BCO-DMO

Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office

MS #36 • Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution • Woods Hole, MA 02543

• http://www.bco-dmo.org •

June 24, 2011

Elise Hsieh, Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Elise,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute our thoughts about data management to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC).

Enclosed is a concept paper outlining how the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO) could provide data management support for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council funded projects. We have included very brief descriptions and cost estimates for two data management plan options. Our preference, Option 1, includes two full time people to manage the data (plus funding for initial training and subsequent supervision). We feel this level of support will be required to properly manage data coming from an estimated twelve investigators generating approximately 54 datasets per year. The cost estimate for Option 1 is $2,060,110 for five years.

Based on our initial conversations, we realize that this level of support may not be available, so we also offer a reduced-cost Option 2 ($1,437,632 for five years), requesting only one dedicated full time data manager. However, it must be understood that this level of funding may prove insufficient to support comprehensive management of such complex environmental data. An accurate estimate of the effort required is difficult given that we lack sufficient knowledge of the quality of the metadata, diversity of the data and variability of the time series data from year to year.

We welcome the opportunity to further discuss our capabilities and show how the expertise at BCO-DMO might be tapped to support the data management needs of the EVOSTC funded research projects. We look forward to hearing from you and we are prepared to submit a formal proposal at your request.

Sincerely,

Bob Groman, Cyndy Chandler, Dave Glover and Peter Wiebe