

11.16.09

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

December 2, 2005

Agenda

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178



AGENDA EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL Teleconference December 2, 2005 8:00 a.m. Anchorage, Alaska

DRAFT 11/29/05 8:40 AM

DRAFT

Trustee Council Members:

SCOTT NORDSTRAND
Commissioner
Alaska Department of
Administration

JAMES BALSIGER
Administrator, Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service

KURT FREDRIKSSON
Commissioner
Alaska Department of
Environmental Conservation

DRUE PEARCE
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
for Alaskan Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior

MCKIE CAMPBELL
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish
and Game

JOE MEADE
Forest Supervisor
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Teleconference meeting in Anchorage, Trustee Council Office, 441 West 5th Avenue, Suite 500
Teleconference # 1-800-315-6338, code 1202
_____ State Chair

1. Call to Order – 8:00 a.m.
2. Consent Agenda
 - Approval of Agenda*
 - Approval of Trustee Council November 10, 2005 meeting notes*
3. Public comment – 8:10 a.m.
4. Public Advisory Committee dialogue – 8:20 a.m. (30 MINUTE DURATION)
 - PAC Chairman's Report
 - PAC member's comments

Federal Trustees
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

State Trustees
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

5. Executive Director's Report
 - Discussion of FY 07 Invitation – Richard Dworsky, Science Coordinator
 - Symposium update, discuss Restoration Program – Gail Phillips, Executive Director and Richard Dworsky, Science Coordinator
 - ARLIS update on security cameras and digital video recorders – Carrie Holba, ARLIS
 6. Request for Amendment to Project 040620-2 (Ballachey & Bodkin)* – Dede Bohn, USGS
 7. Annual Budget*
- Executive Session if necessary
8. Adjourn

* Indicates action items

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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AGENDA EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Teleconference
December 2, 2005 10:00 a.m.
Anchorage, Alaska

DRAFT 11/23/05 1:20 PM

DRAFT

Trustee Council Members:

SCOTT NORDSTRAND
Commissioner
Alaska Department of
Administration

JAMES BALSIGER
Administrator, Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service

KURT FREDRIKSSON
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7. Annual Budget*

Executive Session if necessary

8. Adjourn

* Indicates action items

November 10, 2005
Meeting Notes

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Anchorage, Alaska

November 10, 2005

DRAFT - 11/23/05 9:00 am

DRAFT

Chaired by: McKie Campbell
Trustee Council Member

Trustee Council Members Present:

• Steve Zemke, USFS *
Drue Pearce, DOI
Craig O'Connor, NMFS **

McKie Campbell, ADF&G
Kurt Fredriksson, ADEC
Scott Nordstrand, ADOA ***

- Chair
- * Steve Zemke alternate for Joe Meade
- ** Craig O'Connor alternate for James Balsiger
- *** Craig Tillery alternate for Scott Nordstrand after 11:45 a.m.

Meeting convened at 10:08 a.m., November 10, 2005 in Anchorage at the EVOS Conference Room.

1. Approval of the Agenda

APPROVED MOTION: Approval of the November 10, 2005 agenda
Motion by Pearce, second by Nordstrand

2. Approval of August 5, 2005 meeting notes

APPROVED MOTION: Approval of August 5, 2005 meeting notes
Motion by Pearce

3. Approval of August 10, 2005 meeting notes

APPROVED MOTION: Approval of the August 10, 2005 meeting notes
Motion by Pearce, second by Nordstrand

4. Approval of September 21, 2005 meeting notes

APPROVED MOTION: Approval of the September 21, 2005 meeting notes with the following revisions: Revise page 2 item number 2 re Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative (AYK SSI), change "approve" to "draft" a Memorandum of Agreement between *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Data Management and the Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative (AYK SSI) sharing data through the utilization of the peer review data system located at the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill office. Revise page 3 item number 7 re change "entering into" to "draft" a Memorandum of Agreement . . .

Motion by Fredriksson, second by Campbell

Public comment period began at 10:30 a.m.

Six individuals offered public comment.

Public comment period closed at 10:45 a.m.

Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and Trustee Council dialogue began at 10:45 a.m.

Comments were offered by six PAC members: Stacy Studebaker, Co-chair; Dr. John Gerster, Co-chair; RJ Kopchak; Torie Baker; Mead Treadwell; and Pat Lavin.

PAC dialogue closed at 11:15a.m.

Off the record: 11:15 a.m.

On the record: 11:25 a.m.

2. FY 2006 Admin Budget/Continuing Resolution for December 2005

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to move the FY 2006 Administrative Budget Continuing Resolution for December 2005 discussion ahead of the Executive Director's report

Motion by Campbell, second by Nordstrand

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the interim EVOS Administrative Budget for December of '05 as

presented with the changes noted (no step increases until the subcommittee reviews salaries and job classifications) and that the final resolution be circulated later for signatures

Motion by Nordstrand, second Campbell

Commissioner Scott Nordstrand left the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Deputy Attorney General Craig Tillery sat in as the Alternate for the rest of the meeting.

3. Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve EVOSTC/AYK-SSI Memorandum of Agreement pending Department of Justice approval

Motion by Campbell, second by O'Connor

4. Adams/Mullins Revised Proposal 060784

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve one year additional funding of \$108,400 for project 060784, Adams/Mullins

Motion by Campbell, second by Fredriksson

5. Bickford 060782 additional funding request

NO ACTION

6. Small Parcel Acquisition Program

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve Small Parcel Acquisition Program policy with the revision on page 1 under item number 2, Parcel Nominations. Parcels will be nominated through a sponsoring agency.

Motion by Pearce, second by Fredriksson

7. Proposals not responsive to FY 06 Invitation: Saupe, Willette, Walker

NO ACTION

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Motion by Fredriksson, second by Tillery

**Executive Director's
Report**

Principles for the 07 Invitation

Principle 1: Continue existing long term data collection programs as appropriate.

Principle 2: Expedite potential restoration actions if possible.

Principle 3: Maintain a Prince William Sound ecosystem focus.

Principle 4: Continue to involve stakeholders and the public.

Principle 6: Complete and finalize all on-going data and information studies in order to complete a baseline for future action.

Principle 5: Use mini proposals (and selection) prior to full proposal preparation- (see following)

Mini proposals would solicited to conform with the above principals have could have paid reviewers (or STAC) prescreen "letters of intent" (also called planning letters)-- basically short proposals (5 pages of description, rough budget) The prescreening process occurs in a panel meeting discussion following having at least 3 peer reviewed proposals beforehand and provide written reviews for all of the others. The planning letters are rated on suitability to the mission, scientific excellence, quality of the proposers, other work, etc. Then you request full proposals from the ones that appear from the planning letters to be the best. Then have a full, pro-bono review of the now, hopefully, fewer number of proposals.

Projects to be completed or new directions

1. Saupe—air photo completion
2. PWSSC Black hole netting
3. New- synthesis of fishing studies Cordova area
4. Cokelett ferry measurements
5. Recreation map
6. Walker salmon research submission in 06
7. Upland studies completion watershed
8. Water quality monitoring in PWS rivers
9. Completion of integrated data bases
10. Compilation of watershed, nearshore, off shore ACC research studies and summarizations
11. Institutional study of EVOSTC
12. Modification of EIS
13. Map of location of studies
14. Summary of actions from 1992 -2005

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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MEMORANDUM



TO: Trustee Council

DATE: 11-23-05

FROM: Gail Phillips
Executive Director

RE: Request for Amendment to
to Project 040620-2
(Ballachey and Bodkin) \$87,200

Attached are the narrative (Word document) and budget (Excel file) request for a FY06 amendment to Project 040620-2. This is a multi-year project on the effects of lingering oil on sea otters which is already receiving funds for '06. This amendment describes the need for additional work and analyses.

This project will provide a major contribution to Integral's report and the interpretations promised under the original proposals have been acquired by the PIs are being provided to Integral for inclusion in their report.

Ballachey and Bodkin are requesting an amendment of \$87,200 to cover additional work that only became evident during recent discussions comparing the sea otter and harlequin duck biomarker data that identified the potential for seasonal effects of exposure to lingering oil. The new data would be collected in March '06 and the results and interpretation would be expected to be available by June 1, 2006. This information would be useful to the Trustees for your assessment of determining what is left to do regarding lingering oil and its effects on the oil spill area ecosystem and for use in the 2006 Update on Injured Resources and Species.

Time wise, the PIs feel it is important to collect this biomarker data from the sea otters in March because it would be the best correlation to the results of their July '05 samples which would provide them with seasonal samples eight months apart and having the results and interpretations available in June will enable them to include the results in the '06 Update. Waiting to submit this under the '07 Invitation would not meet our needs for this information as we proceed now with the Injured Resources and Species update.

**REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO PROJECT 040620-2:
LINGERING OIL AND SEA OTTERS: PATHWAYS OF EXPOSURE AND
RECOVERY STATUS**

B.E. Ballachey and J.L. Bodkin
USGS Alaska Science Center
Anchorage, Alaska
Phone 907/786-3550/Fax 907/786-3636
brenda.ballachey@usgs.gov, james.bodkin@usgs.gov

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

Sea otters and sea ducks in western Prince William Sound suffered heavy mortality following exposure to the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* spill, and populations in those areas that received heaviest shoreline oiling have not yet recovered. Studies on sea otters and harlequin ducks have been conducted in parallel since 1996, and for both species, continued exposure to lingering oil has been implicated as a factor constraining recovery over the last decade. In 2005, both sea otters and sea ducks (harlequins and Barrow's goldeneyes) were captured and sampled for cytochrome P450 1A, a biomarker of hydrocarbon exposure (sea otter work under Project 040620-2: Lingering Oil and Sea Otters: Pathways of Exposure and Recovery Status, and sea duck work under Project 040774, Oil Exposure Biomarkers and Population Trends of Prince William Sound Marine Vertebrates). The long-term post-spill studies of sea otters and harlequin ducks, in conjunction with related efforts to document the extent and location of lingering oil, have vastly enhanced our understanding of routes of exposure to hydrocarbons and chronic effects of oil spills on vertebrate species.

We completed the fieldwork portion of the sea otter studies (Project 040620-2) in summer of 2005; efforts included capture of otters for collection of biological samples and recovery of time-depth recorders (TDRs), and aerial surveys of population abundance and distribution. Preliminary results indicate that CYP1A values of otters in the oiled area (northern Knight Island) are showing convergence with those of otters in the unoiled area. However, there is still no evidence of increasing population abundance at northern Knight Island. Analyses of patterns of habitat use by individual sea otters, utilizing dive data from recovered TDRs, are underway. Aerial surveys at northern Knight Island demonstrated that sea otter abundance in that area remains well below the pre-spill estimate, with no indication of any increasing in numbers since 1993 (when surveys were initiated).

A remaining question for sea otters is the potential effect of the season of capture on induction of the CYP1A biomarker: to date, all sea otter captures have been conducted during the summer (June to August). In contrast, the harlequin duck captures have been conducted only during November or March. It is well recognized that winter is the period of greatest stress for sea otters, with highest rates of mortality known to occur from January through March. In PWS, sea otters are at the northernmost limit of their range, and so presumably are at greater risk of adverse winter conditions than their counterparts elsewhere. Physiological stresses on the otters

potentially are elevated during winter months, due to relatively poor body condition, greater caloric needs (more foraging time required), and higher levels of oil exposure due to increased storm activity disturbing contaminated sediments. Consequently, sea otters may be more vulnerable to effects of lingering oil during the winter, but we have biomarker, health or condition data collected on sea otters only in summer months. Preliminary data from the sampling of sea ducks raise concerns that season (winter vs. summer) may have an influence on expression of the CYP1A biomarker.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PROJECT 040620

To maximize comparability of the sea otter and harlequin duck biomarker data, and to ensure that our data on sea otter recovery includes observations during the period of highest physiological stress, we propose to conduct one additional capture operation for sea otters in western PWS, in late winter of 2006, with the primary objective of monitoring the CYP1A biomarker. Additional objectives include collection of morphometric measurements to assess body condition--these measurements have not previously been collected and, in consideration of the long-term data set that has been amassed for PWS sea otters, they should be of particular value in understanding the challenges faced by sea otters during winter. To maximize comparability with previous years of data, we will again evaluate hematology and serum chemistry as well as perform endoscopy to visualize the liver and obtain a biopsy for histopathology. An additional benefit of this capture operation may be the recovery of TDRs that were implanted in sea otters in 2003 or 2004, and that were not recovered in summer 2005. Seven TDRs remain in sea otters in western PWS, and during the course of a winter capture, we may have the opportunity to recover some of these, thus increasing our data set on dive depths and habitat use by sea otters in the oiled area.

The target number for capture and sampling is 20 sea otters from the oiled area at northern Knight Island, and 10 sea otters from the nearby unoiled study area at Montague Island. Methods followed will be as described in the original DPD for Project 040620-2. Biomarker analyses will be conducted at Purdue University, using methods developed for sea otters, consistent with CYP1A assays from 2002 – 2005. Results from the laboratory are anticipated by 15 May 2006, and a supplement to the final report for Project 040620-2 will be provided to the EVOS Trustee Council by 1 June 2006.

A budget for the winter capture work is attached.

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

FY06: Amount requested 87.2K\$

Justification for each item in the attached budget is as follows:

Personnel: 29.0 K\$ Funds will provide the salary support necessary for planning and implementation of the capture operation, as well as for personnel conducting the capture. Funds

Ballachey and Bodkin

Amendment to Project 040620-2

Page 2 of 3

are also requested for 0.5 PP for data analyses and preparation of a final report. USGS will be providing 2.3 K in additional salary support.

Travel: 3.7 K\$ Funds are requested for transport of project personnel to Whittier, with anticipation of a one night stay in Whittier at each end of the capture trip. Additional funds are requested for travel for a veterinarian (Dr. Paul Snyder) from Indiana to Alaska.

Contractual: 42.9 K\$ Funds are requested for a charter vessel for capture operations (24.0K), aerial support in locating target sea otters for capture (8.8 K), veterinarian support for surgical procedures (4.5K), and assays of the CYP1A biomarker, blood chemistry, and age determinations (5.6K).

Commodities: 4.4 K\$ Funds are requested for veterinarian supplies (drugs for sedation, surgical supplies, related equipment) for capture and handling of the sea otters. For fuel, for skiffs and the Boston whaler, 400 gallons of fuel are requested at an estimated cost of \$3.50 per gallon. The USGS/Alaska Science Center will provide miscellaneous commodities such as office supplies, tools, notebooks and paper, etc.

Equipment: \$0 K\$ No funds are requested for equipment. The USGS/Alaska Science Center has necessary equipment required for the capture operation including a 25' Boston Whaler, inflatable skiffs, diving gear and nets for capture, and other field equipment (binoculars, GPS units, survival gear, computers etc).

2006 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

Budget Category:	Authorized FY 2006	Proposed FY 2006					
Personnel		\$29.0					
Travel	\$6.0	\$3.7					
Contractual		\$42.9					
Commodities		\$4.4					
Equipment		\$0.0					
Subtotal	\$6.0	\$80.0	LONG RANGE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS				
General Administration	\$0.5	\$7.2				Estimated FY 2007	
Project Total	\$6.5	\$87.2				\$0.0	
Full-time Equivalents (FTE)		0.4					
Dollar amounts are shown in thousands of dollars.							
Other Resources							
Comments: USGS will contribute: Salary Bodkin (1.0 PP): \$4.4K Vessel use (Boston whaler): \$3.7K Equipment and facilities: \$5K Total cost-share funds: \$13.1 K							

FY06

Prepared: Nov. 2005

Project Number:
Project Title: Amendment to 040620-2: Lingering Oil and Sea Otters:
Pathways of Exposure and Recovery Status
Agency: USGS

FORM 3A
TRUSTEE
AGENCY
SUMMARY

2006 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

Personnel Costs:		GS/Range/ Step	Months Budgeted	Monthly Costs	Overtime	Proposed FY 2006
Name	Position Description					
James Bodkin	Wildlife Biologist	13	0.5	9.0		4.5
Brenda Ballachey	Research Physiologist	12	1.0	8.0		8.0
Daniel Monson	Wildlife Biologist	11	1.0	6.0		6.0
George Esslinger	Wildlife Biologist	9	0.5	6.0		3.0
Heather Coletti	Fisheries Biotechnician	7	1.0	5.0		5.0
Biotechnician		7	0.5	5.0		2.5
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
Subtotal			4.5	39.0	0.0	
Personnel Total						\$29.0
Travel Costs:		Ticket Price	Round Trips	Total Days	Daily Per Diem	Proposed FY 2006
Description						
Travel to Whittier for field crew			6	12	0.1	1.2
Travel from Indiana to Alaska for Dr. Snyder		1.0	1	15	0.1	2.5
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
						0.0
Travel Total						\$3.7

FY06

Prepared: Nov. 2005

Project Number:
Project Title: Amendment to 040620-2: Lingering Oil and Sea Otters:
Pathways of Exposure and Recovery Status
Agency: USGS

FORM 3B
Personnel
& Travel
DETAIL

2006 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL PROJECT BUDGET

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

Contractual Costs:		Proposed
Description		FY 2006
Vessel charter for captures 15 days in March/April 2006 @ \$1600/day		24.0
Aerial support for capture operations, 40 hours @ \$220/hr/		8.8
Cytochrome P450 & histology assays, 30 @ 150.00		4.5
Veterinarian support, 15 days @ \$300/day		4.5
Blood assays (serum chemistry) 30 @ \$30		0.9
Age determinations on teeth, 20 @\$10		0.2
When a non-trustee organization is used, the form 4A is required.		
Contractual Total		\$42.9
Commodities Costs:		Proposed
Description		FY 2006
Veterinarian supplies, 30 otters @ \$100/otter		3.0
Fuel (skiffs, whaler), 400 gallons @ \$3.50/gallon		1.4
Commodities Total		\$4.4

FY06

Prepared: Nov. 2005

Project Number:

Project Title: Amendment to 040620-2: Lingering Oil and Sea Otters:
Pathways of Exposure and Recovery Status

Agency: USGS

FORM 3B
Contractual &
Commodities
DETAIL

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

FY06

FORM 3B Equipment DETAIL

FY06 amendment 040620-2

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Council

DATE: 11-23-05

FROM: Gail Phillips
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gail', is written over the printed name 'Gail Phillips'.

RE: Annual Budget

Attached is a copy of the revised annual budget that I submitted to the Budget Subcommittee on 11-21-05. The revised budget follows the new format recommended by the subcommittee and coordinated through ADF&G's administrative staff.

Although the Budget Subcommittee does not meet until December 1st to go through the budget for their final recommendations, I did want to make sure you could see what was being proposed ahead of time. The subcommittee may propose additional changes. If they do, we will have those changes ready for your consideration during the 12/02 Council meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the budget before the meeting.

Thanks.

FFY06 EVOS Budget DRAFT – ALL FUNDS

Administration Management (AM)	\$1,241,311.00
Data Management (DM)	\$ 29,400.00
Science Management (SM)	\$ 189,100.00
Community Involvement (CI)	\$ 23,300.00
Public Advisory Committee (PAC)	\$ 40,850.00
Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)	\$ 63,300.00
Trustee Council Member (TC)	\$ 34,500.00
Program Support / Project Management (PSPM)	\$ 789,388.04
TOTAL	\$2,411,149.04

Administration Management (AM) CC 11961000 / 11966309 /\$1,241,311

Personnel	\$ 910,056.00
Travel	\$ 13,380.00
Contractual	\$ 279,475.00
Commodities	\$ 23,400.00
Equipment	\$ 15,000.00

EVOS PERSONNEL COSTS (excluding ARLIS) FOR 12 MONTHS - \$910,056

Job Title	R/S	Monthly Cost	Annual Cost	Funding
Executive Director	28L	13,382.13	160,585.56	EVOS AM
Science Director	26E	10,931.77	131,181.24	EVOS AM
Science Coordinator	22L	9,996.77	119,961.24	Fed/EVOS AM
Data Systems Manager	22E	8,751.43	105,017.16	EVOS AM
Administrative Officer	18E	6,889.48	82,673.76	Fed/EVOS AM
Analyst/Programmer III	18C (SMI)	6,475.92	77,711.00	Fed/EVOS AM
Research Analyst	18B (SMI)	6,321.22	75,854.64	EVOS AM
Administrative Officer	18A	6,134.49	73,613.88	EVOS AM
Administrative Assistant	18B (SMI)	6,321.22	75,854.64	EVOS AM
Intern (3 months)	10A	3,129.00	9,387.00	EVOS AM
TOTAL			\$910,056	

TRAVEL – \$13,380.00

- **One Week Per Diem, Airfare, Hotel Stay for Admin Officer \$2,000.00**

Travel support for new Admin Officer to spend one week in Juneau for training on State Accounting procedures.

- **Audit Review and Financial Administrative Issues \$3,380.00**

Travel support for meetings in Juneau to participate in audit reviews and contend with financial and administrative issues. Support consists of four two-day trips, at approximately \$845 per trip, to include, airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **Investment Working Group (IWG) and Staff: Out-of-State Conferences/Meetings \$6,400.00**

Travel support for two staff persons and two Investment Working Group Members to travel outside Alaska to attend a two day investment symposium, at the cost of approximately \$1,600.00 per trip. Support cost includes airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **IWG and Staff Investment Training \$1,600.00**

Travel support for one staff person to attend an investment training class (location and duration to be determined), estimated cost \$1600.00, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per Diem* and lodging.

CONTRACTUAL – \$279,475.00

- **(USGS) EVOS Office Space \$144,000.00**

USGS – The EVOS Office is located at, 441 West 5th Avenue in Anchorage Alaska. The lease is administered by Government Services Administration through the U.S. Geological Survey at a cost of \$156,960.00 annually. (\$144,000.00 lease plus \$12,960.00 GA to USGS). (The \$12,960 GA amount can be found under Program Support/Project Management).

- **Audit Contract \$35,000.00**

Funds to support a contract with Elgee Rehfeld Mertz, LLC (accounting firm) to conduct an audit on FY 04 and FY 05 at the cost of \$17,500.00 per year audited.

- **Publication Development \$4,000.00**

These funds are to support the cost to develop and publish the EVOS annual report.

- **Utilities \$26,400.00**

These funds are to cover telephone, teleconferencing meetings, long distance, cell phone (for all EVOS functions), at an estimated cost \$2,200.00 per month.

- **Trustee Council Meetings \$1,500.00**

These funds are to cover expenses for five Trustee Council meetings, at an estimated cost of \$300.00 per meeting.

- **Public Notices \$7,100.00**

These funds are to cover the cost of advertisement of EVOS public meetings and work shops in the spill affected area news papers, FY 05 total advertisement expenditures were \$10,218, which included personnel solicitations. Advertisement expenditures are expected to be limited to the advertisement of public meetings and work shops.

- **Postage \$3,000.00**

These funds are to cover cost of US postal service mailings.

- **Courier Services \$1,200.00**

These funds are to cover the cost of express mailings (DHL/Federal Express/UPS etc...) and courier services, at an estimated cost of \$100 per month.

- **Equipment Maintenance and agreements \$5,850.00**

These funds are to cover the cost of the maintenance agreement for the Savin Printer/copier (\$4500.00), and any unforeseen maintenance expenses on other office equipment (\$1000.00), as well as postage meter usage fees etc. (\$350.00).

- **ADA Compliance \$1,225.00**

These funds are to cover the expense of any ADA needs necessary to accommodate access to EVOS sponsored meetings.

- **Transcription \$6,000.00**

These funds are to cover a contract with Computer Matrix for transcription services.

- **Computer Service and Telecommunications EPR \$16,200.00**

These funds are to cover EVOS's share of the EPR Telecommunications and computer services paid by all ADFG divisions, these costs are based on the number of full time positions divided by the total cost, and estimated cost per position (ten full time positions) per year \$1,620.00.

- **Staff Training and Conference Registration \$6,000.00**

These funds are to pay for the cost of various conference registrations, and administrative staff training.

- **Habitat Parcels Catalog Production \$22,000.00**

ADNR to produce a parcel catalog publication. \$22,000 for the catalog production \$1,980 for (GA) included in project management section.

COMMODITIES - \$23,400.00

- **Office supplies \$17,000.00**

These funds are to cover the cost of miscellaneous office supplies, paper, toner, meeting materials etc.

(The NOS grant absorbs \$6,400.00 for miscellaneous office supplies and equipment costs for Science Management and Administrative related expenses.)

EQUIPMENT - \$15,000.00

- **Copier \$15,000.00**

Our old copier is reaching the end of its life cycle and we have been advised by the maintenance staff servicing it that its ability to function will continue to decline and it will become highly unreliable.

Data Management (DM) CC 11961010 - \$29,400.00

Personnel

Travel \$ 16,500.00

Contractual \$ 900.00

Commodities \$ 12,000.00

Equipment

TRAVEL – \$16,500.00

- **Centralized Project/Information Management Development Work Shops \$5,000.00**

Travel support for 6-8 people to attend two two day work shops regarding the development of a centralized approach to project and information management for regional marine science initiatives at an estimated cost of \$2,500.00 per work shop, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **Data Management Training out of state \$7,500.00**

Travel support for two Data Management staff persons to attend training out of state for up to five days; includes tuition and all travel expenses.

- **Data Management National Conference and meetings \$4,000.00**

Travel support for two Data Management staff persons to attend and or participate in conferences or meetings out of state for up to three days at an estimated cost of \$2000.00 per trip to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

CONTRACTUAL -\$900.00

- **Data Management Work shops \$900.00**

These funds are to support miscellaneous meeting costs for two possibly three EVOS sponsored work shops, estimated cost per meeting \$300.00.

COMMODITIES - \$12,000.00

- **Computer Software and Hardware \$12,000.00**

These funds are to cover any software licenses and/or maintenance for the entire office.

Science Management (SM) CC 11961020 - \$189,100.00

Personnel

Travel \$ 55,600.00

Contractual \$133,500.00

Commodities

Equipment

TRAVEL – \$55,600.00

- **Annual Marine Science Symposium \$2,000.00**

Travel support for keynote speaker, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **IGD - Injured Species Review Team \$4,000.00 (Outside of Agency Staff)**

Travel support for the Injured Species Review team to attend meetings in Anchorage. Expenses will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging for extra-agency staff.

- **National Conferences and Meetings \$9,600.00**

Travel support for two science staff persons to attend three national conferences/meetings, estimated to cost \$1,600.00 per trip, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **Lingering oil Committee Meetings \$40,000.00**

\$20,000 per 2-day meeting for Lingering Oil Committee to meet in Anchorage – estimated need is for 2 meetings in 2006.

CONTRACTUAL - \$133,500.00

- **Staff Training and Conference Registration \$2,000.00**

These funds are to pay of the cost of various conference registrations and Science staff training.

- **Annual Marine Science Symposium \$25,000.00**

These funds to support the Annual Marine Science Symposium are to include, meeting space, food, equipment rental. The symposium's total estimated cost is \$60,000.00; costs will be offset by other agency funding sources.

- **Science Management Work shops \$2,000.00**

These funds are to support miscellaneous meeting costs for two EVOS sponsored work shops, estimated cost per meeting \$1,000.00.

- **Injured Species update publication \$9,500.00**

Publication and printing cost of the ISU publication. \$5,500 for technical writing and \$4,000 for publication.

- **Applied Marine Science contract \$95,000.00**

ADNR Lingering Oil Studies; Peer Reviews

Community Involvement (CI) CC 11961030 - \$23,300

Personnel

Travel \$ 16,300

Contractual \$ 7,000

Commodities

Equipment

TRAVEL - \$16,300

- **Spill Area Community Meetings/Conferences \$4,200**

Travel support for three staff persons to attend and or participate in minimum of two community sponsored meetings in the spill effected area at an estimated cost of \$700.00 per trip, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **Injured Species Workshops \$12,100**

Travel support for a series of one day work shops in the spill affected areas to assist Science Staff in the development of an update to the 1994 Restoration Plan and Injured Resources and Services documents, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging for 2 EVOS staff plus one Trustee.

CONTRACTUAL - \$7000

- **Spill Area Community Meetings/Contract Costs \$7,000**

Costs include space rental (2K), meeting food (2k), recording service (1k), and publication of results (2K).

Public Advisory Committee (PAC) CC 11961040 - \$40,850

Personnel

Travel \$ 33,850

Contractual \$ 7,000

Commodities

Equipment

TRAVEL - \$33,850

- **PAC Meetings \$18,850**

Travel support for 13 out-of-town PAC members to attend approximately two meetings in Anchorage (one meeting to be held during the annual Marine Science Symposium) for a total of 26 two-day trips at an estimated average cost of \$725.00 per person per trip to include: airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **PAC Field Trip to Seward \$15,000**

Travel support for a field trip for 20 PAC members, Staff and Trustees to attend and participate in a public meeting in Seward, estimated duration of three days at an estimated cost of \$15,000.00, to include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem*, and lodging.

CONTRACTUAL - \$7,000

- **PAC Meetings \$2,000**

These funds will cover the cost of meeting space, refreshments, equipment rental and any unanticipated miscellaneous expenses

- **PAC Field trip \$5,000**

These funds will cover the cost of boat rental.

Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) CC 11961050 – \$63,300

Personnel

Travel \$23,300

Contractual \$40,000

Commodities

Equipment

TRAVEL - \$23,300

The NOS grant absorbs \$23,300.00 in travel costs for Science Management-related travel.

CONTRACTUAL - \$40,000

The NOS grant absorbs all of the cost for contracts (\$40,000.00 total) with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee Members.

Trustee Council Member (TC) CC 11961060 - \$34,500

Personnel

Travel \$34,500

Contractual

Commodities

Equipment

TRAVEL - \$34,500

- **ADFG Trustee Council Member Travel \$5,000**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one-day meetings in Anchorage at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel will be administered by the Commissioner's office and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **DOI Trustee Council Member Travel \$5,000**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one day meetings in Anchorage, at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel will be administered by the Commissioner's office and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **NOAA Trustee Council Member Travel \$5,000**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one-day meetings in Anchorage, at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel will be administered by the Commissioner's office and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **ADEC Trustee Council Member Travel \$5,000**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one-day meetings in Anchorage, at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel will be administered by the Commissioner's office and is to include, airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **USDOC Travel \$2,000**

Travel support for US Department of Commerce attorney to travel to participate and attend Trustee Council meetings for an estimated cost of \$2,000.00. Travel will be administered by the requesting agency and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **USDA, USFS Travel \$7,500**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one-day meetings in Anchorage, at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel Support for USDA General Council \$2,500.00. Travel will be administered by the requesting agency and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

- **USDOJ and ADNR – No travel support requested.**

- **DOL Trustee Council Member Travel \$5,000**

Travel support for the Trustee Council member or Alternate's travel expenses to participate in approximately five one day meetings in Anchorage, at a cost of approximately \$1000.00 per trip. Travel will be administered by the Commissioner's office and will include airfare, ground transportation, *per diem* and lodging.

Program Support /Project Management (PSPM) CC 11961070 - \$789,388

Personnel \$591,434
Travel
Contractual \$197,954.04 (GA)
Commodities
Equipment

Project Management (PM)

ADFG (Liaison)	\$ 90,000
DOI/USGS (Liaison – Bohn)	46,200
DOI/USFWS (Liaison – Kohout)	10,440
NOAA (Liaison – Hagen)	91,200
ADEC (Liaison – Dietrick)	85,000
USDA/USFS (Liaison – Zemke)	22,500
ADNR (Liaison – Fries)	<u>13,000</u>
TOTAL	\$358,340

General Administration (GA)

USGS – GA on building lease space	\$12,960.00
ADNR – Administration of Applied Marine contract	8,550.00
ADNR – Habitat Parcels Catalogue	1,980.00
ADNR - Oversight – Lingerin Oil Committee	5,400.00
Agency GA	169,064.04
ADF&G.....	\$97,298.16
DOI/USGS.....	18,612.00
ADNR.....	44,945.88
NOAA.....	8,208.00
TOTAL	<u>\$197,954.04</u>

Administrative Support (AS)

DOI/USGS (Federal Budget Officer – Nesslage)	\$ 15,750
DOI/USGS (Federal Representative/PAC – Mutter)	6,500
DOI/USFWS (Administrative Support)	4,000
NOAA/USDOC (O’Conner – Legal)	3,344
USDA (Obst – Legal)	8,500
USDOJ (Belt – Legal)	35,000
ADOL (Tillery – Legal)	60,000
ADNR (Habitat Acquisition Support)	50,000
Federal Agencies (Habitat Acquisition Support)	<u>50,000</u>
TOTAL	\$233,094

Staff	Salary cost including benefits	Federal NOS (11966309)	Admin (11961000)	ARLIS (11965500)
Science Coordinator	119,961.24	\$ 59,400	\$ 60,561	
Data Analyst	\$ 77,711	\$ 54,000	\$ 23,711	
Administrative Officer	82,673.76	\$ 51,300	\$ 31,374	
Executive Director	160,585.56		\$ 160,586	
Science Director	131,181.24		\$ 131,181	
Data Manager	105,017.16		\$ 105,017	
Research Analyst	75,854.64		\$ 75,855	
Administrative Manager	73,613.88		\$ 73,614	
Administrative Assistant	\$ 74,071		\$ 74,071	
Intern	\$ 9,387		\$ 9,387	
TOTAL	\$ 910,056	\$ 164,700	\$ 745,356	\$ -

Science Coordinator	11966309/11966309 - 48%	11961000/11961000- 52%
Data Analyst	11966309/11966309 - 69%	11961000/11961000- 31%
Administrative Officer	11966309/11966309 - 64%	11961000/11961000- 36%
Librarian	11965500/11965500-100%	
Executive Director	11961000/11961000-100%	
Science Director	11961000/11961000-100%	
Data Manager	11961000/11961000-100%	
Research Analyst	11961000/11961000-100%	
Administrative Manager	11961000/11961000-100%	
Administrative Assistant	11961000/11961000-100%	
Intern	11961000/11961000-100%	

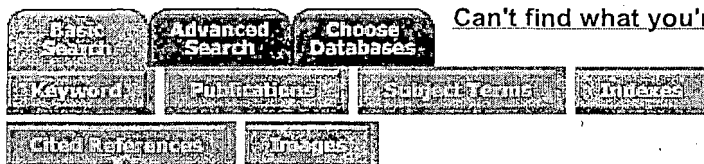
FFY06 EVOS Budget Detail		
Federal NOS Grant (budget dollars)		
CC	Description	LC
11966309	NOS Grant	11966309
	Personnel	164.7
	Travel	23.3
	Contractual	40.0
	Commodities	6.4
	Total	234.4

FFY06 EVOS Budget structure - PROPOSED DRAFT												
	EVOS AR 42940-06 Contract No.#29345											
		LC 1	LC 2	LC 3	LC 4	LC 5	LC 6	LC 7	LC 8	LC 9	LC 10	LC 11
CC	MAIN CATEGORY:	DEFAULT	ANNUAL STATUS REPORT	ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM	INJURED SPECIES UPDATE	LINGERING OIL	MEETINGS	MISCELLANEOUS CONFERENCES	PAC FIELD TRIP	PEER REVIEW DATABASE WORKSHOP	CENTRALIZED PJ & INFO MGMT DEV WORKSHOP	PROJECT MANAGEMENT
11961000	ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT (AM)	11961000	11961100				11961900	11962900				
11961010	DATA MANAGEMENT (DM)	11961010						11962900		11961110	11961210	
11961020	SCIENCE MANAGEMENT (SM)	11961020		11961120	11961220	11961320		11962900				
11961030	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (CI)	11961030					11961900	11962900				
11961040	PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)	11961040				11961040	11961900		11961140			
11961050	SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC)	11961050					11961900					
11961060	TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEMBER (TC)	11961060					11961900					
11961070	PROGRAM SUPPORT/PROJECT MANAGEMENT (PSPM)	11961070										11961170
	Main Category	AM	DM	SM	CI	PAC	STAC	TC	PSPM	FNOS	ARLIS	
	Main Category CC	11961000	11961010	11961020	11961030	11961040	11961050	11961060	11961070	11966309	11965500	Total
	Line Items											
	Personnel	910,056.00							591,434			1,501,490
	Travel	13,380.00	16,500	55,600	16,300	33,850	23,300	34,500				193,430
	Contractual	279,475.00	900	133,500	7,000	7,000	40,000		197,954			665,829
	Commodities	23,400.00	12,000									35,400
	Equipment	15,000										15,000
	Total	1,241,311	29,400	189,100	23,300	40,850	63,300	34,500	789,388	-	-	2,411,149
							See NOS					
	Ledger Codes											
	Administrative Management 11961000	X										
	Data Management 11961010		X									
	Science Management 11961030			X								
	Community Involvement 11961030				X							
	Public Advisory Committee 11961040					X						
	Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee 11961050						X					
	Trustee Council Member 11961060							X				
	Program Support 11961070								X			
	Annual Status Report 11961100	x										
	Annual Symposium 11961120			X								
	Injured Species Update 11961220			x								
	Lingering Oil 11961320			X								
	Meetings 11961900	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	Misc Conferences 11962900	X	X	X	X	X						
	PAC Field Trip 11961140					X						
	Peer Review Database Workshop 11961110		X									
	Centralized PJ & Info Mgmt Workshop 11961210		X									
	Project Management 11961170								X			

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Correspondence**

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Species' survival depends on the public's voice

Section: News, Pg. 13a

In 1989, as government lawyers tried to assess the environmental damage caused by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the American public was asked: How much was an Alaskan sea otter worth?

The presumption was that the existence of wild animals, even in such a remote corner of the USA, was the right of every citizen, and that the public deserved compensation should these animals be harmed. Eventually, a price tag of \$89,000 per oiled sea otter was used to calculate part of the \$1 billion settlement against Exxon (now the ExxonMobil Corp.).

The public is again being asked how much wild animals are worth. Based on proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act approved by the House of Representatives in September, the answer is, not much. At least not to the average American. Rather than businesses being charged for harming wildlife, the proposal would compensate developers and farmers on whose lands endangered species had the misfortune to reside.

Otter protection

Ironically, about the same time of the House vote, the newest species to make the threatened species list was the Alaskan sea otter. Once numbering more than 300,000, these marine mammals have dwindled to a few dozen in some areas of coastal Alaska and to outright extinction in others. Using the Exxon Valdez price tag, that amounts to \$26.7 billion in missing sea otters, or \$90 for every man, woman and child living

in the USA.

Who should be compensated for such enormous losses? Theoretically, every citizen, and that alone should be cause for concern -- and action.

For any other commodity or resource, the rarer the item, the higher its value. The Hope Diamond or a Van Gogh portrait is priceless. So, too, the rarer the species the greater should be its worth to every American, not simply businessmen, politicians and property owners.

The dismantling of environmental laws -- such as the Endangered Species Act that still faces action in the Senate -- risks the ultimate folly.

Americans are facing a suite of decisions regarding the fate of wild animals. The proposed changes to the Environmental Protection Act, the upcoming reauthorization of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the relaxation of laws associated with offshore oil exploration could have dire wildlife consequences. Yet the public has remained silent on these issues, and the non-response has been taken as approval by politicians.

Voice of reason

With the privilege of heritage comes responsibility. Every American is the voice of wild animals. In the past, the collective American voice demanded dolphin-safe tuna, freed Willy (aka Keiko the killer whale), instigated the rescue of oiled otters after the Exxon Valdez spill, and created laws ensuring the protection of wildlife. Americans proved that through writing, blogging, art, film, TV, protests and phoning, the average citizen could "save the planet" -- albeit one small piece at a time.

Without those environmental laws, we have little more than the naive hope that left to their own devices, sea otters will somehow survive.

Unfortunately, the level of human progress has become so pervasive and the impacts so potentially devastating that standing silently on the shoreline is no longer enough. History has demonstrated that the public's voice can make a difference, but the time to be heard is now.

Terrie Williams is a professor of wildlife biology at the University of California at Santa Cruz, the 1989 director of the Valdez Sea Otter Rescue Center, and the author of the upcoming *Spoiled: When Oil Men Dare Mother Nature*.



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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178

November 30, 2005



Ms. Sally Dickinson
6124 SW 30th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32608-2120

Dear Ms. Dickinson:

Thank you for your letter to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council regarding your position in support of asserting a reopener claim with regard to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement.

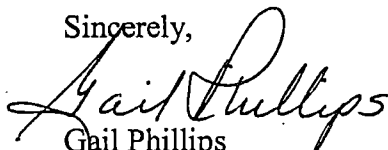
The provisions outlined in the 1991 court settlement between the United States, the State of Alaska and the Exxon Corporation clearly identified the limited responsibilities for the EVOS Trustee Council as the administrators of the natural resource damages obtained in the oil spill settlement. The Trustee Council is not authorized to act upon the reopener clause and has no formal role in that decision. The decision as to whether or not to proceed with a claim under the reopener provision is one jointly assigned to the state and federal governments. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the appropriate governmental officials.

However, the Trustee Council's research program has generated a great deal of information relevant to whether a claim could be made under the reopener. The Council provides any information requested by the governments and others for use in evaluating a potential reopener claim.

If you have any further questions or input to offer in regards to the reopener, please direct your communications to:

The Department of Law
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Sincerely,


Gail Phillips
Executive Director

Cc: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178

November 30, 2005



The Honorable Carolyn Floyd
Mayor – City of Kodiak
710 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Dear Mayor Floyd:

Carolyn -

Thank you for the City of Kodiak's Resolution #05-44 to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council regarding your position in support of asserting a reopener claim with regard to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement.

The provisions outlined in the 1991 court settlement between the United States, the State of Alaska and the Exxon Corporation clearly identified the limited responsibilities for the EVOS Trustee Council as the administrators of the natural resource damages obtained in the oil spill settlement. The Trustee Council is not authorized to act upon the reopener clause and has no formal role in that decision. The decision as to whether or not to proceed with a claim under the reopener provision is one jointly assigned to the state and federal governments. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the appropriate governmental officials.

However, the Trustee Council's research program has generated a great deal of information relevant to whether a claim could be made under the reopener. The Council provides any information requested by the governments and others for use in evaluating a potential reopener claim.

We do appreciate the fact that your Resolution provided specific examples of harm caused by unforeseen damages and ideas for restoration projects. If you have any further questions in regards to the reopener, please direct your communications to:

The Department of Law
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Sincerely,

Gail
Gail Phillips
Executive Director

Cc: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council

*Hope all is going well
with you. It was nice
seeing you at AML.*
Gail

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178



November 30, 2005

Mr. Alexander Bychkov
Executive Secretary, PICES
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 6000
Sidney, BC Canada V8L 4B2

Dear Secretary Bychkov:

We just received your letter with the information on the 2006 international symposium on *Climate Variability and Ecosystem Impacts on the North Pacific*. As much as we would all appreciate a trip to Hawaii during Alaska's break-up season, I wanted to let you know as soon as possible that our organization will not be in a position to co-sponsor this event next year.

Your program looks very interesting and certainly aims at addressing pertinent topics that may affect all of the oceans communities. I am forwarding your invitation to all of our Trustee agencies in case any of them are interested in helping to sponsor or to attend this symposium.

Good luck in your planning endeavors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gail Phillips'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Gail' being more prominent and the last name 'Phillips' following in a similar style.

Gail Phillips
Executive Director

✓Cc: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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North Pacific
Marine Science
Organization



PICES letter

October 18, 2005

Ms. Gail Phillips
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
441 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99501, U.S.A.

Dear Ms. Phillips:

I am writing to request your support in developing science in an area of mutual interest to our Organizations.

The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), and the International Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics (International GLOBEC) program are co-sponsoring a symposium on "*Climate Variability and Ecosystem Impacts on the North Pacific: A Basin-scale Synthesis*". This international symposium will occur in Honolulu, on April 19-21, 2006. The goal of the symposium is to bring together scientists that have common interests in examining the influence of climate variability and change on marine ecosystems of the North Pacific and adjacent seas. Research on this topic has been worldwide, but there have been, to date, few attempts to bring together the entire research community to examine the temporal scales and coherence of these climate impacts. This symposium is attempting to achieve such a synthesis.

The organizers have identified several themes for the symposium, which we believe will attract broad participation by scientists from countries bordering the North Pacific. In the interest of achieving synthesis, the program is structured to be entirely plenary—no overlapping sessions. This encourages all participants to attend all presentations—a necessary prerequisite to achieving a synthesis. Products of the synthesis symposium will be 1) sharing of data sets on climate change and ecosystem impacts, 2) improved biophysical models of basin-scale "regime shifts", and 3) an improved understanding of how climate warming and climate variability may impact North Pacific ocean systems. An important product of the meeting will be the proceedings published in a special issue of *Progress in Oceanography*.

I believe that this symposium will be directly relevant to the focal research themes in the integrated Ecosystem Monitoring and Research (GEM) program that the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council is developing for the Gulf of Alaska, one of the world's most productive marine ecosystems. As you know, climate change can make it very difficult to distinguish between the effects of human impacts, such as oiling, and those natural processes, such as weather patterns, on marine resources. The issues that you are attempting to address include climate change impacts on distributions and abundances of species, physical and chemical changes, impacts on lower trophic levels and energy flow up through the food web, and economic and social impacts of such change. All of these issues have direct relevance to our proposed symposium.

Secretariat
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 6000,
Sidney, B.C.,
Canada, V8L 4B2
Phone: (250) 363-6366
Fax: (250) 363-6827
E-Mail: secretariat@pices.int
Internet: www.pices.int

Chairman
Vera Alexander

Vice-Chairman
Tokio Wada

Executive Secretary
Alexander S. Bychkov

North Pacific
Marine Science
Organization



International symposia such as this are expensive. The total cost of the symposium is anticipated to be around US \$120,000-130,000. We are requesting support from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council on the order of US\$10,000-15,000. Your support will be combined with that from other organizations such as the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research, National Marine Fisheries Service, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, and North Pacific Research Board, to make this a truly successful and cooperative effort.

We hope you will agree with us that this project is very pertinent to the mandate of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, as this symposium will help to develop better understanding how climate variability will affect productivity of North Pacific marine ecosystems (including the Gulf of Alaska) and their ability to support sustainable commercial and subsistence harvests.

We would welcome your cooperation and support.

Sincerely yours,



Alexander Bychkov
Executive Secretary, PICES

Secretariat
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 6000,
Sidney, B.C.,
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Chairman
Vera Alexander

Vice-Chairman
Tokio Wada

Executive Secretary
Alexander S. Bychkov