

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: 040775

Project Title: Lingering oil and sea otters: Pathways of exposure and recovery status

PI Names: Brenda Ballachey and Jim Bodkin

Time Period Covered by Report: May – August 2004

Date of Report: 26 August 2004

- 1. Work Performed:** Support for this project is to continue tracking and monitoring sea otters instrumented under Projects 030620 and 040620 (see annual reports) to provide an additional year's information on sea otter movements, foraging behavior and survival relative to lingering oil at northern Knight Island. Work was initiated on 1 August 2004 and continues as planned.
- 2. Future Work:** Monitoring and observational work will continue as described though capture and recovery of Time-Depth recorders in July 2005 (see Annual Report for Project 040620).
- 3. Coordination/Collaboration:** Work under this project has been closely coordinated with scientists at the NOAA Auke Bay Laboratory, who are investigating the presence and persistence of lingering *Exxon Valdez* oil in nearshore habitats. Collaborations with Purdue University (Dr. P. Snyder) and the Monterey Bay Aquarium (Dr. M. Murray) have been established for the sea otter work.
- 4. Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications:** During the course of this project we will acquire services and supplies under contract or directly from businesses in Cordova, Whittier, Homer and Anchorage.

5. **Information Transfer:** Data collection continues as anticipated and data are managed in a manner consistent with the policies established by the Trustee Council. Results of work in progress will be presented at the Wildlife Society Annual Conference in Calgary (September 2004) and at the Norwegian Research Council's Annual Meeting in Norway (October 2004).

6. **Budget:** Work completed to date has been within the projected budget.

Report Prepared By: James Bodkin and Brenda Ballachey

Project Web Site Address: _____

SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY TO brenda_hall@evostc.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.