

# Monitoring Temporal Variability



## Request for proposals

The Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) in Cordova, Alaska along with the Alaska Ocean Observing System supports projects that improve our understanding of recovery from oil spills. The natural interannual variability ecosystems experience creates difficulty in determining when a system has recovered. OSRI seeks ways to economically monitor the temporal variability in nearshore ecological variables.

## Program objectives

The objective is to outline an approach to economically monitor temporal variability.

There are programs such as ShoreZone that provide high-spatial resolution maps of geological and biological variables in the intertidal zone; however, variability of some organisms in this zone can be extremely high. For example, the photographic record at Mearn's Rock has shown dramatic changes in nearshore biology over the past 20 years [http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/stories/oilymess/downloads/photo\\_series.pdf](http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/stories/oilymess/downloads/photo_series.pdf). It is important to account for this variability when trying to understand when a system has recovered, when analyzing for habitat association, and interpreting information from high-resolution surveys.

OSRI seeks proposals to host a workshop and develop a white paper outlining approaches for economical monitoring programs designed to identify temporal variability in nearshore ecological variables and the limitations associated with those approaches. OSRI will provide up to \$30K to support one proposal on this subject.

Proposals must link the activities to OSRI's mission and goals. A description of OSRI and our mission and goals at <http://www.pws-osri.org/>. Grant application materials can be found at [http://www.pws-osri.org/grants/app\\_proc.shtml](http://www.pws-osri.org/grants/app_proc.shtml). **The deadline for submitting applications is February 21, 2011.** Funding is anticipated to begin on July 1, 2011. Applicants are encouraged to contact: Dr. Scott Pegau, OSRI Research Program Manager ([wspgou@pwssc.org](mailto:wspgou@pwssc.org)) if you have questions regarding this opportunity.

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