

Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute Advisory Board *Draft* Fall 2007 Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2007

North Pacific Research Board Conference Room

1007 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage

<p>Roll Call</p>	<p>Call to order at 8:44 a.m.</p> <p>OSRI Board present: John Calder, Douglas Mutter, Capt. Steve Hudson, Leslie Pearson, Carol Fries (8:48), Mark Fink (8:50), Bill Lindow, George Levasseur, Doug Lentsch, Susan Saupe, Joe Banta, John Goering, and Tom Weingartner (as alternate for Chuck Meacham) were present.</p> <p>Absent: Pete Kompkoff and Glenn Ujioka</p> <p>Staff present: Nancy Bird, Penny Oswald, and Scott Pegau.</p> <p>Others: Ted Cooney (Science and Technology Committee Chair) and Ken Gibson.</p> <p>Recorders: Penny Oswald & Barclay Kopchak</p>
<p>Agenda Approval</p>	<p>The Agenda for 9/26/05 with the addition of “Financial Report” to the Review of Organization Structure was approved.</p>
<p>Public Comments</p>	<p>There were no public comments.</p>
<p>Approval of February 16, 2007 Minutes Postponement</p> <p>Motion to Approve May 27, 2007 Minutes</p>	<p>Approval of 2/16/07 Minutes Postponement:</p> <p>► Calder suggested that any comments regarding inaccuracies in the 2/16/07 minutes be e-mailed to Bird. Final approval would be done by e-mail.</p> <p><u>Motion to Approve 5/27/07 Minutes</u></p> <p>MOTION: Mutter moved, and Pearson seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of 5/27/07 as amended.</p> <p>Amendments: Page 2, paragraph 4, delete “<i>either</i>”; add “<i>a</i>”</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Chair’s Report</p>	<p><u>Chair’s Report:</u></p> <p>Congressional Budget: Calder reported a shortage of good news. He was unable to discuss Budget Bill FY08 because budgets have not yet passed Congress and its concentration on defense and homeland security has left agencies without budget increases or earmarks.</p> <p>Sea Ice: The extensive melting of Arctic sea ice has increased interest in Arctic oil and gas resources. Calder noted that presently there is no government agency prepared to respond to an Arctic spill. This could be an opportunity for OSRI to play a research role and could be reflected in the FY09 Work Plan and ongoing budget projections.</p>

	<p>Oil & Ice Workshop: The Oil and Ice Workshop to be held in October could be tied into the Arctic Council's assessment scheduled for release in January in Norway.</p>
<p>Executive Director & Research Program Manager's Reports</p>	<p><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></p> <p>Pegau Welcome: Bird welcomed Scott Pegau to his first OSRI Board meeting as the official Research Program Manager. He had been working hard with the Science and Technology Committee and Ted Cooney.</p> <p>Orientation: Bird noted that bylaws were in the meeting packet though some modifications have been delayed.</p> <p>► Bird intends to have the policy manual and bylaws up to date at the Board's 2008 February meeting. (<i>See Meeting Packet, Tab 6.4; Committee Recommendations</i>)</p> <p>Board Appointments: OSRI appointments for the industry and Alaska Native representatives are still pending at the Governor's office. Bird has submitted Pam Pope's and Ron Morris's names for the one oil and gas industry representative vacancy, and has also recommended that current Board members be re-appointed as they continue to be interested in serving. While five Board members' terms expired last May, they continue to serve until replacements are appointed.</p> <p><u>Research Program Manager's Report:</u></p> <p>Project Update: Since his hiring in March Pegau has concentrated on learning his new job and maintaining a smooth transition from Walters' tenure. Pegau offered highlights of his project update. (<i>See Meeting Packet, Tab 3.2</i>)</p> <p>1) FY07 Work Plan: Most programs described in the FY07 Work Plan have been implemented and continuing contracts are in place.</p> <p>2) Joint North Pacific Research Board (NPRB) Projects: Pegau reported that, following Science Panel and Board recommendations, Bishop's Copper Rockfish and Lingcod Acoustic Tracking proposal was jointly funded in FY07 with the NPRB. The lack of socio-economic proposals led Pegau and NPRB to revise the RFP for FY08 to increase the likelihood of receiving future proposals.</p> <p>3) Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS): There were still little or no congressional appropriations for oceanographic work. Pegau completed a review of the status of the PWS Observing System and presented same to the Science and Technology Committee (STC). He also worked with AOOS to improve web information delivery and participated in the review of their implementation plan.</p> <p>4) Jointly Funded Technology Projects: Despite the dissolution of the Cold Climate Partnership (with the Coastal Response Research Center and Minerals Management Service), there was still a desire to work in tandem. A couple of potential partners wanted to wait until FY08 to discuss projects involving NOAA oil spill tools. In FY08 OSRI will be prepared to issue an RFP of its own if other partnerships don't</p>

	<p>materialize.</p> <p>5) Joint Industry Program (JIP): Pegau was working to with the Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) to develop an RFP for the Bio-Assessment Project. Pegau said that CRRC would contribute \$300 K and OSRI \$150 K to the project over the next three years. Board members discussed the efficacy of adding fertilizer to oil to enhance degradation. Pegau drafted a white paper for the STC to review on the current state of knowledge of the effects of oil-in-ice on Arctic biota before they determined recommending funding for such a program.</p> <p>6) OSRI Prize: Discussion delayed (<i>See below, p.3</i>).</p> <p>7) AOOS/OSRI Drifter Experiment: Pegau reported a funding delay due to a decrease in Congressional appropriations for AOOS. McCammon commented that she is planning for funding to be secured and plans for the experieiment in August 2009. The experiment's objective is to validate various forecasting models. Board members discussed funding and work scope alternatives.</p> <p>8 & 9) Technology Scholarship & Graduate Research Fellowships (GRF): There were no applications from incoming students for the two year tech student fellowship. Pegau thought a revision to an 18-month program would be more attractive and target students after they've had three to six months of school to determine what type of program interested them.</p> <p>Doctoral candidate Matthew Druckenmiller of University of Alaska is funded to work on ice system maps. Masters candidate Kaitlin Ott is funded to complete her thesis on otter recovery post EVOS. A healthy Jim Alanko has returned as a GRF. One GRF was converted to an undergraduate scholarship at Kenai Peninsula College.</p> <p>OSRI Funding - Legislative Changes Status: Bird reported that passage of the inflation-proofing amendment for OSRI funds was less certain than she had thought in August. Congressional staffers feared that it would inspire others to pursue a piece of the TAPS fund. Board members offered various suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Send a letter under the Chair's or Directors' signatures to relevant committee senators. ▶ Send a letter from the Director to the Department of the Interior detailing OSRI's programs and involvement to date. ▶ Encourage Board members and Staff to talk with North Slope entities to contribute a member to the OSRI Board as an <i>ex officio</i> member. (Weingartner brainstormed various names: Head of Dept; of Wildlife, Biology Unit Craig George, or Robert Sudan; Richard Glen, Glenn Skedaul, Ron Morris (Alaska Clean Seas), John Payne (BLM, North Slope), Patricia Cochran (Anchorage head of ICC) ▶ Mutter could bring a Minerals Management Service representative to OSRI's February meeting for discussion on programs of mutual
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	<p>interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ OSRI could offer to help the North Slope mayor with the next Oil & Ice Workshop. <p>OSRI Two-Year Report: Bird is pleased with the completion of OSRI's two-year report for 2005 and 2006. Pegau plans to complete the 2007 Report in January 2008. Bird said the two-year report just published will be mailed to about 560 people and encouraged Board members to request copies for personal distribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pegau requested updated Board member photos for 2007 Report. <p>Oil Spill Curriculum: The Oil Spill Curriculum was revised over the past two years, and put into a digital format by the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council. The revised curriculum can be downloaded by teachers and others at RCAC's website and a link will be placed on the OSRI website soon.</p> <p>InnoCentive Prize: Pegau reported that three challenges were posted late last spring and early in the summer.</p> <p><i>Breaking Viscous Sheen:</i> This challenge closed in August with 27 respondents. The STC was currently reviewing the responses.</p> <p><i>Lingering Oil in PWS:</i> There were 5 responses sent out for review but Pegau did not anticipate any award.</p> <p><i>Submerged Oil:</i> This will close October 31 and, to date, has attracted 11 responses.</p> <p>Two more challenges remain to be written: <i>De-Icing</i> and <i>Solifiers</i>. <i>De-Icing</i> required criteria definitions and a well-timed release. <i>Solifiers</i> probably needs a white paper to clarify the questions before issuing the challenge</p>
Break	A break was taken from 10:10 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.
Finance Committee's Third Quarter Report, FY07	<p>Finance Committee's Third Quarter Report, FY07: Bird stated that there was nothing remarkable/unexpected in the Third Quarter Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Board members requested that Oswalt complete the Contract Award Spreadsheet and send it to Bird to distribute to the Board. <p>There followed a discussion on PWSSC's 20% administration fee for managing OSRI funds and the interest generated therefrom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Levasseur suggested exploring investment in the current high yield 5% Treasury Bonds which required a minimum \$100K investment.
Scientific and Technical Committee Report	<p>Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) Report: Cooney presented highlights of the STC Report. (<i>See Meeting Packet, Tab 5.3</i>) The STC worked with the NPRB to develop several RFPs in the area of tagging and tracking large marine animals (awarded to Bishop for Copper Rockfish study in cooperation with NOAA) and for development of a socioeconomic model of coastal impacts. Because no socioeconomic proposals were received the STC revised the RFP for resubmission in October.</p> <p>The STC recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that Jeep Rice and Lee Majors be reappointed to new three-year

	<p>Tab 7.2) and he added the third section of continuing projects. Board members stated they found this format useful.</p>
<p>Review and Approval of OSRI Understand Goal Programs</p>	<p>Review and Approval of Goal #1 – Understand:</p> <p>1) Physical Science Programs</p> <p>a) Meteorology (\$40K) – Board members questioned why others, such as the Department of Agriculture which (through the Natural Resources Conservation Service) manages the SNOTEL, don't fund maintenance of the meteorological stations. Pegau said that they currently lack funds.</p> <p>▶ Levasseur suggested that the Alaska Railroad be approached for funding as part of its avalanche prevention efforts.</p> <p>b) Oceanography (\$160K) – Bird explained that while there are two components to this measure there is only a single \$160K contract. Previous oceanographic research was funded by EVOS and OSRI and now is supported by AOOS and OSRI. Belanger is now analyzing the data and writing an evaluation prior to his departure. Jennifer Ewald has been recruited to replace Belanger in October.</p> <p>2) Biological Science Programs</p> <p>a) Funding Partnership with NPRB (\$62.5K) – Saupe expressed concern that whoever submitted proposals be required to coordinate with other entities' sampling efforts to avoid duplication of effort. Board members discussed whether the sampling should be limited to mussels. Bird said that the NPRB would consider the RFP the following week so revisions are still possible but needed immediately.</p> <p>▶ Pegau offered to add the language that "Any proposal submitted should include coordination with previous and existing programs."</p> <p>▶ Note: FY08 Work Plan page 9 <u>Contaminants baseline assessment</u>, second paragraph should read "\$62.5K" not "\$67.5K"</p> <p>▶ Saupe and Pegau agreed to meet to iron out RFP language over lunch.</p> <p>b) PWSSC Research Fellowships (\$80K) - Pegau explained the new fellowship structure. Each Post-Doctorate Fellowship will be limited to \$40K, with the money meant to serve as a matching or gap fund. Along with the proposal development workgroup meetings and the visiting scientist component funding could be distributed any way which did not exceed a total of \$80K.</p> <p>3) Socioeconomic Program</p> <p>a) Funding Partnership with NPRB (\$37.5K) – Having determined that the original RFP was too broad to inspire responses Pegau is worked with STC members to narrow its scope. The revised RFP will be out in October pending NPRB approval.</p> <p>▶ Fink suggested that a phrase referring to oil spills be added in order to tie it in more closely with OSRI's mission.</p> <p>4) Data Management (\$30K) – This will provide continuation funding to the Alaska Experimental Forecast Facility at the University of Alaska</p>

	Anchorage for data archiving.
Lunch	A lunch break was taken from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Approval of OSRI Understand Goal Programs (cont.)	OSRI/NPRB RFP Revised Language: Saupe distributed a draft of the revised language for the Contaminant Baseline Assessment RFP. ▶ Board members agreed on the revised Contaminant Baseline Assessment RFP text.
Review and Approval of OSRI Respond Goal Programs	Review and Approval of Goal #2 – Respond: 1. Technology Research and Development: a) Partnership Proposals (\$50K) – Board members decided that if after six months no partnership opportunities were identified then OSRI would release its own RFP, perhaps on techniques to prevent ice build-up. ▶ Pearson requested that the FY08 Work Plan, page 12, final paragraph, the “ <i>potential areas of research</i> ” be modified to read “ <u>to include but not be limited to</u> ” instead of merely “ to include ”. b) Joint Industry Program: Oil Spill Contingency for Arctic Ice-infested Waters (\$50K) – Pegau clarified that \$45K would be for a joint RFP with CRRC and \$5K for travel associated with OSRI’s participation on the JIP and Steering Committee. c) Oil-Spill-Recovery Prize (\$80K) – Pegau explained that \$25K was allocated for the InnoCentive contract; \$50K for prize money; and \$5K to gather people to develop challenges. Pegau said \$15-\$25K prize money is a good pay-out for theoretical solutions, while for demonstrated solutions \$50K would be the lowest acceptable prize limit. d) Model Validation Experiment (\$18.5K) - These funds will be used to refurbish and redesign drifters at PWSSC. Since 2004 new staff had been added for this project. Some money might be used to train the new oceanographer and Pegau to use the redesigned drifters. Pegau regarded this as an investment for the next field experiment. It was also noted that the Princeton Ocean Model (POM) is still running. Pegau said it is important to continue to provide data to validate the model.
Review and Approval of OSRI Inform Goal Programs	Review and Approval of Goal #3 – Inform: 1. Education (\$90K in total): ▶ Note: FY08 Work Plan, page 16, <i>1. Education (Total OSRI Cost</i> should read “ <u>\$90K</u> ” and not “ \$76.5K ” a) School Year Programs: Discovery Room, Outreach Discovery, Community Programs (\$40K) – b) Summer Programs: Forest to the Sea, Weekend Workshops (\$12K) – c) Coastal Community Outreach and Education (\$10K) – d) Technology Education Demonstration Project (\$13.5) – This new program emanates from recommendations made in 2002 by

	<p>the National Research Council. This project will expose high school students to technological concepts related to oil pollution issues as they examine technology applications similar to Lego Robotics or ROV task completions. This RFP will be advertised through email lists such as ArcticInfo, the Kachemak Bay environmental educators group, Marine Educators, and similar venues throughout the state.</p> <p>e) High School Student Scholarships (\$0.5K) – This scholarship for the Cordova Science Festival is an incentive for students to participate in the festival.</p> <p>f) National Ocean Sciences Bowl (\$14K) – \$4K will support training and travel costs for the local team to participate in the state competition and \$10K will sponsor the National Competition which will be held in Seward this year. Pegau plans to write some of the National Competition questions to center on oil spill response and the related science. OSRI will be listed as a competition sponsor.</p> <p>2) Graduate Research Fellowships (\$25K per student per year)</p> <p>a) Technology Scholarship</p> <p>b) Circulation in PWS, James Alanko, UAF (\$25K) –</p> <p>c) Sustainable Oil and Gas Development on Alaska’s North Slope through Local-Scale Integration of Geophysical and Traditional Knowledge, Matthew Druckenmiller, UAF (\$25K) – Currently in year one of three.</p> <p>d) Princeton Oceanographic Model Study, Xialong Wu (\$22.3K) – Fourth year of funding to complete PhD. on POM. This will permit him to defend and present his thesis at the Ocean Science meeting in March. Pegau reported that Wu has completed two papers with two more in the review process. This final year for his support is well-defined with an absolute end date.</p> <p>3) Outreach</p> <p>a) OSRI Advisory Board Discretionary Workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measurement of Hydrocarbons in the Marine Environment (\$15K) - Alaska Marine Sciences Symposium (\$2K) - Alaska Forum on the Environment (\$5K) <p>b) OSRI Web Page Maintenance and Upgrades (\$6K)</p> <p>c) Annual Report (\$6K) – The annual report would be completed in January 2008.</p>
<p>Review and Approval of OSRI Other Programs</p>	<p>Review and Approval of Other Programs:</p> <p>1) Program Coordinator (\$113K)</p> <p>2) Science and Technical Committee Meetings (\$18K) – The increase is to accommodate multi-day instead of single day meetings.</p> <p>Board members discussed whether a more in-depth discussion of the</p>

	<p>Science Plan is needed in the coming year. Pegau suggested that the Strategic Plan be reviewed first.</p> <p>► Fink, Pearson, and Lentsch volunteered to work with Bird and Pegau on the committee to review the Strategic Plan and draft a two page presentation for the February meeting.</p>
Prior Year's Encumbered Projects	Prior Year's Encumbered Projects: Section III of the FY08 Work Plan listed those projects funded in FY07 and carried over into FY08.
Advisory Board Comments on Work Plan	<p>Advisory Board Comments on Work Plan: Fink wanted to know how much the new community projects cost. Calder wanted to know if Kline's and Bishop's projects from FY07 would require additional funding in FY08. Fries felt that the biological component should be broken out. Perhaps there should be PWS biological research and not a biological fellowship. Bird explained that the STC's intent was that if PWSSC PIs had a project related to the OSRI mission they could submit a proposal for a post-doc. The way the plan was written the choice could be a post-doc or a visiting scientist or two. Fries felt that funding should be more specific. Bird explained that under the Work Plan there was an opportunity to develop a proposal which would then face external scrutiny by the STC and determined to merit acceptance within the framework of OSRI's mission as it was forwarded to Calder and Mutter for their review.</p>
Motion to Approve FY08 Work Plan	<p><u>Motion to Approve FY08 Work Plan</u> MOTION: Lentsch moved, and Mutter seconded, a motion to approve the FY08 Work Plan as presented. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Motion to Approve FY08 Budget	<p><u>Motion to Approve FY08 Budget</u> MOTION: Levasseur moved, and Fries seconded a motion to approve the FY08 Budget. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Calendar	<p>Review calendar/schedule for committee and Board meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - February 15, 2008 would be the last day of the Alaska Forum on the Environment ► A Strategic Plan workshop for the entire Advisory Board should be scheduled after the February 15th meeting, perhaps in March or April (avoid school spring break). Board members suggested a one and a half to two day meetings from 9:00-3:00 or 10:00 to 4:00 so members can initially check-in with their offices. ► Mutter said he could help reserve the Campbell Creek Science Center for the Strategic Plan full Board meeting. - The state Ocean Sciences Bowl will take place in Feb '08. - The national Ocean Science Bowl will follow in April '08. ► The OSRI Strategic Planning workshop meeting should also include

	<p>such interested parties as the PWSSC Board, and the STC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Since Claude Belanger had to cancel his presentation at today's meeting on the oceanography program, it was suggested that Jennifer Ewald (the new oceanographer) present at the February meeting. ▶ A new FY09 Work Plan Committee will be appointed at the February meeting.
Board Comments	<p>Board Comments: Levasseur said that he had spent most of the spring and summer on PWS and the North Gulf Coast. He observed porpoises, whales, and more fish bait and commented that it appears the area is recovering to pre-oil spill conditions. Weingartner commented that this year recorded the coldest shelf temperature in the last thirty years – at least one degree colder than normal. Mutter thanked Ted Cooney for his great leadership on the STC.</p>
Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 2:47 pm.</p>