

**FEDERAL AID
INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT**

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Annual PROGRESS REPORT SHELL AND INSTRUCTIONS

*The purpose of this report is to summarize significant findings and their management implications for the entire project. This template is based on Federal Aid reporting requirements as found in the Federal Aid Handbook, Chapter 11
<http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/toolkitfiles/fah52211.pdf>*

**Alaska Department of Fish and Game
State Wildlife Grant**

Grant Number: T-24 **Segment Number:** 1

Project Number: 1.0

Project Title: State Endangered Species Act Team: Coordination, Management, Research, and Planning

Project Duration: September 16, 2011 – June 30, 2013

Comment [KN1]: Was this extended?

Report Period: September 16, 2012– September 10, 2013

Report Due Date: December 1, 2013

Principle Investigator: Kelly Nesvacil

Project Location: Statewide

I. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON JOBS FOR LAST SEGMENT

PERIOD ONLY Briefly describe how Federal Aid funds were spent on each active job, listing the results achieved during only this segment period (1 paragraph each). If a job was not accomplished as planned, very briefly tell why.

Objective 1: Update Species of Special Concern List and Endangered Species List.

Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 1A: Work with ADF&G experts in areas of subsistence, habitat, marine mammals, large game, wildlife diversity, waterfowl, sport and commercial fisheries.

Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 1B: Coordinate meetings and discussions of proposed criteria/methodology for species determinations, and final species determinations.

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Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 1C: Enhance communication between ADF&G divisions and the State ESA Team.

Accomplishments: None

Objective 2: Assist in the coordination of the development of State comments to Federal actions regarding endangered and sensitive Alaska species (e.g., status reviews, listing proposals).

Accomplishments: Coordinated the development of State comments to the August 2013 draft Aleutian tern status review.

Job/Activity 2A: Solicit comments and information from State departments and divisions with expertise/information.

Accomplishments: Requests for information relevant to Section 7 consultations are distributed to appropriate regional staff.

Job/Activity 2B: Compile all comments in a State response.

Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 2C: Request approval from contributing Departments/Divisions on draft comments and/or information.

Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 2D: Enhance communication and coordination between the State of Alaska and Federal agencies concerning Federal actions regarding endangered and sensitive Alaska species.

Accomplishments: Section 6 coordination and review of relevant topics for project proposals with USFWS Regional and Field Office staff.

Objective 3: Collaborate with the Wildlife Diversity Program manager to identify projects that, if funded, would benefit endangered and sensitive Alaska species.

Accomplishments: The Wildlife Diversity Program manager was involved in Section 6 coordination, review of relevant topics for project proposals, and selection of projects for funding with USFWS Regional and Field Office staff.

Job/Activity 3A: Review CWCS and ranking database to determine information gaps and species of highest priority.

Accomplishments: None

Job/Activity 3B: Review research proposals to determine projects that would most effectively gather needed data.

Accomplishments: Reviewed Section 6 pre-proposals and project statements for efficacy.

Job/Activity 3C: Rank proposals to determine top projects to be funded.

Accomplishments: Ranked Section 6 pre-proposals and project statements for funding. Participated as a reviewer on NFWF grants.

Objective 4: Fill information gaps through research of sensitive species in Alaska.

Accomplishments: Participated in Kittlitz's murrelet surveys and identification training, Section 6 proposal development, continued with field work for the CIAP funded Pribilof rock sandpiper hydrocarbon study, and is assisting the ADF&G Marine Mammal Program with beluga whale administrative tasks relevant to research.

Job/Activity 4A: Identify and pursue funds for operating costs of ADF&G research on sensitive species in Alaska.

Accomplishments: Continued use of CIAP funding to study potential effects of hydrocarbons on Pribilof rock sandpiper.

Job/Activity 4B: Conduct and participate in research in Alaska related to sensitive species, such as Kittlitz's Murrelet, Marbled Murrelet, Rock Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Loon, and Pacific Marten (see Appendix 4, CWCS).

Accomplishments: Participated in Kittlitz's and marbled murrelet surveys and field research identification trials in Glacier Bay National Park with the NPS SEAN Inventory and Monitoring Program and the University of Montana. Participated in Kittlitz's and marbled murrelet surveys in Le Conte Bay and Thomas Bay. Funded 2013 wintering surveys for Pribilof rock sandpiper in Cook Inlet and deployed another round of hydrocarbon sampling devices on St. Paul Island and plan to deploy samplers in Cook Inlet this month.

Job/Activity 4C: Identify and establish needed Cooperative Agreements with Federal Agencies to achieve ADF&G eligibility for research and conservation funding.

Accomplishments: Updated the USFWS Cooperative Agreements for Section 6 funding with Division of Wildlife Conservation staff.

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II. PUBLICATIONS

None

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

None

Prepared by: Kelly Nesvacil

Date: September 10, 2013