

08.07.09

## Meeting Summary

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

**B. DATE/TIME:** February 21, 2002

**C. LOCATION:** Anchorage, Alaska

**D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Gary Fandrei (telecon)	Public-at-Large
Chuck Meacham, Chair (telecon)	Science/Academic
Stan Senner	Environmental
Stacy Studebaker (telecon)	Recreation Users
Chuck Totemoff (telecon)	Forest Products

**E. NOT REPRESENTED:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Torie Baker	Commercial Fishing
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Chris Blackburn	Public-at-Large
Dave Cobb	Public-at-Large
Brett Huber	Sport Hunting & Fishing
Dan Hull	Public-at-Large
James King	Conservation
Pat Norman	Native Landowner
Gerry Sanger	Commercial Tourism
Vacant	Aquaculture
Martha Vlasoff	Subsistence
Ed Zeine	Local Government
John Harris	Alaska State House of Representatives ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Loren Leman	Alaska State Senate ( <i>ex officio</i> )

**F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
DeDe Bohn	U.S. Geological Survey
Bill Hauser	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Barat La Porte	Patton Boggs
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Staff
Phil Mundy	Trustee Council Staff
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer, Dept. of the Interior
Cherri Womac	Trustee Council Staff

## G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was convened February 21 at 10:05 a.m. by Molly McCammon. A quorum was not present.

McCammon gave an overview of the February 25 Trustee Council meeting agenda. The Council will discuss the status and disposition of investment funds, take action on the proposed Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), make some minor adjustments to the FY 2002 work plan, and discuss a couple of small parcel acquisitions. The draft revised injured species list is not yet available for review, so that will be put on hold. The June 18-19, 2002, Watersheds and Oceans Symposium agenda will be discussed. The Council will initiate a review of their current operating policies and procedures to determine changes needed to implement the Gulf of Alaska Ecosystem Monitoring and Research (GEM) program. PAG members are invited to participate. The proposed revisions to the PAG charter will also be discussed at the Council meeting, but no action is proposed until April or June.

McCammon gave a brief report on the recent EVOS Annual Workshop. Gary Fandrei asked about the Kenai nutrient session—some thought there was too much focus on salmon. Bill Hauser said that was recognized and there would be more concentration in GEM on other nutrients and resources of the Kenai watershed.

McCammon reviewed the proposed changes to the PAG charter to transition it into the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) [this information was distributed prior to the meeting]. The group discussed the proposed PAC membership. Fandrei asked about the distribution of members among the interests, since there are 20 members and fewer interest categories. McCammon said this allowed more flexibility in finding qualified members. Stan Senner asked if the science/technology category member was to be selected only from the STAC. McCammon replied that at least one member in that category would come from the STAC, and that if there were other members in that category, they could come from the STAC or elsewhere.

Stacy Studebaker asked what the difference was between the conservation and environment categories. McCammon responded that these categories were the ones originally designated for the PAG and that they may not need to be split in the same way. Chuck Meacham noted that Jim King suggested the possibility of including field-level biologists on the PAC to bring on-the-ground management into the picture. He also suggested graduate student as a possible category. McCammon noted that federal employees (e.g. a biologist) could not serve on a federally approved advisory committee and it might be unfair to only have state employees as members. One possibility to include field manager expertise was to ask the Trustee Council members to appoint a biologist from their agencies to attend the PAC meetings. Meacham agreed that this would be useful.

McCammon asked Chuck Totemoff if the proposed mix of Native landowner and tribal government made sense. Totemoff replied that tribal government was more akin to local government than to landowners. Senner asked about including the Regional Citizens' Advisory Councils as a member category. The group discussed deletion of the forest products category, possibly keeping the public-at-large category, and having a regional monitoring program

category. Studebaker also asked about possibly including a secondary educator category. McCammon noted were meeting was being planned in March with a group of science center educators from the region.

Senner asked what “balanced” means in terms of membership. Doug Mutter said that under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, advisory bodies were to have balanced memberships, and that approving authorities may well look at whether all categories were filled with a different member in order to obtain that balance. Therefore, to maintain flexibility, it may be helpful to combine similar membership categories. McCammon suggested combining recreation and tourism categories. The group generally agreed that the draft approach to the PAC was on the right track. This will be a topic of discussion, but not decision, at the next Trustee Council meeting.

Public comment was invited, but no one responded.

McCammon reviewed the STAC Process deliberations and recommendations. She expects the Trustee Council to take action on this at their next meeting. A work group deliberated on the STAC organization and process, and reached general consensus. Two PAG members participated. The group said the proposal looked good. McCammon asked for names of potential participants in the STAC nominating committee. She also asked for PAG volunteers to serve on the work group reviewing Trustee Council policies and procedures.

McCammon said that the National Academy of Sciences review of the GEM document is expected in April. She expects to make some revisions based on their report, and asked if the PAG would like to be briefed on the changes. Meacham replied that a briefing would be useful.

Studebaker and Meacham agreed that the public marine mammal panel discussion associated with the annual EVOS Workshop was worthwhile and should be done at other locations in Alaska.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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

1. PAG members who would like to serve on the policies and procedures work group should let McCammon know as soon as possible.
2. McCammon will give the PAG report at the upcoming Trustee Council meeting since Meacham will not be available.
3. PAG members are asked to submit to McCammon any suggestions for the STAC nominating committee.

## **I. NEXT MEETINGS:**

- A teleconferenced briefing this spring on GEM changes and updates to the injured species list
- A meeting June 17 or 20 in Anchorage

-A field trip to Prince William Sound in mid-August

**J. ATTACHMENTS: (Handouts, for those not present) None**

**K. CERTIFICATION:**

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**PAG Chairperson**

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**Date**