PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: Alaska   **GRANT NUMBER:** F-10-33

GRANT TITLE: Sport Fish Investigations in Alaska

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

JOB NO. AND TITLE: RT-12   <u>Statewide Library Support Services</u>

STUDY OBJECTIVES:

1) To have ARLIS cooperate with ADF&G in scanning efforts to make items more accessible.
2) To continue increasing access to electronic desktop resources needed by staff for research support.
3) To fulfill information needs by augmenting the ARLIS collection in information areas that supports the Department mission.
4) To serve as the point of contact for ADF&G publication requests unable to be fulfilled via the ADF&G website.

RESULTS/DISCUSSION:
Objective 1:
Increasingly, ARLIS fulfills information requests electronically and has been proactive in scanning the collections and individual reports in high demand by ADF&G and other founding agency staff. ARLIS collaboratively provided digital scans of several serial publications and other documents of interest to ADF&G. ARLIS has also cooperated fully in assisting ADF&G in its in-house scanning efforts. ADF&G requests for missing documents are frequent and often fulfilled due to ARLIS's extensive repository of ADF&G reports.

ARLIS worked cooperatively with ADF&G publications staff to verify citations, verify completeness of report copies, and identify discrepancies between printed copies and digital copies. An ARLIS server is a dedicated permanent source for URLs associated with all agency reports, including ADF&G reports, and these URLs are input into ARLIS catalog records with a permanent ARLIS address.

The ADF&G Librarian is an adjunct member of the ADF&G publications work team and has met or teleconferenced with publications staff on issues of mutual concern, including scanning projects, editorial efforts, PDF standards, copyright issues, and revisions of ADF&G writing manuals. The Librarian is also a member of the website redesign library SME (subject matter expert) team which periodically updates the digital documents on ADF&G's public website. During FY18, this committee continued to meet informally via e-mail to streamline and enhance navigation at the existing site, while

continuing to strongly advocate for a searchable database for all historic and current department publications.

Paper is still the backbone of the ARLIS collection and the format that most on-site library users prefer. Off-site agency and remote users prefer to obtain reports in PDF format.

For most agencies including ADF&G, the standard number of paper copies collected is now two, decreased from four, thereby relieving the clerical demand on ADF&G. The multi-agency and public demand for copies in most cases is fulfilled by the acquisition of two copies for a permanent repository. ARLIS is also creating permanent URLs for the digital versions of all other ARLIS founding agency documents by serving PDF copies via an ARLIS server dedicated to this purpose. ARLIS proactively serves ADF&G constituents in their efforts to obtain ADF&G publications. ARLIS also serves as the distribution point for ADF&G publications when requested by the public. In addition, individual document scanning for agency personnel has increased the number of electronic items available through the ARLIS library catalog. ARLIS is also the point of contact for publication inquiries from the public and receives all publication inquiries at the ADF&G e-library website.

The above referenced-efforts led to the successful accomplishment of Objective 1 in FY18.

Objective 2: The number and range of full-text journals offered via the ARLIS website at ADF&G desktops decreased in FY18 due to a large contribution cut by ARLIS's University partner, resulting in a $50K decrease in journal subscriptions (Table 1). Costs of existing resources generally increase annually by approximately 5% but budgets have remained flat; therefore, new additions are severely limited in this budget scenario, and demand dictates any retention of titles. Demand of fish and wildlife titles is very high and efforts were made to minimize such cuts.

Partnering with a non-profit entity allowed ARLIS to maintain a number of subscriptions and databases as well as through capitalizing on free or open-source electronic content. Continued partnerships nationwide with other federal libraries and the University of Alaska increased ARLIS electronic delivery capabilities through better and more stable service.

A legal database was dropped in FY17 but in FY18 ARLIS librarians found that agency staff preferred librarians to mediate on their behalf for legal searches; since UAA has a current subscription, we thereby avoided duplication. The drop in number of legal journal titles was mitigated by finding open-source content from law reviews produced by universities.

The vendor from which ARLIS obtains electronic reference books provided value-added titles. A new subscription to Council of Scientific Editors online edition helped to both publications and professional staff.

During FY18 ARLIS retained some of its topical databases. Specifically, those funded by ADF&G included Web of Science and Fish & Fisheries Worldwide. Databases slightly increased in FY18 by an ADF&G investment in the Current Contents titles on ARLIS's behalf and the addition of free or agency databases added to increase access via a single website in service to ARLIS's Founders.

Table 1: Availability of ARLIS electronic resources at ADF&G desktops FY11-FY18

Types of electronic content	FY11 # avail.	FY12 # avail.	FY13 # avail.	FY14 # avail.	FY15 # avail.	FY16 # avail	FY17 # avail	FY18 # avail	Percent change from FY17
Full-text journals	710	2000	2000	3923	3923	4005	3805	3755	-2%
Topical databases	33	36	37	42	45	45	51	54	+6%
Electronic multi-volume reference books	40	40	40	53	53	53	53	53	0%

Objective 3: ARLIS continually upgrades the collection to meet the needs of its founding agencies. Because ADF&G is the largest agency user of Interlibrary Loan, ARLIS often purchases new materials based on ADF&G requests, as brand new materials can be difficult to interlibrary loan from libraries that have in-house demands of their own. These items purchased on demand become part of the permanent ARLIS collection for the use of other staff and other agencies.

ARLIS houses the series of Bristol Bay, Cook Inlet, and Prince William Sound Data Report series, many of which cannot be found anywhere else, including ADF&G area offices. ARLIS has worked with the ADF&G Commercial Fisheries staff in headquarters and area offices to contribute to ADF&G efforts to digitize and archive these materials.

The above efforts contributed to the successful fulfillment of Objective 3 in FY18.

Objective 4: A web-based "ask us" service at the ADF&G website directs questions to the ADF&G Librarian when the user self-selects the "publication request" tab. In addition, ADF&G's e-Library pages are also structured to navigate public users to ARLIS for fulfillment of publication needs. These publication questions have increased the reference question workload. Another factor that leads the user to make these requests is the lack of a comprehensive ADF&G database of publications for public use at the website, as well as some unresolved navigation issues that have made certain publications difficult for the casual user to discover. Oftentimes, reports being requested

are readily available but somewhat obscurely buried at the site. The librarian is well-situated to answer many of these questions, and forwards questions to appropriate staff when staff expertise is required, such as for copyright permissions requests. Along with the general public, these publication avenues are used by staff of other agencies and the private sector. This service at the website satisfied constituent requests and accomplishes the intent of Objective 4 in FY18.

ARLIS SERVICE TO ADF&G

Frequency of use among founding agencies
ADF&G is again the most frequent overall agency user of ARLIS services in FY18 among the participating founding agencies. ADF&G's use compared to the other ARLIS founding agencies is shown in Tables 2 and 3.

The number of ADF&G reference questions now includes the questions generated by the e-Library at the revamped ADF&G website, including a "contact us" link that directs all publication questions directly to the ADF&G librarian.

Table 2: Number of agency transactions FY18*

Agency	Reference Questions to all desk staff – FY17*	Items Checked Out	Interlibrary Loans Fulfilled
ADF&G	742	356	693
BLM	388	53	527
BOEM	68	129	299
EVOS	176	7	3
FWS	268	85	385
NPS	252	135	685
USGS	78	176	366
Total	**1,972**	**942**	**2,958**

*statistics for agencies other than ADF&G have not been compiled for FY18

As shown below in Table 3, ADF&G's overall percentage use of ARLIS is higher than any other founding agency, even though ADF&G is a smaller agency in terms of numbers of staff. ADF&G staff is continually devoted to staying abreast of new literature in their topic of professional interest and consistently check baseline literature in their field of study. For many years, ADF&G has consistently sustained approximately a third of all use among the seven founding agencies.

Table 3: Percentage of ARLIS use among the founding agencies FY18

Agency	Reference Questions	Items Checked Out	Interlibrary Loans Fulfilled	Average percentage of total use
ADF&G	38%	38%	23%	33%
BLM	20%	6%	18%	15%
BOEM	3%	14%	10%	9%
EVOS	9%	<1%	<1%	4%
FWS	13%	9%	13%	11%
NPS	13%	14%	23%	17%
USGS	4%	18%	12%	11%
Total	[100%]	[100%]	[100%]	[100%]

FINAL REPORT STATUS: This performance report is the final report for all objectives.

PREPARED BY: Celia M. Rozen　　　　　　　　　**DATE:** August 29, 2018