

# PERFORMANCE REPORT

**STATE:** Alaska

**GRANT NO.:** F-32-27

**GRANT TITLE:** Sport Fisheries Enhancement and Development in Alaska

**PERIOD COVERED:** July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

**STUDY NO. AND TITLE:** F-1-4 Southeast Alaska Enhancement Coordination

## STUDY OBJECTIVES:

1. Ensure the protection of wild fish and habitats from negative effects of enhancement activities by adhering to department policies; reviewing and approving permits; reviewing regional hatchery annual management plans; attending at least two regional planning team (RPT) meetings annually; and advising the regional supervisor on enhancement activities.
2. Coordinate enhancement activities and meet regional enhancement needs for prioritized marine and fresh waters by developing cooperative agreements and contracts with regional hatcheries; processing and approving quarterly invoices for payment; receiving and reviewing quarterly reports; providing cost-benefit analysis of the individual hatchery projects; and coordinating the region's interaction between the department and hatchery operators.
3. Produce fish in a manner that is biologically sound, cost-effective, and utilizes innovative practices by following standard hatchery operating procedures; conducting research on effective production; developing and monitoring partnerships with private non-profit (PNP) hatcheries; and monitoring all regional enhancement releases and returns.
4. Inform and coordinate interaction between the public and division staff on fishery enhancement activities.

## RESULTS/DISCUSSIONS:

**Objective 1:** A total of 12 annual management plans, 10 permit alteration requests, and approximately 120 aquatic resource permits (previously labeled as fish transport, fish resource, and aquatic farm permits) were reviewed. Two hatchery permit and management feasibility analyses, along with two basic management plans, were drafted and reviewed. Two joint Southeast (SE) RPT meetings were attended. A final report of the Canoe Pass Baseline Investigation, 2017, was drafted and published in November 2017 (RIR.1J.201.11). An operational plan for the Canoe Pass Baseline Investigation project was reviewed, updated, and was attached as an amendment to the 2017 operational plan. Bycatch information for wild Alaskan Chinook was reviewed and summarized and information from staff and other databases were compiled in order to give adequate information to review regional PARs. Information for the regional PNP's Chinook salmon forecast was also provided to management staff and the regional supervisor.

**Objective 2:** Enhancement activities were coordinated and regional enhancement needs were met by reviewing and approving for payment 8 quarterly invoices from PNP hatcheries for services provided through cooperative agreements with the Division of Sport Fish (DSF). Quarterly progress reports concerning fish releases in Petersburg, Neets Bay, and Juneau were reviewed. The state inventory of equipment at Crystal Lake Hatchery was reviewed with Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) and the DSF staff. The regional requests for the 2018 Statewide Stocking Plan were compiled and responses made to public inquiries. Three regional cooperative agreements with two PNP hatchery organizations and DSF were reviewed and amended under new administrative procedures. One cooperative agreement with SSRAA for the Canoe Pass Baseline Investigation project was amended to include sampling in 2018 and 2019.

**Objective 3:** Klawock Hatchery and Prince of Wales Hatchery Association were monitored for compliance with the state's coho salmon escapement schedule. Regional enhancement projects were evaluated to determine whether target release numbers and size were met for Chinook salmon releases in Petersburg and Juneau. Broodstock collection at Blind Slough near Petersburg and Macaulay Hatchery in Juneau were monitored to ensure meeting egg take goals.

**Objective 4:** Exchanged information between the William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery and Macaulay Hatchery staff in order to meet permitting requirements for the collection of eggs and transport of triploid rainbows for the catchable program in the Juneau area. Responded to inquiries related to the 2018 Statewide Stocking Plan made by the public and other agencies.

**FINAL REPORT STATUS:** This performance report constitutes the final report of activities for this project for the grant period.

**PREPARED BY:** Judy Lum

**DATE:** August 28, 2018