



**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:** 23220508

**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:** December 1, 2023

**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 is on schedule. Based on developments in October, 2023 we anticipate a no-cost extension request will be made in the next quarter.

**Project progress is delayed**

**Budget reallocation request.**

**Personnel changes.**



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## **1. Summary of Work Performed:**

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This project is a continuation of 21210129. Data development for both the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and 3 Dimensional Hydrography Program (3DHP), formerly National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) is continuing on schedule.

### **Previous work Highlights:**

The National Hydrography Dataset for the Kodiak Island and Shelikof Strait Hydrologic Units is complete and available for download on the [USGS staged products download site](#) (2023-02-09T21:13:56.000Z 54.4 MB NHD\_H\_19020701\_HU8\_GDB.zip, 2023-02-09T21:13:57.000Z 41.2 MB NHD\_H\_19020702\_HU8\_GDB.zip). This data is also undergoing USGS review for future inclusion in the 3 Dimensional Hydrography Data Program (3DHP) dataset.

The contract for the NWI across the Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound regions was awarded on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to AK Biomap.

### **New work this quarter:**

The NWI data review for the Kodiak Island and Shelikof Strait Hydrologic projects is complete and the data has been accepted into the national database. The public update of the national database occurs twice each year in May and October. The new data will be in the public facing online [wetlands mapper](#) in our May update.

The 2023 field season work for the NWI Cook Inlet and Prince William sound project was completed. The draft 2024 field season work plan has been received by USFWS and sent to USFS for review and permitting.

The award for the Bering Glacier watershed hydrography and wetlands mapping work was awarded to Dewberry on August 23, 2023. The initial mapping pilot area of interest has been selected and the pilot products are due next quarter. The draft field work plan has been received and is under review by USFWS.

The State of Alaska managed LiDAR collection for the Copper River region is ongoing. The Copper River Area of Interest collection was completed October 30<sup>th</sup>. The expanded Prince William Sound Area of Interest has been delayed due to weather challenges. Approximately 75% of the area has been collected and discussions are ongoing regarding planning for a 2024 collection.

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## **2. Abstract:**



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This is an extension of the project 21210129, 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 3DHP (formerly 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 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 3DHP 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.

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### **3. Coordination and Collaboration:**

Coordination and collaboration between project partners and the public is ongoing, with this quarter centered primarily around field data collections. The USFWS, contractors and cooperators will be working with landowners and aviation companies over the next few months to finalize field plans for the 2024 field season.

### **4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:**

NA

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### **5. Budget:**

A comprehensive review of quarterly expenses over the life of this project was completed this quarter. The budget scenario below supersedes previous budget reports. Differences in budget reporting are primarily related to differences in obligated amounts versus actual spending.



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The budget presented here is a combination of two projects 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, not five. Also, new for this quarter of reporting, three budget scenarios are provided for clarity. This includes the total project combined as well as separate screen shots of the individual Alaska DNR and USFWS budgets.

The Alaska DNR budget includes cost overruns for personnel that have been accounted for over previous quarterly reports. There has been no reallocation of line item expenditures. The ADNR is working to reconcile the overrun for FY22 and FY23 personnel expenses throughout the life of the project and only total proposed expenditures are anticipated at the culmination of the project.

USFWS is working on a request to the EVOS office regarding expanding the coverage for new hydrography data using remaining contractual resources. This request does not include any reallocation of budget categories.

**Combined Budget**

Budget Category:	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	6-YR TOTAL PROPOSED	Quarterly Expenditures	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel		\$27,385	\$27,385	\$27,385	\$27,385	\$0	\$109,541	\$3,939	\$72,855
Travel	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$1,650,000	\$3,316,380	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,966,380	\$329,779	\$3,893,897
Commodities	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0		\$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	\$8,891
									\$0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,650,000</b>	<b>\$3,346,583</b>	<b>\$30,203</b>	<b>\$30,203</b>	<b>\$30,203</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,087,192</b>		<b>\$3,975,643</b>

**Alaska DNR Budget**

Budget Category:	Proposed FY 22	Proposed FY 23	Proposed FY 24	Proposed FY 25	Proposed FY 26	5- YR TOTAL PROPOSED	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel	\$15,654	\$15,654	\$15,654	\$15,654	\$0	\$62,617	\$49,393
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$924,762	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$924,762	\$924,762
Commodities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Costs	Rate = 18%	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$2,818	\$0	\$11,271
							\$8,891
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$943,234</b>	<b>\$18,472</b>	<b>\$18,472</b>	<b>\$18,472</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$998,650</b>	<b>\$983,046</b>

Summary | **Non-Trustee Agency Worksheet** | Trustee Agency Worksheet (+)

**USFWS Budget**



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Budget Category:		FY 21	FY22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	6- YR TOTAL PROPOSED	Quarterly Expenditures	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel			\$11,731	\$11,731	\$11,731	\$11,731	\$0	\$46,924	\$ 3,939	\$ 23,462
Travel		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ -	\$0
Contractual		\$1,650,000	\$2,391,618	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,041,618	\$ 329,779	\$ 2,969,135
Commodities		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Equipment		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Indirect Costs	Rate = 0%	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,650,000</b>	<b>\$2,403,349</b>	<b>\$11,731</b>	<b>\$11,731</b>	<b>\$11,731</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,088,542</b>		<b>\$2,992,597</b>