



Wildlife research update: March 2007

Denali Resources staff with assistance from Fairbanks NPS personnel, Jim Lawler and John Burch, captured and fitted 20 Dall's sheep (8 male, 12 female) with GPS collars in early March 2007. All sheep were captured using net gunning



techniques from a helicopter (Fig. 1).

Figure 1. Researchers capture Dall's sheep from a helicopter using net guns in Denali National Park. NPS Photo.

Net gunning allows researchers to safely capture and handle sheep without using of anesthetics.

Sheep were captured within the Denali Park Road corridor between the Teklanika River and Toklat rest area (Fig. 2).

GPS collars will record the location of sheep every hour from 15 May through 20 September 2007 when collars will automatically fall off the animals. Researchers will then retrieve the collars and download the stored location data. Look for preliminary results of this study in late Fall 2007.

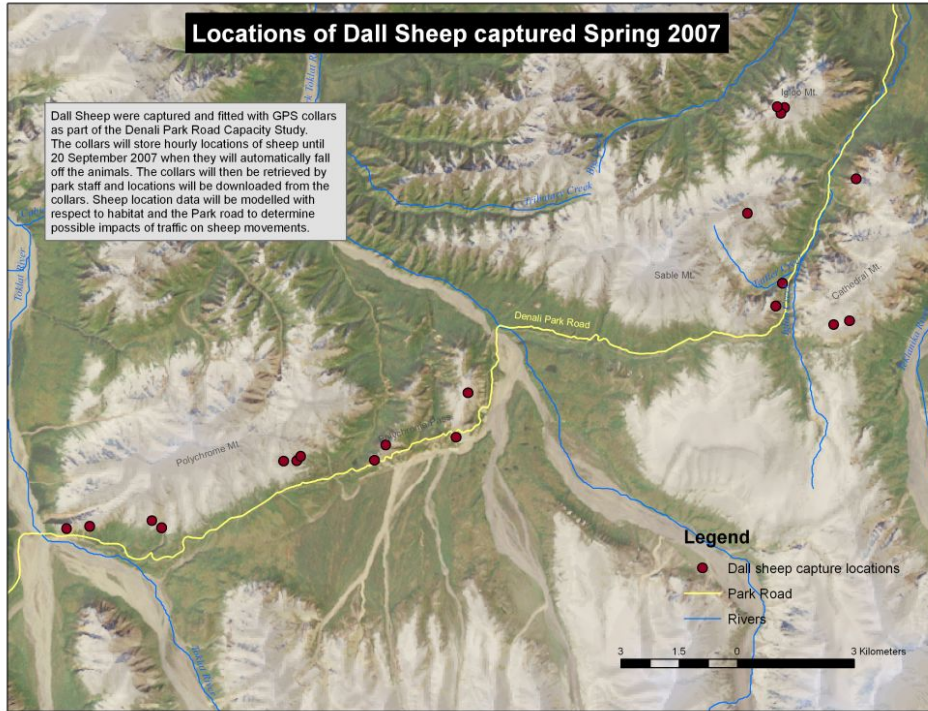


Figure 2. General locations of Dall's sheep captured in March 2007 as part of the Denali road capacity study.