

13.08.01 – Reading File

June 2000

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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catherine Berg / DOI
Carol Fries / ADNR
Ken Holbrook / USFS
Celia Rozen / ADFG
Marianne See / ADEC
Bruce Wright / NOAA

FROM: Sandra Schubert *Sandra Schubert*
Project Coordinator

RE: Project Status -- Quarterly Update
DUE MONDAY, July 24, 2000

DATE: June 22, 2000

Please find attached Project Status Update Forms for the quarter ending June 30, 2000. The forms and the instructions for filling them out are the same as they were last quarter. The quarterly report is an opportunity for you to contact each PI to discuss project progress and to report your findings to the Restoration Office. If a PI has an overdue report, please work with the PI to determine when it will be submitted. If other project tasks have been delayed or canceled, please get an explanation from the PI. Also use the update forms to report any issues or other interesting events that have arisen with particular projects.

Also attached is a list of reports that are overdue in being submitted to the Chief Scientist.

Please return your completed update forms to me by Monday, July 24 , 2000.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Overdue Repo... (as of 6/22/00)

Agency	Project Number	PI	Final or Annual	Project Title	Status of Report
ADEC	99514	See	Final	Lower Cook Inlet Waste Management Plan	Project schedule delayed. Plan/report originally due 2/28/99; then expected 3/00; still not received.
ADFG	FS13	Baker	Final	Effects of hydrocarbons on bivalves	Peer reviewed; returned to PI for revision 11/11/98. Now expected early summer 2000.
ADFG	93033-1	Rothe	Final	Harlequin duck - Afognak habitat assessment/PWS production	Peer reviewed; returned to PI for revision 11/14/95; most recent due date was 7/1/98; then expected 5/31/00; still not received.
ADFG	93033-2	Rothe	Final	Harlequin restoration	Never submitted; most recent due date was 7/1/98; then expected 5/31/00; still not received.
ADFG	96258A-1	Tarbox	Final	Sockeye: Kenai	Never submitted; was due 1/1/98 (with manuscript). PI will retire 6/1/00; if report not submitted by that date, a new strategy will need to be devised.
ADFG	96258A-2	Swanton	Final	Sockeye: Kodiak	Never submitted; was due 10/30/97; then expected 3/31/00; still not received.
ADFG	97165	Seeb	Final	Herring genetics	Peer reviewed; returned to PI for revision 6/29/99
ADFG	99127	Kompkoff	Annual	Tatitlek coho release	Never submitted; was due 4/15/00
ADFG	99252-1	L. Seeb	Final	Genetics project: pollock component	Never submitted; was due 9/30/99; then expected 4/30/00; still not received.
ADFG	99252-2	L. Seeb	Final	Genetics project: black rockfish component	Never submitted; was due 1/31/00; now expected 6/30/00.
ADFG	99273	Rosenberg	Annual	Surf scoters	Never submitted; was due 6/15/00; now expected 9/1/00.
ADFG	99379	Jewett	Annual	P450 activity in fish	Never submitted; was due 6/1/00.
ADNR	98180	Weiner	Annual	Kenai River restoration	Peer reviewed; returned to PI for revision 8/23/99
ADNR	99007A	Reger	Annual	Archaeology index sites	Never submitted; was due 4/15/00
DOI	99159	Irons	Annual	Marine bird surveys	Never submitted; was due 4/15/00
NOAA	99195	Short	Annual	Pristane	Never submitted; was due 6/1/00.
NOAA	99361	Allen	Video	Dynamic graphical techniques	Never submitted; was due 9/30/99; now expect 7/21/00

Overdue Repo. ... (as of 6/22/00)

NOAA	99368	Whitney	Maps	ESI maps	Never submitted; were due 9/30/99; now expected late summer 2000.
NOAA	99468	Thomas	Final	Acoustic target strength	Never submitted; was due 11/30/99
NOAA	99476	Heintz	Annual	Pinks: oiled incubation	Never submitted; was due 6/1/00.
USFS	98145	Reeves	Final	Cutt/dolly populations	Never submitted; was due 9/30/99; then expected 4/15/00; now expected 7/15/00.
USFS	99256B	Gillikin	Annual	Solf Lake	Never submitted; was due 4/15/00
USFS	99339-2	Suring	Final	Human use model & recommendations	Never submitted; was due 12/31/99, then expected 4/15/00, still not received
USFS	99381	Bishop	Final	Seabird colony status	Never submitted; was due 9/30/99

The following reports were submitted to the Chief Scientist for peer review more than 6 months ago:

97139A1	Honnold	Final	Little Waterfall bypass	Submitted for peer review 8/30/99
98043B	Gillikin	Final	Cutt/dolly	Submitted for peer review 12/15/99
98247	McCullough	Annual	Kametolook River	Submitted for peer review 6/29/99
98329	Rice	Final	Pink salmon synthesis	Submitted for peer review 10/7/99
99188	Joyce	Final	Otolith marking	Submitted for peer review 9/29/99
99348	Ben-David	Final	River otter	Submitted for peer review 10/4/99
99471	Fall	Final	Subsistence update	Submitted for peer review 10/8/99

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Fall, Regional Program Manager
Subsistence Division, ADF&G

FROM: Molly McGammon
Executive Director

RE: Further Extension of Due Date: FY 99 Annual Report
*Project 99245 / Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and
Biological Sampling*

DATE: June 21, 2000

The purpose of this memo is to confirm an extended due date of July 31, 2000 for the annual report on Project 99245/Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and Biological Sampling. I understand this extension is needed due to other demands on the authors' time, in particular, revision of the FY 01 Detailed Project Description in response to peer review.

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Council

FROM: Molly McCannan
Executive Director

DATE: June 19, 2000

RE: Final Report on Phase I of Restoration Program

Last year I circulated for your review an outline of a proposed report to be written on behalf of the Trustee Council summarizing the program from the 1989 oil spill, through the damage assessment and litigation phase until the time of the 1991 settlement, describing the evolution of the council's restoration program through the beginnings of the transition to the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM) program phase. I refer to this as Phase I of the Restoration Program. I know this doesn't truly represent a "Final Report" since the Council's work is not concluded and the Council is not going out of business. However, until we can come up with a better term, I'll refer to it as the Final Report.

Attached to this memo is a detailed draft outline of the report. Funding to continue with the research and writing of this report is recommended in Project 01535, which comes before you as part of the FY01 Work Plan for approval on August 3. The goal is to have the main report drafted and ready for printing by September 30, 2001. Printing costs would be included in the FY 02 budget.

The report will be based mostly on the administrative record. Where the administrative record is silent, some holes will be filled by the memory of key players. Since memory can be untrustworthy and is often tainted by perception, the plan is to use as little unsubstantiated recollection as possible.

However, a large part of the restoration process concerns the personality and passion of the people who have taken part in and followed this process over the past 11 years. To capture the personality of EVOS without tainting the public record of EVOS, it has been suggested that the final report contain an introduction to each chapter that outlines the

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events of that chapter. The introduction would be 1-4 pages in length and formatted differently so as to separate itself from the official record. In each introduction, key players would be able to tell the story of restoration in a more human and interesting way.

The Final Report will not be useful if it's not honest. Over the past 10 years mistakes have been made, public anger has flared, and politicians and media have taken the Trustee Council to task (rightly or wrongly) for its actions or inaction. These issues need to be discussed in the context of the time and the circumstances. The chronic complaint that everything happened too slowly must be discussed, for example, with the understanding that the process was new, unprecedented, perhaps unwieldy, and with a number of federal and state agencies involved, each with its own set of rules. Sorting this out was one of the monumental tasks of the early EVOS process.

The bottom line is that 10 years after the settlement and \$900 million later, there is a lot to show for the effort. This final report will not only showcase the legacy, it will detail the struggle.

Review

This will be a Trustee Council-sponsored publication. It will not be published until the Trustee Council approves of the content. In order to facilitate the review process, I propose that this publication face review in three phases:

- 1) The writer of the final report will send individual chapters or segments to key people who were involved with the subject of that chapter. Comments from those individuals will be incorporated or noted before the final draft is submitted to the executive director.
- 2) An editorial board will be established to review the entire text and supporting materials. The editorial board will consist of one federal trustee, one state trustee, the executive director, the writer, and an independent editor. All edits/comments from the editorial board will be incorporated into the document.
- 3) An approved final draft will then be sent to each Trustee. Comments from individual Trustees will be reviewed by the editorial board. Changes will be incorporated into the document before approval of the final report is placed on the Trustee Council agenda as an action item.

Writer

The Trustee Council's Communications Director, Joe Hunt, has been working on this project now for more than a year. It was his intent to complete it in the next year. However, for various personal reasons, he and his family will be leaving the state in July. I am convinced that contracting with Joe to finish this project would be the most cost-effective way to ensure both a timely and accurate report. Finding someone new for this project would delay it significantly, cost more, and risk having an acceptable product. Joe has a thorough knowledge of the process, the players, and the evolution of the Trustee Council that would be difficult for someone else at this stage of the program to acquire.

At one point I considered adding this to the agenda of the July 5 meeting as a discussion item. Given that this meeting has two substantive issues already on the agenda – investments and the next two years of the small parcel program – I do not plan on adding this to the agenda unless you wish me to do so. What I would like is for you and your staff to look at the attached outline and provide any comments to me before the meeting. If it looks like a group discussion is warranted, we can do it then if there's time.

If you have any other questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

cc: Restoration Work Force

Attachments

Introduction

Chapter One: Litigation and the settlements

Chapter Two: Damage Assessment

Chapter Three: Early Trustee Council

Chapter Four: Re-organization of Restoration Office and the Restoration Plan

Chapter Five: Research, Monitoring, and Restoration

Chapter Six: Habitat Protection

Chapter Seven: Restoration Reserve, Investments, GEM

Chapter Eight: Public Advice and Public Information

Appendices

Recovery Status - Update on Injured Resources and Services

Reprint Settlement in its entirety

Table showing estimated value of lost resources

Table of all species collected, high/low estimates of actual mortality

List of reimbursements by agency or by item?

GAO summary?

List of NRDA and Restoration Program Final Reports

List of peer-reviewed publications supported by Trustee Council

This publication will include a complete index and references.

Introduction

The Final Report for the EVOS Trustee Council will be based mostly on the administrative record. Where the administrative record is silent, some holes will be filled by the memory of key players. But memory is untrustworthy and often tainted by perception, so the plan is to use as little unsubstantiated recollection as possible.

I recognize, however, that a large part of the Restoration Process concerns the personality and passion of the people who have taken part in and followed this process over the past 11 years. To capture the personality of EVOS without tainting the public record of EVOS, it has been suggested that the final report contain an introduction to each chapter that outlines the events of that chapter. The introduction would be 1-4 pages in length and it would clearly be formatted differently so as to separate itself from the official record. In each introduction, key players would be able to tell the story of restoration in a more human and interesting way.

The Final Report will not be useful if it's not honest. The Trustee Council and the Restoration Office has stepped into quagmires of discontent from time to time. Mistakes were made, public anger has flared, and politicians and media have taken the Trustee Council to task (rightly or wrongly) for its actions or inaction. These issues need to be discussed in the context of the time and the circumstances. The chronic complaint that everything happened too slow must be discussed, for example, with the understanding that the process was new, unprecedented, perhaps unwieldy, and with a number of federal and state agencies involved, each of which had its own set of rules. Sorting this out was one of the monumental tasks of the early EVOS process.

The bottom line is that 10 years after the settlement and \$900 million later, there is a lot to show for the effort. This final report will not only showcase the legacy, it will detail the struggle.

Review

This will be a Trustee Council-sponsored publication. It will not be published until the Trustee Council approves of the content. However, the size of this document makes it impractical to offer it for review to all concerned parties. It is proposed that this publication face review in three phases:

- 1) The writer of the final report will send individual chapters or segments to key people who were involved with the subject of that chapter. Comments from those individuals will be incorporated (or noted) before the final draft is submitted to the executive director.
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- 3) An approved final draft will then be sent to each Trustee. Comments from individual Trustees will be reviewed by the editorial board. Board-approved changes will be incorporated into the document before approval of the final report is placed on the agenda as an action item.

Chapter One: Litigation thru settlement

The story of state and federal attorneys working, sometimes as adversaries, to get a final settlement from Exxon.

A) Early Legal Action

1. First legal response
 - a. Describe first organizational meetings and discussion
 - b. How was legal team organized?
2. Legal Framework
 - a. (NRDA, CERCLA, Water Pollution Act) What were strengths/weaknesses?
3. Strategies
 - a. What was the government's strategy for settlement?
 - b. Based on law and NRDA studies, what hand did the government have to play?
 - c. Discuss role of Contingent Valuation study vs. resource damage studies.
4. Damage Assessment
 - a. What role did attorneys play in determining damage assessment studies?
 - b. Why the gag order?
 - c. What public/political/legal pressures resulted from the gag order
 - d. Is there a chart showing estimated value of all lost resources?
5. Exxon's Liability

How did Exxon help/hurt its legal standing during response and cleanup phase?
Did early state response help/hurt government legal standing?
6. Politics
 - a. What role did Cowper play in litigation?
 - b. What role did Hickel play in litigation?
 - c. What role did Legislature play in litigation?
 - d. What role did Bush Administration play in litigation?
7. Attempted Federal Settlement
 - a. What was it?
 - b. How did it come about?
 - c. How was it stopped?
 - d. How did it affect state-fed relations?

B. The Settlements

1. First Settlement

- a. Detail where, when, who and how settlement reached and announcement made.
- b. What was mood of the attorneys involved at reaching this settlement?
- c. Describe main points of settlement?
- d. Back and Forth negotiations – What were the hot topics?
- e. How was the dollar figure reached?
- f. Describe the public reaction and detail legislative process
- g. Why did it fall apart?
- h. What was the key wording of the settlement? Why?
- i. Why a payout over 10 years?
- j. How were trustee agencies chosen?

2. Second Settlement

- a. How did it differ from first?
- b. What was it like getting everyone back to the negotiating table again?
- c. What was the mood of attorneys at starting over?
- d. Detail where, when, who and how settlement reached and announcement made.
- e. Was there a new political strategy for public acceptance?
- f. Describe public and legislative reaction
- g. Why did the second settlement survive? What were the political concerns?

3. The \$100 million opener

- a. Describe opener, how it got there and why it was needed.
- b. How did Exxon respond to that?

4. The private plaintiffs

- a. How did this settlement impact plaintiffs' case?

5. General

- a. 10 years later, do the attorneys/politicos involved believe it was a good settlement?
- b. Were there any opportunities missed?

INSET

With 10 years of hindsight, was it a good settlement?

What was gained or lost by reaching a quick settlement with Exxon? Contrast and compare with the class action lawsuit against Exxon. Could investment issue have been addressed at the time of the settlement? What is real-dollar value of the settlement for restoration?

Graphics, Illustrations, Tables, Cartoons

Graphic depicting settlement

Cartoons re: settlement

Recreated courtroom-style sketch of attorneys arguing before Judge Holland

Appendix

Reprint the settlement in its entirety?

Table showing estimated value of lost resources?

Chapter Two: Damage Assessment

This chapter deals with the earliest days of damage assessment planning, through implementation, and to the beginning of the Restoration phase.

Key Questions/Points

Start with day of spill, detail what meetings, planning took place at ADF&G, NMFS, and USFWS.

What is damage assessment?

What laws impacted the damage assessment process?

How is it defined under law?

How is it carried out under law?

What is considered injury: mortalities, chronic problems, showing cause-and-effect, localized injury versus region-wide or species-wide injury?

How was damage assessment effort organized?

Who had the lead to organize efforts of all agencies?

What was RPWG? How did it work?

Was research well thought out or hastily conceived and implemented? Examples.

What was gained from study that killed and oiled birds? At what PR cost?

Similar study of sea otters used available carcasses? Why not same for birds?

How was injury assessed? Who made final decision? How does damage assessment differ from research and monitoring of Restoration Plan?

First Workshop: how was it received by researchers? What was accomplished?

First Release of Data: how, when, why, reactions

Legal Restrictions

How much did attorneys influence what was and what was not studied?

Was secrecy concerning research data a detriment to studies or to recovery?

Describe public pressure and media pressure placed on scientists to disclose info?

Exxon Science

Exxon released information strategically while government researchers were restricted from discussing results. 10 Posters.

Injured Resources

Detail injuries per resource

Detail recovery goals

What resources were studied, but determined not injured

INSET

What would happen today under OPA 90? How would things be different?

Graphics, Illustrations, Tables, Cartoons

Select Cartoons

Chart showing structure and responsibilities of restoration team/agencies

Appendix

Table of all species collected

Chapter Three: Early Trustee Council & the Restoration Plan

This chapter follows the Trustee Council through the organizing years. Despite the difficult beginnings in the EVOS process, the fact is that the successful program that emerged was conceived and hatched during the first two years following the settlement and in the midst of heavy public participation, media pressure, and political pressure.

Key Questions/Points

Detail first meetings, discussions, decisions, public participation. What happened to EPA's role?

How was the Restoration Office set up?

Interagency approach: What were advantages and disadvantages of this approach?

How were decisions made?

Was process open to non-agency groups?

How were inter-agency and inter-governmental disputes settled?

Discuss each step of the planning effort for the Restoration Plan (from inception to publishing).

Discuss early Work Plans and the public interest in work being done. (There were hundreds of public comments in 1992 compared to a just a few comments in 1999.

Discuss requirement that all decisions must be unanimous. How did this impact decision-making? Discuss legal review by ADOL & USDOJ.

How much money was reimbursed, to which agencies, for what?

Did reimbursements create a perception that money was being wasted?

Could this have been done differently?

What were the GAO criticisms? How were they addressed?

What were the NYT criticisms? How did this impact the TC and the process?

Describe the impacts of transition from Bush Administration to Clinton Administration.

INSET

Step by Step review of the Restoration Plan planning process?

Graphics, Illustrations, Tables, Cartoons

Appendix

List of reimbursements by agency or by item?

GAO summary?

NYT article?

Chapter Four: Re-organization of Restoration Office and the Restoration Plan

If the first two years of the Restoration process could be described as a weighted boat plowing through the water, then 1994 would be the year the boat got on step. The current Restoration Plan has been in place since November 1994, but the main body of that plan was written in 1992. This chapter will mesh with the Restoration Planning effort described in the previous chapter and discuss the changes in the plan, addition of ecosystem-based research, peer-review, and the creation of the Restoration Reserve. It will also discuss the hiring of an independent administrator with an independent staff and how that affected the process.

Key Questions/Points

At its first meeting, the TC decided to hire an independent administrator. Why did this not happen?

How did hiring an executive director change things? Why Ayers?

What steps were taken to centralize the administration?

How was new Restoration Office structured?

Ayers transition to McCammon

The Summary of Options for the Draft Restoration Plan was circulated throughout the spill region in Spring 1993. Meetings were held in each community.

What was the overall reaction?

Summarize the public comment.

What changes to the Restoration Plan were made as a result of the public comment?

Habitat vs. R&M vs. permanent endowment vs. community vs. spill prevention

New aspects of Restoration Plan

Ecosystem-based approach

How did this get started? Why? Herring/pink collapse.

Why a central role in Restoration Plan?

How does this differ from earlier research planning?

Peer-review

How did this get started? Why?

Restoration Reserve

How did this get started? Why?

Other changes?

Graphics

Restoration Plan at a Glance

Adaptive Management

Budget?

Chapter Five: Research, Monitoring, and Restoration

This chapter will discuss the inner workings of the research and monitoring effort and the annual Work Plan process.

What constitutes research, monitoring, and general restoration?

- Guidelines: What qualifies - what doesn't?
- Direct restoration vs. indirect
- Debate over community or economic restoration
- Normal agency management
- Connection to the injured resource
- State vs federal interpretations

The role of the chief scientist

- Peer review
- Oversight. Providing overall direction.
- Working with science coordinator and executive director

Evolution of the Work Plan

- Compare first years' work plans and the process to the current system
- Invitation - How is it determined what types of projects will be sought?
- Proposal Review - Who reviews? How are comments/decisions derived?
- Draft Plan - How it's issued. Who reviews? Public response?
- TC Decision - Debating merits. Agency preferences.
- Follow through - keeping tabs on the projects
- Annual / Final Reports

Restoration Workshop

- Church meeting
- Annual planning process. Goals
- Effect of . . .

Ecosystem Approach

- Species specific vs. ecosystem
- Big Three: SEA, APEX, NVP

Alaska SeaLife Center

- Support of . . .

Accomplishments / Highlights

- To be determined.

Chapter Six: Habitat Protection

This chapter will describe the public call for habitat protection, even long before the settlement was reached. It will detail the early efforts to put together a framework for acquiring habitat and detail the Large and Small Parcel Programs. One or two Large Parcel acquisitions will be analyzed in detail, showing the history of negotiations, the movement on price (appraisal vs. negotiated value), and the governments' reluctant acceptance of less-than-fee acquisition. The Small Parcel program will be similarly detailed (using a table) with several parcels highlighted. Parcels Meriting Special Consideration will be discussed.

Public Desire for Habitat Protection

- Restoration Plan Comments
- Letters, orchestrated campaigns
- Landowners push for habitat protection
- Anti-habitat protection -- debates

Habitat Protection Framework

- Minimum Threshold
- Nominations
- Evaluations
- Appraisals
- Negotiation

Large Parcels

- Nominations
- Evaluation
- Parcel descriptions (maps)
- Native ownership
- Unwilling sellers (Port Graham, Chugach)
- Conservation easement vs. fee title
 - What types of easements
 - Public access
 - Management considerations
 - Landowner's retained rights
 - Subsistence
- History of Negotiations (one or two examples)
 - English Bay Corp?
 - Chenega Corp or Tatitlek Corp?
 - AKI or Old Harbor Corp?

Small Parcels

- Nominations

- Evaluation

- Parcel descriptions (table, maps)

- Parcels Meriting Special Consideration

- Sponsorship

- Describe importance of groupings

 - Kenai River

 - Uyak Bay

 - Emmonak?

- Highlights

 - Kenai River

 - Lowell Point -Seward

 - Overlook Park, Tulin, Beluga Slough, Spit - Homer

 - Horseshoe Bay - PWS

Habitat Protection Long Term Fund

- What will it look like?

- What are potential uses for this fund?

- How will it be managed?

Graphics

- Maps

- Tables - Large and Small Parcel programs

- Table showing Native selections total, fee total, conservation easement total

Chapter Seven: Restoration Reserve, Investments, GEM

This chapter will be a discussion about the Restoration Reserve, how it will be used, and the financial impact of investments.

Restoration Reserve

- What was the early vision?
- Who were main proponents?
- Why was it added to Restoration Plan?
- What was its worth?

Public Process

- Focus groups
- Community meetings
- Draft Plan - possible uses
- Organized campaign for habitat protection
- Final Decision

Investments

- Detail CRIS system, earnings, and fees
- Describe alternative investment systems (i.e. PERS, PFD, etc)
- History of Congressional action, meetings, lobbying
- Show loss of funds due to delay
- Show projected long-term benefits due to Congressional authorization
- What were the investment options
- TC investment strategies

GEM - the result of the Restoration Reserve

- GEM planning
- GEM review
- GEM Plan

Chapter Eight: Public Advice, Public Participation, and Public Information

This chapter will discuss the Trustee Council's efforts to keep the public informed and involved. Public participation will be presented in context, from massive interest with hundreds of public comments for early Work Plans to passive interest and a half-dozen comments for recent Work Plans.

Public Participation

- PAG

- Public comment at each meeting

- Teleconference to any site in spill region

- Community Meetings

- Community Involvement

- Annual Workshops

Public Advisory Group

- Settlement language

- Federal requirements

- Charter

- First nominations/selections

- Early issues/involvement

 - Work Plans

 - Restoration Planning

 - Habitat Protection Planning

- Community Meetings / Field Trips

- Later issues/involvement

 - Restoration Reserve

 - GEM

 - Habitat Protection

Community Involvement

- Call for more Native involvement

- CRRC proposal

- TEK

- Workshops

OSPIC/ARLIS

Public Information

- Newsletters, Annual Reports, Poster

- Alaska Coastal Currents - Radio Segments, Newspaper Columns

- Documentary, TC informational video, Slide Presentations

- Exhibits - ASLC, Traveling Exhibit

- Web Site

- Worldwide media contacts

Graphics

- List PAG members by position over time

- Chart subsistence projects by year and by percentage of Work Plan budget

Other Items

The re-opener

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



MEMORANDUM

TO: Sharon Kent
NOAA Procurement

FROM: Sandra Schubert *S. Schubert*
Restoration Director

RE: FY 01 Broad Agency Announcement #52ABNF000039
Preliminary Recommendations

DATE: June 16, 2000

The Executive Director recommends funding 16 of the 21 proposals submitted under the BAA. A summary spreadsheet listing the proposals and the recommendations is enclosed. You'll note that some of the recommendations for funding are contingent on satisfaction of certain conditions.

Also enclosed is the following information to document the evaluation of the BAA proposals and the Executive Director's recommendations:

- Copies of letters from the Executive Director informing BAA proposers of the Chief Scientist's assessment of the project's technical merits and the Executive Director's recommendations. Attached to each letter is the excerpt from the *FY 01 Draft Work Plan* pertaining to the proposal.
- The Chief Scientist's comments on each BAA proposal.
- The staff review of each BAA proposal. The paragraph entitled "BAA" addresses whether the project meets threshold criteria for the BAA.

The Chief Scientist will be sending you directly the individual peer review forms for each of the BAA proposals. Please let me know if you need additional information. The Trustee Council is scheduled to take action on the *FY 01 Work Plan* on August 3, 2000.

Enclosures

cc (w/o enclosures): Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Bob Spies, Chief Scientist

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Proj. No.	Project Title	FY 01 Request	Preliminary Recommendation		Total FY 01-02	Recommendation
			FY 01	FY 02		
01012-BAA	Killer Whale Investigation	\$74.5	\$72.1		\$72.1	Fund contingent
01163-CLO	Alaska Predator Ecosystem Experiment (APEX)	\$198.1	\$100.0	\$30.0	\$130.0	Fund contingent
01360-BAA	Guidance for Future Research Activities	\$241.6	\$225.0	\$90.0	\$315.0	Fund contingent
01393-BAA	Food Webs: Structure and Change	\$131.2	\$120.0	\$0.0	\$120.0	Defer
01450-BAA	Summary of Status of Pacific Salmon Populations	\$52.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01452-BAA	Prey and Competitor/Predators	\$49.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01457-BAA	Echointegration-Optical-Purse Seine Surveys	\$72.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01460-BAA	Walleye Pollock as Predators	\$53.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01482-BAA	Biotoxin Monitoring Program	\$215.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	Defer
01486-BAA	Mussel Beds and Predators	\$199.0	\$199.0	\$130.0	\$329.0	Defer
01531-BAA	Strategy/Technique for Monitoring Herring Ecopathology	\$90.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01545-BAA	Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program	\$233.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01551-BAA	Marine Algal Species Collected Under CH1A	\$70.3	\$61.5	\$0.0	\$61.5	Defer
01552-BAA	Exchange Between PWS and GOA	\$115.1	\$100.6	\$100.6	\$201.2	Fund contingent
01554-BAA	Community-Based Monitoring Program	\$94.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01566-BAA	GEM News	\$126.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01572-BAA	Stable Isotopes: Food Web Dependencies & Nutrient Sources	\$140.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01574-BAA	Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches	\$143.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01581-BAA	Publication: Pre- and Post-Spill Data on Sea Otters	\$5.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01582-BAA	Publication: Critical Information on Sea Otters	\$41.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
01588-BAA	School Selection	\$92.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	Do not fund
Total:		\$2,441.7	\$928.2	\$350.6	\$1,278.8	

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



MEMORANDUM

TO: Gina Belt, U.S. Department of Justice
Maria Lisowski, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Barry Roth, U.S. Department of the Interior
Alex Swiderski, Alaska Department of Law

FROM: Molly McCammon, Executive Director

DATE: June 16, 2000

RE: Legal Review of *FY 01 Draft Work Plan*

Attached are a copy of the *FY 01 Draft Work Plan*, a spreadsheet listing the new project proposals that are recommended for funding as part of the work plan (or for which a decision is deferred pending the receipt of additional information), and a copy of the Detailed Project Description and budget for each of these projects. Most of the new projects under consideration are typical research projects or are otherwise similar to projects funded by the Trustee Council in previous years. (Please note that the Detailed Project Description for project 00602/Herring Synthesis Follow-Up Workshop is still under development and is not attached. The project would provide a small amount of funding for a workshop where the state of our current knowledge on Pacific herring can be discussed and research/restoration priorities set.)

Project 01513/EVOS: The Continuing Legacy would provide a permanent exhibit at the Alaska SeaLife Center on the resources injured by the spill, and would serve the Trustee Council's goal of disseminating information on restoration to the broadest audience possible. Project 01535/Trustee Council Restoration Program Final Report would produce a report that comprehensively describes the Council's activities from the time of the spill through FY 02, when the final payment from Exxon will be received. The project is designed to increase public awareness and understanding of EVOS restoration activities, policies, and procedures.

It is important that you complete your review by July 18. The Public Advisory Group meets July 19, and I would like to have your advice on the legal permissibility of these projects by that time. The Trustee Council is expected to meet to approve funding for the *FY 01 Work Plan* on August 3. If you need additional information on any of the projects, please let me know as soon as possible and I will provide it to you. Thank you for your help.

Attachments: *FY 01 Draft Work Plan*
List of new projects recommended for funding
DPDs and budgets for new projects recommended for funding

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

NEW PROJ S RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FUNDING / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj. No.	Project Title	FY 01 Request	<u>Preliminary Recommendation</u>		Total FY 01-02	Recommendation
			FY 01	FY 02		
01397	Mass-Balance Models as Fisheries Management Tools	\$137.5	\$105.0	\$27.0	\$132.0	Defer
01404	Archival Tags for Tracking King Salmon	\$136.5	\$100.0		\$100.0	Defer
01486-BAA	Mussel Beds and Predators	\$199.0	\$199.0	\$130.0	\$329.0	Defer
01492	Were Embryo Studies Biased?	\$105.3	\$50.0		\$50.0	Fund contingent
01513	The Continuing Legacy	\$53.5	\$50.3	\$0.0	\$50.3	Fund contingent
01534	Sea Otters: P4501A Induction in Blood and Liver Cells	\$19.9	\$19.9	\$0.0	\$19.9	Fund contingent
01535	EVOS Trustee Council Final Report	\$91.2	\$70.0	\$40.0	\$110.0	Fund contingent
01543	Oil Remaining in the Intertidal	\$523.0	\$523.0	\$0.0	\$523.0	Fund/Defer
01551-BAA	Marine Algal Species Collected Under CH1A	\$70.3	\$61.5	\$0.0	\$61.5	Defer
01555	Stress Hormones	\$18.9	\$18.9	\$0.0	\$18.9	Fund
01558	New Technologies for Monitoring Harbor Seal Recovery	\$172.1	\$120.0		\$120.0	Defer
01586	Stable Isotopes: Methods for Long-Term Monitoring	\$122.4	\$100.0		\$100.0	Defer
01602	Synthesis Workshop	\$15.0	\$15.0	\$0.0	\$15.0	Fund contingent
Total:		\$1,664.6	\$1,432.6	\$197.0	\$1,629.6	

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01397	Developing Mass-Balance Simulation Models as Fisheries Management Tools in Alaska	T. Okey/UBC	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$137.5	\$105.0	\$27.0	\$132.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will develop a mass-balance simulation model to be used to better understand and manage important fisheries resources within Prince William Sound and adjacent marine areas. A mass-balance model of trophic flows in the sound was developed under Project /330. Although analyses using this model indicate intriguing effects of fisheries, the current model was not specifically structured to evaluate harvest strategies or policies that fisheries managers are currently considering. This project will (a) obtain and incorporate more detailed information on selected species and species groups from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and other sources; (b) modify the existing model to provide output useful for fisheries management; (c) include environmental forcing components in the model to allow simulation of possible environmental, as well as anthropogenic, effects on species of interest; and (d) make the model and data available in the public domain on the Internet.		Past contributions by this proposer to restoration objectives have been substantial (Project /330), but this proposal is not specific enough about what fishery management issues it would address. The proposal aims to create a "useful tool" for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game without identifying the problem to which the tool will be applied and who will apply it. The proposal lacks an indication of endorsement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and from other agencies and user groups in the Prince William Sound area, despite a significant amount of effort in Project /330 to develop this interest. It is vitally important that any modeling efforts the Trustee Council undertakes eventually lead to solving specific problems, and that the end users, managers, harvesters, and environmental groups be identified and engaged. The existing model is a powerful teaching tool with potential research applications, but it does not offer output that can presently be used for management decision-making. In addition, the peer reviewers have challenged the outcomes of mass balance simulation models used previously, and other approaches may be more appropriate. Do not fund.		Defer decision on funding this project pending (a) availability of funds and (b) satisfactory response to the Chief Scientist's concerns. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a reduced budget. This project proposes to revise the Prince William Sound mass-balance model developed under Project /330 to make it a useful tool for fisheries managers. However, the Chief Scientist finds that the proposal lacks specificity and fails to demonstrate the necessary interest from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and other agencies and user groups at which the proposal is aimed. The Chief Scientist also raises a general concern about mass balance models.				

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01404	Archival Tags for Tracking King Salmon at Sea: Migrations, Biology, and Oceanographic Preferences in Prince William Sound	J. Nielsen/USGS-BRD	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$136.5	\$100.0		\$100.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Archive tags with temperature and light-geolocation sensors will be monitored for post-smolt king salmon in Prince William Sound. Light/location relationships specific to the Gulf of Alaska developed under Project 00478 will be applied in this study of movement and migration paths for king salmon during maturation in ocean environments in the sound. The opportunity to test the development and application of this tag technology for the first time in king salmon is available in collaboration with a new Alaska Department of Fish and Game chinook hatchery on Ester Island. Tagging chinook reared in the hatchery environment to the required size (~30 cm) will allow the efficiency and accuracy of this technology to be tested. Archive tagged fish will be used to document king salmon use of marine habitats, maturation routes, contribution to the sport fishery, and hatchery/wild interactions for chinook in Prince William Sound.		This is an innovative and timely proposal that needs some modification to be fully useful. If successful, this program may contribute to identification of ecologically sensitive areas in Prince William Sound. The goals are well specified and the data could provide a unique perspective on productivity in the sound. Furthermore, the technology, as applied to salmon, has great potential. There is a question of whether a 30 cm long king salmon can bear this tag and retain normal behavior. Long-term the project will need to address the connection to the physical oceanographic program within Prince William Sound and beyond. It will be necessary to have the best available oceanographic data for interpretation of location and temperature of returned tagged fish. Live release should not take place without preliminary tag retention experiments. The project should proceed in phases, with a pilot tag retention, behavior, and growth study for a year (e.g., hatchery) and then a release experiment the next year contingent on the success of the retention study. Defer pending Project 00478 results on development of geolocation algorithms based on day length, as well as availability of funding.		Defer decision on funding this project pending (a) Project 00478 results on development of geolocation algorithms based on day length and (b) availability of funds. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reduce the project's scope to a pilot project only, consistent with the Chief Scientist's recommendation. This project would test the development and application of archive tag technology, which has great promise for a variety of species. Funding for a release experiment may be considered in FY 02, if the pilot retention study is successfully carried out in FY 01. [NOTE: The recommended cost is a target only. If funded, Alaska SeaLife Center bench fees will need to be added to this project.]				

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01486-BAA	Links Between Persistent Oil in Mussel Beds and Predators	S. Rice/NOAA, et. al.	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$199.0	\$199.0	\$130.0	\$329.0

Project Abstract

Links between oil-contaminated mussel beds and impacts on infauna and vertebrate predators have been inferred, but have not been definitively demonstrated. Significant oil concentrations in some mussel beds have persisted to present, much longer than originally expected, and may explain contemporary observations of vertebrate predator exposure to oil. Oiled beds are long-term sources of vertebrate contamination, which has implications for future monitoring and response decisions in the event of future spills. In a more holistic approach than in the past, this project will examine evidence for links between persistence of *Exxon Valdez* oil in mussel beds, infauna, and nearshore vertebrate predators.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This project would attempt to link residual oil in mussel beds to exposure of invertebrate communities in mussel beds, nearby fish, and visiting birds, and mammals in western Prince William Sound in a more direct way. Previous work has established probable oil exposure to a variety of fish, birds and mammals using P4501A biomarkers in the nearshore environment of western Prince William Sound. The invertebrate communities underlying oiled mussel beds have not been examined for effects. The possible more direct linkages between oiled mussel beds and injured bird and mammal species that could be established by addition of remote video technology in this proposed work are qualitative. This would be useful work for determining if local effects are occurring around mussel beds twelve years after the spill, but may not be a high priority at this stage in the restoration program. Defer pending availability of funding.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Defer decision on funding this project pending availability of funds. If funded, funding will be contingent on (a) resolution of budget questions and (b) submittal of Project 00090 final report due April 15, 2000; Project 00090 manuscripts due September 30, 2000; Project 99379 final report due June 1, 2000; and Project 00510 manuscript due April 15, 2000. This project would study possible links between oiled mussel beds and predators, which were not anticipated, have not been studied directly, and may explain ongoing observations of vertebrate predator exposure to oil.

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01492	Were Pink Salmon Embryo Studies in Prince William Sound Biased?	J. Thedinga/NOAA	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$105.3	\$50.0		\$50.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Effects of the oil spill on wild pink salmon embryo survival in Prince William Sound are disputed among government- and industry-sponsored researchers. Exxon contends that the government's conclusions that reduced embryo viability in oiled streams was caused by persistent oil contamination were biased because sampling times were earlier in oiled streams than in reference streams. This project will perform a combination of retrospective and experimental studies to determine if estimates of pink salmon embryo survival were accurate or biased by conducting a historical review of past sampling procedures and experimentally determining the ability to discriminate eggs killed by sampling (shock mortality) and previously dead eggs.		This proposal addresses critiques of government-sponsored studies of pink salmon embryo mortality by investigating a possible source of bias: field assessments in oiled streams were earlier than in unoiled streams, increasing the likelihood of egg mortality caused by sampling. The amount of time after egg death necessary for observers to visually detect mortality is a key unknown. If the amount of time is a matter of seconds, the possibility of bias is very high. If the amount of time is a matter of hours, the possibility of bias is remote. The proposal should be revised to conduct the study in a phased manner. In FY 01, the experimental determination of the sensitivity of pink salmon eggs to sampling stress should be conducted, including determining the time between application of stress and evidence of death. Based upon study results, further investigation (in FY 02 or beyond) may be warranted. Fund contingent on revised proposal.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reduce the project's scope in FY 01 as recommended by the Chief Scientist (determine sensitivity of eggs to sampling stress and time between application of stress and evidence of death). This project is designed to determine if estimates of pink salmon embryo survival following the oil spill were accurate. At present, Exxon contends that the governments' conclusion that reduced embryo viability in oiled streams was caused by persistent oil contamination were biased due to sampling timing. [NOTE: The recommended cost is a target only.]				
01513	Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: The Continuing Legacy	J. Pfeifferberger/Alaska SeaLife Center	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$53.5	\$50.3	\$0.0	\$50.3
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will develop an interactive exhibit "Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: The Continuing Legacy" to inform the public about the current status of wildlife species injured by the spill. It will combine pieces of the existing exhibit "Legacy of an Oil Spill, 10 Years After" with new audio and visual components that will allow easy updating of information as the status of injured species changes over time. This exhibit will be a permanent installation at the Alaska SeaLife Center and will serve as a source of public dissemination to hundreds of thousands of visitors.		This project will revise and expand the existing public education exhibit regarding the Exxon Valdez oil spill into a permanent display at the Alaska SeaLife Center. The project appears feasible, the proposer is qualified, and the display has the potential to reach large numbers of people with current information about the spill. Fund.		Fund contingent on submittal of a reduced budget that deletes contribution to Alaska SeaLife Center admission tickets; this cost is not related to the project's objectives. Funding commitment is for FY 01 only -- annual operation and maintenance costs should be the responsibility of the Alaska SeaLife Center. This project will provide a permanent exhibit at the heavily visited Alaska SeaLife Center on the resources injured by the oil spill, and will serve the Trustee Council's goal of disseminating information on restoration to the broadest audience possible.				

SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01534	Comparison of Cytochrome P4501A Induction in Blood and Liver Cells of Sea Otters	B. Ballachey, P. Snyder/USGS	DOI	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$19.9	\$19.9	\$0.0	\$19.9
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will sample liver from the sea otters captured under Project /423 for assays of CYP1A and for examination of histopathological changes. Liver CYP1A levels will be compared to those measured in blood from the same individuals. The project will also assay for CYP1A in archived frozen liver samples from sea otters that were oiled and died in 1989, to enable comparison of current levels of CYP1A induction with levels in sea otters that had a known high degree of oil exposure. The results of this project will provide a basis for comparison of cytochrome P4501A induction in sea otters in 1989, in 1996-98, and in 2001, and will help determine if there is a decline in CYP1A levels over time.		This project has the potential of providing a long-term picture of oil exposure in Prince William Sound sea otters from just after the spill up through 2001. If obtained, this could be an important major contribution to our understanding of the spill 's impacts. Fund.		Fund contingent on verification of personnel costs. This project will relate present levels of CYP1A induction in sea otters with levels immediately following the oil spill in order to provide a long-term picture of oil exposure in sea otters since the spill.				
01535	EVOS Trustee Council Restoration Program Final Report	EVOS Restoration Office	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$91.2	\$70.0	\$40.0	\$110.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will provide a final report for the restoration program of the Trustee Council, starting with the earliest damage assessment efforts and ending with the FY 02 Work Plan and disbursements of the final payment from Exxon. It will also include a complete history of the litigation leading to the civil settlement, which funds the Council. This project will increase public awareness and understanding of EVOS restoration activities, policies, and procedures. It will provide agencies and groups (facing a similar trustee situation) with a detailed history of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration process, including highlights and pitfalls, so that others can benefit from lessons learned in the groundbreaking EVOS effort. This published history will include references and an index.		The public is owed an accounting of the Trustee Council's activities and the impact of this history on future public policy argues for support of this project. The principal investigator should work closely with those individuals who have been part of the process since its inception. The costs seem high, and staff recommendations regarding potential cost savings should be given careful consideration. Fund.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a reduced budget for the recommended amount. This project is designed to increase public awareness and understanding of EVOS restoration activities, policies, and procedures through publication of a report that comprehensively describes the Trustee Council's activities from the time of the spill through FY 02, when the final payment from Exxon will be received. The target date for publication is March 2002.				

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01543	Evaluation of Oil Remaining in the Intertidal from the <i>Exxon Valdez</i> Oil Spill	J. Short/NOAA	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$523.0	\$523.0	\$0.0	\$523.0

Project Abstract

This project will assess the amount of oil remaining from the oil spill on shorelines within (FY 01) and outside (FY 02) Prince William Sound. FY 01 funding will be requested in two phases. Phase 1 (\$23,000) will produce a final sampling design to be implemented in the spring of 2001 (Phase 2, \$500,000). Phase 2 will be presented for Trustee Council approval in December 2000. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$22,000) for FY 03.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This is an extremely well reasoned proposal that addresses an important indicator of recovery from the oil spill. It is structured to provide the Trustee Council with an opportunity to carefully review the sampling plan prior to committing the large budget for sampling and analysis. Anadromous stream deltas should be considered as a fourth category for sampling. Careful consideration will need to be given to how precise an estimate of remaining oil is required, as the cost of sampling is directly related to the level of precision. Fund Phase 1 (\$23,000). Decision to proceed and level of funding for Phase 2 is dependent on satisfactory review of sampling design. Funding in the future for surveys outside of Prince William Sound is unlikely.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Fund Phase 1 (\$23,000), development of sampling design, for Prince William Sound only, contingent on submittal of Project 99195 report (due June 1, 2000). Defer decision on funding for Phase 2, shoreline survey and analysis/closeout costs, pending satisfactory review of the sampling design. The sampling design is to be submitted for Trustee Council approval in December 2000. Level of funding for Phase 2 will be determined at that time; the \$500,000 shown above is a placeholder. This project will conduct the Council's final assesment of the location, state, and amount of *Exxon Valdez* oil remaining on the shorelines of Prince William Sound. Sample site selection should consider the interests of local residents, take into account lingering injury, include sites previously found to have significant residual oil, and weigh cost effectiveness. Surveys outside of Prince William Sound are not anticipated -- the Council funded a final comprehensive assessment of oil around Kodiak in FY 95 and along the Kenai and Alaska peninsulas in FY 99.

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01551-BAA	Checklist and Distributional Analysis of Marine Algal Species Collected as Vouchers Under Project CH1A	G. Hansen/OSU	NOAA	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$70.3	\$61.5	\$0.0	\$61.5
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
During previous EVOS studies (Project CH1A), intense investigations were carried out on the intertidal algal communities of Prince William Sound, Kenai, Kodiak, and the Alaska Peninsula. As a byproduct of these studies, thorough voucher collections were made of the algal species present in more than 100 transect areas used for the study. The 7,300 voucher specimens were identified to species, curated, and cataloged, but no money was available at the time for publishing the wealth of information on algal biodiversity and distribution they provided. This project will use these data to prepare regional checklists and biogeographic analyses of the species discovered and finally make available these critical habitat data for restoration and conservation efforts in Alaska.		There is strong justification for conducting this work and publishing the taxonomic key to Alaskan seaweeds derived from the Trustee Council's investment in Project CH1A. As time beyond the spill increases, the opportunity for doing this work will decrease. Negotiation on the proposer's overhead rate could reduce the cost. Defer pending availability of funding.		Defer decision on funding this project pending availability of funds. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a reduced budget. This project would prepare a manuscript on the occurrence and distribution of marine macroalgae in the spill area, based on data from Project CH1A. Nearly 7,300 voucher specimens collected under Project CH1A are currently held at the herbarium in Juneau, Alaska.				

SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01555	Can Stress Hormones be Used as an Indication of Food Availability and Reproductive Performance? An Experimental Approach	R. Lanctot/USGS	DOI	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$18.9	\$18.9	\$0.0	\$18.9
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will complement and enhance Project /479, which is investigating how stress hormone levels (i.e., corticosterone) in adult seabirds relate to local food conditions and indicate the future reproductive health of a colony. This project will (a) test for differences in corticosterone levels between supplementally fed and unfed black-legged kittiwakes that are nesting at one colony, thereby removing any inherent environmental differences present when birds from two colonies are compared, (b) measure changes in corticosterone level in adults throughout the breeding season, (c) explore the effects of adult gender on corticosterone levels, and (d) evaluate how corticosterone levels relate to an individual's reproductive success and survival, as well as overall productivity of the colony. Funding will support analysis of plasma samples collected in 2000 and preparation of manuscripts.		This is an exciting new area of research that seeks to identify relationships between diet, physiological condition, and the productivity and abundance of various marine birds and mammals. Most of this work to date has been done in the field without controls. Thus, a project that can experimentally compare hormone titers between treatment groups with different food supplies will be useful. If the technique is validated, it will be a valuable tool to assess long-term monitoring strategies of marine birds (and mammals). Fund.		Fund. This project will complement ongoing Trustee Council work (Project /479) by investigating in more detail how baseline levels of corticosterone vary with food availability and breeding state, and whether corticosterone levels are predictive of future reproduction and overwinter survival.				

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01558	Harbor Seal Recovery: Application of New Technologies for Monitoring Health	S. Atkinson/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 3 yr. project	\$172.1	\$120.0		\$120.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will investigate the potential for new technologies to assess and monitor the endocrine and immune systems as diagnostic measures of the health of harbor seals. Analysis of thyroxine (T ₄), triiodothyronine (T ₃), and cortisol (primary metabolic and gluconeogenic hormones), and measurement of immunoglobulins (IgG, IgM, and IgA) and the body burden of organochlorine contaminants will provide an assessment of both permanently captive seals as well as seals that are brought into the Alaska SeaLife Center for rehabilitation. The work will also employ community involvement through the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission. Once the profiles of healthy seals and those failing to thrive in their natural environment are assessed, these techniques will be evaluated for routine monitoring of free-ranging seals in an effort to restore this species.		The proposed technologies have been applied to marine mammals previously, although not in the spill area. Some of the endocrinological measurements need good reference or control animals, and it is not clear this is available, especially if the reference are animals being held at the Alaska SeaLife Center. There is a question whether enough stranded harbor seal pups will be available for sampling, and whether comparing data from pups to the captive adults at the Alaska SeaLife Center is valid for the purposes of the proposal. Defer pending receipt and evaluation of a revised proposal at a substantially reduced level of funding that responds to these concerns.		Defer decision on funding this project pending receipt of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that address the Chief Scientist's concerns (reference animals, stranded pups, comparing pups to adults). Funding for FY 03 is not being considered at this time. This project would employ new technologies at the Alaska SeaLife Center to assess and monitor the health of harbor seals. [NOTE: The recommend cost is a target only. If funded, Alaska SeaLife Center bench fees will need to be added to this project.]				

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01586	Climate Change and Forage Fish Abundance: Development of Stable Isotope Methods for Long-Term Monitoring	M. Ben-David, B. Finney, D. Mann/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$122.4	\$100.0		\$100.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will use two methods to reconstruct forage-fish abundances over the time scales of centuries to millennia of interest in examining animal-climate relationships. Both methods are also applicable to contemporary population monitoring. The first method utilizes nitrogen stable isotopes as a record of marine organic matter input. The second method uses fish scales recovered from ocean sediment accumulated in anoxic basins as a direct record of fish abundances. Available data on forage fish abundance and reproductive success of seabirds from Prince William Sound and vicinity collected since 1989 will be used to calibrate the results of both the ^{15}N and the fish scale analyses. These data will be used to develop a model for the relation between sedimentary d^{13}C and d^{15}N data, climate, and changes in abundance of fishes and birds.		Trustee Council support is recommended for this project in that it holds much promise for establishing a longer-term perspective of biotic change against which to measure natural change for retrospective analyses of the findings of restoration projects. It also could contribute to building the early stages of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program) implementation. Recommend funding without the rookery pond component. Only the testing of proof of concept for marine fish scales should be undertaken in FY 01. Defer pending availability of funds.		Defer decision on funding this project pending availability of funds. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reduce the project's scope to the testing of proof of concept for marine fish scales only. This project is designed to examine animal-climate relationships by using fish scales to reconstruct forage-fish abundances over time. [NOTE: The recommended cost is a target only.]				

SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01602	Herring Synthesis Follow-Up: Workshop	Restoration Office	ADNR	New 1st yr., 1 yr. project	\$15.0	\$15.0	\$0.0	\$15.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Under this project, the Chief Scientist will organize and conduct a workshop to evaluate and discuss the herring synthesis being prepared under Project 00374. The synthesis, which will include a prioritization of research needs for Pacific herring, is due September 2000.		In FY 00 the Trustee Council provided funding (Project 00374) to sponsor two workshop sessions and a synthesis of our current understanding of Pacific herring in Prince William Sound, based to a large extent on the knowledge gained in the last 11 years of study. The process of identifying outstanding research and monitoring issues for Pacific herring needs to continue. Therefore, I recommend funding a workshop where the state of our current knowledge can be discussed and priorities can be set. The workshop should be held early in the fiscal year to allow time for possible development of project proposals for consideration later in FY 01 or FY 02. Fund contingent on receipt of draft synthesis and recommendations from Project 00374.		Fund contingent on (a) submittal and approval of a Detailed Project Description and budget and (b) receipt and review of the synthesis and recommendations being prepared under Project 00374 (due September 30, 2000). This workshop is a logical next step to the herring synthesis being conducted under Project 00374, and may identify work to be invited on Pacific herring later in FY 01, for FY 02, or in FY 03 under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program). The workshop is tentatively scheduled for February/March 2001.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Bill Crampton
Intermountain Communications
60968 Onyx St
Bend, OR 97702

RE: Project 01566-BAA / "GEM News": An On-Line Marine Environmental Quality
Report

Dear Mr. Crampton:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01566/"GEM News": An On-Line Marine Environmental Quality Report. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Although an e-mail newsletter continues to be an attractive idea for disseminating information related to the Trustee Council's long-term program, the reporter/meeting coverage approach is costly and probably not the most appropriate means of compiling the type of information the Trustee Council is interested in.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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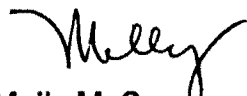
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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,



Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

Hi Bill -
Thanks for submitting the proposal.
I need to think more about
what might be the best fit
for our program. You have a good
model, but not quite the right
one for here. Hope all is well with you.
Talk to you later.
Molly

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01566-BAA	"GEM News": An On-Line Marine Environmental Quality Report	B. Crampton/Intermountain Communications	NOAA	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$126.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
GEM News, an e-mail newsletter, will provide information coordination and news dissemination that meets the information needs identified by the restoration process and the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring program (GEM, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program). The Council has indicated they intend to provide leadership in coordinating agency programs and getting information about the Gulf of Alaska to the public. This project will create an e-mail and web newsletter for this purpose. Readership will include agency staff, tribes, commercial fishermen, school districts, local governments, researchers, media, and other interested parties.		The idea of an active news source for items of interest to the EVOS community that is "pushed" to subscribers on a regular basis via e-mail is a terrific and timely idea. Nonetheless, the approach for producing content in the proposal does not appear appropriate to the Trustee Council's constituencies and programs. Do not fund.		Do not fund. Development of an e-mail newsletter that covers events related to the Gulf of Alaska ecosystem might further the Trustee Council's goal under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Council's long-term monitoring program) to provide leadership in coordinating agency programs and getting information to the public. However, the means of gathering information for the newsletter (paid reporters to cover meetings, conferences, studies, etc.) may not be appropriate for the Council's constituencies and programs.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 19, 2000

Chris Elfring, PhD
Polar Research Board (HA 454)
2101 Constitution Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20418

RE: Project 01360-BAA / EVOS: Guidance for Future Research Activities

Dear Dr. ~~Elfring~~ ^{Chris}:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 01360/EVOS: Guidance for Future Research Activities contingent on submittal and approval of a slightly reduced budget. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits. This recommendation is made for public review and may be revised before it is provided to the Trustee Council in early August.

The Restoration Office estimate of the additional funds needed for the project in FY 01 is \$225,000, including NOAA's general administration (which is calculated at 7 percent of the total contract amount). You should work from this number in developing your revised budget. The revised budget should be prepared on the standard detailed budget forms and submitted to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 7, 2000**. Enclosed is a list of items considered in the review of your budget which may help you prepare a revised budget.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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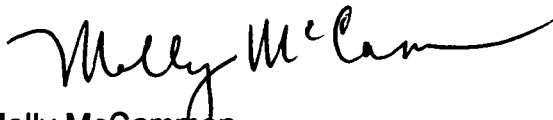
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Alaska Department of Law

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have questions about this preliminary recommendation, please give me a call. As in the current year, this project has been assigned to NOAA for administrative purposes, but project oversight will be handled by myself and Phil Mundy here at the Restoration Office.

Sincerely,



Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

Chris - the first meeting
went well. Give me a
call and we can chat
about follow-up.

Molly
Also let me know if you
have questions or concerns
about the above.
M.

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01360-BAA	The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: Guidance for Future Research Activities	C. Elfring/Polar Research Board, NRC	NOAA	Cont'd 2nd yr. 3 yr. project	\$241.6	\$225.0	\$90.0	\$315.0

Project Abstract

The National Research Council's Polar Research Board and Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology has appointed a special committee to review the scope, content, and structure of the Trustee Council's draft Science Program and draft Research and Monitoring Plan. To provide context for their review, the committee will become familiar with the relevant body of scientific knowledge, including that developed by activities sponsored by the Trustee Council. The committee will prepare an interim report on the Science Program, which will help the Trustee Council in development of the Research and Monitoring Plan. The committee will then prepare a final report analyzing whether the Research and Monitoring Plan is complete, scientifically sound, and meets the expectations of the Trustee Council. Both reports will contain conclusions and recommendations intended to give guidance on the nature and scope of future research and monitoring activities in the northern Gulf of Alaska.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

Evaluation by the National Research Council (NRC) is critical to development of the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring program. NRC reports will contain conclusions and recommendations intended to give guidance on the nature and scope of future research and monitoring activities in the northern Gulf of Alaska. The National Research Council committee will receive Trustee Council staff support as needed to ensure timely delivery of useful products. Fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a reduced budget. This project, which will provide important external review of the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program (GEM, Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring), began in FY 00. The National Research Council (NRC) is currently reviewing the draft GEM Science Program. FY 01 activities will include an interim report on the Science Program and review of the draft GEM Research and Monitoring Plan. The NRC's final report, which will contain conclusions and recommendations on the Science Program and the Research and Monitoring Plan, will be submitted to the Trustee Council early in FY 02.

ITEMS CONSIDERED IN REVIEW OF FY 01 BUDGETS

1. Level of funding authorized in FY 00 and projection, at that time, of FY 01 budget. Items budgeted for FY 00 but not implemented should not be funded again in FY 01 unless the proposer can verify that he/she will lapse the "unused" FY 00 funds.
2. Direction given by Trustee Council and/or Chief Scientist in FY 00 Final Work Plan or in subsequent review sessions (e.g., transition to agency funding, close out certain components).
3. Change in project's scope per the Chief Scientist's recommendation (i.e., elimination, revision, or addition of objectives). If a pilot project is seeking expansion, note whether there is adequate information to evaluate the pilot's success. Decisions on some projects will need to be deferred pending fall review or completion of work underway in FY 00.
- ④. Personal Services: Note if number of months has increased significantly over FY 00 or if number of months appears excessive, e.g. 12 mos. for a closeout and no justification provided. Also note if salary appears excessive relative to scope of work and salaries typically paid agency or university employees for the type of work. *Student intern was deleted in FY 00. Increase in project assistant's time not explained.*
5. Project Management: No funds should be budgeted in the individual project budgets. Project management costs will be addressed in Project 01250.
- ⑥. Travel: Note if travel has increased significantly over FY 00 and no justification is provided. *- 17 people traveling to one of the meetings, not 15 - ?
- some members from Alaska/other west coast - airfare should be less. Some members participate by teleconference.*
7. Annual Workshop: For PI and co-PI only, travel and per diem for up to 3 days -- and only if PI/co-PI not located in Anchorage.
8. Other EVOS Reviews/Workshops: No technical review sessions are scheduled for FY 01. *so no travel costs.*
9. Professional Conferences: One each per PI (and co-PI if appropriate) if the PI will be presenting results of his or her EVOS work or attendance at the workshop is integral to the project -- and only if the DPD identifies the conference and the reason for attending.
10. Manuscript Preparation: Maximum \$1,000 in page costs per project and maximum 1.5 months personnel time per publication -- and only if the DPD indicates that a manuscript will be published (i.e., appear in print) in FY 01 (DPD must also include subject/title of manuscript, name of peer reviewed journal to

which will be submitted, and when it will be submitted). Note number of manuscripts for which funding support is requested.

11. Report Writing: No funding on new projects unless the DPD indicates the report will be completed in FY 01 (or rolled into a non-severable contract in FY 01).
12. Equipment: Note purchases of major new equipment.
13. Indirect Costs: Office supplies, copying, phones, equipment maintenance and repair, vehicle leasing, software, and training are typically indirect costs. Such costs should be budgeted for separately only if they are incurred because of a specific project and documentation of the expense is maintained. The documentation must demonstrate to a financial auditor that the expense was directly attributable to the project, and was necessary and reasonable. Maintenance and operation of space (i.e., lease costs) are always an indirect cost.

By agreement, University of Alaska indirect rate is 25% of all direct costs except subcontract costs in excess of \$25,000 (see p. 61 of *FY 01 Invitation* for more detail).

14. Community Involvement and TEK: Note funds budgeted.
15. Future Years: Note significant changes (from what was projected in the FY 00 Final Work Plan) in FY 2002. No funding decisions for FY 03 and beyond are being made at this time.
16. Other: Note additional, project-specific budget issues that may need to be addressed.

- Increases in photocopying, office supplies not justified.
- Corresponding reductions in indirect & agency GA.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 19, 2000

Brad VanAppel
Cook Inlet Keeper
PO Box 3269
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 01595 / Prototype for Community-Based Environmental Monitoring and Watershed Assessment

Dear Mr. VanApple:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01595/Prototype for Community-Based Environmental Monitoring and Watershed Assessment. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

You will see that your proposal received a positive review and that the citizen monitoring program pioneered in Alaska by Cook Inlet Keeper is highly regarded. However, considering that GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program) is still under development, it is premature to fund your proposal at this time. We intend to develop a community monitoring component for GEM, and would hope to be able to draw on your expertise in doing so. As you know, the Trustee Council will be hosting some "focus groups" on GEM this summer -- to identify regional priorities and concerns -- followed by a major workshop October 10-12 to develop a final draft of the GEM monitoring plan. I hope Cook Inlet Keeper will be able to participate in some of these events.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745

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Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Marianne See, the ADEC liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Molly McCammon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Molly" and last name "McCammon" clearly distinguishable.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Marianne See, ADEC Liaison

mmv/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01595	Prototype for Community-Based Environmental Monitoring and Watershed Assessment	B. vanAppel/Cook Inlet Keeper	ADEC	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$53.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Cook Inlet Keeper was the first community-based organization in Alaska to start a federal and state-approved citizen-based water quality monitoring program. Now other groups in Cook Inlet communities are establishing similar monitoring programs, and requesting Keeper's help. Keeper is ready to unify Cook Inlet monitoring efforts by creating a Quality Assurance Management Plan, which will ensure the consistency and credibility of citizen-based monitoring in the Cook Inlet watershed. Keeper will then explore ways to combine citizen monitoring with other tools to develop a watershed assessment prototype. Community-based watershed assessments will help Cook Inlet communities manage natural resources and plan development in ways that will benefit long-term conservation of injured resources and lost or reduced services.		This is an interesting proposal to expand an established citizen-based monitoring plan for water quality in watersheds. The model for citizen involvement embodied in the proposal may be appropriate for gathering a variety of data in the marine environment under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring), the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program. However, it is premature to decide the particular measurements that would be appropriate for GEM, including those identified in this proposal. Do not fund. However, the Council may want to consider some assistance from Cook Inlet Keeper as part of the GEM planning project (01630).		Do not fund. Cook Inlet Keeper has developed and implemented a successful citizen-based monitoring program in Kachemak Bay that may be appropriate for broad application throughout the spill area and for a variety of measurements. The Trustee Council may want to consider some assistance from Cook Inlet Keeper as part of Project 01630/GEM Planning.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Alex Wertheimer
NMFS Auke Bay Laboratory
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801-8626

RE: Project 01440 / Pink Salmon Hatcheries in Prince William Sound: Enhancement or Replacement of Natural Production?

Dear Mr. Wertheimer:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01440/Pink Salmon Hatcheries in Prince William Sound: Enhancement or Replacement of Natural Production? I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

As you'll see, the reviewers raised technical concerns about the proposal, including whether Project /190 (Fred Allendorf's genome mapping work) needs to be completed first. However, I do agree that the question you propose to address is an important one and have asked the Chief Scientist, Bob Spies, and the Science Coordinator, Phil Mundy, to put together a conference call with you and others to discuss possible approaches to and the appropriate timing for addressing this question.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public

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Alaska Department of Law

Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01440	Pink Salmon Hatcheries in Prince William Sound: Enhancement or Replacement of Natural Production?	A. Wertheimer/NOAA	NOAA	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$46.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will examine pink salmon production models to determine if hatchery production in Prince William Sound enhances or replaces wild production. Pink salmon catches in the sound are at historical highs, with most of the catch produced by hatcheries. A recently published study supported in part by Exxon asserts that more than 90 percent of the current production would have been attained by wild stocks in the absence of hatchery production and implies that hatcheries are the cause of the decline and lack of recovery of wild pink salmon. This project will critically examine these assertions, determining if historical patterns of abundance or population dynamic models indicate replacement rather than enhancement of Prince William Sound pink salmon and consider alternate models.		This proposal from qualified investigators addresses an important question in fisheries management. The proposal has substantial scientific merit as a correlative approach based on intensive analysis of available data. This general approach has been attempted in other regions, such as the Columbia River basin, and has been frustrated by the imprecision of the data on wild salmon survival and our inability to identify the mechanisms of interaction between wild and hatchery fish. Despite the skill of the investigators, these limitations are inherent in the available data. New experimental approaches will be required to address these limitations in order to provide convincing advice to managers on how to manage hatchery production in relation to wild salmon populations. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would critique the recent analysis (Hilborn and Eggers) that asserts that 90 percent or more of the current pink salmon production in Prince William Sound would have been attained by wild stocks in the absence of hatchery production and implies that hatcheries are the cause of the decline and lack of recovery of wild pink salmon. The Chief Scientist advises that the proposed approach is not feasible due to the imprecision of existing data on wild salmon survival and the inability to identify the mechanisms of interaction between wild and hatchery fish.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Sue Cogswell
PWSEDC
PO Box 2353
Valdez, AK 99686

RE: Project 01616 / Sound Waste Management Plan: Boat Harbor Sewage System Phase

Dear Ms. Cogswell:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01616/Sound Waste Management Plan: Boat Harbor Sewage System Phase. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Although your proposal is more attractive this year than last because you are seeking funds from other sources, it is still a lower priority for funding at this stage in the restoration program, when we are beginning our transition to a long-term monitoring program.

However, I have requested information from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game about their contribution to the project in order to better evaluate whether a small contribution from the Council might be worthwhile. Before I would reconsider my recommendation, I would need to be confident that the communities are committed to proper implementation and ongoing maintenance of the proposed facilities, and that the problems reported to the Council about the operation of the facilities constructed in the first phase of SWMP have been corrected.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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278-8012
1-800-478-7745
1-800-283-7745
sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Marianne See, the ADEC liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Marianne See, ADEC Liaison
Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mmv/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01616	Sound Waste Management Plan: Boat Harbor Sewage System Phase	S. Cogswell/PWSEDC	ADEC	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$98.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Providing communities the capacity to manage and control pollutants will protect Prince William Sound species and will aid the species affected by the oil spill. Boat harbor pump-out systems will provide seasonal safe sewage management for marine vessels. The systems can be easily activated in winter in case of a natural or man-made emergency. This system will protect the commercial shellfish operations around the sound, as well as the other fish and marine mammal populations recovering from the oil spill.		This project proposes providing communities with boat harbor pump-out systems for safe sewage management for marine vessels, and is similar to a proposal submitted last year except that the proposers are seeking funding from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for most of the costs. Boat harbor sewage was not addressed in the original Sound Waste Management project (SWMP, /115) because it was a lower priority to Prince William Sound communities than used oil and household hazardous waste. At this late stage in the restoration program, further implementation of SWMP should be a lower priority. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would provide sewage pump-out stations in the small boat harbors of Cordova, Whittier, and Chenega Bay, and at the skiff dock in Tatitlek. The pump-out stations would provide a convenient disposal area for sewage and discourage boat operators from dumping their sewage into the harbors. This project would be an adjunct to the Sound Waste Management project (SWMP, /115). Boat harbor sewage was not addressed in SWMP because it was a lower priority to Prince William Sound communities than used oil and household hazardous waste. Additions to SWMP are a low priority for funding at this stage in the restoration program.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Lee Hulbert
NMFS Auke Bay Lab
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Project 01396 / Alaska Salmon Shark Assessment

Dear Mr. Hulbert:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 01396/Alaska Salmon Shark Assessment pending review of FY 00 results. If funded, funding should be at a level comparable to that provided in FY 00 (roughly \$85,000). I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with a summary of the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits. This recommendation is made for public review and may be revised before it is provided to the Trustee Council in early August.

Although the Trustee Council will not make a decision on this and other deferred projects until December, it would be helpful to have your preliminary results well in advance of that date, by October 1 if possible.

I have also enclosed a copy of the staff review on this project, which identifies changes in objectives from the Detailed Project Description (DPD) approved for FY 00. Once the FY 00 results are submitted and reviewed, if a decision is made to continue funding, it will be important to have a DPD that clearly identifies and explains any proposed changes in objectives and methods. A reduced budget will also need to be prepared at that time. In addition, please note that the aerial surveys of sea otters (Project 01423) referenced in your proposal are not recommended for funding in FY 01.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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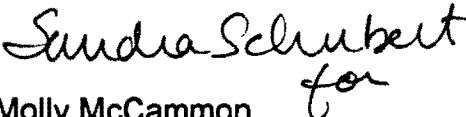
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Toll-free in Alaska
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E-mail

278-8012
1-800-478-7745
1-800-283-7745
sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on all but deferred projects is scheduled for August 3, 2000. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2000.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation or the project review process, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison

mmv/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01396	Alaska Salmon Shark Assessment	L. Hulbert/NOAA	NOAA	Cont'd 2nd yr. 2 yr. project	\$131.6	\$85.0	\$0.0	\$85.0

Project Abstract

This project will perform an unbiased estimate of salmon shark abundance and consumption in Prince William Sound. FY 01 will focus on continued field sampling and analyses of salmon shark abundance and consumption from data collected in FY 00 with an emphasis on data collected from directed stratified random line transect sampling and from aerial survey counts from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Geological Survey. Satellite tags and data archival tags will be employed to describe salmon shark movements and migrations, and critical feeding areas and depths. This research will assess the role of a predominant shark species as an indicator of change in the dynamic ocean climate and trophic structures in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. [NOTE: This project was originally proposed as a two-year project; a third year of funding (FY 02) is also now proposed.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

When this project was funded in FY 00, it was focused on a limited set of objectives for one year. The funding decision for FY 01 was to be based on evaluation of FY 00 results, which are not yet available, and evaluation of the FY 01 proposal. The FY 01 proposal contains a greatly expanded and altered scope of work. While the work in FY 00 is mainly attempting to continue a time series that provides an index of relative abundance, FY 01 proposes a population estimate based on extrapolation of results from an aerial survey of shallow water habitat, complemented by a hydroacoustic-based approach for offshore habitat. The reviewers find this new methodology questionable and unlikely to succeed. Also, in expanding the objectives, the project appears to be too scattered and suggests that the relationships between shark ecology, conservation, and management have not been thought through with regard to priorities. While the FY 00 data are not available, the reviewers found the FY 01 proposal weak and that other work should have higher priority. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Defer decision on funding this project pending review of FY 00 results. If FY 01 funding is approved, it should be at a level comparable to that provided in FY 00. Sharks appear to be of growing ecological importance in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. Funding was approved in FY 00 for a one-year study on salmon shark abundance relative to ocean warming, with possible consideration of an additional year of funding pending review of FY 00 results. It is premature to consider any long-term study of sharks until a decision is made on which top-level predators will be a part of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program).

01396

ALASKA SALMON SHARK ASSESSMENT

Preliminary Staff Recommendation: Defer until FY 00 results submitted and reviewed.

\$ Reduce to expected \$100.0 or FY 01 level of \$86.0

Late Reports:

Hulbert - None

Program Issues:

1. FY 00 TC Action: "Funding for continued work in FY 01 may be considered following review of results from the FY 00 effort."
2. Appears to add 2 objectives and delete 4, although these may be rewordings rather than substantive changes -- no explanation provided:
 - Added
 - Collect salmon shark abundance data from stratified random line transects
 - Estimate abundance by analyzing directed line transect sampling data
 - Deleted
 - Construct standardized index ratio of surface-to-subsurface distribution patterns from data collected from tags and hydroacoustic and ROV observations
 - Estimate down-sounder and side-scanning sonar salmon shark detection probabilities
 - Estimate salmon shark abundance by analyzing surface-to-subsurface ratios, tag and aerial survey data
 - Estimate salmon shark abundance in Port Gravina by analyzing directed line transect sampling data collected with real-time coordination of down-sounder, side-scanning sonar, ROV, and visual (surface) observations. NOTE: Deleted from objectives, though seems to be described in the methods - ?
3. Modifies archival tag resolution from every 1.5 minutes for 8.4 days to every 1 minute for 11.4 days
4. Good community involvement. "People from Cordova, Chenega, and Tatitlek will be asked to contribute their knowledge of shark abundance and distribution. Community members may also be hired to recover PAT tags if they pop up in PWS."

Budget Issues:

1. Request exceeds expected (\$131.6 vs. \$100.0). Funds are now requested for FY 02 also (\$50.0 -- projection was 0). FY 00 funding was \$86.0.
2. PI's time increased from 6 mo. to 12 mo. (+ \$33.6)
→ Peer reviewers should comment on this
3. Number of SPOT tags increased from 2 to 6 (+ \$5.0)
→ Peer reviewers should comment on this
4. Adds 10 Star-Oddi Temp-Depth recorders (\$2.6) and deletes VEMCO data loggers (\$7.0)
→ Peer reviewers should comment on this
5. Excess days are budgeted for EVOS annual meeting [SAVE \$0.5]
6. USFWS aerial survey data analysis is projected to cost \$3.0 - 5.0; the higher number is budgeted [SAVE \$1.0 - 2.0]
7. NOAA GA would be reduced accordingly

Related Projects:

None

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Bob Henrichs, Pres
Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council
PO Box 1388
Cordova, AK 99574-1000

RE: Project 01333 / Sea Otter Monitoring
Project 01372 / Steller Sea Lion Monitoring
Project 01503 / Orca Inlet Restoration
Project 01507 / Nuchek Subsistence Camp
Project 01508 / Copper River Salmon Run Data Infrastructure

Dear Mr. Henrichs:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation on five projects (01333, 01372, 01503, 01507, 01508) that you submitted to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council. These projects are similar to projects submitted in prior years that for various reasons have been found to be inappropriate for Trustee Council funding. These reasons are laid out in the enclosures, which contain my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits.

The sea otter situation in Orca Inlet (Project 01503) is a concern. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has informed me that they will be intensifying their aerial surveys of the area this summer. In addition, monitoring of sea otters in Orca Inlet may be considered as part of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring), the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program currently under development.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Catherine Berg, the DOI liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, DOI Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01333	Sea Otter Monitoring	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	New 1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

The sea otters in Orca Inlet have been dying and washing up on the beaches in the past few years. The problem is getting worse. Since January 2000, over 100 sea otters have been picked up between Hartney Bay and Nelson Bay. Necropsies show the cause of death to be parasites and bone impaction. These are picked up by sea otters feeding on cannery waste. This project calls for a study to find a way to prevent these needless deaths. [NOTE: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared. This project also requested \$100,000 for FY 03, for FY 04, and for FY 05.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

Sea otter mortality in Orca Inlet is likely not a result of the oil spill. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. Information collected through other Trustee Council-funded projects indicates that sea otters have recovered from the spill throughout Prince William Sound, except in the area of Knight Island. Any observed sea otter mortality in Orca Inlet is likely not related to the oil spill, and this project's link to the Council's restoration objectives is weak.

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01372	Steller Sea Lion Monitoring	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	New 1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Steller sea lions are on the decline and have been placed on the endangered list by the National Marine Fisheries Service. If this trend continues, subsistence fishing for salmon, herring and other marine life will be curtailed. Some traditional areas may be closed to all fishing and hunting. This project will monitor the interaction between the Steller sea lions and the fishing fleets. [NOTE: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared. This project also requested \$250,000 for FY 03, for FY 04, and for FY 05.]		Sea lions were studied in 1989 following the spill, but no evidence of injury was obtained. This project's link to the restoration program is weak. Do not fund.		Do not fund. There are no established injuries from the oil spill to sea lions and this project's link to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives is weak.				

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02*
01503	Orca Inlet Restoration	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	New 1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Orca Inlet has become barren over the years. While it used to supply many of the subsistence resources to the residents of Eyak/Cordova, in recent years it has supplied very little. As a result of the processors dumping their fish waste and the earthquake, the inlet is dying. This project will develop a plan to restore Orca Inlet to what it was when we were children. [NOTE: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared. This project also requested \$150,000 for FY 03, for FY 04, and for FY 05.]		This proposal is an abstract focused upon restoration of lost subsistence resources in Orca Inlet. There are many reasons for the observed changes, including the 1964 earthquake and discharge of fish waste from canneries, but the oil spill probably had little or no role in these changes. To the extent the changes stem from such events as the earthquake, they are likely irreversible, although discharge of fish waste should be regulated under the Clean Water Act. No explanation is provided for the \$750,000 budget (over five years), nor is there a description of how the project would be carried out. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has surveyed sea otters in Orca Inlet in recent years as part of Project /159 (Boat Surveys). This summer, partly in response to concerns of local residents, USFWS will conduct more intensive aerial surveys in the area using non-EVOS funds. Long-term monitoring of sea otters in Orca Inlet may be considered as part of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program).				

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01507	Nuchek Subsistence Camp	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

As a result of the oil spill, the availability of subsistence foods has changed. The residents of the spill region are spending more time gathering traditional subsistence foods. A subsistence camp at Nuchek would allow the youth and elders to address these changes. Many of the people in the region trace their ancestry back to Nuchek. As Chugach Alaska Corporation has built a facility at Nuchek and holds annual spirit camps, this would be an appropriate location for this subsistence camp. [NOTE: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal does not elaborate on the benefit of youth and elders addressing changes in subsistence as a result of the oil spill and it does not establish how such benefits relate to recovery goals. An agenda for how the camp could achieve these goals is not presented. Methods for achieving the purposes intended are not presented. No budget information is presented. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. The value and importance of subsistence camps and other activities that teach traditional methods of harvesting and other subsistence skills to youth is clear. However, proposals submitted to the Trustee Council in the past for subsistence camps were found not to be legally permissible. The Nuchek Spirit Camp was funded in 1995 and 1996 with EVOS criminal funds with the expectation that funding in future years would be provided by Chugach Alaska Corporation.

SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01508	Copper River Salmon Run Data Infrastructure	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	New 1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$525.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will protect and enhance the salmon runs on the Copper River to replace the lost subsistence resources in Prince William Sound. The project will install modern automated run monitoring and data collection equipment on all significant Copper River tributaries and will develop a baseline data index to existing data systems over a five-year period (a test year with a five-year full data set over a full run cycle). The Copper River fishery is at risk because of a shift in resource use patterns. Harvest of salmon on or near spawning tributaries is increasing rapidly. This project will provide salmon count data systems on the Copper River that can distinguish between species, provide genetic separation, monitor tributaries, and transmit data in real time. [NOTE: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared. This project also requested funds for FY 03 (\$893,100), FY 04 (\$937,800), FY 05 (\$984,700), and FY 06 (\$1,033,900).]		This project proposes to utilize sonar technology to count chinook salmon in the Copper River basin, but provides no evidence of understanding the complexities involved in effectively applying sonar technologies in such environments. The long history of difficulties in using this technology to enumerate chinook salmon on the Kenai River is not considered in the proposal. Moreover, the project contains no link to restoration objectives and would address an issue outside the spill area. Trustee Council funding is inappropriate because state law already provides for priority for subsistence use of resources, and proposers thus have recourse through other means to address the problem. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal would address the allocation of Copper River salmon. Allocation issues are under the purview of various resource management agencies and are not appropriate for the Trustee Council to address.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 16, 2000

Kelly Wolf
PO Box 2416
Kenai, AK 99611

RE: Project 01430 / Youth Restoration Corps

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01430/Youth Restoration Corps as part of the FY 01 Work Plan. However, I have asked the agencies participating in the Trustee Council's Kenai River restoration efforts to evaluate whether they might have funds available at the completion of their work that might be redirected to a small contract with the Youth Restoration Corps. I will be back in touch with you once I receive the information I've requested.

I need to also point out that the Trustee Council has not yet received a final report from you on your earlier contract (the \$20,000 administered by the USFS in FY 98), and would need to receive that before approving any additional funding. If you have questions about the final report procedures, please contact Ken Holbrook, the USFS liaison to the Trustee Council.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final

recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Ken Holbrook, the USFS liaison to the Trustee Council. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on your project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for
Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Ken Holbrook, USFS Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01430	Youth Restoration Corps	K. Wolf/Youth Restoration Corps	USFS	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$53.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will provide funding support to the Youth Restoration Corps to continue its streambank restoration activities along the Kenai and other rivers in the spill area. The corps provides 16-19 year-old youth hands-on training in riparian ecosystems, and work experience using a variety of bio-restoration techniques. The program emphasizes the use of low cost, locally available, natural materials and implements a variety of techniques that can be used on sites that are accessible only by foot. By the conclusion of this project, 1,600 lineal feet of riverbank along the sanctuary of the Kenai and Russian rivers and along the Kenai River at the Kenai River Center will have been restored and monitored to ensure stability.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

Involving young people in restoration is very desirable, and the hands-on aspect of this work is appealing. This is a positive project involving youth and repairing riparian habitat, and involves modest salaries. As drafted, however, this proposal is only weakly linked to the Trustee Council's recovery objectives, and it fails to present sufficient detail for the stream watch objective. This does not seem like a high priority. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund with FY 01 funds. Consider reprogramming some unspent capital funds from earlier Kenai River restoration appropriations (Project /180) to this effort. Through Project /180, the Trustee Council has contributed roughly \$1.8 million to habitat restoration efforts along the banks of the Kenai River and its tributaries. In FY 98, Project 98180 included \$20,000 for a contract with the Youth Restoration Corps to perform bank rehabilitation on the Russian River. Additional funding is now being requested by the Youth Restoration Corps to perform similar work. The Council also has provided over \$12 million to purchase small parcels adjacent to or near the Kenai River.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Jim Bodkin
USGS-BRD
1011 E Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503-6119

Angela Doroff
USFWS MMM
1011 E Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503-6119

RE: Project 01520 / Sea Otter Population Survey

Dear Mr. Bodkin and Ms. Doroff:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01520/Sea Otter Population Survey. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. You will note we are recommending that the Trustee Council encourage the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct the proposed surveys under their normal agency function, as the results would contribute to the GEM planning effort currently underway.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Dede Bohn, the USGS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert

Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01520	Sea Otter Population Survey	J. Bodkin, A. Doroff/USGS	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$41.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will conduct aerial surveys of sea otters along the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak Archipelago. Although sea otter oiling and mortality following the oil spill was widespread in these areas, only one survey has been conducted in these areas since 1990. Previous research supported by the Trustee Council resulted in the design, testing, and implementation of a cost effective aerial survey method for sea otters that is both accurate and precise. This method has been employed in Prince William Sound since 1993. While the statistical power to detect change with this survey method is good, the immediate value of the proposed surveys will be in providing current baseline data within the spill area and delineating the geographic and numerical magnitude of the sea otter decline observed elsewhere in the North Pacific.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

Sea otters have an important effect on nearshore community structure. Monitoring of sea otters is a mandate of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, but they have not surveyed sea otters on the Kenai Peninsula since 1989 and on Kodiak since 1994. It would be appropriate for the Trustee Council to request that the US Fish and Wildlife Service conduct a survey, under normal agency function, as it would be helpful in deciding whether a contribution to sea otter monitoring is an appropriate part of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Council's long-term monitoring plan). Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This proposal requests funding for surveys of sea otters along the Kenai Peninsula and around Kodiak. Sea otter monitoring is a normal management function of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is not appropriate for Trustee Council funding. These surveys have apparently been postponed for several years because of funding constraints at the agency. Nonetheless, the Council should encourage the US Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct the surveys under their normal agency function, as the survey results would help the Council determine whether sea otter monitoring would be an appropriate part of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Council's long-term monitoring program).

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Richard E. Thorne, PhD
PWS Science Center
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574

Gary Thomas, PhD
PWS Science Center
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574-0705

RE: Project 01452-BAA / Assessing Prey and Competitor Predators of Pink Salmon Fry
Project 01457-BAA / Assessing the Pacific Herring Stock Using Echointegration-Optical-Purse Seine Surveys
Project 01460-BAA / Assessing the Number of Walleye Pollock as Predators of Juvenile Salmon and Herring

Dear Dr. Thorne and Dr. Thomas:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation on three projects (01452, 01457, 01460) that you submitted to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council. My recommendation is to not fund the projects, based on concerns raised by the technical reviewers. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits. I also understand that you have been provided the Chief Scientist's more detailed review forms.

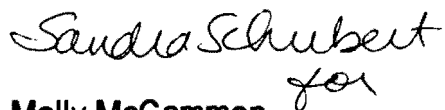
My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sandra Schubert in cursive script.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01452-BAA	Assessing Prey and Competitor/Predators of Pink Salmon Fry	R. Thorne, G. Thomas/PWSSC	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$49.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Residents of Prince William Sound have repeatedly voiced the complaint that pink salmon populations in the spill-area suffered long-term impacts from the oil spill. Estimates of spring macrozooplankton prey and pollock predators are the primary biological data input to the pink salmon fry models developed by researchers over the past decade. This project will expand the current spring predator prey-surveys that are supported by the Oil Spill Recovery Institute, Sound Emergency Response Vehicle System, Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to increase survey coverage, conduct more data analysis, and add new optical sampling devices to further reduce the dependence of the surveys on expensive and less-representative discrete net sampling.		This proposal contains a valuable concept for monitoring. The long-term benefits of developing this line of research would be substantial. Unfortunately, the proposal does not include an adequate description of the project design (objectives with deliverables, schedules and benchmarks to be used to measure progress, survey locations that can ground truth Project 01195 (Pristane), information on where and when sampling would be conducted, descriptions and references for models in which the data would be used, and personnel who would perform modeling), the sources and amounts of funding allocated to the project (including a letter of support from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game stating its intention to provide funds, personnel, or other material support), and the identities of related projects funded by other sources that would supply data and logistical support. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal, which would expand the spring predator (pollock) and prey (macrozooplankton) surveys in Prince William Sound, has a laudable goal. However, the proposal lacks an adequate description of the project design and the sources of other necessary funding and support.				

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01457-BAA	Assessing the Pacific Herring Stock Using Echointegration-Optical-Purse Seine Surveys	R. Thorne, G. Thomas/PWSSC	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$72.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Using a combination of echointegration, optical, and purse seining techniques, highly precise estimates of age 3+ Pacific herring and predators in overwintering areas of Prince William Sound have been made. These techniques have been applied to measure the abundance and distribution of juvenile herring in the fall, which is required input to forecast with the juvenile overwintering survival model. The spring 2000 survey shows the herring population at its lowest abundance since the fall of 1993. With matching support from the Oil Spill Recovery Institute and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, this project will continue the overwinter survey and add a fall survey of juveniles as an early indicator of future recovery.		Additional surveys of herring may be useful in developing a greater understanding of herring biology in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. However, the proposal does not adequately incorporate the results from previous acoustical surveys of herring in Prince William Sound carried out by SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320). The proposal is poorly documented and does not contain sufficient detail on how the surveys would be done, or what is innovative about them, to judge the science or the potential contribution to the overall restoration program. Do not fund.		Do not fund based on Chief Scientist's recommendation. Although additional surveys could provide useful information on the role of herring in the ecosystem, the proposal does not incorporate the results from related SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320) surveys and lacks sufficient detail.				

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01460-BAA	Assessing the Number of Walleye Pollock as Predators of Juvenile Salmon and Herring	R. Thorne, G. Thomas/PWSSC	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$53.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will expand the current winter surveys of prespawning pollock that are supported by the Oil Spill Recovery Institute and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to increase coverage, conduct more data analysis, and add a fall survey of juvenile pollock as an early indicator of future recruitment. Walleye pollock is the most abundant predator of and competitor with juvenile salmon and herring in the sound, and surveys between 1995 and 2000 show its distribution and abundance to fluctuate with the recruitment of large year classes. Thus, annual surveys to estimate its abundance are crucial to track changing inter-annual trends in survival of pink salmon and Pacific herring stocks in the sound.		Additional surveys of pollock are likely to be useful in the developing understanding of the fisheries ecology of Prince William Sound. However, the proposal is poorly documented and does not contain sufficient detail on how the surveys would be done, or what is innovative about them, to judge the science or the potential contribution to the overall program. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project requests funds to expand the observational program of the winter pollock biomass in Prince William Sound to include a fall survey of age-0 juveniles for abundance and condition. Additional surveys of pollock would likely contribute to the understanding of fisheries ecology in the sound. However, the reviewers found the proposal to be technically insufficient.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

The Honorable Jack Cushing
Mayor of the City of Homer
491 E Pioneer Ave
Homer, AK 99603-7624

RE: Project 01314 / Homer Mariner Park Habitat Restoration
Project 01526 / Beluga Slough Habitat Assessment and Restoration

Dear Mayor Cushing:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01314/Homer Mariner Park Habitat Restoration of Project 01526/Beluga Slough Habitat Assessment and Restoration. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Carol Fries, the ADNR liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for
Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Carol Fries, ADNR Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01314	Homer Mariner Park Habitat Restoration	J. Cushing/City of Homer	ADNR	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$83.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> Mariner Park is a highly stressed coastal salt marsh habitat that is experiencing a dramatic reduction in biodiversity while incompatible and environmentally destructive human uses flourish. In 1999 Dames & Moore was contracted by the City of Homer, with funding from the Trustee Council, to conduct an environmental assessment and offer alternatives for habitat restoration. This project will follow through on the City-approved alternative for enhancing, preserving, and protecting Mariner Park's intertidal habitats through conservation easements, maintenance dredging of the lagoon entrance, and installation of interpretive structures.			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> This proposal is for educational displays in Mariner Park, as part of a program for maintaining and enhancing environmental management activities in this area. While there is good cost-sharing evident in the proposal, the cost for the displays (\$77,000) is high. There are other educational opportunities for the Trustee Council that are higher priority for funding. Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. In FY 99, the Trustee Council funded preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) for restoring degraded intertidal habitats at Mariner Park (Project 99314). The Council's interest was in enhancing the intertidal habitat of the Mariner Park lagoon in order to increase the number of shorebirds attracted to the site. However, this alternative was rejected during the EA process because of concerns raised by the Federal Aviation Administration about the park's proximity to the local airport. This proposal would implement the public education components of the preferred alternative -- specifically, interpretive signs and a facility for housing the signs. While a public education effort will almost certainly be beneficial, it is not a priority for the Council.		

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01526	Beluga Slough Habitat Assessment and Restoration	J. Cushing/City of Homer	ADNR	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$115.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Beluga Slough is undergoing rapid degradation of its protective beach berm by destructive human use. The slough itself provides critical habitat for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl, as well as invertebrates and young fish of several species. This project will fund a comprehensive feasibility study that includes botanical, biological, and hydrological field studies coupled to community information. The study will be invaluable for developing a hands-on habitat restoration and enhancement plan to reverse the berm's destruction, which in turn will conserve the diversity and overall health of the slough's intertidal and subtidal fauna. The slough's sustained health will benefit migrating and wintering birds and promote recreationally compatible human use of the area.		There appears to be a clear need to restore and manage the berm that protects Beluga Slough, and protection/enhancement of intertidal habitat is consistent with restoration objectives. This proposal would be more compelling if it focused on berm restoration and showed significant cost-sharing from local or regional agencies. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would conduct an environmental assessment on restoring the berm at Beluga Slough, and hence the slough itself. The slough provides habitat to intertidal and subtidal species, many of which were injured by the oil spill. However, this is not a high priority for the Trustee Council. Funding by local or regional entities concerned about the berm would be more appropriate.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Sarah Leonard, Ex Dir
AWRTA
2207 Spenard Rd, #201
Anchorage, AK 99510-0080

Christopher Beck
1786 Forest Park Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517

RE: Project 01494 / User Guidelines and Environmental Education to Reduce
Impacts of Recreation and Tourism on Injured Species in Prince William Sound

Dear Ms. Leonard and Mr. Beck:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01494/User Guidelines and Environmental Education to Reduce Impacts of Recreation and Tourism on Injured Species in Prince William Sound. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Carol Fries, the ADNR liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Carol Fries, ADNR Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01494	User Guidelines and Environmental Education to Reduce Impacts of Recreation and Tourism on Injured Species in Prince William Sound	S. Leonard, C. Beck/AWRTA	ADNR	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$34.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will produce guidelines for responsible recreation in Prince William Sound. Guidelines will be based on solid scientific knowledge, and will include an explanation of the "whys" behind recommended behavior. The project also will present the user guidelines, and the stories behind the guidelines, in a detailed and entertaining format. This work will help create exhibits and other information so visitors, school kids, and adults better understand the sound's natural environment, helping to reinforce and magnify the impact of the guidelines on recreation behavior. This project will use scientific data collected through the EVOS process and other research initiatives to change the behavior of tourists and recreationists to support the Trustee Council's restoration objectives.		The goal of this proposal is to produce user guidelines for responsible recreation in Prince William Sound, with associated scientific rationale, and present the guidelines in a detailed and entertaining format for use at visitor information centers, museums, and other tourist venues. The rationale for Trustee Council involvement is that responsible recreation will protect natural recovery processes. Results from the human use modeling project (/339) should be considered prior to developing these guidelines. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The impacts of increasing tourism and recreational use in Prince William Sound are of growing concern to many, including the State of Alaska and the Chugach National Forest, the primary landowners/managers in the sound. It is unclear how this proposal fits into any state or federal effort to address the impacts of increased use of the sound. In addition, results from the human use modeling project (/339) should be considered in designing a proposal such as this, and the modeling results have not yet been completed or submitted.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Brenda Norcross
UAF-IMS-SFOS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220

RE: Project 01523 / Within-Bay Distribution of Juvenile Herring in Prince William Sound
Project 01524 / Herring Spawning Sites: Location or Substrate

Dear Ms. Norcross:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01523/Within-Bay Distribution of Juvenile Herring in Prince William Sound or Project 01524/Herring Spawning Sites: Location or Substrate. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, you will see that Project 01523 was felt to be premature pending the results of the herring synthesis you are currently undertaking. Regarding Project 01524, the reviewers raised technical concerns with the proposal.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01523	Within-Bay Distribution of Juvenile Herring in Prince William Sound	B. Norcross/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$38.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will further analyze herring distribution data collected within bays in Prince William Sound during the Sound Ecosystem Assessment (SEA, Project/320). Specifically, the project will examine the small scale distribution of herring in relation to physical characteristics within bays used as nursery areas. This should result in an explanation of differences in factors that affect survival of juvenile herring among bays discovered during SEA investigations. Broader implications will be examined by comparing the results to those of Atlantic herring.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This project will attempt to explain differences in survival between juvenile herring in the four study bays within Prince William Sound studied under the SEA project (/320). Determining the factors that are impacting herring productivity in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska remains central to any ecosystem research plan for this area. The value of this project to the fisheries ecology of herring could be considerable, but this judgment cannot be made until the results of the herring synthesis (Project 00374) are available, probably September 2000. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This proposal, which would attempt to explain differences in survival among juvenile herring in specific bays, cannot be adequately evaluated until the synthesis being performed under Project 00374 is submitted (expected September 30, 2000) and evaluated (see workshop proposal, Project 01602).

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01524	Herring Spawning Sites: Location or Substrate	B. Norcross/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$120.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will examine the question, "Why are herring spawning areas where they are?" by investigating two factors, location and substrate. The hypothesis is that not all combinations of oceanography, locations and substrate of herring spawning sites will result in successful recruitment of herring. To examine both factors, historical spawning and non-spawning sites in Prince William Sound will be examined. Simulated larval herring dispersal will reveal the importance of location. Field surveys and manipulations will identify importance of substrate. Knowledge of spawning site selection could become very important to the recovery of herring.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This project addresses an interesting hypothesis, but does not relate the proposed work to a range of alternative hypotheses that could be advanced to explain why herring spawn where they do. Information about the possible changes in herring spawning sites has not been adequately applied. In summary, this work would be of greater potential value to the overall program if it concentrated more on the dynamics of the changed spawning locations over time. The proposal appears to be taking a static view of herring spawning sites that does not correspond to the data and that may not enable a predictive understanding of herring performance in Prince William Sound. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This proposal would attempt to explain why herring spawn where they do, which is an important habitat question. However, the proposal appears to be taking a static view of herring spawning sites that does not correspond to the data and that may not enable a predictive understanding of herring performance in Prince William Sound.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Thomas Dean, PhD
Coastal Resources Assoc
1185 Park Center Dr, Ste A
Vista, CA 92083-8304

RE: Project 01395 / Planning for Long-Term Monitoring in the Nearshore: Designing Studies to Detect Change and Assess Cause

Dear Dr. Dean:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01395/Planning for Long-Term Monitoring in the Nearshore: Designing Studies to Detect Change and Assess Cause. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Please note that your project received a very strong technical review, but is considered to be premature given the current stage of GEM's development.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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Alaska Department of Law

recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Dede Bohn, the USGS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert

Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01395	Planning for Long-Term Monitoring in the Nearshore: Designing Studies to Detect Change and Assess Cause	T. Dean/Coastal Resources Associates, et al	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$209.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will produce a draft nearshore monitoring plan that provides a framework for future monitoring under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program). The process to be used in creating this plan will be to formulate hypotheses with respect to potential changes to the nearshore environment, identify questions that must be answered before a design can be developed to address these hypotheses, answer design questions by analyzing existing data or conducting directed field studies, and conduct cost-benefit analyses to identify the most powerful design within funding constraints. Workshops will be held during the course of plan development to seek input from the Trustee Council stakeholders.		Implementation of a long-term monitoring plan for the nearshore environment will require development of specific hypotheses about causes of change in shoreline communities and strategies for their evaluation. This excellent proposal considers this issue with a strong interdisciplinary team of investigators, and includes benthic/intertidal communities as well as linked vertebrate consumers, namely sea otters and harlequin ducks. The work would evaluate power to detect change and distinguish among competing explanations for change. Wide involvement of the public and various knowledgeable people is incorporated. However, prior to developing the specific plan for a monitoring program for the nearshore environment, it is essential to develop consensus regarding the priority scientific questions that must be addressed and how measurements in the nearshore environment will be linked to the rest of the ecosystem. There is a process presently underway to build a consensus, which involves scientific planning and political coalition building. Once this process is complete, the sophisticated and well justified techniques described in this proposal can be used to design the specifics of the nearshore element of this overall program. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal, which would develop a nearshore monitoring component for GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program), is a well thought-out proposal by an excellent team of researchers. However, it is premature given the current stage of GEM's development.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Keith W. Boggs
UAA Alaska Natural Heritage Program
707 A St
Anchorage, AK 99501

Tracey Gotthardt
UAF Alaska Natural Heritage Program
707 A St
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Project 01536 / Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the
Biological Conservation Database

Dear Keith W. Boggs and Tracey Gotthardt:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01536/Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the Biological Conservation Database. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schaubert
Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01536	Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the Biological Conservation Database	K. Boggs, T. Gotthardt/UAA	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$103.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will synthesize all information pertaining to conservation biology on resources injured by the oil spill into the Biological Conservation Database. The database is part of an effort by The Nature Conservancy, Association of Biodiversity Information, and the network of 86 Natural Heritage Programs throughout the Western Hemisphere to document information on terrestrial and nearshore endangered animals, plants, and ecosystems. It is the largest effort of its kind and contains a catalogue of all the vertebrate animals and vascular plants known from North America, plus many species of invertebrate animals and nonvascular plants. The incorporation of EVOS-funded resource information into the database will ensure linkage of this information to broader based conservation efforts. It will also provide a permanent method to store the information for tracking the status of the injured resources over time. The information will be transferred to resource managers, conservation groups, and other users through existing methods including web pages, presentations, and data requests.		Funding this project is not appropriate at this stage in the restoration program, but this proposal may be responsive to the invitation that will be issued in 2002 for the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program (GEM, Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring). If resubmitted at that time, linkages to agencies and user groups should be more fully demonstrated, funding partners should be obtained and identified, and agency endorsements (indicating the proposers' understanding of information transfer needs) should be attached. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal would synthesize conservation biology information that relates to injured resources into the Biological Conservation Database, which is maintained by the Natural Heritage Program, the Nature Conservancy, and the Association of Biodiversity Information. Funding is not a priority at this stage in the restoration program, but this proposal may be responsive to the invitation that will be issued in 2002 for the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program (GEM, Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring). If the proposal is resubmitted at that time, it should be revised to address the concerns raised by the Chief Scientist.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Carl Schoch
Kachemak Bay Estuarine Research Reserve
202 West Pioneer Ave
Homer, AK, AK 99603

RE: Project 01385 / Modeling Biodiversity in Kachemak Bay: A Proposal to Map
Marine Nearshore Habitats at Nested Spatial Scales

Dear Mr. Schoch:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council* not fund Project 01385/Modeling Biodiversity in Kachemak Bay: A Proposal to Map Marine Nearshore Habitats at Nested Spatial Scales. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert

Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01385	Modeling Biodiversity in Kachemak Bay: A Proposal to Map Marine Nearshore Habitats at Nested Spatial Scales	C. Schoch/ADFG	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$101.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will address the issue of determining rates and spatial extents of ecological effects due to changes in environmental conditions. These changes may be masked by large natural fluctuations of biological populations in space and time. Furthermore, no method exists to extrapolate data collected from local sites to large areas. This project will apply a method developed in Alaska (Cook Inlet and Shelikof Strait), the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, and Puget Sound which partitions complex shorelines into physically homogeneous segments to minimize the variability of the biological community caused by physical forces, to Kachemak Bay. Under this method, groups of similar segments are aggregated to extrapolate biological transect data collected from small areas to larger spatial scales. Data collected under this project will provide a basis for monitoring estuarine, intertidal biodiversity over time, and will be an important technology and tool for the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM) program. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$23,200) for FY 03.]		This concept embodied in this proposal has substantial scientific merit and could be appropriate for tracking long-term environmental change. The proposal does not show clearly how the data collected would be the basis for a long-term monitoring plan. It does not distinguish among important alternative hypotheses for causation of ecological community change, and does not distinguish among measures that can be collected on simple standard protocols and data that would have to be collected by professionals in support of citizen based programs. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project could be appropriate to GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program), but it is premature considering that GEM is still under development. The proposer may want to resubmit this proposal for FY 02, and if so, should revise the Detailed Project Description at that time to respond to the Chief Scientist's concerns.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Shana Loshbaugh
PO Box 1165
Soldotna, AK 99669

RE: Project 01570 / Book on EVOS Science for General Readers

Dear Ms. Loshbaugh:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01570/Book on EVOS Science for General Readers. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert

Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01570	Book on EVOS Science for General Readers	S. Loshbaugh/Freelance Writing	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$47.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will produce a publication-ready, book-length manuscript about the scientific and restoration projects following the oil spill. Written for the intelligent lay reader, it will emphasize the cutting-edge quality of the research, adventurous experiences, ethical issues, and lucid, non-technical explanations of findings. Based on interviews, symposium presentations, and review of the technical literature, it will include discussions of scientists' personal motivations, partnerships between western and indigenous knowledge systems, legal entanglements, technical advances, the interdisciplinary ecosystem approach, and the implications both process and findings hold for future research design, science in the public arena, and the environment.		The idea of presenting the "story" of EVOS science in an educational and entertaining book for lay readers has considerable merit. The project appears to be more complicated than the author envisions. Experience with a book-length manuscript is not apparent in the proposal. The proposal lacks a draft outline depicting key topics, which is essential for an objective evaluation of how the author would approach this significant undertaking. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would produce a book-length manuscript about EVOS science/restoration projects for the lay reader and is consistent with the Trustee Council's goal to communicate research results to local communities and others. However, the proposal does not demonstrate how the proposer would approach this significant undertaking (a detailed outline of key topics is not included) or that the proposer has experience with a manuscript of this type.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

William R. Bechtol
ADFG
3298 Douglas Place
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 01579 / Monitoring Ecosystem Parameters Along the Northern Gulf of Alaska

Dear Mr. Bechtol:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01579/Monitoring Ecosystem Parameters Along the Northern Gulf of Alaska. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for
Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01579	Monitoring Ecosystem Parameters Along the Northern Gulf of Alaska	W. Bechtol/ADFG	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$91.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will refine long-term monitoring techniques for forage fish populations in Cook Inlet, an area representative of ecosystem conditions and changes in the northern Gulf of Alaska. These measurements will be compared with hydroacoustic and net samples of fish to calibrate seabird performance with fish distribution and abundance, in an effort to determine whether competitive and predatory interactions or different responses to the environment may be favoring the abundance of one fish species over another. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$31,400) for FY 03.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal identifies an important area of long-term research that could be used to understand mechanisms of change in marine species. The Kachemak Bay small mesh trawl survey is a valuable time series that likely should be maintained, especially to the extent it provides information lacking from the shrimp trawl surveys undertaken by the National Marine Fisheries Service over a larger area of the northern Gulf of Alaska. Project 00493 is addressing the role of small mesh trawl surveys in GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program) and sampling in Kachemak Bay is to be addressed during development of GEM. In addition, it is not possible to judge from the proposal the importance of the data obtained by the survey to other studies that are attempting to interpret interannual, as well as longer-term, fluctuations in seabird and marine mammal biology in the region. Methods are not specific in terms of how they are appropriate to the purposes intended; for example, what species are included and excluded by this type of gear? Enumeration and taxonomic identification of catches is also an important issue to address. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project would fund continuation of the Kachemak Bay small-mesh trawl survey, which has been funded periodically since 1971 by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Continuation of this survey may be important to GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program), and in FY 00 the Council funded Project 00493 to develop a long-term strategy for this survey for possible consideration under GEM. This proposal is premature until Project 00493 is complete (expected Fall 2000) and GEM is further developed.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Orson Smith, PhD
UAA School of Engineering
3211 Providence Dr
Anchorage, AK 99508

RE: Project 01583 / Baseline Mapping and Geomorphology of Kenai Peninsula
Shoreline

Dear Dr. Smith:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01583/Baseline Mapping and Geomorphology of Kenai Peninsula Shoreline. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total * FY01-02
01583	Baseline Mapping and Geomorphology of Kenai Peninsula Shoreline	O. Smith/UAA	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$385.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will create a GIS database of coastal geomorphology and mapping along the changeable shoreline of the Kenai Peninsula as a baseline for future monitoring in the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring program (GEM, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program). Color photogrammetry digital maps will be prepared for 270 km of coast from the head of Kachemak Bay to Point Possession. Cross-shore profiles and surface sediment characteristics will be measured in the first and second years at 30 locations intended for future monitoring of shoreline change. Boundaries of nearshore ecosystems and environmental sensitivity classifications defined by others will be verified and presented with shoreline data via the Cook Inlet Information Management/Monitoring System (CIIMMS, Project /391).		This is a technically sophisticated proposal from a qualified investigator, but the relationship to restoration objectives is weak. The data produced would primarily be of use to land use planners and coastal engineers, and would be more appropriately funded by other entities. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project, which would record baseline data on the geomorphology of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline, has a weak link to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Pete Kompkoff
Chenega Bay IRA Council
PO Box 8034
Chenega Bay, AK 99574

RE: Project 01573 / Chenega Bay Stream Enhancement

Dear Mr. Kompkoff:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01573/Chenega Bay Stream Enhancement. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Ken Holbrook, the USFS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Ken Holbrook, USFS Liaison

mmv/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01573	Chenega Bay Stream Enhancement (O'Brien Creek)	P. Kompkoff/Chenega Bay IRA Council	USFS	New		\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Several stream habitat constraints exist within the O'Brien Creek watershed. Habitat improvements would benefit the numerous fish species that utilize the habitat, including pink salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon, sockeye salmon, Dolly Varden, and cutthroat trout. A self-sustaining and limited subsistence use fishery would be priceless for the community of Chenega Bay, as well as adding potential for promoting tourism. [NOTE: Budget not provided.]		This proposal was evaluated last year and concerns raised at that time remain. In addition, the proposal is rather incomplete, making it very difficult to assess the likelihood of success. Much of what is included is incompletely conceived and lacking design details. There is no budget, and given the availability of salmon from other sources there appears to be little need for increased production. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project is designed to enable O'Brien Creek to produce more pink and chum salmon as a replacement for subsistence resources lost or reduced as a result of the oil spill. Given the availability of salmon from other sources, there appears to be little need for increased production. In addition, the stability of such reconstructed streambeds cannot be certain and the long-term prospects for this project in terms of increased production of fish are uncertain.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Gail Irvine, PhD
USGS-BRD
1011 E Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 01532 / Coupling of Oceanic and Nearshore: The Search for Indicator Species

Dear Dr. Irvine:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01532/Coupling of Oceanic and Nearshore: The Search for Indicator Species. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Dede Bohn, the DOI-USGS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for
Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, DOI-USGS Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01532	Coupling of Oceanic and Nearshore: The Search for Indicator Species	G. Irvine/USGS-BRD	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$291.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will (a) identify nearshore species whose abundances are coupled with low-frequency dynamic processes (e.g., regime shifts) occurring in the oceanic realm, and that could serve as sentinels of change for the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM) program; (b) investigate mechanisms that are responsible for such coupling, identifying processes that could also be monitored; and (c) investigate long-term (7,000 year) patterns of productivity and relative species abundance in nearshore, intertidal communities via retrospective analyses. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$275,000) for FY 03.]		One aspect of this project that could be a unique contribution to the EVOS program would be the development of a 7,000 year history from a few coastal organisms, as biological information of this type is so rare. Unfortunately, not enough information is provided in the proposal to evaluate the likelihood of success. In addition, the overall scope of work in the proposal is far too great and cannot be effectively accomplished with the funding proposed. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The goal of this project -- to identify sentinel nearshore species that reflect changing ocean conditions in order to develop a long-term view of ocean productivity and nearshore species abundances -- is worthwhile. However, the scope of the project is far too great and cannot be effectively accomplished with the funding requested, even though the funding requested is quite high (more than \$800,000 over two years).				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Bradley G. Stevens, PhD
NMFS Kodiak Lab
PO Box 1638
Kodiak, AK 99615

Phyllis J. Stabeno, PhD
NMFS/NOAA Pacific Marine Environ. Lab
7600 and Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

RE: Project 01577 / Establishment of a Long-Term, Real-Time, Moored
Oceanographic Monitoring Station in the Nearshore Region of the Gulf of Alaska

Dear Dr. Stevens and Dr. Stabeno:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01577/Establishment of a Long-Term, Real-Time, Moored Oceanographic Monitoring Station in the Nearshore Region of the Gulf of Alaska. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison

mmv/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01577	Establishment of a Long-Term, Real-Time, Moored Oceanographic Monitoring Station in the Nearshore Region of the Gulf of Alaska	B. Stevens, P. Stabeno/NOAA	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$136.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The Gulf of Alaska underwent large scale oceanographic changes after 1977, associated with major declines in the abundance of crab, shrimp, small pelagic fish, seabirds, and marine mammals and increases in salmon and groundfish. The mechanism of change is poorly understood because long-term, real-time oceanographic data were not systematically collected. Future regime shifts and effects of human impacts cannot be predicted or studied without an understanding of such changes. This project will address this problem by developing OSKAR: Ocean Station Kodiak Alaska Region, a moored instrument array on the continental shelf in the Gulf of Alaska, to collect long-term oceanographic data and make it available to scientists via the internet. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$40,000) for FY 03.]		The site for this mooring has not been well justified and the commitment for a long term observing program has not been demonstrated. Long term ocean observations are important but they cannot be made everywhere -- sites need to be carefully selected with regard to an overall monitoring plan. This proposal is premature considering that GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring plan) is still under development. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal would deploy a moored buoy array over the continental shelf near Kodiak. While long-term ocean observations are important, the Chief Scientist advises that the site for this mooring has not been well justified and the commitment for a long term observing program has not been demonstrated.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

John S. Devens, PhD
PWSRCAC
PO Box 3089
Valdez, AK 99686

RE: Project 01545-BAA / Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program

Dear Dr. Devens:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01545/Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

*Sandra Schubert
for*

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01545-BAA	Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program	J. Devens/PWSRCAC	NOAA	New 1st yr.	\$233.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project will provide long term baseline measurements of hydrocarbon levels and sources at program sites within areas of the Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak, and Gulf of Alaska. The project's objective is to provide a more comprehensive program for the collection of baseline data in subtidal sediments and mussel tissue that can be used to determine impacts of oil sources on the ecosystem. This project will provide an improved link to recovery status and greater efficiency in hydrocarbon sampling and analysis that has been ongoing since 1993 under the auspices of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

A partnership of some sort with the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) may well make sense as we move into GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program), and that should be kept firmly in mind. However, this proposal is premature because the scope of GEM activities (ecosystem components to be measured, contaminants of interest, where to measure and when) has not been defined. In addition, there are questions of cost effectiveness, integration of collection activities with other GEM components, whether annual collections are required, the ultimate questions to be addressed by the monitoring, and what other qualified institutions/personnel in Alaska might be able to do the work. Do not fund at this time.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project would expand the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) program of long-term sampling of hydrocarbon levels to additional sites and from mussels only to sediments also. While a partnership with the PWSRCAC may be desirable under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program), this proposal is premature until GEM is further developed.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Dennis C. Lees
Littoral Ecological & Environmental Services
1075 Urania Ave
Leucadia, CA 92024

RE: Project 01574-BAA / Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches

Dear Mr. Lees:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01574/Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01574-BAA	Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches	D. Lees/Littoral Ecological and Environmental Services	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$143.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Previous studies suggest that bivalve assemblages on beaches in Prince William Sound exposed to high-pressure hot-water washing during the 1989-90 shoreline treatment program remain severely damaged in terms of species composition and function. This project will assess the generality of this apparent injury to these assemblages. A finding that our conclusions are accurate will indicate that a considerable proportion of mixed-soft beaches in treated areas of the sound remain extremely disturbed and that the beaches are functionally impaired in terms of their ability to support foraging by subsistence users and nearshore vertebrate predators. The study will also provide insights into potential remediation alternatives for restoring the biodiversity and functional aspects of these assemblages if such measures are shown to be justified.		This study could make a valuable contribution to the overall restoration program by testing an assumption that underlies the conclusion that soft-sediment communities have not recovered. However, the expense of the project may be prohibitive and it is unclear that a publication will result from this work. In addition, a National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration study to test the effects of pressurized wash on sediments may already exist to test this assumption (in part). Do not fund.		Do not fund. This study is designed to improve our understanding of the recovery status of certain intertidal communities. However, the cost is high and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is studying similar questions.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Gary Shigenaka
NOAA-NOS, HAZMAT/BAT, BIN C15700
7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Bldg 4
Seattle, WA 98115-6349

RE: Project 01528 / Long-Term Monitoring of Intertidal Communities as a Framework
for Hypothesis-Driven Research

Dear Mr. Shigenaka:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council* not fund Project 01528/Long-Term Monitoring of Intertidal Communities as a Framework for Hypothesis-Driven Research. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01528	Long-Term Monitoring of Intertidal Communities as a Framework for Hypothesis-Driven Research	G. Shigenaka/NOAA-HazMat	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$302.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will extend an assessment of intertidal injury and recovery established in 1989 and operated continuously through FY 00. The assessment originally provided basic information on the early effects of the spill and subsequent cleanup which formed the basis for spill response guidance now institutionalized into standard operating procedures. The assessment has evolved from this operational focus into an umbrella monitoring program for spill impact and recovery hypothesis testing. Specifically, the long-term trends from the ten-plus years of monitoring serve to identify more tightly targeted research questions related to issues of recovery in the Prince William Sound intertidal ecosystem.		Support of this project would continue recovery monitoring of the intertidal community. The investigators have a dataset that is uninterrupted since 1989, providing good long-term data on intertidal sites in Prince William Sound. However, it appears that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will continue to monitor at least some of these sites as part of normal agency management, which should provide adequate information about long-term recovery. It is unclear from the information presented in the proposal what the experimental approach would add to understanding recovery of intertidal resources, and the project is quite expensive. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would continue the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's intertidal assessment, which has been ongoing since 1989. It is unclear why Trustee Council support is now being requested, as this appears to be a normal agency management function.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Johnny Lind, Pres
Chignik Lake Village Council
PO Box 18
Chignik Lake, AK 99548

RE: Project 01611 / Alaska Peninsula Youth Area Watch

Dear Mr. Lind:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01611/Alaska Peninsula Youth Area Watch. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mmv/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01611	Alaska Peninsula Youth Area Watch	J. Lind/Chignik Lake Village Council	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$81.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will expand the Youth Area Watch program, currently funded by the Trustee Council in Prince William Sound/lower Cook Inlet (Project /210) and the Kodiak region (Project /610), to the Alaska Peninsula. Students will participate in the following projects: (a) the Fishing Research Institute's annual monitoring projects in the Chignik Lake and Black Lake areas, (b) the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's weir site near the mouth of the Chignik River, and (c) if possible, an oceanographic and climatic monitoring program in cooperation with such programs as GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) or the Kodiak Archipelago oceanographic monitoring project. Students from the villages of Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Bay, Perryville, and Ivanoff Bay will participate.		This proposal is to expand the popular Youth Area Watch program to communities on the Alaska Peninsula, the last part of the oil spill area without such a program. The proposal requires a memorandum of understanding between the proposer, the Lake and Peninsula Borough, and the Lake and Peninsula School District, but the proposal provides no indication that the latter organizations are committed to the proposal. Professional qualifications of the principal investigator are not provided, nor is it clear how the student activities will contribute to the objectives of the listed restoration projects. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal would expand the popular Youth Area Watch program, currently funded by the Trustee Council in Prince William Sound/lower Cook Inlet (Project /210) and Kodiak (Project /610), to the Alaska Peninsula. Further expansion of the program at this stage of the restoration program is not a priority, although citizen monitoring/stewardship will be a component of GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Council's long-term monitoring program). In addition, the proposal fails to demonstrate the interest of the Lake and Peninsula School District in the proposal -- school district commitment and financial contribution have been major features of the existing Youth Area Watch program.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Robert M. Suryan
USFWS-MBM
1011 E Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503

Thomas C. Kline, Jr., PhD
PWS Science Center
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574

Keith A. Hobson
Canadian Wildlife Service
115 Perimeter Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4
CANADA

RE: Project 01572-BAA / Use of Stable Isotopes to Identify Food Web Dependencies and Nutrient Sources for Breeding Seabirds

Dear Mr. Suryan, Dr. Kline and Mr. Hobson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01572/Use of Stable Isotopes to Identify Food Web Dependencies and Nutrient Sources for Breeding Seabirds. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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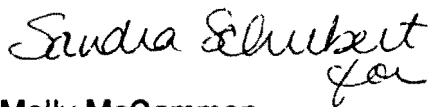
Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Catherine Berg, the DOI-USFWS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" with a small flourish underneath.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, DOI-USFWS Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01572-BAA	Use of Stable Isotopes to Identify Food Web Dependencies and Nutrient Sources for Breeding Seabirds	R. Suryan/USFWS, T. Kline/PWSSC, K. Hobson/CWS	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$140.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will use stable isotope analysis to investigate possible linkages between the reproductive success of a piscivorous seabird, the black-legged kittiwake, and the source of nutrients in their diet (Prince William Sound vs. Gulf of Alaska). Feather samples from kittiwake nestlings throughout the sound and zooplankton samples from the sound and adjacent Gulf of Alaska waters were collected during two years when breeding conditions varied considerably. By comparing conditions between years, this project will gain new insight into food web dynamics affecting seabird reproductive success. This information will be valuable in identifying conditions necessary for recovery of piscivorous seabirds injured during the oil spill.		The proposed hypothesis cannot be tested in the manner proposed due to a temporal mismatch between the isotope ratios in the herring at the time they are eaten by the birds and the isotope ratios in the herring in the summer-fall of the previous year, which is when year-class strength is presumably set. The herring being eaten are of one or more year classes whose success was dictated by food abundance in one or more previous years. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The Chief Scientist advises that the proposed hypothesis cannot be tested in the manner proposed due to a temporal mismatch between the isotope ratios in the herring at the time they are eaten by the birds and the isotope ratios in the herring in the summer-fall of the previous year.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Glenn A. Seaman
ADFG Habitat & Restoration Div
333 Raspberry Rd
Anchorage, AK 99518-1565

Rick Foster, PhD
Kachemak Bay NERR
202 W Pioneer Ave, Ste B
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 01384 / Kachemak Bay Citizen Researcher: Development of a
Community-Based Marine Monitoring Program

Dear Mr. Seaman and Dr. Foster:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01384/Kachemak Bay Citizen Researcher: Development of a Community-Based Marine Monitoring Program. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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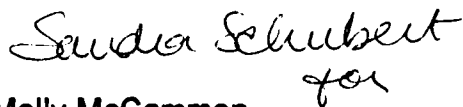
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Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sandra Schubert in cursive script.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01384	Kachemak Bay Citizen Researcher: Development of a Community-Based Marine Monitoring Program	G. Seaman, R. Foster/ADFG	ADFG	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$110.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve will develop a prototype community-based citizen-monitoring program. The reserve will partner with the Center for Alaska Coastal Studies to pilot and evaluate two monitoring projects and disseminate the multi-level Citizen Researcher protocol and additional research education strategies to the EVOS region. Products will include (a) a <i>Tools Manual for Research Education</i> , providing low and moderate cost strategies designed to link research and monitoring and their results with the community (intended for researchers and educators) and (b) a Train-the-Trainers manual and training for community educators within the spill region.		Although this proposal responded to the <i>FY 01 Invitation</i> with a new approach that may have some utility, it does not offer specifics about how sampling protocols would be designed, marketed among potential participants, and translated into data that can be used by scientists. It is not clear how this work might overlap with the existing community involvement program (Project /052). Community-based goals are identified but the proposal lacks clarity on the means to achieve the goals, which are correctly identified. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project responds to the <i>FY 01 Invitation</i> , which invited proposals to develop a conceptual prototype for a community monitoring program under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program). The proposal includes development of a tools manual on how to design a community based monitoring program and pilot testing of a program in Kachemak Bay, but does not include development of a prototype program for the spill area, which is what the Council is looking for.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

David G. Roseneau
Alaska Maritime Nat'l Wildlife Refg
2355 Kachemak Bay Dr, Ste 101
Homer, AK 99603-8021

RE: Project 01561 / Using Predatory Fish to Sample Forage Fish

Dear Mr. Roseneau:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01561/Using Predatory Fish to Sample Forage Fish. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Please note that the Trustee Council expects to invite pilot projects for community monitoring efforts in the future, perhaps in FY 02, and you are encouraged to resubmit your proposal at that time.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Catherine Berg, the DOI-USFWS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, DOI-USFWS Liaison

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Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01561	Using Predatory Fish to Sample Forage Fish	D. Roseneau/USFWS	DOI	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$82.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project is based on work recently completed under APEX (Project /163K). It is designed to develop a strong, cost-effective, community-based program to monitor long-term trends in capelin, sand lance, and other forage fish stocks in the northern Gulf of Alaska for the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring program (GEM, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program). The project will establish a network of partnerships among biologists from the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, the U.S. Geological Survey-Biological Resource Division, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game; students and teachers in Youth Area Watch programs (Projects /210 and /610); community involvement facilitators and natural resource specialists (Project /052); and subsistence, sport, and commercial fishermen. It will directly involve residents of oil spill communities and Youth Area Watch students in data collection and monitoring tasks. [NOTE: This project also requested funds for FY 03 (\$134,500) and FY 04 (\$26,500).]		This innovative proposal, based on several years of planning and preparatory work, can provide key long-term, broad-scale data on relative abundance of forage fish. The methods will not provide the best quantitative data on forage fish distribution and abundance in a particular region at a particular time. However, this approach can develop a long-term data series at less cost than traditional surveys, and with the benefit of providing an active role for key stakeholders in the monitoring program. This is a valuable model for long-term, community-based, ecological monitoring. However, it is premature at this time. Suggest proposer resubmit as a pilot project for FY 02.		Do not fund. This project, which would expand the halibut-stomach collections begun under APEX (Project /163) to measure forage fish distribution, is a solid proposal from an experienced principal investigator for a community monitoring program. However, it is premature to fund a pilot project such as this at this time. The <i>FY 01 Invitation</i> invited proposals to develop conceptual prototypes of community-based programs for citizen monitoring under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program). Pilot projects for community monitoring efforts may be considered once a prototype has been developed (FY 02 and beyond).				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

Dave Sale
Eco Resource Group
2536 Alki Ave SW, #160
Seattle, WA 98116

RE: Project 01554-BAA / Development of Community-Based Monitoring Programs for EVOS Restoration and GEM

Dear Mr. Sale:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01554/Development of Community-Based Monitoring Programs for EVOS Restoration and GEM. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Alaska Department of Law

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for
Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

mm/pdb

SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01554-BAA	Development of Community-Based Monitoring Programs for EVOS Restoration and GEM	D. Sale/ECO Resource Group	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$94.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will develop a framework for evaluating existing community-based monitoring efforts related to past and continuing restoration projects. A survey will be conducted of scientists, managers, and community members that have participated in the EVOS outreach and scientific studies to date. Three workshops will then be held to strengthen alliances, define problems and opportunities, develop guidelines for a community-based monitoring program, and suggest pilot studies to solidify community-based monitoring for the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring program (GEM, the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program) during FY 02. A report will document the results of the survey and workshops and suggest a strategy for community-based monitoring efforts in the spill area.		This proposal is heavily weighted toward assessment of the current status of community programs, but the proposal lacks background on existing programs. The proposal is not responsive to specifics about how sampling protocols would be designed, marketed among potential participants, and translated into data that can be used by scientists. The links to affected communities and knowledge of potential cooperators are not compelling. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project responds to the <i>FY 01 Invitation</i> , which invited proposals to develop a conceptual prototype for a community monitoring program under GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Trustee Council's long-term monitoring program). The proposal demonstrates a good understanding of the benefits and problems of community monitoring, but shows a lack of familiarity with the EVOS program to date and a lack of coordination with the GEM planning process currently underway.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

A.J. Paul, PhD
UAF/IMS Seward Marine Ctr
PO Box 730
Seward, AK 99664-1197

Robert J. Foy
UAF/IMS/SFOS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220

RE: Project 01412 / Overlap of Offshore and Neritic Zooplankton Assemblages:
Implications for Juvenile Herring

Dear Dr. Paul and Mr. Foy:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01412/Overlap of Offshore and Neritic Zooplankton Assemblages: Implications for Juvenile Herring. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01412	Overlap of Offshore and Neritic Zooplankton Assemblages: Implications for Juvenile Herring	A. J. Paul, R. Foy/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$52.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Pacific herring population crashes in the past decade have been linked to mortality due to disease. Young-of-the-year herring metamorphose in July, well after the spring zooplankton bloom, and have to forage in a stratified water column low in nutrients. Prey availability and nutrition affect herring condition which dictates vulnerability to disease and overwintering survival. Studies have found that Gulf of Alaska derived carbon may be transported into Prince William Sound neritic environments, influencing food webs. This project will analyze the importance of central Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska zooplankton to juvenile herring diets from archived samples collected in neritic and central Prince William Sound from the spring of 1996 and 1997.		This project is a follow-up to the SEA herring work (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320), and with Project 01523 (Herring Distribution) proposes to provide a better understanding of factors that influence herring juvenile survival. A better proposal that incorporates results of SEA syntheses could conceivably be convincing. As is, the proposal is not justified well enough in concept or in analyses or syntheses of past data to justify funding. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The Chief Scientist advises that this project, which would use data collected under SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320) to assess the importance of transport of Gulf of Alaska carbon into herring nursery areas, does not adequately incorporate results of SEA syntheses and is not adequately justified.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Alex Wertheimer
NMFS Auke Bay Laboratory
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801-8626

RE: Project 01450-BAA / Summary of the Status of Pacific Salmon Populations in the Region Affected by the Oil Spill

Dear Mr. Wertheimer:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01450/Summary of the Status of Pacific Salmon Populations in the Region Affected by the Oil Spill. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

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August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

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SPREADSHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01450-BAA	Summary of the Status of Pacific Salmon Populations in the Region Affected by the Oil Spill	A. Wertheimer/AFS	NOAA	New 1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$52.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will provide a comprehensive survey of the current status of salmon populations in the region affected by the oil spill. Status will be evaluated using a hierarchical approach, proceeding from large-scale geographic resolution to the fine scale of analysis of escapement data for specific spawning aggregates. The evaluation will use both catch and escapement data. Results will be georeferenced so that summary maps can be produced with a GIS program, and the status review will be published in the peer reviewed journal <i>Fisheries</i> . The status review will provide an important benchmark by which to measure the effectiveness of management policies to sustain and conserve salmon as environmental and anthropogenic changes occur.		This project is very feasible, very needed, and has a high likelihood of success. However, the objectives are consistent with normal agency management. Although it is recognized that responsible agencies rarely have funding for these types of activities, the Trustee Council has not funded resource inventory activities, instead funding data collection in relation to the effects of oiling and mechanisms of natural change necessary to interpret effects of oiling. GEM (Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring, the Council's long-term monitoring program) has the need to understand mechanisms of change in populations of birds, fish, mammals, and shellfish in relation to human and natural factors. It is not clear at this time which species will be the focus of GEM investigations, nor how the costs of assessing change will be shared with resource management agencies, so it is premature to select projects to produce baseline data. Cost sharing with other concerned agencies would benefit this proposal's likelihood of success if it is submitted for future consideration. Do not fund.		Do not fund. Although this project, which would extend the American Fisheries Society's 1996 status evaluation of salmon in Southeast Alaska to the spill area, is highly needed, it is consistent with normal agency management and is not a priority for Trustee Council support.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Paul McCollum
PO Box 5572
Port Graham, AK 99603

RE: Project 01225 / Port Graham Pink Salmon Subsistence Project

Dear Mr. McCollum:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01225/Port Graham Pink Salmon Subsistence Project. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mmv/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01225	Port Graham Pink Salmon Subsistence Project	P. McCollum/Port Graham Village Council	ADFG	Cont'd 6th yr. 5 yr. project	\$91.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project was scheduled to close out in FY 00. The project is helping to supply pink salmon for subsistence use in the Port Graham area during the broodstock development phase of the Port Graham hatchery. The fire that destroyed the hatchery in January of 1998 set the hatchery program back a year. Funding in FY 01 will help offset the impact of the fire. The project is designed to ensure that pink salmon remain available for subsistence use until the more traditional species are rejuvenated. The two strategies being employed are (a) increasing fisheries management surveillance to maximize use of the adult pink salmon return and (b) increasing marine survival of hatchery produced pink salmon.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The Trustee Council has provided equipment and resources for research that contributed to putting the hatchery program on track. At this stage, the project appears to be part of the normal operation and development for a pink salmon hatchery. The Trustee Council has supported the provision of alternative subsistence resources in the Port Graham River (Project/263). Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. Trustee Council funding was expected only through FY 00 for this project, as the broodstock development phase at the Port Graham hatchery was to be completed and the operation self-sustaining by the end of 2000. At the time of the hatchery fire in 1998, the Council approved a reprogramming of project funds, and additional monies from the EVOS criminal settlement were provided, for a temporary incubation facility that the Council was assured would provide for the broodstock development to stay on track. Apparently, this was not the case and additional Council funding is now being sought. The Council also contributed \$781,300 to construction of a new hatchery following the fire.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Mark Dickson
ADFG/CFMD
3298 Douglas Place
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 01139A2 / Port Dick Tributary Restoration and Development

Dear Mr. Dickson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01139A2/Port Dick Tributary Restoration and Development. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the work proposed in Project 01139A2 is beyond the scope of work originally envisioned by the Trustee Council.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final

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recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert

Molly McCammon *for*
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01139A2	Port Dick Creek Tributary Restoration and Development	M. Dickson/ADFG	ADFG	Cont'd 6th yr. 5 yr. project	\$13.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will fund collection and analysis of additional water temperature, water level, salinity, stream discharge, and sedimentologic parameters (bedload transport, accumulated sediments and gravel/cobble transport rates) for inclusion in a manuscript. Closeout funds (final report and manuscript preparation) were provided for this project in FY 00. Funds requested for FY 01 and FY 02 would extend monitoring and analysis two additional years. The major goal of this project is the restoration of the native Port Dick Creek salmon stocks, which had been exposed to moderate to heavy oiling during the oil spill. Actual restoration of the spawning habitat took place in June 1996.		All priorities for the restoration program have been met, or are supposed to have been met, by the end of FY 00. The proposal asks for an additional year of monitoring in order to contribute to publications that were not envisioned as essential by the Trustee Council in approving this project. A manuscript describing the work was already funded as a deliverable in FY 00. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project received closeout funds in FY 00 for preparation of a final report and manuscript on this multi-year project. The additional monitoring and manuscript proposed for FY 01 are beyond the scope of work originally envisioned by the Trustee Council.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

C.P. McRoy
UAF/IMS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220

RE: Project 01499 / Worms in Oil: Overlooked Biota in the Restoration Processes of the Nearshore

Dear Mr. McRoy:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 01499/Worms in Oil: Overlooked Biota in the Restoration Processes of the Nearshore. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 113 proposals totaling more than \$13 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 01 Work Plan is \$6 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final

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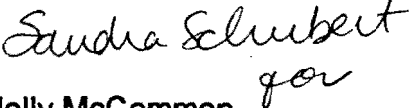
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recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Claudia Slater, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Claudia Slater, ADF&G Liaison

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SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01499	Worms in Oil: Overlooked Biota in the Restoration Processes of the Nearshore	C. McRoy/UAF	ADFG	New 1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$64.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Marine oligochaetes occurred in high abundance in the coarse sediments of oiled beaches following the oil spill. In 1990, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation made a limited survey of oiled/unoiled intertidal areas in Prince William Sound with the specific objective of assessing this population. Preliminary results indicated these animals were the most abundant macrofauna on both treated and untreated oiled beaches with population densities reaching thousands m ⁻² . The data have never been analyzed or published but contain documentation of a major pathway for moving oil into the nearshore food web and information on a control of the bioremediation process. This project will analyze the historical data, investigate the current status of populations in the oiled intertidal zone, and model the potential role of these animals in the nearshore.		The carbon food chain modeling proposed in this project would be interesting and supply added knowledge about the impacts of the spill. However, this project makes only a limited contribution to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project, which would evaluate certain worms as an oil pathway to higher level predators, would make only a limited contribution to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2000

Lowell H. Suring
Chugach National Forest
3301 C St, Ste 300
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 01339 / Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model
Project 01399 / Eastern Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model

Dear Mr. Suring:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 01339/Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model until the model and recommendations are submitted and reviewed. Because the work is not yet complete for western Prince William Sound, I am recommending no funding in FY 01 for Project 01399/Eastern Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with a summary of the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the projects' technical merits. These recommendations are made for public review and may be revised before they are provided to the Trustee Council in early August.

If funding is approved for Project 01339, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a slightly reduced budget. The revised budget should be prepared on the standard detailed budget forms and submitted to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 7, 2000**. Enclosed is a list of items considered in the review of your budget which may help you prepare a revised budget.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on all but deferred projects is scheduled for August 3, 2000. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2000.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation or the project review process, please call me or Ken Holbrook, the USFS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,



Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Ken Holbrook, USFS Liaison

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SPREAD SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION / FY 01 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01339	Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model	L. Suring/USFS	USFS	Cont'd 4th yr. 4 yr. project	\$24.1	\$23.1	\$0.0	\$23.1
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will fund two manuscripts for publication in professional journals. One manuscript will describe the use of GIS techniques to describe current human-use patterns in western Prince William Sound and to model potential changes in those use patterns as a result of additional development. A second manuscript will document use of the GIS generated maps of present and projected human-use patterns and their incorporation with GIS maps of the distribution of injured resources, as a basis for identifying areas where there may be conflicts between human use and wildlife. Identification of potential areas of conflict has allowed development of recommended management practices that may eliminate or minimize the negative effects of increasing human use. All injured species are being addressed in a general approach but specific management recommendations will be provided for harbor seal, pigeon guillemot, and cutthroat trout.		This proposal, which will publish the results of this project as two journal papers, is in keeping with Trustee Council policy and will inform a broad community about the work. In addition to journal publications, the principal investigators should make a concerted effort to have their model applied by natural resource managers in western Prince William Sound. Defer pending completion, acceptance, and evaluation of the final report, which should include specific targeted recommendations for managers.		Defer decision on funding this project until model and recommendations, which were due December 31, 1999, are submitted and reviewed. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal and approval of a slightly reduced budget. This project is developing and testing in western Prince William Sound a model for projecting future impacts of human use on resources injured by the oil spill. In FY 01, the project will prepare two manuscripts for publication, which is consistent with the Trustee Council's commitment to seeing study results published in the peer reviewed literature.				

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Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total FY01-02
01399	Eastern Prince William Sound Human Use and Wildlife Disturbance Model	L. Suring/USFS	USFS	New 1st yr. 3 yr. project	\$185.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project is an expansion of the human-use and wildlife disturbance model developed for western Prince William Sound (Project /339). The project will use GIS techniques to describe human-use patterns in eastern Prince William Sound and to model potential changes in those patterns as a result of additional development. GIS generated maps of present and projected human-use patterns will be incorporated with GIS maps of the distribution of resources injured as a result of the oil spill in order to identify areas where there may be conflicts between human use and wildlife. Identification of potential areas of conflict will allow development of recommended management practices that may eliminate or minimize the negative effects of increasing human use. All injured wildlife resources and wildlife subsistence species will be addressed with specific management recommendations. [NOTE: This project also requested funds (\$60,000) for FY 03.]		This proposal is to conduct a study in eastern Prince William Sound, similar to a project nearing completion in western Prince William Sound (Project /339), that develops a model predicting spatially explicit growth in human uses, and to contrast these uses to maps of environmental sensitivity to identify potential conflicts. This work can provide valuable information for recreation and land-use management decisions. However, the original work is not yet complete for western Prince William Sound, and that project should be completed and evaluated prior to initiating this new effort. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would expand to eastern Prince William Sound the human use and wildlife disturbance model being developed for western Prince William Sound (Project /339). Because the model is not yet completed, and once completed will require peer review and evaluation, it would be premature to fund the expansion of the model at this time.				

ITEMS CONSIDERED IN REVIEW OF FY 01 BUDGETS

1. Level of funding authorized in FY 00 and projection, at that time, of FY 01 budget. Items budgeted for FY 00 but not implemented should not be funded again in FY 01 unless the proposer can verify that he/she will lapse the "unused" FY 00 funds.
2. Direction given by Trustee Council and/or Chief Scientist in FY 00 Final Work Plan or in subsequent review sessions (e.g., transition to agency funding, close out certain components).
3. Change in project's scope per the Chief Scientist's recommendation (i.e., elimination, revision, or addition of objectives). If a pilot project is seeking expansion, note whether there is adequate information to evaluate the pilot's success. Decisions on some projects will need to be deferred pending fall review or completion of work underway in FY 00.
4. Personal Services: Note if number of months has increased significantly over FY 00 or if number of months appears excessive, e.g. 12 mos. for a closeout and no justification provided. Also note if salary appears excessive relative to scope of work and salaries typically paid agency or university employees for the type of work.
5. Project Management: No funds should be budgeted in the individual project budgets. Project management costs will be addressed in Project 01250.
6. Travel: Note if travel has increased significantly over FY 00 and no justification is provided.
7. Annual Workshop: For PI and co-PI only, travel and per diem for up to 3 days -- and only if PI/co-PI not located in Anchorage.
8. Other EVOS Reviews/Workshops: No technical review sessions are scheduled for FY 01.
9. Professional Conferences: One each per PI (and co-PI if appropriate) if the PI will be presenting results of his or her EVOS work or attendance at the workshop is integral to the project -- and only if the DPD identifies the conference and the reason for attending.
10. Manuscript Preparation: Maximum \$1,000 in page costs per project and maximum 1.5 months personnel time per publication -- and only if the DPD indicates that a manuscript will be published (i.e., appear in print) in FY 01 (DPD must also include subject/title of manuscript, name of peer reviewed journal to

which will be submitted, and when it will be submitted). Note number of manuscripts for which funding support is requested.

11. Report Writing: No funding on new projects unless the DPD indicates the report will be completed in FY 01 (or rolled into a non-severable contract in FY 01).
12. Equipment: Note purchases of major new equipment.
13. Indirect Costs: Office supplies, copying, phones, equipment maintenance and repair, vehicle leasing, software, and training are typically indirect costs. Such costs should be budgeted for separately only if they are incurred because of a specific project and documentation of the expense is maintained. The documentation must demonstrate to a financial auditor that the expense was directly attributable to the project, and was necessary and reasonable. Maintenance and operation of space (i.e., lease costs) are always an indirect cost.

By agreement, University of Alaska indirect rate is 25% of all direct costs except subcontract costs in excess of \$25,000 (see p. 61 of *FY 01 Invitation* for more detail).

14. Community Involvement and TEK: Note funds budgeted.
15. Future Years: Note significant changes (from what was projected in the FY 00 Final Work Plan) in FY 2002. No funding decisions for FY 03 and beyond are being made at this time.
16. Other: Note additional, project-specific budget issues that may need to be addressed.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



June 15, 2000

David Cameron Duffy, PhD
Paumanok Solutions
102 Aikahi Lp
Kailua, HI 96734-1642

RE: Project 01163 / Alaska Predator Ecosystem Experiment (APEX)

Dear Dr. Duffy:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 01163/APEX contingent on (a) submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget and (b) submittal of the APEX final report and the manuscripts funded in FY 00. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the project's technical merits. Part (a) of my recommendation will change somewhat based on your recent conversation with Drs. Spies and Mundy.

I will now be recommending funding of \$200,000 for FY 01, as well as a modest amount of funding (\$100,000 or less) for FY 02 contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that lay out a two-year plan (FY 01 and FY 02) for bringing the APEX project to completion. Please submit your revised Detailed Project Description and budget (three paper copies and an electronic copy) to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 7, 2000**.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 01 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Work Plan through July 19. Following a

review of the public comments, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 3, 2000.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have questions about this preliminary recommendation, please call me or Bruce Wright, the NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Molly McCammon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bruce Wright, NOAA Liaison
Catherine Berg, DOI-USFWS Liaison

mm/pdb

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY01 Request	FY01 Recom.	FY02 Recom.	Total, FY01-02
01163-CLO	Alaska Predator Ecosystem Experiment in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska (APEX)	D. Duffy/Paumanok Solutions, et al	NOAA	Cont'd 8th yr. 8 yr. project	\$198.1	\$100.0	\$30.0	\$130.0

Project Abstract

This project will fund a second closeout year for Project /163, which is using seabirds as probes of the trophic (foraging) environment of Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet, comparing their reproductive and foraging biologies, including diet. These measurements are being compared with hydroacoustic, aerial, and net sampling of fish to calibrate seabird performance with fish distribution and abundance. This will allow a determination of the extent to which food limits the recovery of seabirds from the oil spill. Historical data from a variety of sources is being used to detect shifts in forage fish abundance and to test hypotheses explaining such shifts. In FY 01, a synthesis of project results will be prepared.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

APEX was a major undertaking by the Trustee Council and publication of results is necessary to legitimize the effort in the broad scientific community. Synthesis is the missing link at present and deserves support. However, the costs need to be reduced by over fifty percent and a restructuring of authorships considered, not just to save money but also to promote the full disciplinary integration necessary to achieve breadth of synthesis. As proposed, the project appears to be not a complete synthesis but rather a collection of projects with some collaboration and limited synthesis. The purpose of restructuring is to encourage APEX investigators to analyze and interpret data for a critical general scientific audience. The process of scientific criticism should point out strengths and weaknesses of available information. The peer reviewed synthesis will be important in guiding initial implementation of the Trustee Council's long-term research and monitoring program. Fund contingent on a revised proposal that addresses the above concerns, including a much-reduced budget.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Fund contingent on (a) submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that address the Chief Scientist's concerns (provide full disciplinary integration necessary to achieve breadth of synthesis) and (b) submittal of the APEX final report and the 51 manuscripts funded in FY 00 (due September 30, 2000).