

**FEDERAL AID  
INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

**STATE WILDLIFE GRANT (SWG)**

**STATE:** Alaska

**GRANT AND SEGMENT NR.:** T-1- 8

**PROJECT NR.:** 2

**WORK LOCATION:** Gustavus-Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area

Juneau- Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge

**PROJECT DURATION:** 1 July 2003 – 30 June 2004

**PROJECT REPORTING PERIOD:** 1 July 2003 – 30 June 2004

**PROJECT TITLE:** Southeast Refuges and Critical Habitats Conservation & Planning

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**Project Objectives:**

**Objective 1:** Participate in and assist public planning process initiated by ADF&G Division of Habitat and Restoration for Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area (DCCHA).

**Job/Activity a:** Compile existing data on wildlife, habitat, and public use, monitor activities on the area, and collect new data as needed for input into the planning processes.

**Job/Activity b:** Assist in acquiring up-to-date aerial photographs of DCCHA and neighboring areas.

**Job/Activity c:** Help identify stakeholder groups/individuals and develop contact information database.

**Job/Activity d:** To assist the public in being active and informed participants in the planning process and conservation strategies, provide information (using print media, field trips, lectures or other means deemed appropriate and within means of available resources) on the value of the area to wildlife and the potential impacts of various types of human uses on wildlife and habitats.

**Objective 2:** Participate in public planning processes for projects with potential to affect Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge in order to mitigate impacts to refuge wildlife.

**Job/Activity a:** Attend public meetings in Juneau related to planning for development projects adjacent to refuge and participate as appropriate.

**Job/Activity b:** Conduct fine scale habitat typing on the entire refuge to identify high-value habitats and wetlands for conservation. This information will aid refuge managers in anticipating the effects of development on refuge lands, and allow informative decisions on directing development towards the least valuable areas to wildlife. This information will also

allow refuge managers to focus mitigation measures towards habitat with similar values if possible.

**Job/Activity c:** To assist the public in being active and informed participants in the planning process and conservation strategies, provide information (using print media, field trips, lectures or other means deemed appropriate and within means of available resources) on the value of these areas to wildlife and the potential impacts of various types of human uses on wildlife and habitats.

### **Summary of Project Accomplishments:**

#### **1. Objective 1: Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area (DCCHA)**

- a. During September 2003, Icy Straits Environmental Consultants conducted sandhill crane observations on the DCCHA. A report was completed by the consultant and submitted to ADF&G in January of 2004. In addition, sandhill crane fecal samples and stomach samples were collected and shipped to Washington State University for microhistological analysis of crane diets. This data should be available during late fall 2004.

During November 2003-April 2004, Icy Straits Environmental Consultants conducted snow depth measurements on the DCCHA to use in interpreting moose habitat use and diet throughout the winter in this area. A report was completed and submitted to ADF&G in May 2004.

- b,c,d. We made no progress toward accomplishing these objectives during the report period primarily because of the dissolution of Habitat and Restoration Division which was to take the lead on the planning process for DCCHA.

#### **2. Objective 2: Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge (MWSGR)**

- a. ADF&G staff prepared for and attended monthly meetings of the Mendenhall Wetlands Citizens Advisory Group. This group actively investigates issues and activities that could potentially affect the Mendenhall State Game Refuge. Our role in the planning efforts, including attending these monthly meetings has increased because of the dissolution of the Habitat and Restoration division.
- b. During the report period, a contract was prepared for Spectrum Mapping LLC to analyze LIDAR mapping imagery for the production of a fine scale topographic map of the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge. A final version of the contract was recently sent to the company and we anticipate having this work completed by late fall 2004.
- c. Signs associated with dogs and wildlife harassment were placed on the MWSGR during this period.

#### **Project Costs (includes indirect costs):**

Federal share \$ 8,931.82 + state share \$ 2,977.28 = total cost \$ 11,909

**Prepared By:** Neil Barten, Principal Investigator

**Date:** August 25, 2004