

Wildlife Restoration MULTI-YEAR GRANT INTERIM 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 Wildlife Restoration Grant

GRANT NUMBER: AKW-E-3-2020

PROJECT NUMBER: 2.0

PROJECT TITLE: Hunter Education Enhancement

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021

PERFORMANCE YEAR: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020; year 1 of a 2-year grant

REPORT DUE DATE: Submit to FAC August 28, 2020

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Ginamaria Smith

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR

OBJECTIVE 1: National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP)

Description: Recruit new schools and school districts to participate in NASP. Increase the number of students involved in archery statewide. Conduct Basic Archery Instructor training for school teachers and volunteers.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- This past year, 45 Alaskan school teachers became certified as Basic Archery Instructors (BAI). BAI trainings, conducted by HIT Program staff, were held in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Kiana. NASP BAI booklets were purchased to conduct the trainings for all 45 teachers.
- During the 2019-2020 school-year, NASP was offered in 94 schools to students. NASP instituted a new online report and it allowed us to capture better reports on where NASP is actually being offered in Alaska.
- During the 2019-20 school year, 5,489 youth enjoyed the sport of archery in physical education classes.
- Since NASP's inception in Alaska, 70,602 youth have enjoyed the sport of archery in physical education classes.
- Nine schools received NASP grants to purchase kits for their schools.

- No NASP trainings were cancelled or postponed in this fiscal year due to COVID-19.

OBJECTIVE 2: Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) Program

Description: Recruit and retain new hunters, shooters, and outdoor enthusiasts. Offer skill development in hunting and shooting sports to women. Provide training for volunteer instructors. Coordinate the sign-up and equipment needs for the BOW workshops and clinics.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Two Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) workshops were offered in the Interior and Southcentral Alaska during this reporting period. The Southeast workshop typically held in May was cancelled due to COVID-19. 200 women participated and attended over 40 sessions designed to teach them about the shooting sports, hunting skills, and outdoor opportunities. Many of these women continued their education by attending Beyond BOW clinics throughout the state.
- During this fiscal year, 12 Beyond BOW classes were offered for 129 individuals. Topics included: hunter education, shotgun shooting, backcountry skiing/camping, firearms cleaning & maintenance, big game rifles, handguns, bear safety, chainsaw, deer field dressing and hunting, and survival skills. Six Beyond BOW classes were cancelled due to COVID-19.
- New archery equipment was purchased to be used for BOW classes and youth opportunities.

OBJECTIVE 3: Youth Opportunities

Description: Coordinate and conduct youth conservation camps which promote the development of outdoor-related skills. Coordinate and conduct youth shooting leagues. Provide training for shotgun coaches/instructors statewide.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 10 coaches were trained by HIT Program staff in order to coach the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) and USAYess teams throughout Alaska. The shotgun sports continue to expand statewide and the HIT Program is assisting in this recruitment program by training new coaches.
- HIT Program staff and volunteer coaches coached 78 participants in the fall as part of the Rabbit Creek Shooting Park (RCSP) Youth Shotgun League. Unfortunately, the Spring League was cancelled after only two weeks due to COVID-19. The fall session was 10 weeks long and the participants practiced safe firearm handling and discovered the lifelong sport of shotgun shooting.
- The two sessions of the Outdoor Youth Days Camps held annually in June were cancelled due to COVID-19.
- HIT Program staff, in conjunction with the Anchorage CSI Camp, taught only 10 camp participants how to safely handle firearms. Participants got to shoot rimfire rifles, shotguns, and archery. The camp was only offered one time compared to twice like normal and limited to 10 participants due to COVID-19.
- The youth shotgun league coaches volunteered 865.25 hours to this program, and their effort provided the match target of \$34,504.00 of in-kind match.

OBJECTIVE 4: Alaska R3 Program

Description: Evaluate current R3 efforts in Alaska, develop clear and measurable pathways, and help implement an effective Alaska R3 Program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- There were no accomplishments made on this objective. The R3 Coordinator (PCN 11-222) left the position in April 2019. The position was reclassified to be the full time HIT Program Southeast Regional Coordinator. The division is deciding how to move forward with future R3 efforts and coordination in Alaska.

EXPENDITURES FOR FY20:

The actual expenditures per budget category in this fiscal year are below:

	Awarded	Spent	Remaining
Indirect	\$11,564.04	\$5,342.32	\$6,221.72
1000-Staff time	\$50,808.60	\$23,472.40	\$27,336.20
2000-Travel	\$2,000.00	\$1,717.95	\$282.05
3000-Contractual	\$9,479.45	\$7,766.60	\$1,712.85
4000-Supplies	\$6,627.91	\$28,817.34	\$(22,189.43)
Total	\$80,480.00	\$67,116.61	\$13,363.39

- PCN 11-2029 coded 2.9 months compared to the originally budgeted 2 months. This position increased their time spent on BOW coordination and their involvement with the Youth Shotgun League.
- A new R3 Coordinator position, which would be jointly shared by Sport Fish and Wildlife Conservation divisions never materialized. The funds for the four months of time originally budgeted to this grant did not get used.
- Funds were shifted from line 1000 (staff time) to 4000 (supplies). Items purchased included NASP BAI packets, NASP equipment, archery equipment for BOW classes and youth opportunities, new trap machines for the youth shotgun league, improvements to enclosures holding the trap machines used by the youth shotgun league, and shotgun ammunition for the youth shotgun league.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.

This is an annual grant with similar objectives and results completed each year. The HIT Program is involved in a variety of activities designed to educate both new and existing hunters/shooters on additional hunting/shooting opportunities and provide them with opportunities to become proficient in various shooting sports, hunting techniques, and skills.

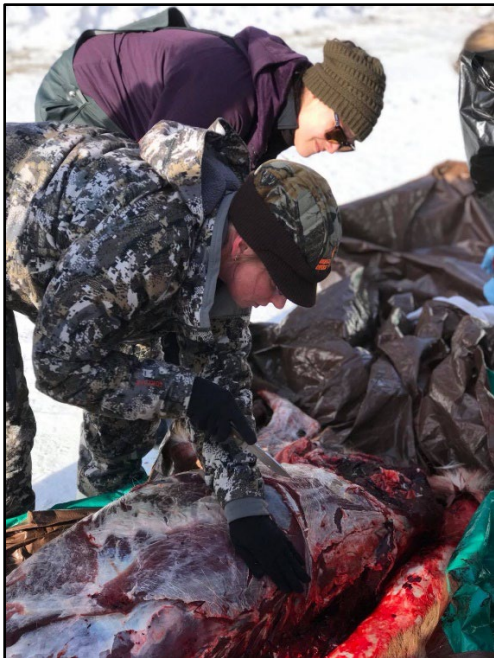
III. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

This grant was amended and extended to FY21 due to COVID-19.

IV. PUBLICATIONS



Youth Shotgun League participants using one of the new trap machines.



A BOW volunteer instructor demonstrating and helping participants learn proper techniques during the field dressing class at a BOW Workshop.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

AKW-E-3-2020 is a year-long grant, however it's an ongoing annual project, so the recommendation is for continuation.

Date: August 2020