

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Kuskokwim River Tributary Biological Baseline Production Assessment

Discipline: Natural Resources
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: US Fish and wildlife Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 7/1/2013 - 6/30/2014
Funding Amount: \$15,870

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

The YDNWR and the Flathead Lake Biological Station (FLBS) have been working cooperatively to assess baseline biological conditions in tributaries of the Kuskokwim River since 2004. Working together during the field season (May-Oct), YDNWR and FLBS personnel have been using a standardized protocol to collect a variety of samples types from different locations of interest within the Kuskokwim watershed, additional work is also planned on the tributaries of the Yukon River. Samples collected in 2009 include water, riparian vegetation, fish and animal tissue, algae, and aquatic insects. These samples now need to be prepared and analyzed for biomass and nutrient content (including marine derived nitrogen and carbon). YDNWR and FLBS personnel will work together to conduct these analyses at the FLBS laboratory. Through this contract, YDNWR will pay FLBS for the personnel time (and associated fringe benefits), supplies, laboratory analyses, sample preparation, and shipping expenses associated with the completion of this work.

Outcomes with completions dates: June 30, 2014

Keywords: biological samples, baseline conditions, Kuskokwim River tributary, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (YDNWR), Flathead Lake Biological Station, University of Montana