

**Wildlife Restoration OPERATING GRANT  
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-C-2-2019

**PROJECT NUMBER :** 29.0

**PROJECT TITLE:** Alaska Wildlife Coordination—ANILCA Access Defense

**PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

**REPORT DUE DATE:** Sept 1, 2019

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Ashley List and Marla Carter, ANILCA and Access Defense

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Authorities: [2 CFR 200.328](#)  
[2 CFR 200.301](#)  
[50 CFR 80.90](#)

**I. PROGRESS ON PROJECT OBJECTIVES DURING PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE**

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Coordinate ADF&G reviews of federal plans, regulations, permits, and policies and submit comments, resource information, or recommendations to the authorizing agency to avoid or minimize effects to wildlife habitat and/or populations, or public access and use of those resources.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Staff reviewed 100% of identified federal plans, regulations, permits, and policies to avoid or minimize effects to wildlife habitat and/or populations, or public access and use of those resources. ANILCA staff identified hunter access and wildlife-related public use issues, information, and solutions, as well as wildlife habitat information, for development of the Bureau of Land Management Bering Sea – Western Interior and Central Yukon Resource Management Plans, Department of Defense military site Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans across Alaska, National Park Service Glacier Bay Frontcountry Plan, and U.S. Forest Service Chugach National Forest Land Management Plan, among others (approximately 20 separate plans or projects).

**OBJECTIVE 2:** Coordinate ADF&G reviews of State area plans, land sales, leases, easements, permits, and regulations and submit comments, resource information, or recommendations to the authorizing agency to avoid or minimize effects to wildlife habitat and/or populations, or public access and use of those resources.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Staff reviewed and provided comment on approximately 339 land use permits, leases, land disposals, plats, easement vacations, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act conveyances (with 17(b) easements), native allotments, and municipal entitlements to conserve wildlife habitats and populations, and public access for hunters and other wildlife recreation users. Staff continued to provide information on wildlife habitats and populations, public use, and made management recommendations for four State land management plans (North Slope, Copper River Basin, Kuskokwim, and Kachemak Bay State Park). Access Defense (A-D) staff worked with land conservation organizations to develop one land acquisition proposal for P-R grant funding to conserve valuable wildlife habitat in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and we work closely with the ADF&G Lands and Refuges program to provide access and acquire new lands within or adjacent to our refuges.

OBJECTIVE 3: Coordinate ADF&G input to DNR and the Department of Law (DOL) for navigability assertions (Recordable Disclaimers of Interest or questions of ownership) and assertions of RS2477 rights-of-way.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: A-D staff worked cooperatively with the Alaska Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Law (DOL) for navigability assertions for the Forty Mile River, Taku, Egegik, Delta River, Johnson, Kanektok, and Unuk Rivers, which provide public access for hunting and wildlife viewing, and wildlife management activities. A-D staff continued to support the State's claims to RS 2477 Rights-of-way that have direct implications for hunter access and potential effects to ADF&G management of wildlife.

OBJECTIVE 4: Assist ADF&G staff with federal lands related issues and permits.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: ANILCA staff fulfilled 100% of ADF&G staffs' informal and formal requests for assistance with federal lands issues and permits. Most significantly ANILCA staff assisted in obtaining a permit for black bear research in the Chugach National Forest Nellie Juan – College Fiord Wilderness Study Area. Other examples include assisting with coordination for wildlife research in the Chugach National Forest Twentymile River area, a marine mammals haulout camera permit on the Tongass National Forest and answering questions regarding national preserve boundaries for hunting access in Gates of the Arctic National Park.

OBJECTIVE 5: Assist ADF&G staff with land status research and public access issues.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: A-D staff responded to ADF&G staffs' requests for assistance with land status research related to wildlife management activities and public access, including on trails and to waterbodies. Staff worked the ADF&G Lands and Refuge program to research and improve access within Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge at the Rabbit Slough parking area and the Cottonwood Creek 17(b) easement. A-D staff managed eleven DNR hunter access improvement projects and five ADF&G projects across southcentral, interior, and southeast Alaska, funded under separate multi-year Pittman-Robertson (P-R) grants, and worked with local agencies and organizations to develop several more hunter access proposals for consideration in FY2019.

**II. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT TO DATE.**

See Section I.

**III. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.**

There were no Significant Development Reports (SDR) or amendments submitted during FY2019.

**IV. PUBLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

**V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT**

Continue programs.

**Prepared by:** Ashley List and Marla Carter

**Date:** September 2019