

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
FEDERAL AID PROJECT
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Grant Number: E-5-HP

Grant Segment: 1

Grant Title: HCP for Alaska Coastal Species: Studies Related to Listed/Candidate Marine Birds

Project Number: 4.0

Project Title: Susceptibility of Eiders to Impacts of Coastal Wind Generation Facilities

Project Duration: February 28, 2003 to December 31, 2006

Project Reporting Period: June 16, 2005 to June 30, 2006

Project Final Report Due: December 31, 2006

Location: Western Alaska

Project Objectives:

The objectives of this component are:

1. Facilitate the testing and evaluation of ground observations and radar observations to detect and quantify movements of eiders near potential wind-generation sites in coastal areas.
2. Assist in the collection of data on eider occurrence and movements at Gambell (particularly in fall) and Hooper Bay (particularly in spring) to evaluate feasibility and siting considerations for wind generation facilities.
3. Contribute toward development of a database on seasonal waterfowl movements in areas of western and northern Alaska as related to potential windfarm developments.
4. Attempt to document mortality of eiders at towers already in place (e.g., FAA, communications) at Gambell and Hooper Bay.

Summary of Project Accomplishments:

1. Testing methods—Testing and evaluation of methods for ground and radar observations of eiders were completed at three study sites during the previous reporting period. A synthesis of field methods has been provided to the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) for use in future project planning studies.
2. Field data collection—Completed in the previous reporting period. Final field project reports by Alaska Biological Research, Inc. (ABR) were produced and submitted with the last progress report and to USFWS field office personnel.
3. Database development—After initial conceptual discussions with AEA, AVEC, and ABR about development of a regional database on seasonal waterfowl movements in areas of western and northern Alaska, specific work plans were not developed. Final efforts will be made to determine whether AEA and AVEC are willing to sponsor development of a project model to be implemented in the future, including an evaluation of basic datasets (e.g., USFWS survey data, landforms, weather information), GIS format and accessibility needs, and the potential scope of applications.
4. Mortality data from existing structures—Results were reported in the previous progress reports and products.

Problems or Deviations from Work Plan: The project sponsors have not followed through on intentions to develop a pilot project for a regional database on seasonal waterfowl movements.

Anticipated Focus Next Reporting Period: ADF&G will consult with AEA and AVEC to see if they will engage in development of the regional database model. If they do not wish to continue additional work, existing data from other project objectives will be assembled and synthesized in the final grant report.

Interim Project Costs (estimated): During this reporting period, no grant funds were expended on this project.

Federal share	\$ 0
State share	\$ 0
Total	\$ 0

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