

This document provides a summary of OSRI programs to receive funding during fiscal year, 2008 according to the three main OSRI goals: 1) Understand, 2) Respond, and 3) Inform in the FY08 Work Plan. Recent changes in OSRI programs, deviations from the OSRI 2005-2010 Science Plan, and descriptions of new programs are highlighted here. To make navigation of the FY08 Work Plan more efficient, subheadings with project dollar amounts are inserted into the Table of Contents of the FY08 Work Plan. There have been changes to the layout of the Work Plan to clarify new and existing programs, improve alignment with goals, and make more similar to budgetary documents. This executive summary does not include a description of programs funded in previous years that will continue into FY08.

Goal 1: Understand

A total of \$415K of new funding is allocated to the Understand Goal. Programs in the Understand Goal are consistent with the OSRI 2005-2010 Science Plan. There are no changes in the Physical Sciences Programs including meteorology and physical oceanography. The data management project is also continuing as described in the Science Plan.

During FY08 the partnership between OSRI and the North Pacific Research Board will release three RFP's on the following topics: 1) Socioeconomics: modeling community impacts, 2) Expansion of baseline contaminant data, and 3) Merging of near-shore habitat and fisheries data. The Biological Fellowship program used in FY07 has been modified so that the funds can be used in three manners: 1) support Post-Docs, 2) Proposal/white paper development meetings, and 3) to support visiting scientists. The aim is to bring in new scientists and to provide OSRI with materials that can be used to better determine what major biological issues remain to be studied.

Goal 2: Respond

A total of \$198.5K of new funding is allocated to the Respond Goal in FY08. In FY08 OSRI will allocate \$50K for funding either joint RFPs with partners, or for the release of an RFP based on the identified response needs.

Another \$50K is allocated to participate in a project related to the Joint Industry Program's study of oil spill response in ice covered waters. Program sub-objectives are to improve our ability to protect the Arctic environment against oil spills resulting from exploration, development, production and transportation activities; provide improved basis for decision-making by responsible authorities; advance the state-of-the-art in arctic oil spill response; address key problems/scenarios faced by program partners; demonstrate workable response options for different ice conditions and oil types; define limiting conditions for alternate response strategies; and investigate and develop improved response capabilities and strategies. OSRI has committed to participate in the JIP at the level of minor funder, allocating \$45K towards research. Currently the most

likely project to be involved with examines the Fate and Behavior of oil in ice and the microbial degradation of that oil. An additional \$5K will be available for OSRI's active involvement in program planning and participation in steering committee meetings (this is intended to provide travel costs for OSRI Board, staff and/or STC members).

A third program under OSRI's Respond goal is development of an Oil-spill-recovery Prize through the InnoCentive process. This prize is an alternative approach towards solving R&D challenges in the oil spill response field. OSRI continues to recruit partners for this program. Many have waited to see the results from the first set of challenges. OSRI will commit \$80K towards seeding this prize in FY08.

OSRI will contribute \$18.5K towards preparing equipment and personnel for a Model Validation Experiment in Prince William Sound. The experiment will be conducted in collaboration with the Alaska Ocean Observing System demonstration project. The purpose of this experiment is to quantitatively evaluate the performance of forecast models in Prince William Sound including the RAMS atmospheric and ROMS ocean circulation models, the POM model at RSMAS, the SWAN wave model, and the GNOME oil spill trajectory model. The ultimate goal is to have models for Prince William Sound that can resolve surface or subsurface circulation with accuracy appropriate to oil spill response. Real time physical observations on surface and subsurface current direction and magnitude and biological observations on resources in the path of the spill are absolutely essential to effective and timely oil spill response. Without a reliable forecast of the direction and speed of a spill, and a knowledge of the resources likely to be impacted, even the best clean up technologies in the world may be misapplied. One aim of the model validation experiment is to integrate OSRI's oceanographic monitoring programs with OSRI's Respond goal to improve preparedness in the event of an oil spill in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska.

Goal 3: Inform

OSRI allocates a total of \$215.3K to its Inform goal in FY07. Much of the large increase in the money provided to this program is due to the movement of the Graduate Research Fellowships out of other goals and into this one. There have been some modifications of the education programs that should be pointed out. The school year programs will be funded at the previous year's level. There have been slight reductions to the summer programs and the coastal community outreach programs to help provide funds for a new program. The new program aims to demonstrate a technology activity related to oil spill response in the classroom. This program was developed based on the recommendations listed in the National Research Council review of the OSRI program. The desire is to add technology education activities that may lead to students more prepared to enter oil spill technology fields. OSRI allocates an additional \$10K for support of the national competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl, which is to be held in Seward during this fiscal year.

In Outreach, OSRI will support a number of discretionary workshops including a

Detection of Hydrocarbons in the Marine Environment workshop in partnership with the Alliance for Coastal Technologies, the Alaska Marine Sciences Symposium, and the Alaska Forum on the Environment.

A total of \$98.3K is allocated for support of the Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) program. One of the Graduate Research Fellowship's has been converted to an undergraduate scholarship for a student in an oil-related technology field at the Kenai Peninsula College. Continuation of two full fellowships are to be provided to Jim Alanko and James Druckenmiller for their Ph.D. research. A partial GRF is to support Xinglong Wu through the completion of his Ph.D. thesis. Mr. Wu received three years of GRF support, but put a request for support to finish his project and the Work Plan Committee supported his request.

OSRI allocates \$6K towards high-quality production of a FY07 annual report, and another \$6K towards the OSRI web page maintenance.

Other Programs

Other programs include OSRI program coordination (\$113K) and Science and Technical Committee meeting travel (\$18K).