

**Wildlife Restoration GRANT
FINAL 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-B-R4-2020 Amendment #1

PROJECT NUMBER: 12.0

PROJECT TITLE: Region IV Mountain Goat S&I program: The Status of Alaska Mountain Goat Populations and Factors Influencing Their Status in Central/Southwest Alaska

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:

PERFORMANCE YEAR: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

REPORT DUE DATE: September 2021

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Todd A. Rinaldi, Regional Management Coordinator

COOPERATORS: Heidi Hatcher, Glennallen Area Biologist & Tim Peltier, Palmer Area Biologist

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR

OBJECTIVE 1: Population Size, Status, and Trend. Assess the size and status of each mountain goat population to determine the five-year trend.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regionwide (Units 11, 13, 14A & 14B)

- Conduct summer aerial population counts and age composition surveys to determine status, trend, productivity, and mortality.

Count Area 11 was completed in Unit 11 on May 26 using one pilot and observer over the course of 4 plus hours. 67 adults and 5 kids during the survey that supports the relatively stable trend observed among goats in this area.

Goats were documented and classified in portions of the Chugach Mountains in concert with sheep surveys in 5 count areas of 13D as well as 2 count areas in Unit 14A in July using two to three fixed-wing aircraft. No goats were observed in 13A and 303 goats (254 adults, 49 kids) in 14A.

OBJECTIVE 2: Mortality/Harvest Monitoring and Regulations. Assess the number of mountain goat harvested by hunters and other sources of mortality that might have an impact on each population.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regionwide (Units 11, 13, 14A & 14B)

- Monitor and analyze hunter effort and harvest from registration and draw permit hunts

In Unit 13, 30 draw permits were issued; 30 permit holders reported hunting and 10 were successful. For the RG580 hunt in Units 11 and 13D, 34 hunters received a permit, 23 permit holders reported hunting, and 11 goats were harvested. This is an increase in the number of permits and hunters and in the success rate.

A total of 50 draw hunt permits and 36 registration hunt permits were issued in 2020 in Unit 14A. Of these permits 21 draw hunters and 15 registration permit hunters hunted resulting in 15 goats harvested.

- Collect additional goat harvest information through field observations, hunter harvest reports and contact with hunters.

Area staff interacted with hunters on the phone and in the office. Harvest data was collected at the end of the hunt through harvest reports and entered into our state-wide database.

Hunters report observing high numbers of goats in Unit 11.

- Monitor cases of contagious ecthyma (ORF) and other diseases that might affect goat populations.

No diseases were screened for or detected in goats in Region IV during this reporting period.

OBJECTIVE 3: Mountain Goat Management with Public Participation and Outreach. Manage each mountain goat population with an emphasis on engaging the public in management goals and objectives through public meetings, working groups, educational materials, and incentive programs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regionwide (Units 11, 13, 14A & 14B)

- Prepare Mountain Goat Management Operational Reports and Plans every five years.

During this reporting period staff continued drafting 5-year Mountain Goat Management Report and Plans for Units 11, 13 and 14A and submitted them for final edits and publication. It is anticipated that these will be completed and published during the FY22 performance period.

- Provide information to state and federal regulatory processes on mountain goat management.

All information collected is used inform state and federal regulatory processes. Outside of common communication with our federal counterparts There were no direct or substantial requests for information during this reporting period and no regulatory changes were proposed or created. Information on mountain goats is readily available on our website.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.

Species Management Reports and Plans will be published at this location when reports are finalized:

www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=librarypublications.wildlifepublications&sort=all&program=Wildlife+Management&speciescategory=mammal&submit=Search

III. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

None during this reporting period.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

In preparation – See Objective 3. Publications for previous years are available at the following url:

www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=librarypublications.wildlifepublications&sort=all&program=Wildlife+Management&speciescategory=mammal&submit=Search

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

Continue.

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Date: 8/16/2021