

**FEDERAL AID
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

**DEER
ANNUAL SURVEY AND INVENTORY
PERFORMANCE REPORT**

STATE: Alaska

GRANT AND SEGMENT NR: W-33-3

PROJECT NR: 2.0

WORK LOCATION: Statewide

PROJECT LOCATIONS: Game Management Regions 1 and 2

PERIOD: 1 July 2004–30 June 2005

PROJECT TITLE: The Status of Alaska Deer and Factors Influencing Their Populations

REPORT DESCRIPTION: This statewide performance report includes the two regions involved in deer survey and inventory activities. Statewide and regional activities are listed before specific activities by herd and game management unit.

**The Status of Deer
and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region I**

Regionwide Activities

Activity: Prepare a biennial deer management report.

Sitka black-tailed deer management reports were written and submitted for each unit and subunit within the region. These reports provide updated harvest and management information through the 2004 hunt.

Activity: Provide information to the Board of Game regarding deer management.

The Board of Game met in Juneau during November 2004. Staff prepared background material on deer management for each unit and provided recommendations to the board for 4 proposals from the public to change deer harvest regulations.

Activity: Determine harvest and population trends using a mail survey of deer hunters.

Harvest surveys were mailed to a random selection of about 4000 hunters throughout the region. Responses were entered into a database, and a summary report of harvest and effort by area was produced.

Activity: Conduct spring pellet-group surveys at selected locations throughout the region.

This activity was done in April and May 2005. Field crews were able to complete 21 VCUs during this period.

Activity: Conduct mortality transects in key areas as needed and budgets allow.

Nine mortality transects were conducted in Unit 4 this year.

Activity: Monitor the harvest by communicating with hunters on an opportunistic basis.

During fall of 2004, the Petersburg Area Biologist assisted U.S. Forest Service personnel with staffing of deer check stations on Mitkof and Zarembo islands.

Other activities funded by Federal Aid on this project: None

Stewardship Investment items purchased: None

Total Regional Segment Period Project Costs (in thousands): \$59.2

Submitted by: Dale L. Rabe, Region I Management Coordinator

**The Status of Alaska Deer
and Factors Influencing Their Populations in Region II**

Regionwide Activities

Activity: Provide information to the Board of Game on deer management.

Specific reports on deer management were provided the Board of Game at its spring 2005 meeting in response to proposals that would have changed seasons and/or bag limits. Overviews were provided to the board in preparation for the meeting on deer management in those units where deer exist.

Activity: Monitor the deer harvest through field observations and contacts with hunters.

Deer hunter mail surveys were not distributed due to budget constraints.

Activities by Unit

Unit 6

Activity: Assess snow conditions and establish a severity index.

Snow survey information was collected but not analyzed during this reporting period.

Unit 8

Activity: Evaluate improved procedures for assessing population status.

Kodiak staff gathered anecdotal information from deer hunters about population status when hunters presented deer heads for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing.

Stewardship Investment items purchased: None.

Total Regional Segment Period Project Costs (in thousands): 15.4

Submitted by: Gino Del Frate, Region II Management Coordinator

Statewide Project Costs (in thousands):

State Share = \$18.65 Federal share = \$55.95 Total costs = \$74.6