

Subsistence Foods Baseline Contaminants Report

Request for proposals

The Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) in Cordova, Alaska has been striving to better understand issues related to food safety after a marine oil spill. We recently supported an effort to reach out to communities to identify research priorities and one of the top priorities is to establish baseline levels associated with subsistence foods. To prepare for potentially supporting the collection and analysis of baseline levels desire more information on the current state of knowledge associated with hydrocarbons in subsistence foods.

Program objectives

OSRI is seeking a report outlining what existing information exists on hydrocarbons in subsistence foods, identifying the hydrocarbons of concern, describing the most appropriate techniques for measuring those contaminants, species and life stages most likely to accumulate and retain oil chemicals, and if there are parts of an organism where contaminants tend to be concentrated. In addition to peer-reviewed publications and reports in the gray literature, we expect that local communities may have data that have not been publically shared and that there will be relevant information from other circumpolar countries. Proposals should describe how you intend to gather the data. All work associated with subsistence foods is expected to be conducted in a culturally respectful manner with a clear description of how the information may be used and how work products will be shared. Our interest is in the information needed to guide collection of baseline measurements and we do not expect any interpretation of human health or risk assessment.

A description of OSRI and our mission and goals is at [OSRI.us](https://osri.us). Grant application materials can be found at <https://osri.us/projects/grant-policy-manual/> with appendices D and F of most importance. OSRI has a single application form for all size grants but does not expect that all areas within the application form will be relevant to every request for proposals.

The deadline for submitting applications is January 12, 2024. OSRI has budgeted \$75,000 for this research in FY 24. Funding is anticipated to begin as early as April 1, 2024. Applications should be emailed to wspogau@pwssc.org. Applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Scott Pegau, OSRI Research Program Manager (wspogau@pwssc.org), with any questions regarding this opportunity.