

## NPRB-OSRI Collaboration

IN 2005, THE BOARD FIRST DISCUSSED COLLABORATING WITH THE OIL SPILL RECOVERY INSTITUTE (OSRI) AT THE MARCH AND SEPTEMBER MEETINGS, PROPOSING AN ANNUAL FUNDING COMMITMENT OF \$100,000 FROM EACH ORGANIZATION, WHICH COULD BE RENEWED EACH YEAR.

Staff identified three potential topics for consideration:

- Role of forage fish in the Northern Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound
- Tracking and monitoring of marine organisms
- Long-term ecological research (LTER) site in the Gulf of Alaska (NPRB, OSRI, AOOS and NSF)

The Board also received a draft protocol for working with OSRI. Nancy Bird, executive director for OSRI, indicated that her board was most interested in research in or near the vicinity of Prince William Sound, even though their geographical purview covers all of Alaska. The Board stated its intent to adopt the draft protocol as a five-year umbrella agreement, the details of which would be worked out by staffs of OSRI and NPRB. The Board identified the

OSRI collaboration on forage fish as a component of its 2006 RFP. One proposal focusing on forage fish in Prince William Sound was submitted and funded for a total of \$75,000. In the 2007 RFP, the categories included tracking and monitoring of marine organisms and modeling community impacts. Three proposals were submitted, and one studying rockfish and lingcod in Prince William Sound was funded for \$145,000. The Board included three categories in the 2008 RFP, which included modeling community impacts, contaminant baseline assessment, and forage fish and nearshore habitat associations. None of the four proposals received was approved for funding. For more details about funded NPRB-OSRI collaborations, please refer to the appropriate research theme section of the report, as shown in Table 6.

**Table 6: NPRB-OSRI Collaborations**

Project	Title	Research Theme
642	Seasonal Distribution, Habitat Use, and Energy Density of Forage Fish in the Nearshore Ecosystem of Prince William Sound	Fish Habitat
729	Residency and Movement of Copper Rockfish <i>Sebastes caurinus</i> and Lingcod <i>Ophiodon elongates</i> in Nearshore Areas of Prince William Sound	Fish Habitat



Researchers sample for forage fish in the nearshore ecosystem of Prince William Sound to determine seasonal distribution, habitat use, and energy density.