



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
General Restoration, Habitat Enhancement, Habitat Protection, and Facilities Projects
Quarterly Project Reporting Form

**Detailed instructions for each section below are given in Section II. Quarterly Project Reports in the Reporting Policy on the website, <https://evostc.state.ak.us/policies-procedures/reporting-procedures/>*

Project Number: 22220508 and 2100129 (combined reporting)

Project Title: Standardized High-Resolution Wetlands and Hydrography Data across the EVOS Region

Principal Investigator(s): Sydney Thielke, USFWS
Dr. Leslie Jones, State of Alaska
Brian Wright, USGS

Reporting Periods and Due Dates:

<i>Reporting Period</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
February, March, April	June 1
May, June, July	September 1
August, September, October	December 1
November, December, January	March 1

Submission Date: August 1, 2022

Project Website: Although this project does not have a website, we have been working with the State of Alaska to produce [this storymap](#) to support stewardship and outreach of the datasets

Please check all the boxes that apply to the current reporting period.

- Project progress is on schedule.**
- Project progress is delayed**
- Budget reallocation request.**
- Personnel changes.**

1. Summary of Work Performed:



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This project is a continuation of 21200129. Data development for both the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) is continuing on schedule.

Field work for the Kodiak and Shelikof Strait regions is complete and the first review of data and a field report are scheduled for September 16, 2022. Field work included boat supported helicopter and fixed wing operations to access sites across the Kodiak and Shelikof Strait project areas. Information was collected about the type and location of wetlands and hydrographic features and will be used to inform the mapping products.

The RFP for the NWI across the Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound regions is in the federal contracting process. We will be using an existing Blanket Purchase Agreement from FWS to advertise the work to qualified vendors. The RFP for the combined NWI and NHD work in the Bering Glacier watershed will be advertised shortly after the Federal FY23 begins (expected in October).

The State of Alaska advertised and awarded the LiDAR collection for the Copper River Delta region. Our team did extensive background research to develop a reasonable cost estimate and funding request based on similar projects. However, the RFP was surprisingly competitive and proposal bids came in well below the funding level received from the EVOSTC. The current contract for the original 670,000 acres is \$395,510. Estimated costs included and funded in the proposal was \$924,762. We propose an additional LiDAR collection of \$529,252 within the project boundary to enhance current scope for the project. This data will be used to support the wetland and hydrography mapping for the project. The expanded AOI for LiDAR collection will NOT change the scope, objectives, or project deliverables of the original proposal. Nor will it incur any additional project costs. The planning process to identify targeted areas of interest (AOIs) for LiDAR collection is a collaboration between USFWS, State of Alaska, USFS and NOAA. All stakeholders have reviewed the new targeted AOI and are in full support of the collection.

2. Abstract:

This is an extension of the project 21200129, Standardized High-Resolution Wetlands and Hydrography Data across the EVOS Region, funded by the EVOSTC for FY2021 to produce wetland and hydrologic data for EVOS region watersheds. Continuous coverage of high-resolution NWI and NHD products do not exist for the EVOS region, yet these data are critically important for continued management and recovery of injured resources and services. This proposal requests will update wetlands mapping across 17 million acres (including the lower Copper River and Bering Glacier watersheds), update hydrography mapping on the Bering River watershed, and collect LiDAR data to enhance wetland mapping in the Copper River region. The



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final products will be integrated into statewide databases, compliant with national standards, and publicly available.

The NWI provides the location, characteristics and extent of wetlands, intertidal, and nearshore marine habitats. The NHD characterizes water drainage networks, including features such as rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, glaciers, and watersheds. The NWI and NHD are used, where available in Alaska, for habitat management, species assessments (including anadromous waters), and to make informed decisions about development activities. The data serve as baseline geospatial information needed to monitor aquatic and wetland dependent species, including those that move between freshwater and marine habitats such as salmon and migratory birds. This includes providing information about coastal wetlands and the contribution of freshwater inputs to estuarine and nearshore habitats. This proposal will provide geospatial data that can be used to assess intertidal systems, from the headwater inputs to marine interface, that support habitat for injured species and injured subsistence and recreation activities.

3. Coordination and Collaboration:

Coordination and collaboration between project partners and the public is ongoing, with this quarter centered primarily around LiDAR acquisition and planning for future field data collections. Coordination in the next quarter will focus on FY23 field data collection, once a data contractor is selected, for the Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound areas.

4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:

NA

5. Budget:

The budget presented here is a combination of projects 22220508 and 2100129 in order to provide cumulative totals for the entire scope of the mapping project in a single spreadsheet. Please notice a column for FY21 has been added and the total represents six years.

Budget Category:	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	6-YR TOTAL PROPOSED	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel		\$27,385	\$27,385	\$27,385	\$27,385	\$0	\$109,541	\$1,619
Travel	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$1,650,000	\$3,316,380	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,966,380	\$1,710,255
Commodities	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Costs (report rate here)	\$0	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$0	\$11,271	\$0
SUBTOTAL	\$1,650,000	\$3,346,583	\$30,203	\$30,203	\$30,203	\$0	\$5,087,192	\$1,711,874