

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:

Project Title: Herring Restoration in PWS: Identifying Natal and Nursery Habitats

PI Name(s):

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Time Period Covered by Report: October2008 – September 2009

Date of Report: 13 September 2009

1. Summary of Work Performed:

Otoliths were been sent to Dr. Robin Hanagan at the University of Arkansas for Laser Ablation – Inductively Coupled Plasma – Mass Spectrometry. There is a delay in acquiring the results because Dr. Hanagan moved from Arkansas to the take a position as Chair of the Environmental Earth and Ocean Sciences Department at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. That necessitated sending the otoliths from Arkansas to Massachusetts. In the Massachusetts lab, 497 otoliths were polished and prepared for processing. Unfortunately we do not yet have all data returned to us. Therefore, we do not have statistical analysis completed. Without the data and statistical analysis, we could not yet start writing the publication and final report.

2. Summary of Future Work to be Performed:

Our timeline has changed because of delays that we encountered. We anticipate receiving data from ICP-MS analysis in September 2009. Samples analysis should be completed by December 2009. We recognize that puts us one year behind in our proposed time frame. However we anticipate that the sample data will be amassed, data reduction and statistics will be performed by

February 2010. Thus we will interpret the data and write the final report and peer review publication in March and April 2010.

3. Coordination/Collaboration:

This project relied heavily upon close coordination and collaboration with ADF&G and Prince William Sound Science Center research vessels conducting normal collections. By successfully coordinating with these agency's research vessels and staff, we were able to collect herring samples for this project at greatly reduced cost by not having to charter our own vessels.

4. Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications:

The PI's are working very closely with local fishermen and Prince William Sound Fisheries Research Applications and Planning (PWSFRAP). This study is part of the herring restoration plan that will work toward developing a sustainable herring fishery in the future. All results from this project will be shared with local communities (via PWSFRAP) especially those involved with the herring restoration planning.

5. Information Transfer:

During this grant period, the PI and Co-PI attended the Herring Marking Workshop in Anchorage in December 2008. The Annual Report for this project was submitted September 2008.

6. Budget:

We did not experience any budgetary problems and have no substantial differences to report between actual and budgeted expenditures. Because of the way University projects are prosecuted and monies allocated, Norcross and Bickford charged their salaries but will continue to work on the project to be ensure the completion of the project.

Report Prepared By: Brenda Norcross

SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS ELECTRONICALLY TO science_director@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.