

Main River watershed is located in Moose Management Areas (MMA) 3 and 4 and Caribou Management Areas (CMA) 69 and 79. Information received from the Wildlife Division of the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation on moose and caribou harvesting over a ten-year period in the Main River watershed is shown in Tables H1 to H4.

The total number of licenses issued for MMA 3 ranged from 1,162 in 1991 to 1,285 in 1999. Hunter success by license type averaged over a ten-year period was 81% for non-resident, 65% for either sex and 46% for male only or calf. MMA 4 had a slight increase in licenses issued from 1,014 in 1991 to 1,196 in 2000 with a dip in 1998 to 954. Hunter success by license type was 74% for non-resident, 61% for either sex and 62% for male only or calf.

The total number of licenses issued for CMA 69 ranged from 73 in 1992 to 437 in 1999. Hunter success by license type was 93% for non-resident, 84% for either sex and 77% for male only or calf. Caribou Management Area 79 was only established in 1998, and hence was not included in the evaluation.

Table I1 Moose Management Area 3

YEAR	APPLICATIONS ¹	LICENCE ISSUED				HUNTER SUCCESS BY LICENCE TYPE		
		Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf	Total	Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf
1991	2339	134	650	378	1162	67.9	73.0	53.0
1992	2280	183	514	514	1211	79.8	78.0	48.2
1993	2309	243	533	533	1309	77.4	74.7	47.5
1994	2297	258	522	522	1302	87.6	81.4	61.7
1995	2272	257	522	522	1301	84.4	73.3	53.7
1996	2253	271	514	514	1299	83.0	65.5	46.9
1997	2107	275	500	500	1275	78.0	58.2	48.8
1998	1999	286	500	500	1286	91.0	50.4	34.2
1999	1976	285	500	500	1285	83.9	41.4	36.6
2000	1794		495	496	991	Error! Bookmark not defined.	49.6	25.9

Table I2 Moose Management Area 4

YEAR	APPLICATIONS	LICENCE ISSUED				HUNTER SUCCESS BY LICENCE TYPE		
		Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf	Total	Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf
1991	6162	37	510	467	1014	62.2	74.0	70.2
1992	6138	91	513	513	1117	78.0	69.0	61.6
1993	5811	88	515	516	1119	71.6	68.0	62.0
1994	5498	104	518	518	1140	68.9	72.0	63.5
1995	5348	104	518	518	1140	77.9	72.0	56.8
1996	5262	112	512	512	1136	73.2	78.5	59.9
1997	5001	77	542	542	1161	74.0	74.8	58.5
1998	4221	110	422	422	954	81.0	65.1	65.8

¹ Numbers taken from "Big Game Licence Resident Application Guides 1992-2001, Wildlife Division.

1999	4523	112	542	542	1196	75.9	72.3	60.0
2000	3880		542	542	1084	²	60.6	55.7

Table I3 Caribou Management Area 69

YEAR	APPLICATIONS	LICENCE ISSUED				HUNTER SUCCESS BY LICENCE TYPE		
		Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf	Total	Non-resident	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf
1991	382		30	20		Error! Bookmark not defined.	87.0	58.0
1992	434	15	28	30	73	93.3	68.0	57.0
1993	490	16	30	27	73	100.0	87.0	93.0
1994	537	15	30	27	72	86.7	80.0	67.0
1995	561	14	60	72	146 ³	100.0	75.0	70.0
1996	1017	74	70	31	175	91.7	90.0	86.0
1997	1095	114	125	69	308	96.5	91.0	87.0
1998	1150	188	150	18	356	83.0	91.0	72.0
1999	1265	194	225	18	437	92.3	88.4	100.00
2000	1186		245			Error! Bookmark not defined.	84.7	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Table I4 Caribou Management Area 79

YEAR	APPLICATIONS	LICENCE ISSUED		HUNTER SUCCESS BY LICENCE TYPE	
		Either Sex	Male Only or Calf	Either Sex	Male Only or Calf
1998	471	70	92	Error! Bookmark not defined.	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1999	764	100	142	77.0	62.7
2000	704	100	142	Error! Bookmark not defined.	Error! Bookmark not defined.

² The quota total for this management area changed as a result of census work carried out during the winter of 1995.

³ The quota total for this management area changed as a result of census work carried out during the winter of 1995.

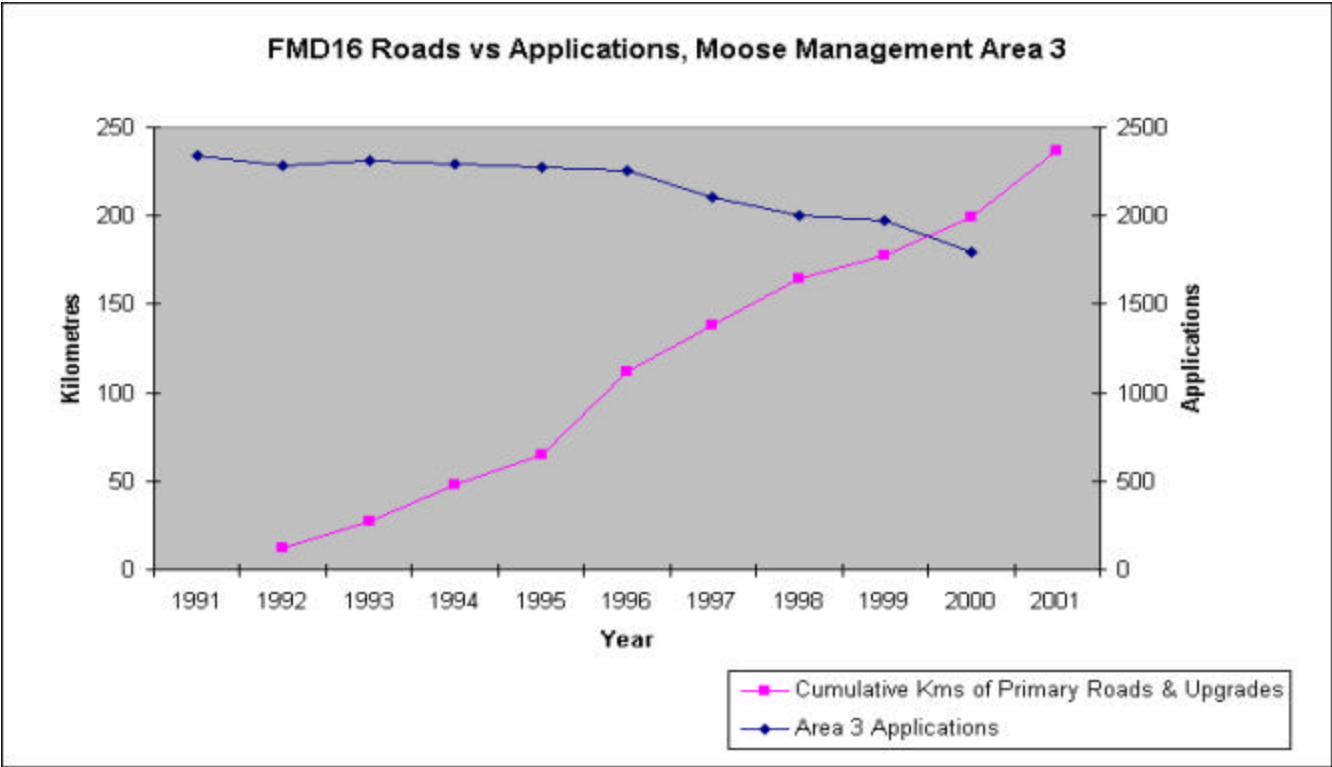
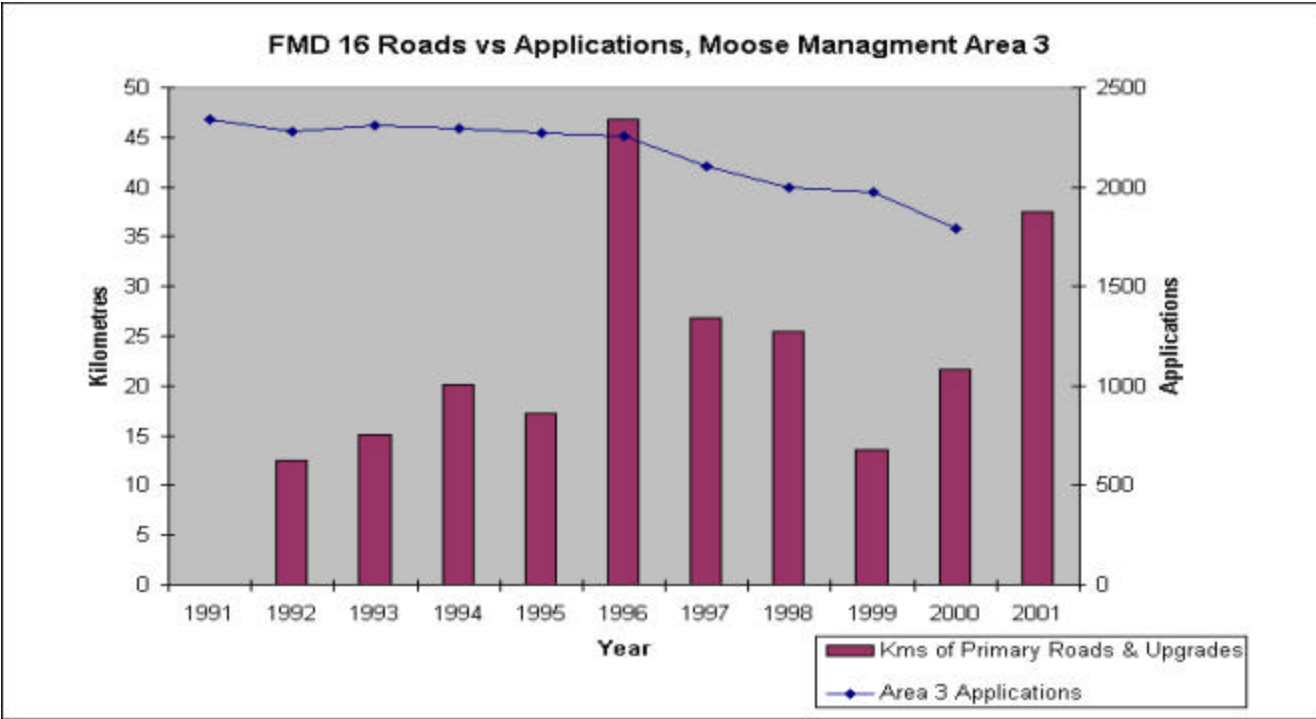
The graphs that follow were generated from data obtained from two sources. The amount of forest access roads constructed was obtained from Corner Brook Pulp and Paper and includes the total Forest Management District (FMD) 16. The numbers reflect both primary roads and upgrades and should be an accurate indicator of the annual change in access in the area even though secondary roads are not included in the numbers. The Wildlife Division provided Big Game data on MMAs 3 and 4 and CMA 69. Only three years of data are available for CMA 79, this was not included in the analysis. The available data includes a number of applications, hunter success by non-resident and resident, and total licenses issued. This data was used to respond to the comment "the EPR should predict the impact of forest access roads on increasing accessibility and hunter crowding taking into account the number of resident big game applications, license issues, and returns for areas that have become accessible by forest access roads". Results were graphed to examine for any obvious correlation.

Overall a decreasing trend was approved for Moose applications (MMA 3 and 4). However, for Caribou (CMA 69) there was an increase in one year (1996). This change attributable to the quota increase (doubling) which followed census work carried out by the Wildlife Division during the winter of 1995. It might be argued that an increase in the number of applications could reflect increased access to an area (i.e. the more hunters become aware of a newly accessed area, the more will apply for this area). However, there appears to be no correlation with increased access for the three management areas examined as shown by the number of kilometers of roads. Rather, a declining trend may be present (i.e. fewer applications as greater access is available). This may not be the result of any cause-effect relationship, but simply reflect an overall decline in applications.

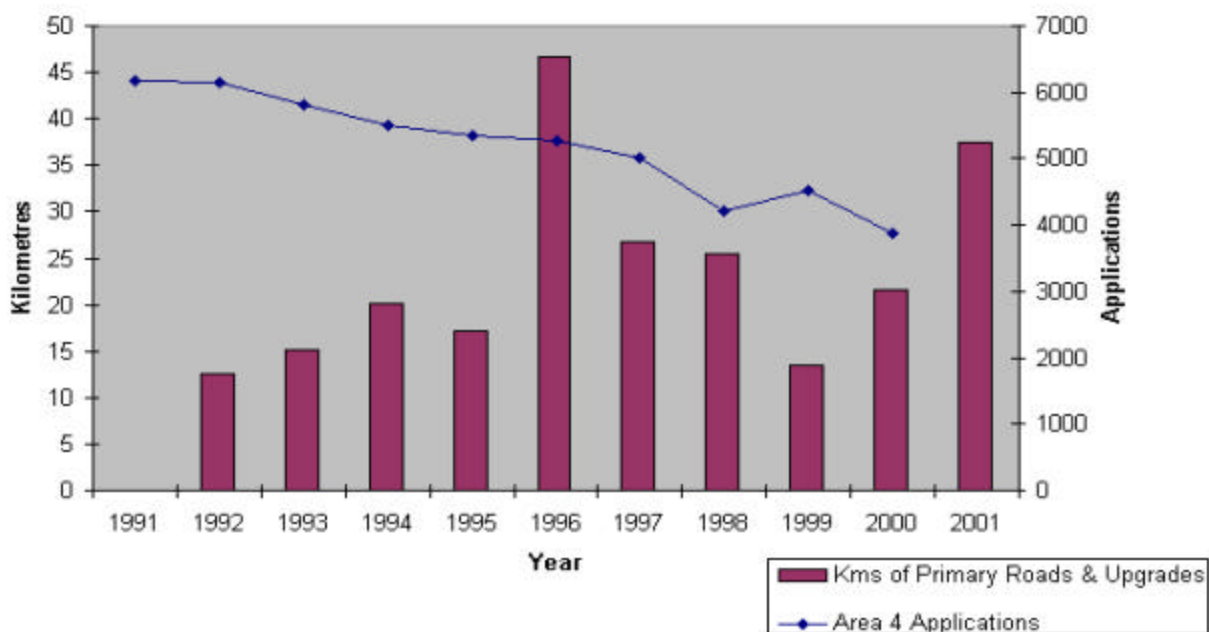
Hunter success by kilometers of roads was also examined. There does not appear to be any correlation between hunter success and roads built. Both resident and non-resident hunters were examined and hunter success remained fairly constant. The majority of non-resident hunters would be fly in, and hence unaffected by increased surface access.

There does not appear to be any correlation between the number of licences issued and the number of applications. Individual quotas set by the Wildlife Division are based on current harvest information and long-term management objectives for moose populations in general (Wildlife Division 2002). The same would apply to caribou quotas as well. As long as there are more applications than licenses available, the number of licenses issued will be dictated by the health of the stock and not by the level of interest. There appears to be a decreasing trend in the number of applications for moose in both MMAs and an increasing trend in CMA 69, which probably reflects the increase in the quota.

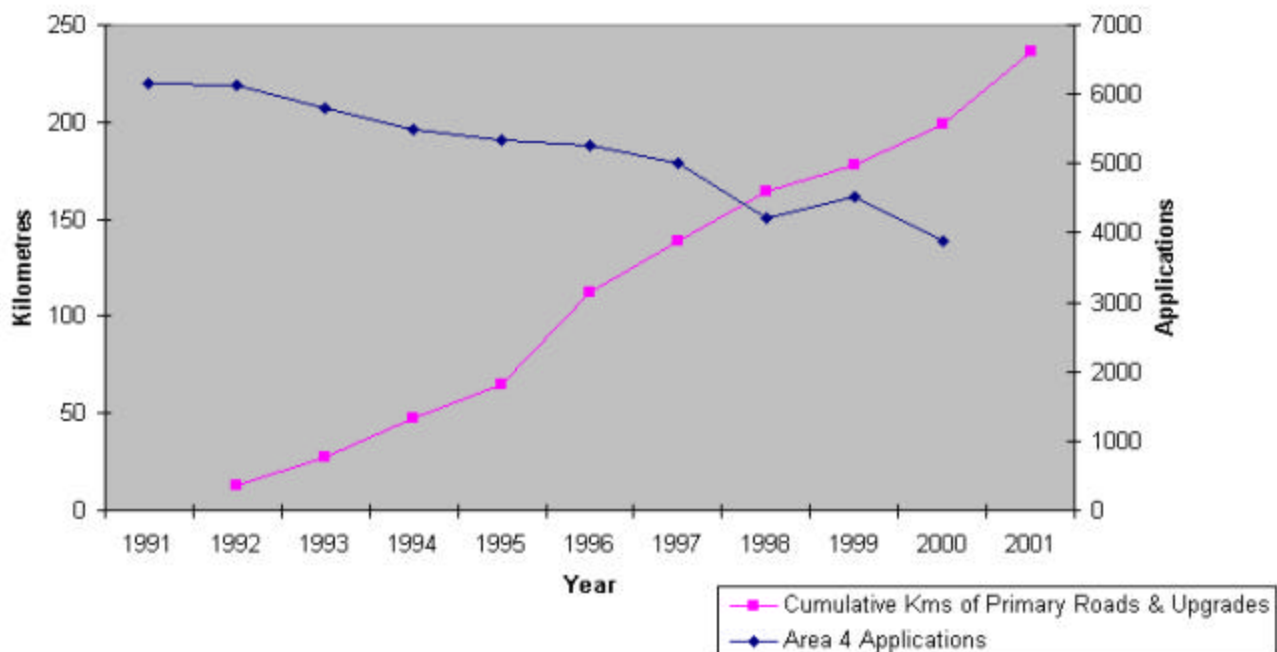
In conclusion, at the MMA and CMA level, there does not appear to be an effect from forest access road by increasing accessibility and hunter crowding. This is indicated by the number of applications and resident hunter/non-resident hunter success.



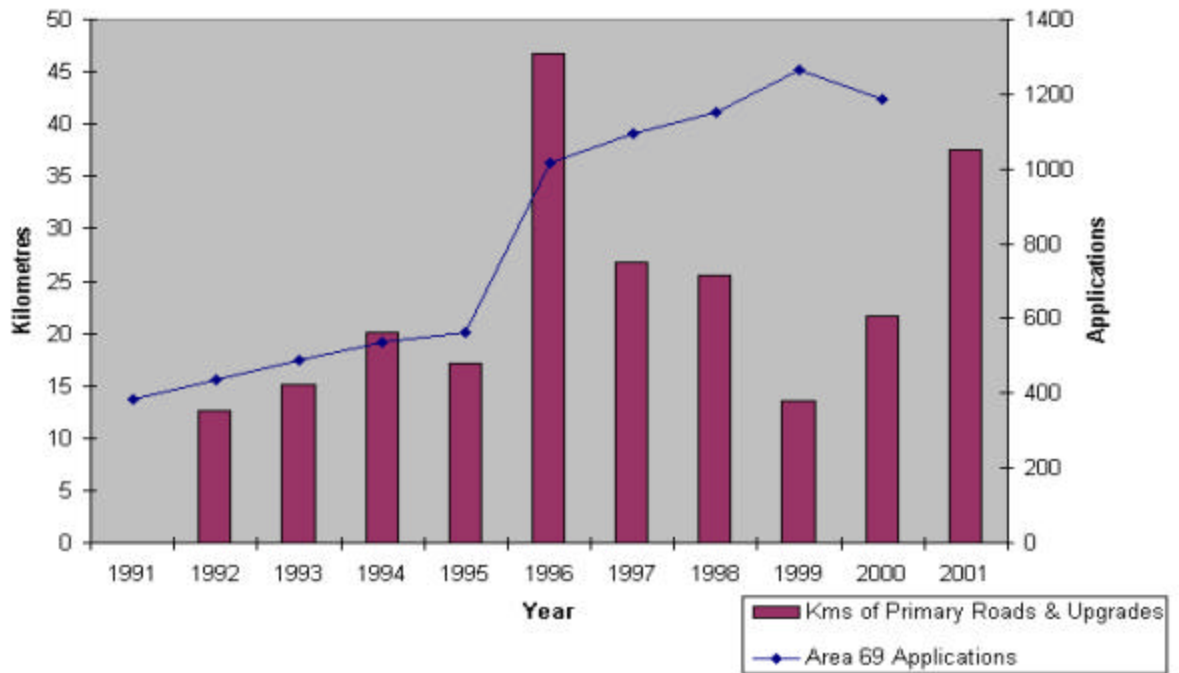
FMD16 Roads vs Applications, Moose Management Area 4



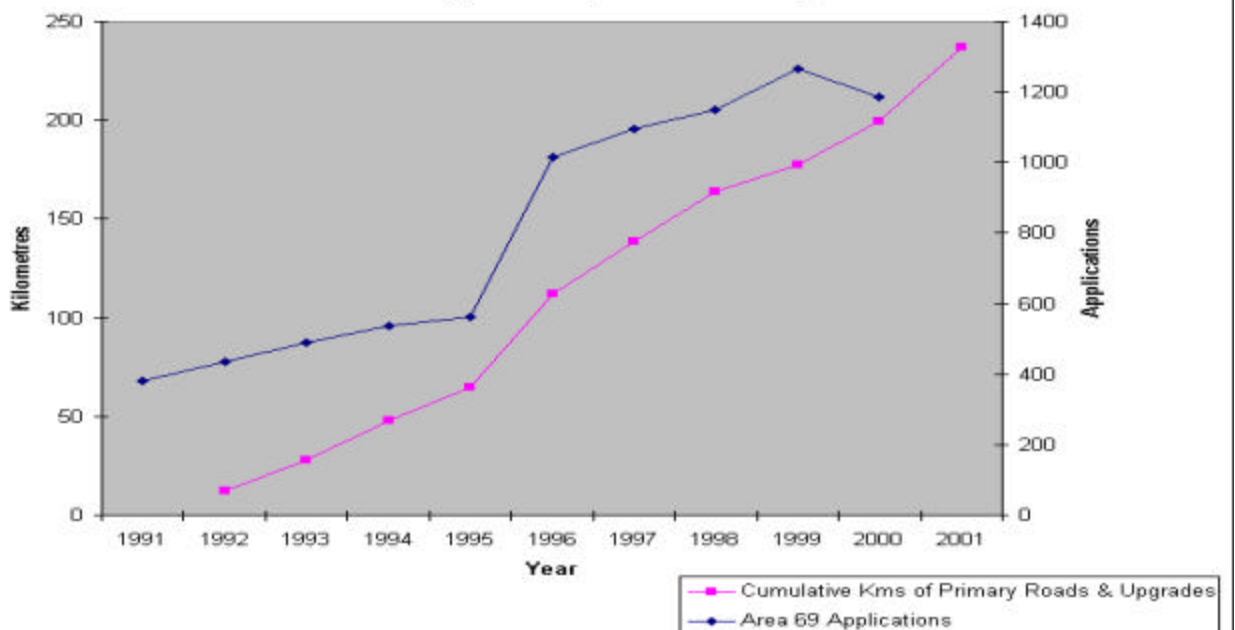
FMD16 Roads vs Applications, Moose Management Area 4

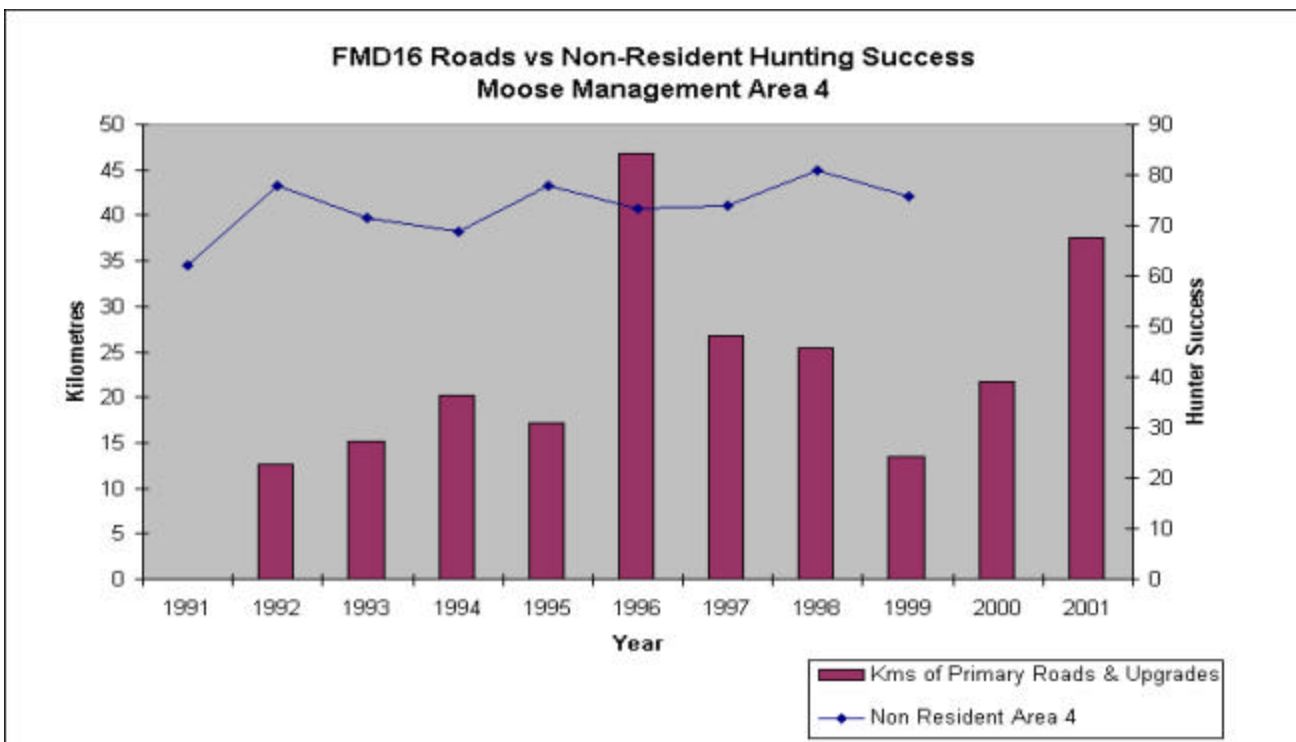
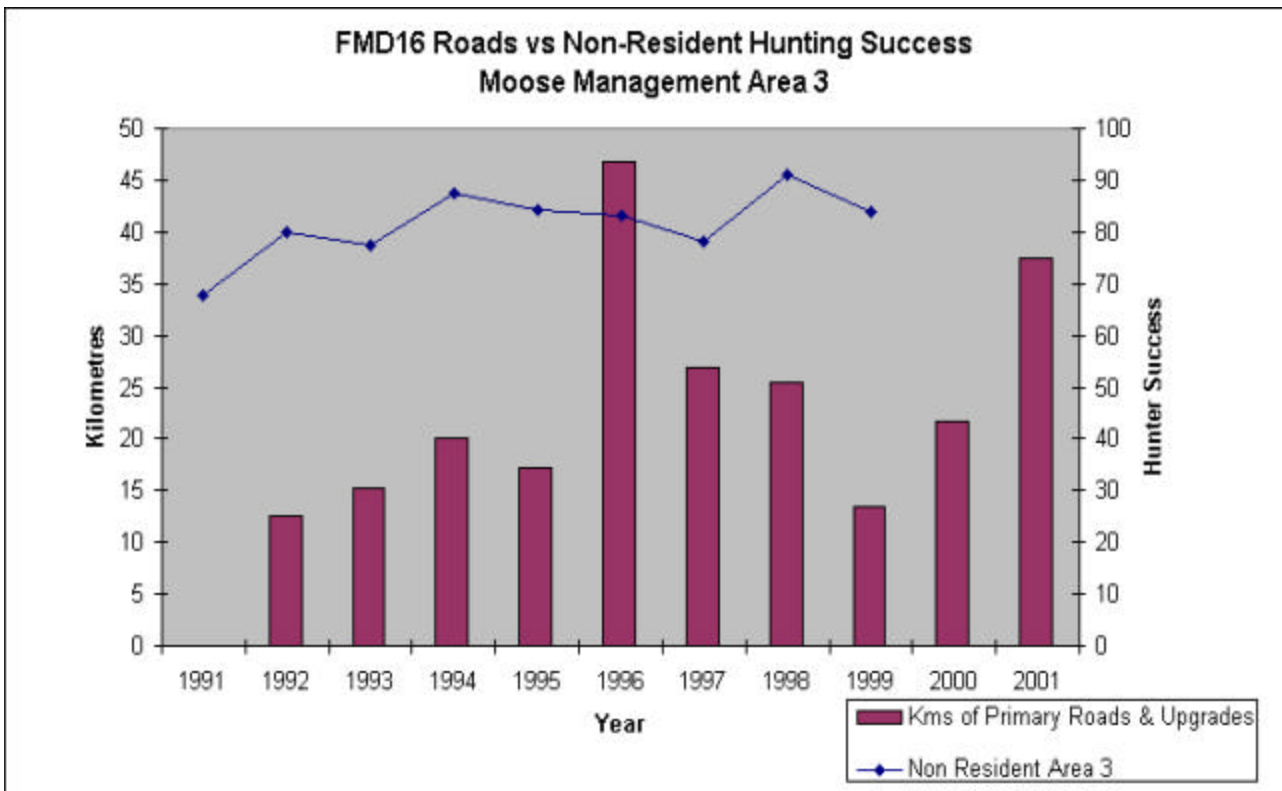


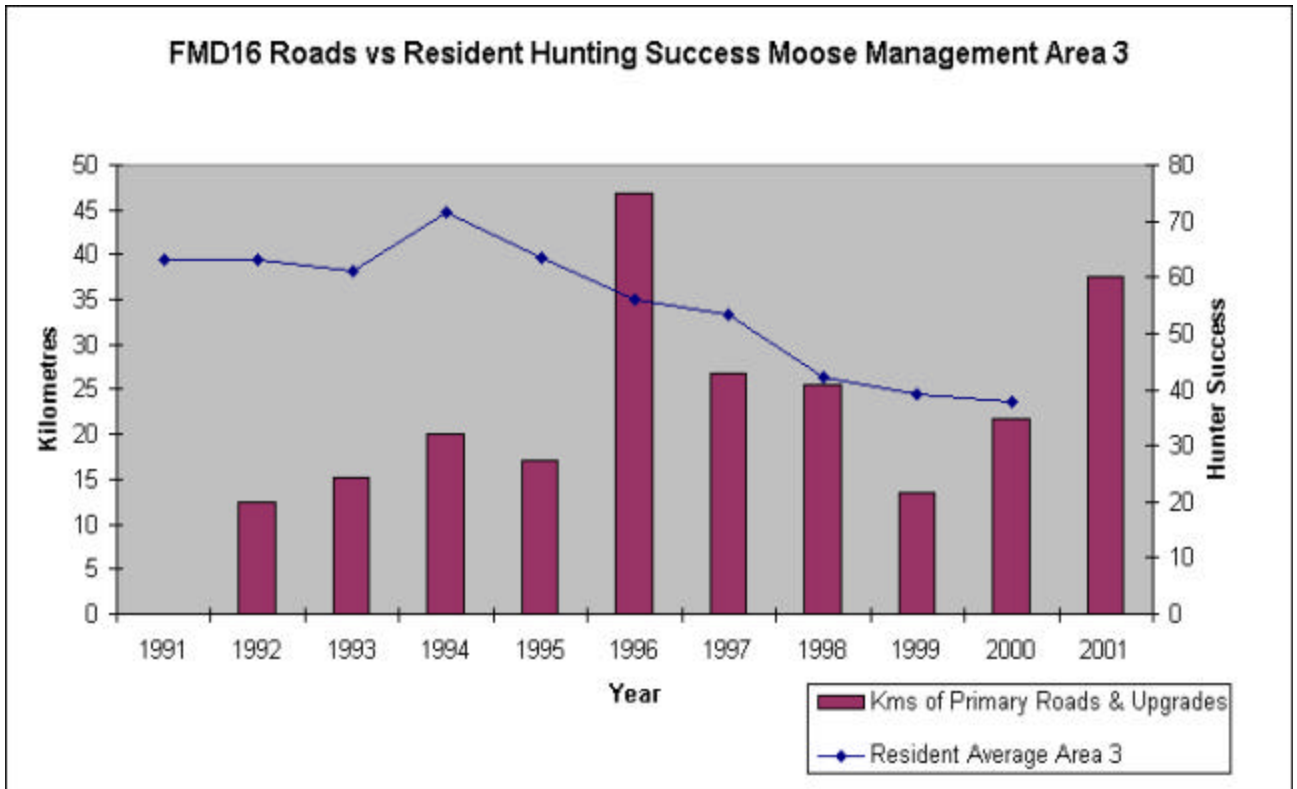
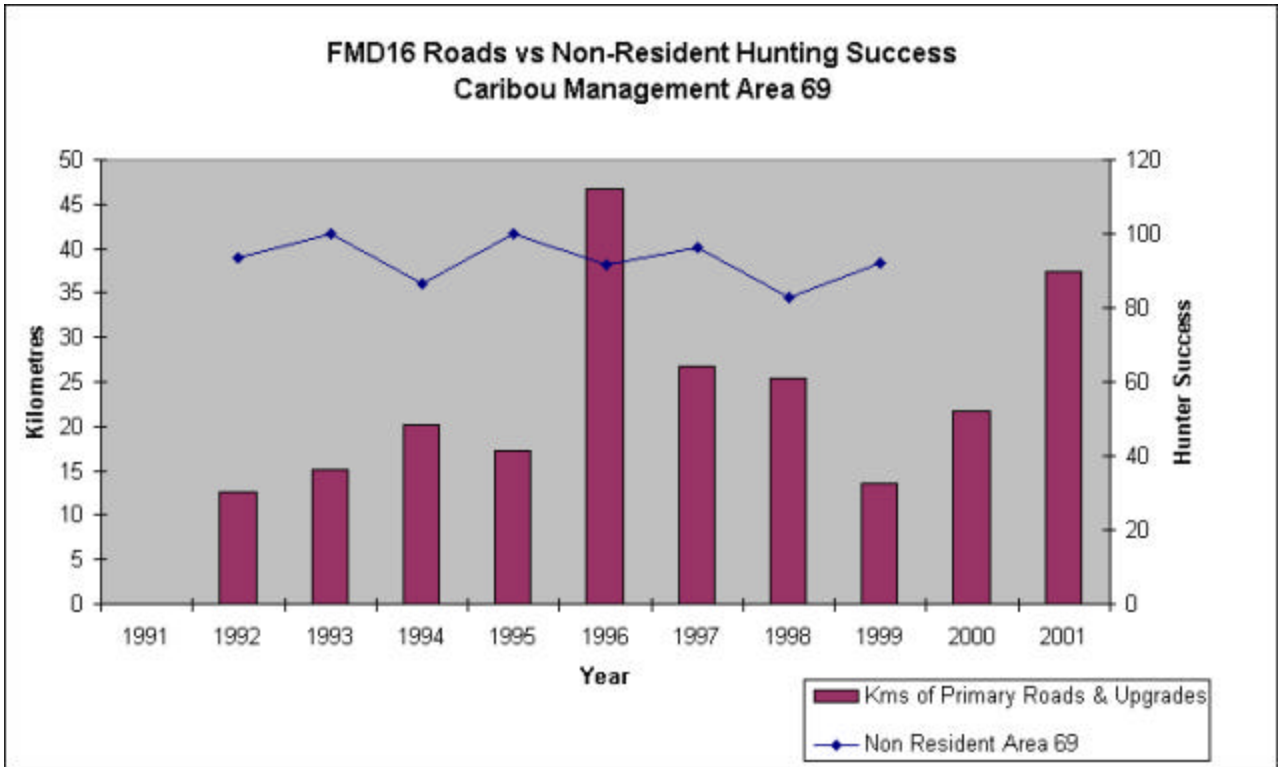
FMD16 Roads vs Applications, Caribou Management Area 69



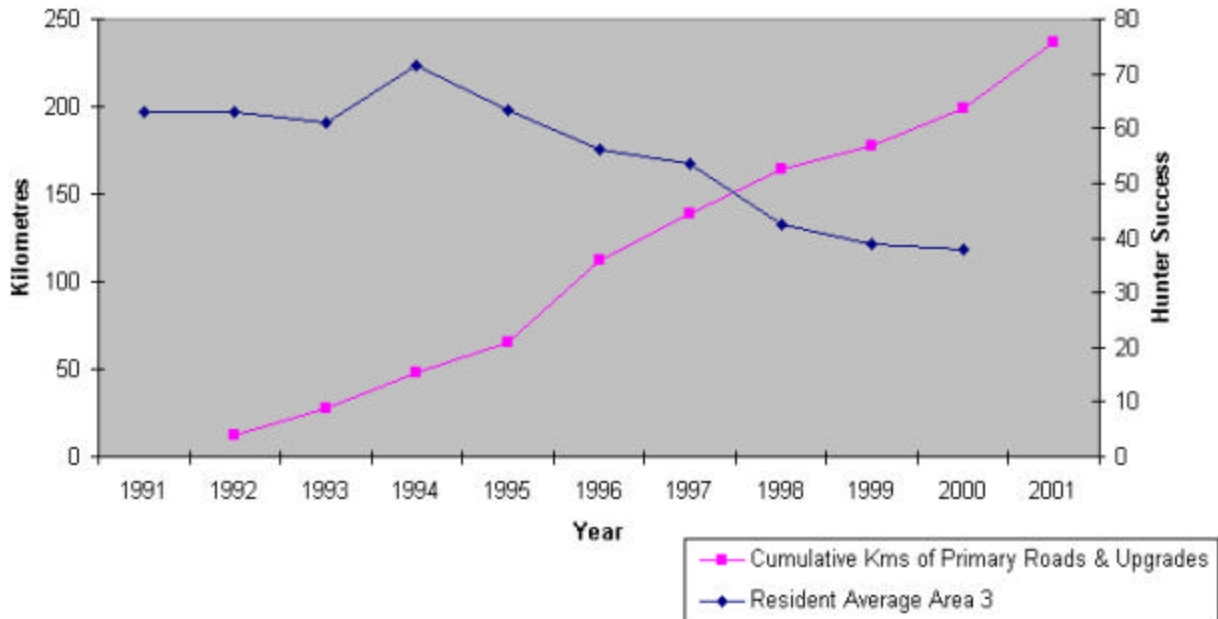
FMD16 Roads vs Applications, Caribou Management Area 69



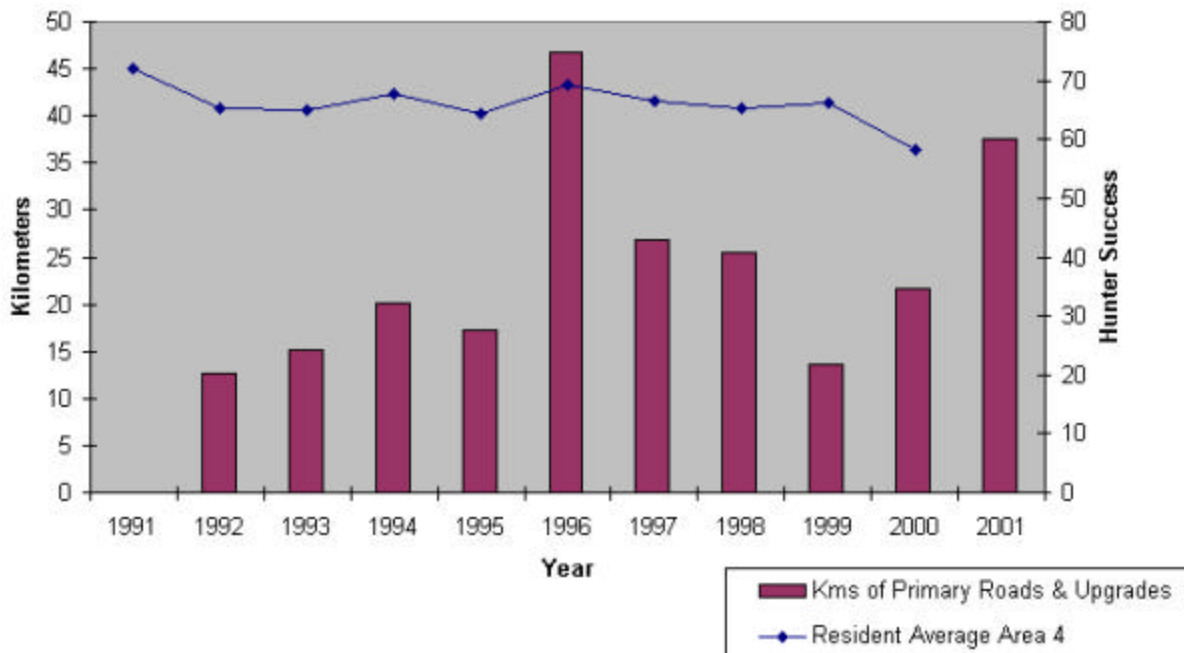




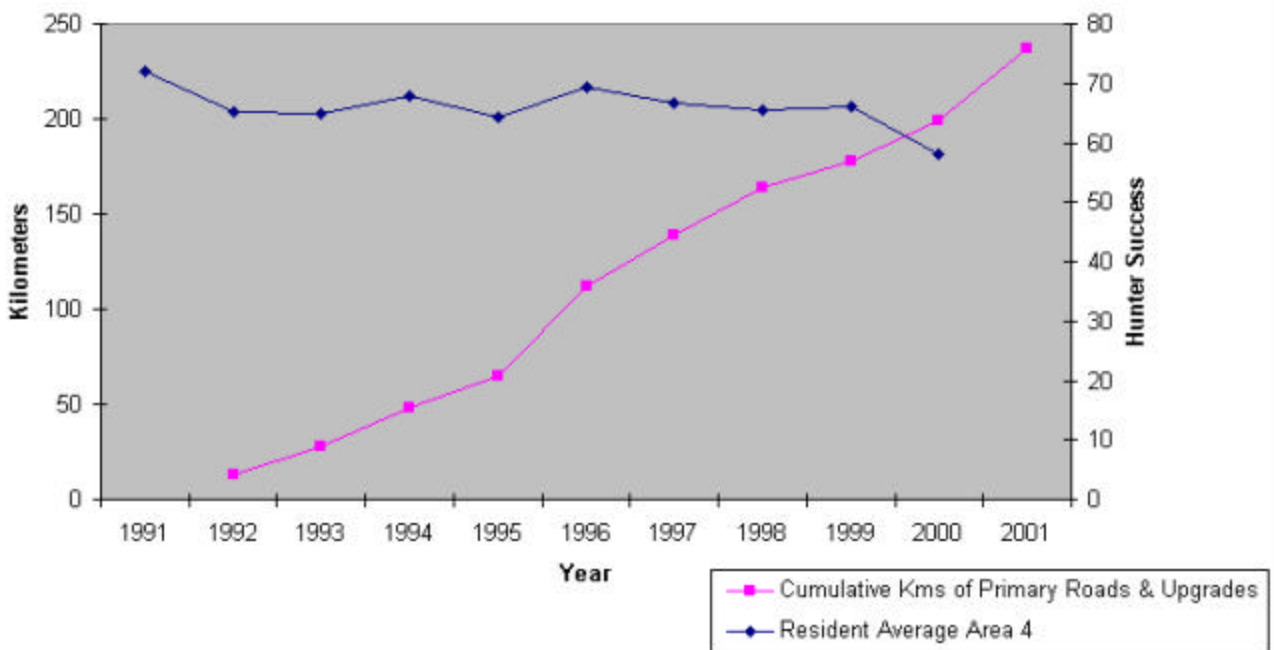
FMD16 Roads vs Resident Hunting Success Moose Management Area 3



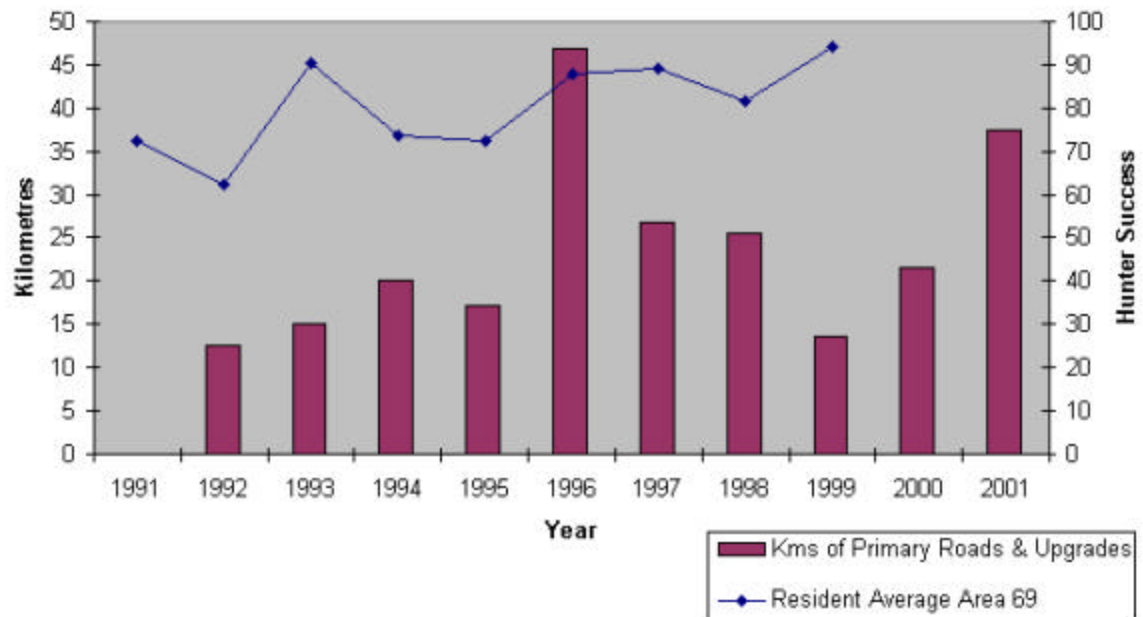
FMD16 Roads vs Resident Hunting Success Moose Management Area 4



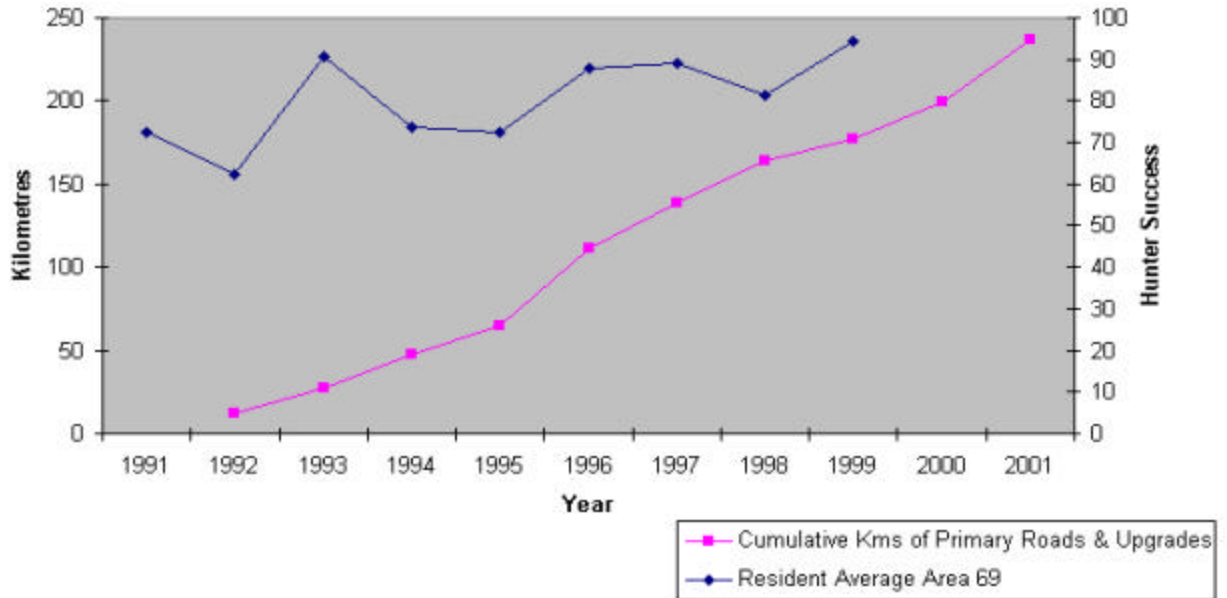
FMD16 Roads vs Resident Hunting Success, Moose Management Area 4



FMD16 Roads vs Resident Hunting Success Caribou Management Area 69



FMD16 Roads vs Resident Hunting Success Caribou Management Area 69



**Applications vs Total Licences Issued
Moose Management Area 3**

