

EVOS ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

All recipients of funds from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council must submit an annual project report in the following format by September 1 of each fiscal year for which project funding is received, with the exception of the final funding year in which a final report must be submitted. Satisfactory review of the annual report is necessary for continuation of multi-year projects. Failure to submit an annual report by September 1 of each year, or unsatisfactory review of an annual report, will result in withholding of additional project funds and may result in cancellation of the project or denial of funding for future projects.

PLEASE NOTE: Significant changes in a project's objectives, methods, schedule, or budget require submittal of a new proposal that will be subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review, and Trustee Council approval.

Project Number: 030600

Project Title: A synthesis of the ecological findings from the EVOS Damage Assessment and Restoration Programs, 1989-2001

PI Name: Robert Spies

Time Period Covered by Report: FY'03

Date of Report: September 12, 2003

1. **Work Performed:** Summarize work performed during the reporting period, including any results available to date and their relationship to the original project objectives. Describe and explain any deviation from the original project objectives, procedural or statistical methods, study area, or schedule. Also describe any known problems or unusual developments, and whether and how they have been or can be overcome. Include any other significant information pertinent to the project.

This effort is a synthesis of the main scientific findings from the EVOS Restoration Program. It draws mainly on the products of the EVOSTC post-spill scientific studies (1989-2001), with reference also to key pre-spill and non-EVOSTC literature, to integrate what has been learned about the effects of human and natural forcing in the spill-affected ecosystem.

Following is a brief summary of FY 2003 activities to date (9/4/03):

1. The second major meeting of the book core authors was held at the annual EVOS meeting in Anchorage, January 18, 2003. All aspects of the book were discussed and many issues settled.
2. The writing assignments were finalized and a draft outline made at the meeting in January 2003.
3. The detailed outline was revised in April 2003.
4. Writing is well underway. Preliminary drafts of several chapters and sub-chapters, as well as parts of chapters, are being circulated among authors and to outside experts.
5. An internal web site has been online since July 2002 and is maintained as a tool for exchanging information, ideas and news about the project.
6. Negotiations are underway with a publisher.

7. Several additional scientists have volunteered or agreed to help by consulting on or writing some subsections under the under the leadership of core writing team members. To date they include: Dr. Kevin Bailey, NOAA; Dr. James Bodkin, USGS Anchorage and Dr. John Piatt, USGS Anchorage.
8. A three-day meeting of core authors was held in Girdwood in July 2003 to review progress, coordinate writing and discuss synthesis issues.
9. The book outline was further refined at the Girdwood meeting The latest version is attached to this revised proposal.

We are a few months behind the original schedule that was set at the beginning of the project, but at this time anticipate no problems in completing the book in FY 04.

2. **Future Work:** Summarize work to be performed during the upcoming year, if changed from the original proposal. Describe any proposed changes in objectives, procedural or statistical methods, study area, or schedule. [**PLEASE NOTE:** Significant changes in a project's objectives, methods, schedule, or budget require submittal of a new proposal that will be subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review, and Trustee Council approval.]

The specific objectives for the remainder of the project in FY 2004:

1. Complete rough drafts of the component chapters of the synthesis.
2. Formulate and begin to execute a plan for integrated graphics based on the outline, text and consultation with the chapter contributors.
3. Complete negotiations with a publisher.
4. Continue to circulate drafts for internal review by the synthesis team, make recommendations for change, and revise chapters.
5. Obtain outside peer review of the revised rough draft.
6. Finalize manuscript and illustrations.
7. Make a multimedia presentation for the public.
8. Submit synthesis manuscript to the publisher.

3. **Coordination/Collaboration:** Describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the coordination and collaboration provisions of the proposal, if applicable.

Efforts have been initiated to coordinate this project with the GEM Background Papers document being edited by Dr. Mundy.

4. **Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications:** Describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the community involvement/TEK and resource management application provisions of the proposal, if applicable.

5. **Information Transfer:** List (a) publications produced during the reporting period, (b) conference and workshop presentations and attendance during the reporting period, and (c) data and/or information products developed during the reporting period. [**PLEASE NOTE:** Lack of compliance with the Trustee Council's data policy and/or the project's data management plan will result in withholding of additional project funds, cancellation of the project, or denial of funding for future projects.]

Nothing to report at this time.

6. **Budget:** Explain any differences and/or problems between actual and budgeted expenditures, including any substantial changes in the allocation of funds among line items on the budget form. Also provide any new information regarding matching funds or funds from non-EVOS sources for the project. [**PLEASE NOTE:** Any request for an increased or supplemental budget must be submitted as a new proposal that will be subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review, and Trustee Council approval.]

Note from Mundy: Approximately \$50K in contractual was lapsed

Report Prepared By: Robert B. Spies

Project Web Site Address: Internal web site access is limited to project personnel at the present time. Temporary access may be requested through the P.I.

SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY TO phil_mundy@oilspill.state.ak.us. THE REPORTS WILL BE POSTED ON THE TRUSTEE COUNCIL'S WEB SITE AND SHOULD ALSO BE POSTED ON THE PI'S WEB SITE. The subject line of the e-mail transmitting the report must include the project number and the words "annual report" (e.g., "035620 Annual Report"). Electronic reports must be submitted either as an Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) file or word processing document (Microsoft Word 2000 for Windows or lower or WordPerfect 9.0 or lower) with any figures and tables imbedded. Acrobat PDF 4.0 or above file format must be used, preferably in 'formatted text with graphics' (called "PDF normal" under Acrobat PDF 4.0) format. Minimally, "PDF searchable image" (called "PDF original image with hidden text" under Acrobat PDF 4.0) may be used if pre-approved by the Trustee Council Office. In either case, the PDF file must not be secured or locked from future editing, or contain a digital signature from the principal investigator.