

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/

Project Number: 23220602

Project Title: Kenai Peninsula Streambank Rehabilitation and Protection Project

Principal Investigator(s): Jessica Johnson, ADF&G

Reporting Periods and Due Dates:

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

Submission Date: December 1, 2023

Project Website: N/A

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

☒ Project progress is on schedule.

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 \square Budget reallocation request for this reporting period.

☐ Personnel changes.

1. Summary of Work Performed:

During this reporting period, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) staff were able to complete written final inspections for projects completed in 2023 along with photos and other details. These written inspection reports were then sent to the landowners, Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District (KSWCD), and permitters at the River Center. Staff worked with landowners on getting copies of their invoice showing that they have paid their portion to the contractor or have paid the full bill. While getting copies of invoices, staff put together the

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reimbursement paperwork which included copies of the paid invoices and let the landowners know how much their reimbursement would be and confirmed where the reimbursement check should be sent. Once the reimbursement paperwork was signed by the landowners, it was sent to KSWCD so that they could issue the reimbursement check. All reimbursement checks were issued to landowners in October 2023.

Throughout the months of August and September, staff continued to work with private landowners regarding 2024 proposal submission. Many of these landowners expressed interest in the program but didn't know the details of the cost share program on the Kenai Peninsula or what they needed to do to successfully submit a proposal. ADF&G staff took the time to help these landowners understand that the program is geared towards streambank rehabilitation and protecting juvenile fish habitat. They also took the time to explain what materials and methods could be used to accomplish this. The proposal submission requirements and the project selection process that takes place after proposals have been successfully submitted were also explained to each landowner.

In total, thirty-seven landowners contacted ADF&G staff regarding the cost-share program. At the time of the proposal deadline, September 30, 2023, thirty proposals were received. Based on the locations of the landowners' properties, a tentative site visit schedule was developed for mid-October. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service partners assisted in calling or emailing landowners asking for permission to access their properties for evaluation. After calling or emailing landowners, three landowners dropped out of the program for various reasons. A couple of public lands were added onto the site visit week to bring the total sites visited to twenty-nine during the week of October 16, 2023.

At each site visit staff gathered geomorphic characteristics such as channel pattern, surrounding land use, substrate type, sand or gravel bars presence, and how stable the bed is. Bank characteristics were also collected. This included bank slope width, height, shape, if there was an undercut, if there were any current control structures onsite, and what factors were affecting bank stability. Also, information on riparian vegetation was collected, specifically, what plant species are currently on site and if there are any invasive species. Finally, a set of standard photos were taken at each site along with other important photos. All of this information will be used to select projects for 2024.

2. Abstract:

During this reporting period, staff were able to complete the final site inspection reports for all five projects and get them sent to the landowners, the Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District (KSWCD), and the River Center. Staff also received all paid invoices for the projects

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and compiled reimbursement paperwork. Once those steps were completed, KSWCD sent reimbursement checks to the landowners.

During the months of August and September staff continued to encourage landowners to submit proposals and quotes for funding consideration in 2024. In total, thirty-seven people showed interest in the Kenai Cost-Share with thirty submitting full proposals before the September 30th deadline.

Based on the submitted proposals, staff conducted site visits during the week of October 16, 2023. At each site, geomorphic and bank characteristics were collected as well as current riparian vegetation conditions and an array of standard photos. This information will be used to help select next year's projects.

3. Coordination and Collaboration:

Staff met on site with Alexa Millward, Kenai Peninsula Engagement Coordinator with Trout Unlimited (TU) and Sam Lopez, River Center Manager to discuss hosting the 2024 Streambank Workshop and a public riparian planting day hosted by TU at Centennial Park. This site was chosen because of its easy access for the public and because it is a popular spot for fishermen to access the Kenai River. The site was evaluated in terms of both the Streambank Workshop and the TU planting day. This included a discussion about what restorative efforts would take place along the streambank as well as what plants would be best suited for the terrain and substrate. It was decided to try and reach out to Steering Committee members on the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habiat Partnership (KPFHP) to see if we could get some help in selecting plant species that would work in this area. We received some positive feedback leads from the Partnership and Alexa was going to follow up with some of these leads.

Finally, staff has been coordinating with private landowners for projects in 2024. In August and September, staff created a Facebook post letting the public know that we were seeking proposals for the 2024 Kenai Peninsula Habitat Rehabilitation & Protection Cost-Share. Together these two posts reached about 1,840 people with around twenty-one engaging with the post. There was also an Instagram post which reached another 151 people and twenty-nine people engaging with the post.

4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:

N/A

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5. Budget:

Budget Category:	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	5-YR TOTAL	Quarterly	ACTUAL
	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	PROPOSED	Expenditures	CUMULATIVE
Personnel	\$0	\$90,586	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90,586	\$0	\$12,424
Travel	\$0	\$23,580	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,580	\$0	\$896
Contractual	\$0	\$242,850	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$242,850	\$55,473	\$60,468
Commodities	\$0	\$6,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,100	\$0	\$70
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Costs (report rate here)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SUBTOTAL	\$0	\$363,116	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$363,116	\$55,473	\$73,858
General Administration (9% of subtotal)	\$0	\$32,680	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,680	\$0	N/A
PROJECT TOTAL	\$0	\$395,796	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$395,796	\$55,473	
Other Resources (In-Kind Funds)	\$0	\$209,840	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$209,840		

INSTRUCTIONS: This summary page provides a five-year overview (FY 22-26) of proposed funding and actual cumulative spending which includes the non-trustee agency and trustee agency worksheets. This Summary Page should automatically populate as the formulas reference the cells in the non-trustee agency and trustee agency worksheets. Please make sure the totals given are correct. The column titled 'Actual Cumulative' will be updated each fiscal year and included in the annual report (include information on the total amount actually spent for all completed years of the project). On the Project Annual Report Form, if any line item exceeds a 10% deviation from the originally-proposed amount; provide detail regarding the reason for the deviation.

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