

**Tatitlek Coho Salmon Release**

Project Number: 99127  
Restoration Category: General Restoration  
Proposer: G. Kompkoff/Tatitlek IRA Council  
Lead Trustee Agency: ADFG  
Cooperating Agencies: None  
Alaska SeaLife Center: No  
New or Continued: Cont'd

Duration: 5th yr.  
5 yr. project

Cost FY 99: \$10.7  
Cost FY 2000: \$0.0  
Cost FY 01: \$0.0  
Cost FY 02: \$0.0

Geographic Area: Prince William Sound

Injured Resource/Service: Salmon, subsistence

**ABSTRACT**

This project will create a coho salmon return to Boulder Bay near the village of Tatitlek. Enough coho eggs to produce 20,000 smolt will be collected from an Alaska Department of Fish and Game approved stream, incubated and reared to smolt at the Solomon Gulch Hatchery, transported, and held for two weeks in net pens in Boulder Bay before release. Release will produce a 2,000 to 3,000 adult return to Boulder Bay for harvest in a subsistence fishery.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Subsistence fisheries available to residents of Tatitlek village were severely disrupted by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. This project is intended to enhance subsistence resources near Tatitlek by creating a 2,000 to 3,000 coho salmon return to Boulder Bay immediately adjacent to Tatitlek village. This resource is intended to partially replace for the near term other subsistence resources, such as harbor seal, that were injured by the spill

This coho salmon return will be created through an annual release of 50,000 coho salmon smolt in Boulder Bay. The smolt are produced at the Solomon Gulch Salmon Hatchery under an agreement between its operator, the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation and the Tatitlek IRA Council. The coho salmon eggs needed to produce the smolt come from a wild coho run that has been approved by ADF&G for the egg take. The eggs are taken to the Solomon Gulch hatchery for incubation and rearing to the smolt stage. The sea ready smolt are then transported by boat to Boulder Bay and are imprinted to the bay by placing them in net pens for about a two week period before being released into the wild.

The EVOS Trustee Council approved this project in FY 95. Funds were appropriated to underwrite the environmental assessment, a draft of which has been produced. Funds received in FY 96 and beyond will be used to produce the coho salmon returns to Boulder Bay.

## **NEED FOR THE PROJECT**

### **A. Statement of Problem**

Subsistence harvests by Tatitlek village residents have declined considerably since the oil spill. Most marine resources that were utilized for subsistence by Tatitlek villagers have not substantially improved since the spill. Subsistence harvests are still lots less then they were prior to the spill.

### **B. Rationale/Link to Restoration**

This project would enhance the recovery of the local salmon resource that is utilized for subsistence and provides a means for lessening the impacts of continued harvests on other subsistence harvests injured by the spill such as harbor seals.

### **C. Location**

This project will be undertakes at the Solomon Gulch Hatchery and in Boulder Bay near Tatitlek. Those participating in the subsistence fishery created by this project will realize the benefits. These will mainly be residents from Tatitlek.

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE**

This project was initiated at the request of the Tatitlek Bay IRA Council. The council negotiated

the agreement with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to produce the smolt for the project. Members of the village set up the net pen site each year in Boulder Bay and hold and feed the smolt each year prior to release. The villagers participate in the subsistence fishery on the returning adults.

## **PROJECT DESIGN**

### **A. Objectives**

1. Continue agreement with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to produce 50,000 coho salmon smolt for release in Boulder Bay.
2. Imprint smolt to Boulder Bay by holding and feeding them in net pens in the bay for two weeks prior to release into the wild.
3. Harvest for subsistence 2,000 to 3,000 coho salmon annually upon their return to the imprint site.

### **B. Methods**

The purpose of this project is to create a run of coho salmon in Boulder Bay near Tatitlek for subsistence use. The project would be undertaken annually and could be classified as "put and take" since it is unlikely that the coho returns produced by this project would establish a wild run. There are four basic steps to the project; egg take, incubation and rearing to the smolt stage, imprinting and release of smolt and the subsistence harvest.

The Solomon Gulch hatchery is responsible for the egg take and smolt production, Tatitlek village is responsible for imprinting and releasing the smolt into the wild. The subsistence fishery is open to all, but mostly consists of Tatitlek village residents.

The eggs are taken from a coho run approved by ADF&G for use in this project. Enough eggs are taken to produce 50,000 smolt. They are taken to the Solomon Gulch hatchery where standard fish culture practices are utilized to incubate the eggs and rear the resultant fry to the smolt stage. The smolt are then transported by boat to Boulder Bay where they are placed in net pens and held (and fed) for a two week period during which time they imprint to Boulder Bay. The smolt are then released into the wild and proceed to their ocean rearing grounds returning back to Boulder Bay approximately 12 months later as adults. Around 2,000 to 3,000 adult coho salmon return to Boulder Bay from the smolt release. As many of these fish as possible (usually 75% to 85%) are harvested in a subsistence fishery that has been set up specifically for this purpose. The unharvested fish die without spawning.

### **C. Cooperating Agencies, Contracts and Other Agency Assistance**

The Tatitlek IRA Council is contracted by ADF&G to oversee this project. The council in turn contracts with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to take the eggs and produce the smolt.

## **SCHEDULE**

### **A. Measurable Project Tasks for FY 99**

August, 1998: Egg take  
May 20 to 25, 1999: Smolt transported to Boulder Bay and placed in net pens.  
June 3 to 8, 1999: Smolt released into Boulder Bay

### **B. Project Milestones and Endpoints**

Objective 1. Initial agreement in place. Will be reviewed and renewed by April 15 each year.  
Objective 2. Completed by June 15 each year.  
Objective 3. Completed by July 15 annually.

### **C. Completion Date**

This project will continue until the subsistence resources injured by the spill have fully recovered.

## **PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

Annual reports Describe project activities for each fiscal year. Due April 15 following the fiscal year being reported on.  
Final report Synopsis of each year's activities and analysis of project as a whole. Due April 1 following the year in which the final adult return occurs.

## **PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES**

No travel to professional conferences is planned under this project.

## **COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESTORATION EFFORT**

There appear to be no opportunities to coordinate or integrate this project with other restoration efforts.

## **EXPLANATION OF CHANGES IN CONTINUING PROJECTS**

There are no project design or schedule changes in this proposal from the DPD approved by the Trustee Council for FY 98.

**PROPOSED PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR**

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**FY 99 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET**

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Revised 5-8-98  
Approved TC 8-13-98

Budget Category:	Authorized FY 1998	Proposed FY 1999					
Personnel		\$0.0					
Travel		\$0.0					
Contractual		\$10.0					
Commodities		\$0.0					
Equipment		\$0.0					
Subtotal	\$0.0	\$10.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS				
General Administration		\$0.7	Estimated FY 2000	Estimated FY 2001	Estimated FY 2002		
Project Total	\$0.0	\$10.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0		
Full-time Equivalents (FTE)		0.1					
Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.							
Other Resources							
Comments:							

**FY 99**

Prepared: 4/14/98

Project Number: 99127  
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Agency: ADFG

FORM 3A  
TRUSTEE  
AGENCY  
SUMMARY

5/8/98, 1 of 5

**FY 99 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET**

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Budget Category:	Authorized FY 1998	Proposed FY 1999					
Personnel		\$2.8					
Travel		\$0.0					
Contractual		\$2.6					
Commodities		\$1.6					
Equipment		\$0.0					
Subtotal	\$0.0	\$7.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS				
Indirect		\$3.0	Estimated FY 2000	Estimated FY 2001	Estimated FY 2002		
Project Total	\$0.0	\$10.0					
Full-time Equivalents (FTE)		0.1					
Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.							
Other Resources							
Comments:							

**FY 99**

Prepared: 4/14/98

Project Number: 99127  
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 Name: Tatitlek IRA Council  
 Agency: ADFG

**FORM 4A  
 Non-Trustee  
 SUMMARY**

FY 99 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

Personnel Costs:			Months Budgeted	Monthly Costs	Overtime	Proposed FY 1999	
Name	Position Description						
	Net Pen Worker		0.5	2.8		1.4	
	Net Pen Worker		0.5	2.8		1.4	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
						0.0	
Subtotal			1.0	5.6	0.0		
<b>Personnel Total</b>						<b>\$2.8</b>	
Travel Costs:			Ticket Price	Round Trips	Total Days	Daily Per Diem	Proposed FY 1999
Description							
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
							0.0
<b>Travel Total</b>						<b>\$0.0</b>	

**FY 99**

Prepared: 4/14/98

Project Number: 99127  
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 Agency: ADFG

FORM 4B  
 Personnel  
 & Travel  
 DETAIL



**FY 99 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET**

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

<b>Contractual Costs:</b>		Proposed
Description		FY 1999
Transport 20,000 coho smolt to Boulder Bay, provide fish food & supplies		2.0
Village skiff rental		0.6
<b>Contractual Total</b>		<b>\$2.6</b>
<b>Commodities Costs:</b>		Proposed
Description		FY 1999
Fish Food		1.2
Skiff fuel/oil		0.2
Misc. Supplies		0.2
<b>Commodities Total</b>		<b>\$1.6</b>

**FY 99**

Prepared: 4/14/98

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 Agency: ADFG

FORM 4B  
 Contractual &  
 Commodities  
 DETAIL

**FY 99 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET**

October 1, 1998 - September 30, 1999

<b>New Equipment Purchases:</b>		Number of Units	Unit Price	Proposed FY 1999
Description				
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
Those purchases associated with replacement equipment should be indicated by placement of an R.		<b>New Equipment Total</b>		\$0.0
<b>Existing Equipment Usage:</b>			Number of Units	
Description				

**FY 99**

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FORM 4B  
 Equipment  
 DETAIL