FEDERAL AID ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PO Box 25526 Juneau, AK 99802-5526

MUSK OX ANNUAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY

STATE: Alaska GRANT AND SEGMENT Nr.: W-33-12

PROJECT Nr.: 16.0

PERIOD: 1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014

PROJECT LOCATION: Region III

PROJECT TITLE: The Status of Musk Ox and Factors Influencing Their Populations

REPORT DESCRIPTION: This performance report describes musk ox survey and inventory activities. Regionwide activities are listed before specific activities by game management unit.

The Status of Musk Ox and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region III

Regionwide Activities:

ACTIVITY 1: Prepare a biennial muskox management report.

Prepared preliminary data for biennial muskox management report.

ACTIVITY 2: Monitor natural mortality and analyze natural mortality data.

Monitored natural mortality. One radiocollared muskoxen died.

ACTIVITY 3: Provide muskox management information to State and Federal regulatory processes

Provided information to 1 State fish and game advisory committee, the Alaska Board of Game, and 1 Federal regional advisory councils.

Activities by Unit:

Unit 26B and 26C:

ACTIVITY 1: Determine distribution and percent calves in Unit 26B during June

Determined distribution of muskoxen in early and late June via radiotracking. Percent calves was 17% (n=181) on June 4, 2014.

ACTIVITY 2: Capture approximately 5 muskox to deploy radiocollars and maintain an adequate sample size of collared animals for surveys and conduct April composition.

No radio collars were deployed.

ACTIVITY 3: April composition counts

Preliminary data indicated that 176 muskoxen were classified in April 2014 resulting in 30 bulls > 3 years old:100 cows >2 years old and 17 yearlings:100 cows >2 years old.

Submitted by: Doreen Parker McNeill, Region III Management Coordinator