

**FEDERAL AID ANNUAL
RESEARCH 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-20

PROJECT NUMBER: 6.19

PROJECT TITLE: Dall's Sheep Literature Review and Research Design.

PROJECT DURATION: 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2018

REPORT DUE DATE: 1 September 2017

PARTNER: None

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Brad Wendling, ADF&G

COOPERATOR: None.

WORK LOCATION: Fairbanks, Alaska.

**I. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED THIS SEGMENT ON JOBS
IDENTIFIED IN ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

Objective 1: Literature review and data analysis.

JOB/ACTIVITY 1A: Conduct a review of available literature and data on the biology, ecology and management of Dall's sheep and related species.

We have decided to extend the project an additional year to develop collaborative partnerships and associated sources of funds for a large scale field research project. Furthermore we need additional time for internal scoping to develop relevant research projects to inform management decisions.

JOB/ACTIVITY 1B: Compile and analyze Dall's sheep population survey and harvest data collected in the Interior and Arctic Alaska.

We continue to compile and analyze data and do not have any results to present at this time.

Objective 2: Interview Division of Wildlife Conservation game managers in DWC Region 3 to understand their concerns of the effects of harvest and the ecological drivers of Dall's sheep populations.

We developed a questionnaire and interviewed all ADF&G area biologists and assistant area biologists that have sheep management responsibilities. Results were summarized and presented to ADF&G leadership and staff at the Dall's sheep research operational planning meeting held in Anchorage, October 2016. A forty page summary of this meeting is available on request from the project leader.

Objective 3: Report findings from Objectives 1 and 2 and develop a proposal and detailed budget for a new research project on Dall's sheep.

During the report period this objective was not accomplished. We will develop our research questions; write a research operational plan and detailed budget to be submitted by September 2018.

Objective 4: Solicit funding to implement research project.

We plan to conduct this research as a federal aid funded project. However, we are exploring supplemental project funding through the Wild Sheep Foundation, the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management. No supplemental funding was obtained during this report period.

II. SIGNIFICANT DEVIATIONS AND/OR ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID-FUNDED WORK NOT DESCRIBED ABOVE THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THIS PROJECT DURING THIS SEGMENT PERIOD

None.

III. PUBLICATIONS

None.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT

None.

PREPARED BY: Brad Wendling

DATE: 8/25/2017