

Alaska Resources Library & Information Services (ARLIS)

Project Number: 030550

Restoration Category: Community Involvement/Public Outreach/Other

Proposer: Restoration Office

Lead Trustee Agency: All Trustee Agencies

Alaska SeaLife Center: No

Duration: Ongoing

Cost FY 03: \$95,100

Cost FY 04: TBD

Geographic Area: All

Injured Resource/Service: All

ABSTRACT

Project 030550 represents the Trustee Council's contribution to Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS). ARLIS serves as a central access point for information generated through the Trustee Council restoration process and the GEM program. In addition, ARLIS acts as the public repository for reports and other materials generated from and related to the cleanup, damage assessment and restoration efforts following the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill (EVOS). ARLIS supports the research efforts and information needs of the Restoration Office, principal investigators, natural resources professionals, and the general public.

INTRODUCTION

The Trustee Council has contributed budgetary support for ARLIS since the library was established in 1997. ARLIS is providing services that were previously provided through the Oil Spill Public Information Center (OSPIC). With the exception of Fiscal Year 1994, this activity has historically been funded under the Public Information, Science Management and Administration budget (Project /100). Funding as a separate project began in Fiscal Year 2001, as Project 01550.

In Fiscal Year 2002, the Trustee Council supported 1 FTE librarian at ARLIS. This proposal seeks a continuation of that funding for Fiscal Year 2003. Council funding in Fiscal Year 2004 and in subsequent years will be assessed on an annual basis.

NEED FOR THE PROJECT

A. Statement of the Problem

Over the years, a vast array of scientific literature has been produced as a result of the restoration program. ARLIS provides guidance to the principal investigators regarding preparation of the reports, distributes the reports to individuals and libraries as appropriate, and acts as a repository of all reports and publications generated as a result of the restoration process. ARLIS also supplies the principal investigators with research materials and reference service pertinent to their restoration and GEM projects.

All research begins with identifying and compiling existing information. This is especially true of the restoration process and GEM program, wherein a review of current knowledge is built into the research process. ARLIS's comprehensive natural and cultural resources collection provides access to current and historic information, some of which is available nowhere else. Materials not available directly from ARLIS are borrowed from other libraries, making comprehensive access to information possible for researchers.

The ARLIS collection contains 150,000 books, including agency publications, technical reports, and masters and doctoral theses, 700 journals, maps and atlases, legal reference materials, federal and state documents, public review documents, administrative records, videotapes, audiotapes, slides, photographs, electronic databases, environmental education kits, and a circulating collection of furs, skulls, and mounted birds. These materials are cataloged in a global bibliographic database making most circulating items accessible to users around the world. The library catalog is available for searching at the ARLIS website at www.arlis.org.

ARLIS provides universal access to Alaska natural and cultural resources information. Since it was established in October 1997, ARLIS annually receives 21,000 visitors, responds to 15,000 requests for information, performs over 15,000 interlibrary loans and circulates 14,000 books. Approximately 15% of the use of the library is directly related to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and the Trustee Council's restoration and GEM programs. In addition, 15% of the materials borrowed by other libraries from ARLIS are EVOS materials.

B. Rationale/Link to Restoration

Project 03550 provides essential support to implement the restoration program as directed by the Trustee Council and guided by the *Restoration Plan* and during the transition to the GEM program. The Trustee Council's policies, as specified in the *Restoration Plan* and the GEM program, include a strong commitment to public information. ARLIS ensures that findings and results of restoration efforts are available to the public, scientists, and agency staff to help understand the status of injured resources and services and to plan for future restoration, research and monitoring. The ARLIS staff provides reference service, literature searches, and document delivery to Restoration Office staff and principal investigators creating documents and databases for the GEM program.

C. Location

ARLIS is located at 3150 C Street, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Project 03550 supports various aspects of community involvement. This includes public information efforts to assist the general public and spill community residents to learn about the restoration process and GEM program. ARLIS provides research support to those principal investigators conducting research in the areas of subsistence and traditional ecological knowledge.

PROJECT DESIGN

A. Objectives

The fundamental objective for ARLIS is to provide research materials to governmental agencies, researchers, the general public, and spill community residents.

Specific objectives for FY 03 include:

1. Provide access to restoration and GEM program information for local, state, national, and international users.
2. Support the research efforts and information needs of the Restoration Office staff, the principal investigators, and the general public.

B. Methods

ARLIS provides access to information through participation in library networks and a global bibliographic database. Through cooperative collection development efforts, appropriate books, technical reports, journals, gray literature, videotapes, maps, and other materials are acquired and cataloged. A web accessible library catalog, through a partnership with the University of Alaska Anchorage Consortium Library and the Anchorage Municipal Libraries, provides worldwide access to ARLIS materials through interlibrary loan services. Thousands of fulltext publications are available through web links in the catalog record. Reference service is provided on-site and

off-site via phone, mail, fax and email. The library provides in-house access to topical databases to the general public and desktop access to agency users. Additional databases are available through a partnership with the UAA Consortium Library.

In addition to print materials, ARLIS has cataloged thousands of web-based documents and publications. In the process, the staff has encountered the instability of electronic documents on the web. Documents change location; new versions replace earlier versions; documents disappear completely. Electronic documents are often comprised of multiple files, as many as fifty for large documents, and getting the complete document is not assured. ARLIS catalogers use national standards and practices to catalog electronic documents completely and accurately. Broken links are tracked to ensure the catalog records contain current URLs. In addition, housing EVOS, restoration and GEM print materials at ARLIS circumvents the unreliability of web-based documents and associated hardware/software obsolescence and incompatibility issues, and ensures permanent access to these important materials.

C. Cooperating Agencies, Contracts and Other Agency Assistance

ARLIS is a consolidation of eight libraries and information centers from state and federal agencies and a university institute:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Bureau of Land Management
Environment and Natural Resources Institute (UAA)
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Fish and Wildlife Service
Minerals Management Service
National Park Service
U.S. Geological Survey

The University of Alaska Anchorage is also a partner, although its library collection is not a part of ARLIS, as is the U.S. Army Fort Richardson Environmental Division.

ARLIS shares a library catalog with the Anchorage Municipal Libraries, the University of Alaska Anchorage Consortium Library, and the Anchorage Museum of History and Art Library. The holdings of all partner libraries can be searched 24 hours a day from the ARLIS web site by anyone with Internet access.

SCHEDULE

The Trustee Council operates on the Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 - September 30).

A. Measurable Project Tasks for FY 03 (October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003)

On-going tasks throughout the fiscal year:

1. Review and approve format of final and annual reports, maintain a list of completed

reports, and distribute reports to appropriate libraries. Catalog reports in a global bibliographic database for access throughout the world.

2. Maintain for public review the public record copy of the Trustee Council official record.
3. Maintain for public access a file of peer reviewed journal articles and conference papers resulting from Trustee Council funded research.
4. Provide reference service for oil spill related topics and other information needs to the Trustee Council, Restoration Office staff, science review staff, principal investigators, media, students and faculty, spill area residents, resource agency professionals, and the general public.
5. Acquire and catalog publications generated by the Trustee Council.
6. Acquire and catalog other oil spill and restoration related materials deemed appropriate for the collection and necessary to the restoration process and supporting GEM program research.
7. Maintain an annotated list of web sites relevant to EVOS, the restoration process, and the GEM program.
8. Annually update related topic bibliographies for the Trustee Council web site.

B. Milestones and Endpoints

1. Provide monthly reports to the Restoration Office on the status of the report format review and distribution process.
2. Provide quarterly reports and an annual summary of library usage statistics and staff projects.

C. Completion Date

Council funding in Fiscal Year 2004 and subsequent years will be assessed on an annual basis.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Not applicable to this project.

NORMAL AGENCY MANAGEMENT

Funding in Project 02550 is for the sole purpose of supporting restoration program and GEM program activities and may not be used for other purposes.

COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESTORATION EFFORT

Unless otherwise specified by the Restoration Office, each project funded by the Trustee Council is required to submit an annual report or a final report. As the public repository, all reports are cataloged and permanently housed at ARLIS.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES IN CONTINUING PROJECTS

In October 1997, the Oil Spill Public Information Center (OSPIC) was consolidated with seven other state and federal agency libraries to create ARLIS. Planning for the consolidation was done by library staff, with the guidance of a Management Advisory Group consisting of participating agency heads, through the U.S. Department of Interior, under the auspices of the Reinventing Government program. Although ARLIS was established as a cost saving measure in response to federal and state budget cuts, the resulting library provides a vastly more comprehensive collection of Alaska resource information in a single location, served by highly qualified staff specializing in resource related information.

PROPOSED PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Carrie Holba holds a masters degree in Library and Information Science. In February 1991, she joined the staff of the Oil Spill Public Information Center, serving as public services librarian and then as director since 1992. Since OSPIC was consolidated with ARLIS in October 1997, Ms. Holba has served as reference services coordinator and a member of the ARLIS library management team, and continues to specialize in EVOS related reference service.

OTHER KEY PERSONNEL

As a founding agency of ARLIS, the Trustee Council benefits from the combined services of the library staff, including reference librarians, interlibrary loan staff, collection development staff, cataloging staff, and web development specialists, all trained to meet oil spill related information needs. ARLIS is a recipient of the 1997 National Performance Review Award and the 2001 National Award for Museum and Library Service, for innovation, partnership, and excellence in library service.

FY 03 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

Budget Category:	Authorized FY 02	Proposed FY 03						
Personnel	\$81.2	\$87.2						
Travel		\$0.0						
Contractual		\$0.0						
Commodities		\$0.0						
Equipment		\$0.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS					
Subtotal	\$81.2	\$87.2	Estimated					
General Administration	\$12.2	\$7.9	FY 04					
Project Total	\$93.4	\$95.1	TBD					
Full-time Equivalent (FTE)	1.0	1.0						
Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.								
Other Resources								
<p>Comments: This budget is for the Trustee Council contribution to funding for the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS). With the exception of Fiscal Year 1994, this activity has historically been funded under the Public Information, Science Management and Administration Budget (Project /100). Funding as a separate project began in Fiscal Year 2001, as Project 01550.</p>								

FY03

Prepared:

4/12/2002

Project Number: 030550
 Project Title: ARLIS - Alaska Resources Library & Information Services
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

FY 03 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

Personnel Costs:		GS/Range/ Step	Months Budgeted	Monthly Costs	Overtime	
Name	Position Description					
Holba	Librarian III	19J	12.0	7.3		
		Subtotal	12.0	7.3	0.0	
						Personnel Total
Travel Costs:		Ticket Price	Round Trips	Total Days	Daily Per Diem	
Description						
						Travel Total

FY03

Prepared:

4/12/2002

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FY 03 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

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

FY03

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Prepared:

4/12/2002

FY 03 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

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				

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