

## ***EVOSTC ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT***

Recipients of funds from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council must submit an annual project report in the following format by **Sept. 1** of each fiscal year for which project funding is received (with the exception of the final funding year in which a final report must be submitted). Please help ensure that continued support for your project will not be delayed by submitting your report by **Sept. 1**. Timely receipt of your report allows more time for court notice and transfer, report review and timely release of the following year's funds.

Satisfactory review of the annual report is necessary for continuation of multi-year projects. Failure to submit an annual report by **Sept. 1** of each year, or unsatisfactory review of an annual report, will result in withholding of additional project funds and may result in cancellation of the project or denial of funding for future projects. **PLEASE NOTE:** Significant changes in a project's objectives, methods, schedule, or budget require submittal of a new proposal that will be subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review, and Trustee Council approval.

***Project Number:*** ..... 070808  
***Project Title:*** ..... Sea Otter Recovery and Nearshore Synthesis  
***PI Name:*** ..... Brenda Ballachey & Jim Bodkin  
***Time period covered:*** ..... 9/2007 - 8/2008  
***Date of Report:*** ..... 31 August 2008  
***Report prepared by:*** ..... Brenda Ballachey  
***Project website (if applicable):*** ..... N/A

**Work Performed:** Summarize work performed during the reporting period, including any results available to date and their relationship to the original project objectives. Explain deviations from the original project objectives, procedural or statistical methods, study area or schedule. Also describe any known problems or unusual developments, and whether and how they have been or can be overcome. Include any other significant information pertinent to the project.

*Field work for Objective 1 of this project ("Evaluate progress toward sea otter recovery through surveys of abundance and carcass deposition") was conducted in western Prince William Sound in April 2007 (carcass surveys) and July 2007 (aerial surveys); results of those efforts were briefly reported in the FY2007 Annual Report and will be provided in detail in the Final Report (April 2009, to be combined with the Final Report for Project # 070808A, including results of aerial surveys and carcass surveys conducted in 2008; see also the Annual Report for Project 070808A, to be submitted September 5, 2008). Objectives 2 ("Evaluate factors contributing to the status of sea otter populations through the synthesis of long-term data sets on individual exposure to oil, health, condition, behavior, and home range in the context of long-term survival") and 3 ("Conduct spatial synthesis of elevated biomarkers in mammals, birds, and fishes") do not involve field work, but rather consist of compilation, synthesis and modeling analyses of data sets. The necessary data were acquired in FY2007, and we have made substantial progress on data syntheses pursuant to model development. However, there have been some delays in the analyses associated with reviews of existing data sets and determinations of which data to include. Data reviews are almost complete and the modeling work will continue; we anticipate completion within the next 3 months. Additionally, in the course of 2008 field work for Project # 070808A, we have obtained additional information on individual sea otters in western Prince William Sound which will supplement data sets used for Objective 2, above. Although there have been delays in the schedule, there are no deviations from the proposed work as outlined in the proposal.*

**Future Work:** Summarize work to be performed during the upcoming year, if different from the original proposal. Describe any proposed changes in objectives, procedural or statistical methods, study area or schedule. *NOTE: Significant changes in a project's objectives, methods, schedule or budget require submittal of a new proposal subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review and Trustee Council approval.*

*Work on Objectives 2 and 3 was not completed in FY2008 but is still underway. Products produced are not anticipated to deviate from those outlined in the project proposal. The final report for Project # 070808 will be combined with the final report for Project # 070808A (the two projects are closely related) and delivered to the EVOSTC on April 15, 2009.*

**Coordination/Collaboration:** Describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the coordination and collaboration provisions of the proposal, if applicable.

*The necessary data sets and supporting information were obtained from cooperators (G. Blundell, D. Irons, G. Golet, D. Esler, S. Jewett, T. Dean, S. Rice, and M. Lindeberg) in FY07. A contract is in place with WEST Inc. for statistical & modeling expertise; Ms. Shay Howlin, a biostatistician with WEST, is currently working with us on Objectives 2 and 3 of the project.*

**Community Involvement/TEK & Resource Management Applications:** Describe efforts undertaken during the reporting period to achieve the community involvement/TEK and resource management application provisions of the proposal, if applicable.

*Work for Project 070808 consisted of compilation and synthesis of data sets, with no fieldwork components. There were no community involvement/TEK or resource management activities during FY08.*

**Information Transfer:** List (a) publications produced during the reporting period, (b) conference and workshop presentations and attendance during the reporting period, and (c) data and/or information products developed during the reporting period. *NOTE: Lack of compliance with the Trustee Council's data policy and/or the project's data management plan will result in withholding of additional project funds, cancellation of the project, or denial of funding for future projects.*

*There was only a single presentation within the specified reporting period:*

*Bodkin, J.L. 2007. Assessing Effects of Spilled Oil on Sea Otters. Shipwreck Emergency Response: Spill response/NRDAR/Rodents and implications for Wildlife Resources. Homer, AK November 2007.*

**Budget:** Explain any differences and/or problems between actual and budgeted expenditures, including any substantial changes in the allocation of funds among line items on the budget form. Also provide any new information regarding matching funds or funds from non-EVOS sources for the project. *NOTE: Any request for an increased or supplemental budget must be submitted as a new proposal that will be subject to the standard process of proposal submittal, technical review, and Trustee Council approval.*

*Work in FY2008 was conducted within budget; no modifications are anticipated.*

We can accept your annual report as a digital file (Microsoft Word or WordPerfect), with all figures and tables embedded. Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files (version 4.x or later) are also acceptable; please do not lock PDF files or include digital signatures.

Please submit reports electronically in [ProjectView](#) or by email to [catherine.boerner@alaska.gov](mailto:catherine.boerner@alaska.gov). Also, please be sure to post your annual report on your own website, if you have one.



*We appreciate your prompt submission of your annual report  
and thank you for your participation.*