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**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCOPING MEETINGS**  
**May 11, 1992 2:00 p.m.**  
**Tatitlek, Alaska**

**RECEIVED**  
**MAY 8 1 1992**

| <b>Attendees</b>   | <b>Affiliation</b>      | <b>Address</b>                |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                    |                         | <b>EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL</b> |
|                    |                         | <b>TRUSTEE COUNCIL</b>        |
|                    |                         | <b>ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD</b>  |
| Ken Rice           | Restoration Team        |                               |
| John Strand        | RPWG                    |                               |
| Barbara Iseah      | Restoration Team        |                               |
| LJ Evans           | Restoration Team        |                               |
| Ron Totemoff       | Council Member          | Box 106                       |
| Maxine Y. Totemoff |                         | Box 111                       |
| Steve S. Totemoff  | Council Member          | Box 127                       |
| Claren Allen       |                         | Box 128                       |
| Phillip Allen, Sr. |                         | Box 128                       |
| Jack Kompkoff, Sr. |                         | Box 120                       |
| Kim Mallory        |                         | Box 122                       |
| Roselene Vlasoff   |                         | Box 124                       |
| Betty J. Totemoff  |                         | Box 127                       |
| Sandra Selanoff    | Treasurer, Council      | Box 115                       |
| Peggy Totemoff     |                         | Box 134                       |
| Gary P. Kompkoff   | Chair., Tatitlek Corp.  | Box 171                       |
|                    | Pres., Tatitlek Council |                               |
| Illene Totemoff    |                         | Box 109                       |

**Issues Addressed:**

**General Review**

Gary Kompkoff, chairman of the Tatitlek Corporation, permitted the members of the Public Participation staff to introduce themselves. Members of the public were requested to give their names when commenting or giving testimony. Ken proceeded to discuss where the money is going the Settlement 101 handout. Some of the money is already spent to pay back expenses incurred in the cleanup. Some of the provisions of how the money is to be spent are discussed in other handouts. Public meetings were held in February regarding what the needs were to get the public fully involved in this process.

**Public Advisory Group**

Nominations for the Public Advisory Group began last Friday. When the two governments agreed on how to spend the money, the idea of a Public Advisory Group evolved. This group will include 15 members. Nominations are solicited through June 8th. Some of the information requested is background, knowledge of the region and involvement with other interest groups. Comments are being solicited on whether there should be assigned seats for this group. The purpose of soliciting comments is to find out what needs to be done next year for restoration. A concerned citizen letter went out to

the public for comments on what they would like to see next year. Ideas are requested to get these projects going in 1993.

### **Release of Natural Resource Damage Assessment Information**

Attorney General Cole decided to release a lot of the studies which had been held confidential up until now. Preliminary and final reports will be released in a few days. Access will be provided to studies done in the past three years.

Ken proceeded to discuss the following handouts:

Proposed Budget Summary for 1992  
Timeline for Completion of the Restoration Plan and Environmental Impact Statement  
Habitat Protection and Acquisition Process

One of the proposals that came from the public is the need to protect Prince William Sound from major development. The Restoration Team was charged with a process to develop some of the criteria used to protect it further. This process will become a component of the Restoration Plan on how the money will be spent over the next ten years.

### **Volume I - Restoration Framework**

The Restoration Plan will be developed over the next 18 months. The framework will guide in developing a plan that will help determine where the money will be spent and what are the concerns of the public.

Another purpose of this document is the need to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, which determines all the potential impacts to the Sound and its ecosystem. John Strand reviewed the following contents of the Restoration Framework:

- Chapter I - provides the background of the legal settlement
- Chapter II - outlines the goals of the public participation program
- Chapter III - recounts restoration activities from 1989 to the present
- Chapter IV - contains the updated analysis of the injury information to date
- Chapter V - proposes criteria for determining when injury is sufficient to warrant any restoration action
- Chapter VI - proposes criteria and procedures for evaluating restoration options
- Chapter VII - contains the following six conceptual restoration alternatives:

- no action monitoring alternative
- management of human uses

- manipulation of human resource
- habitat protection and acquisition
- acquisition of equivalent resources
- combination alternatives

Appendices A and B were discussed, and comments on the restoration options were solicited. The public is asked to comment on any options they feel might be better.

The diagrams at the end of Chapter VI depict the hierarchial and concurrent approaches of exploring options. These diagrams show how each restoration option was developed and how it will be implemented. Public comment is solicited regarding these two approaches.

Attention was directed to a list of questions eliciting public comments by chapter from the Restoration Framework. The framework represents the first crack at trying to organize the process for writing the plan. The Restoration Team would like to know if they are on track.

## **Volume II - 1992 Draft Work Plan**

Volume II contains all the projects proposed to begin this year. Comments are solicited on studies and projects that the public feels should be included. Comments are solicited on projects the public feels should not go forward or not be funded at the levels proposed. The Trustees have reserved final decision until after public comment is received.

The third volume compiles the public comments received on last year's Work Plan.

## **Questions:**

Ken provided an answer to the following question posed by the public:

Have the corporations in this area been approached to buy back their land or timber rights? Gary Kompkoff

## **Oral Statements Presented:**

Gary Kompkoff

- the most important issue in this area is subsistence
- wants to know if the Trustee Council is aware that subsistence users have been impacted more strongly than any other group in the state
- new reports show that the damage to subsistence resources has been a lot heavier than was previously realized
- has a memo written by the Subsistence Division requesting

- funding for the project, Subsistence Information and Response; on January 23, the people at the Subsistence Division stated that no more projects were to be funded through that budget; they were told the project was worthwhile but was too late to get funded; they were told that the money is there but the Trustees want to appear cost conscience and that puts a lot of pressure on the project director to cut costs to the bone
- concerned that every new study shows that the subsistence resources were damaged more than they were led to believe
  - they depend on the resources for their livelihood
  - a letter will be drafted addressing each subsistence issue
  - doesn't think the Trustee Council is aware of how important subsistence resources are to this community
  - can't figure out if the studies being kept from the public show that the resources are contaminated more than they are being told; would like to know what is dangerous now and long term
  - read a statement that new releases of studies back up what the health task force has been saying; statements like this make it hard for them to believe what is being said by the task force; they aren't able to trust anything
  - thinks each member of the Public Advisory Group should be specifically assigned to one user group rather than 15 in general; wonders if there has been any thought to having members from each impacted area on the group; subcommittees from each user group with teleconference capabilities were suggested
  - would not be comfortable with one representative from the Native community as the issues and concerns may be different
  - will make copies of the comments form and try to get as much feedback from the community as possible; then will write a letter with their concerns
  - subsistence does not appear very much in the framework document
  - wild deer studies should be considered
  - one problem is that they have not had time to review the reports and most of the people have not even seen them
  - would like to talk with members of the Trustee Council regarding his concerns

Ken expressed appreciation to the public for attending the meeting and providing feedback. Another round of meetings will be scheduled when a draft Restoration Plan is developed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15.

DRAFT

Public Meeting  
Tatitlek, Alaska  
February 4, 1992 - 10:30 am

Panel: Marty Rutherford (ADNR), John Strand (NOAA), L.J. Evans (ADEC)

- 19 citizens signed in (sign in sheets attached).

- **Panel Comments**

- \* **Public Questions &/or comments (speaker identified wherever possible)**

- M. Rutherford explained the purpose of the meeting, noting that the settlement had stressed the importance of public input. Introduced concept of the Public Advisory Group.
- \* Gary Kompkoff, Village Council President: Have these groups already been formed?
- M. Rutherford: No. The settlement requires its formation, but the PAG will not be the only access available to the trustees or to the process. We want the village's input on how the PAG should work with you and the trustees, how PAG members should be selected, staffed, how often it should meet. Nothing's been decided yet -- we will make recommendations to the trustees based on these meetings.
- \* G. Kompkoff: How much weight will our input have?
- M. Rutherford: As much as anyone else. Copies of everything like that will be provided to the trustees and restoration team members.
- M. Rutherford: Noted the "stakeholders" list and noted that trustees are likely to insist PAG members are Alaskan, but environmental groups who also have organizations in lower 48 might be represented, for example. In some other communities smaller groups have been suggested, perhaps one main PAG and sub-committees. Perhaps membership rotates. It's open-ended and the trustees are going to look to the public for input.

The trustees will make all decisions on how the \$900M will spent. Some communities have said they want the trustees to take the PAG's input seriously. How should they do that? Should the PAG have a seat with the trustees?



[Marty then distributed copies of the handouts to all present and went over the material.]

- \* Doris Kompkoff: We're having a hard time finding game, such as deer and seal.
- M. Rutherford: I don't think the studies are showing that, so we need you to tell us about this. The focus of the settlement is on restoration, and we need to know what resources need to be restored.
- \* G. Kompkoff: ADF&G subsistence studies are showing a steady fall in game.
- J. Strand: Deer and harbor seal? Anything else?
- \* D. Kompkoff: Octopus, too.
- \* G. Kompkoff: All our subsistence resources in general. Fish and Game will be coming back this spring for more studies.
- J. Strand: There is a possibility that some damage is delayed or latent; that is why there is a reopener clause in the settlement.
- M. Rutherford: Deer, harbor seal, octopus -- any others?
- \* G. Kompkoff: Ducks, too. All species of duck have fallen significantly. We used to be able to hunt right around here and feed lots of people with birds we caught, now they're few and hard to find, and we have to go far to get any at all.
- \* Pete Kompkoff, Jr., Chenega Bay Council: In Chenega too, ducks are rare. Deer, too, and we can't catch a crab these days.
- J. Strand: You had good crabbing before?
- \* (General response from audience): Oh, yes!
- \* D. Kompkoff: A hunter told me the other day "Is there anything alive in Fidalgo anymore?" We have pictures to document catches of lots of seal before the spill, but now there's nothing.
- J. Strand then went over the "Settlement 101" handouts.
- M. Rutherford: We are primarily talking today about the settlement money. But the \$50M in criminal penalties that came to the state is under discussion

in Cliff Davidson's HB411, which recommends total expenditures of that money this year. I suggest you find out more about that bill and let your legislator know what you think.

The studies that have been conducted until now have been related to damage assessment for support of litigation. Now that there is a settlement, that is no longer an issue. Some of the money is recommended to be spent closing out or finishing those studies. If your subsistence resources are significantly declined, and the studies have not captured that damage, it's going to be hard to tell the need money to restore those resources. You need to let the trustees know that your hunting take is not normal.

- J. Strand: presented an overview of the restoration process.
- \* P. Kompkoff: How do they intend to replace the seals and the crabs?
- J. Strand: Unfortunately, it's not feasible to talk about a seal hatchery. We may ask for some restrictions on hunting for a short time or restrict disturbance of the pupping areas, so they can recover.
- M. Rutherford: Fish and Game might limit recreational or tour boat access to pupping areas, for example. If it is necessary to close subsistence hunting seasons perhaps you might ask for financial compensation.
- J. Strand: There isn't much else that you can do. Perhaps the problem might be related to herring. Remember there's been a long decline in seals even before the spill.
- \* Norman Vlasoff: We used to get seal every day during the season, now maybe we get seal once every three months.
- \* G. Kompkoff: I've never been able to understand how to document seal numbers.
- J. Strand: There are state biological census taken in different seasons. It's true that there are not really good numbers from before the spill, but the numbers are better now. The biologists have to go out and count the seals without disturbing them, counting the live animals and trying to count the number of still born and live births, and from that they try to determine the survival rate.
- \* G. Kompkoff: I think there was a survey in '82, but the survey from '92 will be the most important. It will show a continued decline.



- M. Rutherford: At the trustee council meeting on Feb. 5 & 6 we will talk about support for the studies. We will share what you've said with the trustee council.
- \* N. Vlasoff: There's no doubt we've been impacted. Not just the animals, but also the people. I've lived all my life around here, and I tell you that Fidalgo is all dead. My uncle just came back from a hunt for seals. Where he used to come back with 20 he came back with barely a dozen. This is the food we live on here.
- J. Strand: Whatever we do will probably take years for them to recover, you need to know that.
- \* N. Vlasoff: The birds are all gone, too. We used to be able to get enough birds right around here to feed a couple of families. Just like the seals, they're just not there.
- M. Rutherford: Briefly discussed the deer studies underway.
- \* D. Kompkoff: Fish and Game in Cordova is talking about shutting down deer hunting.
- \* N. Vlasoff: The last two years I haven't been able to get deer.
- \* D. Kompkoff: Our freezers are empty! Usually at this time of year our freezers would be full of game, but now there is nothing to put in them.
- \* Jack Kompkoff, Sr.: Now with the communication system on Reef Island and the helicopters going back and forth to there, I can't catch a deer.
- \* N. Vlasoff: Now if the guys in the helicopter would bring a hindquarter of beef every time they come, that would be different.
- \* J. Kompkoff, Sr.: The choppers are scaring off the deer.
- J. Strand: What have you people noticed about sea otters?
- \* G. Kompkoff: We don't use them for meat, just for fur. We've been able to take more since the law changed and allowed for more open harvesting.
- M. Rutherford: Doris said something about scarcity of octopus. Is that unusual?
- \* Darlene Totemoff: We used to get lots of octopus, but when I went out this week we could only catch three.

- \* P. Kompkoff, Sr.: At low tide you put a stick under the rock and poke them out and catch them.
- \* D. Totemoff: Herring used to spawn all around the village, and now...
- \* G. Kompkoff: The last couple of years we haven't had any herring spawn in Tatitlek Narrows.
- \* D. Totemoff: It's a waste of gas to go out hunting.
- M. Rutherford: So there is the added cost of extra fuel.
- J. Strand: We have put herring on the possible injury list. It will be some years before the eggs and larvae from the year of the spill will be back. We won't know about the injuries until they actually enter the fishery. However, it sounds like there's already been some displacement.
- \* J. Kompkoff, Sr.: I've worked for DEC on the beach surveys the last three years and there's hardly any wildlife to be seen at all.
- \* D. Totemoff: We saw animal carcasses, too, and Exxon said not to tell DEC when we were forking for Exxon (several other people confirmed this had happened to them as well.)
- \* P. Kompkoff: That's not the only time I've heard that, too.
- M. Rutherford: We're developing a draft restoration framework document. This will be a plan for how the money is to be spent. John is on that subcommittee.
- J. Strand: The plan lays out the process and recommends restoration options for addressing various issues. It will be somewhat detailed, so the public will be able to read it and give us some feedback on how to address not just problems with species, but also services in the area, such as recreational, cultural resources, and other values that were injured.
- \* G. Kompkoff: How long will we have to review it?
- M. Rutherford: We expect about 45 days.
- J. Strand: At this point it looks like one volume will be the framework document. This not the actual restoration plan of what will be done, but the planning document to map out how to get there. The restoration plan will be out in March 1993. Volume two will be the study plans.

- \* G. Kompkoff: It is very important in your consideration of all of this that you remember there are communities out here that depend as much or more on subsistence foods as on commercial activities for their livelihood.
- M. Rutherford: We know that, and that is entering into the process.
- \* G. Kompkoff: How important is it that we have a representative at the trustee council meetings?
- M. Rutherford: Occasionally it will be important, but there will be other public meetings like this. We expect that the trustees will come out to the communities sometimes, too, and there will be PAG meetings, etc.
- \* G. Kompkoff: We can't afford to go to town for all the meetings. We really appreciate that you are teleconferencing so many of the meetings.

How much weight will something written from here have with these guys?

- M. Rutherford: I think comments from the villagers will have more weight than most. The villages are all expecting me to advocate strongly on their behalf. You have historical, subsistence and cultural rights all ahead of some of the other concerns.
- L. Evans: Noted that the meeting today was taking place because of a letter G. Kompkoff had written.
- \* G. Kompkoff: What do we need to do to be sure we get represented on the PAG?
- M. Rutherford: There will be every attempt by the trustees to balance the PAG. Tell us what you think -- should there be separate groups represented on the PAG?
- \* G. Kompkoff: It's been my feeling all along that all the impacted communities should be represented, then there should be sub committees for special interest groups such as fishing, subsistence, recreational interests. (The attendees expressed general agreement with Gary's comment).
- M. Rutherford: So you think people should be assigned from each community?
- \* G. Kompkoff: In some cases the representative will be forced to change as local officials change.

- M. Rutherford: What if the villagers only had one representative?
- \* G. Kompkoff: Only if the towns only had one, too.
- M. Rutherford: How about regional PAG's, such as Kodiak, Prince William Sound, Kenai?
- \* G. Kompkoff: PWS would be representing more communities than Kodiak. How much weight would each have? Then if there's not a representative from each community, then there should be one from each community on the subcommittee, such as Chenega on subsistence, Tatitlek on fishing, etc.
- \* N. Vlasoff: How about sending a man from Exxon with his family to live here for a year, then they will be able to tell you what it's like. There's people out here dying waiting for change, waiting to have what we used to have. We'd like to know how you'd like it if you went down to the market and there was just no hamburger meat there for four or five months.
- \* G. Kompkoff: For example, if we took all the things you like best to eat out of the store and you just can't have them. That's one thing I don't think we've gotten across to all you people. It has a daily impact on our lives, the decline in subsistence foods.
- M. Rutherford: So it's not just a matter of the foods like like best, your favorite foods, it's a matter of having enough to eat.
- \* G. Kompkoff: It's also our traditions, the way we live and our parents lived that's been affected.
- M. Rutherford: I'm not going to try to kid you -- this is not a real fast process. It's hard to get all this together and get it moving.
- \* N. Vlasoff: If it did, if there were anything to be dispersed to the villages it would probably be like in Africa and it would never get to us.
- M. Rutherford: Maybe you need to work on the \$50M criminal fine. Try talking to Gene Kubina.
- \* N. Vlasoff: We keep seeing a bunch of the same faces but nothing changes. How many times do you think we'll be meeting again? A lot of people have been through here and I haven't seen any changes.
- M. Rutherford: If you could have anything, what would you ask for the next six months? What do you guys really need right now?

- \* N. Vlasoff: Maybe take us so we could go hunt somewhere else.
- \* G. Kompkoff: There was a time when Chenega got money to go hunting up at our end of the sound. It is an idea that could be discussed. We need compensation for the things in town that we never had to buy before. We need projects such as a breakwater, enhancement of a ferry slip, a solid waste disposal site. Our dump filled up faster than it should have because of all the people that were here because of the spill.
- \* N. Vlasoff: It would be nice to have elk brought in so we could hunt them.
- \* G. Kompkoff: Maybe enhancement of the resources could mean bringing in new resources, like introducing elk.
- J. Strand: What about fisheries?
- \* G. Kompkoff: We've got this mariculture (oysters) project going.
- M. Rutherford: Do you need to enhance that?
- \* G. Kompkoff: We need additional money to buy equipment and pay wages. We need the proper type of boat to work the oysters, we need processing equipment and money for wages to pay people to do it. The added publicity about Prince William Sound has also meant more tourism activity in our area. The nearest search and rescue outfit is in Valdez. If we were to have a search and rescue vessel here it would mean we could serve the tour companies and respond to emergencies faster.
- \* N. Vlasoff: Get the pilot boats to be based here. I understand a majority of the pilots are out of Homer and got their training in England. I have a six pack license to carry passengers that I didn't need in '89 because they waived that requirement.
- M. Rutherford: I'm hearing you say you need better access to industry and jobs.
- \* G. Kompkoff: Maybe if you provided training for residents of the sound to work these industry jobs. I'd feel safer if there was Prince William Sound people at the controls of those boats.
- M. Rutherford: None of these things you have suggested are simple or easy to get going!
- \* G. Kompkoff: Maybe so, but you'll hear the same thing at Chenega.



- \* P. Kompkoff: In Chenega they'll tell you that subsistence is way down, and also they're wondering if it's safe to eat. That makes you look at the subsistence foods differently.
- M. Rutherford: That's another damage, too. The federal agencies are negotiating a commitment of funding to a subsistence study. I know the Department of Interior is involved. It may be that this ground might be involved in a very detailed subsistence study to address some of these village concerns. We'll let you know who's involved.
- \* G. Kompkoff: I want to see more use of already existing survey information. I'm afraid over time our recollection of events in 1989 will fade and our answers will change, and our litigation will be affected. Past subsistence studies have shown that Tatitlek has the highest per capita dependence on subsistence foods. The '89 and '90 studies are showing a continued drop in hunting successes, mistrust of the safety of the foods, causing us to depend more and more on a cash economy. We don't have the jobs to support a cash economy.

This has caused us to enjoy what we do get all the more. When a hunter gets a seal and brings it into town it is gone in minutes. We used to go across the bay and get enough for everybody. It has caused residents to use parts of the animals that we didn't use before. It's become much more noticeable this year than before. The numbers declined so much between 1990 and 1991. You guys are the first group that's been here for us to tell about it.

- \* N. Vlasoff: I'd like to thank Exxon for preserving the otters for me. I have been able to harvest the ones they saved for me. The otters I'm catching now have their digging claws all worn down, and they're thin.
- J. Strand: Do you fish for bottom species?
- \* N. Vlasoff: A few rock cod, some ling cod.
- J. Strand: Have you seen any change in halibut?
- \* G. Kompkoff: Seems like they're almost gone. In the wintertime it seemed like we used to be able to have enough halibut to eat when we wanted it, but not any more.
- \* N. Vlasoff: I used to set a line in Fidalgo and catch lots of halibut. This year we set 2,000 hooks and I got one little halibut.

- \* G. Kompkoff: All these are reasons why we want to see the long term studies continuing. If those studies aren't continued, the rural residents won't be represented.
- J. Strand: We've tried hard to make sure all those concerns are represented in the language of the framework. Are there any other projects you could benefit from? Is there any possibility of working with herd animals like reindeer?
- \* G. Kompkoff: We've never tried that. I think it could work, especially with caribou maybe. We used to go out to Columbia Glacier and get 20 or 25 seals in a single day.
- M. Rutherford: Is Tatitlek interested in promoting tourism?
- \* G. Kompkoff: We didn't before the spill, but we're going to have to be open to that now. The Exxon Valdez oil spill turned a lot of people off to tourism, and they're not going to like thinking about that as a part of our future. We were monkeys in a zoo in 1989, here for all those people to gawk at. But we're going to be forced to look in different directions for our economy in the future.

Marty Rutherford closed the meeting at about 11:30.

# Restoration Public Participation Meeting, Tatitlek, Tuesday, February 4, 1992

| Name (please print)   | Affiliation   | Address                           | Telephone              |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
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| Jack Kompkoff         | TATITLEK  | Box 120 TATITLEK, 99677           | 325-2304               |
| Roy S. Totemoff       | TATITLEK  | Box 114 Tatitlek 99677            |                        |
| Steve S. Totemoff Jr. | TATITLEK  | Box 127 TATITLEK 99677            |                        |
| Pete Kompkoff Jr.     | CHENEGA BAY, AK<br>Council                                    | Box 8045<br>CHENEGA BAY, AK 99574 | 573-5146               |
| Jerry W. Totemoff     | TATITLEK  | Box 109 TATITLEK AK               | mess.                  |
| Darlene Totemoff      | TATITLEK  | Box 144 Tatitlek                  | 325-2255               |
| Regina Christmas      | "   | Box 118 Tatitlek 99677            | 325-2303               |
| Bob Christmas         | "   | Box 118 Tatitlek                  |                        |
| Doris Kompkoff        | "   | P.O. Box 102 Tatitlek             | 325-2235<br>325-2250 H |
| Peggy Totemoff        | Tatitlek  | P.O. Box 134                      | MSSG-#<br>325-2254     |
| Ron Totemoff          | " "   | " " 106                           | " "                    |
| Norman F. Klauff      | TATITLEK  | Box 122                           | 325-2310               |
| Thelma Meffe          | Tatitlek  | Box 138 Tatitlek 99677            | 325-2301               |
| Maxine Y. Totemoff    | Tatitlek  | Box 111                           | 325-2296               |
| Philip Allen sr.      | Tatitlek  | Box 128                           |                        |
| Kenneth W. Selanoff   | CHENEGA CORP.<br>P.O. Box 144<br>ADDRESS: TATITLEK, AK. 99677 | Box 144<br>TATITLEK, AK. 99677    | MESS.<br>325-2255      |
| Sandra Selanoff       | TATITLEK  | Tatitlek, Ak. 99677               | 325-2255               |
| Raul Chavira          | Tatitlek  | " "                               | 325-2303               |