Essential Fish Habitat project status report

Reporting date: 9/12/11

Project number: 2010-08

Title: Reproductive Biology of Pacific Sand Lance near Juneau, Alaska: Spawn Timing and Location, and Larval Distribution

PIs: Harris

Funding year: FY10

Funding amount: $19K

Status: ☐ Complete ☒ Incomplete, on schedule ☐ Incomplete, behind schedule

Planned completion date if incomplete: Summer 2012

Reporting:
Field work has been completed. Laboratory work (oocyte measurement and gonad histology) and data analysis have yet to be completed. Preliminary results were reported in a slide presentation at the 2011 National AFS meeting. A manuscript is in preparation.

Results:
Preliminary results include:

1. Pacific sand lance use burying habitat in the Mendenhall River estuary during gametogenesis.
2. In the Auke Bay area, it appears that most sand lance spawn during late November and early December. Juneau spawning is later than the early October spawn documented in Kachemak Bay and on Kodiak Island.