

8.7.3

Summary of Public Advisory Group Briefing  
December 3, 1996

PAG Members Attending

Vern McCorkle, Chairman  
Chris Beck  
Kim Benton  
Pam Brodie  
Dave Cobb  
Chip Dennerlein  
Jim Diehl  
John French  
Jim King  
Mary McBurney  
Gordon Zerbetz

- 11:05 am     Call to Order  
Because this was not a formal meeting, no formal action could be taken.  
The following is a summary of the general thinking of those PAG  
members present.
- 11:10 am     Discussion of Deferred Projects  
The PAG expressed general support for the Executive Director's  
recommendation. A number of PAG members support video production  
(a variation of Project 97301) as an important tool for informing the public  
of the progress of restoration. Several PAG members urged  
reconsideration of Project 97275 (Applied Field-Based Research  
Program) in FY 98 if commitments are obtained from EVOS researchers.
- 11:40 am     Discussion of NRDA Project Reports  
The PAG agreed that the NRDA reports should be finalized, and that a  
case-by-case decision as to what form finalization takes (Option #4) is a  
good approach.
- 11:55 am     Discussion of TEK Protocols  
The PAG expressed general support for adoption of the TEK protocols,  
but acknowledged that some small revisions may be found to be  
necessary once implementation of the protocols begins.
- 12:05 pm     Discussion of Data Ownership and Archiving Policy  
The PAG supports adoption of the policy, but urged that the archiving  
component continue to be discussed and possibly revised in the future. In  
particular, several PAG members suggested more specificity as to what  
data must be archived (e.g., electronic data, sediment samples) and for  
how long.

- 12:20 pm      Discussion of Archaeological Repository Invitation  
The PAG discussed this topic at length, and urged that the archaeology invitation be delayed beyond February 15, 1997 (the projected release date for the FY 98 work plan invitation) if necessary to ensure ample time for discussion and deliberation. The PAG will meet (by teleconference) in late December/early January to review the eight options in the repository report, and will hold a joint meeting with the Community Facilitators on January 22 to further discuss this issue. Various members of the PAG expressed interest in a "hub" or "hub and spokes" facility.
- 1:10 pm      Discussion of Restoration Reserve Planning  
The PAG generally supports the time line proposed by the Executive Director for planning the use of the Restoration Reserve.
- 1:15 pm      Report on Habitat Protection  
The Executive Director reported on the status of the small parcel and large parcel habitat acquisition programs.
- 1:35 pm      Report on Spruce Bark Beetles  
The Executive Director reported on her presentation to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee on the spruce bark beetle.
- 1:40 pm      Discussion of Gull Collection  
The PAG generally concurred with the Chief Scientist's recommendation that the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator project (97025) be allowed to collect 60 glaucous-winged gulls. The Trustee Council will be receiving a separate memo on this in the near future.
- 1:45 pm      Adjourn

Sept 18-19, 1996  
Lower Cook Inlet

Following the public meeting, the group visited the Pratt Museum and viewed the Darkened Waters exhibit.

The return leg of the trip was an overflight of the Port Graham and Nanwalek lands, Kenai Fjords National Park and Preserve, and Lowell Point.

**Port Graham Open House  
September 18, 1996, 11:00 a.m.**

**Community Members**

Melvin Malchoff, Port Graham Village Council  
Shawna Larson, Port Graham Corporation  
Patricia M. Brauer  
Steve A. Anahonak  
Thomas A. Yeaton, Sr.  
Lydia L. Robert, Dance Director, Port Graham Elementary/High School  
Violet Yeaton, AMCC Community Outreach Coordinator  
Jerry Robert, Port Graham Hatchery  
Agnes I. Miller  
Walter Meganack, Jr.  
Ephrim Anahonak, Jr.

**Public Advisory Group and EVOS staff**

Chris Beck, PAG  
Pam Brodie, PAG  
Jim King, PAG  
Eleanor Huffines, PAG  
Martha Vlasoff, Community Involvement Coordinator  
Molly McCammon, Executive Director, EVOS Trustee Council  
Bruce Wright, NOAA  
Bill Hauser, ADFG

Nanwalek residents had been planning to attend the open house in Port Graham, but due to weather were unable to attend. Molly and agency representatives described the FY97 work plan and listened to the residents' concerns. The Port Graham residents expressed a need for funds to build a skiff dock. They are also concerned that the Trustee Council and other agencies are pushing habitat acquisition. Molly assured them the land would only be acquired from willing sellers and the EVOS process does not contain any condemnation clauses.

**Seldovia Open House**  
**September 18, 1996, 7:00 p.m.**

**Community Members**

Larry & Cheryl Reynolds, Seldovia Native Clinic  
Walter McInnes, Seldovia Historical Society  
Sera Baxter, McDonald Spit  
Fred H. Elvsaas, Seldovia Native Assn & Seldovia Village Tribe  
Herman & Karen Moonin, Jr.  
Alix Chartier  
Henry Kroll, Seldovia Historical Society

**Public Advisory Group and EVOS staff**

Chris Beck, PAG  
Kim Benton, PAG  
Pam Brodie, PAG  
John French, PAG  
Jim King, PAG  
Eleanor Huffines, PAG  
Charles Totemoff, PAG  
Martha Vlasoff, Community Involvement Coordinator  
Leann Ferry, Regional Citizens Advisory Council  
Molly McCammon, Executive Director, EVOS Trustee Council  
Stan Senner, EVOS staff  
Sandra Schubert, EVOS staff  
Joe Hunt, EVOS staff  
Doug Mutter, DOI  
Alex Swiderski, ADOL  
Bruce Wright, NOAA  
Bill Hauser, ADFG  
Bud Rice, NPS  
Jim Bodkin, NBS  
Ernie Piper, ADEC  
Cherri Womac, EVOS staff

At the Seldovia open house Molly briefly described the criminal and civil settlements. The agency representatives gave short summaries regarding projects that are being done in the Homer, Seldovia, Port Graham, and Nanwalek areas, as well as, brief descriptions of APEX, NVP, SEA and other research.

Some of the concerns expressed by the residents are:

There is still a need for spill response preparedness. The communities still need equipment and supplies. The residents lack training to adequately man the barge located in the Seldovia harbor.

There was no baseline data available prior to the spill and it is still lacking for many area now. A greater emphasis should be placed on educating village residents and others to continue the studies and monitor the ecosystems beyond the need for harvesting for food.

Fishermen have a knowledge of the area that has not been utilized. The salmon are smaller, herring have almost vanished, and the Chisik Island kittiwake colony is not growing.

The community residents in general approve of in-situ burning, because keeping oil off the beaches is a priority.



**Homer Open House**  
**September 19, 1996, 11:00 a.m.**

**Community Members**

Richard David, City of Homer Harbor Master  
Spencer Wood, USCG  
Geoff Coble, Coble Geophysical  
Nick Dudiak, ADFG  
Mark Dickson, ADFG  
Bob Shavelson, Cook Inlet Keeper  
Jack Cushing, Homer City Council

**Public Advisory Group and EVOS staff**

Leann Ferry, Regional Citizens Advisory Council  
Martha Vlasoff, Community Involvement Coordinator  
Chris Beck, PAG  
Kim Benton, PAG  
Pam Brodie, PAG  
Jim King, PAG  
Eleanor Huffines, PAG  
Charles Totemoff, PAG  
Molly McCammon, Executive Director, EVOS Trustee council  
Stan Senner, EVOS staff  
Sandra Schubert, EVOS staff  
Joe Hunt, EVOS staff  
Doug Mutter, DOI  
Alex Swiderski, ADOL  
Bruce Wright, NOAA  
Bud Rice, NPS  
Jim Bodkin, NBS  
Ernie Piper, ADEC  
Bill Hauser, ADFG  
Cherri Womac, EVOS staff

On the boat trip returning from Seldovia to Homer the group was able to view the Overlook Parcel from the water. In Homer the group boarded a bus to tour the spit, view Mud Bay and Mariners Park, and travel out to Overlook Park and the Tulin parcel. Jack Cushing, Homer City Council, briefly described the parcels and answered questions. Roger McCampbell, Alaska State Park Ranger, described the Tulin and Overlook Park parcels.

At the Homer open house, Molly introduced staff and agency representatives and briefly described the FY97 work plan. After brief project presentations by staff and agency representatives Molly and staff answered questions regarding rehabilitation of Mud Bay and Mariners Park and submittal of small parcels for consideration by the Council.

Aug 7, 1996

## Meeting Summary

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

B. DATE/TIME: August 7, 1996

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
Pam Brodie	Environmental
Sheri Buretta	Public-at-Large
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Jim-Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

RECEIVED  
AUG 19 1996

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

### E. NOT REPRESENTED:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Mary McBurney	Aquaculture
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>
Ann Brunner	Public
Veronica Christman	Trustee Council Staff
Hank Eaton	Kodiak Community Involvement Facilitator
Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service
Bill Hauser	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Rita Miraglia	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer, Dept. of Interior

Eric Myers	Trustee Council Staff
Ernie Piper	AK Dept. of Envir. Conservation
Bud Rice	National Park Service
Patty Brown-Schwalenberg	Chugach Natives
Sandra Schubert	Trustee Council Staff
Stan Senner	Trustee Council Staff
Bob Spies	Chief Scientist
Joe Sullivan	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Ray Thompson	U.S. Forest Service
Martha Vlasoff	EVOS Community Coordinator
Cherri Womac	Trustee Council Staff

## G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened August 7 at 8:15 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was not present until later in the morning. The summary of the March 13, 1996, meeting was modified and accepted. The summary of the June 5, 1996, meeting was accepted.

Molly McCammon provided the Executive Director's report. The Trustee Council met in Kodiak on June 15 (attachment #1) and participated in the Near Island Research Facility groundbreaking and toured the Alutiiq Archaeological Repository. Molly reviewed the status of habitat protection actions, including the small parcel project and the large parcel effort. The Chenega Board of Directors has approved the proposed Chenega habitat protection project, which must now be voted on by the shareholders. Dave Cobb asked about the status of the Hayward parcel near Valdez--it is progressing, although taking longer than expected. Pam Brodie asked why the State withdrew its support for the Perl Island acquisition--it is not a priority area for future State management. Brodie asked if the Termination Point parcel will become part of the State Park System--yes.

McCammon reported that the Trustee Council asked State and Federal attorneys to request a refund of past fees and a waiver of future fees charged by the Court Registry Investment System for managing EVOS funds. Molly asked the PAG to continue to support this elimination of excess fee charges. Brodie moved (second by Cobb) and it was passed unanimously, that the **Trustee Council strive to eliminate court fees for management of EVOS funds** (see attachment #3).

McCammon noted that the PAG membership is due up in February 1997, but, if agreeable with the PAG, the membership term would be altered to coincide with the PAG charter renewal in October (attachment #2). There were no objections. The PAG discussed options for changing the group size and composition (e.g., adding a seat for rural communities), but no recommendation was made other than to increase outreach efforts with smaller communities in the spill area to get more participation on the PAG. John French moved (second by Gordon Zerbetz), and it was passed unanimously, to **recommend to the Trustee Council that the PAG quorum be changed from 12 to 10 voting members** (ref. page 7, *EVOS PAG Background and Guidelines*, March 1995).

Martha Vlasoff reviewed activities related to community involvement (attachment #4). It is proposed that Seldovia have a community involvement facilitator. She also discussed the Traditional Ecological Knowledge project.

Chuck Totemoff thanked the EVOS staff for efforts on the Chenega beach cleanup project. Jim King praised the addition of news clippings in the PAG mailout.

McCammon introduced LJ Evans' replacement, Joe Hunt. Joe reviewed the draft Media Plan (attachment #5). He will focus on the public audience. He noted the need to stabilize the newsletter and the success of the radio spots.

Eric Myers discussed food policy issues. The PAG supported providing food for efficient running of meetings, but stated that prudence and common sense should apply. French suggested that for larger meetings (e.g., the symposium) meal tickets could be sold to cover food costs.

McCammon reported that a revision of the Trustee Council Operating Procedures has been given initial review by agencies. The PAG felt that public involvement and notices have been adequate. It was suggested by McCorkle that the Community Involvement Facilitators be invited to occasionally attend PAG meetings.

Stan Senner outlined the status of plans for the 10th anniversary of EVOS in March 1999. A Steering Committee is coordinating planning (French and Jim King are PAG representatives). Organized field trips are a question--local charter companies may be given the opportunity to carry these out. The PAG suggested that tour operators be given guidance in what to see and do on an oil spill tour. They also suggested considering the whole year as an anniversary, thus promoting summer tours of the EVOS area. Cobb suggested the Community College at Valdez as a possible tour organizer. Cobb, McCorkle, and Zerbetz volunteered to assist with 10th anniversary planning.

Senner and Bob Spies discussed the updated list of injured resources and services. This will go to the Trustee Council for consideration at their next meeting. French asked why intertidal organisms were clumped as an ecosystem rather than listed singly. Brodie asked if crab were injured--no linkage to the spill was provable. King said it was his impression that Kenai sockeye were recovered--they will be closed out as a project.

Senner discussed a request for the collection of Barrow Goldeneye ducks in support of studies for the APEX project. About 50 birds from Prince William Sound would be collected, with negligible impact to the population. After discussion, the PAG generally supported the study.

King moved (second by Rupert Andrews) that the PAG recommend the EVOS Trustee Council invite/request the President of the University of Alaska, in cooperation with the Restoration Office, to prepare a study on the benefits and feasibility of the use of the restoration reserve to continue restoration/enhancement of injured resources and services in perpetuity through endowed programs at the University of Alaska. King said the University would not approach the Trustees with a proposal unless requested to do so. McCammon recommended against preceding with a project to look at reserve funds until the

Trustee Council was ready to take up the issue and thoroughly examine all the alternatives in a comprehensive fashion. After discussion, the motion was defeated (4 in favor, 7 opposed, 1 abstain).

At 11:50 public comment was taken. Theresa Obermeyer commented and distributed a handout.

McCammon highlighted public comments from the public meeting held August 6 (attachment #6) and those received in writing (attachment #7). She then introduced the Executive Director's preliminary recommendations for restoration projects in FY 1997 (attachment #8).

Spies outlined the pink salmon, herring, SEA and related projects, sockeye salmon, cutthroat trout and dolly varden, marine mammals, and nearshore ecosystem project clusters. Discussion ensued about the utility of management tools developed with EVOS funds if they were not to be used by resource agencies. Andrews noted that harbor seals were healthy in Southeast and could be used for comparisons. French questioned the timeline for intertidal studies.

Senner reviewed the seabird/forage fish project cluster.

Veronica Christman outlined the archaeological project cluster. The Chenega artifact repository is on hold pending an area-wide review of needs.

Sandra Schubert reviewed the subsistence cluster. Dave Gibbons said that project #97222 was feasible if the road by the dump was relocated. Benton asked about interest in the project #97281 workshops, noting that not all landowners want to sell lands, other habitat protection options should be examined.

Christman outlined the marine pollution cluster. Project #97115 is recommended by the Executive Director for funding outside the work plan. Cobb supports project #97229.

Senner presented the habitat improvement cluster. Brodie questioned the success of boardwalks for control of riverbank fishing on the Kenai.

Senner discussed the ecosystem synthesis, public education and information, and research facilities clusters. French raised a question about funding for add-ons at the SeaLife Center (projects #97197 and #97252) since so much money was going there already, Cobb concurred. McCammon said that interest earned on the monies already going to the SeaLife Center was about \$1.5 million and might provide possible funding for added work. Brodie stated that she hoped those funds went to high priority projects, not just the SeaLife Center.

McCammon discussed the project management element. This replaces agency management costs in individual projects; it was decided to separate this administration/management from each project and lump it here. This action was recommended by the audit.

McCammon reviewed the administrative budget element. This will total about \$3.0 million in FY 97. The Trustee Council decided to go to ½ time liaisons and the Restoration Office staff

has been reduced by 2. OSPIC is still included, but is expected to be merged with the Anchorage natural resources libraries consortium next spring, which will reduce funding needs. She noted that the Juneau office has moved to less expensive space in the federal building. She also said the lower floor conference room would be given up in January 1997 to save space costs.

Cobb moved (second by Andrews), and it was passed unanimously, that **the PAG approve the workplan, in concept, as recommended by the Executive Director.** PAG members will provide individual comments on the work plan as well.

Schwantes moved (second by Cobb) that the **PAG recommend the Trustee Council restructure the PAG to include two village representatives.** After discussion, the motion was tabled (motion to table by Zerbetz). The general feeling of the PAG was that village representatives should participate and could participate in the PAG, as currently structured, and through other avenues (e.g., community involvement project, public meetings). Schwantes said there is something to be said for having a title and being able to vote.

King moved (second by Brodie), and passed unanimously, that **the PAG praise the staff for their good work.**

French suggested the endowment idea be brought back up when the Trustee Council was ready to discuss long-term efforts. Jim Diehl likes having several subsistence projects in the work plan. Sheri Buretta likes the community involvement effort.

Brodie moved (second by Benton) that the **PAG encourage the Trustee Council to consider restructuring the PAG for increased effectiveness.** After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Benton thanked all for the opportunity to participate over the last 4 years, she will not reapply for a seat.

McCammon stated that the PAG is a useful tool if it is given good, concise information. She appreciates the spectrum of views.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

#### **H. FOLLOW-UP:**

1. McCammon and Mutter will initiate PAG Charter renewal and the nomination process for the next two-year PAG membership.

#### **I. NEXT MEETINGS:**

--PAG field trip to Homer, Port Graham, Seldovia, overflight of Port Dick: September 18-19, 1996

**J. ATTACHMENTS:**

1. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council Public Hearing in Kodiak - June 15, 1996
2. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Public Advisory Group Procedure for Member Nomination and Appointment

(for those not present):

3. Resolution to Eliminate Court Fees
4. Community Involvement Report, July 30, 1996
5. Draft Media Plan Projects and Priorities
6. Public Comments from the 8/6/96 Public Hearing
7. Public Comment Received FY 97 Work Plan
8. Executive Director's Preliminary FY 97 Recommendation (8/6/96)
9. Memo from Chris Beck and Mary McBurney on the Admin Budget

**K. CERTIFICATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PAG Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



## **J. ATTACHMENTS:**

1. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council Public Hearing in Kodiak - June 15, 1996
2. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Public Advisory Group, Procedure for Member Nomination and Appointment

(for those not present):

3. Resolution to Eliminate Court Fees
4. Community Involvement Report, July 30, 1996
5. Draft Media Plan Projects and Priorities
6. Public Comments from the 8/6/96 Public Hearing
7. Public Comment Received FY 97 Work Plan
8. Executive Director's Preliminary FY 97 Recommendation (8/6/96)
9. Memo from Chris Beck and Mary McBurney on the Admin Budget

## **K. CERTIFICATION:**

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**PAG Chairperson**

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**Date**

June 5, 1996

## Meeting Summary

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

**B. DATE/TIME:** June 5, 1996

**C. LOCATION:** Anchorage, Alaska

**D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>	EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
Rupert Andrews	Sport Hunting and Fishing	
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large	
Kim Benton	Forest Products	
Pam Brodie	Environmental	
Sheri Burretta	Public-at-Large	
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation	
James King	Public-at-Large	
Eleanor Huffines (for Lethcoe)	Commercial Tourism	
Mary McBurney	Aquaculture	
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large	
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence	

**E. NOT REPRESENTED:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
Dave Cobb	Local Government
John French	Science/Academic
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large
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
Ann Brunner	Observer
Veronica Christman	Trustee Council Staff
Traci Cramer (telecon)	Trustee Council Staff
Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service

Ken Holbrook  
Molly McCammon  
Max Mertz (telecon)  
Doug Mutter  
Eric Myers  
Allison Nieholm  
Ernie Piper  
Bud Rice  
Monica Riedel (telecon)  
Sandra Schubert  
Stan Senner  
Bob Spies  
Joe Sullivan  
Ray Thompson  
Martha Vlasoff  
Cherri Womac

U.S. Forest Service  
Trustee Council Executive Director  
Elgee, Rehfield & Funk  
Designated Federal Officer, Dept. of Interior  
Trustee Council Staff  
Chugachmiut  
AK Dept. of Envir. Conservation  
National Park Service  
AK Native Harbor Seal Commission  
Trustee Council Staff  
Trustee Council Staff  
Chief Scientist  
AK Dept. Fish and Game  
U.S. Forest Service  
EVOS Community Coordinator  
Trustee Council Staff

#### **G. SUMMARY:**

The meeting was opened June 5 at 9:15 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was not present. Adoption of the minutes of the March 13, 1996, meeting was postponed due to lack of a quorum.

Molly McCammon provided the Executive Director's report. She reviewed the status of habitat protection actions, including the small parcel project (attachment #1), and the large parcel effort (attachment #2). The Trustee Council hopes to conclude the major land protection agreements under the large parcel protection program this fall/winter. How long the small parcel program will continue is under active consideration. Sheri Burretta read a letter from Chugachmiut (attachment #3) supporting the Chenega Bay IRA Council's opposition to purchase of Native lands.

McCammon reported that a revision of the Trustee Council Financial Procedures is being reviewed by agencies. Village meetings were held on Kodiak Island in March 1996. The Trustee Council will hold a public meeting in Kodiak on June 15. The PAG field trip is planned for a tour of the southern Kenai Peninsula in September—a decision is yet to be made on flying straight back from Homer or touring habitat of interest in the Kenai Fjords National Park on the way to Anchorage.

Martha Vlasoff is preparing draft Traditional Ecological Knowledge protocols for possible adoption by the Trustee Council and spill area communities. She discussed current community involvement efforts (attachment #4).

Chip Dennerlein asked if there was any link to lifting the oil export ban and providing people with information and equipment for response to future spills. McCammon said other funds would be used for response equipment, but that EVOS-generated information may be relevant to spill response planning. Dennerlein also asked about PSP in shellfish, injury to crab populations at Kodiak, and management of sea otters as mitigation. Bob Spies said that PSP

was not related to the spill and that the APEX project was examining potential factors affecting crabs and shrimp as well as predation by sea otters.

Stan Senner discussed a request (copy mailed to PAG in the pre-meeting packet) for the collection of seabird chicks in support of studies for the APEX project. About 20 Tufted Puffins and 20 Blacklegged Kittiwakes from the Barren Islands would be collected, with negligible impact to the population. PAG members spoke in support of the study.

McCammon outlined plans for the 10th anniversary of EVOS in March 1999. A book will be published and a symposium held in Anchorage with a 1-day general overview and 3-4 days of technical presentations. This will be a project in the 1998 and 1999 work plans. The focus will be on: 1) what happened regarding injury and recovery over 10 years; 2) what we have learned about the ecosystem; and 3) the benefit of the restoration efforts. PAG members are welcome to participate on the planning committee. Pam Brodie encouraged John French and Jim King to participate in the scientific effort. Martha Vlasoff encouraged Brenda Schwantes, Sheri Burretta, and Chuck Totemoff to participate in the social impacts portion. This is also an opportunity for public education, and McCammon suggested a small PAG subgroup may want to examine this.

Traci Cramer and Max Mertz reported (via teleconference) on the results of the audit. The reports were previously mailed to PAG members. The audit covered use and management of the trust funds from the start of the civil settlement, financial procedures and expenditures for restoration projects in FY 1995. One key recommendation being followed up on is the reduction of fees the federal court charges for managing EVOS accounts.

McCammon introduced the preliminary draft of the Executive Director's recommendations for restoration projects in FY 1997. Continuing project requests total about \$17 million, which is more than the total desired, including new projects. McCammon indicated the need to take a hard look at budgets across the board. Spies discussed the 4-day project planning workshop held this spring. He said they took a hard look at what was normal agency management, even when dealing with injured resources. McCorkle and French participated for the PAG. Dennerlein suggested looking at more ways to partnership and share costs with other organizations.

McCammon asked the PAG for a general sense of whether the work plan and projects are on track. The schedule is: June 17 draft out for public review; August 6 a public comment meeting will be held; August 7 PAG meets to take action on work plan; August 9 public comments due; and August 29 the Trustee Council will take action.

At 1:00 public comment was taken. Allison Nieholm commented in support of the Youth Area Watch project and its expansion to include other communities. Two comments were submitted via teleconference. Monica Riedel (attachment #7), stated that Native organizations should provide oversight of traditional ecological knowledge data. Bob Hendrichs (attachments #8 and #9) felt the Department of the Interior has a conflict of interest in serving Native needs through the Bureau of Indian Affairs versus habitat acquisition via EVOS (to which he objected).

Spies and Senner outlined the pink salmon project cluster, particularly identifying proposed approved projects. Eleanor Huffines stated there was controversy over the location of remote salmon release sites in PWS.

Sandra Schubert and Veronica Christman reviewed the subsistence cluster.

Burretta stated that rural communities were at a disadvantage for submitting technical proposals and competing with other agencies and institutions. McCammon said that even ideas in paragraph form were considered, with Trustee Council staff assistance available to assist in refining into a project proposal and that there was plenty of opportunity for public review and input. Schwantes supported community-oriented projects. Chris Beck said that there was not much lead time for review of the project lists before this meeting.

Dividing the work plan review into PAG subgroups based on project clusters was discussed as a way to get a more thorough understanding of projects without being overwhelmed. Pam Brodie said that the PAG already does this on an informal basis by focussing on projects of interest.

PAG members questioned the end result of project 97281—Habitat Improvement Through Redesigned Forest Workshops, since similar meetings are already held in Cordova. Mary McBurney said they should include an implementation plan. McCammon agreed, stating that is why they are requiring shared funding and a clear statement of what the product will be.

Christman discussed the archaeology cluster. Rupe Andrews asked about the connection of 97277 to injured resources—archaeological repositories preserve artifacts recovered during spill cleanup, damage assessment, and restoration efforts. Schwantes asked if the stewardship program used local people—Christman responded yes. Schwantes said most project money should be used for local stewardship efforts, not agencies. There was discussion about how sites were chosen and how many artifacts were involved.

Christman outlined the marine pollution cluster and discussed the implementation of the Sound Waste Management Plan for Kodiak. Andrews said the waste management projects were useful for preventing further injury. McCammon said the same effort may be done for Cook Inlet communities.

Senner presented the habitat improvement cluster. Brodie asked about the success of boardwalks for control of riverbank fishing. Dennerlein said that education, engineering and enforcement were all required for the success of fishing and recreation use controls.

McCammon outlined the public information and education cluster and the research facilities cluster. She also discussed the administration budget (attachments #5 and #6). She noted that the budget was being reduced each year, but that additional Trustee Council attention was required to further streamline agency costs. Plans are for OSPIC to transition to a regional library consortium with reduced EVOS funds. McCammon also noted that the 2-year term for PAG members was up this fall, so a new round of appointments for the 17 members would be undertaken.

Spies and Senner discussed the nearshore ecosystem cluster. Harlequin ducks are still a concern in the spill area. They also outlined the seabird and forage fish cluster. Senner discussed funding to supplement the National Science Foundation effort to process 1,500 dead birds from EVOS and place them in a permanent repository for future research use. McCorkle said it was a good deal.

Benton asked how close to the \$16 million target for FY 97 projects we were. Senner said we were now at \$16.5 million for new and continuing projects.

PAG members offered closing comments:

--Benton said it was good to have the budget close to the goal, as that made decisions easier.

--Dennerlein said the process improves each time and is more responsive to local concerns.

--King praised Molly and the staff for their good work.

--McBurney thought the work plan process was working well.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

#### **H. FOLLOW-UP:**

1. PAG members are to send comments to McCammon on the return itinerary for the September field trip.
2. Chris Beck, Mary McBurney, and Vern McCorkle will form a PAG subgroup to review projects 97250, 97100, and 97126.

#### **I. NEXT MEETINGS:**

--PAG meeting: August 7, 1996

--PAG field trip to Homer, Port Graham, Nanwalek, Seldovia: September 18-19, 1996

#### **J. ATTACHMENTS:**

(for those not present):

1. Habitat Protection Program: Small Parcels Status Report, June 4, 1996
2. Habitat Protection Program: Large Parcels Status Report, June 4, 1996
3. Letter of June 3, 1996 from Chugachmiut
4. Report for the PAG on the Community Involvement Project, June 5, 1996
5. Administration, Science Management and Public Information Project Description
6. Administration, Science Management and Public Information Project Budget
7. Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission Letter
8. Copper River/PWS Native Fishermen's Association Letter
9. The Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council Letter

**K. CERTIFICATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PAG Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



Mar 13, 1996

## Meeting Summary

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

**B. DATE/TIME:** March 13, 1996

**C. LOCATION:** Anchorage, Alaska

RECEIVED  
MAR 26 1996

**D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

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

**E. NOT REPRESENTED:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Mary McBurney	Aquaculture
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
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>
Veronica Christman	Trustee Council Staff
L.J. Evans	Trustee Council Staff
Carol Fries	AK Dept. Natural Resources
Sharon Gagnon	Jim King Alternate
Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service
Carrie Holba	Oil Spill Public Info. Center
Eleanor Huffines	Nancy Lethcoe Alternate
George Keeney	Cordova

Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Charles McKee	Public
Dorothy Mortenson	AK Dept. Natural Resources
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer, Dept. of Interior
Eric Myers	Trustee Council Staff
Chris Overbeck	Whittier
Ernie Piper	AK Dept. of Envir. Conservation
Sandra Schubert	Trustee Council Staff
Stan Senner	Trustee Council Staff
Joe Sullivan	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Martha Vlasoff	EVOS Community Coordinator
Dave Wigglesworth	AK Dept. of Envir. Conservation
Bill Wilcox	Valdez
Cherri Womac	Trustee Council Staff

## G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened March 13 at 9:05 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chair. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present. No modifications were identified for the summary of the December 6, 1995 PAG meeting.

Molly McCammon provided the Executive Director's report. She reviewed the status of habitat protection negotiations, including land acquisitions at Eyak, Tatitlek, Chenega, English Bay, Konig, Afognak Joint Venture, and Shuyak. She also covered the small parcel program (attachment #3), noting that the State Legislature had to accept EVOS funds in order to acquire the parcels for the State (attachment #4).

The EVOS audit report is complete, and once it is delivered to the Trustee Council members, it will be mailed to the PAG. Some highlights: finances/trust fund accounts were determined to be in good shape; a revision of the Financial Operating Procedures is recommended, the auditors believe the fees paid to the Court system in Texas for handling trust fund investments appear too high; and use of wire transfers of funds is suggested.

McCammon summarized recent public outreach efforts (attachment #5). Kodiak Island public meetings will be held in Kodiak villages March 27-29; the Trustee Council plans a meeting in Kodiak this spring; a PAG field trip will be scheduled for lower Cook Inlet this spring or fall; and a community workshop will be held in Anchorage April 9-10 to discuss protocols for collections and use of traditional ecological knowledge protocols. Press contacts increased after the oil spill on the coast of Wales. John Bauer (ADEC) and Bob Spies (Chief Scientist) went to Wales to advise on cleanup and restoration planning (at the expense of the British and on behalf of Alaska Governor Tony Knowles).

The EVOS Annual Report will be available the week of March 23, and will be mailed to PAG members. Additional copies are available upon request.

The Alaska SeaLife Center has achieved full financing for the project, and thus met the contingency placed on approval by the State Legislature of the Council's \$25 million

contribution. The bid for construction was announced Monday and bids will be opened April 23. The Center is scheduled for operation in 1998.

A project status report was mailed to PAG members. The FY 1997 Invitation to Submit Restorations Proposals has gone public. The request for proposals is more targeted this year. Funds available for projects total approximately \$16 million (about \$14 million is earmarked for continuing projects, so about \$2 million will be competitive). Veronica Christman reviewed the project proposal/work plan schedule (attachment #6).

A report on the progress and future of the Sound Waste Management Plan, an EVOS funded project, was given by Dave Dengel, Bill Wilcox, George Keeney, Chris Overbeck, Chuck Totemoff, and Dave Wigglesworth (attachment #7). Opportunities to clean up and prevent further contamination from oil and other wastes were examined. This has been a joint effort of the communities in Prince William Sound. The project received an award from the Alaska Municipal League.

Stan Senner reported on the 1996 EVOS Annual Workshop (attachment #8). Some 250-300 people participated. Several important findings and projects were highlighted, including presentations on traditional ecological knowledge, salmon escapement studies on the Kenai, harbor seals' food sources, and a database of trawl surveys of marine species (attachment #9). Updated recovery objectives for each injured resource and service will be going out for public review in the near future.

The meeting was opened at 1:00 for public comment. Charles McKee offered comments.

McCammon discussed the status of the Trustee Council communication plan (attachment #5). One focal point is providing information to the general public. Martha Vlasoff is helping with the community involvement project. Jodi Seitz has developed for the Trustee Council 13 short radio spots called "Alaska Coastal Currents," which provide information about restoration and recovery of the EVOS area. The Oil Spill Public Information Center (OSPIC) has logged over 9,000 "hits" on the EVOS Home Page on Internet. Carol Fries and Dorothy Mortenson reported on the project to synthesize scientific information and create an automated bibliography and geographic information system (GIS) database. Chris Beck outlined thoughts (attachment #10) on priorities for public information efforts—PAG members were asked to comment on the draft priorities. Pam Brodie noted that the Pratt Museum's traveling exhibit about EVOS was a useful public information tool. McCammon asked if the newsletter was worthwhile—PAG response was yes.

Ernie Piper reported on the residual oiling workshop, held in November 1995. Checking shorelines for oil is expensive. Oil is now stable and will not change much, so future monitoring may not be cost-effective. Residual oil appears not to be harmful to harbor seals. At issue is the perception of cleanliness—would you buy food from a dirty supermarket? The cleanup of residual oil in a high-use subsistence area, e.g., around Chenega, would cost \$2-3 million. Key questions are: Can we technically remove the oil? Would the cleanup hurt the environment more than leaving the oil? Is it cost-effective? What regulatory authority do we have to do this? Is there precedent to do a cleanup this far beyond the end of response?

Options for cleanup around Chenega will be presented to the Trustee Council for a decision in the near future.

Jim King reviewed his proposal (attachment #1) to create a University of Alaska endowed chairs program with restoration reserve funds. McCammon stated that the Trustee Council believes it would be premature to begin a full-scale public discussion of uses for the reserve fund for at least another 1-2 years

Options for the next PAG field trip were discussed. A May or September trip to Homer, Seldovia, and Port Graham was outlined (attachment #11). No decision was made.

PAG members offered comments:

- Nancy Lethcoe is interested in small parcel acquisitions.
- Kim King encourages consideration of University endowed chairs.
- John French supports the endowed chairs concept.
- Jim Diehl supports the endowed chairs and is concerned about logging impacts on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Sheri Buretta encourages including Natives in reserve fund discussions.
- Pam Brodie suggests looking at how public lands in the EVOS area are managed.
- Kim Benton stated the public information/GIS program looked good.
- Rupert Andrews thought that our knowledge had advanced substantially since the spill.
- Vern McCorkle asked that PAG members get extra copies of the Annual Report and pass them along, and that PAG members read the recovery update information mailed to them.

McCammon identified several items for consideration over the long-term: a synthesis of scientific reports, the 10th anniversary of the spill in March 1999 (a book describing 10 years of restoration efforts and a 10-year spill symposium are planned), the last Exxon payment is scheduled for 2001, and formal long-term planning for the restoration reserve will begin in the next 1-3 years.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

#### H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon will mail the EVOS Audit Report to PAG members.
2. McCammon will arrange to have the EVOS Audit Team give a presentation at the June PAG meeting.
3. McCammon will arrange for a presentation by Bob Spies on the Wales spill at a future PAG meeting.
4. Vern McCorkle and John French volunteered to participate in the development of the FY 1997 Work Plan on May 23.

5. McCammon will follow-up on timing for the PAG field trip.
6. PAG members are to send updates of addresses and phone numbers (attachment #12) to Cherri Womac—this information is available to the public.

**I. NEXT MEETINGS:**

- PAG field trip: either mid-May or mid-September (to be determined)
- PAG meeting: June 5, 1996
- PAG meeting: August 7, 1996
- Trustee Council meeting in Juneau: May 2, 1996

**J. ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Letter from PAG Member James King: A University of Alaska Endowment Plan

(for those not present):

2. Letter from Marilyn Talmage: Valdez Duck Flats Parcel
3. Memorandum from Molly McCammon: Small Parcel Habitat Protection Program
4. Memorandum from Molly McCammon: EVOS Amendment to CSHB 468 (FIN)
5. Memorandum from Molly McCammon: Update on EVOS Information/Communication
6. Calendar: FY 1997 Work Plan
7. Sound Waste Management Plan
8. 1996 Restoration Workshop Agenda
9. Graph of Marine Species Abundance
10. Memorandum from Chris Beck: Setting Priorities for Public Information
11. Scenarios for PAG Field Trip
12. EVOS PAG Member Names/Addresses/Telephones

**K. CERTIFICATION:**

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**PAG Chairperson**

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**Date**