

Fairbanks Area

Game Management Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F and 25C

Area Biologist Tony Hollis

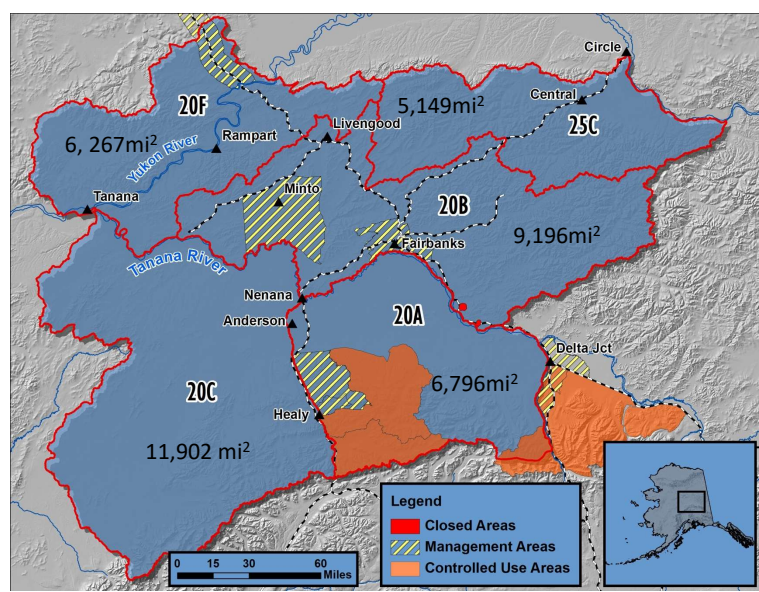
Asst. Area Biologist Jeff Wells



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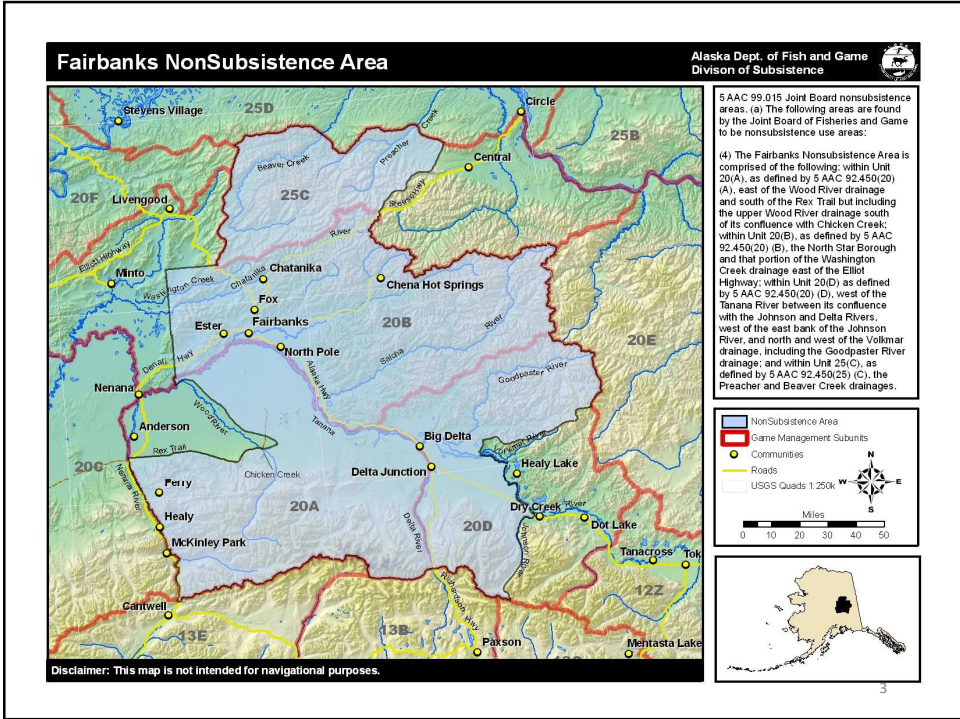
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Fairbanks Area (39,310 mi²)

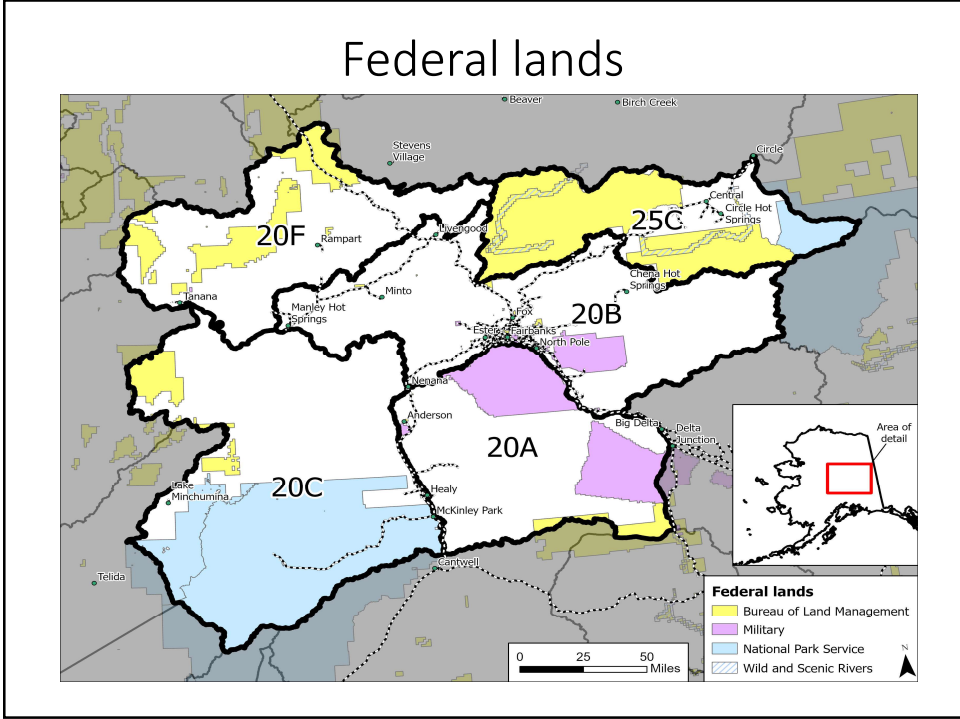


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Fairbanks Advisory Committees

7 Advisory Committees

- Fairbanks AC- meet monthly
- Middle Nenana AC- meet monthly
- Minto/Nenana AC- meet regularly
- Tanana Rampart Manley AC- meet once or twice /year
- Delta AC- attend one or two meetings per year
- Central AC- meet once per year
- Minchumina AC- Occasional meetings

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Fairbanks Area Overview

18 proposals for this BOG meeting

- Unit 20A = 2 moose proposals, 1 caribou proposal, 1 sheep proposal.
- Unit 20B = 4 moose proposals, 1 Beaver proposal.
- Unit 20C = 1 wolverine proposal.
- Wolf = 1 proposal near Denali National Park.
- Brown Bear = 4 proposals.
- Controlled use areas = 2 proposals for 20A.
- GMU boundary = 1 proposal.

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Furbearers



Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F and 25C harvest 2018-2022

- Lynx = 626 per year
- Otter = 16 per year
- Wolverine = 68 per year
- Marten, mink, ermine, fox, coyote, muskrat and beaver = no harvest data.
- Species are common and we have no conservation concerns.
- 1 wolverine proposal, 1 beaver proposal

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Black bears



Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, 25C 2018-2022

- Harvest = average 156 per year.
- Most of harvest occurs during springtime over bait stations
- Area wide = 570 bait stations per year
- Unit 20B most popular – average 73 bears per year

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Brown Bears

- No population estimates in the Fairbanks area units.
- Average harvest of 58 bears per year 2018-2022. All units.
- 35% of brown bears are taken in the spring over bait

➤ 4 Brown Bear Proposals

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Caribou



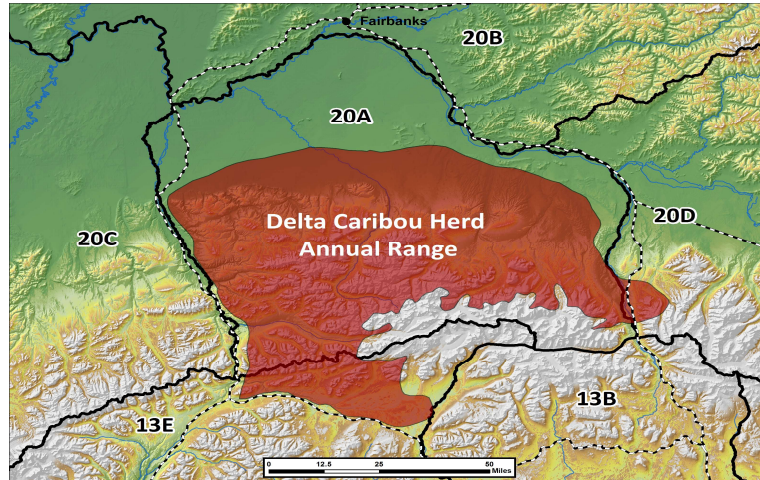
- 4 herds in the Fairbanks area
- Delta, Denali, 40 mile and White Mountains herd
- Denali herd = not monitored
- Delta herd = Estimated at 2,500-3,500 animals
- 40 Mile herd= managed by the Tok Area
- White Mountains herd = Declining with less than 300 animals.

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Area Overview

20A/Caribou



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Caribou Cont.

Delta herd

- Issue 150 drawing permits annually
 - 8,142 applicant in 2022
- 2019-2023 harvest = 65 bull caribou per year harvested.
- Not an IM herd

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Caribou Cont.

Delta Herd

- Conduct annual composition surveys
- Monitor approximately 40 collared animals
- Delta herd often mixes with Nelchina herd
- Emigration from Delta to Nelchina herds exist

➤ 1 Caribou Proposals

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Wolves

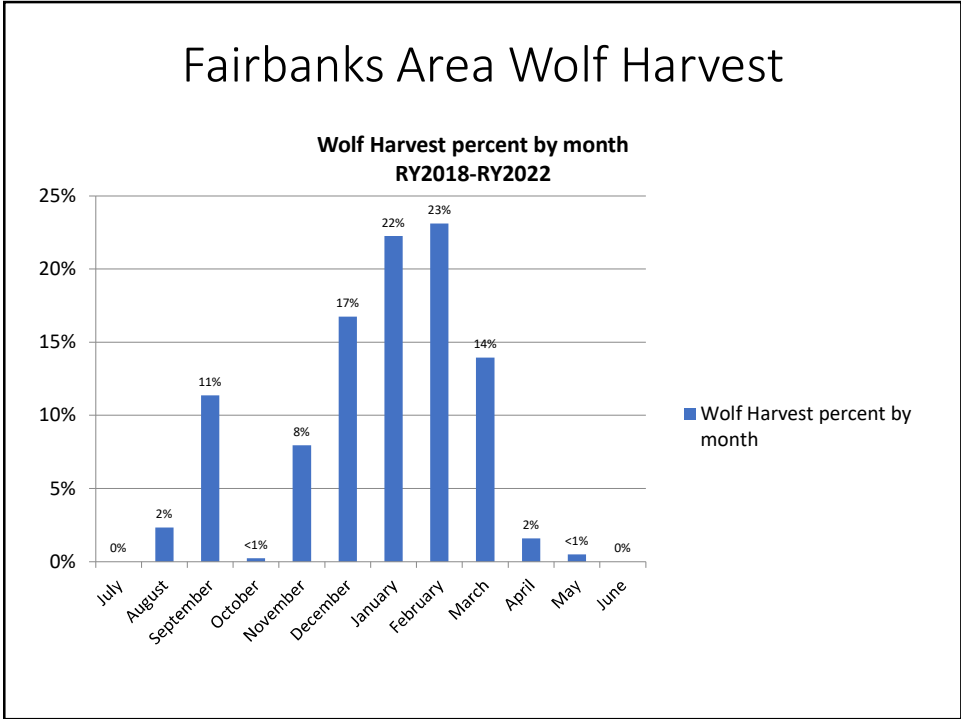
• Average annual harvest by unit for 2018-2022

- 20A = 52 wolves
- 20B = 63 wolves
- 20C = 18 wolves
- 20F = 9 wolves
- 25C = 23 wolves



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Wolves

- Only have wolf density estimates in 20A and 20C. No unitwide surveys have been conducted in 20B, 20F or 25C.
- Unit 20A
 - 2015 estimate = 22.3 wolves/1000mi²
- Unit 20C
 - 2012 estimate = 10.7 wolves/ 1000mi²

➤ **1 Wolf Proposal**

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Small Game

- Snowshoe hare populations are at the low in the cycle
- Grouse populations are at moderate levels.
- Ptarmigan populations appear to be stable and likely increasing.
- No proposals during this BOG cycle

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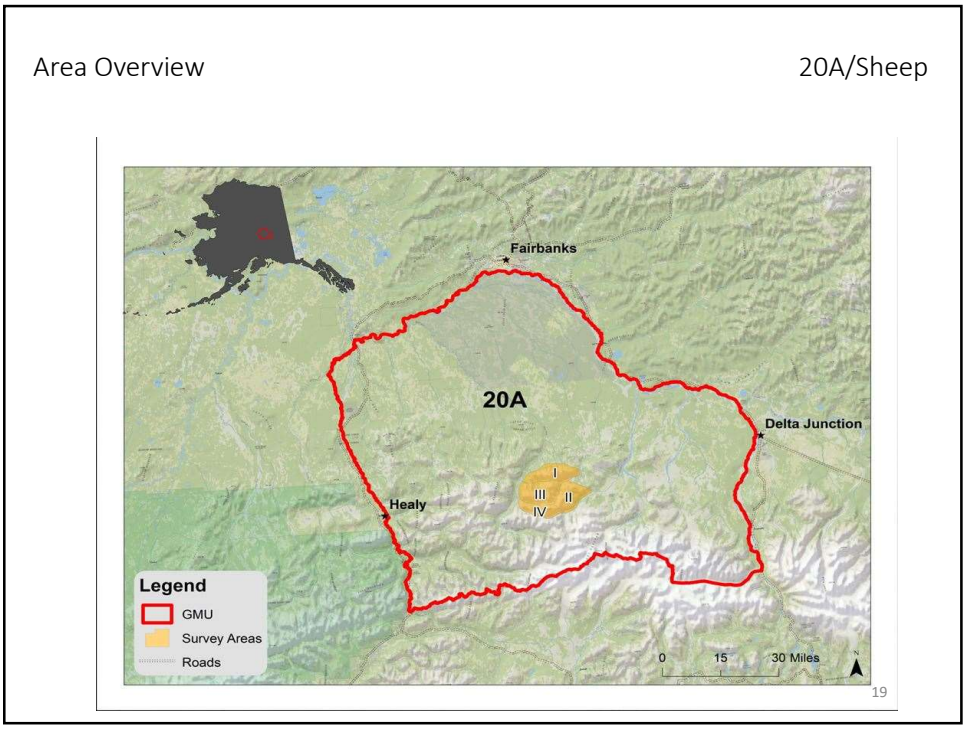
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Sheep

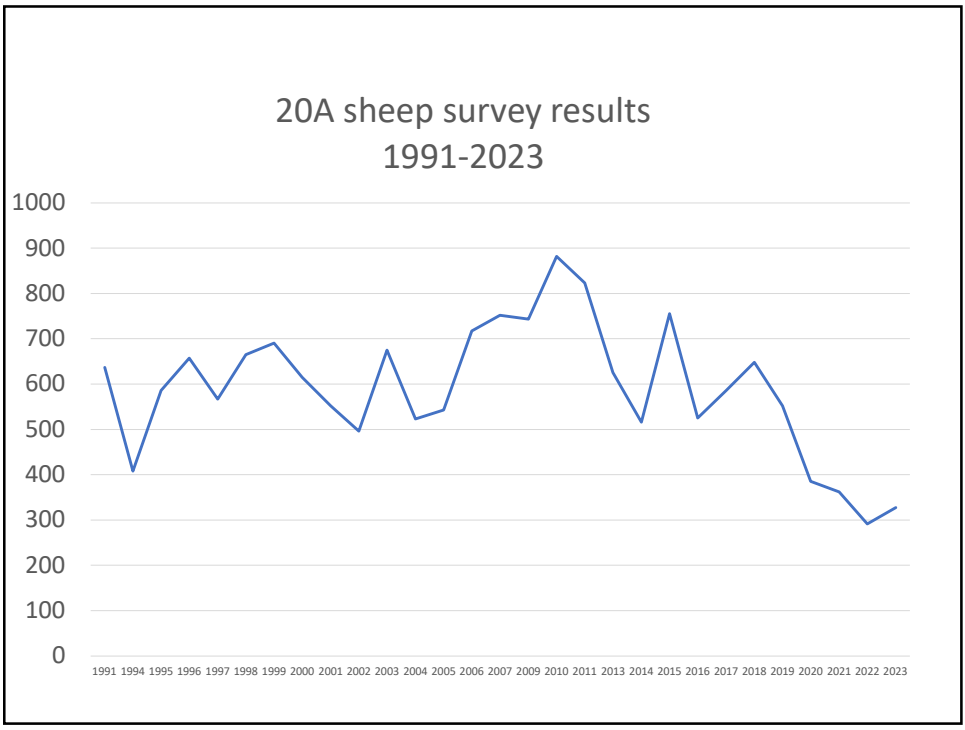
- Alaska Range (20A) – Population declined
- 2014-2018 Harvest = Average 107 rams per year
- 2019-2023 Harvest = Average 54 rams per year
- 2014-2018 Hunters = Average 280 hunters per year
- 2019-2023 Hunters = Average 191 hunters per year

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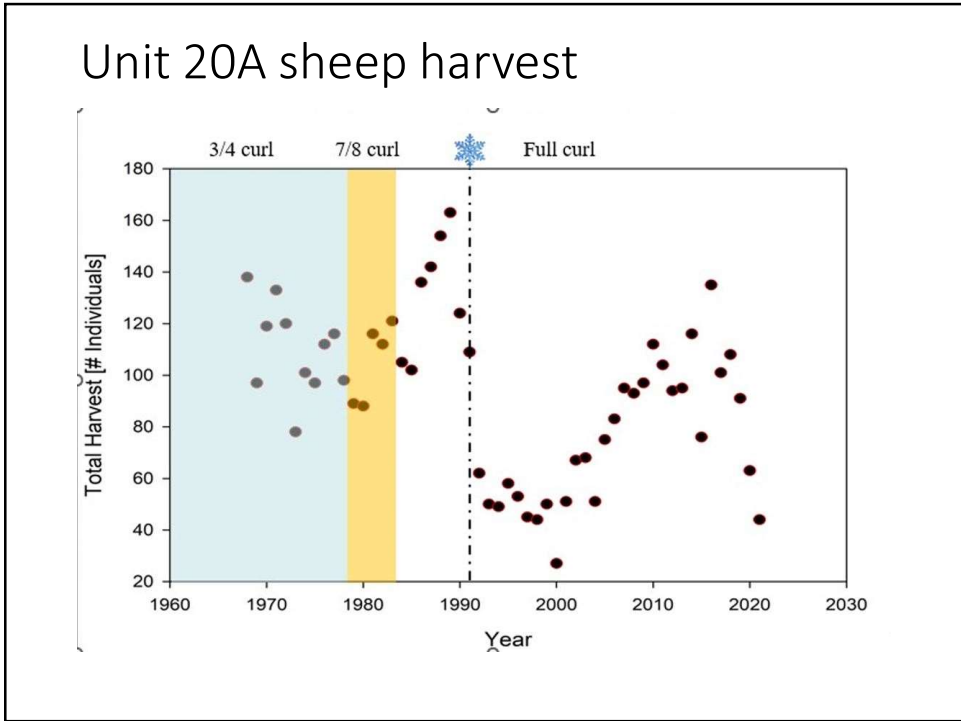
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Sheep Cont.

- Units 25C (White Mountains) and 20B (Tanana Hills) – Population low– effort and harvest relatively low
- 2014-2018 Harvest = 8 rams per year
- 2019-2023 Harvest = 4 rams per year
- 2014-2018 Hunters = 41 per year.
- 2019-2023 Hunters = 40 per year
- **1 sheep proposal this cycle.**

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Moose

Fairbanks area units continue to have high effort and high harvest.

2019-2023 = 24,275 hunters harvested 5,704 moose.

4,855 hunters per year harvest 1,141 moose per year.

Fairbanks area has a lot of access and a large population of people.



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Moose Cont.

Game Units 20C, 20F, 25C

- Lower density moose populations
- For the most part don't get surveyed
- Harvest and effort is monitored in these units
- No antlerless moose hunts

Game Units 20A and 20B

- High density moose populations
- Survey moose regularly
- Population estimates and twinning surveys
- Research conducted
- Antlerless hunts exist (currently very few)

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Unit 20B Moose

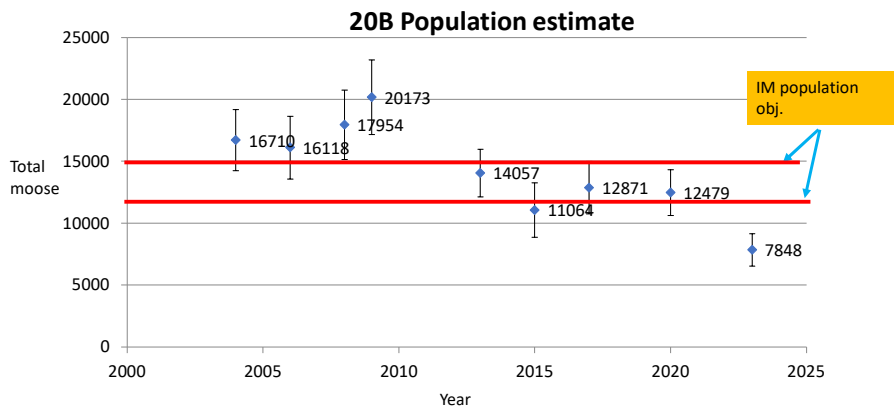
- IM Population Objective = 12,000-15,000
 - IM Harvest Objective = 600-1,500
 - 2019-2023 = 2,161 hunters annually
 - 2019-2023 = 327 bulls and 49 cows harvested annually
 - 2023 Unit wide bull:cow ratio = 26:100
 - 2023 Unit wide calf:cow ratio = 40:100
- 4 Proposals

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Fairbanks Overview

20B/Moose



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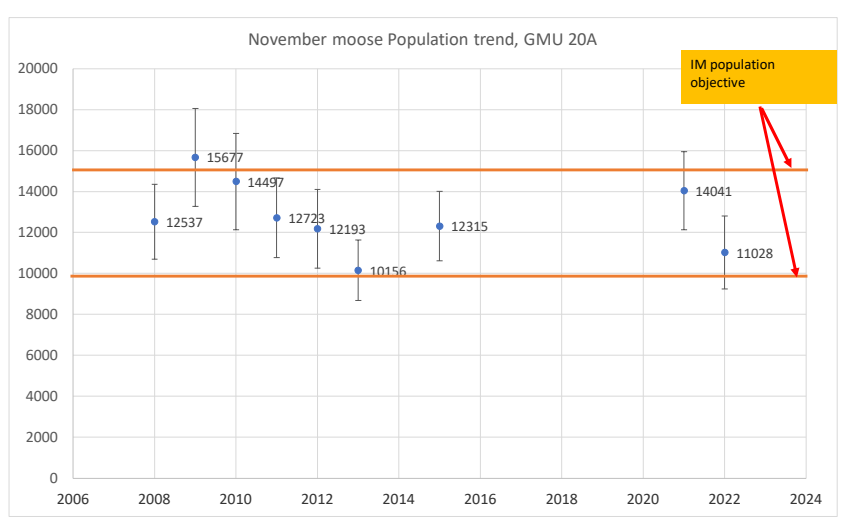
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20A Moose

- IM Population Objective =10,000-15,000
- IM Harvest Objective = 600-900
- 2019-2023 = 1,610 hunters annually
- 2019-2023 = 514 moose harvested annually
- Unit wide bull:cow ratio = 28:100
- Unit wide calf:cow ratio = 33:100
- 2 proposals

Fairbanks Overview

20A/moose



20C Moose

- 2011 population estimate = 3,800 moose
- 2011 bull:cow ratio = 49:100

- The IM population objective = 3,000-4,000 moose
- The IM harvest objective = 150-400 moose

- 2019-2023 average harvest = 154 moose
- 2019-2023 average hunters = 594 hunters

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20F, 25C Moose

Unit 20F

2019 – 2023

- Hunters = 164 per year
- Harvest = 33 per year

Unit 25C

• 2019 – 2023

- Hunters = 324 per year
- Harvest = 65 per year

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Fairbanks Area Issues

- Sheep populations are low
 - Same issue statewide
 - Favorable winters and good lamb cohorts are needed
- Moose populations declined
 - The winter of 2021 was the main cause
 - Antlerless hunts are mostly on hold
- Wood Bison Reintroduction
- Advisory committee distrust- Not all ac's

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Fairbanks Area

Questions?

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