

## **Bering Sea Integrated Ecosystem Research Project: Format for Semiannual Progress Reports**

**Please Note:** Semiannual Progress Reports are due on October 1 or April 1 (whichever comes first) after the contract start date, and then every semester thereafter until the contract is completed. If the first report comes due before substantial progress has been made, please just note that in your initial report. If progress reports are delinquent, current and subsequent invoices will not be paid until programmatic requirements are met. Note that this report will be posted on the Board's BSIERP web site and is what Board members, the Science and Advisory Panels, other researchers and the public will see as representational of your research and its quality.

Email electronic copy to tvanpelt@nprb.org using **this subject line format:**  
**BSIERP Project XXX Progress Report**

If you have questions, please contact Thomas Van Pelt at (907) 644-6715 or tvanpelt@nprb.org

**[Please be concise; aim for 2-5 pages depending on the scope of your project]**

**Project #: B69**

**Title: BSIERP-Local and Traditional Knoweldge**

**Principal Investigator(s) and Recipient Organization(s): Henry P. Huntington, Huntington Consulting, hph@alaska.net**

**Contract Period and Amount of Funding:1 October 2007-30 September 2009; \$129,817**

**Report Period:1 October 2007-30 September 2008 (contract wasn't completed until spring 2008)**

**Report Date: 16 September 2008**

**Lead Author of Report: Henry P. Huntington**

### **Proposed timeline and milestones within report period:**

<i>What</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>Start</i>	<i>Other key dates</i>
Plan harvest surveys, including liaison with BSIERP data group	<b>Fall, Ahmasuk, Sepez</b>	Now	Surveys in winter 2008-09
Plan LTK interviews (including consent forms), including liaison with other BSIERP researchers	<b>Sepez, Lestenkof, Wisniewski, Riordan</b>	Now	Interviews in winter 2009-10
Identify key common interests between LTK communities, other BSIERP/BEST researchers (including potential for local observations)	<b>Huntington, Riordan</b>	Now	TBD
Prepare terms of reference for RAB, Community Advisory Boards	<b>Huntington, Zavadil</b>	Now	Start CAB meetings in Feb/March 2008
Organize Community Advisory Boards, hold first meetings to review BSIERP hypotheses, identify key community interests related to BSIERP	<b>Webster, Zavadil, Kanulie, Hamilton, Noongwook, Wiese</b>	February 2008 (when contracts are complete!)	Establish meeting schedule
Initial visits to Togiak, Emmonak to help set up CABs, etc.	<b>Langdon, Wisniewski</b>	February 2008	

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Send your photo and bio to Nora Deans ( <a href="mailto:norad@alaskasealife.org">norad@alaskasealife.org</a> ) to be posted on the BSIERP website ( <a href="http://bsierp.nprb.org/">http://bsierp.nprb.org/</a> , see section “Meet the Scientists”, click on “Pictures and Bios)	<b>Everyone (remember that everyone on the RAB is a scientist in BSIERP!)</b>	Now	
Create LTK section of BSIERP website	<b>Huntington</b>	Now	Update regularly to share information
Continue trophic level analysis for communities using existing harvest survey data; explore spatial analysis of how ocean productivity reaches communities	<b>Sepez, Aydin, Huntington, Scholz</b>	Now	Contribute to harvest survey planning as possible
Work with data group to identify our data needs (finding existing data as well as managing the data we generate)	<b>Kruse</b>	Now	

### Project Summary:

1. Document, characterize, and quantify local harvest practices and changes thereto in order to better understand the relationship between Bering Sea communities and the Bering Sea ecosystem
2. Document and characterize local understanding of Bering Sea ecosystem structure and function to allow comparison with biological understanding and sharing of knowledge between both ways of knowing
3. Integrate the results of (1) and (2) across the communities involved, identifying key similarities and differences as well as regional trends or associations with particular environmental features
4. Incorporate the results of (1), (2), and (3) into ecosystem models and other syntheses developed through BSIERP

This project has the potential to address all of the BSIERP hypotheses (perhaps excepting 5 a, c), depending on the nature of our findings from LTK interviews and subsistence harvest surveys (Tables 2 and 3). We expect our results will be most relevant to hypotheses 2 a,d; 3 a; 4 a-b; and 5 b; but we will seek information relevant to other hypotheses as well.

### Progress Summary:

Harvest surveys have been planned.

LTK interview planning is underway.

Identification of common interests between LTK project and other BSIERP components is underway, will continue at the PIs meeting in Oct. 2008.

Terms of reference for the RAB and CABs have been completed.

CAB meetings have not yet taken place. The project was slow getting started in spring due to hold-ups with the contracts, and summer is not a good time to hold community meetings. The first CAB meetings are expected to be held this fall.

Initial visits to Togiak and Emmonak were not made. Langdon withdrew from the project and the delays in completing the contracts pushed us past the spring window for community meetings. Initial meetings will be held this fall to go over plans for the harvest surveys.

Most people have submitted photos and bios by now. We will check with Nora Deans at the Oct. 2008 PIs meeting to get any stragglers.

LTK section of website has been started.

Trophic level analysis has begun, more work is needed and will take place this fall and winter to examine other communities.

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Discussions with the data group have begun. We will see at the PIs meeting whether more is required at this time.

**Lessons learned and project adjustments:** The first period was dedicated to planning, with the actual research beginning in the 2008-09 winter. We have not had to make any significant adjustments.

**Integration activity:** Sarah Kruse met with the modeling group in Seattle, and Jennifer Sepez has also continued to meet with Kerim Aydin. We have corresponded with the data group and with other BSIERP components. We expect to continue this at the Oct. 2008 PIs meeting and have been coordinating with the modelers and other ahead of time so we can get the most out of the opportunity.

**Education and Outreach:** None yet.

**Next year's Work plan (not part of the 5 page target length):** At the end of your progress report, please update your work plan for the coming year. In particular, add detail for 2009. Contact Mike Sigler if you have any questions in regards to your work plan. Follow this template:

**BSIERP B69, LTK Component, Henry P. Huntington, [hph@alaska.net](mailto:hph@alaska.net), 907-696-3564**

### 2009-2012 Tasks, Assignments, Timeline

<i>What</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>Start ( 2009)</i>	<i>Other key dates</i>
Hold initial CAB meetings	<b>Community Coordinators</b>	Fall 2009	Subsequent meetings to be held during research years of the project
Hold RAB meeting	<b>All RAB members</b>	13 October 2008	Meetings to be held annually; teleconferences to be scheduled as needed
Conduct harvest surveys	<b>ADF&amp;G, Kawerak, Savoonga, Emmonak, Togiak, Akutan</b>	Winter 2008-09	
Conduct harvest monitoring	<b>St. Paul</b>	Starting in fall 2008, continuing thereafter	
Plan LTK interviews	<b>Sepez, Hunn, et al.</b>	Winter 2008-09	Interviews to be conducted in winter 2009-10
Other activities as identified at the Oct. 2008 PIs meeting (e.g., modeling activities, coordination with other components, etc.)	<b>TBD</b>	TBD	