

Tatitlek Coho Salmon Release

Project Number: 98127
Restoration Category: General Restoration
Proposer: Tatitlek IRA Council
Lead Trustee Agency: ADFG
Cooperating Agencies: None
Alaska SeaLife Center: No
New or Continued: Cont'd
Duration: 4th yr.
5 yr. project
Cost FY 98: \$10.5
Cost FY 99: \$10.7
Cost FY 2000: \$0.0
Cost FY 01: \$0.0
Cost FY 02: \$0.0
Geographic Area: Prince William Sound
Injured Resource/Service: Salmon, subsistence

ABSTRACT

This project will create a coho salmon return to Boulder Bay near Tatitlek village. Enough coho eggs to produce 20,000 smolt will be collected from an Alaska Department of Fish and Game approved stream, incubated and reared to smolt at the Solomon Gulch Hatchery, transported, and held for two weeks in net pens in Boulder Bay before release. Release will produce a 2,000 to 3,000 adult return to Boulder Bay for harvest in a subsistence fishery.

A. INTRODUCTION

Subsistence fisheries available to residents of Tatitlek village were severely disrupted by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. This project is intended to enhance subsistence resources near Tatitlek by creating a 2,000 to 3,000 coho salmon return to Boulder Bay which is immediately adjacent to Tatitlek village. This resource is intended to partially replace for the near term other subsistence resources, such as harbor seal, that were injured by the spill

This coho salmon return will be created through an annual release of 50,000 coho salmon smolt in Boulder Bay. The smolt are produced at the Solomon Gulch Salmon Hatchery under an agreement between its operator, the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation and the Tatitlek IRA Council. The coho salmon eggs needed to produce the smolt come from a wild coho run that has been approved by ADF&G for the egg take. The eggs are taken to the Solomon Gulch hatchery for incubation and rearing to the smolt stage. The sea ready smolt are then transported by boat to Boulder Bay and are imprinted to the bay by placing them in net pens for about a two week period before being released into the wild.

This project was approved by the EVOS Trustee Council in FY 95. Funds were appropriated to underwrite the environmental assessment, a draft of which has been produced. Funds received in FY 96 and beyond will be used to produce the coho salmon returns to Boulder Bay.

NEED FOR THE PROJECT

A. Statement of Problem

Subsistence harvests by Tatitlek village residents have declined considerably since the oil spill. Most marine resources that were utilized for subsistence by Tatitlek villagers have not substantially improved since the spill. Subsistence harvests are still a lot less than they were prior to the spill.

B. Rationale/Link to Restoration

This project would enhance the recovery of the local salmon resource that is utilized for subsistence and provide a means for lessening the impacts of continued harvests on other subsistence harvests injured by the spill such as harbor seals.

C. Location

This project will be undertaken at the Solomon Gulch Hatchery and in Boulder Bay near Tatitlek. The benefits will be realized by those participating in the subsistence fishery created by this project. These will mainly be residents from Tatitlek.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

This project was initiated at the request of the Tatitlek Bay IRA Council. The council negotiated the agreement with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to produce the smolt for the project. Members of the village set up the net pen site each year in Boulder Bay and hold and feed the smolt each year prior to release. The villagers participate in the subsistence fishery on the returning adults.

PROJECT DESIGN

A. Objectives

1. Continue agreement with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to produce 50,000 coho salmon smolt for release in Boulder Bay.
2. Imprint smolt to Boulder Bay by holding and feeding them in net pens in the bay for two weeks prior to release into the wild.
3. Harvest for subsistence 2,000 to 3,000 coho salmon annually upon their return to the imprint site.

B. Methods

The purpose of this project is to create a run of coho salmon in Boulder Bay near Tatitlek for subsistence use. The project would be undertaken annually and could be classified as "put and take" since it is unlikely that the coho returns produced by this project would establish a wild run. There are four basic steps to the project; egg take, incubation and rearing to the smolt stage, imprinting and release of smolt and the subsistence harvest.

The Solomon Gulch hatchery is responsible for the egg take and smolt production, Tatitlek village is responsible for imprinting and releasing the smolt into the wild. The subsistence fishery is open to all, but mostly consists of Tatitlek village residents.

The eggs are taken from a coho run approved by ADF&G for use in this project. Enough eggs are taken to produce 50,000 smolt. They are taken to the Solomon Gulch hatchery where standard fish culture practices are utilized to incubate the eggs and rear the resultant fry to the smolt stage. The smolt are then transported by boat to Boulder Bay where they are placed in net pens and held (and fed) for a two week period during which time they imprint to Boulder Bay. The smolt are then released into the wild and proceed to their ocean rearing grounds returning back to Boulder Bay approximately 12 months later as adults. Around 2,000 to 3,000 adult coho salmon return to Boulder Bay from the smolt release. As many of these fish as possible (usually 75% to 85%) are harvested in a subsistence fishery that has been set up specifically for this purpose. The unharvested fish die without spawning.

C. Cooperating Agencies, Contracts and Other Agency Assistance

The Tatitlek IRA Council is contracted by ADF&G to oversee this project. The council in turn contracts with the Valdez Fisheries Development Corporation to take the eggs and produce the smolt.

SCHEDULE

A. Measurable Project Tasks for FY 98

August, 1997	Egg take
May 20 to 25, 1998	Smolt transported to Boulder Bay and placed in net pens.
June 3 to 8, 1998	Smolt released into Boulder Bay
August, 1998	Egg take

B. Project Milestones and Endpoints

Objective 1.	Initial agreement in place. Will be reviewed and renewed by April 15 each year.
Objective 2.	Completed by June 15 each year.
Objective 3.	Completed by July 15 annually.

C. Completion Date

This project will continue until the subsistence resources injured by the spill have fully recovered.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Annual reports	Describe project activities for each fiscal year. Due April 15 following the fiscal year being reported on.
Final report	Synopsis of each year's activities and analysis of project as a whole. Due April 1 following the year in which the final adult return occurs.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

No travel to professional conferences is planned under this project.

COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESTORATION EFFORT

There appear to be no opportunities to coordinate or integrate this project with other restoration efforts.

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES IN CONTINUING PROJECTS

There are no project design or schedule changes in this proposal from the DPD approved by the Trustee Council for FY 97.

PROPOSED PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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FY 98 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET
 October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

Revised 4-24-97
Approved TC 8-6-97

Budget Category:	Authorized	Proposed						
	FFY 1997	FFY 1998						
Personnel	\$0.0	\$0.0						
Travel	\$0.0	\$0.0						
Contractual	\$11.3	\$9.8						
Commodities	\$0.0	\$0.0						
Equipment	\$0.0	\$0.0						
Subtotal	\$11.3	\$9.8	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS					
General Administration	\$0.8	\$0.7	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Project Total	\$12.1	\$10.5	FFY 1999	FY 2000	FFY 2001	FFY 2002	FFY 2003	FFY 2004
			\$10.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Full-time Equivalents (FTE)		0.0						
Other Resources			Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.					

Comments:

RECEIVED
 APR 28 1997
 EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
 TRUSTEE COUNCIL

FY 98

Project Number: 98127
 Project Title: Tatitlek Coho Release
 Agency: AK Dept. of Fish & Game

FORM 3A
 AGENCY
 PROJECT
 DETAIL

FY 98 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

Budget Category:	Authorized	Proposed						
	FFY 1997	FFY 1998						
Personnel	\$2.6	\$2.6						
Travel	\$0.0	\$0.0						
Contractual	\$6.1	\$2.6						
Commodities	\$1.6	\$1.6						
Equipment	\$0.0	\$0.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS					
Subtotal	\$10.3	\$6.8	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Indirect	\$1.0	\$3.0	FFY 1999	FFY 2000	FFY 2001	FFY 2002	FFY 2003	FFY 2004
Project Total	\$11.3	\$9.8	\$10.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Full-time Equivalents (FTE)		0.1						
Other Resources			Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.					

Comments:

FY 98

Prepared: 4/7/97

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Project Number: 98127
 Project Title: Tatitlek Coho Release
 Name: Tatitlek IRA Council

FORM 4A
 Non-Trustee
 DETAIL

Printed: 4/24/97

FY 98 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

Personnel Costs:			Months Budgeted	Monthly Costs	Overtime	Proposed FFY 1998
	Name	Position Description				
		Net Pen Worker	0.5	\$2,500		1.3
		Net Pen Worker	0.5	\$2,500		1.3
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
		Subtotal	1.0	5,000	0	0.0
Personnel Total						\$2.6
Travel Costs:		Ticket Price	Round Trips	Total Days	Daily Per Diem	Proposed FFY 1998
	Description					
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
Travel Total						\$0.0

FY 98

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Project Number: 98127
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FORM 4B
 Personnel
 & Travel
 DETAIL
 Printed: 4/24/97

FY 98 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 1997 - September 30, 1998

Contractual Costs:		Proposed
Description		FFY 1998
Transport 20,000 coho smolt to Boulder Bay		2.0
village skiff rental		0.6
Contractual Total		\$2.6
Commodities Costs:		Proposed
Description		FFY 1998
Fish Food		1.2
Skiff fuel/oil		0.2
Misc. supplies		0.2
Commodities Total		\$1.6

FY 98

Project Number: 98127
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 Name: Tatitlek IRA Council

FORM 4B
 Contractual &
 Commodities
 DETAIL

FY 98 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 1997 - September 30 1998

New Equipment Purchases:		Number of Units	Unit Price	Proposed FFY 1998
Description				
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
				0.0
Those purchases associated with replacement equipment should be indicated by placement of an R.			New Equipment Total	\$0.0
Existing Equipment Usage:		Number of Units		
Description				

FY 98

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FORM 4B
 Equipment
 DETAIL