



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: 23220502

Project Title: Clean Water Act Assessment of Beaches with Lingering Oil

Principal Investigator(s): Terri Lomax, ADEC Water Quality Program Manager

Reporting Periods and Due Dates: August, September, and October 2023

<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: Dec 1, 2023

Project Website: In development

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

Project progress is on schedule.

Text

Project progress is delayed

Text

Budget reallocation request for this reporting period.

Text

Personnel changes.

Text



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1. Summary of Work Performed:

DEC and its contractor began work in earnest on a literature review of recent data and science regarding the status of lingering oil, data and resources that may be available to evaluate the degree and effects of residual oil. The contract is nearing the end and has proven to be a valuable effort.

Objective #1 Identifying waters of concern.

Task A. Identify Waters of Concern.

Status: Ongoing. DEC and its contractor, Geosyntec, developed a list of initial questions (Tabel 1) for technical or traditional knowledge experts. These questions were intended to start a discussion on available data, mapping resources, and community impacts still being experienced. Five experts were interviewed, one additional expert was contact but unavailable. Using the suggestions and direction provided, the contractor proposed 53 documents/papers, of which 25 were selected by DEC for a literature review. The documents/papers most relevant to DEC’s goal of determining the Clean Water Act status of EVOS impacted beaches were selected. Projects with recent data and geolocations were prioritized.

What research have you been involved in regarding lingering oil (bioavailability, impacted resources, etc.)?
What literature is important for us to include?
Have you been involved in traditional knowledge studies regarding lingering oil, and if so, where can we find those results?
Is there any other relevant research that you know about that isn’t published (current or newly completed studies)?
Are there any geographical information systems (GIS) resources that you have or know about?
Are there research data gaps related to lingering oil?
Is there anything else that you would like us to know as we complete this literature review?
Are you interested in receiving project updates through a listserv? If so, please provide a good contact email.

Table 1. Initial questions posed to subject matter experts.

The contractor worked simultaneously to develop a GIS map layer combining data from as many of the 25 papers as possible. We encountered some resistance retrieving the data from various sources and it is unlikely we will be able to acquire all the data within this contract.



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DEC and its contractor met several times and have reviewed two draft reports during this time. The final annotated bibliography is expected in December. A final copy of the report will be provided during the fourth quarter report.

Task B. Develop a set of standards suitable to gauge recovery and compliance with water quality standards.

Status: No work to report on this Objective/Task.

Task C. Compile available information regarding impaired waters

Status: No work to report on this Objective/Task.

Task D. Develop GIS map

Status: Ongoing. Through the annotated bibliography contract, DEC began the process of compiling data with geolocations from several documents for use in the planned Clean Water Act assessment of impacted beaches. Final deliverables through this contract will be available in December.

Preliminary work showed disagreement between DEC listed impaired beaches, data, and model predictions. This initial contract has reinforced the need for updated assessments of EVOS impacted beaches and has illustrated the need for more work focusing on acquiring and consolidating geolocated data. Work on this task will continue to be refined and added to as the life of grant moves forward.

Objective #2 Updating Clean Water Act status of impaired beaches.

Task A. Develop listing methodology.

Status: No work to report on this Objective/Task.

Task B. Evaluate Data.

Status: No work to report on this Objective/Task.

Objective 3. Stakeholder Involvement during this reporting period.

Task A. Communication Plan.

Status: Ongoing. Interview with subject matter experts were completed and a full report of those interviews is due in December.

Task B. Public Engagement.

Status: Ongoing. DEC is investigating options to present to local communities or environmental managers from affected EVOS communities. One opportunity DEC is exploring is the Alaska Tribal Conference of Environmental Managers that traditionally occurs in February. The conference brings environmental managers from Alaska Native Tribes across Alaska to learn and share resources and common interests.



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2. Abstract:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) initiated the Clean Water Act Assessment of Beaches with Lingering Oil grant in February 2023. During this reporting period DEC and contractor began work on a literature review and GIS map. Preliminary work shows disagreements between DEC impaired beaches and beaches with modeled or physical data to suggest the present of lingering oil.

3. Coordination and Collaboration:

DEC identified the following subject matter experts, and its contractor interviewed them to assist in guiding the literature review.

- Morgan Bender, interviewed.
- Jackie Keating, interviewed.
- Roger Prince, email response.
- David Janka, interviewed.
- Sarah Allan, interviewed.
- Mandy Lindeberg, unavailable

DEC is developing a listserv to reach out to interested members of the public. Project updates and opportunities for engagement will be noticed here in addition to the usual channels for public engagement.

We are developing a DEC webpage dedicated to this EVOS project and as a landing page for maps, documents, and any public surveys we develop. Once the final literature review is completed DEC will publish its website.

4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:

N/A

5. Budget:



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Budget Category:		Proposed FY 22	Proposed FY 23	Proposed FY 24	Proposed FY 25	Proposed FY 26	5- YR TOTAL PROPOSED	QUARTERLY EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel		\$0	\$43,902	\$79,441	\$95,584	\$51,032	\$269,959	\$13,017	\$49,344
Travel		\$0	\$4,080	\$6,640	\$6,640	\$6,640	\$24,000	\$0	\$0
Contractual		\$0	\$14,500	\$65,000	\$68,000	\$0	\$147,500	\$31,307	\$31,307
Commodities		\$0	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$2,250	\$0	\$0
Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Costs	Rate = 0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SUBTOTAL		\$0	\$63,232	\$151,831	\$170,974	\$57,672	\$443,709	\$44,324	\$80,651
General Administration (9% of subtotal)		\$0	\$5,691	\$13,665	\$15,388	\$5,191	\$39,934	\$3,989	\$7,259
PROJECT TOTAL		\$0	\$68,923	\$165,496	\$186,361	\$62,863	\$483,643	\$44,324	\$87,910
Other Resources (In-Kind Funds)			\$6,624	\$6,823	\$7,027	\$7,238	\$27,712	\$201	\$201