



North Pacific Research Board

Building a clear understanding of the North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean ecosystems that enables effective management and sustainable use of marine resources.



Presentation

to

Bering Sea Inter-Agency Work Group

July 17, 2006

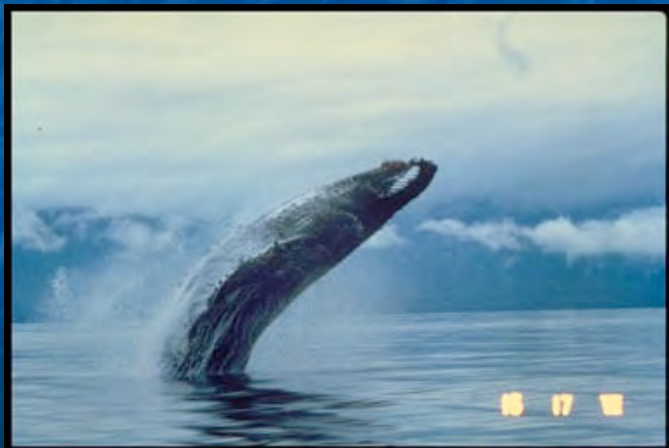


**Clarence Pautzke
North Pacific Research Board
Anchorage, Alaska**

www.nprb.org



Research should address pressing fishery management issues or marine ecosystem information needs of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and Aleutians, and Arctic Ocean



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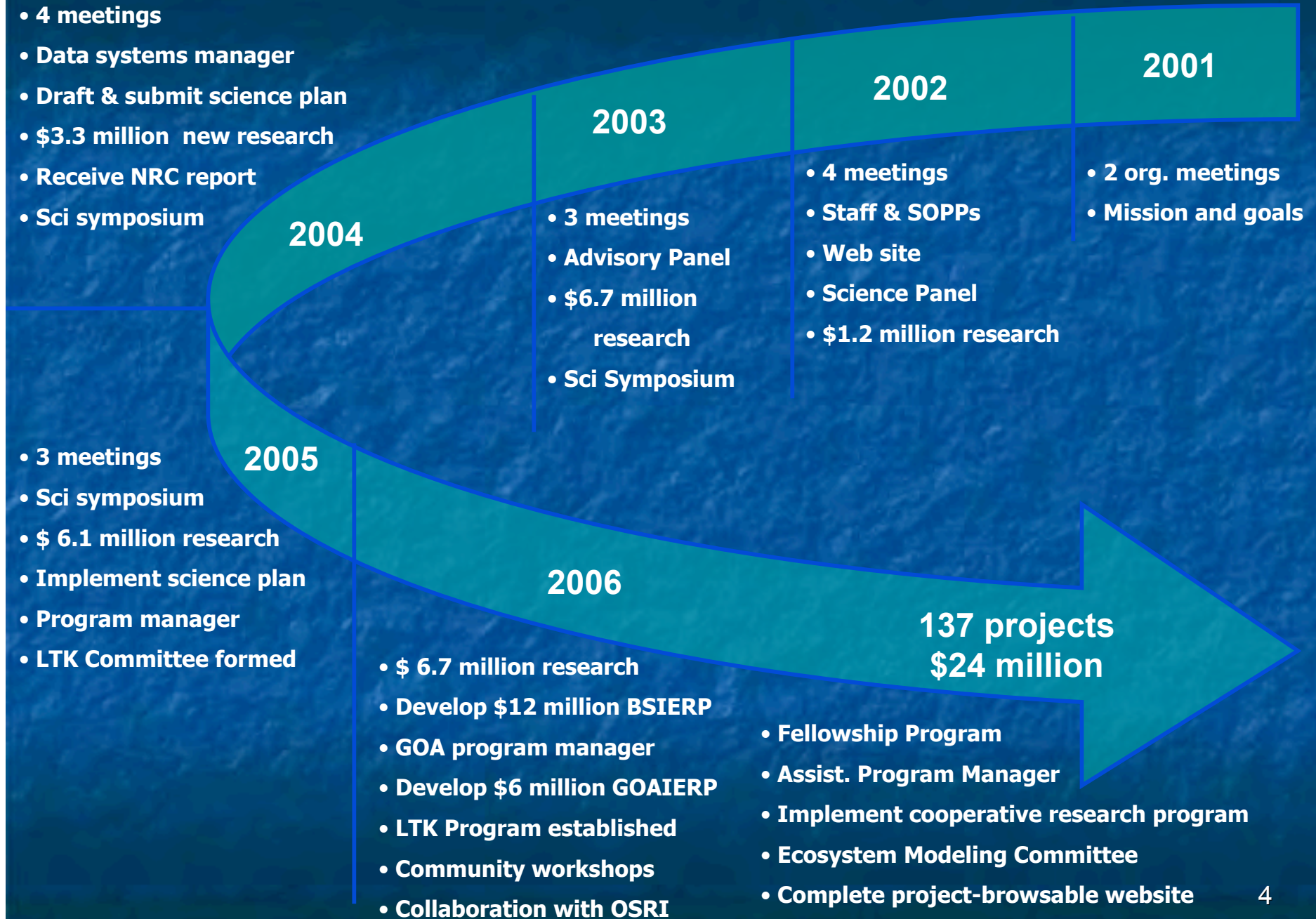
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John Gauvin, Burien**

Oregon

Howard Horton, OSU, Corvallis



Research Funds

Dinkum Sands funds – 1997: 20% of interest

Total Research thru 2006 - \$24 million for 137 projects:

- \$1.2 million for 2002
- \$6.7 million for 2003
- \$3.3 million for 2004
- \$6.1 million for 2005
- \$6.7 million for 2006



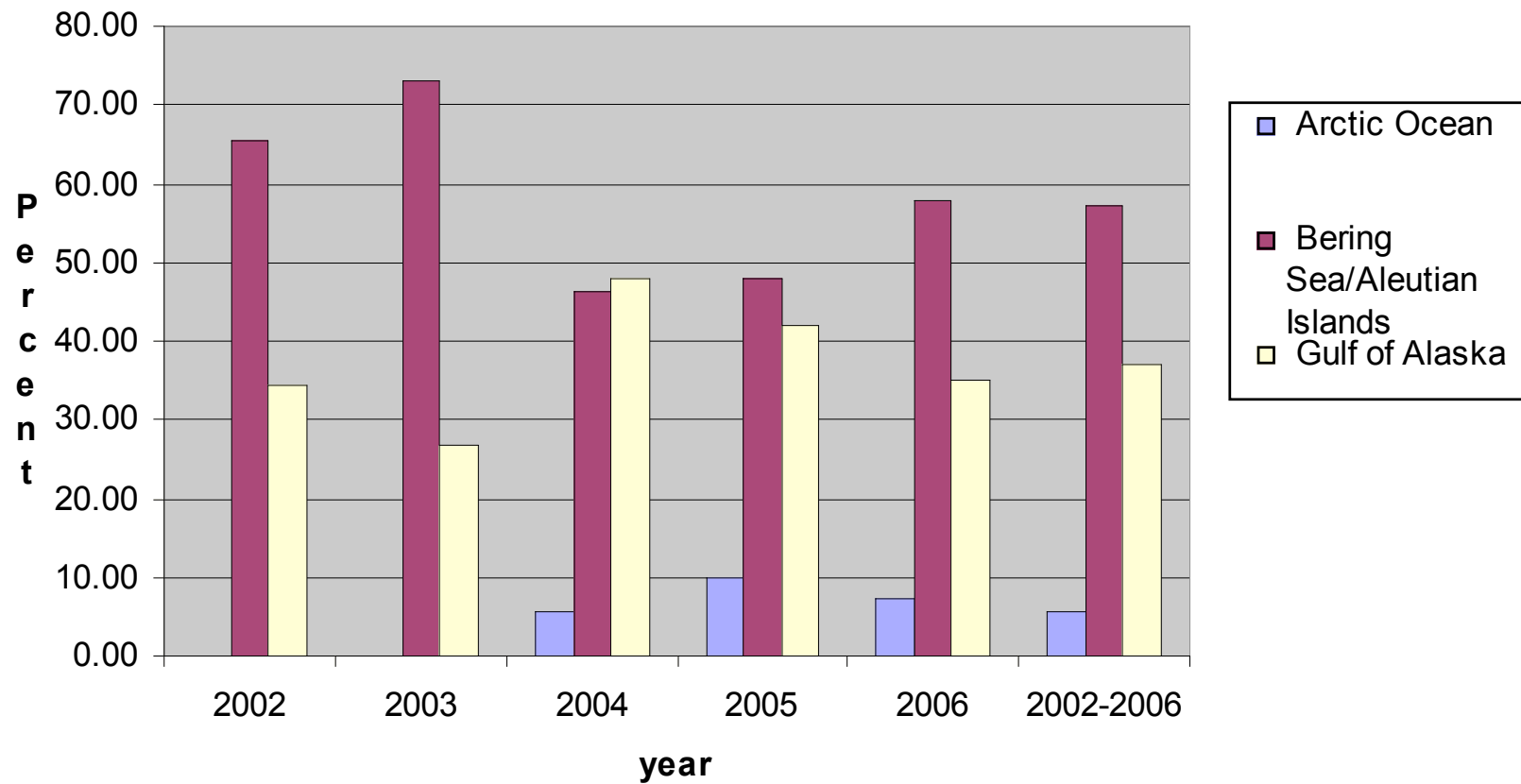
35 projects complete; 102 ongoing

Plan for about \$6-7 million annually plus appropriations if available

Funding Proportion by LME

Year	Arctic Ocean	Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands	Gulf of Alaska
2002	0	65	34
2003	0	73	27
2004	6	46	48
2005	10	48	42
<u>2006</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>35</u>
2002-2006	6	57	37

Aportionment of funds across LMEs and year



Institutions Receiving Over \$400,000

<u>Institution</u>	<u>NPRB Funding</u>	<u>% Total</u>
NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center	\$5,688,260	24.2
University of Alaska	5,466,468	23.3
University of Washington	1,341,809	5.7
Alaska Dept of Fish and Game	937,684	4.0
Oregon State University	901,140	3.8
UAF-UAS	824,405	3.5
NOAA Pacific Marine Env. Lab.	820,630	3.5
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	680,571	2.9
U.S. Geological Survey	541,065	2.3
Moss Landing Marine Laboratories	514,398	2.2
PRBO Conservation Science	484,462	2.4
University of California - Scripps	479,505	2.0
Alaska SeaLife Center	443,948	1.9
Prince William Sound Science Center	400,022	1.7
NOAA Overall Total	6,860,487	29.2
University of Alaska Overall Total	6,433,537	27.4

<u>Research Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u># Projects</u>
Ecosystem Studies	\$6,202,977	26	34
Fish and Invertebrates	\$5,955,058	25	37
Habitat	\$2,715,664	11	12
Humans	\$1,231,816	5	14
Marine Mammals	\$3,788,661	16	23
Salmon	\$2,290,037	9	9
<u>Seabirds</u>	<u>\$1,986,646</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
Grand Total	\$24,170,859	100	138



Salmon



O. Fish



Habitat



Shellfish



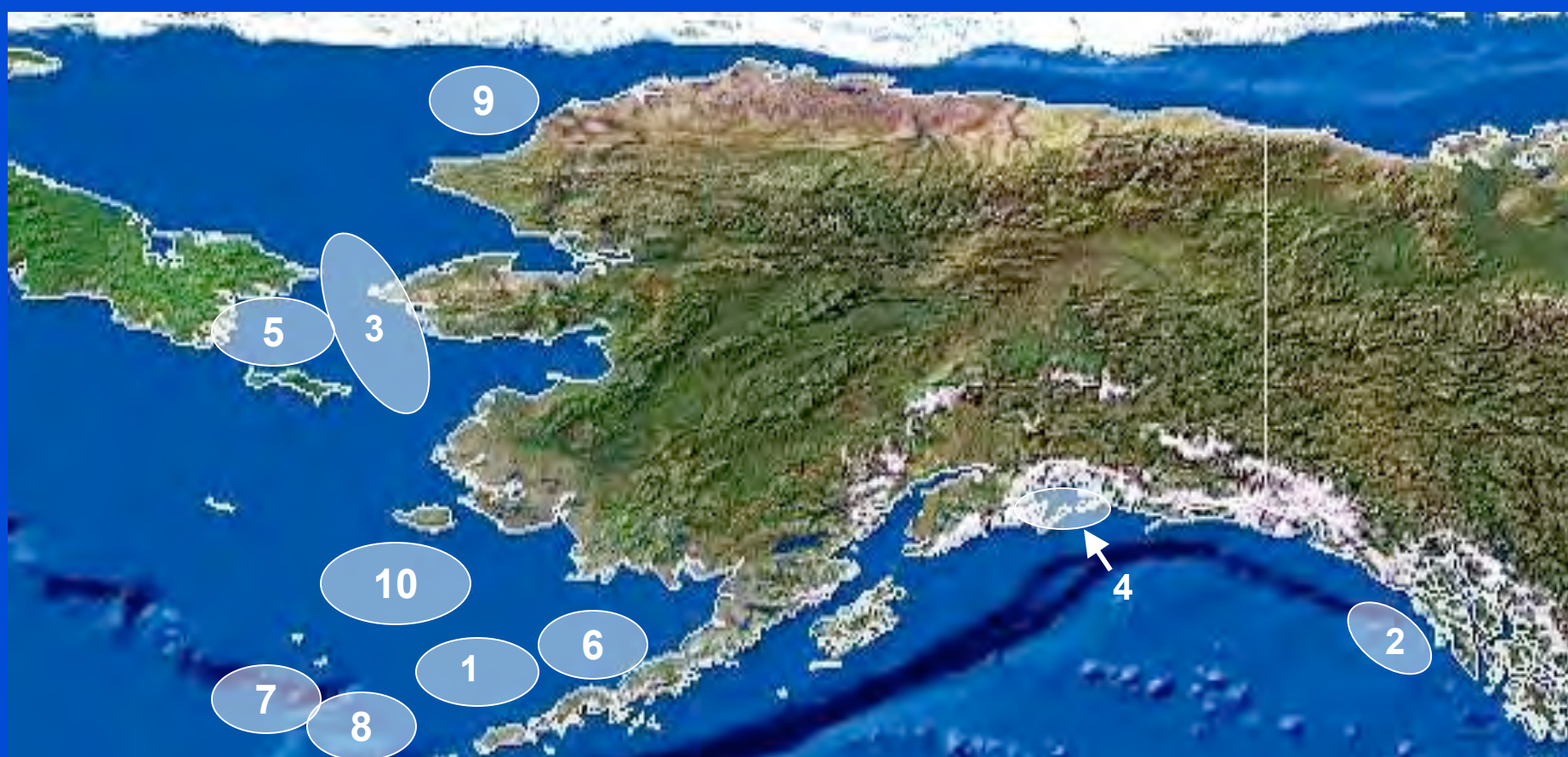
Ecosystem



Mammals



Seabirds



1. Right Whale acoustics

2. Sperm whale – longline interactions

3. Ice seal bio-monitoring

4. PWS harbor seals foraging ecology

5. Beluga whale wintering grounds

6. Diets of BSAI killer whales

7. Fur seal foraging strategies

8. Winter movement of fur seal pups

9. Ice seal stock structure

10. Oceanography and endangered whales

Building a clear understanding of the North Pacific, Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean ecosystems that enables effective management and sustainable use of marine resources

SPOTLIGHT

The 2006 Marine Science in Alaska Symposium was held in Anchorage on January 23-25. Abstracts, presentations, and other information are available [here](#)...

OUR SITE

Meetings
Three to four public meetings each year, usually in Anchorage.
[Read more...](#)

Board rec proposals in response to For Proposals

A metadata held on Jax the metadata presentation

New Projects
[Check it!](#)

CALENDAR

Meetings

The Science in Anchorage 2006.

The Advisory

- Research**
- Browse All Projects
 - Research 2006
 - Research 2005
 - Research 2004
 - Research 2003
 - Research 2002
- Documents**
- Science Plan (pdf ~3M)
 - Science Plan (pdf ~8M)
 - Data Mgmt and QA/QC Statement
 - Progress Report Template
 - Final Report Template
 - Finance Report Form

Research

The North Pacific Research Board is charged with recommending research relating to fisheries or marine ecosystems of the Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean, with emphasis on addressing pressing fishery management needs. The Board's long term goal is to develop a research program for the region that will rest on the foundation of fishery management and ecosystem cooperation among research projects, increased information, and will strive to avoid duplicating other research.

The Board uses an open, competitive process for proposals. Criteria for project selection are set in the annual request for proposals (RFP). The enabling legislation is quite specific. Research grants may be awarded to foreign organizations or individuals. Research grants are reviewed by the Secretary of Alaska Regional Administrator of Fisheries. If the Secretary decides not to approve a grant, the Secretary must explain in writing. The Secretary is not free to use the

- Research**
- Browse All Projects
 - Research 2006
 - Research 2005
 - Research 2004
 - Research 2003
 - Research 2002
- Docs & Templates**
- Science Plan (pdf ~3M)
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 - Data Mgmt and QA/QC Statement
 - Progress Report Template
 - Final Report Template
 - Finance Report Form

RESEARCH :

Research 2006

[Browse 2006 Projects](#)

The Board released the 2006 Request For Proposals (RFP) October 7, 2005 for approximately \$5.15 million in **Environmental Improvement and Restoration Funds** and other funds available to NPRB for research projects starting in 2006. The 2006 priorities relate directly to the Board's Science Plan and encourage proposals with the use of Local and Traditional Knowledge (LTK).

126 proposals requesting over \$24 million were received by the deadline on December 9th, 2005. The full text of the RFP is available at [2006 RFP](#) (pdf). Proposals are being sent out for individual technical evaluations during January and February 2006. The Science Panel will meet in Seattle March 14-15 to review the proposals and their evaluations, and presented its recommendations for funding to the Board at its Anchorage meeting on March 29-30.

The Board's recommendations for 2006 will be submitted for approval to the Secretary of Commerce acting through his designee, the Alaska Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries.

Project Browser

Year

2003

LME(s)

Ecosystem components

Places

Keywords

Research Priorities

PI(s)

Free Text Search

Filter

Filter Criteria

NPRB Projects

1..15 of 26 projects | << < 1, 2 > >> |

- 301 Evaluation of emergent structure in low-relief benthic habitats as a criterion for defining the essential fish habitat of juvenile North Pacific flatfishes (Clifford Ryer, Alisa Abookire, Allen Stoner, Ian Fleming)
- 302 A continuous plankton recorder survey of the North Pacific and southern Bering Sea (Sonia Batten, David Welch)
- 303 NPAFC Cooperative Research: Use of genetic stock identification to determine the distribution, migration, early marine survival, and relative stock abundance of sockeye and chum salmon in the Bering Sea (James Seeb, Richard Wilmot, Shigehiko Ur, Azumaya, Katherine Myers, Richard Temnykh)
- 304 Deep sea coral distribution and habitat use of coho and sockeye salmon (Heifetz, Jennifer Reynolds, Jennifer)
- 305 Monitoring and modeling predator-prey interactions in the Bering Sea (Frank Morado, Pamela Jensen)
- 306 Species identity and life history of the Bering Sea herring (Frank Morado, Pamela Jensen)
- 307 Bering Sea right whales: ongoing research (Hildebrand)
- 308 Forage fishes in the western Gulf of Alaska (Wilson, Jari Paakkonen, Kevin Baile)
- 309 Sperm whale and longline fisheries interactions in the Gulf of Alaska (Straley, Tory O'Connell, Linda Behr, Bowles, Stephen Insley)
- 310 Estuaries as essential fish habitat and habitat use of coho and sockeye salmon (Bishop, Sean Powers, Gordon Reeves)
- 311 Establishing a statewide data warehouse for Alaska (Beverly Agler)

NPRB Projects

[Select the Project]

Map Satellite Hybrid

309 Sperm whale and longline fisheries interactions in the Gulf of Alaska

Year funded: 2003

Start date: May 01, 2003

End date: Sep 30, 2005

Budget: \$184,518.00

[see more...](#)

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Documents

Project Summary and Statement of Work:

Progress Report: Jul, 2003
Progress Report: Jan, 2004
Progress Report: Jul, 2004
Progress Report: Jan, 2005
Progress Report: Jul, 2005
Final Report: Dec, 2005

Factsheets

Sperm whale interactions with longline fisheries off Southeast Alaska

Articles

Sneaky Cetaceans: Arctic Science Journeys Radio

LMES

Gulf of Alaska

309 Sperm whale and longline fisheries interactions in the Gulf of Alaska

Year funded: 2003

Start date: May 01, 2003

End date: Sep 30, 2005

Budget: \$184,518.00

Companion: 412

Because the amount of sablefish mortality caused by sperm whale depredation is unknown it presents fisheries managers with a difficult assessment problem. In Alaska, injury has not yet occurred, however, mortalities and serious injury of sperm whales have occurred in other areas of the world due to similar fisheries interactions. Through cooperative research with fishermen, government and scientists, our ultimate goal is to provide recommendations for strategies to reduce or eliminate depredation on longline gear by sperm whales. At the southern and diurnal stock str information assist in depredat

Education

Marine Mammals

Seabirds

Fish and Fish Habitat

Invertebrates

Pollutants and Contaminants

Humans

Principal

Janice St

University

1332 Sew

Sitka AK 9

Phone: (9

Project Audio

Recording 1

Sound and spectrogram from 9:27 AM, earlier in the day: The clicking of a distant whale, plus the sound made by the fishing vessel Cobra as it briefly engages its engine during a longline recovery. Half an hour later two whales were visually sighted next to the vessel.

Recording 2

From 11:33 AM May 8, 2004: sounds from two animals, one doing a "regular" click, the other a "slow" click. The echoes that can be heard permit the animals to be tracked in

Sperm whales have learned to take sablefish, a natural prey, off longline gear in the Gulf of Alaska. Reports of depredation were first noted in 1978 and have steadily increased in frequency and severity, with a notable increase since the late 1990s likely due to the lengthening of the fishing season.

EDUCATION : MARINE MAMMALS :

Sperm Whale and Longline Fisheries Interactions in the Gulf of Alaska (R0309, F0412)

For a print-friendly PDF version of this fact sheet, [click here](#).

Jan Straley (University of Alaska), Dr. Aaron Thode (Scripps Institute of Oceanography)

Are Sperm Whales Thieves?

While many modern day fishermen share camaraderie with marine mammals, sometimes the animals take advantage of the situation. For example in the Gulf of Alaska, Sperm whales have learned how to "steal" black cod, halibut, and lingcod from longline fishing gear. This behavior has created a significant economic loss to the fishermen. Although some whales have become entangled in fishing gear, no mortality or serious injury has yet occurred. Depredation of longline gear by sperm whales has been occurring since at least 1978, and has increased in frequency since the mid 1990's. Fishermen have approached



Photo: Jan Straley



Marine Mammals

Bering Sea Right Whale Distributions (307)

Sperm Whale Interactions with

ARCTIC Science Journeys

Radio Script
2004



Longline fishermen in Southeast Alaska are helping biologists find out why some sperm whales, like this one near a fishing boat, are marauding fishermen's catch. (Courtesy Jan Straley)

Sneaky Cetaceans

INTRO: In the novel Moby Dick, Captain Ahab pursues a giant sperm whale in revenge for taking his leg. That was fiction. In real-life, some Alaska sperm whales would rather take a bite out of fishermen's catch. Sonya Senkowsky has more in this week's



[Listen to story on Real Audio](#)

[Download RealAudio](#)

Search

Related websites

[North Pacific Research Board](#)

[Guide to Marine Mammals of Alaska](#)

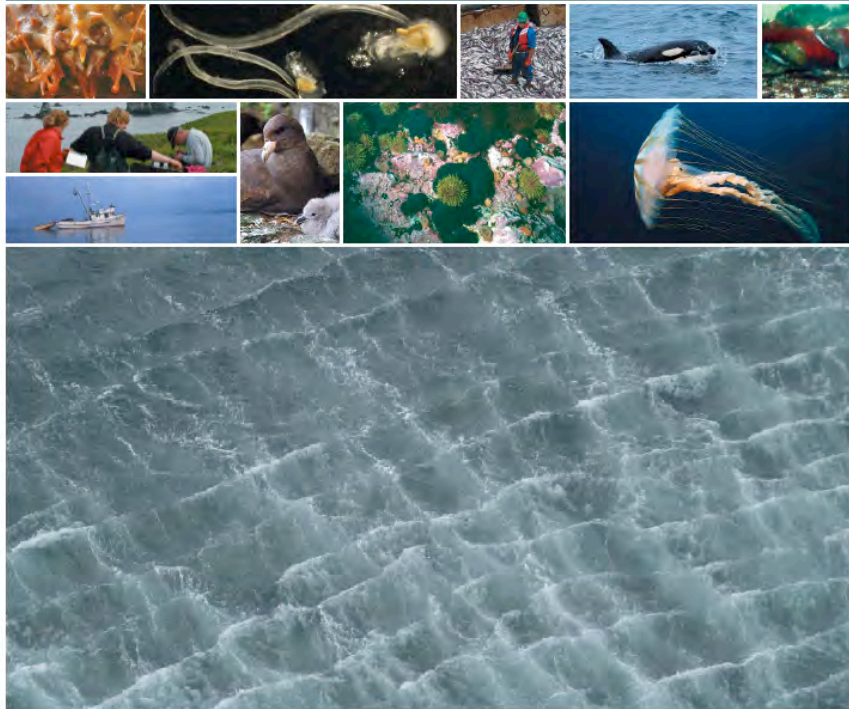
[Alaska Wildlife News](#)
(Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

North Pacific
Research Board

Science Plan



Building a clear understanding of the North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean ecosystems that enables effective management and sustainable use of marine resources.



**The Board's first Science Plan
will guide its funding decisions
over the next 5-7 years**

5-7 year Science Plan

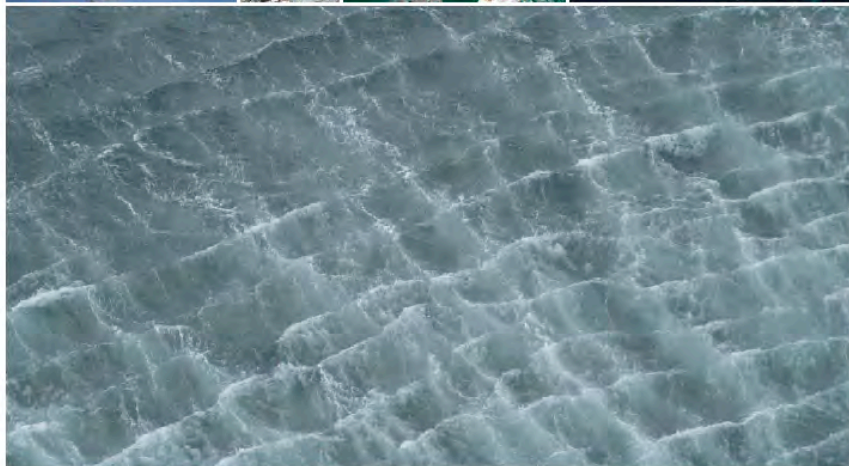
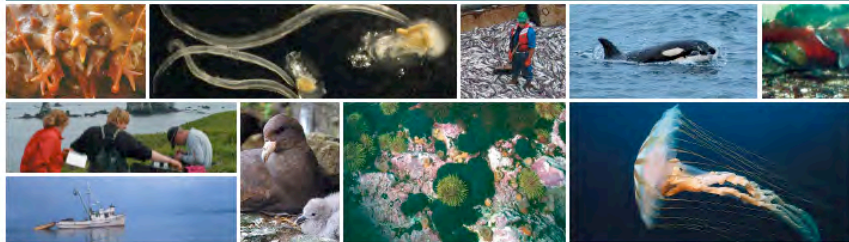
- **Conceptual Foundation**
 - Atmospheric and Oceanographic features
 - Ecosystem Dynamics
 - Human Dimensions
- **Research Approaches**
- **Ecosystem Indicators**
- **Research Themes**
 - Lower Trophic Level Productivity
 - Fish Habitat
 - Fish and Invertebrates
 - Marine Mammals
 - Seabirds
 - Humans
 - Other Prominent Issues
 - Contaminants
 - HAB
 - Aquaculture
 - Climate Change
 - Invasive Species
- **Integrated Ecosystems Research**
- **Other Research Approaches**
 - Local and Traditional Knowledge
 - Cooperative Research
 - Coordination
 - Education and Outreach
- **Policies and Procedures**
 - Data Management
 - Scientific Integrity
 - Specimen Archives
 - Intellectual Property Rights
 - Equipment Sharing

North Pacific
Research Board

Science Plan



Building a clear understanding of the North Pacific, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean ecosystems that enables effective management and sustainable use of marine resources.



Science Plan promotes
integrated ecosystem research

The Board's first Science Plan
will guide its funding decisions
over the next 5-7 years...

Chapter 3
Research Themes

Integrated Ecosystem Research Programs

Integrated Ecosystem Research Programs Section Guide

Introduction
Examples of Existing IERPs
Opportunities for New IERPs
Southeastern Gulf of Alaska
Northern Gulf of Alaska
Western Gulf of Alaska
Aleutian Islands
Southeastern Bering Sea
Northern Bering Sea
Chukchi/Beaufort Seas
Ecosystem Indicators
Implementation Strategies

3

Research Themes

Integrated Ecosystem Research Programs

135

Bering Sea Integrated Ecosystem Research Program 2007-2013

- **How is the Bering Sea ecosystem responding to climate variability and change?**
- **What processes regulate the production, distribution and abundance of upper trophic level organisms such as commercial/subsistence fish species and marine mammals?**
- **How well can these processes be quantified and can we separate the natural variability of the system from impacts of climate change and/or human intervention?**
- **Can we quantitatively tie together the lower and upper food webs?**

BSIERP KEY ELEMENTS

- **Focus on climate change and ecosystem impacts within BSAI LME**
- **Focus on quantitative predictions and continuous interaction between field work and modeling, with definitive evaluative criteria for models**
- **Funding of \$12-12.5 million over 6 years**
- **One spin-up year, 3 major field seasons, 2 years for analysis and synthesis**
- **Vertical integration up through food web, including human impacts**
- **Multi-disciplinary and multi-agency research teams with academic and agency scientists and managers**
- **LTK Component**
- **Clear schedule and milestones and data management plan**
- **First of many 6-year modules to come**

2006-2007 Schedule

2006

September 20-22

Board approves release of 2007 RFP

October 6

Release 2007 RFP (BSIERP & non-IERP)

November 22

BSIERP pre-proposals due

December 8

Non-IERP full proposals due

December 15

Invite BSIERP full proposals

2007

January

Science Symposium and Peer reviews

March 2

BSIERP full proposals due

April 23-26

Board decision on ALL proposals

Ecosystem Modeling Committee

- **Membership:**
 - Dan Goodman (Chair), MSU
 - Tim Barnett, Scripps
 - George Hunt, UW
 - Phil Mundy, ABL-NOAA
 - Dick Beamish, DFO
 - Andre Punt, UW
 - Kerim Aydin, AFSC-NOAA
 - Tom Royer, ODU
- **Drafting Criteria for Model Review which will be included in RFP**
- **Full proposals must address the criteria**
- **Review modeling components of proposals (only those members not involved in proposals)**
- **May request adjustments**
- **Provide oversight as project proceed**

Funding Outlook

- NPRB's research funding outlook through 2011: \$32 million
- Bering Sea and Aleutians IERP (60% of 60%): \$12 million
- Gulf of Alaska IERP (60% of 30%): \$6 million
- Non-IERP Projects: \$15 million
- Arctic Ocean: \$3 million