

EVOS ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

Project Number: 040702

Project Title: Synthesis of Natural Variability in the Nearshore: Can We Detect Change?

PI Name: Ginny L. Eckert

Time Period Covered by Report: February, 2004 – September, 2004

Date of Report: August 16, 2004

1. Work Performed

One of the primary goals of the GEM program is to detect anthropogenic changes within the four focal habitats in the Gulf of Alaska, however natural variability in these systems can be so high that it prevents detection of human-induced effects. The goal of this proposal is to synthesize existing data to identify, within the nearshore habitat, environments and species that have less natural variability so that these variables can be included in the GEM monitoring plan. Data will be synthesized from the Gulf of Alaska and across a broad range of geographic areas to identify general characteristics that predict lower levels of natural variability in nearshore marine populations.

Progress for this project is as planned. Significant progress has been made for all three objectives planned during this period.

Objective 1. Collect long-term time series data of Gulf of Alaska nearshore populations.

Long-term time series data from Gulf of Alaska nearshore populations have been collected using datasets and literature identified by Bodkin and Dean in GEM Project # 030687, titled, "Monitoring in the Nearshore: A Process for Making Reasoned Decisions".

Objective 2. Collect long-term time series data of nearshore populations from the scientific literature and existing sampling programs in regions other than the Gulf of Alaska.

Long-term time series data of nearshore populations from regions other than the Gulf of Alaska have been collected.

Objective 3. Collect life history and natural history information for the species for which time series information is available (see Objectives 1 & 2).

Collection of life history and natural history information is underway.

2. Future Work

Future work on this project is as planned in the proposal. Data analysis and synthesis will be conducted to test the hypotheses outlined in the proposal.

3. Coordination/Collaboration

Jim Bodkin provided his full reference set and GIS products from GEM Project # 030687, titled, "Monitoring in the Nearshore: A Process for Making Reasoned Decisions".

4. Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications

Once data analysis and synthesis are conducted, collaborative efforts will be made to communicate this information to communities.

5. Information Transfer

The project, thus far, has been collecting data, therefore, there are no publications or presentations to be reported at this time. Data products will be made available once complete.

6. Budget

No changes.

Report Prepared By: _____ **Ginny L. Eckert** _____
Project Web Site Address: _____ **n/a** _____