

June-July
1997

RESTORATION

U P D A T E

Volume 4
Number 2

Future of Kenai Fjords park assured

Agreement signed to protect fish and wildlife habitat



Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and English Bay Corporation President Don Emmal formalize the agreement transferring 32,470 acres. Photo courtesy Dept. of the Interior

After nine years patrolling the trails and coastline of Kenai Fjords National Park, Bud Rice witnessed a personal dream come true last month as Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt signed documents to absorb 30,200 acres of private land into the park.

Rice served as park ranger during the summer of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He watched helplessly as spilled oil washed over the park and oiled the flora and fauna that inhabit the coastal areas. "I made a personal vow to help assure the park would never face such destruction again," Rice said. "So eliminating any threat of development within the park by acquiring these lands means a lot to me."

Rice, who now serves as the agency liaison between the

See English Bay Signing, Page 3

Settlement funds benefit residents & visitors

Restoration following the Exxon Valdez oil spill is not solely about the plant and animal life which took the brunt of the spilled oil. It is also about the people who live, work and play in the region, all of whom were also victims of this environmental accident.

Commercial fishing families were left without fish to catch during the summer of 1989 when all fishing was closed due to the threat of oil. Since then, the lucrative herring fishery in Prince William Sound collapsed and returns of pink salmon have been erratic.

Recreation and tourism in the Sound came to an abrupt halt after the spill, affecting both individual kayakers and owners of tour boats. The industry had to fight for several years to regain the momentum it once had.

And for village residents, especially those in the direct path of the spill, the food from subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering became suspect due to possible contamination. For

The Human Side of Restoration



many subsistence users, this way of life has yet to return to normal.

When the state and federal governments negotiated a settlement of their joint lawsuit against Exxon, they kept the human impacts from the spill in mind. In addition to restoring the natural resources, the settlement specifies that the \$900 million be used to restore

the human services: commercial fishing, subsistence, and recreation and tourism.

Now, halfway through the Trustee Council's 10-year restoration plan, progress toward the human side of restoration is clearly evident.

Indirect benefits

The primary strategy for restoring the human services that depend on the availability of natural resources is to restore the resources themselves. It's important to recognize, for ex-

See The Human Side, Page 4

Two mile stretch of Kenai River protected

Permanent protection for a stretch of wild Kenai River, one mile below the outlet of Skilak Lake, was assured recently when Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt signed an agreement to acquire the land from the Kenai Natives Association.

The agreement, signed by Babbitt and KNA President Diana Zirul, was approved by Congress and the president late last year. The package combines conservation of the Kenai River drainage with development opportunities for KNA.

- It protects 803 acres along the Kenai River, including three islands and more than two miles of bank habitat on both sides of the river.

- It protects an additional 2,451 acres in the Moose River drainage area a few miles upstream

from its confluence with the Kenai River.

- It redraws the boundaries of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge to exclude some land owned by KNA, thereby lifting restrictions on development.

- It transfers a 5-acre site in Old Town Kenai, formerly used as refuge headquarters, to KNA.

The Trustee Council provided \$4 million as part of the package to protect the Kenai and Moose river parcels. The land is considered important for restoration, primarily due to the miles of rearing habitat for red and king salmon, spawning habitat for pink salmon, and winter concentrations of bald eagles.

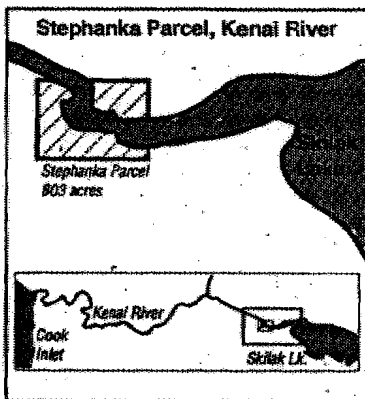
"This agreement will both protect fish and wildlife habitat on the Kenai River and provide Alaska Natives with significant new opportunities for economic development on the Kenai Pen-

insula," Babbitt said.

It had been a long time coming, following many years of discussions and negotiations. The agreement will allow KNA "greater flexibility" in using its lands, Zirul said. She pointed out that KNA will now have the freedom and the funding to promote economic development "while at the same time respecting and preserving our heritage."

This is the latest in a series of habitat protection and restoration efforts focused on the Kenai River. In addition to the KNA property, the Trustee Council has protected or made offers to protect another 1,800 acres along the Kenai River as part of a joint federal, state and local effort to ensure the future health of the river.

"Protecting the Kenai River is important to all Alaskans," said Gov. Tony Knowles. "By putting the river first, we all benefit."



Monitoring of Chenega-area cleanup is strengthened

The Trustee Council endorsed a plan to strengthen monitoring of the planned beach cleanup in the Chenega area of Prince William Sound this summer.

Representatives from several state and federal agencies reviewed a proposal to use a chemical agent known as PES-51 to break up the oil and allow for its removal. This product is applied during an incoming tide to protect intertidal flora and fauna from exposure. It was chosen over other products because it causes the oil to float on the surface of the water allowing for easy retrieval of both the residual oil and the chemical agent.

In addition, since only a half mile of beach will actually be treated and most of the chemical will quickly be di-

luted, any serious after-effects are not anticipated. However, the Trustee Council, during an April meeting, asked for stronger monitoring methods to minimize any potential risk to the ecosystem. The Council provided an additional \$175,000 to the \$1.9 million budget to increase the amount of boom and the number of days to collect floating oil. Signs will be placed on the beach and the site will be monitored for a year or more.

Residents of Chenega Bay were strongly supportive of chemical application to clean oil from nearby beaches. They originally requested the cleanup, saying the presence of residual oil prevents subsistence use of the beaches, inhibits recovery of injured species and impacts the community as a whole.

Residents of Chenega Bay believe it is better to use PES-51 than live with the continuing presence of oil, said Chuck Totemoff, president of Chenega Corporation.

In a letter to the Trustee Council, Totemoff pointed out that residents have experience with use of other chemicals on the beaches and that many of them participated in a 1993 test of PES-51. "Having been exposed to such a variety of non-chemical and chemical cleanup measures, the Chenega people unanimously support the use of PES-51," he wrote.

The cleanup will target surface oil found at eight sites on Latouche, Evans and Ellington Islands. Those shorelines are covered with heavy boulders which hide the oil and protect it from the natural cleaning action of waves.

The Draft Work Plan is expected to be released June 9, with recommendations on each of 119 proposals submitted by researchers and agencies hoping to have their projects funded during Fiscal Year 1998.

The annual Invitation for Proposals resulted in more than \$23 million in funding requests for the fiscal year, which begins October 1. The proposals include 52 continuing projects, with \$12.7 million in funding requests.

The Trustee Council is targeting a budget of approximately \$14 million for the FY '98 Annual Work Plan. That is down from this year's funding

of \$16.2 million.

The Work Plan is the document that identifies community projects and scientific studies to be funded.

The Draft Work Plan will include recommendations by Executive Director Molly McCammon on which projects should receive funding and at what levels. The recommendations are reached after each proposal is reviewed by Chief Scientist Bob Spies and an advisory panel of scientists and experts in particular fields.

Reviewers make recommendations to McCammon and Spies, who then cull the num-

ber of projects to meet budget constraints. Trustee agencies and the Public Advisory Group also provide input. After the draft plan is issued, it is open for public comment for 36 days, culminating in a public hearing set for July 15. The Public Advisory Group will meet the following day to review the draft plan and pass its own recommendations to the Trustee Council.

In the end, it will be the Trustee Council which makes the funding decisions. The Trustees are scheduled to meet in Anchorage August 6 to set the work plan for FY '98.

Comments on Draft Work Plan due by July 15



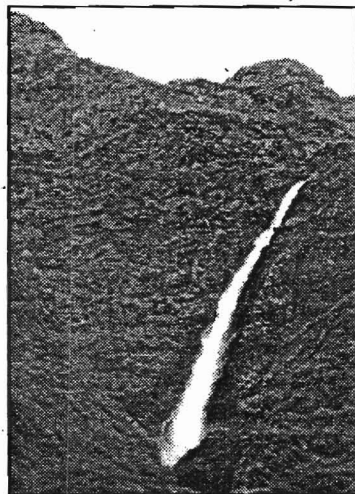
Continued from Page 1

Park Service and the Restoration Office, joined the crowd of 100 onlookers in applause as English Bay Corporation president Don Emmal and Secretary Babbitt signed the habitat protection agreement.

The acquisition of English Bay Corporation land within the park and within the adjacent Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge has been enormously popular. Hundreds of letters, phone calls, faxes and e-mail messages poured into the Restoration Office from all over the country to endorse the plan.

The Trustee Council offered to acquire the parcel in February, providing \$14.1 million for a total of 32,470 acres. In addition, \$1.1 million was provided through the federal criminal settlement to compensate English Bay Corporation for traditional hunting and fishing rights. The corporation will retain those rights on 9,000 acres within the park.

"Our lands must provide for our people forever," Emmal told the crowd. "We will place our proceeds in a trust fund so we



can ensure the financial security of our children. An archaeological fund will help preserve our culture."

Parcels to be acquired are in blocks spread throughout the park, with tracts on Resurrection Bay, Aialik Bay, Nuka Bay and several smaller bays, coves and islands.

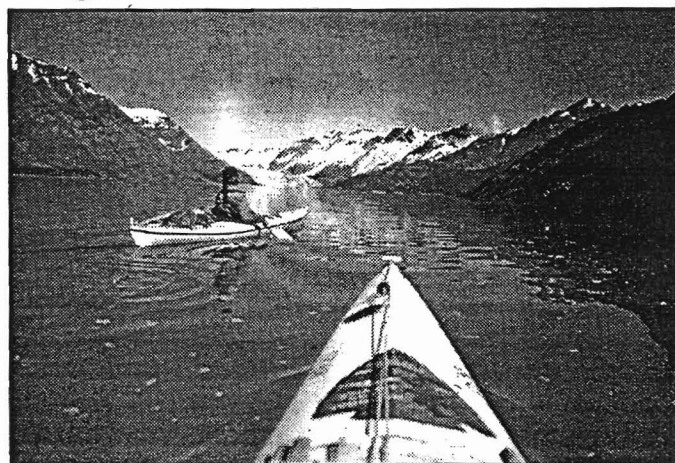
"This is a tremendous conservation achievement," Babbitt said. "This agreement — the permanent protection of these lands — will benefit fish and wildlife populations and provide increased opportunities for outdoor recreation."

Another key supporter of the agreement, corporation chairman Bobby Kvasnikoff, died in January before he could see his work come to fruition. According to Rice, there is a movement underway with the support of the Park Service to have a well-known 900-foot waterfall named after Kvasnikoff.

"The waterfall can't help but bring a smile to your face and that's a reminder that Bobby brought a smile to everyone who knew him," Rice said. "His contribution to his people and to protecting this park will not be forgotten."

English Bay signing continued

At left, the 900-foot waterfall on North Nuka Bay will be nominated as Kvasnikoff Falls in memory of Bobby Kvasnikoff of English Bay. Below, kayakers reach the head of McCarty Fjord in Kenai Fjords National Park. Photos by Bud Rice



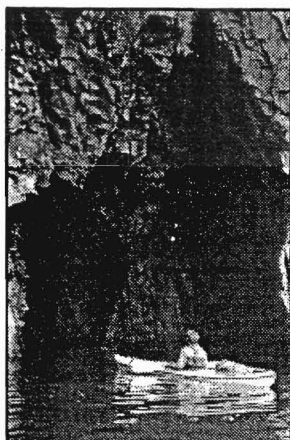
The Human Side of Restoration

"Any improvement to the health of fish and wildlife benefits the people who depend on those resources for a living and for their personal enjoyment."

Frank Rue
Commissioner, Alaska
Department of Fish and Game.

Alaska Marine Parks are being developed throughout Prince William Sound. The state is adding trails, cabins, docks, and other improvements through the Exxon criminal settlement funds.

Photo by Bud Rice.



Continued from Page 1

ample, that everyone benefits from a healthy ecosystem. "Any improvement to the health of fish and wildlife benefits the people who depend on those resources for a living and for their personal enjoyment," said Trustee Frank Rue, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Rue pointed to harbor seals as one example. Stopping the population decline in harbor seals not only adds to a healthy ecosystem, he said, but also provides wildlife viewing for tourism, maintains subsistence hunting and keeps commercial fishing from facing restrictions to protect the marine mammals.

Scientific research funded by the Trustee Council is changing the way scientists view the north gulf waters and providing valuable tools to take the guess work out of management decisions. Altogether, the research programs are providing more information on fish, seabirds and marine mammals than ever thought possible during these times of diminishing budgets, Rue said.

The Council's program of habitat protection also scores on all fronts. One strategy for helping injured or stressed species recover is to leave them alone and keep their habitat undisturbed by development. So far, the Council has done that by purchasing protection of 420,000 acres and has offers pending to protect another 100,000 acres.

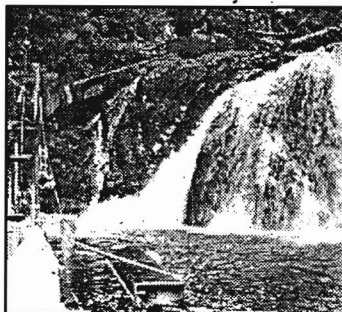
In most cases, the land acquisitions have an equally profound impact on the people of the spill region. It opens previously private land for use by the public, protects salmon streams, and maintains subsistence uses.

Recreation

Sea kayakers, boaters, hunters, sport fishing enthusiasts, hikers, campers, wildlife viewers and just about anyone who enjoys the outdoors will find new recreational opportunities due to the Trustee Council's habitat protection programs.

Public ownership means public access. As more than half a million acres of private land are turned over for public use, the obvious result is better recreational and tourism opportunities.

Kayakers are discovering the beauty of Eshamy Bay and other bays in western Prince William Sound. Hikers, campers and backpackers are enjoying the trails within once-private portions of Kachemak Bay State Park. Afognak



Bypass improvements on Little Waterfall Creek doubled spawning above the falls.

Island State Park was established and Shuyak Island State Park recently tripled in size, increasing recreational opportunities.

An Alaska Marine Park System is emerging in Prince William Sound offering new facilities for boaters. The Department of Natural Resources is using funds from the state's criminal settlement to build hiking trails, public use cabins, docks, camp sites, informational signs, and boat launches at several locations throughout Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula and the Kodiak Archipelago.

Much of the Council's small parcel program is focused on the Kenai River. Altogether, the Council has either protected or reached agreements to acquire more than 2,500 acres on the river, including several miles of riverbank, vital for the successful rearing of sockeye and king salmon. The Kenai River is the economic engine for both the sport fishing and commercial fishing industries on the Kenai Peninsula and protecting the habitat is strongly supported by both industries.

Private inholdings within Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge are typically found in areas where birds, bears and fish congregate. The Council has purchased several parcels along estuaries, bays and salmon streams, providing key access for fishing and hunting as well as good anchorages for boating.

Near Homer, a rare 220-acre parcel along the bluff, known as the Tulin homestead, has been acquired mainly for recreation. Alaska State Parks will eventually take over management for the site, but it has not yet determined how the site will be used. The Kachemak Bay State Park Advisory Board has recommended that the land be managed for passive use, such as walking, sightseeing and beach access, said Chris Degernes, regional superintendent for the Kenai Peninsula.

Commercial Fisheries

The Council's habitat programs have acquired hundreds of miles of anadromous waterways providing basic protection for spawning and rearing sockeye, pink, coho and king salmon. In addition, many research projects are geared toward improving the health of commercial fish species and providing the tools for better fisheries management.

In Cook Inlet, state fisheries biologists are using genetic coding to determine exactly to which systems sockeye salmon are returning. Fisheries managers have long sought a way to determine where the salmon moving through Cook Inlet are going, so that they can better protect individual rivers and creeks. "Genetic identification takes some of the mystery out of it," said Science Coordinator Stan Senner. "It allows better in-season decisions concerning fisheries management and helps secure the future health of salmon populations."

A similar genetic coding project is helping identify the home creeks for wild pink salmon in Prince William Sound. Hatchery raised pinks in the Sound are now being identified through a new process, otolith mass marking, also developed with Trustee Council funding.

Mass marking has eliminated the labor-intensive process of tagging tiny salmon fry. Researchers have learned that changes in water temperature will cause distinctive patterns to develop on the earbone (or otolith) of salmon, much like the rings of a tree. This lets fisheries managers accurately identify to which hatcheries adult pink salmon were returning.

On Kodiak Island, a fish bypass was renovated at Little Waterfall Creek to open additional spawning habitat for pink and coho salmon. During its first year after renovation, 44 percent of the returning pink salmon passed through the bypass, twice the percentage that reached the upper river before the renovation.

A project at Port Dick Creek on the Kenai Peninsula also opened more habitat for spawning. That creek was excavated to restore spawning habitat lost due to uplift from the 1964 earthquake. During its first year 572 pinks and 300 chum salmon entered the newly opened tributaries and spawned, generating a projected contribution of more than 11,600 adults.

The collapse of the herring population in Prince William Sound brought an end to the lucrative fishery for four years. Council-funded research identified a viral disease and fungus as the probable reasons for the crash. Further studies are attempting to identify possible triggers that cause the latent virus to spread.

Other herring research has identified for the first time where juvenile herring spend their first winter. Continuing studies are trying to determine what factors affect the survival rate of young herring.

Subsistence

The Council has funded numerous projects that provide direct relief to communities that are short of subsistence resources. During FY '97 the Council provided funds for 15 subsistence projects, in addition to the research involving subsistence resources such as herring, salmon and harbor seals.

Hatchery-produced king salmon are starting to return to Chenega Bay and similar enhancements will bring coho to Tatitlek and Perryville, sockeye to Solf Lake in Prince William Sound, and pink salmon to Port Graham, all due to the efforts of the Trustee Council.

To assist scientists in their efforts to learn why the harbor seal is continuing its decline, the Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission is training subsistence hunters in the proper procedures for taking and storing tissue samples. This provides a wealth of information about harbor seal locations, diet, and overall health.

"It allows us to be part of collecting the data that eventually goes to the managers who make decisions," said Monica Reidel, director of the commission. "The Native people need to have a lot of input in those decisions because they directly affect us."

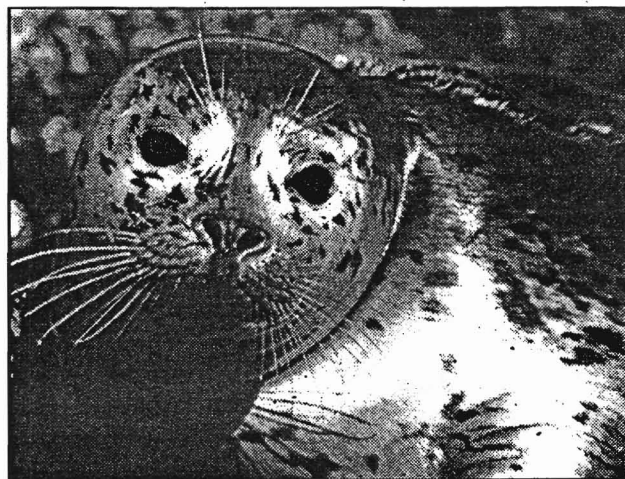
Native Alaskans and scientists are also encouraged to work together in understanding the intricate relationships within the marine ecosystem. The Trustee Council is funding and promoting Traditional Ecological Knowledge as a vital tool for viewing the ecosystem.

"Historically, the Native world view incorporates nature and culture through subsistence," said Chief Scientist Bob Spies. "Traditional western science tends to isolate and study nature with a more mechanistic approach. Working together we can put all the pieces together for a better picture of our marine environment."

A special effort by the Trustee Council is underway to listen to the concerns of subsistence.

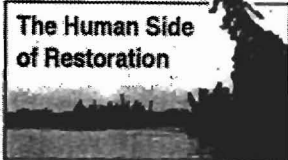
See The Human Side, Page 6

The Human Side of Restoration



Stopping the population decline in harbor seals not only adds to a healthy ecosystem, but also provides wildlife viewing for tourism, maintains subsistence hunting and keeps commercial fishing from facing restrictions to protect the marine mammal. Photo by Kathy Frost.

The Human Side of Restoration



Continued from Page 5

tence users and closely involve them in the restoration process. Through its Community Involvement Project, the Council funds a coordinator to serve as a liaison between the spill-area community, the Trustee Council, the Restoration Office staff and the scientists conducting restoration projects.

The project is administered through a contract with Chugach Regional Resources Commission.

Dark cloud, silver lining

It's been said many times that if the oil spill is a dark cloud that hangs over Alaska, the Exxon settlements have produced a silver lining. The funds are benefiting both the natural resources and the people of the spill region, making possible vital habitat protection, more recreational access to lands, better fishing success, improved subsistence harvests, and a world of scientific knowledge once thought unachievable due to funding constraints.

Council makes offer for top Afognak habitat

The Trustee Council voted to offer \$70 million to protect prime old growth forest, estuaries, and salmon streams on Afognak Island. The Council authorized an offer to purchase 47,350 acres from Afognak Joint Venture, a partnership of several Native corporations with interests on Afognak Island. The offer includes some of the most highly valued habitat in the oil spill region.

The Council's action was a renewal of an offer made in November 1994, but with a modified scope to reflect recently received appraisals. The

Council set aside \$70 million for the Afognak Joint Venture lands two years ago, but appraisals came in higher than expected.

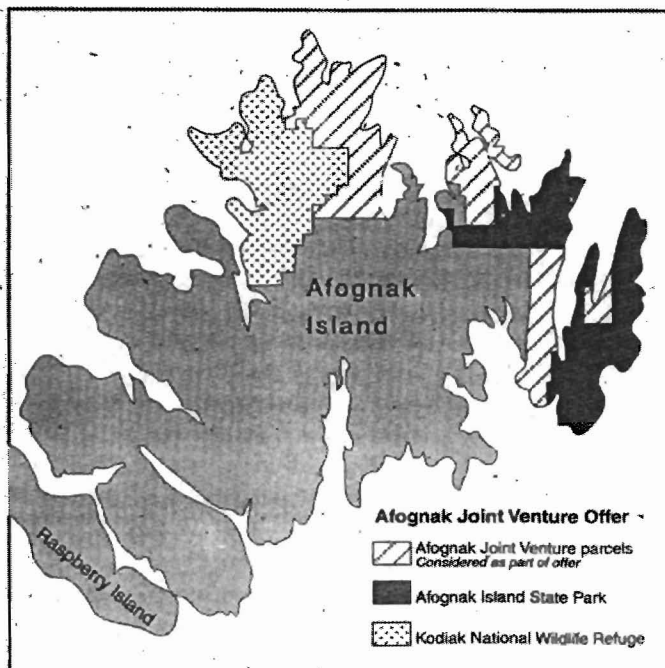
The Council's proposal seeks the outright purchase and protection of 20,000 acres, including the popular Laura and Paul's lakes in the northern part of Afognak Island. In addition, the state and federal governments would work with the landowners to develop a limited timber harvest plan on the remaining 27,000 acres. The state would take title to that land after the agreed-upon harvest took place.

"We originally hoped to be able to protect more habitat," said Craig Tillery, the Trustee Council representative for the Department of Law. "The timber values came out higher than anticipated and much higher than any previous transaction we have been involved in. But, by balancing the purchase with limited harvests, I think we can achieve very significant protection with the funds available."

Lands included in the offer are adjacent to Afognak State Park and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and are across the strait from Shuyak Island State Park. Numerous species, injured by the oil spill use the area for nesting, feeding, molt-

ing and wintering. Tidal, subtidal and upland areas are important for pink salmon, black oystercatchers, harbor seals, harlequin ducks, bald eagles, marbled murrelets, pigeon guillemots, sea otters, and river otters.

"The goal of the combined land purchase and limited timber harvest would be to maintain the highest values for fish and wildlife," said Trustee Frank Rue, commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game. "We look forward to working cooperatively with AJV to protect this valuable land."



Restoration Update is published six times each year by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council.

*Executive Director • Molly McCammon
Director of Operations • Eric Myers
Editor • Joe Hunt*



*Restoration Office
645 G Street, Anchorage, AK 99501
907/278-8012 FAX: 907/276-7178
Toll free: 800/478-7745 in Alaska,
800/283-7745 outside Alaska.
e-mail: ospic@alaska.net
http://www.alaska.net/~ospic*

It has been eight years since the *Exxon Valdez* spoiled the wild coastline of Prince William Sound. Every news report at the time concluded by saying questions about the spill's long term impact were unanswerable — only time would tell.

Time has since told quite a tale.

To help tell that story, the Trustee Council is introducing a public service newspaper column focusing on the ongoing recovery within the oil spill region. The idea of this column is to explain, over time, the

many aspects of recovery and restoration and how it impacts the people who live, work and play in the oil spill region.

The column is the second in a series of information efforts under the title *Alaska Coastal Currents*. Jody Seitz, of Cordova, has been producing the *Alaska Coastal Currents* radio program for the last year. Each week, she releases a two-minute feature detailing the results of scientific studies and highlighting the people involved in restoration activities. She has created 65 episodes

which air several times a week on public and commercial radio stations in Alaska.

To complement the radio program, Seitz will author a weekly column based on the radio series for use in Alaska newspapers.

"I want to tell people about the many scientific discoveries and address the continuing concerns of people affected by the spill," Seitz said. "A huge research effort is underway, and it can help us all understand not only the effects of the spill but our environment, a lot better."

Newspaper column to tell recovery story 'one small piece at a time'

Students help scientists collect mussels in the Sound

By Jody Seitz

Alaska Coastal Currents

To collect mussels for oil spill research, Jeff Short and Patricia Harris must fly from Juneau to Cordova twice a month from March through July.

In Cordova they charter a small plane and fly to 30 musselbeds from Cape Puget to the head of Wells Passage. At each station, they land, collect 20 mussels, bag them, hop back in the plane and head to the next station. It takes about a half hour at each site — that means two days in a small plane, if the weather is good.

To collect mussels, all 16-year-old Even Evanson has to do is walk out his front door at Kenny Cove on Hinchinbrook Island. From there it's about half a mile to a mussel bed on the Gulf of Alaska coastline.

Short and Harris are research chemists with the National Marine Fisheries Service at Auke Bay. They believe that mussels hold an important clue that will eventually help fisheries managers predict salmon



Even Evanson



Alaska Coastal Currents

Restoration and recovery following the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill

returns in Prince William Sound.

The mussels can help measure the overall productivity in the Sound by telling researchers how much plankton was produced and how successful salmon fry were feeding on the plankton. The more salmon fry fatten up on plankton, the more likely they will survive to adulthood and the greater the salmon return to the sound.

To measure this productivity from year to year, Short and Harris determine the pristane levels found in the mussels they collect each spring.

Pristane is a naturally occurring hydrocarbon. It is produced by tiny shrimp-like plankton called *Neocalanus* copepods and passed on to salmon fry who feed on them. Salmon fry pass on the pristane to the mussels through defecation.

Even Evanson got involved in this research three years ago when Harris called him to ask for help. At the time he was 13 and in home school. "I said yes," says Evanson, "because in the

beginning it was only a once-a-month commitment." The commitment grew to once every two weeks, but Short says that Evanson has been completely reliable.

He samples the mussels exactly as Short and Harris do, freezes them, and at the end of the season, sends a freezer tub of samples to Auke Bay Lab.

According to Short, Evanson is providing critical data. His samples are the only ones from the Gulf of Alaska and allows scientists to compare the gulf with mussels found inside the sound. "He's really saved us," said Short. "He samples exactly the same schedule we do. It's important to be conscientious and he's been just great."

Pristane research also takes advantage of other students participating in the Youth Area Watch in what is truly a symbiotic relationship. Youth Area Watch was organized by the Chugach School District to put students in the field with scientists working on oil spill research.

Short and Harris train the students to collect samples for the Auke Bay project. The school district helps with logistics and funding for the students.

Evanson and other students have made a big difference in the logistical nightmare of mussel collection. When the mussel bed is in your backyard, the weather poses a little less of a problem for data collection.

Shuyak Island State Park quadruples size

Remains open to hunting and fishing

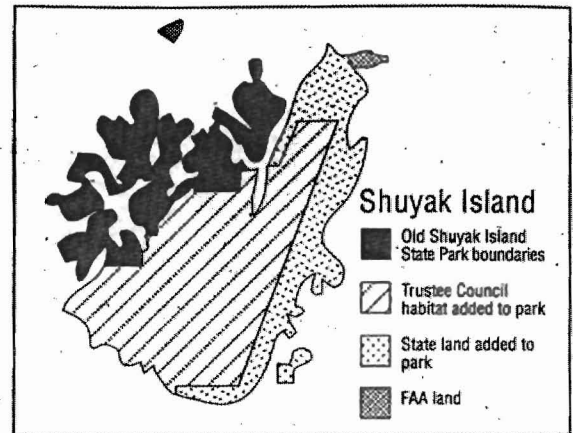
Shuyak Island State Park expanded to encompass almost all of the island when Gov. Tony Knowles signed a bill that added about 37,000 acres to the park.

The park nearly quadrupled in size, mostly due to 26,900 acres acquired in 1995 through the Trustee Council's large parcel program. The Council provided the funds for the state to purchase the land from the Kodiak Island Borough for \$42 million. An additional 10,000 acres already belonged to the state.

"This action means the state will be able to manage the entire island for the benefit of wildlife, waterfowl, and Alaskans as they use and enjoy the park's outstanding natural resources with the confidence that this use will be protected forever," Knowles said.

The Alaska Legislature created Shuyak Island State Park in 1984 to protect the island's scenic resources as well as enhance hunting, fishing, trapping, and other recreational activities. The park land will continue to be open to hunting, fishing and trapping.

The island contains important habitat for several species which were seriously injured by the oil spill, including seabirds, bald eagles, harbor seals,



sea otters, river otters, salmon, and herring. There also are numerous historical and archeological sites.

Sen. Jerry Mackie, D-Craig, and Rep. Al Austerman, R-Kodiak, sponsored the bill expanding the park. Virtually all of the island, except for a few inholdings, will now be designated as state park land.

"I'm confident by expanding this state park, the natural attractions of Shuyak Island, so important to the residents of Kodiak, and enjoyed by other Alaskans and visitors, will remain forever protected," Knowles said as he signed the bill into law.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council



Bruce Botelho
Attorney General
State of Alaska

Michele Brown
Commissioner
Alaska Dept. of
Environmental Conservation

Deborah L. Williams
Special Assistant to the Secretary
US Dept. of the Interior

Phil Janik
Regional Forester
Alaska Region
US Dept. of Agriculture

Steve Pennoyer
Director, Alaska Region
National Marine
Fisheries Service

Frank Rue
Commissioner
Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game

The FY98 Draft Work Plan to be available June 9

Written comments are due July 15, 1997.

A **public meeting** on the draft work plan will be held July 15 at 7 p.m. in the Restoration Office conference room, 645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage.

Get your copy by calling: 907-278-8012 or
800-478-7745 (toll free)

Restoration Office
645 G Street, Ste. 401
Anchorage, AK 99501-3451

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1013
Anchorage, AK