



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Region 7 - Alaska

1011 East Tudor Road

Anchorage, Alaska 99503

(907)786-3309 (TDD Available)

News

13-13

May 23, 2013

Contact: Cathy Rezabeck

Cathy_rezabeck@fws.gov

907-786-3351

Alaska Tribes Receive \$433,026 in Tribal Wildlife Grants

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced Tribal Wildlife Grants awards to Native American and Alaska Native tribes funding a wide range of conservation projects across the country.

“The mindful stewardship of fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats is a value that tribal nations share with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,” said Service Director Dan Ashe. “Tribal Wildlife Grants create opportunities for us to work together in a variety of ways, including species restoration, fish passage, protection of migratory birds, and coping with long-term effects of a changing climate.”

This year, three Alaska Native tribes will receive a total of \$433,026 in grant money. Since 2003, more than \$6 million has gone to Alaska Native tribes through the Tribal Wildlife Grants Program, funding 36 projects involving habitat restoration, population surveys and monitoring, scientific research, and conservation planning. These grants provide technical and financial assistance for development and implementation of projects that benefit fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, including non-game species.

The Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove will receive \$199,731 for local monitoring of ecologically important wildlife species. The monitoring will take place in three Aleutian Island communities and includes data collection on northern sea otters, Steller’s eiders, Pacific black brant, and emperor geese.

For the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, \$199,943 will allow the community to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of current rat stations, defense strategies and control techniques of the rat prevention program on St. Paul Island. This includes updating and improving current rat data collection and sharing methods.

The Native Village of Wales will use the grant of \$33,352 to conduct systematic beach surveys along the northern Seward Peninsula to perform coastal marine mammal surveys and monitoring of seals and walrus found washed up along the coast. Surveys will also include documenting any debris associated with the Japanese tsunami of March 2011 and reporting findings to the NOAA’s Marine Debris Program.

The grants have enabled tribes to develop increased management capacity, improve and enhance relationships with partners (including state agencies), address cultural and environmental priorities, and heighten tribal students’ interest in fisheries, wildlife and related fields of study. Some grants have been awarded to support recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species.

The grants are provided exclusively to federally recognized Indian tribal governments and are made possible under the Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2002 through the State and Tribal Wildlife Grants program. Proposals for the 2014 grant cycle are due September 3, 2013.

For more information about the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program, visit <http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html>

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfwshq, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>

-FWS-