

**FEDERAL AID
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

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

Grant Number: T-21 **Segment Number: 1**
Project Number: 18.0
Project Title: Population and habitat assessments for Interior Alaska species featured in Alaska's Wildlife Action Plan.
Project Duration: 16 April 2011 – 30 June 2015
Report Period: 16 April 2012 – 15 April 2013
Report Due Date: 28 September 2013
Principle Investigator: Travis Booms and Julie Hagelin, ADF&G
Project Location: Interior Alaska (GMUs 12, 19 – 21, 24, 25, 26B and 26C)

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

Objectives: It is anticipated that several species' population and habitat assessments may be accomplished during this project. The following objectives would be components of each species' assessment.

Objective 1: Conduct surveys and/or monitoring of selected species in Interior Alaska to determine population status, abundance, and distribution of the species.

Job/Activity 1a: Recruit, hire, and train a field crew as necessary to carry out fieldwork. Purchase equipment and arrange charters as necessary to support the fieldwork.

Job/Activity 1b: Conduct surveys and studies using identified techniques. Water-borne, aerial, and ground-based approaches may be employed, depending upon taxa studied. Techniques for birds could include standard North American Breeding Bird Survey roadside counts, Alaska Landbird Monitoring System protocols, line transect surveys, point counts, calling surveys, and specialized techniques as needed to produce accurate and credible information on abundance and distribution. Mammal survey techniques include a variety of visual, aural, and sign (track, scat, hair) surveys with more specialized techniques as needed.

Job/Activity 1c: Conduct genetic analysis where deemed appropriate to determine genetic relatedness, demographics, movements, and distinctiveness of area endemic species.

Accomplishments:

1a: In spring 2012 we recruited, hired, and trained three short-term non-permanent staff to carry out point counts on Interior birds. Funds supported vehicle needs and field supplies for bird survey work.

1b: Point count surveys were planned for June 2013.

1c: Genetic analysis was not appropriate for current study.

Objective 2: Identify habitat types and needs associated with the selected species and identify existing or potential problems, needs, or concerns regarding habitats

Job/Activity 2a: Based on results of surveys, identify habitats that are important for population maintenance, especially for those species with indicated declines either on a national level or within the state.

Accomplishments:

2a: Habitat surveys were planned for July/Aug 2013 at sites with Olive-sided Flycatchers. This species is a “Bird of Conservation Concern” at both the national and state level.

Objective 3: Examine population dynamics and identify factors limiting population growth or reproductive success, such as predators, habitat loss or degradation, and contaminants

Job/Activity 3a: Where possible, gather supplemental ecological data to accompany population parameters on West and Northwest Alaska vertebrates. These data may include demographic information, predation risks and factors, and habitat preference or avoidance parameters.

Accomplishments:

3a: Collection of data on insect abundance (a likely factor limiting reproductive success) was planned for June-July 2013.

Objective 4: Analyze, disseminate and share information and data with partners, cooperators, the scientific community, and the general public.

Job/Activity 4a: Analyze data, prepare reports, maps, and associated publications and presentations.

Job/Activity 4b: Attend conferences and workshops and/or write articles to present findings

Accomplishments:

4b. Attended the Alaska Bird Conference and participated in Boreal Partners in Flight meeting. This group includes experts working on aerial insectivores and provided a forum for discussion of methods, and collaborative opportunities for future work.

Prepared by: Travis Booms and Julie Hagelin, ADF&G

Date: 11/19/13