

**FEDERAL AID
FINAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

WOOD BISON SURVEY AND INVENTORY

STATE: Alaska

GRANT AND SEGMENT NO. W-33-10

WORK LOCATION: Region III

PROJECT NO. 10.0

PERIOD: 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

PROJECT TITLE: The Reintroduction of Wood Bison to Interior Alaska and Evaluation of the Factors Influencing Their Survival and Growth

Project Activities and Accomplishments

Regionwide Activities

ACTIVITY 1: Provide oversight of the wood bison health, feeding and veterinary care program at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (AWCC).

Improved the health of the captive wood bison herd through better treatments for endoparasites and provided higher quality hay and additional grain supplements
Increased the captive wood bison herd numbers from 102 to 138 through breeding in preparation for a release

ACTIVITY 2: Work with other agencies and organizations to identify and implement priority biological monitoring programs associated with the reintroduction of wood bison.

Did not develop biological monitoring programs because of delayed release of bison.

ACTIVITY 3: Provide biological information and expertise to support efforts to develop site-specific collaborative wood bison management plans.

With the lack of legal authority to reintroduce wood bison during 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012, and the lack of certainty concerning the location of the first release, collaboration on site specific management plans with other concerned parties impossible.

ACTIVITY 4: Prepare wood bison release sites.

Spent time in Shageluk identifying a site for the soft release and meeting with the community to discuss the wood bison project
Reviewed bison and other large ungulate re-introduction literature to refine release techniques and methods

ACTIVITY 5: Prepare wood bison management reports.

No management report prepared because release delayed.

ACTIVITY 6: Provide wood bison management information to state and federal regulatory processes.

No management information provided to regulatory processes because of delayed release.

ACTIVITY 7: Assess range condition and work with fire control agencies to improve habitat.

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No range assessment or coordination with fire control agencies conducted because of delayed release.

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