# **RESOLUTION 08-15 OF THE** *EXXON VALDEZ* OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL Regarding Funding for the Integrated Herring Restoration Program

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 for fiscal years 2008 and 2009. The monies will be used to fund the creation of an executive committee of the Integrated Herring Restoration Program work group that will create a plan for review and approval of the full herring work group, as described in Attachment A. The funds will be distributed to the Scientific Management portion of the Implementation Budget in the PJ080100 budget:

### FY 2008 Fund Distribution

Alaska Department of Fish & Game	\$109,000
SUBTOTAL TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	\$109,000

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 to make funds available for this project for a total of \$109,000 from the appropriate account as designated by the Executive Director.

Resolution 08-15

Approved by the Council at its meeting of June 26, 2008 held in Anchorage, Alaska as affirmed by our signatures affixed below.

Ank JOE L. MEADE

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

TALIS J. COLBERG Attorney General Alaska Department of Law

RANDALL LUTHI Director U.S. Minerals Management Services U.S. Department of Interior

CRAIG R. O'CONNOR Special Counsel National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce

DENBY S. LLOYD Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game LARRY HARTIG Commissioner Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Approved by the Council at its meeting of June 26, 2008 held in Anchorage, Alaska as affirmed by our signatures affixed below.

JOE L. MEADE Forest Supervisor Forest Service Alaska Region U.S. Department of Agriculture

for TALIS J. COLBERG Attorney General Alaska Department of Law

RANDALL LUTHI Director U.S. Minerals Management Services U.S. Department of Interior CRAIG R. O'CONNOR Special Counsel National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce

DENBY S. LLOYD Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game LARRY HARTIG Commissioner Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Aug. 29. 2008 9:51AM

1////vvs/vv

JOE L. MEADE Forest Supervisor Forest Service Alaska Region U.S. Department of Agriculture

RANDALL LUTH

Director For Mr. luthi U.S. Minerals Management Services U.S. Department of Interior TALIS J. COLBERG Attorney General Alaska Department of Law

CRAIG R. O'CONNOR Special Counsel National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce

DENBY S. LLOYD Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game LARRY HARTIG Commissioner Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Page 2 of 2

Resolution 08-15

Approved by the Council at its meeting of June 26, 2008 held in Anchorage, Alaska as affirmed by our signatures affixed below.

JOE L. MEADE Forest Supervisor Forest Service Alaska Region U.S. Department of Agriculture TALIS J. COLBERG Attorney General Alaska Department of Law

RANDALL LUTHI Director U.S. Minerals Management Services U.S. Department of Interior CRAIG R. O'CONNOR Special Counsel National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce

COMMISSIONER Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game LARRY HARTIG Commissioner Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Approved by the Council at its meeting of June 26, 2008 held in Anchorage, Alaska as affirmed by our signatures affixed below.

JOE L. MEADE Forest Supervisor Forest Service Alaska Region U.S. Department of Agriculture TALIS J. COLBERG Attorney General Alaska Department of Law

RANDALL LUTHI Director U.S. Minerals Management Services U.S. Department of Interior CRAIG R. O'CONNOR Special Counsel National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce

DENBY S. LLOYD Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game DanEsten

Commissioner Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Page 2 of 2

# ATTACHMENT A RESOLUTION 08-15 IHRP

May 27, 2008

# **PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING**

### FROM: Michael Baffrey, Executive Director

#### **SUBJECT:** Integrated Herring Restoration Program

## **PROPOSED USE OF AUTHORIZATION:**

Funding authorization of \$109,000 is requested to develop an Integrated Herring Restoration Program (IHRP) for the Prince William Sound (PWS) herring stock listed as injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. The IHRP will address the identified data gaps needed to accurately understand the continued state of the PWS herring stock and support management and stock enhancements decisions in the future.

## **OBJECTIVES:**

An IHRP Working Group comprised of members with specific scientific, management, enhancement, fisheries, and community expertise will prepare an integrated, multi-component research and restoration program for PWS herring that will be:

- Ecosystem-focused as opposed to a single-resource focused.
- Organized around common goals/hypotheses determined through teamwork to create efficiencies in levels of support and to elevate the intellectual capacity required to successfully engage the difficult question "What's wrong with herring, and what can we do about it?"
- Marked by a continuous process of synthesis as opposed to the more common practice of a "summing up" following several years of study.
- Led by a modeling activity whose principal tasks will include interaction with all the research to obtain the information needed to understand the mechanisms contributing to change in PWS herring.
- Open to the impacted community by providing a seat at the table for one or more public members.
- Based on the premise that before large-scale restoration activities for herring can be undertaken, the herring ecosystem in PWS must be understood in sufficient detail to significantly reduce the probability of unintended consequences.

1

• Develop an outreach component that will help translate the science into community awareness.

# **FUNDING BREAKDOWN:**

The breakdown of the \$109,000 requested is:

- \$45,000 for professional service contracts with 6 eligible IHRP Working Group members.
- \$18,000 for July 2008 IHRP Working Group meeting in Cordova.
- \$18,000 for August 2008 IHRP Working Group meeting in Cordova.
- \$28,000 for a joint meeting of the IHRP Working Group with the Trustee Council's Herring Steering Committee in Cordova.

## TIMING:

The IHRP is scheduled for completion by September 30, 2008.

PREPARED BY: Michael Baffrey (907) 265-9330.