

Sitka Tribe of Alaska
Summary of Progress to Date
November 14, 2006 - July 27, 2007

Project Title: Identification of Essential Habitat for Pacific Herring in Sitka Sound for Comparison to Prince William Sound

Project Number: 070834

Project Period: October 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008

Principal Investigator: Heather Meuret-Woody, Sitka Tribe of Alaska, 456 Katlian Street, Sitka, AK 99835, (907) 747-3207, hwoody@sitkatribes.org.

Collaborator: Nate Bickford, PhD, University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, P.O. Box 757220, Fairbanks, AK 99775, (907) 474-6469, nate@sfos.uaf.edu.

Study Location: Sitka Sound, Sitka Alaska, Southeast Alaska

Key Words: *Clupea pallasii*, Pacific herring, essential habitat, otolith microchemistry, restocking, reclamation

November 14, 2006:	Project funding approved by the Trustee Council.
December 10-12, 2006:	Attended EVOS Herring Restoration Steering Committee in Anchorage and presented the funded project.
January 18-19, 2007:	Collected and processed juvenile herring samples during ADF&G winter bait and test fishery.
January 23, 2007:	Sitka Tribe signed the contract agreement with ADF&G, EVOS. The date of the contract term was incorrect, so the EVOS office was notified. On February 22, 2007, Sitka Tribe signed the amendment to the contract agreement with ADF&G, EVOS.
January 21-24, 2007:	Attended Alaska Marine Science Symposium and also attended EVOS Herring Steering Committee workshop on January 23.
February to May 2007:	Finished collecting juvenile herring otolith samples in early April. Succeeded in collecting over 400 pairs of juvenile herring otolith samples. Adult herring in Sitka Sound

began spawning on 04/02 and continued through 04/23. Succeeded in collecting over 390 pairs of adult herring otolith samples, including otolith samples from inside troll-caught king salmon as well as herring samples from Hoonah Sound on 05/04.

May 16, 2007:

Coordinated contract between Sitka Tribe and University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) for trace element analysis services. Contract was approved and signed by Sitka Tribe on 05/16 and delivered to UAF.

June to July 2007:

STA is waiting for UAF to approve and sign the contract for services, so that the analytical services can begin. Delivered Sitka Sound herring otolith samples to Dr. Nate Bickford at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to begin preparation for trace element analysis on the core and edge portions. (Mailed 6/12, received 7/2).