

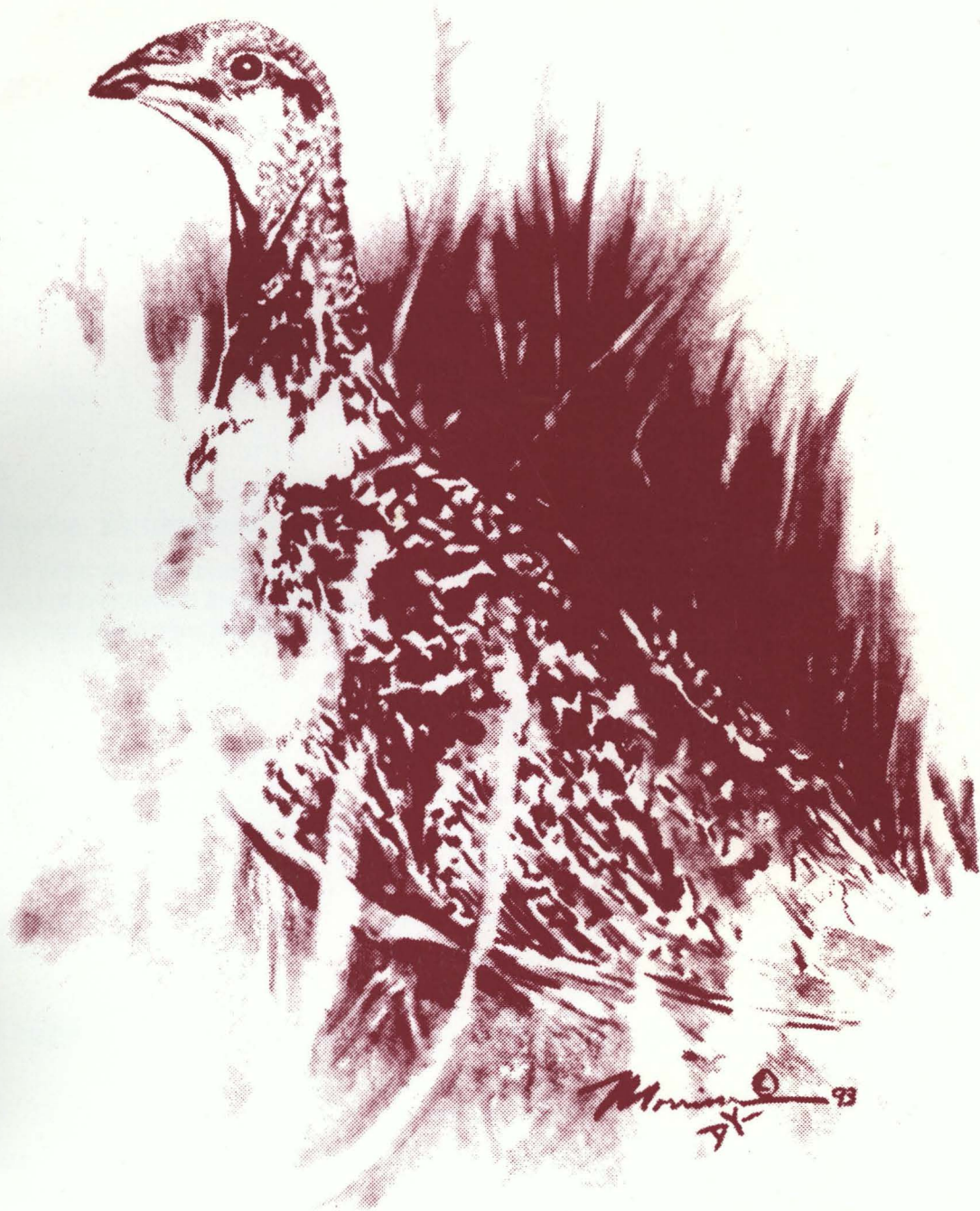
MITIGATION OF IMPACTS BY OIL INDUSTRY ON ALASKA'S NORTH SLOPE WILDLIFE

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Abstract: Potential and documented impacts of Alaska North Slope oil exploration and production activities will be reviewed, and mitigation measures used in the oil fields around Prudhoe Bay over the past 20 years—successful as well as unsuccessful—will be summarized using as examples three wildlife species—caribou, grizzly bears, and polar bears. Agreement among agencies and the industry regarding the mitigation strategies for the three species will be discussed not only from the biological perspective, but also from the perspective of the influence of certain “intangibles” that may have had more influence than the biological. Some of these intangibles include: (1) changes in public views of wildlife over the past 20 years; (2) conflicting societal mandates between wildlife agencies and industry; (3) personalities; and (4) perceptions that bear/human conflicts are a safety as well as conservation issue.



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