

**Wildlife Restoration
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-14 Hunter Access Projects FY2016

PROJECT NUMBER: Project 8.0

PROJECT TITLE: Chugach State Park Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: December 1, 2015 – July 30, 2020 (Amendment #5)

REPORT DUE DATE: March 31, 2020

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Rys Miranda, P.E.
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This is the final report for a multi-year project. This template is applicable to both:

- the final closeout report of a multi-year grant; or
- the final closeout report of a multi-year project within the annual operating grant, summarizing all accomplishments for all objectives.

Authorities: 2 CFR 200.328
2 CFR 200.301
50 CFR 80.90

I. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT

Objective 1: The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DNR-DPOR) will construct a bridge under this project to reestablish an alternative crossing over Penguin Creek and improve connectivity and access into the Chugach State Park Management Area (Game Management Unit 14C). The proposed bridge will provide a direct route into the management area and create an alternative crossing over Penguin Creek that can accommodate ATVs. DNR-DPOR performed some preliminary studies and has identified the preferred crossing location. The preferred crossing is near one of the old crossings, approximately half a mile from the Bird Valley Trailhead, and will require an estimated 85-foot span bridge. The bridge will be designed

to accommodate ATV traffic and be in conformance with applicable codes and standards. Some trail construction will be required to tie the bridge into the existing trail network.

Accomplishments: Due to the location the planned 85-foot bridge was able to be shortened to 60-feet. During construction the bridge was shifted to avoid undermining an undercut corner of the existing stream corner, which also increased the size of the timber retaining wall. Use of the new bridge started before the contract even demobilized from site and positive feedback was received from the users. One of the new orientation panels was shot by hunters and had to be replaced and relocated. The original award amount was \$265,690.89 and the final contract amount was \$266,655.79. A final inspection for the project was held and construction was completed on July 8, 2019. Final acceptance of the project was issued on November 18, 2019.

Objective 2: A secondary objective is to provide an alternative creek crossing so that access may be preserved if one of the bridges ever become unusable. Such a scenario is not unlikely considering the history of ice jams and floods occurring at that crossing. A couple of winters ago, an ice jam threatened the bridge despite completing a fairly recent project to raise its deck elevation above recorded flood elevations. Figures 3 and 4 show the conditions during that event. In addition to improved access, the proposed bridge will also serve as an alternative crossing over Penguin Creek if the existing bridge was to become unpassable.

Accomplishments: The measures for this objection are similar to those for objective 2, so the accomplishments are the same.

Objective 3: This project will also update orientation maps at the site to inform users of the new bridge and direct route upon project completion. Two panels will be installed - one at the Bird Valley Trailhead and another at a strategic location along the initial section of the area's trail network.

Accomplishments: The orientation panels were designed and installed, with an additional orientation panel location being identified at a split in the trail access. One of the newly installed panels was vandalized shortly after installation from use as a target. It was decided to replace and reorient that panel to discourage it as a target.

Data collection was performed (survey and environmental), and the project has completed the 35%, 65%, 95%, and 100% design milestones. At each milestone an internal review was performed to ensure compliance with the project objectives. The project was advertised using standard bidding procurement procedures and construction finished in July of 2019.

Financial Summary:

Non-Federal Match

Financial Coding IRIS AR/Task	Starting Amount	Amount Spent	Remaining Balance
107039233 / 79AI	\$ 83,369.00	\$ 83,369.00	\$ 0.00
107039233 / 79TE	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 0.00

Federal Grant

Financial Coding IRIS AR/Program	Starting Amount	Amount Spent	Remaining Balance
10RS78028 / 1078755100	\$ 283,106.00	\$ 283,099.61	\$ 6.39

II. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

There are eight projects within this grant (AKW-14) of which this project is 8.0. Over the course of the grant life numerous grant amendments were made due to various construction delays of projects within this grant. The first grant amendment for AKW-14 was due to construction delay of Project 3.0, Rex Trail Improvements. A grant amendment request was submitted, and approved, granting an extension of the grant performance period to December 31, 2019. Since this grant extension was approved all projects within the grant, except for one, Project 6.0 Moon Lake SRS, finished construction and is now complete. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances construction of Project 6.0 Moon Lake was also delayed and another grant amendment was requested to extend the performance period to July 30, 2020 which was approved.

III. PUBLICATIONS



Figure 1.—Picture of completed bridge.

AKW-14 P8.0 Chugach State Park Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement SFY2020
Final Performance Report



Figure 2.—Picture of completed bridge.



Figure 3.—Picture of one of the Pittman-Roberson funding recognition signs.

**IV. REVIEW OF PRIOR RESEARCH AND STUDIES IN PROGRESS ON THE
PROBLEM OR NEED**

N/A

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