

EVOSTC PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT

**All citations herein refer to the EVOSTC Procedures for the Preparation and Distribution of Reports ("Reporting Policy")*

As required by the Reporting Policy, recipients of funds from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council must submit a semi-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). Please help ensure that continued support for your project will not be delayed by submitting your report by September 1.

Satisfactory review of this report is necessary for continuation of multi-year projects. Failure to submit this report by **September 1** of each year, or unsatisfactory review of a report, may 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.

Form rev. 12.05.12.

- 1. Project Number:** 12120111-F
- 2. Project Title:** PWS Herring Program - Juvenile Herring Abundance Index
- 3. Principal Investigator(s) Name:** Michele Buckhorn and Dick Thorne
- 4. Time Period Covered by the Report** – For projects not in a Trustee Council funded-program, and for those within a Trustee Council-funded program, the semi-annual report will report on the prior six month's work. *See, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (d). February 2012-February 2013*
- 5. Date of Report:** February 15, 2013
- 6. Summary of Work Performed** – This brief summary shall describe work to be performed during the upcoming reporting period, including any results available to date and their relationship to the original project objectives. Any deviation from the original project objectives, procedures or statistical methods, study area, or schedule shall be included. Any known problems or unusual developments, and any other significant information pertinent to the project, shall also be described. *See, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (f).*

This project objective is to provide information to improve input to the age-structure-analysis (ASA) model, or test assumptions within the ASA model. This objective is being met by conducting annual surveys of juvenile herring to create an index of future recruitment and to groundtruth species and size composition of fish ensonified during acoustic transects.

In November 2012, the first survey associated with this project was conducted aboard the R/V Montague. The bays sampled were: Simpson, Port Gravina, Port Fidalgo, Eaglek, Zaikof, East and West Arm of Whale, and Lower Herring. An eighth bay was planned (Windy) but was precluded due to weather.

The following sampling activities occurred in each bay: CTD casts, hydroacoustic transects, and fish capture. The intention of the project was to deploy a midwater trawl in each bay to groundtruth species composition and size classes ensonified during the 3-4 of the acoustic transects but were unable to due to mechanical issues. Since the energetics

and disease projects rely on the acoustic surveys for fish samples, fish capture was still carried out using gillnets and castnets (see Bishop report). The hydroacoustic surveys were conducted using the recently purchased 120 kHz split-beam system. A calibration of the equipment was performed before all the transects were conducted and there were no problems running the system during the transects. The raw transect data are currently being post-processed (Figure 1) for use in data analysis.

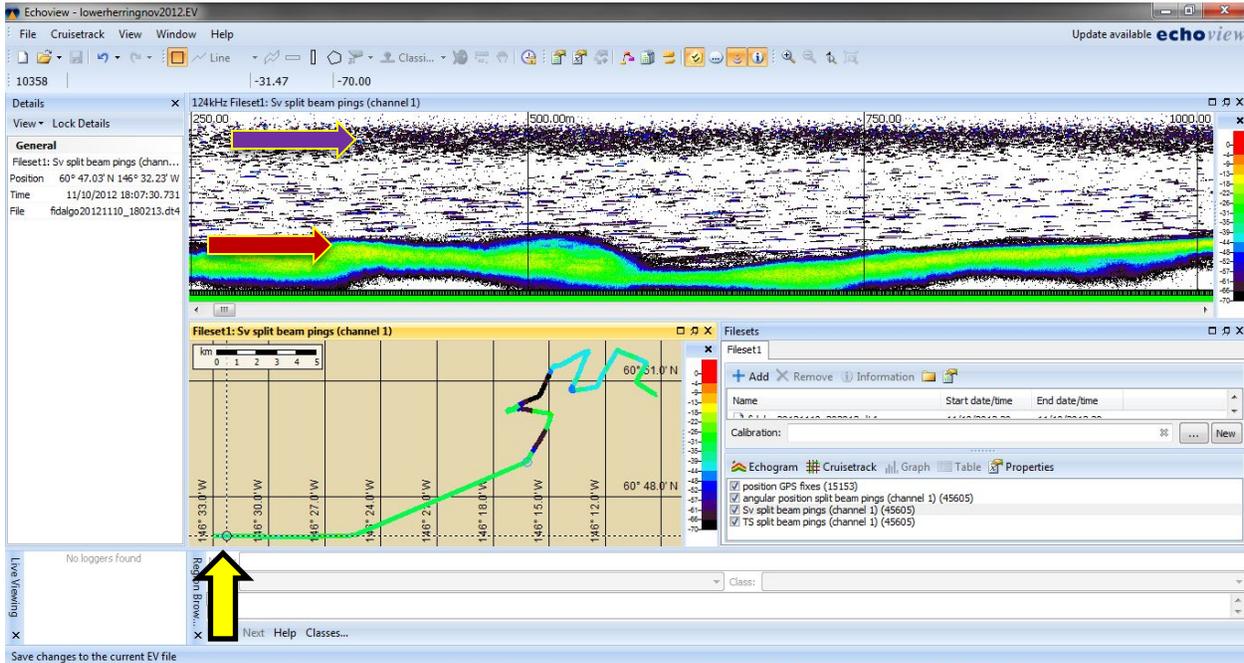


Figure 1. Screen shot of post-processing raw acoustic data using the new program Echoview. The lower left portion of the screen is the entire track for the bay survey (Fidalgo). The upper third shows a portion of the echogram highlighted by the circle on the track (above the yellow arrow). The orientation of the echogram is a “sideview” of the water column from the surface (top) to depth (bottom). The red arrow indicates a layer of biomass near the water’s surface and the red arrow indicates where the program has identified bottom.

7. Summary of Future Work to be Performed – This brief summary shall describe work to be performed during the upcoming reporting period, if changed from the original proposal. A description of any proposed changes in project objectives, procedures or statistical methods, study area, or schedule shall be included. *See*, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (g).

There are no changes from the original proposal; surveys will continue in November 2013 and 2014.

8. Coordination/Collaboration – This section shall describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the coordination and collaboration provisions of the proposal, if applicable. *See*, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (h).

Collaboration between the energetics and disease projects (HRM) was in the form of providing samples from bays within the Sound and seabird surveys (LTM).

9. Community Involvement/TEK and Resource Management Applications - This section shall describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the community involvement/TEK

and resource management application provisions of the proposal, if applicable. See, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (i).

N/A at this point

10. Information Transfer – This section shall list (1) publications produced during the reporting period, (2) conference and workshop presentations and attendance during the reporting period, and (3) data and/or information products developed during the reporting period. See, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (j).

N/A at this point

11. Budget – This section should provide a detailed accounting of the spending during the time period covered by the report and a comparison of the actual funds spent versus those originally requested. Any discrepancies should be clearly noted and a brief reason provided for the change. A column for actual expenditures should be added to the original budget spreadsheet that was submitted with your proposal. An example is attached. Any new information regarding in-kind, matching funds or other funds from non-Trustee Council sources for the project shall be included. See, Reporting Policy at III (C) (1) (k).

Some of the categories were budgeted for FY13, which normally would have started in October of 2012. Those funds are now in there are and the deficits from FY12 no longer exist.

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT YEAR 1			
Budget Category:	Proposed Year 1	Actual Year 1	TOTAL Difference
Personnel	\$16,231	\$8,859	\$7,372
Travel	\$0	\$912	(\$912)
Contractual	\$500	\$3,758	(\$3,258)
Commodities	\$1,500	\$349	\$1,151
Equipment	\$59,000	\$53,206	\$5,794
Indirect Costs (<i>will vary by proposer</i>)	\$5,469	\$4,153	\$1,316
SUBTOTAL	\$82,700	\$71,237	\$11,463
General Administration (9% of subtotal)	\$7,443	\$6,411	\$1,032
PROJECT TOTAL	\$90,143	\$77,648	\$12,495
Other Resources (Cost Share Funds)	\$0	\$0	\$0
COMMENTS:			
FY12	Program Title: HRM Juvenile Abundance Index Team Leader: Buckhorn		SUMMARY

We can accept your report as a digital file (Microsoft Word), with all figures and tables embedded. Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files (version 4.x or later) are also acceptable; please do not lock PDF files or include digital signatures.

Please submit reports electronically in [ProjectView](#) or by email to catherine.boerner@alaska.gov. Also, please be sure to post your report on your own website, if you have one.



*We appreciate your prompt submission of your report
and thank you for your participation.*