

**FEDERAL AID
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
State Wildlife Grant**

Grant Number: T-1 **Segment Number:** 3
Project Number: 2.11
Project Title: Northern Bristol Bay seabird survey
Project Duration: July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008
Report Period: 1 July 2006 – 30 June 2007
Report Due Date: September 30, 2007
Partner: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Project Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1: Conduct a population survey of select nesting seabirds in all of northern Bristol Bay including the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary and Togiak National Wildlife Refuge to:

JOB/ACTIVITY A: Assess changes in population levels over the past 20 years.

JOB/ACTIVITY B: Establish a reliable baseline level of nesting populations to assess future environmental impacts.

Summary of Project Accomplishments

OBJECTIVE 1: A boat-based survey of colonial ledge-nesting seabirds was conducted in July 2006. All previously documented colonies in the study area were surveyed as were all new colonies discovered. Field counts were made at the colonies for all individuals of the following species: black-legged kittiwakes, common murre, glaucous-winged gulls, pelagic cormorants and double-crested cormorants.

Digital photographs were also taken of all colonies. These photographs are being merged to create one comprehensive photograph of the colony and then each species of seabird is counted using ARC GIS software. Approximately half the colonies have been counted during this reporting period.

Preparations for a replicate survey to be conducted in July 2007 were made during this reporting period.

JOB/ACTIVITY A: This assessment will be made after data from the 2006 and 2007 surveys is compiled and analyzed.

JOB/ACTIVITY B: The 2006 and 2007 survey data will be added to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Seabird Colony Catalog and will serve as a baseline of population levels to use for future comparisons.

Prepared By: Joe Meehan, September 10, 2007