

6.1.4

public for comment in February of 1994. The final EIS and its Record of Decision is expected in May of 1994. The decision will be appealable under Forest Service regulations found at 36 CFR part 215.

The comment period for the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the **Federal Register**. The public will also be informed of the availability of the DEIS by news releases issued to the media in the Lake Tahoe region. It is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate at that time. To be the most helpful, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewers' position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final EIS. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objections are made available for the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final.

Dated: January 4, 1994.

John R. Swanson,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 94-917 Filed 1-13-94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

#### Restoration Plan for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Area, Prince William Sound, Gulf of Alaska, and Alaska Peninsula, AK

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** On April 10, 1992 (57 FR 12473-12475) on behalf of the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council, the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service published a Notice of Intent to prepare a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the development of

a Restoration Plan following the March 24, 1989, Exxon Valdez oil spill. This notice revises the dates for completion of the Draft and Final EIS and provides more information on the proposed action. The responsible official for the preparation of the EIS is the Regional Forester, Michael A. Barton. The Restoration Plan will establish management direction and guide all natural resource restoration activities covered by the civil settlement to the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

**DATES:** Initial comments concerning the proposed development of a Restoration Plan should be received by February 7, 1994.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to or for further information contact Rod Kuhn, EIS Project Manager, 645 G Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501; phone (907) 278-8012.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Introduction

On October 8, 1991, a federal court approved settlement between the State and Federal governments and Exxon under which Exxon will pay \$1 billion in criminal restitution and civil damages to the governments. The State and Federal Trustees will receive \$900 million in civil damages from Exxon over the 10 years. The funds are to be used to restore to their pre-spill condition the natural resources and the services they provide, that were injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. This includes the restoration of any natural resource injured, lost or destroyed and the services provided by that resource or which replaces or substitutes for the injured, lost or destroyed resource and affected services. Restoration includes all phases of injury assessment, restoration, replacement, and enhancement of natural resources, and acquisition of equivalent resources and services.

All decisions about restoration and uses of restoration funds are determined by six natural resources Trustees, three Federal and three State. The three Federal Trustees are: The Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture and of the Interior. The three State Trustees are: The Commissioners of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation, and the Attorney General. A Trustee Council, located in Alaska, which is made up of designees of the Federal Trustees and the three State Trustees, is responsible for decisions relating to the assessment of injuries, uses of the restoration funds,

and all restoration activities including the preparation of a Restoration Plan.

On April 10, 1992 (57 FR 12473-12475) on behalf of the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council, the Forest Service published a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS on the Restoration Plan. Since then the Trustee Council has developed a draft Restoration Plan which has become the proposed action for the analysis to be conducted in the EIS.

##### B. Draft Restoration Plan

The proposed action (Draft Restoration Plan) consists of nine policy statements, a discussion of categories of restoration actions and broad objectives for injured resources. The policies for identifying and conducting restoration actions are:

1. The restoration program will take an ecosystem approach.
  2. Restoration activities may be considered for any injured resource or service.
  3. Most restoration activities will occur within the spill area. However, restoration activities outside the spill area, but within Alaska, may be considered when the most effective restoration actions for an injured migratory population are in a part of its range outside the spill area or when the information acquired from research and monitoring activities outside the spill area will be important for restoration or understanding injuries within the spill area.
  4. Restoration activities will emphasize resources and services that have not recovered. Resources and service will be enhanced, as appropriate, to promote restoration. Restoration projects should not adversely affect the ecosystem.
  5. Projects designed to restore or enhance an injured service must have a sufficient relationship to an injured resource; must benefit the same user group that was injured; and, should be compatible with the character and public uses of the area.
  6. Competitive proposals for restoration projects will be encouraged.
  7. Restoration projects will be subject to independent scientific review before Trustee Council approval.
  8. Meaningful public participation in restoration decisions will be actively solicited.
  9. Government agencies will be funded only for restoration work that they do not normally conduct.
- Four types of restoration actions are identified and discussed in the Draft Restoration Plan: General restoration, habitat protection and acquisition, monitoring and research, and public information and administration.

Alternatives to the proposed action will place different emphases on each of these categories of restoration actions.

General Restoration consists of activities that fall within manipulation of the environment, management of human use for reduction of marine pollution. Decisions about conducting general restoration projects would look at the following factors: Extent of natural recovery, the value of an injured resource to the ecosystem and to the public, the duration of benefits, the technical feasibility of the project, the likelihood of success, the relationship of costs to expected benefits, potential for harmful side effects, benefits to more than one resource, effects on health and human safety, consistency with applicable laws, and policies, and duplication with other actions.

Habitat Protection and Acquisition is a category that includes purchase of private land or interests in land such as conservation easements, mineral rights, or timber rights. It also includes recommendations for changing public agency management practices. Specific policies that relate to habitat protection and acquisition are proposed. These policies deal with ranking potential lands to determine potential benefits, the need for a willing seller, purchasing at fair market value, post acquisition management of the acquired lands and involving the public in the prioritization process.

Monitoring and Research consists of recovery monitoring, restoration monitoring and ecological monitoring and research. Specific policies governing the selecting and performance of monitoring activities are discussed in the Draft Restoration Plan.

Public Information and Administration is the last category of restoration actions. It consists of all necessary administrative actions that are not attributable to a particular project. The Draft Restoration Plan goal for this category is for administrative costs to average no more than 5 percent of overall restoration expenditures for the remainder of the settlement period.

General restoration objectives have been developed for resources that are recovering, resources not recovering, resources where the recovery is unknown, resources such as archaeological resources and wilderness, and services. These broad objectives will guide in the development of annual work plans.

Further information regarding the proposed action and possible restoration alternatives is included in the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration, Volume I: Restoration Framework, April, 1992; the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration

Plan, Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment, April 1993; the Supplement to Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment, June 1993; the Summary of Public Comment on Alternatives of the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, September 1993; and the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, November 1993. Copies of these documents may be required from the Oil Spill Public Information Office, 645 G. Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. Phone number 907 278-8008 or within Alaska 800 478-7745, outside Alaska 800 283-7745.

#### C. Scoping and Issue Development

With publication of this Revised Notice of Intent, the Trustees are continuing a process intended to identify those issues that need to be addressed in preparing the Draft EIS (DEIS). Under the National Environmental Policy Act, this process is called "scoping." Two rounds of public meetings have been held within the spill area soliciting comments on development of the Draft Restoration Plan. The results of the scoping to date have guided the preparation of the Draft Restoration Plan. During the scoping process for development of the proposed action the Trustees obtained information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations interested in, or affected by restoration. Several of the documents referenced above provide summaries of public comments received to date.

Further scoping is being conducted to identify the issues to be addressed in the EIS and the range of alternatives that will need to be developed and analyzed. In addition to publishing this Revised Notice of Intent, interested and affected people within the spill area will be contacted through the news media. The Public Advisory Group will also be contacted soliciting comments.

#### D. Expected Time for Completion

A DEIS should be filed with EPA by mid June 1994 and the final EIS should be filed in late October 1994. The Trustees will consider the comments, responses, disclosure of environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations and policies in making decisions regarding restoration.

#### E. Comments

The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the Federal Register. It is very important

that those interested in this proposed action participate at that time. To be most helpful, comments on the DEIS statement should be as specific as possible, and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed. (See the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of DEIS statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and concerns. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final EIS. *Wisconsin Heritage, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1138 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final.

Dated: January 6, 1994.

Michael A. Barton,  
Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 94-959 Filed 1-13-94; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Compartment 28 (Zulu Smoot) Timber Sales; Kootenai National Forest; Lincoln County, MT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze and disclose the environmental impacts of a proposal to harvest timber and construct and reconstruct roads in the Zulu and Can Creek and South Fork of the Yaak River drainages located about 18 air miles northeast of Troy, Montana. This EIS will tier to the Kootenai National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and EIS, which provide overall guidance for achieving the desired forest condition of the area. The purpose of the proposed action is to harvest dead, dying or high risk (to mountain pine beetle infestation) stands of lodgepole pine to reduce potential excessive future natural fuel loadings, increase the health and productivity of stands that are currently declining in vigor and



2/9/5

DIALOG(R) File 669: Fed. Register

(c) format only 1994 Dialog Info. Svcs. All rts. reserv.

00509972

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Vol. 59, No. 116

59 FR 31243

Friday, June 17, 1994

RECEIVED  
JUL 06 1994

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

DOC TYPE: Notices

NUMBER: ER-FRL-4712-3

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

WORD COUNT: 857

TEXT:

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY: Office of Federal Activities, General Information,  
(202) 260-5076 or (202) 260-5075.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed June 06, 1994  
Through June 10, 1994 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 940219, DRAFT EIS, COE, LA, West Bank of the Mississippi River  
Hurricane Protection Plan, Implementation, east of the Harvey Canal, New  
Orleans, LA, Due: August 01, 1994, Contact: Bill Wilson (504) 862-2527.

EIS No. 940220, DRAFT EIS, BLM, CT, Weir Farm National Historic Site,  
Implementation, General Management Plan, Possible COE Section 404 Permit,  
Towns of Ridgefield and Walton, Fairfield County, CT, Due: August 10, 1994,  
Contact: Sarah Olson (203) 834-1896.

EIS No. 940221, DRAFT EIS, EPA, TX, Eagle Pass Coal Mine, Issuing a New  
Source NPDES Permit and COE Section 404 Permit, Maverick County, TX, Due:  
August 01, 1994, Contact: Norm Thomas (214) 655-2260.

EIS No. 940222, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, AFS, MT, Lewis and Clark National Forest  
Noxious Weed Control Program, Updated Information, Implementation, several  
counties, MT, Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: Bob Casey (406) 791-7700.

EIS No. 940223, DRAFT EIS, FHW, MD, MD-140 Westminster Bypass  
Transportation Improvements, Hughes Shop Road to Reese Road, Funding,  
Carroll County, MD, Due: August 08, 1994, Contact: David Lauton (410)  
962-4440.

EIS No. 940224, FINAL EIS, GSA, CA, Sacramento Federal Building-United  
States Courthouse, Site Selection and Construction within a portion of the  
Central Business District, City of Sacramento, Sacramento County, CA, Due:  
July 18, 1994, Contact: Albert P. Liu (415) 744-5256.

EIS No. 940225, FINAL EIS, AFS, NC, TN, Nolichucky Gore Segment, Wild and  
Scenic River Study, Eligibility and Suitability, National Wild and Scenic  
Rivers System, Nondesignation or Designation, Nolichucky River, Pisgah  
National Forest, Mitchell and Yancey Counties, NC and Cherokee National  
Forest, Unicoi County, TN, Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: David Hammond (704)  
257-4253.

EIS No. 940226, DRAFT EIS, BIA, SD, Rosebud and Cheyenne River Sioux Indian Reservations, Management of Livestock Grazing and Prairie Dog Control Plan, Funding, Todd and Mellette Counties, SD, Due: August 20, 1994, Contact: Ken Parr (605) 226-7621.

EIS No. 940227, DRAFT EIS, BLM, CA, Owen Lake Soda Ash Mining Processing Project, Construction and Operation, COE Section 404, NPDES, Right-of-Way and Conditional-Use Permits, Inyo County, CA, Due: August 16, 1994, Contact: Ahmed Mohsen (619) 375-7125.

EIS No. 940228, DRAFT EIS, AFS, AK, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, Implementation, Prince William Sound, Gulf of Alaska, AK, Due: August 01, 1994, Contact: Rod Kuhn (907) 278-8012.

EIS No. 940229, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, COE, FL, Fort Pierce Harbor Navigation Improvement, Updated Information concerning Plan Modifications, Indian River, City of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, FL Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: Jonathan D. Moulding (904) 232-2286.

EIS No. 940230, FINAL EIS, FHW, AR, Newport/US 63/US 67 Construction, Newport to Walnut Ridge/Hoxie, Funding and COE Section 404 Permit, Jackson, Lawrence, Craighead and Poinsett Counties, AR, Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: Wendall Meyer (501) 324-6430.

EIS No. 940231, FINAL EIS, GSA, CA, Ronald Reagan Federal Building-United States Courthouse, Site Selection and Construction in the Central Business Area and Approval of Permits, City of Santa Ana, Orange County, CA, Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: Mitra Nejad (415) 744-5252.

EIS No. 940232, FINAL EIS, BLM, WY, Enron Burly Field Oil and Gas Leasing, Permit to Drill, Temporary Use Permits, COE Section 404 Permit and Right-of-Way Grants, Pinedale Resource Area, Sublette County, WY, Due: July 18, 1994, Contact: Teresa Deakins (307) 382-5350.

#### Amended Notices

EIS No. 940118, REVISED DRAFT EIS, FRC, NB, Kingsley Dam Project {pg 31244} (FERC. No. 1417) and North Platte/Keystone Diversion Dam (FERC. No. 1835) Hydroelectric Project, Updated Information, Application for Licenses, Near the Confluence of the North/South Platte, Keith, Lincoln, Garden, Dawson and Grasper Counties, NB, Due: July 25, 1994, Contact: J. Ronald McKittrick (202) 219-2783.

Published FR 04-08-94-Review period extended.

Dated: June 14, 1994.

Marshall Cain,

Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Federal Activities.

INTERNAL DATA: FR Doc. 94-14839; Filed 6-16-94; 8:45 am; BILLING CODE 6560V

2/9/4

DIALOG(R) File 669:Fed.Register

(c) format only 1994 Dialog Info.Svcs. All rts. reserv.

RECEIVED  
JUL 06 1994

00510024

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the  
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
STATE TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Vol. 59, No. 116

59 FR 31191

Friday, June 17, 1994

AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI); Office of the Secretary of the Interior

DOC TYPE: Notices

DATES: Comments concerning the DEIS should be received within 45 days of the publication of the Notice of Availability by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to or for copies of a Summary of the DEIS or for copies of the DEIS itself, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Office, 645 G. Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. Phone number 907 278-8008 or within Alaska 800 478-7745, outside Alaska 800 283-7745. Copies also will be sent to public libraries in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Valdez, Cordova, Kodiak, Homer, and Seward, Alaska for review.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft environmental impact statement for the Exxon Valdez restoration plan.

SUMMARY: On behalf of the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council, the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan. This notice announces the locations and dates of public meetings to solicit comments on the DEIS. The responsible official for the preparation of the DEIS is the Regional Forester, Phil Janik. The Restoration Plan will establish management direction and guide all natural resource restoration activities covered by the civil settlement to the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

WORD COUNT: 1,868

TEXT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### A. Introduction

On October 8, 1991, a federal court approved settlement between the State and Federal governments and Exxon under which Exxon will pay \$1 billion in criminal restitution and civil damages to the governments. The State and Federal Trustees will receive \$900 million in civil damages from Exxon over the 10 years. The funds are to be used to restore to their pre-spill condition the natural resources and the services they provide, that were injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. This includes the restoration of any natural resource injured, lost or destroyed and the services provided by that resource or which replaces or substitutes for the injured, lost or destroyed resource and affected services. Restoration includes {pg 31192} all phases of injury assessment, restoration, replacement, and enhancement of natural resources, and acquisition of equivalent resources and services.

All decisions about restoration and uses of restoration funds are determined by six natural resources Trustees, three Federal and three State. The three Federal Trustees are: The Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture and of the Interior. The three State Trustees are: The Commissioners of Fish and Game and Environmental Conservation, and the Attorney General. A Trustee Council, located in Alaska, which is made up of the three State Trustees and designees of the three Federal Trustees, is responsible for decisions relating to the assessment of injuries, uses of the restoration funds, and all restoration activities including the preparation of a Restoration Plan.

On April 10, 1992 (57 FR 12473- 12475) on behalf of the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council, the Forest Service published a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS on the Restoration Plan. This was later revised on January 14, 1994 (59 FR 2352-2353). Since then the Trustee Council developed a draft Restoration Plan which has become the proposed action for the analysis conducted in the DEIS.

#### B. Draft Restoration Plan

The proposed action (Draft Restoration Plan) consists of nine policy statements, a discussion of categories of restoration actions and broad objectives for injured resources. The policies for identifying and conducting restoration actions are:

1. The restoration program will take an ecosystem approach.
2. Restoration activities may be considered for any injured resource or service.
3. Most restoration activities will occur within the spill area. However, restoration activities outside the spill are, but within Alaska, may be considered when the most effective restoration actions for an injured migratory population are in a part of its range outside the spill area or when the information acquired from research and monitoring activities outside the spill area will be important for restoration or understanding injuries within the spill area.
4. Restoration activities will emphasize resources and services that have not recovered. Resources and services will be enhanced, as appropriate, to promote restoration. Restoration projects should not adversely affect the ecosystem.
5. Projects designed to restore or enhance an injured service must have a sufficient relationship to an injured resource; must benefit the same user group that was injured; and, should be compatible with the character and public uses of the area.
6. Competitive proposals for restoration projects will be encouraged.
7. Restoration projects will be subject to independent scientific

review before Trustee Council approval.

8. Meaningful public participation in restoration decisions will be actively solicited.

9. Government agencies will be funded only for restoration work that they do not normally conduct.

Four types of restoration actions are identified and discussed in the Draft Restoration Plan: General restoration, habitat protection and acquisition, monitoring and research, and public information and administration. Alternatives to the proposed action place different emphases on each of these categories of restoration actions.

General Restoration consists of activities that fall within manipulation of the environment, management of human use for reduction of marine pollution. Decisions about conducting general restoration projects would look at the following factors: Extent of natural recovery, the value of an injured resource to the ecosystem and to the public, the duration of benefits, the technical feasibility of the project, the likelihood of success, the relationship of costs to expected benefits, potential for harmful side effects, benefits to more than one resource, effects on health and human safety, consistency with applicable laws, and policies, and duplication with other actions.

Habitat Protection and Acquisition is a category that includes purchase of private land or interests in land such as conservation easements, mineral rights, or timber rights. It also includes recommendations for changing public agency management practices. Specific policies that relate to habitat protection and acquisition are proposed. These policies deal with ranking potential lands to determine potential benefits, the need for a willing seller, purchasing at fair market value, post acquisition management of the acquired lands and involving the public in the prioritization process.

Monitoring and Research consists of recovery monitoring, restoration monitoring and ecological monitoring and research. Specific policies governing the selecting and performance of monitoring activities are discussed in the Draft Restoration Plan.

Public Information and Administration is the last category of restoration actions. It consists of all necessary administrative actions that are not attributable to a particular project. The Draft Restoration Plan goal for this category is for administrative costs to average no more than 5% of overall restoration expenditures for the remainder of the settlement period.

General restoration objectives have been developed for resources that are recovering, resources not recovering, resources where the recovery is unknown, resources such as archaeological resources and wilderness, and services. These broad objectives will guide in the development of annual work plans.



Further information regarding the proposed action and possible restoration alternatives is included in the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment, April 1993; the Supplement to Draft Exxon Valdez Oil spill Restoration Plan, Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment, June 1993; the Summary of Public Comment on Alternatives of the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, September 1993; and the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan, November 1993. Copies of these documents may be requested from the Oil Spill Public Information Office, 645 G. Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. Phone number 907 278-8008 or within Alaska 800 478-7745, outside Alaska 800 283-7745. {pg 31193}

#### C. Public Meetings

During the comment period for the DEIS public meetings will be held on the following dates at the locations shown:

June 27, 1994-EVOS Trustee Council Restoration Office, 645 G. Street, suite 100, Anchorage, AK

June 29, 1994-Kenai Fjords National Park Visitor's Center, 1212 4th Avenue, Small Boat Harbor, Seward, AK

July 1, 1994-City Council Chambers, 491 E Pioneer Avenue, Homer, AK

July 5, 1994-Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game Conference Room, 211 Mission Road, Kodiak, AK

July 7, 1994-U.S. Forest Service Third Floor Conference Room, 612 Second Street, Cordova, AK

July 19, 1994-City Council Chambers, 212 Chenega Avenue, Valdez, AK

#### D. Comments

The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the Federal Register. It is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate at this time. To be most helpful, comments on the DEIS statement should be as specific as possible, and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed. (See the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of DEIS statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and concerns. Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC. 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final EIS. Wisconsin Heritage, Inc. v. Harris, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that

substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final.

Dated: June 9, 1994.

Phil Janik,

Regional Forester, Alaska Region Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Dated: June 13, 1994.

Robert P. Davison,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior.

INTERNAL DATA: FR Doc. 94-14716; Filed 6-16-94; 8:45 am; BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

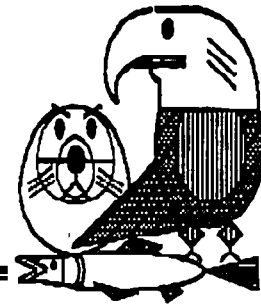
6.1.4

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



### News Release - For Immediate Release

**Date:** Thursday, November 3, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Actions  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

## Trustee Council Approves Restoration Actions

After adopting the comprehensive Restoration Plan on Wednesday, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council today approved a \$24 million Work Plan for 1995 to fund restoration projects, research and monitoring efforts, and science management. The Trustees also set aside an additional \$12 million in a Restoration Reserve for future restoration needs, indicating their goal of a Reserve of \$100 million by 2002.

The 1995 Work Plan reflects the Trustee's commitment to restore fisheries and subsistence resources, as well as a substantial package of research projects directed at injured birds and mammals. In addition, ecosystem research will assist scientists and resource managers to understand the sources of continuing problems with injured resources in order to determine the best restoration actions to take.

The Trustees expressed a strong commitment to negotiate with private landowners in the oil spill region to develop habitat protection packages which include possible transactions such as fee simple purchase, negotiation of conservation easements and other land management strategies which will protect habitat critical to resources and services injured by the 1989 oil spill.

The 1995 Work Plan includes 81 projects organized into several packages with related objectives. A significant part of the funding is directed at Prince William Sound fisheries. The restoration problems addressed include pink salmon, herring and sockeye salmon restoration, marine mammal research and subsistence restoration. Another set of projects involves the Trustees' needs for future restoration planning. These projects were felt to have merit but needed further work before receiving Council approval. They include such subjects as seabird and forage fish interactions, and the status of recovery

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

November 3, 1994

Page 2

for nearshore marine mammals and seabirds and their prey, such as sea urchins, clams and mussels.

A comprehensive scientific review of all projects and an update on findings from 1994 is planned to take place in January in the form of a week-long workshop. Participants will include the principal investigators, peer reviewers, the Chief Scientist, representatives of the public and Trustee Council staff.

"The Restoration Plan, the 1995 Work Plan, and investment in the research facility in Seward are far-reaching endeavors and a giant step forward for restoration," said Dr. Robert Spies, the Trustee Council's Chief Scientist. "This restoration program is the critical foundation we need to help resources, fishermen and subsistence users recover."

"We think this approach will provide a basis for understanding fluctuations of these species and provide resource managers with better tools to make informed decisions," said Spies.

The Trustee Council took the following additional actions at their meeting, which convened in Anchorage on Wednesday, November 2 and continued today:

- A Restoration Plan structured around a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration was adopted after a two-year process which included compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and extensive public involvement; a process which the Trustees said strengthened and improved the Plan.
- The Trustees approved funding separate from the 1995 Work Plan for infrastructure improvements at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks' Institute of Marine Science in Seward. The Trustee Council's \$25 million funding will assist in development of a world-class marine research center to enhance the Trustee Council's capability for conducting studies to promote the restoration of marine mammals, marine birds and the ecosystem injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.
- The Trustees approved habitat protection packages negotiated with two Alaska Native corporations, Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc., and Old Harbor Native Corporation, to protect some 200,000 acres of habitat on Kodiak



November 3, 1994

Page 3

Island within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge that is critical to fish and wildlife species injured by the spill. The protection packages, totaling nearly \$60.5 million, include fee simple purchase of lands, land exchanges, and additional protection measures negotiated with the Native corporations. This unique approach will provide for economic opportunities for local people while protecting the resources in the affected lands. Subsistence use and public access for recreational purposes will also be ensured on these resource-rich lands.

- In addition, the Trustees directed the Executive Director and the lead agencies to pursue negotiations for additional acreage on Kodiak Island belonging to Koniag, Inc., as well as lands in Prince William Sound, Kenai, and on Afognak Island, for the Council's review and approval at its December 2 meeting. These are all lands which have high value for protection, the Trustees said.

For more information, contact Jim Ayers, Molly McCammon or L.J. Evans at 907/278-8012, or the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 907/278-8008, or toll-free for Alaska residents at 1-800-478-7745, outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

# ***Knowles Ulmer'94***

**RECEIVED****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****DEC 12 1994  
December 1, 1994****EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

## **JIM AYERS NAMED CHIEF OF STAFF**

Governor-elect Tony Knowles today named Jim Ayers, 48, as chief of staff for the new administration.

Ayers currently leads the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council as executive director and previously served as director of the Alaska Marine Highway System and as deputy commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

In announcing the appointment, Knowles described Ayers as a true-hearted public servant with a deep love for Alaska. "Jim not only has strong management abilities, a broad understanding of government, and the highest possible ethical standards, he's in public service for the right reasons," Knowles said. "Jim loves Alaska and he honestly respects the public process."

Ayers, an 11-year resident of Juneau, has worked for each of the last three governors. He was director of Legislative Relations under former Gov. Bill Sheffield after serving as deputy commissioner of Fish and Game and coordinator of the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

Former Gov. Steve Cowper named him director of the Alaska Marine Highway System in 1989 and he continued in the capacity under Gov. Wally Hickel. In 1993 Ayers joined the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trust Council as executive director.

As chief of staff, Ayers will oversee all functions of the Governor's Office, including Legislative relations and policy development. The salary for chief of staff is set at a range of 29E or approximately \$86,700 annually.

Ayers, a self-described baseball fanatic, said he considered it an opportunity of a lifetime. "To me this is like being drafted into the big leagues, with your favorite team and the best coach in the business," he said. "It's a rare opportunity in life to work on something you love with someone you respect as much as I respect Tony Knowles. It doesn't get any better than this."

- 30 -

**PRESS ADVISORY:** A press conference will be held Friday, December 2, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Knowles/Ulmer transition headquarters, 333 W. 7th Avenue, Anchorage. At that time, Gov.-Elect Tony Knowles and Lt. Gov.-Elect Fran Ulmer will discuss the transition process and announce the chairs of the various transition committees.

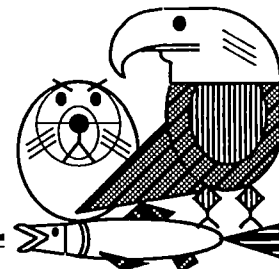
Contact: Bob King 276-8669

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## News Release - For Immediate Release

RECEIVED  
DEC 12 1994

Date: December 9, 1994  
Subject: Trustees appoint McCammon as new Executive Director  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## Trustee Council appoints new executive director

At their December 2 meeting in Juneau, the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council unanimously approved appointment of Molly McCammon as the new Executive Director, following the resignation of former Executive Director Jim Ayers.

Ayers submitted his resignation at that meeting to take a position as Chief of Staff for Governor Tony Knowles. McCammon has served as Director of Operations for the Trustee Council for the past year.

"This position provides a great opportunity to have a positive influence on a process that is very important to many Alaskans," McCammon said. "After a year of working closely with the Trustee Council, the public and members of the communities who were so profoundly affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, I've gained insight into the challenges we face in restoring the resources and services injured by the spill.

"I look forward to this new challenge of moving forward the Trustees' mission of taking a balanced, comprehensive approach to restoration and managing the process for accomplishing that goal," McCammon added.

McCammon has specialized in fisheries management issues for both the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as special assistant to the commissioner from 1989 to 1991, and as staff to several state legislators representing Western Alaska coastal communities. She also served as Special Assistant for Natural Resources for former Governor Bill Sheffield. She has a degree in Journalism from the University of California, Berkeley, and has made Alaska her home since 1973 when she moved to Fairbanks as a radio and television reporter.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

###

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

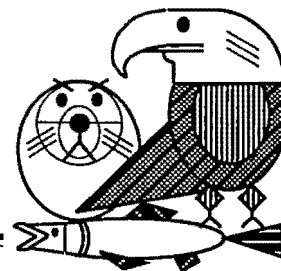


# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

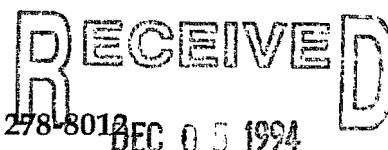
645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## News Release - For Immediate Release

**Date:** Friday, December 2, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Actions  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 586-7238 or 278-8012



EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
 TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
 ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## Trustee Council Takes Action On Restoration Objectives

Taking action to protect habitat important to restoration of species injured by the oil spill, the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council today approved seven resolutions with offers to private landowners for multi-faceted habitat protection packages in the Kodiak region, on the Kenai Peninsula and Prince William Sound. The actions will result in protection of more than 345,880 acres in the spill region. (See the attached table for more information).

The Trustees, meeting today in Juneau, also accepted the resignation of Executive Director James R. Ayers, who was tapped on Thursday by Governor-elect Tony Knowles to be the new Chief of Staff. The Trustee Council unanimously approved appointment of Molly McCammon, formerly Director of Operations for the Trustee Council, as the new Executive Director.

The Trustees took the following additional actions today.

- Approved two 1995 projects deferred from the November 3 Council meeting, 95058 and 94126, and deferred until January further consideration of 95080 and 95141.

More...

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
 United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

- Discussed and approved in concept development of a plan to guide the entire science program undertaken by the Trustees as part of the ecosystem-based approach to restoration.

For more information, contact Molly McCammon or L.J. Evans at 907/278-8012, or the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 907/278-8008, or toll-free for Alaska residents at 1-800-478-7745, outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

## Trustee Council Habitat Protection Actions of December 2, 1994

Landowner	Acres Protected	Amount of offer (in millions)
Chenega Corporation	74,000 total 19,500 acres fee simple 54,500 acres in timber rights and conservation easements	Final approved fair market value, not to exceed \$48.0 M
Koniag Corporation	<p>Alternative 1: 59,700 acres fee simple 56,000 acres in 7 yr. conservation easement</p> <hr/> <p>Alternative 2: 115,700 acres (total of Alt. 1) fee simple</p>	<p>Alternative 1: \$28.5 M</p> <hr/> <p>Alternative 2: \$51.75 M</p>
Tatitlek	56,787 acres in a combination of easements and fee simple	Final approved fair market appraised value, not to exceed \$22.0 M
Kodiak Island Borough	25,665 acres on Shuyak Island	<p>Final approved fair market appraised value, not to exceed \$42.0 M</p> <p>Kodiak Island Borough Assembly has indicated intention to establish a Facilities Fund, and to dedicate \$6 M from this fund to the Kodiak Fishery Industrial Technology Center</p>

Afognak Joint Ventures	48,728 acres in fee simple	Final approved fair market appraised value, not to exceed \$70.0 M
Eyak Corporation	<p>Alternative 1: 14,800 timber conservation easement <u>13,700</u> fee simple 25,000 acres</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Alternative 2: 13,700 acres fee simple</p>	<p>Alternative 1 Final approved fair market appraised value, not to exceed \$50.0 M</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Alternative 2: Final approved fair market appraised value, not to exceed \$21.0 M</p>
English Bay Corp. and Port Graham Corp.	(details pending)	The Trustee Council passed a motion in support of continued negotiations with the corporations regarding land holdings in Kenai Fjords National Park and possibly elsewhere on the Kenai Peninsula.



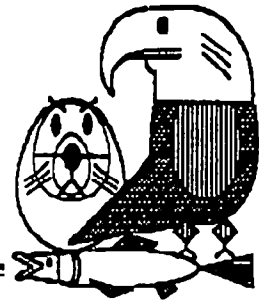
6.1.4

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



---

### News Release - For Immediate Release

Date: Wednesday, November 2, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Actions  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

## Trustee Council Approves Plan with Balanced Approach to Restoration

The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council today took a number of actions to restore and protect the resources and services injured by the 1989 oil spill. The Restoration Plan, which is structured around a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration, was adopted after a two-year process which included compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and extensive public involvement, a process which the Trustees said strengthened and improved the Plan.

As their meeting continues on Thursday, the Trustees will consider a 1995 Work Plan to fund \$25.5 million in restoration work, research and monitoring, habitat protection, science management, and set aside an additional \$12 million in the Restoration Reserve, the Trustee Council's "savings account" for future restoration needs.

Part of the 1995 work plan includes funding for infrastructure improvements at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks' Institute of Marine Science in Seward. The Trustee Council funding of \$25 million will assist in development of a world-class marine research center to enhance the Trustee Council's capability for studies to promote the restoration of marine mammals, marine birds and the ecosystem injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.

"The Restoration Plan, the 1995 Work Plan, and investment in the research facility in Seward reflect the Trustees' balanced approach to restoration," said Dr. Bob Spies, the Trustee Council's Chief Scientist. "With the Trustees' major focus on an integrated research program to explain why so many important resources in the spill region ecosystems continue to decline, we can gather the data we must have if we are to make a difference in

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

November 2, 1994

Page 2

restoring these resources so critical to the whole ecosystem and to the commercial fishermen and subsistence users of the area."

"We think this approach will provide a basis for understanding fluctuations within these species and provide resource managers with better tools to make informed decisions," said Spies.

The 1995 projects under consideration include funding major efforts to restore individual resources and services injured by the spill. These include efforts to restore pink salmon, sockeye salmon, herring, marine mammals and subsistence resources. Ayers pointed out during the meeting that the Trustee Council over the last three year's work plans has already authorized \$9.5 million in funding of restoration and research work for pink salmon alone. The Trustees said they are committed to working toward the recovery of these resources.

The Trustee Council took the following additional actions at their meeting:

- The Trustees approved habitat protection packages negotiated with two Alaska Native corporations, Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc., and Old Harbor Native Corporation, to protect 130,000 acres of habitat in the Kodiak region that is critical to a number of species injured by the spill. The protection packages include fee simple purchase of lands, land exchanges, and additional protection measures negotiated with the Native corporations. This unique approach will provide for economic opportunities for local people while still protecting the resources in the affected lands. Subsistence use and public access for recreational purposes will also be ensured on these resource-rich lands.
- In addition, the Trustees directed the Executive Director and the Department of the Interior to prepare a purchase agreement for the Council's review and approval at its December 2 meeting regarding 116,000 acres of Kodiak Island lands belonging Koniag, Inc. which have also been identified as having high value for protection.
- The Trustees approved a general resolution which included provisions "to pursue habitat protection and acquisition throughout the oil spill area so as to promote restoration of injured natural resources and services...and that \$295 to \$325 million is an initial, flexible place holder for habitat

More...

November 2, 1994

Page 3

protection and acquisition efforts." (This amount is in addition to previous habitat protection expenditures.) The resolution further directs the designated negotiators and the Executive Director to continue negotiations to acquire lands or land interests held by the Eyak Corporation, Chenega, Tatitlek, Port Graham, English Bay, Afognak Joint Ventures, and the Kodiak Island Borough "to provide protection throughout the spill area in a balanced manner..."

- More detailed information about the habitat protection actions decided upon by the Trustees at their meeting is included in an attached table.

For more information, contact Jim Ayers, Molly McCammon or L.J. Evans at 907/278-8012, or the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 907/278-8008, or toll-free for Alaska residents at 1-800-478-7745, outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

# DRAFT

	TRUSTEE COUNCIL FUNDS	FEDERAL RESTITUTION & OTHER	TOTAL	ACREAGE UNDER PROTECTION (ROUNDED OFF)
AKI	\$36.0 Million (\$10 Million Down)	\$10 Million	\$46.0 Million	120,000
OLD HARBOR	\$11.25 Million (\$4 Million Down)	\$3.25 Million	\$14.5 Million	110,000
KONIAG*	\$21.5 Million (\$3 Million Down)	\$7 Million	\$28.5 Million	60,000 (in fee title) 56,000 (7-year easement)
TOTALS	\$68.75 Million (\$17 Million Down)	\$20.25 Million	\$89.0 Million	346,000 Total Acres Protected
Conditional Reserve For Karink & Sturgeon			\$16.5 Million	
Total			\$105.5 Million	

\* An offer made to Koniag, requires Koniag board approval.



Le. 1.4

Juneau Empire October 26, 1994

Copy typist please note: *Exxon Valdez* should always be in italics

**EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**10:00 AM WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2**  
**Legislative Information Office**  
**130 Seward Street, Juneau**

The next meeting of the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Wednesday, November 2, beginning at 10:00 AM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage. The meeting is scheduled to continue at 8:30 AM on Thursday, November 3. The public is invited to attend.

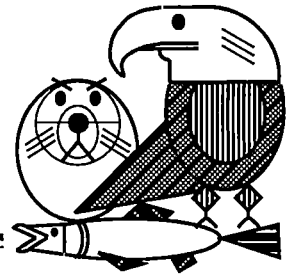
- The agenda will include approval of the final Restoration Plan, action on the FY 95 Work Plan, action on the Institute of Marine Science Infrastructure Improvements, and possible habitat acquisition actions.
- There will be a public comment period beginning at 11:30 AM. on Wednesday, November 2.
- Access by teleconference will be available upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Cherri Womac at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. to obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: November 28, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting on December 2, 1994  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon 278-8012

RECEIVED  
NOV 29 1994

*Please announce or post!*

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

A continuation of the last Exxon Valdez Restoration Trustee Council meeting will take place on Friday, December 2, beginning at 8:30 AM at 709 West 9th Street, Conference Room 541A, Juneau. The public is invited to attend.

- The agenda will include an executive session and possible action on several habitat acquisitions, as well as action on several FY 95 Work Plan projects deferred from the last meeting.
- Access by teleconference will be available at the Trustee Council office in Anchorage at 645 G Street, 4th floor conference room, and upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in: Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Cherri Womac at 278-8012 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

#### Trustee Agencies

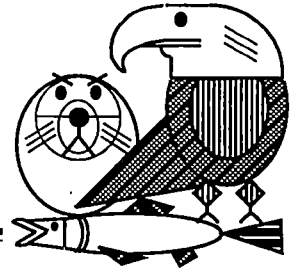
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## News Release - For Immediate Release

**Date:** Thursday, November 3, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Actions  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
NOV 9 1994

## Trustee Council Approves Restoration Actions

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

After adopting the comprehensive Restoration Plan on Wednesday, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council today approved a \$24 million Work Plan for 1995 to fund restoration projects, research and monitoring efforts, and science management. The Trustees also set aside an additional \$12 million in a Restoration Reserve for future restoration needs, indicating their goal of a Reserve of \$100 million by 2002.

The 1995 Work Plan reflects the Trustee's commitment to restore fisheries and subsistence resources, as well as a substantial package of research projects directed at injured birds and mammals. In addition, ecosystem research will assist scientists and resource managers to understand the sources of continuing problems with injured resources in order to determine the best restoration actions to take.

The Trustees expressed a strong commitment to negotiate with private landowners in the oil spill region to develop habitat protection packages which include possible transactions such as fee simple purchase, negotiation of conservation easements and other land management strategies which will protect habitat critical to resources and services injured by the 1989 oil spill.

The 1995 Work Plan includes 81 projects organized into several packages with related objectives. A significant part of the funding is directed at Prince William Sound fisheries. The restoration problems addressed include pink salmon, herring and sockeye salmon restoration, marine mammal research and subsistence restoration. Another set of projects involves the Trustees' needs for future restoration planning. These projects were felt to have merit but needed further work before receiving Council approval. They include such subjects as seabird and forage fish interactions, and the status of recovery

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

for nearshore marine mammals and seabirds and their prey, such as sea urchins, clams and mussels.

A comprehensive scientific review of all projects and an update on findings from 1994 is planned to take place in January in the form of a week-long workshop. Participants will include the principal investigators, peer reviewers, the Chief Scientist, representatives of the public and Trustee Council staff.

"The Restoration Plan, the 1995 Work Plan, and investment in the research facility in Seward are far-reaching endeavors and a giant step forward for restoration," said Dr. Robert Spies, the Trustee Council's Chief Scientist. "This restoration program is the critical foundation we need to help resources, fishermen and subsistence users recover."

"We think this approach will provide a basis for understanding fluctuations of these species and provide resource managers with better tools to make informed decisions," said Spies.

The Trustee Council took the following additional actions at their meeting, which convened in Anchorage on Wednesday, November 2 and continued today:

- A Restoration Plan structured around a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration was adopted after a two-year process which included compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and extensive public involvement, a process which the Trustees said strengthened and improved the Plan.
- The Trustees approved funding separate from the 1995 Work Plan for infrastructure improvements at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks' Institute of Marine Science in Seward. The Trustee Council's \$25 million funding will assist in development of a world-class marine research center to enhance the Trustee Council's capability for conducting studies to promote the restoration of marine mammals, marine birds and the ecosystem injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.
- The Trustees approved habitat protection packages negotiated with two Alaska Native corporations, Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc., and Old Harbor Native Corporation, to protect some 200,000 acres of habitat on Kodiak

Island within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge that is critical to fish and wildlife species injured by the spill. The protection packages, totaling nearly \$60.5 million, include fee simple purchase of lands, land exchanges, and additional protection measures negotiated with the Native corporations. This unique approach will provide for economic opportunities for local people while protecting the resources in the affected lands. Subsistence use and public access for recreational purposes will also be ensured on these resource-rich lands.

- In addition, the Trustees directed the Executive Director and the lead agencies to pursue negotiations for additional acreage on Kodiak Island belonging to Koniag, Inc., as well as lands in Prince William Sound, Kenai, and on Afognak Island, for the Council's review and approval at its December 2 meeting. These are all lands which have high value for protection, the Trustees said.

For more information, contact Jim Ayers, Molly McCammon or L.J. Evans at 907/278-8012, or the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 907/278-8008, or toll-free for Alaska residents at 1-800-478-7745, outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

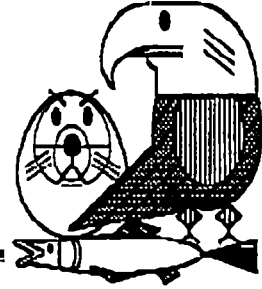
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**Date:** October 31, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Meeting on November 2 & 3, 1994  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon 278-8012

*Please announce or post!*

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Exxon Valdez Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Wednesday, November 2, beginning at 10:00 AM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage. The meeting is scheduled to continue at 8:30 AM on Thursday, November 3. The public is welcome to attend.

- The agenda will include approval of the final Restoration Plan, action on the FY 95 Work Plan, action on the Institute of Marine Science Infrastructure Improvements, and actions on several habitat acquisitions.
- There will be a public comment period beginning at 11:30 AM on Wednesday, November 2.
- Access by teleconference will be available upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Cherri Womac at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

#### Trustee Agencies

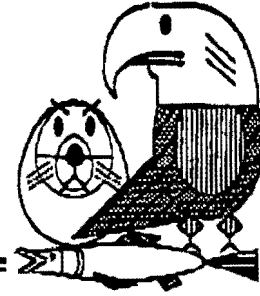
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



### AGENDA

#### EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SETTLEMENT

#### TRUSTEE COUNCIL

**NOVEMBER 2 & 3, 1994 @ 10:00 A.M. -- ANCHORAGE**

**10/31/94**

**1:30 pm**

**DRAFT**

#### Trustee Council Members:

**PHIL JANIK**  
Regional Forester  
Alaska Region  
U.S. Department of Agriculture-Forest Service

**BRUCE BOTELHO/CRAIG TILLERY**  
Attorney General/Trustee  
State of Alaska/Representative

**GEORGE T. FRAMPTON, JR.**  
Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior

**STEVE PENNOYER**  
Director, Alaska Region  
National Marine Fisheries Service

**CARL L. ROSIER**  
Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish & Game

**JOHN A. SANDOR**  
Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Environmental  
Conservation

#### Federal Chair

1. Call to Order 10:00 a.m.
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Order of the Day
  - Approval of October 5, 1994 Meeting Notes
2. Public Advisory Group Report - Donna Fischer, Vice-Chair
3. Executive Director's Report - Jim Ayers
  - Administration & Public Information
    - Financial Report
    - Investment Options
    - Overview of EIS & Restoration Plan Process
    - Public Outreach
  - Research, Monitoring & General Restoration
    - Overview of FY95 Work Plan Process
    - Adaptive Management Process
    - 1994 5th Anniversary Forum & Science Workshop Proceedings
  - Habitat Protection & Acquisition
    - Small Parcel Evaluation Report
    - Large Parcel Report, Including Supplemental Evaluations
    - Appraisal Process Report

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

Public Comment 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Working Lunch 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.

**Action Items:**

4. Restoration Plan
5. Investment Strategy
6. Habitat Acquisition

a) Possible Executive Session to discuss negotiations & strategy.  
Briefings on:

- Eyak
- Chenega\*
- Tatitlek\*
- Port Graham and English Bay
- Afognak\*

\* Possible action by end of November.

b) We anticipate having action requested for the following:

- Old Harbor
- Akhlok-Kaguyak
- Koniag (possible)
- Kodiak Island Borough - Shuyak Island (possible)
- Seal Bay Installment Authorization Resolution

c) General Resolution authorizing and directing pursuit of spill wide acquisition within the EIS framework.

7. Institute of Marine Science Infrastructure Improvements
8. FY95 Work Plan

**Recess** - It is anticipated that a meeting in late November will be necessary to complete additional action items.

If the meeting extends to November 3, it will begin at 8:30 a.m.

**DRAFT**

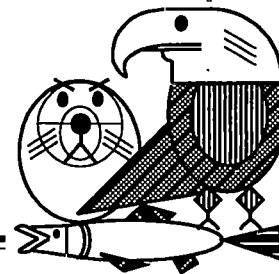


# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

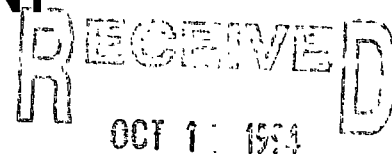
645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: October 17, 1994  
Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement Available  
Contact: Rod Kuhn 278-8012



### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Final Environmental Impact Statement Released

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

On behalf of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture announced the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Plan. The Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register by the Forest Service on September 27 and the Environmental Protection Agency on September 30.

The Restoration Plan will establish management direction and guide all natural resource restoration activities covered by the civil settlement to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill between Exxon Corporation and the state and federal governments. The settlement, which was approved by a federal court in October 1991, will result in State and Federal Trustees receiving \$900 million in civil damages from Exxon over ten years, ending in 2001. The funds are to be used to restore the natural resources and services injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, which occurred in March 1989.

It is anticipated that a decision will be made on a final Restoration Plan approximately 30 days after publication of the Notice of Availability.

Copies of a Summary or the full Final Environmental Impact Statement are available on request from the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street, Anchorage, AK 99501, or dial 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745. Copies will also be available at public libraries in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Valdez, Cordova, Kodiak, Homer and Seward, Alaska.

###

---

#### Trustee Agencies

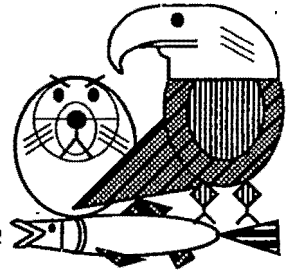
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: October 3, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Briefing Meeting on October 5, 1994  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon 278-8012

RECEIVED  
OCT 05 1994

*Please announce or post!*

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Briefing

A meeting to brief the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Wednesday, October 5, beginning at 9:00 AM at the Juneau Federal Building, in room 541A (Forest Service Conference Room). This meeting is a briefing session only.

The briefing will also be teleconferenced to Anchorage and available to the public at 645 G Street, in the fourth floor conference room. The public is welcome to attend.

- The agenda will include briefings on the Institute of Marine Science, a Restoration Plan Update, and an executive session briefing on habitat protection.
- Access by teleconference will be available upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

Trustee Agencies

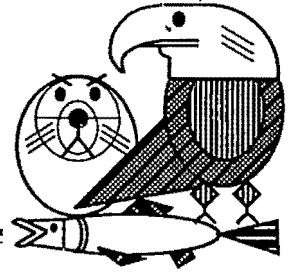
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

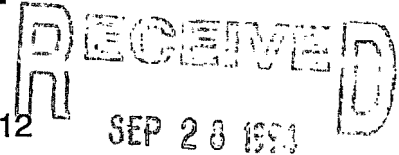
645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## Public Service Announcement

Date: September 28, 1994  
 Subject: Public Meeting Scheduled September 28  
 Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012



## Public Meeting to Review 1995 Draft Work Plan

The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council has released the *Draft Fiscal Year 1995 Work Plan* for public review and comment. The deadline for comments is October 3, 1994.

A public meeting to present a briefing on the status of restoration activities, including habitat protection and acquisition efforts, and to take public comments on the Draft 1995 Work Plan will take place on:

**Wednesday, September 28, beginning at 7 p.m.**

**Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage**

This meeting will be available by teleconference to residents of all the communities and villages in the oil spill region. Contact your local Alaska Legislative Information Office or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council Office at 907/278-8012 for information about participating in the September 28 meeting by teleconference.

The *Draft Work Plan* describes restoration programs being considered by the Trustees for action in federal fiscal year 1995 (October 1, 1994 – September 30, 1995). The work plan reflects the Trustees' emphasis on taking an integrated approach to restoration and looking at whole ecosystems rather than single species.

Review copies of documents describing the 1995 work plan are available at libraries and some Alaska Legislative Information Offices in the spill region. To obtain the documents or information about the location of reference copies in your community, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Anchorage, AK 99501, or by calling 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

### Trustee Agencies

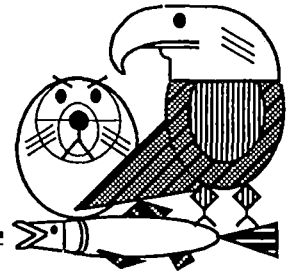
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
 United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# **Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council**

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## **News Release - For Immediate Release**

**Date:** September 13, 1994  
**Subject:** Draft 1995 Work Plan Available for Review  
Public Meeting Scheduled September 28  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 13 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## **Trustees Release Ambitious 1995 Draft Work Plan**

**Anchorage** – The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council has released the *Draft Fiscal Year 1995 Work Plan* for public review and comment. The deadline for comments is October 3, 1994.

The *Draft Work Plan* describes restoration programs being considered by the Trustees for action in federal fiscal year 1995 (October 1, 1994 – September 30, 1995). The Draft 1995 Work Plan includes projects that focus on the restoration objectives developed during a series of workshops with scientists, agency resource specialists, community representatives and members of the public which took place over last winter and spring. The work plan reflects the Trustees' emphasis on taking an integrated approach to restoration and looking at whole ecosystems rather than single species.

A public meeting to present a briefing on the status of restoration activities, including habitat protection and acquisition efforts, and to take public comments on the Draft 1995 Work Plan will take place on:

**Wednesday, September 28, beginning at 7 p.m.**

**Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage**

This meeting will be available by teleconference to residents of all the communities and villages in the oil spill region. Contact a local Alaska Legislative Information Office or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council Office at 907/278-8012 for information about participating in the September 28 meeting by teleconference.

*More...*

---

### **Trustee Agencies**

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

## Fact Sheet - 1995 Draft Work Plan Highlights:

- 172 Projects with a combined proposed FY95 cost greater than \$71 million were submitted by private organizations, individuals and agencies in response to an "Invitation to Submit Restoration Projects" issued last May. The Trustees are expected to make their decision on funding at a meeting in Anchorage on November 2 and 3, 1994, taking into consideration recommendations from the Executive Director, Chief Scientist, the Public Advisory Group, comments from the public, and state and federal agencies.
- Proposals submitted underwent preliminary review by scientists and Trustee Council staff. All 172 proposals submitted were evaluated and organized into the following preliminary restoration categories:

- Research
- Monitoring
- General Restoration
- Habitat Protection and Acquisition
- Administration, Science Management, and Public Information
- Restoration Reserve

- The Research proposals submitted which were ranked to have high restoration benefit and strong technical merit total \$13.5 million. These include five groups of projects which comprise a majority of the proposed research program. Together, they would examine many of the possible spill-caused problems as well as major natural forces that may be constraining recovery of the resources injured by the oil spill. These major research questions are:

*What is causing the failure of Prince William Sound herring and pink salmon runs?*

*What is causing the long-term decline in some marine mammals and seabirds?*

*Is food limiting recovery of injured resources?*

*What is limiting recovery in the nearshore ecosystem?*

*Are the toxic effects of oil still constraining recovery of some resources?*

- Monitoring the recovery of injured resources and services is important in designing restoration activities and determining which activities deserve funding. The 1995 Draft Work Plan includes approximately \$5.5 million in monitoring efforts.
- General restoration projects directly manipulate the environment to facilitate restoration, enhance the production of particular affected resources, provide alternative resources, or protect the recovery of resources that people and

*More...*

communities depend on. A total of 65 general restoration proposals with a total cost of over \$28 million were submitted. Nearly half of these projects have important legal or policy issues that must be resolved before they can be considered for funding.

They generally fall into five types of projects:

- Stock separation projects for fisheries management
- Fish and shellfish enhancement
- Archaeological resource protection projects
- Protecting resources by reducing marine pollution in the region
- Subsistence and recreation projects

- Habitat protection and acquisition is an essential element of the Trustee Council's restoration efforts. Proposals concerning the acquisition of specific parcels of land are *not* the subject of this work plan, but are being addressed by the Trustee Council through discussions and negotiations with individual landowners in the spill area. Proposals to continue support for these efforts are included.
- Funding for administration, science management and public information is required to prepare work plans, provide for independent scientific review, oversee projects and budgets, ensure public participation and operation of the restoration program. The total proposed for these aspects of the restoration program is \$4.2 million and reflects a significant reduction from previous years' funding. This amount was approved by the Trustee Council at their August 23 meeting.
- The Restoration Reserve was created by the Trustee council as part of the 1994 Work Plan to establish the capability to conduct restoration activities in the years following Exxon's last payment. The Reserve was initiated with a deposit of \$12 million. The 1995 Work Plan would authorize deposit of an additional \$12 million.

*More...*

## 1995 Draft Work Plan Documents Available

The *Draft FY 95 Work Plan: Summary* describes each project's cost, objective, and how completion of the project would restore resources and services injured by the spill. The *Summary* has been distributed to the entire Trustee Council mailing list and will also be available for review at libraries and some Legislative Information Offices in the spill region, as will the related documents described below.

Three other documents provide more detailed information about each project:

***Supplement Volume I*** includes brief descriptions of 93 projects evaluated to have high restoration benefit and strong technical merit.

***Supplement Volume II*** contains project descriptions for all other projects that were submitted but not included in *Supplement Volume I*. These include those with lower benefit or technical merit, and those with legal or policy concerns.

***Supplement Volume III*** contains detailed budget information for individual projects.

The *Summary*, *Supplement Volume I* and individual project descriptions or budgets are available from the Oil Spill Public Information Center upon request. The *Summary* as well as *Supplement Volumes I, II* and *III* are available at libraries and some Legislative Information Offices in Anchorage and the spill area.

Review copies of documents describing the 1995 work plan are available at libraries and some Alaska Legislative Information Offices in the spill region. To obtain documents or information about the location of reference copies in your community, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Anchorage, AK 99501, or by calling 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

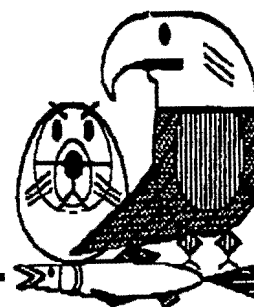
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: October 17, 1994  
Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement Available  
Contact: Rod Kuhn 278-8012

### *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Final Environmental Impact Statement Released

On behalf of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture announced the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Plan. The Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register by the Forest Service on September 27 and the Environmental Protection Agency on September 30.

The Restoration Plan will establish management direction and guide all natural resource restoration activities covered by the civil settlement to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill between Exxon Corporation and the state and federal governments. The settlement, which was approved by a federal court in October 1991, will result in State and Federal Trustees receiving \$900 million in civil damages from Exxon over ten years, ending in 2001. The funds are to be used to restore the natural resources and services injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, which occurred in March 1989.

It is anticipated that a decision will be made on a final Restoration Plan approximately 30 days after publication of the Notice of Availability.

Copies of a Summary or the full Final Environmental Impact Statement are available on request from the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street, Anchorage, AK 99501, or dial 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745. Copies will also be available at public libraries in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Valdez, Cordova, Kodiak, Homer and Seward, Alaska.

###

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior



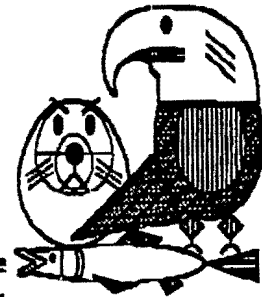
6.1.4

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3461

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 278-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**Date:** October 7, 1994  
**Subject:** Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group Meeting  
**Contact:** Doug Mutter 271-5011

### EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group will meet on Wednesday, October 12, beginning at 8:30 AM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G. Street in Anchorage. The public is welcome to attend.

There will be a public comment session on Wednesday, October 12 beginning at 4:00 PM. The agenda will include briefings on various restoration activities and development of a recommendation for the Draft FY 95 Work Plan.

The Public Advisory Group advises the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council on decisions relating to the planning, evaluation and conduct of restoration activities. The Public Advisory Group consists of seventeen members and reflects representation from the public at large and the following principal interests: aquaculture, commercial fishing, commercial tourism, environmental, conservation, forest products, local government, native landowners, recreational users, sport hunting and fishing, subsistence, and science/academia.

Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. For more detailed information on the role of the Public Advisory Group or a copy of the agenda, contact Doug Mutter, U.S. Department of the Interior at 907/271-5011.

###

#### Trustee Agencies

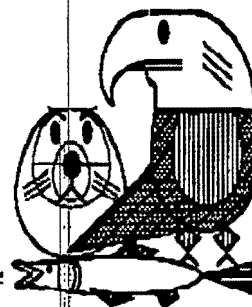
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



### News Release - For Immediate Release

**Date:** September 13, 1994  
**Subject:** Draft 1995 Work Plan Available for Review  
Public Meeting Scheduled September 28  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

## Trustees Release Ambitious 1995 Draft Work Plan

**Anchorage** – The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council has released the *Draft Fiscal Year 1995 Work Plan* for public review and comment. The deadline for comments is October 3, 1994.

The *Draft Work Plan* describes restoration programs being considered by the Trustees for action in federal fiscal year 1995 (October 1, 1994 – September 30, 1995). The Draft 1995 Work Plan includes projects that focus on the restoration objectives developed during a series of workshops with scientists, agency resource specialists, community representatives and members of the public which took place over last winter and spring. The work plan reflects the Trustees' emphasis on taking an integrated approach to restoration and looking at whole ecosystems rather than single species.

A public meeting to present a briefing on the status of restoration activities, including habitat protection and acquisition efforts, and to take public comments on the Draft 1995 Work Plan will take place on:

**Wednesday, September 28, beginning at 7 p.m.**

**Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage**

This meeting will be available by teleconferenced to residents of all the communities and villages in the oil spill region. Contact a local Alaska Legislative Information Office or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council Office at 907/278-8012 for information about participating in the September 28 meeting by teleconference.

*More...*

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

Draft 1995 Work Plan

Page 2

September 13, 1994

## **Fact Sheet - 1995 Draft Work Plan Highlights:**

- 172 Projects with a combined proposed FY95 cost greater than \$71 million were submitted by private organizations, individuals and agencies in response to an "Invitation to Submit Restoration Projects" issued last May. The Trustees are expected to make their decision on funding at a meeting in Anchorage on November 2 and 3, 1994, taking into consideration recommendations from the Executive Director, Chief Scientist, the Public Advisory Group, comments from the public, and state and federal agencies.
- Proposals submitted underwent preliminary review by scientists and Trustee Council staff. All 172 proposals submitted were evaluated and organized into the following preliminary restoration categories:

- Research
- Monitoring
- General Restoration
- Habitat Protection and Acquisition
- Administration, Science Management, and Public Information
- Restoration Reserve

- The Research proposals submitted which were ranked to have high restoration benefit and strong technical merit total \$13.5 million. These include five groups of projects which comprise a majority of the proposed research program. Together, they would examine many of the possible spill-caused problems as well as major natural forces that may be constraining recovery of the resources injured by the oil spill. These major research questions are:
  - What is causing the failure of Prince William Sound herring and pink salmon runs?*
  - What is causing the long-term decline in some marine mammals and seabirds?*
  - Is food limiting recovery of injured resources?*
  - What is limiting recovery in the nearshore ecosystem?*
  - Are the toxic effects of oil still constraining recovery of some resources?*
- Monitoring the recovery of injured resources and services is important in designing restoration activities and determining which activities deserve funding. The 1995 Draft Work Plan includes approximately \$5.5 million in monitoring efforts.
- General restoration projects directly manipulate the environment to facilitate restoration, enhance the production of particular affected resources, provide alternative resources, or protect the recovery of resources that people and

*More...*

Draft 1995 Work Plan

Page 3

September 13, 1994

communities depend on. A total of 65 general restoration proposals with a total cost of over \$28 million were submitted. Nearly half of these projects have important legal or policy issues that must be resolved before they can be considered for funding.

They generally fall into five types of projects:

- Stock separation projects for fisheries management
- Fish and shellfish enhancement
- Archaeological resource protection projects
- Protecting resources by reducing marine pollution in the region
- Subsistence and recreation projects

- Habitat protection and acquisition is an essential element of the Trustee Council's restoration efforts. Proposals concerning the acquisition of specific parcels of land are *not* the subject of this work plan, but are being addressed by the Trustee Council through discussions and negotiations with individual landowners in the spill area. Proposals to continue support for these efforts are included.
- Funding for administration, science management and public information is required to prepare work plans, provide for independent scientific review, oversee projects and budgets, ensure public participation and operation of the restoration program. The total proposed for these aspects of the restoration program is \$4.2 million and reflects a significant reduction from previous years' funding. This amount was approved by the Trustee Council at their August 23 meeting.
- The Restoration Reserve was created by the Trustee council as part of the 1994 Work Plan to establish the capability to conduct restoration activities in the years following Exxon's last payment. The Reserve was initiated with a deposit of \$12 million. The 1995 Work Plan would authorize deposit of an additional \$12 million.

*More...*

Draft 1995 Work Plan

Page 4

September 13, 1994

## **1995 Draft Work Plan Documents Available**

The *Draft FY 95 Work Plan: Summary* describes each project's cost, objective, and how completion of the project would restore resources and services injured by the spill. The *Summary* has been distributed to the entire Trustee Council mailing list and will also be available for review at libraries and some Legislative Information Offices in the spill region, as will the related documents described below.

Three other documents provide more detailed information about each project:

***Supplement Volume I*** includes brief descriptions of 93 projects evaluated to have high restoration benefit and strong technical merit.

***Supplement Volume II*** contains project descriptions for all other projects that were submitted but not included in *Supplement Volume I*. These include those with lower benefit or technical merit, and those with legal or policy concerns.

***Supplement Volume III*** contains detailed budget information for individual projects.

The *Summary*, *Supplement Volume I* and individual project descriptions or budgets are available from the Oil Spill Public Information Center upon request. The *Summary* as well as *Supplement Volumes I, II* and *III* are available at libraries and some Legislative Information Offices in Anchorage and the spill area.

Review copies of documents describing the 1995 work plan are available at libraries and some Alaska Legislative Information Offices in the spill region. To obtain documents or information about the location of reference copies in your community, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Anchorage, AK 99501, or by calling 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

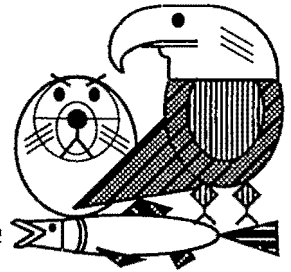
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



Date: August 23, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting Actions on 8/23/94  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
AUG 24 1994

## Trustees take action on Restoration Plan EIS & interim budget

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

**Anchorage** – The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council today directed staff to complete a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the draft plan that will guide the Council's future restoration activities.

Summaries of public comment received on both documents were presented to the Trustees by the team responsible for development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The summaries included strong public support for the concept of a Restoration Reserve and for habitat protection.

At its meeting today the Trustee Council also approved an interim budget to assure funding past the September 30, 1994 end of the federal fiscal year for the following:

- Scientific analysis of research and monitoring work undertaken during the FY 94 field season;
- Partial funding for time-critical projects under consideration for 1995. Only continuation projects which were determined to be of high priority were forwarded for interim funding;
- Ongoing science management, administration and public involvement programs for FY 95. The total budget approved for these programs for 1995 is \$3.6 million, a 30% reduction from the \$5.2 million authorized in 1994.

The complete Draft 1995 Work Plan will be released for public review and comment on September 1. The Trustee Council will meet to decide on the entire 1995 program in late October.

The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council consists of six representatives, three from the State of Alaska and three from the U.S. Government. The Trustees

More...

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

manage funds obtained in the 1991 civil settlement with Exxon Corporation to restore resources and services injured in the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

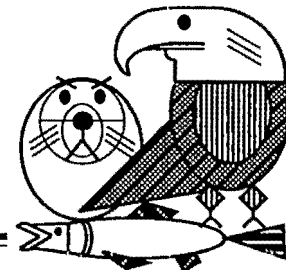
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: August 17, 1994  
 Subject: Trustee Council Meeting on August 23, 1994  
 Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon 278-8012

RECEIVED  
 AUG 18 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
 TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
 ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

*Please announce or post!*

## Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

The next meeting of the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Tuesday, August 23, beginning at 10:30 AM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G. Street in Anchorage. The public is invited to attend.

- The agenda will include discussion of the interim budget, Environmental Impact Statement for the Restoration Plan, and other subjects.
- There will be a Public Advisory Group report and public comment period from 10:30 – 11:30 AM.
- Access by teleconference will be available upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
 United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior



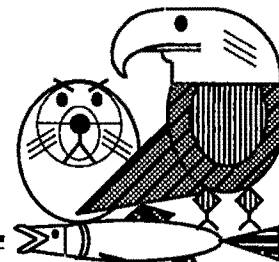
6.1.47

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



MEETING NOTICE - PLEASE POST

RECEIVED  
JUL 15 1994

Date: July 15, 1994

Subject: DEIS Meeting Series

Contact: Rod Kuhn at 278-8012

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## Public Meeting on Draft Spill Restoration Plan & Environmental Impact Statement

A public meeting to gather comments on the Draft Restoration Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be held at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street, Suite 100, in Anchorage on Wednesday, July 20, beginning with an informational presentation at 7:00 PM. Comments will be accepted throughout the meeting. The public is invited to attend or participate via teleconference. The deadline for comments is August 1, 1994.

Teleconference access to this meeting will be available upon request from residents of the communities of: Akhiok, Chenega Bay, Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Ivanof Bay, Juneau, Karluk, Kodiak, Larsen Bay, Nanwalek, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Perryville, Port Graham, Port Lions, Seldovia, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your local Alaska Legislative Information Office or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council office at 907/278-8012 to arrange to participate in this meeting via teleconference.

Written comments should be mailed or delivered to: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, Attn: EIS Comments, 645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451.

Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans at 278-8012 to make any necessary arrangements. For additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8012 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

RECEIVED

JUL 27 1994

## IMS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), on behalf of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for proposed infrastructure improvements to the Institute of Marine Science facility in Seward, Alaska. The proposed project would include two components: (1) a research and wildlife rehabilitation component and (2) a public education and visitation component. The improvements are intended to help focus and carry out long-term research, rehabilitation, and monitoring of the marine mammals, birds and the ecosystem affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. No joint EVOS restoration funds would be involved in the construction or maintenance of the public education and visitation component of the project.

The DOI has scheduled two information meetings/public hearings to discuss issues pertaining to the proposed project and to receive comments on the DEIS.

**Tuesday, July 26, 1994****IMS K.M. Rae Building****125 Third Avenue****Seward, Alaska****Information Mtg: 5:00-8:00 p.m.****Public Hearing: 8:00 p.m.****Thursday, July 28, 1994****Trustee Council Mtg Room****645 G Street, Suite 100****Anchorage, Alaska****Information Mtg: 5:00-8:00 p.m.****Public Hearing: 8:00 p.m.**

Please send written comments on the DEIS by August 8, 1994, to Nancy Swanton, EIS Project Manager, 949 E. 36th Avenue, Room 603, Anchorage, AK 99508-4302, or fax (907) 271-6507. For information, contact Ms. Swanton at (907) 271-6622.

AT 7:00 P.M.:

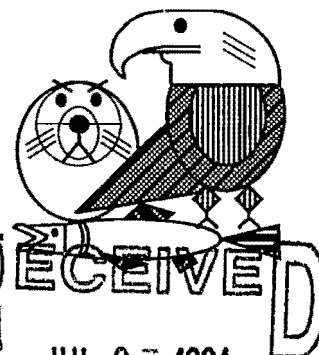
PRESENTATION ABOUT THE PROJECT DESIGN BY THE ARCHITECTS

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: July 7, 1994  
 Subject: Public meetings on Seward Institute of Marine Science DEIS  
 Contact: Nancy Swanton 907/271-6622 FAX: 907/271-6507  
 EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
 TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
 ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Public Meetings on Draft EIS for Seward Institute of Marine Science Project

Meetings to gather comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Institute of Marine Science Infrastructure Improvement Project are scheduled to take place in Seward on July 26 and in Anchorage on July 28, 1994. Project team members will be available from 5:00 – 8:00 PM to discuss the project and answer questions. A presentation to describe the project will be delivered at 7:00 PM. The formal hearing to take public comment will begin at 8:00 PM. Both oral and written comments will be accepted at the meetings. In addition, written comments will be accepted until August 8, 1994.

The meetings will take place at the following locations:

**Seward: Tuesday, July 26** — Institute of Marine Science  
 K.M. Rae Building  
 125 Third Avenue

**Anchorage: Thursday, July 28** — Oil Spill Public Information Center  
 645 G Street, Suite 100

Written comments should be mailed or delivered to: Nancy K. Swanton, EIS Project Manager, 949 East 36th Ave., Room 603, Anchorage, AK 99508-4302.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement was prepared by the U.S. Department of the Interior on behalf of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council. The Trustee Council is considering providing funding for a portion of this project in order to enhance the Council's capabilities to study marine mammals, birds, and the ecosystem injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. The improvements are intended to help focus and carry out a long-term research and monitoring program for the spill area as part of an overall restoration plan.

The project would be constructed adjacent to the existing campus of the IMS Seward Marine Center in Seward, and would have two components: (1) a research and wildlife rehabilitation component and (2) a public education and visitation component. No joint Exxon Valdez oil spill restoration funds would be involved in the construction or maintenance of the public education and visitation component of the project.

For more information about the Draft EIS, contact Nancy Swanton at 907/271-6622. To obtain a copy of the Draft EIS, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Anchorage, AK 99501 or by calling 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

Trustee Agencies

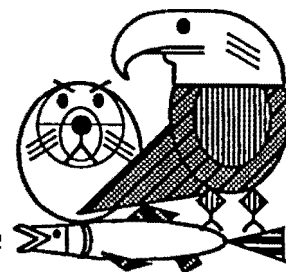
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
 United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: July 5, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting on July 11, 1994  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon 278-8012

RECEIVED  
JUL 05 1994

*Please announce or post!*

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

The next meeting of the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Monday, July 11, beginning at 1:00 PM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G. Street in Anchorage. The public is invited to attend.

- The agenda will include briefings on the 1995 Work Plan review process, the Restoration Plan, Habitat Protection, and other subjects.
- A public comment period is scheduled from 1:15 to 2:00 PM.
- Access by teleconference will be available upon request at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your Legislative Information Office to arrange to participate in this meeting.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

#### Trustee Agencies

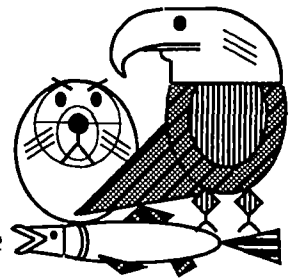
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture, and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## NEWS RELEASE

Date: June 20, 1994  
Subject: Release of Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Contact: Rod Kuhn at 278-8012  
Jim Ayers at 586-7238

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## Draft Oil Spill Restoration Plan & Environmental Impact Statement Released

A comprehensive Restoration Plan outlining activities to restore injuries from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and an accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Statement were released today by the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council for public review and comment.

The March 24, 1989 spill resulted in a \$900 million settlement and the creation of the six-member *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council to oversee use of the settlement funds. The State of Alaska trustees are: Bruce M. Botelho, Attorney General; Carl L. Rosier, Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game; and John A. Sandor, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. The federal trustees are the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The federal trustees have designated the following representatives to serve on the Trustee Council: George T. Frampton, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Fish & Wildlife & Parks; Phil Janik, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service; and Steven Pennoyer, National Marine Fisheries Service.

The Draft Restoration Plan is the culmination of a 3-year joint effort by federal and state agencies following the October 1991 court settlement between Exxon Corporation, the United States government and the State of Alaska.

Alaska Governor Walter J. Hickel, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and NOAA Assistant Administrator Doug Hall called the Restoration Plan a critical milestone in achieving restoration of the marine ecosystem injured by the spill.

"The Draft Restoration Plan represents our long-term commitment to restoring and enhancing Prince William Sound, Kodiak and other areas impacted by the

- more -

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

spill," Governor Hickel said. "It is my hope that the Trustee Council will invest the settlement money wisely — using this Restoration Plan as its blueprint — for the long-range benefit of the ecosystem and the people who use it."

The Draft Restoration Plan reflects a balanced, comprehensive approach to restoration, with elements of general restoration, research and monitoring, and protection of habitat important to species damaged as a result of the spill. It was developed following a lengthy series of public meetings and based on extensive input from scientists, agency managers, the spill area communities and residents of both Alaska and other parts of the United States.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement, developed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, reviews the potential impacts of implementing the Draft Restoration Plan and four other alternative approaches. Both documents are now available for public review and comment through August 1.

"A healthy and productive ecosystem in Prince William Sound and the North Gulf of Alaska is essential for the recovery of species injured by the spill," Secretary Babbitt commented. "Together with the Forest Service and NOAA, we have joined with the State of Alaska in a process that involves local residents and local communities, to help restore injured natural resources and improve our understanding of this truly remarkable area."

"The restoration process is the culmination of a long and diligent effort by the State of Alaska and the federal government," said Doug Hall, Assistant Administrator of NOAA. "Prince William Sound is one of the world's most important ecosystems and this process will move us along in our efforts to restore that system."

Public meetings are scheduled in Anchorage, Seward, Homer, Kodiak, Cordova and Valdez to provide information and take public comments on both the Draft Restoration Plan and the Draft EIS. Written comments will be accepted through August 1, 1994 and should be mailed or delivered to: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, Attn: EIS Comments, 645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451. For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at the same address or by calling 907/278-8012, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

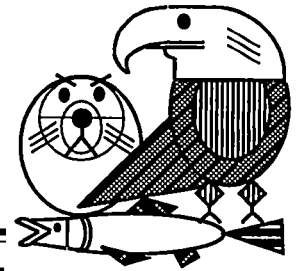
6.1.40

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



---

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: June 20, 1994  
Subject: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group Meeting  
Contact: Doug Mutter 271-5011

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 1994

### EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Public Advisory Group will meet on Tuesday, June 28, 1994, beginning at 9:30 AM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G. Street in Anchorage. The meeting is scheduled to continue on Wednesday, June 29, from 8:30 AM until noon.

There will be a public comment session on Tuesday, June 28 from 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM. The agenda will include status reports on restoration activities and review of proposed 1995 Work Plan projects.

The Public Advisory Group advises the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council on decisions relating to the planning, evaluation and conduct of injury assessment and restoration activities. The Public Advisory Group consists of seventeen members and reflects representation from the public at large and the following principal interests: aquaculture, commercial fishing, commercial tourism, environmental, conservation, forest products, local government, Native landowners, recreational users, sport hunting and fishing, subsistence, and science/academia.

Persons with a disability who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. For more detailed information on the role of the Public Advisory Group or a copy of the agenda, contact Doug Mutter, U.S. Department of the Interior at 907/271-5011.

###

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

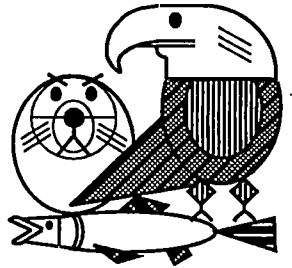
6.1.4.N

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



---

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: June 20, 1994  
Subject: Nominations for Public Advisory Group  
Contact: Doug Mutter 271-5011

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 1994

### NOMINATIONS SOLICITED FOR EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council is soliciting nominations for the November 1994 – October 1996 term of the Public Advisory Group. Nominations will be accepted until August 1, 1994.

Nominations should include information requested in a packet available from the Trustee Council or the Oil Spill Public Information Center, both located at 645 G Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 or by calling 907/278-8008, toll-free at 1-800-478-7745 (within Alaska) or 1-800-283-7745 (outside Alaska).

The Public Advisory Group advises the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council on decisions relating to the planning, evaluation and conduct of injury assessment and restoration activities. Members of the Public Advisory Group reflect balanced representation from the public at large and the following principal interests: aquaculture, commercial fishing, commercial tourism, environmental, conservation, forest products, local government, Native landowners, recreational users, sport hunting and fishing, subsistence, and science/academic.

For more detailed information on the role of the Public Advisory Group or the nomination process, or copies of documents relating to the Public Advisory Group, contact Doug Mutter, U.S. Department of the Interior, at 907/271-5011, or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council office.

###

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior



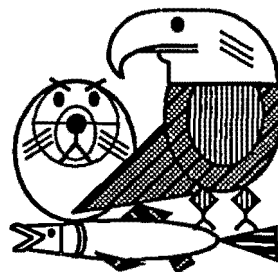
6.1.4m

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

## Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: June 17, 1994  
Subject: DEIS Meeting Series  
Contact: Rod Kuhn at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 1994

## Public Meetings on Draft Spill Restoration Plan & Environmental Impact Statement

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

A series of open house meetings to gather comments on the *Exxon Valdez* Draft Restoration Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled to take place in communities within the spill area in June and July. An informational presentation of approximately 15 minutes will be given at 4:00 PM and at 6:00 PM at each meeting. Both oral and written comments will be accepted. Written comments will be accepted until August 1, 1994.

### Draft EIS Meeting Schedule

Date	Community	Time	Address
June 27, 1994	Anchorage	4:00-8:00 PM	EVOS Trustee Council Office 645 G Street, Suite 100
June 29, 1994	Seward	4:00-8:00 PM	Kenai Fjords National Park Visitor's Center 1212 4th Ave., Small Boat Harbor
July 1, 1994	Homer	4:00-8:00 PM	City Council Chambers 491 E Pioneer Ave.
July 5, 1994	Kodiak	4:00-8:00 PM	Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game Conference Room 211 Mission Rd.
July 7, 1994	Cordova	4:00-8:00 PM	U.S. Forest Service Third Floor Conference Room 612 Second Street
July 19, 1994	Valdez	4:00-8:00 PM	City Council Chambers 212 Chenega Ave.

Written comments should be mailed or delivered to: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, Attn: EIS Comments, 645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451. For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at the same address or by calling 907/278-8012, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

#### Trustee Agencies

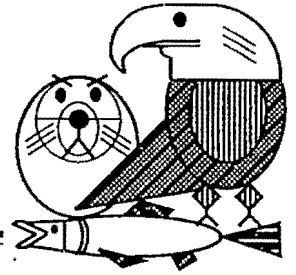
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture, and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: June 17, 1994  
Subject: DEIS Meeting Series  
Contact: Rod Kuhn at 278-8012

### **Public Meeting on Draft Spill Restoration Plan & Environmental Impact Statement**

A public meeting to gather comments on the Draft Restoration Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be held at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street, Suite 100, in Anchorage on Wednesday, July 20, beginning with an informational presentation at 7:00 PM. Comments will be accepted throughout the meeting. The public is invited to attend or participate via teleconference. The deadline for comments is August 1, 1994.

Teleconference access to this meeting will be available upon request from residents of the communities of: Akhiok, Chenega Bay, Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Ivanof Bay, Juneau, Karluk, Kodiak, Larsen Bay, Nanwalek, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Perryville, Port Graham, Port Lions, Seldovia, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier. Contact your local Alaska Legislative Information Office or L.J. Evans at the Trustee Council office at 907/278-8012 to arrange to participate in this meeting via teleconference.

Written comments should be mailed or delivered to: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, Attn: EIS Comments, 645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, AK 99501-3451.

Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans at 278-8012 to make any necessary arrangements. For additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8012 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

###

---

Trustee Agencies

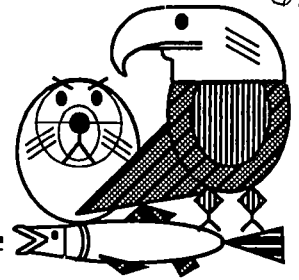
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: May 25, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting on May 31, 1994  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008

RECEIVED  
JUN 3 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

*Please announce or post!*

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

The next meeting of the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Trustee Council will take place on Tuesday, May 31, beginning at 1:00 PM in the Forest Service Conference Room 541-A in the Juneau Federal Building at 709 W 9th Street, Juneau. The public is invited to attend.

- This meeting will be an informational meeting only. No decisions or actions are anticipated. The agenda will include briefings on the status of projects and programs, and an executive session on habitat protection and acquisition strategies.
- Access by teleconference will be available in the 4th Floor Conference Room at 645 G St. in Anchorage, and at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in Chenega Bay, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kodiak, Seward, Soldotna, Tatitlek, Valdez and Whittier.
- Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. To obtain a copy of the agenda or additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008 (toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745).

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

6.1.4 J



# News Release

United States  
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington D.C. 20090-6090

Jennifer Harris 202-205-1134

Gary Lidholm 907-586-8849

## PHIL JANIK NAMED REGIONAL FORESTER FOR ALASKA REGION

RECEIVED  
MAY 1 1994

WASHINGTON, D.C. May 4 -- USDA Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas today announced Phil Janik as the new Regional Forester for the Alaska Region. Phil will assume leadership over 22 million acres of national forest land in Alaska and an expanding State and private forestry organization. Janik will be one of nine Regional Foresters in the agency and takes the position after 27 years of Federal service.

Thomas said, "Phil has spent his entire career working with integrated resource management issues and conflict resolution. He brings with him a solid land stewardship ethic and appreciation of the importance of land uses. His previous experience in Alaska makes him particularly well qualified to advance the principles of ecosystem management in the Region."

Janik served as Director of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Subsistence in the Alaska Region from 1983 to 1989. In that capacity, he became familiar with Alaska native culture and public land issues, including subsistence use of national forest resources. He moved from that position to his current assignment as Assistant Director of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Rare Plants in the USDA-Forest Service Washington Office where his responsibilities included policy development and conflict resolution associated with integrating natural resource management.

Janik gained familiarity with Pacific Northwest old growth forest and anadromous fish habitat issues during assignments in the Pacific Northwest Region and the Intermountain Region. Prior to working for the Forest Service, Janik served as a Naval officer at sea during the Vietnam conflict and was a Naval ROTC instructor at Oregon State University.

A native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Janik received a B.S. in Forestry from the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana, and an M.S. in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. He is a member of the Society of American Foresters, American Fisheries Society, The Wildlife Society, and numerous conservation organizations.

Janik and his wife Pat have three children. Kim is a Second Lieutenant in the Army in Colorado Springs, Scott is attending Villanova University in Pennsylvania and Michael, graduating from high school this spring, will be attending college next fall. Pat's mother, Margaret Harris, also resides with the Janiks.

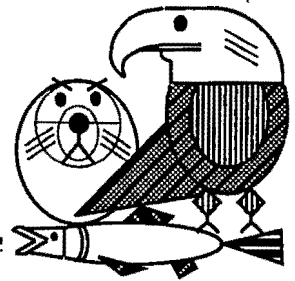
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## NEWS RELEASE

RECEIVED  
MAY 1994

**Date:** May 4, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustees make offer to Eyak Corporation  
**Contact:** Jim Ayers, Executive Director for Trustee Council 586-7238  
Molly McCammon, Dir. of Oper. for Trustee Council 278-8012  
L.J. Evans, Information Specialist 278-8012

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

## Trustees make offer to Eyak Corporation

Months of discussions culminated yesterday in the Trustee Council's passage of a resolution offering to buy the timber rights on more than 2,000 acres in Prince William Sound.

The lands under consideration are on the west side of Orca Narrows, just a few miles from Cordova, and are owned by the Eyak Corporation. If Eyak and its subsidiary corporation, Sherstone, accept the offer made by the Trustee Council, the timber and important habitat will be protected from commercial logging "for perpetuity," according to the resolution.

"Habitat protection is just one component of the whole range of comprehensive ecosystem restoration options the Council is pursuing," said Executive Director Jim Ayers. "At the Trustees' direction we are also actively pursuing the other elements of a balanced restoration program, including direct restoration, research and monitoring."

The offer to Eyak and Sherstone Corporations is to pay fair market value, as determined by professional appraisers, for commercial timber rights in perpetuity on 2,052 acres of land in Orca Narrows which provide important habitat for several species of wildlife significantly injured by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. These include marbled murrelets, which nest and feed in the Orca Narrows area. The marbled murrelet is a small sea bird which is endangered in

More...

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

the lower 48, declining in Prince William Sound, and was definitely impacted by the spill, according to state and federal biologists.

Sea otters and bald eagles are also known to congregate in the area. The region is popular as a recreation and tourism destination, and subsistence users hunt and fish in the area. All of these activities would be threatened if logging scheduled over the next few years were to go ahead, the Trustees said. Public comment has been strongly in favor of taking action to protect these areas, said Steve Pennoyer, Trustee for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"This action is the first step toward protection of habitat on the Eyak lands," Pennoyer said. "We are confident that protecting these lands from logging will provide significant benefit toward the recovery of natural resources and the services they provide."

"We have been working on coming to an agreement with the Eyak Corporation on this for quite a while now. They have indicated in a letter to the Trustees their desire to work in the near future with us on a comprehensive package to protect habitat on Eyak lands that is important to resources injured by the oil spill. The Trustee Council strongly supports this approach and is looking forward to moving quickly in this direction," Pennoyer said.

For more information contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 907/278-8008, toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, from outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

###

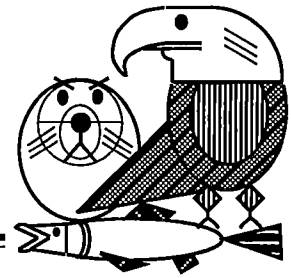
6.1.4H

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



---

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

*Please announce or post!*

Date: April 26, 1993  
Subject: Informational meeting on *Exxon Valdez* effects  
Contact: Molly McCammon, L.J. Evans or Cherri Womac at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
APR 27 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### *Exxon Valdez Update Meeting*

There will be two community forums in the Homer area on Wednesday, April 27 to present an update on the status of resources injured by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.

Port Graham: 1:00 P.M. in the Port Graham Community Center

Homer: 7:00 P.M. in the Homer Senior Center

The public is invited to attend. Speakers will include Dr. Joe Sullivan, the manager of Alaska Department of Game *Exxon Valdez* restoration projects, and Molly McCammon, Director of Operations for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council.

These meetings are intended to provide the public with an overview of what we've learned about damages caused by the oil spill to fish, marine mammals, birds, subsistence resources, and other resources and services.

Dr. Sullivan and Ms. McCammon will also be featured on The Coffee Table, a live call-in talk show on KBBI-FM, beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday.

Persons who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Cherri Womac at 278-8008 to make arrangements. For additional information, please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

###

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

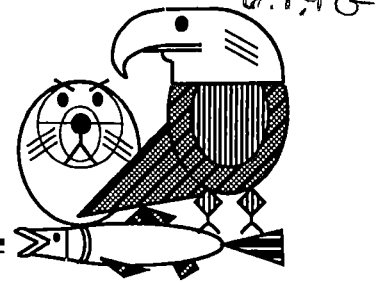
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## NEWS RELEASE

Date: April 22, 1994  
Subject: Studies to investigate Pacific herring decline in PWS  
Contact: Joe Sullivan, Anchorage ADF&G 267-2213  
Molly McCammon, Trustee Council 278-8012  
L.J. Evans, Trustee Council 278-8012

RECEIVED  
APR 25 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Study to investigate causes of Pacific herring decline

**Anchorage** – Ongoing problems with the Pacific herring run in Prince William Sound have prompted scientists working for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council to develop additional studies to try to understand why the herring run is failing for the second year in a row, Fish and Game officials said today.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game surveys and test fisheries conducted in the last few days by the Cordova office have determined that far fewer herring than expected are returning to Prince William Sound this year, and many of those which have returned are not spawning. Fisheries biologists say that up to 21 percent so far of the fish returning this year have lesions, which appear as discolored or bloody spots on their skin. In 1993 the Fish and Game pathology laboratory in Juneau confirmed the presence of a virus in fish with similar lesions. The lab is now testing fish with lesions for presence of the virus in the 1994 run. The Trustee Council studies will investigate whether the virus is involved in the apparent decline in the herring spawning population and try to determine the magnitude of this effect.

"The Fish and Game lab identified the pathogen last year as viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus, or VHSV," said Joe Sullivan, the Fish and Game coordinator for Trustee Council fisheries projects. "Fish returning this year are being tested for the same virus, but we don't know for sure if that's the cause of the problem. That's what we need to find out."

More...

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior



Fisheries biologists are unsure if the virus is causing the decline in herring returns, or if it is even the cause of the lesions, Sullivan said. VHSV has the potential to infect many species of bony fish (fish other than sharks and rays), but its presence does not always result in disease. Some fish species, salmon for example, can carry the virus without apparent harm. Others, such as rainbow trout in European hatcheries, are known to suffer severe mortalities when exposed to a different strain of VHSV. Both strains of the virus are harmless to humans, Sullivan said.

"When information about this year's herring run started to come in to the Trustee Council staff, we recognized the need to respond quickly," said Jim Ayers, the Executive Director for the Trustee Council. "Based on advice from the herring experts and other scientists, additional funding was found to expand on Project 94320 - Prince William Sound System Investigation, which was already approved by the Trustee Council."

Ayers said the new herring project will be part of the ecosystem-based program the Trustee Council approved at their April 11 meeting. The project will consist of two elements, though only the first part is underway at this time:

- **Analysis searching for correlation:** Scientists will attempt to determine if VHSV is the cause of the lesions and the poor overall health of the herring, or simply a common pathogen showing itself in fish already weakened from other causes. This study is already underway and biologists are collecting data in Prince William Sound at this time.
- **Challenge experiments:** [This element of the study is under review at the present time; it may proceed later in the spring, contingent upon results from the correlation study and availability of funding.] Biologists will stress fish which are apparently healthy and fish which have lesions to determine if the presence of the lesions indicates a differential rate of mortality. In another part of this study, fish which are apparently healthy and determined to be virus-free will be exposed to virus isolated from fish with lesions to see if the healthy fish then "catch" the virus.

The decline in herring observed in Prince William Sound is occurring at the same time as other spring herring runs in the state are breaking size and volume

records. The Pacific herring is a long-lived fish — they can live as long as 15 years — and dramatic population declines such as this are unusual, Sullivan said.

"Herring are an important food source to a number of marine birds and mammals which were injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill," said Dr. Robert Spies, Chief Scientist for the Trustee Council. "A major reduction in the number of herring in Prince William Sound has the potential for a significant impact throughout the ecosystem. Collapse of the herring population could seriously limit the recovery of other species injured by the spill such as otters, seals, and sea birds."

If VHSV is found to be a primary pathogen and the cause of the herring decline, additional study may be required to assess not only its impact on herring, but also on other bony fishes in the region. Because it has the ability to infect a wide range of hosts and has displayed a wide range of negative effects, investigating VHSV as a factor in the health of the Prince William Sound ecosystem may be very important, Fish and Game officials said.

Funding for the "Analysis searching for correlation" study will be provided from the regular Alaska Department of Fish and Game budget for work necessary to support commercial fishing and investigate fish health problems, and from savings realized in other Trustee Council projects.

For more information contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 907/278-8008, toll free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, from outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

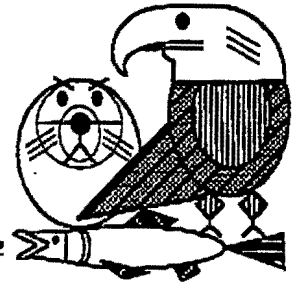
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** April 13, 1994  
**Subject:** Unusual Pacific Herring Decline in PWS  
**Contact:** Evelyn Brown, Cordova ADF&G 424-4212  
Joe Sullivan, Anchorage ADF&G 267-2213  
L.J. Evans, Trustee Council 278-8012

### Scientists Investigate Problems with Herring Return

**Anchorage** – Scientists working for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council today said studies already completed and currently underway are attempting to discover the reasons for the apparent decline in Pacific herring returning to Prince William Sound.

Test fisheries conducted last week by the Alaska Fish and Game office in Cordova are finding lesions on some of the fish, lower than expected return for fish spawned in 1989 — the year of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill — and a general decline in the anticipated numbers of herring returning to the sound so far this year.

"Fish are currently being tested for the presence of disease," said Evelyn Brown, a herring specialist and fisheries biologist with the Cordova ADF&G office. "We are tracking what proportion of the fish have lesions and where they're found, and we are also planning a dedicated study to try to determine the source of the mortality."

Scientists and fishermen are meeting to review current information to determine if these efforts are sufficient or if further research needs to be undertaken, said Jim Ayers, Executive Director for the Trustee Council.

"These are clearly disturbing events which are having very real effects on the people in this region," Ayers said. "There are two significant issues here: questions regarding the cause of this viral lesion problem, and the decline of the herring population in general."

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

Trustee Council News Release  
April 13, 1994

Page 2

"Some fish and wildlife, like these herring, are just not healthy within the spill area we call an ecosystem. We're working hard to understand how the system functions and how to deal with the injuries. We're committed to vigorous pursuit of the causes through our scientific research and monitoring program," Ayers said.

At their January 31 meeting the Trustee Council approved funding for two projects to study Pacific herring in Prince William Sound this year. The studies will identify the genetic stock and study spawn deposition and reproductive impairments. As part of another study approved last Monday, April 11, Trustee-funded scientists are endeavoring to discover the impact of gulls and sea birds which use herring eggs and embryos as a food source at this time of year. All three of these studies are currently underway, with scientists from state and federal agencies in the field collecting data.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

Attachment: Table listing all herring studies funded by the Trustee Council.

## Pacific herring studies funded by the EVOS Trustee Council

Project Year/ Project No.	Title	Participating Agencies	Amount Budgeted*	Amount Spent	Current Status	Overview
1989 through 1991	The State and Federal resource agencies involved – Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Marine Fisheries Service — sponsored numerous oil spill damage assessment studies to determine injuries to herring and other species. The research funded for herring totaled more than \$1 million.					
1992/FS011	Herring Injury	ADF&G	\$303.6	\$212.2	Report under review	Adult herring migrating to the spawning grounds in 1989 were exposed to oil and eggs were deposited in oiled areas. Exposure to oil continued throughout 1989 and into 1990. Internal tissues were damaged, some evidence was seen for a short-term effect inhibiting egg deposition and a long-term reduced survival of offspring, but results were highly speculative. Larvae hatched from exposed embryos suffered reduced survival.
1993	When the Trustee Council met in January 1993 to consider funding for 1993 field studies, there were not clear indications that herring were showing any long-term injuries from the spill, and no research was planned. By the time it became apparent there was a problem, it was too late to launch major field studies for that year. However, ADF&G staff in Cordova did collect data. The ADF&G laboratory in Juneau determined that the lesions observed were due to a virus.					

# Pacific herring studies funded by the EVOS Trustee Council

Page 2

1994/94165	Herring Genetic Stock Identification in Prince William Sound	ADF&G	\$62.2		Underway	Determine genetic heterogeneity among spawning Pacific herring within PWS and adjacent areas and evaluate utility of several techniques to discriminate between different herring stocks.
1994/94166	Herring Spawn Deposition and	ADF&G &	\$300.3		Underway	A field study will determine the biomass of spawning herring in PWS to an accuracy within $\pm 25\%$ of the true value 95% of the time, and estimate egg losses due to wave action or predation.
	Reproductive Impairment	NOAA	<u>\$166.0</u> \$466.2		Underway	Laboratory studies will determine impacts of exposure to oil on egg and larvae viability and if there are any adult chromosomal aberrations resulting from exposure to oil.
1994/94320Q	Avian Predation on Herring Spawn	USFS	\$84.8		Underway	Assess impact of avian predation on herring spawn to aid in predicting herring embryo survival.
			Total = \$916.9			

\* In thousands

April 13, 1994

04/13/94 17:59

807 276 7178

EV Restoration J. AYERS

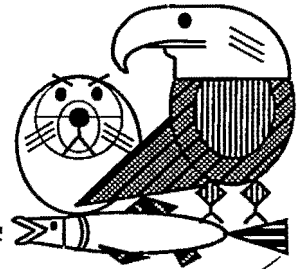
005/005

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



Date: April 11, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting Actions on 4/11/94  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

*Mary  
+ press Release  
File  
P/S  
X  
A*

## Interdisciplinary Ecosystem Research and Restoration Effort Moves Forward

**Anchorage** – The Trustee Council today gave their final go ahead on one element of an ambitious approach to implementing ecosystem-based restoration in the oil spill-affected region.

With their approval of the Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation, which consists of 16 integrated and interrelated sub-projects, the Trustees will address a number of important research questions. The findings will be used to:

- Guide further restoration activities
- Improve management of common property fishery resources as a means of effecting restoration
- Identify important marine resources and processes for long-term recovery monitoring.

"Taking an ecosystem approach means that we examine several key indicator species and use that information to tell us more about the whole ecosystem which was injured by the spill," said Jim Ayers, Executive Director for the Trustee Council. "In this case, we're looking at a number of species, with the focus particularly tuned in to try to understand what has caused the serious problems with pink salmon populations in Prince William Sound."

The Trustee Council decided last year upon an ecosystem approach to restoration of resources injured by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill after extensive scientific review and public comment. The Prince William Sound System

More...

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

Investigation program is one of the steps the Trustees are taking in that direction, Ayers said.

"This project represents a valid, defensible, sophisticated ecosystem approach to understanding the factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound to help guide the Trustee Council's Restoration activities," said Chief Scientist Dr. Robert Spies. "It can also provide valuable information about the biological oceanography of the northern Gulf of Alaska, and in this way will contribute to resource management throughout the oil spill area."

At their January 31 meeting the Trustee Council conditionally approved the System Investigation, with a budget of \$6.25 million, subject to integration and coordination of the sub-projects and a favorable scientific review of the Detailed Project Descriptions. After thorough scientific and budget review, the sub-projects as conceived in January were further refined and came to the Trustee Council today as a complete package.

Ayers said that the Chief Scientist has worked with the lead researchers for each of the projects to identify the specific work products and "milestones" that can be used to assess the success of the project's first year of implementation. A scientific review of these milestones is planned in mid-September 1994 and in January 1995 to evaluate the success of the program and to determine which aspects should be modified in the coming year.

The Trustees affirmed Dr. Ted Cooney to serve as the lead scientist for implementation of the Prince William Sound System Investigation for this year. Dr. Cooney is Associate Professor of Marine Sciences at the University of Alaska Institute of Marine Science. His area of specialty is salmon oceanography and zooplankton ecology.

In other actions taken, the Trustees today:

- Approved funding of \$97.7 thousand for Project 94191/Oil Related Egg & Alevin Mortality, to replicate the results of studies in 1993 which found heritable genetic damage in pink salmon.
- Approved funding of \$83.0 thousand for completion of an Environmental Impact Statement for Project 94199/Institute of Marine Science Improvements at Seward.
- Approved funding of \$99.2 thousand for Project 94428/Subsistence Restoration Planning to design and implement a one-time planning

More...



process to identify subsistence restoration project proposals and to ensure the participation of subsistence users in planning efforts.

- Approved funding of \$20.4 thousand for Project 94427/Harlequin Duck Boat Surveys & Methodology Testing to devise and test field methodologies for determining impacts of the oil spill on harlequin ducks.

The next meeting of the Trustee Council is expected to take place in June . The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council consists of six representatives, three from the State of Alaska and three from the U.S. Government. The Trustees manage funds obtained in the 1991 civil settlement with Exxon Corporation.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

###

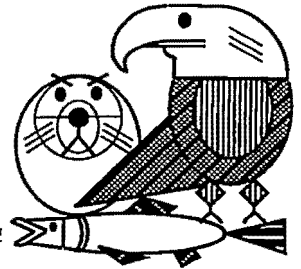
# **Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council**

**Restoration Office**

**645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

**Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178**

---



**Date: April 11, 1994**  
**Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012**

## **Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation FACT SHEET**

### **Background**

The Trustee Council sponsored a workshop in Cordova in December 1993 to begin developing an ecosystem approach to restoration. The major objectives of the workshop were to consult national experts and experienced local scientists in designing a multi-disciplinary study of the Prince William Sound marine ecosystem, and to review and critique an ecological study plan – the SEA Plan – already prepared by the Prince William Sound Fisheries Ecosystem Planning Research Group.

The outcome of that workshop was recommendations from the scientists endorsing the SEA plan as a good starting point. Specifically the workshop Steering Committee said that (1) the SEA plan contained an innovative, reasonable, and scientifically-testable hypothesis to explain how certain ecological processes may control fluctuations of key fisheries resources in Prince William Sound, and (2) the ecological approach described in the SEA plan could form the basis of a program that would make an important scientific contribution to the Trustee's mission of restoring a healthy, productive, and biologically diverse ecosystem within the spill area.

The relevance of the SEA Plan to the Trustee's restoration mission led to the development of specific project proposals as the Prince William Sound System Investigation (Project 94320) for the 1994 Work Plan. At their January 31, 1994 meeting, the Trustees approved interim funding for several time-sensitive aspects of the proposal, such as vessel charters which needed to be negotiated in order to conduct field work this spring. After extensive review by the Executive Director, the Chief Scientist, and peer reviewers, the detailed project descriptions and budgets were modified as needed and incorporated in the project for review and today's decision by the Trustee Council.

More...

---

### **Trustee Agencies**

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

**Specific Analyses of Each Component of Project 94320  
From the Chief Scientist's Recommendations**

**94320-A: Salmon Growth & Mortality**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) estimate the growth of juvenile pink salmon in 1994 and compare the rates to past years, (2) describe their migration through PWS, (3) estimate their diet and compare it to past years, (4) determine the role of food abundance in limiting growth, (5) evaluate past relationships between juvenile growth rates and fry-to-adult survival, and (6) develop techniques to estimate mortality of juveniles in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska. There may be a predictable relationship between food availability to juveniles, juvenile growth rates and survival from juvenile to adult. This project will continue to explore these relationships and in the context of the other studies, particularly those on salmon predation and zooplankton abundance, help improve our understanding of the main factors that determine adult returns.

**94320-B: Coded Wire Tag Recoveries from Pink Salmon in Prince William Sound**

The purpose of this study is to recover coded wire tags from pink salmon caught by commercial fishermen, researchers, and others. The recovery of the tags and subsequent analyses will provide, among other objectives, data regarding (1) the contribution of tagged hatchery stocks to the commercial harvest, and (2) the growth and marine survival rates of tagged hatchery stocks. These data are quite valuable to fisheries managers, and used for both planning and in-season regulation. The data on salmon growth and survival will also be used in conjunction with data from salmon predation, oceanographic, and zooplankton studies to test the basic hypothesis regarding factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound.

**94320-C: Otolith Marking: In-Season Stock Separation**

This study uses oxytetracycline for marking the otoliths (ear bones) of juvenile pink salmon as a technique to help to determine the degree of staying of wild and hatchery fish.

More...

#### **94320-D: Genetic Structure of Pink Salmon Stock**

The objective of this project is to define the genetic structure of pink salmon stocks in PWS. Potential sources of variation include stream-to-stream differences, even and odd-year stocks, upstream and intertidal spawners, and early and late-season spawners. The program proposes to evaluate a series of analyses of allozyme frequencies in fish from a wide geographic range and from two hatcheries and apply a series of statistical measures to determine if different allele frequencies exist, the extent of the difference, and, if there are systematic differences, to construct measures of genetic distances between substocks. In addition a pilot study using DNA techniques will be carried out using mitochondrial DNA.

#### **94320-E: Salmon Predation**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the role that variable predation plays in overall survival of pink salmon, and (2) identify and describe the predators and mechanisms of predation under various conditions. This is an ambitious program that will track cohorts of juvenile pink salmon after they are released into PWS, attempt to identify their predators, and examine the mode of interaction of predators with the juvenile fish. This involves a highly coordinated group of vessels using state-of-the-art hydroacoustic equipment to track the juvenile fish and their predators as the fish progress from the Esther Island hatchery towards the southeast passages from PWS to the Gulf of Alaska. At the same time there will be real-time sampling of oceanographic conditions, plankton abundance, predators and the juveniles themselves.

#### **94320-F: Trophic Interactions of Harbor Seals**

This project is a small but potentially important part of the overall investigation. The objective of this portion of the project is to determine if links between various food sources and the harbor seal population in PWS can be established either by use of lipid-specific analysis or analysis of stable isotope ratios. The technique being proposed is a relatively new application using lipid markers to indicate food sources in marine food webs.

#### **94320-G: Plankton Dynamics: Phytoplankton and Nutrients**

The objective of this part of the program will be to: (1) describe the spatial and temporal extent of the spring-summer phytoplankton bloom in PWS, (2)

More...

measure phytoplankton primary productivity, (3) identify the major species comprising the bloom, and (4) describe the distribution and abundance of the dissolved inorganic nutrients important to phytoplankton growth. Besides the obvious importance of this program for describing the primary production that eventually supports larval fish growth and production, this program will be making a major contribution in itself to basic understanding of the PWS system. There has simply been very little work done in this area and this study will be a pioneering one in phytoplankton dynamics of PWS.

#### **94320-H: The Role of Zooplankton in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the timing, duration and magnitude of the bloom of mixed layer zooplankton stocks in western and northern PWS in the spring and summer, (2) determine how changes in vertical distribution of zooplankton affect their predators, (3) provide estimates of zooplankton abundance to calibrate the acoustic instrumentation used to locate and track swarms and patches of zooplankton in PWS, (4) determine the coupling of the phytoplankton and zooplankton blooms, and (5) provide taxonomic assistance with identification of zooplankton. The main goal of the project is to test the "River-lake" hypothesis which postulates that in years when PWS is swept continuously by buoyancy-driven coastal currents during the spring plankton bloom, food for juvenile fish is poor, and in years when PWS is not so swept — a "lake" year — there are better feeding conditions for juvenile pink salmon. A second and related hypothesis, "prey switching," is that certain fish that feed on zooplankton in "lake" years, when they are abundant, become predators of juvenile pink salmon instead in "river" years when zooplankton are less abundant.

#### **94320-I: Confirming Food Web Dependencies in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem using Stable Isotope Tracers**

The objective of this project is to use the predictable shifts in stable isotope ratios of carbon and nitrogen that occur with increasing trophic level to determine if the river-lake and prey switching hypotheses described above can be confirmed. As both of these elements are cycled further up the food chain the heavier natural isotopes ( $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$ ) become relatively less abundant. Such shifts are easily measured and shifts of these isotopes in predatory fish during various types of years — "river" or "lake" — provide a

More...

novel way to test these hypotheses. This represents a new application of stable isotope ratios.

#### **94320-J: Information Systems and Model Development**

This study component is the data and information management element for all the major portions of 94320. The major objectives of this component are (1) to process the data developed by all parts of the project (including available satellite imagery), (2) integrate these data using geographic coordinates and date of collection, (3) adapt an existing computer interface for use by principal investigators for data analysis and interpretation, and (4) plan for the development of a numerical model of the Prince William Sound ecosystem in future years. This program component also includes purchase and modification of the aquashuttle sampling device for biological oceanography, and establishment of a high-speed Internet connection to Cordova for data transmission and analysis.

#### **94320-K: Experimental Fry Release**

#### **94320-L: Experimental Manipulation**

Standard approaches to aquaculture used previously will again be employed to raise pink salmon fry from eggs. The juveniles will be released from the hatchery after attaining specified sizes, at certain times in relation to plankton abundance and at certain places. By releasing tagged lots and having a juvenile sampling and tag recovery component in other parts of this program it will be possible to do "natural experiments" whose outcome will point to conditions that are optimal for survival of juveniles.

#### **94320-M: Observational Physical Oceanography in PWS & the Gulf of Alaska**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the structure and variability of the climatic patterns and oceanographic features in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska, (2) determine the relationship between the atmospheric forcing and the wind and buoyancy-driven ocean currents, (3) determine how currents act to disperse or retain food resources, (4) and determine the relationship between climatic and oceanographic cycles, physical features and changes in abundance of important species. The basic oceanographic processes that influence the abundance of fish food resources will be studied through charting currents and physical structure of the water in relation to biological

More...

phenomenon. This provides the physical evidence for testing the "River-Lake" hypothesis. The basic measurements will be conducted with conductivity/temperature/depth measurements, acoustic doppler current profilers and chemical analyses of water samples. In addition, towed vehicles with attached instruments will provide the "sections" needed to further characterize water structure. In the future the use of permanent buoys will be considered to supplement these other data gathering modes. The investigator has requested and received assurances that continuing advice from other oceanographers regarding fruitful approaches to measuring physical processes on a scale appropriate to biological resources will be made available.

#### **94320-N: An Ecosystem Research plan for PWS Nearshore Fish**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) evaluate the distribution of macrozooplankton in PWS in real time in order to describe the prey field for juvenile pink salmon, and (2) describe the distribution of predators of juvenile fish in real time. This will be an integral part of the complex field studies centered around fry releases in northwestern PWS and provides an important part of the biological picture for the purposes of coordinating net sampling of predators and zooplankton. The investigator faces the challenge of ground truthing the measurements of zooplankton by hydroacoustical methods against the more conventional methods. There is considerable controversy on the ability of single-frequency hydroacoustic equipment to quantitatively measure zooplankton and this is, therefore, a challenging area on the cutting edge of biological oceanography for the investigators. To be convincing, data interpretation will need to rely whenever possible on simultaneous net and hydroacoustic data for zooplankton abundance.

#### **94320-P: Program Management**

This program element provides funding for program management in order to ensure that appropriate planning and communication, among and between agencies and researchers, as well as community involvement takes place.

#### **94320-Q: Avian Predation on Herring Spawn**

The purpose of this study is to assess the impact of avian predation on herring spawn, with the goal of integrating this information into a model to

More...

April 11, 1994

predicts herring embryo survival. Better information regarding factors influencing the mortality of herring eggs should improve our ability to predict the spawning biomass of herring in Prince William Sound. The investigators will use avian census techniques to compare bird densities at sites of low and high density of egg deposition in different habitat types. Predator exclusion techniques will attempt to quantify predation from different sources. In this first year, the project will be limited to herring spawning sites along the northeastern shore of Montague Island.

###



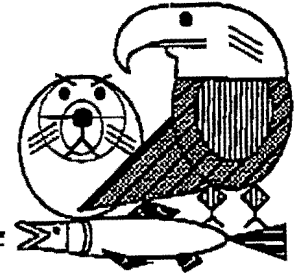
6.1.4

## Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



**Date:** April 11, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Meeting Actions on 4/11/94  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

### Interdisciplinary Ecosystem Research and Restoration Effort Moves Forward

**Anchorage** – The Trustee Council today gave their final go ahead on one element of an ambitious approach to implementing ecosystem-based restoration in the oil spill-affected region.

With their approval of the Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation, which consists of 16 integrated and interrelated sub-projects, the Trustees will address a number of important research questions. The findings will be used to:

- Guide further restoration activities
- Improve management of common property fishery resources as a means of effecting restoration
- Identify important marine resources and processes for long-term recovery monitoring.

"Taking an ecosystem approach means that we examine several key indicator species and use that information to tell us more about the whole ecosystem which was injured by the spill," said Jim Ayers, Executive Director for the Trustee Council. "In this case, we're looking at a number of species, with the focus particularly tuned in to try to understand what has caused the serious problems with pink salmon populations in Prince William Sound."

The Trustee Council decided last year upon an ecosystem approach to restoration of resources injured by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill after extensive scientific review and public comment. The Prince William Sound System

More...

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

## Trustee Council April 11 Meeting Summary

Page 2

Investigation program is one of the steps the Trustees are taking in that direction, Ayers said.

"This project represents a valid, defensible, sophisticated ecosystem approach to understanding the factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound to help guide the Trustee Council's Restoration activities," said Chief Scientist Dr. Robert Spies. "It can also provide valuable information about the biological oceanography of the northern Gulf of Alaska, and in this way will contribute to resource management throughout the oil spill area."

At their January 31 meeting the Trustee Council conditionally approved the System Investigation, with a budget of \$6.25 million, subject to integration and coordination of the sub-projects and a favorable scientific review of the Detailed Project Descriptions. After thorough scientific and budget review, the sub-projects as conceived in January were further refined and came to the Trustee Council today as a complete package.

Ayers said that the Chief Scientist has worked with the lead researchers for each of the projects to identify the specific work products and "milestones" that can be used to assess the success of the project's first year of implementation. A scientific review of these milestones is planned in mid-September 1994 and in January 1995 to evaluate the success of the program and to determine which aspects should be modified in the coming year.

The Trustees affirmed Dr. Ted Cooney to serve as the lead scientist for implementation of the Prince William Sound System Investigation for this year. Dr. Cooney is Associate Professor of Marine Sciences at the University of Alaska Institute of Marine Science. His area of specialty is salmon oceanography and zooplankton ecology.

In other actions taken, the Trustees today:

- Approved funding of \$97.7 thousand for Project 94191/Oil Related Egg & Alevin Mortality, to replicate the results of studies in 1993 which found heritable genetic damage in pink salmon.
- Approved funding of \$83.0 thousand for completion of an Environmental Impact Statement for Project 94199/Institute of Marine Science Improvements at Seward.
- Approved funding of \$99.2 thousand for Project 94428/Subsistence Restoration Planning to design and implement a one-time planning

More...

## Trustee Council April 11 Meeting Summary

Page 3

process to identify subsistence restoration project proposals and to ensure the participation of subsistence users in planning efforts.

- Approved funding of \$20.4 thousand for Project 94427/Harlequin Duck Boat Surveys & Methodology Testing to devise and test field methodologies for determining impacts of the oil spill on harlequin ducks.

The next meeting of the Trustee Council is expected to take place in June . The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council consists of six representatives, three from the State of Alaska and three from the U.S. Government. The Trustees manage funds obtained in the 1991 civil settlement with Exxon Corporation.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

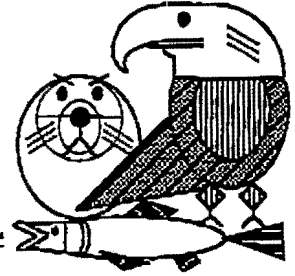
###

# **Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council**

## **Restoration Office**

**645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

**Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178**



**Date: April 11, 1994**  
**Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012**

## **Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation FACT SHEET**

### **Background**

The Trustee Council sponsored a workshop in Cordova in December 1993 to begin developing an ecosystem approach to restoration. The major objectives of the workshop were to consult national experts and experienced local scientists in designing a multi-disciplinary study of the Prince William Sound marine ecosystem, and to review and critique an ecological study plan – the SEA Plan – already prepared by the Prince William Sound Fisheries Ecosystem Planning Research Group.

The outcome of that workshop was recommendations from the scientists endorsing the SEA plan as a good starting point. Specifically the workshop Steering Committee said that (1) the SEA plan contained an innovative, reasonable, and scientifically-testable hypothesis to explain how certain ecological processes may control fluctuations of key fisheries resources in Prince William Sound, and (2) the ecological approach described in the SEA plan could form the basis of a program that would make an important scientific contribution to the Trustee's mission of restoring a healthy, productive, and biologically diverse ecosystem within the spill area.

The relevance of the SEA Plan to the Trustee's restoration mission led to the development of specific project proposals as the Prince William Sound System Investigation (Project 94320) for the 1994 Work Plan. At their January 31, 1994 meeting, the Trustees approved interim funding for several time-sensitive aspects of the proposal, such as vessel charters which needed to be negotiated in order to conduct field work this spring. After extensive review by the Executive Director, the Chief Scientist, and peer reviewers, the detailed project descriptions and budgets were modified as needed and incorporated in the project for review and today's decision by the Trustee Council.

More...

---

### **Trustee Agencies**

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

Project 94320 Fact Sheet  
April 11, 1994

Page 2

### **Specific Analyses of Each Component of Project 94320 From the Chief Scientist's Recommendations**

#### **94320-A: Salmon Growth & Mortality**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) estimate the growth of juvenile pink salmon in 1994 and compare the rates to past years, (2) describe their migration through PWS, (3) estimate their diet and compare it to past years, (4) determine the role of food abundance in limiting growth, (5) evaluate past relationships between juvenile growth rates and fry-to-adult survival, and (6) develop techniques to estimate mortality of juveniles in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska. There may be a predictable relationship between food availability to juveniles, juvenile growth rates and survival from juvenile to adult. This project will continue to explore these relationships and in the context of the other studies, particularly those on salmon predation and zooplankton abundance, help improve our understanding of the main factors that determine adult returns.

#### **94320-B: Coded Wire Tag Recoveries from Pink Salmon in Prince William Sound**

The purpose of this study is to recover coded wire tags from pink salmon caught by commercial fishermen, researchers, and others. The recovery of the tags and subsequent analyses will provide, among other objectives, data regarding (1) the contribution of tagged hatchery stocks to the commercial harvest, and (2) the growth and marine survival rates of tagged hatchery stocks. These data are quite valuable to fisheries managers, and used for both planning and in-season regulation. The data on salmon growth and survival will also be used in conjunction with data from salmon predation, oceanographic, and zooplankton studies to test the basic hypothesis regarding factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound.

#### **94320-C: Otolith Marking: In-Season Stock Separation**

This study uses oxytetracycline for marking the otoliths (ear bones) of juvenile pink salmon as a technique to help to determine the degree of staying of wild and hatchery fish.

More...

**94320-D: Genetic Structure of Pink Salmon Stock**

The objective of this project is to define the genetic structure of pink salmon stocks in PWS. Potential sources of variation include stream-to-stream differences, even and odd-year stocks, upstream and intertidal spawners, and early and late-season spawners. The program proposes to evaluate a series of analyses of allozyme frequencies in fish from a wide geographic range and from two hatcheries and apply a series of statistical measures to determine if different allele frequencies exist, the extent of the difference, and, if there are systematic differences, to construct measures of genetic distances between substocks. In addition a pilot study using DNA techniques will be carried out using mitochondrial DNA.

**94320-E: Salmon Predation**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the role that variable predation plays in overall survival of pink salmon, and (2) identify and describe the predators and mechanisms of predation under various conditions. This is an ambitious program that will track cohorts of juvenile pink salmon after they are released into PWS, attempt to identify their predators, and examine the mode of interaction of predators with the juvenile fish. This involves a highly coordinated group of vessels using state-of-the-art hydroacoustic equipment to track the juvenile fish and their predators as the fish progress from the Esther Island hatchery towards the southeast passages from PWS to the Gulf of Alaska. At the same time there will be real-time sampling of oceanographic conditions, plankton abundance, predators and the juveniles themselves.

**94320-F: Trophic Interactions of Harbor Seals**

This project is a small but potentially important part of the overall investigation. The objective of this portion of the project is to determine if links between various food sources and the harbor seal population in PWS can be established either by use of lipid-specific analysis or analysis of stable isotope ratios. The technique being proposed is a relatively new application using lipid markers to indicate food sources in marine food webs.

**94320-G: Plankton Dynamics: Phytoplankton and Nutrients**

The objective of this part of the program will be to: (1) describe the spatial and temporal extent of the spring-summer phytoplankton bloom in PWS, (2)

More...

Project 94320 Fact Sheet  
April 11, 1994

Page 4

measure phytoplankton primary productivity, (3) identify the major species comprising the bloom, and (4) describe the distribution and abundance of the dissolved inorganic nutrients important to phytoplankton growth. Besides the obvious importance of this program for describing the primary production that eventually supports larval fish growth and production, this program will be making a major contribution in itself to basic understanding of the PWS system. There has simply been very little work done in this area and this study will be a pioneering one in phytoplankton dynamics of PWS.

#### **94320-H: The Role of Zooplankton in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the timing, duration and magnitude of the bloom of mixed layer zooplankton stocks in western and northern PWS in the spring and summer, (2) determine how changes in vertical distribution of zooplankton affect their predators, (3) provide estimates of zooplankton abundance to calibrate the acoustic instrumentation used to locate and track swarms and patches of zooplankton in PWS, (4) determine the coupling of the phytoplankton and zooplankton blooms, and (5) provide taxonomic assistance with identification of zooplankton. The main goal of the project is to test the "River-lake" hypothesis which postulates that in years when PWS is swept continuously by buoyancy-driven coastal currents during the spring plankton bloom, food for juvenile fish is poor, and in years when PWS is not so swept — a "lake" year — there are better feeding conditions for juvenile pink salmon. A second and related hypothesis, "prey switching," is that certain fish that feed on zooplankton in "lake" years, when they are abundant, become predators of juvenile pink salmon instead in "river" years when zooplankton are less abundant.

#### **94320-I: Confirming Food Web Dependencies in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem using Stable Isotope Tracers**

The objective of this project is to use the predictable shifts in stable isotope ratios of carbon and nitrogen that occur with increasing trophic level to determine if the river-lake and prey switching hypotheses described above can be confirmed. As both of these elements are cycled further up the food chain the heavier natural isotopes ( $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$ ) become relatively less abundant. Such shifts are easily measured and shifts of these isotopes in predatory fish during various types of years — "river" or "lake" — provide a

More...

Project 94320 Fact Sheet  
April 11, 1994

Page 5

novel way to test these hypotheses. This represents a new application of stable isotope ratios.

#### **94320-J: Information Systems and Model Development**

This study component is the data and information management element for all the major portions of 94320. The major objectives of this component are (1) to process the data developed by all parts of the project (including available satellite imagery), (2) integrate these data using geographic coordinates and date of collection, (3) adapt an existing computer interface for use by principal investigators for data analysis and interpretation, and (4) plan for the development of a numerical model of the Prince William Sound ecosystem in future years. This program component also includes purchase and modification of the aquashuttle sampling device for biological oceanography, and establishment of a high-speed Internet connection to Cordova for data transmission and analysis.

#### **94320-K: Experimental Fry Release**

#### **94320-L: Experimental Manipulation**

Standard approaches to aquaculture used previously will again be employed to raise pink salmon fry from eggs. The juveniles will be released from the hatchery after attaining specified sizes, at certain times in relation to plankton abundance and at certain places. By releasing tagged lots and having a juvenile sampling and tag recovery component in other parts of this program it will be possible to do "natural experiments" whose outcome will point to conditions that are optimal for survival of juveniles.

#### **94320-M: Observational Physical Oceanography in PWS & the Gulf of Alaska**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the structure and variability of the climatic patterns and oceanographic features in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska, (2) determine the relationship between the atmospheric forcing and the wind and buoyancy-driven ocean currents, (3) determine how currents act to disperse or retain food resources, (4) and determine the relationship between climatic and oceanographic cycles, physical features and changes in abundance of important species. The basic oceanographic processes that influence the abundance of fish food resources will be studied through charting currents and physical structure of the water in relation to biological

More...



Project 94320 Fact Sheet  
April 11, 1994

Page 6

phenomenon. This provides the physical evidence for testing the "River-Lake" hypothesis. The basic measurements will be conducted with conductivity/temperature/depth measurements, acoustic doppler current profilers and chemical analyses of water samples. In addition, towed vehicles with attached instruments will provide the "sections" needed to further characterize water structure. In the future the use of permanent buoys will be considered to supplement these other data gathering modes. The investigator has requested and received assurances that continuing advice from other oceanographers regarding fruitful approaches to measuring physical processes on a scale appropriate to biological resources will be made available.

#### **94320-N: An Ecosystem Research plan for PWS Nearshore Fish**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) evaluate the distribution of macrozooplankton in PWS in real time in order to describe the prey field for juvenile pink salmon, and (2) describe the distribution of predators of juvenile fish in real time. This will be an integral part of the complex field studies centered around fry releases in northwestern PWS and provides an important part of the biological picture for the purposes of coordinating net sampling of predators and zooplankton. The investigator faces the challenge of ground truthing the measurements of zooplankton by hydroacoustical methods against the more conventional methods. There is considerable controversy on the ability of single-frequency hydroacoustic equipment to quantitatively measure zooplankton and this is, therefore, a challenging area on the cutting edge of biological oceanography for the investigators. To be convincing, data interpretation will need to rely whenever possible on simultaneous net and hydroacoustic data for zooplankton abundance.

#### **94320-P: Program Management**

This program element provides funding for program management in order to ensure that appropriate planning and communication, among and between agencies and researchers, as well as community involvement takes place.

#### **94320-Q: Avian Predation on Herring Spawn**

The purpose of this study is to assess the impact of avian predation on herring spawn, with the goal of integrating this information into a model to

More...

Project 94320 Fact Sheet  
April 11, 1994

Page 7

predicts herring embryo survival. Better information regarding factors influencing the mortality of herring eggs should improve our ability to predict the spawning biomass of herring in Prince William Sound. The investigators will use avian census techniques to compare bird densities at sites of low and high density of egg deposition in different habitat types. Predator exclusion techniques will attempt to quantify predation from different sources. In this first year, the project will be limited to herring spawning sites along the northeastern shore of Montague Island.

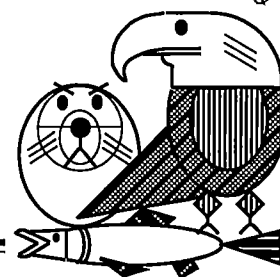
###

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**Date:** April 7, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Meeting on April 11, 1994  
**Contact:** L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
APR 12 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

*Please announce or post!*

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Meeting

A teleconference meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council will take place on Monday, April 6, beginning at 1:00 pm, chaired from sites in Anchorage and Juneau. The public is welcome to attend.

- The agenda will include 1994 Work Projects and other items deferred from the last Trustee Council meeting.
- Access by teleconference will be available at Room 541-A in the Juneau Federal Building at 709 W 9th Street; at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage; and at the Legislative Information Offices or Volunteer Teleconference Centers in:

Chenega Bay  
Fairbanks  
Juneau  
Seward  
Tatitlek  
Whittier

Cordova  
Homer  
Kodiak  
Soldotna  
Valdez

Contact the Legislative Information Office in your area if you wish to participate.

- Persons with a disability who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. For more information contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 278-8008.

###

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

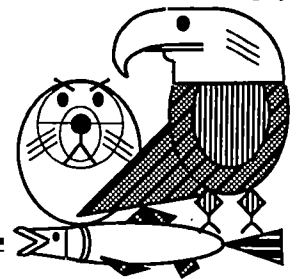
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



## NEWS RELEASE

Date: April 13, 1994  
Subject: Unusual Pacific Herring Decline in PWS  
Contact: Evelyn Brown, Cordova ADF&G 424-4212  
Joe Sullivan, Anchorage ADF&G 267-2213  
L.J. Evans, Trustee Council 278-8012

RECEIVED  
APR 17 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### Scientists Investigate Problems with Herring Return

**Anchorage** – Scientists working for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council today said studies already completed and currently underway are attempting to discover the reasons for the apparent decline in Pacific herring returning to Prince William Sound.

Test fisheries conducted last week by the Alaska Fish and Game office in Cordova are finding lesions on some of the fish, lower than expected return for fish spawned in 1989 — the year of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill — and a general decline in the anticipated numbers of herring returning to the sound so far this year.

"Fish are currently being tested for the presence of disease," said Evelyn Brown, a herring specialist and fisheries biologist with the Cordova ADF&G office. "We are tracking what proportion of the fish have lesions and where they're found, and we are also planning a dedicated study to try to determine the source of the mortality."

Scientists and fishermen are meeting to review current information to determine if these efforts are sufficient or if further research needs to be undertaken, said Jim Ayers, Executive Director for the Trustee Council.

"These are clearly disturbing events which are having very real effects on the people in this region," Ayers said. "There are two significant issues here: questions regarding the cause of this viral lesion problem, and the decline of the herring population in general."

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

"Some fish and wildlife, like these herring, are just not healthy within the spill area we call an ecosystem. We're working hard to understand how the system functions and how to deal with the injuries. We're committed to vigorous pursuit of the causes through our scientific research and monitoring program," Ayers said.

At their January 31 meeting the Trustee Council approved funding for two projects to study Pacific herring in Prince William Sound this year. The studies will identify the genetic stock and study spawn deposition and reproductive impairments. As part of another study approved last Monday, April 11, Trustee-funded scientists are endeavoring to discover the impact of gulls and sea birds which use herring eggs and embryos as a food source at this time of year. All three of these studies are currently underway, with scientists from state and federal agencies in the field collecting data.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, AK 99501, or call 907/278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745, toll-free outside Alaska at 1-800-283-7745.

Attachment: Table listing all herring studies funded by the Trustee Council.

## Pacific herring studies funded by the EVOS Trustee Council

Project Year/ Project No.	Title	Participating Agencies	Amount Budgeted*	Amount Spent	Current Status	Overview
1989 through 1991	The State and Federal resource agencies involved – Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Marine Fisheries Service — sponsored numerous oil spill damage assessment studies to determine injuries to herring and other species. The research funded for herring totaled more than \$1 million.					
1992/FS011	Herring Injury	ADF&G	\$303.6	\$212.2	Report under review	Adult herring migrating to the spawning grounds in 1989 were exposed to oil and eggs were deposited in oiled areas . Exposure to oil continued throughout 1989 and into 1990. Internal tissues were damaged, some evidence was seen for a short-term effect inhibiting egg deposition and a long-term reduced survival of offspring, but results were highly speculative. Larvae hatched from exposed embryos suffered reduced survival.
1993	When the Trustee Council met in January 1993 to consider funding for 1993 field studies, there were not clear indications that herring were showing any long-term injuries from the spill, and no research was planned. By the time it became apparent there was a problem, it was too late to launch major field studies for that year. However, ADF&G staff in Cordova did collect data. The ADF&G laboratory in Juneau determined that the lesions observed were due to a virus.					

1994/94165	Herring Genetic Stock Identification in Prince William Sound	ADF&G	\$62.2		Underway	Determine genetic heterogeneity among spawning Pacific herring within PWS and adjacent areas and evaluate utility of several techniques to discriminate between different herring stocks.
1994/94166	Herring Spawn Deposition and	ADF&G &	\$300.3		Underway	A field study will determine the biomass of spawning herring in PWS to an accuracy within $\pm 25\%$ of the true value 95% of the time, and estimate egg losses due to wave action or predation.
	Reproductive Impairment	NOAA	<u>\$166.0</u> \$466.2		Underway	Laboratory studies will determine impacts of exposure to oil on egg and larvae viability and if there are any adult chromosomal aberrations resulting from exposure to oil.
1994/94320Q	Avian Predation on Herring Spawn	USFS	\$84.8		Underway	Assess impact of avian predation on herring spawn to aid in predicting herring embryo survival.
			Total = \$916.9			

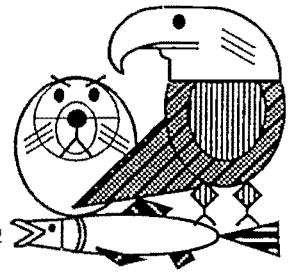
\* In thousands

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



Date: April 11, 1994  
Subject: Trustee Council Meeting Actions on 4/11/94  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

RECEIVED  
APR 11 1994

## Interdisciplinary Ecosystem Research and Restoration Effort Moves Forward

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

**Anchorage** – The Trustee Council today gave their final go ahead on one element of an ambitious approach to implementing ecosystem-based restoration in the oil spill-affected region.

With their approval of the Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation, which consists of 16 integrated and interrelated sub-projects, the Trustees will address a number of important research questions. The findings will be used to:

- Guide further restoration activities
- Improve management of common property fishery resources as a means of effecting restoration
- Identify important marine resources and processes for long-term recovery monitoring.

"Taking an ecosystem approach means that we examine several key indicator species and use that information to tell us more about the whole ecosystem which was injured by the spill," said Jim Ayers, Executive Director for the Trustee Council. "In this case, we're looking at a number of species, with the focus particularly tuned in to try to understand what has caused the serious problems with pink salmon populations in Prince William Sound."

The Trustee Council decided last year upon an ecosystem approach to restoration of resources injured by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill after extensive scientific review and public comment. The Prince William Sound System

More...

---

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior



Investigation program is one of the steps the Trustees are taking in that direction, Ayers said.

"This project represents a valid, defensible, sophisticated ecosystem approach to understanding the factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound to help guide the Trustee Council's Restoration activities," said Chief Scientist Dr. Robert Spies. "It can also provide valuable information about the biological oceanography of the northern Gulf of Alaska, and in this way will contribute to resource management throughout the oil spill area."

At their January 31 meeting the Trustee Council conditionally approved the System Investigation, with a budget of \$6.25 million, subject to integration and coordination of the sub-projects and a favorable scientific review of the Detailed Project Descriptions. After thorough scientific and budget review, the sub-projects as conceived in January were further refined and came to the Trustee Council today as a complete package.

Ayers said that the Chief Scientist has worked with the lead researchers for each of the projects to identify the specific work products and "milestones" that can be used to assess the success of the project's first year of implementation. A scientific review of these milestones is planned in mid-September 1994 and in January 1995 to evaluate the success of the program and to determine which aspects should be modified in the coming year.

The Trustees affirmed Dr. Ted Cooney to serve as the lead scientist for implementation of the Prince William Sound System Investigation for this year. Dr. Cooney is Associate Professor of Marine Sciences at the University of Alaska Institute of Marine Science. His area of specialty is salmon oceanography and zooplankton ecology.

In other actions taken, the Trustees today:

- Approved funding of \$97.7 thousand for Project 94191/Oil Related Egg & Alevin Mortality, to replicate the results of studies in 1993 which found heritable genetic damage in pink salmon.
- Approved funding of \$83.0 thousand for completion of an Environmental Impact Statement for Project 94199/Institute of Marine Science Improvements at Seward.
- Approved funding of \$99.2 thousand for Project 94428/Subsistence Restoration Planning to design and implement a one-time planning

More...

process to identify subsistence restoration project proposals and to ensure the participation of subsistence users in planning efforts.

- Approved funding of \$20.4 thousand for Project 94427/Harlequin Duck Boat Surveys & Methodology Testing to devise and test field methodologies for determining impacts of the oil spill on harlequin ducks.

The next meeting of the Trustee Council is expected to take place in June . The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council consists of six representatives, three from the State of Alaska and three from the U.S. Government. The Trustees manage funds obtained in the 1991 civil settlement with Exxon Corporation.

For more information, contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center at 645 G St., Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or call 278-8008, toll-free within Alaska at 1-800-478-7745.

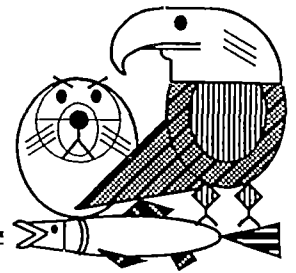
###

# Exxon \ dez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



Date: April 11, 1994  
Contact: L.J. Evans or Molly McCammon at 278-8012

## Project 94320: Prince William Sound System Investigation FACT SHEET

### Background

The Trustee Council sponsored a workshop in Cordova in December 1993 to begin developing an ecosystem approach to restoration. The major objectives of the workshop were to consult national experts and experienced local scientists in designing a multi-disciplinary study of the Prince William Sound marine ecosystem, and to review and critique an ecological study plan – the SEA Plan – already prepared by the Prince William Sound Fisheries Ecosystem Planning Research Group.

The outcome of that workshop was recommendations from the scientists endorsing the SEA plan as a good starting point. Specifically the workshop Steering Committee said that (1) the SEA plan contained an innovative, reasonable, and scientifically-testable hypothesis to explain how certain ecological processes may control fluctuations of key fisheries resources in Prince William Sound, and (2) the ecological approach described in the SEA plan could form the basis of a program that would make an important scientific contribution to the Trustee's mission of restoring a healthy, productive, and biologically diverse ecosystem within the spill area.

The relevance of the SEA Plan to the Trustee's restoration mission led to the development of specific project proposals as the Prince William Sound System Investigation (Project 94320) for the 1994 Work Plan. At their January 31, 1994 meeting, the Trustees approved interim funding for several time-sensitive aspects of the proposal, such as vessel charters which needed to be negotiated in order to conduct field work this spring. After extensive review by the Executive Director, the Chief Scientist, and peer reviewers, the detailed project descriptions and budgets were modified as needed and incorporated in the project for review and today's decision by the Trustee Council.

More...

---

### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

## **Specific Analyses of Each Component of Project 94320 From the Chief Scientist's Recommendations**

### **94320-A: Salmon Growth & Mortality**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) estimate the growth of juvenile pink salmon in 1994 and compare the rates to past years, (2) describe their migration through PWS, (3) estimate their diet and compare it to past years, (4) determine the role of food abundance in limiting growth, (5) evaluate past relationships between juvenile growth rates and fry-to-adult survival, and (6) develop techniques to estimate mortality of juveniles in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska. There may be a predictable relationship between food availability to juveniles, juvenile growth rates and survival from juvenile to adult. This project will continue to explore these relationships and in the context of the other studies, particularly those on salmon predation and zooplankton abundance, help improve our understanding of the main factors that determine adult returns.

### **94320-B: Coded Wire Tag Recoveries from Pink Salmon in Prince William Sound**

The purpose of this study is to recover coded wire tags from pink salmon caught by commercial fishermen, researchers, and others. The recovery of the tags and subsequent analyses will provide, among other objectives, data regarding (1) the contribution of tagged hatchery stocks to the commercial harvest, and (2) the growth and marine survival rates of tagged hatchery stocks. These data are quite valuable to fisheries managers, and used for both planning and in-season regulation. The data on salmon growth and survival will also be used in conjunction with data from salmon predation, oceanographic, and zooplankton studies to test the basic hypothesis regarding factors controlling pink salmon production in Prince William Sound.

### **94320-C: Otolith Marking: In-Season Stock Separation**

This study uses oxytetracycline for marking the otoliths (ear bones) of juvenile pink salmon as a technique to help to determine the degree of staying of wild and hatchery fish.

More...

#### **94320-D: Genetic Structure of Pink Salmon Stock**

The objective of this project is to define the genetic structure of pink salmon stocks in PWS. Potential sources of variation include stream-to-stream differences, even and odd-year stocks, upstream and intertidal spawners, and early and late-season spawners. The program proposes to evaluate a series of analyses of allozyme frequencies in fish from a wide geographic range and from two hatcheries and apply a series of statistical measures to determine if different allele frequencies exist, the extent of the difference, and, if there are systematic differences, to construct measures of genetic distances between substocks. In addition a pilot study using DNA techniques will be carried out using mitochondrial DNA.

#### **94320-E: Salmon Predation**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the role that variable predation plays in overall survival of pink salmon, and (2) identify and describe the predators and mechanisms of predation under various conditions. This is an ambitious program that will track cohorts of juvenile pink salmon after they are released into PWS, attempt to identify their predators, and examine the mode of interaction of predators with the juvenile fish. This involves a highly coordinated group of vessels using state-of-the-art hydroacoustic equipment to track the juvenile fish and their predators as the fish progress from the Esther Island hatchery towards the southeast passages from PWS to the Gulf of Alaska. At the same time there will be real-time sampling of oceanographic conditions, plankton abundance, predators and the juveniles themselves.

#### **94320-F: Trophic Interactions of Harbor Seals**

This project is a small but potentially important part of the overall investigation. The objective of this portion of the project is to determine if links between various food sources and the harbor seal population in PWS can be established either by use of lipid-specific analysis or analysis of stable isotope ratios. The technique being proposed is a relatively new application using lipid markers to indicate food sources in marine food webs.

#### **94320-G: Plankton Dynamics: Phytoplankton and Nutrients**

The objective of this part of the program will be to: (1) describe the spatial and temporal extent of the spring-summer phytoplankton bloom in PWS, (2)

More...

measure phytoplankton primary productivity, (3) identify the major species comprising the bloom, and (4) describe the distribution and abundance of the dissolved inorganic nutrients important to phytoplankton growth. Besides the obvious importance of this program for describing the primary production that eventually supports larval fish growth and production, this program will be making a major contribution in itself to basic understanding of the PWS system. There has simply been very little work done in this area and this study will be a pioneering one in phytoplankton dynamics of PWS.

#### **94320-H: The Role of Zooplankton in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the timing, duration and magnitude of the bloom of mixed layer zooplankton stocks in western and northern PWS in the spring and summer, (2) determine how changes in vertical distribution of zooplankton affect their predators, (3) provide estimates of zooplankton abundance to calibrate the acoustic instrumentation used to locate and track swarms and patches of zooplankton in PWS, (4) determine the coupling of the phytoplankton and zooplankton blooms, and (5) provide taxonomic assistance with identification of zooplankton. The main goal of the project is to test the "River-lake" hypothesis which postulates that in years when PWS is swept continuously by buoyancy-driven coastal currents during the spring plankton bloom, food for juvenile fish is poor, and in years when PWS is not so swept — a "lake" year — there are better feeding conditions for juvenile pink salmon. A second and related hypothesis, "prey switching," is that certain fish that feed on zooplankton in "lake" years, when they are abundant, become predators of juvenile pink salmon instead in "river" years when zooplankton are less abundant.

#### **94320-I: Confirming Food Web Dependencies in the Prince William Sound Ecosystem using Stable Isotope Tracers**

The objective of this project is to use the predictable shifts in stable isotope ratios of carbon and nitrogen that occur with increasing trophic level to determine if the river-lake and prey switching hypotheses described above can be confirmed. As both of these elements are cycled further up the food chain the heavier natural isotopes ( $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$ ) become relatively less abundant. Such shifts are easily measured and shifts of these isotopes in predatory fish during various types of years — "river" or "lake" — provide a

More...

novel way to test these hypotheses. This represents a new application of stable isotope ratios.

#### **94320-J: Information Systems and Model Development**

This study component is the data and information management element for all the major portions of 94320. The major objectives of this component are (1) to process the data developed by all parts of the project (including available satellite imagery), (2) integrate these data using geographic coordinates and date of collection, (3) adapt an existing computer interface for use by principal investigators for data analysis and interpretation, and (4) plan for the development of a numerical model of the Prince William Sound ecosystem in future years. This program component also includes purchase and modification of the aquashuttle sampling device for biological oceanography, and establishment of a high-speed Internet connection to Cordova for data transmission and analysis.

#### **94320-K: Experimental Fry Release**

#### **94320-L: Experimental Manipulation**

Standard approaches to aquaculture used previously will again be employed to raise pink salmon fry from eggs. The juveniles will be released from the hatchery after attaining specified sizes, at certain times in relation to plankton abundance and at certain places. By releasing tagged lots and having a juvenile sampling and tag recovery component in other parts of this program it will be possible to do "natural experiments" whose outcome will point to conditions that are optimal for survival of juveniles.

#### **94320-M: Observational Physical Oceanography in PWS & the Gulf of Alaska**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) determine the structure and variability of the climatic patterns and oceanographic features in PWS and the Gulf of Alaska, (2) determine the relationship between the atmospheric forcing and the wind and buoyancy-driven ocean currents, (3) determine how currents act to disperse or retain food resources, (4) and determine the relationship between climatic and oceanographic cycles, physical features and changes in abundance of important species. The basic oceanographic processes that influence the abundance of fish food resources will be studied through charting currents and physical structure of the water in relation to biological

More...

phenomenon. This provides the physical evidence for testing the "River-Lake" hypothesis. The basic measurements will be conducted with conductivity/temperature/depth measurements, acoustic doppler current profilers and chemical analyses of water samples. In addition, towed vehicles with attached instruments will provide the "sections" needed to further characterize water structure. In the future the use of permanent buoys will be considered to supplement these other data gathering modes. The investigator has requested and received assurances that continuing advice from other oceanographers regarding fruitful approaches to measuring physical processes on a scale appropriate to biological resources will be made available.

#### **94320-N: An Ecosystem Research plan for PWS Nearshore Fish**

The purpose of this project is to: (1) evaluate the distribution of macrozooplankton in PWS in real time in order to describe the prey field for juvenile pink salmon, and (2) describe the distribution of predators of juvenile fish in real time. This will be an integral part of the complex field studies centered around fry releases in northwestern PWS and provides an important part of the biological picture for the purposes of coordinating net sampling of predators and zooplankton. The investigator faces the challenge of ground truthing the measurements of zooplankton by hydroacoustical methods against the more conventional methods. There is considerable controversy on the ability of single-frequency hydroacoustic equipment to quantitatively measure zooplankton and this is, therefore, a challenging area on the cutting edge of biological oceanography for the investigators. To be convincing, data interpretation will need to rely whenever possible on simultaneous net and hydroacoustic data for zooplankton abundance.

#### **94320-P: Program Management**

This program element provides funding for program management in order to ensure that appropriate planning and communication, among and between agencies and researchers, as well as community involvement takes place.

#### **94320-Q: Avian Predation on Herring Spawn**

The purpose of this study is to assess the impact of avian predation on herring spawn, with the goal of integrating this information into a model to

More...



predicts herring embryo survival. Better information regarding factors influencing the mortality of herring eggs should improve our ability to predict the spawning biomass of herring in Prince William Sound. The investigators will use avian census techniques to compare bird densities at sites of low and high density of egg deposition in different habitat types. Predator exclusion techniques will attempt to quantify predation from different sources. In this first year, the project will be limited to herring spawning sites along the northeastern shore of Montague Island.

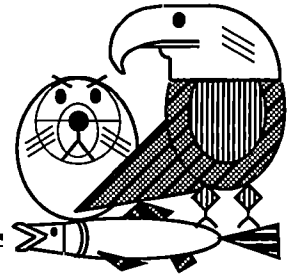
###

# **Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council**

**Restoration Office**

**645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

**Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178**



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 31 1994

**Date:** January 31, 1994  
**Subject:** Trustee Council Meeting on January 31, 1994  
**Contact:** Jim Ayers at 586-7238  
Molly McCammon or L.J. Evans at 278-8012

**EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

## **Trustee Council Meeting Moves 1994 Restoration Projects Ahead**

**Anchorage** — The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council today approved the recommendations of Executive Director Jim Ayers for a 1994 work plan which includes funding for \$14.6 million in restoration projects. The primary emphasis in the 1994 program is on mitigating effects of the disastrous fisheries in Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet and on research to better understand the marine ecosystem injured by the spill.

"By their actions today it has become even more clear that the Trustee Council is taking a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration in the regions affected by the oil spill," Ayers said. "You could say the Trustees' approach resembles a three-legged stool with three components: general restoration, research and monitoring, and habitat protection. Each of these is essential to the entire restoration process, and the Trustees' actions reflect that priority."

Other Trustee Council actions included:

- The Trustees approved nearly \$10 million in projects for study of injured fisheries and the marine ecosystem in the spill region, and restoration of fisheries resources affected by the spill. This funding included a project which will use Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation hatchery

- more -

---

**Trustee Agencies**

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

resources to conduct research important to understanding fisheries impacts and to further knowledge of aspects of the marine ecosystem which seem to be out of balance due to the spill. This project was generated by a group of Cordova scientists, fishermen and residents. Other fisheries related projects will address Kenai River sockeye salmon overescapement problems and restoration of salmon resources on the Kenai Peninsula.

- The Trustees approved setting aside \$12 million for a Restoration Reserve account to be funneled into a State of Alaska account so the funds can garner higher interest yields to fund restoration and research activities which are anticipated to continue beyond the 2001 date when payments from Exxon will end. The Reserve concept has a tremendous amount of support from citizens across the state, Ayers said.
- The Trustees took another step forward in the process of protecting critical habitat by directing Ayers to proceed to the next step in negotiations, which includes conducting appraisals of identified lands, and developing proposed terms and conditions with landowners of some 17 parcels of highly ranked lands throughout the spill region. Ayers was also directed to develop a comparative benefit analysis to give the Trustees guidance on how to most effectively use the trust funds that might be available for habitat protection to get the most value for their dollars.
- The Trustees gave their approval in concept to provide partial funding for an improved marine research facility in Seward.

"The focus of this project is on integration of marine research efforts," Ayers said. "The facility is intended to fill in research gaps and help meet long-term monitoring and research needs of the spill region."

The Trustees asked Ayers to proceed with developing an Environmental Assessment for the project, review proposed capital construction and operating budgets, develop an integrated funding approach ensuring legally permissible use of trust funds, and prepare a recommendation for an appropriate level of funding for consideration by the Trustees later this year.

- more -

Total project funding requested by the Seward project proposers was \$24 million, but the Trustees left the funding amount open, with actual funding to receive careful Trustee scrutiny and review prior to any disbursement of funds.

- The Trustees approved a number of management and administrative efficiency changes proposed by the Executive Director to increase productivity and make the Trustee Council process more accessible to the public. These include changes in the administrative structure to reduce costs by over 20% in fiscal year 1994, involving the public at a greater level in Trustee project planning and implementation, increased fiscal oversight and reporting to the public, and a major effort to streamline the procedure for proposing restoration projects to make the process more accessible to non-agency contractors and the public.

The \$14.6 million authorized Monday for the 1994 work plan is in addition to approximately \$5 million already approved in November for time-critical projects. Approved 1994 work program funding totals nearly \$20 million, plus the \$12 million set aside for the Restoration Reserve.

###

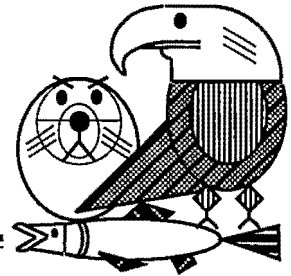
6.1.4 A

# Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 402, Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



---

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: January 12, 1994  
Subject: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Draft EIS Meeting  
Contact: Rod Kuhn 278-8012

RECEIVED  
JAN 12 1994

### SCOPING MEETING FOR EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

A meeting regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan will take place on Thursday, January 27, 1994, beginning at 7:00 PM at the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 G Street in Anchorage. The public is invited to participate.

Comments on the Restoration Plan alternatives previously submitted to the Trustee Council continue to be evaluated for the Draft EIS. This meeting is to provide an additional opportunity for public comment. Comments may be submitted through February 4, 1994.

Persons with a disability who may need a special modification in order to participate in this meeting should contact L.J. Evans or Carrie Holba at 278-8008 to make any necessary arrangements. For more detailed information on the role of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or copies of relevant documents, -contact Rod Kuhn, U.S. Forest Service, at 907/278-8012.

###

---

#### Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation  
United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior