

**FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT
PERFORMANCE REPORT**

STATE: Alaska

GRANT AND SEGMENT NO. W-33-7

WORK LOCATION: Region III

PROJECT NO. 24.0

PERIOD: 1 July 2008 – 30 June 2009

PROJECT TITLE: Fire Management Planning for Wildlife Habitat

Project Activities and Accomplishments

ACTIVITY 1: Represent the department on the Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (AWFCG) and related Committees and Task Groups.

Accomplishments:

- Represented the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) at quarterly meetings and monthly teleconferences of the AWFCG.
- Represented the ADF&G at meetings of the Air Quality and Smoke Management Committee; Fire GIS Committee; Fire Prevention, Education and Awareness Committee; Fire Research and Applications Committee; Fire Plan Task Group; and Fuels and Prescribed Fire Committee.

ACTIVITY 2: Participate in the two annual fall fire reviews sponsored by the AWFCG and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ANDR), Division of Forestry (DOF), respectively.

Accomplishments: Attended the Interagency Fall Fire Review and the DOF Fall Fire Review.

ACTIVITY 3: Annually evaluate and comment on the selection of fire management options (Critical, Full, Modified, and Limited) under the Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan (AIWFMP) and recommend changes.

Accomplishments: Reviewed the selection of fire management options; no changes requested.

ACTIVITY 4: Develop and promote department policies and positions relative to fire management.

Accomplishments: Continued to advocate for active management of wildland fires to meet land, resource and protection objectives and avoid future catastrophic fires in developed areas where initial attack is highly effective at excluding fire; and submitted proposals to change the initial response criteria in the AIWFMP for the Full and early season Modified areas.

ACTIVITY 5: Review and comment on state and federal fire-related policies and procedures.

Accomplishments: Continued to work with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to develop an Alaska Enhanced Smoke Management Plan, and to reduce the permitting requirements and fees for prescribed burning; and worked with AWFCG members to incorporate fire policy changes in the AIWFMP.

ACTIVITY 6: Meet with federal, state and local level administrators to discuss fire-related policies, procedures or issues.

Accomplishments: Discussed state and federal fire policies during the Interagency Fall Fire Review and the Division of Forestry Fall Fire Review, and advocated for change at every possible opportunity.

ACTIVITY 7: Facilitate department staff involvement in fire-related issues.

Accomplishments: Coordinated with the Fairbanks Area Forestry Fire Management Officer and Division of Wildlife Conservation staff to achieve Refuge objectives for wildland fire management.

ACTIVITY 8: Identify and review appropriate literature to maintain expertise on fire management issues.

Accomplishments: Reviewed research papers and other literature on fire-related issues.

ACTIVITY 9: Prepare and disseminate information (e.g., news releases, guest editorials, brochures and video) on fire-related issues.

Accomplishments: Helped prepare news releases for two prescribed burns in the Fairbanks Area; and took still images and video of the Nenana Ridge Research Prescribed Burn, edited the raw video, and distributed images and video to other agencies and cooperators.

ACTIVITY 10: Interact with broadcast media on fire-related issues.

Accomplishments: Provided interviews to the media during two prescribed burns in the Fairbanks Area, and during the wildland fires on the Minto Flats State Game Refuge and the Tanana Flats.

ACTIVITY 11: Prepare an annual budget, work plan, and documents needed to satisfy Federal Aid and other reporting requirements.

Accomplishments: Submitted a FY08 performance report and FY10 work plan to Federal Aid, and submitted a FY10 budget request.

Submitted by: Roy A. Nowlin, Region III Management Coordinator