



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

**Detailed instructions for each section below are given in [Reporting Procedures](#).*

Project Number: 26220505

Project Title: Chugach Heritage Museum and Archaeological Repository dba Chugach Museum

Principal Investigator(s): Monica Garcia-Itchoak, Executive Director

Reporting Period: May, June, July

Submission Date: September 01, 2026

Project Website, if applicable: <https://www.chugachmuseum.com/>

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

☐ **Project progress is on schedule.** *Please indicate by what date you expect the project to be completed (this can be an estimate and change in future reports).*

☒ **Project progress is delayed.** *Please explain the cause(s) of the delay(s) and the affected project components (i.e., field work, due diligence, construction, etc.), anticipated length of delay, and impact(s) on the project objectives and plan to resolve them.*

Project progress is delayed, as marked above. The museum continues to collaborate with Chugach Alaska Corporation (CAC), our fiscal sponsor, and other nonprofit affiliates to align and adhere to the approved project budget and timelines. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on June 23, 2026, a monumental step forward for this project. The project will begin site preparation, dirt work, utilities, gas, and electrical work at the end of August and will continue to work until the ground freezes.

The Chugach Alaska Corporation Board of Directors approved \$2M for site preparation at the Village in the City site on the 4.4-acre parcel, including the museum, in phase one of the project. Anticipated staff occupancy is now early to late spring 2028, with the grand opening in fall 2028.



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☐ **Budget amendment request.** *If you would like to amend the project budget by more than 10% of the annual budget amount, please describe the request and provide justification. Reallocations of 10% or less of the previously approved annual budget amount do not require a budget amendment request. Requests over 25% of the annual budget amount will require approval by the Trustee Council. Please see the EVOSTC Financial Policy for details.*



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☐ **No-cost extension request.** *Only relevant to Q4 report. Principal investigators may carry forward budgeted funds to the subsequent fiscal year of a multiple-year project if the requested adjustment does not alter the underlying scope or objectives of the project. Explain why the funds were not spent during the previous FY, the amount requested to carry over to the next FY, and how funds will be spent.*

☐ **Personnel changes.** *Provide an explanation for the change, a curriculum vitae or resume for the proposed changes to personnel, and a description of the potential impact on the project.*

Abstract. *Provide a summary (not to exceed 200 words) of work performed during the reporting period and on the project overall, including an estimated project completion date. This summary will be used to provide regular updates on the project to the Trustees.*

The museum project involves creating and developing a 12,822-sf facility with a 5,249-sf permanent exhibition, a 4,418-sf state-of-the-art climate-controlled collection and archival repository, and a second-floor 3,248-sf area comprising administrative offices, a staff/volunteer lounge, bathrooms, a large classroom/workshop, and storage space. The museum will be a destination for the Exxon Valdez oil spill, cultural understanding, stewardship, and preservation for the Chugach region within the Chugach Alaska Corporation's Village in the City initiative. Anticipated staff occupancy is early spring of 2028, with the grand opening in fall 2028.

Summary of Work Performed. *Provide a summary of work performed during the reporting period, including any results available to date, findings and/or project successes, and how the original project objectives are being met. Any deviation from the original project objectives should be discussed. Describe any known problems, unusual developments, or any other significant information.*

May

The Chugach Museum project achieved several significant milestones through strong collaboration and strategic investment. Collections stewardship advanced through a partnership among our Business Development Office, consultant Jim Pepper Henry, and Collections Manager Molly Conley, who began cataloging and documenting artifacts and archival materials that will inform the permanent exhibition currently in schematic design with Storyline Studio. Project development also advanced with the selection of Waterson as General Contractor, following a public procurement process led by Avani Development.

Additionally, we strengthened community engagement and regional workforce development with our first assigned museum intern, Christina Olsen, a Chugach shareholder. Supported by



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Chugach Tribal Services, this internship creates meaningful professional opportunities, builds internal capacity, and fosters the next generation of Indigenous Museum leadership.

June

During this reporting period, the Chugach Museum advanced community engagement, facility development, collections planning, and exhibition design. Staff worked with communities in Port Graham and Nanwalek to gather stories for the EVOS: Then & Now traveling exhibit, ensuring community voices remain central to project development. A major milestone was reached when Chugach Alaska Corporation approved \$2 million for site work, followed by a June 23 groundbreaking ceremony that moved the museum into construction.

The Museum also strengthened its long-term sustainability and stewardship efforts through strategic planning, collections repository development, and continued exhibition design. Planning efforts identified potential partnerships to preserve EVOS-related collections and advanced the permanent exhibition narrative. Together, these achievements demonstrate meaningful progress toward creating a community-driven cultural heritage center that will preserve Chugach history, share the EVOS story 37 years later, support education, and serve future generations.

July

During July, the Chugach Museum strengthened its financial planning, fundraising, community engagement, collections education, and Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) documentation efforts. The team completed budget training and a mid-year financial review to support long-term sustainability, submitted two capital grant applications totaling up to \$1 million, and expanded community outreach through participation in Nuuciq Spirit Camp Visitor's Day and the Museum's first pop-up program in Cordova, in partnership with the Ilanka Cultural Center and Cordova Museum.

The Museum also provided a week-long collections workshop for students, building local capacity in cultural stewardship, and welcomed a curatorial photojournalist to document regional EVOS stories. Additionally, a statewide assessment of EVOS collections identified the University of Alaska Museum of the North as the primary repository for related artifacts and archival materials, creating opportunities for future partnerships and improved access to these important cultural resources. Funder support continues to strengthen community-driven preservation efforts while advancing the Museum's long-term development and impact.

Coordination and Collaboration. *Provide a description of any coordination and collaboration that occurred with any other groups during the reporting period, if applicable. These may include entities like the Alaska SeaLife Center, the Prince William Sound Science Center, Native corporations or Tribes, local or other government entities, or NGOs. If applicable, please explain how your project relates to or complements other projects (Council and non-Council funded). Please discuss whether there are any aspects of the project that have supported*



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EVOSTC or other agency work or that have received EVOSTC or other agency feedback or direction, including the agency staff name(s). If the project required or included collaboration with other agencies, organizations, or scientists, fully explain those arrangements and provide the names of agency or organization representatives involved in the project. If the project conflicts with another project, please note this and explain why.

Collaboration was central to the Chugach Museum's progress during this reporting period. The Museum worked closely with Chugach Alaska Corporation, Chugach Heritage Foundation, Chugach Regional Resources Commission, Chugach Tribal Services, Avanti Development, Waterson Construction, Storyline Studio, Exhibit AK, the Ilanka Cultural Center, the Cordova History Museum, the Pratt Museum, and community partners in Port Graham and Nanwalek to advance facility development, exhibition planning, collections stewardship, and community engagement.

The most significant impact came from partnerships that amplified community voices and strengthened long-term stewardship of Chugach history and Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) stories. Through collaboration with Exhibit AK and local communities, the Museum collected oral histories and personal stories that inform the EVOS: Then & Now traveling exhibit and the development of permanent exhibitions. Partnerships with Storyline Studio, collections consultants, and the University of Alaska Museum of the North also advanced collections planning and identified opportunities for future repository collaboration to preserve and provide access to EVOS-related artifacts and archives.

Additional collaboration supported workforce and educational development by hiring the Museum's first Chugach shareholder intern, delivering a weeklong collections workshop for students at Nuuciq Spirit Camp, and co-hosting public programming with the Ilanka Cultural Center and the Cordova History Museum focused on the Exxon Shame Pole by Eyak artist Mike Webber. These efforts expanded community participation, strengthened regionwide trust, advanced construction readiness through a successful groundbreaking, and ensured that the Museum's development remains community-driven, culturally responsive, and rooted in Indigenous leadership.



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Status of Scheduled Project Accomplishments. *Copy and paste the milestone and task chart that you submitted with your proposal (Section 6, “Status of Scheduled Project Accomplishments”) and update this chart with any timeline changes for milestones, tasks, and deliverables.*

*Specifically, use ~~strikethrough~~ to indicate any expected timelines that were not met or have changed, and use **highlights** to demonstrate any new expected timelines. Milestone, task, or deliverable timelines that were met in the past or are expected to remain the same as described in the proposal should remain on the chart as originally reflected. However, you may use a “C” to indicate if a task has been completed. See Appendix B of the Reporting Procedures for an example. Submit an updated chart with each quarterly report, and please explain any other letters or symbols used on the chart to demonstrate project progress. Include a description of any updates made immediately below the chart.*

If your project was submitted prior to the FY21 Invitation process and did not include a Status of Scheduled Project Accomplishments chart, describe in writing any changes to the expected milestones, timing, tasks, and deliverables from what was included in your project proposal.

Below is the milestone submitted with the proposal. The shifts that occurred during this reporting period, compared with Q1 reporting, are highlighted in yellow and pertain to the groundbreaking, site work, and the anticipated capital campaign longevity through opening. (see below)



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STATUS OF SCHEDULED PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS. *NOTE – NEW MILESTONES/TASKS. updated 08.23.26

List each project milestone, task, and deliverable in the chart (examples are shown below), and specify by each quarter of each year when these are anticipated to be accomplished. C = completed; X = planned work is underway but not yet completed. Show project milestones and planned task progress by fiscal year and quarter, beginning February 1, 2022. Fiscal Year Quarters for each year of the project are: 1 = Feb. 1-April 30; 2 = May 1-July 31; 3 = Aug. 1-Oct. 31; 4 = Nov. 1-Jan 31. **Items highlighted in YELLOW have shifted in timeline completion.**

Milestone/Task	FY22				FY23				FY24				FY25				FY26				FY27				FY28			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Milestone:																												
Archival System																												
Assess current systems	X	X	C																									
Evaluate and select system (purchase Rediscovery)		X	X	C									X	C														
System Implementation															X	X												
Milestone:																												
Collection Storage																												
Inventory & Assess Assets			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X												
Identify Plan for Storage															X	C												
Storage Build Out (warehouse location)						X	X	X	X	X	C																	
Delta System Design training (Ohio)																	X	X	C									
System fabrication																					X	X	C					
System installation																							X	C				
Milestone:																												
Display & Exhibition																												
Planning & Design (surveys) (expanded exhibit concept)			X	X	X	C							X	X	X	X	X	C										
Build Out (fabrication)																					X	X	C					
Storefront (shift to kiosk)																							X	C				
Traveling EVOS pop-up													X	X	X	X	X	C										



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Milestone/Task	FY22				FY23				FY24				FY25				FY26				FY27				FY28			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Milestone: Governance & Nonprofit Operations																												
Museum staff hired													X	X	C													
Contractual hires (KPB, Avanti, JPH, Storyline, ExhibitAK, Foraker)														C	C	C	C											
Intern hire																	X	X	C									
Capital campaign																	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	C
Milestone: Construction Timeline																												
Geotechnical analysis (CAC, EDI funded)														X	C													
Phase I: land site work (CAC funded) Groundbreaking 6/23																		X	X	C								
Phase II: exterior work (CAC funded)																		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	C
Phase III: interior work (CAC, EVOSTCcapital campaign)																					X	X	X	C	X	X	X	C
Occupancy (CAC, EVOSTC, capital campaign)																							X	X	X	X	X	C
Opening (CAC, EVOSTC, capital campaign)																								X	X	C		
Reporting:																												
Quarterly Status Reports				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
Annual progress report				C				C					C				C											
FY work plan		X	C				X	C			X	C			X	C			X				X				X	
Final report/Project results																						X	X	C				
Deliverables:																												
System Implementation Plan				C				C				C				C				X				X				X
Building Design & Timelines						C								X	X	X	C											
Business & Financial Plans						C											X	X	C									

Milestone/Task	FY22				FY23				FY24				FY25				FY26				FY27				FY28			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Final Project Reports																					X	X	C					

Funding justification: The EVOSTC-restricted, reimbursable funding is designated specifically for creating a regional oil spill response repository, collection, and archival storage facility for the Chugach people. Items identified in the scope of work timeline in "orange" are when the new ED, Monica Garcia-Itchoak, was hired to lead the project. Lauren Johnson, President of the Chugach Museum and ED of the Chugach Heritage Foundation, led prior deliverables.

Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations, and Comments. *This only applies to feedback shared during biennial reviews (i.e. from the EVOSTC PAC or Trustees). Describe how any EVOSTC review comments or recommendations were addressed during the reporting period.*



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Budget Summary Table. *This table includes an accounting of quarterly and cumulative spending through the funding period. Copy and paste this summary table from the project workbook as a jpeg or gif file into the written narrative (see Appendix C of the Reporting Procedures for an example).*

Budget Category:	Proposed FY 22	Proposed FY 23	Proposed FY 24	Proposed FY 25	Proposed FY 26	5- YR TOTAL PROPOSED	QUARTERLY EXPENSES	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel	\$132,000	\$324,000	\$385,560	\$403,200	\$112,800	\$1,357,560	\$129,088.48	\$796,841.37
Travel	\$14,475	\$19,725	\$12,975	\$11,475	\$5,475	\$64,125	\$2,734.85	\$15,839.39
Contractual	\$562,500	\$1,620,000	\$1,575,000	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$3,780,000	\$531,888.18	\$983,408.91
Commodities	\$300,000	\$700,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$196.84	\$19,578.27
Equipment	\$36,000	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$76,000	\$1,229.88	\$4,169.96
SUBTOTAL	\$1,044,975	\$2,673,725	\$2,003,535	\$429,675	\$125,775	\$6,277,685	\$665,138.23	\$1,819,837.90
General Administration (9% of subtotal)	\$94,048	\$240,635	\$180,318	\$38,671	\$11,320	\$564,992	\$6,778	N/A
PROJECT TOTAL	\$1,139,023	\$2,914,360	\$2,183,853	\$468,346	\$137,095	\$6,842,677	\$204,692	\$1,819,838
In-Kind Contributions (Land, Office Space, Labor, Design)	\$2,200,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$3,300,000		



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