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:......070750

Project Title: Nearshore monitoring and database

PI Name: Bodkin and Dean

Time period covered: 1 Sept 2006-31 Aug 2007

Date of Report: 31 August 2007

Report prepared by: Bodkin and Dean

Project website (if applicable):

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.

Work proposed under project 070750 in 2007 included two components; 1) Database development and management; and 2) Implementation of nearshore restoration monitoring. Progress toward database development includes identifying specific data sources and developing a framework for data organization for archiving, tracking and dissemination. Standard Operating Procedures and preliminary data sets have been prepared for assimilation into the data management structure. Data entry interfaces have been created and tested for several Sop's. A contract to facilitate completion of data management work, including a web based interface has been submitted.

Implementation of those Sop's identified in the DPD was completed in July 2007, and included sampling of sheltered rocky and sheltered soft sediment intertidal habitats, sea otter diet (based on direct observations of foraging sea otters), and surveys of black oystercatcher nest pair density and chick diet. Data management and analysis are ongoing. EVOS projects that will provide complimentary data sets included nearshore marine bird and mammal surveys (D. Irons FWS), and sea otter population and mortality surveys (Ballachey and Bodkin USGS) were completed in 2007.

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.

Contractual relations will be established in October 2007 to complete construction of the designed database structure and integration of historic data products. Data management and analysis of new data acquired under this DPD will continue through 2007.

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

Components of nearshore monitoring achieved through coordination with other projects included, sea otter carcass recovery, estimated sea otter abundance, and marine bird and mammal abundance. Coordination with NOAA scientists facilitated intertidal sampling at sites where lingering oil persists and where future remediation may occur, providing a baseline of biological sampling.

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.

In March 2006, J Bodkin presented the nearshore monitoring program for the Gulf of Alaska to the Southwest Alaska Network of National Park staff, in Homer, Alaska.

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.

Dean, T.A. and J.L Bodkin. 2006. Sampling protocol for the nearshore restoration and ecosystem monitoring (N-REM) program. Exxon Valdez Restoration Project //0750. Draft Final Report. Exxon Valdez Restoration Office, Anchorage, AK.

Bodkin, J.L., T. A. Dean, and H.A. Coletti. 2007. Nearshore marine vital signs monitoring in the southwest Alaska Network of National Parks. Annual Report National Park Service, SWAN, Anchorage, AK.

Bodkin, J.L., T.A. Dean, and H.A. Coletti. 2007. SWAN Nearshore Monitoring: Testing and Trial Implementation, Katmai NP, 2006. National Park Service, SWAN annual investigators meeting. 6-7 March, 2007, Homer, AK.

Bodkin, B.E. Ballachey, H.A. Coletti, G.E. Esslinger, K.A. Kloecker, D.H. Monson, M. Murray, and P. Snyder. 2007. PAH Exposure to Nearshore Vertebrates in Prince William Sound and Pathways of Exposure to Sea Otters. 5th Sea Otter Conservation Workshop. Seattle Aquarium, Seattle WA. 16-18 March 2007

Ballachey, B.E., Bodkin, J.L., Esler, D., Irons, D., and Snyder, P. Evaluating the long-term exposure of nearshore vertebrates to lingering oil from the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Presented at the 9th International Effects of Oil on Wildlife Conference, Monterey, CA, June 25-29, 2007 (extended abstract included in Conference Proceedings).

Coletti, H.A. Sea otter density and distribution on habitat in Prince William Sound. Presented at Sea Otter Conservation Workshop V, Seattle Aguarium, March 16-18, 2007.

Monson, D.M. Evaluating body condition in more than 2,000 sea otters sampled throughout much of the species range over the past 50 years. Presented at Sea Otter Conservation Workshop V, Seattle Aquarium, March 16-18, 2007.

Monson, D.H., J.L. Bodkin, J.A. Estes, and T. Tinker. Patterns of body size, growth, and condition among sea otter populations: what can it tell us about population status? Carnivores 2006, 11-15 Nov. 2006, St. Petersburg, FL.

Coletti, H.A. 2006. Correlating sea otter density and behavior to habitat attributes in Prince William Sound, Alaska: A model for prediction. M.S. Thesis, University of New Hampshire. 86 pp.

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 was conducted within budget and no modifications to the proposed budget 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 <u>ProjectView</u> or by email to <u>mandy.migura@alaska.gov</u>. 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.