

**IDAHO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**  
**Rod Sando, Director**  
**Project W-168-C-18**  
**Progress Report**



**WILDLIFE RESTORATION COORDINATION**

Study I, Job 1: Wildlife Research Coordination

July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001

Prepared By:

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State Nongame Wildlife Manager

December 2001

Boise, Idaho

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**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT  
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

**GRANT NUMBER:** W-168-C

**SEGMENT NUMBER:** 18

**GRANT TITLE:** Wildlife Restoration Coordination

**AGREEMENT PERIOD:** July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001

NEED:

The Pittman-Robertson Coordination Project focuses on the coordination of research, survey, and inventory projects, various development and management projects, land acquisition projects that are periodically active, and the Endangered Species Program. The extent and complexity of restoration activities involved in these projects require that general direction and coordination by technically trained and experienced personnel be provided. This project is designed to meet that need and will provide a competent project leader who will coordinate the selection, planning, and implementation of approved federal aid projects.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Coordinate the activities of the Pittman-Robertson Program in Idaho.
2. Coordinate the activities of the Pittman-Robertson Program with the other activities of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.
3. Provide a liaison between the Department and the Division of Federal Aid.

EXPECTED RESULTS AND BENEFITS:

Enhanced coordination and communication among personnel conducting research, surveys and inventories, and land/habitat management involving federal aid funds. This will result in more effective and efficient use of available funds.

More effective and successful restoration of wildlife and wildlife habitat will be achieved through statewide coordination.

APPROACH AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Review and edit annual progress reports. These reports are compared to previous segment work plans as to work accomplished.

*Project documentation, budgets, and reports were completed for each Wildlife Restoration project. Office Specialist II Lois Lunday spent considerable time editing reports turned in by field staff and preparing them for review and submittal to the Federal Assistance office in Portland, Oregon. These reports received further review and approval by Bureau of Wildlife staff in the Boise office before being sent to Portland.*

Proposed project budgets are developed in relation to overall program needs and financial capabilities.

*Budgets are developed in May and June for the fiscal year (1 July – 30 June) commencing a year later. Budgets developed in May and June of 2000 for the fiscal year commencing on 1 July 2001 were adjusted, if necessary, to coincide with funds allocated to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Department) from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for Wildlife Restoration projects.*

*Administrative adjustments were made to the contents of existing Federal Grants in order to more clearly reflect activities. Wildlife Restoration Coordination (W-168-C) was split from Statewide Wildlife Research (W-160-R). Statewide Wildlife Lab Services (W-174-R) became a separate Federal Grant. An additional grant was created to deal with the Tappan Ranch Land Exchange (W-178-L).*

*Section 6 Endangered Species Act project proposals were drafted and a meeting held with staff from the Service to arrive at mutually-agreed upon projects and proposed budgets. These proposals were then submitted to the Service for funding.*

Periodic on-site reviews will be made. This will be done in conjunction with regional personnel and other staff. Reviews involve evaluation of compliance of work and checking newly-acquired areas for funding needs.

*Most site reviews were conducted by the appropriate State Wildlife/Habitat Manager. Several Wildlife Management Areas and proposed land exchanges were toured during a visit by Verlyn Ebert, FA Office, Portland.*

Each development project will have an annual on-site meeting in the spring to discuss current and proposed work plans and budgets and a tour of the area. Research projects will also have annual spring program discussions besides periodic reviews.

*Bureau of Wildlife staff toured all the regions of the state and met with regional staff regarding work plans and allocation of time and funds. During these coordination meetings, regional staff facilitated field visits to selected projects and Wildlife Management Areas.*

*Principal Research Biologists convened in Boise to discuss existing and proposed research projects funded, in part, through the Wildlife Restoration Program. Proposed research projects were prioritized based on a combination of need and cost to complete.*

Other activities associated with coordination and administration of the Wildlife Restoration Program within the Department and between the Department and the Division of Federal Assistance.

*Melquist attended the Federal Assistance Coordinator's meeting in Newport, Oregon.*

*Melquist met with Jerry Novotny, Rachel Miller, Marilyn Hemker (all Service employees), and Bill Hutchinson (Department Sport Fish Restoration Coordinator) in February to discuss the Section 7 and NEPA review process as they relate to the potential impacts federally funded projects may have on listed and Candidate species. Additional meetings were held with Marilyn Hemker in April to further refine the process by which we evaluate our activities on listed species. This review process has added significantly to the time needed to administer the FA program.*

*Melquist participated on a Committee to develop an activity-based cost accounting system for the Department. This "ABC" system will allow Department staff to more accurately track their time and prevent charging ineligible activities to Federal Assistance budgets. Long-term benefits include our ability to justify and substantiate expenditures during future audits.*

LOCATION: Statewide.

PROJECT PERSONNEL:

Wayne Melquist, State Nongame Manager (Project Leader)  
Lois Lunday (Office Specialist II)

Submitted by:

*Wayne Melquist*

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Wayne Melquist  
State Nongame Wildlife Manager  
Federal Aid Coordinator

Approved by:

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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Steven M. Huffaker, Chief  
Bureau of Wildlife