

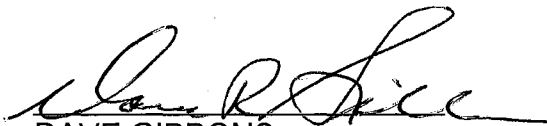
**RESOLUTION 03-04 OF THE
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
REGARDING THE FY 03 WORK PLAN**

We, the undersigned, duly authorized members of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council do hereby certify that, in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered as settlement of United States of America v. State of Alaska, No. A91-081 Civil, U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska, and after public meetings, unanimous agreement has been reached to expend funds received in settlement of State of Alaska v. Exxon Corporation, et al., No. A91-083 CIV, and United States of America v. Exxon Corporation, et al., No. A91-082 CIV, U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska, for necessary natural resource damage assessment and restoration activities. The Fiscal Year 2003 Work Plan Phase II is funded at \$1,727,700 as described in Attachment A. The monies are to be distributed according to Attachment A.

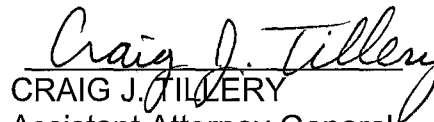
Funds must be spent in accordance with Attachments A and B, with the following conditions: (1) If a Principal Investigator (PI) has an overdue report or manuscript from a previous year, no funds may be expended on a project involving the PI unless the report is submitted or a schedule for submission is approved by the Executive Director; (2) a project's lead agency must demonstrate to the Executive Director that requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) are met before any project funds may be expended (with the exception of funds spent to prepare NEPA documentation); and (3) a PI for each project must submit a signed form to the Executive Director indicating their agreement to abide by the Trustee Council's data and report requirements before any project funds may be expended.

By unanimous consent, we hereby request the Alaska Department of Law and the Assistant Attorney General of the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice to take such steps as may be necessary for withdrawal of the Fiscal Year 2003 Work Plan Phase II amount (\$1,727,700) from the appropriate account designated by the Executive Director.

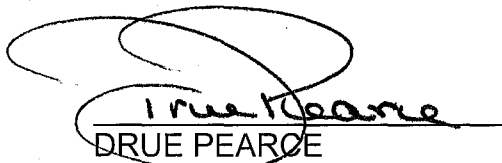
Approved by the Council at its meeting of November 25, 2002 held in Anchorage, Alaska as affirmed by our signatures affixed below.



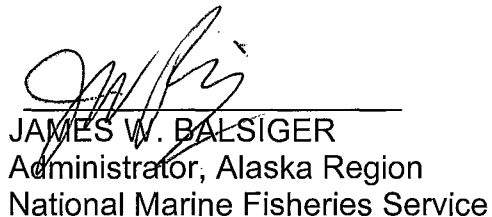
DAVE GIBBONS
Forest Supervisor
Forest Service Alaska Region
U.S. Department of Agriculture



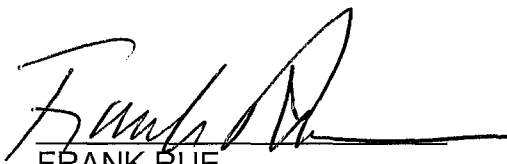
CRAIG J. TILLEY
Assistant Attorney General
State of Alaska



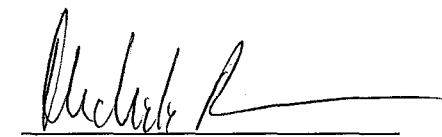
DRUE PEARCE
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
for Alaskan Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior



JAMES W. BALSIGER
Administrator, Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service



FRANK RUE
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish and Game



MICHELE BROWN
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Environmental
Conservation

Attachments:

- A Spreadsheet A: Funding Summary
- B Spreadsheet B: Executive Director's Recommendation

Attachment A to Resolution 03-04
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
 FFY 03 Project Budgets
 October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

Agency	Cooperating Agency(s)	GEM	Project Number	Project Title	Investment Court Notice #2: Aug. 2002	Investment Court Notice #3: Dec. 2002
ADF&G			030052	Tribal Natural Resource Stewardship and Meaningful Tribal Involvement in GEM	30.1	139.5
	DOI-USGS, DOI-O/S		030100	Public Information and Administration	950.2	
			030190	Construction of a Linkage Map for the Pink Salmon Genome	54.5	
		G	030210	Youth Area Watch	98.6	
	ADNR, DOI-USGS, NOAA	G	030250	Project Management	50.0	
		G	030340	Toward Long-Term Oceanographic Monitoring of the Gulf of Alaska Ecosystem	51.6	
		G	030455	Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring and Research Program Data System	212.9	
			030462	Effect of Disease on Pacific Herring Population Recovery in Prince William Sound		87.0
		G	030550	Alaska Resources Library and Information Services	95.1	
		G	030556	High Resolution Mapping of the Intertidal and Shallow Subtidal Shores in Kachemak Bay		32.3
			030558	Harbor Seal Recovery: Application of New Technologies for Monitoring Health (including Bench Fees)	286.7	
	NOAA	G	030584	Evaluation of Airborne Remote Sensing Tools for GEM Monitoring	39.3	-7.9
		G	030596	Securing Flow Data for a Lower Kenai Peninsula Salmon Stream	22.6	
		G	030610	Kodiak Archipelago Youth Area Watch	63.0	
		G	030614	Monitoring Program for Near-Surface Temperature, Salinity, and Fluorescence in the Northern Pacific Ocean	18.1	10.9
	ADNR, DOI-USGS	G	030630	Scientific Management under GEM & Lingering Oil Programs	174.8	260.1
		G	030642	Database on the Marine Invertebrate Macrofauna of Prince William Sound: An Addition to the University of Alaska Museum's ARCTOS		19.2
		G	030649	Reconstructing Sockeye Populations in the Gulf of Alaska over the Last Several Thousand Years	92.5	
		G	030666	Alaska Natural Geography in Shore Areas: An Initial Field Project for the Census of Marine Life		266.3
		G	030684	Sustainable Management in the Kenai River Watershed		59.9
		G	030685	Visible Remote Sensing of the Gulf of Alaska		77.1
				ADF&G Total	2,240.0	944.4
ADNR	ADFG, DOI-USGS, NOAA	G	030250	Project Management	10.0	
		G	030600	Synthesis of the Ecological Findings from the EVOS Damage Assessment and Restoration Programs, 1989-2001	215.9	
	ADFG	G	030630	Scientific Management under GEM & Lingering Oil Programs	103.6	
				ADNR Total	329.5	0.0
DOI-NPS	DOI-USGS	G	030656	Retrospective Analysis of Nearshore Marine Communities Based on Analysis of Archaeological Material & Isotopes	4.7	
				DOI-NPS Subtotal	4.7	0.0

Dollar Amounts are shown in thousands of dollars
 Revised 12/5/2002

Attachment A to Resolution 03-04
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
 FFY 03 Project Budgets
 October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

Agency	Cooperating Agency(s)	G E M	Project Number	Project Title	Investment Court Notice #2: Aug. 2002	Investment Court Notice #3: Dec. 2002
DOI-FWS	DOI-USGS		030423	Patterns and Processes of Population Change in Selected Nearshore Vertebrate Predators	11.5	
		G	030561	Community-Based Forage Fish Sampling	17.0	
				DOI-FWS Subtotal	28.5	0.0
DOI-USGS	ADFG, DOI-O/S		030100	Public Information and Administration	139.9	
	ADFG, ADNR, NOAA	G	030250	Project Management	27.9	
	DOI-FWS		030423	Patterns and Processes of Population Change in Selected Nearshore Vertebrate Predators	205.1	
	NOAA		030585	Lingering Oil: Bioavailability & Effects to Prey & Predators	15.7	
	NOAA		030620	Lingering Oil & Predators: Pathways of Exposure & Population Status	192.3	75.9
	ADFG, ADNR		030630	Scientific Management under GEM & Lingering Oil Programs		14.0
	DOI-NPS	G	030656	Retrospective Analysis of Nearshore Marine Communities Based on Analysis of Archaeological Material & Isotopes	49.0	
		G	030687	Monitoring in the Nearshore: A Process for Making Reasoned Decisions		90.0
				DOI-USGS Subtotal	629.9	179.9
DOI-O/S	ADFG, DOI-USGS		030100	Public Information and Administration	24.2	
				DOI-O/S Subtotal	24.2	0.0
				DOI Total	687.3	179.9
NOAA			030012	Photographic and Acoustic Monitoring of Killer Whales in Prince William Sound and Kenai Fjords	18.1	
	ADFG, ADNR, DOI-USGS	G	030250	Project Management	49.7	
			030290	Hydrocarbon Database and Interpretation Service	22.5	
			030476	Effects of Oiled Incubation Substrate on Pink Salmon Reproduction	37.1	
			030574	Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-soft Beaches in Prince William Sound	36.0	
		G	030575	Designing a Community Involvement/Community-based Monitoring Plan for GEM	109.6	
	ADFG	G	030584	Evaluation of Airborne Remote Sensing Tools for GEM Monitoring		7.9
	USGS		030585	Lingering Oil: Bioavailability & Effects to Prey & Predators	105.9	
		G	030607	Geographic Information Systems (GISs) Map of Water Quality Monitoring Sites Across the Gulf of Alaska	13.1	
	USGS		030620	Lingering Oil & Predators: Pathways of Exposure & Population Status		167.6
		G	030623	PWSRCAC-EVOS Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program		70.9
		G	030624	A CPR-Based Survey to Monitor the Gulf of Alaska and Detect Ecosystem Change		197.2
		G	030625	Prince William Sound Isotope Ecology Synthesis	25.5	
		G	030636	Management Applications: Commercial Fishing	50.9	

Dollar Amounts are shown in thousands of dollars

Revised 12/5/2002

Attachment A Resolution 03-04
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
 FFY 03 Project Budgets
 October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003

Agency	Cooperating Agency(s)	G E M	Project Number	Project Title	Investment Court Notice #2: Aug. 2002	Investment Court Notice #3: Dec. 2002
		G	030641	ShoreZone Mapping for GEM		34.4
		G	030647	Investigating the Relative Roles of Natural and Shoreline Harvest in Altering the Kenai Peninsula's Rocky Intertidal		87.9
		G	030654	Surface Nutrients over the Shelf and Basin in Summer: Bottom-up Control of Ecosystem Diversity		37.5
				NOAA Total	468.4	603.4
				Total	3,725.2	1,727.7

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
Oil Spill: Lingering Injury					\$243.5	\$243.5	\$30.0	\$30.0
030620	Lingering Oil and Predators: Pathways of Exposure and Population Status	S. Rice, J. Short/NOAA J. Bodkin, B. Ballachey/USGS	NOAA & DOI	New	\$243.5	\$243.5	\$30.0	\$30.0

Project Abstract

Lingering oil and continued effects to sea otters and sea ducks are the most surprising and best documented long term impacts of the oil spill. Strong evidence is accumulating which implicates lingering oil as a factor constraining recovery of the nearshore ecosystem in western Prince William Sound. Acute and chronic contamination of sediments and prey species were well documented during the years following the spill. Twelve years later, elevated biomarker levels in sea otters and sea ducks have indicated continued exposures to hydrocarbons. Evidence implicating a route of exposure to date has been largely circumstantial. However, in 2001 and 2002, extensive sampling was undertaken to document the distribution, abundance, and bioavailability of lingering oil along those shorelines most heavily impacted by the spill. This has paved the way for identifying specific areas where sea otters and sea ducks could be currently foraging and exposed to lingering oil. This project is an outgrowth of the earlier studies and will focus on the direct pathways of lingering oil to sea otter and sea duck populations in two heavily impacted bays in the western sound.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal was reviewed by the Lingering Oil Subcommittee and not the full STAC. This is an important project for understanding the lingering effects of the oil spill in some of the most heavily oiled localities from 1989. It addresses the potential effects of remaining intertidal oil deposits (mainly subsurface) on the food web, including sea ducks (harlequins) and sea otters, which have not recovered from the effects of the spill and are apparently still exposed to lingering oil. Peer reviewers expressed concerns about the proposal's original experimental design, and a review during a workshop in early October 2002 led to some recommended changes. The proposal should be revised to focus on radio-tagged sea otters and harlequin ducks by tracking their positions relative to the remaining oil in a couple of areas around Knight Island. This should be accomplished through aerial flights and observers positioned onshore. Samples of sea otters should be taken both before and after next season with regard to markers of exposure. Fund following final review of revised proposal.

Trustee Council Action

Fund additional \$243,500 (which adds to \$192,300 approved in FY 03 Phase I) contingent on review and approval of revised proposal. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration component of \$167,600 is also contingent on submittal of principal investigators' overdue reports (00454, 01599) and manuscript (00598) from prior years. Funds (\$75,900) for U.S. Geological Survey component are for extra work included in revised proposal and in addition to the \$192,300 approved in Phase I.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
Oil Spill: Recovery Monitoring					\$87.0	\$87.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
030462	Effect of Disease on Pacific Herring Population Recovery in Prince William Sound	G. Marty/Univ. of California, Davis	ADFG	Cont'd	\$87.0	\$87.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

In spring 2001, prevalence of *Ichthyophonus hoferi* (38 percent) in the Pacific herring population of Prince William Sound was more than 50 percent greater than in any year studied (1989-2000). *I. hoferi* causes severe, disseminated, chronic disease in Pacific herring that is best diagnosed using histopathology. Before 2001, *I. hoferi* was not associated with unexpected declines in population biomass, but during the last century increases in *I. hoferi* prevalence in Atlantic herring have been associated with several disease outbreaks. To understand the significance of the 2001 *I. hoferi* outbreak, this project will analyze samples already collected in fall 2001 and spring 2002 as part of Project 02462.

STAC Recommendation

Not reviewed by STAC. Earlier review indicated that organ-by-organ pathological study as proposed is lower priority.

Trustee Council Action

Fund full request (\$87,000) in two phases contingent on submittal and approval of budget for this amount: First Phase I is \$25,000 to be released to principal investigator now; Phase II is up to \$62,000 to be released in January 2003, with actual amount to be determined based on amount of funds obtained from non-EVOS sources by the principal investigator by that time. This project, which has made an important contribution to management of the herring fishery, will complete its work on viral hemorrhagic septicemia in FY 02 (Project 02462). FY 03 funds are to conduct new work on *Ichthyophonus hoferi*. The reviewers consider the organ-by-organ pathobiological study proposed to be of lower priority at this stage of the restoration program, but a modest contribution to the project is worthwhile. The project objective is to determine whether disease continues to limit recovery of the Prince William Sound herring population.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
Oil Spill: Ecosystem Recovery & Function					\$186.4	\$0.0		\$0.0
030587	Understanding the Cellular Processes of Recovery and Its Utility in Oil-Spill Restoration Efforts	C. Downs/EnVirtue	NOAA	New	\$186.4	\$0.0		\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will elucidate the cellular and genomic mechanisms that affect the rate of recovery in bivalve species impacted by the oil spill. The project will (a) determine the adverse affects of a long-term oil-spill exposure on specific processes of cellular physiology and genomic integrity that could potentially impede or slow the rates of recovery in populations of *Protothaca staminea* and (b) determine the link between cellular-physiological condition with PAH-body burden in these two species of bivalves by characterizing these parameters in populations from sites that exhibit different levels of oil contamination. Completion of this work may provide a foundation to address questions critical to the issue of variable rates of recovery in both invertebrate and vertebrate species in oil-impacted areas. It will provide new and powerful tools to improve monitoring methodologies, as well as potentially providing valuable information for restoration efforts.

STAC Recommendation

This project was reviewed by the Lingering Oil Subcommittee and not by the full STAC. This project would apply a battery of biomarkers to determine the sublethal impact of residual oil to mollusk physiology and how exposure to residual oil might be slowing recovery of mollusks. A revised proposal was submitted in response to peer reviewer concerns regarding proof of principal, reference to existing biomarker literature, and principal investigators' experience. This is a promising proposal. However, given the additional objectives and costs included in a related Project 030620, this project is considered lesser priority and could be done in FY 04 without any loss of information. Defer consideration until the next fiscal year.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on Lingering Oil Subcommittee's recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
GEM Cross-Habitat Linkage: Community Involvement					\$139.5	\$139.5	\$180.0	
G-030052	Tribal Natural Resource Stewardship and Meaningful Tribal Involvement in GEM	P. Brown-Schwalenberg/CRRC	ADFG	Cont'd	\$139.5	\$139.5	\$180.0	

Project Abstract

This project will continue community involvement and capacity building of tribal natural resource programs with a long-term goal of preparing communities to interact effectively with the GEM program. Specific tasks in FY 03 include: (a) communicating GEM goals and actions to tribes and coordinating tribal participation in GEM meetings and workshops as well as relevant training opportunities, (b) conducting a "Wisdomkeeper Series" to afford effective information exchanges among resource users, scientists, and managers, (c) in coordination with Project 030575/Designing a Community Involvement & Community-Based Monitoring Plan for GEM, preparing a GEM community involvement plan with meaningful involvement of tribes, and (d) begin developing a training curriculum for natural resource technicians in the oil spill communities. Communities involved in the project are Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Cordova/Eyak, Seward/Qutekcak, Seldovia, Valdez, Kodiak Island Region/Ouzinkie, and the Alaska Peninsula Region/Chignik Lake.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal was not reviewed by the STAC because the revised proposal was not received by the time the STAC met. The Tribal Natural Resource Plans scheduled for completion in FY 02 from this project recently were submitted but have not yet been reviewed by peer reviewers or the Trustee Council. No recommendation.

Trustee Council Action

Fund (these funds of \$139,500 add to interim funding of \$30,100 approved in FY 03 Phase I). Tribal Natural Resource Plans have only recently been received and not yet reviewed. Recommend funding continued tribal participation in GEM planning, community Wisdomkeeper meetings, and tribal natural resource professional development and training. The overall goal of this project--community involvement and development of local stewardship capacity--is a priority of the Trustee Council and an essential component of GEM.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
GEM: Watershed Habitat					\$730.5	\$59.9	\$490.2	\$0.0
G-030580	Creating a GIS Map of Impervious Cover in the Cook Inlet Basin	J. Cooper/Cook Inlet Keeper	NOAA	New FY 03-05	\$51.2	\$0.0	\$52.1	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Cook Inlet Keeper will assess percent cover of impervious surfaces within the Cook Inlet basin and its subwatersheds. Using GIS, and synthesizing existing data, Keeper will create maps and tables to illustrate the extent of impervious surfaces, which is an emerging indicator of urbanization and environmental impacts from population growth and development. The results of this project will provide important baseline data as well as valuable information for policy makers, resource managers, scientists, and the general public.

STAC Recommendation

Two primary reasons preclude funding this proposal. First, the proposed estimate of impervious cover leaves a number of critical technical and statistical questions unresolved. The uncertainty over the accuracy and precision of the estimate leaves the suitability of the estimate for a long-term monitoring program in serious doubt. Second, substantial uncertainty remains regarding whether this estimate of impervious cover can be related to features that control biological production, such as stream geomorphology. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030626	Monitoring Strategies for GEM: Habitat Biogeochemical Connections	T. Kline/PWSSC	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$137.8	\$0.0	\$125.5	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will refine monitoring strategies for estimating biogeochemical linkages among GEM habitats using natural stable isotope abundance. Because biological productivity within one GEM habitat may, in fact, be strongly dependent upon a subsidy from another habitat, it is important to incorporate these biogeochemical linkages in the GEM program as they may prove to be, in the long term, a critical ecological function for effecting ecosystem shifts. The two primary areas to be addressed are: (a) assessing long-term changes in the role of semelparous-anadromous-salmon-derived nutrients in watersheds including lotic and lentic freshwaters and inter- and subtidal areas adjacent to salmon spawning, and (b) assessing effects of long-term changes in offshore productivity and hypothesized changes in offshore subsidies upon production within the Alaska Coastal Current and coastal waters such as Prince William Sound.

STAC Recommendation

Stable isotope analysis is expected to be important to GEM. However, the measures proposed, although potentially relevant to GEM in the future, are not sufficiently well developed to serve the purposes of monitoring for biogeochemical connections. An experimental design for evaluating the relations among habitat types is not presented. Future proposals will need to respond to peer review comments. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030653	Remote Sensing for GEM Watersheds and the Nearshore Region	E. Brown/UAF, et al	ADFG	New FY 03-04	\$222.7	\$0.0	\$209.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Using a nested survey design, this project will develop remote sensing tools with varying resolutions for monitoring key processes in the integrated GEM watershed-intertidal-subtidal habitats. This information will be intergrated with more finely scaled aerial and ground sampling data from other studies using four platforms (SAR, Landsat, MODIS, and ASTER). The project will document climatic events, environmental change due to human or natural causes, and the health or status of vegetation within the watersheds, riparian zones, and nearshore beaches on scales from 10 m to 1 km. Historic and current imagery will be acquired centering over the spill region with focus in three areas (Prince William Sound-Outer Kenai, Cook Inlet, and Kodiak). In addition, the project will develop processing algorithms, analyze the spatial and temporal variability of feature data, archive and document all images and procedures on a web-based database (GINA), estimate annual costs, and recommend sampling frequency for each documented feature.

STAC Recommendation

The reviewers suggested limiting the objectives, physical areas, and scope of the project before it can be considered in the future. The final work products are not adequately defined. While remote sensing is important to the GEM program, a workshop to identify the most appropriate use of remote sensing as a long-term monitoring tool is needed before this type of proposal can be funded. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation. Funding for a remote sensing workshop is included in Project 030630/Scientific Management.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030661	Integrated Biodiversity and Natural History of Green Island: A Monitoring Update	G. Juday/UAF	ADFG	New FY 03	\$149.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Green Island is an established Forest Service Research Natural Area (RNA) within the North Montague Island biological "hot spot" ranked as "highest priority" for conservation. The Exxon Valdez oil spill occurred during the process of RNA documentation and imposed costs on the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the US Forest Service for analysis of damage and continued RNA suitability of the site. This project will update forest, shoreline, and intertidal monitoring plots, increase the depth of biodiversity documentation of this center of diversity, and publish a well-illustrated, in-depth report describing environmental and biodiversity features of the area. The publication will be the fifth in the Alaska RNA series, and will draw upon site documentation/monitoring in 1986, 1989, 1990, 1997, and 2003. The RNA report is a synthesis that will provide a reference so that the public and current and future users of the RNA can better understand the interacting watershed/marine /physical and plant/animal components of the area.

STAC Recommendation

Green Island is an established U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Research Natural Area (RNA) within the North Montague Island biological "hot spot" ranked as "highest priority" for conservation. This proposal would be stronger if there were partnering and/or funding from USFS. It appears to duplicate some activities that USFS is already doing. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030672	Downstream Effects of Sedimentation on S. Mauger/Cook Inlet Keeper Lower Kenai Peninsula Salmon Streams		NOAA	New FY 03-05	\$55.7	\$0.0	\$46.2	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Increased urbanization and the accompanying changes in land use have the potential to impact ecosystem quality from the upper watershed level down to the marine environment. To improve understanding about how these factors influence change, Cook Inlet Keeper will continue to expand its monitoring of four socially, economically, and culturally important salmon streams on the lower Kenai Peninsula to address the following questions: (a) are the rates of sedimentation increasing in the lower Kenai Peninsula streams? (b) what are the sources of sedimentation? (c) is sedimentation affecting aquatic life? and (d) how can volunteers be incorporated into a wetlands monitoring program? This project will provide useful information to resource managers and will increase community involvement in the monitoring and protection of public resources.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal is directed at an important problem, and it seeks to use a strategy (community involvement) important to GEM; however, it does not establish its relation to the marine environment, nor does it show promise of establishing a long term data set on human impacts that would be scientifically defensible. Reviewers raised questions about methods, and about the lack of relation to remote sensing methods. Proposal involves sediment which is not a high priority, marine-related core variable for GEM. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030684	Toward Sustainable Management in the Kenai River Watershed: Linking Human & Resource Development with Nutrient & Energy Pathways	A. Mazumder/Univ. Victoria J. Edmundson/ADF&G W. Hauser/ADF&G	ADFG	New FY 03	\$59.9	\$59.9	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will take the larger Kenai River watershed research plan (being prepared under Project 02612/Detecting and Understanding Marine-Terrestrial Linkages in the Kenai River Watershed) and focus it through ongoing community and stakeholder involvement and agency participation into a directed and implemented research program. Project 02612 has produced communication bulletins and a draft document, and organized workshops to foster an understanding of watershed issues and stakeholder interest and input. From this exercise we recognize the need to maintain and build this dialogue, but gain further involvement. The consensus expressed by participants in Project 02612 is that: (a) a research plan should be implemented that captures the continued involvement of local, state and federal perspectives, (b) a white paper should be developed that presents scientific issues and interests in a plan with broad political, agency and stakeholder distribution, (c) the time to maintain dialogue and interests should be extended beyond the initial research planning process, and (d) a detailed research program with management structure, specific project outlines, funding, and deliverables should be developed.

STAC Recommendation

The proposal is not responsive to the FY 03 Phase II Invitation, which invited synthesis proposals that cut across habitat types, including the watersheds. While there is support for the objectives of this proposal, funding for this aspect might be more appropriate for alternative funding sources. A final report from Project 02612 would need to be evaluated before additional GEM funding can be assessed. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund contingent on acceptable review of final report from Project 02612/Marine-Terrestrial Linkages in the Kenai Watershed, and subsequent revision/review of this proposal if necessary. The overall goal of this project is to increase understanding of food-web dynamics in the Kenai River watershed and the role of marine-derived nutrients in the ecosystem.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030688	Developing a Model Citizen Volunteer Monitoring Component for GEM	J. Cooper/Cook Inlet Keeper	NOAA	New FY 03-05	\$54.2	\$0.0	\$57.4	\$0.0

Project Abstract

As state and federal agency budgets for monitoring of public resources decline, citizens and communities are increasingly stepping in to fill an important gap in the collection of baseline data. In 1996, Cook Inlet Keeper initiated Alaska's first state- and federally-approved citizen-based monitoring program. Keeper's program has been replicated across Southcentral Alaska, and Keeper provides continued guidance and support to these partner programs. Keeper's program has already been identified as a model, and through this project, Keeper will refine this prototype of citizen-based monitoring. The end result will be a replicable program that is effective at involving citizens in detecting environmental change.

STAC Recommendation

Citizen monitoring is of interest to GEM. Cook Inlet Keeper received funding under Project 02667/Effectiveness of Citizens' Environmental Monitoring to analyze five years of data from their Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program to determine if the monitoring protocols and sampling design are effective at detecting significant change in water quality over time. Results from that project are needed before this proposal can go forward and before the value of this monitoring to the GEM program can be assessed. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

GEM: Intertidal/Subtidal Habitat

\$2,098.9 \$601.0 \$1,519.7 \$278.3

G-030556	High Resolution Mapping of the Intertidal and Shallow Subtidal Shores in Kachemak Bay	C. Schoch/Kachemak Bay	ADFG	Cont'd FY 03	\$32.3	\$32.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
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Project Abstract

This is a continuation of the field mapping project started in FY 02 (Project 02556). Funds in FY 04 will complete the field mapping and begin building a database of the geomorphology and physical attributes of shallow subtidal and intertidal habitats for the greater Kachemak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet area. We regard this as the foundation for developing a monitoring program to detect changes in nearshore communities resulting from shifts in watershed and marine processes. Other map tools, such as the NOAA Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) and the Shore-zone Classification, were developed for oil spill response planning and do not contain the data necessary for resolving small spatial scale features of the shoreline needed in ecological studies where biophysical linkages often occur at scales of less than one meter.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal would complete mapping started in FY02. The need for this project was identified in the recommendations from the GEM April 2002 nearshore mapping workshop. Recommend funding to complete the project. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund. This proposal will complete mapping begun under Project 02556, create a GIS database, and prepare a final report. The principal investigator should participate in an additional mapping workshop to be held in Spring 2003.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030623	PWSRCAC-EVOS Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program	J. Devens/PWSRCAC	NOAA	New FY 03	\$70.9	\$70.9	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will provide essential long-term baseline measurements of hydrocarbon levels and sources at program sites within areas of the Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak, and Gulf of Alaska. The objective is to provide a program for the collection of baseline data in mussel tissue and subtidal sediments that can be used to determine impacts of oil sources on the ecosystem. This program will provide an improved link to recovery status and greater efficiency in hydrocarbon sampling and analysis that has been ongoing since 1993 under the auspices of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal is a highly rated long-term monitoring project with community involvement. The principal investigators have modified the proposal in response to past peer review comments. Funding is requested for only one year. There is good potential for this project to be a long-term monitoring component of GEM if data analysis supports this. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund for FY 03 only. This project could provide important long-term measurements of hydrocarbon levels and sources throughout the Gulf of Alaska. Any future funding will be contingent on further evaluation of the number and location of monitoring sites and the utility of the data collected.

G-030632	Investigations into the Decline of Razor Clams in the Cordova Area	K. Brooks/CRRC J. Hetrick/CRRC P. Brown-Schwalenberg/CRRC	NOAA	New FY 03	\$214.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
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Project Abstract

Razor clam (*Siliqua patula*) stocks in the Orca Inlet /Copper River Delta area of Prince William Sound have declined to the point where they no longer have commercial value and only a limited subsistence/recreational value. The 1964 earthquake did not have as much of an immediate impact on razor clams as it did on other local clam species, but may be having a residual impact. Other factors include a long-term increase in ambient water temperature and disease. Over-fishing does not appear to be a factor. This project will investigate the possible causes of the decline, describe the current local habitat and environment, and discuss what it means for the future of this once valuable resource.

STAC Recommendation

The proposal has strong community involvement. However, the reviewers had concerns about the scientific approach. There is concern that the study design will not answer the questions posed. Cooperation with science partners (such as the Prince William Sound Science Center and the University of Alaska Fairbanks) to implement a broader ecosystem level approach would be more appropriate for funding under the GEM program. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030635	Trophic Dynamics of Intertidal Soft-sediment Communities: Interaction Between Bottom-up and Top-down Processes	M. Bishop/PWSSC	NOAA	New FY 03-05	\$205.4		\$184.5	

Project Abstract

Vast expanses of intertidal sand/mudflats serve as a critical link in the food web of nearshore communities along the southcentral Alaska coastline. The rich abundance of benthic invertebrates residing within the sediments of intertidal flats and the large network of subtidal channels that bisect these flats provide a significant prey resource for numerous species of fish, crabs, birds, and marine mammals. One of the largest expanses of intertidal sand/mudflats occurs in the Copper River Delta and eastern Prince William Sound (Orca Inlet). This project will conduct a large-scale field study that examines the physical/chemical and biological factors that limit and/or regulate invertebrate community dynamics. The largely "bottom-up" approach proposed (physical/chemical parameters - phytoplankton/epibenthic production - invertebrate production) is balanced by the largely "top-down" focus of a companion project funded by the Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute that examines predator dynamics and assesses their role in invertebrate community dynamics.

STAC Recommendation

The proposal is well written in good scientific form. The principal investigator and team are well qualified to do this work. The Copper River Delta is an important area, and this work could lead to a long-term monitoring strategy for GEM. Peer reviewers raised concerns about the experimental design and logistic issues that need to be addressed. Principal investigators are encouraged to resubmit a proposal that addresses the peer reviewer concerns. Defer.

Trustee Council Action

Defer, pending submittal and review of substantially revised proposal that addresses peer review concerns about the experimental design and logistics issues and that has a reduced budget.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030638	Mapping Subtidal Habitats in Prince William Sound	R. Davis/Texas A&M	NOAA	New FY 03	\$114.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will use a suite of techniques (side scan sonar, sub-bottom profiling, radioisotope geochronology, and benthic community sampling) to map physical and biological habitats in subtidal (10-100 m deep) benthic communities in Simpson Bay, located in eastern Prince William Sound. Mapping subtidal habitats is an essential first step in developing the GEM nearshore monitoring program. In addition, the project will develop a conceptual model describing the intensity, frequency and types of natural processes that lead to physical disturbance in subtidal habitats and benthic communities. The GIS maps of subtidal physical and biological habitats and data on species diversity, distribution and abundance produced by this project will be used to evaluate Simpson Bay as a future long-term monitoring site that can be used to detect environmental change. In addition, the maps and data will be used to evaluate this approach at other nearshore monitoring sites.

STAC Recommendation

There are methodological and budgetary issues with this proposal. The commitment of principal investigator time for this project is not evident in the budget. The method for classifying bottom types has been questioned. The process for site selection in relation to the GEM program has not been specified. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030641	ShoreZone Mapping for GEM	J. Harper/ COR, Inc.	NOAA	New FY 03-06	\$34.4	\$34.4	\$390.0	

Project Abstract

This project will conduct reconnaissance coastal mapping of all GEM regions. All of the shoreline within GEM will be imaged and mapped. The first phase of the initiative will be to develop an Alaska ShoreZone Mapping Protocol, based on the BC-Washington protocol but incorporating special components for Alaska; a user workshop is included as part of the protocol development. Aerial Video Imagery (AVI) will be collected during the lowest tides of the year and will be used as the primary data source for intertidal and shallow subtidal mapping. Eight six-day AVI surveys (est. 12,800 km of shoreline) are proposed for GEM funding; supplemental funding may be available from other sources (NPS, SERVS, PWSRCAC). ShoreZone mapping will follow the Alaska ShoreZone Mapping Protocol, which is included as part of this project. The mapping data will provide a consistent, regional characterization of the physical and biological shore-zone features throughout the GEM area. This mapping data is used by state and federal agencies for regional planning and development of derivative models. Non-governmental organizations have routinely used the ShoreZone data for public awareness campaigns and Marine Protected Area planning.

STAC Recommendation

It is not clear at this point whether mapping the entire coastline of the GEM area is the best use of GEM resources. Additional information is needed to determine how this proposal fits into mapping activities by other agencies and programs and the potential for partnering. Recommend that funding be provided to develop the protocol and present it at a workshop to evaluate the utility of the ShoreZone mapping and other mapping options as a long-term monitoring activity.

Trustee Council Action

Fund revised budget (\$34,400), which reduces project scope as recommended by the STAC, contingent on overdue report from Project 02619/Kodiak Shoreline Mapping. The principal investigator should help organize and participate in a coastal mapping workshop to be held in Spring 2003 to evaluate the utility of ShoreZone mapping and other mapping options as a proposed long-term monitoring activity.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030642	Database on the Marine Invertebrate Macrofauna of Prince William Sound: An Addition to the University of Alaska Museum's ARCTOS Network	N. Foster/UAF Museum	ADFG	New FY 03	\$19.2	\$19.2	\$0.0	\$0.0
	<u>Project Abstract</u>	<u>STAC Recommendation</u>	<u>Trustee Council Action</u>					
	Data sets that present basic taxonomic and biogeographic information at the species level for 1,876 plant and animal species from Prince William Sound were compiled as part of research on potential introductions of nonindigenous species. This project will edit the data on the 1,343 invertebrate species, and make the literature and specimen records of their occurrences available on the University of Alaska Museum's ARCTOS web-accessible database.	This proposal would make an important EVOS dataset more readily available to the public and researchers. Fund.	Fund based on STAC recommendation.					
G-030647	Investigating the Relative Roles of Natural and Shoreline Harvest in Altering the Kenai Peninsula's Rocky Intertidal	J. Ruesink/UW	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$87.9	\$87.9	\$66.9	\$66.9
	<u>Project Abstract</u>	<u>STAC Recommendation</u>	<u>Trustee Council Action</u>					
	The rocky shores of the outer Kenai Peninsula are the home of three Sugpiaq native villages where the black chiton, <i>Katharina tunicata</i> , remains an important traditional subsistence food source. This benthic invertebrate is also a competitively dominant herbivore known to have dramatic impacts on the structure, dynamics and diversity of the rocky intertidal. In collaboration with tribal members, this project will evaluate the relative roles of natural factors (predation, grazing and natural variability) and anthropogenic impacts (<i>Katharina</i> harvest) in altering intertidal community structure. The project addresses the core GEM hypothesis of human versus natural impacts on the structure and productivity of coastal ecosystems. It will also provide two field seasons (2003 and 2004) of valuable baseline monitoring in the intertidal zone that could be continued in the future. Local tribes will be involved in both developing and carrying out research which will match the GEM commitment to community based science.	Proposal is focused on involvement by local communities in obtaining quantifiable research results. Results are expected to contribute to development of GEM in the nearshore habitat type. Project would provide information on how to study the effects of subsistence harvest in the nearshore environments. In the process, the project would also provide comparative data between human and natural influences on species distribution. Fund.	Fund based on STAC recommendation. This proposal will investigate changes in rocky intertidal areas by focusing on the black chiton, an important subsistence resource. Products will also aid GEM planning by providing information on measuring human impacts in the nearshore.					

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030660	Reconstructing Marine Ecosystems: Insight into Climate and Productivity Changes	B. Finney/UAF M. Murray/UAF A. Hirons/UAF	ADFG	New FY 03-05	\$134.9	\$0.0	\$152.7	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will reconstruct changes in marine fish and pinniped abundances, predominantly salmon, cod, and sea lions, over the last 7,000 years using archaeofaunal remains. Analysis of the 13C and 15N records left in marine vertebrate remains recovered from excavated middens from along the coast of Katmai National Park and the Kodiak Archipelago will provide proxy data for ocean productivity and food web changes. The research questions are: What is the long-term variability in fish and marine mammal populations in the Gulf of Alaska and how does this relate to climatic and productivity changes in the Gulf of Alaska region? The results will provide a valuable background for future monitoring studies within the GEM program and for ecosystem managers working to preserve and restore natural population habitats.

STAC Recommendation

There are concerns with the stratigraphic stability of middens versus other areas that this principal investigator has sampled in the past and with the relatively low time resolution of the analysis. The intrinsic sources of variability affecting samples will be greater than with previous studies. While it would be good to have a reliable long-term record of marine biotic production in the GOA region, it is not clear how the new study can be much of an addition to the Karluk Lake work already accomplished by Finney and others (Project 02649), except for data length. This is a very interesting proposal that might be more appropriate for other funding sources. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

G-030665	Toward Cost Effective Data Acquisition Using Adaptive Sampling and Integrating Information Strategies	D. Dorsett/Baylor Univ.	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$53.5	\$0.0	\$55.0	\$0.0
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Project Abstract

Adaptive sampling methods will be designed and documented to enhance cost effective data collection methods. Traditional statistical sampling designs of experiments at sea involve a random or systematic sampling approach that is not the most efficient method of collecting data that occurs in clusters. A more efficient method is that of adaptive sampling, which seeks to first locate clusters and then sample in a grid around the cluster. In a second phase, to be submitted in FY 04, statistical methods of integrating and combining data from different sources will be determined and documented for further efficient data utilization once the samples have been collected.

STAC Recommendation

Adaptive sampling may be a viable methodology to achieve GEM goals. Recommend that the principal investigator team with other projects to apply the adaptive sampling methodology to a specific GEM activity. In addition, a workshop exploring sampling methodology should be held this year and the principal investigator should be urged to participate. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation. Funds for a sampling workshop are including in Project 030630/Scientific Management.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030666	Alaska Natural Geography in Shore Areas: An Initial Field Project for the Census of Marine Life	B. Konar/SFOS-UAF K. Iken/SFOS-UAF	ADFG	New FY 03-04	\$266.3	\$266.3	\$211.4	\$211.4

Project Abstract

This project will initiate nearshore biodiversity studies along a pole-to-pole latitudinal gradient by applying protocols developed under the Census of Marine Life program. After initial sampling in Southcentral Alaska, the gradient will develop further throughout Alaska, along the Pacific Coast of North and South America into the Antarctic. Under GEM funding during the years 2003 and 2004, this project will sample four study sites in each of three core areas in the Gulf of Alaska: Kodiak Island, Prince William Sound and Kachemak Bay. Study sites are macroalgal hard bottom or seagrass communities, and are characterized by a high level of pristineness. The project is heavily based on local community involvement for sampling. Expected outcomes are biodiversity baseline data for future long-term monitoring programs, initiation of long-term involvement of local communities in monitoring efforts in coastal areas, capacity building, and a broad outreach to the public.

STAC Recommendation

Proposal is responsive to the FY 03 Phase II Invitation and has good coordination with community programs, including Youth Area Watch. The results of this project are expected to assist GEM in identifying the variables that should be monitored in certain nearshore, soft benthic habitats. In addition, the project provides a pilot effort for involving local communities and science organizations in nearshore planning and site selection, and thus building local capacity and outreach. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund based on STAC recommendation. This project provides key elements for the nearshore GEM program in community involvement, local coordination, capacity building, and public outreach. This proposal is part of an international biodiversity study.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030682	Nearshore Fisheries Habitat Assessment in Kodiak Embayments	R. Foy/FITC	ADFG	New FY 03	\$345.4		\$0.0	

Project Abstract

This project will initiate a broadscale study to assess the forage fish use and relative hydrography of nearshore habitat around Kodiak Island. This study will develop a monitoring program to efficiently assess seasonal fish biomass and their habitat in multiple bays on Kodiak Island. This pilot study will be used to focus future studies on areas that are most important for fish biomass assessment. These data will be important for defining essential habitat of fish species as well as determining the availability of prey for upper trophic levels such as marine mammals and sea birds. A series of vessel and aerial surveys to cover the entire island will be conducted in May, June, July and August 2003. Hydroacoustic and digital image assessments will be made to calculate relative biomass estimates and relate them to habitat type and structure. This data will be useful for baseline management issues as well as upper trophic level studies.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal does not adequately define the sampling methodology or clearly demonstrate how this work differs from work being performed under other funding sources. The GEM workshops on the nearshore habitat type identified the need for a geographically distributed network of sites that would include nearshore monitoring in the Kodiak area. Funding would require a revised proposal addressing peer reviewer comments and incorporating results from ongoing studies that are essential to decide on an appropriate monitoring strategy for this region. Defer.

Trustee Council Action

Defer pending submittal and review of revised proposal that is reduced in scope and focuses on one or two bays. Principal investigator needs to respond to peer reviewer comments.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030683	Seaweeds of Southcentral Alaska: Thumbnail Guide, Images, and Distribution Maps	G. Hansen/OSU	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$33.5	\$0.0	\$49.8	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will produce a Web-based guide to seaweeds in Southcentral Alaska that will include images of the species and maps of their distributions in the oil spill area. The images and data will be obtained from the EVOS/Project CH1A and RCAC/NIS algal voucher collections (10,442 specimens) currently held in Juneau and in Newport where the research will be carried out. Images will be obtained via photographing and scanning the specimens, and maps will be produced from specimen label data incorporated into Arc-Explorer. To facilitate species identifications, the searchable website will include a thumbnail-guide-to-form following the example of Druehl (2000). As a Web product, the data will be both archivable and updatable. The guide will provide valuable baseline data on the distribution of the species and will improve the quality of environmental monitoring by assisting with identification and helping to standardize the nomenclature of these frequently difficult-to-identify species.

STAC Recommendation

The principal investigators are well qualified in seaweed identification. However, the proposal does not identify how the proposed Website would be developed and by whom. The audience for the product needs to be better defined. The GEM program document identifies a Web strategy for data dissemination, and it is not clear that the proposal can meet the objectives of this strategy. This type of product may be relevant to GEM in the future, but making commitments to a Web-based atlas at this time seems premature. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030687	Monitoring in the Nearshore: A Process for Making Reasoned Decisions	J. Bodkin/DOI-USGS T. Dean/CRA, Inc.	DOI	New FY 03	\$90.0	\$90.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Over the past several years, a conceptual framework for the GEM nearshore monitoring program has been developed through a series of workshops. However, details of the proposed monitoring program, e.g. what to sample, where to sample, when to sample and at how many sites, have yet to be determined. This project outlines a process whereby specific alternatives to monitoring are developed and presented to the Trustee Council for consideration. As part of this process, two key elements are required before reasoned decisions can be made: (a) a comprehensive historical perspective of locations and types of past studies conducted in the nearshore marine communities within the Gulf of Alaska, and (b) estimates of costs for each element of a proposed monitoring program. The project will develop a GIS database that details available information from past studies of selected nearshore habitats and species in the Gulf of Alaska and provide a visual means of selecting sites based (in part) on the locations for which historical data of interest are available. In addition, the project will identify what other data, if any, are required to select specific sampling locations. It will also provide cost estimates for specific monitoring plan alternatives and outline several alternative plans.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal addresses the FY 03 Phase II Invitation's request for synthesis. Developing work in the nearshore habitat type requires access to the historical perspectives to be provided by this proposal. Site selection and key variables can be guided by extensive experience from the EVOS restoration program. The formatting of past information in the GIS product would be especially beneficial to GEM program planning. Coordination with Project 030666/Census of Marine Life is recommended. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund. This proposal builds on the two nearshore monitoring workshops held in FY 02 and takes the next step of identifying monitoring alternatives.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030689	Population Monitoring of Fjord-inhabiting Harbor Seals of the Kenai Peninsula	A. Hoover-Miller/ASLC S. Atkinson/ASLC	ADFG	New FY 03-04	\$257.3	\$0.0	\$155.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Harbor seals in the Gulf of Alaska have been declining in abundance since the mid-1970s. This project will use remote cameras to expand existing population monitoring on the Kenai Peninsula to contrast three habitats: (a) Aialik Bay, a tidewater glacial fjord where seals haul out on glacial ice, (b) Day Harbor, a nearby fjord lacking tidewater glaciers where seals haul out on rocks, and (c) Cape Fairfield, a haulout directly exposed to the Gulf of Alaska where seals also haul out on rocks. Existing data suggest the numbers of seals left in Aialik Bay are still declining while those in Day Harbor are increasing. The reasons the two nearby fjords are showing different trends are unknown. The three habitats are located near established long-term oceanographic monitoring stations that will provide opportunities to link habitat specific population parameters of harbor seals with inter- and intra-annual temporal changes measured in the Alaska Coastal Current. [NOTE: Alaska SeaLife Center bench fees may need to be added to this project; Alaska SeaLife Center indirect is already included.]

STAC Recommendation

There are concerns regarding methodology and the relation between the proposed populations to other populations in the GOA. Peer reviewer comments regarding methods for surveying numbers, use of estimates of animal numbers in relation to other biological and oceanographic data, and relation of these populations to others would need to be addressed. Other funding sources might also be appropriate for this research. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030690	Developing a Probability-based Design for Long-term Monitoring of the Nearshore: A Test Case for the Kenai Peninsula	G. Irvine/DOI-USGS	DOI	New FY 03-07	\$138.8	\$0.0	\$254.4	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will develop a probability-based design for monitoring marine intertidal communities, with a focus on the outer Kenai Peninsula coast. The advantage of probability-based designs is that the results of the monitoring can be extended to the "universe" of similar habitat within the monitored area. This allows for broad-scale monitoring that can be conducted over the long-term to allow regional comparisons across the Gulf of Alaska. This project addresses the two main goals of the GEM program endorsed by the National Research Council: detecting change and understanding change. The outer Kenai Peninsula (and Resurrection Bay) were affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, have had their intertidal habitat mapped over the last two years, have pre-existing data from oil spill damage assessment studies, and have great potential for linking offshore and nearshore dynamics through comparison with long-term ocean monitoring that has occurred in Resurrection Bay.

STAC Recommendation

Probability-based sampling may be a protocol that GEM will want to use for long-term research. Prior to implementing a monitoring program on this basis, additional evaluation of proposed methods via peer review and a workshop on sampling methodology would be needed. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation. Funds for a workshop on sampling methodology are included in Project 030630/Scientific Management.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.	
GEM: Alaska Coastal Current Habitat						\$439.7	\$0.0	\$348.0	\$0.0
G-030552	Exchange Between Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska	S. Vaughan/PWSSC	NOAA	Cont'd FY 03-04	\$106.5		\$110.9		

Project Abstract

One of the least understood physical processes that influence the biological components of Prince William Sound (PWS) is the exchange between the northern Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and the sound. This project will document the seasonal and interannual variability in water mass exchange between PWS and the adjacent GOA at Hinchinbrook Entrance, and identify mechanisms governing this exchange. This project will continue deployment of an upward-looking ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler) mooring in Hinchinbrook Entrance to create time series of velocities spanning two years. The mooring will be equipped with a CTD (conductivity temperature versus depth) to create a time series of deep temperature (T) and salinity (S). To identify the dominant factors that govern PWS/GOA exchange, the mooring velocity and deep T/S time series will be combined with meteorological time series, numerical circulation model simulations, and physical data collected under previous and existing research programs in PWS and the GOA.

STAC Recommendation

Information on flows between Prince William Sound and the northern Gulf of Alaska is important to the GEM program. However, there is concern that this proposal will not provide the data required to characterize this flow. The ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler) needs to be deployed for twelve months, with data collected several times each year. A sampling strategy to measure the movement of water in the surface layer needs to be presented. Do not fund this particular proposal.

Trustee Council Action

Defer pending submission and review of revised proposal that addresses STAC concerns.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030658	Numerical Simulation of Processes Controlling the Exchange Between Prince William Sound and the Alaskan Shelf	S. Vaughan/PWSSC C. Mooers/Univ. Miami	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$207.9	\$0.0	\$190.6	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Important exchanges of waters, dissolved substances, particulate matter, floatables, and biota occur between Prince William Sound and the Alaskan Shelf. These exchanges are controlled by several processes: e.g., the seasonal cycles in atmospheric forcing, oceanic density stratification, and the Alaska Coastal Current (ACC), and their interannual variability; the response to weekly weather system cycles (including coastal upwelling and downwelling and coastally trapped waves); tidal currents; and mesoscale fronts and eddies due to dynamical instabilities of the ACC. Using a mesoscale-resolving numerical ocean circulation model for the Northern Gulf of Alaska (including Prince William Sound), together with realistic bottom topography and atmospheric forcing, exchanges (over a broad range of scales) through Hinchinbrook Entrance and Montague Strait will be characterized from simulations conducted through several seasonal cycles. The results will be validated, in part, by the EVOS-sponsored ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler) moored in Hinchinbrook Entrance (Project /552), and their implications for designing physical and ecological monitoring strategies for GEM will be summarized.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal addresses questions of interest; however, it is not responsive to the FY 03 Phase II Invitation. Modeling approaches and needs have not yet been identified for the GEM program. It would be inappropriate to fund this research without having seen other proposals in this area. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030670	Monitoring Dynamics of the Alaska Coastal Current and Development of Applications for Management of Cook Inlet Salmon	M. Willette/ADF&G S. Pegau/Kachemak Bay RR	ADFG	New FY 03-04	\$68.3		\$15.5	

Project Abstract

This project will collect physical oceanographic and fisheries data along a transect across lower Cook Inlet from Anchor Point to the Red River delta each day during July. The data will be made available to other researchers studying how the physical dynamics of the Alaska Coastal Current affect the productivity of biological resources in the region. Logistical support for the field sampling will be provided in part by an existing test-fishing vessel chartered annually by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to provide inseason projections of the size of salmon runs returning to the inlet. The project will also use the physical oceanographic data to improve management of Cook Inlet salmon through improved inseason salmon run projections. Several hypotheses regarding effects of changing oceanographic conditions on salmon migratory behavior will be tested.

STAC Recommendation

Although this proposal makes a strong case for its management implications, it does not make clear how it will contribute to the long-term GEM research and monitoring program in other areas. The single year of data collection proposed will not be sufficient to develop an understanding of variability in the Alaska Coastal Current as it relates to the study area. There is also some question of whether GEM is being asked to fund activities that are currently being carried out by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, as opposed to being asked to enhance those activities. Proposal needs to be revised in response to STAC concerns and peer reviewer comments. Defer.

Trustee Council Action

Defer pending submittal and review of revised proposal that addresses STAC concerns and budget questions.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030676	Species Composition of Young-of-Year Rockfish Collected on GOA Surveys 1998-2002	A. Gharrett/SFOS-UAF	ADFG	New FY 03-04	\$57.0	\$0.0	\$31.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Between 1998 and 2002, many young-of-the-year rockfish were collected in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) by NOAA personnel along several transects. Although many young rockfish species are difficult to identify from morphology, most GOA species can be delineated using mitochondrial DNA markers. This project will determine species composition from subsamples of those collections, and will attempt to identify morphological characteristics that may enable visual identification. This is an opportunity to: (a) obtain early life history information for several (unknown) rockfish species, (b) initiate an assessment program for the species composition of the rockfish in several GOA locations in different years, and (c) lay groundwork for population genetics studies to examine the genetic structure and the influences of environmental variation. The genetic analysis will be accomplished at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Juneau facility.

STAC Recommendation

This is a good proposal from a well-qualified principal investigator. However, the proposal does not appear to have a strong fit with the GEM program's goal of long-term ecological monitoring. This proposal may be more appropriate for other funding sources. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.	
GEM: Intertidal/Subtidal & Alaska Coastal Current Habitat						\$41.0	\$0.0	\$22.2	\$0.0
G-030561	Testing Community-based Forage Fish Sampling Programs in Port Graham and Nanwalek (FY 03 Phase II)	D. Roseneau/USFWS	DOI	Cont'd FY 03-04	\$41.0	\$0.0	\$22.2	\$0.0	

Project Abstract

This project is based on previous EVOS projects: APEX (99163/Alaska Predator Ecosystem Experiment) and 02561 and G-030561/Evaluating the Feasibility of Developing a Community-based Forage Fish Sampling Program. It is designed to field-test the hypothesis that residents of oil spill communities can successfully participate in and contribute to forage fish sampling projects by collecting and labeling stomachs from a variety of locally caught predatory fish (e.g., halibut, flounder, cod, lingcod, rockfish, salmon). The study will be conducted during April-August 2003 at Nanwalek and Port Graham on the southeastern shores of Kachemak Bay. Products will include an evaluation of community participation in the sampling efforts and an analysis of the predatory fish stomach contents collected during the project. [NOTE: This project received \$17,000 under FY 03 Phase I (G-030561) to compile and analyze information collected during FY 02 (02561) and write a final report.]

STAC Recommendation

Results of Project 020561 should be evaluated as a long-term monitoring tool before a decision on funding this implementation approach is made. There appears to be little integration between community natural resource management datasets and other aspects of this proposal that estimate forage fish relative abundance. Recommend that in future proposals community research questions, to the extent that they are within the scope of GEM, be the focus of the project. Need more data to determine the efficacy of using predatory fish as samplers of forage fish. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.	
GEM: Offshore Habitat						\$224.8	\$125.5	\$147.3	\$43.6
G-030606	Development of a Voluntary Observing Ship "Ferry Box" for the North Pacific	D. Welch/DFOC	NOAA	New FY 03	\$9.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	

Project Abstract

PICES is supporting development of a self-contained "Ferry Box" oceanographic observing system for deployment on Voluntary Observing Ship vessels, to supplement oceanographic observations being produced by the Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR). This project will provide bridge funding for the next year to further support this program, which will result in the selection of a self-contained autonomous logging unit to provide a suite of complementary oceanographic observations to the CPR. Work for FY 03 will involve follow-on meetings to select a system and sensors and a decision to either purchase an existing system and begin deployment in the summer of 2004 or to develop a purpose-built system. The development of this system will constitute an important part of an ocean observing system for the North Pacific, and will be applicable to open-ocean commercial ships towing the CPR as well as to coastal ferry systems of Alaska and British Columbia.

STAC Recommendation

The need for the for this work appears to have been met by preceding and parallel efforts. Previous PICES workshops have covered most aspects of this issue. The GEM program would be interested in receiving proposals in the future that would investigate the sampling design for implementing a ferry box system in the Gulf of Alaska. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

G-030614	Monitoring Program for Near-Surface Temperature, Salinity, and Fluorescence in the Northern Pacific Ocean (FY 03 Phase II)	S. Okkonen/UAF	ADFG	Cont'd FY 03	\$10.9	\$10.9	\$0.0	\$0.0
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Project Abstract

This project received \$18,100 under the FY 03 Phase I invitation. In general, this project is using a thermosalinograph and fluorometer, to be installed on a crude oil tanker, to acquire continuous, long-term measurements of the near-surface temperature, salinity, and fluorescence fields along the tanker route between Valdez, Alaska and Long Beach, California. The additional funds requested under Phase II will complete installation of the fluorometer (the thermosalinograph has been installed on the tanker *Polar Alaska*) and allow for several adjustments to the project objectives.

STAC Recommendation

This is an adjustment to an existing project that is necessary to accommodate unavoidable problems with equipment and logistics. Provision of the requested funding will continue development of a body of sustained observations that are relevant to understanding and detecting changes in ecosystem components and ecosystem processes over decades. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund. Phase II funding provides additional funds for this project, which received \$18,100 in FY 03 Phase I. The additional funds will accommodate problems with equipment and logistics.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030645	Offshore Transport of Nutrients and Larvae by Mesoscale Eddies in the Gulf of Alaska: A Model-Data Synthesis Study	J. Wang/IARC-UAF	ADFG	New FY 03-05	\$89.5	\$0.0	\$103.7	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Under Project 02603/Implementation of an Ocean Circulation Model: A Transition from SEA to GEM, a 3-D ocean circulation model in the Gulf of Alaska has been established. The model covers the entire Gulf of Alaska, including Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet. The horizontal resolution of the model is 4'x 2' minutes (about 3.7km at 60 N). The model is forced by tides, freshwater discharge, heat flux, and wind stress derived from the National Center for Environmental Prediction. The model has produced active mesoscale eddies along the Alaska Stream/Current. This proposed project (030645) will combine this modeling work with a larvae drift model, satellite measurements, and historical hydrographic measurements in the gulf to investigate the scientific hypotheses, i.e., that mesoscale eddies enhance offshore transport of nutrients and larvae. Anticyclonic (cyclonic) eddies help depress (pump up) the nutrients below the mixed-layer, leading to less (more) nutrient supply to the eutrophic zone. Modeling and data analysis of these processes will be synthesized using satellite measurements and historical in-situ hydrographic dataset(s).

STAC Recommendation

The proposed modeling of biological mechanisms is not specific. A more carefully focused and laid out proposal might be beneficial in the future when GEM is seeking offshore synthesis proposals. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030654	Surface Nutrients over the Shelf and Basin in Summer: Bottom-up Control of Ecosystem Diversity	P. Stabeno/NOAA-PMEL C. Mordy/NOAA-PMEL	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$37.5	\$37.5	\$43.6	\$43.6

Project Abstract

The goal of this project is to better understand the extraordinary variability of nutrients (spatial, interannual and decadal) and factors controlling nearshore communities and zooplankton and juvenile salmon distributions in the northern Gulf of Alaska. The project will monitor nitrate over the shelf and basin. Underway samples will be collected as part of the NMFS-OCC/GLOBEC salmon survey in July/August of 2003 and 2004. This survey includes a transit across the central gulf and ten cross-shelf oceanographic and juvenile salmon transects from Yakutat to Kodiak Island. This will be the broadest nutrient survey of the northern gulf. Nutrient maps will be used to support NPZ (nutrient/phytoplankton/zooplankton) models and satellite-derived models of nitrate and new production, to examine mechanisms of nutrient supply such as mixing over banks and transport up submarine canyons, and to assist resource management of salmon and other commercially important species. GEM funding in 2003 is crucial as this is GLOBEC's final intensive field season.

STAC Recommendation

Information on the role of surface nutrients in productivity in the Gulf of Alaska would be valuable information for GEM planning. Results are expected to be relevant to understanding how to address GEM in the Alaska Coastal Current habitat type. This proposal takes advantage of an opportunity to partner with an existing data collection effort for a relatively modest cost. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030685	Visible Remote Sensing of the Gulf of Alaska	S. Pegau/Kachemak Bay RR	ADFG	New FY 03	\$77.1	\$77.1	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

A number of visible remote sensing satellites have been observing the Gulf of Alaska and its watersheds for the past five years and will continue to make observations into the future. Much of the data is available through NASA; however, the data is not easily accessible, fully quality controlled, or necessarily the variables of interest. This synthesis proposal aims to: (a) determine which products would be useful to resource managers and scientists, (b) develop a system to process and provide the existing and future satellite data in a format useful to most users, and (c) provide quality control. The satellite imagery covers all zones described in the GEM Program Document, but this proposal focuses on the oceanic components. The work is a collaborative effort led by the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve with the University of Alaska Fairbanks providing processing facilities.

STAC Recommendation

The proposal addresses regional needs for oceanographic information which should be useful for GEM planning. The principal investigator is well qualified to conduct this work and the proposal was highly rated by the reviewers. Remote sensing is likely to be an important element of the long-term GEM monitoring strategy. The principal investigator should attend the Trustee Council's remote sensing workshop. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund. This proposal addresses a major need for making remote sensing information more accessible. Funding for a remote sensing workshop is included in Project 030630/Scientific Management.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.	
GEM: Offshore & Alaska Coastal Current Habitat						\$603.3	\$197.2	\$356.9	\$0.0
G-030603	Workshop on Integrating the Gulf of Alaska Ocean Circulation Modeling and Observations	J. Wang/IARC-UAF	ADFG	Cont'd FY 03	\$79.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	

Project Abstract

In FY 02, this project established a 3-D ocean circulation model in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) to lay a foundation for the GEM program. The GEM program will couple the ocean circulation model to a hydrological model and an ecosystem model. So far, a research direction in ocean modeling in the GEM science plan has not been decided. We clearly realize that a research plan for ocean modeling should be our priority. Thus, this project will hold a workshop bringing together modelers and observationalists who worked and are working on the gulf problems. We will include several groups: US Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics (GLOBEC) scientists, Canadian GLOBEC scientists, Japanese GLOBEC and International Arctic Research Center/Frontier Research System for Global Change IARC/FRSGC scientists, Russian scientists, UAF scientists, and principal investigators related to this subject.

STAC Recommendation

It is not appropriate for GEM to support the advanced, data-assimilating models of advection for the entire North Pacific as proposed for discussion at the workshop. Proposal appears to go beyond GEM geography and leaves open questions of how the necessary interdisciplinary cooperation will be achieved. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030624	A CPR-Based Survey to Monitor the Gulf of Alaska and Detect Ecosystem Change	S. Batten/SAHFOS D. Welch/DFOC	NOAA	Cont'd FY 03-04	\$197.2	\$197.2	\$196.2	\$0.0

Project Abstract

Plankton are a critical link in the marine food chain that respond rapidly to climate change and form the link between the atmosphere and upper trophic levels. Many important marine resources in the Gulf of Alaska are strongly influenced by changes in ocean climate. We present evidence from recent Continuous Plankton Recorder work showing that significant changes occurred in all plankton communities in the gulf, associated with the recent climate shift, and that the Continuous Plankton Recorder is an appropriate tool for detecting such changes. This project will test the Continuous Plankton Recorder as an almost real-time indicator of ecosystem change across the gulf (the Alaska Coastal Current and offshore). Ships of Opportunity are a cost-effective platform for large scale monitoring. This project builds on collaborative efforts measuring physical parameters and marine bird/mammal populations. Simultaneous data collection and synthesis will assist in determining the underlying mechanisms and aid the GEM program in devising its long-term monitoring strategy.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal addresses GEM's goals for monitoring in the Alaska Coastal Current and offshore habitat areas. It has community involvement with the Valdez Community College. The data from this effort would be highly valuable to GEM both for better understanding these habitat areas and for identifying the key variables that need to be monitored over time to detect and evaluate changes in these habitats. Fund.

Trustee Council Action

Fund FY 03 only. This project will continue to develop the Continuous Plankton Recorder surveys from Ships of Opportunity begun in FY 02 (Project 02624), which have significant potential as part of a long-term monitoring effort in the Alaska Coastal Current and offshore habitats for GEM.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030651	Geographical and Host Distributions of the Fish Parasite <i>Ichthyophonus</i> in the Gulf of Alaska	R. Kocan/UW P. Hershberger/SAFS J. Winton/DOI-USGS	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$110.1	\$0.0	\$112.8	\$0.0

Project Abstract

To determine whether the Gulf of Alaska serves as a geographical reservoir of infection for the protistan fish parasite, *Ichthyophonus sp.*, this project will survey fishes from the gulf for *Ichthyophonus* and use molecular tools to determine the genetic relatedness among isolates from the west coast of North America. Field collections will be conducted in the Gulf of Alaska from 2003-05, and sampling resources will be shared with the Alaska Food Safety Laboratory, EVOS Project 00567/Monitoring Environmental Contaminants. Culmination of this project will provide: (a) a detailed assemblage of natural *Ichthyophonus* hosts in the gulf, (b) the phylogenetic framework necessary to understand *Ichthyophonus* species diversity, and (c) an understanding of whether *Ichthyophonus* infections among king salmon from the Bering Sea originate from Gulf of Alaska fishes.

STAC Recommendation

This project has broad applications that go beyond the geographic scope of GEM. The proposal has merits that would fit better with other sources of funding. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030686	Instrumenting Vessels of Opportunity to Collect Coastal Oceanographic Data	S. Pegau/Kachemak Bay RR	ADFG	New FY 03	\$71.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project is designed to implement the findings of Project 02671/Coordinating Volunteer Vessels of Opportunity in Kachemak Bay and Lower Cook Inlet, in that it will instrument small vessels with a suitable suite of instruments for monitoring changes in the coastal oceans. The project addresses the question of how to observe natural and anthropogenic influences that affect the nearshore and Alaska Coastal Current habitats. The project will produce instrument suites appropriate for installing on water taxis, ecological tour boats, and fishing vessels that regularly operate in the coastal waters of the Gulf of Alaska. The measurements will include temperature, salinity, fluorescence, and turbidity. These data will also be correlated with existing stationary sensors and volunteer-monitoring projects to expand spatial and temporal knowledge of water quality and mixing patterns and their relationship to the dispersal of larvae and contaminants in the region. The work will be done at the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve but will be applicable to other regions in the gulf.

STAC Recommendation

Vessel of opportunity programs are expected to be an important means of collecting data under GEM. This proposal does not adequately discuss progress achieved under Project 02671/Coordinate Volunteer Vessels of Opportunity and how the results of that project factor into the proposed activities. It needs to be made clear how boat trajectories are to be used for sampling purposes. Considerable effort (not well described) will be required to explain how the oceanographic data will be used. Frequency and location of interior Kachemak Bay deployment planned for FY 03 is not clearly detailed. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
G-030691	Evaluating the Relative Roles of Environment and Fisheries in Gulf of Alaska and Adjacent Ecosystems	V. Christensen/UBC T. Okey/UBC	NOAA	New FY 03-04	\$144.6	\$0.0	\$47.9	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will coordinate ecological modeling efforts in the Gulf of Alaska (and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Archipelago) to help distinguish the relative roles of physical, biotic, and anthropogenic factors in shaping the trajectories of declining or recovering populations. Modeling research teams will be invited to a process that will coordinate approaches and identify the relative likelihood of proposed explanations for observed biological changes. New time series analysis capabilities in the Ecopath with Ecosim modeling approach will be applied to the existing Prince William Sound model to exemplify an approach for evaluating the relative importance of hypothesized population and community shaping factors. This standardized process will then be applied to the sub-regions within which each of the teams is focused. Results of Year 1 of this modeling synthesis and coordination effort will include an up-to-date compilation of regional and local time series data, a week-long modeling workshop during Summer 2003, and mini-paper reporting of analytical results from each team.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal appears to be better suited for other funding sources since objectives are aimed primarily at Steller sea lions. Also, the proposal is not responsive to the FY 03 Phase II Invitation, which did not invite modeling proposals. It would be inappropriate to fund this research without having seen other proposals in this area that may be submitted in response to a future invitation. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.	
Data Management & Information Transfer						\$88.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
G-030679	A Prototype Geographic Information System for GEM	D. Kiefer/SSAI C. Schoch/Kachemak Bay RR	NOAA	New FY 03	\$88.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	

Project Abstract

This project will develop a prototype coastal information system for the Gulf of Alaska, focusing on Kachemak Bay as a pilot application. The information system will archive, analyze, and distribute information on ecological conditions in the watershed and shoreline, as well as coastal and offshore waters of Kachemak Bay. The system will address the problem of integrating such multivariate data that has been collected on differing spatial and temporal scales. It will also provide GIS tools to analyze, visualize, and disseminate information on relationships of conditions at each of four spatial scales. The goal is to develop a system that will lead to better understanding of the effects of climatic variability and anthropogenic activity upon the coastal ecosystem of Kachemak Bay and to provide a prototype system that is needed to support monitoring and research in the GEM program.

STAC Recommendation

This proposal identifies what may be an important requirement for the GEM program. However, the data management subcommittee needs to identify specific needs before GEM will be prepared to acquire such a system. Do not fund.

Trustee Council Action

Do not fund based on STAC recommendation.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
Science Management					\$274.1	\$274.1	\$300.0	\$300.0
G-030630	Scientific Management under GEM	Trustee Council Office	ALL	Cont'd	\$274.1	\$274.1	\$300.0	\$300.0

Project Abstract

This project will provide scientific oversight of implementation of the GEM program, as well as scientific oversight of lingering effects of oil on injured resources. In FY 03, the project will support the Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and other aspects of the scientific review and advisory process, develop the FY 04 Invitation to Submit Proposals, provide peer review recommendations and scientific support for the FY 03 and FY 04 work plans, continue developing a "State of the Gulf Report", provide regional input to a status report on North Pacific resources now being developed by PICES (North Pacific Marine Science Organization), and support the Lingering Oil Effects Subcommittee and review process.

STAC Recommendation

All of the elements in this project are strongly supported by the STAC for funding. The budget was developed by Trustee Council staff.

Trustee Council Action

Fund additional \$274,200 (\$278,400 was already approved in Phase I). Funds are included for STAC travel and stipends, subcommittee travel, and four workshops. Funds are also provided as a contribution to a statewide effort to develop a comprehensive ocean observing system. This project is designed to ensure that the GEM program is implemented with a high degree of scientific integrity through establishment of an advisory committee of independent experts (the STAC), whose work will be supported by subcommittees composed of scientists, resource managers, and community members. The project will also support continued independent peer review of project proposals and reports, as well as the dissemination of research results at an annual meeting at which Council-funded scientists will present their findings to their peers and the public.

SPREADSHEET B: FY 03 PHASE II WORK PLAN - TRUSTEE COUNCIL ACTION (TEXT SPREADSHEET)

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY 03 Ph II Request	FY 03 Ph II Approved	FY 04 Request	FY 04 Recom.
Habitat Protection Support					\$48.4	\$48.4		
030126	Habitat Protection and Acquisition Support	C. Fries/ADNR	ADNR	Cont'd	\$48.4	\$48.4		

Project Abstract

This project will cover certain expenses incurred by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources in pursuing protection of important habitat.

STAC Recommendation

Not applicable.

Trustee Council Action

Fund. These funds (\$48,400) will add to the \$37,700 approved in FY 03 Phase I for this project. Phase II funds reflect anticipated expenses of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources in acquiring small parcels that the Trustee Council has expressed an interest in, as well as continuing work on the AJV large parcel acquisition, the Northern Afognak protection effort, and the Old Harbor land exchange. [Note: This project will be funded outside of the FY 03 work plan.]