

**FEDERAL AID  
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

**ALASKA WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT  
COORDINATION PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**STATE:** Alaska

**GRANT AND SEGMENT NO.** AKW-4 23.0 Federal Aid Coordination FY2015

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Statewide

**PROJECT NO.** 23.0

**PERIOD:** 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

**REPORT DUE TO HQ:** September 1, 2015

**PROJECT TITLE:** Alaska Wildlife Research and Management Coordination

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**Project Objectives:**

1. Supervise and administer the Division of Wildlife Conservation's Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration program.
2. Submit annual and multi-year contract documents with supporting documentation when they are due.
3. Assure publication of project reports in conformance with federal aid guidelines.
4. Division operations are maintained for its 22 locations statewide.

Job Activity 1:

Current and proposed studies will be reviewed for technical content and suitability of objectives and procedures by the division's management coordinators, research coordinators, biometricians and the Division's Management Team (DMT). Regional coordinators and regional supervisors will maintain a continuing review of each study's progress and conformance with approved objectives and procedures for studies within their region.

The program administrator or designee will meet periodically with regional coordinators for progress reviews, identification of problems, and preparation of necessary program amendments.

The program administrator and assigned headquarters staff will maintain ongoing fiscal review of study expenditures and other oversight administrative functions. Regional supervisors, coordinators, and administrative assistants will maintain necessary administrative supervision to assure reasonable control of expenditures, purchasing, time accountability, and conformance with fiscal guidelines.

Job Activity 2:

Regional coordinators will schedule reviews of all studies within their region with principal investigators in sufficient time to have final annual work plans submitted to the

program administrator by early June each year. Regional coordinators will be responsible for assuring each study is substantive in scope and addresses a specific management problem need.

The program administrator will assemble the necessary documents, according to budget limitations and department priorities, and submit the proposed annual contract in a timely manner as required to meet federal schedules.

Job Activity 3:

Regional coordinators and regional supervisors will assure the timely submittal of necessary reports of study activities to meet assigned reporting deadline. An annual performance report will be submitted to Federal Aid within 90 days following the end of the contract period.

Contents of various federal aid reports, as well as statistical analysis of results, will be reviewed by regional coordinators and/or the senior staff biologist. Final report consolidation, formatting, and editing will be accomplished by the publication specialist.

**Summary of Accomplishments:**

1. We supervised 182 staff members supported all or in part by Wildlife Restoration funding.
2. We managed 101 Wildlife Restoration/State Wildlife Grant/ESA projects in the state with a total Federal Aid/State matching budget of \$33,075,615.92, involving research, planning, management, survey and inventory, coordination/support and hunter education.

These projects benefited over 155,309 hunting and trapping license buyers and 19,116 big game tags were sold (Jan 1, 2014 – Dec 31, 2014 data).

3. We improved and updated project tracking and summary spreadsheets, summarized wildlife captures and collections for USFWS compliance review, and updated project budgets in ADF&G's internal budgeting database (TAZ).
4. We reviewed goals, objectives and procedures for the following FY15 projects and programs:
  - 27 Management projects (15 S&I and 11 Coordination and Support)
  - 32 Research projects
  - 2 Hunter Education Enhancement and Hunter Information and Training
5. Alaska's HIT program is expected to result in safer, better informed, and more prepared resource users. Hunting- and firearm-related accidents and incidents are expected to be reduced, along with game violations. Ethical and responsible hunting behaviors are expected to increase. The hunting community will benefit from these ethical and responsible behaviors because of the improved perception of hunters, and the continuation of hunting as a legitimate activity. The general public will benefit from

hunter adherence to game laws because of the perseverance of healthy and well-distributed wildlife populations to view, harvest, and otherwise enjoy. Most notably, Alaska's wildlife will benefit through their conservation and the conservation of their habitats.

6. We worked with USFWS Federal Aid staff closely to improve Wildlife Restoration grant submissions, annual work plans, project statements, and performance reporting.
7. The division launched at the end of fiscal year ending 1 June 2015 a publications database that allows searching for division materials according to a variety of characteristics, including among other things year published, author, species addressed, type of publication, division program, and topic. Public access is provided via a search feature in the "e-Library" of the department's website:  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=librarypublications.wildlifepublications>

Within this data base you can search publication by calendar year. For the Federal year is harder to calculate but DWC's Publication Specialist II indicates "About 40 technical reports on our management and research activities (these include species management reports, management and research reports, the wood bison management plan, and a large number of reports to the Board of Game on intensive management activities, as well as reports in a number of other report categories that may be thought of as "technical reports."). About 20 journal articles were published on research and management matters where one or more division staff members were lead or co-author (many of these were Kimberlee Beckmen/Wildlife Health; a lot are coauthor rather than lead author). About 60 articles, brochures, and other written materials (most of these AWFN articles) to inform and educate the public."

8. We loaded our FY2015 projects into the WildTRACS system and submitted them to USFWS R7 in May of 2014. During FY2015 the Federal Aid Coordinator worked with the FWS on loading Alaska specific shape files (DWC Regions and Game Management Units) for TRACS.
9. In October at the WSFR Coordinators Conference Alaska's Federal Aid Coordinator was invited to sit on the national TRACS working group as one of two state representatives. During January 13-14, 2015 I attended a TRACS working group meeting in Denver.

#### Job-related Training

1. Completed WildTRACS training in Anchorage, AK April 10-11, 2014.
2. Completed PacWest WSFR Coordinators Conference Seattle, WA October 20-24, 2014

**Submitted by:** Nathan Soboleff, Federal Aid Coordinator

**Date:** December 23, 2015