

**FEDERAL AID
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
PO Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

**DALL SHEEP
ANNUAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY**

STATE: Alaska

GRANT AND SEGMENT NO. W-33-6

PROJECT NO. 6.0

PERIOD: 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008

PROJECT LOCATION: Statewide

PROJECT TITLE: The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations

REPORT DESCRIPTION: This performance report describes Dall sheep survey and inventory activities. Regionwide activities are listed before specific activities by game management unit.

**The Status of Dall Sheep
and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region II**

Regionwide Activities:

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor sheep harvest through field observations, hunter harvest reports and contact with hunters.

	Number of Hunters	Rams Harvested	Ewes Harvested	Unknown Sex Harvested
<i>Unit 11</i>	191	44	5	2
<i>Unit 13 D</i>	182	36		
<i>Unit 14A</i>	166	30		4
<i>Unit 14C</i>	240	49	18	

Activity 2: Collect data from sheep presented for sealing by hunters.

Unit 11: Data collected included: Hunt number, GMU, horn length (right and left horns), age (determined by annuli), if any horns were broomed or broken, and the curl length (3/4-7/8, 7/8-full, or full+). Harvest information includes animals taken by federal subsistence hunters as well as sport hunters.

Unit 13 D, 14A, and 14C: Data collected Included: Hunt number, GMU, horn length (right and left horns), age (determined by annuli), if any horns were broomed or broken, and the curl length (3/4-7/8, 7/8-full, or full+).

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Activity 3: Survey selected sheep areas to determine distribution, sex and age.

Unit 11: Surveys were conducted in count areas 11, 12, and 23.

CA11	118 ewes	21 rams	37 lambs	Total 176
CA12	112 ewes	55 rams	41 lambs	Total 208
CA23	189 ewes	84 rams	50 lambs	Total 323

Unit 13 D: Surveys were conducted in Count Areas 1-3, 7, 9, and 16-18.

CA1	56 ewes	4 rams	16 lambs	Total 76
CA2	52 ewes	36 rams	11 lambs	Total 99
CA3	169 ewes	95 rams	33 lambs	Total 297
CA7	77 ewes	11 rams	22 lambs	Total 110
CA9	90 ewes	11 rams	35 lambs	Total 136
CA16	15 ewes	7 rams	10 lambs	Total 32
CA17	36 ewes	7 rams	16 lambs	Total 59
CA18	89 ewes	38 rams	41 lambs	Total 168

	< Full Curl	Full Curl	Ewe-like	Lambs
<i>Unit 14A</i>	127	18	443	163
<i>Unit 14C</i> (except for half of West Eklutna, and all of East Eklutna and Hunter Creek drainages)	237	60	492	115

Submitted by: Bruce Bartley

The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region III

Regionwide Activities

ACTIVITY 1: Prepare Dall sheep management reports.

Prepared Dall sheep management reports.

ACTIVITY 2: Conduct aerial composition surveys to monitor population trends.

Conducted aerial composition surveys in the Delta Controlled Use Area, western Alaska Range, and Nutzotin Mountains and observed approximately 1400 sheep.

ACTIVITY 3: Monitor the harvest through hunter contacts and harvest or permit reports and analyze harvest data.

Monitored preliminary harvest of 578 sheep through hunter contacts and harvest or permit reports and analyzed harvest data.

ACTIVITY 4: Provide Dall sheep management information to State and Federal regulatory processes.

Provided information to 15 State fish and game advisory committees, Alaska Board of Game, and 2 Federal regional advisory councils.

Activities by Mountain Range or Use Area:

Delta Controlled Use Area:

ACTIVITY 1: Mail a questionnaire to hunters and quantify their satisfaction with aesthetics of Dall sheep hunting in the Delta Controlled Use Area.

Did not mail a questionnaire due to lack of funding.

Submitted by: Roy A. Nowlin, Region III Management Coordinator

The Status of Dall Sheep and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region V

Regionwide Activities:

ACTIVITY 1: Prepare triennial regional Dall sheep management reports.

A Dall sheep management report was prepared during this reporting period.

ACTIVITY 2: Provide information to State and Federal regulatory processes on Dall sheep management.

Area management staff reviewed State and Federal regulatory proposals, attended regulatory process meetings, and presented Dall sheep information to the State Board of Game, State Fish and Game Advisory Committees, Federal Subsistence Board, and Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils.

Mountain Range or Use Area Activities:

Baird Mountains:

ACTIVITY 1: Assist National Park Service with aerial surveys in established count areas as needed.

Department staff attempted to participate in NPS-lead sheep surveys in the Baird Mountains but poor weather prevented survey completion.

DeLong Mountains:

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor harvests through the harvest ticket system, permit hunts, Community-based Harvest Assessments, public contacts and field observations.

Eleven drawing permits were issued to hunters for the fall 2007 hunting season but 2 hunters did not hunt and 1 did not report; 8 rams were taken under this hunt. Seventeen hunters registered to hunt sheep under RS388 and no sheep were taken. No harvest information was available from federal sheep hunts.

ACTIVITY 2: Assist NPS with aerial surveys as needed.

Department staff attempted to participate in NPS-lead sheep surveys in the De Long Mountains but weather prevented survey completion.

Schwatka Mountains

ACTIVITY 1: Monitor harvests through the harvest ticket system, permit hunts, community-based harvest assessments, public contacts and field observations.

No sheep were taken under the registration hunt RS389 or the general hunt. No harvest information was available from federal sheep hunts.

Submitted by: Peter Bente, Survey and Inventory Coordinator, Region V