

Teleconference of the Kodiak Subarea GRS Workgroup

March 13, 2006

Attendees:

Joe Banta- PWSRCAC
John Kwietniak- Tesoro Alaska
Jeff Lewis- Kodiak NWR
Bud Rice-NPS
Sharon Kim-NPS
Troy Hamon-NPS
Larry Iwamoto-ADEC

Randy Dowd-ADEC
Chris Burns –Alaska Chadux
Vinnie Catalano-CIRCAC
Steve Howell-CIRCAC
Mike Munger-CIRCAC
Tim Robertson- Nuka Research
Mark Janes- Nuka Research

During the Workgroup meeting of March 2 2006, a teleconference was scheduled to further discuss the funding another phase of the Kodiak Subarea GRS program to develop GRS for the Alaska Peninsula Zone. During the teleconference the following subjects were discussed:

- Extension of the GRS to additional Zone
 - WG approved addressing the Alaska Peninsula Zone
- Budgeting and Funding
 - Historically cost per GRS site is \$2,000
 - PWSRCAC to contribute \$35,000 in FYO7, pending board approval.
 - **PWS RPG** to contribute \$5,000 and in-kind services
 - CIRCAC to contribute \$4,000 to \$5,000 pending committee approval.
 - Major expenses are survey and aerial photography
- Survey
 - Ursa Major II cost increase over last year
 - 2007 rates \$2,200 per day
 - Likely dates between June 15-30
- Aerial Photography
 - USCG support
 - Private charter
- Scheduling of the project
 - Workgroup meeting in Anchorage mid-April TBA

Extension of the GRS in the Subarea

Tim Robertson reported on the recent GRS workgroup meeting in Kodiak. During that meeting the 26 sites designed for the Northern and Western Zones were approved with minor changes. Also during the meeting, Joe Banta of the PWSRCAC reported on \$35,000 that was budgeted by them to address additional sites in the Subarea. With the information that funding was available, the WG designated that the Mainland zone be

approached next. Mr. Robertson also reported on the initial stages of the PPOR project for the Subarea. The pilots and individuals from the area designated most of the sites on the Mainland in the northern part of that zone where only one GRS exist. This may have an impact on the sites selected but that this decision would have to be made by the workgroup.

Budgeting and Funding

Mr. Robertson briefly outlined the costs of GRS development. The last Kodiak GRS project developed 26 sites at a cost \$50,000. Typically GRS developed by Nuka Research are produced for around \$2,000 per site. But many factors contribute to keeping the cost at this level and reducing the number of sites will not have a directly proportional reduction in costs. Factors that contribute to the low cost are the in-kind contributions from industry and resource agencies. The major expenses involved in the development process are the site surveys and aerial photography. These costs would not be greatly reduced with a smaller number of selected sites.

Tim offered that the plans could be developed using existing charts and photography, eliminating these expenses. But in the past responders and industry like the oblique photography for reference at a site. John Kwietniak said he would be skeptical of plans developed on paper. He reported that past efforts to design GRS prior to a survey resulted in major changes after the survey visit. He feels certain that the survey leads to a more effective plan.

In addition to the \$35,000 contributed by the PWSRCAC that will be available after July 1, 2007, John Kwietniak reported that the **Prince William Sound Response Planning Group** would contribute \$5,000 and the services of **QualiTech** professionals to assist in the Tactics Committee. Mike Munger reported that CIRCAC maybe able to contribute \$4,000 to \$5,000, pending board approval. Bud Rice said that the budgets for the NPS for this year are set and that he was unaware of any funds that could be shifted. Troy Hammon was not sure of any available funds, but he will investigate.

Survey

The group discussed the survey costs. The NPS in the past was able to cover the cost of their vessel when surveying the Seward Zone. Bud Rice reported that this would not be an option for 2006 due to the short notice to budget the cost and scheduling of the vessel would not allow it to be available until mid September. If 2007 was considered for the survey, it might be a possibility. Jeff Lewis of the KNWR reported on the Ursa Major II cost will increase to approximately \$2,200 daily from the \$1,200 last year. He was unsure of the exact amount but would report that as soon as it was available. All agreed that this was still a considerable saving over commercial charters. He reported that the previous survey was very efficient and that he thought that with the right conditions a survey group could work the area in approximately 8 days. The vessel is available June 15-30.

John Kwietniak suggested that cost sharing the expense of the charter to transport resources to the National Park. Parks representatives would consider but were unsure of applicability.

Aerial Photography

Mr. Robertson reported using on USCG and private charters to obtain aerial photographs for other GRS projects. If everything works perfectly with the weather and the USCG activities, using the USCG can save funds for the project. But this is rarely the case and the money that might be saved can be expended due to delays and contractor expenses. Mr. Robertson is discussing these issues with the MSD and COTP for Kodiak. Larry Iwamoto proposed PPOR and GRS photography be obtained at the same time to capture savings for both projects. Bud Rice offered access to NPS aerial photography resources. These will be used for initial site development and evaluated for use on the final product. Mr. Robertson will continue to work the issue to minimize costs to the project.

Scheduling

With the funds pledged from the oil industry, CIRCAC and PWSRCAC and support from the federal resource agencies and ADEC, the group felt confident in continuing to proceed with the project. The group discussed the most efficient manner in which to proceed with the selection of sites. A full workgroup meeting will be necessary to select the sites and it was decided that the meeting take place in Anchorage, as the resource agencies personnel that would be major contributors to the decisions are based there. Bud Rice offered to arrange a space in Anchorage at DOI in mid late April and will notify Nuka Research. Nuka Research will then coordinate the meeting and update the web site with meeting materials. The workgroup will be kept informed by email.