

EVOS ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

Project Number: 040290

Project Title: The *Exxon Valdez* Trustee Hydrocarbon Database and Interpretation Service

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Time Period Covered by Report: FY2006

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Project website: www.afsc.noaa.gov/abl/OilSpill/oilspill.htm_____

Work Performed: The Auke Bay Laboratory provides data and sample archiving services for all samples collected for hydrocarbon analysis in support of the *Exxon Valdez* Trustee Council projects. These data represent samples collected since the oil spill in 1989 to the present and include environmental and laboratory Response and Restoration data as well as subsistence information. During FY2006, 350 new hydrocarbon samples (sample collection information) were added to PWSOIL which is the archival form of the Hydrocarbon Database. As the hydrocarbon information is analyzed through the chemistry lab and quality controlled it is added to the public release version of the database. This public release version, EVTHD (Exxon Valdez Hydrocarbon Database) has changed during FY06 to be an ACCESS database with the analyzed data available. This project has also prepared the hydrocarbon data associated with projects 040620, and 030585 and 050763 and for FOIA requests. Finally, we provide interpretive services for the hydrocarbon analyses designed specifically for investigators and managers and FOIA response which include: (1) identification of the probable sources of the hydrocarbons observed in the samples, (2) evaluation of new hydrocarbon data for evidence of systematic bias, (3) hydrocarbon data editing according to consistent criteria. Archived frozen hydrocarbon samples were surveyed. A thorough inventory of frozen samples and their condition was completed.

A public version of the analyzed environmental samples was released in 1996 (Exxon Valdez Oil Spill of 1989: State/Federal Trustee Council Hydrocarbon Database 1989 – 1995 / EVTHD) and is updated annually. Maintaining the main database, PWSOIL, and the set of analyzed data is an on-going program.

Future Work:

Data from EVOS projects associated with hydrocarbon analyses for lingering oil projects will be added to the database as they are funded by the Trustee Council. We are expecting a continuation of FOIA requests and possible data verification efforts. Interpretation services will continue and samples and original custody sheets will be maintained.

Coordination/Collaboration:

PWSOIL and EVTHD are dynamic structures that require periodic maintenance. This project provides a service that insures that the Trustee hydrocarbon data will be available to interested parties for as long as necessary. This project is designed to provide easy access to the Trustee hydrocarbon database and ensure the accuracy of the data. These data for the basis of all toxicological studies performed by the Trustees, and provide an important baseline against which future analyses can be compared . We work with other entities with our FOIA requests and data interpretation services. Our information is available on our website or by contacting the Principal Investigators.

1. Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications:

Any requests for information for resource and management applications are given if requested.

Information Transfer: Data/Information Product:

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill of 1989: State/Federal Trustee Council Hydrocarbon Database 1989 – 1995 / EVTHD - version 2. This is a CD-ROM that contains hydrocarbon data in a stand-alone application. Database requirements with metadata comply with Trustee Council's data although this database was started in 1989 and the same format used continues.

Conference and workshop attendance: EVOS Trustee Council Workshop, Anchorage, AK.

The hydrocarbon data is available on request from our website or from a CD-ROM.

Budget: The budget was spent according to plan.