fluctuations in the survival of juveniles of these species. Nor does the article mention the likely expenditure of $350 million on habitat protection in the spill area.

The Alaska Sealife Center is a good investment of restoration dollars. It will provide needed and unique infrastructure for continued research on Alaskan marine resources as well as be a legacy for the future.

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Successful Grants Management

In his letter "Funding of NIH grant applications: Update" (7 July, p. 13), H. George Mandel presents new data about the funding of unsolicited, unamended, competing National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grant applications. He demonstrates effectively that the overall NIH funding rate for both new and renewal applications has fallen steadily over the last decade. This has certainly been the case at the National Eye Institute (NEI), the institute from which I receive funding and on whose council I have served. At NEI, the success rate fell from 47% in 1985 to 36% in 1994, and the total number of research project grants funded also fell significantly over that period. Mandel points out that the funding rate at NEI is higher than that of most other NIH institutes and centers, but does not comment on why this is so.

From 1985 to 1994, NEI's share of the total NIH budget dropped from 3.3% to 2.7%. Therefore, NEI did not simply outspend the other institutes and centers. Rather, NEI has used its extramural funds for basic research in such a way as to maximize opportunities for individual investigators. The vision research community has been extremely supportive of this strategy and credits it with fostering the extraordinary progress in this field. Historically, NEI has devoted proportionately more of its extramural resources to traditional research project grants than has any other disease-oriented institute at NIH. Moreover, within the research project grant category, NEI does not award program project grants or other types of "umbrella" mechanisms of research support. NEI does not fund clinical trials or other types of large applied clinical research projects using R01-type mechanisms. In addition, NEI rarely issues requests for applications or program announcements and, therefore, does not artificially drive up the number of competing applications. In summary, this series of management decisions has had the direct effect of increasing the NEI success rate of grants awarded relative to that of many of the other NIH institutes and centers.

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Corrections and Clarifications

In the caption in the left margin of the Table of Contents in the issue of 18 August (p. 898), the gene located on chromosome 1 was incorrectly described as the second candidate familial Alzheimer's disease gene to be identified. The caption should have read, "A third familial Alzheimer's gene."

In the report "Localization of targets for antiucler drugs in cells of the immune system" by E. Mezey *et al.* (4 Dec. 1992, p. 1662), on page 1662, in the second column, on the fourth line, the word "antagonists" was incorrect. The sentence should have read "Dopamine also modulates gastric acid secretion (4), and dopamine agonists prevent ulcer relapse (5)."