

Wildlife Restoration OPERATING 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-R5-2020 Amendment #1

PROJECT NUMBER: 23.5

PROJECT TITLE: DWC Region 5 Coordination

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2021.

PERFORMANCE YEAR: 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021.

REPORT DUE DATE: Submit to Coordinator August 27, 2021;

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Tony Gorn

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR

OBJECTIVE 1: Establish and maintain necessary practices to meet requirements for participation in and administration of the Wildlife Restoration (WR) program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Area management staff and public information staff routinely meet with other agencies, Non-governmental organizations, native tribes and corporations, Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Regional Advisory Councils and members of the public to provide wildlife information necessary for the conservation of wildlife in their respective areas.

The Management Coordinator, Research Coordinator, and the Project Coordinators ensure the staff mentioned above accomplish their duties. In addition, the coordinators review and disseminate biological information to many of the entities described above.

The Regional Supervisor ensures the staff accomplish their duties. In addition, the Regional Supervisor coordinates activities with other regions and with other programs across the state.

- Participated in and coordinated regional comments on large development projects that impact wildlife.

- Guided and participated in the multi-agency and user-group Western Arctic Caribou Herd working group. This involved identifying agenda topics, meeting dates, and management plan review and update.
- Met with Federal agencies (National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) to discuss moose, muskox, and caribou management strategies. Also provided staff for coordinated management work.
- Participated in the Federal Subsistence Board regulatory process by attending multiple meetings representing the state and provided biological information.
- Participated in the Board of Game regulatory process by attending multiple meetings and providing biological information.
- Coordinated with other state agencies on wildlife attacks by providing biological expertise.

OBJECTIVE 2: Administer, coordinate, and provide regional oversight for the State of Alaska Pittman-Robertson projects to ensure eligibility in the WR program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Administration and coordination of the regional programs fall primarily on the coordinators for this objective. Coordinators review draft proposals from staff, coordinate workflow, review and edit popular, technical and federal aid reports prior to publication. We participate in routine periodic meetings, video conferences and teleconferences to accomplish this objective. One or more staff accomplished the following during this reporting period.

Note: Due to Covid 19 impacts on travel and business practices, “attended” may include teleconference and/or videoconference.

- Attended one or more of the Research Coordination Team, Management Coordination Team or Division Management Team meetings. Specific activities included prioritization guidelines for ADFG staff to attend professional conferences and workshops; providing updates on ongoing and proposed research in Region V, both statewide and regional regulatory proposal and review, and consideration of divisional policy.
- Attended Region V meetings and teleconferences. Coordinated outside discussions when necessary.
- Advised Region V leadership staff on various supervisory issues
- Research coordinator facilitated multiple meetings with regional research staff.
- Management coordinator led multiple meetings with management staff.
- Management coordinator maintains regional calendar of events to keep track of staff progress on projects.
- Coordinated the preparation and review of 5-year Species Reports and Management Plans.
- Facilitate coordination between research staff, their collaborators, Federal Aid staff, and others within ADFG.
- When necessary supervisory staff traveled to remote offices to coordinate activities and meet with staff.
- All management and research worked to submit federal aid project statements and performance reports in a timely manner.
- Piloted DWC aircraft to support Region 5 management and research activities
- Presented safety information to DWC pilots during annual ground school training.

OBJECTIVE 3: Provide quality assurance with objectives that support wildlife conservation, restoration, management, education, access, and associated recreational benefits.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: See accomplishments under objectives 1 and 2.

- Attended Region V meetings and teleconferences
- Assisting with coordination of research proposals with external partners, including NPS, USFWS, USGS, and AWT.
- Assisted with development of education and outreach materials on a variety of topics relevant to Region 5 activities.
- Review and edit technical and non-technical products from Region V.
- Review and edit technical and non-technical products from various sources across the state.
- Coordinate development and renewal of IACUC protocols for Region V.
- Visited remote offices to facilitate communication, new employee orientation and ensure progress on projects.
- Coordinated, edited and submitted Federal aid project statements and performance reports.
- Worked with education staff on a harvest reporting program.
- Reviewed all documents, manuscripts and educational materials for publication and dissemination to the public.

OBJECTIVE 4: Participate in local, regional, state, and national meetings as a representative of the DWC to address issues related to WR-administered grants.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: See accomplishments under objectives 1 and 2. Highlights include:

- Attended Region V meetings and teleconferences
- Discussed ongoing and future nuisance muskox mitigation options with Region 5 NGO's and cooperating federal agencies.
- Served on multiple hiring panels for ADFG research and management positions.
- Monitor and coordinate training and professional development for research staff.
- Attended the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group (Interagency Caribou meeting). Also provided staff for coordinated management work.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.

The coordination project is not a product oriented project. Rather the project is a description of the process staff utilize to see that other management, research, and education projects are fulfilled. Staff

assigned to this project ensures that all projects are completed in an efficient and effective manner and that procurement, budgeting and reporting rules are followed.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

Publications under this project are not usually produced. Rather staff ensures that other project reports are completed in a timely fashion and according to Federal Aid guidelines.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT This project is ongoing. Staff may change and objectives added, deleted or edited. No recommended changes are proposed for the next fiscal year.

Prepared by: Tony Gorn

Date: 09/20/2020