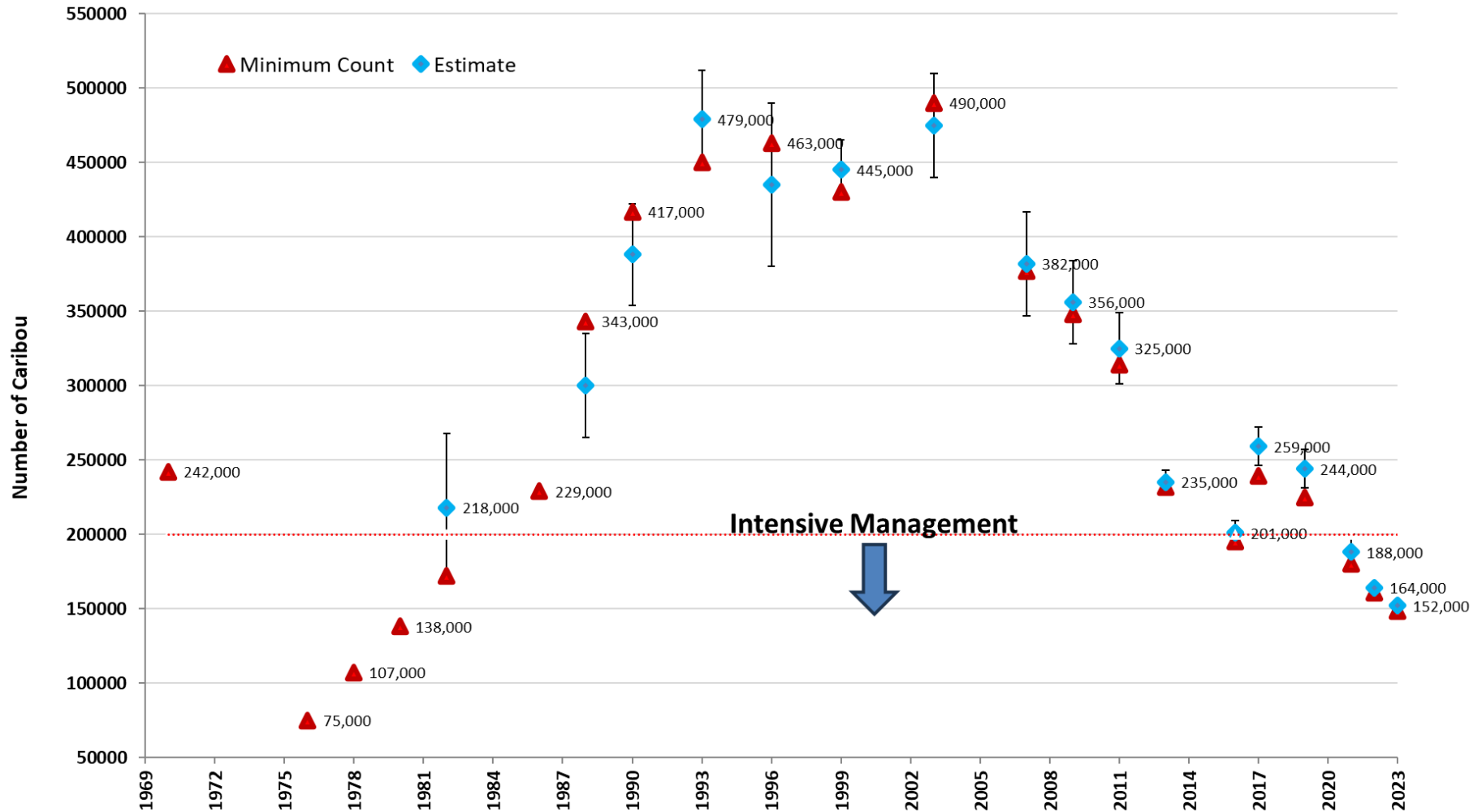




2025 WAH Update Western Arctic Caribou Herd

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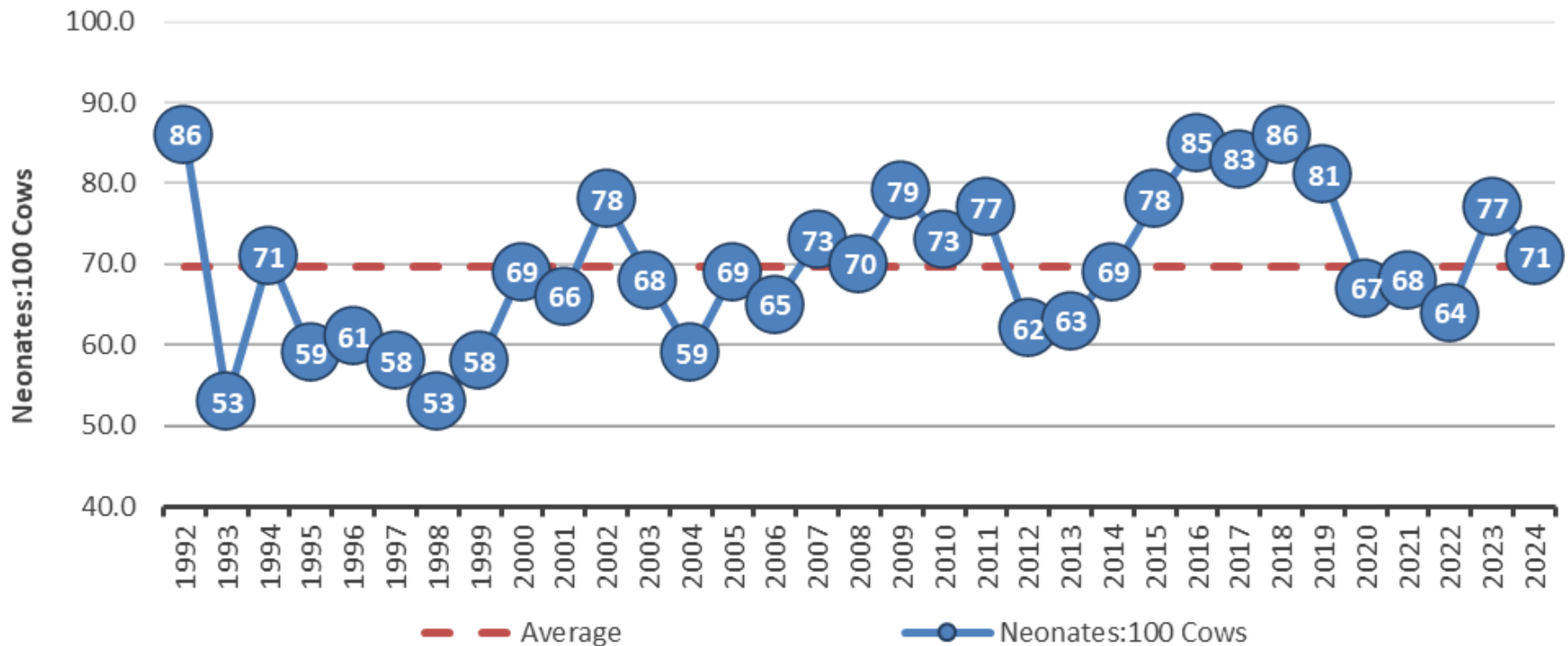
WAH Abundance



Calving

- Parturition - 71% (2024)
 - Long-term average (70%)

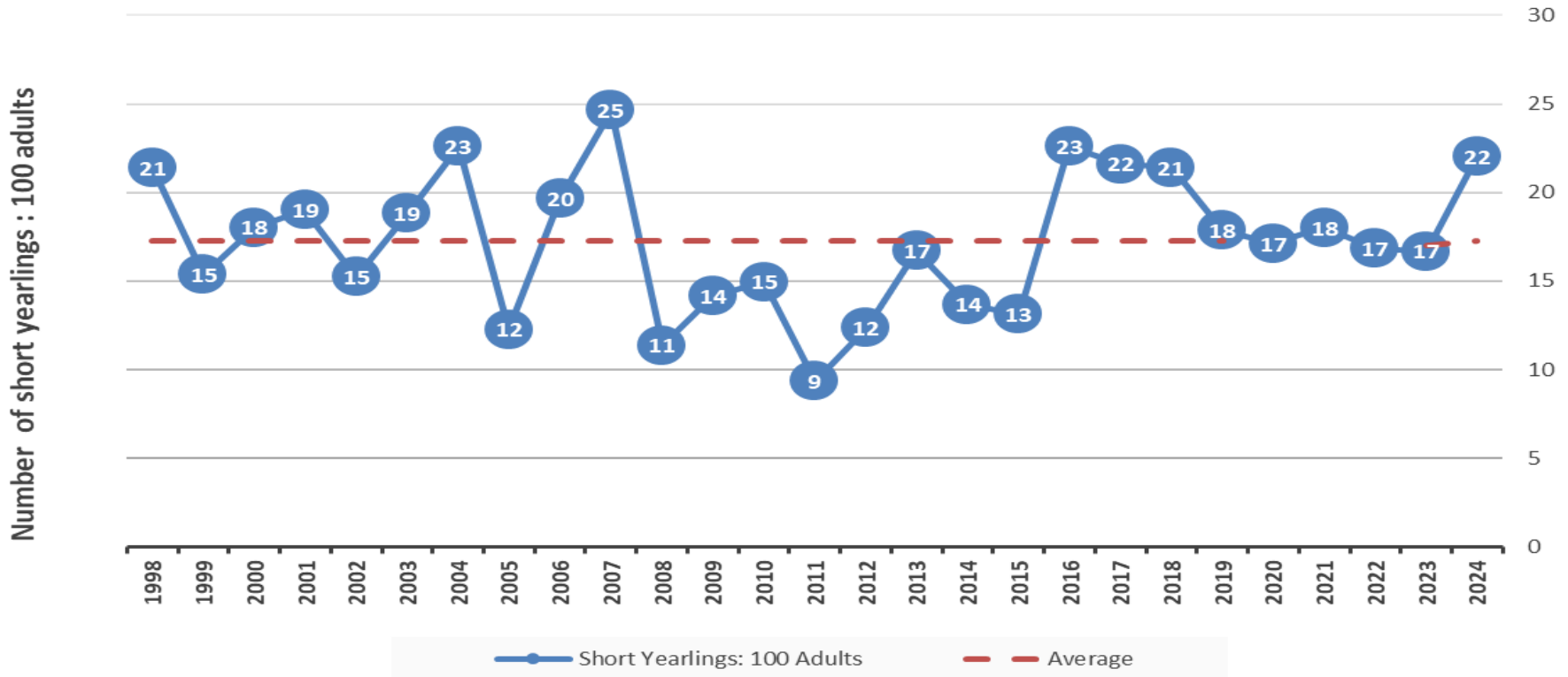
Parturition Rates



Recruitment

- Short Yearling Recruitment = 22:100 adults(above average)
- Long term average = 17

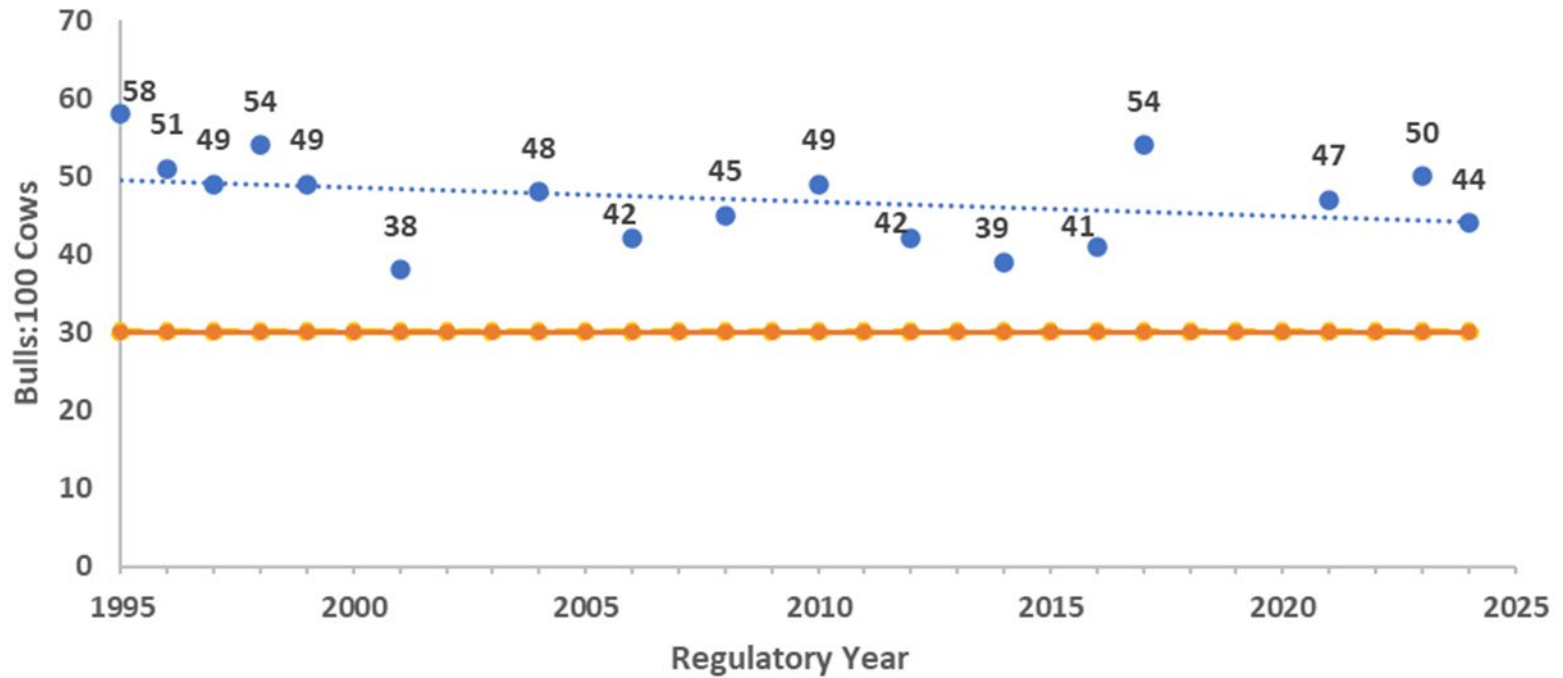
WAH Short Yearling Survey Results



Fall Composition

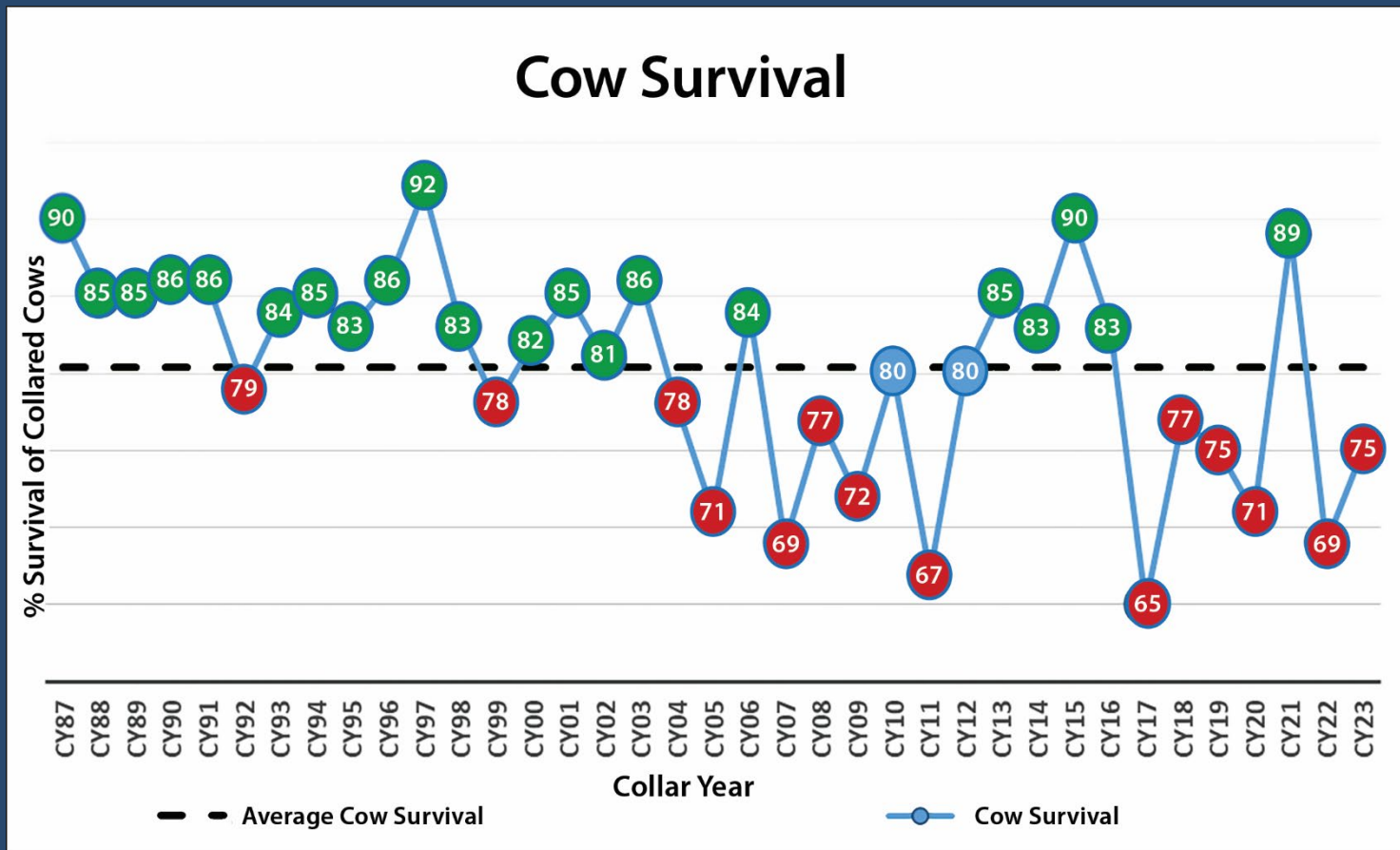


Fall Bull: Cow Ratio 1995-2024



Adult Survival

- Adult Female Survival – 75% (below average)
 - Long term average = 80%

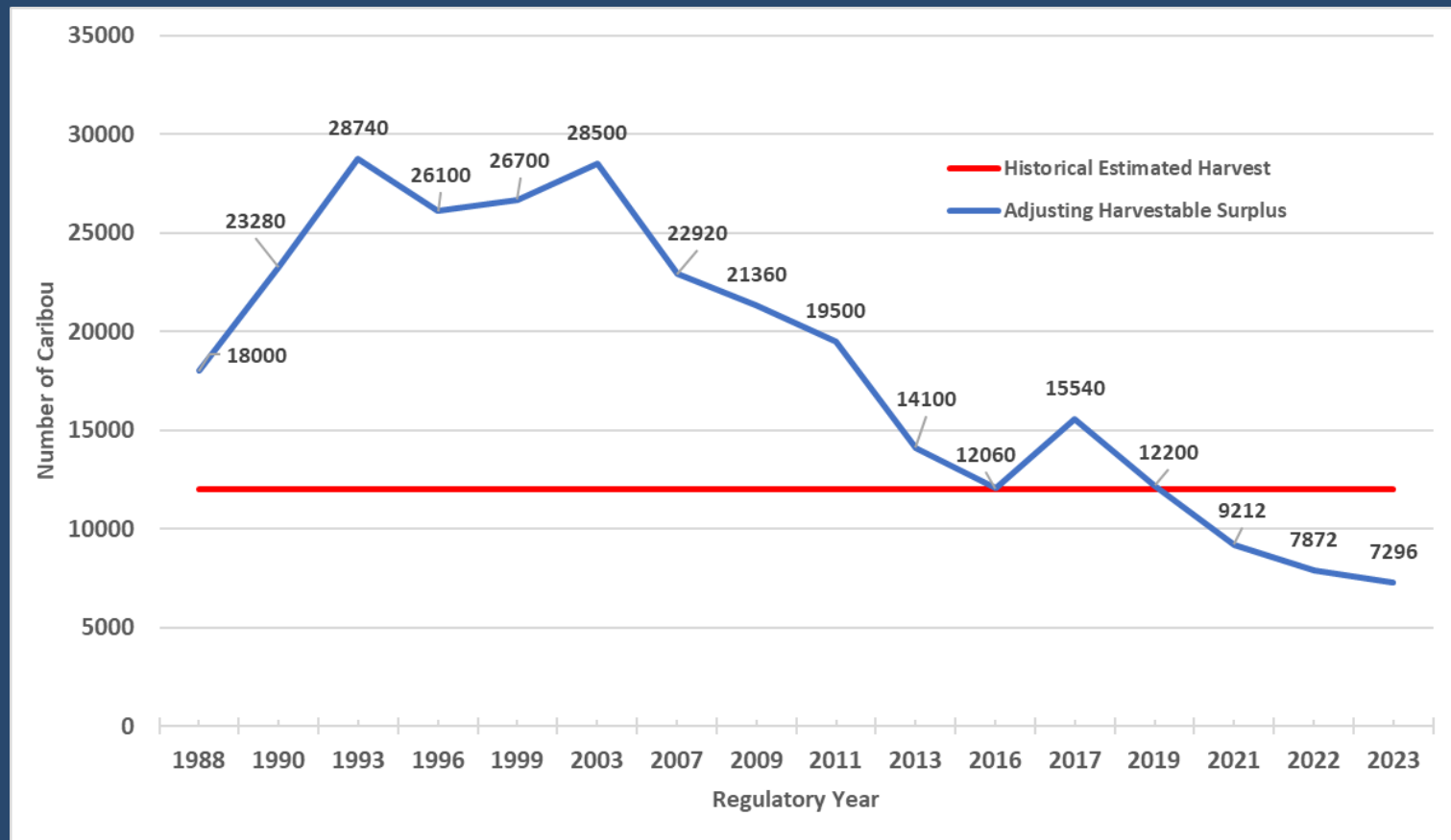


Working Group Plan

	Population Trend		
Management Level	Declining Adult Cow Survival <80% Calf Recruitment <15:100	Stable Adult Cow Survival 80%-88% Calf Recruitment 15-22:100	Increasing Adult Cow Survival >88% Calf Recruitment >22:100
Liberal	Pop: 265,000+ Harvest: 14,000+	Pop: 230,000+ Harvest: 14,000+	Pop: 200,000+ Harvest: 14,000+
Conservative	Pop: 200,000-265,000 Harvest: 10,000-14,000	Pop: 170,000-230,000 Harvest: 10,000-14,000	Pop: 150,000-200,000 Harvest: 10,000-14,000
Preservative	Pop: 130,000-200,000 Harvest: 6,000-10,000	Pop: 115,000-170,000 Harvest: 6,000-10,000	Pop: 100,000-150,000 Harvest: 6,000-10,000
Critical	Pop: <130,000 Harvest: <6,000	Pop: <115,000 Harvest: <6,000	Pop: <100,000 Harvest: <6,000

Limiting Cow Harvest

- IM Objective of at least 200,000
 - Harvest Objective 12,000-20,000
- WAH and TCH combined ANS of 8,000-12,000
- Harvestable surplus is approximately 7300; with no more than 1% or fewer of the available cows (~750)



Proposals to BOG & FSB

BOG Proposal #2

- Reduce the resident bag limit to 4 caribou annually, of which only 1 may be a cow in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A

BOG Proposal #3

- Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A

FSB Proposal WP 24-28

- Reduce the harvest limit of caribou across the range of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd to 4 caribou per year per permit, only one of which may be a cow

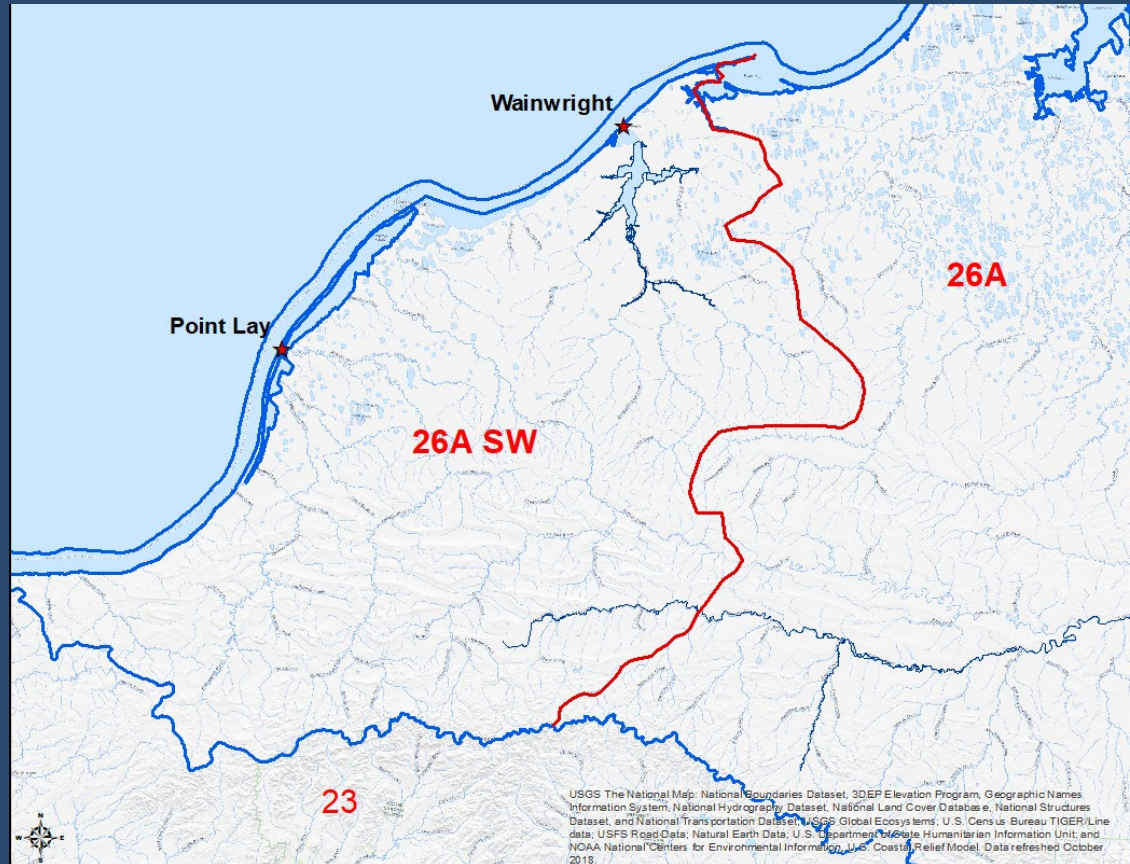
FSB Proposal WP 24-30/31

- Close to non-federally qualified users in Unit 23 from Aug 1 – Oct 31

Board of Game Actions (Caribou)

Bag Limit changed
in GMUs 22, 23,
and SW Portion of
26A (Wainwright
& Pt. Lay)

- Bag limit is now:
15 caribou per
year only 1 of
which may be a
cow



Board of Game Actions (Caribou)

Nonresident Caribou in GMU 23

- Changed from general harvest ticket to Drawing tag with up to 300 permits issued (1 bull)

Expand Anaktuvuk Pass

Controlled Use Area (CUA)

- (N) South bank of Coleville River
- (W) To the Eastern bank of the Killik River



Board of Game Actions (Non-Caribou)

Increased bear harvest opportunity

- Year-round resident brown bear harvest in GMU 23
- Nonresident limit increased to 2 bears a year



Federal Subsistence Board Actions

Individual caribou harvest limit was reduced across the range of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd

- GMU's 21D remainder, 22, 23, 24B remainder, 24C, 24D, and the southwestern portion of Unit 26A to 15 caribou/year, only one of which may be a cow

Federal public lands in Unit 23 closed to caribou hunting by non-federally qualified users

- Aug.1-Oct. 31 unless the Western Arctic Herd exceeds 200,000 caribou

How to help

- ✓ Report caribou harvest through RC907
- ✓ Reduce the harvest of cows

Let cows live.

[Alex Hansen](#)
[Alaska Department](#)
[of Fish & Game](#)



Cows produce calves.
Their calves grow into
adults and produce
more calves.

