

**Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation**

**Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration
Annual Performance Report
1 July 1999- 30 June 2000**

Fire and Forest Management Planning for Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Mary U. Hicks, Editor



Craig Gardner

**Grant W-27-3
Study 20.0
September 2000**

STATE OF ALASKA

Tony Knowles, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Frank Rue, Commissioner

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Wayne L. Regelin, Director

Persons intending to cite this material should receive permission from the author(s) and/or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Because most reports deal with preliminary results of continuing studies, conclusions are tentative and should be identified as such. Please give authors credit.

Free copies of this report and other Division of Wildlife Conservation publications are available to the public. Please direct requests to our publications specialist:

Mary Hicks

Publications Specialist

ADF&G, Wildlife Conservation

P.O. Box 25526

Juneau, AK 99802

(907) 465-4190

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfield Drive, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-4120, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-2440.

PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: Alaska

GRANT: W-27-3

STUDY: 20.0

PROJECT TITLE: Fire and Forest Management Planning for Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

AUTHOR: Dale Haggstrom

PERIOD: 1 July 1999–30 June 2000

PROJECT LOCATION: Statewide and Region III: Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, and 26 B & C

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 1 Work with state, federal, and private entities at the statewide level to plan and coordinate wildland and prescribed fire management efforts to maintain or improve habitat for wildlife.
- 2 Work with state, federal, and private entities within Region III to plan and coordinate fire and forest management efforts to maintain or improve habitat for wildlife.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED

- 1 Represent the Commissioner on the Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (AWFCG) and related committees and work groups (Objective 1).
- 2 Encourage wildland fire planning and suppression decisions that permit fire to resume its natural role of perpetuating diverse, productive ecosystems (Objectives 1 & 2).
- 3 Encourage prescribed burning and other appropriate forestry practices in developed areas where wildland fires must be suppressed to protect people or valued resources (Objectives 1 & 2).

ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED

- 1 I represented ADF&G on the Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (AWFCG) and participated in AWFCG sponsored activities (Objective 1). These included:
 - ◆ Attending AWFCG meetings on 17 November 1999 in Fairbanks and on 28 January and 18 April 2000 in Anchorage.
 - ◆ Participating in monthly teleconferences to coordinate fire-related business between AWFCG meetings.
 - ◆ Participating in several teleconferences in early July 1999 to evaluate and, subsequently, convert Modified Management Option areas to Limited Management Option for the remainder of the 1999 fire season.

3 3755 000 13337

- ◆ Attending meetings of the AWFCG-sponsored Fire Research and Applications Committee in Fairbanks on 28 September 1999 and 24 March 2000 and in Anchorage on 27 January 2000.
 - ◆ Attending the annual AWFCG sponsored Interagency Fall Fire Review on 15–16 November 1999 in Fairbanks.
- 2 Tom Paragi and I participated in meetings of the AWFCG–sponsored Interagency Fire Effects Monitoring Working Group in Fairbanks on 23 September and 8 December 1999 and 8 March 2000. Tom also participated in the 2nd Fire Effects Monitoring Workshop at Cooper Landing on 23–25 May 2000, where he presented a talk on sampling vegetation and wildlife use in post-fire seres (Objective 1).
 - 3 I represented ADF&G at the ADNR/Division of Forestry Fall Fire Review, held in Fairbanks on 12–13 October 1999 (Objective 1).
 - 4 I evaluated wildland fire situations, encouraged suppression decisions that benefited wildlife and ADF&G interests and sought ways to improve communication and cooperation between suppression agencies and ADF&G staff. Two fires on the Minto Flats State Game Refuge and numerous fires on other state lands west of Fairbanks during June 2000 required considerable time and close coordination with the ADF&G/Division of Habitat, ADNR/Division of Forestry, ADNR/Division of Land, and the BLM/Alaska Fire Service. Fire managers also required assistance dealing with bear problems at two fires (Objective 1).
 - 5 Tom and I participated in a series of seminars on wildland fires at UAF. Tom gave a slide presentation on 11 April 2000 (Objective 2).
 - 6 I worked with ADNR/Division of Lands, ADNR/Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, and ADNR/Division of Forestry, the BLM/Alaska Fire Service, the Tanana Chiefs Conference and Doyon Ltd. to review and revise the wildland fire protection levels (Objective 2).
 - 7 I prepared the FY99 Performance Report, and the FY01 annual work plan and budget request (Objectives 1 and 2).

SEGMENT PERIOD PROJECT COSTS

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Total</u>
Planned	13.1	2.5	15.6
Actual	9.6	0.8	10.4
Difference	3.5	1.7	5.2

Explanation: Actual personnel costs were less than planned because there were fewer fire-related planning and coordination issues of importance to the department this year and high priority activities on other projects required more time to address. Actual operating costs were less than

planned because some of the AWFCG meetings and both fall fire reviews were held in Fairbanks, negating the need to travel away from the duty station.

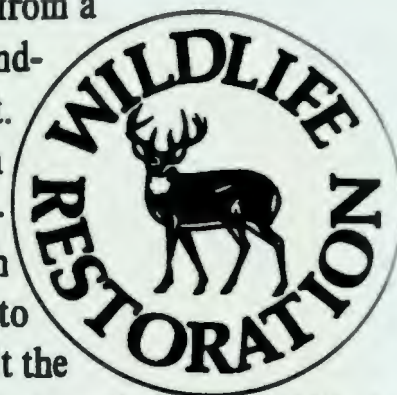
SUBMITTED BY:

Dale A. Haggstrom
Wildlife Biologist III

Roy A. Nowlin
Regional Mgmt Assistant

David D. James
Management Coordinator

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program consists of funds from a 10% to 11% manufacturer's excise tax collected from the sales of handguns, sporting rifles, shotguns, ammunition, and archery equipment. The Federal Aid program allots funds back to states through a formula based on each state's geographic area and number of paid hunting license holders. Alaska receives a maximum 5% of revenues collected each year. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game uses federal aid funds to help restore, conserve, and manage wild birds and mammals to benefit the public. These funds are also used to educate hunters to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes for responsible hunting. Seventy-five percent of the funds for this report are from Federal Aid.



Craig Gardner