

**SPECIAL PROJECT APPLICATION**  
**2008 RACE BOTTOM TRAWL SURVEYS EBS**

1. **Project Title:** Pathological specimen voucher  
**Principle Investigator (PI)/Point of Contact:** Pam Jensen, Frank Morado,  
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2. **History of work with AFSC RACE Division**  
a. **Past Special Projects with RACE:** Trophic Interactions, Bitter Crab Syndrome, Diseases/parasites of red and blue king crabs

b. **Priorities proposed project relates to NOAA Fisheries Strategic Plan:**

Objective	Performance Measure	Strategy	Program Outcome
Maintain healthy stocks important to commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries	Reduce the level of uncertainty associated with our estimates of stock status and biological potential below 1996 levels.	“periodically assess stocks to ascertain whether changes in their status due to natural or human-related causes have occurred”	Added measure: to more accurately estimate natural mortality

- c. **RACE collaboration:** Pathobiology staff will collect and analyze samples

3. **General Description and Justification:** Natural mortality is generally an unknown factor in population abundance estimates or projections. Disease or parasite associated mortalities are key components of natural mortality and may have both acute and chronic effects on local populations. However, their effects on populations are not well documented because disease agents are generally not identified or monitored. This project is intended to continue our survey of diseases of both fish and shellfish from the EBS. We want to voucher any specimen with rare or unusual pathological conditions in an effort to monitor prevalence and distribution. We will also voucher any rare or unusual specimen (i.e. *Myctophidae* spp) for initial studies. Tissue or blood samples of both host and pathogen will be opportunistically collected for genetics or DNA-based identification. Whole animal or tissue samples are to be preserved in 100% ethanol or 10% formalin.

**COLLECTION PROTOCOL**

4. **Detailed collection procedures:** no additional collection forms required.  
For **Invertebrates:** Voucher the whole specimen in 100% ethanol (5-gallon bucket).  
For **Fish:** Take a tissue sample by cutting a finclip from the right side of the fish, and place in a circular tissue cassette, preserve the finclip in 100% ethanol. Voucher the whole fish in 10% Formalin.  
**Time Requirement:** A few minutes after survey tasks are complete, when rare specimen or rare pathological conditions are observed.
5. **List of supplies:** Specimen collection labels, resealable plastic bags, tissue cassettes, dissection kit, 5-gal bucket and 1 L bottle of ethanol, 2 L bottle of formalin, datasheets
6. **Data Storage:** We do not require data storage in the Groundfish database, but would like to relate our data to haul level data.
7. **Hazardous materials:** 100% Ethanol, 10% formalin

## **SHIPPING**

- 8. 24/7 contact:** Christie Shavey (206) 526-6715, Frank Morado (206) 526-6572
- 9. Detailed shipping instructions:** We will use the AFSC shipping van to and from Alaska. Ethanol packaging conforms to DOT requirements, proper labeling and shipping papers are required. Shipping containers include DOT approved for liquids 5-gallon plastic twist top buckets and 1 liter bottles in sturdy outer packaging. Formalin 10% not regulated.

## **PERMITS**

- 10. Permits issued or pending:** ADF&G Fish Resource Permit #