

Updating the Alaska European Green Crab Early Detection and Rapid Response Plan

Columbia River Basin / 100th Meridian
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September 2023

**Early Detection and Rapid Response Plan for
Invasive European Green Crab (*Carcinus maenus*)
in Alaska, 2023-2028**

Overview

- Motivation
- Background
- Project Development
- Rapid Response Exercise
- Moving Forward

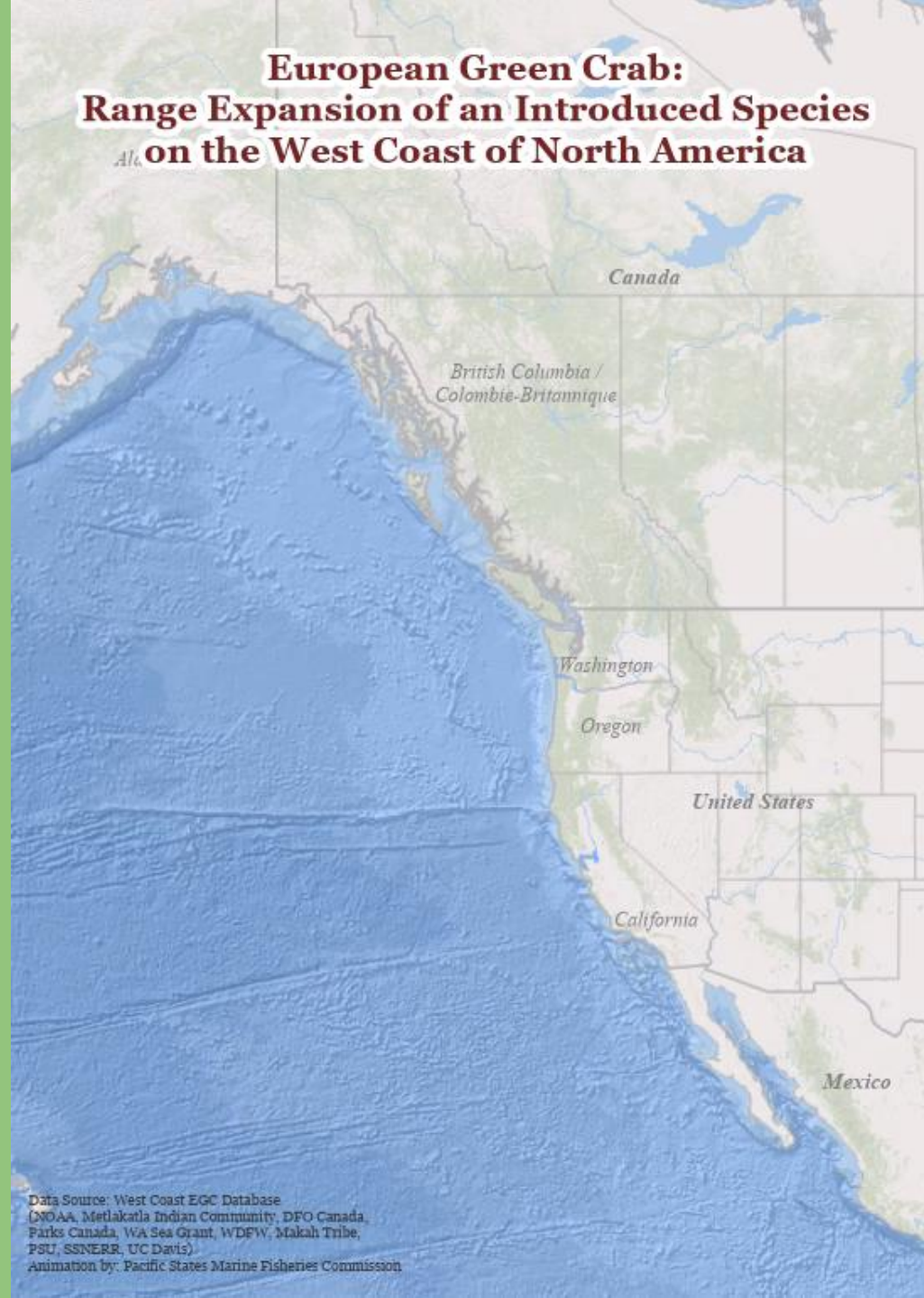


Photo courtesy KBNERR

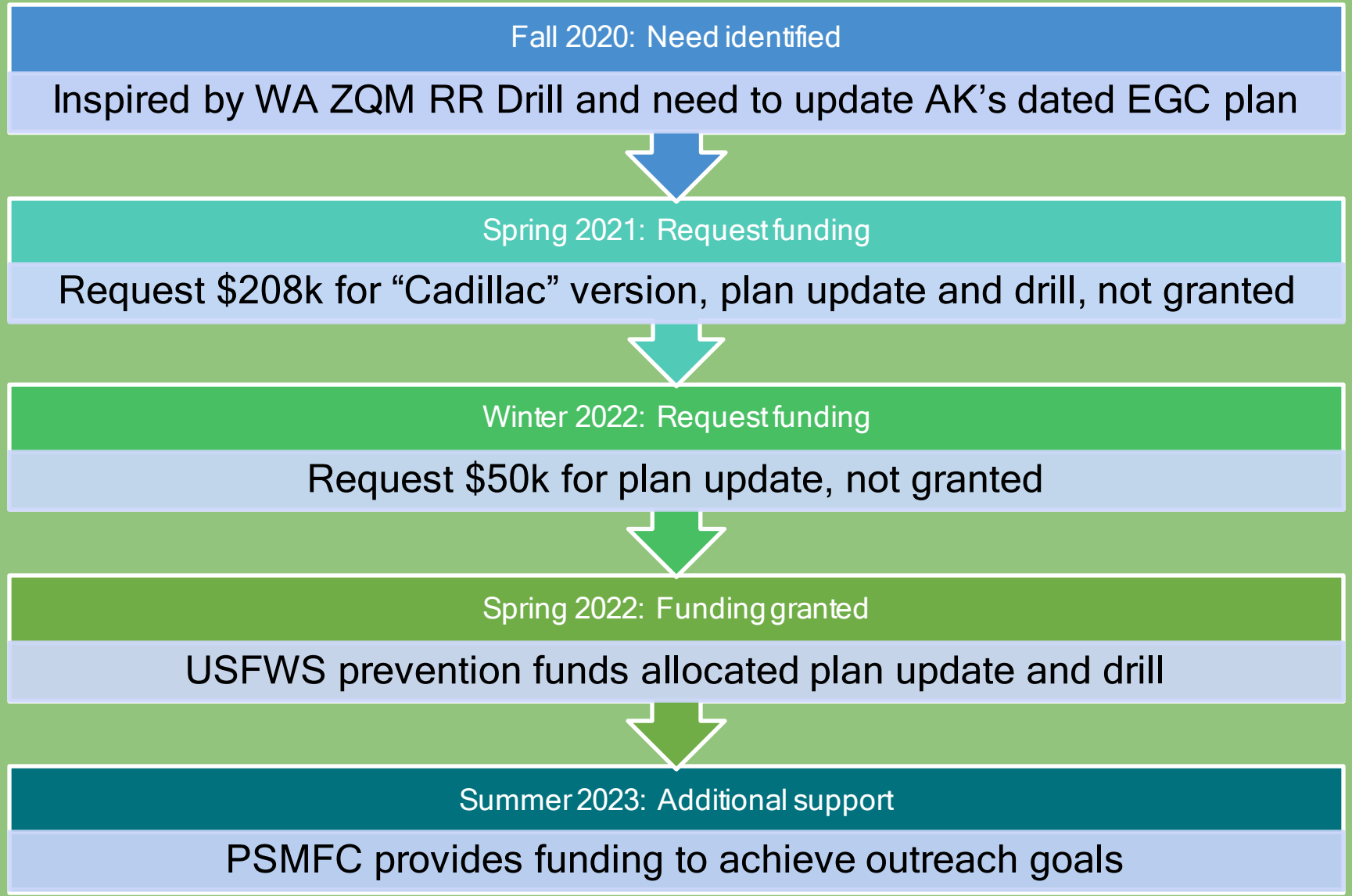


Northward expansion of European green crab along the Pacific coast toward Alaska

European Green Crab: Range Expansion of an Introduced Species Along the West Coast of North America



Background



Project Development

Monthly Meetings with core project team

Facilitators: EDRR plan revision, RR exercise

Homer RR exercise: Strong ED program, accessible location

Target: EDRR plan 80% completed prior to exercise



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Rapid Response Exercise

Mock response through the lens of a realistic scenario: European green crab detection in Kachemak Bay

Day One: Understanding the process

- Incident Command System light
- Explore jurisdiction, roles, skills, equipment, resources, and current capacity



Photo courtesy USFWS



Rapid Response Exercise

Day Two: Boots in the muck

- Review field early detection protocols
 - Trapping surveys
 - Carapace surveys



Photo courtesy of USFWS



Photos courtesy of ADF&G



Rapid Response Exercise

Day Three: Processing and connecting

- Mock press conference
- Re-evaluate the plan

Highlights

- New collaborators & partnerships
- Expanded contribution to “The Plan”
- Hands-on experience
- Ideas for next steps
- Videographer

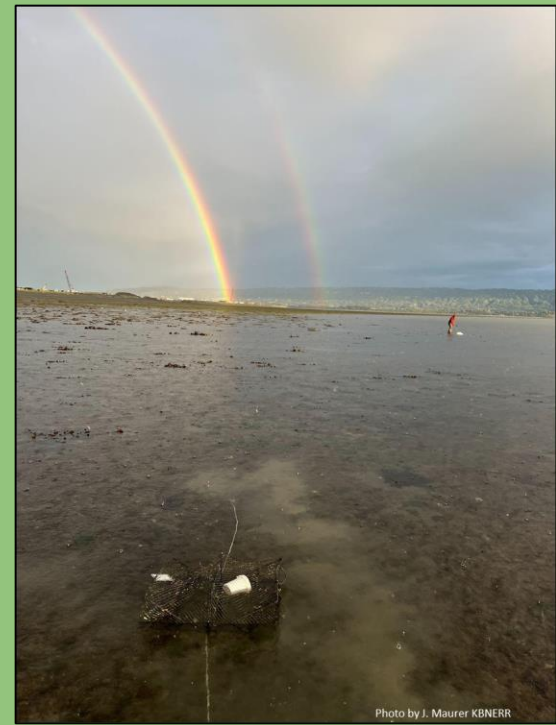


Photo by J. Maurer KBNERR



Photos courtesy of USFWS



Moving Forward

Alaska partners collaborate to implement the Early Detection and Rapid Response Plan for Invasive European Green Crab in Alaska

- AKISP EGC subcommittee identify how partners and stakeholders can engage
- Equipment is available for regional rapid response
- Develop a draft MOU
- Establish Transboundary Working Group with British Columbia, Canada



Moving Forward

- Identify target audiences for outreach & engagement
 - ADF&G and ADNR raise awareness among mariculture industry
- Standardize protocols for early detection, habitat assessment, data collection and reporting
- Host regional workshops to bolster community-based early detection monitoring network
- Regional partners host rapid response drills
 - Test feasibility and function of setting 100 traps in a high-risk location



Photo courtesy of Martin Media



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- Martin Media

