Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Wildlife Conservation

Region 2 – Southcentral
Units 6, 7, 8, 14C, & 15

Major Cities & Population

Resident Population
Alaska ~740,000
Southcentral ~330,000
~44% of total
Land Area & Ownership

- Land Area: 25,515 mi²
- 61% Federal
- 18% State
- 12% Native Corp.
- 7% Private/Municipal
- 2% Other

Major Species

**Big Game**
- Caribou
- Dall's Sheep
- Deer
- Elk
- Moose
- Mountain Goats
- Brown Bears
- Black Bears
- Wolves
- Wolverines

**Furbearers & Small Game**
- Beavers
- Lynx
- Marten
- River Otters
- Ptarmigan
- Spruce Grouse
- Snowshoe Hares
Regional Leadership

Howard Golden (Retiring April 30)  
Co-Regional Supervisors

Cyndi Wardlow (Dual Hire)  
Management Coordinator (Acting)

Tom Lohuis  
Research Coordinator

Dave Battle  
Currently Recruiting for Accounting Technician

Regional Administrative Team

Sabrina Willis  
Administrative Officer

Elise Schapira  
Administrative Assistant

Region 2 – Southcentral
Region 2 – Southcentral

**Anchorage Regional Office Building**

**Anchorage Wildlife Information Center**

**Management & Research**

- Chris Harrington (Technician)
- Danner Shreve (Intern)
- Erik Bollerud (Technician)
- Wade Shreve (Wildlife Biologist)
- Will Newberry (Technician)

**2018 Activities**

- 25,255 public contacts (face-to-face, phone calls, e-mails)
- $312,540 in sales
- 774 animals sealed
A Day in the Life of an Area Biologist

Management Activities
• Wildlife surveys
• Intensive management activities
• Research projects
• Data analysis & preparing reports

Public Outreach
• AC meetings
• Community Council meetings
• Board meetings with other agencies (e.g., CSP)
• Commenting on agency projects & permits
• Community bear committees (e.g., ABC, KBBC)
• Law Enforcement coordination
• School & public presentations
• Media interviews

Wildlife-Human Conflicts
• Moose and bears
• TRASH & other food-related issues
• Wildlife safety

Unit 6
Prince William Sound

Charlotte Westing
Area Biologist

Samantha Renner
(& helper Lucas)
Program Technician
PWS Black Bear Project

Objectives
• Feasibility of ground based black bear captures
• Habitat selection during the hunting season
• Home range data
• Habitat selection patterns

Cooperative Project
USDA Forest Service
Chugach National Forest

Units 7 & 15
Kenai Peninsula

Currently Recruiting for Soldotna Technician
Unit 8
Kodiak Archipelago

Objectives
• Habitat and forest stand characteristics for elk and brown bear distribution
• Map distribution, movements, and spatial and temporal shifts
• Determine elk diet and seasonal shifts in forage use
• Develop reforestation strategies
Anchorage Moose Survey

Project Outline

- Innovative research attempt to estimate moose numbers in the Anchorage area
- Ground-based technique uses DNA taken from moose to get the estimate
- Moose sighting reports from Anchorage residents are key to the survey's success
Kenai Peninsula Moose Research

Units 15A & 15C Moose
Population dynamics, pregnancy and twinning rates, and nutritional status

Thomas McDonough
Research Biologist

Ori Badajos
GIS Analyst

Moose Research Center

MRC Projects
• Nutritional requirements for pregnancy and lactation
• Thermal stress - use of shade to conserve energy

Fieldwork in Units 15A & 15B
• Response to and use of recent burn areas on the Kenai
• Body condition, pregnancy, and nutritional status

John Crouse
Wildlife Physiologist

Dan Thompson
Research Biologist

Matt King
Technician
Brown & Black Bear Research

Kenai Brown Bear Project
- Determine reproductive rates, recruitment rates, and survival
- Long-term data set

PWS & Lower Kenai Black Bears
Genetics based project will attempt to estimate:
- Exploitation rate, movements, and vulnerability to harvest
- Population numbers in Unit 6 and Unit 15C

Dall’s Sheep Research

14C Nutrition & Habitat
Assess habitat use, nutritional quality, reproduction and survival with respect to changing weather patterns

Disease Presence & Prevalence (Talkeetna Mtns)
- Focus is on Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae (M. ovi.) and other potential diseases
- Measure current disease status and track how that status changes through time
- Assess home range and movement to determine risk of disease transmission
- Habitat, nutrition, reproductive rates, and survival rate data
Kenai Wolf Research

Objectives

• Pack dynamics, rates of human harvest, and survival rates of wolves in the Kenai Peninsula Intensive Management Harvest Area in Unit 15C
• Currently being expanded into Units 15A & 15B

Dave Saalfeld
Research Biologist

Jeff Selinger
Kenai Area Biologist

Regional Biometric & GIS Support

Earl Becker
Biometrician

Ori Badajos
GIS Analyst

• Biometric review of projects
• Assistance with project design
• Research project consultation
• Sampling technique development

• Data preparation
• Database organization
• Spatial analysis support
• Data mapping
Graduate & New Research Projects

Current Graduate Projects

- Dan Thompson
  - Kenai Moose Ecology
- Kyle Smith
  - Dall’s Sheep Habitat Selection
- Nicole Deluca
  - PWS Deer Habitat
- Luke Metherell
  - Dall’s Sheep Forage
- Danner Shreve
  - Unit 14C Wolves

Planned Graduate Projects

- Dan Thompson
  - Kenai Moose Ecology
- Kyle Smith
  - Dall’s Sheep Habitat Selection
- Nicole Deluca
  - PWS Deer Habitat

Region 2 Staff Position

Currently Recruiting for Deer & Coastal Ungulate Research Biologist

- Dan Thompson
  - Kenai Moose Ecology
- Kyle Smith
  - Dall’s Sheep Habitat Selection
- Nicole Deluca
  - PWS Deer Habitat

ADF&G Firearms Policy

Wildlife Safety Policy

Boating Skills and Safety

- Mike Harrington
  - Chief Firearms Instructor for DWC & ADF&G
- Cory Stantorf
  - Kyle Smith
  - Erik Bollerud
  - Jason Herreman
  - Region 2 DWC Instructors

Mike Harrington
- Boating Safety Instructor
- Lead Research Technician

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Public Information & Media Support

Primary Activities
- Spokesperson for DWC issues in Regions 2 & 4, and often statewide
- Public information, publicity, and outreach
- Cooperative information exchanges with news media statewide
- Questions and comments from public, media, and government officials
- DWC liaison with internal public affairs staff

Ken Marsh
Public Information Officer

Wildlife Education Program

Recent Activities
- Meat Salvage rack card
- Unit 14 Small Game Hunting handout
- Alaskans Afield – hands-on learning of outdoor skills
- M. ovi outreach and communication
- Understanding the Board of Game process
- Wildlife Safety – Anchorage staff provided wildlife safety information to over 15,000 people in 2018

Brenda Duty
Statewide Teacher Training

Ellen Grover
Wildlife Education

Tom Griffin
Wildlife Safety
Threatened, Endangered, & Diversity Program

Research Projects in Region 2

• Little brown bat acoustics, activity, and habitat
• Long-term trends in common and Pacific loon populations
• Lesser yellowlegs migration, population structure, and demography
• Collared pika population ecology

Tracey Gotthardt
TED Program Coordinator

Katie Christie
Research Biologist

Marian Snively
Wildlife Biologist

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement & Spatial Analysis Program

Objectives

• Enhancing habitat for moose, bison, and grouse using mechanical treatments and prescribed fire
• Analyzing spatial wildlife data to establish relationships between animal movement, harvest, and population dynamics
• Projects ongoing & planned for the Kenai Peninsula

Sue Rodman
Program Coordinator

Mary Jo Hill
Wildlife Biologist

Miles Spathelf
GIS Analyst
Small Game Program

Activities in Southcentral
- Spring breeding surveys for ptarmigan in Units 7, 14, & 15
- Statewide wing collection program for all grouse and ptarmigan
- Assist staff with regulatory proposals, A&Rs, and deliberations
- Teach Alaskans Afield classes in Anchorage and Soldotna
- Working with Regions 2 & 4 staff to develop a Unit 14 Small Game Hunter Handout by fall 2019

Marine Mammals Program

Steller sea lions
- Prince William Sound – Branding and marking with satellite tags, and monitoring
- Barren Islands and Kodiak area – Brand resight and reproductive monitoring

Beluga Whales
- Cook Inlet – Support two federal research projects to attempt to count critically endangered Cook Inlet beluga whale
Waterfowl Program

Jason Schamber
Waterfowl Program Coordinator

Tyler Lewis
Research Biologist

Michael Guttery
Research Biologist

Tasha DiMarzio
Technician

Southcentral Projects
• Monitoring waterfowl during winter in Kachemak Bay
• Tule greater white-fronted goose monitoring
• Dusky Canada goose banding and collaring
• Dusky Canada goose brood monitoring
• Population delineation of Pacific Flyway scoters

Lands & Refuges Program

Joe Meehan
Ed Weiss
Doug Hill
Ryan Morrill (Round Is)
Margarete Archibald (Round Is)
Tom Griffin (McNeil)
Beth Rosenberg (McNeil)
Ray Pohl (McNeil)

• Potter Marsh Boardwalk 150,000 visitors per year
• Interpretive panels in Homer Information on Critical Habitat Areas
• Developed pop-up banner display about refuge program Advocates use of refuges for hunting, trapping, fishing, viewing, etc.
• Waterfowl interpretive panels Explain waterfowl ID and role hunters and conservationists have taken to protect waterfowl and their habitats
Hunter Education & Shooting Ranges

**Outreach Projects**
- Southcentral BOW 429 participants
- Youth Shotgun League 140 participants
- Outdoor Youth Days 60 participants
- Potter Marsh Day Archery activity
- Great Alaska Sportsman Show Laser Shot

**Volunteer Instructors**
- 503 Active Certification Course Instructors
- 15 Range Safety Officers
- 25 Youth Shotgun League Coaches

Katelyn Zonneville
Outreach & Education Coordinator

Ginamaria Smith
Program Coordinator

Kirk Lingofelt
H.I.T. Project Assistant

Ben Matthews
RCSP Range Technician

ANILCA & Access Defense Programs

**Hunter Access Projects**
- Parking areas/trailheads
- DNR land use reviews – e.g., reducing effects from heli-skiing
- RS2477 ROWs/Navigable Waters Assertions – e.g., Klutina Lake Road public access

**State management authority on federal lands — NPS & USFWS wildlife regulations lawsuit & revisions**

**Federal land use reviews — Advocating for public access on federal lands, and for ADF&G research and management access**

Brad Palach
Natural Resource Manager

Katie Sechrist, Marla Carter, Adam Dubour, Ashley List, Mark Fink, Jason Cheney, Jennifer Nolan Wing

Dave Ryland

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Division of Subsistence

Southern Region Overview

Presented Next by

Robin Dublin
Southern Region Program Manager

Questions?