



Laberge Moose Management Unit (MMU)

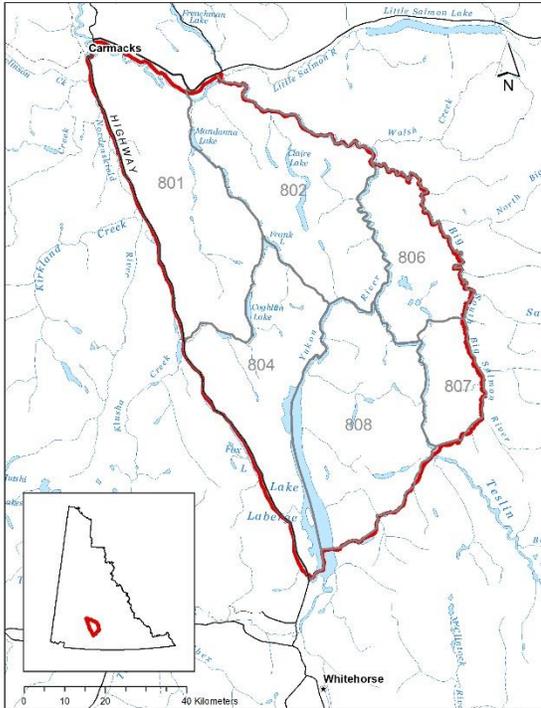
Late – Winter Moose Survey, February 16-17 & 19-26, 2019

MMU - Status

GMS: 801, 802, 804, 806, 807, 808	Total No. of Moose: 901
Area: 6,716 km ²	Total No. of Adult Bulls: 269
Sustainable Harvest: 27 bulls	Density: 142 moose/1,000 km ²
Avg. License Harvest: 15.6 (2014-18)	Bulls / 100 Cows: 64
Est. First Nation Harvest: 23	Calves / 100 Cows: 31
Population Status: Unknown	Yearlings / 100 Cows: 15

Location

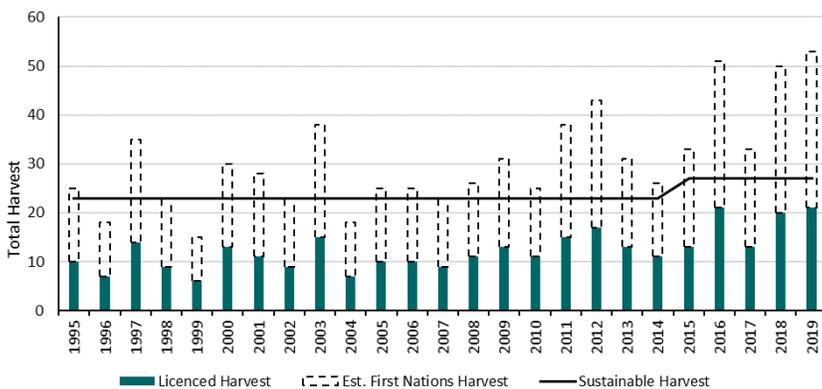
The Laberge Moose Management Unit (MMU) is located 30 km north of Whitehorse and is within the traditional territories of the Ta'an Kwäch'än, Little Salmon / Carmacks, and Kwanlin Dün First Nations.



Harvest Statistics

The 5-year average harvest estimate in the Laberge MMU is 16% of the bull population. This is above the recommended level of 10%. Harvest has been slowly increasing in this MMU.

First Nation harvest data are not collected. In order to account for this, we make assumptions based on previous information or local knowledge. In this case, we use a multiplier of 1.5 times the licenced harvest. However, complete First Nation harvest data is needed to establish the true harvest rate.



Moose Program Overview

The Lake Laberge MMU has never been surveyed. Previous estimates of moose density were derived from expert opinion and extrapolation from adjacent surveyed areas.

The new survey method uses a model-based approach that incorporates local knowledge, stratification survey results, and habitat information (i.e., fire history, land cover, vegetation type and percent cover, and elevation).

These surveys help determine the status of moose populations and assess harvest sustainability

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jaylene Goorts, Southern Lakes Regional Biologist, Environment Yukon. 867-332-7120 OR
 Sophie Czetwertynski, Ungulate Biologist, Environment Yukon. 867-334-9737





Survey Results

Overview

The purpose of this survey was to estimate the abundance, distribution, and composition of the moose population in the Laberge MMU, and to use this information to determine the sustainable moose harvest. We counted moose in 116 of 407 survey blocks, or about 29% of the total area. A total of 469 moose were observed (152 mature bulls; 235 mature cows; 22 yearlings; 57 calves, and; 3 unclassified adults). The highest numbers of moose were observed in the west and northern portions of the survey area, particularly in areas that burned in 1998 to 2011. Few moose were observed in the eastern portion of the study area.

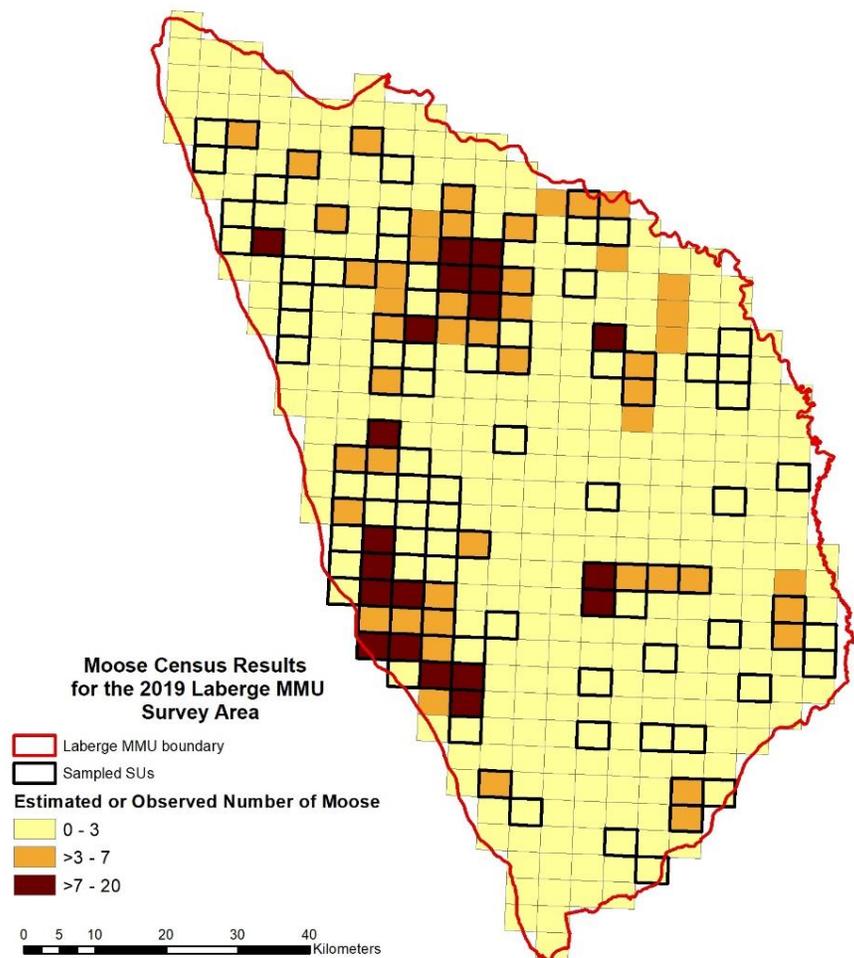
Population Estimate / Density

We estimate that there are **901 (749-1135)** moose in the Laberge MMU. This equates to a density of **142 moose per 1,000km²**, which is on the lower end of the typical range of moose densities in Yukon (100-250 / 1,000km²).

We estimate **31 calves and 15 yearlings per 100 adult cows**, which is near the Yukon average (29 calves and 18 yearlings per 100 adult cows).

We estimate **64 adult bulls/100 adult cows**, which is equal to the Yukon average and well above the recommended level to breed cows.

Population Status: As no previous survey information exists for the Laberge MMU, we are unable to comment on population trends. However, the results from this survey will provide a baseline from which future survey results can be compared.



Acknowledgements

We thank the Kwanlin Dün, Ta'an Kwäch'än, and Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nations, and the Laberge and Carmacks Renewable Resources Councils for their support. Particularly, we thank Duncan Martin, Bobby Vance, Brandy Mayes, Bruce Wilson, Deborah Fulmer, Becky Freeman, Joseph O'Brien, Allen Skookum, Ruth Blackjack, Vera Charlie, Sheila Garvice, Lorraine Graham, Rob Florkiewicz, Ross Elliott, and Meghan Larivee for their assistance as aerial observers, and to our pilots Tyson Bramwell (Trans North Helicopters) and Sean McAndrew (Summit Helicopters).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jaylene Goorts, Southern Lakes Regional Biologist, Environment Yukon. 867-332-7120 OR
 Sophie Czetwertynski, Ungulate Biologist, Environment Yukon. 867-334-9737

