Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Wildlife Restoration Grant

GRANT NUMBER: AKW-19

PROJECT NUMBER:

PROJECT TITLE: 1.0 Hunter Information Digital Delivery

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: 1 July 2016-30 June 2020

PERFORMANCE YEAR: 1 July 2017-30 June 2018

REPORT DUE DATE: Sept 1, 2018

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Caleb Wylie, Acting PI pending amendment

COOPERATORS:

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. **PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR**
OBJECTIVE 1: Improve ability to maintain hunting eligibility rules.
Job/Activity 1-a: Rebuild DWC's hunt eligibility database. The eligibility criteria for a hunt can be complex and based on variety of factors including residency, location, species and previous hunting activity.

Job/Activity 1-b: Build interface for the hunt eligibility database (aka "business rules engine") that allows DWC staff to add and edit hunt rules. Currently changes are made manually by IT staff.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: A contractor was selected and awarded a Task Order in May 2017 and work began on Objective 1 in July 2017. Objective 1 has taken longer than initially anticipated and is nearing completion; the hunt definition database has been redesigned and a new application has been developed. Testing is on-going, as well as development of the final modules in the application. The new hunt definition system will available for staff to manage 2019 regulatory year hunts. Work on Objective 1 is scheduled to complete by the end of 2018.

OBJECTIVE 2: Build tools that track an individual hunter's history and eligibility.

Job/Activity 2-a: Build database tools to track the hunting history for individual hunters in Alaska.

Job/Activity 2-b: Create interfaces that allow hunters and ADF&G staff to view and edit hunting

histories as appropriate.

Job/Activity 2-c: Integrate external databases that contribute to hunting and guiding eligibilities (for example, the Hunter compact database).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: No work on this objective has been completed during the reporting period as this objective depends on finishing Objective 1. Work will begin when Objective 1 has been completed. A task order will be used to procure contractual services to accomplish this objective.

OBJECTIVE 3: Improve the "shopping" experience for those hunting in Alaska.

Job/Activity 3-a: Integrate harvest ticket/permit website with ADF&G's licensing website to provide a "one stop shop" for hunters.

Job/Activity 3-b: Provide additional tools for hunters to plan and complete a hunting trip –from hunter education courses and related certifications, to license and permits, harvest reporting, information lookup, etc.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: DWC had difficulty separating the division's wildlife related projects and the department's mobile initiative. Due to this, the project approach has changed; this objective will no longer be completed. We anticipate submitting an amendment to this grant to account for changing priorities and objectives.

OBJECTIVE 4: Develop mobile tools based on recommendations from hunters and wildlife managers. A new suite of mobile tools may include the following:

Job/Activity 4-a: Download and store licenses, permits, tags and hunter certification onto a mobile device.

Job/Activity 4-b: Submit harvest reports directly from the field via a mobile device. This is often a mandatory part of a hunt for a participant or a guide.

Job/Activity 4-c: Receive information and hunting alerts/updates,

Job/Activity 4-d: Purchase licenses, permits and tags.

Job/Activity 4-e: Review hunting history and eligibility

Job/Activity 4-f: Review boundary information for the hunts for which users have a permit or tag.

Job/Activity 4-g: Receive notification and register for upcoming ADF&G events (hunting clinics, outdoor skills classes, wildlife events, drawings, season dates.

Job/Activity 4-h: Review information to identify species in the field (ID, sex & age, habitat use such as brown bears, mountain goats, Dall sheep). Address any additional objectives from Study Plan/Project Statement as appropriate.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: DWC had difficulty separating the division's wildlife related projects and the department's mobile initiative. Due to this, the project approach has changed; this objective will no longer be completed. We anticipate submitting an amendment to this grant to account for changing priorities and objectives.

II.   SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.

Completion of Objective 1 is nearly complete. The hunt definition database has been redesigned and a new user interface has been developed. Testing is on-going, as well as development of the final modules in the application. The new hunt definition system will available for staff to manage 2019 regulatory year hunts.

DWC anticipates submitting an amendment to this grant to account for changing priorities and objectives; to build a fully integrated data system to tie license sales to harvest monitoring programs and to build upon and improve the hunter's access to resources and information using current technology.

III.   SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

If any Significant Development Reports (SDR) or amendments were submitted during this performance year, please list or summarize them here. If you are reporting a previously unreported significant development or providing rationale for an anticipated change in the project, provide an explanation. Examples include:

1. Problems, delays, or adverse conditions which will materially impair the ability to meet the objectives. Include a statement of the action taken, or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.
2. Favorable developments which enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

DWC intends to submit an amendment to this project to account for changed priorities and objectives. Objective 3 and 4 will be removed and new objectives will be added in their place. At this time, we anticipate that costs and staffing levels will be similar. Planning and scoping for the additional objectives are currently in progress. Additionally, DWC has hired a new Data Processing Manager (Caleb Wylie) who will be the sole PI on this grant.

IV.   PUBLICATIONS

There are no publications associated with this project to date.

V.   RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT   This project will continue with the same general approach, with Objectives 3 and 4 removed, and new objectives added in their place. An amendment will be submitted to reflect the removal and addition of these objectives, as well as the change in PI and any change in approach if necessary.

Prepared by: Caleb Wylie   **Date:** September 28, 2018