

**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-29

**PROJECT NUMBER:** P7.0

**PROJECT TITLE:** Unit 17 Wolf Abundance and Demography

**PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** March 23, 2018 through October 31, 2022

**PERFORMANCE YEAR:** March 23, 2019-March 23, 2020; year 2 of a 4-year grant

**REPORT DUE DATE:** Submit to Coordinator June 12, 2020; due to FAC June 29, 2020

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Nick Demma

**COOPERATORS:** Renae Sattler, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328  
2 CFR 200.301  
50 CFR 80.90

Performance reporting on activities ensures performance expectations are being achieved while complying with Federal regulation. Please include, at minimum, the following project information in Sections I – V below:

1. A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the project established for the period. In other words: what progress have you made toward completion of the objective(s) of the project? Describe how your objective(s) were met.
2. The reasons why established goals or objectives were not met, if appropriate. In other words, please describe and justify any changes in the implementation of objective(s) or approach(es).
3. Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs. If applicable, please describe how the project resulted in any benefits, promising practices, new understandings, cost efficiencies, management recommendations, or lessons learned.
4. Additional work not previously described accomplished during this period of performance.

**I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERFORMANCE YEAR**

OBJECTIVE 1: Determine annual abundance of wolves in the designated wolf control area (WCA) of Game Management Unit 17.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: We made progress on this objective. During April 3-5, 2019, we captured and radiocollared 4 wolves (1 male, 3 females) from 3 packs in the study area. On November 24, 2019, we radiocollared 2 wolves (1 male, 1 female) from the same pack.

During the performance year, we conducted 20 separate aerial telemetry missions to locate and observe radiocollared wolves to determine pack sizes.

We have not yet received finalized harvest statistics for the study area for the performance year, but those should be available by July 2020. The harvest data and number of surviving wolves in radiocollared packs will be used to determine minimum abundance of wolves during spring and fall estimate periods that occurred during the performance year.

OBJECTIVE 2: Document annual demographic rates including productivity, survival, and dispersal

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: We made progress on this objective. During the performance year, we monitored radiocollared wolves using aerial radio telemetry as well as satellite-uploaded GPS data, to determine survival status, movements, and locations of homesites.

Proportion of radiocollared wolves surviving was used to estimate annual survival of wolves in the study area. Movements were evaluated to determine dispersals of wolves out of the study area. Homesites (dens and rendezvous sites) were located and regularly observed to evaluate use and attempt to count pups for characterizing annual productivity.

**II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.**

This report covers year 2 of a 4-year study. We are still in the data collection phase of the project and do not have any results or findings to report.

**III. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.**

No SDRs or amendments were submitted during this performance year.

**IV. PUBLICATIONS**

We are still in the data collection phase of the project and do not yet have any publications associated with this project.

**V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT**

Project will continue for 2 more years.

**Prepared by:** Nick Demma

**Date:** 6/12/2020