

Ben Ballenger

guide

BALLENGER
GAME BRD.

Resume

NAME: Ben G. Ballenger
SS# 560-28-1913

DOB: May 12, 1924
Greeley, Colorado

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

San Diego High School
Graduation 1941 - General Courses

U. of A. Wildlife Class - One week course, 1957

Military Justice School June 1959-August 1959

Deep Sea Diving School July 1943 - January 1944 Master Diver
U.S. Navy
Dept. of Supervised Study

Alaska Troopers Academy - one week 1979
Orientation on Enforcement Sitka, Alaska

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY.

March 1962 to December 30, 1985 STATE OF ALASKA
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME
GAME DIVISION

At the beginning of employment with the State my position was that of Fish and Game Aide. This consisted of performing the following duties:

Under general direction, conduct ground and aerial game surveys of deer, elk, bear, goat, caribou and moose. Collect and preserve specimens used for reproduction and aging studies from elk, deer, bear and caribou. Conduct hunter surveys, analyze and compute harvest data including sex and age composition of deer and elk from analysis of the lower mandibles. Participate in the bear-cattle program, including predator control, determination of the extent of predation, public relations and capturing and tagging brown bears. Conduct range surveys to determine the trend and utilization of key plants used by elk. Conduct winter mortality surveys to determine its effect on elk and deer populations. Assist in transplant of elk and moose including capturing and caring for the young animals until their release. Recommend regulation changes pertaining to Unit 8 to my immediate supervisor.

As the Department grew in management techniques and responsibilities and the hunt pressure increased so did the responsibilities of my position resulting in a new job classification.

July 1970-December 30, 1985 FISH AND GAME TECHNICIAN V

The main purpose of this position was to assist the Area Game Biologist in all phases of game management duties in the Kodiak area. In his absence assume all the responsibilities of the Area Game Biologist.

Primarily, duties consisted of setting up and accomplishing the mammal inventories and aerial and ground surveys. Issue permits and harvest tickets for hunts in Alaska; inform hunters as to where, when and how to hunt on Kodiak. Continual elk and deer range evaluations to determine the condition of the winter food supply. Collecting data and specimens from various animals. Answer correspondence from the public on securing permits, licenses, and other information on hunting, viewing, photographing wildlife on Kodiak and adjacent islands in GMU 8. Also during the open hunt seasons went on enforcement patrols which required checking hunters for licenses and permits. Conducted winter mortality transects for deer and elk. This work consisted of in the field inspections of key winter areas; searching the area for deer/elk carcasses; determine sex and age, physical conditions and cause of death. When time permitted I also gave talks to civic groups, school classes, sportsmans groups on hunting and wildlife management programs. Attend all meetings held by the public and speak on game regulations and policies in an effort to secure public support for our programs; inform people on regulations and laws. There was also the need for capturing of live animals, use of drugs in the captures and utilizing other marking equipment.

Because of the close work with the public and the Kodiak/Afognak/Shuyak area guides it was extremely important to have a knowledge of the State and Federal laws and Alaska State Game Regulations. In this way it was easier to to make recommendations to the staff regarding changes in the hunting and trapping regulations that the public and guides were most concerned about. Then these regulation changes would be recommend to the Board of Game.

December 1941 - November 1961 Chief Boatswain's Mate
U.S. NAVY, deck supervisor, various responsibilities in connection with maintaining, seamanship, gunnery, navigation, boat handling, marlin spike seamanship and training junior officers of the deck-duties.

March 1956 - July 1958

U.S. Deputy Game Warden, Game and fish patrol on road system of Kodiak.

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During my employment with the State of Alaska I also assisted in various wildlife projects throughout the State. These projects are listed below:

Southeastern Alaska - elk transplant in the summers of 1962 and 1963.

Alaska Peninsula - moose and bear hunt monitoring in winter 1967.

Kenai Peninsula - collect biological specimens from moose kills early 70's.

Point Hope/Kotzebue - monitoring polar bear hunts, data and specimen collection for polar bear research teams. Also collected wolf specimens for research teams in Fairbanks.
Winters of 1969 and 1970.

Amchitka - live capturing of sea otters for reintroduction into Washington Oregon and other parts of Alaska. Late 60's.

Administered the Guide Test to individuals in Kodiak in 1962 and 1963 then mailed to Anchorage for correction and evaluation.