

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
State Wildlife Grant

Grant Number: T-21

Segment Number: 1

Project Number: 5.0

Project Title: Raptor Data Legacy Initiative

Project Duration: 16 April 2011 – 30 June, 2014

Report Period: 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2013

Report Due Date: 28 September 2013

Principle Investigator: Travis Booms, ADF&G

Project Location: Statewide

I. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON JOBS FOR LAST SEGMENT PERIOD ONLY

Objective 1: Identify and describe currently used cliff-nesting raptor survey methods and data management efforts across Alaska.

Job/Activity 1a: Conduct focused interviews with current raptor biologists who have conducted or are planning to conduct raptor surveys within the former or future 3 years.

Job/Activity 1b: Summarize and analyze survey results.

Accomplishments:

I conducted 6 interviews with biologists in Alaska in the fall 2012 to document and better understand that current status of raptor research methods in the state. The project was subsumed by a larger effort to create a database of raptor survey metadata and was delayed to ensure data collected in the surveys would fit seamlessly into the metadata database. No summarization or analyses have been done yet because it is too early in the project to conduct such. Federal Aid Funds were spent on salary and travel expenses.

Objective 2: Establish a secure, flexible database into which data and meta-data in various forms and formats can be entered from willing data holders.

Job/Activity 2a: Research database options to identify best structure to meet the need.

Job/Activity 2b: Identify location of database and appropriate access and security measures.

Job/Activity 2c: Create database in house or by contract with private consultant.

Job/Activity 2d: Obtain inter-agency agreements on data sharing policies.

Job/Activity 2e: Populate database with historical and current data.

Accomplishments:

I met with the Alaska Raptor Group on 5 occasions to discuss this objective and tasked a newly hired biologist to create the database. A draft version of the database was created in the spring 2013 and will be implemented in the fall 2013. The location of the database will be at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fairbanks Office. Activities 2c-e have not commenced yet because it is too early in the project for these final steps. Federal Aid Funds were spent on salary and travel expenses.

Objective 3: Educate researchers conducting raptor surveys about the database, including where it is, policies that govern its use, how to provide data, proper data formatting, and ownership/publication guidelines.

Job/Activity 3a: Create and present education materials describing the database and its use at the Alaska Bird Conference and Boreal Partners in Flight meetings.

Accomplishments:

None yet because these are later steps that can be completed only after prior steps are completed.

II. PUBLICATIONS

The first draft of a publication summarizing metadata from the previous 50 years of raptor research was written during the winter 2013 and is currently being revised prior to submission for publication.

III. ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID-FUNDED WORK NOT DESCRIBED ABOVE THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THIS PROJECT DURING THIS SEGMENT PERIOD

None.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

None.

Prepared by: Travis Booms, ADF&G

Date: 8/28/2013