

13.08.01 – Reading File

June 2001

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



FAX MEMORANDUM (3 pp.)

TO: Carol Fries, ADNR
Bill Hauser, ADF&G
Ken Holbrook, USFS
Steve Shuck, USFWS/DOI

FROM: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

RE: Habitat Support Costs for FY 02
Please respond by Monday, July 16, 2001

DATE: June 26, 2001

The most recent status of the \$6.3 million designated by the Trustee Council (March 1, 1999 resolution) for small parcels through 2002 follows. When the Council last reviewed this list in July 2000, the hope was that work would be completed on these parcels in FY 00 and FY 01. Toward this end, the Council approved a budget of \$268,100 for Project 01126/Habitat Protection and Acquisition Support. However, since that time, a few additional offers have been made (included in the list below) and it seems that some work may continue in FY 02.

The purpose of this memo is to ask you to please provide a brief status summary for each of your agency's parcels listed below. For each, please include (1) your agency's recommendation on whether or not the Trustee Council should continue to pursue acquisition of the parcel. For those parcels for which you recommend continuation, please include (2) where you currently are in the acquisition process, (3) your projected schedule for completing acquisition, (4) for any parcels that will not be completed in FY 01, an explanation of the reason for the delay, and (5) an estimate of any costs associated with specific tasks that you expect will extend into FY 02. Also please provide (6) your current unobligated/unexpended 01126 balance and what amount of lapse, if any, you project.

Once the small parcel grant approved by the Trustee Council for The Nature Conservancy and The Conservation Fund is in place, and additional parcels for possible purchase are identified, further costs may be identified by some agencies. Agencies' grant-related costs are not the subject of this memo and should not be included in your request at this time.

Please submit your status summary no later than **Monday, July 16, 2001**, or let me know if this date will not work for you. I will use the information to formulate a recommendation to the Trustee Council at its August 6 meeting on whether to continue to pursue the specific parcels listed below. If necessary, my office will also incorporate the information into a draft 02126 budget. Please note that any FY 02 support costs (other than those related to the small parcel grant) must come out of the \$6.3 million and will reduce the amount available for actual parcel purchases. Also bear in mind that any funds lapsed from Project 01126 or 02126 will go to GEM, not to the future habitat program.

Please feel free to give me a call if you would like to discuss this memo. I appreciate your cooperation.

Most Recent Status of \$6.3 Million Designated for Small Parcels

Amount designated for small parcels through 2002:	\$ 6,314,900										
Acquisitions completed	- 1,991,400										
Support costs authorized	- 704,800										
Offers outstanding											
USFWS: Kodiak Tax / Larsen Bay Shareholder	- 56,500										
<i>Purchase agreements have been signed but deals have not closed on the following 4 parcels:</i>											
<table> <tr> <th><u>KAP #</u></th><th><u>Offer Made</u></th></tr> <tr> <td>1098</td><td>11/30/99</td></tr> <tr> <td>2000</td><td>11/30/99</td></tr> <tr> <td>2019</td><td>7/5/00</td></tr> <tr> <td>2042</td><td>7/5/00</td></tr> </table>	<u>KAP #</u>	<u>Offer Made</u>	1098	11/30/99	2000	11/30/99	2019	7/5/00	2042	7/5/00	
<u>KAP #</u>	<u>Offer Made</u>										
1098	11/30/99										
2000	11/30/99										
2019	7/5/00										
2042	7/5/00										
USFS: Tatitlek homesites (22 parcels)	- 180,000										
<i>Nine of these parcels totaling \$123,000 have been bought by Chugach Alaska Corporation; TC offers were made 5/22/00 and expire 9/1/01.</i>											
USFS: PWS 05 / Valdez Duck Flats	- 125,000										
ADNR: PWS 06 / Valdez Duck Flats	- 100,000										
USFS: PWS 1010 / Jack Bay	- 1,130,000										
<i>Offers made on these 3 parcels 12/4/00; expired 6/21/01.</i>											
USFS: PWS 1028 / Valdez Duck Flats	- 120,000										
<i>Offer made 8/9/99; was extended and will expire 9/1/01.</i>											

ADFG: KEN 294 / Elliot, Anchor River	- 78,000
<i>Offer made 5/3/01; will expire 9/1/02 (funds not yet authorized by legislature -- expect during 2002 session).</i>	
Appraisals / negotiations underway (costs are estimates only)	
ADFG: KEN 309 / Icicle Seafoods, Ninilchik River	- 113,000
ADFG: KEN 310 / Swartzes, Ninilchik River	- 30,000
USFWS: KAP 281 / 3 Saints Bay, KNWR	- 101,000
USFWS: KAP 283 / Chiniak Bay, AMNWR	- 40,000
USFWS: KAP 285 / Hook Bay, APNWR	- 200,000
<i>Appraisals authorized 7/5/00. TC also authorized appraisals on 2 Anchor River parcels (KEN 293 and KEN 295), but neither landowner was interested.</i>	
USFWS: Designated for additional Kodiak Tax/Larsen Bay parcels	- 146,900
<i>This is balance of original \$1 million authorization; no offers are outstanding for these funds. Of this balance, \$129,200 is designated for shareholder parcels and \$17,700 is designated for tax parcels. USFWS has proposed combining the funds into one amount that could be used for either purpose -- this would require TC approval.</i>	
Designated for Koniag large parcel acquisition	- 50,000 *
Designated for grant to non-profits	<u>- 1,000,000</u>
Available balance:	\$ 148,800

* Will not be spent if Uyak exchange goes through

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

FROM: Molly McCammon
Executive Director *mm*

RE: Project 99154: Authorization to Construct the Local Display Facility in
Cordova ----- OOPS!!!

DATE: June 26, 2001

Please do not proceed at this time with the Eyak Local Display Facility. The memo sent to you earlier today authorizing construction of the local display facility was sent in error as the court has not been notified that these funds are to be spent. We must notify the court before you can proceed. I apologize for the delay and will keep you informed as to when you can proceed on this project.

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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



FAX COVER SHEET

To: Judy & Varonucci Number: 269-8908

From: Molly Date: 6-26-01

Comments: Total Pages: 2 with cover.

OOPS memo re 99154

FAX TRANSMISSION

HARD COPY TO FOLLOW NO

Document Sent By: Sherrill

3-13-99

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*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	4163	
CONNECTION TEL		2698908
CONNECTION ID		
START TIME	06/26 12:36	
USAGE TIME	00'43	
PAGES	1	
RESULT	OK	

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Judith E. Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

FROM: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

RE: Project 99154: Authorization to Construct the Local Display Facility
in Cordova

DATE: June 25, 2001

The Native Village of Eyak has proposed a local display facility within the Mariner Building in Cordova. In accordance with Appendix B, Section 3.3.1, of the grant agreement between the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and Chugachmiut, Inc., executed on October 14, 1999, I authorize you to proceed with Phase I, Construction, for the proposed local display facility in Cordova. For the following reasons, I find that all requirements for this approval have been met:

1. The proposed local display facility satisfies the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) according to a letter from Dave Gibbons to me on March 14, 2001;
2. Elizabeth Knight, Senior Curator, National Park Service, has reviewed the design of the proposed facility and advised you that it satisfies applicable federal regulations (36 C.F.R., Part 79);
3. The business plan and financial guarantee from the Native Village of Eyak (Resolution 2001-05-30) are satisfactory to assure completion of the local display facility and its successful operation for not less than 20 years; and
4. Chugachmiut has completed a draft of the Local Display Facility Training Program.

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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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FAX COVER SHEET

Veronica Christman

To: Judy Bittner Number: 269-8908

From: Molly Date: 6-26-01

Comments: Total Pages: 2 with cover.

Project 99154
authorization memo

FAX COMPLETED

HARD COPY TO FOLLOW ~~NO~~ YES

Document Sent By: [Signature]

3-16-99

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*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	4161	
CONNECTION TEL		2698908
CONNECTION ID		
START TIME	06/26 09:00	
USAGE TIME	00'55	
PAGES	2	
RESULT	OK	

cc: Sandra
project file

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



TO: Bob Spies
Chief Scientist

FROM: Sandra Schubert *Sandra*
Program Coordinator

RE: Project 02514 / Lower Cook Inlet Waste Management Plan
Implementation

DATE: June 21, 2001

Molly and I have both read through the Project 02514 Detailed Project Description and budget, and have identified the following questions that we would like your review to address, if possible:

1. Is the need for all items in the DPD adequately justified in the plan, for example, the smart ash burner for Seldovia and the bilgewater collection/oil water separators for Port Graham and Seldovia?
2. How would the Nanwalek equipment maintenance building reduce marine pollution?
3. Are the quantities of used oil cited in the plan -- 1,000 gallons in Seldovia, 250 gallons in Port Graham, and less than 250 gallons in Nanwalek -- sufficient to justify construction and operation of used oil burners?
4. Do the costs seem appropriate? For example, the KWMP (Kodiak Waste Management Plan, Project 99304) used oil sheds are budgeted at \$30,000 and the Lower Cook Inlet used oil sheds are budgeted at \$48,000 to \$96,000.

In addition to attaching the DPD and budget, I have also attached a copy of the plan and some e-mail answers from Marianne See of ADEC in regard to questions I had about the proposal.

Thanks.

cc: Matt Stephi, Stephi Engineers

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 20, 2001

Rick Steiner
The Coastal Coalition
PO Box 231824
Anchorage, AK 99523

Dear Rick:

Thanks for your recent letter regarding the EVOS reopener claims. As you can see from the attached excerpt from the settlement agreement, the decision on whether or not to pursue the reopener lies with the U.S. and State of Alaska governments, not the EVOS Trustee Council. Thus, the persons who will be making this decision are U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft and Alaska Attorney General Bruce Botelho. To obtain information about the governments' position, I suggest you speak with Bill Brighton of the U.S. Department of Justice and Craig Tillery of the Alaska Department of Law.

It is my understanding that the opportunity to pursue these claims – September 1, 2002 through September 1, 2006 – is limited by the requirements included in this language to one demand. You can be assured that my office and the Trustee Council will be sharing any and all information with the two governments that might be relevant to developing such a claim. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information to you.

Sincerely,

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

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attorneys fees to any Party. Exxon, Exxon Pipeline, and the State shall enter into and execute all Stipulations of Dismissal, with prejudice, necessary to implement this subparagraph.

(b) Not later than 15 days after Final Approval, each of the claims asserted by the United States and the State against Exxon or Exxon Pipeline in the Federal Court Complaints, except for the claim described in Paragraph 13(d) of this Agreement, each of the counterclaims asserted by Exxon and Exxon Pipeline against the United States or the State in their responses to the Federal Court Complaints, shall be dismissed with prejudice and without an award of costs or attorneys fees to any Party. Exxon, Exxon Pipeline, the United States, and the State shall enter into and execute all Stipulations of Dismissal, with prejudice, necessary to implement this subparagraph.

(c) Each of the claims asserted by Exxon against the Governments or their officials in Exxon Shipping Company, et al. v. Lujan, et al., Civil Action No. A91-219 CIV (D. Alaska) ("Lujan") shall be dismissed with prejudice, and without an award of attorneys fees or costs to any Party, not later than 5 days after United States District Court approval of any agreement(s) between the Governments and the non-Government defendants in Lujan under which all of the non-Government defendants disclaim any right to recover Natural Resource Damages.

Reopener For Unknown Injury

17. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, between September 1, 2002, and September 1, 2006, Exxon shall pay

to the Governments such additional sums as are required for the performance of restoration projects in Prince William Sound and other areas affected by the Oil Spill to restore one or more populations, habitats, or species which, as a result of the Oil Spill, have suffered a substantial loss or substantial decline in the areas affected by the Oil Spill; provided, however, that for a restoration project to qualify for payment under this paragraph the project must meet the following requirements:

- (a) the cost of a restoration project must not be grossly disproportionate to the magnitude of the benefits anticipated from the remediation; and
- (b) the injury to the affected population, habitat, or species could not reasonably have been known nor could it reasonably have been anticipated by any Trustee from any information in the possession of or reasonably available to any Trustee on the Effective Date.

18. The amount to be paid by Exxon for the restoration projects referred to in Paragraph 17 shall not exceed \$100,000,000.

19. The Governments shall file with Exxon, 90 days before demanding any payment pursuant to Paragraph 17, detailed plans for all such restoration projects, together with a statement of all amounts they claim should be paid under Paragraph 17 and all information upon which they relied in the preparation of the restoration plan and the accompanying cost statement.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

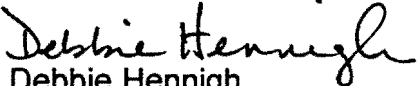
645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451 907/278-8012 fax:907/276-7178



MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Council

THROUGH: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

FROM: 
Debbie Hennigh
Special Assistant

DATE: June 20, 2001

RE: May Investment Reports

Attached is the Department of Revenue's Performance Measurement report as of May 31, 2001. Also attached are the Investment Fund Performance Measurement graph for activity ending May 31, 2001 and 3 new graphs of each investment pool's activity for October 2000 through May 2001. Any suggestions you might have about how to display the information are welcome. The Investment Working Group will discuss all of the May and June (if available) 2001 reports at our upcoming meeting.

Attachments

cc: Investment Working Group

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Investment Fund

Period Ending May 31, 2001

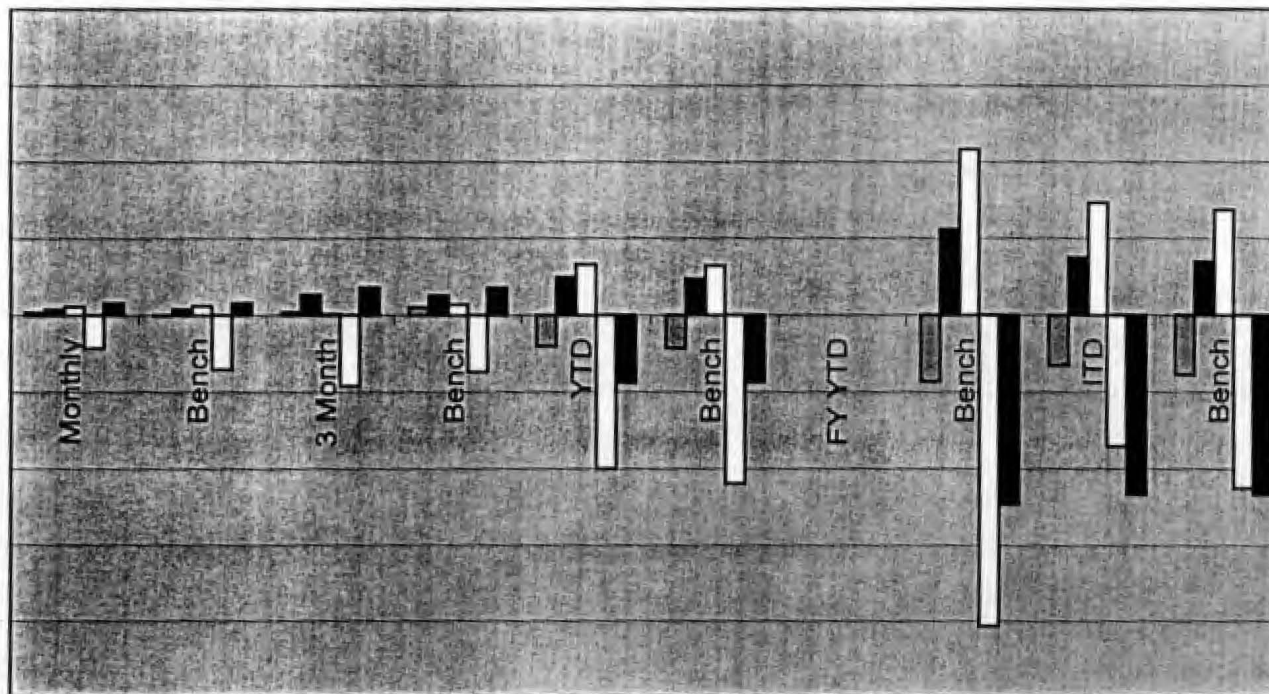
	<u>Mkt Value (\$M)</u>	<u>Monthly Return</u>	<u>3 Mo. Return</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Fiscal YTD</u>	<u>Inception to Date*</u>
AY02 EVOS Investment Fund	132,671	0.20	0.20	-2.00	-	-3.25
<i>EVOS Investment Fund Index</i>		<i>-0.02</i>	<i>0.52</i>	<i>-2.16</i>	<i>-4.33</i>	<i>-3.86</i>
 Short-term Fixed Income Pool	 77	 0.40	 1.35	 2.46	 -	 3.73
<i>91 day T-Bill</i>		<i>0.39</i>	<i>1.29</i>	<i>2.35</i>	<i>5.58</i>	<i>3.47</i>
 Broad Market Fixed Income Pool	 61,238	 0.55	 0.64	 3.30	 -	 7.32
<i>Lehman Brothers Aggregate Index</i>		<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>3.21</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>6.85</i>
 Non-Retirement Domestic Equity Pool	 50,228	 0.80	 1.82	 -4.39	 -	 -11.69
<i>Russell 3000 Index</i>		<i>0.80</i>	<i>1.79</i>	<i>-4.35</i>	<i>-12.32</i>	<i>-11.68</i>
 SOA International Equity Pool	 21,128	 -2.15	 -4.6	 -10.01	 -	 -8.55
<i>Morgan Stanley Capital Intl. (EAFE)</i>		<i>-3.53</i>	<i>-3.7</i>	<i>-10.97</i>	<i>-20.35</i>	<i>-11.26</i>

Source: State Street Bank, Insight.

* Since October 31, 2000

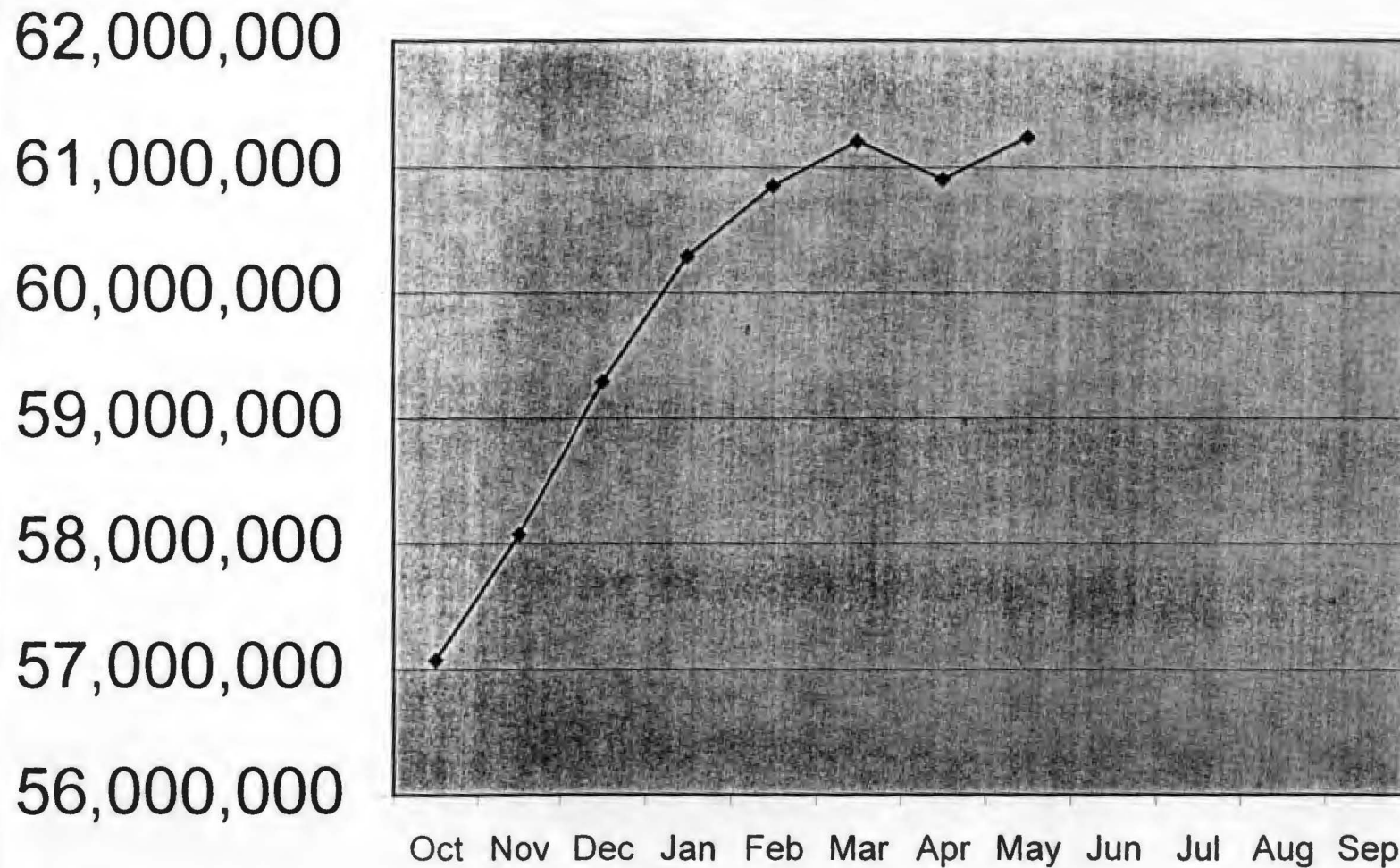
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Investment Fund May 2001 Performance Measurement

20
15
10
5
0
-5
-10
-15
-20
-25

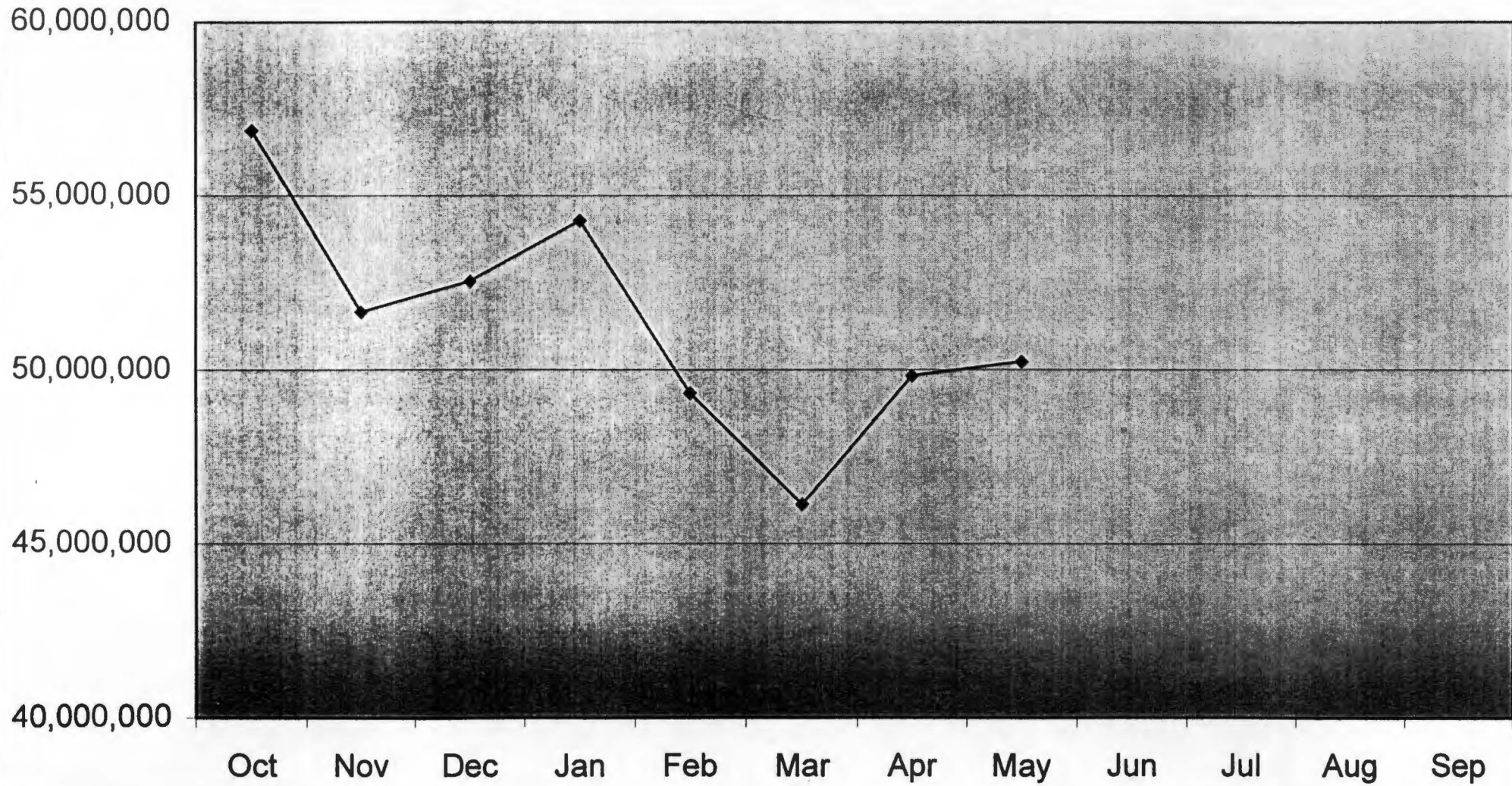


- EVOS Fund
- Short-term Fixed Income Pool
- Fixed Income
- International Equities
- Domestic Equities

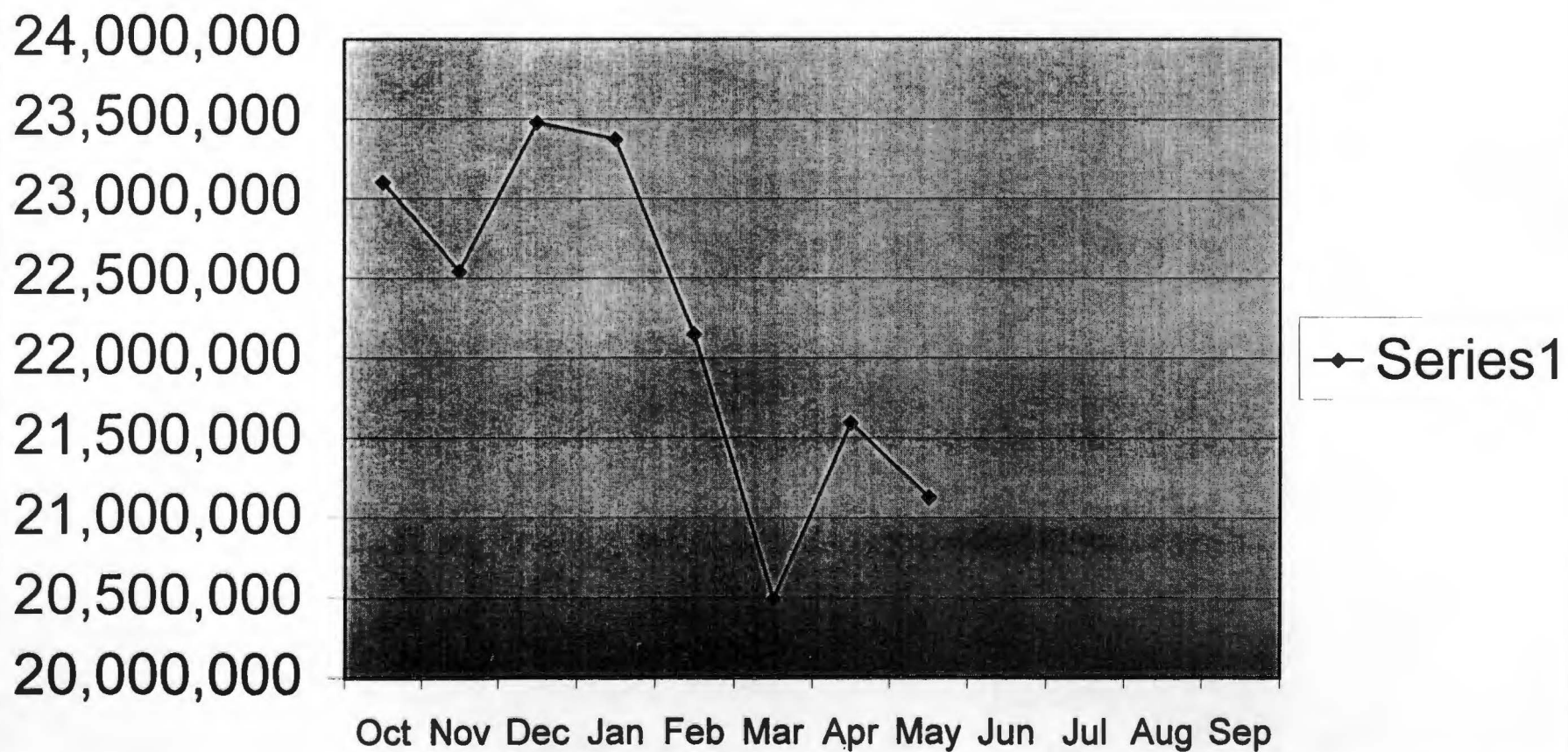
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Investment Fund
Fixed Income for FY 01



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Investment Fund
Domestic Equities for FY 01



**Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Investment Fund
International Equities for FY 01**



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 20, 2001

Scott and Russell Davis
Davis Block Co., Inc.
PO Box 126
Anchorage, AK 99501-3451

Dear Mr. Davis and Mr. Davis:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that the Trustee Council has received your nomination under the Small Parcel Habitat Protection Program. For future reference, the parcel has been assigned the number "KEN 2070".

To date, several hundred small parcel nominations have been submitted to the Trustee Council and over 7,800 acres have been purchased. The Council has authorized \$1.9 million to purchase another 1,148 acres in specific parcels and purchase negotiations on these parcels are currently underway.

One million dollars has been designated for new parcels through 2002. These funds will be administered as a grant to The Nature Conservancy and The Conservation Fund, who will handle acquisitions on the Council's behalf. The grant has not yet been finalized, so they are not actively evaluating parcels at this time. Your parcel nomination packet will be forwarded to the grantees once the grant is in effect. Under the Council's habitat protection program, parcels along the Kenai River have generally ranked highly for restoration value.

The Trustee Council does not expect to authorize any additional funding for small parcels until October 2002, when funding for the restoration program shifts to investment earnings from the Restoration Reserve. The Council has earmarked \$25 million in Restoration Reserve funds for habitat protection, especially for small parcels. A decision has not yet been made on whether those funds will be administered through a grant or directly by the Council. Either way, the program will continue to focus on acquisition of key parcels that are found to have especially significant value for the restoration and protection of the biological resources and human services injured by the oil spill.

If you have questions about the Small Parcel Habitat Protection Program or the status of your parcel, please contact Sandra Schubert at the Anchorage Restoration Office.

Sincerely,

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
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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: Maritt Miller
ADF&G Human Resources

FROM: Molly McGammon
Executive Director

DATE: June 19, 2001

RE: Reclassification

Please reclassify Sandra Schubert (SSN: 542-52-8258), whose title currently is Director of Restoration (PCN: 117009; class code: X1243), to Program Coordinator (class code: X0196, range 24). If you need additional information, please contact Debbie Hennigh at (907) 278-8012.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob De La Vergne

FROM: *Debbie Hennigh*
Debbie Hennigh

DATE: June 19, 2001

RE: Non-Perm Temporary Position – Extend to September 15th

Bob, attached is the paperwork for the non-perm temp, Brooke Ricker. Our out-source network person is in our office on Thursday afternoons so I am hoping he can set Brooke up with email this Thursday.

Brooke's position, Administrative Clerk I, Range 7, step A, position should be extended from August 15th to September 15th.

Thanks for your assistance in this matter. If you need more information, please call me.

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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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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 McLaughlin, Executive Director

DATE: June 19, 2001

RE: Legal Review of *FY 02 Draft Work Plan*

Attached are a copy of the *FY 02 Draft Work Plan*, a spreadsheet listing the new projects that are recommended for funding as part of the work plan (or for which a decision is deferred to December 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 02681/Placeholder: Nearshore/Intertidal Monitoring will not be developed until later this fall, following a planning workshop recommended under Project 02395.)

You will see that we have revamped our cluster assignments to better reflect the current stage of the restoration program. Several projects (both new and continuing) related to lingering oil are recommended for funding, but a majority of the new projects relate to GEM.

It is important that you complete your review by July 17. The Public Advisory Group meets July 18, 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 02 Work Plan* on August 6. 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: Spreadsheet of new projects recommended for funding
DPDs and budgets for new projects recommended for funding
FY 02 Draft Work Plan

NEW PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FUNDING / FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj. No.	Project Title	FY 02 Request	Preliminary Recommendation			
			FY 02	FY 03	Sum FY 02-03	
Oil Injury		\$143.6	\$30.0	\$0.0	\$30.0	
02593	River Otter Synthesis	\$143.6	\$30.0	\$0.0	\$30.0	Fund contingent
Spill Recovery Monitoring		\$94.8	\$94.8		\$94.8	
02574-BAA	Bivalve Recovery on Treated Beaches	\$94.8	\$94.8		\$94.8	Defer
Ecosystem Recovery & Function		\$29.7	\$29.7	\$0.0	\$29.7	
02659-BAA	Manuscripts: SEA & NVP Avian Predation	\$29.7	\$29.7	\$0.0	\$29.7	Defer
GEM Transition: Strategies to Improve Monitoring		\$220.2	\$144.6	\$0.0	\$144.6	
02395	Nearshore Monitoring Design	\$92.0	\$55.0	\$0.0	\$55.0	Fund contingent
02612	Marine-Terrestrial Linkages in Kenai River Watershed	\$44.6	\$44.6	\$0.0	\$44.6	Defer
02674-BAA	Pigeon Guillemot Restoration Techniques	\$83.6	\$45.0		\$45.0	Fund contingent
GEM Transition: Tools to Improve Monitoring		\$343.1	\$276.6	\$17.1	\$293.7	
02584	Airborne Remote Sensing Tools	\$118.4	\$75.0		\$75.0	Defer
02614	Monitoring Temperature, Salinity, and Fluorescence	\$38.2	\$38.2	\$17.1	\$55.3	Fund contingent
02624-BAA	Ships of Opportunity: CPR-Based Plankton Survey	\$133.4	\$133.4	\$0.0	\$133.4	Defer
02671-BAA	Ships of Opportunity: Kachemak Bay & Lower Cook Inlet	\$53.1	\$30.0	\$0.0	\$30.0	Fund contingent
GEM Transition: Synthesis & Retrospective Analysis		\$787.9	\$472.7	\$18.0	\$490.7	
02578	Macrofauna Annotated List	\$38.3	\$35.0	\$0.0	\$35.0	Defer; lower priority
02600	EVOS Synthesis, 1989-2001	\$151.6	\$151.6		\$151.6	Defer
02622	Digital ESI Maps: Cook Inlet/Kenai Peninsula	\$36.6	\$36.6	\$0.0	\$36.6	Defer; lower priority
02636-BAA	Ecosystem Recovery: Spill-Impacted Communities	\$360.0	\$50.0		\$50.0	Defer

NEW PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FUNDING / FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj. No.	Project Title	FY 02 Request	Preliminary Recommendation		
			FY 02	FY 03	Sum FY 02-03
02649	Reconstructing Sockeye Populations	\$102.8	\$100.9	\$0.0	\$100.9 Fund contingent
02656	Nearshore Analysis: Archaeology & Isotopes	\$98.6	\$98.6	\$18.0	\$116.6 Fund contingent
GEM Transition: Long-Term Monitoring		\$201.5	\$251.5	\$11.6	\$263.1
02561	Community-Based Forage Fish Sampling	\$54.3	\$54.3	\$11.6	\$65.9 Fund
02634	STAMP	\$54.9	\$54.9	\$0.0	\$54.9 Defer; lower priority
02667	Effectiveness of Citizens' Environmental Monitoring	\$16.7	\$16.7	\$0.0	\$16.7 Fund contingent
02680	Persistent Organic Contaminants in Alaska Fishes	\$75.6	\$75.6	\$0.0	\$75.6 Defer
02681	Placeholder: Nearshore/Intertidal Monitoring		\$50.0		\$50.0 Defer
Habitat Protection & Improvements		\$141.0	\$141.0	\$0.0	\$141.0
02621	Kenai River Flats Conservation Easement	\$141.0	\$141.0	\$0.0	\$141.0 Defer
Data Management & Information Transfer		\$127.9	\$81.1	\$0.0	\$81.1
02608	Archiving of Nearshore & Deep Benthic Specimens	\$111.8	\$65.0	\$0.0	\$65.0 Fund contingent
02668	Interactive Water Quality and Habitat Database	\$16.1	\$16.1	\$0.0	\$16.1 Defer
Total:		\$2,089.7	\$1,522.0	\$46.7	\$1,568.7

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
Stacy Masters / NOAA

FROM: Sandra Schubert *Sandra Schubert*
Program Coordinator

RE: Project Status -- Quarterly Update
DUE FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2001

DATE: June 18, 2001

Please find attached Project Status Update Forms for the quarter ending June 30, 2001. 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.

Please return your completed update forms to me by Friday, July 13, 2001. Thank you for your cooperation.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Monica Riedel
Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission

Vicki Vanek
ADF&G Subsistence Division

FROM: Molly McCann
Executive Director

RE: Further Extension of Due Date: FY 00 Annual Report
*Project 00245 / Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and
Biological Sampling*

DATE: June 15, 2001

The purpose of this memo is to confirm an extended due date of July 31, 2001 for the annual report on Project 00245/Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and Biological Sampling. I understand this extension is needed due to other demands on the authors' time, including participation in the JASON national education project and revision of the FY 02 DPD in response to peer review requirements.

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

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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: Craig Matkin, PI

FROM: Molly McGammon
Executive Director

RE: Authorization -- Project 01012-BAA / Comprehensive Killer Whale
Investigation in Prince William Sound

DATE: June 15, 2001

The Trustee Council approved funding for Project 01012A/Comprehensive Killer Whale Investigation in PWS contingent on the submittal of three manuscripts promised in earlier years:

- (1) G.M. Ylitalo, et al. Contaminants.
- (2) L. Barrett-Lennard, et al. Mating systems.
- (3) L. Barrett-Lennard. Niche partitioning.

The Ylitalo manuscript (#1 above) is in press, *The Science of the Total Environment*. Although the other manuscripts are not complete, Barrett-Lennard has provided an accounting of their status, and the Chief Scientist is satisfied with the progress he is making.

The purpose of this memorandum is to formally authorize work to proceed on Project 01012. All work must be performed consistent with the revised Detailed Project Description and budget submitted April 15, 2000. You will be receiving soon a letter on your FY 02 proposal to continue this project. Please note that FY 02 funding will be contingent on submittal of the mating systems and niche partitioning manuscripts.

cc: Lance Barrett-Lennard, UBC
Stacy Masters, NOAA

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Involvement Facilitators

FROM: Molly McCammon, Executive Director

RE: Draft Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2002

DATE: June 18, 2001

Please find enclosed a copy of the Draft Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2002. The plan contains my preliminary recommendations on which projects should be funded next year to restore the resources and services injured by the oil spill. On August 6, the Trustee Council will decide which projects to fund. Their decision will be based on my recommendations, as well as on comments received on my recommendations.

For FY 2002, the Trustee Council set a target of about \$5 million for the Work Plan. The target is lower than in FY 2001 and will decline again in FY 2002 when funding for the restoration program will rely solely on the Restoration Reserve. The Council received 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million, so it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. (Page 4 of the Draft Work Plan shows the funding targets for FY 1996 and on into the future.)

A list of projects designed to restore subsistence is also enclosed. We have reorganized the cluster groupings for projects this year to better reflect that the restoration program is transitioning to a long-term monitoring program. Projects that were previously in the cluster labeled "subsistence" are now assigned to clusters based on project objectives or type of activity. In all, I am recommending that the Trustee Council fund, or further consider funding, six subsistence projects in FY 2002. Of the seven subsistence projects not recommended for funding, all but one (English Bay Sockeye Enumeration) have been submitted, and not funded, several times in the past. The specific reasons for why funding is not recommended are outlined under each project entry in the Draft Work Plan.

A public hearing on the Draft Work Plan will be held at noon Wednesday, July 18. Please contact Cherri Womac here at the Restoration Office (1-800-478-7745) if you would like to participate by teleconference. You can also mail or e-mail comments, or call me directly at any time. (The inside cover of the Draft Work Plan contains the necessary phone numbers and addresses.) The Restoration Office will accept public comments up until the Trustee Council meeting on August 6, but your comments will be most useful if they are received by July 19.

cc: Patty Brown-Schwalenberg, Chugach Regional Resources Commission

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SUBS NCE PROJECTS: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PREL ARY RECOMMENDATION

Proj. No.	Project Title	FY 02 Request	Preliminary Recommendation		
			FY 02	FY 03	Sum FY 02-03
Spill Recovery Monitoring		\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
02333	Sea Otter Monitoring	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
Ecosystem Recovery & Function		\$477.2	\$25.5	\$0.0	\$25.5
02372	Steller Sea Lion Monitoring	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
02401	Spot Shrimp Population	\$27.2	\$25.5	\$0.0	\$25.5 Fund contingent
02503	Orca Inlet Restoration	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
02669	Hooligan Research	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
Spill General Restoration		\$425.2	\$43.5	\$0.0	\$43.5
02247	Kametolook River Coho Salmon	\$34.0	\$28.0	\$0.0	\$28.0 Fund contingent
02256B	Solf Lake Sockeye Salmon Stocking	\$20.0	\$15.5	\$0.0	\$15.5 Fund contingent
02416	O'Brian Creek Enhancement	\$64.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
02507	Nuckek Subsistence Camp	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
02677	English Bay Sockeye Enumeration	\$182.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0 Do not fund
GEM Transition: Long-Term Monitoring		\$234.4	\$167.9		\$167.9
02210	Youth Area Watch	\$106.1	\$106.1		\$106.1 Fund
02610	Kodiak Island Youth Area Watch	\$128.3	\$61.8		\$61.8 Fund contingent
Public Information/Science Management/Administration		\$214.2	\$180.0		\$180.0
02052	Community Involvement	\$214.2	\$180.0		\$180.0 Defer
Total:		\$1,451.0	\$416.9	\$0.0	\$416.9

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 19, 2001

Gary Shigenaka
NOAA-NOS,
HAZMAT/BAT, BIN C157007600
Sand Point Way, NE, Bldg 4
Seattle, WA 98115-6349

RE: Project 02639 / Field Experiments for Testing Spill-Impacts Hypotheses
from Long-Term Monitoring
Project 02644 / Molecular Biomarkers as a New Technique for Assessing
Physiological Contaminant Stress

Dear Mr. Shigenaka:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund projects 02639/Field Experiments for Testing Spill-Impacts Hypotheses from Long-Term Monitoring 02644/Molecular Biomarkers as a New Technique for Assessing Physiological Contaminant Stress. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the reviewers raised technical concerns about both projects.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02639	Field Experiments for Testing Spill-Impacts Hypotheses from Long-Term Monitoring	G. Shigenaka/NOAA HAZMAT	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$71.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) initiated two intertidal experiments in 2000 to test hypotheses concerning long-term effects of oil spill cleanup. The first experiment, located in Kasitsna Bay, tests the hypothesis that aggressive shoreline cleanup has caused unnatural long-term cycling in rocky intertidal communities, <i>Fucus</i> in particular. The second experiment, in lower Herring Bay, tests the hypothesis that shoreline washing on oiled beaches physically alters grain size structure to the extent that biological recovery has been delayed and infaunal communities are fundamentally altered. Although both of these experiments were begun under NOAA's long-term monitoring program, that program has ended. This project will permit annual sampling and data collection while transitioning the Kasitsna Bay project to the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and the lower Herring Bay project to alternative funding support in 2003.		This is an interesting and well presented proposal to monitor two field experiments to test mechanisms of injury that might explain long-term effects of the spill and cleanup on the intertidal zone. There were questions about the experimental design raised during the review with regard to spatial scale in the <i>Fucus</i> experiment and temporal scale in the response expected. The proposers did not provide evidence that the washing experiment removed fine grain sediment to the extent that mimicked the clean up operations in 1989 and 1990. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would continue two field experiments begun in 2000 by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Response and Restoration. The Chief Scientist has identified concerns with the project's experimental design. Furthermore, this activity is not a priority at this stage of the restoration program as the Trustee Council's focus shifts to GEM.				

EXEC /E DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02644	Molecular Biomarkers as a New Technique for Assessing Physiological Contaminant Stress	G. Shigenaka/NOAA HAZMAT	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$114.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

This project has two primary objectives: first, a targeted evaluation/validation of new monitoring technology (based on the measurement of a series of molecular biomarkers) to assess extent and source of biological stress; and second, the linking of stress in mussels inhabiting small boat harbor areas in Prince William Sound and lower Cook Inlet to contaminant type (i.e., fuel oils or antifouling paint components). The monitoring tool has the potential for application beyond this specific setting (and particularly as a transitional bridge to GEM), but the work as proposed will provide useful information on the biological status of mussels residing in six small boat harbors in Prince William Sound and lower Cook Inlet.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal would use state-of-the-art methods to detect effects of contaminants. However, the presentation of the measures proposed to detect contaminant stress provide little to justify the large list of markers or the means to evaluate changes in them. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. The Chief Scientist raised technical concerns about this project, which would focus and refine validation of DMBS analysis (Downs Molecular Biomarker System) as a tool to detect effects of contaminants.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 19, 2001

Shannon Atkinson, PhD
UAF SFOS IMS
PO Box 730
Seward, AK 99664

RE: Project 02558 / Harbor Seal Recovery: Application of New Technologies
for Monitoring Health


Dear Dr. Atkinson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02558/Harbor Seal Recovery: Application of New Technologies for Monitoring Health contingent on submittal and approval of a revised budget for the expected amount (\$128,400). In addition, the FY 03 cost of the project needs to be clarified (the DPD indicates \$80,000, but the budget form shows \$25,300). 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 revised budget should be prepared on the standard detailed budget forms and submitted to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. (Please submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the budget.)

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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 19. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

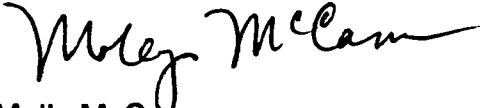
Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "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: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

SPRE SHEET B: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02558	Harbor Seal Recovery: Application of New Technologies for Monitoring Health	S. Atkinson/UAF	ADFG	Cont'd 2nd yr. 3 yr. project	\$133.5	\$128.4	\$27.1	
<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. 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.		This project is documenting changes in the immune and endocrine markers in the blood of captive harbor seals, and will use rehabilitating seals to determine if such measures have a relationship to contaminants. The project is on track to meet its objectives: assays have been validated, monoclonal antibodies for harbor seal immunoglobulins are being developed, and blood samples have been analyzed for thyroid hormones. Fund.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a revised budget for the expected amount. This project is employing new technologies at the Alaska SeaLife Center to assess and monitor the health of harbor seals. [Note: Funding for Alaska SeaLife Center bench fees need to be added to this project--were \$160,100 in FY 01.]				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 18, 2001

Charles Falkenberg, PhD
ECologic Corp
4409 Forbes Blvd.
Lanham, MD 20706-4328

Stephen Marley, PhD
ECologic System Corporation
4409 Forbes Blvd
Lanham, MD 20706

RE: Project 02475-BAA / GEM Data System Specification
Project 02655-BAA / Transition Support for the GEM Data Manager

~~Charles~~ ~~Stephen~~
Dear Dr. Falkenberg and Dr. Marley:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund projects 02475/GEM Data System Specification and 02655/Transition Support for the GEM Data Manager. 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 reviewers considered both of these projects to be premature until a GEM data manager is hired. Our hiring schedule has slipped a little, but we still hope to have somebody on board by the end of this summer. At that time, we may solicit proposals for the type of support described in your projects.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02475-BAA	GEM Data System Specification	S. Marley/ECologic Corp.	NOAA		\$250.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
1 yr. project

Project Abstract

This project will produce the Operations Concept and Systems Requirements Specification for the data system for GEM. This project will capitalize on the work already performed, and through a detailed requirements definition approach, will develop the detailed description necessary to release a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) for the permanent system.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The proposal emphasizes the archival function of the GEM data system and the importance of understanding the needs of users. The cost of the principal investigator is extremely high, and the proposal appears to make inadequate use of support personnel. In addition, the proposal appears to be premature until the scope of GEM is more fully defined. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project is premature until a GEM data manager is hired (expected Summer 2001) and the scope of GEM is more fully defined. At that time, a proposal such as this may be solicited.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02655-BAA	Transition Support for the GEM Data Manager	C. Falkenberg/ECologic Corp.	NOAA		\$120.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
1 yr. project

Project Abstract

This project will support the GEM data manager during FY 02 in order to ease the transition to the GEM data system. Tasks will address the challenge of formulating a GEM data system, the rescue of legacy EVOS data, and the integration of the administrative databases. Although these are the priorities that have emerged from Project 00455/Evaluation of a Data System for GEM, we anticipate that the data manager will set the final priorities and select one or more of the tasks proposed.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This project would provide support to the GEM data manager in the design of the GEM data system. This type of support is highly necessary. However, the degree and extent to which such support is needed depends on the experience and credentials of the person eventually hired to be the data manager. Placing funds in the GEM development project (Project 02630) to provide support after the data manager is hired is the preferred approach. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project is premature until a GEM data manager is hired (expected Summer 2001). At that time, once the experience and credentials of the data manager are known, the degree to which such support may be needed will also be known. The likely approach at that time will be to include contractual funds in Project 02630/GEM Planning. The cost of this proposal as written is quite high, particularly the personnel costs.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 18, 2001

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

RE: Project 02574-BAA / Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches in Prince William Sound

Dear Mr. Lees:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02574/Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches in Prince William Sound until December, pending submittal and review of a revised Detailed Project Description that addresses the shoreline treatment history and your plans for publication of this work in the peer reviewed literature. 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.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

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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 or the project review process, please call me or Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA 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: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02574-BAA	Assessment of Bivalve Recovery on Treated Mixed-Soft Beaches in Prince William Sound	D. Lees/Littoral Eco.& Environ. Services	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$94.8	\$94.8	\$35.3	
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Studies from 1989 through 1997 suggest that bivalve assemblages on beaches in Prince William Sound with high-pressure hot-water washing 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 remains extremely disturbed and that these beaches are functionally impaired in terms of their ability to support foraging by damaged nearshore vertebrate predators such as sea otters and harlequin ducks. The study will also provide insight into the need for remediation of beaches to restore biodiversity and function on these assemblages.		This proposal would extend sampling initiated under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's HAZMAT program to document continuing effects of shoreline cleanup on populations of important bivalves. This would allow the conclusions drawn in the HAZMAT studies to be generalized over a larger geographic range within the oil spill area. The removal of fine sediments by shoreline cleanup and the subsequent biological consequences appear to be long-term effects of the spill. The proposal is well prepared and the principal investigator has been responsive to past comments in reducing the scope and cost of the effort. However, there is no compelling evidence that the work would reach the peer reviewed literature where this information would be of most value to restoration efforts. In addition, the uncertainty over treatment history of shorelines casts some doubt on the feasibility of the project. Defer pending submission and evaluation of revised proposal.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending review of a revised Detailed Project Description that addresses the Chief Scientist's concerns (further development of shoreline treatment history and preparation of results for peer reviewed literature). This proposal would extend sampling initiated under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's HAZMAT program to document continuing effects of shoreline cleanup on populations of important bivalves, thus allowing the results to be generalized over a larger geographic range. This would be a worthwhile endeavor.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 18, 2001

Patty Brown-Schwalenberg,
Chugach Regional Resources Commission
4201 Tudor Centre Dr., Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99508

RE: Project 02052 / Community Involvement & Planning for GEM

Dear Ms. Brown-Schwalenberg:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02052/Community Involvement & Planning for GEM, pending submittal and review of additional information that clarifies:

- (a) progress made toward completion of FY 00 project tasks,
- (b) progress made toward completion of FY 01 project tasks,
- (c) the schedule and strategy for completion of the Tribal Natural Resource Management Plans, and
- (d) the roles of the contractors in FY 01 and proposed for FY 02.

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. Please note that, if funded, funding will be contingent on (a) a reduced budget for the expected amount (\$180,000 including agency general administration) and (b) submittal of overdue reports (00052, 01131, 00610).

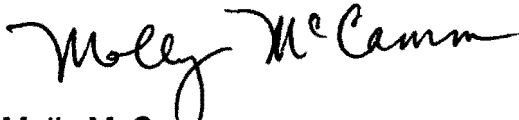
My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02052	Community Involvement/Planning for GEM	P. Brown- Schwalenberg/CRRC	ADFG	8th yr.	\$214.2	\$180.0	\$0.0	

Project Abstract

In FY 02, this project will continue to actively involve residents of Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Cordova/Eyak, Seward/Qutekcak, Seldovia, Valdez, Kodiak Island Region/Ouzinkie, and the Alaska Peninsula Region/Chignik Lake in the restoration program through a network of local facilitators. In addition, the project will work to address the future of community involvement with regard to the Gulf Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM) program. In FY 02, the project will focus on three objectives: (a) designing a community based research and monitoring program, (b) identifying specific research and monitoring activities that fit within the GEM program, and (c) developing possible pilot projects for FY 03.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The community involvement project is a very valuable part of the restoration program. In principle, this proposal makes sense--i.e., to develop community monitoring plans and Tribal Natural Resource Management Plans that have tangible linkages to GEM. If successful, these links will contribute greatly to the community involvement and public participation objectives of GEM. However, this project's track record in producing products could improve, and it is essential that the project leaders foster realistic expectations as they attempt to define meaningful community involvement. There are objectives for FY 02 that were also in the FY 01 proposal and several overdue reports. There are also FY 00 objectives that have not been met. Defer funding pending receipt of clarification on these issues.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending submittal and review of additional information that clarifies (a) progress made toward completion of FY 00 project tasks, (b) progress made toward completion of FY 01 project tasks, (c) the schedule and strategy for completion of the Tribal Natural Resource Management Plans, and (d) the roles of the contractors in FY 01 and proposed for FY 02. If funded, funding will be contingent on (a) a reduced budget for the expected amount and (b) submittal of overdue reports (00052, 01131, 00610). This project was originally designed to facilitate communication among the Trustee Council, scientists, and residents of the spill area in regard to the restoration effort. As the Council's efforts have shifted from restoration to long-term monitoring, the project's emphasis has shifted to providing technical assistance to five pilot communities (Tatitlek, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Ouzinkie, Cordova/Eyak) to participate in the development of GEM and to further develop their natural resource programs and stewardship capacity. FY 02 was expected to be the final year of Council support. However, some kind of community effort should be a future part of GEM.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 18, 2001

Kenneth Adams
PO Box 1855
Cordova, AK 99574-1855

Bud Perrine
PO Box 1141
Cordova, AK 99574

Ross Mullins
PO Box 436
Cordova, AK 99574-0436

RE: Project 02636-BAA / Ecosystem Recovery Through a Partnership with the
Spill-Impacted Communities

~~Ken~~ ~~Bud~~ ~~Ross~~
Dear Mr. Adams, Mr. Perrine and Mr. Mullins:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02636/Ecosystem Recovery Through a Partnership with the Spill-Impacted Communities until December, pending clarification of the project's objectives and cost. 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.

I would suggest the first step is for us to finally have the meeting we've been having so much trouble scheduling. Perhaps once the fishing season is over the scheduling will be easier. Please give me a call when you have time to meet. Helping to build a partnership with professional fishers and providing the commercial fishing community's perspective on restoration results and fisheries management practices has obvious benefits for the EVOS program.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation or the project review process, please give me a call.

Sincerely,



Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02636-BAA	Ecosystem Recovery Through a Partnership with the Spill-Impacted Communities	K. Adams, B. Perrine, R. Mullins/Cordova	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$360.0	\$50.0	\$334.2	
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The goal of securing and sustaining the recovery of the marine system is a first priority for the Trustee Council as well as for the spill-impacted region. Given the successes of the Council's Restoration Plan, that goal is within reach. The economies and the communities of the spill-impacted region are the natural partners for realizing the goal. In this regard, commercial fishing has the involvement, resources, and motivation--through long term financial positions and committed financial risks--to be one of the most effective partners. This project well develop a plan and demonstrate that a partnership can accomplish significantly more toward our common goal than is possible through the same investments expended independently.		As I understand this proposal, it would provide the fishing community's perspective on the scientific accomplishments of the restoration program, and explore how to incorporate new scientific results into management practices. A "fishing industry" view of EVOS research and results, and their application, would be an interesting and valuable contribution. This project could also build a partnership with professional fishers, which will be important in the development of GEM. The proposal would benefit from more focus and coordination with other synthesis efforts. Defer pending receipt and evaluation of revised, more focused proposal at a reduced cost.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending clarification of the project's objectives and cost. The EVOS program could benefit from the commercial fishing community's perspective on restoration results and interaction with fishers on how to incorporate the results into fisheries management practices. In addition, this could form a foundation for working with Prince William Sound fishers as GEM develops.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2001

Jeffrey W. Short
NMFS/Auke Bay Laboratory
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801-8626

Bonita Nelson
NOAA IMS
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Project 02290 / Hydrocarbon Database and Interpretation Service

Dear Mr. ~~Short~~ and Ms. ~~Nelson~~:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02290/Hydrocarbon Database and Interpretation Service contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that adds as an objective evaluation of the needs and options for long-term disposition of the 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. This recommendation is made for public review and may be revised before it is provided to the Trustee Council in early August.

The revised Detailed Project Description should be submitted to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. If addition of this objective necessitates an increase in the budget, please also prepare a revised budget. (Please submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD and budget, on the standard forms.)

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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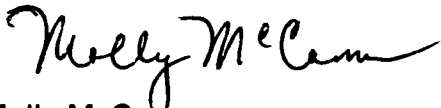
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Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02290	Hydrocarbon Database and Interpretation Service	J. Short, B. Nelson/NOAA	NOAA	11th yr.	\$35.0	\$35.0	\$35.0	.

Project Abstract

This ongoing project provides data and sample archiving services for all samples collected for hydrocarbon analysis in support of Trustee Council projects. These data represent samples collected since the oil spill in 1989 to the present and include environmental and laboratory National Resource Damage Assessment and restoration data. Additionally, this project provides interpretive services for hydrocarbon analysis, public releases of the hydrocarbon and pristane databases, and storage and maintenance of the hydrocarbon sample archives. [Note: The principal investigator has proposed that this project be continued indefinitely.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The restoration program needs this project for FY 02, as it maintains the integrity of the hydrocarbon database, makes new additions, and supplies interpretative services. It is recommended that the Trustee Council fund this program through FY 02, to the end of the settlement period. However, the need for this program has not been assessed with regard to GEM and other priorities that will begin in FY 03. Therefore, there should be no guarantee or recommendations for funding beyond FY 02. Fund contingent on addressing the long-term disposition of the hydrocarbon database.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Fund FY 02 only contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that adds as an objective evaluation of the needs and options for long-term disposition of the database. The budget may need to increase slightly to accommodate this additional objective. This project is the ongoing analysis and interpretation of hydrocarbon data for other Trustee Council funded studies. However, the need for the database has not been assessed with regard to GEM, and needs to be.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 15, 2001

Paula Homan
Qutekcak Native Tribe
P.O. Box 1467
Seward, AK 99664

RE: Project 02628-BAA / Resurrection Bay Contaminant Survey

Dear Ms. Homan:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02628/Resurrection Bay Contaminant 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. While GEM (the Council's long-term monitoring and research program) is likely to include some contaminants work, the reviewers felt that your project was premature at this stage of GEM development. A workshop to help develop a nearshore/intertidal component for GEM will be held early in FY 02, and I hope that you will be able to participate. A time and agenda for the workshop will be provided at a later date.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

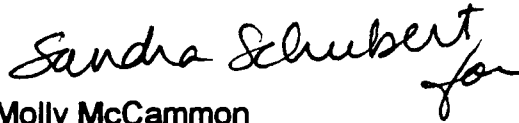
Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02628-BAA	Resurrection Bay Contaminant Survey	P. Homan/Qutekcak Native Tribe	NOAA		\$128.8	\$0.0	\$9.1	\$0.0

1st yr.
2 yr. project

Project Abstract

Qutekcak Native Tribe would like to lead the way in protecting Resurrection Bay from pollution and misuse. Immediate sources of pollution in the bay include industry, fisheries, wastewater treatment discharge, leaky septic systems, boat harbor, coal terminal, and large ships such as barges, ferries, and cruise ships. This project will collect twenty ocean floor sediment samples from Resurrection Bay and analyze them for contaminants including metals, coliform bacteria, pesticides, and other persistent organic pollutants. The results of the analyses will be publicized via public meetings, reports, and a website.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

A properly designed sediment survey can provide valuable information about contaminant sources. This proposal is a good first attempt, but it has significant problems as written: (a) sampling methods are unspecified, (b) quality assurance procedures are not described, (c) collection and management costs are high, and (d) there is no identified expertise to interpret the data. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project, which would collect and analyze sediment samples for evaluation of contaminants in Resurrection Bay, was initiated by local concern over a variety of pollutants that may be entering the bay. While GEM is likely to include some contaminants work, and will be designed to take into account local concerns, this proposal is premature at this stage of GEM development. In addition, the Chief Scientist has raised questions about the sampling locations and methods and the analytes proposed for analysis. The proposer should participate in the nearshore/intertidal monitoring workshop to be held early in FY 02 (see Project 02395).

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 15, 2001

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

RE: Project 02452-BAA / Assessing Prey and Competitor-Predators of Pink Salmon Fry
Project 02457-BAA / Monitoring the Fall-Winter Herring Biomass to Track the Recovery of the Prince William Sound Herring Stock
Project 02629-BAA / Development of a Paradigm for Ecosystem Monitoring

Dear Dr. Thorne:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund projects 02452/Assessing Prey and Competitor-Predators of Pink Salmon Fry, 02457/Monitoring the Fall-Winter Herring Biomass to Track the Recovery of the Prince William Sound Herring Stock, and 02629/Development of a Paradigm for Ecosystem Monitoring. I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendations on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about these preliminary recommendations, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02452-BAA	Assessing Prey and Competitor/Predators of Pink Salmon Fry	R. Thorne/PWSSC	NOAA	2nd yr. 1 yr. project	\$38.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Research shows that macro zooplankton and adult walleye pollock densities are the primary biological forcing variables effecting pink salmon fry survival. A program to make these estimates was initiated in spring 2000 by a partnership of organizations including the Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI), Sound Emergency Response Vehicle System, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The Trustee Council provided funds to expand this effort in 2001 (Project 01452), including interaction with Project 01195 which is studying the use of pristane concentration in mussels to estimate pink salmon fry survival. FY 02 funding will finalize the survey design and recommend procedures as a potential element in GEM, OSRI, or a combined institutional monitoring program.		This project involves the development and testing of acoustic sampling on a large scale to gather data on the abundance and distribution of key predators and prey of pink salmon fry. The information would be used in conjunction with related data from Project 02195/Pristane Monitoring to estimate fry survival, thus providing a basis for forecasts of adult pink salmon returns. However, because Project 02195 is not recommended for continuation in FY 02, the data that would be collected by this project is of lower priority for FY 02. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project was funded for one year in FY 01 in conjunction with Project 01195/Pristane Monitoring. Because Project 01195 is recommended for closeout in FY 02, the data that would be collected by this project is of lower priority. The project should be closed out as planned in FY 01. If this project should be funded in the future, the funding would be contingent on submittal of a report that includes the reduced data (i.e., fish biomass) from the FY 01 effort (Project 01452). The project, which is performing spring hydroacoustic surveys in Prince William Sound, is designed to provide data on annual and seasonal variation of predators and food availability for juvenile pink salmon.				

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02457-BAA	Monitoring the Fall-Winter Herring Biomass to Track the Recovery of the Prince William Sound Herring Stock	R. Thorne/PWSSC	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$86.0	\$0.0	\$85.6	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The herring population in Prince William Sound has declined about fifty-fold since the oil spill and is in a virtual state of collapse. Recent infrared scanning surveys have revealed intense predator activity on overwintering aggregations of herring, which includes several predators that are either threatened or oil-damaged species. The spill is implicated as a factor in this decline. A limited monitoring program has been maintained by the Oil Spill Recovery Institute and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Because of the critical state of this resource and its importance to the health of the sound, this project will expand the survey effort by including fall surveys of adults and juveniles as a measure of mortality and an early indicator of future recovery.		This project would track the fall biomass of Pacific herring in Prince William Sound, which is feasible. The project objective is to document overwintering mortality in adults, which may be significant. However, to manage the fishery the most important information is adult biomass just prior to spawning in the late winter to early spring. In addition, herring research priorities have been established in a series of workshops over the last several years. The objectives of this project were not a priority in the workshop recommendations. Do not fund.		Do not fund. A workshop sponsored by the Trustee Council in November 2000 resulted in several recommendations for future herring research, and this proposal was not among them. In addition, this proposal is for a fall survey (October/November) in order to document overwintering mortality in adult herring, and the reviewers have indicated that the most important information from a management standpoint is adult biomass just prior to spawning in the late winter/early spring. The November 2000 workshop recommendations included ASA hindcasting to estimate the herring spawning biomass in Prince William Sound in recent years, use of otoliths and lipids to identify subpopulations of herring within the sound, and aerial surveys. A proposal (Project 02538) was received for otolith/lipids work, and is recommended for funding.				

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02629-BAA	Development of a Paradigm for Ecosystem Monitoring	R. Thorne/PWSSC	NOAA		\$95.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
1 yr. project

Project Abstract

This project will evaluate the GEM draft plan and draft recommendations to GEM that would improve research efficiency and focus. The National Research Council recommended a list of modifications to GEM. However, we believe that they missed some potentially serious issues regarding the limitations to existing science methods identified by GLOBEC planners in the early 1990's, such as the limitations of measurement, correlation-based analyses, uncoupled prediction-observation, the individual-organism approach, and more. Our experience with programs of the Prince William Sound Science Center, Oil Spill Recovery Institute, and Sound Ecosystem Assessment addressed these issues with some success.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

Further dialogue and cooperation between Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) and GEM personnel is to be encouraged, but under a mechanism different than that proposed here. Opportunities for participation in development of GEM during FY 02 may be provided through a series of workshops in which participants could be funded, if necessary, to participate. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project would provide funding for Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) personnel to formally evaluate the GEM plan, with joint funding from the Trustee Council and the Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI). PWSSC's experiences and insights are welcome contributions to the Council's GEM process, and several opportunities for contributing such input have been provided over the last two years. Further dialogue and cooperation is expected to continue in FY 02 (see Project 02630). Formal evaluation of GEM is underway by the National Research Council (see Project 02360).

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 15, 2001

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

RE: Project 02333 / Sea Otter Monitoring
Project 02372 / Steller Sea Lion Monitoring
Project 02503 / Orca Inlet Restoration
Project 02507 / Nuchek Subsistence Camp
Project 02669 / Hooligan Research

Dear Mr. Henrichs:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund the five projects listed above. With the exception of Project 02669/Hooligan Research, these projects are similar to projects submitted in prior years that for various reasons were deemed to be inappropriate for Council funding. These reasons are laid out in the enclosures, which contain my preliminary recommendations on the projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendations on the projects' technical merits.

The Chief Scientist's recommendation on Project 02333/Sea Otter Monitoring refers to some interesting results from last summer's DOI surveys of sea otters in Orca Inlet. If you want more information on the survey results, you should contact Jim Bodkin, who is with the Biological Resources Division of USGS-DOI here in Anchorage. His phone number is (907) 786-3550. As I mentioned last year, monitoring of sea otters may be considered as part of GEM, but it is still too early in GEM's development to make that decision.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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
E-mail

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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a smaller "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Catherine Berg, DOI Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02333	Sea Otter Monitoring	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI		\$100.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
5 yr. project

Project Abstract

The sea otters in Orca Inlet have been dying and washing up on the beaches the past few years. The problem is getting worse. We know the cause. We need to do some monitoring 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. Funding (\$100,000 each year) has also been requested for FY 04, FY 05, and FY 06.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has conducted aerial surveys in Orca Inlet using non-EVOS funds each year since 1993. The data are characterized by high variance in some years, with the 2000 density estimates as high or possibly higher than anywhere in the North Pacific (roughly 16 sea otters per square kilometer in Orca Inlet vs. an average for all of Prince William Sound of 1 per square kilometer). Furthermore, any observed sea otter mortality in Orca Inlet is likely not related to the oil spill. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. 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. In addition, results of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aerial surveys of Orca Inlet indicate 2000 density estimates as high or possibly higher than anywhere in the North Pacific.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02372	Steller Sea Lion Monitoring	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$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. If this trend continues, subsistence fishing for salmon, herring and other marine life will be curtailed and some traditional areas may be closed. We need to monitor the interaction between the Steller sea lion and the fishing fleets. This proposal would fund this interaction. [Note: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared. Funding (\$250,000 each year) has also been requested for FY 04, FY 05, and FY 06.]		The concept presented requires more detail before it can be effectively evaluated. The issue raised is important to all fishers--subsistence, recreational, and commercial. The recent court decision on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's treatment of fishing interactions with Steller sea lions should result in sufficient scientific study and analysis of how fishing affects Steller sea lions to cover the needs identified by this proposal. Do not fund.		Do not fund based on Chief Scientist's recommendation. The recent court decision on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's treatment of fishing interactions with Steller sea lions, as well as the additional funds provided by Congress for Steller sea lion studies, should result in sufficient scientific study and analysis of how fishing affects Steller sea lions to address the concerns raised by the proposal.				

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02503	Orca Inlet Restoration	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI		\$100.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
5 yr. project

Project Abstract

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. The 1964 earthquake raising the area resulted in a die-off of clams and crab. The expanding of the sea otters accelerated this. The shallowing of the inlet combined with the increase of fish waste dumped has resulted in a dead bay. We need to come up with 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. Funding (\$150,000 each year) has also been requested for FY 04, FY 05, and FY 06.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

No methods for restoration of Orca Inlet are proposed. The project's concept has not been linked to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives. In addition, it could entail considerable costs over a long period of time. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. The project's concept has not been linked to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives. In addition, it could entail considerable costs over a long period of time. Long-term monitoring of sea otters may be considered as part of GEM.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02507	Nuchek Subsistence Camp	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> As a result of the oil spill the availability of subsistence foods have 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.]			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> The proposers have requested technical assistance in preparing a proposal for a subsistence camp at Nuchek. Insufficient detail is presented here to evaluate the proposal. Presumably such a camp would help subsistence users understand and adapt to changes in their subsistence resources. This concept may have had some merit in the years immediately following the oil spill, but 12 years after the oil spill the justification is not compelling. Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> 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.		

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02669	Hooligan Research	B. Henrichs/Native Village of Eyak	DOI	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has been selling permits to commercially harvest hooligan for the past two years. We are concerned because they cannot tell us what the biomass is. Hooligan are a traditional subsistence food and a forage food for birds, fishes, and marine mammals, including Steller sea lions. There have been no commercial herring openers in years, because they have been over-fished. It doesn't make sense to start a commercial fishery on hooligan when the commercial fishery on herring resulted in a depletion of those stocks. This project proposes independent research on hooligan to see if it can sustain a commercial harvest and still maintain the stocks for traditional subsistence harvest. [Note: This proposal was submitted as an idea; if recommended for funding, a Detailed Project Description and budget will need to be prepared.]			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> Proposal correctly identifies an important problem in management of subsistence fish resources that is a part of normal agency management. The proposal does not present any specifics that can be evaluated. Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. This proposal expresses the concern that the commercial harvest of hooligan may threaten the availability of these fish for subsistence users and as forage for other species, and requests that research be conducted to determine if hooligan can sustain a commercial harvest. While this may be a legitimate concern, allocation of fisheries resources among various user groups is the function of the Alaska Board of Fish and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and is beyond the purview of the Trustee Council.		

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 15, 2001

Carol Kvasnikoff
Nanwalek Salmon Enhancement Project Coordinator
PO Box 8078
Nanwalek, AK 99603-8853

RE: Project 02677 / English Bay River Sockeye Salmon Enumeration Project

Dear Ms. Kvasnikoff:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02677/English Bay River Sockeye Salmon Enumeration 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the Chief Scientist has raised questions regarding the project's feasibility.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small "for" written below the main signature.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02677	English Bay River Sockeye Salmon Enumeration Project	C. Kvasnikoff/Nanwalek IRA Council	ADFG	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$182.0	\$0.0	\$109.9	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will allow for improvements to and continuation of smolt and adult sockeye enumeration in the English Bay River drainage. Available funds have become scarce and the Nanwalek Salmon Enhancement Project has been forced to narrow its focus to absolutely essential components of the project that result in adult returns. The enumeration of out-migrating smolts and returning adult sockeye escapement is very important to village project personnel and Alaska Department of Fish and Game area management staff but without additional funding, these important tasks will not be able to continue. This project will help to improve the weir equipment and monitoring technology to enable more consistent and accurate data collection.		This is a well-presented proposal, but the technology it describes, although theoretically possible, is difficult and expensive to implement. A link to restoration objectives is not clearly established and normal agency management is a question here. The project appears premature in the context of GEM community-based monitoring development. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would continue the sockeye salmon project begun by the Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC) in 1990, which involves incubating eggs from English Bay Second Lake at the Port Graham hatchery and net-pen rearing the fry back at Second Lake. The project also includes monitoring smolt outmigration, adult escapement, and key parameters (age, weight, etc.). The Chief Scientist has raised questions regarding the project's feasibility. In addition, taking over the continuing components of this project from CRRC at this late date in the restoration process is not a priority for the Trustee Council.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 15, 2001

Andy McLaughlin
Chenega Bay IRA Council
PO Box 8079
Chenega Bay, AK 99574

RE: Project 02416 / O'Brian Creek Enhancement

Dear Mr. McLaughlin:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02416/O'Brian Creek 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Project 02416 is similar to proposals considered by the Trustee Council in previous years but not funded, and this year's recommendation is much the same. Given the availability of salmon from other sources, there appears to be little need for the increased production proposed. In addition, the Chief Scientist has raised questions about the project's feasibility.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Federal Trustees

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

State Trustees

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02416	O'Brian Creek Enhancement	Chenega Bay IRA Council	USFS		\$64.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
1 yr. project

Project Abstract

Several stream habitat constraints exist within O'Brian Creek which is located near the village of Chenega Bay. Improvements to the stream would benefit the numerous fish species that use the habitat as well as the entire local ecosystem. The main goal of the project is to increase the depth of water by creation of a series of dam and fish ladder structures. Species that populate the stream include pink salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon, sockeye salmon, Dolly Varden, and cutthroat trout. A self-sustaining subsistence use fishery would be priceless for the community, as well as adding potential for promoting tourism and recreation.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This project is for restoration of anadromous fish production in O'Brian Creek. The Trustee Council has considered this project in the past. The proposal has worthy objectives but questions about feasibility of proposed methods cast doubt on whether lasting benefits could be obtained. Costs have been substantially underestimated and funds for essential items, such as spawning gravels, have not been provided for in the budget. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This proposal, which would construct instream enhancements in O'Brian Creek (dams, fish ladders, brood pond) as well as observation decks and walkways, was considered by the Trustee Council in previous years (FY 99 and FY 00). The project is designed to reestablish a coho run in O'Brian Creek near the village of Chenega Bay as a replacement for other subsistence resources lost or reduced due to the oil spill. Given the availability of salmon from other sources, there appears to be little need for this increased production. In addition, the Chief Scientist has raised questions about the project's feasibility.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 15, 2001

Reggie Ward
Kodiak Area Native Association
3449 E. Rezanof Dr.
Kodiak, AK 99615

RE: Project 02633 / Acquisition of Chemical, Physical, and Biological
Information on Kodiak Regional Water Quality

Dear Mr. Ward:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02633/Acquisition of Chemical, Physical, and Biological Information on Kodiak Regional Water Quality. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. While GEM (the Council's long-term monitoring and research program) is likely to include a nearshore monitoring component, the reviewers felt that your project was premature at this stage of GEM development. A workshop to help develop a nearshore/intertidal component for GEM will be held early in FY 02, and I hope that you will be able to participate. A time and agenda for the workshop will be provided at a later date.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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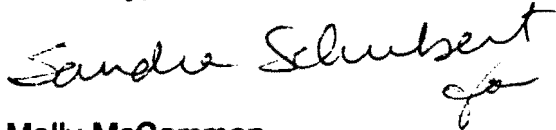
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Alaska Department of Law

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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 cursive script, appearing to read "Molly McCammon".

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Marianne See, ADEC Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02633	Acquisition of Chemical, Physical, and Biological Information on Kodiak Regional Water Quality	R. Ward/Kodiak Area Native Association	ADEC	1st yr.	\$446.6	\$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) develop nearshore monitoring stations to gather information on species composition and rates of settlement of shellfish, barnacles, algae, and other important marine organisms, (b) develop monitoring stations for remote telemetry of temperature, salinity, currents, zooplankton densities, and other data relevant to fisheries and oceanographic investigations, and (c) develop methods for utilization of satellite imagery technology through coordination with NASA.		This proposal identifies important opportunities for community-based sampling of biological and physical variables. Participation of Kodiak in community based sampling is desirable within GEM. Costs identified are very high for a GEM program. Greater coordination, cooperation, and integration of proposed activities with those of other parts of the community on Kodiak, such as the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the National Marine Fisheries Services, and the Fisheries Industrial Technical Center, need to be developed in the scientific plan. The proposal is premature with respect to GEM planning. Proposers are encouraged to participate in GEM planning workshops during FY 2002. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal, which would initiate a community-based monitoring effort in the nearshore environment of the Kodiak region, is premature with respect to GEM planning. It is expected that community monitoring will be an aspect of GEM, and the proposers are encouraged to participate in GEM planning workshops during FY 02.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

William J. Wilson
LGL AK Research Assoc. Inc.
4175 Tudor Centre Dr, Ste 101
Anchorage, AK 99508-5917

RE: Project 02678-BAA / Identifying Community-Based Ways to Use
Commercial Fisheries Bycatch for Scientific Gain

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02678/Identifying Community-Based Ways to Use Commercial Fisheries Bycatch for Scientific Gain. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Federal Trustees

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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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02678-BAA	Identifying Community-Based Ways to Use Commercial Fisheries Bycatch for Scientific Gain	W. Wilson/LGL Alaska Research Associates	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$128.1	\$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 investigate the feasibility of using commercial fisheries bycatch to increase scientific knowledge of rare and infrequently-studied ichthyofauna in the Gulf of Alaska. Initial efforts will include a comprehensive overview of commercial fisheries, vessel types, seasons, and locations most likely to yield regional bycatch samples useable for scientific purposes. Pilot research will be conducted with selected members of the fishing community to develop a statistically-valid experimental design at appropriate spatial scales. Sampling protocols will then be conducted to field-test the design. Additional methods and procedures will be described for the identification, preservation, and vouchering of specimens. Methods for data analysis and reporting of geospatial data will also be described. A final report will evaluate the sampling protocol and specify a future full-scale study design.		This project would explore the feasibility of using commercial fishing bycatch as a means of sampling Gulf of Alaska fishes to gather information about species composition, distributions, and age structure. A program such as this could be a useful component of GEM, although issues related to gear-type variation and accurate reporting of bycatch remain to be addressed if quantitative results are to be achieved. Also, GEM has not posed the questions that this project would address. The fact that this project would rely on the participation of community fishers is a strong plus. The scientific team is highly qualified to perform this work, which may be appropriate for future funding. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The Chief Scientist has raised concerns about how quantitative results would be obtained and the project's relationship to GEM. The project, which would conduct opportunistic sampling of fish species captured as bycatch in groundfish fisheries, has a strong community involvement component (i.e., reliance on commercial fishers).				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

W. Scott Pegau, PhD
Oregon State University,
Oceanic & Atmospheric Sciences
104 Ocean Admin Bldg
Corvallis, OR 97331

RE: Project 02597-BAA / Ocean Color Time Series of Prince William Sound

Dear Dr. Pegau:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02597/Ocean Color Time Series of 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that Project 02597 was premature at this stage of GEM development. In addition, some technical issues were raised.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief

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Alaska Department of Law

Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02597-BAA	Ocean Color Time Series of Prince William Sound	S. Pegau/ OSU	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$28.5	\$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 develop a time series of chlorophyll concentrations and other ocean color products for general use. The time series will include full resolution images of the coastal waters of Alaska and Prince William Sound in particular. SeaWiFS data collected at University of Alaska-Fairbanks will be processed with the current state of the art algorithms. The data will be mapped into regional areas at 1 km resolution. The possibility of adding CZCS and OCTS data to increase the temporal extent of the time series will be examined. This data set will allow investigators to examine how the base of the food chain (phytoplankton) has varied monthly, seasonally, and annually during the life of these missions.		This is a good proposal in both methods and objectives, but it does not carry the burden of proof regarding what kinds of research would be enabled by having the SeaWiFS data on a finer spatial resolution (1 km vs. the 10 km currently available). The proposal is poorly coordinated with regional scientists and programs, and premature in terms of GEM implementation. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would create and maintain a time-series database of 1-km resolution SeaWiFS ocean color products for the Gulf of Alaska. The Chief Scientist has questioned whether this degree of resolution is necessary. In addition, the project is premature in terms of GEM implementation.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

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

RE: Project 02589-BAA / PWSRCAC-EVOS 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 02589/PWSRCAC-EVOS 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that Project 02589 was premature at this stage of GEM development. In addition, several technical issues were raised.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 give me a call.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02589-BAA	PWSRCAC - EVOS Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program	J. Devens/ PWSRCAC	NOAA	1st yr.	\$233.3	\$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 essential long-term baseline measurements of hydrocarbon levels and sources at program sites within areas of Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak, and Gulf of Alaska. The 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.		The partnership proposed in this project may make sense as we move into GEM. However, the 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, and the ultimate questions to be addressed by the monitoring. Do not fund.		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, this proposal is premature until GEM is further developed.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Nora R. Foster
NRF Taxonomic Services
2998 Gold Hill Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Howard Feder, PhD
UAF/IMS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-1080

RE: Project 02578 / Marine Macrofauna of Prince William Sound: An
Annotated List

Dear Ms. Foster and Dr. Feder:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02578/Marine Macrofauna of Prince William Sound: An Annotated List until December, pending further consideration of the amount of funding available for the FY 02 work plan. 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. Please note that if your project is funded, funding would be contingent on resolution of budget issues.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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Alaska Department of Law

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02578	The Marine Macrofauna of Prince William Sound: An Annotated List	N. Foster, H. Feder	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$38.3	\$35.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Data sets that present basic taxonomic and biogeographic information at the species level for 1,645 animal species from Prince William Sound have been compiled as part of research on potential introductions of nonindigenous species. This project will make this important information available to a wider group of users, including EVOS stakeholders.		I would recommend careful consideration of this proposal. Its priority ranking may be high enough to justify its support for FY 02. It is worthy but not an essential piece of work. Fund lower priority.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending availability of funds. If funded, funding will be contingent on resolution of budget issues. This project would produce a publication on the marine macrofauna of Prince William Sound, using data compiled through other research on non-indigenous species in the sound.				

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 *Sandra*
Program Coordinator

RE: FY 02 Broad Agency Announcement #52ABNF100031
Preliminary Recommendations

DATE: June 14, 2001

The Executive Director recommends funding 9 of the 26 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 02 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 02 Work Plan* on August 6, 2001.

Enclosures

cc (w/o enclosures): Stacy Masters, NOAA
Bob Spies, Chief Scientist

Reading file

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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



June 14, 2001

Sue Mauger
PO Box 3209
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 02667 / Effectiveness of Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program

Dear Ms. Mauger:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02667/Effectiveness of Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that clarifies the statistical approach for this study. 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.

Please submit a revised Detailed Project Description to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. You should submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have 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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02667	Effectiveness of Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program	S. Mauger/Cook Inlet Keeper	ADEC	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$16.7	\$16.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will analyze five years of past data from Cook Inlet Keeper's Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program, the first consistent, credible, and coordinated community-based water quality monitoring program in Alaska. Keeper's stream ecologist will determine if sampling frequency, methods, parameters, and site selection are effective at meeting the monitoring objectives of detecting significant changes in water quality over time. The results will assist Cook Inlet Partners (Kenai Watershed Forum, Anchorage Waterways Council, Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District) in refining their community monitoring efforts and may lead to future community-based monitoring programs.		This project will analyze the power of Cook Inlet Keeper's Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program to detect change in water quality parameters. The Keeper program is an effective model for community-based sampling and this proposal is a good preparation for community based monitoring within GEM. Fund contingent on receipt of revised proposal clarifying the statistical approach.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that clarifies the statistical approach for this study. This project will analyze five years of data from Cook Inlet Keeper's Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program to determine if the monitoring protocols and sampling design are effective at detecting significant change in water quality over time. This project is good preparation for community based monitoring under GEM.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Ken Holbrook
US Forest Service
3301 C Street Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 02256B / Sockeye Salmon Stocking at Solf Lake

Dear Mr. Holbrook:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02256B/Sockeye Salmon Stocking at Solf Lake contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reflect monitoring and report writing only in FY 02 (and no Council funding in FY 03). 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.

Thank you for promptly submitting a revised DPD and budget. Your revisions are currently under review.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief

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Alaska Department of Law

1
Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 6, 2001.

Thank you for your continued contribution to the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02256B	Sockeye Salmon Stocking at Solf Lake	D. Gillikin/USFS	USFS		\$20.0	\$15.5	\$4.5	\$0.0
				7th yr. 7 yr. project				
<u>Project Abstract</u>			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>			
This project will benefit subsistence users of western Prince William Sound. There are two phases to the project. Phase 1, which began in FY 96, verified the ability of Solf Lake to support a sustainable population of sockeye salmon. Phase 2 included stocking the lake with approximately 100,000 sockeye salmon fry, then ensuring access to the lake for returning adult salmon. The stocking program began in 1998 along with modification to the two outlets to control water levels. The reconstruction of the fishway in the eastern channel was completed in the summer of 2000. Returning adult salmon to Solf Lake will be monitored starting in 2001 to evaluate the improvements.			This project is an integral part of a cluster of projects aimed at restoration of oil-damaged, subsistence resources in Prince William Sound. Initial limnological studies and revitalization of the fishway to the lake have been completed, but changes in brood stock (from Eyak and Coghill lakes) and unavailability of brood stock in FY 02 have raised questions about the ability of the project to meet its objectives. In FY 01, the Trustee Council requested preparation of the final report in FY 02, and this still seems appropriate. The proposed FY 03 activities are not recommended for funding. Fund as a closeout project.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reflect monitoring and final report writing only in FY 02 (and no Trustee Council funding in FY 03). The funds requested in FY 02 to pay for stocking in FY 03, when Coghill stock may again be available, are not recommended for approval. This project is intended to provide sockeye salmon as a replacement for resources lost or reduced due to the oil spill. Recreational, commercial, and subsistence fishers should all benefit from the project.			

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Dan Rosenberg
ADF&G, Div of Conservation
333 Raspberry Rd
Anchorage, AK 99518-1565

RE: Project 02407 / Harlequin Duck Population Dynamics

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02407/Harlequin Duck Population Dynamics contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reduce the project's scope to production of a final report, including assessment and reevaluation of a survey design for long-term monitoring. Funding will also be contingent on submittal of the project 00273 and 00407 reports, which are now due September 2001. 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 overall budget for Project 02407 is \$30,000, including agency general administration. 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, along with a revised Detailed Project Description, to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. (Please submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD and budget.)

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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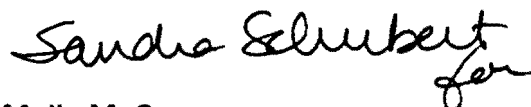
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Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on the Work Plan is scheduled for August 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert". There is a small, stylized mark below the name that appears to be "for".

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02407	Harlequin Duck Population Dynamics	D. Rosenberg/ADFG	ADFG	3rd yr. 4 yr. project	\$68.7	\$30.0	\$43.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> Harlequin duck populations have not recovered from the effects of the oil spill. Populations are declining in oiled areas of Prince William Sound while increasing in unoiled areas. This project will conduct late-winter boat surveys to assess the recovery of ducks inhabiting oiled areas. Population structure, abundance, and recruitment will be compared between oiled and unoiled areas in Prince William Sound to assess trends, population dynamics, and the progress of recovery. The surveys will also help identify changes to the Gulf of Alaska ecosystem and improve the ability to differentiate between natural and man-caused population changes. FY 02 will be the final year of field work for the project.			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> The data generated by this project are valuable and fit well with information gathered by Project /423 (Population Change in Selected Nearshore Vertebrate Predators). Together these projects should increase understanding of harlequin duck populations in Prince William Sound in relation to the oil spill. However, in FY 02, data gathering should be discontinued and an assessment and reevaluation of survey design for long-term monitoring should be undertaken. Fund closeout.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Fund contingent on (a) submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that reduce the project's scope to production of a final report, including assessment and reevaluation of a survey design for long-term monitoring (roughly \$30,000) and (b) submittal of 00273 and 00407 reports, due September 2001. While this project provides useful data on harlequin ducks and their populations in Prince William Sound in relation to the oil spill, development of a long-term survey design is a more important step at this point than collection of additional data.		

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

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

Dan Esler
Ctr for Wildlife Ecology
Simon Fraser Univ
5421 Robertson Road, RR1
Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2
CANADA

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

RE: Project 02423 / Patterns and Processes of Change in Selected Nearshore
Vertebrate Predators

Dear Mr. Bodkin, Mr. Esler and Dr. Dean:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02423/Patterns and Processes of Change in Selected Nearshore Vertebrate Predators contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that (a) delete the new objective related to the growth rate of clams and (b) close out the sea otter component in FY 02. 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. Please note that a decision on continuing the harlequin duck component in FY 03 will be made following a review of the recovery status of harlequins, which is scheduled for 2002.

The Restoration Office estimate of the overall budget for Project 02423 is \$329,500, including agency general administration. 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, along with a revised Detailed Project

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Description, to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. (Please submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD and budget.)

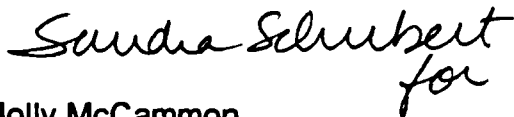
My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sandra Schubert in cursive script, with the word "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02423	Patterns and Processes of Population Change in Selected Nearshore Vertebrate Predators	J. Bodkin, D. Esler/USGS-BRD, T. Dean/CRA, Inc.	DOI	4th yr. 5 yr. project	\$361.6	\$329.5	\$250.0	
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Sea otters and harlequin ducks have not fully recovered from the oil spill. This project will explore links between oil exposure and the lack of population recovery, with the intent of understanding constraints to recovery of these species and the nearshore environment. In FY 02, sea otter work will include aerial surveys of distribution and abundance, estimates of age-specific survival rates, and examination of spatial and temporal patterns of change in abundance in relation to prey production. Harlequin duck field studies will examine the relationship between survival and CYP1A. Captive experiments on harlequin ducks will examine the relationships between oil exposure and CYP1A induction, and metabolic and behavioral consequences of exposure.		This is the fourth year of a complex project with field monitoring and laboratory dosing experiments at the Alaska SeaLife Center. The goals of this project are basically sound and the information that will be obtained valuable to the needs of the Trustee Council and to those trying to understand sea otters, ducks, and the nearshore ecosystem. The new objective to examine interannual variability in growth rates of clams is not compelling and should not be funded. Since the Council makes no commitment to fund beyond FY 02, as the restoration program transitions to GEM, the investigators need to submit a revised proposal for FY 02 that closes out the sea otter components of the project in FY 02 (conclusion of field work, data analysis, and preparation of final report and publications). There may be some justification for another year of harlequin duck field work in FY 03; that determination will be made following a review of harlequin duck recovery status next year--FY 03 would be another year of field work on harlequins or the closeout year, depending on the results of that review. Defer pending receipt and evaluation of a revised proposal.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that address the Chief Scientist's concerns (delete new objective related to growth rate of clams and close out sea otter component in FY 02). The harlequin duck component will be continued or closed out in FY 03; this determination will be made following a review of harlequin recovery status next year. This project is an important extension of the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator project (Project /025) work on two still-injured species, sea otters and harlequin ducks. [Note: Alaska SeaLife Center bench fees will need to be added to this project--were \$143,300 in FY 01.]				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Stanley Rice, PhD
NOAA NMFS Auke Bay Lab
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

Jeffrey W. Short
NMFS/Auke Bay Laboratory
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801-8626

Adam Moles, PhD
NMFS Auke Bay Lab
11305 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801-8626

RE: Project 02680 / Remote Delivery of Persistent Organic Contaminants in
Alaska Fishes

Dear Dr. Rice, Mr. Short and Dr. Moles:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02680/Remote Delivery of Persistent Organic Contaminants in Alaska Fishes until December, pending determination of availability of funds from other sources. 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.

Please note that, if funded, funding would be contingent on submittal of overdue reports (projects 00195 and 00598).

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your interest in the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program. If you have any questions about this preliminary recommendation or the project review process, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02680	Remote Delivery of Persistent Organic Contaminants in Alaska Fishes	S. Rice, J. Short, A. Moles/NOAA	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$75.6	\$75.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will determine the distribution of persistent organic contaminants in the flesh and ovaries of different year classes of chinook salmon from four major geographic areas of Alaska. A suite of contaminants, including pesticides, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and chlorinated and unchlorinated hydrocarbons, with known implications for aquatic and human health, will be measured in two age classes of salmon. These will be salmon returning after only a year in saltwater and salmon returning after 3-5 years. This will give some measure of the extent of atmospheric distribution of industrial and agriculture pollutants over a range of rivers in Alaska.		This is a good effort by qualified investigators to characterize concentrations of POPs (persistent organic pollutants) in an important seafood product over a wide geographic area. Two of the sampling areas are outside of the spill area. There will be an interest by GEM in collecting data regarding the abundance and distribution of POPs in the Gulf of Alaska, but these measurements will likely be made in partnership with other funding agencies with a broader geographic mandate for contaminant assessment and the protection of public health. Defer pending determination of availability of matching funds.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending determination of availability of funds from other sources. If funded, funding will be contingent on submittal of overdue reports (00195, 00598). This project would sample the flesh and ovaries of salmon returning to the Kenai and Copper rivers, as well as two sites outside of the spill area--the Yukon and Unuk rivers. The flesh is important to consumers; the ovaries are important to the survival and success of progeny of the stock. It is anticipated that GEM will have a contributing role in the ongoing monitoring and study of contaminants.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Joel Cooper
Cook Inlet Keeper
PO Box 3269
Homer, AK 99603-3585

RE: Project 02668 / Developing an Interactive Water Quality and Habitat Database and Making it Accessible on the Web

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02668/Developing an Interactive Water Quality and Habitat Database and Making it Accessible on the Web until December, pending resolution of the Chief Scientist's concerns about the relationship between this proposed water quality database and CIMMS, in which the Council made a major financial investment. 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.


My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Marianne See, the ADEC liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Schubert for". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Marianne See, ADEC Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02668	Developing an Interactive Water Quality and Habitat Database and Making it Accessible on the Web	J. Cooper/Cook Inlet Keeper	ADEC	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$16.1	\$16.1	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The project partners have come together to form a database committee to create a consistent data management system where all citizens groups and agencies can equally share, report, and review their water quality and habitat data. The committee's objective is to make data more accessible and more useful to decision makers, stakeholders, resource managers, and the public. The committee will uplink a shared interactive database on the Internet where it can be viewed and queried with GIS watershed maps, photos, and graphs so that it is user-friendly, educational and meaningful. Access to this data will help facilitate a better understanding about threats to, and solutions for, water quality and habitat.		The Trustee Council has spent \$1 million over the last three years to create the Cook Inlet Information Management and Monitoring System (CIIMMS), in part to address the needs identified in this project. The proposal does not make a convincing case for why CIIMMS, or the other systems listed, cannot serve as the necessary vehicle for meeting the data exchange goals identified. Defer pending clarification of this issue.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending resolution of the Chief Scientist's concerns about the relationship between this proposed water quality database and CIIMMS (Cook Inlet Information Management and Monitoring System, Project /391), in which the Trustee Council has made a major financial investment. This project has good cost sharing with other interested entities.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Mary Anne Bishop, PhD
PWSSC
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574-0705

RE: Project 02659-BAA / Preparation and Publication of Results from SEA and
NVP Avian Predation Studies

Dear Dr. Bishop:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02659/Preparation and Publication of Results from SEA and NVP Avian Predation Studies until December, pending approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that clarifies what previously unpublished material would be the subject of the three manuscripts proposed. 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.

Please note that, if funded, funding for this project would be contingent on (a) resolution of budget questions and (b) your providing to ARLIS (Alaska Resources Library and Information Services) the required copies of your Project 99381 final report.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief

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Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on all but deferred projects is scheduled for August 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02659-BAA	Preparation and Publication of Results from SEA and NVP Avian Predation Studies	M. Bishop/PWSSC	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$29.7	\$29.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will prepare (a) two manuscripts based on the work from the Avian Predation on Herring Spawn study (Project /320) and (b) one manuscript based on the work from the Avian Predation on Blue Mussels study (Project /025). The three manuscripts will be submitted to peer reviewed journals for publication. One publication on avian consumption of herring spawn is currently in press in <i>Fisheries Oceanography</i> .		This proposal would fund an additional three manuscripts based on work in the SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320) and NVP (Nearshore Vertebrate Predators, Project /025) projects. The principal investigator has a good publication record and would likely produce the manuscripts. However, it is not clear from the proposal what previously unpublished material on herring roe predation would appear in the first two proposed manuscripts. It is also not clear what aspect of blue mussel predation would be the subject of the third manuscript. Defer pending submission of a revised proposal with more justification and detail.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that clarifies what previously unpublished material would be the subject of the three manuscripts proposed. If funded, funding would be contingent on provision to ARLIS of the required copies of this proposer's Project 99381 final report.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Stanley Rice, PhD
NOAA NMFS Auke Bay Lab
11305 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

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

Stephen Jewett, PhD
UAF/IMS
PO Box 757140
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7140

RE: Project 02486-BAA / Links Between Persistent Oil in Mussel Beds and Predators

Dear Dr. Rice, Dr. Dean and Dr. Jewett:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02486/Links Between Persistent Oil in Mussel Beds and Predators. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the reviewers raised a number of technical concerns about Project 02486. Please note, however, that we have earmarked up to \$150,000 under Project 02543/Evaluation of Oil Remaining in the Intertidal for possible follow-up work on residual oil in FY 02. A decision on this funding would be made by the Council in December, following a review of the preliminary results from this summer's survey.

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My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small "for" written below the main signature.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02486-BAA	Links Between Persistent Oil in Mussel Beds and Predators	S. Rice/NOAA, T. Dean/Coastal Resources Associates, S. Jewett/UAF	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$170.8	\$0.0	\$130.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
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. The possibility that oiled beds are long-term sources of vertebrate contamination was unanticipated, and 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 <i>Exxon Valdez</i> oil in mussel beds, infauna, and in nearshore vertebrate predators.		This project would further investigate the implications of remaining oil in the Prince William Sound intertidal zone, much of which can still be found at relatively high concentrations in mussel beds. The proposal does not present a compelling argument for how the results from small areas can be interpreted on the scale of the entire sound. For example, how much feeding do harlequin ducks, sea otters, and Barrow's goldeneyes do in oiled mussel beds as opposed to outside them? Can we compare the amounts of oil remaining in mussel beds with those in other intertidal and subtidal areas? These questions are hard to answer, but without answering them the results of this project cannot be effectively tied to evidence of continued oil exposure. Given the cost of this proposal, the uncertainties in interpretation, and the need to commit funds into FY 03, this is a lower priority. Do not fund.		Do not fund. 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. However, the Chief Scientist has raised a number of technical concerns about the project, and for that reason it is a lower priority.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

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

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

RE: Project 02536 / Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the
Heritage Data Management System

Dear Ms. Gotthardt and Mr. Boggs:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02536/Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the Heritage Data Management System. 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 reviewers determined that this proposal is premature until a GEM data manager is hired (expected later this summer). One of the initial tasks of the data manager will be development of options for information management and transfer under GEM. This should include consideration of using the Heritage Data Management System and NatureServe as part of the overall GEM information management strategy.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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
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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert for".

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02536	Synthesis of Spill Damaged Resource Information into the Heritage Data Management System	T. Gotthardt, K. Boggs/UAA	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$118.2	\$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 synthesize conservation information pertaining to species and ecosystems damaged by the oil spill into the Heritage Data Management System (HDMS). HDMS is part of an effort by The Nature Conservancy and 86 Natural Heritage Programs throughout the Western Hemisphere to document information on terrestrial and nearshore endangered species and ecosystems. It is the largest biodiversity conservation effort of its kind. The incorporation of spill affected resources information into HDMS would ensure linkage of EVOS information to broader based conservation efforts. The project will also evaluate the effectiveness of using HDMS as an integral tool within GEM to track the recovery status of injured resources.		Among other objectives, this project would make widely available some of the scientific data from the Trustee Council's restoration efforts. This would be a great public service. However, the project is premature until a GEM data manager is hired and options for information management and transfer under GEM have been developed. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project is premature until a GEM data manager is hired (expected Summer 2001). One of the initial tasks of the data manager will be development of options for information management and transfer under GEM. This should include consideration of using the Heritage Data Management System and NatureServe as part of the overall GEM information management strategy.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Susan Saupe
Cook Inlet RCAC
910 Highland Ave
Kenai, AK 99611

RE: Project 02618-BAA / Measurement of Tide Rip Front Variability in Cook Inlet

Dear Ms. Saupe:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02618/Measurement of Tide Rip Front Variability in Cook Inlet. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the Chief Scientist raised questions about the project's technical feasibility and potential biasing of the data.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02618-BAA	Measurements of Tide Rip Front Variability in Cook Inlet	S. Saupe/CIRCAC	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$11.7	\$0.0	\$3.7	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will use a vessel-mounted thermosalinograph to acquire long-term measurements of near-surface temperature and salinity to identify variability in the location and intensity of tide rip fronts in Cook Inlet.		The proposal does not make a compelling link to restoration objectives, as spill response is not within the mission of the Trustee Council. While the program is fairly inexpensive, there are questions about the technical feasibility and potential biasing of the data. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would purchase a thermosalinograph to assist Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Inc. (CISPRI) in identifying variability of tide rip fronts in Cook Inlet in order to improve spill prevention and response capabilities. Trustee Council funds cannot be used for preparation for future spills. In addition, the Chief Scientist has raised questions about the project's technical feasibility and potential biasing of the data. However, the proposer should continue to explore with Council staff possible projects and ideas that might be mutually beneficial in terms of CIRCAC's interest in environmental monitoring and GEM.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

John F. Piatt, PhD
Alaska Science Center NBS
1011 E Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 02664 / Retrospective Analysis of 30 Years of Seabird Distribution and Diet Data

Dear Dr. Piatt:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02664/Retrospective Analysis of 30 Years of Seabird Distribution and Diet Data. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In addition, the reviewers felt that your proposal is premature until the synthesis and research components of GEM are more well defined.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Dede Bohn, the USGS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02664	Retrospective Analysis of 30 Years of Seabird Distribution and Diet Data	J. Piatt/USGS	DOI	1st yr. 3 yr. project	\$287.6	\$0.0	\$230.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Seabirds are excellent indicators of change in the marine environment. An enormous amount of data on the abundance, distribution and dietary habits of seabirds in Alaska have been gathered at great expense over the past 30 years, but most of it has not been analyzed beyond the scale at which it was gathered. This project will compile some historical seabird data sets and create accessible data archives as a tool for assessing past and future human impacts on seabirds populations, a foundation for future studies, and to test some basic hypotheses about the effects of regime shifts on diet and distribution of seabirds in Alaska. [Note: This project also requested funding (\$120,000) for FY 04.]		Since OCSEAP (Outer Continental Shelf Environmental Assessment Program) in the 1970s, there has been an enormous amount of data gathered on marine birds and diets. There is a need to integrate these databases and to analyze them to learn about the relationships among seabird numbers and distributions, diets, and oceanographic parameters and features. Such retrospective analysis may prove to be very important in the development of GEM, but is premature until the synthesis and research components of GEM are more well defined. The investigators for this project are superb, but the cost is high, and there are several administrative questions about the budget. Do not fund as proposed.		Do not fund. This proposal, which has broad significance for the Bering and Chukchi seas as well as for the northern Gulf of Alaska, would have been better received if it had significant cost-sharing from other entities. One future possibility is the North Pacific Research Board. In addition, the principal investigator has several overdue reports (00163/APEX chapter, 00479/food-stress, 00510/seabird monitoring protocols). This is a very expensive project, and some aspects of the budget are unclear. This project would create two databases--one on seabird diet and one on pelagic distribution--through compilation of existing data, and perform retrospective analyses of relationships between seabirds and various oceanographic parameters. The <i>FY 02 Invitation</i> invited proposals to analyze and synthesize existing data sets and historical records, but this proposal may be premature until the synthesis and research components of GEM are more well defined. [Note: This project also requested \$120,000 for FY 04.]				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Dovalee Dorsett
Baylor University,
Dept of Info Systems
PO Box 98005
Waco, TX 76708

RE: Project 02648-BAA / Cost Effective Data Acquisition Using Adaptive
Sampling and Combining Information Strategies

Dear Ms. Dorsett:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02648-BAA/Cost Effective Data Acquisition Using Adaptive Sampling and Combining Information Strategies. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. Please note that you are encouraged to resubmit a revised proposal for consideration in FY 03 that is not so specifically focused and that contains more methodological detail.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

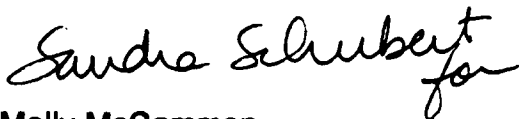
Telephone	278-8012
Toll-free in Alaska	1-800-478-7745
Toll-free outside of Alaska	1-800-283-7745
E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Schubert" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02648-BAA	Cost Effective Data Acquisition Using Adaptive Sampling and Combining Information Strategies	D. Dorsett/Baylor Univ.	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$56.2	\$0.0	\$58.1	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will analyze data acquired in a pilot study of adaptive sampling by FOCI in 1999 to provide information for designing adaptive sampling methods to be used in GEM. Detailed adaptive sampling methods will be documented to enhance cost effective methods of data collection. In a second phase, statistical methods of combining data from different sources will be determined and documented for further efficient data utilization.		The implementation of a statistically sound adaptive sampling protocol for much of the GEM research should be a top priority. An analysis of adaptive sampling that produces overall principles of how this method could be useful in GEM would be extremely valuable. The present proposal is too specifically focused to be useful for GEM, and lacks the methodological detail to be properly evaluated. Do not fund, but consider revised proposal in FY 03.		Do not fund. However, the proposer is encouraged to resubmit a proposal for consideration in FY 03 that addresses the Chief Scientist's concerns (with a focus more appropriate for GEM and additional methodological detail). In general, an analysis of adaptive sampling, in which the procedure for selecting sample sites and allocating sampling effort depends on data collected during the survey, and how this method could be useful in GEM, would be very worthwhile.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

David Irons, PhD
USFWS
1011 E. Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503

Daniel D. Roby, PhD
Oregon Coop Wildlife Research Unit
104 Nash Hall, OSU
Corvallis, OR 97331-3803

RE: Project 02673 / Continuing Decline of Pigeon Guillemots in the Oiled
Portion of Prince William Sound

Dear Dr. Irons and Dr. Roby:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02673/Continuing Decline of Pigeon Guillemots in the Oiled Portion of 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that your proposal is premature until the indicators of long-term ecological change that GEM will monitor have been determined.

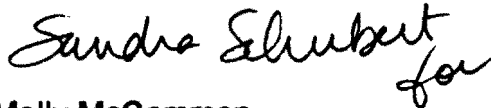
My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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 USFWS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" with the word "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, USFWS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02673	Continuing Decline of Pigeon Guillemots in the Oiled Portion of Prince William Sound	D. Irons/USFWS, D. Roby/OSU	DOI	1st yr. 5 yr. project	\$28.7	\$0.0	\$29.5	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Pigeon guillemots have declined 56% in Prince William Sound since the <i>Exxon Valdez</i> oil spill. This is compounded on a 73% decline from 1972 to 1989. Taken together pigeon guillemots have declined 88% since 1972, and the decline is continuing. This project will investigate factors that are causing the continued decline of guillemots in Prince William Sound. From previous work we suspect one or more of three major factors are causing the decline: reduced prey base, increased predation, or continuing oil effects. The first year the study will focus on food and predation, as analyses for oil effects is more expensive. [Note: This project also requested funding for FY 04 (\$30,500), FY 05 (\$31,500), and FY 06 (\$32,500).]		This proposal from highly qualified investigators would perform long-term monitoring of pigeon guillemot populations in Prince William Sound at a relatively low cost. This may be the type of monitoring that could be included in GEM, especially with the proposed matching funds from the agency. However, it would be premature to begin the project in FY 02 as the indicators of long-term ecological change in the nearshore environments have yet to be determined for GEM. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project, which would fund five years of pigeon guillemot monitoring at Naked Island to determine if poor productivity is causing the continued population decline, may be the type of monitoring that is included under GEM. However, it is premature until the indicators of long-term ecological change that GEM will monitor have been determined.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

G. Carl Schoch, PhD
Kachemak Bay Estuarine
Research Reserve
2181 Kachemak Dr.
Homer, AK 99603

RE: Project 02556 / Mapping Marine Habitats: The First Step in a Spatially
Nested Monitoring Program
Project 02565 / Bottom-Up vs. Top Down: What Forces Control Variability
in Kachemak Bay?

Dear Dr. Schoch:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council* not fund projects 02556/Mapping Marine Habitats: The First Step in a Spatially Nested Monitoring Program and 02565/Bottom-Up vs. Top Down: What Forces Control Variability in Kachemak Bay? I have enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on these projects, along with the Chief Scientist's recommendation on the projects' technical merits.

The Trustee Council received 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that both of these proposals are premature with respect to development of GEM. Following the workshop recommended for funding under Project 02395 (which is to combine some elements of your Project 02569), some pilot or preliminary work on nearshore/intertidal monitoring may be invited later in FY 02 or FY 03.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

*Sandra Schubert
for*

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXEC /E DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02556	Mapping Marine Habitats: The First Step in a Spatially Nested Monitoring Program	C. Schoch/Kachemak Bay NERR	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> Groups, individuals, and programs as diverse as natural resource agencies, local governments, researchers, conservation advocates in Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay, and GEM can benefit from a comprehensive, high resolution database of shoreline and nearshore habitats, and from information on the physical changes seen through time. At present, no such detailed database or monitoring program exists within the Gulf of Alaska. This project will use a method adopted along the US west coast to gather such habitat information in a cost-effective yet detailed manner. The method relies on a nested hierarchical nearshore classification based on the physics of the environment to select replicate shore sites for monitoring algal and invertebrate diversity.			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> The GIS database of physical habitat features for intertidal and subtidal lands in Kachemak Bay could be a valuable baseline, and learning how to measure nearshore habitats in Kachemak Bay could provide a good starting point for intertidal monitoring for GEM. However, this project is premature considering the current status of GEM development. A workshop to develop options for long-term monitoring of the nearshore/intertidal under GEM is recommended for funding (Project 02395), and the proposer should participate in that workshop in order to integrate Kachemak Bay monitoring with broader GEM goals. The workshop may identify pilot or preliminary work to be invited on nearshore/intertidal monitoring later in FY 02 or FY 03, and a small amount of funds have been set aside for this purpose in FY 02 (see Project 02681). Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. This proposal is premature pending development of options for long-term monitoring of the nearshore/intertidal under GEM. A workshop for this purpose is recommended for funding under Project 02395. The workshop may identify pilot or preliminary work to be invited on nearshore/intertidal monitoring later in FY 02 or FY 03, and a small amount of funds have been set aside for this purpose in FY 02 (see Project 02681). The proposer should attend and participate in the workshop as recommended under Project 02395. This project would build a spatially comprehensive database of the geomorphology and physical attributes of subtidal and intertidal habitats in Kachemak Bay and quantify the physical attributes that force spatial variation in diversity of fish, invertebrate, and algal populations.		

EXEC /E DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02565	Bottom-Up vs. Top Down: What Forces Control Variability in Kachemak Bay?	C. Schoch/Kachemak Bay NERR	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$49.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> This project will establish intertidal and subtidal transects on rocky and sediment shores in Kachemak Bay and will study the relationship between bottom-up controls (current patterns, nutrient concentrations, phytoplankton distributions) and the spatial patterns of adult populations and their larvae over time. The primary goal is to understand the interaction of the nearshore oceanographic environment with coastal marine communities in the Gulf of Alaska. The project will partner with existing research and monitoring programs funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Kachemak Bay and will adopt protocols developed by PISCO (Partnership for the Interdisciplinary Study of Coastal Oceans) .			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> This proposal appears to have merit and could be implemented in the future, although the methodology needs to be more fully developed. One of the potential strengths of this project is actual measurement of larval recruitment that might be understood in the broader context of oceanographic forcing. Overriding these conditions, the proposal is premature with respect to development of GEM. Results of activities conducted pursuant to Project 02395/Planning for Long-Term Monitoring in the Nearshore would need to be included in a revised proposal. Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. This project, which would establish intertidal and subtidal transects in Kachemak Bay with a goal of furthering understanding of the interaction of the nearshore oceanographic environment with coastal marine communities, is premature with respect to development of GEM. If this proposal is resubmitted in a future year, the Chief Scientist has recommended that the methodology be further developed and results from Project 02395/Planning for Long-Term Monitoring in the Nearshore be included.		

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Sonia Batten, PhD
SAHFOS
1 Walker Terrace, The Hoe
Plymouth, England PL1 3BN
UNITED KINGDOM

David Welch, PhD
Dept of Fisheries & Oceans
Canada Pacific Biological Station
Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 5K6
CANADA

RE: Project 02624-BAA / A CPR-Based Plankton Survey Using Ships of Opportunity to Monitor the Gulf of Alaska

Dear Dr. Batten and Dr. Welch:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02624/A CPR-Based Plankton Survey Using Ships of Opportunity to Monitor the Gulf of Alaska until December, pending receipt of more information on the availability of funds for this purpose from the North Pacific Research Board. 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.

Please note that, if funded, funding would be contingent on (a) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data (this is a standard requirement of all projects that will employ technological devices for data collection) and (b) resolution of budget questions.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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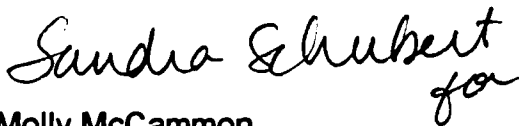
Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" with a small "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02624-BAA	A CPR-Based Plankton Survey Using Ships of Opportunity to Monitor the Gulf of Alaska	S. Batten/SAHFOS, D. Welch/DFOC	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$133.4	\$133.4	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project presents the rationale for developing a plankton monitoring program for the Gulf of Alaska using ships of opportunity. Plankton are a critical link in the marine food chain whose dynamics are poorly understood, but respond rapidly and unambiguously to climate change and form the link between changes in the atmosphere and valuable upper trophic level populations, such as salmon, herring, shrimp, and groundfish. The proposal reviews the evidence that many of the most valuable marine resources in the Gulf of Alaska are strongly influenced by changes in ocean climate. Ships of opportunity are a cost effective platform for large scale monitoring and this project will build on recent experience gained with CPR (continuous plankton recorders) in the North Pacific to prepare for GEM.		This kind of program--instrumented ships of opportunity--will likely be the way to establish a long-term oceanic monitoring program in the Gulf of Alaska. The largest tankers are not hindered much by the weather, so rather continuous sampling can be expected. Questions of spatial and temporal coverage must be evaluated, however, since the understanding of how the plankton is distributed will only be as good as the sampling design permits. Fund, but defer until December in order to assess the availability of cost sharing with the North Pacific Research Board (NPRB).		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending more information on the availability of funds for this purpose from the North Pacific Research Board. If funded, funding will be contingent on (a) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data and (b) resolution of budget questions. This project would fund continuation of a continuous plankton recorder (CPR) on an oil tanker traveling Valdez to Long Beach and on a second vessel along a Vancouver, B.C. to Kamchatka monitoring line. The Valdez to Long Beach recorder was funded in FY 00 and FY 01 by the North Pacific Marine Research fund. Vessels of opportunity such as this are a cost-effective method that may be useful to GEM, and proposals to place oceanographic instrumentation packages on ships of opportunity were specifically invited in the <i>FY 02 Invitation</i> .				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

John Whitney, PhD
NOAA, HAZMAT
570 L St, Ste 100
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Project 02622 / Digital Maps from Existing Seasonal Environmental
Sensitive Area Maps: Cook Inlet & Kenai Peninsula

Dear Dr. Whitney:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02622/Digital Maps from Existing Seasonal Environmental Sensitive Area Maps: Cook Inlet & Kenai Peninsula until December, pending further consideration of the amount of funding available for the FY 02 work plan. 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.

Please note that, if funded, funding would be contingent on (a) consideration of creating the maps on the World Wide Web rather than on CD, (b) addition of other reviewers, e.g., U.S. Forest Service and the Oil Spill Recovery Institute, and (c) receipt of the poster maps funded under Project 99368/Prince William Sound Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Maps.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02622	Digital Maps from Existing Seasonal Environmental Sensitive Area Maps: Cook Inlet/ Kenai Peninsula	J. Whitney/NOAA	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$36.6	\$36.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
A series of national standardized digital map products will be produced from the existing seasonal environmental sensitive index (ESI) maps for Cook Inlet/ Kenai Peninsula made by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1994. A four map seasonal series was originally developed for Cook Inlet by the NOAA Hazardous Materials Response and Assessment Division in the ArcInfo digital format with the output and distribution primarily being poster maps at a scale of 1:450,000. Since then, combined with greater demand for digital products, NOAA's digital ESI products have greatly expanded. This project will transform the existing Cook Inlet/Kenai Peninsula digital data into a four-tiered nationally standardized set of digital map products with the deliverable being 100 CDs. These will be the same products that were recently provided for Prince William Sound under Project 99368.		This project would transform the existing Cook Inlet/Kenai Peninsula digital data into a four-tiered nationally standardized set of digital map products with the deliverable being 100 CDs. A similar product was provided by the contractor for Prince William Sound under Project 99368/Prince William Sound Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Maps. The utility of having the maps on CDs would expand their accessibility, but there are no immediate use or user groups identified. Further there is no cost sharing provided by the agency. Poster maps also funded under Project 99368 have not yet been delivered. Fund lower priority.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending availability of funding. If funded, funding would be contingent on (a) consideration of creating the maps on the World Wide Web rather than on CD, (b) addition of other reviewers, e.g., U.S. Forest Service and the Oil Spill Recovery Institute, and (c) receipt of the poster maps due under Project 99368/Prince William Sound Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Maps. This project would convert the existing Cook Inlet ESI seasonal summary maps to the 1998 national standardized format (Full GIS, Desktop Mapping, Free ESI Viewer, and PDF ESI Navigator) in an effort to make the maps more accessible.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Gayle Hansen, PhD
OSU, Hatfield Marine Science Ctr
2030 S. Marine Science Dr
Newport, OR 97365

Michael Stekoll, PhD
School of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences
11120 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Project 02646-BAA / Information Dissemination through the Web:
Developing an Interactive Database on Southcentral Alaskan Seaweeds

Dear Dr. Hansen and Dr. Stekoll:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02646/Information Dissemination through the Web: Developing an Interactive Database on Southcentral Alaskan Seaweeds. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02646-BAA	Information Dissemination through the Web: Developing an Interactive Database on Southcentral Alaskan Seaweeds	G. Hansen/OSU, M. Stekoll/UAS	NOAA	1st yr. 3 yr. project	\$58.0	\$0.0	\$37.5	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
The macrobenthic marine algae or seaweeds are an integral component of Alaska's nearshore ecosystem. They are the base of the food chain for many marine animals and have long been used as part of the diet of indigenous peoples. Surprisingly, the correct identification of most algal species is still elusive to many people. In order to begin to overcome this problem, this project will produce a Web-based database of algal images and distributions that will facilitate species identifications. With this as a reference, the project will query Alaska Native communities for information on the traditional uses of the species and add this data to the final product. The website will develop incrementally as species are added and comments from users are incorporated. [Note: This project also requested \$26,900 for FY 04.]		This proposal from a qualified principal investigator to develop a web-based atlas of seaweeds of Alaska does not make a compelling case for contributing to restoration objectives. The past commitment to supporting publications of checklists and species descriptions for marine algae should suffice to form a record against which subsequent ecological change can be assessed. This type of product may be relevant to GEM in the future, but making commitments to a web-based atlas at this time seems premature. Do not fund.		Do not fund based on Chief Scientist's recommendation. The Trustee Council supported these proposers in FY 01 (Project 01551) to prepare a manuscript on the occurrence and distribution of marine microalgae in the spill area, based on 7,300 specimens from Project CH1A/Coastal Habitat Damage Assessment. The reviewers felt that the manuscript, which will consist of checklists and species descriptions, should form an adequate record for assessing ecological change, and that a web-based atlas is not a priority at this time.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Evelyn Brown
UAF-IMS-SFOS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7220

James H. Churnside
NOAA Environmental Tech Lab, R/E/ETI
325 Broadway
Boulder, CO 80303

RE: Project 02584 / Evaluation of Airborne Remote Sensing Tools for GEM Monitoring

Dear Ms. Brown and Mr. Churnside:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02584/Evaluation of Airborne Remote Sensing Tools for GEM Monitoring until December, pending review of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that (a) reduce the project's focus to proof-of-concept and (b) include more information on financial support from other entities.. 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.

Please note that if this project is funded, funding would be contingent on (a) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data and (b) submittal of Brown's overdue report on Project 99375.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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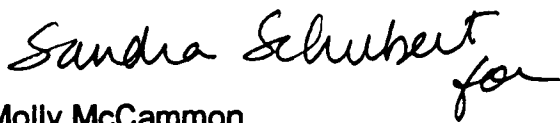
Toll-free outside of Alaska
E-mail

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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a stylized flourish that appears to be "for".

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison
Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02584	Evaluation of Airborne Remote Sensing Tools for GEM Monitoring	E. Brown/UAF, J. Churnside/NOAA	ADFG		\$118.4	\$75.0	\$240.0	

1st yr.
3 yr. project

Project Abstract

This project will evaluate airborne remote sensing tools for GEM monitoring, including a biological/ecological interpretation of the data collected. The instrument package consists of (a) a pulsed lidar to map subsurface biological features day to a maximum of 50 m, (b) an infrared radiometer to map SST day (similar to AVHRR), (c) two three-chip digital video systems to map ocean color (chlorophyll), birds, mammals, surface fish schools, and ocean frontal structure, and (d) an infrared digital video to map birds and mammals at night. The project will use shipboard and buoy data for validation and interpretation of remote sensed data. [Note: The FY 04 cost (year 3 of the project) has not been provided.]

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

The development of monitoring tools using LIDAR or other remote sensing techniques could be very valuable for GEM. The proposal is very ambitious and broad-ranging, and it seems unlikely that all project objectives can be achieved. Development work for remote sensing techniques is frequently difficult and expensive. A more limited set of objectives focused on proof-of-concept might be appropriate. Defer pending review of a revised proposal that addresses proof-of-concept only, assessment of support from other agencies, and delivery of past due reports by the principal investigator (Brown).

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending review of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that (a) reduce the project's focus to proof-of-concept (roughly \$75,000) and (b) include more information on financial support from other entities. If funded, funding will be contingent on (a) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data and (b) submittal of overdue report (99375). This project would explore airborne remote sensing instrumentation as a monitoring tool for GEM. The *FY 02 Invitation* invited proposals to develop cost-effective data acquisition technologies that could be useful to GEM.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Shari L Vaughan, PhD
PWS Science Center
PO Box 705
Cordova, AK 99574

RE: Project 02552 / Exchange Between Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska

Dear Dr. Vaughan:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02552/Exchange Between Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska until December, pending satisfactory resolution of the technical issues raised by the Chief Scientist (see Chief Scientist's recommendation, attached) and further review of the proposer's publication record. I have also enclosed a copy of my preliminary recommendation on this project. Please note that, if funded, funding would be contingent on (a) resolution of budget questions, (b) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data, much like you provided in FY 01 and (c) submittal of the overdue report on Project 00552.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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

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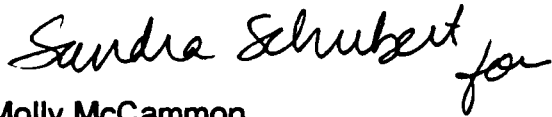
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deferred projects is scheduled for August 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02552-BAA	Exchange Between Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska	S. Vaughn/PWSSC	NOAA	3rd yr. 3 yr. project	\$102.5	\$102.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
One of the least understood physical processes that influence the biological components of Prince William Sound is the exchange between the northern Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound. This project will document the interannual variability in water mass exchange between the sound and the adjacent northern Gulf of Alaska at Hinchinbrook Entrance, and identify mechanisms governing this exchange. The project will deploy an upward looking ADCP mooring in Hinchinbrook Entrance to create time series of velocities spanning three years. The mooring will be equipped with a CTD to create a time series of deep temperature and salinity. To identify the dominant factors that govern Prince William Sound/Gulf of Alaska exchange, the mooring velocity and deep temperature/salinity time series will be combined with meteorological and physical data collected under other research programs already in progress.		Fixed instrumentation in Hinchinbrook Entrance is key to understanding the circulation and productivity of Prince William Sound and the Alaska Coastal Current. The Trustee Council has funded this project after the end of SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320) in order to provide a continuing record. It is recognized that the single mooring has serious limitations for characterizing the exchange between the Alaska Coastal Current and the sound. Key to the limitations has been lack of summer/fall data due to battery-life limitations. Additionally, the upper forty-five meters of the water column are not sampled by the ADCP. The principal investigator was to pursue other sources of funds to address these limitations but additional funding has not been identified. Furthermore, there are overdue reports and manuscripts and no published papers over the past five years. Defer decision until above issues can be resolved.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending satisfactory resolution of the technical issues raised by the Chief Scientist and further review of the principal investigator's publication record. If funded, funding will be contingent on (a) receipt of a description of the deployment procedure intended to insure against loss of data and (b) submittal of the overdue report on Project 00552. This project has continued data gathering and analysis from the Hinchinbrook Entrance buoy that was begun under SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320). Although a buoy at Hinchinbrook Entrance is expected to be an important component of GEM, the Chief Scientist has identified a number of concerns with project implementation.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

William Hauser, PhD
ADF&G
333 Raspberry Rd
Anchorage, AK 99518

RE: Project 02320 / SEA: Printing the Final Report

Dear Dr. Hauser:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02320/SEA: Printing the Final Report until December, pending completion and review of the final report, when a better estimate of printing costs can be made. 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.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

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Thank you for your continued contribution to the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02320	Sound Ecosystem Assessment (SEA): Printing the Final Report	W. Hauser/ADFG	ADFG	8th yr. 8 yr. project	\$6.2	\$6.2	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will print, bind and distribute the Sound Ecosystem Assessment (SEA) final report. The integrated final report is a required document expected to exceed 1,000 pages (some with color). Funding for copying, binding and mailing the final report was provided in FY 00, but completion has been delayed and the encumbered funds cannot be spent after June 30, 2001. The FY 00 unused funds will lapse.		Producing the SEA final report is essential, and this proposal seeks only to reauthorize funding that has expired. The principal investigator should do everything possible (as will the Chief Scientist) to ensure that the remaining chapter of the final report is completed so that the report can be produced and distributed. Fund.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending completion and peer review of the final report, when a better estimate of printing costs can be made (the above number is a placeholder). This same amount of funds was provided to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in FY 00 (Project 00320) for printing the SEA final report, but under state rules those funds must lapse June 30, 2001. The expected completion date of the SEA final report is now September 30, 2001.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

David Irons, PhD
USFWS
1011 E. Tudor Rd
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 02159 / Surveys to Monitor Marine Bird Abundance in Prince William Sound During Winter and Summer 2002

Dear Dr. Irons:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02159/Surveys to Monitor Marine Bird Abundance in Prince William Sound During Winter and Summer 2002 until December, pending further consideration of the amount of funding available for the FY 02 work plan. Because of questions raised by the reviewers in regard to survey frequency and normal agency management, this project is considered lower priority for funding.

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.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Catherine Berg, the USFWS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by the word "for" in a smaller, more stylized script.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, USFWS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02159	Surveys to Monitor Marine Bird Abundance in Prince William Sound During Winter and Summer 2002	D. Irons/USFWS	DOI	9th yr.	\$194.1	\$194.1	\$25.0	
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will conduct small boat surveys to monitor abundance of marine birds and sea otters in Prince William Sound during March and July 2002. Seven previous surveys have monitored population trends for 65 bird and 8 marine mammal species in the sound. Data collected in 2002 will be used to examine trends from summer 1989-2002 and winter 1990-2002. Data collected in 2000 indicate that bald eagles are increasing in winter and summer throughout the sound, harlequin ducks are increasing in the oiled area in winter, and black oystercatchers are increasing throughout the sound in summer. Common loons, cormorants, and common murrelets are showing no trend in the oiled area; pigeon guillemots and marbled murrelets are declining in the oiled areas of the sound; and Kittlitz's murrelet is declining throughout the sound. Results of these surveys through 1998 have been published. [Note: This project also requested \$25,000 for FY 04.]		In the long term, surveys of the kind proposed here will be needed to assess trends of populations of injured and indicator species of marine birds and mammals in Prince William Sound. It is still not clear that we need to do this as frequently as is being proposed, given the apparent continuing differences between oiled and unoled areas in the sound over the last twelve years. The project is relatively expensive, and it is not clear why this task should not be part of normal agency management. Fund lower priority.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending availability of funds. The Trustee Council has supported boat surveys of marine birds and mammals in Prince William Sound since the time of the spill. These surveys have been the primary means of monitoring the recovery of a suite of coastal birds and other wildlife. However, as the transition to GEM begins, there is a question about whether it is essential that the surveys continue to be done every two years. In addition, the question of whether these are routine surveys that should be incorporated into the agency's normal management procedures needs to be revisited.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Randall Davis, PhD
TX A&M Univ at Galveston,
Marine Biology
5007 Avenue U
Galveston, TX 77553

RE: Project 02441-BAA / Harbor Seal Recovery: Effects of Diet on Lipid Metabolism and Health

Dear Dr. Davis:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02441/Harbor Seal Recovery: Effects of Diet on Lipid Metabolism and Health. 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. Please note we are recommending that in FY 01 you finish the analysis of harbor seal tissues for fatty acid profiles using the sample numbers originally proposed and closeout the project.

The Trustee Council received 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

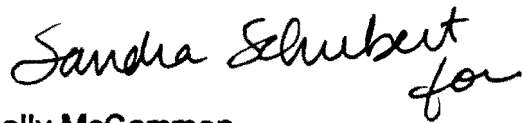
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E-mail	sandra_schubert@oilspill.state.ak.us

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a smaller "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02441-BAA	Harbor Seal Recovery: Effects of Diet on Lipid Metabolism and Health	R. Davis/Texas A&M	ADFG	4th yr. 3 yr. project	\$68.1	\$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 complete the analysis of samples that were taken by this project in earlier years, but that could not be completed due to a shortage of funds available to the Trustee Council in FY 01. In addition, a final report and five manuscripts will be prepared. The results will provide a better understanding of the nutritional role of lipid and how it changes with diet in harbor seals. Analysis of the remaining samples is needed to resolve the temporal scale of changes in fatty acid composition under different diets, and will allow better interpretation of field data for wild harbor seals.		The Trustee Council's primary interest in funding this project, the laboratory verification of fatty acid profiles in harbor seals on differing fish diets, appears to have received less attention than other objectives in the project. While there is no question about the quality of the work conducted to date, there are many administrative questions regarding the proposed budget, especially as FY 01 was funded as a closeout year. Investigators should finish analysis of harbor seal tissues for fatty acid profiles only using sample numbers originally proposed and close out project in FY 01. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This study, which is investigating the effect of diet on lipid metabolism and health in harbor seals, received closeout funds in FY 01. The principal investigator should proceed with closeout in FY 01. As recommended by the Chief Scientist, investigators should finish analysis of harbor seal tissues for fatty acid profiles only using sample numbers originally proposed.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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June 14, 2001

Mark Kuwada
ADF&G/Habitat & Restoration
333 Raspberry Rd
Anchorage, AK 99518-1565

RE: Project 02621 / Kenai River Flats Conservation Easement and Public Education

Dear Mr. Kuwada:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02621/Kenai River Flats Conservation Easement and Public Education until December, pending receipt of further information in regard to the project's restoration benefit and community and agency support, as outlined in the attached recommendation. This recommendation is made for public review and may be revised before it is provided to the Trustee Council in early August.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

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Thank you for your 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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02621	Kenai River Flats Conservation Easement and Public Education	M. Kuwada/ADFG	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$141.0	\$141.0	\$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 approximately 600 acres of wetlands on the Kenai River Flats near the city of Kenai. The acquisition of a conservation easement for the property and construction of a boardwalk will protect sensitive coastal wetlands, high value waterfowl habitat, and two anadromous fish streams, and will provide new educational and recreational opportunities for the public. The conservation easement will be purchased by The Conservation Fund using already-approved funds from a North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant. The easement will specify that the property be preserved in a natural state and protected against incompatible development. A boardwalk and viewing platform will be constructed using EVOS funds to provide recreational birdwatching and educational opportunities. The boardwalk and viewing platform are essential for obtaining the City of Kenai's support for the conservation easement.		The Trustee Council has made a tremendous investment in the Kenai River through habitat protection and restoration as well as through fisheries research and management. Yet there are still significant needs and opportunities to help maintain and restore fisheries resources and recreation services on this world class salmon stream. This project would probably contribute to long-term protection of Kenai River resources, but the proposal itself presents a less-than-compelling case for how the proposed boardwalk and viewing platform would do that. Moreover, as presented, the linkages to resources and services injured by the oil spill is weak or absent. Do not fund as proposed.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending receipt of further information. This project may be of important restoration benefit, but the proposal does not clearly describe how the proposed boardwalk and viewing platform would contribute to the Trustee Council's restoration objectives. In addition, indications of community and agency support, including from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are not provided. If funded, funding would be contingent on satisfactory NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) review. This project would complement an effort currently underway with other funds (National Wetlands Conservation Act) to acquire a conservation easement on 600 acres on the Kenai River Flats. Protection of the Kenai River has been a high priority of the Trustee Council. The sort of improvement proposed in this project is similar to the improvements constructed under Project /180 (Kenai Habitat Restoration and Recreation Enhancement).				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

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

Geoff York
USGS, Alaska Science Center
1011 E. Tudor Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99503-6199

Paul R. Becker, PhD
NIST Charleston Laboratory
219 Fort Johnson Rd.
Charleston, SC 29412-9110

RE: Project 02634 / Expanding the Seabird Tissue Archival and Monitoring
Project (STAMP) for GEM

Dear Mr. Roseneau, Mr. York and Dr. Becker:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02634/Expanding the Seabird Tissue Archival and Monitoring Project (STAMP) for GEM until December, pending further consideration of the amount of funding available for the FY 02 work plan. 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.

Please note that, if funded, funding for this project would be contingent on approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that address the Chief Scientist's concerns.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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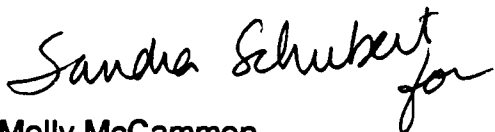
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Following a review of any public comments received, as well as comments from the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group and further consideration by the Chief Scientist, I will make a final recommendation to the Council. Council action on all but deferred projects is scheduled for August 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your 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 Catherine Berg, the USFWS liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Catherine Berg, USFWS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02634	Expanding the Seabird Tissue Archival and Monitoring Project (STAMP) Program for GEM	D.Roseneau/USFWS, G.York/BRD, P.Becker/NIST	DOI	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$54.9	\$54.9	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will lay the ground work for expanding the Seabird Tissue Archival and Monitoring Project (STAMP) in the spill area. The project will include developing local community networks for collecting samples for the project, adding more seabird colony locations and species to the existing STAMP program, developing logistical plans for expanding STAMP in the Gulf of Alaska, and completing analytical work on existing samples to provide a database that will be used to design a long-term monitoring plan for GEM.		This proposal has objectives that appear to be premature with respect to GEM. The most appropriate way to proceed would be to characterize the spatial and temporal variability of contaminants in seabirds and to design the program based on the results of the analysis. It may be appropriate to fund the objective relating to further contaminant analysis of murre eggs at East Amatuli. Leveraging from other sources dedicated to persistent organic pollutant (POP) concerns should be found. Fund lower priority.		Defer decision on funding this project to December, pending availability of funds. If funded, funding would be contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description and budget that address the Chief Scientist's concerns (base program design on an analysis of the spatial and temporal variability of contaminants in seabirds; delete objectives related to further contaminant analysis except for murre eggs at East Amatuli Island; secure additional funding sources). This project would expand the Seabird Tissue Archival and Monitoring Project (STAMP) in the spill area, which may be useful for GEM.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

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

RE: Project 02601-BAA / GEM Transition: Addressing Methodological Data Gaps

Dear Dr. Kline:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02601/GEM Transition: Addressing Methodological Data Gaps. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that Project 02601 was premature at this stage of GEM development.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" followed by a small flourish.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02601-BAA	GEM Transition: Addressing Methodological Data Gaps	T. Kline/ PWSSC	NOAA		\$189.5	\$0.0	\$85.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
2 yr. project

Project Abstract

Recent research using natural stable isotope abundance has shown that the advective regime connecting the northern Gulf of Alaska with Prince William Sound may affect recruitment and nutritional processes in fish. Prince William Sound isotope data has also been used to measure relative trophic level. The trophic levels of landed fish appear to undergo long-term systematic shifts. Accordingly, GEM will need to use stable isotope abundance to address the effects of advective processes and anthropogenic trophic level effects on fish and other ecosystem components as part of long-term monitoring studies. However, there are presently data gaps in the stable isotope methodology that can be addressed within the next year using GLOBEC and OSRI sampling platforms. This study will (a) address inter-species isotope effects among macro-zooplankton taxa and (b) develop non-lethal isotope sampling for fishes.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal would explore the application of natural stable isotope abundance data to establish spatial and temporal changes in macrozooplankton trophic level. The investigations would complement current work being carried out in the GLOBEC program by the principal investigator. The investigator is well qualified with a reasonable publication record in the restoration program. Although trophic level shifts in macrozooplankton may indicate basic changes in ocean productivity, it is not certain that monitoring of this indicator will occur in GEM. Proposal is premature. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund based on Chief Scientist's recommendation. Although trophic level shifts in macrozooplankton may indicate basic changes in ocean productivity, it is not certain that this indicator will be monitored under GEM. 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 14, 2001

Jia Wang, PhD
IARC/IMS UAF
PO Box 757335
Fairbanks, AK 99775

RE: Project 02603 / Implementation of an Ocean Circulation Model: A
Transition from SEA to GEM

Dear Dr. Wang:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02603/Implementation of an Ocean Circulation Model: A Transition from SEA to 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 reviewers felt that the proposal was premature at this stage of GEM development. The Trustee Council will hold a workshop early in FY 02 to evaluate possible modeling options for GEM, and we hope you will be willing to participate in that workshop. Details as to time and agenda will be provided at a later date.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02603	Implementation of an Ocean Circulation Model: A Transition from SEA to GEM	J. Wang/UAF	ADFG		\$73.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

1st yr.
1 yr. project

Project Abstract

This project will establish a 3-D ocean circulation model in the Gulf of Alaska to lay down a foundation for GEM in order to couple this model to a hydrological model and a biological model. This model will cover the entire gulf, including Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet. The horizontal resolution of this model is 4'x2' minutes (about 3.7km at 60"N). This model will be forced by tides, the Alaska Current inflow/outflow, freshwater discharge, and wind stress derived from the National Center for Environmental Prediction.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal is premature in that it is trying to establish a GEM circulation model. If GEM is to have an overall physical model of the system, this needs to be established with wider representation from the oceanographic and climatological communities. The model proposed here may or may not be the optimal modeling approach for the long run. A careful evaluation of all possible modeling options should be considered prior to commencing with the funding of any physical/biological system model. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project, which would expand the Prince William Sound circulation model--developed under SEA (Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Project /320) and continued under Project 01389/3-D Ocean State Simulations--to the Gulf of Alaska, is premature at this stage of GEM transition. If GEM is to develop a physical model of the system, a thorough evaluation of all possible modeling options should first be undertaken through a process involving wide representation from the oceanographic and climatological communities. The proposer should participate in the GEM modeling workshop to be held early in FY 02 (see Project 02630).

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

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

RE: Project 02604 / Gear Selectivity in Trawl Surveys 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 02604/Gear Selectivity in Trawl Surveys 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. In particular, the reviewers raised methodological concerns about your project.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02604	Gear Selectivity in Trawl Surveys along the Northern Gulf of Alaska	W. Bechtol/ADFG	ADFG	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$52.1	\$0.0	\$15.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will explore approaches to developing 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. Time series data are available for two different trawl surveys conducted in Kachemak Bay in lower Cook Inlet. One survey series dates to the 1970's and uses a small-mesh trawl that catches species representative of the underlying forage base in this area. The second survey series, dating to 1990, uses a larger-mesh trawl fished closer to the bottom and catching substantially different species composition. Comparison of the catch composition time series from these two survey types will allow determination of gear selectivity between these trawls.		This proposal identifies an important issue, gear selectivity, but there is substantial disagreement among experts on the methodological problems associated with comparative selectivity studies. This suggests that the results from the study would not be definitive. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would compare small-mesh and large-mesh trawl surveys to determine relative catchabilities of these two bottom trawl designs in regard to monitoring techniques for forage fish. However, due to methodological concerns associated with comparative selectivity studies, funding is not recommended.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

James Dawson
BioSonics, Inc.
4027 Leary Way NW
Seattle, WA 98107

RE: Project 02627-BAA / A Symbiotic Acoustic Signal Processor to Increase Stock Assessment Effort

Dear Mr. Dawson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02627/A Symbiotic Acoustic Signal Processor to Increase Stock Assessment Effort. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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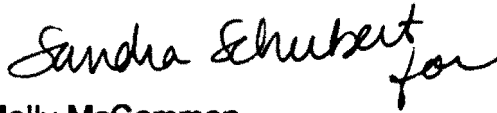
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Alaska Department of Law

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert for". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA
Sharon Kent, NOAA Contracting

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02627-BAA	A Symbiotic Acoustic Signal Processor to Increase Stock Assessment Effort	J. Dawson/BioSonics, Inc.	NOAA	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$171.0	\$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 develop a Symbiotic Acoustic Signal Processor (SASP) system, consisting of a high resolution digital sonar receiver that attaches to an existing shipboard echo sounder and routes the output over an Ethernet connection to displays, storage, and processing systems. This system provides the capability to store geo-referenced raw digital acoustic data in an established scientific format to PC hard disk. The data collected and analyzed using this system can determine abundance and distribution of stocks within the sampled areas. The design philosophy provides a low-cost system that is extremely simple for a skipper to operate, does not require dry-dock installation or towing of an underwater transducer sled, and does not effect the operation of the currently installed echo sounder.		This proposal requests funds to help develop and apply state-of-the-art techniques for real-time, species-specific estimates of fish biomass using ships of opportunity. GEM may develop a ships-of-opportunity program to collect a variety of different observations. This may well include hydroacoustic data. However, the plans for GEM at this time preclude development of technology such as that proposed. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would design, manufacture, and test a symbiotic sonar receiver that attaches to echo sounders installed on commercial fishing vessels (ships-of-opportunity) for collecting real-time estimates of fish biomass. Proposals to develop cost-effective data acquisition technologies were invited in the <i>FY 02 Invitation</i> . However, at this point in the development of GEM, it is premature to take on development of technology such as this.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Janet T. Duffy-Anderson
NOAA/AFSC
7600 Sand Point Way, NE
Seattle, WA 98115

RE: Project 02637 / Online Early Life History Database for the Northeast
Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska and Southeast Bering Sea

Dear Ms. Duffy-Anderson:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02637/Online Early Life History Database for the Northeast Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska and Southeast Bering Sea. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02637	Online Early Life History Database for the Northeast Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska and Southeast Bering Sea	J. Duffy-Anderson/NOAA	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$143.7	\$0.0	\$1.2	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will develop a public, online, early life history database for more than 20 years of ichthyoplankton data from the northeast Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska, and southeast Bering Sea. The database will merge sample collection information with a larval identification guide and ichthyoplankton distributional atlas into a searchable, internet-based database. This database will provide global access to these resources, providing a platform for the generation of hypotheses and offering managers and other users access to accurate, relevant information on ichthyoplankton distributions in Alaska.		This proposal is a very worthwhile endeavor but it is not immediately related to EVOS recovery objectives and is wider than the geographic scope of GEM. The work could aid GEM modeling efforts in the future in the northern Gulf of Alaska. Partnerships for funding with the North Pacific Research Board and others should be pursued. Do not fund.		Do not fund. The geographic scope of this project, which would create a database merging ichthyoplankton cruise data with a larval identification guide as well as archive some ichthyoplankton samples, is broader than GEM. However, such a database might be useful to GEM modeling efforts in the future. If this proposal is resubmitted in the future, funding contributions from other interested entities should be sought.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Alexander Kotlarov
AMT
PO Box 33884
Juneau, AK 99803

RE: Project 02640 / High Frequency Surface Wave Radar Test in Prince William Sound

Dear Mr. Kotlarov:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02640/High Frequency Surface Wave Radar Test 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Jeep Rice, the acting NOAA liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert for".

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Jeep Rice, NOAA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02640	High Frequency Surface Wave Radar Test in Prince William Sound	A. Kotlarov/Alaska Marine Technology Corp.	NOAA	1st yr. 2 yr. project	\$129.5	\$0.0	\$128.4	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
This project will analyze surface currents in Prince William Sound with a portable short-range, high-frequency surface wave radar system. Use of this advanced technology will increase knowledge and understanding of the overall distribution of currents in the sound, and will add significantly to existing information about the sound's circulation obtained from models such as those developed by Wang, Deleersnijder, Mooser and others. Once deployed and operating, this system will provide real-time and archived data about ocean surface currents in the sound. Observations will include current speed, current direction, diversion flow, and upwelling dynamics. The complete system will consist of two radars that are capable of measuring current vectors in real time out to a distance of fifty miles.		While new radar techniques such as this might be useful, until a clearer need for these data is demonstrated the linkage of this proposal to restoration objectives is weak. There are many technical issues that are not addressed in the proposal. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal, which would deploy a short-range, high-frequency surface wave radar system to provide data about ocean surface currents in Prince William Sound, does not demonstrate the need for these data. In addition, the Chief Scientist has expressed concern that the proposal does not address a number of technical issues.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

F. Charles Mohr, PhD
Dept of Veterinary Pathology,
Microbiology & Immunology
School of Veterinary Medicine,
University of CA
Davis CA 95616

Jeffrey L. Stott, PhD
Dept of Veterinary Pathology,
Microbiology & Immunology
School of Veterinary Medicine,
Univ of CA
Davis, CA 95616

Brenda Ballachey, PhD
ABSC USGS BRD
1011 E Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Project 02657 / Analysis of Genomic Stress Response in Sea Otters

Dear Dr. Mohr, Dr. Stott and Dr. Ballachey:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02657/Analysis of Genomic Stress Response in Sea Otters. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers raised concerns about your project's proposed methods and whether the techniques could be successfully carried out as planned.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the

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Alaska Department of Law

Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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,


Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02657	Analysis of Genomic Stress Response in Sea Otters	C. Mohr, J. Stott/UC Davis, B. Ballachey/USGS	DOI	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$43.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

Project Abstract

In summer 2001, as part of Project 01423, sea otters will be captured in oiled and unoled areas of Prince William Sound for assessment of CYP1A levels. This project will complement Project 01423 by applying novel, highly sensitive molecular techniques for the measurement of health status, toxicant exposure, and metabolic processes in the sea otter. The project will characterize and compare the genomic stress response in peripheral blood mononuclear cells by examining the differential expression of a suite of key genes that are indicators of immunological, cellular, and metabolic responses to stress. The results of the study will enhance understanding of the status of recovery of sea otters in western Prince William Sound, and physiological factors that may be involved in constraining recovery.

Chief Scientist's Recommendation

This proposal would measure gene expression in peripheral blood mononuclear cells of sea otters from three sites in Prince William Sound, representing oiled and unoled (reference) areas. It is thought that differences in expression of the selected genes will indicate whether the continuing exposure to oil might be linked to health effects in those animals. The observations driving the studies are the elevated levels of CYP1A expression in sea otters from some areas, and the evidence suggesting lack of growth and/or "poor health" of sea otters from oiled areas. It is of some interest to the Trustee Council to determine if there are indications of low level chronic stress, including immune disorders, linked to continuing oil exposures in sea otters in western Prince William Sound. However, there is yet no proof of principle that the novel methods proposed here measure responses that are induced by oil exposure, although such information would be gathered during the course of the project. In addition, the technical approach is incompletely described, and it is uncertain if the molecular techniques for detecting immunological responses can be successfully carried out as proposed. Do not fund.

Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation

Do not fund. This project, which would use blood drawn from sea otters under Project 01423, is intended to determine whether continuing exposure to oil might be linked to health effects in those animals. However, the Chief Scientist has raised concerns about the proposed methods and whether the techniques can be successfully carried out as planned.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Paul R. Becker, PhD
NIST Charleston Laboratory
219 Fort Johnson Rd.
Charleston, SC 29412-9110

RE: Project 02643 / Design of the Environmental Specimen Bank Program for GEM

Dear Dr. Becker:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02643/Design of the Environmental Specimen Bank Program for 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that your proposal was premature at this stage of GEM development.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Federal Trustees

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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 USGS-DOI liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Dede Bohn, USGS-DOI Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02643	Design of the Environmental Specimen Bank Program for GEM	P. Becker/NIST	DOI	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$85.4	\$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 develop a design and implementation plan for an Environmental Specimen Bank component to GEM specifically designed for environmental contaminants monitoring and research. This plan will provide organizational framework, facility requirements, identification of specimens of interest, collection and banking protocols, recommendations on specimen sizes and frequency of collections, establishment of database network with other kinds of archival facilities associated with GEM, recommendations on specimen access policy, identification and development of collection platforms (including partnership with local Alaska Native communities), and cost estimates for instituting and maintaining an Environmental Specimen Bank system for GEM.		The project offers a means to systematically develop a community-based contaminants monitoring network that may be of interest to GEM. The project team is highly qualified. At this stage of GEM planning it is not possible to determine if the scope of the proposal is appropriate. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This project would design a specimen bank for GEM, and make recommendations on specimen types, collection and banking protocols, facility requirements, tracking databases, access policy, and annual costs. This may be a worthwhile task, but at this stage of GEM planning the proposal is premature. Any efforts in this regard in the future should be coordinated with the joint state/federal/Alaska Native Wild and Traditional Foods Safety committee.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Jerry Rusher
Rusher's Services
HC-33, Box 2866
Wasilla, AK 99687-9720

RE: Project 02662 / Natural Life Restoration by Manipulation
Project 02663 / "Watchdog Tool" for Sampling and Monitoring

Dear Mr. Rusher:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund projects 02662/Natural Life Restoration by Manipulation and 02663/"Watchdog Tool" for Sampling and Monitoring. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

Federal Trustees

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

State Trustees

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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 Marianne See, the ADEC liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

*Sandra Schubert
for*

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Marianne See, ADEC Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02662	Natural Life Restoration by Manipulation	J. Rusher/Rusher's Services	ADEC	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$103.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> This project will place bait in pits of beaches and sensitive areas where weathered oil may remain. Quality control testing of the bait would be done to tell if weathered oil is in the process of degrading by the movement of worms in the beach. The toxicity of weathered oil will also be identified. This bait manipulation of worms could accelerate the degradation of oil.			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> This proposal does not describe a methodology for achieving project objectives, making proper evaluation impossible. Do not fund.		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. This proposal is somewhat unclear and lacks a description of the methodology necessary for evaluating it.			

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02663	"Watchdog Tool" for Sampling and Monitoring	J. Rusher/Rusher's Services	ADEC	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$180.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u> A sampling tool called the "Watchdog Tool" will be placed on surface or pits of beaches and sensitive areas where weathered oil may be leaching out. Quality control testing of the "Watchdog Tool" will be done to tell if weathered oil is leaching out or coming in from subtidal areas. This project will also identify the toxicity of weathered oil.			<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u> It is unclear as to what is being proposed (what is the watchdog tool?) and how the "tool" is being applied to meet the objectives of detecting oil that may be leaving sediments and its toxicity. Without a description of methodology, proper evaluation of the proposal is impossible. Do not fund.			<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u> Do not fund. This proposal is unclear and lacks a description of the methodology necessary for evaluating it.		

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Russell R. Hopcroft
UAF IMS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-1220

Ken Coyle
UAF/FOS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-1080

RE: Project 02617 / Standing Stock and Secondary Production of Zooplankton
in Prince William Sound

Dear Mr. Hopcroft and Mr. Coyle:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02617/Standing Stock and Secondary Production of Zooplankton 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed. The reviewers felt that your proposal was premature at this stage of GEM development.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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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Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02617	Standing Stock and Secondary Production of Zooplankton in Prince William Sound	R. Hopcroft, K. Coyle/UAF	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$86.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Understanding the seasonal cycles and inter-annual variability of zooplankton is essential for understanding the success of higher vertebrate trophic levels. Systematic sampling of the zooplankton in central waters of Prince William Sound was discontinued in 1997 with the completion of the SEA project (/320) and although the Gulf of Alaska GLOBEC program began in that same year, its sampling techniques are not comparable to the SEA and earlier data sets. This project will set the stage for GEM activities by enhancing current sampling within the GLOBEC program to allow direct comparison to earlier data sets, and integrate this with detailed analysis of recent nearshore zooplankton collected by Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation hatcheries.		This proposal will collect and report a substantial amount of data pertaining to the zooplankton community in Prince William Sound, for comparison with collections obtained by GLOBEC on the shelf and oceanic region south of Seward and with hatcheries in the sound. A plankton monitoring program will likely be a part of GEM, but any acoustic-net surveys in GEM should collect data on a wide size range of plankton, nekton, and fish. It would be more useful to GEM to examine some approaches (like this proposal) so that when the time comes to initiate long-term monitoring, there will be a basis for specifying the characteristics (e.g., sampling gear, frequency of samples, location of samples, sampling platforms, taxa) of that program. Developing a plan for a well-coordinated use of acoustics as part of GEM is more important than initiating sampling at this time in order to have data that can be compared to GLOBEC sampling. Do not fund.		Do not fund. Although a plankton monitoring program will likely be a part of GEM, it is premature to initiate data collection at this time. A plan for a well-coordinated use of acoustic-net surveys needs to be developed first.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

William Hauser, PhD
ADF&G
333 Raspberry Rd
Anchorage, AK 99518

RE: Project 02612 / Detecting and Understanding Marine-Terrestrial Linkages
in the Kenai River Watershed

Dear Dr. Hauser:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council defer a decision on funding Project 02612/Detecting and Understanding Marine-Terrestrial Linkages in the Kenai River Watershed pending review of a revised Detailed Project Description that:

- (a) provides a more thorough explanation of the scientific basis and rationale for the project in the context of the GEM conceptual model,
- (b) describes the tasks/responsibilities of each of the participants in the project, and
- (c) identifies the funds available from other sources.

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. If the revised proposal is to be considered at the Council's August meeting, it needs to be submitted to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. (Please submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD.)

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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001. Council action on deferred projects is expected in December 2001.

Thank you for your continued contribution to the *Exxon Valdez* restoration program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Schubert" with a small "for" written below it.

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02612	Detecting and Understanding Marine-Terrestrial Linkages in the Kenai River Watershed	W. Hauser/ADFG	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$44.6	\$44.6	\$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 matching funds for a coordinator to serve a multidisciplinary team of agency-supported scientists that is designing a study of marine and terrestrial nutrient cycling in the Kenai River watershed. The oil spill curtailed commercial fishing on the river in 1989, causing changes in productivities of sockeye salmon and other species, in addition to allowing a massive input of marine nutrients born by the unharvested salmon. The watershed is also at some risk from anthropogenic activities including habitat degradation, increased utilization and invasive species. Studies on watersheds of the Pacific Northwest suggest there may be cascading impacts when marine derived nutrients normally supplied by salmon carcasses are diverted from an ecosystem. When nutrients normally supplied by salmon are withdrawn, productivity of the entire watershed is expected to be diminished.		This project will develop the basis for monitoring inputs of marine nutrients in watersheds adjacent to the Gulf of Alaska. Therefore, it should aid future GEM activities. The project has substantial scientific potential, as well as scientific support and financial participation by concerned agencies and organizations in the region. This is a community based monitoring effort with substantial community cost sharing. However, the scientific framework and rationale need considerable development in relation to the GEM conceptual model. Defer pending development of GEM plan and evaluation of revised proposal that provides a more thorough explanation of the scientific basis.		Defer decision on funding this project, pending submittal and review of a revised Detailed Project Description that provides a more thorough explanation of the scientific basis for the project and that presents the scientific framework in the context of the GEM conceptual model. In addition, the responsibilities of the various participants in the project need to be clarified, as does the availability of funds from other sources. This project, which is the outgrowth of a multidisciplinary discussion group on the Kenai River watershed, is designed to increase understanding of food-web dynamics in the watershed and the role of marine derived nutrients in the ecosystem.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Mike Castellini, PhD
UAF/IMS
PO Box 757220
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7140

RE: Project 02546 / Assessing Harbor Seals: Methods to Identify Metabolic Responses to Environmental Change

Dear Dr. Castellini:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council not fund Project 02546/Assessing Harbor Seals: Methods to Identify Metabolic Responses to Environmental Change. 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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02546	Assessing Harbor Seals: Methods to Identify Metabolic Responses to Environmental Change	M. Castellini/UAF	ADFG	1st yr. 1 yr. project	\$50.4	\$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 provide final design and sensitivity testing for a sampling scheme and software approach to monitoring population-wide health patterns in harbor seals. Much like the concept of genetic fingerprinting, this method uses a novel blood chemistry fingerprinting technique that can easily separate subpopulations of animals based on a suite of 20-30 blood chemistry values. The proposers termed this method "Metabolic Identity" and intend to use it as the core of a long-running GEM proposal. The FY 02 project will conduct the pre-development testing of the method and test its strength and robustness.		This proposal is for the development of a blood chemistry profile method which may characterize subpopulations and/or fitness of individuals. The investigator is a very accomplished and able marine mammal biologist. The proposed methodology appears to be a potentially powerful tool that could supplement earlier work on regional genetic differences and geographic differences in food habits that are known to exist for harbor seals in the northern Gulf of Alaska. Further development of this concept as proposed is likely appropriate for assessing marine mammal populations in the Gulf of Alaska. However, the most appropriate strategy for accomplishing this work may be in partnership with concerned resource management agencies. Do not fund.		Do not fund. This proposal, which would develop a blood chemistry profile for identifying subpopulations of harbor seals, would have been more attractive if it had been submitted as a partnership with the resource management agencies.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Shana Loshbaugh
PO Box 1165
Soldotna, AK 99669

RE: Project 02570 / 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 02570/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 106 proposals totaling more than \$10 million. The Council's funding cap for the FY 02 Work Plan is about \$5 million, and it will not be possible to fund all projects proposed.

My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 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) about 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

Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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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 Bill Hauser, the ADF&G liaison to the Trustee Council.

Sincerely,

Sandra Schubert
for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02570	Book on EVOS Science for General Readers	S. Loshbaugh/Freelance Writing	ADFG	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, 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 discussion 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 proposer, who has a science background and considerable experience in journalism, has invested considerable effort in outlining a book on the EVOS experience and restoration science program. Such a book could help bring closure to the oil-spill experience and restoration program, which would be helpful and timely. However, the scope of the book is overly broad--for example, mixing spill response and restoration science--and the timetable is unrealistically short. Also, the budget does not anticipate any costs for subsidizing publication, which seems likely unless the author can interest a major publisher in this account. This project overlaps substantially with another one (Project /535) already funded by the Trustee Council, and much of the need for the research proposed here could be short-circuited by waiting for more technical syntheses on the restoration program to be completed. Do not fund.		Do not fund. Although this proposal is much improved over the version submitted last year (a detailed outline and a draft of the opening pages of the book have been included), the proposed contents overlap substantially with the Trustee Council final report being prepared under Project /535. The part that does not overlap is the scientific synthesis, which might be better handled by more experienced scientific writers. Such a proposal (Project /600) is also under consideration by the Council.				

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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



June 14, 2001

Vicki Vanek
ADF&G Div of Subsistence
211 Mission Rd
Kodiak, AK 99615-6399

Monica Riedel
Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission
PO Box 1005
Cordova, AK 99574

RE: Project 02245 / Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and
Biological Sampling

Dear Ms. Vanek and Ms. Riedel:

I am writing to inform you of my preliminary recommendation that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council fund Project 02245/Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and Biological Sampling contingent on (a) approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that provides updated information on:

- the number of seals and tissue types sampled,
- the distribution of the samples collected,
- the sample database, and
- activities undertaken to integrate the EVOS biosampling program with efforts underway statewide by the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the United States Geological Survey, and others

and (b) submittal of the 00245 annual report (which is now due July 31, 2001).

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.

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

Please submit a revised Detailed Project Description to the Restoration Office, Attn: Sandra Schubert, by **July 9, 2001**. You should submit three paper copies and an electronic copy of the DPD.

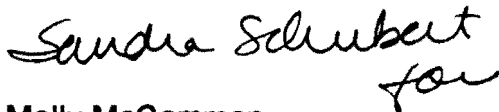
My preliminary recommendations on all proposals for funding in FY 02 have been incorporated into the Draft Work Plan, which will be available for public review on the Trustee Council's web page (www.oilspill.state.ak.us) about June 15. If you would like a copy of the Draft Work Plan sent to you, please call or e-mail the Restoration Office:

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Following a review of any public comments received, 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 6, 2001.

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

Sincerely,


for

Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Bill Hauser, ADF&G Liaison

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION: FY 02 DRAFT WORK PLAN

Proj.No.	Project Title	Proposer	Lead Agency	New or Cont'd	FY02 Request	FY02 Recom.	FY03 Request	FY03 Recom.
02245	Community-Based Harbor Seal Management and Biological Sampling	V. Vanek/ADFG, M. Riedel/Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission	ADFG	9th yr. 9 yr. project	\$26.8	\$26.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
<u>Project Abstract</u>		<u>Chief Scientist's Recommendation</u>		<u>Executive Director's Preliminary Recommendation</u>				
Under this project, village-based technicians are selected by the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission and trained by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to collect biological samples from harbor seals. The samples are transported to Anchorage or Kodiak for further sampling and distribution to participating scientists for analysis and the University of Alaska museum for archiving. In FY 02, the sample collection program in Prince William Sound, lower Cook Inlet, around Kodiak Island, and along the Alaska Peninsula will continue. The Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission will produce and distribute a newsletter with summaries of the biological sampling program. FY 02 is the closeout year for this project.		This has been a highly successful program for involving the subsistence community in research on a valuable resource. The scientific community has benefited from obtaining samples of harbor seal tissues that were otherwise unavailable. A large number of projects have used samples from this activity in the past and there appears to be a use for samples currently being archived and which may be analyzed in the future. However, the information in the Detailed Project Description with regard to the number of tissue types sampled and the distribution of collection sites for the samples has not been updated. Also, in FY 01 the Trustee Council requested that this program coordinate with other statewide programs on harbor seals and this issue is not addressed in the proposal. Defer funding pending clarification of these issues.		Fund contingent on submittal and approval of a revised Detailed Project Description that updates information on (a) the number of seals and tissue types sampled, (b) the distribution of the samples collected, (c) the sample database, and (d) activities undertaken to integrate the EVOS biosampling program with efforts underway statewide by the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the United States Geological Survey, and others. This project will continue the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission's biological sample collection program for harbor seals in the spill area. This multi-year project has successfully provided samples to harbor seal researchers. FY 02 was expected to be the final year of Council support, but this might be the type of community effort that is appropriate under GEM.				