

Dec 6, 1995

C

Public Advisory Group Session Summary

A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: December 6, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Name

Rupert Andrews
Kim Benton
Nicole Evans for Pam Brodie
Chris Beck
Jim Diehl
John French
Brenda Schwantes
Thea Thomas
Chuck Totemoff
Martha Vlasoff
Gordon Zerbetz

Principal Interest

Sport Hunting and Fishing
Forest Products
Environmental
Public-at-Large
Recreation Users
Science/Academic
Subsistence
Commercial Fishing
Native Landowners
Public-at-Large
Public-at-Large

RECEIVED
MAY 03 1996

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

Name

Karl Becker
Dave Cobb
Chip Dennerlein
James King
Nancy Lethcoe
Vern McCorkle
Georgianna Lincoln (*ex officio*)
Alan Austerman (*ex officio*)

Principal Interest

Aquaculture
Local Government
Conservation
Public-at-Large
Commercial Tourism
Public-at-Large
Alaska State Senate
Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Name

Catherine Berg
L.J. Evans
Dave Gibbons
Carrie Holba
Bob Loeffler
Molly McCammon

Doug Mutter

Organization

Fish and Wildlife Service
Trustee Council Staff
U.S. Forest Service
Oil Spill Pub. Info. Cen.
AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Trustee Council Executive
Director
Designated Fed. Officer

Eric Myers
Bud Rice
Sandra Schubert
Stan Senner

Dept. of Interior
Trustee Council Staff
National Park service
Trustee Council Staff
Trustee Council Staff

Joe Sullivan
Craig Tillery

AK Dept. Fish and Game
AK Dept. of Law, Trustee
Council Representative
U.S. Forest Service
Trustee Council Staff

Ray Thompson
Cherri Womac

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened December 6 at 8:30 a.m. by John French, Vice Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was not present. No modifications were identified for the summary of the July 27, 1995 PAG meeting.

Martha Vlasoff resigned from the PAG due to a conflict of interest. She is now employed on a Trustee Council funded project as the Community Coordinator, working with communities in the spill area.

Molly McCammon provided the Executive Director's report. The Valdez to Chenega PAG field trip was a success, especially because an extra day was spent at Chenega thanks to Typhoon Oscar. Appreciation was extended to Chuck Totemoff and the residents of Chenega for their hospitality. The next field trip will probably be in May 1996 to the Kodiak or lower Kenai Peninsula Region.

The audit of Trustee Council and project expenditures is underway--a draft report is expected February 1, 1996, and a final is due March 1, 1996. Molly will meet shortly with the Court Registry Investment System (CRIS) and banking staff in Houston Texas, to discuss long-range investing for the reserve account. A Trustee Council financial report was mailed to PAG members.

In September a subsistence conference was held (see attachments #1 and 2). A residual oiling workshop was held in November, the report is under preparation. A seabird conference was held this fall in Girdwood, a report will be produced later. Technical sessions were held this fall on: clams, octopus, harlequin ducks, pink salmon, sockeye salmon, Apex predators, and herring. These sessions examined the state of knowledge and recovery, and what restoration activities should be pursued in the future. The annual restoration workshop is scheduled for January 16-18, 1996 at the Captain Cook Hotel. A January 19-20 review of the Prince William Sound SEA program will take place following the annual workshop. The results of these sessions will be used to help develop the FY 1997 Work Plan.

The Alaska Municipal League gave an award to the Sound Waste Management Project. The SeaLife Center project has met Trustee Council criteria for release of the previously approved funds. The Alaska Legislative Budget and Audit Committee has added a condition that all

financing be secured for both the research and visitation components before Trustee funds can be expended--this should be done this spring. Further archaeological surveys will be conducted this winter.

McCammon outlined the status of habitat protection efforts with Koniag, Kodiak Island Borough, Chenega, Tatitlek, Afognak Joint Venture, Koniag Phase II, Kenai Fjords, and small parcels. The group discussed valuation of parcels for restoration purposes when land purchases/easements are made.

Chris Beck reported on the Ad Hoc Information Subgroup (see attachment #3). The focus of the subgroup is to improve communications with the general public. Chris asked if this was the direction the PAG thought it should go. The ensuing discussion brought up several ideas for consideration in increasing public knowledge of restoration results. A subgroup meeting is scheduled for January 10, 1996. (This meeting had to be rescheduled to this date because of a scheduling conflict.)

Craig Tillery discussed the last Trustee Council meeting and the actions taken. He noted that he was not receiving much feedback on issues, and encouraged the public to offer their comments and concerns. Some land appraisals have required additional work, he noted, slowing the habitat acquisition process. Chuck Totemoff voiced frustration with the slowness of the process relative to Chenega--Tillery agreed the process was too slow. Kim Benton asked if there was a way to recoup funds spent on flawed appraisals--Dave Gibbons stated that they were pursuing this. Tillery stated that the role of the PAG was on-going review of restoration work (e.g., suggesting budget priorities), reaction to policy questions (e.g., conservation easements policy), and being proactive with suggested policies (e.g., the creation of the reserve fund). The Trustee Council wants to hear minority views, not just consensus items. He asked the PAG to consider: advising where the shrinking dollars for science projects should go, passing information and feedback along to the Trustee Council as it comes to PAG members' attention, and being assertive and proactive on issues and ideas.

Stan Senner and Bob Loeffler discussed criteria for determining normal agency management (see attachment #5). They reported that it does not appear possible to develop hard and fast criteria, since much of the restoration work fits into agency authorities, by definition. Continued vigilance on the part of the PAG and Trustee Council is required to ensure that the Council is not funding work that should be funded by the Trustee agencies. McCammon noted that this question would be addressed in detailed project descriptions in the future.

A public comment period was opened at 11:00 a.m.; no comments were offered.

McCammon opened review of the FY 1996 Work Plan deferred projects (see attachments #6 and 7) discussion, noting that the Trustee Council would take action at their December 11, 1995 meeting. Loeffler and Senner summarized and answered questions about deferred projects in the following clusters: pink salmon cluster (Thea Thomas raised questions about the utility of some of the genetics projects versus the non-approved 96093C, an active restoration project--she will put her comments in writing for the December 11 Trustee Council meeting); Herring cluster (questions about diseases related to pound fisheries and the overall population health were discussed); Sound Ecosystem Assessment and related cluster; Sockeye Salmon

cluster (Coghill Lake fertilization seems to be working, peer reviewers thought highly of the Kenai River work of Dana Schmidt); Cutthroat and Dolly Varden Trout cluster; Marine Mammal cluster; Nearshore Ecosystem cluster (almost no oil was found in the Kodiak Island survey); Seabird/Forage Fish cluster (Thomas raised a question about how many non-target species were killed when netting fish for studies); Subsistence cluster (Brenda Schwantes asked why there weren't more Kodiak projects funded); Archaeological cluster; Reducing Marine Pollution cluster; Habitat Improvements cluster (Benton said the largest timber operator in the spill area was interested in sharing restoration information for protection of habitat); and Information Support cluster. McCammon noted at the PAG's urging, a policy was developed to not recommend projects if late reports were not submitted. This policy helped to get late reports completed.

McCammon discussed a long-term planning session with core peer reviewers. The core reviewers believe it is important to begin the integration and synthesis of the three major ecosystem studies. The hope is to identify key habitats and species for measuring long-term ecosystem health. She also mentioned that public meetings would be held in the Kodiak Island communities this spring, as well as in other spill area communities.

PAG members each voiced views and comments. After adjournment, PAG members were invited to the Oil Spill Public Information Center to view the EVOS and SEA Program Internet Home Pages.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon and Mutter will pursue a replacement PAG member to fill Vlasoff's seat.
2. Chris Beck and the Ad Hoc Information Subgroup will meet at 10:00, January 10, 1996 at the Trustee Council offices.
3. L.J. Evans will put PAG member names and phone numbers in the next issue of the restoration newsletter.
4. The PAG should continue to monitor projects for normal agency management issues.
5. French will present PAG recommendations at the December 11 Trustee Council meeting.
6. PAG members are invited to participate in the annual Restoration Workshop in January.

I. NEXT MEETINGS:

- Ad Hoc Information Subgroup meeting: January 10, 1996
- Annual Restoration Workshop: January 16-18, 1996
- PAG meeting: March 13-14, 1996
- PAG field trip: (in May, to be determined)

--PAG meeting: June 5-6, 1996
--PAG meeting: July 31-August 1, 1996

J. ATTACHMENTS: (for those not present)

1. Summary Report: Community conference on Subsistence and the Oil Spill
2. Memorandum from the Executive Director regarding follow-up actions pursuant to the subsistence conference.
3. Memorandum from Chris Beck on the Ad Hoc Information Subgroup
4. Community Involvement Report from Martha Vlasoff
5. Memorandum from Bob Loeffler and Stan Senner regarding normal agency management criteria
6. Draft Summary of Executive Director's Recommendation, FY 1996 Work Plan
7. Draft Executive Director's Recommendation: Deferred Project/FY 96 Work Plan (summary and detailed tables)

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Information Session Summary

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Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service
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K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Sept 19-21, 1996
Prince William Sound

NO MINUTES TAKEN

Sept. 19-21, 1996

PWS

NO MINUTES TAKEN

Sept. 19-21, 1996

PWS

Meeting Summary

08.07.02

A. GROUP: Ad Hoc Information Subgroup, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: August 30, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck, Chair	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes, via telecon	Subsistence
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED: N/A

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Carrie Holba	Oil Spill Public Info. Center
Bob Loeffler	Trustee Council Staff
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer Dept. of the Interior
Eric Myers	Trustee Council Director of Operations
Sandra Schubert	Trustee Council Staff

G. SUMMARY:

The session began at 2:30 p.m. Chris Beck opened the meeting stating that the last meeting was a review of current efforts at information flow and communications and that today's discussion should focus on goals and directions for the future (handout #1).

Eric Myers noted that Doug Mutter's memorandum (handout #2) discussed setting goals and objectives for the three audiences identified in the draft Communications Plan: resource managers, general public, and scientists.

Goals, objectives and current activities were discussed. Brenda Schwantes suggested that a survey be conducted of the general public to determine information needs. Martha Vlasoff discussed the community involvement project.

Carrie Holba reviewed current information requests coming through OSPIC.

The Group agreed there needs to be a clearer definition of goals for getting information to and from the general public, and for subsets of the general public. A general approach to defining information strategies was outlined:

Task

Example

1. Identify the particular subset of the general public to be served.

Elementary school kids, grades 4-6, primarily in Alaska.

2. Identify current actions serving this group.

Access to library, etc.

3. Clarify goals and objectives for this portion of the public, including particular types of information to be provided (content).

Provide knowledge of initial impact of spill, current status of restoration, and emerging information regarding the spill area ecosystem.

4. Identify critical gaps and needs.

5. Identify best format of communication media to serve identified needs.

Poster, publications, movies, field trips, presentations by field researchers, participation or sponsorship of projects, etc.

6. Set priority of this set of actions relative to other information dissemination needs.

The session ended at 4:25 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. Myers and staff will revise the Communications Plan, expanding the section related to communications and information flow with the general public.

I. NEXT MEETING: To be announced

J. HANDOUTS:

1. EVOS Information Determination
2. Memorandum from Doug Mutter about the EVOS TC Communications Plan

K. CERTIFICATION: N/A

Meeting Summary

08.07102

A. GROUP: Ad Hoc Information Subgroup, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: July 19, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck, Chair	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes, via telecon	Subsistence
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED: N/A

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Carrie Holba	Oil Spill Public Info. Center
Carol Fries	AK Dept. Natural Resources
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer Dept. of the Interior
Eric Myers	Trustee Council Director of Operations
Maureen Simms	Alaska SeaLife Center

G. SUMMARY:

The session began at 1:30 p.m. Eric Myers noted that the subgroup's aim was to work with the EVOS staff to analyze information management directions. A draft Communications Plan (Handout #1.a) was developed to provide focus for these discussions and for long-term planning. Chris Beck said that the meeting today was mainly to listen to what was happening and proposed, and that a follow-up meeting should be held for discussion and recommendations.

Molly McCammon reviewed the draft Communications Plan. She suggested that, with limited funding, perhaps the need was to focus on a few key elements and do them well, rather than try to accomplish everything. Public interest has lessened over time, she reported. She noted the role of public information in the settlement and Trustee Council mission statement, and that information needs are still evolving.

L.J. Evans went over the matrix portion of the draft Communications Plan. Molly stated that she met with editorial boards of Anchorage newspapers and that local radio and

newspapers were kept informed of Trustee Council activities on a regular basis. Carrie Holba discussed the activities of the Oil Spill Public Information Center (OSPIC). OSPIC averages 70 reference requests per week. Since 1990 they have handled 8,500 visitors, 12,500 requests for information, 1,600 interlibrary loan requests, 1,200 on-line search requests; and have distributed 27,400 documents.

Carol Fries outlined project 95089, which is to develop an EVOS database and use of a geographic information system to provide a far-reaching, user friendly way to access data and information.

Maureen Simms discussed the information management aspects of the Alaska SeaLife Center: research, public education, and a database. Molly said that OSPIC would eventually phase out and that the SeaLife Center was an option for continuing EVOS information management. She also said that a remaining need was to examine how information was presented to communities in the spill area--the PAG had previously suggested ways to present public information, such as interpretive displays.

Information management projects proposed for FY 1996 include: 96100, 96155, 96052, and 96210.

Some questions raised:

- How is the market for EVOS information responding to current efforts? Does the form and content of information serve both restoration goals and also provide useful information, e.g., for ongoing agency land/resource management, for schools teaching about the spill area ecosystem?

- Is the information management system expected to be long lasting? What would be the best system for disseminating EVOS-generated information into the future?

- a. physical system: what facilities in what locations--particularly as we look beyond 2001--should carry on the function of holding and disseminating information?
- b. format: what information format, from displays, posters, newsletters, and radio broadcasts, to computer-based systems, best serve the diverse "market" for information?

- What kinds of information (content) are most useful? In particular, how can detailed scientific data be synthesized to tell a broad, accessible story of the spill and its impacts, and also to explain what is being learned about the spill-area ecosystem?

- Is there a way to quantify accomplishments?

- Can we include contingency planning information that will assist during the next spill?

The session ended at 3:30 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. Subgroup members review the Communications Plan and project proposals before the next meeting

I. NEXT MEETING: Tentatively Wednesday, August 16, 1:30 p.m.
at EVOS

J. HANDOUTS:

1. Memo from Molly McCammon with:
 - a. Draft EVOS Trustee Council Communications Plan
 - b. Detailed Project Description for 95089
 - c. Detailed Project Description for 95052
2. Memorandum from Carol Fries with Revised Project 95089

K. CERTIFICATION: N/A

July 27-28, 1995

Meeting Summary

- A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)
- B. DATE/TIME: July 27-28, 1995
- C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska
- D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

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Dave Cobb	Local Government
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Mary McBurney (for Beck 7/27)	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck (7/28)	Public-at-Large
Karl Becker	Aquaculture
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Georgianna Lincoln (ex officio)	Alaska State Senate
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F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Veronica Christman	AK Dept. Nat. Resources
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Sharon Gagnon	Alternate to Jim King
Bob Loeffler	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive
	Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Fed. Officer
	Dept. of Interior
Ernie Piper	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Bud Rice	National Park service
Sandra Schubert	Trustee Council Staff
Stan Senner	Trustee Council Staff
Bob Spies	Chief Scientist
Joe Sullivan	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Lisa Thomas	Nat'l. Biological Service

Ray Thompson
Deborah Williams

U.S. Forest Service
Trustee Council
Representative, Dept.
of the Interior

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened July 27 at 9:10 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present. The summary of the June 13-14, 1995 PAG meeting was approved.

Deborah Williams commented on the expectations of the Trustee Council for PAG action on the FY 1996 Work Plan. She anticipates a project budget of around \$18 million and a restoration reserve of \$12 million, and requested PAG assistance in reaching that target.

Molly McCammon summarized the June 1 and June 16 Trustee Council meetings (Attachments #1 and #2). She noted that the University of Alaska has agreed to a reduced project overhead rate of 25%. Work is ongoing with the Court System to improve the rate of return of the Restoration Reserve funds. A request for bids to conduct an audit of the Trustee Council funds is expected out next week. A number of meetings and negotiations have occurred regarding habitat protection and acquisition for large parcels. Molly noted that Eyak negotiations have not been successful, thus far. Appraisals are being conducted for 29 small parcels under consideration--Trustee Council action is anticipated tentatively on September 8, 1995. Other possible habitat protection areas are being discussed with: Seldovia Native Association, Chignik Corporation, Chugach Corporation, and the City of Kenai. Molly presented the Administrative budget (covering administration, science, and information management) (Attachment #3). The budget has been reduced by 20% from FY 1995. The PAG budget was reduced by \$20,000 due to better accounting of actual travel expenses. Molly is recommending that transcripts and summaries not be made of PAG meetings, but that they be tape recorded and minutes taken. Issues outstanding for Trustee Council funding of the Alaska SeaLife Center are progressing. The Alaska Industrial Authority is reviewing construction plans and the University of Alaska is reviewing a cooperative agreement to provide overall scientific leadership. Final Executive Director approval is anticipated in September.

The Valdez/Chenega field trip was discussed (Attachment #4). Space will be limited. The Trustee Council meeting schedule was reviewed (Attachment #5). The schedule for PAG meetings was reviewed (Attachment #6). The public involvement training session September 26-29, 1995, is open for PAG member attendance at no cost for the first day.

Funds and procedures for PAG members reimbursement for telephone calls for contact with constituent groups and other PAG members was discussed, and the following process was adopted (moved by Brodie, second by Andrews, with Zerbetz dissenting). A log form

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Bob Loeffler outlined expectations for PAG recommendations on the FY 1996 Work Plan. Comments and suggestions from PAG members for each cluster of projects, and a PAG vote, if possible, on each cluster are desired. Criteria to use in analyzing project clusters (Attachment #11) were discussed. Recommendations of the public (Attachment #12) and the Chief Scientist and Executive Director were provided (Attachment #13).

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Pink salmon cluster. A technical review workshop will be held this fall. Developmental projects (e.g., otolith marking) funded by the Trustee Council will be moved to agencies for application. Motion by Benton, French second, passed unanimously: The pink salmon cluster budget appears high and should be examined in an effort to reduce costs. The PAG supports the Executive Director's efforts to bring experts together to examine the program, and suggests that knowledgeable PAG members be invited to participate (e.g., Cobb, French, Andrews, Thomas, Becker). Staff indicated that all PAG members would be invited to attend technical workshops.

Herring cluster. A substantial reduction in biomass has occurred in recent years. Motion by Cobb, French second, passed unanimously: Fully fund herring projects and, where possible, enhance funds (that is, fund deferred projects if technical and other questions are resolved to the satisfaction of the Chief Scientist).

Sound Ecosystem Assessment and related cluster. This is a major ecological study which will undergo a technical review this fall. The Prince William Sound Science Center should be invited to address the PAG Information Subgroup about their proposed information management plans. The SEA program is expected to be reduced by \$1 million over each of the next two years. Motion by Dennerlein, Cobb second, passed (with French abstention due to possible conflict of interest): Fully fund projects in this cluster, as recommended by the Executive Director.

Sockeye Salmon cluster. Kodiak projects are for monitoring, Kenai projects include research close-out. There is a question about the status of the Kenai run. Motion by Dennerlein, Andrews second, passed unanimously: The PAG directs staff to review sockeye projects with an eye to identifying budget reductions. Motion by French, Cobb second, passed unanimously: Close out management related aspects of the sockeye cluster as expeditiously as possible.

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Marine Mammal cluster. Harbor seals continue the decline that began before the spill. Killer whale monitoring has been proposed for every two years, but the restoration objectives may not be realistic and will be reviewed this winter. Motion by Schwantes, Brodie second, passed unanimously: Fund projects of this cluster, as recommended by staff.

Nearshore Ecosystem cluster. This cluster of projects covers shallow water nearshore, and subtidal and intertidal zones. Unresolved questions include: how long do we monitor? what do we do with beaches with residual oil? The nearshore area was the most heavily hit by oil, so we need to be able to say what its status is. Motion by Cobb, Dennerlein second, passed (with French opposed): This cluster should be targeted for fine tuning and budget reductions, at the discretion of the staff. This recommendation does not include any new projects that might be identified from this fall's oiling workshop.

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and deferring project 96122 to FY 1997 for further refinement and private landowner participation.

Subsistence cluster. There may be legal questions about the shellfish safety testing (PSP) project. Some subsistence projects have already been funded with criminal restitution funds. Motion by Totemoff, Cobb second, passed (with abstentions by Vlasoff, French and Cobb): The PAG recommends approval of a budget of approximately \$1.3 million, as recommended by staff. (Discussion indicated that fine tuning may be appropriate for specific projects and that some budgets may be modified.)

Archaeological cluster. This includes monitoring, artifact curation, site stewardship, and planning for repositories. Motion by Dennerlein, Andrews second, passed unanimously: The PAG supports the budget as proposed by staff.

Reducing Marine Pollution cluster. Motion by Zerbetz, Cobb second, passed unanimously: Approve this cluster for funding.

Habitat Improvements cluster. This includes landowner assistance, a habitat survey on Afognak Island, Kenai River habitat restoration, and wetlands replacement for Montague Island. Motion by Dennerlein, Brodie second, passed unanimously: 1) re. 96058, actively seek landowner assistance, if none coming forward, look at this project for reduction in funds or transfer funds to other projects; 2) re. 96141, eliminate this project-- State managers should work with other public and private operators to obtain needed data; 3) re. 96176, eliminate this project; and 4) re. 96178, while Kenai River habitat is important, staff should examine expectations of this project related to what other organizations are doing in the area to avoid overlapping funds.

Administration cluster. The administration, science management, and public information budget reflects a nearly 20% reduction from the FY 1995 budget. Reductions are proposed in travel, equipment, the Chief Scientist contract, and agency staff support. Motion by Cobb, Andrews second, passed unanimously: The PAG approves the budget as recommended by staff.

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(Attachment #14)

Meeting Summary

- A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)
- B. DATE/TIME: July 27-28, 1995
- C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska
- D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Rupert Andrews	Sport Hunting and Fishing
Kim Benton	Forest Products
Pamela Brodie	Environmental
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Mary McBurney (for Beck 7/27)	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck (7/28)	Public-at-Large
Karl Becker	Aquaculture
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Georgianna Lincoln (ex officio)	Alaska State Senate
Alan Austerman (ex officio)	Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Veronica Christman	AK Dept. Nat. Resources
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Sharon Gagnon	Alternate to Jim King
Bob Loeffler	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Fed. Officer Dept. of Interior
Ernie Piper	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Bud Rice	National Park service
Sandra Schubert	Trustee Council Staff
Stan Senner	Trustee Council Staff
Bob Spies	Chief Scientist
Joe Sullivan	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Lisa Thomas	Nat'l. Biological Service

Ray Thompson
Deborah Williams

U.S. Forest Service
Trustee Council
Representative, Dept.
of the Interior

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened July 27 at 9:10 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present. The summary of the June 13-14, 1995 PAG meeting was approved.

Deborah Williams commented on the expectations of the Trustee Council for PAG action on the FY 1996 Work Plan. She anticipates a project budget of around \$18 million and a restoration reserve of \$12 million, and requested PAG assistance in reaching that target.

Molly McCammon summarized the June 1 and June 16 Trustee Council meetings (Attachments #1 and #2). She noted that the University of Alaska has agreed to a reduced project overhead rate of 25%. Work is ongoing with the Court System to improve the rate of return of the Restoration Reserve funds. A request for bids to conduct an audit of the Trustee Council funds is expected out next week. A number of meetings and negotiations have occurred regarding habitat protection and acquisition for large parcels. Molly noted that Eyak negotiations have not been successful, thus far. Appraisals are being conducted for 29 small parcels under consideration--Trustee Council action is anticipated tentatively on September 8, 1995. Other possible habitat protection areas are being discussed with: Seldovia Native Association, Chignik Corporation, Chugach Corporation, and the City of Kenai. Molly presented the Administrative budget (covering administration, science, and information management) (Attachment #3). The budget has been reduced by 20% from FY 1995. The PAG budget was reduced by \$20,000 due to better accounting of actual travel expenses. Molly is recommending that transcripts and summaries not be made of PAG meetings, but that they be tape recorded and minutes taken. Issues outstanding for Trustee Council funding of the Alaska SeaLife Center are progressing. The Alaska Industrial Authority is reviewing construction plans and the University of Alaska is reviewing a cooperative agreement to provide overall scientific leadership. Final Executive Director approval is anticipated in September.

The Valdez/Chenega field trip was discussed (Attachment #4). Space will be limited. The Trustee Council meeting schedule was reviewed (Attachment #5). The schedule for PAG meetings was reviewed (Attachment #6). The public involvement training session September 26-29, 1995, is open for PAG member attendance at no cost for the first day.

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(Attachment #14)

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 a.m. on July 28, 1995.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon will check with Tatitlek regarding a possible stop during the September PAG field trip.
2. Staff will prepare criteria for differentiating oil spill projects from normal agency operations.
3. McCorkle will present PAG recommendations at the August Trustee Council meeting.

I. NEXT MEETINGS: September 19-20, 1995, Field Trip to Valdez/Chenega.
Tentative Schedule for Anchorage meetings:
December 6-7, 1995
February 7-8, 1996
June 5-6, 1996
July 31-August 1, 1996
Field Trip in 1996 ????

J. ATTACHMENTS: (for those not present)

1. June 1, 1995 Trustee Council Meeting Actions
2. June 16, 1995 Trustee Council Meeting Actions
3. Trustee Council Administrative Budget
4. Tentative PAG Field Trip Itinerary
5. Trustee Council Meeting Schedule
6. PAG Tentative Meeting Schedule
7. PAG Member telephone log form
8. Killer whale projects memorandum
9. Harlequin duck collection memorandum
10. Information Subgroup Meeting Summary
11. Memorandum from Loeffler re. review of projects
12. Public Comments on FY 1996 Work Plan
13. Appendix A: Description of Projects and Recommendations
14. Letter from National Audubon Society

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Meeting Summary

A. GROUP: Ad Hoc Information Subgroup, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: July 19, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage

RECEIVED
AUG 25 1995

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Name

Principal Interest

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Chris Beck, Chair	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes, via telecon	Subsistence
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED: N/A

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Name

Organization

L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Carrie Holba	Oil Spill Public Info. Center
Carol Fries	AK Dept. Natural Resources
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer Dept. of the Interior
Eric Myers	Trustee Council Director of Operations
Maureen Simms	Alaska SeaLife Center

G. SUMMARY:

The session began at 1:30 p.m. Eric Myers noted that the subgroup's aim was to work with the EVOS staff to analyze information management directions. A draft Communications Plan (Handout #1.a) was developed to provide focus for these discussions and for long-term planning. Chris Beck said that the meeting today was mainly to listen to what was happening and proposed, and that a follow-up meeting should be held for discussion and recommendations.

Molly McCammon reviewed the draft Communications Plan. She suggested that, with limited funding, perhaps the need was to focus on a few key elements and do them well, rather than try to accomplish everything. Public interest has lessened over time, she reported. She noted the role of public information in the settlement and Trustee Council mission statement, and that information needs are still evolving.

L.J. Evans went over the matrix portion of the draft Communications Plan. Molly stated that she met with editorial boards of Anchorage newspapers and that local radio and

newspapers were kept informed of Trustee Council activities on a regular basis. Carrie Holba discussed the activities of the Oil Spill Public Information Center (OSPIC). OSPIC averages 70 reference requests per week. Since 1990 they have handled 8,500 visitors, 12,500 requests for information, 1,600 interlibrary loan requests, 1,200 on-line search requests; and have distributed 27,400 documents.

Carol Fries outlined project 95089, which is to develop an EVOS database and use of a geographic information system to provide a far-reaching, user friendly way to access data and information.

Maureen Simms discussed the information management aspects of the Alaska SeaLife Center: research, public education, and a database. Molly said that OSPIC would eventually phase out and that the SeaLife Center was an option for continuing EVOS information management. She also said that a remaining need was to examine how information was presented to communities in the spill area--the PAG had previously suggested ways to present public information, such as interpretive displays.

Information management projects proposed for FY 1996 include: 96100, 96155, 96052, and 96210.

Some questions raised:

- How is the market for EVOS information responding to current efforts? Does the form and content of information serve both restoration goals and also provide useful information, e.g., for ongoing agency land/resource management, for schools teaching about the spill area ecosystem?

- Is the information management system expected to be long lasting? What would be the best system for disseminating EVOS-generated information into the future?

- a. physical system: what facilities in what locations--particularly as we look beyond 2001--should carry on the function of holding and disseminating information?
- b. format: what information format, from displays, posters, newsletters, and radio broadcasts, to computer-based systems, best serve the diverse "market" for information?

- What kinds of information (content) are most useful? In particular, how can detailed scientific data be synthesized to tell a broad, accessible story of the spill and its impacts, and also to explain what is being learned about the spill-area ecosystem?

- Is there a way to quantify accomplishments?

- Can we include contingency planning information that will assist during the next spill?

The session ended at 3:30 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. Subgroup members review the Communications Plan and project proposals before the next meeting

I. NEXT MEETING: Tentatively Wednesday, August 16, 1:30 p.m.
at EVOS

J. HANDOUTS:

1. Memo from Molly McCammon with:
 - a. Draft EVOS Trustee Council Communications Plan
 - b. Detailed Project Description for 95089
 - c. Detailed Project Description for 95052
2. Memorandum from Carol Fries with Revised Project 95089

K. CERTIFICATION: N/A

June 13-14, 1995

Meeting Summary

A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: June 13-14, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Rupert Andrews	Sport Hunting and Fishing
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Karl Becker	Aquaculture
Kim Benton	Forest Products
Pamela Brodie	Environmental
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
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Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
John French (due to weather)	Science/Academic
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Georgianna Lincoln (<i>ex officio</i>)	Alaska State Senate
Alan Austerman (<i>ex officio</i>)	Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Catherine Berg	Fish and Wildlife Service
Judy Bittner	State Historic Preservation Office
Dave Deans	Focus Company
Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service
Veronica Christman	AK Dept. Nat. Resources
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Dave Hirchert	Public
Dean Hughes	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Bob Loeffler	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Rita Miraglia	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Doug Mutter	Designated Fed. Officer Dept. of Interior
Diane Munson	AK Dept. Envir. Cons.

Eric Myers

Ernie Piper

Doug Reger

Steve Rog

Sandra Schubert

Stan Senner

Karen Shemet

Joe Sullivan

Alex Swiderski

Ray Thompson

Peg Travis

Trustee Council Director
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AK Dept. Nat. Resources
Tesoro

Trustee Council Staff

Trustee Council Staff

AK Dept. Fish and Game

AK Dept. Fish and Game

AK Dept. of Law

U.S. Forest Service

Public

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened June 13 at 9:10 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken. With modifications, the meeting summary for the April 20-21, 1995 PAG meeting was approved.

Molly McCammon reviewed the June 1, 1995 Trustee Council meeting actions. Action items included Fleming spit, 8 small parcels meriting special attention for habitat protection, stream channel project at Port Dick, and Eyak habitat protection. She gave a status report on habitat protection efforts for 9 large parcels and 28 small parcels. Subsistence use, public access, and the need to take a broad view and clearly document agreements were issues raised by the PAG. A financial report (attachment #1) was distributed. A request for proposals will be issued next month to conduct an audit of Trustee Council spending. Molly reported that the administrative budget was being reduced by about \$1 million from last year (John French and Vern McCorkle will review the PAG portion). Telephone debit cards do not appear to be a feasible way to provide phone access for PAG members, and a reimbursement process is being examined. Several hundred people attended the Alaska Sea Life Center groundbreaking ceremonies in Seward. The next full Trustee Council meeting will be August 25 in Anchorage.

The information management program was discussed. McCammon said that making oil spill information more accessible was the goal--a key is synthesis and integration of information. Tasks underway include: improvement of the database of all EVOS projects; setting up a page on Internet's World Wide Web by the Oil Spill Public Information Center; an examination of Geographic Information Systems databases to be done at a July 13-14 workshop; a project to make summary data accessible and user friendly (e.g., point and click); and an annual workshop to report results and progress of restoration efforts. The process for peer review of reports, publishing articles based on EVOS research in scientific journals, and producing project reports on time was discussed. Stan Senner said it was important to get reports for use by Trustee agencies in management of injured resources as well as distribution of project results in scientific literature. Chris Beck said that public information was part of the long-term contribution of the restoration program

and that the PAG should examine information flow at three levels: academic/scientist, management agency, and public.

McCammon outlined the FY 96 Work Plan process and distributed draft Executive Director's recommendations (attachments #2 and #3). The budget target for FY 96 projects is approximately \$18 million. Kim Benton and Martha Vlasoff reported on their participation in the June work plan development session. Bob Loeffler explained the Executive Director's recommendations for the annual work plan (attachment #2).

Vlasoff reported on the Spirit Camp being held on Hinchinbrook Island this summer and invited PAG members to visit during the July 6-9 wrap-up session.

Public comment was accepted at 1:00 p.m. June 13. No testimony was presented.

Veronica Christman presented an overview of proposed archeological projects. Judy Bittner and Doug Reger provided information on the various projects and explained the site protection plan (attachment #4). Four types of efforts were presented: direct restoration of damaged sites, site stewardship and monitoring, repositories for artifacts, and training local people for site/artifact management. The focus is on public resources on public lands.

McCammon presented information about proposed subsistence projects. Joe Sullivan and Rita Miraglia were available to answer questions. There were 3 categories of projects: harbor seals, fish/shellfish, and community involvement. Jim King raised the question about whether restoration (meaning returning to pre-spill conditions) was a realistic goal. For example, harbor seals were declining before the spill, so when are they restored?

By unanimous consent, Martha Vlasoff and John French were elected to serve one year as co-vice chairs of the PAG.

Ernie Piper presented a report on residual oil and options for continued surveys and/or clean-up actions. 30-50 sites will be visited this summer to survey conditions. Oil under mussel beds seems long-lasting. High energy beaches appear to clean themselves. Since the spill in 1989, little has changed in the technology available to clean beaches. There is still residual oil on beaches around Chenega. Oil is left mostly in the high intertidal zone. At what point are there diminishing returns and more harm than good is being done? This raises questions of toxicity (technical/scientific issues) versus known presence of oil (public policy issues). Two key issues are: what level of residual oil is all right, and how much damage to one resource is allowable when restoring another. The role of the media and the need to provide accurate information to the public was discussed. McCammon stated that a workshop is proposed for this fall to discuss oiling issues and what should be done in the future.

Nancy Lethcoe said there was no clear understanding of the impact of the spill on tourism. Vlasoff stated that there was no priority set for preventing injury to or restoring human uses of resources (e.g., subsistence, tourism).

Bob Loeffler provided a recap of the work plan process. A public review draft of the Work Plan will be distributed June 27, with public comments due August 4. The PAG will make recommendations at the July 27-28 meeting. The Trustee Council will make decisions at their August 25 meeting.

Some of the perceptions and issues brought forth by PAG members during the meeting were:

- interest in the process by which research results and information are made available, a desire to make "gray literature" more accessible;

- concern over funding of "normal" agency work with EVOS money, agencies making funding allocations are often the same agencies that receive the funds;

- are principal investigators sharing their data and results from EVOS-funded projects; and

- one PAG member noted that subsistence use of resources was not a priority during the response phase of the clean-up, and still did not seem to be.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. on June 14, 1995.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon will provide meeting schedules to the PAG in advance.
2. Beck will chair an ad hoc group consisting of Vlasoff, Zerbetz, and Schwantes to prepare for the July PAG meeting draft PAG recommendations on information management and dissemination.
3. Dennerlein, Vlasoff, and Beck will participate in further planning for archeological efforts.

I. NEXT MEETINGS: July 27-28, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
September 19-20, 1995, Field Trip to
Valdez/Chenega.

J. ATTACHMENTS: (for those not present)

1. Financial Report as of April 30, 1995
2. Executive Director's Draft Recommendations: FY 96 Project Proposals
3. Summary Sheet of Executive Director's Recommendations
4. 1994 EVOS Report Spill Area Site and Collection Protection Plan

5. Training information for Systematic Development of
Informed Consent

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Meeting Summary

- A. GROUP: Ad Hoc Work Session, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)
- B. DATE/TIME: May 15, 1995
- C. LOCATION: Teleconference
- D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Rupert Andrews	Sport Hunting and Fishing
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Kim Benton	Forest Products
Pamela Brodie	Environmental
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Vern McCorkle, Chair	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED: N/A

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Bob Loeffler	Trustee Council Staff
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer Dept. of the Interior
Eric Myers	Trustee Council Director of Operations

G. SUMMARY:

The session began May 15 at 1:00 p.m. Molly McCammon explained that excluding habitat protection efforts, the Trustee Council has received 128 proposals for FY 1996 projects totalling nearly \$39 million. Once habitat protection commitments are taken care of, about \$18 million is available for projects and \$3.2 million for administrative support in FY 1996. This is compared to about \$25 million spent in FY 1995.

Bob Loeffler explained the project review process:

1. Scientific review by peer reviewers and the Chief Scientist--scientific merit, relation to other efforts.

2. Legal review by agency attorneys--legality under terms of the settlement.
3. Agency and trustee Council staff review--budget, consistency, relation to previous and continuing efforts, restoration issues.
4. Public review--broad perspective.

Continuing projects (from FY 1995) proposed for FY 1996 total about \$17 million. Some options are to re-prioritize projects, reduce costs, look hard at any new projects.

McCammon summarized the project clusters (see Handout #1), indicating new and continuing projects and possible duplications.

Jim Diehl asked if the past project results were available to use in determining future efforts. This information was presented at the Annual Workshop earlier in the year and is summarized in the "FY 1996 Invitation". Chris Beck suggested determining how much we have learned, what our restoration goals are, and then identifying how a project fits into this pattern--what projects offer the most public good and what time frame is needed to achieve solid results? Nancy Lethcoe said we should consider how the results of these projects are going to assist in future management decisions. Jim King questioned what projects were more normal agency management.

The session ended at 3:15 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. By the June 13-14 meeting, PAG members should review the project spreadsheet, read through the "Invitation to Submit Restoration Projects for Federal Fiscal 1996 and Draft Restoration Program: FY 96 and Beyond", and think about what criteria the PAG should use to evaluate projects and the work plan.
2. Loeffler will get the scientific and Trustee Council staff reviews of projects to the PAG around June 9.
3. Martha Vlasoff will participate in the work plan work session scheduled for June 6-8. McCammon will poll other PAG members to see if another wishes to participate. Kim Benton is available, if no one else is interested.
4. McCammon will add a briefing on information management to the next meeting agenda.

I. NEXT MEETING: N/A

J. HANDOUTS:

1. FY 1996 Project Proposals
2. Memorandum from Bob Loeffler re. teleconference agenda

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Meeting Summary

08.07.02

- A. GROUP:** Ad Hoc Work Session, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)
- B. DATE/TIME:** May 15, 1995
- C. LOCATION:** Teleconference
- D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
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Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Kim Benton	Forest Products
Pamela Brodie	Environmental
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Vern McCorkle, Chair	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Martha Vlasoff	Public-at-Large
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED: N/A

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
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Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer Dept. of the Interior
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I. NEXT MEETING: N/A

J. HANDOUTS:

1. FY 1996 Project Proposals
2. Memorandum from Bob Loeffler re. teleconference agenda

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Apr 20-21, 1995

Meeting Summary

- A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)
 B. DATE/TIME: April 20-21, 1995
 C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska
 D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

RECEIVED
 MAY 1995

Name

Chris Beck
 Kim Benton
 Pamela Brodie
 Dave Cobb
 Chip Dennerlein
 John French
 James King
 Vern McCorkle
 Brenda Schwantes
 Thea Thomas (4/20)
 Chuck Totemoff (4/20)
 Martha Vlasoff (4/21)
 Gordon Zerbetz
 Russ Redick (4/20 for Andrews)

Principal Interest

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
 TRUSTEE COUNCIL
 ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
 Public-at-Large
 Forest Products
 Environmental
 Local Government
 Conservation
 Science/Academic
 Public-at-Large
 Public-at-Large
 Subsistence
 Commercial Fishing
 Native Landowners
 Public-at-Large
 Public-at-Large
 Sport Hunting and Fishing

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

Name

Rupert Andrews
 Karl Becker
 Jim Diehl
 Nancy Lethcoe
 Georgianna Lincoln (ex officio)
 Alan Austerman (ex officio)

Principal Interest

Sport Hunting and Fishing
 Aquaculture
 Recreation Users
 Commercial Tourism
 Alaska State Senate
 Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Name

Pamela Bergmann (4/21 for Mutter)
 Jim Bodkin
 Dave Deans
 Dave Duffy
 Glenn Elison
 Dave Gibbons
 Veronica Christman
 Mark Kuwada
 Bob Loeffler
 Molly McCammon
 Peter McRoy
 Doug Mutter (4/20)

Organization

Designated Fed. Officer
 Dept. of Interior
 Nat. Biological Service
 Focus Company
 Univ. of Alaska Anchorage
 Fish and Wildlife Service
 U.S. Forest Service
 AK Dept. Nat. Resources
 AK Dept. Fish and Game
 AK Dept. Envir. Cons.
 Trustee Council Executive
 Director
 Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks
 Designated Fed. Officer
 Dept. of Interior

Eric Myers

Sandra Schubert

Stan Senner

Bob Spies

Joe Sullivan

Alex Swiderski

Art Weiner

Trustee Council Director
of Operations

Trustee Council Staff

Trustee Council Staff

Chief Scientist

AK Dept. Fish and Game

AK Dept. of Law

AK Dept. Nat. Resources

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened April 20 at 9:10 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken. With modifications, the meeting summary for the March 23-24, 1995 PAG meeting was approved.

Molly McCammon reviewed the March 31, 1995 Trustee Council meeting actions. The next Trustee Council meeting will probably be in late May in Cordova. She reviewed the 1995 Restoration Status Report. The current series of public meetings were summarized by McCammon, Eric Myers, and Bob Spies. Chip Dennerlein suggested that a "permanent mobile display" be developed for providing public information about the spill and restoration. McCammon said that Valdez is also interested in establishing a display. Chris Beck asked if an analysis of restoration funds spent by community was available (not at this time). Kim Benton suggested more villages in the Kodiak area be visited (this will be done). Gordon Zerbetz suggested that video clips of public meetings would be a good way to provide the PAG and others with a synopsis of what was going on.

McCorkle reported on the results of the ad hoc work group meeting, with recommended action for the "parking lot" issues identified at the last PAG meeting. Doug Mutter reviewed statements of the PAG's role and responsibilities from the Court Settlements, PAG Charter, and PAG Background and Guidelines (available in PAG Notebook Tabs IV and V). John French suggested that the PAG take a broader view of restoration and recommend positions on direction, policy, and research--identifying areas that require emphasis. Pam Brodie agreed, saying that the PAG is not equipped to deal with the details of many projects, but can address more global issues. Others voiced support of this concept. McCammon welcomed PAG involvement in policy and broad direction setting--within the context of the policies set forth in the Restoration Plan.

Dave Cobb distributed a report (Attachment #1) outlining an option for the PAG field trip this fall. Chuck Totemoff said the village of Chenega welcomed a visit by the PAG. One option is for the PAG to view part of the SERVS drill at Valdez in September. The purpose of the field trip will be to view some of the large and small habitat protection parcels, some of the research/monitoring projects are being conducted, and some of the oiled beaches. Dennerlein moved (second by Cobb) that the PAG request the staff to develop a cost-effective fall (around September 21, 1995) field trip to include a visit from Valdez to

Chenega by boat, viewing as many restoration activities as possible, and bring costs/options back to the PAG for a final decision. Passed unanimously.

A resolution was prepared by McCorkle regarding the use of proxies in PAG meetings. It was moved by Cobb (second by Totemoff) that PAG meetings shall be conducted by members voting in person, or in their absence by the member's duly appointed alternate. Passed unanimously.

Brodie suggested the PAG take a position on trustee agency land and resource management actions that may affect the restoration efforts within the spill area. She moved (second by Dennerlein) that the PAG recommends to the Trustee Council that they oppose oil/gas lease sale 149, to allow for the recovery of oil spill-affected resources. After much discussion the motion failed (see Attachment #2).

Stan Senner discussed the proposed specimen collection policy (Attachment #3). Dennerlein moved (second by Jim King) that the PAG gives general endorsement of the proposed collection policy, with the addition of an 8th question: asking for the full utilization of any specimens collected. Passed unanimously.

Bob Loeffler outlined the annual work plan process (Attachment #4). He asked the PAG to provide a broad perspective on the direction of the proposed plan and its projects. Two PAG members are asked to participate in preliminary staff development of the work plan. Ecosystem projects were outlined: Spies on general ecosystem projects, Peter McRoy on the Sound Ecosystem Assessment, Dave Duffy on seabird/forage fish, and Jim Bodkin on nearshore. The draft Work Plan for FY 1996 is to be completed in early June.

Beck discussed some thoughts (Attachment #5) on the directions for restoration the PAG should consider. The PAG discussed restoration approaches over the long-term and the value of projects for direct restoration and/or management decision-making.

An overview of small parcel habitat protection efforts was presented by Dave Gibbons, Mark Kuwada, Art Weiner, and Alex Swiderski. Benton asked about the landowner assistance program. Key issues include: access for recreation and subsistence, appraised values, local support for protection.

Public comment was accepted at 10:00 a.m. Friday. Testimony was heard from Dave Deans, of Focus Company, representing Ellamar Properties.

Cherri Womac presented information about the use of telephone debit cards for use in contacting constituents. She will check on legal and accounting issues.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. on April 21, 1995.

Eric Myers

Sandra Schubert

Stan Senner

Bob Spies

Joe Sullivan

Alex Swiderski

Art Weiner

Trustee Council Director
of Operations

Trustee Council Staff

Trustee Council Staff

Chief Scientist

AK Dept. Fish and Game

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April 17, 1995

Mr. Vern McCorkle
EVOS Public Advisory Group
Anchorage, Ak

Dear Vern:

Please find enclosed some of the information that the "Parking Lot" working group requested that I provide with regards to the 1995 PAG field trip and some suggestions for possible "ground rules" or "norms" that may be used in conjunction with a gatekeeper. The following information is provided for the PAG's consideration:

1. 1995 PAG Field trip to Valdez

Date: September 19-21, 1995

Activities: SeaRiver Maritime's (Exxon) annual oil spill training drill in Prince William Sound. PAG meeting with RCAC executive committee to discuss mutual interests. Boat trip to Tatitlek and Chenega Bay to view restoration projects and large/small parcel purchases.

Cost: Hotel accommodations at the Westmark Valdez would be a rate of \$89 per night. Stan Stephens-Charters would provide one of their boats (Nautilus) that would easily provide 20-25 people with overnight accommodations and food. I do not have a final price at this time. Mr. Stephen's has indicated that the price would be just enough to cover his expenses. Ketchum Air can provide two airplanes to meet our needs. Mr. Beck indicated that he felt that two hours flying time would provide the PAG with the air time needed to view the parcels. The price would be \$2,300 - \$2,500 and would provide room for up to seventeen people. I have talked to Mr. Bader of Alyeska and he has indicated that Alyeska feels that this is an excellent opportunity for the PAG to view a large scale oil spill response drill and to watch SERVS in action.

2. "Ground rules" or "Norms" for a gatekeeper.

The following "ground rules" are provided for consideration by the PAG to be used by our gatekeeper:

1. Stay focused, limit rambling
2. Start on time, end on time
3. Meet deadlines and goals
4. Clear accountability for off-line assignments
5. All materials ready at the start of a meeting
6. Limit outside interference
7. Public invited, comments at end of meeting after agenda completed
8. Consensus ("I can live with this and I will not sabotage this"). We will agree to

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon will provide public meeting schedules to the PAG in advance.
2. McCammon will follow-up on development of a spill/restoration public information display.
3. McCammon will prepare a report on the proposed fall PAG field trip.
4. McCammon will prepare information about the availability of subsistence easements as a tool for habitat protection.
5. Loeffler will distribute a request for comments and arrange a teleconference on the Work Plan and criteria for evaluating FY 1996 project proposals.
6. McCorkle and French will assist McCammon with preparation of the FY 1996 PAG budget.
7. Vote is pending on the position of Vice-Chairperson.
8. PAG members who wish a telephone debit card should contact Womac.
9. PAG members who wish to designate an alternate member should get the nominee's information packet to Womac at this time.

I. NEXT MEETINGS: June 13-14, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
July 27-28, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
September 19 (??), 1995, Field Trip to
Valdez/Chenega (??).

J. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter from Dave Cobb re. field trip and PAG norms
2. Vote record and information opposing lease sale 149
3. Proposed specimen collection policy
4. Proposed PAG Work Plan Review Schedule
5. Thoughts from Chris Beck on restoration directions
6. Financial Report as of March 31, 1995

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

RECEIVED

APR 14 1995

Sierra Club

Alaska Field Office

241 E. Fifth Avenue, Suite 205, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 276-4048 • FAX (907) 258-6807

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL

TRUSTEE COUNCIL



April 17, 1995

Dear Fellow Members of the EVOS Public Advisory Group,

I would like to suggest an additional item for us to add to the agenda to discuss at the upcoming meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG). I do not think that it will require a long period of time for discussion.

I would like the PAG to consider taking a stand opposing the U.S. Mineral Management Service's Oil Lease Sale 149. This is an off-shore oil lease sale for Lower Cook Inlet and Shelikof Strait, directly within the Oil Spill affected area. If this lease sale goes forward, it significantly increases the risk of another catastrophic oil spill within the area which has not yet recovered from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Although the Trustee Council has focused its attention almost entirely on how to spend the remaining funds from the \$900 million settlement, it has always had the ability and responsibility to help restore the Oil Spill injuries through management decisions over public resources -- something it can do at little or no cost.

The Mineral Management Service's deadline for public comments is Wednesday, April 19 -- the day before our meeting. However, I believe that MMS would accept comments from such a group as the PAG even if they are a day or two late.

I am attaching a fact sheet with some more information about this lease sale. I encourage you to check with members of your interest group, especially those who live in the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak Archipelago area about their views on Lease Sale 149. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pam Brodie

Pamela Brodie

EVOS PAG Environmental Representative

cc: Molly McCammon ✓
Doug Mutter

disagree.

9. Chairman is the tie-breaker if needed.

10. The use of proxies is not acceptable, alternates should be used.

The above listed "ground rules" are commonly used by many groups. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at (970) 835-4874.

Respectfully,



Dave Cobb

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

Public Advisory Group Voting Record

Date: 4-20-95

Motion by: Brodie

Second by: Dennerlein

Issue: PAG recommends to the Trustee Council
that they oppose lease sale 149
to allow for recovery of oil spill
affected resources.

Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Rupert Andrews				✓
Christopher Beck			✓	
Karl Becker				✓
Kimberly Benton		✓		
Pamela Brodie	✓			
Dave Cobb		✓		
Chip Dennerlein	✓			
James Diehl				✓
John French			✓	
James King			✓	
Nancy Lethcoe				✓
Vern C. McCorkle			✓	
Brenda Schwantes			✓	
Thea Thomas			✓	
Charles Totemoff		✓		
Martha Vlasoff				✓
Gordon Zerbetz		✓		

2 4 6

MMS Proposed Oil Lease Sale 149
Lower Cook Inlet & Shelikof Strait
-- some comments for the EVOS PAG --
from information provided by Trustees for Alaska & Greenpeace

Within or surrounding the Lease sale area are:

- Five national wildlife refuges -- Alaska Maritime, Kodiak, Becharof, Alaska Peninsula, Kenai;
- Four national parks -- Katmai, Lake Clark, Aniakchak, Kenai Fjords;
- The largest concentration of state-designated critical habitat areas;
- McNeil River State Wildlife Sanctuary, renowned as the greatest brown bear viewing area in the world;
- Kachemak Bay, recently designated as an International Shorebird Reserve;
- Shelikof Strait, designated critical habitat for the threatened Steller sea lion, whose numbers have declined about 70 percent since the mid-1970's, according to government agencies.

Many Native villages suffered during the Oil Spill from loss of their subsistence resources. These are threatened again by Lease Sale 149. The following have expressed strong opposition to the sale in resolutions to MMS: Chugachmiut Environmental Protection Consortium (representing the villages of Port Graham, Nanwalek [formerly English Bay], Chenega Bay and Tatitlek), Ninilchik Traditional Council, Dena'ina Traditional Council, Chickaloon Village).

Oil development threatens multi-million dollar commercial and sport fisheries and tourism, the economic bases for local communities. The area is of comparable value to Bristol Bay, where development is currently under a Congressional moratorium. If it is leased, local demand for a buy-back is likely to be high (more than four hundred people attended the public hearing in Homer to express unanimous opposition to the sale). United Fishermen of Alaska, representing 18,000 commercial fishermen, also opposes Lease Sale 149.

The oil industry has an unfortunate record of pollution on the Kenai Peninsula and in Cook Inlet:

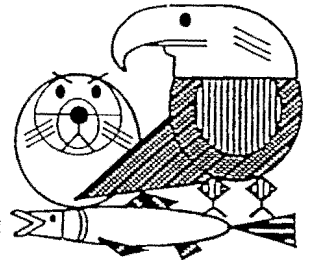
- Oil and gas companies operating 18 facilities in upper Cook Inlet have committed more than 4,000 violations of their Clean Water Act NPDES permits from 1987 to the present;
- Oil industry operations on the Kenai Peninsula caused the Kenai Peninsula Borough to have the highest levels of pollution of any local government in EPA's Region 10 (WA, ID, OR, AK), according to the Toxics Release Inventory;
- The oil industry has left a toxic legacy of more than 150 hazardous waste sites on the Kenai Peninsula, the greatest concentration of these is within the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge;
- The oil industry has resisted efforts to prevent pollution from oil spills through campaigns to preclude requirements of tug escorts in Cook Inlet.

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



MEMORANDUM

To: Public Advisory Group

From: Molly McCammon *MM*
Executive Director

Date: April 13, 1995

Subj: Proposed Collection of Bird Specimens for Project No. 95320Q

The Trustee Council's Chief Scientist, Dr. Robert Spies, has recommended proceeding with the collection of bird specimens proposed as part of the Avian Predation on Herring Spawn Project (95320Q, part of the SEA Program) by the principal investigator, Dr. Mary Anne Bishop, U.S. Forest Service. I concur with this recommendation. Per the Collections Review Policy discussed at the last Trustee Council meeting, I am notifying you of this recommendation, prior to giving final authorization for this proposed collection.

If you have questions or comments on this recommendation, please contact me by Wednesday, April 19.

enclosures: Dr. Spies' recommendation, 04/12/95
Dr. Bishop's request, 03/10/95

mm/raw

Trustee Agencies

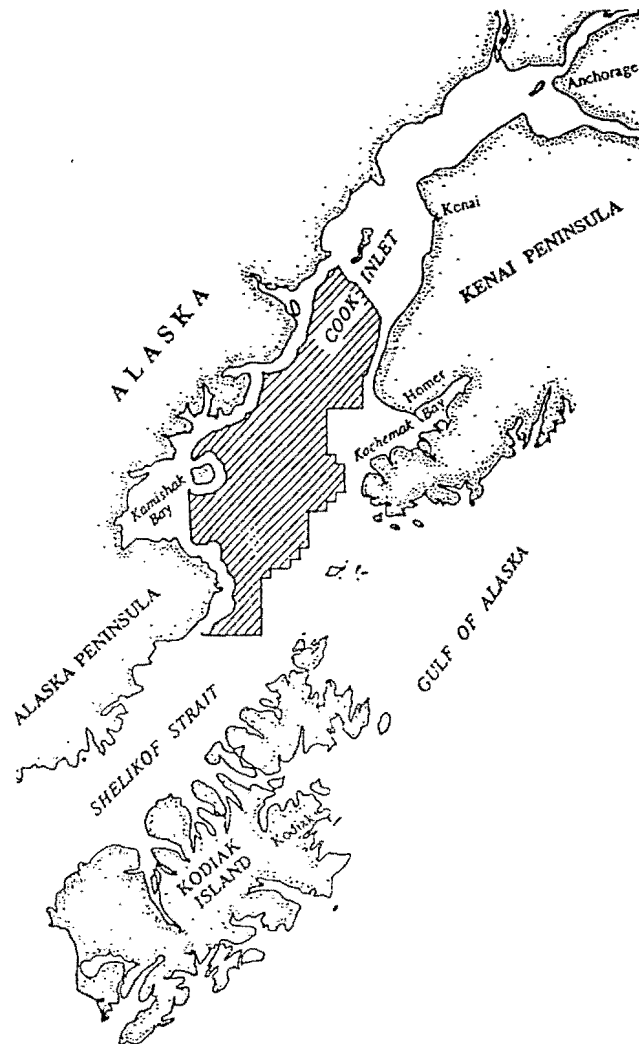
State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

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

Cook Inlet Planning Area Oil and Gas Lease Sale 149

Draft Environmental
Impact Statement

Volume I



The general health of all five species is probably good. Based on Bird Study No. 2 (Klosiewski and Laing 1994), there is evidence of population declines for Glaucous-winged Gulls, Mew Gulls, and scoter species between 1972-73 and 1989-91. There is, however, no indication that any of these populations are in distress, and recent boat surveys indicate that gulls are increasing in Prince William Sound since 1990. In addition, the Surf Scoter is a legally-taken game bird for which there is a daily bag limit of 15 a day. The 7,451 Surf Scoters estimated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in March 1994 is an increase of 1,530 from the same survey in 1993. Unlike the two gulls and the Surf Scoter, which are widely distributed, much of the world populations for Surfbirds and Black Turnstones may be found on Montague Island during spring migration. However, numbers of these shorebirds stopping on northern Montague Island in spring migration have shown no decreases on mostly *ad hoc* surveys during the years 1989-1994 (USFWS unpubl. data).

3. Is the proposed take likely to affect any population trends?

In a word, no. The numbers proposed to be collected are about 1/4 of 1% or less of the local seasonal population (PWS population in case of Surf Scoter). This level of collections, performed only in a single year, will have a negligible impact on the population trends of any of the five species.

4. Is the proposed method of take humane? Are there any effective, alternative means to obtain the data?

Bishop proposes to collect the birds by shotgun at close range. Death will be almost instantaneous.

There are various alternatives to sacrificing birds to obtain gut contents, but none of them are appropriate or adequate in this context. What is critical here is that the investigators intend to observe and record behavioral information on specific individuals and then collect those same individuals for diet analysis. Collection methods that rely on, for example, flushing a flock of birds into a net do not allow investigators to select individuals for collection. In addition, live trapping can be extremely difficult and time consuming, and cause more stress and possibly injury to more birds than quickly shooting a few individuals. Finally, in the case of the shorebirds, stomach pumping techniques are probably not satisfactory for getting large hard-shelled prey (e.g., *Mytilus* sp.) out of the gut, because the prey items are larger in diameter than the tube which is inserted into the gut (the items can be swallowed because of flexibility in the esophagus, but getting them back out is more difficult!). This could bias results toward soft prey and lead to an overestimate of the importance of herring eggs.

A P P L I E D
marine
S C I E N C E S

April 12, 1995

TO: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

FR: Robert Spies
Chief Scientist

RE: Proposed Collection of Bird Specimens for Project No. 95320Q,
Avian Predation on Herring Spawn

On March 10th Mary Anne Bishop, principal investigator on Project No. 95320Q, submitted a request and justification for the collection of a small sample of Glaucous-winged Gulls, Mew Gulls, Surfbirds, Black Turnstones, and Surf Scoters in Prince William Sound. A copy of Bishop's justification is attached. The purpose of the collections is to sample the diets of five key avian predators on herring spawn and estimate total eggs ingested (in metric tons) by birds in Prince William Sound. This information will be brought into models of herring embryo survival, thus enabling better estimates of herring spawn biomass and better management of PWS herring stocks for benefit of both the herring fisheries and the marine-related ecosystem. There is strong justification to proceed with the collection of bird specimens as proposed by Bishop, and my recommendation is that this request be approved. My analysis follows with reference to the draft policy on collections in your memorandum to the Trustee Council dated March 30, 1995.

1. How many individuals are proposed to be collected and the approximate times and locations? How do these numbers compare with the total population in the general collecting area?

All collections are planned in April and May on northern Montague Island. Here are the numbers of birds proposed to be collected, followed in parentheses by recent estimates of numbers of each species seen on northern Montague Island during the sampling period: 30 Glaucous-winged Gulls (45,000), 20 Mew Gulls (9,700), 20 Surfbirds (56,000), 20 Black Turnstones (25,000), and 20 Surf Scoters (7,451 in March 1994 in PWS). With the exception of the Surf Scoters, the estimated numbers of birds are for northern Montague Island only. Thus, actual population estimates for PWS and the adjacent north Gulf of Alaska coast would be higher, and substantially so for glaucous-winged and mew gulls.

2. What is the general health of the population? Is the population increasing, decreasing or holding steady in the proposed sampling area? Is reproduction and young survival normal?



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific Northwest
Research Station/
Alaska Region

Copper River Delta Institute
P.O. Box 1460
Cordova, AK 99574
(907) 424-7212
FAX (907) 424-7214

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Bob Spies, EVOS Chief Scientist
Applied Marine Sciences
2155 Las Positas, Suite S
Livermore, CA 94550

Date: 10 March 1995

Reply to: 4000

Dear Bob,

Greetings from sunny Cordova! I heard today through Jim Bodkin that there was a nearshore meeting this past Monday and Tuesday in Anchorage. While I am sorry I was not able to attend, I was pleased to hear that my proposed study on the importance of herring eggs for breeding and migrant birds was discussed on how it will fit into the nearshore investigations for FY96. I hope to discuss this project in more detail with you at your convenience.

The reason I am writing to you is to submit to you a justification for the proposed taking of birds at herring spawn areas this spring as part of 95320Q. I have written this justification based on the draft policy guidelines that were circulated in January. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

I have been in contact with Eric Myers on the proposed collections. I understand that the Trustee Council has not yet acted on the takings issue, but should be considering it (hopefully) by the end of this month. Given my timeline of collections beginning in mid-April, I wanted to submit this to you for your review and consideration.

Thanks again for your help Bob. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Mary Anne Bishop, Ph.D.
Research Wildlife Biologist

Enc.

cc: Eric Myers, EVOS



5. What will be lost if there is no take allowed?

Having quantitative data on actual consumption of eggs is essential to estimations of the level and impact of predation on herring spawn. Without these data, the investigators are left to make assumptions that might well be faulty. Bishop already has completed one season without collecting any specimens, and there would be almost no reason to undertake the 1995 work without the requested collections.

6. What can we realistically hope to learn that will justify this collection?

Herring are a keystone component of the PWS ecosystem, and their economic value is significant. The diet analysis and estimation of the impact of predation on herring spawn proposed by Bishop will provide essential information for modeling herring productivity and survival. This in turn will allow better management of PWS herring stocks for the benefit of the commercial fishery and the ecosystem. In the long run, the bird species that are being collected will benefit from these actions.

7. Have federal and/or state permits been secured? If not, why not?

Bishop has secured a federal collecting permit and has applied for a state permit. No difficulty is expected in securing the state permit.

In conclusion, I recommend approval of Bishop's request to collect bird specimens. In addition, I recommend that we stipulate that the carcasses be retained, frozen, and made available to the University of Alaska or management agencies for analysis of body composition. This is not a part of Project No. 95320Q, but we should encourage maximum use of any specimens collected.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

cc: Stan Senner
EVOS Science Coordinator

Dr. Mary Anne Bishop
U.S. Forest Service

- Project #95320Q will work in concert with Project #95166, Herring Natal Habitats. Sampling efforts and field logistics will be coordinated and subsequent data will be integrated into a model describing herring egg loss.
- Not only will this study gather valuable data on herring egg loss through predation but it will also document the importance of the spawn to resident and migratory birds in Prince William Sound.

Population Status of Species

- Glaucous-winged Gulls - The largest breeding colony of Glaucous-winged Gulls in the area is Egg Island with 20,000 breeding adults. The number of collected individuals equals 0.15 percent of the Egg Island population. The 1994 spring counts found an estimated 45,000 Glaucous-winged Gulls on Montague Island. The number of collected individuals equals 0.07 percent of this population.
- Mew Gulls - In 1994, an estimated 9,700 Mew Gulls were counted on Montague Island during spawn. The number of collected individuals equals 0.21 percent of the population.
- Surfbirds - In May 1992, an estimated 56,000 Surfbirds were counted on Montague Island. The number of collected individuals equals 0.04 percent of the estimated population.
- Black Turnstones - The same May 1992 count estimated 25,000 Black Turnstones on Montague Island. The number of collected individuals equals 0.08 percent of the population.
- Surf Scoters - In March 1994, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated 7,451 Surf Scoters in Prince William Sound (1,530 higher than 1993). The number of collected individuals equals 0.27 percent of this population. It is likely that the population size is greater in April and early May. In addition, Surf Scoters are a legally hunted species with liberal bag limits.
- The large population sizes of all 5 species and the small number of collected birds results in no significant impact on any population trends.

Alternative Methods

- Ignoring food habits and working under the assumption that herring spawn equals 100 percent of prey items selected was considered. However, in 1994, the gulls and shorebirds were observed consuming non-spawn prey items. For the scoters, no direct observations of prey selection are possible. Data from previous work in herring spawn areas shows all 5 species consuming non-spawn prey items.
- Non-lethal methods of collecting data on the food habits of seabirds usually depends on birds being present at nests. Stomach contents are obtained by forced regurgitation (stomach pump or emetic) or by collection of prey items brought to chicks. However, none of the birds present in the spawn areas are breeding before the roe hatches. Also, both methods of collecting stomach contents in this situation are biased. In the case of stomach pumping, smaller prey items are over represented.
- Live capture of free ranging birds in a rigorous environment is problematic at best. In 1994 we tried several capture methods including net gunning, mistnets, and pull nets. Both the

Justification of Collecting Activities Project #95320Q, Avian Predation on Herring Spawn

Prepared for : Chief Scientist,
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Prepared by: Copper River Delta Institute,
U.S. Forest Service

Summary and Conclusions

- As part of the Avian Predation on Herring Spawn Project (#95320Q) individuals from 5 avian species will be collected to obtain data on avian diet in herring spawn areas.
- The number of gulls, shorebirds, and scoters is small and will not impact the populations of these species.
- Non-lethal methods of obtaining data on avian diets in herring spawn areas have been attempted and were found to be ineffectual, impractical and time-consuming while yielding low quality data. Because of the free ranging nature of the species in question, their behaviors, and their habitat, no non-lethal alternatives are feasible.
- Without collecting birds, no accurate, quantified data on avian diet in herring spawn areas will be available. Without data on the amount of spawn present in the diet of the birds foraging in spawn areas, the impacts of avian predators on herring spawn in Prince William Sound cannot be assessed.

The Proposal

- Project #95320Q, Avian Predation on Herring Spawn, will assess the impact of avian predation on herring spawn in Prince William Sound.
- Boat and aerial surveys will document the size of the avian populations using herring spawn areas. Surveys and collections will occur from mid-April to mid-May (this is highly dependent upon spawn timing). These numbers, combined with behavioral observations, energetic models, and, most importantly, data on diet composition, will be used to estimate the amount of spawn removed by avian predators.
- To acquire data on the diet composition of avian predators using herring spawn areas we will collect 30 Glaucous-winged Gulls, 20 Mew Gulls, 20 Surfbirds, 20 Black Turnstones, and 20 Surf Scoters. In 1994, all 5 species are present in large numbers on the study area during spawn and were, to different degrees, found to be associated with concentrations of herring spawn. Birds will be collected while actively foraging within herring spawn areas. They will be taken with a shotgun firing large enough shot to ensure a clean, quick kill, but small enough to prevent unnecessarily damage to the specimens. The contents of their upper Gastro-intestinal tract will be collected and the carcass will be frozen for analysis of body composition.

PROPOSED PAG SCHEDULE

April 20-21 Meeting

- Confirm Mission/Schedule
- Review Restoration Program
- Review Ecosystem Projects

DRAFT

June 13-14

- Preliminary Review; Draft Work Plan Projects
- Review Fish & Marine Mammal Projects

July 27-28

- Final Review: Draft Work Plan/Restoration Program
- Review Subsistence, Archaeology, & Other Projects

DRAFT

Collecting Justification Project #95320Q

mistnets and the pull nets failed completely. Several factors contributed to the zero capture rate: large tidal range, high or steady winds, rocky environment, and flushing behavior of birds (out from instead of along the shore). The net gun was an effective capture method at high tide and given a sandy or mud substrate. We refrained from firing the net toward rocky areas for several reasons. The fast moving net could very easily drag birds, severely injuring them on barnacle encrusted rocks. Even in perfect conditions, the net gun can easily kill or permanently disable birds. Additionally, the rocks will damage the net and, more importantly, the metal bolts that carry the net as it is shot.

- Techniques for capturing free ranging seabirds are not selective. To obtain optimal data on food habits, an actively foraging bird is chosen and watched to record both its habitat and behavior before it is collected. This ensures that the bird has freshly consumed food in its stomach and provides highly relevant data on its environment. Typically, this cannot be done using current live capture methods for seabirds.
- Direct observations of prey item manipulation and intake were considered. Experience gained in 1994 during flock scan and focal animal observation rules out this alternative. Most prey items are far too small to observe and the data is biased toward large prey items. Often, prey intake occurs too fast for an observer to record. For the scoters, direct observation of prey selection is impossible.
- Regurgitant from Glaucous-winged Gulls was collected in 1994 by flushing flocks of gulls and then searching for any stomach contents they regurgitated before taking off. However, this method is haphazard and most likely does not accurately reflect the food habits of the birds. Also, the identity of the species may be suspect.

Permits

- Within Alaska, permits for collecting birds for research are required from both the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- The collecting permit applications for this project are pending.

Importance of Data

- Data on the proportion of herring spawn in the diet of avian predators is the keystone to the analysis of avian impact on herring spawn. The amount of spawn removed by these 5 major species can only be estimated using the proportion of spawn and other items in their diets as determined by collecting gastrointestinal contents.

June 1995

FY96 Work Plan Schedule

DRAFT

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
E.D. meets with RWF, Chief Scientist, and				
2 PAG members to develop Draft Work Plan				
12	13	14	15	16
	PAG meeting			
19	20	21 Draft Work Plan to printer	22	23
26	27 Draft Work Plan distributed	28	29	30

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May 1995

FY96 Work Plan Schedule

DRAFT

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Proposals Due	2	3	4	5
8 Proposals distributed for Restoration Work Force Scientific and Legal review	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
Chief Scientist, Coor-Peer Reviewers meet to				
develop Chief Scientist's Recommendation to E.D.				

August 1995

FY96 Work Plan Schedule

DRAFT

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

	1 Comments on Draft Work Plan due	2	3	4
7	8 Public Comments compiled, analyzed	9	10	11
			Executive Director, RWF & Chief Scientist meet to recommend Final Work Plan	
14	15	16 Trustee Packets mailed	17	18
21	22	23	24	25 Proposed TRUSTEE COUNCIL meeting on FY96 Work Plan & Beyond
28	29	30	31	
MILLER TIME				

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July 1995

FY96 Work Plan Schedule

DRAFT

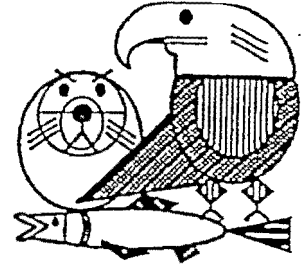
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31	PAG meeting			

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 "G" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustee Council

THROUGH: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

FROM: *Traci Cramer*
Traci Cramer
Administrative Officer

DATE: April 17, 1995

RE: Financial Report as of March 31, 1995

Attached is the Statement of Revenue, Disbursements and Fees, and accompanying notes for the *Exxon Valdez* Joint Trust Fund for the period ending March 31, 1995.

The following is a summary of the information incorporated in the notes and contained on the statement.

Joint Trust Fund Account Balance	\$109,518,545	
Less: Commitments (Note 5)	\$50,171,598	
Less: Restoration Reserve Balance	\$24,000,000	
Plus: Adjustments (Note 7)	<u>\$2,742,197</u>	
Uncommitted Fund Balance		\$38,089,144
Plus: Future Exxon Payments (Note 1)	\$490,000,000	
Less: Remaining Reimbursements (Note 3)	<u>\$26,300,000</u>	
Total Estimated Funds Available		\$501,789,144

If you have any questions regarding the information provided please give me a call at 586-7238.

attachments

cc: Restoration Work Force
Bob Baldauf



EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

A FEW THOUGHTS FOR GROUP REVIEW

Offered by Public-at-Large Member Chris Beck 4/20/95

STARTING ASSUMPTION

To the greatest extent possible within the law, the EVOS restoration process should broaden its efforts to achieve the following goals:

- a. Long term, sustainable ecosystem health
- b. Sustainable, beneficial human use of the spill area

One way to broaden the process - to maximize the legacy of settlement spending - is to *restructure* ongoing EVOS programs so they continue to meet established EVOS objectives (e.g., land acquisition, research on recovery of injured resources) and, at the same time, serve these broader goals.

The EVOS process has already shifted away from restoration in the strictest sense. Accepting that reality, let's be more explicit about our broader possible impacts.

POSSIBLE EXAMPLES

1. Select/structure research programs for greatest possible application in the following areas:
 - a. Application to public (and private) land management policy (*make it easier to understand the consequences of past and proposed management choices.*)
 - b. Application for concerned citizens and groups that watch over public/private land management decisions (*empower people to better participate in ongoing land management decision-making.*)
 - c. Application to general public knowledge of the spill area (foster greater emotional and intellectual attachment to the future environmental health of the spill area.

Overall goal: direct research to the broad goal of learning how to live in and use the spill area over the long haul without destroying it's beauty and ecological health.

2. Maximize Impacts (albeit often indirect) of EVOS programs on Cultural/Economic Health
 - a. Local Hire programs
 - b. More outreach from science programs to communities

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, DISBURSEMENT, AND FEES
 EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL JOINT TRUST I
 As of March 31, 1995

EES

DRAFT

	Federal Fiscal Years Ending September 30			To Date	Cumulative
	1992	1993	1994	1995	Total
REVENUE:					
Contributions: (Note 1)					
Contributions from Exxon Corporation	90,000,000	250,000,000	70,000,000		410,000,000
Less: Credit to Exxon Corporation for clean-up costs incurred		(39,913,688)			(39,913,688)
Total Contributions	90,000,000	210,086,312	70,000,000	0	370,086,312
Interest Income: (Note 2)					
Exxon Corporation escrow account	831,233				831,233
Joint Trust Fund Account	596,000	1,378,000	3,736,000	2,880,617	8,590,617
Total Interest	1,427,233	1,378,000	3,736,000	2,880,617	9,421,850
Total Revenue	91,427,233	211,464,312	73,736,000	2,880,617	379,508,160
DISBURSEMENTS:					
Reimbursement of Past Costs: (Note 3)					
State of Alaska	29,267,842	29,000,000	25,000,000		83,267,842
United States	24,726,280	36,117,165	6,271,600		67,115,045
Total Reimbursements	53,994,122	65,117,165	31,271,600	0	150,382,887
Disbursements from Joint Trust Account:					
State of Alaska	6,559,200	18,529,113	44,546,266	19,434,190	89,068,769
United States	6,320,500	9,105,881	6,008,387	8,252,361	29,687,129
Total Disbursements	12,879,700	27,634,994	50,554,653	27,686,551	118,755,897
FEES:					
U.S. Court Fees (Note 4)	23,000	154,000	364,000	309,833	850,833
Total Disbursements and Fees	66,896,822	92,906,159	82,190,253	27,996,384	269,989,618
Increase (decrease) in Joint Trust	24,530,411	118,558,153	(8,454,253)	(25,115,766)	109,518,545
Joint Trust Account Balance, beginning balance	0	24,530,411	143,088,564	134,634,311	
Joint Trust Account Balance, end of period	24,530,411	143,088,564	134,634,311	109,518,545	
Commitments: (Note 5)					(50,171,590)
Restoration Reserve: (Note 6)					24,000,000
Adjustments: (Note 7)					2,742,190
Uncommitted Fund Balance					38,089,140
Remaining Reimbursements: (Note 3)					(26,300,000)
Total Estimated Funds Available					501,789,140

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF REVENUE, DISBURSEMENTS AND FEES
FOR THE EXXON VALDEZ JOINT TRUST FUND
As of March 31, 1995

1. Contributions - Pursuant to the agreement Exxon is to pay a total of \$900,000,000.

Received to Date	\$410,000,000
Future Payments	\$490,000,000

2. Interest Income - In accordance with the MOA, the funds are deposited in the United States District Court, Court Registry Investment System (CRIS). All deposits with CRIS are maintained in United States government treasury securities with maturities of 100 days or less. Total earned since the last report is \$381,730.

3. Reimbursement of Past Costs - Under the terms of the agreement, the United States and the State are reimbursed for expenses associated with the spill.

Reimbursements to Date	\$150,382,887
Remaining Reimbursements	
United States	\$3,000,000
State of Alaska	\$23,300,000

4. Fees - CRIS charges a fee of 10% for cash management services. Total paid since the last report is \$42,414.

5. Commitments - Includes \$24,956,000 for the Trustee Council's contribution toward the Alaska Sealife Center in Seward, \$6,363,584 for the final two installments (plus interest) for the Seal Bay purchase, and \$18,852,014 for the two pending court requests. The contributions for the Alaska Sealife Center will be made in September 1995 and 1996, with the Seal Bay payments due in November 1995 and 1996.

There are two pending court requests. First, \$1,652,014 for the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator and Apex: Forage Fish/Seabird projects approved at the March 31, 1995 meeting. As of this date, the projects are under review by the Department of Justice and the required documentation has not been filed. Secondly, \$17,200,000 for land acquisitions for Orca Narrows, Akhiok-Kaguyak, and Old Harbor.

6. Restoration Reserve - The required documentation for establishment of the reserve has not been filed.

7. Adjustments - Under terms of the Agreement, both interest earned on previous disbursements and prior years unobligated funding or lapse are deducted from future court requests. Since the last court request \$104,570 in interest have been earned and \$2,637,624 have been reported as unobligated for the 1992 and 1993 Federal Fiscal Years.

	Interest	Lapse
United States	\$0	\$240,859
State of Alaska	\$104,570	\$2,396,765

Trustee Agencies

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

Mar 23-24, 1995

Meeting Summary

A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: March 23-24, 1995

C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Name

Chris Beck
Karl Becker
Kim Benton
Pamela Brodie
Dave Cobb
Chip Dennerlien
Jim Diehl
John French
James King
Vern McCorkle
Brenda Schwantes (3/23)
Thea Thomas
Chuck Totemoff
Martha Vlasoff (3/24)
Gordon Zerbetz

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JUN 07 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
Principal Interest
~~TRUSTEE COUNCIL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Public-at-Large
Aquaculture
Forest Products
Environmental
Local Government
Conservation
Recreation Users
Science/Academic
Public-at-Large
Public-at-Large
Subsistence
Commercial Fishing
Native Landowners
Public-at-Large
Public-at-Large

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

Name

Rupert Andrews
Nancy Lethcoe
Georgianna Lincoln (*ex officio*)
Alan Austerman (*ex officio*)

Principal Interest

Sport Hunting and Fishing
Commercial Tourism
Alaska State Senate
Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Name

Kenny Blatchford
Traci Cramer
Glenn Elison
Dave Gibbons
Veronica Gilbert
Robert Henrichs
Carrie Holba
Lora Johnson
Gary Kompkoff
Tom Livingston
Bob Loeffler
Molly McCammon
Doug Mutter

Organization

Qutekcak Native Tribe
EVOS Staff
Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service
AK Dept. Nat. Resources
Native Village of Eyak
Oil Spill Public Info. Center
Chugach Heritage Foundation
Tatitlek Native Village
Livingston & Sloan Architects
AK Dept. Envir. Conservation
EVOS Director of Operations
Designated Federal Officer
Dept. of the Interior
EVOS Staff
Valdez Native Tribe

Eric Myers
Helmer Olsen

Sandra Schubert
Leif Selkreg
Maureen Sims
Jim Sinnett
Theona Sodden
Bob Spies
Joe Sullivan
Kim Sundberg
Alex Swiderski
Ray Thompson
Craig Tillery
Bill Wood
Cherri Womac

EVOS Staff
Alaska SeaLife Center
Alaska SeaLife Center
Chugach Heritage Foundation
Port Graham
Chief Scientist
AK Dept. Fish and Game
AK Dept. Fish and Game
AK Dept. of Law
U.S. Forest Service
AK Dept. of Law
Wood & Associates
EVOS Staff

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened March 23 at 8:45 a.m. by Doug Mutter, the Designated Federal Officer. Roll call was taken and PAG member introductory statements were made.

Molly McCammon welcomed the new PAG members for 1995-1997. She provided an overview of the PAG and its role as an advisor to the Trustee Council. Other advice is provided to the Trustee Council from the Chief Scientist, EVOS and agency Staff, State and Federal Attorneys, and the general public. She introduced Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Restoration Office Staff.

Bill Wood facilitated the PAG in a 2 hour session on how to be an effective advisory group member (Attachment #4). Several issues were raised and set aside for later analysis (Attachment #2).

Vern McCorkle was selected to serve as temporary Chair until the election of officers on Friday.

Craig Tillery presented background information about the court settlement and funds received from Exxon.

Veronica Gilbert reviewed the Restoration Plan (see Tab VII in the PAG Notebook). Key sections for PAG members are: chapter 1, Introduction; page 6, Settlement Funds; page 32, Injured Resources and Services List; and chapter 5, Goals, Objectives Strategies. The Restoration Plan provides guidelines for development of Annual Work Plans.

Tillery discussed the Restoration Reserve, which was established at the strong recommendation of the PAG, as a method to address issues beyond 2001, when Exxon funding ceases. Two annual allocations of \$12 million have been set aside in the Court Registry, which manages the EVOS trust funds. The current target for the Restoration Reserve is \$108 million plus interest by 2001. The funds must be managed by the Trustee Council.

The Chief Scientist, Dr. Robert Spies, discussed the status of recovery of injured resources and services. He noted the types of projects underway and the scientific process used to evaluate proposals and projects.

Bob Loeffler outlined the annual work plan process. Efforts are now underway for fiscal year 1996, which will begin October 1, 1995. An invitation for proposals is available (Attachment #5). Proposals will be evaluated beginning in May. A draft Work Plan will be prepared for public review, followed by a Trustee Council decision in August. Multi-year funding of projects will be a consideration. Questions for PAG consideration after conducting an informed review of the Work Plan: Are the objectives worth the cost? What project are preferred? What activities are missing or are overly emphasized? What items should be added? The schedule is: May 1 proposals due, June 27 a draft Work Plan produced, August 1 public comments due, and late August a Trustee Council decision.

McCammon described the habitat protection process, reviewing the status of small parcel protection (Attachment #8)--21 parcels are under consideration. Large parcel status reports (Attachment #7) were provided by Glenn Elison, Dave Gibbons, and Alex Swiderski. There was discussion about the value and goal of protecting logged lands.

Traci Cramer reported on the financial status of the restoration funds (Attachment #10). An audit process is being set up.

Kim Sundberg reported on the progress of the Alaska SeaLife Center project in Seward. Tom Livingston, Leif Selkreg, and Maureen Sims presented detailed plans, financial information, and organizational concepts for the project. Sundberg addressed the issues raised previously by the PAG (Attachment #6). The PAG discussed the financial assumptions and safeguards of the project. The need to coordinate with similar activities of other agencies was noted.

Public comment was accepted at 10:00 a.m. Friday. Testimony was heard from the following in support of a project being developed by a consortium of local communities (after introductory comments by Martha Vlasoff): Jim Sinnett, Chugach Heritage Foundation; Helmer Olsen, Valdez Native Tribe; Robert Henrichs, Native Village of Eyak; Kenny Blatchford, Qutekcak Native Tribe; Gary Kompkoff, Tatitlek Native Village; Theona Sodden, Port Graham; and Lora Johnson, Chugach Heritage Foundation.

McCammon noted that the EVOS civil settlement deals with public natural resources and related services, but does not address human needs--she described this as a failure of State and Federal laws.

Mutter described the contents of the PAG Notebooks, noting the PAG operating procedures in Tab V. He stated that PAG members who have a personal stake in a particular project could discuss, debate, and provide information about the project, but should not vote on the project, because that is a conflict of interest. Cherri Womac provided information about travel and expenses for PAG members. She recommended PAG members save all receipts if they wish reimbursed.

Pam Brodie nominated (second by Jim King) Vern McCorkle for the position of Chairperson for the coming year. McCorkle was unanimously elected. Karl Becker nominated Martha Vlasoff (second by Chris Beck) for the position of Vice-Chair. Brodie nominated John French (second by Dave Cobb). The election for the position of Vice-Chair was tabled until the next meeting when both candidates are present or can be queried about their interest in the position.

A question about the need and process for designating alternates or giving proxies was raised. Chip Dennerlien moved (second by French) that each member forward nominations for their alternate to the Executive Director for compilation and consideration at the next PAG meeting--staff are to send to PAG members material on the process and alternate member information needs (Attachment #1). Motion passed unanimously.

An ad hoc Work Group of volunteers was established to address the issues listed in Follow-up #3, below. Members are: Vern McCorkle, John French, Dave Cobb, Thea Thomas, and Gordon Zerbetz.

Brodie moved (second by Thomas) to petition the Trustee Council for a grant program for PAG members who need assistance in communicating via telephone and telefax with members of the interest groups they represent and with EVOS staff. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 on March 24, 1995.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon will have summaries (when available) of Trustee Council meetings sent to the PAG for their information.
2. Mutter is to compile and send to PAG members copies of previous resolutions passed by the PAG (Attachment #3).
3. The ad hoc Work Group is to: consider time and location for a field trip meeting in the fall of 1995; alternatives for addressing the "Parking Lot" issues (Attachment #2); and recommend priorities for the PAG for FY 1995.

I. NEXT MEETING: April 20-21, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
 June 13-14, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
 July 27-28, 1995, Anchorage, AK.
 September ??, 1995, Field Trip in Spill Area.

J. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Packet for nomination of PAG member alternates
2. PAG Issues in the "Parking Lot"
3. Previous resolutions passed by the PAG

For those not in attendance:

4. How to be an Effective Advisory Group, By William Wood
5. Invitation to Submit Restoration Projects for Federal Fiscal Year 1996
6. Resolutions on the Alaska SeaLife Center
7. Habitat Protection Process Large Parcel Status Summary
8. Habitat Protection Process Small Parcel Status Summary
9. Restoration Update newsletter
10. Memorandum: Financial Report as of February 28, 1995

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date