

## Thomas Van Pelt

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**From:** Tom Van Pelt [tvanpelt@nprb.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2011 12:07  
**To:** best\_bsierp@list.arcus.org  
**Cc:** 'Wiseman, William J. Jr.'; 'Tom Van Pelt'  
**Subject:** announcing new NSF Bering Sea Project synthesis awards

*to all Bering Sea Project folks-- forwarding below message from Bill Wiseman:*

Bering Sea Project Participants:

I am pleased to announce that the response to the recent NSF Dear Colleague letter soliciting synthesis proposals that would take advantage of the Bering Sea Project data sets was very good. Ultimately, we were able to invest in five synthesis projects. Some of these are led by seasoned colleagues from the field program and others include new participants. I urge you all to congratulate the PIs and take advantage of the opportunity to work with them to maximize the potential synergies with your own programs.

Some of the projects are focused on expanding our understanding of narrow, but important, parts of the ecosystem to provide essential information to other ongoing parts of the Bering Sea Project:

Hongsheng Bi, Alexei Pinchuk, and Rodger Harvey

(<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=1107720>) will advance their study of the variability of euphausiid growth and vital rates and model the population dynamics of these organisms.

Gleb Panteleev, Alexander Kurapov, and Jinlun Zhang

(<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=1107925>) will assimilate available physical data, both from the Bering Sea Project and other sources, into models of the shelf region to derive optimal estimates of the circulation and hydrology and their variability on various space and time scales.

Others seek to integrate across broader portions of the ecosystem:

Bob Campbell, Carin Ashjian, Alexei Pinchuk, Evelyn Lessard, Neil Banas, and Jinlun Zhang

(<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=1107842>) will develop, with assistance from Evelyn and Barry Sherr, a lower trophic level model that will include stage-specific zooplankton components to understand the impact of a changing environment on plankton phenology and carbon cycling.

Franz Mueter, Seth Danielson, and Enrique Curchitser

(<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=1108440>) , with assistance from Janet Duffy-Anderson, will model the advective transport of walleye pollock under various atmospheric forcing conditions and compare results with field data to understand how spawning location and external forcing contribute to successful recruitment.

Finally, a large collaborative effort including Cal Mordy, Nick Bond, Al Hermann, George Hunt, Phyllis Stabeno, Kerim Aydin, Lisa Eisner, Carol Ladd, Patrick Ressler, Ken Coyle, Georgina Gibson, Alexei Pinchuk, Mike Lomas, Brad Moran and Diane Stoecker (<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=1107250>) will use Bering Sea Project and historical data, as well as models, to develop and test a series of hypotheses concerning both top-down and bottom-up control of large crustacean zooplankton and their role in controlling carbon flux through the ecosystem.

We remain committed to fair use of Bering Sea Project data and have asked all new PIs to sign the Program Management Plan and abide by the conditions of the data policy that have served the Program so well for the past few years. Contact information and brief biographies for the new PIs will be added to the Program website in the near future. If you have specific questions concerning any of the new projects, I urge you to contact the relevant PIs directly. For more general questions concerning ongoing synthesis activities, please contact your SAB representatives or any of the program officers.

Congratulations to the PIs of the new synthesis projects and best wishes to all!

Bill Wiseman