Assessing population size and spatial distribution of marine mammals and sea turtles in the Northern Gulf of Mexico - Addendum

Approval of this work plan is for the purposes of obtaining data for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment. Each party reserves its right to produce its own independent interpretation and analysis of any data collected pursuant to this work plan.

The trustees have developed a preliminary conceptual model of the DWH release, potential pathways and routes of exposure, and potential receptors. This preliminary model has informed the trustees' decision to pursue the studies outlined in the work plan. By signing this work plan and agreeing to fund the work outlined, BP is not endorsing the model articulated in the work plan.

This plan will be implemented consistent with existing trustee regulations and policies. All applicable state and federal permits must be obtained prior to conducting work. This project will be conducted under Marine Mammal Protection Act Research Permit #779-1633-00 and Endangered Species Act permit #1551issued to the Southeast Fisheries Science Center.

Department of Commerce Trustee Representative — Date: 7/11/2011

FOR ROLAND GUIDRY

Louisiana Trustee Representative — Date: 9/12/2011

Texas Trustee Representative — Date

BP Representative — Date: 8-16-2011

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Department of Commerce Trustee Representative	7/11/2011 Date
Louisiana Trustee Representative	Date
Texas Trustee Representative	7/16/2011 Date
BP Representative	Date

I. Purpose of Addendum

This addendum to the NRDA cooperative plan entitled "Assessing population size and spatial distribution of marine mammals and sea turtles in the Northern Gulf of Mexico" reflects budget changes associated with aircraft charter for the aerial survey to be conducted during the summer of 2011 (8 July to 8 September, 2011). The original project budget estimated a total cost for aircraft services associated with this survey (to include fuel, flight hours, pilot salaries, and travel) of $270,960. This was based upon the daily and flight hour costs for NOAA Twin Otter aircraft.

However, NOAA aircraft were not available to support the summer 2011 survey. The NOAA Aviation Safety Policy requires that charter aircraft be obtained through an interagency agreement with the Department of Interior, Aviation Management Division (AMD). As part of AMD's safety policy, and consistent with the NOAA safety policy, aircraft vendors must conform to FAA Part 135 standards for airworthiness certification, maintenance records, and operation standards. This additional safety requirement significantly increases operational costs over comparable aircraft operating under FAA Part 91 standards. There are also very few vendors of Twin Otter aircraft meeting the requirements of this aerial survey that are certified by AMD. The only vendor that responded to a request for quotes was Bald Mountain Aviation based in Homer, AK.

The need to charter an aircraft for this survey resulted in a significant cost increase due to three factors: 1) the daily costs for the aircraft and pilot are significantly higher than those for NOAA aircraft due primarily to the FAA Part 135 requirements, 2) the requirement to ferry the aircraft from Alaska to the Gulf of Mexico added additional flight days and hours, and 3) there is a 9% fee from AMD charged to NOAA to support administration of the contract, aircraft inspections, and pilot certifications.

As a result, the aircraft costs for the summer aerial survey totaled $514,371 which is an increase of $243,411 over the initial estimate. At this time, NOAA aircraft are available for surveys planned in the fall (Oct-Nov, 2011) and winter (Jan-Feb 2012), so we do not anticipate needing to conduct additional charters through AMD to support this plan.

A revised project budget is included below.

Cost Estimate

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2011-2012

Prepared by: Dr. Lance Garrison, NMFS-SEFSC-PRBD, Research Fishery Biologist

Category	Description	Cost Detail	Estimate ($000)
Project Management and Data Analysis	Responsible for implementing and managing sub-contracts, hiring contract employees, survey design, data management and reporting	ZP-III Level fishery biologist: 12-month salary, benefits, and overhead	120
Aerial Survey Lead Observer	Lead observer during aerial surveys responsible for logistics and day-to-day operational decisions	Contract Fishery Biologist II: 12 month salary, includes overtime during survey flights	120
Aerial Survey Observers	5 contract observers hired for each survey	Contract Fishery Biologists: 4x60 day surveys @ 10 hours per day ($24k per person per survey)	478
Labor Sub-Total			**718**
Travel Costs	Hotel, per diem, and travel expenses for survey lead and 5 observers during surveys. Includes rental car for use by observer team during surveys (4 x 60 day surveys)	$150/day hotel and per diem $1000 flight/travel costs per person per survey Rental Car: $45 per day	251
Travel Sub-Total			**251**
Aircraft Costs	Sub-contract to Bald Mountain Aviation. Budget for [redacted] flight days [redacted] survey days + [redacted] ferry days) and [redacted] flight hours ([redacted] survey hours, [redacted] ferry hours) Includes pilot and co-pilot travel costs, plane set-up and misc.	Cost for NOAA aircraft (3 surveys): $270,960 x 3 Cost for charter aircraft (1 survey): $514,371	1,327
Aircraft Sub-Total[1]			**1,327**
Equipment and Supplies	2 Toughbook durable computers @	$5,000 each	10

	$5,000 each		
Equipment and Supplies	Cameras and lenses, mounting brackets, memory cards and supplies for photogrammetry	2 Cameras @ $3,000 $500 in misc. supplies	6.5
Equipment and Supplies	Photo-analysis software		1.5
Equipment and Supplies	Infra-red temperature probe		1.5
Equipment and Supplies	Precision laser rangefinder/altimeter		2.0
Equipment and Supplies	Miscellaneous Expendable supplies		1.0
Equipment and Supplies Sub-Total			**22.5**
Administrative Costs and Overhead (25% on non-salary items)			**340**
Total Cost Estimate ($000)			**2,658.5**
[1] The aircraft will be funded directly through a NOAA contract since it will be flying below the 1,000 ft floor for aircraft operations under BP contracts.			

The only change in this table for the plan addendum is the increase in the Aircraft sub-total from an estimated $1,084,000 to $1,327,000 reflecting the additional cost of the chartered aircraft for the summer 2011 survey.

Durable Equipment - All durable equipment (such as cameras, GPS, etc.) purchased by BP for this study will be returned to BP or their designated representatives at the conclusion of its use for this study.