

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1011 E. Tudor Rd. Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199

DEC

Mr. Craig S. Harrison
Pacific Seabird Group
4001 N. 9th Street, #1801
Arlington, Virginia 22203

DEC 30 1994

Dear Mr. Harrison:

On November 2, 1994, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (Council) authorized a Fiscal Year 1995, Restoration Work Plan and Budget. Included in the work plan budget was \$74,400 for the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for a Seabird Restoration Symposium (see attachment A in the enclosure), as proposed by the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG). As you are aware, the Trustee Council required that proposals submitted by the private sector, in response to the Invitation to Submit Restoration Projects for Fiscal Year 1995 (May 1994), be sponsored by a State or Federal Trustee agency. The Seabird Restoration Symposium proposal was assigned to the Service by the Council. It is the Service's decision to grant the funds approved for this project to the Pacific Seabird Group.

On December 2, 1994, a Court Request for Fiscal Year 1995 funds was signed by the Trustee Council and submitted to the Court for approval. The process for approval and allocation of the authorized funds takes approximately 90 to 120 days. In the interim, we propose to work with you to prepare a draft of the Grant agreement for signature. In this way, immediately upon receipt of the funds we can enter into a Grant agreement with PSG.

For all authorized projects, the Trustee Council requires that lead agencies submit a Detailed Project Description (DPD) and project budget information for scientific and budget review prior to Executive Director's final approval. The DPD must include any specific recommendations and conditions made by the Chief Scientist. Note that authorized funding for this particular project is conditional on expansion of the project objectives to include publication of conference proceedings. Enclosed is a memo which provides information and instructions for preparing and submitting DPD's. Please follow this format. The deadline for submission of DPD's is February 9, 1995.

If you have any questions, please contact Catherine Berg, EVOS Coordinator, at (907) 786-3598.

Sincerely,

Acting Regional Director

Richard S. Porgraham

Enclosures

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451 Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



TO:

Agency Liaisons

Restoration Work Force

FROM:

Molly McCammon, Director of Operations

DATE:

November 10, 1994

SUBJ:

Detailed Project Descriptions for Authorized FY 95 Projects

The purpose of this memorandum is to:

- 1) provide you with a copy of the listing of FY 95 Work Plan projects as authorized by the Trustee Council at the November 2-3, 1994 meeting;
- 2) provide you with the enclosed material for distribution to Project Leaders to guide preparation of Detailed Project Descriptions (DPDs) and detailed budgets for FY 95 projects;
- 3) identify NEPA compliance documentation requirements; and
- 3) identify the timeline for peer review and final Executive Director approval of project DPDs and budgets.

The Trustee Council took action on the FY 95 Work Plan to authorize projects as shown in Attachment A. The Trustee Council conditioned authorization of individual projects upon the Executive Director's final approval following scientific/budget review, documentation of NEPA compliance, and consideration of project equipment needs in light of existing Trustee Council equipment inventory. Further, the Trustee Council specifically adopted a motion that authorized projects should proceed in a manner consistent with the conditions and recommendations made by the Chief Scientist as reflected in the various workshop memos (e.g., the sockeye program review, the genetics workshop, the Project 95320 review, etc.). A complete set of the Chief Scientist review memos is provided as Attachment B.

Prior to receipt of final approval, unless otherwise specifically provided, expenditures of funds authorized at the November 2-3 meeting are to be

limited to those costs associated with DPD/budget development and NEPA compliance efforts.

Detailed Project Descriptions

Guidance regarding the format and content of DPDs is provided in Attachment C. Unless otherwise indicated, lead agencies are responsible for the submission of a Detailed Project Description (DPD). Please provide: one copy of the DPD directly to Dr. Robert Spies/Chief Scientist (Applied Marine Science, 2155 Las Positas Court, Suite S, Livermore, California 94550); and two copies of the DPD to the Anchorage Restoration Office (attn: Eric Myers, Project Coordinator, 645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501). DPDs should be submitted by Friday, December 9, 1995 (or sooner, if possible). Questions regarding DPDs should be directed to Eric Myers or Sandra Schubert in the Anchorage Restoration Office at 278-8012.

Project 95320/PWS System Investigation: With specific regard to Project 95320, the Chief Scientist has urged that a single DPD be prepared that integrates the various sub-parts of this project. Jerome Montague and Ted Cooney should work closely with Dr. Spies to ensure that the Project 95320 DPD is prepared in a manner that will be responsive to the needs of the peer review process.

Project Budget Information

A memorandum identifying outstanding project budget needs was distributed to the agency liaisons by Traci Cramer, Administrative Officer on November 7. This included a listing, shown in Attachment D, of projects that have been authorized by the Trustee Council for which budget detail is not available or is inconsistent with the amount authorized. Budget questions should be directed to Traci Cramer in the Executive Director's Office (907) 586-7238. Please provide: one hard copy of the budget to Traci Cramer (P.O. Box 20122, Juneau, Alaska 99802) as well as an electronic copy on diskette; and one copy of the budget to the Anchorage Restoration Office (attn: Eric Myers, Project Coordinator, 645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501).

Following submission of the detailed budgets, Traci Cramer will be coordinating the project budget reviews. Further information regarding that review process will be forthcoming under separate cover.

NEPA Compliance Documentation

Final approval of all projects will require the lead agency to provide written documentation regarding NEPA compliance. This includes a determination that a project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion.