

PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: Alaska

GRANT NO.: F-10-33

GRANT TITLE: Sport Fish Investigations in Alaska

PERIOD COVERED: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

STUDY NO. AND TITLE: R-3-6 Region III Area Management

STUDY OBJECTIVES:

1. evaluate fisheries and fishery resources within Region III and develop management strategies, plans, and objectives, to assure sustained yield;
2. monitor fisheries and fishery resources, and obtain public information to assure that management objectives are attained;
3. provide information to other agencies, individuals and groups relating to proposed land use or development activities on recreational fishery resources; and,
4. provide information to the public about fishing opportunities, life history, conservation and management of game fish species and assist with various aquatic education activities.

RESULTS/DISCUSSIONS:

Objective 1: Each of the fisheries in Region III are evaluated each year with the most recent harvest and participation data (for this period this data was through the 2016 season) and those evaluations are summarized every three years (coinciding with the Alaska Board of Fisheries cycle) in area management reports. These management reports were completed and published during this reporting period, and four of those reports will be presented to the Board at their January 2019 meeting. Area management staff continued to review and update management plans specific to their areas and the objectives for these updated plans were discussed at a March 2018 area review meeting. Area staff also attended pre-season and in-season Division of Commercial Fisheries staff meetings as well as federal agency and NGO preseason and in-season management meetings for their respective areas to discuss salmon management strategies for the 2018 season.

Objective 2: Management staff reviewed stock assessment projects weekly during the fishing season and participated in 15-20 Advisory committee (AC) and Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meetings to both gather and disseminate regional fishery and stock status information. Staff also attended numerous user group meetings with the Kuskokwim Working Group, Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission, Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission, Yukon River Panel, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association, Bering Sea Fisherman's Association, Ahtna Subsistence Committee, Trout

Unlimited, several Regional Planning Teams, and the March 2018 Statewide Board of Fisheries meeting.

Objective 3: Staff provided formal comments to the Federal Office of Subsistence Management regarding proposed Federal subsistence regulations and potential impacts on sport fisheries; management staff has also provided written comments in review of Fish Resource Permits (FRP), various land use, development permitting related documents, and federal management unit plans. Management staff has provided input to local organizations such as the Harding Lake Homeowner's Association, Chena River Watershed Association, Tanana Valley Watershed Association, and Chena/Badger Slough Homeowner's Association, regarding land and water use plans. Management staff also provided input to ADF&G Division of Habitat-OHMP habitat permits. The Division of Sport Fish continues to work with Teck Corp, Red Dog Mine, and Fort Knox Gold Inc. on resource extraction projects.

Objective 4: Regional fishery management staff continue to participate in several Outdoor/Sportsman's shows, K-12 and College classroom and field programs, NGO sponsored watershed and conservation educational programs, as well as hold and participate in ADF&G-sponsored fishing clinics, and Becoming and Outdoors Woman classes and clinics. In addition to formalized activities, management staff make numerous informal contacts with the angling public or the fishing guiding industry in each of the management areas on a weekly basis.

FINAL REPORT STATUS:

This performance report is the final report for these objectives.

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DATE: September 1, 2018