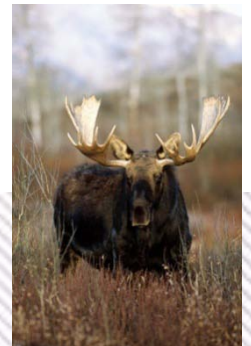


The Process to Success

A review of the Tri-Palm Moose
Season in Region 7-B

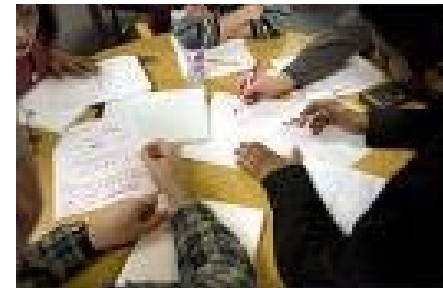


The Problem

- A declining moose population
- Bull numbers at crisis levels to the point of the Ministry having to shut the season down
- Unhappy client groups- GOABC and BCWF
- Attitude toward hunting moose more of a “meat market” mentality

Research of Options

- MOE wanted to explore new options
- Researched other jurisdictions
- Asked GOABC and BCWF local members for ideas
- Asked Ministry staff (COS, wildlife, etc.)
- Established a list of options



Consultation Process



- GOABC, BCWF, COS, other ministry staff
- Meetings discussed options including:
 - Closing the season
 - Limited Entry
 - Quotas
 - Antler restrictions
- Parties reviewed the options and for the most part agreed with the antler restrictions
- Alaska model of spike fork and tri-palm was agreed to with some reservations by some members of the COS and F& W staff from HQ over a potential increase of incidental illegal kills

Consultation Process

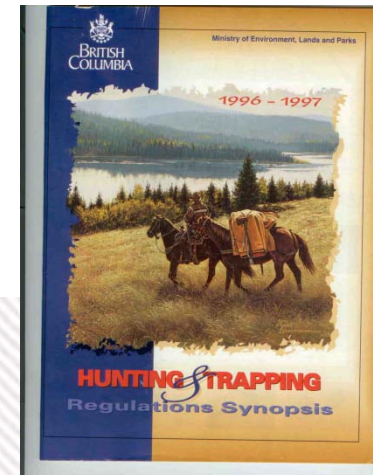
- BCWF also consulted with Alaska and the staff in Alaska presented a number of positives with their regulation, namely:
 - Far superior to shorter or no hunts
 - Spread the hunters out
 - Greatly improved bull/cow ratios from 14/100 to 81 and 33/100. The lowest increase went from 12 to 16/100 in one area.

Consultation Process

- Increased viewing of bulls
- Maintained or increased hunting opportunities
- Improved hunter ethics and promoted the hunter/manager concept- increased reporting of illegal kills

The method

- Finalized the regulation with input from all parties for the 1996/97 Season
- A lot of pre-advertising of what the new regulation would be
- Clear pictures and definitions





The results



- People saw bull moose after the end of season in the first year
- Hunters started to see more moose year after year as the populations grew
- Hunters started to take spotting scopes and binoculars with them when hunting moose
- Numbers of hunters are not restricted
- After 10 years, we achieved a harvest of 2500 bulls!
- The incidental illegal kill rate remained relatively the same as prior to the new regulation

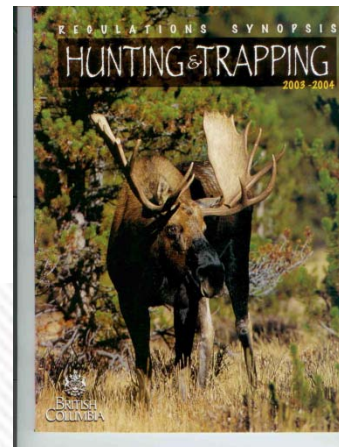
The attitude

- We put the “hunt back into hunting” of moose- less of the meat market mentality
- People increasingly enjoyed the moose hunt with seeing more moose but not being able to harvest them all.
- The ministry received a lot of compliments



Evolution of the regulation

- Some areas had very large moose but did not have tri-palm moose
- After consultation and approval of PHRRAC, it was agreed to add a 10 point bull moose season in some areas for the 2003/04 hunting season.
- This benefited both resident hunters and the guiding industry.



Long Term benefits of this regulation

- People can still hunt even
- It is self regulating
- It can be used when moose populations are severely impacted by harsh winters, etc.
- Allows for a nice and steady increase in moose populations
- Achieves conservation objective



The Lesson



- Good consultation works
- People need to be innovative and open to change
- Thinking outside the box is needed sometimes to achieve results
- The ministry and sectors need to be thinking many years ahead

More Lessons Learned

- The world is run by those who show up!

