

**FY07 INVITATION
PROPOSAL SUMMARY PAGE**

Project Title: Prince William Sound Marine Bird Surveys, Synthesis and Restoration

Project Period: October 1st 2007 to September 30th 2008

Proposer(s): David B. Irons, Migratory Bird Management, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
david_irons@fws.gov, Phone (907) 786-3376

Study Location: Prince William Sound, Alaska

Abstract: We propose to write a report for the survey that was conducted to monitor abundance of marine birds in Prince William Sound, Alaska during March and July 2007-2007. Eight previous surveys have monitored population trends for >65 bird and 8 marine mammal species in Prince William Sound after the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. We will use data collected in 2007 to examine trends from summer and from winter to determine whether populations in the oiled zone are increasing, decreasing, or stable. We will also examine overall population trends for the Sound. Continued monitoring of marine birds and synthesis of the data are needed to determine whether populations injured by the spill are recovering. Data collected from 1989 to 2005 in the oiled area indicated that bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), common loons (*Gavia immer*), and cormorants (*Phalacrocorax spp*) are increasing in winter. Numbers of all other injured species are either not changing or are declining in the oiled area. Populations of harlequin ducks (*Histrionicus histrionicus*), black oystercatchers (*Haematopus bachmani*) and common murrelets (*Uria aalga*) are showing no trend in the oiled area; pigeon guillemots (*Cepphus columba*), marbled murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), and Kittlitz's murrelets (*Brachyramphus brevirostris*) are declining in the oiled areas of Prince William Sound. Results of all surveys have been summarized in reports and results through 1998 have been published by Irons et al. (2000) and Lance et al. (2001). Analyses and synthesis of these survey data are the only ongoing means to evaluate the recovery of most of these injured species.

Please note: The cost of report writing was not included in the original proposal because I was told that in FY 2007 the Trustees wanted only a one year proposal and the report cannot be written in the same year as the surveys because of timing of the surveys.

Funding: EVOS Funding Requested: FY 08= \$36.0K

TOTAL: \$36.0K

Non-EVOS Funds to be Used: FY 08 = \$22.0K

TOTAL: \$22.0K

Date: July 24, 2007

Title: Prince William Sound Marine Bird Surveys, Synthesis and Restoration

Below are the specifics that outline what will be done in FY 08

II. PROJECT DESIGN

A. Objectives

The purpose of this study is to obtain population estimates of marine birds in Prince William Sound to monitor the recovery of species whose populations may have declined due to the *T/V Exxon Valdez* oil spill. The specific objectives of this project include:

1. To write a report to determine population abundance, with 95% confidence limits, of marine bird populations in Prince William Sound during March and July 2007 in order to allow changes in population trends of injured species to be detected.

III. SCHEDULE

A. Project Milestones

Objective 1. Write report on recovery of injured marine bird populations in Prince William Sound.

To be met by March 30, 2008.

B. Measurable Project Tasks

Specify, by each quarter of each fiscal year, when critical project tasks (for example, sample collection, data analysis, manuscript submittal, etc.) will be completed. This information will be the basis for the quarterly project progress reports which are submitted to the Trustee Council Office. Please format your schedule like the following example.

FY 08, 1st quarter (October 1-December 31)

Analyze data

Begin writing report

FY 08 2nd quarter (January 1-March 31)

January: Annual Workshop

January, February Write Draft Report

March Have report reviewed and finalized.

IV. RESPONSIVENESS TO KEY TRUSTEE COUNCIL STRATEGIES

A. Community Involvement and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)

All community input is always welcome to our project, the proposal process is open and the PAG members and other members of local communities may comment on proposals. The findings of the study will be communicated to local communities through various means including the annual EVOS meeting, on the web, distribution of reports and of course the reports will always be available in the local libraries.

B. Resource Management Applications

The US Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for the management of all migratory birds, including marine birds. The Service spends 100's of thousands of dollars annually to manage seabirds and waterfowl and to determine population trends. However there are still many species in many areas for which the Service data are lacking. Simply put, the Service cannot do it all. The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and the studies on its effects have become a unique discipline. Never has an oil spill become the population trends of the injured birds in Prince William Sound are of great importance to the Service, the local people and the scientific community at large. The length of time required for bird populations to recover from oil spills has never been well documented for many of the species injured in the EVOS. This information is important to the Service for managing birds after future oil spills and for general management of many of these species.

V. PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Three papers have been published on the results of past surveys. Only a report will be written after the survey in 2007 and a publication will be written when the project is completed.

Budget Justification
FY 2008– \$36K

PROJECT TITLE: Prince William Sound Marine Bird Surveys, Synthesis and Restoration

FY 2008

Personnel: An experienced biologist with statistical skills is needed to analyze the data and write the report for the Prince William Sound marine bird surveys.

Request: (\$33K)

Indirect: Trustee Agency G&A @ 9% = \$3.0

2008 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

Budget Category:	Authorized FY 2007	Proposed FY 2008						
Personnel	\$78.7	\$33.0						
Travel	\$10.7	\$0.0						
Contractual	\$55.0	\$0.0						
Commodities	\$29.5	\$0.0						
Equipment	\$1.5	\$0.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS					
Subtotal	\$175.4	\$33.0						
General Administration	\$15.8	\$3.0						
Project Total	\$191.2	\$36.0						
Full-time Equivalent (FTE)	1.5	0.5						
Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.								
Other Resources								
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Added FY 07 Authorized for Comparison purposes and the new PJ number - Broke out the G&A from the Personnel costs on the Budget Justification.</p> <p>In-kind contributions: David B. Irons salary (GS13 for 1 month) = \$10k Office expenses, including use of office space, computers, printers, etc = \$12K</p> <p>Total In-Kind Contributions \$22K</p>								

FY08

Prepared:

Project Number: 080751
 Project Title: Marine Bird Survey of Prince William Sound
 Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

2008 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

Personnel Costs:		GS/Range/ Step	Months Budgeted	Monthly Costs	Overtime	
Name	Position Description					
Unknown	Co-project Leader	GS11-1	6.0	5.5	0.0	
Subtotal			6.0	5.5	0.0	
Personnel Total						
Travel Costs:		Ticket Price	Round Trips	Total Days	Daily Per Diem	
Description						
Travel Total						

FY08

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2008 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

Contractual Costs:		
Description		
When a non-trustee organization is used, the form 4A is required.		Contractual Total
Commodities Costs:		
Description		
		Commodities Total

FY08

Project Number: 080751
 Project Title: Marine Bird Survey of Prince William Sound
 Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Prepared:

2008 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008

New Equipment Purchases:		Number of Units	Unit Price	
Description				
Those purchases associated with replacement equipment should be indicated by placement of an R.			New Equipment Total	
Existing Equipment Usage:		Number of Units		
Description				

FY08

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Prepared: