



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: November and December 2023, January 2024

<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: Feb 29, 2024

Project Website: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/evos-lingering-oil/>

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.

Chandra McGee no longer works for DEC. Amber Crawford has accepted this position and will replace Chandra McGee on this grant.



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1. Summary of Work Performed:

DEC and its contractor finalized a literature review focused on the nature, extent, and effects of lingering oil data and location where oil may still exist in Prince William Sound. The final report was published online and will be used to drive future work.

Objective #1 Identifying waters of concern.

Task A. Identify Waters of Concern.

Status: Ongoing. DEC recently submitted and received approval for a proposal amendment addressing the continuation of this task. Through the literature review, DEC recognized that the identification of waters of concern will continue to evolve throughout the life of this grant.

DEC and its contractor met several times and reviewed the final literature review during this period. The final report was delivered in November 2023. A final copy will be provided with this grant report. In January, we identified one minor error in the report, an individual was linked to the wrong organization. The contractor was contacted and agreed to provide an updated report correcting this.

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

Status: Initiated. Utilizing information gained from the Literature Review, DEC determined the best course of action is the development of a standalone listing methodology (LM) rather than updating a current petroleum hydrocarbon listing methodology. The current listing methodology sets an unrealistic expectation for data to complete an evaluation. It is unlikely any EVOS impacted site would have sufficient data to complete a Clean Water Act assessment under that LM. DEC began mapping out the next stage of work and will solicit a contractor to assist with:

1. Identify LM options: review various coastal states approach to lingering oil during CWA assessments, review DEC contaminated sites clean up levels, propose LM approaches taking Alaskan data availability into account.
2. Draft LM: Develop technical approach and draft listing methodology
3. Gather Data: GIS data, water chemistry data, field observations, and modeled data.
4. Finalize LM: Finalize the technical approach and listing methodology. If funding permits analyze collected data against the final LM and develop a GIS compatible 2026 Integrated Report layer.

Task C. Compile available information regarding impaired waters

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



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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. Initial work showed disagreement between DEC listed impaired beaches, field data, and model predictions of locations with lingering oil. This task has been extended in recognition of evolving list of waters of concern.

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: Completed. DEC identified communities and opportunities to share resources and learn more about community concerns related to lingering oil.

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 March. The conference brings environmental managers from Alaska Native Tribes across Alaska to learn and share resources and common interests. A draft factsheet summarizing the project was prepared for the Alaska Forum on the Environment planned for February 2024.

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 its contractor completed a literature review and draft GIS map of the nature, extent, and effects of lingering oil data and identified locations where oil may still exist in Prince William Sound. Initial 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:



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DEC is developed 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.

A DEC webpage was launched dedicated to this EVOS project it serves as a landing page for maps, documents, and any public surveys developed. The final literature review was published to this website.

4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:

N/A

5. Budget:

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	\$59,481	\$51,015	\$51,783	\$51,032	\$213,311	\$10,137	\$59,481
Travel		\$0	\$0	\$6,640	\$6,640	\$6,640	\$19,920	\$0	\$0
Contractual		\$0	\$38,978	\$93,426	\$76,574	\$0	\$208,978	\$7,671	\$38,978
Commodities		\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$1,500	\$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	\$98,459	\$151,831	\$135,747	\$57,672	\$443,709	\$17,808	\$98,459
General Administration (9% of subtotal)		\$0	\$8,861	\$13,665	\$12,217	\$5,191	\$39,934	\$1,603	\$8,861
PROJECT TOTAL		\$0	\$107,320	\$165,496	\$147,964	\$62,863	\$483,643	\$17,808	\$107,320
Other Resources (In-Kind Funds)			\$6,624	\$6,823	\$7,027	\$7,238	\$27,712	\$0	\$201