total*
Objective	210-420	310-620	155-350	75-190	300-600	1050-2180
2000	115	148	101	77	96	537
2001	122	125	63	59	86	455
2002	169	163	80	62	90	564
2003	175	179	71	71	117	613
2004	214	129	62	68	120	593
2005	184	149	51	63	109	556
2006	225	172	57	68	156	678
2007	207	172	63	57	137	636
2008	220	178	58	60	159	675

\*Total includes moose from unspecified harvest locations; 2008 data preliminary

It is important to note that while moose numbers have increased, the current harvest regulations are still restrictive, and do not allow for all the harvestable surplus to be taken.

#### ACTIVE WOLF MANAGEMENT IN UNIT 13 PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

> There are no immediate plans to change the current wolf control plan.

- Wolf population objectives are being met (last 3 years)
- Moose numbers in count areas are increasing ~3% annually

Moose harvest numbers across the control area have been steadily rising due to substantial increases in the annual available surplus.

With bull:cow ratios above objectives, changes in moose hunting regulations are now necessary to take advantage of additional surplus bulls.