



HUNTER EFFORT SURVEY 2015

BISON

Findings and summary report of the 2015 Hunter Effort Survey for bison seal holders.



*Prepared by Lisa Kanary and Shylo Sawatzky, Yukon Bureau of Statistics.
For more information, contact ybsinfo@gov.yk.ca*

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	2
Methodology.....	2
Part 1: Hunter Habits	4
Part 2: Hunting Practices	6
Part 3: Most Recent Yukon Hunting Trips	9
Part 4: Hunter Satisfaction	13
Part 5: Hunter Demographics	14
Appendix: Questionnaire Summary Data	15

2015 HUNTER EFFORT SURVEY

BISON SEAL HOLDERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2015 Hunter Effort Survey for bison gathered information from bison seal holders¹ following the close of the 2015 bison hunting season. The survey collected details on hunters' efforts, such as motivations for bison hunting, modes of transportation used, size of hunting party, length of trips, and location of hunting areas. Information about hunters' habits, methods, recent hunting trips, overall hunting satisfaction and demographic information is collected to inform decisions about bison management and hunting opportunities.

The majority (95%) of survey respondents hunted during the 2014-2015 season. Ninety-four percent of hunters hunted big game species and 89% hunted bison in the last 5 years. Twenty-two percent of survey respondents reported harvesting at least 232 female bison of which at least 110 were pregnant.

Most respondents (86%) chose to use a snowmobile or an ATV to hunt bison and placed most importance on accessibility (16%) when choosing an area to hunt. Food supply was the most important (92%) purpose to hunt bison, while a very few hunted for trophies. It was well known (95%) among hunters that they were encouraged to harvest a female bison. Thirty-six percent and 7% of respondents preferred to harvest a cow or bull, respectively. Twenty percent of hunters harvested bison in the 2014-15 season. Responding hunters experienced an increase (33%) or decrease (24%) in effort depending upon the availability of time. Overall, 59% of the respondents took one- or two-day trips to hunt bison in the 2014-15 season and most of these trips were in March (29%).

Ninety-three percent of respondents had planned their three most recent hunting trips, which generally lasted 1 to 2 days (61%) and mostly taken in the month of March (34%). The most frequently visited game management zone was 546 (11%). However, over the three most recent trips, 542 (16 bison) and 540 (15 bison) were the zones most likely to harvest bison. Hunting parties generally (83%) shared any harvest.

Over-all, hunters were somewhat or very satisfied about their hunting experience (almost 70%), Environment Yukon paper and web-based hunting rule clarity (just over 80%) and Environment Yukon staff services (90%).

Among the respondents, 91% were male (91%), 84% were at least 30 years old, 77% had at least 10 years of hunting experience, and 78% were from Whitehorse.

METHODOLOGY

The questionnaire was developed by the Department of Environment. The Yukon Bureau of Statistics assisted in the questionnaire development process, and then designed and administered the survey, analyzed the data, and prepared this report.

¹ A bison seal is a small paper tag used to record bison kill details including date, hunting zone, and sex.

A sample of 1,078 respondents was derived from a list of bison seal holders provided by Yukon Environment. The survey was conducted by mail-in questionnaire with follow-up telephone interviews for those respondents who did not return the questionnaire in the mail.

Data cleaning was conducted to ready the dataset for analysis and consisted of correcting invalid data entries, ensuring consistent numerical formatting, and properly coding any open-ended responses to appropriate categories. Non-responses were not included in the question-by-question analysis. A total of 893 (83%) surveys were completed (Table 1a).

Table 1.a Survey Questionnaire Results

Description	Frequency
Data entry only (paper form completed)	431
Fax machine	2
No one home/no answer	14
Regular busy signal	2
Completed Survey	462
Incorrect phone number	12
Information unavailable for duration of survey	18
Language barrier	3
Call back required	54
No contact with selected respondent	37
Appointment	3
Duplicate form/number	1
Household member hangs up	3
New phone number	3
Out of scope	2
Refusal (Hard)	14
Refusal (Soft)	15
Unusual/special circumstances	2
Total Sample	1,078

The refusal rate for the Hunter Effort survey was 2.7%. Reasons given for out of scope, special circumstances and refusals are detailed in Table 1b.

Table 1.b Out of Scope, Special Circumstances and Refusals

Out of Scope – 2 responses

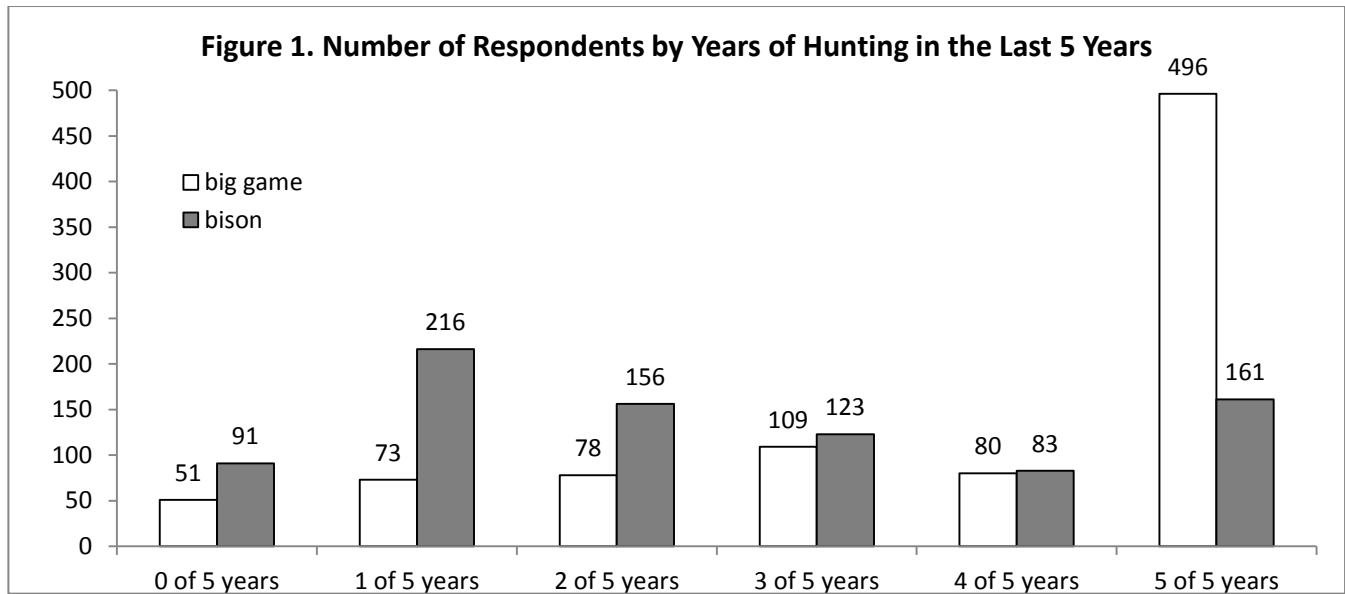
Special Circumstances – 2 responses

Refusal – 19 responses

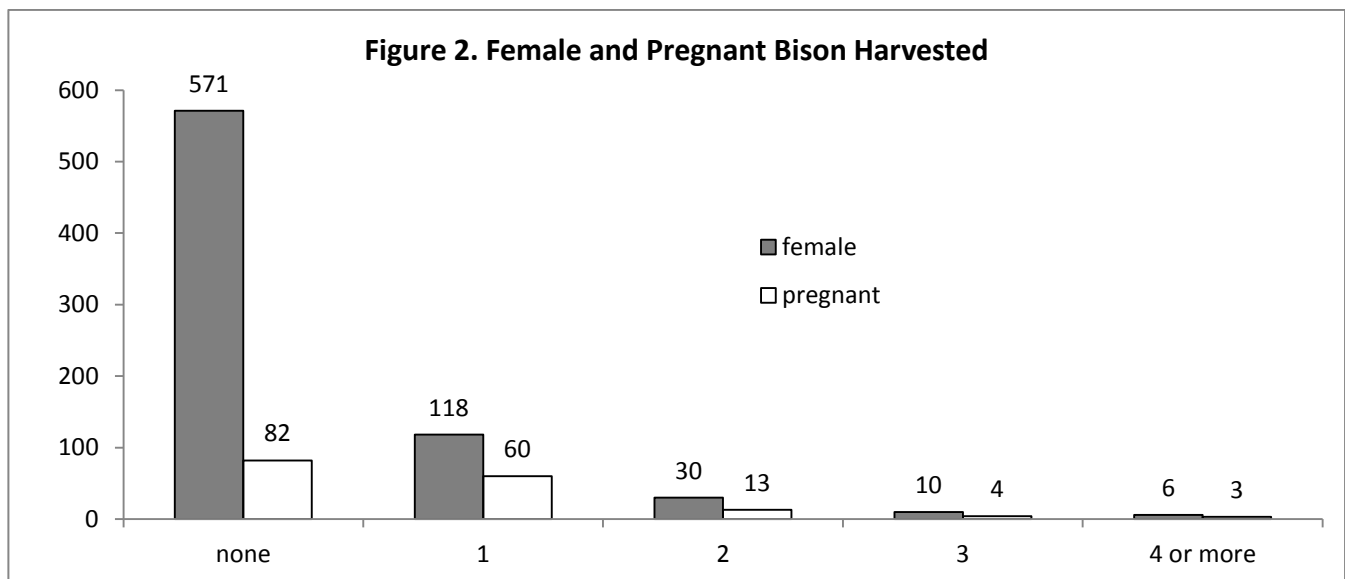
It's not mandatory	5
Not Interested / Willing to Participate	5
Didn't hunt bison so no need to do the survey	2
Error	2
Too busy / No time	2
Mailed it in	1
Notes for survey refusal	1
Passed away	1

PART 1: HUNTER HABITS

Ninety-four percent of respondents hunted big game species in the last 5 years with a majority (65%) hunting each of the 5 years. Eighty-nine percent of respondents hunted bison in the last 5 years with a majority (70%) hunting up to 4 out of the last 5 years (Figure 1).



The majority of hunters (78%) did not harvest a female bison (Figure 2).



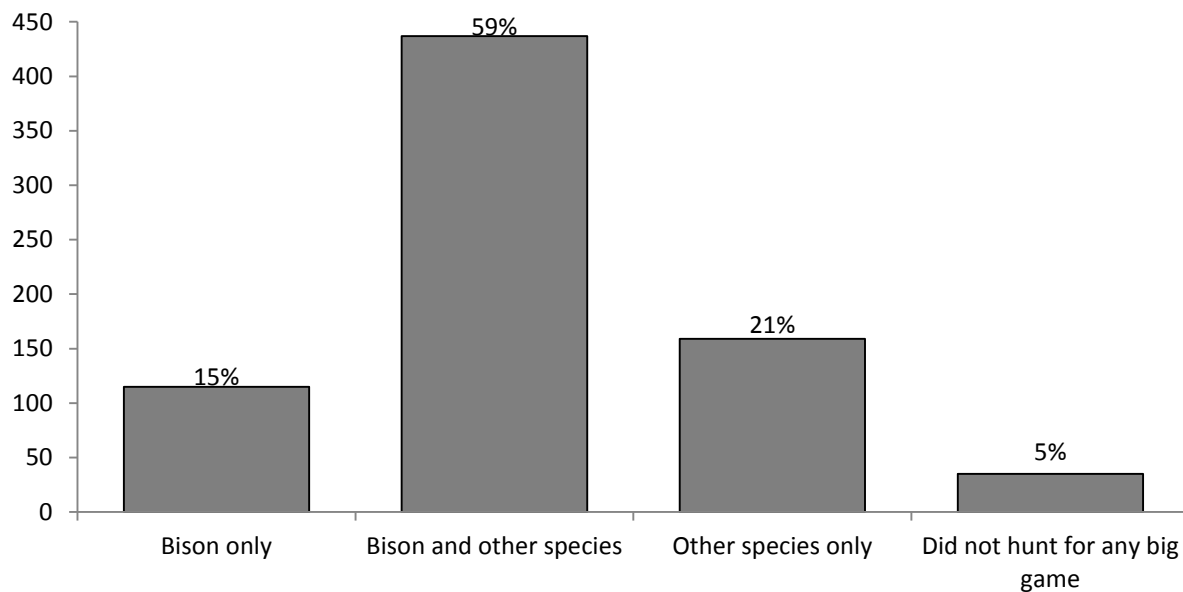
Respondents were asked whether they felt harvesting a bison in the last 5 years had reduced their other big game species hunting effort in the following year. Amongst the respondents who hunted bison in the past 5 years, 41% felt that bison hunting did not reduce their hunting effort for other big game species, 37% felt it reduced their hunting effort for other big game species, while 22% responded neutrally (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Harvesting a bison in the past 5 years reduced big game species hunting effort? (n=671)



When asked what species they hunted during the 2015 season, the most popular response was “bison and other species” (59%), followed by “other species only” (21%) and “bison only” (15%). Twenty-six percent of the respondents said they did not go on a bison hunting trip in the 2014-15 season. The remaining 5% of respondents stated that they did not hunt in 2015 (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Hunting Effort 2014-15 Season

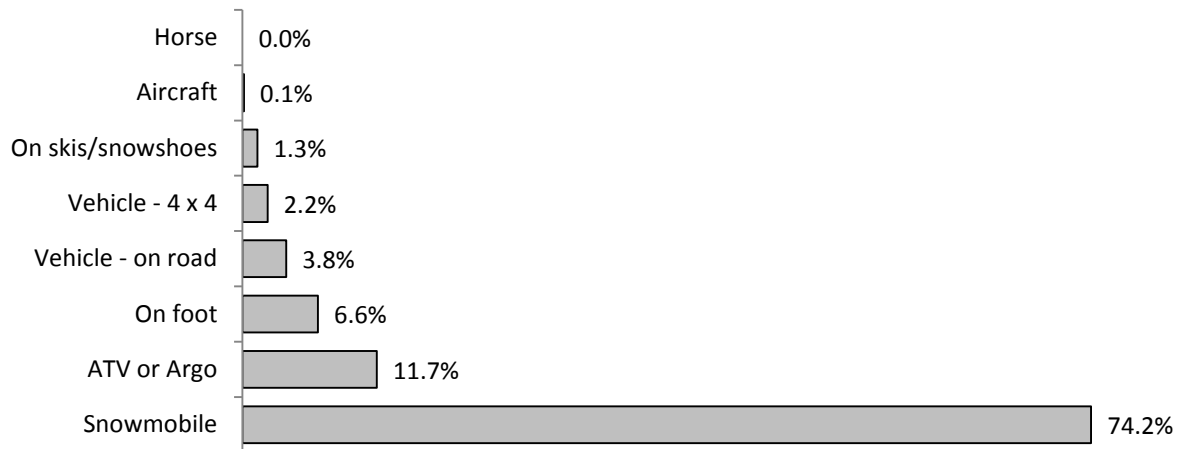


PART 2: HUNTING PRACTICES

When hunting for bison, almost 27% of the 651 respondents generally hunted in the same area each year; 47% mostly hunted in the same area, but occasionally hunted somewhere different; and almost 27% hunted in a different area each year.

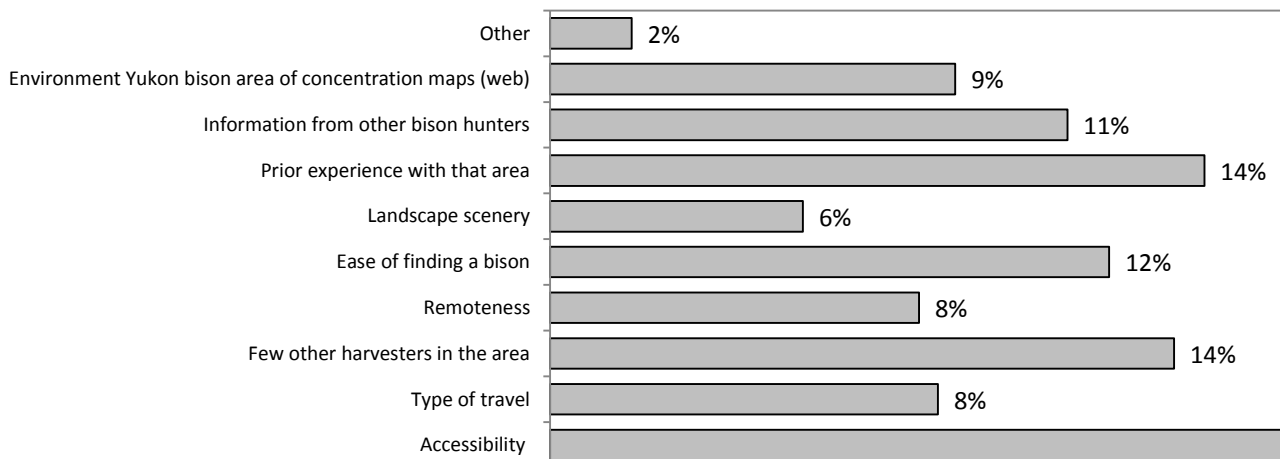
The three most frequently used modes of transportation in bison hunting trips were snowmobiles (74%), ATV or Argo (12%), and on-road vehicle (4%) (Figure 5). While 7% of the respondents hunted on foot, some of them possibly used a form of transportation to reach the hunting area.

Figure 5. Bison Hunting Modes of Transportation (n=681)



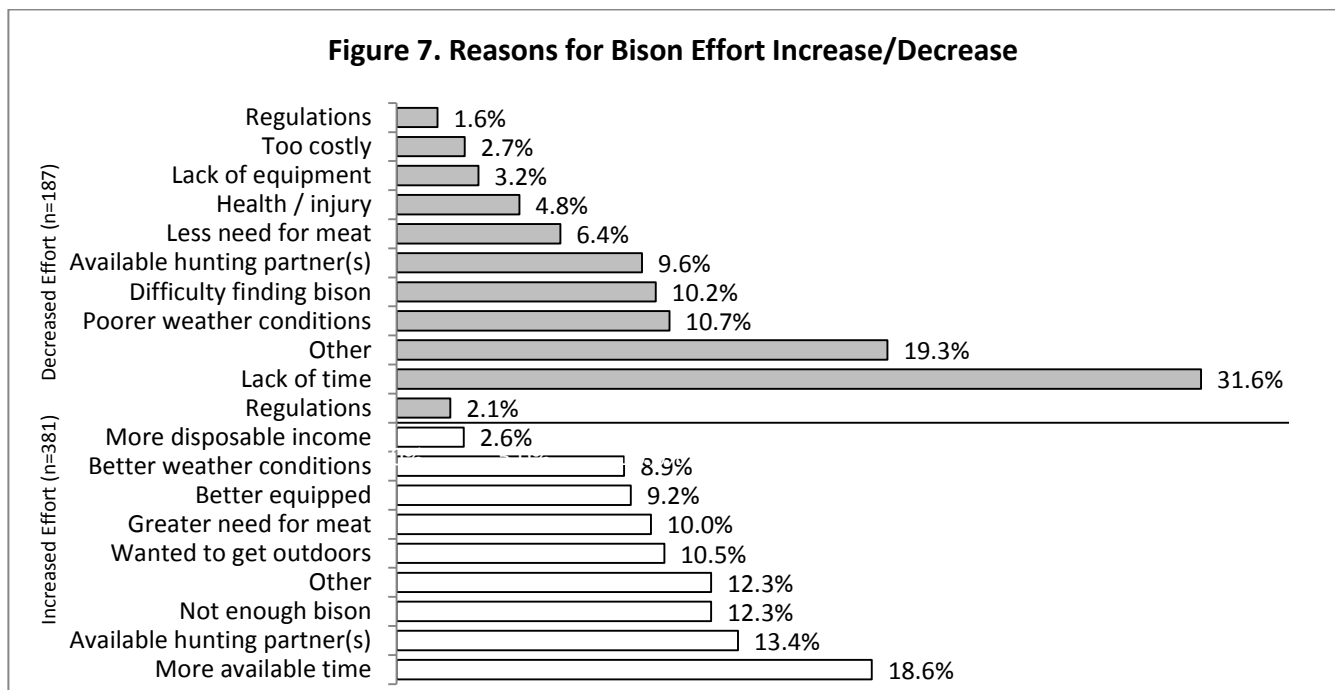
The responding hunters identified a range of factors they considered important when selecting an area to hunt bison. These included accessibility (16%), few other harvesters in the area and prior experience with the area (14% each), ease of finding a bison (12%), information from other hunters (11%), Environment Yukon maps of bison concentration (9%), type of travel and remoteness (8% each), and landscape and scenery (6%) (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Hunting Area Criteria Importance (n=2413)

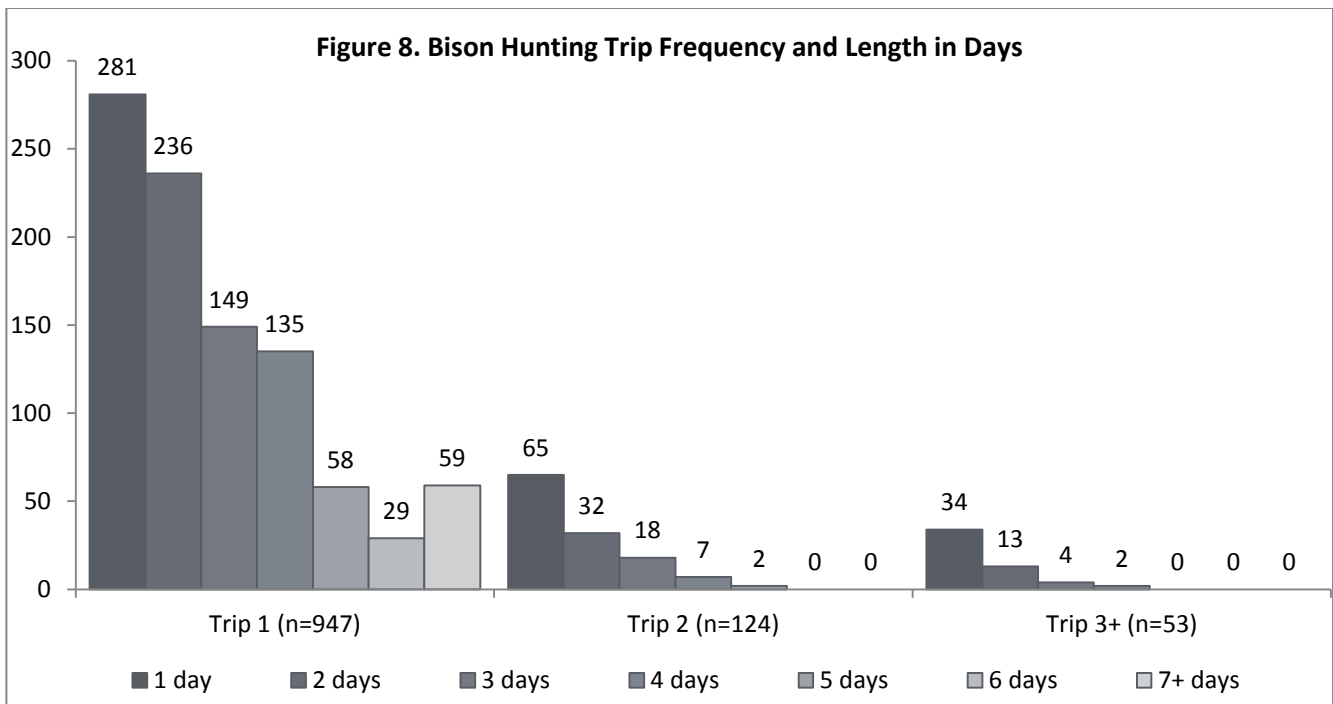


Of the 726 hunters who responded to the question on the purpose of hunting bison, 92% said that the main reason was for food, less than 2% said the reason was for trophy, and 6% had other reasons for hunting bison. Of the 683 respondents, 95% were aware that Environment Yukon encouraged hunters to harvest cow bison, only 7% preferred to hunt for bull bison and 20% of the responding hunters harvested a bison.

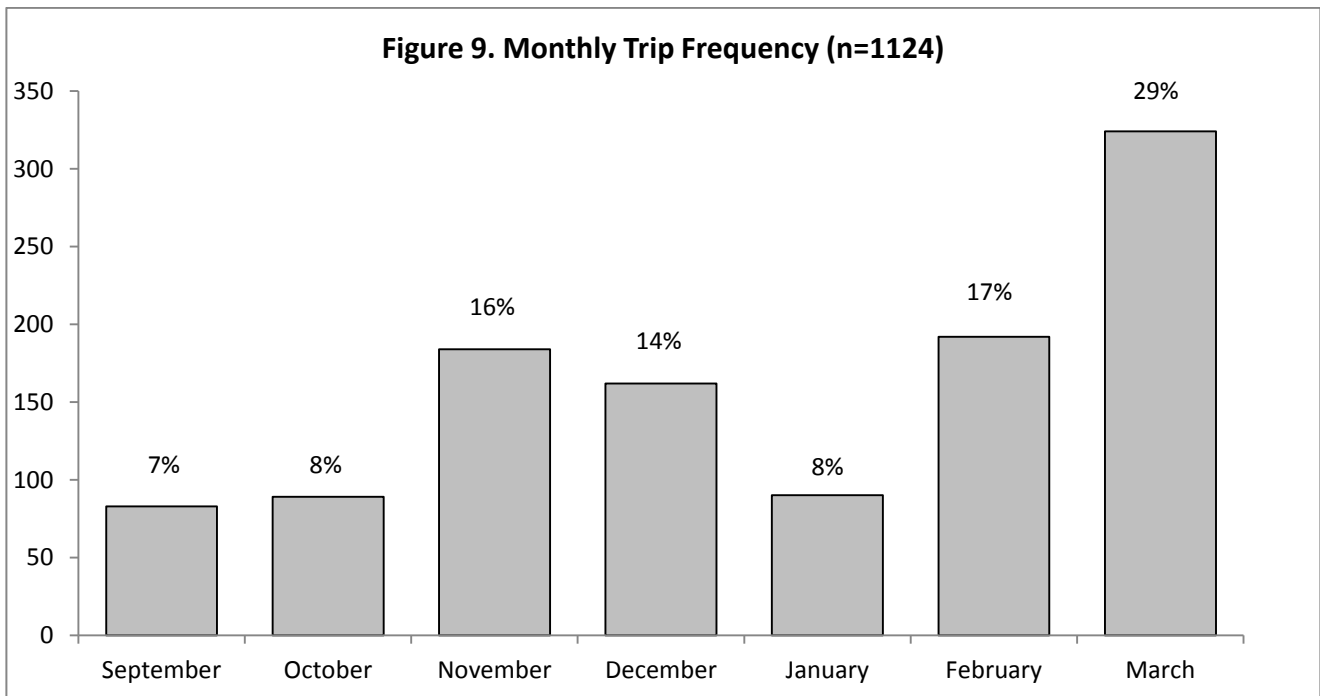
Compared to the last time respondents held a bison seal, hunting efforts in 2015 stayed the same for 43%, decreased for 24%, and increased for 33% of the 509 respondents. The main reasons given for the increase were that hunters had more available time (19%), availability of hunting partners (13%), not enough bison (12%). The main reasons given for the decrease in efforts included lack of time (32%), other reasons (19%), poor weather conditions (11%), and partner availability and difficulty finding bison (10% each) (Figure 7).



When asked about hunting trip frequency during the 2014-2015 hunting season, 84% said they went on only one trip, 11% went on two trips, and 5% said they went on 3 or more trips (Figure 8).



The most popular month to hunt was March (29%), followed by February (17%) and November (16%) (Figure 9).

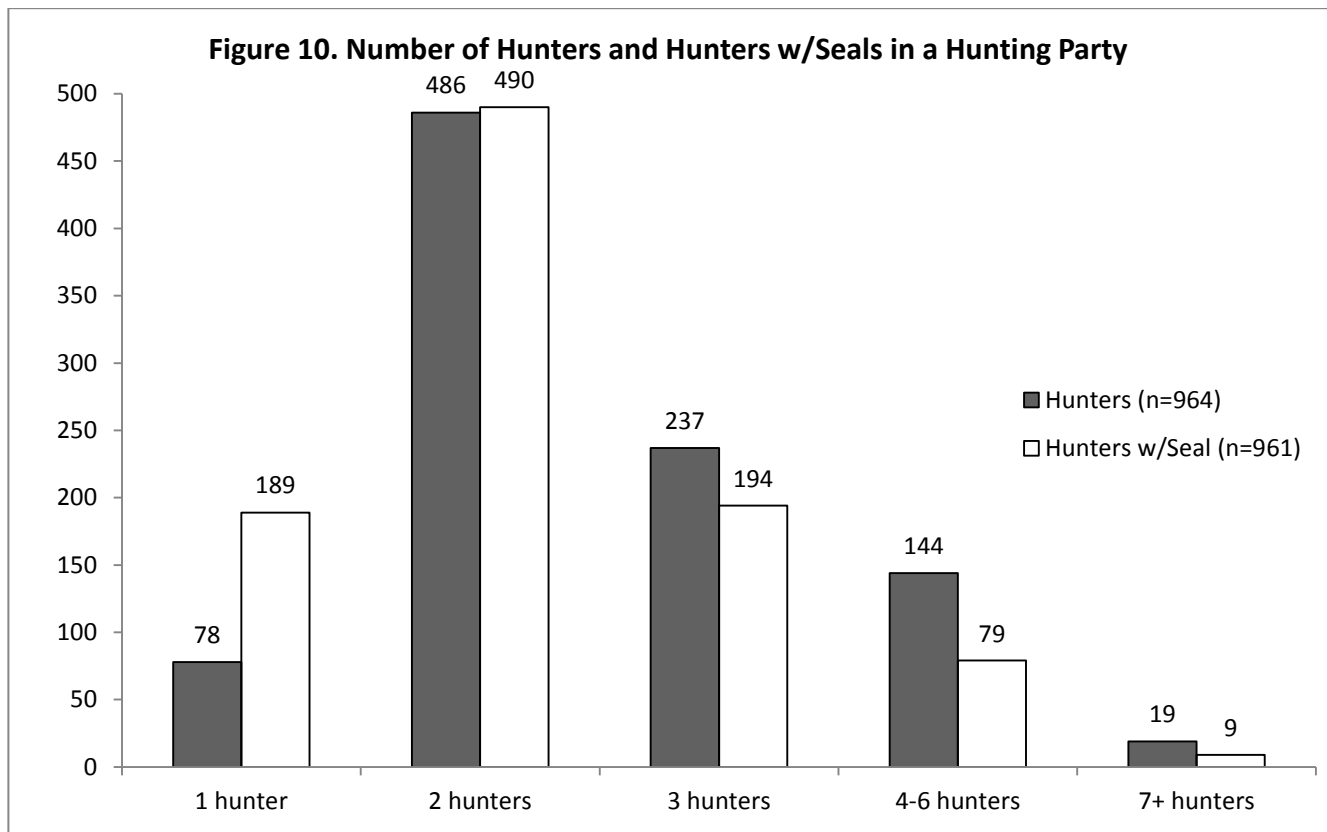


PART 3: MOST RECENT YUKON HUNTING TRIPS

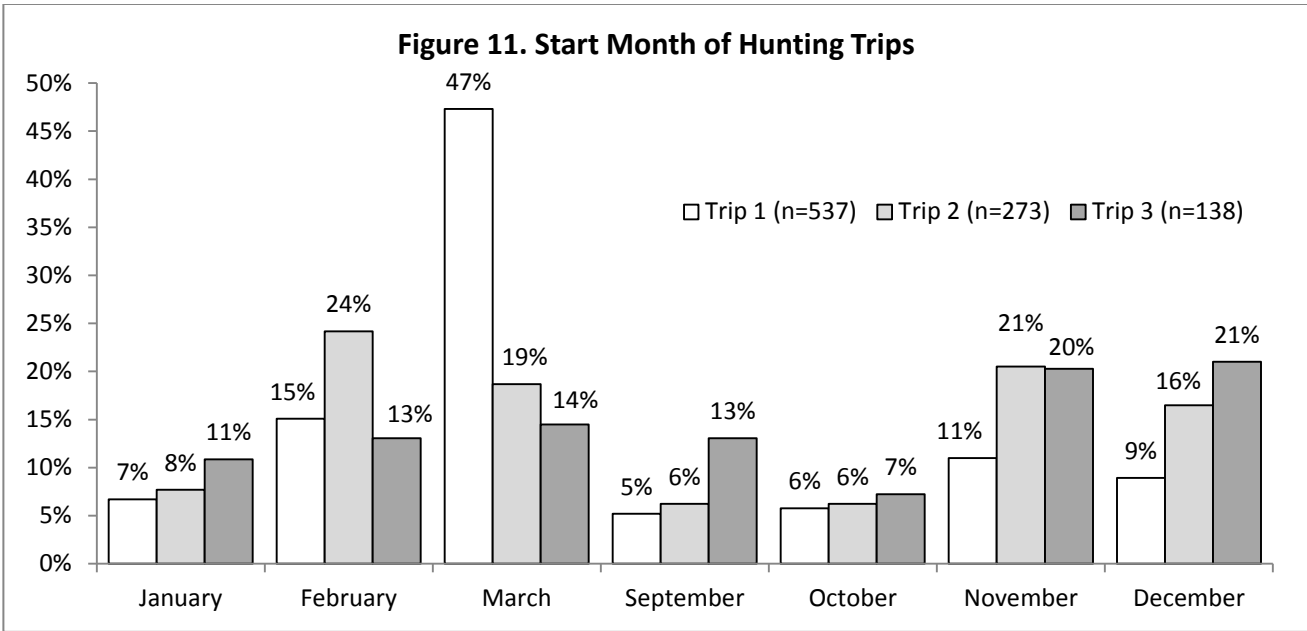
Respondents were asked to provide information on their first, second, and third most recent bison hunting trips in Yukon. The following information was requested for each trip:

- Whether the trip was planned;
- The number of hunters and hunters with seals in the party;
- The number of bison harvested during the trip by the party;
- The start date of the hunting trip;
- The number of days they hunted, and the total length of the trip, in days;
- The modes of transportation used;
- The Game Management Subzones (GMS) in which the hunt took place;
- Whether a bison was harvested on the trip, and if so, in what GMS and if the animal was shared amongst the hunting party;
- Whether the harvest was shared amongst the party;
- The sex and intended sex of the harvested bison; and
- The number of other hunting parties encountered.

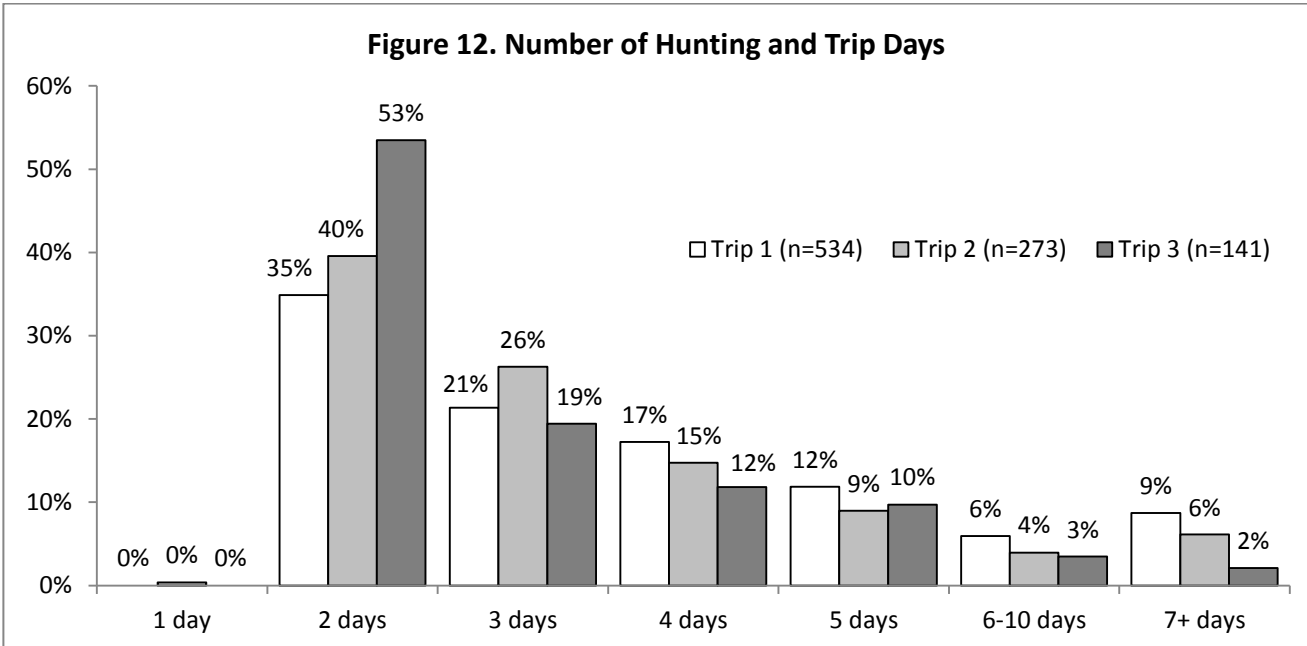
Nearly 93% of all trips were planned and 24% of all trips resulted in a harvest. Over all of the trips, the most common number of hunters (50%) and hunters with a seal (51%) in a hunting party was two. The second most common number was three (Figure 10).



Overall, the start date for trips occurred most often in March (34%). The second most popular month for starting a trip was February (17%), followed by November (15%) (Figure 11).

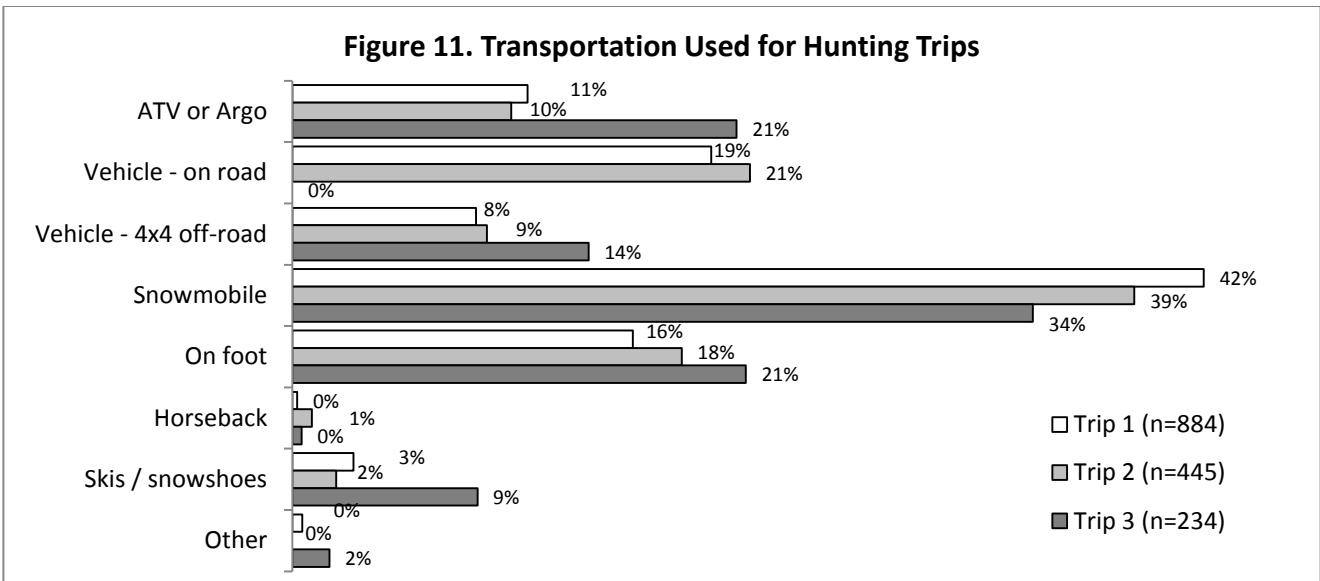


Two-day hunting trips occurred most often (39%) where the number of days hunted was equal to the length of the trip (Figure 12).



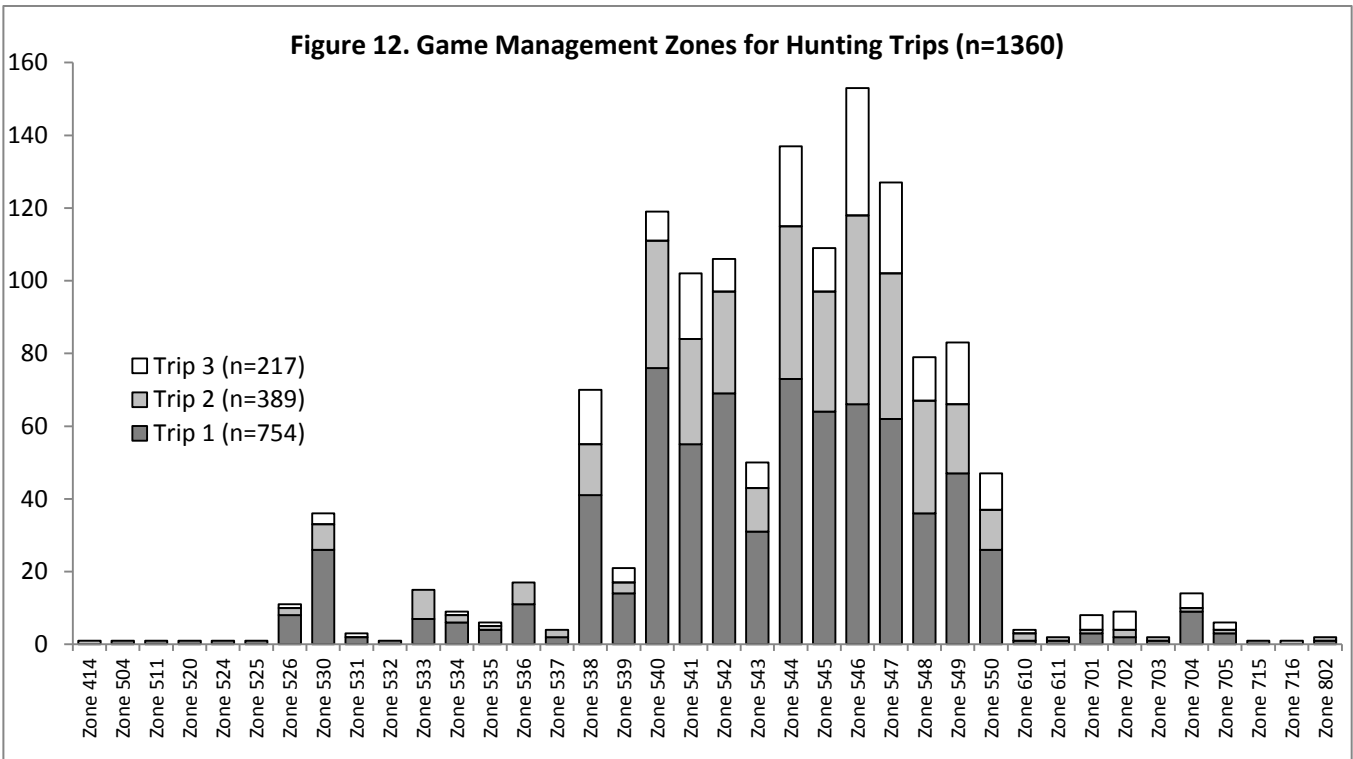
Most hunters used a variety of modes of transportation on hunting trips. Overall, respondents were most likely to travel by snowmobile (40%), followed by on-road vehicle and on foot (17% each) (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Transportation Used for Hunting Trips



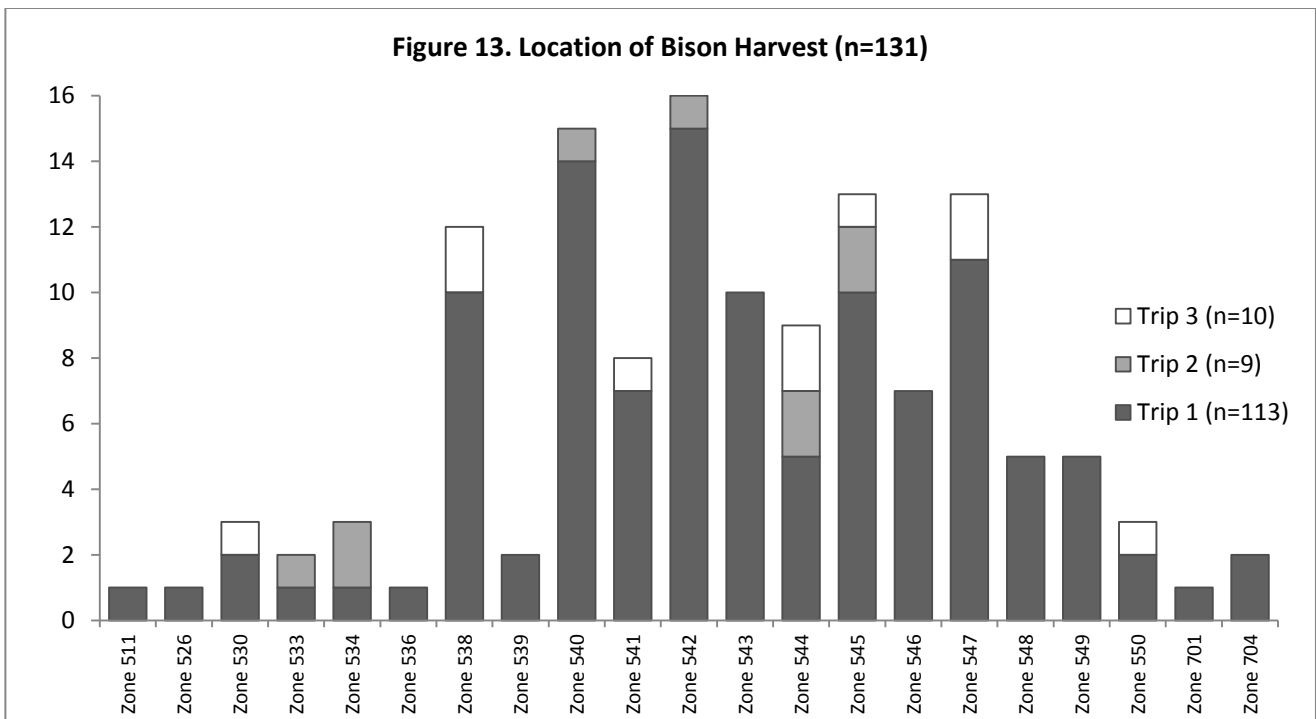
Responding hunters were also asked which game management zones (Zone) they hunted in during their 3 most recent hunting trips. Respondents were allowed to list up to five different zones for a single trip (Figure 12). Overall, Zones 546, 544 and 547 were most frequented by the respondents for their three most recent hunting trips.

Figure 12. Game Management Zones for Hunting Trips (n=1360)



Responding hunters were also asked which zones they had harvested a bison in (Figure 13). The highest number of bison harvested (16) was in Zone 542, followed by 15 bison in Zone 540, and then 13 bison in each of Zones 545 and 547.

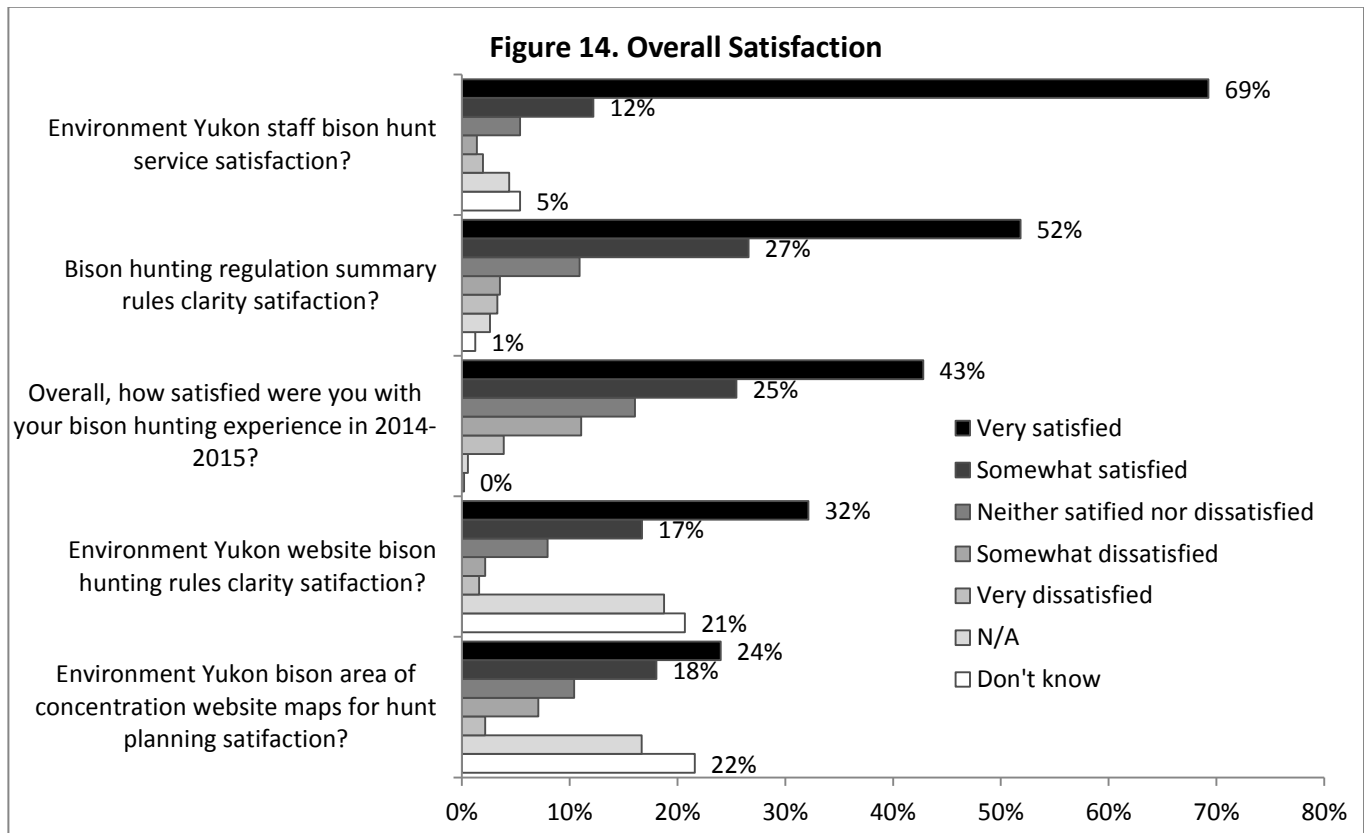
Figure 13. Location of Bison Harvest (n=131)



Overall, 83% of hunters shared their harvest with the hunting party, 70% of hunters harvested the intended sex - which was 62% male, and 67% of hunters encountered other hunting parties.

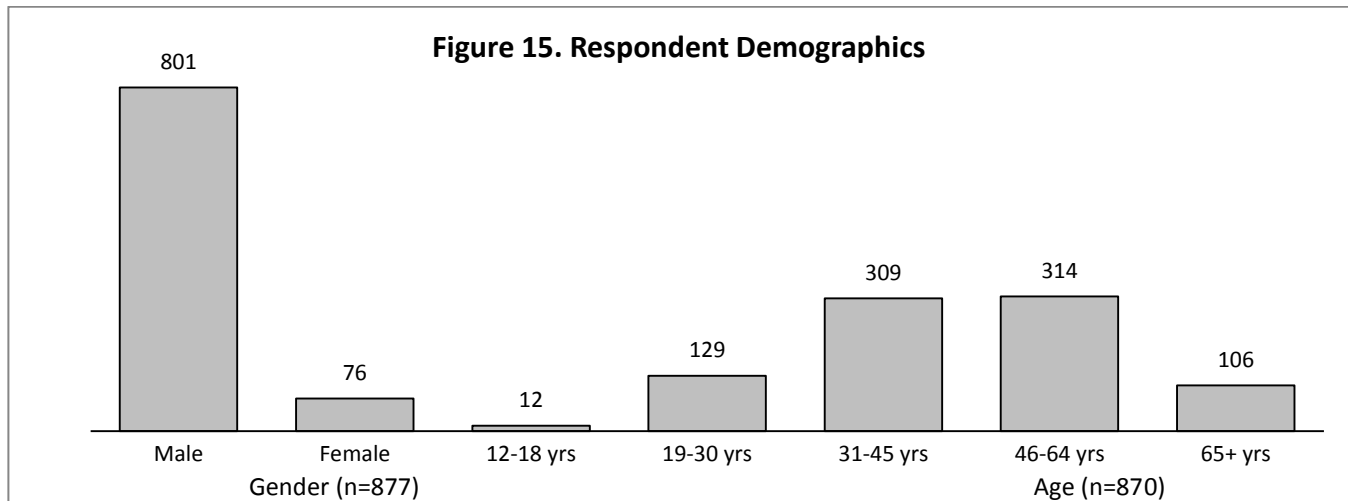
PART 4: HUNTER SATISFACTION

When asked about hunters overall hunting satisfaction, the majority of hunters were either ‘very satisfied’ or ‘somewhat satisfied’ with the overall bison hunting experience (68%), hunting regulation summary rule clarity (78%), and with services provided by Environment Yukon staff (81%) (Figure 14). About half (49%) of the respondents were either ‘very satisfied’ or ‘somewhat satisfied’ with the clarity of presentation of rules and information materials on the Environment Yukon website, while 42% expressed satisfaction with bison area of concentration maps. However, close to 40% of hunters did not have an opinion (didn’t know or N/A) about the rules (39%) and the maps (38%) on the Environment Yukon website.

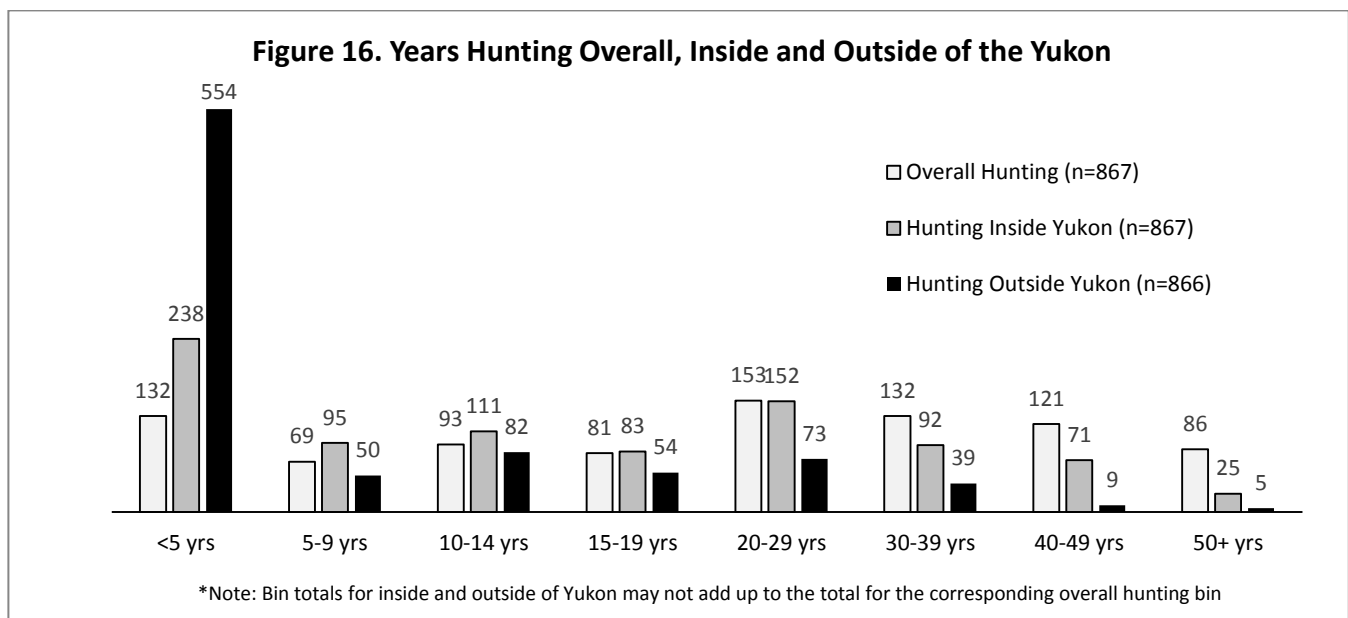


PART 5: HUNTER DEMOGRAPHICS

The survey collected basic demographic information including gender, age, and years of hunting experience from the respondents. Ninety-one percent of the respondents were male. The majority of the respondents (36% each) were in the 31-45 and 46-64 years age groups. Just 16% of the respondents were 30 years of age or younger (Figure 15).



When asked about years of overall big game hunting experience, 57% of the respondents said they had hunted for at least twenty years, 20% had hunted for 10-19 years, while 23% had hunted for less than ten years. Regarding years of hunting in Yukon, nearly half (49%) of the respondents said they had hunted in Yukon for at least fifteen years, 32% had hunted for 5-14 years, while 19% had hunted for less than five years. The majority of the respondents (70%) said they had less than 10 years hunting experience outside of Yukon (Figure 16).



Seventy-eight percent of the respondents indicated they lived in Whitehorse as of November 15, 2015.

APPENDIX: QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY DATA



Hunter Effort Survey
Bison seal holders, 2014-2015 Season

The Department of Environment is asking people who obtained a bison seal in 2014/15 to complete this hunter effort survey. Whether or not you harvested an animal, or even went out hunting, we want to hear from you. The purpose of this survey is to find out more about how you went about your bison hunt and your preferred approach to hunting. The information collected will inform decisions about bison management and hunting opportunities.

This survey is not mandatory. We would appreciate it if you would take about 10 minutes to answer the questions and return your form in the envelope provided by June 12, 2015. Whether you hunted for bison in 2014/15 or not, your information is important.

The Yukon Bureau of Statistics is conducting this survey on behalf of the Department of Environment and responses will be shared with the department for their internal use. However, information from your responses will be aggregated with others for analysis and reporting purposes, and individual respondents will not be identified in any reports or associated materials.

Information collected through this survey is protected in accordance with the Statistics Act and the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have questions, please contact the Yukon Bureau of Statistics at 867-667-8029.

For your convenience, a copy of the Bison Management Area map is enclosed to help you identify the Game Management Subzones in which you hunted. You can view this map online at www.env.gov.yk.ca/bisonmap.

If you have any questions about the contents of this survey call Environment Yukon at 867-667-5177 or 1-800-661-0408 extension 5177. A report summarizing the results of the survey will be posted on the Department of Environment website this fall.

Please mail your completed survey using the postage-paid envelope provided by June 12, 2015.

Part 1: Your Hunting Habits

1.1 **BGAME** In the last 5 years, how many years have you hunted for any big game species? (Check one)

- 1 73 (8%) 2 78 (9%) 3 109 (12%) 4 80 (9%) 5 496 (56%)
 Did not hunt any big game species 51 (6%) (If you did not hunt any big game species, please go to Part 2)

1.2 **BSYRS** How many years did you hunt bison in the last 5 years? (Check one)

- 1 216 (26%) 2 156 (19%) 3 15 (15%) 4 83 (10%) 5 161 (19%)
 Did not hunt bison 91 (11%) (If you did not hunt bison, please go Part 2)

1.3 We are interested in understanding more about bison reproduction. In the last 5 years:

How many female bison have you harvested? **FMBS**

- 0 571 (78%)
 1 118 (16%)
 2 30 (4%)
 3 10 (1%)
 4 or more 6 (1%)

How many of those bison were pregnant? **MLBS**

- 0 82 (51%)
 1 60 (37%)
 2 13 (8%)
 3 4 (2%)
 4 or more 3 (2%)

1.4 Environment Yukon would like to know if bison hunting has resulted in other big game species being taken less often. To what extent would you agree with the following statement:

In the last 5 years, harvesting a bison reduced my hunting effort the following year for other big game species. (Circle one) **BREDC**

Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
1 208 (31.0%)	2 70 (10.4%)	3 149 (22.2%)	4 118 (17.6%)	5 126 (18.8%)

1.5 Which big game species did you spend time hunting during the 2014-2015 season? **SPCSH**

- Bison only 115 (15%)
 Bison and other species 437 (59%)
 Other species only 159 (21%)
 Did not hunt for any big game species 35 (5%)

Part 2: How you hunt for bison

Please fill in this part **even if you did not go hunting for bison** during the 2014-2015 season. If you have **NEVER** hunted bison, please proceed directly to **Part 4**.

2.1 When you hunt for bison, do you generally go to: (Check one) **AREA**

- 1 The same area each year 173 (27%)
2 Same area, but will occasionally hunt somewhere different 305 (47%)
3 Different area each year 173 (27%)

2.2 When you hunt for bison what type of hunting transport do you primarily use (excluding use of a vehicle used to transport snowmobiles or ATV's prior to start of the hunt)? (Check one only): TRANS

<u>1</u> Snowmobile.....	505 (74.2%)
<u>2</u> ATV or Argo	80 (11.7%)
<u>3</u> On foot.....	45 (6.6%)
<u>4</u> Vehicle - on road	26 (3.8%)
<u>5</u> Vehicle - 4 x 4	15 (2.2%)
<u>6</u> On skis/snowshoes	9 (1.3%)
<u>6</u> Horseback	0 (0%)
<u>8</u> Other: Aircraft.....	1 (0.1%)

2.3 Which of the following are important to you when selecting an area to hunt bison? (Check all that apply):

ARSL

<u>1</u> Accessibility	388 (16.1%)
<u>2</u> Type of travel	204 (8.5%)
<u>3</u> Few other harvesters in the area	328 (13.6%)
<u>4</u> Remoteness	194 (8.0%)
<u>5</u> Ease of finding a bison.....	294 (12.2%)
<u>6</u> Landscape scenery	133 (5.5%)
<u>7</u> Prior experience with that area	344 (14.3%)
<u>8</u> Information from other bison hunters	272 (11.3%)
<u>9</u> Environment Yukon bison area of concentration maps (web)	213 (8.8%)
<u>10</u> Other:	43 (1.8%)

2.4 What is your primary purpose for hunting bison? (Check all that apply) PURP

<u>1</u> Food	669 (92%)
<u>2</u> Trophy	12 (2%)
<u>3</u> Other	45 (6%)

2.5 Are you aware that Environment Yukon is encouraging hunters to harvest a cow bison? HVCOW

<u>1</u> Yes	646 (95%)
<u>2</u> No.....	37 (5%)

2.6 Would you prefer to harvest a cow or a bull bison? PRCOW

<u>1</u> Cow	246 (36%)
<u>2</u> Bull	48 (7%)
<u>3</u> No preference	389 (57%)

2.7 Did you harvest a bison during the 2014-2015 hunting season? MHAR

<u>1</u> Yes	137 (20%)
<u>2</u> No.....	458 (67%)
<u>3</u> Did not hunt.....	88 (13%)

(If you did not hunt bison during the 2014-2015 season, please proceed directly to Part 4)

2.8 Compared to the last time you held a bison seal, did your 2014-2015 bison hunting effort: EFF

Stay the same **220 (43%)**

Increase **167 (33%)**

Why did your effort increase: EFFI

(Check all that apply)

- A More available time 71 (19%)
- B More disposable income 10 (3%)
- C Available hunting partner(s) 51 (13%)
- D Better equipped..... 35 (9%)
- E Wanted to get outdoors..... 40 (10%)
- F Difficulty finding bison..... 47 (12%)
- G Greater need for meat 38 (10%)
- H Better weather conditions 34 (9%)
- I Regulations..... 8 (2%)
- J Other: 47 (12%)
- K None of the above.....

Decrease **122 (24%)**

Why did your effort decrease: EFFD

(Check all that apply)

- A Lack of time 59 (32%)
- B Too costly 5 (3%)
- C Available hunting partner(s) ... 18 (10%)
- D Lack of equipment 6 (3%)
- E Health/injury 9 (5%)
- F Difficulty finding bison 19 (10%)
- G Less need for meat 12 (6%)
- H Poorer weather conditions..... 20 (11%)
- I Regulations 3 (2%)
- J Other: 36 (19%)
- K None of the above

2.9 As best as you can, indicate the number of days that you hunted for bison in each month in 2014-2015. Please count each partial day as 1 full day.

Month	No. of Days	Trip 1	Trip 2	Trip 3	Trip 4	Trip 5
September SEP	1 day	19 (29%)	9 (64%)	2 (67%)		
	2 days	17 (26%)	4 (29%)	1 (33%)		
	3 days	6 (9%)	1 (7%)			
	4 days	17 (26%)				
	5 days	3 (5%)				
	6 days					
	7+ days	4 (6%)				
October OCT	1 day	36 (47%)	7 (54%)			
	2 days	17 (22%)	4 (31%)			
	3 days	8 (11%)	1 (8%)			
	4 days	2 (3%)	1 (8%)			
	5 days	4 (5%)				
	6 days	1 (1%)				
	7+ days	8 (11%)				
November NOV	1 day	56 (37%)	11 (52%)	3 (50%)	2 (67%)	2 (100%)
	2 days	32 (21%)	4 (19%)	3 (50%)	1 (33%)	
	3 days	23 (15%)	5 (24%)			
	4 days	25 (16%)	1 (0%)			
	5 days	8 (5%)				
	6 days	3 (2%)				
	7+ days	5 (3%)				
December DEC	1 day	48 (35%)	13 (72%)	4 (80%)	2 (100%)	1 (100%)
	2 days	45 (33%)	4 (22%)	1 (20%)		
	3 days	23 (17%)	1 (6%)			
	4 days	12 (9%)				
	5 days	5 (4%)				
	6 days	2 (1%)				
	7+ days	1 (1%)				
January JAN	1 day	26 (32%)	1 (20%)	2 (67%)		
	2 days	28 (34%)	2 (40%)	1 (33%)		
	3 days	10 (12%)	1 (20%)			
	4 days	8 (10%)	1 (20%)			
	5 days	2 (2%)				
	6 days	2 (2%)				
	7+ days	6 (7%)				
February FEB	1 day	40 (23%)	8 (53%)	5 (100%)	1 (100%)	
	2 days	38 (22%)	4 (27%)			
	3 days	29 (17%)	2 (13%)			
	4 days	25 (15%)	1 (7%)			
	5 days	20 (12%)				
	6 days	5 (3%)				
	7+ days	14 (8%)				
March MAR	1 day	56 (21%)	16 (42%)	7 (47%)	2 (33%)	1 (100%)
	2 days	59 (22%)	10 (26%)	3 (20%)	3 (50%)	
	3 days	50 (19%)	7 (18%)	3 (20%)	1 (17%)	
	4 days	46 (17%)	3 (8%)	2 (13%)		
	5 days	16 (6%)	2 (5%)			
	6 days	16 (6%)				
	7+ days	21 (8%)				

Part 3: Most Recent Yukon Hunting Trips

Hunting Effort for your **3 most recent** bison hunting trips of the **2014-2015 hunting season**, September to March. *Please consider each partial day of hunting as one whole day, and any partial day trips (e.g. an afternoon hunt or carrying a gun when traveling the highway in case the opportunity to take an animal arises) as a single hunting trip.*

	Choice	1 st Most Recent Trip <u>M</u> (2014/15)	2 nd Most Recent Trip <u>S</u> (2014/15)	3 rd Most Recent Trip <u>I</u> (2014/15)
Was there a most recent __ trip?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	547 (100%) 2 (0%)	279 (52%) 260 (48%)	146 (52%) 133 (48%)
Was this a planned hunting trip?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <u>PLND</u> <input type="checkbox"/> No	495 (93%) 39 (7%)	257 (95%) 14 (5%)	130 (92%) 11 (8%)
How many people were in the hunting party? (including yourself)	1 person <u>HNTR</u> 2 people 3 people 4-6 people 7+ people	34 (6%) 251 (46%) 153 (28%) 90 (17%) 12 (2%)	29 (10%) 147 (53%) 63 (23%) 34 (12%) 5 (2%)	15 (10%) 88 (60%) 21 (14%) 20 (14%) 2 (1%)
How many people in your party had a bison seal?	1 person <u>SEAL</u> 2 people 3 people 4-6 people 7+ people	92 (17%) 260 (48%) 122 (23%) 56 (10%) 8 (1%)	57 (21%) 151 (55%) 53 (19%) 15 (5%) 1 (0%)	40 (27%) 79 (54%) 19 (13%) 8 (5%) 0 (0%)
How many bison were harvested by your hunting party?	0 BHRV 1 2 3 4+	355 (66%) 126 (23%) 39 (7%) 6 (1%) 12 (2%)	248 (90%) 23 (8%) 4 (1%) 1 (0%) 1 (0%)	125 (86) 14 (10) 6 (4) 1 (1) ()
Start date of hunting trip	January <u>DATE</u> February March September October November December	36 (7%) 81 (15%) 254 (47%) 28 (5%) 31 (6%) 59 (11%) 48 (9%)	21 (8%) 66 (24%) 51 (19%) 17 (6%) 17 (6%) 56 (21%) 45 (16%)	15 (11%) 18 (13%) 20 (14%) 18 (13%) 10 (7%) 28 (20%) 29 (21%)
Number of days you hunted	0 DAYS 1 2 3 4 5 6+ days	0 (0%) 188 (35%) 115 (21%) 93 (17%) 64 (12%) 32 (6%) 47 (9%)	1 (0%) 110 (40%) 73 (26%) 41 (15%) 25 (9%) 11 (4%) 17 (6%)	0 (0%) 77 (53%) 28 (19%) 17 (12%) 14 (10%) 5 (3%) 3 (2%)
Total length of trip	1 day <u>LEN</u> 2 days 3 days 4 days 5 days 6-10 days 7+ days	0 (0%) 188 (35%) 115 (21%) 93 (17%) 64 (12%) 32 (6%) 47 (9%)	1 (0%) 110 (40%) 73 (26%) 41 (15%) 25 (9%) 11 (4%) 17 (6%)	0 (0%) 77 (53%) 28 (19%) 17 (12%) 14 (10%) 5 (3%) 3 (2%)

What types of transportation did you use on your hunting trip, including getting to the hunting area? (Check all that apply)	ATV or Argo <u>TRN1</u>	96 (11%)	45 (10%)	48 (21%)
	Vehicle - on road <u>TRN2</u>	171 (19%)	94 (21%)	0 (0%)
	Vehicle - 4x4 off-road <u>TRN3</u>	75 (8%)	40 (9%)	32 (14%)
	Snowmobile <u>TRN4</u>	372 (42%)	173 (39%)	80 (34%)
	On foot <u>TRN5</u>	139 (16%)	80 (18%)	49 (21%)
	Horseback <u>TRN6</u>	2 (0%)	4 (1%)	1 (0%)
	Skis/ snowshoes <u>TRN7</u>	25 (3%)	9 (2%)	20 (9%)
	Other <u>TRN8</u>	4 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (2%)
In which Game Management Subzone(s) (GMS's) did you hunt? (see enclosed map)	Zone 414 <u>GMS1-5</u>	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 504	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 511	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 520	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 524	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 525	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 526	8 (1%)	2 (1%)	1 (0%)
	Zone 530	26 (3%)	7 (2%)	3 (1%)
	Zone 531	2 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
	Zone 532	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 533	7 (1%)	8 (2%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 534	6 (1%)	2 (1%)	1 (0%)
	Zone 535	4 (1%)	1 (0%)	1 (0%)
	Zone 536	11 (1%)	6 (2%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 537	2 (0%)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 538	41 (5%)	14 (4%)	15 (7%)
	Zone 539	14 (2%)	3 (1%)	4 (2%)
	Zone 540	76 (10%)	35 (9%)	8 (4%)
	Zone 541	55 (7%)	29 (7%)	18 (8%)
	Zone 542	69 (9%)	28 (7%)	9 (4%)
	Zone 543	31 (4%)	12 (3%)	7 (3%)
	Zone 544	73 (10%)	42 (11%)	22 (10%)
	Zone 545	64 (8%)	33 (8%)	12 (6%)
	Zone 546	66 (9%)	52 (13%)	35 (16%)
	Zone 547	62 (8%)	40 (10%)	25 (12%)
	Zone 548	36 (5%)	31 (8%)	12 (6%)
	Zone 549	47 (6%)	19 (5%)	17 (8%)
	Zone 550	26 (3%)	11 (3%)	10 (5%)
	Zone 610	1 (0%)	2 (1%)	1 (0%)
	Zone 611	1 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Zone 701	3 (0%)	1 (0%)	4 (2%)
	Zone 702	2 (0%)	2 (1%)	5 (2%)
	Zone 703	1 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)
Zone 704	9 (1%)	1 (0%)	4 (2%)	
Zone 705	3 (0%)	1 (0%)	2 (1%)	
Zone 715	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Zone 716	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Zone 802	1 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Did <u>you</u> harvest a bison on this trip?	Yes <u>HRV</u>	118 (22%)	10 (4%)	12 (8%)
	No	427 (78%)	268 (96%)	133 (92%)

If Yes, In which Game Management Subzone (GMS)?	Zone 511 <u>HVZ</u>	1 (1%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 526	1 (1%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 530	2 (2%)	(0%)	1 (10%)
	Zone 533	1 (1%)	1 (11%)	(0%)
	Zone 534	1 (1%)	2 (22%)	(0%)
	Zone 536	1 (1%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 538	10 (9%)	(0%)	2 (20%)
	Zone 539	2 (2%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 540	14 (12%)	1 (11%)	(0%)
	Zone 541	7 (6%)	(0%)	1 (10%)
	Zone 542	15 (13%)	1 (11%)	(0%)
	Zone 543	10 (9%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 544	5 (4%)	2 (22%)	2 (20%)
	Zone 545	10 (9%)	2 (22%)	1 (10%)
	Zone 546	7 (6%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 547	11 (10%)	(0%)	2 (20%)
	Zone 548	5 (4%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 549	5 (4%)	(0%)	(0%)
	Zone 550	2 (2%)	(0%)	1 (10%)
	Zone 701	1 (1%)	(0%)	(0%)
Zone 704	2 (2%)	(0%)	(0%)	
If <u>you</u> harvested a bison on this trip, did you share the animal amongst the hunting party?	Yes <u>SHAR</u>	96 (81%)	10 (100%)	11 (92%)
	No	18 (15%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Hunted alone	5 (4%)	0 (0%)	1 (8%)
If <u>you</u> harvested a bison, what was the sex of your bison?	Male <u>BSEX</u>	77 (66%)	5 (50%)	4 (33%)
	Female	40 (34%)	5 (50%)	8 (67%)
Was it the sex that you intended to harvest?	Yes <u>HVSX</u>	59 (67%)	5 (83%)	8 (89%)
	No	29 (33%)	1 (17%)	1 (11%)
How many other bison hunting parties did you see during your hunt?	0/none <u>PRTY</u>	173 (34%)	72 (30%)	43 (34%)
	1	87 (17%)	53 (22%)	28 (22%)
	2	98 (19%)	62 (26%)	25 (20%)
	3	57 (11%)	24 (10%)	10 (8%)
	4	34 (7%)	10 (4%)	11 (9%)
	5	25 (5%)	12 (5%)	6 (5%)
	6 or more parties	30 (6%)	10 (4%)	4 (3%)

3.2 Overall, how satisfied were you with your bison hunting experience in 2014-2015? (Circle one): SATEX

Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't Know	N/A
1 21 (4%)	2 60 (11%)	3 87 (16%)	4 138 (25%)	5 232 (43%)	DK <u>88</u> 1 (0%)	N/A <u>77</u> 3 (1%)

What would improve your experience? EXIMP

Why: EXWHY

Part 4: Overall Satisfaction

4.1 How satisfied are you with how clearly the bison hunting rules are explained in the annual hunting regulations summary? (Circle one): SATRL

Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't Know	N/A
1 29 (3%)	2 31 (4%)	3 96 (11%)	4 234 (27%)	5 456 (52%)	DK <u>88</u> 23 (3%)	N/A <u>77</u> 11 (1%)

What changes, if any, would you suggest? DISRL

Why: CHNRL

4.2 How satisfied are you with how clearly the bison hunting rules and information materials were presented on the Environment Yukon Website? (Circle one): SATWB

Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't Know	N/A
1 14 (2%)	2 19 (2%)	3 70 (8%)	4 147 (17%)	5 283 (32%)	DK <u>88</u> 182 (21%)	N/A <u>77</u> 165 (19%)

What changes, if any, would you suggest? WBCHG

Why: WBWHY

4.3 How satisfied are you with how helpful Environment Yukon bison area of concentration maps on the website are in planning your bison hunting trip? (Circle one): SATMP

Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't Know	N/A
1 19 (2%)	2 62 (7%)	3 91 (10%)	4 158 (18%)	5 210 (24%)	DK <u>88</u> 189 (22%)	N/A <u>77</u> 146 (17%)

What changes, if any, would you suggest? MPCHG

Why: MPWHY

4.4 How satisfied overall are you with your experiences dealing with Environment Yukon staff in providing information and addressing your questions or concerns related to bison in 2014-2015? (Circle one): SATSF

Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't Know	N/A
1 17 (2%)	2 12 (1%)	3 47 (5%)	4 106 (12%)	5 602 (69%)	DK <u>88</u> 47 (5%)	N/A <u>77</u> 38 (4%)

What changes, if any, would you suggest? SFCHG

Why: SFWHY

Part 5: About you

We would like to determine if there are connections between peoples' backgrounds and their harvest effort. Your individual responses will be combined with others so that you will not be personally identified.

5.1 You are: SEX

- Male 801 (91%)
- Female 76 (9%)

5.2 What is your present age? _____ years AGE

- 12-18 yrs 12 (1%)
- 19-30 yrs 129 (15%)
- 31-45 yrs 309 (36%)
- 46-64 yrs 314 (36%)
- 65+ yrs 106 (12%)

5.3 How many years of overall big game hunting experience do you have, including bison and/or other species? _____ years HNYRS

- less than 5 years 132 (15%)
- "5-9 years" 69 (8%)
- "10-14 years" 93 (11%)
- "15-19 years" 81 (9%)
- "20-29 years" 153 (18%)
- "30-39 years" 132 (15%)
- "40-49 years" 121 (14%)
- "50+ years" 86 (10%)

5.4 How many of these years were:

A. In Yukon? _____ years YKHYP

- less than 5 years 238 (27%)
- "5-9 years" 95 (11%)
- "10-14 years" 111 (13%)
- "15-19 years" 83 (10%)
- "20-29 years" 152 (18%)
- "30-39 years" 92 (11%)
- "40-49 years" 71 (8%)
- "50+ years" 25 (3%)

B. Outside of Yukon? _____ years OYHYR

- less than 5 years 554 (64%)
- "5-9 years" 50 (6%)
- "10-14 years" 82 (9%)
- "15-19 years" 54 (6%)
- "20-29 years" 73 (8%)
- "30-39 years" 39 (5%)
- "40-49 years" 9 (1%)
- "50+ years" 5 (1%)

5.5 In which community were you living on November 15, 2014? COHMT

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beaver Creek 1 (0%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Marsh Lake 14 (2%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burwash Landing 5 (1%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayo 11 (1%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carcross 21 (2%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Old Crow 0 (0%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carmacks 11 (1%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pelly Crossing 0 (0%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dawson City 14 (2%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross River 3 (0%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Destruction Bay 5 (1%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tagish 14 (2%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faro 2 (0%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Teslin 2 (0%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Haines Junction 46 (5%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Watson Lake 8 (1%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keno or Elsa 0 (0%) | <input type="checkbox"/> Whitehorse 682 (78%) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): 38 (4%) | |

Additional Comments? GENCM

That is the end of the survey. Thank you for your cooperation!