

**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-19

PROJECT NUMBER: 1.0

PROJECT TITLE: Hunter Information Digital Delivery

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: July 1, 2016 – December 31, 2021

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

REPORT DUE DATE: Submit to FAC August 27, 2021

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Caleb Wylie

COOPERATORS:

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR

OBJECTIVE 1: Improve ability to maintain hunting eligibility rules.

Job/Activity 1: Rebuild DWC's hunt eligibility database. The eligibility criteria for a hunt can be complex and based on variety of factors including residency, location, species and previous hunting activity.

Job/Activity 2: Build interface for the hunt eligibility database (aka "business rules engine") that allows DWC staff to add and edit hunt rules. Currently changes are made manually by IT staff.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Job/Activity 1: The hunt definition database has been redesigned and a new database and application have been developed. The new hunt definition system is available for staff to manage hunts. DWC made significant progress by integrating three legacy intranet applications with the Hunt Definition System this year.

Job/Activity 2: A scope of work for an analysis and recommendation on how to manage DWCs large set of complex business rules was developed. Resource Data, Inc. leaned on their expertise and familiarity with the Hunt Definition System to perform a thorough analysis. Recommendations and options were presented and DWC reviewed the recommendations. DWC ultimately decided that the full “business-rules engine” envisioned was too complex and not well-defined. Instead changes and improvements continue to be made to the Hunt Definition System to enhance hunter eligibility determination capabilities.

OBJECTIVE 2: Build tools that track an individual hunter's history and eligibility.

Job/Activity 1: Build database tools to track the hunting history for individual hunters in Alaska.

Job/Activity 2: Create interfaces that allow hunters and ADF&G staff to view and edit hunting histories as appropriate.

Job/Activity 3: Integrate external databases that contribute to hunting and guiding eligibilities (for example, the Hunter compact database).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Job/Activity 1: Thorough analysis was performed by contractors and DWC technical staff to identify how hunters are identified and how they are “matched” to their appropriate hunting history. Based on this analysis, modifications have been made to DWC’s Demographic Matching system to identify hunters and their hunting history more reliably and accurately. DWC staff and contractors completed work on integrating this Demographic Matching system with various DWC internal and public facing information systems and tools.

Job/Activity 2: DWC staff and contractors are working to integrate hunter history with internal staff tools and public facing tools for hunters. DWC made significant progress towards being able display history and eligibility information in a hunter’s ADFG profile. New services were developed to share information with ADFG’s integrated customer portal. Capabilities for viewing and editing hunting histories continue to be developed. Significant improvements to existing ADFG harvest reporting tools were made, and new interfaces were created for hunters and staff.

Job/Activity 3 has not been started and evaluation is underway to determine scope.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.

Work on Objective 1 continues. The hunt definition database has been redesigned, a new user interface has been developed, and system integration and enhancements continue. New tools and enhancements were made to allow DWC staff to determine hunter eligibility.

Work on Objective 2 continues. DWC’s demographic matching system has been updated to better identify hunters and match them with their history. Integration of the new demographic matching system with DWC’s information systems was completed. New interfaces and tools for

integration with ADFG's customer portal were completed. ADFG's hunting harvest reporting tools continue to be rewritten and enhanced to better capture information and allow hunters and staff to view and edit their hunting history.

III. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

The following Significant Developments occurred during this reporting period:

- The DWC Information Management section currently has a high vacancy rate due to a State hiring freeze as well as budget concerns associated with the global COVID-19 pandemic. This resulted in less personnel expenditures than anticipated.
- The global COVID-19 pandemic resulted in travel associated with this project being curtailed. This resulted in less travel expenditures than anticipated.
- The drop in staffing also resulted in a slower than anticipated contractual burn rate. External contractors depend on internal DWC staff in order to perform work effectively and efficiently. Internal DWC staff had less availability manage contractual work and collaborate with contractors due to the factors listed above. This resulted in less contractual expenditures than anticipated in during the performance year.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

None.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

Continue the project with the same general approach.

Prepared by: Caleb Wylie

Date: 8/27/21