DALL SHEEP SURVEY AND INVENTORY

STATE: Alaska GRANT AND SEGMENT Nr.: W-33-5

PROJECT Nr.: 6.0

PERIOD: 1 July 2006 – 30 June 2007

PROJECT LOCATION: Statewide

PROJECT TITLE: The Status of Alaska Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their

Populations

REPORT DESCRIPTION: This performance report describes Dall sheep survey and inventory activities. Region-wide activities are listed before specific activities by mountain range or use area.

The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region II

Region-wide Activities

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor the sheep harvest through field observations, hunter harvest reports and contact with hunters.

Units 7 & 15: The preliminary 2006/07 harvest for the general season was 13 rams. The preliminary 2006/07 harvest for the permit hunts was one ram (DS150 Round Mountain). No sheep were taken in either of the Crescent Mountain hunts, DS150 and DS154.

ACTIVITY 2: Collect data from sheep presented for sealing by hunters.

Sheep horns were measured and information verified for harvest reports from all rams and some ewes taken in South-central Alaska. Data will be reported in management reports.

Submitted by: Gino DelFrate, Region II Management Coordinator

The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region III

Region-wide Activities

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor the harvest through hunter contacts and harvest or permit reports and analyze harvest data.

Monitored harvest of 480 sheep through hunter contacts and harvest or permit reports and analyzed harvest data.

ACTIVITY 2: Provide Dall sheep management information to State and Federal regulatory processes.

Provided information to State fish and game advisory committees and Federal regional advisory councils.

Activities by Mountain Range or Use Area

Tok Management Area (TMA)

ACTIVITY 1: Conduct aerial composition surveys to monitor population trends.

Compositioned 1049 sheep during an aerial survey in the TMA, finding 36 lambs and 41 rams:100 ewes.

Tanana Hills

ACTIVITY 1: Conduct an aerial survey to estimate initial productivity and lamb survival.

No surveys were conducted due to lack of funding.

Eastern Brooks Range

ACTIVITY 1: Conduct aerial surveys in western Unit 25A.

Conducted aerial surveys in western Unit 25A. A total of 1310 sheep were observed (25% lambs, 3.6% legal rams).

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

The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region V

Regionwide Activities

ACTIVITY 1: Provide information to State and Federal regulatory processes on Dall sheep management.

Area management staff reviewed State and Federal regulatory proposals, attended regulatory process meetings, and presented Dall sheep information to the State Board of Game, State Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Federal Subsistence Board, and Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils.

Mountain Range or Use Area Activities

Baird Mountains

ACTIVITY 1: Assist NPS with aerial surveys in established count areas as needed.

Department staff were unable to participate in NPS-lead sheep surveys in the Baird Mountains because of conflicts with a caribou photocensus.

DeLong Mountains

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor harvests through the harvest ticket system, permit hunts, Community-based Harvest Assessments, public contacts and field observations.

Eleven drawing permits were issued to hunters for the fall 2006 hunting season but 3 hunters did not hunt; 4 rams were taken under this hunt. Four hunters registered to hunt sheep under RS388 and took 1 ram. One hunter hunted under the general season but did not harvest a sheep. No harvest information was available from federal sheep hunts.

ACTIVITY 2: Assist NPS with aerial surveys as needed.

Department staff were unable to participate in NPS-lead sheep surveys in the De Long Mountains because of conflicts with a caribou photocensus.

Schwatka Mountians

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor harvests through the harvest ticket system, permit hunts, community-based harvest assessments, public contacts and field observations.

No sheep were taken under the registration hunt RS389 or the general hunt. No harvest information was available from federal sheep hunts.

Submitted by: Peter Bente, Survey and Inventory Coordinator, Region V