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**EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SETTLEMENT
TRUSTEE COUNCIL**

PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

RESTORATION OFFICE
Simpson Building
645 G Street
Anchorage, Alaska

January 11-12, 1994
9:30 a.m.

VOLUME I

January 11, 1994

PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS in attendance:

DOUGLAS MUTTER Department of the Interior
Designated Federal Officer

PAMELA BRODIE	JAMES CLOUD
DONNA FISCHER	JOHN FRENCH
JAMES KING	JOHN McMULLEN
JAMES DIEHL	CHARLES TOTEMOFF
BRAD PHILLIPS	
MARY McBURNEY (alternate for GERALD McCUNE)	
KIM BENTON (alternate for JOHN STURGEON)	
SHARON GAGNON (alternate for LEWELLYN WILLIAMS)	

TRUSTEES COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

JIM AYERS	Executive Director, EVOS Trustees Council
MOLLIE McCAMMON	Deputy Director, EVOS Trustees Council

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE who testified:

ERIC MYERS
MARK STAHL, Chugach Alaska Corporation
DR. ED HOLSTEN, U.S. Forest Service
DAVE WALLINGFORD
ROGER BURNSIDE

JIM BARNETT, attorney, City of Whittier
TERRY BRADY, Husky Wood, Inc.
CLIFF EAMES, Alaska Center for the Environment
LARRY SMITH, Kachemak Resource Institute
TORIE BAKER, CDFU and PWS Ecosystem Research Planning Group
DAN HULL, CDFU and PWS Ecosystem Research Planning Group
RAY JOHNSON, U.S. Forest Service
TONY DEGANGE, U.S. Fish & Wildlife
WYN MENEFEY, Alaska Department of Natural Resources
RAY THOMPSON, U.S. Forestry Dept.
STEVEN HENNEK
MARK BRODERSEN, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DR. BYRON MORRIS, NOAA
DR. ROBERT SPIES, Chief Scientist, EVOS Trustees Council
JUDY BITTNER, Alaska Department of Natural Resources
SANDY RABINOWITCH, National Park Service
DR. REGER
ART WIENER, Alaska Department of Natural Resources

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On Record: 9:47 a.m., January 11, 1994)

MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, if we could get started now that we have our water pitchers on board. If we could have roll call, please.

MR. MUTTER: Rupert Andrews? (No response.)
Pamela Brodie?

MS. BRODIE: Here.

MR. MUTTER: James Cloud?

MR. CLOUD: Here.

MR. MUTTER: James Diehl?

MR. DIEHL: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Richard Eliason? (No response.)
Donna Fischer?

MS. FISCHER: Here.

MR. MUTTER: John French?

DR. FRENCH: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Don McCumby? (No response.) James
King?

MR. KING: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Rick Knecht? (No response.) Vern
McCorkle? (No response.) Gerald McCune?

UNKNOWN: Mary McBurney sitting in as alternate.

MR. MUTTER: John McMullen?

MR. McMULLEN: Present.

MR. MUTTER: Brad Phillips?

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Here.

2 MR. MUTTER: John Sturgeon?

3 UNKNOWN: Kim Benton sitting in for John Sturgeon.

4 MR. MUTTER: Charles Totemoff?

5 MR. TOTEMOFF: Here.

6 MR. MUTTER: And, Lew Williams?

7 UNKNOWN: Sharon Gagnon sitting in for Lew Williams.

8 MR. KING: Let's see, I have a proxy from Rupe
9 Andrews, as an alternate.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, we have a quorum. Next item is
11 approval of summary of the November 23rd meeting. Do we have
12 anybody that would like to -- move?

13 MS. FISCHER: Move to approve.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: It's been moved that we approve the
15 minutes of November 23. Is there a second?

16 UNKNOWN: Second.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Second. Is there any objection or changes
18 or comments?

19 MR. CLOUD: I'd just like to -- Jim Cloud

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

21 MR. CLOUD: I'd just like to point out that Vern has
22 been proxied last week and asked that it be reflected ...

23 MR. PHILLIPS: That can be changed. If there is no
24 further comments in the -- the minutes stand approved. We have
25 some major reshuffling to do today. It is -- the message we got is
26 that Jim Ayers is stuck in Juneau with weather and hopes to be here

1 around noon-ish sometime, and so we'll reschedule his presentation
2 until this afternoon, or as soon as we know when he is going to be
3 here. So, is Eric here? Could -- would you like to briefly just
4 tell us what he is going to cover? Give them an idea of what we're
5 looking forward to. Why don't you use a mike over there, if you
6 don't mind. Eric Myers has -- has been arranging all of this
7 meeting and people and everything, so tell us -- if you'll tell
8 everybody what the change -- how we're going to proceed.

9 MR. MYERS: Sure. Well, part of it, of course, is
10 weather dependent and when I spoke to Jim they were on a definite
11 hold, so it's a little bit mysterious as to exactly when they might
12 be able to get up here, but hopefully sometime around noon. He did
13 specifically want me to relay to the Public Advisory Group that, at
14 the request of the PAG, a status report on the '92 and '93 projects
15 has been prepared, and I believe each of you has in front of you a
16 copy of those two legal size documents respectively indicating '92
17 and '93 projects with the parenthetical note incorporating comments
18 of the Chief Scientist, which I was able to obtain last night at
19 about eight o'clock. And, it's hot off the press and it's stamped
20 draft. Some of the changes were very minor in nature. Some of
21 them were more substantive and I have yet to get these, this
22 revised version back to the agency liaisons and the principal
23 investigators for their reaction, but without belaboring that it's
24 a fairly straightforward document attempting to give an indication
25 of -- of what the status of the projects are, in terms of the
26 reports being prepared, and the conclusions or findings of the --

1 of the investigations. The other thing that Executive Director
2 wanted to specifically point out is he was very keenly aware of the
3 interest that the Public Advisory Group has in the financial
4 questions relating to reimbursement. This is not something that he
5 has been able to develop a definitive report on, but it is still
6 something he is working on and intends to present additional
7 information at the January 31st meeting of the Trustee Council.
8 So, it is something he is working on and wanted you to know that.
9 As far as Bob Spies's work on the '94 work plan, recommendations,
10 he is still doing that and, although the draft agenda had indicated
11 he would be available today, he will not be available today. He is
12 in Washington, D.C. and will be coming in tomorrow afternoon, and
13 will be here, I believe he arrives at the airport at 3:00 and hopes
14 to be here in the office shortly thereafter, so that if -- if PAG
15 members are able to stick around for the afternoon, they could talk
16 with him then. I -- I'm not positive how far along he has been
17 able to get with the recommendations he -- I understand his -- his
18 timing is to try to get his recommendations finished by the 18th,
19 which will in turn enable the Executive Director to formulate
20 recommendations that he in turn will make to the Trustee Council.

21 MR. CLOUD: Who is this you're talking about?

22 MR. MYERS: Bob Spies.

23 MR. CLOUD: Bob Spies, so he's not going be here soon?

24 MR. MYERS: That is true.

25 MR. CLOUD: And Ayers is not going to be here.

26 MR. MYERS: Well, Ayers is hopefully going to be here

1 today. It depends on the fog in Juneau.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Maybe we should just adjourn.

3 MR. MUTTER: You're on your own.

4 MR. MYERS: There will be -- there are some agency
5 representatives that are here and available to respond to
6 questions. These are the agency contacts who were involved with
7 the development of the project proposals.

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, yes, Pam.

9 MS. BRODIE: Perhaps we might use this time that we
10 have scheduled for the next day and a half to get information from
11 the agency people and the public during public testimony. But, we
12 might think about whether we want to, in fact, vote on all these
13 projects today without Bob Spies's information and we could -- we
14 all, of course, have the -- the ability to comment on our own on
15 these projects, and I'm sure many of us will, and we could, in
16 fact, just do that so then our comments, once we get Bob Spies,
17 individually rather than taking a position as the Public Advisory
18 Group. I just put that out as an option.

19 MR. PHILLIPS: What is the reason Mr. Spies won't be
20 here?

21 MR. MYERS: He's in Washington, D.C., and I'm not ...

22 MR. PHILLIPS: I know, but that's -- that's a bog.
23 What's the reason he isn't going to be here.

24 MR. MYERS: I'm not sure what commitments he has in
25 Washington, D.C. that's keeping him there and I ...

26 MR. PHILLIPS: How long ago was it when we asked him to

1 be here?

2 MR. MUTTER: It was at the last meeting. As I recall,
3 he told me then that he already had a conference and that he may
4 not be able to make it in time.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: Do you ever have a feeling that you're not
6 very important, or invisible? I think our choice is to -- we have
7 two choices here, is to muddle through with -- asks some questions
8 of the agencies or -- or adjourn. It's up to you guys.

9 MR. MUTTER: Well, I think that -- Mr. Chairman.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

11 MR. MUTTER: I believe you're going to want to get your
12 comments, whatever they may be, to the Trustees before their
13 January 31st meeting.

14 MR. CLOUD: Well, I don't see the Trustees have, you
15 know much weight on our comments in the past (indiscernible).

16 MR. PHILLIPS: If we don't have the information from the
17 people we've asked to be here, what good are our comments. I could
18 have phoned those in from my office this morning. I don't know.
19 It's a disappointment that we don't have the key people that we
20 want to talk to, but I'm just a chairman, you guys can decide what
21 you want to do.

22 MR. KING: I have a question.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Jim?

24 MR. KING: I guess Doug Mutter -- I feel, too, that
25 we haven't really got before us a major part of the information
26 that's needed to make decisions on this, both the scientific

1 committee and -- we haven't seen any of the final reports from '93,
2 and I have felt coming into this that I would like to discuss some
3 of these things and learn more about them, but that I probably
4 won't want to vote on anything. I's rather submit -- (cough)
5 excuse me -- a letter to the Trustee Council after I have a chance
6 to go through what we can get done this session and, so I wonder
7 from Doug when we have -- would have to get in comments to the
8 Trustee Council to have them considered at their, what is it, the
9 31st, I think.

10 MR. MUTTER: Well, they need to be in then. I don't
11 know, Eric what's the public comment deadline at this point?

12 MR. MYERS: I believe that the work plan indicates
13 that -- public comments should be postmarked by the 14th. The
14 intention of the Executive Director was to try to formulate his own
15 recommendations for the Trustee Council by the 24th -- well, on the
16 24th and 25th there's going to be a working session to formulate
17 the Executive Director's recommendations, and he was looking for
18 guidance, not only from the Chief Scientist but also from the
19 Public Advisory Group. I think that part of the hope is that the
20 Public Advisory Group will have its own views about the importance
21 of these projects apart from what the Chief Scientist or others may
22 have to say, and I think that the Public Advisory Group's input is
23 -- is being solicited also.

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Jim.

25 MR. CLOUD: Without the input from the Chief
26 Scientist, then all we have to go on is our own emotional feelings

1 from comments that we get today, and rumor and innuendo and brief
2 descriptions that we have. And, I think that is unprofessional,
3 that this group ought to give a no recommendation message to the
4 Trustee Council because we have not had the input -- the key input
5 from the Chief Scientist.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, go ahead.

7 MR. DIEHL: I'd like to comment (indiscernible).

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Can you use that mike there so we can
9 hear.

10 MR. DIEHL: This is Jim Diehl. I've -- I've been
11 thinking about ways that we change this process slightly to make us
12 more capable of doing this without all the input. And, I'm looking
13 to the killer whale project since September, and it's been a long
14 involved process. The key to that process, I think, looking at
15 these projects is not so much the draft work plan but the RFP's for
16 the projects in the past and, maybe, for the ones in the immediate
17 future. Now, it's impossible for everybody to look at those, but
18 I would think that if each member of this group had a special
19 interest in just one project, we could examine seventeen projects
20 closely and they would be key projects in each of our minds, if it
21 was kind of coordinated, as long as we weren't duplicating, doing
22 this for every -- for -- for the same projects. And, that would
23 give us some -- certainly really good input on at least seventeen
24 projects, and I kind of feel like, you know, I have really good
25 input on the killer whale projects, perhaps more than you want to
26 hear. But, that would be one way that we could be counted as our

1 own opinion.

2 MR. MUTTER: Mr. Chairman.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Doug.

4 MR. MUTTER: We do have in the pile of papers in front
5 of us preliminary comments that Dr. Spies sent last July when the
6 Restoration Team had sent out a fairly long list of projects. That
7 doesn't relate directly to what we have here, but it is some
8 information from him.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Which one is that?

10 MR. MUTTER: But I think the fact that Jim Ayers is not
11 here yet doesn't affect your discussion of the projects. Eric has
12 gone to the trouble to round up a lot of agency people that can
13 talk to the various projects. So, you can at least have a chance
14 to query them and find out some more information about the
15 projects, even if you decide you don't want to take a vote on them.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes

17 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I would be reluctant to put much
18 weight on the Chief Scientist's comments, and for that reason I'm
19 not terribly disappointed that he's not here, although I think his
20 comments should be taken into account. There are a number of major
21 changes that the Executive Director has been implementing and I
22 think it's important that we hear about those and try to take those
23 into account. One of those is this shift towards ecosystem
24 planning and ecosystem restoration as opposed to single species
25 planning restoration. And, I know there's some discussions going
26 on now -- Thursday and Friday of this week about that, but there

1 were also some very serious discussions that went on in Prince
2 William Sound in Cordova, and I know we have at least one person in
3 the audience here that would participate in that process. I think
4 it might be well worth our time to hear some reports on that and
5 some reports from the individual agency people on the development
6 of the work plan. I think their input in it, although again it
7 shouldn't be taken in its entirety by itself, it is just as
8 important as that of the Chief Scientist, and I think we should
9 take advantage of that opportunity to hear it.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: James?

11 MR. KING: I'd endorse that. I have the feeling,
12 going back to a earlier point, that if we don't comment at the end
13 of our meeting, we're going to get cut out of the loop here and I
14 personally would like to at least have this next weekend to
15 summarize what I feel -- would like to recommend. So, I think I'd
16 like to move that the Public Advisory Group, at least, have an
17 extended deadline to the -- what would Monday be, the 16th -- to
18 get comments in and -- rather than being cut off on the 14th.

19 MS. BRODIE: I'll second

20 MR. PHILLIPS: It's been moved and seconded -- there is
21 a deadline, a set deadline for the 14th at this point.

22 MR. MYERS: That's what was published in the '94 work
23 plan that was released to the public. It indicated specifically
24 that comments should be postmarked by the 14th, and I ...

25 MR. PHILLIPS: But there's no legal problem in extending
26 it, it's shortening it that would give us a problem.

1 MR. MYERS: I'll state first off that I'm not an
2 attorney, but I don't think that the Council would -- the Trustees
3 would be turning away any comments that came in after that.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: My point is that I think that if you
5 shorten the period you'd probably have a problem because of notice,
6 but if you lengthen it, I don't think that gives us a problem.
7 You've heard the motion, and it's been seconded to extend the
8 deadline to the 16th, is there any discussion? Pam.

9 MS. BRODIE: Apparently, if I understand what Eric has
10 said, Bob Spies is planning to have his recommendations ready by
11 ...

12 MR. MYERS: The 18th, as I understand ...

13 MS. BRODIE: ... the 18th?

14 MR. MYERS: Correct.

15 MS. BRODIE: So, even if we extend it to the next
16 Monday, we still won't have the benefit of his comments.

17 MR. MYERS: Yes.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, go ahead.

19 MR. DIEHL: (Indiscernible) By extend -- extension of
20 the deadline aren't we in fact saying that we'll be meeting next
21 week or so? What are we saying here?

22 MR. PHILLIPS: I don't think so.

23 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking - out of range of
24 microphone)

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Any other comments, yes, Jim.

26 MR. McMULLEN: I had talked with Executive Director Jim

1 Ayers in Juneau a few days ago, and he seemed to be emphasizing
2 then that he was expecting the Public Advisory Group to -- to
3 present recommendations to him, and he thought -- he was looking
4 forward to that. He -- he seemed to -- seemed to say that, I can
5 wait if the Trustee thought that was important. However, I also
6 thought that, you know, as you know that you've been dealing with
7 the '94 work plan recommendations and projects. I was hoping that
8 somehow we'd be walked through this with -- by people, first who'd
9 been working intimately with this array of -- array of projects and
10 I thought that was probably the only reasonably way we'd get
11 through this. Otherwise, you know, even just reading the project
12 proposals it doesn't -- it doesn't supply you with real good
13 information to make the personal decision of how you -- what you
14 believe. So, therefore, I thought -- it seems to me to be
15 important to get a presentation from Jim Ayers, Executive Director,
16 as indicated in the agenda here, and -- and then all the agency
17 people then, they are going to give us presentations and, you know,
18 and -- and talk about the projects. So give -- let them prepare to
19 do this and -- and thereby preparing us for the work that we've got
20 before us here. If we can get through this, I think we should, but
21 I don't like to just into it cold without hearing what Jim Ayers
22 has got to say and knowing that we have people (indiscernible -
23 coughing) you know, projects that -- for which their agencies are
24 the lead. That would be very helpful to us, I believe
25 (indiscernible) a lot more reasonable response.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Mary.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: I'm just concerned that we have a rather
2 monumental task before us and adjourning tomorrow around noon, that
3 that might not allow us enough time to go into the proposed
4 projects in great enough deal to have access to the staff and
5 personnel that can answer the questions that we may have. And, I
6 would like to know if the other members of the PAG have the
7 flexibility of extending the meeting tomorrow into the afternoon
8 hours, if necessary.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Is there anybody that couldn't be here in
10 the afternoon? I would think that -- there's one, and I'm going to
11 be on the other side of the continent, so.

12 MR. CLOUD: (Indiscernible)

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Two votes. That's right. Well, I'm not
14 concerned about quorum because once you have it, you've got it, but
15 it's just a matter of how many people will be here to analyze and
16 discuss. There are a couple of other questions. Jim?

17 MR. CLOUD: May I suggest that we recess until this
18 afternoon when Commissioner Ayers is here, so at least we can hear
19 his -- his report and summary on the '94 work plan, and since all
20 we've had going this morning was the very important report to the
21 Chief Scientist.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: We have one other item. For your
23 information, we have scheduled Jim Barnett here under public
24 comments, and there may be others that are here to speak and maybe
25 we could -- if we're going to postpone it until this afternoon, I
26 would like to at least open it up for public comments, and get that

1 out of the -- take care of that, so we don't disappoint anybody
2 yet.

3 MR. DIEHL: Talking about postponing until Jim Ayers
4 comes here, I think Jim Ayers is looking for some -- some
5 leadership, some questions from us so that he can follow up on
6 them.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: As I understand it, he's going to make a
8 presentation to us, you know, on what he's doing and some of the
9 changes and so on. Yes.

10 DR. FRENCH: If Eric has arranged for agency people to
11 be here and present their perspective on the work plan, I would
12 suggest we go ahead and do that. I mean, we're wasting both their
13 time and ours if we go and reschedule them and their -- they've
14 already been scheduled. Could you give us a little more
15 information on that Eric.

16 MR. MYERS: Sure.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Which ones are going to be here?

18 MR. MYERS: Okay, for right now Jerome Montague from
19 the Department of Fish and Game is here, as is Mark Brodersen, the
20 -- because we were initially planning on starting at eleven, some
21 of the other folks are en route right now as we speak. But, one
22 possible way to proceed would be to have, perhaps, Jerome make
23 himself available to discuss the projects for which the Department
24 of Fish and Game is the lead agency. The packets you have in front
25 of you include a -- packet that has a draft work sheet, in effect,
26 on top to which are attached two additional tables which have

1 sorted the '94 proposed projects by two different means, one by
2 resource category and the other by agency, so that you can refer to
3 which projects are concerned with, say, pink salmon. And, you have
4 a listing of all those projects that are being proposed that
5 involve sockeye salmon or common murre. And then alternatively,
6 if you wanted to know all the projects that the Department of Fish
7 and Game is the lead agency for you can reference it that way.
8 When I spoke with Doug Mutter, I wanted to make sure that there
9 were agency representatives able to respond to questions on --
10 there wasn't a thinking that there would be a presentation per se,
11 but the agency liaisons can address the projects which have been
12 proposed by their respective agencies, and that I think may well be
13 a useful way to proceed in order to get better information.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, it would seem to me that, I can't
15 even come up with an intelligent question unless I have somebody
16 brief me on what the project is and what's happened. That isn't
17 the way I function because I -- all these subjects, for me, are not
18 familiar, and I think that whoever has been working on the projects
19 ought to give us a briefing anyway, and then maybe people can ask
20 questions that are meaningful. I can't go through this -- the way
21 -- you know, one line shot and ask you all a question about pink
22 salmon. I know how to catch them, but that's about as close as I
23 come to a comment. Yes, Jim.

24 MR. CLOUD: If we're going to go ahead and get
25 presentations from the agencies, then I think we probably ought to
26 go -- get with it. And, as a matter of order then, I'd suggest

1 that we use ...

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Fish and Game ...

3 MR. CLOUD: ... this draft in direct relation to the
4 '94 work plan and Chief Scientist as a starting point, and start
5 with top priority -- catalogued -- categories, and just work
6 through the projects that we've listed by category.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, do we have someone to talk to on
8 each of these? If we use this rather than, say what projects does
9 Fish and Game have -- because we have representative here from Fish
10 and Game. Wouldn't it be easier?

11 DR. FRENCH: I would concur. I think it's better to go
12 agency-by-agency, I think it would use our time more effectively.
13 Also, I'd like to just point out that -- that these recommendations
14 from the Chief Scientist were dated July 12th. They were related
15 to previous iterations of the work plan and before the -- the
16 restoration plan, draft restoration plan was approved. It's an old
17 set of recommendations. I don't think we should put too much
18 weight on these. I think, if possible, if indeed the Chief
19 Scientist is likely to be here by three o'clock tomorrow, I would
20 support trying to extend our meeting to -- to be able to -- perhaps
21 hear some brief comments from him at that time. But, I am
22 reluctant to use these recommendations at they stand before us a --
23 as a really template to where we start. I think we should just go
24 agency-by-agency.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Unless I'm overruled by the Group, I'm
26 going to ask the representative of Fish and Game to find a seat

1 with a microphone and let's take on this stuff. Yes -- what ...

2 MR. MUTTER: We have a motion on the floor to extend
3 the comment period to January 16th.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, you're absolutely correct, I'm
5 sorry. Yeah, the motion before us is whether or not we'll extend
6 the comment period to the -- what 16th? Is that what it was, 16th?
7 Is there any ... Yes.

8 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I'd like to propose amendment
9 to make the date the 22nd -- the 21st, I mean. The reason for that
10 being that the Chief Scientist's recommendations are going to be on
11 the 18th, that would give us at least a couple of more days to
12 consider those.

13 MR. FISCHER: I'll second that.

14 MR. CLOUD: That's (indiscernible)

15 MR. KING: This is correct, but we can ask that they
16 be faxed to us as soon as possible.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Is there any objection to that, changing
18 the date to the 21st? Is there any objection? If not, it is so
19 ordered, unanimous consent. Okay, yes.

20 MR. MYERS: Point of clarification. Is it the intent
21 of the motion to extend the public comment period for purposes of
22 taking the comments from individual PAG members or for the entire
23 public-at-large?

24 MR. PHILLIPS: I'll have to ask the maker of the motion,
25 yes.

26 MR. KING: It was for the PAG members.

1 MR. MYERS: Okay.

2 MR. KING: And I would assume that when our comments
3 come in individually, they might go together as a package for
4 delivery to the Trustee Council.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, if you want to pick a live mike up
6 here.

7 MR. CLOUDS: Jim, you mean PAG members including the
8 PAG members representing the public-at-large, correct?

9 MR. KING: Sure. All PAG members.

10 (Pause)

11 MR. PHILLIPS: The procedure that we'll follow right now
12 is to -- from now until eleven o'clock, go through the projects on
13 Fish and Game, and then at eleven o'clock we'll take a break for
14 public comments. There is somebody scheduled to be here to talk
15 about the bark beetle problem, and then Jim Barnett is here to talk
16 about the problem with the Whittier area. So, if -- Fish and Game
17 projects are all listed on this Table Three, under -- it's the
18 second category there of all the -- they're the lead agency on the
19 projects that are listed there, and it goes on forever, a page and
20 a half, or so ...

21 MS. MCBURNEY: I'd just like to mention that there's also
22 a third group that should be allowed time to present basically
23 information on the Sound ecosystem assessment, which is a project
24 that we will be considering in the '94 work plan, but the fleshed
25 out version is not included, and it would be a good time for ...

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Is somebody here to address that?

1 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, Tory Baker is here, and she can
2 certainly answer any questions in great detail.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, we'll put him on the list then for
4 the public -- during the public comment period, okay. Yes, Pam?

5 MS. BRODIE: On the agenda, the public comment period
6 is eleven thirty, and you were just saying you were changing it to
7 eleven. Is that right?

8 MR. PHILLIPS: There are some people that have asked to
9 be scheduled and we've told them that if they could be here by
10 eleven we could do it. We've got three-quarters of an hour to get
11 with it.

12 MS. BRODIE: Okay, because I know of at least one
13 person who wanted to comment and wanted to hear the public comments
14 and wasn't planning to come until eleven thirty.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: On what subject, do you know?

16 MS. BRODIE: On the bark beetle.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: What time will that person be here? We
18 can put him on third. What time will he be here?

19 MR. BRODERSEN: I was under the impression that they were
20 going to show up about ten thirty, Jim, with the idea of talking
21 about eleven. This was -- originally scheduled as far as Jim Ayers
22 presentation towards the end of it, rather than public comment.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, we'll do the best we can. Okay, you
24 want -- I don't know how you want to proceed on this, but ...
25 (indiscernible - background talking) Why don't you give us
26 referrals of pages and that sort of thing. Are you in this one?

1 DR. MONTAGUE: Yes, and the thick book ...

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Everybody got this with them, the
3 (indiscernible)?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Doug, do you have any extras of this thick
5 one? Anyway the first project is 94-064, harbor seal habitat use
6 and monitoring.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: What page?

8 DR. MONTAGUE: Ninety-six. And, this project was
9 approved at the last Trustee Council meeting, fully, so, I don't
10 know if you want to waste time going over it or not.

11 MR. CLOUD: Let's just skip over it if the project is
12 already approved.

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Let's deal with projects that we've got to
14 make an opinion on. If some of these are done, let's not waste our
15 time on it.

16 (Indiscernible - out of range of microphone)

17 DR. MONTAGUE: Project '64 on page 96.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Would you say that again?

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Project '64 on page 96. And, the next
20 project is harlequin ducks, recovery and monitoring, 94-066 and
21 it's on page 104. And, the latest findings on the harlequin
22 project are that, again, as in all -- well, in the first couple of
23 years after the spill there wasn't any breeding whatsoever of
24 harlequins in western Prince William Sound. And, then in '92 and
25 '93 there was some breeding on the periphery of the oil spill --
26 the exact oil spill area. And, the most interesting finding of '93

1 was that during the molting counts, very few harlequins were seen
2 at all in the oil spill -- or in the western side of Prince William
3 Sound where most of the oil was, which is indicative of their not
4 recruiting and the ducks are dying -- I mean, they're not
5 reproducing. When they get to the end of their life span, which
6 isn't that long they're dying out. So, the appearance is that
7 they're not rebrooding and they'll be gone there in a number, you
8 know, in three or four years if there isn't some improvement. And,
9 this project is getting a little bit closer in '93 to pinpointing
10 what is causing this and -- but as yet they haven't. Michael Frye,
11 he's one of the peer reviewers, he's kind of leading the charge on
12 finding the physiological link to the spill. So, '94 will evaluate
13 more of the data that was collected and physiological nature in '93
14 which wasn't analyzed, and then low level monitoring in the field
15 just in western Prince William Sound. That's what this project is
16 -- doing that. Two hundred and fifty thousand for Fish and Game
17 and thirty-four for hydrocarbon analysis for NOAA.

18 MS. BRODIE: I have some generic questions for all
19 projects. One is, what we can expect in the future, if the
20 Trustees fund a particular project, how many years and at what
21 level we can expect to continue to get requests? The next question
22 is specifically for monitoring projects. I was just checking and
23 I couldn't find the number, but I think that the -- the monitoring
24 projects all together would cost something over ten million
25 dollars, and I am concerned that we have heard on occasion from Dr.
26 Spies that there will be a monitoring plan, but I don't think there

1 is yet a monitoring plan, and I would like to know why we need to
2 keep monitoring particular animals every year in particular places,
3 and what would be the problem with waiting -- with doing it every
4 other year instead? And, my third generic question is, what we do
5 with the information? If so, we find out what's happening,
6 whatever these people are trying to find out about harlequin ducks.
7 What kind of restoration -- what kind of information will that
8 provide that helps make restoration decisions?

9 DR. MONTAGUE: I don't know if I can remember all three
10 of them, I think I can answer them. Jim Ayers has indicated, as
11 we've all wished since first doing the process was that we would
12 come up with a project for its full lifetime and you'd know when
13 you bought into this project, it's five years, or the current
14 estimate is such-and-such an amount. But minus the restoration
15 plan, the guidance was always just do it one year, just do it one
16 year, just do it one year. '94, unfortunately, still made it into
17 this let's-do-it-one-year because the restoration plan wasn't done.
18 I know that Jim, through his ecosystem approach wants to in the '95
19 work plan basically list all the projects for their entire life and
20 their total cost and knowing that, you're not necessarily
21 committing to all those years because of a particular finding could
22 mean the end of the project. But, we hope that in '95 we have a
23 much smoother process, you know, so in '96 most of the projects
24 would be carryovers probably from '95 so you wouldn't have this
25 long harangue of picking projects each year, you'd just have the
26 few new ones that were being added. And, the monitoring aspect of

1 it is -- will be dealt with there on a long-term basis. You're
2 right, the monitoring plan isn't done and has been put on hold with
3 the idea that this ecosystem umbrella will, perhaps, give us a
4 different monitoring plan than we might have had if we had just
5 worked in an isolated view looking at monitoring. So, this year
6 you're right. For all the monitoring projects, it's important to -
7 - this year to decide whether it needs to be done this year. And,
8 I'm sure that that's what the Council is going to be asking on
9 every monitoring project, is why this needs to be done this year.
10 So, I have an answer for some of those.

11 MS. BRODIE: For this particular project, why does this
12 one need to be done this year?

13 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, our feeling is that not only have we
14 not seen reproduction, but we're now seeing reduced population as
15 well, and it was our -- it's been our intention to want to monitor,
16 at least on some minimal basis, until we see reproduction. And,
17 most of the birds will be at the end of their life span. I mean,
18 birds that were young in '89 will be, you know, getting near the
19 end of their life span in '95 and '96. So, we should probably try
20 some sort of a stepping in and helping action moving birds and
21 setting up nesting boxes or something. But, until we know what the
22 physiological link is to their not reproducing it will probably not
23 work. Okay. Did that answer all three of them? I don't know if
24 I -- what we missed.

25 MS. BRODIE: I'm not so sure about the last one.
26 You're getting at it a little better. The information that the

1 monitoring provides -- what -- how is that going to get us to the
2 next step on what restoration?

3 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, generally, sometime it doesn't,
4 probably a good bit of the time, it doesn't lead to anything. On
5 this project?

6 MS. BRODIE: Project-by-project.

7 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay, project-by-project.

8 MS BRODIE: Say, well the numbers of harlequin ducks
9 are going down, down, down?. What's monitoring help if it's going
10 down, down, down? It doesn't tell us what to do.

11 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, as I said, part of this project is
12 just analyzing the '94 physiological data. But, there is the
13 potential when you're having a population that's having this much
14 trouble that, say we didn't go in '94, and then in '95 there's just
15 nothing there, you know, there isn't the molting counts don't show
16 anything and there's no reproduction, and there's not much we can
17 do then to start introducing birds. You know, it's a -- depending
18 on the whole mix of projects and how you want to spend, you know,
19 it has some weaknesses that perhaps that could wait.

20 DR. FRENCH: I gather from your presentation that this
21 isn't a purely monitoring project though. You are indeed trying to
22 identify physiological connections to a -- whatever the factors are
23 that are causing the damage. If I had to put you on the spot and
24 you would -- had to try to -- to say how much of the budget was
25 related to physiological study and how much to the monitoring. I
26 know you can't completely separate them, but if you had to try, how

1 would you split out the budget.

2 DR. MONTAGUE: I think it's about eighty thousand for
3 that and one hundred and thirty or something.

4 DR. FRENCH: But, the monitoring also helps identify
5 which (indiscernible - simultaneous talking).

6 DR. MONTAGUE: Collect some of the samples during the
7 monitoring. For just the analysis part of it, it's about seventy
8 or eighty thousand.

9 DR. FRENCH: Your analysis is -- technical support in
10 the University of California is the ...

11 DR. MONTAGUE: That's the primary thrust of it.

12 MR. DIEHL: And what were the results in '93? Did
13 they find out ...

14 DR. MONTAGUE: They didn't find any and I -- I'm
15 disappointed too. I mean, for four years we've tried to say why
16 aren't they reproducing and we haven't (indiscernible). Frye feels
17 like he's close.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Jim.

19 MR. KING: I have the feeling that an ecosystem
20 approach to this study would look at other ducks as well, which are
21 also in decline, these are diving ducks that occupy similar
22 habitats within and beyond the oil spill area. Like there's a good
23 deal of concern for scoldies, some of the eiders, old squaw ducks
24 in terms with -- range far beyond the Sound and so I would -- I
25 guess the question I feel I have is, how does this feet with an
26 ecosystem approach?

1 DR. MONTAGUE: None of our projects really have been
2 devised through an ecosystem approach, so I, you know -- they don't
3 fit an ecosystem approach now, necessarily. The reason the
4 harlequin was chosen as it seemed to be the one where most of the
5 effect was seen, and expanding it to other ducks was only going to
6 cost more. We do think that what's happened to the harlequins
7 happened to those similar related ducks.

8 MS. BENTON: I guess I understand how the information
9 would be useful on public lands because it would be very easy to
10 implement review -- with through the monitoring you found a way to
11 enhance restoration (indiscernible) coming back with a species.
12 But, I think that there's a link that's missing for private
13 landowners at this point, and I don't know if there's any plans for
14 information sharing of this data, or if that's ever going to be
15 something that's considered in the overall plan, or they're just
16 not going to worry about the -- you know, harlequin ducks on
17 private land. We're only going to worry about them on public land.

18 DR. MONTAGUE: In the main setting of western Prince
19 William Sound, I don't think there is too much private land, but if
20 the action is seasoned, hunting season closures and movements of
21 dates and stuff, that would affect private and public lands, and
22 also I hadn't thought there would be any particular opposition with
23 private landowners for introducing birds or some kind of help for
24 harlequins on their property. Does that meet what you asked?

25 MS. BENTON: I guess it does. I'll use as an example,
26 if a timber or a landowner is developing their land through timber

1 harvesting, I'll use that as an example, and there's some known
2 habitat or some nesting habitat that they think may be on that
3 property, what mechanism is in place right now for that timber
4 owner or landowner to come forward through this process and say, I
5 believe that this is an area -- we're not interested in outright
6 acquisition, however we'd like to help restoration, that's one of
7 our goals too, what's in place now for that to happen? Man can
8 answer that question I'm raising, but try it. But, is there a
9 plan?

10 DR. MONTAGUE: No, you're right. So, what you're saying
11 is you would suggest that we, you know, through our program of
12 monitoring timber harvest that we pass on through the permanent
13 process perhaps that we know that they just pile up on information
14 and you're (indiscernible).

15 MS. BENTON: I think that, you know, the timber
16 operator would -- it certainly is in their best interest to help
17 whenever they can, and if they've tried in the past, I mean, we've
18 tried very hard on one specific area, but I know there are other
19 owner -- other operators in other areas that would be interested in
20 working with the team, and I think that that should be an element
21 in some of these monitoring, restoration projects, certain species.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: James King asked a question which I think
23 is pretty important and that is whether or not you have -- you or
24 whoever is studying the harlequins have looked at other species in
25 the same regard? I have noticed personally, in the last three
26 years, that the kittiwake rookery in western Prince William Sound,

1 in Passage Canal, has -- the last two years has had a complete
2 failure on reproduction. They're not harlequin ducks, but they are
3 birds in western Prince William Sound and, generally, they weren't
4 involved in -- I assume, in the area of the oil spill, but,
5 nevertheless, here is a large rookery which for two years solid
6 there hasn't been a single bird reproduced out of there, and the
7 year before that it was alarming to us to see what was happening.
8 Have they looked at other species? I didn't hear an answer of
9 other ...

10 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, we haven't recently. In '89 and '90
11 we looked at gulls and old squaws and scoldies, and I don't think
12 gulls showed any significant injuries but the scoldies and old
13 squaws looked like they were affected the same as the harlequins.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: But those -- those are all ducks, and I'm
15 talking about a kittiwake, which is ...

16 DR. MONTAGUE: We haven't. Certainly Fish and Game
17 hasn't, but I'm not aware of any other ...

18 MR. PHILLIPS: I -- I reported to them three years in a
19 row and I don't know what's been done, but we're as concerned about
20 that as -- because they're major attraction for visitors to see and
21 it's one of the key things, and the thing just keeps failing, but
22 nobody seems to pay much attention to it except us. I wonder if
23 the cause of that it might be -- it might be helpful to know --
24 find out that there are other things besides harlequins that are
25 suffering the same thing. So, it may be completely unrelated to
26 the oil spill, I don't know.

1 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, hopefully the ecosystem project
2 being developed in Cordova might help resolve some of those system-
3 wide effects.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: Any other -- yes, Doug.

5 MR. MUTTER: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to put in an
6 aside comment here for a minute to facilitate the discussion of the
7 work plan and the projects. It seems that after listening to your
8 discussion -- discussion earlier about this that it's clear that
9 the individual PAG members are going to want to submit comments and
10 recommendations to the Executive Director by the 21st of the month.
11 It also seems clear that there's probably some general comments
12 that you may have collectively as a group on the work plan as a
13 whole, and I think it would be useful to try to deal with those by
14 the end of the meeting, and make some comments and recommendations
15 there. And -- what I'd like to do, also, is as each agency person
16 finishes a discussion on a project and you have your questions
17 answered, and so on, I'd like to query the group and see if you
18 have any comments and recommendations as a group that you want to
19 pass on. If you don't, that's fine. If you do, for example, let's
20 look at other species besides harlequins, maybe you want to pass
21 that on. I'll write that down and we can pass that on as a group
22 suggestion to the Trustee Council. That way we can have different
23 avenues for presenting our recommendations, if that's alright?

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Fine.

25 MR. MUTTER: Okay, so, if we're done with the harlequin
26 duck project, I'd like to ask if you want to make any comment as a

1 PAG on that project, and what are they?

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Chuck.

3 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, I've got an additional comment on
4 it. At our last PAG meeting, I mentioned the deer population in
5 western Prince William Sound, which we've had reports of major
6 decline. Maybe we can pass on, not just the bird population and
7 other species of birds are going down, but also THE land animals,
8 such as deer.

9 DR. MONTAGUE: How do you notice that. More days in the
10 field to get the same amount of deer you get?

11 MR. TOTEMOFF: All my information is apparently coming
12 from local hunters in Chenega and the surrounding area.

13 DR. MONTAGUE: Thank you.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, what is the -- what's the next
15 project you want to cover?

16 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay, the next project is 94068 and it's
17 a feasibility study to -- during the clean-up operation when there
18 was washing on the shoreline, the water -- it naturally pushed the
19 fine grain sand up near the top and washed it down to deeper areas.
20 While the clams that require that fine sand, you know, nearer the
21 surface, are not -- some of the areas we've looked are not
22 recolonizing into those areas because they don't have the fine
23 grain sand up there. And, this -- this small project would use a
24 dredge to try to determine if it's feasible to pump those fine
25 grain sands from further offshore up -- up onshore again in a cost-
26 effective manner that could be done over a wide area. And, it's a,

1 you know, one of the few -- I don't know about one of the few --
2 but there's -- it's hard to find a true restoration project, and
3 that's what this one is, you know, it's going on the ground and do
4 something to improve the situation. Next.

5 MS. BRODIE: This is a pilot project to see if it would
6 work.

7 DR. MONTAGUE: Right. Well, we know it will work, but
8 whether it's cost effective and if you need four thousand people
9 with little pumps all over the shoreline ...

10 MS. BRODIE: Well, yeah, that gets to my next question.
11 Suppose it does work. It sounds like it would be something
12 extremely expensive to do this on a wide scale, and I was wondering
13 if you have any estimates of what it would cost to sprinkle sand
14 all over (indiscernible - simultaneous talking).

15 DR. MONTAGUE: I don't. I don't, and that's what we
16 would hope to get out of this project, that they would say for this
17 thirty-six thousand dollars we were able to cover -- how many two
18 kilometers a shoreline or whatever.

19 MR. PHILLIPS: How many sites are involved in this kind
20 of restoration?

21 DR. MONTAGUE: We don't know, that's the next project is
22 picking all the sites.

23 MS. MCBURNEY: Where are we in NEPA compliance?

24 DR. MONTAGUE: Nowhere yet.

25 MS. MCBURNEY: But yet, it looks like you're looking for
26 it getting out (indiscernible) May-June. Yet, this is something

1 that, you know, it does kind of beg to question as to what are you
2 going to be doing to those (indiscernible - simultaneous talking).

3 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, this will definitely require --
4 that's right and this would require an environmental assessment.
5 Until it's done, we couldn't proceed so.

6 DR. FRENCH: Doesn't the natural hydrodynamics of the
7 system redistribute the sand back to where it was naturally,
8 anyway? What time frame do you estimate that's going to take?

9 DR. MONTAGUE: It's a good question. I don't have the
10 answer for it. I'll try to get back to you today.

11 DR. FRENCH: It seems to like this redistribution
12 should be occurring by natural forces anyway.

13 MS. MCBURNEY: I just have a question for clarification,
14 also.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Go ahead.

16 MS. MCBURNEY: Does -- for each of these projects is
17 there any work that is done prior to Trustee approval as far as
18 getting initial homework done on the NEPA compliance?

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, it's a sticky area, you know, we --
20 we had it in the budget here, you know, this much NEPA money was
21 needed for each project, but the Council didn't approve any of that
22 money, but yet some will say you can't condition the way you
23 approve projects on the 31st unless, you know, approved pending an
24 EA. So it's kind of a catch-22 for the moment. I mean, we've
25 thought about whether we were -- could safely use funds -- use
26 other funds that might be excess for this, but it's a sticky area.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: You know, it's almost something that seems
2 to have been overlooked in establishing the policies for the
3 restoration plan, that that is not something that has been really
4 considered in detail, because it is almost chicken-and-egg sort of
5 situation, but yet when you're talking about some major
6 (indiscernible) to the environment in order to restore, say another
7 injured species, but that -- that's got to be almost the first
8 thing that you do is to take a look at what those potential impacts
9 might be before you begin looking at whether this is a good project
10 or not. And yet, you know, and that's one of the other things that
11 was a policy for the restoration plan is that it not damage the
12 environment. I -- I think that might be a recommendation we might
13 consider as far as going back and formulating some sort of a basic
14 policy to address that issue.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Would you like to make that
16 recommendation? Doug needs some -- some concerns here for each one
17 of these projects. By the way, has this ever ...

18 MS. MCBURNEY: One of the thing it illustrates, I think
19 that concern.

20 DR. MONTAGUE: Relative to that though, the Council
21 hasn't and won't proceed with a project until the NEPA compliance
22 is done. So, you know, should the Trustee Council choose to
23 provisionally approve projects funding successful NEPA compliance,
24 if the NEPA compliance shows damage then they wouldn't proceed.
25 But I would prefer to have it done by the 31st, thank you.

26 MS. MCBURNEY: At least some of that basic work. I --

1 you wouldn't need to go through the entire process, but in terms of
2 having just the basic background information of what the potential
3 impact could be, it would be very helpful in being able to assess
4 the value of some of these projects, and having that also another
5 subheading in the project description.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: I notice that the proposed contractor is
7 from San Jose. Have they ever done this successfully somewhere
8 else?

9 DR. MONTAGUE: I don't -- I don't know. I'll get back to
10 you on that.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: I hate to be the experimenter on
12 everything.

13 DR. MONTAGUE: I believe it is experimental in nature, I
14 mean the fact that you can move sand with these dredges is well
15 known. I don't think that it's ever been done in this circumstance
16 or similar type purpose. They've done this in other parts of the
17 country.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Have they?

19 DR. CLOUD: Yes. Whether it works or not, will the
20 sand get there. Whether the beaches that I've seen the life comes
21 back, it starts and everything goes back to normal. I -- it never
22 changes (indiscernible). The sand eventually goes somewhere else.
23 Like John said, eventually the (indiscernible - background noises).

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any recommendations on this
25 project? Any other questions before we go to the next one? We may
26 want -- we'll have to extend our meeting for a couple of days, to

1 do what we're trying to do here. Okay, what's the next item?

2 DR. MONTAGUE: 94070 on page 116. And, this is a
3 restoration offshoot of the Herring Bay experimental monitoring
4 program which tested a number of artificial coverings and seeding
5 mechanisms to restore fucus, and this project would do this. Well,
6 they've eliminated a number of coverings and seeding methods as
7 being ineffective, and there's -- they've narrowed it down to a few
8 techniques, and this project they're going to finally narrow it to
9 the single best technique and begin to apply it. Not over a wide
10 area this year, but to start applying it this year with the idea
11 that in '95 it might be applied over a larger area.

12 MR. PHILLIPS: Any questions on this? Yes, James.

13 MR. KING: I wonder if by the time all the
14 preliminary studies are done on this, the fucus, which admittedly
15 is a slow pioneering plant, wouldn't have gotten through its slow
16 pioneering process, and it wouldn't be necessary to go in for any
17 expensive project. But, it seems like there is some pioneering
18 going on. Is that right?

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Yes, if I can remember correctly from what
20 the investigator said, they wouldn't anticipate full recovery until
21 like twelve -- or twelve years or so. But, there is some
22 turnaround, I mean it's not -- some recovery enough.

23 MR. KING: So, any -- any meaningful attempt to
24 practice this on a broad scale would really be that accelerating
25 process is moving pretty well.

26 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, that's correct. And, I think there

1 is some worry that -- that some areas wouldn't recover for a much
2 longer period without some assistance. And, you know this injury
3 to the intertidal could well be a significant factor in this
4 systemic effect which seems to be hurting a great number of
5 different species of birds and fish in Prince William Sound.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any other questions or
7 recommendations on this? Trying to desperately try to come up with
8 something brilliant here to make comments on each one of these
9 projects, so, if you have something, let's have it. Yes, Pam.

10 MS. BRODIE: Think I'm going to get to feeling a little
11 like James Baker asking with every question, what did the President
12 know and when did he know it. What -- once you've got this
13 technique for introducing fucus, do you have any idea what it's
14 going to cost to introduce it all over the places where it needs to
15 be done, and how many years it's going to take to do that?

16 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I think that, you know, that the
17 budget we have here for next year is actually less than this year
18 because of that application of the mass and the seed -- the seed
19 development -- seed pods, is less -- far less expensive than the
20 research. So, you know, I mean, we haven't looked at this many
21 kilometers and -- and this much map without, what I would guess,
22 about seven hundred thousand over three years -- two years.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: If we could just, for a second before you
24 go to the next project, we have word that Jim Ayers is going to
25 call and have a teleconference at, right at eleven o'clock to give
26 a brief report. I assume it's brief. We have then scheduled after

1 that Jim Barnett on the Whittier project, Dr. Holsten, is it?
2 Okay, on the -- the beetle -- bark beetle consideration, and then
3 Baker on the Prince William Sound, and the other public comments.
4 I hope you had breakfast this morning because I think we're going
5 to run through lunch. But that's the order, so right at eleven
6 o'clock, as soon as we get the call in, it'll be put on the PA
7 system, and we'll see what Mr. Ayers' report is, and -- which tells
8 us he's still at the airport in Juneau. Do you need a break before
9 he calls? Anybody? You want to take a break? Okay, then, if you
10 could be right back here at eleven so that we expedite this
11 telephone call, I'd appreciate it.

12 (Off Record 10:50 a.m.)

13 (On Record 11:05 a.m.)

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Come to order. The -- they finally got
15 through on the telephone, so Mr. Ayers is going to be on the -- on
16 the line, so technically you're going to have to tell me how this
17 happens. Have you got him on now?

18 MR. AYERS: Yes.

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Oh, are you there?

20 MR. AYERS: Yeah, hi Brad.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Hi. We've got lots of reorganization on
22 our agenda today, so we're most anxious to hear from you. Does it
23 look like you might -- you might even get into town today?

24 MR. AYERS: It looks questionable. I mean, it's --
25 it's normal Alaskan weather here and it's normal Alaska Airlines
26 information. The planes are overhead. They diverted once, it

1 opened up, but by the time they got back it -- the fog had set in
2 again. So ...

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Well why don't -- why don't you go ahead
4 and tell us -- we'd like to expedite everything as much as we can,
5 but we're most anxious to hear from you. So, why don't you just
6 proceed and we'll go from there.

7 MR. AYERS: Okay. Is Eric Myers -- is he down with
8 you?

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, he is here.

10 MR. AYERS: Okay, good, so we can just incorporate --
11 I'm assuming he has not talked about project status report at this
12 time.

13 MR. PHILLIPS: No, he just talked about weather status.
14 What we're doing ...

15 MR. AYERS: Okay.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Let me tell you what we're doing. We have
17 Fish and Game here right now, and we were starting to go through
18 the projects one at a time without benefit of your report and
19 asking questions and -- and so on, and we're just proceeding to
20 fill in the time. Then -- as soon as you finish, we've got public
21 comment time here, and we've got several people to be heard on that
22 thing. So, when you finish, that's what we're going to go, and
23 then we're just hoping you'll get here this afternoon.

24 MR. AYERS: Okay. Yeah, my plan is to hang out here
25 at the airport. Eventually, I'm sure, a plane will get out of here
26 and I'll get on what is the next available flight.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Seattle is nice this time of year.

2 MR. AYERS: Yeah, we've -- there actually were a
3 couple of flights south and that was one of the options that we
4 considered. First of all let me say that what I'd -- what I'll do
5 is give an overview of what we're doing and then on each item I'll
6 stop for questions. How's that sound?

7 MR. PHILLIPS: That's fine. We'd like to know.

8 MR. AYERS: Eric Myers is -- is there, I understand
9 it, one of the things that Veronica Gilbert and Eric have been
10 working is a project status report. And, of course, that is in
11 part due to your request, I think was generated at your last
12 meeting. And, of course, it is a sound basis and reasonable
13 request. That is, what have we been doing. So, Eric has a
14 package, which is a working document, and what we have tried to do
15 is go back and identify all projects since the beginning of '92
16 that were funded as projects post actual spill clean up activity.
17 And, what I think this will do, will give you a sense of what has
18 been transpiring, at least in terms of projects, what activities
19 have been going on. And, hopefully, it will give you an idea of
20 the status. Although, let me say that some instances, of course,
21 like many other aspects of both the spill and the trust, there are
22 items for debate. And, the status of some projects is, since we
23 are dealing with scientists and lawyers in many instances, they are
24 items of debate. But, I think that this project status report will
25 give you the basis from which you can either derive conclusions or
26 generate further questions. So, Eric I don't know if you'd like to

1 -- to say something about the report and then distribute that.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Jim ...

3 MR. MYERS: As a point of ...

4 MR. PHILLIPS: Go through parts were handed to us since
5 the beginning of the meeting today. We have them in our hands, the
6 '92 and '93, and Eric may want to comment, but he has told us what
7 they are. We have not had a chance to read them, of course, and
8 evaluate, but we do have them in hand.

9 MR. AYERS: Okay. That is an effort on our part, as
10 I say, to respond to what I think is a critical question, and that
11 is what has been transpiring, what activities have been going on,
12 and what is the status of those activities today. And, actually
13 you have a more recent draft than I have, so you're even ahead of
14 me at this point, and there were several questions in the earlier
15 version that I had. So, I know that it is going to generate
16 questions. What we'd like to do is have you review that at some
17 point and then either individually or if you want to put together
18 a collection process of questions and get -- direct them through
19 Doug Mutter, and we'd be able to respond to those and certainly
20 intend to.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Eric, did you have any comments at all?

22 MR. MYERS: No, I just wanted to make sure that Jim
23 knew that you'd have the report, and that it is in process, and
24 this is a draft document, and it will undergo changes as project
25 status changes further.

26 MR. AYERS: Let me mention, also, that I understood

1 during your last meeting, that a further inquiry had to do with not
2 only the projects that had been funded and their status, but also
3 an inquiry regarding what has been reimbursed. And, that effort is
4 a little more involved and that probably will not be completed.
5 However, let me say that the information about what has been
6 reimbursed is over at the Department of Law, and anyone that's
7 interested in going over there can contact Craig Tillery, or I'd be
8 glad to help you set that up. There is information over at the
9 Department of Law through -- through Craig, with the actual
10 information of reimbursement, and some of that has been, I guess
11 put together by Ross -- Steve Ross of the accountant firm down in
12 Seattle. So, there is some information that is available regarding
13 reimbursement. I don't have a summary report for you, and it's
14 going to take awhile before we actually have that. If anyone is
15 interested in that information prior to this report, prior to
16 projects of '92, then it will mean actually looking at the
17 documents relating to reimbursement requests of -- of the
18 settlement. Any questions?

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Apparently not.

20 MR. AYERS: Okay. One of the things that has become
21 clear to me and certainly was mentioned in a memo to the Trustees,
22 and -- and -- and by others besides Dr. Spies in a memo that he
23 submitted in October, has to do with the importance of having a
24 management structure for implementation of the restoration plan.
25 Let me also say that it's been clear that people's talked about an
26 ecosystem approach or an ecosystem-based management structure for

1 implementation. We are in the process of developing a management
2 structure, and I mean more than just an organization structure. By
3 a management structure, I fully intend that the management
4 structure will be goals that lead to accomplishment of the mission.
5 Specific measurable objectives that lead to goals, and that
6 projects or activities, otherwise known as strategies, that those
7 activities or actions which take energy and money will be
8 identified as leading to a measurable objective. We're working on
9 the 13th and 14th of this week with a group of scientists, the work
10 force members of the Trustee Council staff, and public
11 representatives in a work session, and that work session will begin
12 at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, assuming this fog lifts, and the effort
13 there is to put together a management structure that the general
14 public, as well as the scientist, can look at, understand and
15 participate in. What we'll do on the 13th and 14th is put the
16 outline of that structure together, and by that I mean we'll
17 identify guiding principles, and that effort would include guiding
18 principles like policies that have already been clearly written in
19 the restoration plan. That we are looking at a healthy productive
20 ecosystem, includes bio-diversity, for example, not single species
21 focus. It is not just the matter of the production of a specific
22 fish or for a specific effort, but it's a bio-diverse ecosystem.
23 Another example of a guiding principle would be the importance of
24 recognizing the socioeconomic values of the resources, so that as
25 we move into the actual setting of goals and objectives that we --
26 we would ensure that that guiding principle is recognized so that,

1 for example, species activities or activities would not be to the
2 detriment of local communities. Another important guiding
3 principle would be to ensure that cost benefit analysis or, at
4 least, a risk consideration be made prior to conducting a strategy
5 or an activity. And, for example, an activity that may actually
6 cost, and by cost I mean not only dollars, but what is the -- what
7 are the other costs involved in conducting an activity and have we
8 actually considered whether the activity and the cost of that
9 activity far outweighs the benefit that might be derived. And, a
10 very simple example of that is, you know, it was quickly discovered
11 that handwashing individual rocks was not necessarily a cost
12 effective way to go about dealing with the oil on the beaches.
13 Another example of that, as far as species are concerned, in some
14 cases it might be clear that for several million dollars, we might
15 be able to derive some interesting information regarding these
16 specific species, but in fact the cost of -- of getting that
17 information might not only be far more expensive than the benefit
18 derived, but also may have detrimental impacts on the species
19 themselves. For example, capture in analysis. Those -- those are
20 some various examples of guiding principles. We intend to spend
21 some time discussing guiding principles with -- with the scientist,
22 people involved. We intend to identify the various species that --
23 that -- that have been identified as those which reflect a healthy,
24 productive ecosystem of the spill area, and in some cases that very
25 may well include other species beyond those that are -- that are
26 injured, with the understanding for those who are attorneys who are

1 listening to this, I always like to be able to look around the
2 audience, and in this case I can't do it, but I'm sure that if
3 there are attorneys there from any of the agencies or solicitor's
4 office that they're ready to jump on that and let me know that the
5 decree does not allow for the consideration of other species except
6 as it relates to the injured species. There's two things that I
7 have to say about that, and one of those is that there very well
8 may be species that have been injured that we have not identified,
9 and I know that people have mentioned to me, well be careful with
10 that. Well, I am careful with it. On the other hand, I think that
11 we also have to pay attention to some of the comments that we have
12 received from both the scientists and the public about some things
13 out of the ordinary that have been noticed that need to be
14 reviewed. An example, the species that has not been identified,
15 but certainly a number of people are saying have a direct
16 relationship to injured species is the forage fish. Another one
17 now, there's a discussion of there needs to be some research with
18 regard to macro zooplankton. So we would -- we would come to some
19 discussion, some agreement on a list of the various species that we
20 know today that we ought to look at. We also would talk about the
21 services as well as processes, and processes -- there's a couple of
22 processes I can mention. One of those is communication. Clearly
23 we ought to have some -- some specific goal regarding communication
24 and objectives that are immeasurable that relate to communication.
25 Another one is integrated research. Now, integrated research is
26 something that can probably -- falls apart somewhere else, but I

1 think a -- that we need to realize that integrated research is
2 going to become a process that we need to focus on. We currently
3 are spending millions, at least a million, and I think millions
4 with regard to -- to research data-basing or monitoring data-
5 basing, and it is certainly not clear to me that that information
6 is either going -- going into or being directed into a central
7 focus or focal point, nor am I clear that that information is being
8 gathered in a consistent manner that ultimately becomes a data base
9 that can be readily available to the public, future scientists,
10 whoever, or resource managers that in the future will need that
11 information. So that we would have a list of species and process,
12 as well as services. We would set goals. A goal example would be,
13 and we know we have our mission statement that has been adopted by
14 the Trustee Council, a goal might be a healthy population of sea
15 mammals. We know, or I think we all would agree that -- that a
16 healthy ecosystem would in fact have a healthy productive
17 population of sea mammals. An objective, something that would
18 measurable that we can actually identify as opposed to an abstract
19 (indiscernible), you know concept, something that's actually
20 physically measurable, as opposed to, you know, concept which is a
21 goal. An objective would be a healthy population of sea otters as
22 determined by, and then we would look to what's already been
23 adopted in the restoration plan, been described by Fish and
24 Wildlife Service, I think has the responsibility for that, as well
25 as public input. Then we would -- then, and only then, would we
26 get into the discussion about strategies. What then would you

1 spend money on, what -- what is it that is a reasonable investment
2 with regard to monitoring and research that has to do with sea
3 otters. What types of habitat protection and what types of general
4 restoration. In any event, that is a very brief overview of the
5 effort that we're going to be engaged in here shortly, and that is
6 going to be the structure that we're going to utilize then to build
7 the '95 and future work plans. Let me also say that one of the
8 things that I think that we must do is identify what kind of time
9 period are we talking about when we're -- when we're engaging in a
10 monitoring and research activity. Certainly, a year-by-year or
11 month-by-month or quarter-by-quarter approach is not productive.
12 Or, I take that back. It may be productive but it certainly is not
13 the most efficient management approach. I guess I'll stop there.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: We have a question. We're just getting
15 the microphone to the party. Go ahead.

16 MS. GAGNON: Hello Jim, this is Sharon Gagnon speaking.
17 I'm wondering as you have this meeting and talk about your
18 management plan, how the idea of an endowment is going to figure
19 into your discussions?

20 MR. AYERS: I don't want to get too far ahead of
21 myself, but I guess I can -- I can answer that question like this.
22 My -- my view is -- is that we have a clear mission statement, that
23 the mission -- that we need to identify what are the aspects, what
24 are the parts of that mission, and that's the species processes and
25 services. That, within that are these goals and objectives. In
26 some instances, it's clear, I think, that based on what I've heard

1 the scientists say, and I want to say I learned a great deal in the
2 past talking with the scientists at Fish and Game regarding what we
3 don't know about the marine environment or in some cases even the
4 terrestrial or the uplands environment. In Cordova, the three day
5 workshop was extensive, certainly broadened, I think, everyone's
6 horizon. It certainly did mine. And, that's a long way of saying,
7 I think one of the things that has become abundantly clear, and I'm
8 getting cautious about saying abundantly clear because what may be
9 clear to me I now find is not necessarily clear to scientists or
10 lawyers on an individual basis because in many instances they're
11 paid for the debate, not necessarily for a specific solution, which
12 is their discipline. The long-term recovery of many species is
13 going go -- is going to be beyond the year 2001. Many of the
14 monitoring and research projects that we have been kind of taking
15 on year-to-year basis, appears to me, based on the information that
16 I have, is going to go on beyond the year 2001. In order to
17 accomplish our mission, it's going to be beyond the year 2001 when
18 someone actually is going to be able to say yes, that is a healthy,
19 productive ecosystem because we've accomplished all of our goals.
20 Now, the specific response to your question is, I don't know about
21 endowments at this point because there -- there are a number of
22 legal questions that you've probably already heard. I think the
23 question is -- is how do we provide for the strategies that are
24 going to be necessary to accomplish our goals that lead to our
25 mission that are going to be extended beyond the year 2001, and I
26 think we've got to figure out a way to do that. I -- we are

1 reviewing alternatives for an -- for endowments, and alternatives
2 to endowments. And, let me say one other thing, there's three or
3 four different languages spoken, and some people heard me say this
4 the other day, but I came away from Cordova and then a meeting in
5 Anchorage and then a couple of meeting in Juneau this past week,
6 clearly realizing that there are various languages being spoken.
7 In some cases they're -- it's a legal language and in some cases
8 it's a scientific language, and in some it's a political language,
9 and they do not necessarily, in some instances they use the same
10 words, but they don't mean the same thing. The attorneys do not
11 necessarily agree that there ought to be an endowment, or that
12 there can be an endowment without going back to court, or going
13 through Congress. On the other hand, the scientists are clear that
14 there will be long-term research, and you know, that the court did
15 consider what should happen beyond the year 2001. It does not
16 necessarily change the fact that -- that the scientist believe that
17 there going to be some of these strategies that are going to go
18 beyond the year 2001. So, we've got to carve out a different
19 approach that will satisfy both the scientists and the attorneys in
20 order to get to the issue of long-term strategies, like endowment.
21 Although, I'm not sure the word endowment will ultimately be the
22 right answer. We certainly need a reserve established to -- that
23 will provide for an ongoing program. How's that for a lengthy
24 response to a question about one word?

25 MS. GAGNON: Thank you, it's abundantly clear, thank
26 you.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: We have another question here. If each of
2 you would identify yourself as Sharon did, then Jim knows who he's
3 talking to. Go ahead.

4 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Mr. Ayers, my name is Donna Fisher,
5 and I had a couple of questions on who will be attending this
6 workshop, how are they picked and where's the PAG group in this
7 group? What kind of function will the PAG group have with this?

8 MR. AYERS: Well, let me say that we have been --
9 we've been trying to reach Brad and Rebecca upstairs as an
10 invitation for Brad. What we first tried to do is keep it to
11 twelve to fifteen and it's grown to thirty, and so what was
12 originally going to be kind of a scientific management work shop to
13 get a draft that we could then get out to you, has grown to quite
14 a large number, but the answer to your question is that we invited
15 people from Kodiak and Seward, I think, Chenega, Tatitlek, Valdez
16 and Cordova, and we are inviting the chairman. And I, evidently
17 Molly had tried to reach you, Brad, but you were out, I guess.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: You're right. I hadn't heard about this,
19 but if I'm going to be out again, which I'm going to be, is it all
20 right to send a representative.

21 MR. AYERS: Yes, and Rebecca -- as I say Rebecca has
22 the letter and if you want to simply designate somebody, that will
23 be fine, and you know, that's -- that's up to you and the PAG.

24 MR. PHILLIPS: I think I'll have to do that because I'll
25 be on the other side of the continent when you're meeting and we'll
26 get that notice to you right away.

1 MR. AYERS: Right. And, the four scientists, I don't
2 know if that was a part of the question. The scientists, actually
3 the four, I want to be careful, there are at least ten scientists
4 counting the scientists that are also coming from Alaska, so there
5 are a variety of scientists from the peer group besides Bob Spies.
6 And I -- somebody has already -- somebody has asked me that
7 question a couple of times, and, yes, there will be a variety of
8 scientists, including scientists from the peer reviewers besides
9 Spies, Dr. Juday from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Dr.
10 Rhodes from Newfoundland, and Dr. Pete Peterson are the three that
11 come to mind.

12 MR. PHILLIPS: Do you have another question?

13 MS. FISCHER: No, thank you.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Anybody else have a question? Yes, Pam.

15 MS. BRODIE: This is Pam Brodie. I am delighted to
16 hear what you've been saying, Jim, about the changes that you want
17 to make in the management structure and setting goals and
18 strategies for recovery. I think this will be an enormous
19 improvement. I have been disappointed that the 1994 work plan
20 materials that we have receive follow the same format as previous
21 work plans, which provide us with enormous stacks of paper, but
22 very little information which makes it easy for us to judge these
23 projects, either how important it is do them or justifying the
24 cost. We've got a three inch stack of budget materials, but as far
25 as I can tell provides no useful information in judging the cost.
26 So, I -- and I know none of this is your fault because it was

1 pretty much done before you came, but I am delighted that you're
2 going to be changing this process. Meanwhile, we are in the
3 situation of being expected to give recommendations. And, this
4 morning we passed a resolution that gave ourselves more time for
5 commenting beyond the January 14th deadline up to the 21st so that
6 we could at least have the benefit of Dr. Spies's recommendation.
7 Is that going to be a problem if we don't send in our comments?
8 What we're planning to do is send them in individually rather than
9 meeting again, and doing it by the 21st. Is that a problem for
10 you?

11 MR. AYERS: Well, geez, three things. One, I think
12 that we are where we are because of a lot of hard work by a lot of
13 people. I mean, the more we know, the more we hear -- no one knows
14 how to deal with a eco-disaster and eco-catastrophe, and, in many
15 ways, we're all out on the cutting edge of this and I want to make
16 sure that I do not imply that I think that that a lot of hard work
17 has not gone in to getting us the basic foundation, including the
18 restoration plan, which gives us the guidance. Actually, is the --
19 is the -- the overview gives us the direction which allows us to
20 put down together a specific management structure. Secondly,
21 you're exactly right. I don't -- I don't know how to get there any
22 quicker for '94 and, although I mentally have some disciplines that
23 I want to -- that I'm going to utilize in making recommendations to
24 the Trustee Council regarding projects, I don't -- I don't have the
25 ability to get a structure in place in order to consider the '94
26 than my individual disciplines, as I say. Thirdly, the answer to

1 your specific question about the 21st, I guess, let me relate that
2 back to my item number two, which is that I intend to give a
3 recommendation to the Trustee Council. We're developing a
4 spreadsheet that identifies the project, generally what the project
5 would do, a Chief Scientist comment recommendation. If there is a
6 legal opinion about the project, what that opinion is or comment
7 is, and then I want to -- what I'd like to do is put in a comment
8 about previous projects that may be related to this one. I mean,
9 certainly a project has not been completed in the past or had lead
10 to no apparent conclusion or accomplishment. I would like for that
11 to impact -- it would impact my decision or recommendation. I also
12 had, and we have in this template that we're trying to develop, the
13 PAG recommendation, which definitely will affect me and how -- and
14 how I comment to the Trustee Council on a recommendation. I was
15 looking forward to your comments because I was hoping that you
16 would help instill some discipline, is the project clear, is it
17 clear what objective will be obtain through the project, or leads
18 to. Does the project have a meaningful relationship that the
19 general public can understand and support? If you don't get that
20 in until the 21st, it's actually a time and technical question
21 because we're -- I guess I'd leave -- I guess I'd have to talk to
22 Eric and Ward. That's a Friday? Is -- is that right, is that
23 correct, you're talking about that Friday?

24 MS. BRODIE: Yes, that's correct.

25 MR. CLOUD: Jim?

26 MR. AYERS: Yeah.

1 MR. CLOUD: This is Jim Cloud. I think the reason
2 that we -- the reason we asked to extend it was because Dr. Spies
3 didn't show today, and we don't have the benefit of his scientific
4 information as we have last year, and we thought that it was
5 important to have that information as we formulated our comments.
6 And, when we did pass the resolution to move our comments until the
7 21st, we did so with some -- with some note that it was probably
8 unlikely we'd even have Dr. Spies's report by then, just based on
9 past history. Now that you're in charge, we can probably expect it
10 in a much more timely manner.

11 MR. AYERS: Well, I think, my understanding is that he
12 commented on some of these projects and I don't know if we -- back
13 in July, some of these projects that were identified previously,
14 it's my understanding that he had commented on them before, but
15 only in -- in a numerical range fashion from low to -- to top
16 priorities or some such thing.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: That's correct. We've had one other
18 question, Jim, raised this morning. Do you anticipate any delay in
19 the action of the Trustee Council, which might happen because of
20 lack of appointment to fill the place of Charlie Cole, or do you
21 expect that to happen so it won't delay the meeting on the 31st.

22 MR. AYERS: I anticipate no delay.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Alright.

24 MR. AYERS: And, I am encouraging the Trustees to move
25 forward.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, we have a sort of a time crunch here

1 and would ask if you have anything else at this point. We have
2 several people standing by on public comments that we would like to
3 get to so as not to hold them up too long, and so if you've got
4 another subject or something else, or if there is a question of one
5 of the members, let's try to expedite it if we can. Yes, we have
6 another question.

7 DR. FRENCH: Jim, this is John French, just a real
8 quick question. I appreciate your comments on the endowment. I
9 assume from those you would have no problem with us suggesting or
10 recommending that a sum of money, say ten or fifteen million be set
11 aside to establish a reserve fund?

12 MR. AYERS: I -- I have certainly no objection to that
13 and I think that without -- and I want to be clear here, you want
14 to be careful get -- a new Executive Director into deep water too
15 quick without knowing what kind of power he's got in his engines.
16 I believe that, based on what I'm hearing from the scientists and
17 from the people working on monitoring research, that there is a
18 need for long-term reserve. That there is a need for long-term
19 research and monitoring and a reserve is the approach that I think
20 makes the most sense based on what I've heard from the public and
21 what I've heard from heard from scientists and we are looking at
22 that, and you will hear me talking about that at the next meeting.
23 So, I have -- I would have no objection to that whatsoever.

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, except identify yourself.

25 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, Jim, Chuck Totemoff.

26 MR. AYERS: Hi, Chuck.

1 MR. TOTEMOFF: Hi.

2 MR. AYERS: I -- we keep missing each other. I've
3 left messages and you've called me, but I'm mostly in airports.

4 MR. TOTEMOFF: Anyway, on the agenda here, it says that
5 you were going to give a report on habitat protection, and your
6 first newsletter says that you're going to -- we are directed by
7 the Trustees to contact the landowners that received a high parcel
8 ranking, and I was just wondering how that process is going,
9 because I never received a call on that?

10 MR. AYERS: Well, I think what -- what the transcript
11 says and what the Trustee Council said was that I would work --
12 identify a lead agency, and -- and, in the case of a lead agency,
13 that the lead agency would work with me to make a contact, and if
14 you have not been contacted I'll be glad to -- you know, I -- I'd
15 be glad to talk to you.

16 MR. TOTEMOFF: Thanks.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Any further questions to -- yes.
18 Kimberly.

19 MS. BENTON: Jim, this is Kim Benton. I just have a
20 follow up question. Is basically the status of where we at under
21 the habitat protection process is that the working document Volume
22 One and that's where we're at until public comments came back?

23 MR. AYERS: The Trustee Council directed me to, as
24 Chuck said, identify willing sellers of high value parcels and
25 engage in preliminary negotiations and discussions. In my view,
26 what that meant and it is in the transcript of that direction,

1 would be to identify who the seller is, a lead agency and a
2 corresponding opposite Trustee. For example, if it's a state lead
3 agency, then there would be a federal Trustee identified to work
4 with the team in talking with the seller, and that what should
5 happen is simply identifying the seller's interest and potential
6 integrated strategies, and then reporting back to the Council,
7 which I intend to do on the 31st.

8 MS. BENTON: Okay, so ...

9 MR. AYERS: And by -- by seller's interest I mean do
10 they own the property, are they high value parcels, what kind of
11 ownership do they have, are they interested in selling that or
12 having it put into protective status. If so, what -- what is that
13 interest, and are there integrated strategies that might come into
14 play there, and certainly the Council talked about, you know,
15 multiple funding scenarios, are there other pots of funds around
16 that may be available to participate in habitat protection
17 activity. And, also, an integrated strategies would include -- are
18 they interested in -- in a potential land exchange.

19 MS. BENTON: So, what I'm understanding you to say is
20 that at Trustee Council direction, you're proceeding only on
21 habitat protection process that deals with acquisition, not with
22 any other option?

23 MR. AYERS: No, no that is not -- that is not -- I'm
24 saying with regard to habitat acquisition.

25 MS. BENTON: Okay, can you tell me, other than habitat
26 acquisition, other alternatives, protection mechanisms where you --

1 where are your status is on that process?

2 MR. AYERS: Well there -- there are several projects.
3 One of those is some -- some -- with regard to habitat protection,
4 there's some activities, maybe its rehabilitation as -- as opposed
5 to protection. Habitat protection activity is a part of what's
6 going on with the mussel bed proposal, as I understand it. It is,
7 you know, is some work on the mussel bed restoration work, but then
8 some protection. Also, I think if you look at some of the projects
9 like the Kenai sockeye project, those -- there's certainly habitat
10 rehabilitation as well as habitat protection going on there. I
11 don't know if you have something specific in mind.

12 MS. BENTON: I guess my specific question is, up until
13 this point it's been, once an owner is interested in selling their
14 lands or it's in conjunction with another specific project, there
15 has been very limited communication, and when we've tried to come
16 forward as landowners or timber owners and say we're interested in
17 looking at some alternatives, unless we were willing to sell the
18 lands and the landowner was willing -- or timber owner is willing
19 to sell the lands, or it was in conjunction with another project,
20 there's been no communication or sharing of information. And, my
21 question is whether that is an issue that you'd like to tackle and,
22 if so, what can we do to help?

23 MR. AYERS: Well, I, yeah, I guess I just don't know
24 enough about what your real question is. I don't understand what
25 your question is.

26 MS. BENTON: Has the restoration team or the Trustee

1 Council looked at habitat protection mechanisms other than outright
2 acquisition, unless it's tied into a specific project? How can we
3 do that?

4 MR. AYERS: Well, let me say two things. First of all
5 there is no restoration team. Secondly, the Trustee Council has
6 been -- has a process for identifying on -- and based on -- and it
7 has to be based obviously, both scientifically and legally, on
8 injured species and identifying critical habitat areas, and then
9 identifying those highest value critical habitat areas, and then
10 trying to determine a way to provide protection for those critical
11 habitat areas in order to allow the most rapid restoration of the
12 injured species. Now, I'm not -- you're saying, is there -- is
13 there another alternative, and I guess that -- it -- if it's a high
14 value parcel and it has critical -- and it obviously is, if by
15 definition it's a high valued parcel, it's got important critical
16 habitat association to the injured species. Then the seller
17 certainly has, I mean, one of their rights is, and that's what I
18 was saying about seller interest to identify their interests as
19 being protecting that particular habitat without necessarily
20 selling it. Well, let me also say that, this is my opinion, not
21 the Trustee Council's. I'm going based on the Trustee Council
22 recommendation -- I'm sorry, direction to me -- and then my
23 recommendation back to them based on what I find out and what is
24 reported with regard to the seller's interest. But I -- let me say
25 one other thing, and I'll be -- I'll take another step at this, and
26 get myself in deeper. I do not think that it is prudent to engage

1 in -- to engage in expenditures, high expenditures of funds as you
2 get further from fee simple and higher in costs. And, let me say
3 that another way. I think -- I think that the probability of
4 success and -- and the wide use of funds gets -- gets lost the
5 further you get from actual fee simple, and the higher you get in
6 costs the more difficult it is for the public to accept that that's
7 a prudent investment.

8 MS. BENTON: I think that -- I don't want to tie up
9 anymore time, and so probably you and I should talk about this on
10 another date, but something to keep in mind is that there are
11 willing owners that are not willing to sell their lands, that don't
12 want any money, but just want to have this information shared with
13 them on how they can help restoration on their property. And, so
14 I think that's a very prudent expense of public's money, when it's
15 no money. So, you and I can talk about that a little later.

16 MR. AYERS: Yeah, and -- and I'd be very -- and like
17 I say I don't understand your question, and I'm, you know, I'm just
18 -- I'd be glad to -- I'd be glad to sit down and talk with you
19 about it because there is report on -- on both parcels and large
20 parcels coming up.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any further questions from the
22 group, and do you have anything else -- again that you want to tell
23 us.

24 MR. AYERS: No, I -- I appreciate your time ...

25 MR. PHILLIPS: It's our pleasure.

26 MR. AYERS: ... and -- and if there's anything I can

1 do to help, let me encourage you to go as far as you possibly can,
2 particularly with some of these projects you've seen in trying to
3 be -- and at least giving them your best shot at a recommendation
4 and commenting about is it clear, is it an understandable project
5 to the general public, and does it lead to a -- to a specific
6 objective that's measurable with regard to the spill? The more you
7 can -- the more you can accomplish there, you know, the better it's
8 going to be for all of us.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: We're going to give it the best shot we
10 have and try to -- it looks like we're going to be over on
11 tomorrow. But, don't leave the airport. Get on the next airplane.

12 MR. AYERS: I understand. Brad, let me also mention
13 that it would be good -- I'll call Eric on a different line, but I
14 think Eric and I can have a conversation about what is the best way
15 to give you Spies's comments, but also to try to figure out what's
16 the latest date. I'm very concerned about the 21st. I think that
17 -- that's going to put us in a situation where I won't have your
18 comments in time to incorporate them into mine, unless you could do
19 it in a unified way. But, if we get, you know, fifteen or sixteen
20 different people sending in individual comments on each project,
21 you know, there's no way to assimilate that information.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Why don't you give Eric then your -- your
23 drop-dead date and time, any concerns that you have, and he can get
24 back to us before the meeting is over. And so, we will try our
25 very best to accommodate you.

26 MR. AYERS: Thank you much for your time.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, thanks for calling.

2 MR. AYERS: Talk to you later, good luck.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay. I hate to interrupt Fish and Game
4 thing, but we have passed the time that we've told the public that
5 they would be heard, and I'd like to proceed to that, and then take
6 up Fish and Game after lunch. So, if you want to take a long
7 lunch, this is probably a good time to do that, and we have three
8 items, at least, that we have to be heard now. If that's all right
9 with you, can you come back this afternoon?

10 DR. MONTAGUE: Yeah, what time?

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, let's see, it's twelve now, I would
12 say two o'clock. Is that all right? Okay. We'll try to get this
13 -- the rest of this out of the way so we can get back here by two.
14 Jim Barnett, if you wouldn't mind coming up and using the table
15 here and the microphone, and make your presentation. Mr. Barnett,
16 by the way, represents the City of Whittier, and they have been
17 working on extensive plan of infra-structure improvement and other
18 things that Jim will give you in detail. So, why don't you just
19 proceed and if -- give us what you need and then we'll -- we may
20 have to interrupt and ask some questions if you're not clear, but
21 go ahead.

22 MR. BARNETT: Thank you. Am I hooked up alright? Okay,
23 good. Two things, first of all I'd like to extend the regrets of
24 Gary Williams who is the City Manager of the City of Whittier. He
25 and I and the gentlemen I'm about to introduce, jointly made the
26 presentation I'm about to make to the recreation work group. Gary

1 had a city council meeting last night, and as those of you who
2 travel to Whittier know, the train service is not on a daily basis,
3 and so Gary is stuck in Whittier until tomorrow, when the first
4 train comes back from Whittier.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: Another good argument for the road to
6 Whittier.

7 MR. BARNETT: I knew the chairman would appreciate that
8 anyway. I'd also like to introduce Mark Stall (ph), Mark is the
9 Manager of Lands for Chugach Alaska Corporation. I'm sure he was
10 interested in the previous commentary, but he's not here to talk
11 about Chugach's land entitlement with respect to habitat
12 enhancement, but he certainly is interested in the Shotgun Cove
13 project. I have been recently retained by the City of Whittier to
14 assist them, both as their city attorney and also to assist them in
15 respect to planning for the impacts anticipated from the now
16 apparently funded construction of a road to Whittier over the
17 existing rail line. I don't know how many of you are aware of
18 that, using Exxon-Valdez oil spill funds, the Alaska Legislature
19 last year appropriated necessary state match for federal funds, and
20 an EIS is now underway to -- of the so-called Whittier access
21 project EIS. I'm looking around the room, I know a number of you
22 are familiar with the Whittier access project EIS, and that's an
23 ongoing effort that I understand will be coming to a conclusion by
24 late spring. The City of Whittier, for those of you who have not
25 been there, is more or less a land-locked parcel of land now that
26 has as it's only access the rail service that is periodic and --

1 and the concern, I think, that the City of Whittier has is, once
2 the road opens, the projections are a very substantial change in
3 the amount of visitor traffic into the town, and Whittier needs to
4 do something to get ready for it. We're working very hard with the
5 railroad and others to examine alternatives in the core area of
6 Whittier proper, but for those of you who've been there, I think
7 you can appreciate it. It's a very limited land area. The
8 significant alternative use of land in that -- in the passage canal
9 area is either at the head of the bay where the oil tanks are, or
10 this area Shotgun Cove, which is six miles further out of via now -
11 - a trail extends about half that way, and then there's no further
12 access to get out to Shotgun Cove, but Shotgun Cove is privately
13 owned land, exclusively privately owned, or City of Whittier owned
14 land. This drawing is a depiction of -- of Shotgun Cove in one of
15 its earlier iterations as to how it might be developed into a
16 recreation destination. The principal landowners, again, are the
17 City of Whittier and Chugach Alaska Corporation. Mr. Chairman, we
18 made a presentation to the Recreation Work Group in November about
19 the Shotgun Cove project, and it's not my objective to reiterate
20 the -- the comings and goings of the Recreation Work Group, except
21 to say that there were thirty or so projects that were proposed to
22 the Recreation Work Group, and I think just a handful have been
23 forwarded to the Trustees, and Shotgun Cove did not enjoy very much
24 support at the Recreation Work Group, and was not one of those that
25 was brought forward. What I wanted to do is visit with the
26 Advisory Council about the Shotgun Cove project, generally, and

1 then to comment on the draft work plan, which seems to suggest that
2 projects like Shotgun Cove would not be eligible to receive
3 funding, and I would like to say, and I believe can speak for
4 Chugach Alaska as well, that we think that this kind of a project
5 should be considered and should not be foreclosed by the draft plan
6 and the methods by which it describes funding that you can receive
7 from the Exxon-Valdez oil spill settlement funds. Shotgun Cove is
8 now an undeveloped area, and though as I indicated, it is privately
9 owned. We have developed the concept, the people of the City of
10 Whittier over the past decade, in conjunction with Chugach Alaska
11 Corporation, have identified many different scenarios. This one as
12 drawn is -- is a little bit more aggressive probably than -- than
13 we would undertake, but the concept is to have a boat harbor. The
14 front boat harbor in Whittier for those of you who are not aware,
15 accommodates about three hundred boats, and it has about an eight
16 year waiting list. In other words, there's a tremendous amount of
17 pent up demand that has never been realized in Whittier. The
18 concept here is to provide further boating opportunities, to
19 provide opportunities for the day operators, and we anticipate that
20 there would be more day operators once the road is open to
21 Whittier, and to also provide a tourism destination, that is, a
22 lodge resort concept. We believe that this -- that funding for
23 this kind of a project would be appropriate for Exxon-Valdez oil
24 spill funds, in conjunction with other public and private funds
25 that we can identify to make this project a reality. It is the --
26 the total cost of the project is the -- the road and harbor is

1 probably about forty million dollars, probably the private and
2 other governmental funding would -- would generate all but fifteen
3 to sixteen million dollars, and the request that we made to the
4 Recreation Group was for sixteen million dollars, which is what we
5 think is the number necessary to make this project happen. Once
6 the road and harbor projects are funded, we believe the upland
7 projects which can amount to another -- near another hundred
8 million dollars of facilities along the upland. We believe that
9 those will all sustain themselves on a -- on a private basis
10 because their internal rate of return is demonstrated by
11 independent analysis, shows that those projects will support
12 themselves, assuming there's a road and harbor in Shotgun Cove. We
13 believe it's a project that will establish western Prince William
14 Sound as a superior recreation destination. We think that it will
15 benefit recreational opportunities in western Prince William Sound
16 and renew people's faith in western Prince William Sound as the
17 best in the nation, and recommend it to the Trustee Council and to
18 the Public Advisory Group. I'd be happy to answer any questions.
19 You want to say anything?

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Alright, Kim.

21 MS. BENTON: (Indiscernible - out of range of
22 microphone)

23 MR. BARNETT: We did.

24 MS. BENTON: I mean, how we ranked this project?

25 MR. BARNETT: No.

26 MS. BENTON: Out of thirty?

1 MR. BARNETT: In the twenties, I don't remember the
2 exact number.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any -- yes.

4 MS. MCBURNEY: Which aspects of this project do you see
5 as being eligible for funding through the settlement.

6 MR. BARNETT: Well, the concept is how high -- how, I
7 guess you define the work restoration, to the extent, I mean the --
8 if you read the draft plan you see that there's a lot of public
9 concern over the continued recreation opportunities in western
10 Prince William Sound, that there have been impacts to the
11 recreation resource, and we believe that by establishing a
12 recreation destination that people will have renewed faith in
13 western Prince William Sound. It will also provide an opportunity
14 for people to visit the Sound and come back without having, you
15 know, it will be a destination in and of itself, so people will
16 take, for example, a day cruise and go out and come back, and,
17 hopefully, then wouldn't impact the oiled beaches. I see this as
18 a dual opportunity in that respect.

19 MS. MCBURNEY: Do you have any suggested numbers as to
20 how many -- how much additional traffic it would bring into the
21 area?

22 MR. BARNETT: Well, the numbers are being generated by
23 the Whittier access project EIS. It suggests that within ten years
24 there will be a million new people in western Prince William Sound
25 when the road goes through.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: That's visitors.

1 MR. BARNETT: That's visitors. So, I mean, what we're
2 trying to do is accommodate the expected impacts and, you know, for
3 those who are familiar with Whittier, we've got a hundred acres in
4 the town proper and old dilapidated structures and a boat harbor
5 that's filled to capacity already. So, we're going to have a
6 million people in Whittier, and we don't -- we're not quite frankly
7 sure what we're going to do with them right now.

8 MR. DIEHL: It sounds like an impact of -- just
9 building the road, not of the oil spill, what you're talking about.
10 The funding for the road was -- how was -- how was the road suppose
11 to be funded.

12 MR. BARNETT: The state match is exclusively oil spill
13 funds.

14 MR. DIEHL: Criminal or civil suit?

15 MR. BARNETT: I believe the criminal -- from the
16 criminal fund.

17 MR. BRODERSEN: If I could interject just a minute. The
18 money is from reimbursement of state expenditures on the oil spill
19 is neither civil nor criminal, and it's strictly state fund. It is
20 not really truly associated with the Exxon-Valdez. It just happens
21 to be coming back from reimbursements from the Exxon-Valdez. It's
22 not something that the legislature took out of civil settlement,
23 it's not something the Trustee Council passed on (indiscernible -
24 coughing) legislature, state funds. But, let's not discuss them
25 (indiscernible). It's not Exxon-Valdez funding (indiscernible).

26 MR. BARNETT: Okay folks, we've not understood it that

1 way.

2 MR. BRODERSEN: That's what it is.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Jim.

4 MR. CLOUD: How much -- how much is the extreme
5 (indiscernible) the projected cost for the road from Whittier to
6 Shotgun Cove?

7 MR. BARNETT: The -- the six miles is about twelve, I
8 believe, million dollars.

9 MR. CLOUD: So, then that's the basis for your request
10 here, is for the road construction.

11 MR. BARNETT: It's -- it's proposed in a different
12 format in that we've -- we've indicated what we believe the total
13 cost of the road and the harbor together are, and then we've
14 subtracted from that the funds that we think could be generated
15 from public and private sources to accomplish those two projects,
16 and we've come up with the net. The numbers are similar, but we're
17 not just saying, please pay for the road, we're saying that to the
18 extent that we could identify sixteen million dollars, we could do
19 the road and harbor with other sources.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Further, Pam did you have a question?

21 MS. BRODIE: I just wanted to say that the Trustees
22 have gone through a very long and difficult process to produce a
23 restoration plan, and it's had a tremendous amount of public input
24 including from this body, and I think if the Public Advisory Group
25 starts recommending projects, in this case a fairly expensive
26 project, that are ineligible under the restoration plan, that we're

1 going to cause a lot of turmoil in this process and unnecessary
2 time and trouble, and I don't think it's going to be productive.
3 I don't -- I'd be surprised if the Trustees started disregarding
4 their restoration plan to approve subsidies for real estate
5 development.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Apparently there's a question as to
7 whether it qualifies, by law whether it qualifies under the
8 restoration plan, isn't that correct? And, I don't know whether
9 you have answers to that.

10 MR. BARNETT: I -- what's it, it's a draft plan and to
11 the extent, I mean, you know, certainly the way the draft plan is
12 written, there would be some pretty significant limitations on,
13 well I'll quote the most critical sentence is on page 13 of chapter
14 two which says projects to be avoided, doesn't say excluded, are
15 those that create different uses for an area such as constructing
16 a small boat serving facility in an area that is wild and
17 undeveloped. And, I don't know if that was written with Shotgun
18 Cove or maybe the Chenega project in mind, but those are the two
19 that come to mind when reading that sentence.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: I think the question of whether there was
21 damage -- whether it was damages or not in that area immediately
22 comes to mind, but as I understand the legislation that replacement
23 of damaged recreation is also allowable.

24 MR. BARNETT: That was our understanding.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: And that's -- that's how I could see this
26 thing justified with the damage that was done on Knight Island and

1 some other places out there that were used for recreation. It
2 might be justified, I don't know, I'm not making a legal
3 determination. But, I think that's the question that arises here
4 and also with the Trustees on whether they could even consider a
5 project like this under the constrictions of the settlement
6 language, and I think that's what has to be -- you have to address
7 this, how does this qualify. I think that's essentially the
8 question that Pam has raised on whether they would even -- unless
9 they have a direction on how it would qualify, would they even take
10 it up as a consideration. I don't know. And, you almost have to
11 give the answer to that.

12 MR. BARNETT: I certainly understand that, and I think
13 is a critical body to consider just that issue, whether you want to
14 restrict or narrowly interpret what restoration means or not, I
15 think it's something this body wants to consider. Certainly, the
16 Recreation Work Group concluded that. You know, I -- you can
17 interpret a lot of things in this document, in the appendix, I mean
18 there's an extensive discussion about the impacts on commercial
19 recreation and tourism that would suggest that this would be
20 eligible. I think it's just a matter of whether you want to
21 interpret the use of the funds narrowly or broadly, and I think
22 that this is the proper forum to discuss that. It's -- my
23 understanding is it's not a settled issue, it's still a draft plan.

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Kim.

25 MS. BENTON: Mr. Barnett, I just have a questions.
26 You're looking for from us here -- are you looking for

1 recommendations from this group to the Trustee Council that this be
2 added or not added to the '94 work plan or ...?

3 MR. BARNETT: Well, I think that would be awfully
4 hopeful. We -- there are an awful lot of projects that were
5 presented to the Recreation Work Group that were not approved.
6 And, Mr. Totemoff had a proposal that also was not on the list of
7 this -- high magnitude cost as well, and we obviously thought that
8 that was an excellent proposal as well. I think the critical issue
9 though is this -- to the extent this restoration plan becomes final
10 in its current form that, I think Mr. Totemoff's proposal and the
11 Shotgun Cove proposal are going to be more unlikely, and I think
12 that the Advisory Group needs to be aware that, you know, to the
13 extent restoration is defined, its continued examination of the
14 ecosystems, that's one aspect of restoration, but we don't think
15 the exclusive one.

16 MR PHILLIPS: Yes, Jim.

17 MR. CLOUD: Thank you, Jim, for your presentation. I
18 think that judging by how the Trustee Council has determined what
19 land should be bought outright under habitat protection, your
20 project probably has a better chance of qualifying for being bought
21 -- for land being bought outright under habitat protection.

22 (Laughter)

23 MR. BARNETT: The City of Whittier will sell its land
24 back -- I don't think that's our objective.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any other questions to Mr.
26 Barnett. Yes, Chuck.

1 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, I just have a couple of comments in
2 regard to your presentation. Our -- the project that you were
3 referring to which was our Chenega Bay Marine Service Center is --
4 I don't know how much similarities we have with your project, but
5 our project was developed independently than this project, that
6 you're now presenting, and we ranked number seven during the
7 process of the Recreation Workshop. At that time, it was
8 represented to us that the first time projects would be written up
9 for detailed descriptions for a Trustee Council, included '94 draft
10 work plan. That didn't happen. We found out at the end of the
11 workshop, or after the workshop that the first three or four
12 projects would only be written up, and so, pretty much we're
13 excluded from being considered for the '94 work plan. I understand
14 that those projects are still provided to the Trustee Council, but
15 it will provided to them at a later date, which will be past the
16 date which they'll approve their '94 work plan. So, I don't know
17 what good this has done all of us that were at that workshop, other
18 than put in a lot of time and effort into it and not even being
19 considered for a write-up, when we were told that -- we would want
20 to be the first ten projects were going to be written up. But, I
21 think we also did our homework as far as the link to the Exxon-
22 Valdez oil spill, and my main concern here is that, once again we
23 did our homework, and we didn't even get the benefit of public
24 scrutiny on this process, at least the recreation projects.

25 MR. BARNETT: I might add, Mr. Chairman, that the City
26 of Whittier had a couple of other proposals that were ranked very

1 high as well, and they also missed the cut. And, although we
2 understood, as -- as Chuck did, that they would make the grade,
3 even though they were ranked highly, they were not provided. I
4 wasn't here to complain about that so much as the draft plan to the
5 extent that it's not questioned, will I think impact of the --
6 ability to provide these new recreation opportunities, very
7 substantially.

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, James.

9 MR. KING: Our committees have very little
10 information on recreation proposals thus far. But, it's my
11 impression that when we do get a full draft EIS, under the NEPA
12 process any proposals, such as your proposal, will need to be
13 addressed in the -- in the final, and I would think that from the
14 point of view of our committee, it would be easy for -- for us to
15 take a position on these kind of projects once we see the final EA
16 and restoration plan. I guess maybe I should ask if that is a
17 correct assumption that this kind of project will be included.

18 MR. MUTTER: I don't know what kind of alternatives
19 they're going to look at in the -- in the EIS.

20 MR. KING: Now, under an EIS, anybody that comes up
21 with something is in the ball game, isn't that right? Their --
22 their proposal has to be considered, approved or refuted, analyzed.

23 MR. MUTTER: Well, they -- they take all the public
24 comment and have to address the public comments some way. They
25 don't necessarily have to be included as an alternative.

26 MR. KING: Right, but they have to be evaluated in

1 some form.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Mr. King's remarks are very kind, but we
3 receive very little. We've received practically nothing in terms
4 of recreation. It's the one big blank spot in this whole
5 operation. Any other questions of Mr. Barnett? Well, we really
6 ... yes.

7 MR. DIEHL: I'd like to speak to recreation for a
8 second here. I'm the recreation user person. So, my understanding
9 was there seemed to be a -- a private -- a resort you're trying to
10 -- you're trying to finance a resort here. Destination resort in
11 western Prince William Sound, and I would think, you know, I mean,
12 I live in a resort town and, certainly, the city -- the city
13 partially helped make that happen, but I don't see any role for
14 this body to participate in that kind of development. I think it
15 would be -- it's fundamentally flawed in that Judge Russell Holland
16 has to approve any of the funds that go out and there's no way --
17 I mean we could -- we could -- if your -- if your project was
18 fundable, it would be funded, and one such project -- we'd probably
19 have hundreds of them the very next year, just like it. And, we
20 could easily spend off the remaining funds on this sort of project,
21 but the sort of project that you mentioned is, you know, a private
22 endeavor.

23 MR. BARNETT: Well, I don't know how you define a
24 private endeavor. I'm here speaking on behalf of a governmental
25 entity. The legislature gave that governmental entity, the City of
26 Whittier, these lands for this purpose.

1 MR. DIEHL: Well, governmental entities can -- can for
2 sure ask us for money, but I don't see any way that -- the legality
3 ...

4 MR. BARNETT: Well, obviously the City of Whittier has
5 determined that the Shotgun Cove project is in the public interest,
6 or I wouldn't be here.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any further questions? Thanks
8 a lot, Jim, for coming down and taking your time and giving us some
9 enlightenment. The next item on the agenda would be, if I could
10 see it without my glasses, Dr. Holsten. This is on the bark beetle
11 situation. Would you come up and take the same microphone please.
12 Oh, they switched on us, huh. I don't have up to date information
13 either. Would you ...

14 MR. WALLINGFORD: Mr. Chairman.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, would you use the mike there that's
16 laying right on the table in front of you, you clip it to
17 something. It's your choice. And, identify yourself.

18 MR. WALLINGFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman, my name is Dave
19 Wallingford, and I'm here with Dr. Holsten who is an entomologist
20 with the U.S. Forest Service, State Forestry, and Roger Burnside
21 who is an entomologist with the Division of Forestry, Department of
22 Natural Resources, State of Alaska. We were asked to describe the
23 spruce bark beetle situation on the Kenai Peninsula, and I guess
24 this Advisory Group had asked why, and I guess it is the -- I would
25 say in summing up that the magnitude of the epidemic could further
26 impact resources affected by the spill already. The epidemic is

1 most active within the oil spill restoration area, and the long-
2 term vegetative effects of the beetle activities could possibly
3 rival the resource impacts of the oil spill. Without going into a
4 great deal more introduction, I'd like to then have Roger Burnside
5 give you kind of a little background information on just what we're
6 facing there with this activity on the Kenai Peninsula.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: There's another chair up here if you want
8 to go up, and there's another mike also. There's another mike
9 laying on the table there too, if you want to utilize both of them.
10 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking) apply yourself ...

11 MR. BURNSIDE: Good afternoon -- okay, just let me know --
12 - good afternoon Mr. Chairman and Advisory Council. I'm Roger
13 Burnside, entomologist for the Alaska Division of Forestry, State
14 Office in Anchorage. With me is Ed Holsten, entomologist with the
15 State Department Forestry organization within the U.S. Forest
16 Service. We've been asked to describe a forest insect epidemic
17 occurring on the Kenai Peninsula not far from here, which maybe
18 significantly impact in the long-term health of the forest
19 ecosystems there. The insect is a spruce bark beetle, which you
20 may or may not be familiar with. If not, I have some printed
21 information, it's available, and I'll leave with the group today,
22 which explains the information we're presenting today a little bit
23 in more detail and allow you more time to look over some of the
24 information. The earliest recorded spruce beetle epidemic in
25 Alaska was noted by the U.S. Forest Service to be in the Copper
26 River region in the 1920's. The Copper River region is now

1 experiencing a second epidemic some seventy to eighty years after
2 the initial beetle outbreak. The current Kenai Peninsula spruce
3 beetle outbreak I just mentioned, however, is important to your
4 group since this spruce beetle activity now encompasses almost six
5 hundred thousand acres of new or ongoing beetle infestations,
6 impacted forests within the EVOS area boundary, between
7 approximately Nikiski in the south side of Kachemak Bay. This
8 Kenai Peninsula spruce beetle activity began being discussed as a
9 forest health issue in the late 1970's. Mark, near Mark Brodersen
10 there's a map that shows the statewide beetle activities, and we'll
11 just leave it here as a prop today, and I would like to get this
12 back, however. It shows statewide spruce beetle activity that was
13 sketch-mapped by aerial surveys between 1989 and '93. In the late
14 1980's, the Forest Service made one of the first attempts to
15 selectively harvest some of the beetle infested stands. These were
16 near Cooper Landing. The immediate Environmental Impact Statement
17 was challenged at that time. In the early 1990's a cooperative
18 effort between the Forest Service, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and
19 the State Division of Forestry used the state appropriation to
20 harvest some beetle-killed trees to reduce fire fuels and build a
21 fire break at the Community of Copper Landing. That three-way
22 cooperation continued, although further results have been meager,
23 mostly due to the issues associated with harvest and its perceived
24 potentially effects on other non-timber resources. Last August all
25 three agencies participated in a review of the infestation and its
26 implications by hosting a team of forestry and forest health

1 experts from the Lower Forty-eight and Canada. After looking at
2 analysis of -- at Alaska's major spruce beetle infested areas, the
3 group provided a particular area and cycle analysis of the current
4 epidemic. From our own information, in cooperation with the U.S.
5 Forest Service, we now know that nearly one point two million acres
6 of recent spruce bark beetle infested forests are -- were aeri-ally
7 sketch-mapped during 1991 through 1993 aerial surveys. This
8 includes accumulative area of spruce forests infested over a three
9 year period. In 1993 about seven hundred thousand acres of ongoing
10 infestations were observed statewide. Of this total, approximately
11 five hundred and eighty thousand acres is on the Kenai Peninsula
12 within the EVOS area boundary. Also, the summer of 1993 was the
13 warmest in seventy years during the weeks most important to spruce
14 beetle activity, so we will likely see an increase in spruce beetle
15 infested acreage in 1994 of entirely another magnitude. The effect
16 of the warm '93 summer shifted the normal two year life cycle of
17 the beetle in most areas to develop to mature beetles in just one
18 season. Early indications are that the spruce beetle explosion
19 from 1993's crop will be even more devastating, if the 1994 summer
20 weather follows similar patterns of the past three to five years in
21 Southcentral Alaska. So, here's the descriptions of the size of
22 the infestation, five hundred and eighty thousand acres of
23 infestation were mapped on the Kenai in the three year period
24 ending in 1993. The Kenai Peninsula is about five point two
25 million acres in size in which one point nine million acres is
26 forested. This is -- this describes the western portion of the

1 Kenai Peninsula, not the entire area within the borough boundary.
2 Considering the infestation prior to '91, the extensive work
3 already done by the Division of Forestry to estimate the damage,
4 it's likely that more than half of the mature spruce forests on the
5 Kenai Peninsula have spruce beetle infestations at this time.
6 Also, coastal forests are showing significant infestation for the
7 first time. For example, in 1993, spruce beetle populations also
8 increased on the south side of Kachemak Bay, where now more than
9 fourteen thousand acres of Sitka spruce are infested. The spruce
10 beetle epidemic has been surveyed and studied regularly and quite
11 extensively. Opinion polls of residents and visitors have been
12 done, and I'm not aware of any investigation which predicts long-
13 term, direct effects on habitat other than resource values from
14 this infestation or similar ones. However, limited studies have
15 been done by the U.S. Forest Service would indicate that
16 significant effects will occur in forest vegetation composition
17 from the extensive Kenai Peninsula spruce beetle epidemic. Dr.
18 Holsten will explain some of these later. The consensus among
19 forest managers that this is a forest health emergency, an
20 emergency of the proportions we can only speculate on since the
21 impacts will have direct or indirect effects on the resources on
22 the Kenai Peninsula for some time. A normal bark beetle outbreak
23 is three to five years, generally in a localized area. Statewide
24 spruce beetle activity in '93 increased for the fifth consecutive
25 year. On this particular area in the Kenai Peninsula, it is
26 generally in its sixth or seventh year of the epidemic in most of

1 the areas and still on the increase. Fully seventy percent of this
2 new and ongoing statewide beetle activity in '93 is occurring on
3 the western Kenai Peninsula of Southcentral Alaska. The Kenai
4 Peninsula outbreak has now reached proportions where control of
5 suppression options to slow down the epidemic are no longer
6 practical over extensive areas. A recent study report of forest
7 health in Southcentral and Interior Alaska said that spruce beetles
8 have and always will be a feature of these ecosystems. However,
9 the notion that this infestation is or should be managed as a
10 totally natural event is erroneous. While several environmental
11 factors, such as annual weather conditions, host susceptibility,
12 and changes in predator and parasite population continue to
13 influence beetle population changes, past and future human
14 intervention, such as fire suppression, clearing activities and
15 related human habitation has removed the situation from a natural
16 setting. Consideration of human needs and influences to establish
17 an appropriate desired future condition for these impacted forest
18 types is ecologically appropriate. Without some sort of artificial
19 intervention to mitigate this non-natural wholesale change in the
20 ecosystem, significant habitat loss may result. There is a paucity
21 of regeneration. The spruce seed source is being destroyed and the
22 site disturbance required for regeneration isn't present, even
23 where there is a remaining seed source. One possible method of
24 reducing hazard or tree losses and habitat loss at the landscape
25 level is to maintain a mosaic of cover types and age classes.
26 Active ecosystem management using proven civil cultural techniques

1 is certainly one alternative. Maintaining bio-diversity on the
2 Kenai would certainly include tree planting or other active
3 management to perpetuate spruce and hardwood tree species in the
4 heaviest beetle-infested areas. Tree planting is usually
5 impractical without harvest, however, unless funds are invested to
6 maintain this bio-diversity. Competing vegetation problems with or
7 without forest management will require some restoration to prepare
8 a seed bed. Although forest harvest can affect a bio-diversity
9 within the landscape, negative impacts can be avoided and positive
10 impacts favored. The previously mentioned study that said that
11 lack of action and continued forest health decline will resulting
12 in, and I'll just number these, they're not in, you know, any order
13 of priority here -- increasing loss of wildlife habitat for mature
14 forest species, continued riparian area degradation -- excuse me --
15 substantial long-term conversion from forest to grass or hardwoods
16 from lack of spruce regeneration, increased community fire hazard
17 and associated increased fire suppression costs, degradation of the
18 state and scenic quality of the forest to the landscapes, and
19 degradation of developed recreation sites, and increased
20 maintenance costs for removal of hazard and downed trees. I'm
21 going to speed this up a little bit; I don't think this is really
22 pertinent. I did mention the forest health report, which was a
23 third-party analysis of what is going on on the Kenai Peninsula,
24 from people that live outside Alaska, their own personal
25 perceptions. If you're interested in a copy of that, I'll provide
26 it to you. I don't know if you are or not -- with this

1 information.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: If you could.

3 MR. BURNSIDE: Okay, I'll try to -- I didn't have a copy
4 with me today, though, I'm sorry.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: You can get it to Doug.

6 MR. BURNSIDE: Okay. So, I'd like to close in saying
7 that long-term changes in forest cover types and forest wildlife
8 habitat as a result of this forest health problem has not been
9 studied or seriously raised as an issue on the Kenai Peninsula, as
10 of this date. The limited and naturally fragmented landscape
11 patterns found in Alaska, perhaps especially on the Kenai where the
12 maritime coastal forest meets the northern boreal forest so
13 abruptly, makes this loss in habitat a critical issue, I believe.
14 In closing, I'm suggesting the EVOS Public Advisory Committee
15 consider the available literature on spruce beetle in Alaska and
16 its potential impacts, both positive and negative, on the forest
17 ecosystem of the Kenai Peninsula. Your group might also consider
18 the likely -- the long-term habitat effects of this spruce beetle
19 epidemic which may also affect EVOS restoration activities. And
20 I'm -- this is just for an example, we haven't had much discussion
21 on it, but a three-way partnership -- partnership, say between the
22 Forest Service and Alaska Departments of Natural Resources and Fish
23 and Game, might be able to assist your group and the EVOS Trustees,
24 if necessary. So, that's all I have to say. I'm going to pass it
25 onto to Ed Holsten who will talk and expand more on the impacts of
26 the spruce beetle epidemic as we see it.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Can any -- either one of you or anybody
2 tell us what to do about it?

3 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, we can -- I can talk a little bit
4 about that. My name is Ed Holsten, I'm a research scientist with
5 the U.S. Forest Service. I've been working with and studying
6 spruce beetle for sixteen years here in Southcentral. And, I'm
7 just going to just kind of reiterate a few of the points Roger made
8 and let everybody get to lunch quickly. Roger covered most of the
9 points. My plea is from a scientific standpoint, one, to impress
10 upon you that the importance of monitoring and research and habitat
11 restoration. I think the impact associated with this spruce beetle
12 outbreak are overlooked, they're not being researched and there are
13 tremendous impacts. Now impacts, not passing judgment, are either
14 good or bad, but when you have ecosystem disturbance the magnitude
15 of what's going in our boreal spruce stands and maritime spruce
16 stands in Alaska at the tune of six hundred thousand acres of
17 mortality just last year. That figure will probably go over a
18 million acres. And, we're talking about tree mortality, large
19 diameter, older spruce are dying on an enormous magnitude that we
20 haven't recorded before in the state. Now, there are impacts
21 associated with that. If, and a lot of this area, as Roger said,
22 fall within the restoration boundaries. For example, in Kachemak
23 Bay area, in the buy-out area, spruce beetle activity last year has
24 increased up to a thousand acres now, meaning those areas that are
25 being considered for habitat acquisition to preserve some attribute
26 of that habitat, we ought to be concerned that the character of

1 that habitat may be dramatically changed due to the impacts of the
2 beetle, for good or better. Because the point is, there's very
3 little research has been undertaken on these impacts. Wildlife
4 habitat changes are occurring. What -- basically, what you're
5 going to see down the road in many of the spruce stands, forest
6 areas in Alaska, is something different than what we have now.
7 That may be okay, but the public needs to realize that what's out
8 there now is not necessarily what you're going to get down the
9 road. That information needs to be studied. We have a little bit
10 of evidence showing up now in research data, and it's a fairly
11 long-term monitoring impacts that there are some major changes
12 occurring, not only in the over story, but in the ground
13 vegetation. Many of these stands are not regenerating back to
14 spruce and birch, and that may be okay. But, those types of
15 changes which are occurring on a large magnitude have dramatic
16 effects on a variety of resources from scenic quality to wildlife
17 habitat. Those species that are associated with old growth closed
18 canopy spruce stands are going to be negatively impacted. That
19 habitat is going to be changed dramatically. We need to take a
20 look at these -- these changes that are occurring, if habitat
21 restoration or preservation and acquisition are an important
22 concern with the Trustee Council. So, I think, and I'm going to
23 leave a variety of just, kind of bullets, dealing with spruce
24 beetle impacts. And, I'll leave this information. It might help
25 answer some of the questions. Now, to answer a little bit, what
26 can be done. There are a variety of techniques, preventative and

1 suppressive techniques, that could use for spruce beetle. In
2 entomology we have the tools. What needs to be determined though
3 is what the resource use is, or resources uses are. The land
4 managers are -- need to tell the forest protection folks what is
5 the best use or uses of that particular parcel of land, whether
6 it's recreation or wildlife habitat, spawning streams, timber
7 resource, whatever it is, that use of the resource will then
8 determine which techniques can or cannot be used. So there's a
9 whole series of prioritizing that needs to be done. Some stands
10 are very low hazard to beetles. In other words, if you have a
11 stand that's high in birch and hemlock, small spruce, you don't
12 need to worry about it in the near future because it's a very low
13 risk. So, first you have to prioritize high risk stands. Those
14 are -- you're going to have problems in it. Two, is resource
15 value. Those that have high resource value, whatever they may be.
16 Recreation in many cases is the highest resource values for many
17 parcels of land on the Kenai. If resource values are high and
18 there is access, potential access or operability, if those -- if
19 those factors are met, then there are certain techniques that can
20 be -- can be used to prevent or mitigate or reduce the impacts of
21 the beetle and there are techniques to restore impacted areas back
22 into to forested conditions, if that's the condition that is -- is
23 deemed necessary down the road. So, first, you know, again,
24 there's lots of things that can be done, but it is dependant on
25 what has been determined the best use for that resource. If it's
26 some critical habitat and beetles are deemed a problem, or can --

1 can negatively impact that habitat, there's some techniques that
2 can be utilized. That's about all I wanted to mention. Open it up
3 to any questions, if anybody has any questions.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: Does the infestation on a piece of land
5 that is up -- subject to habitat acquisition, doesn't that reduce
6 its value, when you're, I mean do we buy all the beetle
7 infestations there are and get the private owner out of the ...

8 DR. HOLSTEN: I don't -- again, there -- what I'm saying
9 is that we have some indications that there are impacts. Now,
10 these impacts could be good or bad, but again, it depends on what
11 resource value or what habitat you're trying to protect if, for
12 example, if it's very critical habitat, somewhere, let's say in
13 Kachemak Bay, that one's been purchased to preserve or manage the
14 habitat for some wildlife species, and that species depended on
15 large spruce, and you have the spruce beetle outbreak building up
16 in there, you're going to negatively impact that habitat. Now,
17 there are -- that has to be realized, and there are some techniques
18 that can or can't, you know, can be used to mitigate those losses.
19 But, again it depends on what is, or what are the resources that
20 are trying to be preserved. The thing is, it's -- there's forces
21 or dynamic entities out there. They're not black and white photos,
22 they don't stay the same, they age and physiologically they die.
23 And, there are some techniques that can be used to -- to kind of
24 buy time so to speak. You can't really preserve habitat, you have
25 to manage for that habitat, is what I'm saying. All that I'm
26 saying is that agencies and councils have to be cognizant that

1 there are large impacts occurring now, and potentially that can be
2 occurring within the buy back area on the (indiscernible)
3 ecosystem.

4 MS. FISCHER: How long after beetle infest an area or a
5 tree is the tree no longer worth anything and what can be done if
6 the beetle does get into the tree. I know there's some
7 woodchipping broken going on.

8 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, from a timber standpoint, the value
9 after about three-four years drops off. Not to say there's no --
10 still no wood value, but then it's okay for chipping and pulping.
11 But, the value of a tree, even after it's killed can be -- can
12 still be a valuable entity for wildlife habitat, but that's still
13 in a small proportion. For example, a lot of wildlife species have
14 really blossomed, so to speak, population-wise, due to the bark
15 beetle outbreak. Woodpeckers and other -- other types of wildlife
16 species that prey upon bark beetles are really doing well.
17 However, -- and -- however, that's a short-term situation because
18 now the outbreak in many areas is collapsing. And, the food
19 sources aren't available anymore. But, from a timber standpoint,
20 saw timber probably losses its value as saw timber after about
21 three years, after the trees have been killed.

22 MS. FISCHER: How long after the beetle has been or has
23 infected an area, can there be regrowth put back into that area?

24 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, naturally, what you have to --
25 there's a similar misconception going on that when the beetle sweep
26 through, the stand will naturally regenerate itself back to spruce,

1 and there's a little bit of misperception in that. If you go out
2 to these stands, you can see a lot of young spruce out there, but
3 that had nothing to do with bark beetle. What we're seeing is
4 spruce and birch both those species, without going into a lot of
5 detail, need a site disturbance to create a seed bed. First, you
6 need a seed source. In many areas we don't have a seed source,
7 these other trees are dead. But, even if you had a seed source,
8 you need a seed bed produced, and that historically has been
9 produced by some kind of disturbance like fire, glacial retreat,
10 river course, something that produces bare mineral soil with a
11 little bit organic material, then you have a real good situation
12 for regeneration of both spruce and birch. What's happening in
13 these stands, are these stands are opening up as the beetle kills
14 them, but there's no site disturbance, and so we have a problem
15 with competing vegetation, grass, moving into and occupying these
16 sites. And, we have some plots where eleven years after the
17 beetles have opened up the stand, there's not one seedling that has
18 come back in. Now, there are some techniques, but what -- again,
19 it points back to that may be okay, but you have to realize that on
20 some of these sites, not all of them, but on some areas that are
21 heavy into spruce, large spruce, they are not going to regenerate
22 on their own accord, back into spruce or birch.

23 MR. BURNSIDE: Even apparently with fire, with a fire
24 disturbance, it may not always happen.

25 DR. HOLSTEN: What -- what we have now isn't necessarily
26 what we've had in the past, and what we have now isn't necessarily

1 what we're going to have in the future because forest ecosystems up
2 here are dependant on disturbance. And -- and if you run a fire
3 through ten different spruce stands, you may end up with ten
4 different resulting types of forest. So, the point is is the
5 public has to determine what -- what the desired future condition
6 is out there. What is important. That's going to be a tough
7 decision, and then you have to manage for that, but I think the
8 point here is that there are changes going on that can be good or
9 bad, within the restoration area. And, we need to -- to me, we
10 really need -- because there's very little of this going on,
11 monitoring the effects of these impacts. As far as I know, there's
12 very, very few studies by any agency within the state looking at
13 it.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Jim and then Pam.

15 MR. CLOUD: Have -- has the Forest Service and the
16 Department of Natural Resources or Fish and Game proposed any
17 projects for ...?

18 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, we have an ongoing one looking and
19 it's a small scale. We have seventeen years worth of permanent
20 plots looking at changes and over-storying ground vegetations. We
21 -- from -- from my outfit as management, the Forest Service
22 proposed three years to our folks back in D.C. to have a large
23 funded study on the impact of beetle and wildlife habitat. And,
24 not only -- but to the date, it hasn't been funded.

25 MR. CLOUD: But, had you proposed the project to the
26 Trustees, just like all the projects we have in this big, green

1 book here.

2 DR. HOLSTEN: No. I'm not here to propose projects.
3 I'm just here to hand out some information. And ...

4 MR. CLOUD: Your agency and your agency and the
5 Department of Fish and Game are involved in lots of different
6 projects, and some of the projects are geared, in fact a great deal
7 of money. It appeared that this so-called habitat protection, and
8 if you're telling us that this huge epidemic is in fact changing
9 the habitat in -- in the spill area to the extent that may harm or
10 take away from the recovery of this very species that we are told
11 are going to be recovered from habitat protection, then certainly
12 somebody's not doing their job.

13 DR. HOLSTEN: I agree. I'm not saying it will harm or
14 not. The verdict is out on that. There are impacts occurring, and
15 those need to be delineated and quantified, and that is not
16 happening in many cases, and it just isn't. So, I think agencies
17 are remiss at not looking at that.

18 MR. CLOUD: I think that if the general public really
19 understood the -- what you're talking about, and that these tens of
20 millions of dollars that have been spent in the last year may have
21 been spent for naught, they'd be pretty disgusted with the whole
22 process. (Indiscernible)

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Pam. Pam's next.

24 MS. BRODIE: First, I'd like to respond a little bit to
25 what Jim Cloud just said and then I have a two questions. As -- as
26 Mr. Holsten said, we don't know yet the impact of spruce bark

1 beetles on injured species. There is no -- nobody is here saying
2 that the areas that have been protected are not going to help
3 restore injured species even if they do have spruce bark beetle.
4 And, number two, I haven't heard anything about any spruce bark
5 beetle problem in Seal Bay, which was the main purchase so far.
6 There may be some infestation in -- in Kachemak Bay State Park.
7 But, getting on to my questions, first of all, spruce bark beetles
8 are a natural part of the ecology, although Mr. Burnside said the
9 current outbreak, he believes, goes beyond what is natural. Anyway
10 spruce bark beetles have been part of the ecology, and there are
11 historical known outbreaks in the past, you mentioned Copper River
12 and I also heard Afognak Island in the past (indiscernible)
13 outbreaks. And yet, we still have forests in these areas, and the
14 forest has regenerated on Afognak and Copper River area. I don't
15 know exactly where this outbreak was, but it seems to me there --
16 there must be natural regeneration going on from spruce bark
17 beetles, without management in the past, otherwise we wouldn't have
18 forests. So, my question is, why do we need to do management to
19 get regeneration?

20 DR. HOLSTEN: Okay, it's a good question. You know, it's
21 -- it's a difficult -- it's a difficult subject to talk about
22 because in many cases we mix apples and oranges because beetles
23 affect a variety of stands under a variety of conditions, but
24 basically, for example, in Cooper Center. Cooper Center is one of
25 the first outbreaks that was recorded was in the Copper Center area
26 in the 1920's. You go back and you look at photographs, it was

1 like a two-layered forest in there. There was an over-storying and
2 an under-storying. Now, what is occurring in the Copper Center
3 area is that we have two hundred and something thousand acres of
4 infestations right now back into the Copper Center area. What
5 happened was, in that area, those trees that were the younger
6 trees, and we've seen this throughout on the lower Kenai Peninsula,
7 the beetles seem to come through a stand, depending on stand
8 conditions and take out the over-story, the most susceptible trees.
9 The under story that has already existed there responds, and it
10 grows up in a -- enters a susceptible stage, okay. And, the
11 beetles are cycling back through the stands again. However, in
12 many stands there's not a replacement crop coming up underneath.
13 For example, in the Copper Center area, you go back into these
14 stands, and you go down on the Kenai and there's a real paucity in
15 bark beetle stands, impacted stands, that new regeneration is going
16 on. So, in the Copper Center area, you go back into these areas,
17 there's no new regeneration replacing. Now, what causes this, this
18 is what I talked about, what causes regeneration of both birch and
19 spruce, is some type of disturbance factor. And, basically, that
20 creates a seed bed. Historically in many areas that has been fire
21 at certain times of the year, especially in the Interior. Fire,
22 when river switch, jumps the stream banks, you get a deposition of
23 organic and silt, the perfect seed beds. If you go down on the
24 Kenai or anywhere and you look for where you find the largest
25 quantity of small spruce and birch, and nine out of ten odds it's
26 right along the roadside cut, where you've had -- or in a gravel

1 pit -- where you've had a site disturbance-created seed bed. So,
2 these stands have regenerated and they will, not to say that our
3 spruce stands won't regenerate, but they're not going to regenerate
4 to the same extent to create a stand of forest that we have -- like
5 we have now on the Kenai. And, the point is, is that may be okay.
6 All I am saying is that both these species need a certain set of
7 circumstances to regenerate. In many areas due to fire exclusion,
8 we have a lot of fires now, but they're very small in magnitude
9 compared to what historically has happened in Alaska. The Copper
10 Center area, they haven't had a major fire in a long, long time or
11 seen beetle cycle in there, but you do not see new regeneration
12 coming in after the beetles have worked those stands, in a lot of
13 our areas. There might be some spotty regeneration as a tree once
14 in awhile falls over, uplifts some soil, you have a seed bed there.
15 But, the point is is a lot of these stands will not regenerate to
16 the same extent that they have in the past, and that may be okay.
17 It's just that there's a change going on. I don't know if that
18 answers that. And in -- on Seal Bay, its just that there was an
19 outbreak in Afognak. Those types of areas that the risk, the
20 probability of having outbreak in those areas are much less than
21 they are on the Kenai. It's not to say we can't have outbreaks in
22 Sitka spruce. We have them in Haines right now and Glacier Bay
23 National Park, had one for ten years, and, of course, Kachemak Bay.
24 But the risk on Afognak is much less than elsewhere on the Kenai,
25 due to climate. It's not as favorable as for the insect. But in
26 the '30's, as we mentioned there was an enormous outbreak. That

1 included portions of Seal Bay, but it didn't take the whole stand
2 out.

3 MR. BURNSIDE: One thing I might mention too, is you have
4 to consider the host -- the existing host type, whether it's going
5 to be Sitka spruce or more Continental spruce on a drier side.
6 And, of course, regeneration requirements of Sitka spruce and plus
7 the habitat that they're in will be different than regen' of inland
8 spruce, lots of white spruce, say on the southern, mid-southern
9 Kenai Peninsula. So you have to look at the site specifics of each
10 when you're making comparisons.

11 MR. BRODIE: Thanks. My second question is about in
12 fact a human impacts on the Kenai Peninsula, which Mr. Burnside
13 mentioned. I -- the logging operations that I have seen in Alaska
14 leave an enormous amount of slash around, and seismic development
15 and power lines have let slash around, and these are prime habitat
16 for beetles, for spreading beetles. To what extent do you think
17 the logging operations that are going on in the Kenai Peninsula are
18 in fact contributing to spreading bark beetle.

19 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, just a little bit about the beetles.
20 In order to have outbreak you need a disturbance. Outbreaks
21 usually get -- rarely start at standing trees. They build up,
22 usually where there's some type of large diameter material on the
23 ground. Now the beetles have evolved to attack and breed in blow-
24 downs, that's their preferred habitat. And, what has triggered off
25 historically most of the outbreaks on the Kenai and the Cooper
26 Landing area originally got there foothold in blow-down, large

1 areas, thirty-forty acres of blow-down, beetles build up, started
2 getting into standing trees, then all the game rules change. Same
3 in Kachemak Bay. Kachemak Bay outbreak that started in the '80's
4 started from blow-down. And beetles -- so is you have blow-down or
5 some kind of disturbance, you create the probability of having an
6 outbreak. The second condition is you need standing trees of a
7 certain susceptible stage. Now to answer your question, there are
8 some man -- potentially some -- some activities a man that can
9 increase the probability of having problems. One is
10 if you have, and I have not seen much of this, but large diameter
11 kolb (ph) material left from logging operations, and we're talking
12 about not small branches or four inch stuff, we're talking fairly
13 large material that is left is a shaded area, that's really
14 critical. For example, in a open area that's somewhat sunny, large
15 trees left on the ground are not very susceptible for beetles.
16 Bark beetles do not like opened areas, they are a shade loving-type
17 of a creature. Now, what's caused more of the problem, I think
18 historically throughout Southcentral Alaska in the past has been
19 improper disposal of seismic line clearing debris that was shoved
20 off to the side, power line right-of-way clearing debris that is
21 shoved off to the side, that potentially can harbor a lot of
22 beetles. It doesn't necessarily mean you're going to have an
23 outbreak, but it sure increases the probability. But, there are
24 measures to eliminate that -- that in logging there's no reason why
25 logging activities or seismic activities or right-of-way clearing
26 should create a bark beetle problem, if there's proper utilization

1 and disposal of that material. But, the main primary habitat for
2 tree beetle outbreak off is usually small pockets of blow-down.
3 And, cause that's what they've evolved to be.

4 MR. BURNSIDE: For example, what's going on in Kachemak
5 Bay right now on the south side was initially started from a blow
6 down area of a couple hundred acres of downed spruce, to what you
7 see today over thirteen or fourteen thousand acres of infested
8 area.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: I'd like to suggest at this time, just for
10 planning purposes, that if we could break at one o'clock for lunch
11 and be back here at two, so I would like to entertain maybe one
12 more question to them, and apologize that you didn't get on this
13 morning, but everything -- that's been our day since the beginning.
14 And then you'd be the first one to be heard after the lunch period,
15 if that's okay, and then we'll dispose of the public comments and
16 get back to Fish and Game. You had a question down here?

17 MR. DIEHL: My -- my question was kind of a -- how
18 does -- how does this affect wildlife, you know, you get these
19 stands of dead spruce, I mean, I go out and cut the stuff down for
20 firewood myself. I was living in Girdwood and I'd go up to Summit.
21 I'd go cut it down and I'd burn it, okay.

22 (Indiscernible - background talking - aside comments)

23 MR. DIEHL: So then we have a lot of deer -- what
24 moves in? We don't have deer down there, we have moose, do moose
25 come in? You know ...

26 DR. HOLSTEN: After the beetles?

1 MR. DIEHL: Yeah, any standing dead spruce, you know,
2 what's the problem with the animals -- what's the -- what's the
3 problem with the environment? It sounds like a changing
4 environment. It sounds like animal populations will definitely
5 change from this.

6 DR. HOLSTEN: Sure.

7 MR. DIEHL: My understanding is that the Sitka spruce
8 exists more along with hemlock and wetter regions, winter regions
9 and that the dryness over the past few years is causing this
10 problem. What's wrong with just burning the stuff out. And, the
11 other problem on the Kenai, and I just wanted to bring up was the
12 hunters down there don't want -- don't want a lot large areas
13 logged because then people will go in and eliminate all the game in
14 these areas, and, you know.

15 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, I'm not advocating logging or
16 anything, or I'm not saying these impacts are good or bad. I'm
17 just saying that we need to look at this. If we're concerned with
18 wildlife habitat, the beetle do impact that. Certain species are
19 associated with old growth, large diameter trees, and these species
20 that are ...

21 MR. DIEHL: But other species are -- but other species
22 are associated with this beetle kill.

23 DR. HOLSTEN: That's exactly right. And, other species
24 are associated and do very well on grassy areas that come in after
25 the beetle kill. We just have to realize that. However ...

26 MR. DIEHL: This is something that has historically

1 taken place, right?

2 DR. HOLSTEN: That's right. That's correct.

3 MR. DIEHL: But in much larger areas maybe.

4 DR. HOLSTEN: That's right. I guess what I'm saying is
5 that if setting an area or if we're setting areas aside that area
6 that are habitat for some critical wildlife species that we have
7 determined for whatever reason are critical and the beetles may
8 have an impact on that habitat, we ought to be taking a look at
9 that. And, that falls under your monitoring research activities.
10 Looking at the health of those ecosystems. It's not to say that
11 this change is good or bad, it depends on the wildlife species in
12 question here. That's all I'm saying is that things aren't --
13 aren't necessarily going to stay put out there and there's some
14 large impacts going on that I think agencies aren't taking a look
15 at.

16 MR. DIEHL: Here's a thought for James here, perhaps
17 when we do have a settlement on -- for the destruction caused by
18 global warming, we can do something about this problem.

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Do I understand that you can't go out
20 there with a fly swatter or chemicals and get rid of the little
21 pests.

22 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, again, you can, you know, not over
23 a large area, but again, it depends on. For example, if you don't
24 want beetle, you could cut all the birch -- or spruce and plant
25 birch, then you'd solve the beetle problem.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Can we save the ones that are there by

1 spraying or ...

2 DR. HOLSTEN: There are techniques you can do to
3 increase forest health, and minimize it. For example, in Kachemak
4 Bay, if blow-down occurs, probably the timely disposal of that
5 blow-down would go a long ways at maintaining, you know, live trees
6 out there, because if you allow things like blow down to occur, you
7 really increase the probability of an outbreak. It doesn't mean
8 you have to go in and thin trees or log, but if you pull out that
9 blow down, for example, and stop the beetle from breeding in that
10 material, that's when you really have a problem. These outbreaks
11 normally, again, don't start just from standing still, something
12 needs to trigger it off, and if we can avoid those things, we can
13 go a long way so what happened in Kachemak Bay years ago is that
14 the blow-down was in the state park, and the state park, for
15 whatever reason, did not want to deal with the blow-down. It was
16 viewed as, oh well, that's natural. Well, that's fine. And then
17 what came out of that was quite a large outbreak.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: An outbreak. But there's no way
19 chemically in the infected areas that you can kill them ... ?

20 DR. HOLSTEN: No. Not at all.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: So they won't spread.

22 DR. HOLSTEN: No.

23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Pesticides are available to protect
24 trees from attack, but it's fairly expensive. It was twenty
25 dollars per tree.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, so are the forests rather expensive,

1 if you forgot, but we sit here wringing our hands all the time and
2 the public is saying what can we do about it, and I haven't heard
3 anybody come up with an answer on what are the alternatives in
4 doing about it. You've suggested one, which I appreciate, but in
5 an infested area, when you drive down the highway and see all these
6 trees, and the visitor asks you, my God, aren't you doing something
7 about it? I couldn't answer the question if I wanted to except I
8 would say, no, they're not doing anything about it because I don't
9 know what you could do about it.

10 DR. HOLSTEN: Well, now, without going into a lot of
11 detail, there are a lot of techniques that can be done. They have
12 not been done because -- I think what the feeling is is that this
13 is a natural occurrence, things are regenerating, and the cure may
14 be worse than the disease.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: So is cancer, but we usually take a look
16 at it, you know.

17 DR. HOLSTEN: You know, so -- but what I am saying is,
18 in many cases, there are some serious impacts going on, and we need
19 to look at that and we haven't in the past.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: I wish we had hours for you guys. I'm
21 sorry to -- just spend a whole week, as a matter of fact, just like
22 today, and I think we should take a break and let everybody get
23 their sense of humor back and try to get here by 2:00 o'clock so we
24 can get something done this afternoon. Thanks a bunch for coming,
25 and I just wish we had more time for you.

26 (Off record - 1:00 p.m.)

1 (On record - 2:10 p.m.)

2 MR. PHILLIPS: We're going to start again, if we could
3 come to order, those of you who are here, take your seats, and the
4 process is to complete the testimony and the people who wish to be
5 heard on the beetle question first. And so those of you who want
6 to talk about the beetles, why don't you -- and I'm not talking
7 about the musical group but the others. If you want to come up
8 here where there are some microphones, please, and we'll try to
9 expedite this as best we can. And if you will identify yourself
10 for the record when -- or it's time to speak so that the recorder
11 can get all the names and organizations and so on, it will be
12 appreciated. How many are there? Are there three of you?

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

14 MR. PHILLIPS: So there will be three? Okay. We've got
15 another spot over here if you want to -- right here, up here, or
16 there, it doesn't matter. Just get a place with a microphone.

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Any time I can pass for Vern
18 McCorkle, I'm a lucky man.

19 (Laughter)

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay. I think you were the first one to
21 ask, and you've got your microphone on. Please identify yourself
22 and give us the word.

23 MR. BRADY: My name is Terry Brady. I'm a graduate
24 forester. I've got an advanced degree in forestry from the
25 University of Washington. I'm currently serving as the president
26 of Husky Wood, Incorporated. Our small firm owns a small sawmill

1 in the Cooper Landing area. We're right in the middle of this bark
2 beetle problem, and I wanted to comment just very briefly on what
3 Dr. Holsten said this morning. I have to agree with him. As a
4 scientist, I have to agree with him totally that the impact of the
5 beetle in the long-term on the entire ecosystem may be good or it
6 may be bad. I mean, we just don't know, but on the short term,
7 it's nothing but bad. Particularly when we look at it -- more than
8 just the fact that the trees are dying out there, we have to
9 recognize that these trees and the forest they are associated with,
10 and all the renewable resources that are associated, the wildlife
11 habitat and recreation, et cetera, clean water, oxygenated air, are
12 all renewable resources that, under our constitution, are to be
13 managed under the sustained yield basis, and when we have the data
14 that's coming in for the last few years that the forests are
15 actually dying out, you know, and faster than they can reproduce
16 themselves, there's no way that we have sustained yield, and the
17 attorney would say that when you don't -- when you're not following
18 the law you're breaking the law, and basically that's the case
19 right now. The agencies that are managing the land are technically
20 breaking the law because they are not following the sustained yield
21 mandates of our constitution. That means that there is more to the
22 issue than just the environmental impacts. There's the economic
23 impacts and there's the social impacts. Economically, last year,
24 on the six to eight hundred thousand acres that were impacted last
25 year, that the loss of timber resources in the current marketplace
26 approximated four hundred million dollars at the mill level, and

1 some people would say higher if you put a value added into it. And
2 we compare that to the salmon fisheries, that means we lost the
3 equal value than the entire salmon fisheries and probably more that
4 was taken in the state of Alaska, so this is a very serious
5 economic problem. Representing people from the Moose Pass area and
6 the Cooper Landing area, and our company works down there, we would
7 like to make a proposal, and it's not in writing and would only be
8 entertained if your group and the EVOS committee would ask us to do
9 it, and we would be glad to do it, so -- is to actually form a
10 commission in a targeted area such as Moose Pass and Cooper Landing
11 where there is some ongoing work, cooperate between the public and
12 private sectors who are both responsible for the area. We would
13 pay for some of the funds if the government would pay for some of
14 the funds, set up a three to five year operation in there, to do
15 some of the things that were talked about this morning, what can we
16 do? Some of it would be low level, single tree mitigation, others
17 would be larger areas, trying to see if we can't get that forest
18 back into where it's actually producing bio-mass faster than it's
19 losing it, and if such a program makes sense to whoever is
20 controlling the funds here, we would be glad to help write up the
21 program and submit it formally.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: What kind of money are you talking about?

23 MR. BRADY: I would say that probably in an area of --
24 over a three year period, probably six hundred to nine hundred
25 thousand dollars to set up staffing and equipment. We would match
26 it. We've agreed amongst ourselves that we could match that with

1 hard capital equipment that's already on place with an equal value
2 -- a value of about three million dollars right now, if we can help
3 work it out so that some of this -- make the trees, in other words,
4 rather than having to be subsidized, having the trees pay for the
5 operation as much as possible.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: You used some terms that are not familiar
7 to me, so tell me, what would you do with this effort?

8 MR. BRADY: We would -- right now the Forest Service
9 and the state are working on a joint management program, and
10 they've outlined about -- I don't know how many thousand acres,
11 several thousand acres in the Moose Pass area that are already
12 boundaried for potential harvesting, and rather than just going in
13 and stripping them out, I think what we'd like to do is go in and
14 do it under some controlled circumstances so the scientists are
15 working with it until we see what happens during the harvest.
16 Maybe one year try one way, and next year try another way. There's
17 a dearth of knowledge on how to regenerate these forests here, and
18 we heard that this morning, that they're not regenerating, but we
19 can go to other parts of the world with equal latitudes and equal
20 forests and find out that they don't have these problems, and we'd
21 like to borrow some of that technology.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Any questions? Yes?

23 MS. FISCHER: Yes. If it was not for the Exxon Valdez
24 oil spill, and there was no funding available, what would you do?
25 I mean, would you still continue to do research in there, or would
26 you not even be looking at it?

1 MR. BRADY: I think, if it wasn't for the Exxon Valdez
2 spill, and given the market's conditions and the other things, we
3 would, as a corporation, and as -- you know, as forestry people, we
4 would still be trying to do something with the timber. It's dying
5 on us anyway. It has to be managed under renewable resources.
6 What I'm asking on the Exxon Valdez spill is that we throw an extra
7 element into this, and that is to get some real hard baseline data
8 that people can use farther down in the future from an area that
9 has to be worked on anyway.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Questions from the committee? Yes, Kim?

11 MS. BENTON: I asked this question earlier (inaudible)
12 if anybody else. Tell me, can you tell me, best case scenario,
13 let's say on the Kenai Peninsula, if the beetles are stopped, are
14 we left with a healthy forest? It's my understanding that we're
15 not, and that's why we're in the predicament that we're in now.

16 MR. BRADY: Well, the beetle is the only -- the beetle
17 is a symptom of something else that's going on within the forest.
18 At the same time the beetle is very visible and flying around and
19 bouncing off your head, there are other associated organisms that
20 are at work doing other things in the forest, root rots and other
21 pathogenic organisms, and basically what's happened, probably, and
22 this is just a guess because nobody's really got a handle on it,
23 but this is kind of like timing, it's all come down on us at once.
24 For the last forty-five years, particularly on the Kenai, there's
25 been an awful lot of human activity, everything from just small
26 level recreation to large level attempts at farming, to oil work,

1 urbanization. All this has come at a time when we've controlled
2 fires, for one reason or another, and then we've -- and other
3 impacts while the forest itself has been aging, and like any other
4 aging organism, it's come to a point where it's more susceptible to
5 diseases, and this is what's happened. This disease is now
6 catching up and is spreading throughout this forest. The Kenai is
7 one area, but this is going all the way into the Yukon, on the
8 Koyukuk River. It's something that's -- actually, according to the
9 scientists over here last summer, by the guess, that this is the
10 largest environmental disaster occurring in North America at this
11 time or in recent history. There's been nothing like it before.
12 I mean, what it's doing to the ecosystem is probably far greater
13 than what happened from the Exxon Valdez spill. I don't want to
14 minimize that, but what it -- but the long-term effects and the
15 changes in the environment are probably much larger.

16 MS. BENTON: Do you know -- I mean, I heard, in the
17 involvement that I've had on this -- with this issue, that part of
18 the problem and part of the reason that we're in the mess that
19 we're in now is because it's a single-aged forest, it's an old
20 forest that hasn't been managed, and that's part of the problem
21 that we're in, and if we stop the bugs, I guess that's a valuable
22 goal, then we're still left with the single-aged forest that's very
23 susceptible to other diseases and fires?

24 MR. BRADY: Well, not to go in and let -- either let
25 nature burn holes into it or cut holes into it, one or the other,
26 and get it back into a mosaic of different age classes. You're not

1 going to have different age classes all in one little spot though,
2 but we can have one valley is one group and one valley is another
3 group.

4 MS. BENTON: But it still involves some sort of
5 management?

6 MR. BRADY: Absolutely. Management is the key, and
7 that's, again, what I'm getting back to, is why we have a
8 constitutional mandate that when -- when we talk about things in
9 the environmental sense, or in the ecological sense, we forget
10 sometimes the legal sense, and our leadership -- early leadership
11 recognized this, and we do have a mandate in our state here that we
12 manage for sustained yield. That means that we have to have use;
13 that means that we have to have periodic, and we have to have
14 conservation, all working together at the same time. They sound
15 simple but they're very difficult to do and they're very expensive.

16 MS. BENTON: I guess that's the point. We hear a lot
17 about spruce bark beetles, and we have a lot of experts that come
18 and talk to us, and it is an epidemic, and we use the forest health
19 emergency and terms like that, and yet I think we need to look
20 farther in the long-term than even if that -- the initial problem
21 of the spruce bark beetles are taken care of, that we still end up
22 with some problems within the forest, and that we haven't solved
23 the problem and all of a sudden we've turned it into a great
24 habitat and wonderful forest.

25 MR. BRADY: Whatever we turn it into won't stay very
26 long anyway. We have to just keep -- we have to manage it. We're

1 going to live with it, we have to manage it. We're part of it.
2 Sir? I don't want to take up too much of your time here.

3 MR. DIEHL: You talked about -- a minute ago, you said
4 you wanted to study the problem, and that's why you wanted,
5 perhaps, six hundred thousand dollars or something like that?

6 MR. BRADY: No, I was asked how much we thought it
7 would take to set up a commission. From our standpoint, we're the
8 private sector, we want to cooperate, we want to work in there.
9 Some people --

10 MR. PHILLIPS: You wish to study the problem?

11 MR. BRADY: To set up a commission to manage an area
12 under a period of time so that the private sector and the public
13 sector work together rather than at odds. We find ourselves all
14 the time working at odds, and we would like to work together on a
15 continuing project that would be beneficial to the state, and
16 somebody says give us a project, we'll give you a project, Moose
17 Pass, twelve thousand acres of state land and maybe another ten
18 thousand acres.

19 MR. DIEHL: I don't understand -- I don't understand
20 how the PAG can help you here. I don't understand the connection
21 with the damage in the Prince William Sound area. Help us.

22 MR. BRADY: Well, my understanding --

23 MR. DIEHL: You're talking about managing the forest.
24 That is certainly -- under state statutes we're supposed to do that
25 and whatever, maybe, I don't know, but are we managing the forest
26 now? We're not -- are we managing it now?

1 MR. BRADY: My understanding, and correct me if I'm
2 wrong, okay, is that you have an area here that's been given --
3 you've been given the jurisdiction over, and you're trying to
4 rehabilitate the carrying capacity of this area, totally, right, or
5 am I wrong? It's only -- if you're only looking at it from
6 throwing a rock up on the hill from the beach, then I'm -- then I
7 was asked to come to the wrong meeting. If you're looking at the
8 Kenai Peninsula as a habitat area, and you --

9 MR. DIEHL: We've been looking at the Kenai Peninsula.
10 I'm not sure if it's even -- inasmuch as the Kenai Peninsula, how
11 far would the spill-affected area go into the Kenai Peninsula?

12 MR. BRADY: I didn't draw the boundary around the area
13 that you have jurisdiction over. Is that -- this area is included
14 within that boundary. What happens in there does affect the
15 ecosystem.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Pam.

17 MS. BRODIE: The Trustee Council's responsibility is to
18 restore the injured resources which are, in particular, a certain
19 set of species whose populations were injured in the spill.

20 MR. BRADY: Um-hmm.

21 MS. BRODIE: It is not to manage the Kenai Peninsula.
22 Now, there are things that might possibly be done on the Kenai
23 Peninsula if those things can help restore those injured species.
24 Like Jim, I am a little confused about what it is you're proposing.
25 Are you proposing that the Trustees appropriate approximately six
26 hundred or seven hundred thousand dollars over three years to cut

1 down trees in a way that is experimental, to learn the best way to
2 cut down trees, and then presumably come back for more money to cut
3 down more trees as a way of restoring the environment?

4 MR. BRADY: No, no, no, ma'am, no I'm not. I was
5 asked to come here to bring a project in front of you that would
6 help to restore an ecosystem that's in trouble within an area that
7 this group or the EVOS committee has jurisdiction over.

8 MS. BRODIE: But that's what we don't understand, Jim
9 and I, at least, that -- what it is, the project that you're
10 proposing.

11 MR. BRADY: It would put together a working team
12 rather than a talking team. We would put together something that
13 would have actual benefit rather than a bunch of paper that's going
14 back on the shelf. And again, this is a hands-on proposal to work
15 within a watershed that is affected -- the watershed is affected by
16 whatever is going on in the environment, and whether it's directly
17 related to the fact that the captain ran his ship on -- aground, I
18 can't tell you that, but I was asked to come here, give a proposal,
19 which I have done. My estimate is that it would take about seven
20 hundred thousand dollars to put together a working team of
21 scientists and business people, all Alaskans or Alaskan related, to
22 go in and help rehabilitate an ecosystem that's in trouble within
23 an area of which this group has jurisdiction over. Whether it's
24 directly related to petroleum hydrocarbons that spilled at Bligh
25 Reef, I couldn't tell you that, but --

26 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry if I'm being too slow on this.

1 MR. BRADY: Um-hmm.

2 MS. BRODIE: But I'm afraid I still don't understand
3 what this working group would do.

4 MR. BRADY: It would start out by doing baseline
5 studies of what is going on within this transitional forest. It
6 would relate that to practical methods of correcting the problem.
7 If the correcting of the problem is to remove dead and dying trees
8 and replenish -- replace them with live trees, then that's what
9 would come out of it. If it only came out to the fact that it's
10 impossible to do that, we'd know that in a very short period of
11 time, but right now what you've got is a nothing, and what you've
12 got is a disaster going on that is a large disaster going on in our
13 environment.

14 MR. DIEHL: But the Forest Service has studied the
15 problem as far as the --

16 MR. BRADY: The Forest Service is one party that's
17 working on the problem. They do not have the answer. The state
18 doesn't have the answer. It's up to the private sector.

19 MR. DIEHL: (Inaudible) old growth plan.

20 MR. BRADY: Um-hmm.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Donna?

22 MS. FISCHER: Yeah. You know, since there is a concern,
23 the damage was centered in Prince William Sound, and there's been
24 some concern, you know, you're taking this to Moose Pass. What --
25 and you've -- I believe Mr. Holsten or what's-his-name, Halston,
26 stated that it's moving in the area down to the Copper River and

1 probably in those mountains in there. Why not pick an area that --
2 or has it infected some of the area in Prince William Sound that
3 you can utilize there that would fall within the spill area region
4 to justify this?

5 MR. BRADY: Fine, if somebody else wants to make a
6 justification, they have an area that they're working at, we would
7 step aside. I don't care. I was asked to come here to give you a
8 proposal that the people of Moose Pass had thought about, and they
9 said we're ready to do something. After three and a half years,
10 nobody else has come forward and said we're ready to do anything.
11 You've got problems in -- I've -- I'm used to -- I know the forest
12 in Prince William Sound. I've logged over there. My uncle had a
13 sawmill over there in the 1930s. I see what's going on. You've
14 got disasters going on over there that aren't related to the bark
15 beetle. There's other diseases going on in there.

16 MS. FISCHER: Like what?

17 MR. BRADY: Huh? Well, there's (indiscernible) and
18 bud worms and root rots and things like this.

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Does anyone else have questions of Terry?

20 MR. CLOUD: Thank you very much. I think that with
21 Jim Barnett's proposal, you'd probably be better off if you were
22 saying you owned some land and we're going to log it, and then some
23 people here would right away want to buy it from you. If you just
24 want to improve the habitat --

25 MR. BRADY: Well, I do want to congratulate you for
26 those purchases you made. I figure it'll be interesting to see how

1 you manage the areas that are dying -- turning brown, but the basic
2 thing that I do want to put here is, though, that we cannot just
3 look at these things as strictly environmental problems. We've got
4 social issues, we've got economic issues that are -- this whole
5 thing has to tie into one holistic system, and when you do that,
6 you find out that there's a big dollar out there that's being lost.
7 Thank you.

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Thanks for being so patient today. It
9 takes a lot of patience today, I think. All right. Why don't we
10 continue and identify yourself, and good luck.

11 MR. EAMES: My name is Cliff Eames. I'm with the
12 Alaska Center for the Environment, and I'm appearing today somewhat
13 on a pretty quick notice, since I learned late yesterday afternoon
14 that the advisory group might be addressing this issue, and only
15 learned this morning that, in fact, it probably would be addressing
16 this issue and we have also, in a very short period of time, I
17 think, received probably a couple of oral proposals, one perhaps
18 regarding monies for research, another perhaps regarding money for
19 a commission and some studies and then some more direct action.
20 You spent a fair amount of time, and I know you're probably getting
21 impatient hearing, though, I think, just one side of an extremely
22 complicated issue, and so I would like to take a little bit of time
23 to make some additional comments from a different perspective. And
24 I think because of the timing, I may be bouncing from point to
25 point, and I apologize for that. I certainly hope that if the
26 advisory group seriously considers the spending of monies to

1 address the spruce bark beetle situation, that they will, with
2 ample public notice and a great deal of serious discussion and
3 debate, look at this question very seriously before actually
4 devoting any monies to it. I have been involved with the spruce
5 bark beetle issue, as Terry and many others have, for quite a few
6 years now, for six or seven or eight years, starting primarily at
7 the Cooper Landing area. I was involved in an early decision by
8 the Forest Service to do some logging in the Cooper Landing area.
9 I was a member of their subsequent working group to look at
10 additional primarily logging options for addressing the spruce bark
11 beetle at the Cooper Landing area, and I am now on the Forest
12 Service's joint Forest Service state working group for the Moose
13 Pass area, and was, coincidentally, at a meeting of that working
14 group last night in Moose Pass, and it's unclear to me that there
15 are -- that there is a majority or a consensus in Moose Pass that
16 would come to this group seeking monies. I know that there are
17 people who would like things to happen there fairly quickly, which
18 usually, in this particular situation, means logging, but there are
19 also a lot of people in that community who are very concerned about
20 the impact of logging on a number of the resources in the area. I
21 should say that I certainly don't underestimate the magnitude of
22 the infestation on the Kenai Peninsula. It's substantial, there's
23 no doubt about it, there are a lot of trees dying, but I think we
24 need to be perhaps a bit more humble and patient than we're likely
25 to be and consider very seriously whether there is a great deal
26 that we, in fact, can effectively do to address some of the impacts

1 of the infestation. With regard to human management generally, and
2 the need to manage our forests in South Central and in Alaska, I
3 would point out, as other people, I'm sure, have, that our forests
4 have done pretty well without us for centuries. I don't really see
5 that it's essential that we go in and manage. There certainly will
6 be changes in our forest, there are bound to be, but they're not
7 necessarily going to be changes that are going to create a great
8 number of problems for us. I'd say, certainly, also, that there is
9 a tremendous amount that we don't know about the spruce bark beetle
10 and the impacts of the beetle and what's going to happen after the
11 beetle has come in and the numbers that are presently there, and I
12 would suggest that additional research is a very worthy project,
13 generally, with regard to the spruce bark beetle, but there are a
14 lot of worthy social and environmental projects around the state,
15 and that doesn't mean that there is any sort of direct relation to
16 the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and I certainly don't see a direct
17 relation here. I would also point out that the State of Alaska,
18 the legislature appropriated two or three years ago four hundred
19 and fifty thousand dollars for forest health initiative monies to
20 look at responses to the spruce bark beetle, and my impression is,
21 and Larry may know the answer to this, that additional monies were
22 subsequently appropriated for forest health initiative purposes.
23 I'm not aware, however, that any of these monies, or any
24 significant amount of these monies have, in fact, been used for
25 research and monitoring, which I think is a real mistake. In my
26 experience, and I was on the forest health initiative working group

1 as well that the state set up, in my experience, what's done is
2 that these monies are used for planning projects in an attempt to
3 justify logging as a response to the spruce bark beetle, and I
4 would urge you to recognize the fact that in spite of the many
5 possible responses or treatments to the spruce bark beetle that the
6 Forest Service or the Division of Forestry might put in front of
7 you, that if you look at what actually happens and what
8 recommendations are made by the Division of Forestry and the U.S.
9 Forest Service, that ninety-five or more percent of those actions
10 are going to be logging in response to the spruce bark beetle. I
11 have also sat through a number of briefings by people like Ed and
12 Roger, and I have heard in recent months and years many, many lists
13 of the potential impacts of the spruce bark beetle. I have never
14 heard, in a similar forum, a list of the possible impacts of
15 logging and road building, and many of us, I think, know that under
16 modern industrial logging conditions, that the impacts of logging
17 and road building can be very, very substantial, and so there is a
18 real question about whether the proposed solution, which is in
19 almost all instances logging, might, in fact, not be worse than the
20 impacts of the bark beetle itself. In particular, I don't believe
21 that there is a great deal of information on this in Southcentral,
22 but when the Department of Fish and Game responded to an earlier
23 proposed logging sale in the Falls Creek area on the Kenai
24 Peninsula, the Department of Fish and Game's response was that it
25 appeared that the impacts from logging and road building of the
26 magnitude proposed at Falls Creek would be greater than the impacts

1 on the fisheries from the spruce bark beetle if nothing was done.
2 There's discussion about the impacts on the visual resource. I
3 think a lot of us would agree, not everybody, certainly, that the
4 visual resource is hardly enhanced by large scale logging and road
5 building. I don't see that as much of an alternative. I would
6 also note that it has been primarily the Division of Forestry, the
7 U.S. Forest Service and the private logging industry in Alaska that
8 has come to you and to other bodies with regard to seeking monies
9 for spruce bark beetle activities, and I haven't heard yet from
10 Commissioner Rosier, who, of course, is a Trustee, or from other
11 members of the Department of Fish and Game, or from members of the
12 Fish and Wildlife Service, asking for Exxon Valdez monies in order
13 to help restore some of the species that have been impacted by the
14 spruce bark beetle. For example, I expected that the presentation
15 this morning would address the marble murrelet and the harlequin
16 duck. I've been told that they might. I don't think that you're
17 going to find biologists telling you that going in and logging
18 beetle-infested forests is going to do much, if anything, to help
19 those species. Additionally, and I don't think it was emphasized
20 very much this morning, but Roger and Ed did point out that
21 although there is some spruce bark beetle activity on our coastal
22 forest and Kachemak Bay, the south side of Kachemak Bay in
23 particular, and although we're always learning about the bark
24 beetle, and it has been a substantial infestation, we may see more
25 infestations in our coastal forest. For the most part, Sitka
26 spruce and the climatic conditions in the coastal forest, the very

1 wet conditions, are not, in fact, conducive to spruce bark beetle
2 activity, and problems that we might have had recently might be, to
3 a large extent, a result of the very warm dry springs that we've
4 had in recent years, but I think it needs to be emphasized that the
5 likelihood of a serious infestation on other coastal forests is
6 relatively slim, although it certainly isn't out of the question.
7 I also haven't seen a huge amount of evidence, and this was
8 discussed this morning, that, in fact, natural regeneration won't
9 occur after the beetle comes through these stands. That is, in
10 fact, one of the things that we need to learn. We've had very
11 little monitoring and very little studies of natural regeneration
12 after the beetle comes through, but I have been seeing at our
13 working group meetings more and more evidence from people who would
14 like to increase logging activities on the Peninsula, that there's
15 a great deal of -- I mean, what is very significant or of some very
16 site-specific conditions of soils, aspect, slope, existing
17 seedlings and whole timber on the sites that are infested, and it's
18 unlikely that we're really going to see huge, huge expanses of
19 beetle-killed areas where we don't see any natural regeneration,
20 that we certainly may have problems, delays of varying degrees on
21 specific sites, but I don't think that the evidence is there that
22 it's going to be a substantial problem on a landscape scale. I
23 think that -- I would -- one other point, if I could, and I do very
24 much appreciate your patience. It's a very interesting question
25 what the impact of both fire and firefighting has had on the Kenai
26 Peninsula, and what the major agent of disturbance has been over

1 history on the Kenai Peninsula. We saw a recent fire analysis
2 prepared by a Forest Service employee from the southern region who
3 was brought up to provide a relatively objective perspective, and
4 when he looked at the evidence, he noted that recent fire history
5 on the Peninsula shows us that we had only about eight forest fires
6 a year on the Peninsula, that they consumed for the most part very
7 little acreage. I don't remember what the acreage was, it was --
8 my guess in the twos, threes, fours, maybe ten maximum as an
9 average, that the Pothole Lake fire was an aberration because the
10 decision was made by the refuge managers not to fight that and
11 that's why it eventually consumed as many acres as it did. Ninety-
12 six percent of the fires on the Peninsula are caused by humans, not
13 by lightning, so I think that suggests, and I have heard this
14 suggestion from a biologist with one of the federal agencies, that
15 it's entirely possible that the spruce bark beetle over history, or
16 other insects or diseases, has been a major disturbance and
17 regenerative force, and not necessarily on the Kenai Peninsula
18 fire, when, in fact, we see so few non-human caused fires on the
19 Peninsula. Thank you again.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: I have to confess, as a novice, that
21 listening to all of you scientists leaves a guy's head spinning,
22 and you don't know in what direction. I've gotten four different
23 directions today already. Now, okay, do you have a fifth? Why
24 don't you identify yourself and give us your --

25 MR. SMITH: Yeah, thank you. Is this thing working?

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, just pull it towards you there so we

1 can hear.

2 MR. SMITH: Yeah, I definitely have a different spin,
3 and I guess it's because I live on the Kenai Peninsula.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: Could you identify yourself for the
5 record?

6 MR. SMITH: My name's Larry Smith, and I represent the
7 Kachemak Resource Institute which operates the forest resources
8 working group in Homer. I'm also an old bull carpenter and have
9 been building with the silver spruces in the Kenai Peninsula for
10 more than a third of the century, by preference. I've also done my
11 share of done my share of logging and sawmilling and have fought
12 fires in the Kenai Peninsula and elsewhere, so I guess I -- first
13 thing, I'm really glad to finally hear somebody who seems to know,
14 said that -- what people always say about fire suppression having
15 an important effect on ecosystems is no doubt true, but there's a
16 place that it isn't true and that's the Kenai Peninsula because we
17 haven't practiced really aggressive fire suppression for very many
18 years there on the little part of the Kenai Peninsula that has
19 fires, and that doesn't include, as far as I can see, any of these
20 lands that you folks might be recommending for acquisition. That
21 maritime forest just doesn't have a fire history. It just -- I
22 don't know why it comes up. It could apply to the Interior, it
23 might apply to Yellowstone, but I started fighting fires on the
24 Kenai Peninsula and the rest of Alaska in the fifties, and I
25 watched and I -- I still fight them occasionally, mostly grass
26 fires. It doesn't happen. It shouldn't be considered as a factor.

1 Anyway, that's a diversion. As part of this working group a few
2 years ago, I was selected to serve on a group for Governor
3 Sheffield to recommend amendments to the State Forest Practices
4 Act, and this was a pretty diverse group. It included five people
5 from the timber industry and big landowners, and it included five
6 people from the Fish and Wildlife and the environmental side and
7 commercial fishermen and recreationalists, and it included five
8 people from state resource agencies. We all agreed unanimously
9 about the bark beetle, that it ought to be treated a little
10 differently than the state had treated it, and law in the past, and
11 that was that we ought to have one law for bark beetle lands all
12 over the state. Well, that's not quite the case, but it's too bad,
13 and I hope at a later meeting if this subject comes up again that
14 you will have some more of the significant expertise on this body
15 that's missing. Vern McCorkle, for instance, used to be the city
16 manager in Seldovia and got thoroughly acquainted with the bark
17 beetle topics. John Sturgeon was both the district and the state
18 forester and one of the principal managers when the state --
19 contrary -- or a little bit for the history Roger Burnside of the
20 Division of Forestry gave you, this was the hot topic in the Kenai
21 Peninsula Borough, not in the late seventies but in the late
22 sixties, and by 1973 the State of Alaska had sold two hundred
23 twenty-three thousand acres of commercial forest land to Mitsui
24 Trading Company on the west side of Cook Inlet in the Kenai
25 Peninsula Borough to fight the bark beetle infestation over there,
26 and Mr. Sturgeon, and I have several of his memos here, and also

1 it's only been a couple of months since I went to an RDC breakfast
2 and heard him say that if it was up to him he wouldn't go chasing
3 the bark beetles. He talked -- (indiscernible) he talked more like
4 Clint Beams than, I guess, like Terry Brady about thinking that you
5 just had to let it go, but he had a really solid experience. The
6 state got burned really badly on the west side of Cook Inlet. It
7 cost us a million bucks out of our pocket to pay off the lawsuit.
8 The bark beetles -- now, and I'll happily supply you some of these
9 memos that go from 1973 where they had a happy beginning attacking
10 the spruce bark beetle, to 1983 when everybody began to talk to
11 each other only through their attorneys. The Kenai Peninsula
12 Borough, Cook Inlet Region Incorporated, the State of Alaska,
13 Mitsui Corporation, they set up to do this Kodiak Lumber Mill, I
14 think the name of it was. Anyway, we have a long history with this
15 subject. We haven't done very well. I don't hear much in the way
16 of new propositions that would lead me to think we'd do any better.
17 We've often had Ed Holsten -- in fact, when he first went to work
18 for the feds here, for Forest Management, I invited him to one of
19 the many panel discussions I've conducted over the years on this
20 subject because I've been personally engaged with this odd creature
21 for twenty years, and I always thought, and what the state law says
22 now and what we don't do a good job of enforcing, I always thought
23 that if we cleaned up after ourselves a little better, whether
24 seismic lines or homestead roads or transmission lines, and the
25 main new cause of spruce bark beetles on the Kenai Peninsula is the
26 power line from the Bradley Lake hydroelectric project to Soldotna,

1 and that's despite the fact that the power authority and the
2 utility took the advice of entomologists, the best minds they could
3 find on the subject, and if you fly over that today, you'll see
4 that the transmission line is cleared to a width of about two
5 hundred and fifty feet, and for two hundred and fifty feet on each
6 side of it you'll see red tops on the spruce trees because the
7 solution didn't work. Now, I've seen that a lot. I just don't
8 think science has got a full grasp on the slippery bark beetle yet.
9 To conclude, I'll tell you about our most recent experience.
10 Commissioner Noah, when the Division of Forestry proposed a five-
11 year schedule of timber sales in the Kenai Peninsula, he saw that
12 it made people down there pretty uneasy, so he put together a panel
13 which included the manager of the Seward sawmill, which included
14 the head -- the executive director of the economic development
15 district, the president of the borough assembly, the mayor of the
16 Kenai Peninsula Borough, a logger from Homer, a forester from
17 Seldovia, myself, a member of the planning commission, and we said
18 unanimously, boy, we're afraid -- like somebody else said here a
19 little earlier, I think it was Ed Holsten, that this cure might be
20 worse than our present situation, that we don't really think that
21 anybody has got a hand on what to do about the bark beetle, and we
22 saw a lot of evidence, we made a half a dozen field trips. Every
23 time we had a meeting in a different part of the Peninsula, we'd go
24 on a field trip, and we could see logs left in the woods that
25 caused bark beetles up to almost a million board feet in an
26 operation near Ninilchik because the market collapsed, as it often

1 does, and the logger got caught with these logs, many of them on
2 the Homer Spit, and had to be hauled back to the woods to grow bark
3 beetles. I mean --

4 MR. PHILLIPS: They won't grow on the Spit?

5 MR. SMITH: We've -- well, Ed Holsten said the first
6 time we saw them in Homer was that if you wanted to farm bark
7 beetles, what you would do is cross hatch the Peninsula with
8 seismic trails, like we've done, and on the west side of the Inlet
9 is where to build transmission lines and leave the logs laying
10 around. In fact, you know, it's a curiosity to me why the Exxon
11 Valdez oil spill settlement money, they should be asked maybe to
12 solve a seismic line problem from oil exploration done by ARCO. I
13 mean, we ought to have an ARCO settlement about the bark beetle.
14 Anyway, Roger Burnside read at some length from what this advisory
15 panel on which served the new state forester, Tom Boutin, and
16 another one of his hands, there were two foresters and a biologist,
17 and what he said, that's what Mr. Burnside read to you was the
18 presentation of Tom Boutin at the Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
19 in August with a couple of updates and modification, but what the
20 state forester said to me is that -- he made those remarks up
21 before he served with the rest of us on the commissioner's advisory
22 panel, and a lot of what he thinks now is different because, like
23 the rest of us, it was useful to be enlightened by both the
24 technical expertise and foresters and entomologists and botanists
25 and biologists, but most important to me, and I think to most of
26 our group, was the convincing way in which the long time residents

1 of the Kenai Peninsula identified their own interests. Now, I
2 assure you, they're pretty skeptical of that whole range of
3 science, but when it came down to a question of biology and
4 protecting fish and wildlife habitat, on which a lot of our living
5 is based, that's the bread basket where I live, they preferred the
6 opinions of biologists. When it came to protecting those species
7 that we depend on for living and recreation, they didn't want to
8 ask somebody that grew roses or was a sylva-cultural specialist,
9 they wanted to talk to the biologist, and right or wrong, that's
10 where people came down, and I believe it's after many years of
11 different sorts of committees and commissions and panels and
12 meetings that people see enough logging on the Kenai Peninsula that
13 they are afraid that it's going to have a long time negative effect
14 on our ability to make a living there because we have been
15 dependent from the beginning of human settlement on a productive
16 forest and the waters that flow through it, and make no mistake
17 about it, we can very well be in that position again. At the
18 present rate of harvest on the Kenai Peninsula on which there are
19 -- two years ago, when our timber task force and the economic
20 development district did its study, there were two hundred and
21 fifteen thousand acres of private commercial forest land on the
22 Kenai Peninsula. Those are being harvested at the rate of thirty-
23 five thousand acres in 1993, twenty-five thousand acres in 1992,
24 and likely forty-five thousand acres in 1994, and it doesn't take
25 much multiplication to see that this is not going to be a very long
26 walk -- last activity, shipping chips and ground logs off the Spit.

1 The manager of the Seward Forest Products Mill served on our panel.
2 He cautioned the panel himself about this export market eventually
3 cutting his timber supply short, and eventually is not very far
4 away. It already has an effect on people like me that deal with
5 spruce or log builders. It's a serious economic matter to us that,
6 in the name of experimenting with bark beetles, we not eliminate
7 this resource that the local economy is partly dependent on. So,
8 there were some -- a variety of questions that were asked here, and
9 I'll address them briefly. There is, of course, a change in the
10 wildlife composition of the Kenai Peninsula since settlement times.
11 There weren't any moose on the Kenai Peninsula when the Russians
12 arrived. We had caribou. There aren't any caribou except those
13 that were transplanted recently. The caribou moved on. The
14 grasslands gave way to spruce trees and then birch trees grew up.
15 If you talk about having six hundred thousand acres infested, you
16 ought to ask the same question that the State of Alaska Division of
17 Forestry asked Cook Inlet Region when it said, we've got fifty
18 thousand infested acres on the Kenai Peninsula just ourselves and
19 we want to be exempted from reforestation. The standards and the
20 law say you have to reforest unless it's a salvage operation.
21 Well, this is because we've got an infested forest. The state
22 said, wait a minute, you've got a twelve to fifteen percent level
23 of infestation in your fifty thousand acres, so when you talk about
24 half a million acres or a million acres, you're not talking about
25 every spruce tree. You're not even talking about every large
26 spruce tree. Often we found in our review of the proposed timber

1 sales that we were talking about twelve to eighteen percent, and
2 that makes a big difference to people if they think about the
3 beetle that's taking every tree like Sherman marching through the
4 agricultural lands of the South on his way to the sea. It's a
5 different thing than if you see the bark beetle as something, and
6 every time you have a blow-down or a sloppy clearing job by a
7 homesteader or anything that will promote a local population,
8 that's where the bark beetles start. They're not just heading down
9 the Kenai Peninsula. They're starting in these odd spots here and
10 there where there's enough downed material to give them a boost.
11 How long are the dead trees usable? I built a house in 1976 out of
12 trees from the 1947 Kenai Burn, and not only didn't it turn to
13 powder and fall apart on the woman that's living in it, I still get
14 to go over there for supper once in awhile. In fact, we harvested
15 on the Kenai Peninsula trees from that burn right up until the time
16 the Fish and Wildlife Service, that manages the refuge where most
17 of the fire was, said, well, you've taken enough of those trees
18 now, but it went on for over thirty years, and it was a real asset
19 for making buildings and making furniture and for making paneling
20 on the Kenai Peninsula. There may be root rot in some places, but
21 I saw a lot of dead wood at my sawmill as well, and you know it's
22 -- it beats the hell out of paying somebody at Weyerhaeuser to
23 operate a kiln and use a lot of -- kiln and use expensive energy to
24 ship it up here. You can get dry wood out of the forest if you
25 find a dead tree, but not all of it, and of course you can't saw
26 little finish boards out of it. For, like, timbers and logs

1 though, it doesn't hurt them at all. In fact, it's an ancient
2 technique if you want to build a log structure out of material that
3 isn't going to shrink and settle a lot, you ring the tree and you
4 kill it and let it stand there for a few years. Don't do it now,
5 it's against the law, you'll cause bark beetles, but it's an
6 ancient technique. I don't know about all the lands you have
7 identified for acquisition, but I don't think that they -- these
8 particular lands are those that are much at risk from bark beetles
9 any more than they are from forest fires. It's not been bark
10 beetle country, generally, and if it is, then I suggest that -- I
11 would take away that exemption that exists in state law for
12 operations in the southern region which is where these acquisition
13 lands all are, includes Afognak, region one, and Alaska for forest
14 management purpose, it includes Afognak and it includes the whole
15 outer coast of the Kenai Peninsula and everything south of there.
16 The first thing we ought to do if we're serious about bark beetles,
17 and -- is to enforce the laws generally on that subject to have the
18 same clearing standards on one side of the line as on the other,
19 and there's a whole lot more to be said. You've just gotten the
20 smallest sample of the beetle mania that's swept the Kenai
21 Peninsula for so many years. We're very happy to share it with you
22 guys in some other place.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: That's the thing I like about my job here.
24 It's so noncontroversial, you know, you almost go to sleep, it's so
25 boring. Are there any questions for either of these gentlemen
26 before we pass out or pass on to our next person who's been sitting

1 here very patiently all morning? Any other beetle questions?
2 Okay, thanks gentlemen, for being so patient. I appreciate it very
3 much. Okay, here we go to the ecosystem of Prince William Sound.
4 Why don't you come up and find a -- I'll find some microphones
5 here, if you like. There are a couple over here on this side, I
6 believe, or at least one, and another one there and one here. And,
7 again, if you would, in your introduction, identify yourself and
8 who represent and so on, so that they can record it. (Pause) Are
9 you ready?

10 MS. BAKER: I'm ready.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Go ahead.

12 (Pause while donuts are passed around)

13 MS. BAKER: Thanks, I -- Beatles songs and Hard Days
14 Night and all that. That was really a real informative stretch of
15 work that we just put in. I'd like to introduce myself and Dan
16 Hull. My name is Torie Baker and I am vice president of the
17 Cordova District Fishermen United. Dan Hull is chairman of the
18 Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association. Together, we are the
19 co-chairmen, or co-chairpersons, of the Prince William Sound
20 Ecosystem Planning Group. What we -- we -- today, I don't know
21 that we necessarily asked for a spot on the agenda, but I know that
22 John French and whatnot asked for, you know, some information, so
23 we're here to provide, at least in the form of this handout that
24 we've passed around, a bit of background and history of the
25 development of the work that's going -- that has been presented
26 under Proposal 94320, which is the Prince William Sound ecosystem

1 planning effort. I think many of the members of the PAG have been
2 informed, probably to varying degrees through either press releases
3 and information from our group's effort there in Prince William
4 Sound to just following along on the EVOS Trustee process itself,
5 and so I wanted to just give a bit of a background of what is
6 contained in this two-page bit of information here and outline some
7 of the genesis of where this proposal, which I believe you now have
8 copies of, I think that's been passed out. (Pause) Were there
9 copies of that or --

10 MR. PHILLIPS: The project description?

11 MS. BAKER: Yeah, the project description. Did you
12 all get a copy?

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, we've got that.

14 MS. BAKER: Okay, okay. This was something that was
15 -- has been put together through a very extensive and really a very
16 cooperative effort in Prince William Sound. If you recall, back in
17 August there was a motion put together by the -- or at the Trustee
18 Council to give a planning grant to certain -- to the Prince
19 William Sound Fisheries Ecosystem Planning Group, to put together
20 and help support a marine ecosystem plan. To that end, the
21 coalition that had come together is representative of many of the
22 organizations in Prince William Sound, and as listed there in this
23 information sheet, the commercial fishing organizations of CDFU and
24 CAMA, which are two of the major organizations in Cordova
25 representing the commercial fishing industry, and fishermen of the
26 Sound, of the Prince William Sound Science Center, members of the

1 Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association, which is the regional
2 hatchery association there in Prince William Sound, the University
3 of Alaska Fairbanks, who has had a longstanding research presence
4 in the Sound, particularly in the marine environment, the Eyak
5 Corporation and the Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance.
6 And in conjunction with the local staff of Fish and Game, we
7 embarked on an extensive and exhaustive planning effort to come up
8 with an ecosystem research plan, if you will, keying primarily on
9 the two major fisheries species in the Sound of pink salmon and
10 herring. It's interesting, in the sense that when you all are
11 looking for linkages back to the, quote, injured species, that it
12 is pink salmon and herring that have also, in the everyday life of
13 the people in Prince William Sound, have been severely impacted
14 over the last three years and since the post-spill, and obviously
15 there's been a lot of attention and a lot of impact from the
16 fluctuations in both the herring and the pink salmon. So, through
17 this effort in Prince William Sound, what we did was generate a
18 research document known as the Sound Ecosystem Assessment, the SEA
19 plan, which was then reviewed at an EVOS Ecosystem Trustee workshop
20 in Cordova. Jim Ayers referred to that this morning. Many of the
21 people here, both from the agencies and otherwise, attended that
22 workshop, and at that workshop there was a review of the SEA plan,
23 the work generated there in Cordova, as well as an attempt on the
24 Trustees' part to expand on the work in Cordova by bringing in
25 other agency and resource scientists who had been working on other
26 parts of the marine ecosystem such as the birds and mammals, and

1 quite honestly, that was very exciting, and a lot of creative
2 energy went into those three days in Cordova, and as Jim referred
3 to earlier today, broadened the horizons for a lot of people. What
4 it actually -- and did a lot of integrating amongst the agency
5 peoples in particular. Particularly to the SEA plan, the Sound
6 Ecosystem Assessment work that we had been working on in Cordova,
7 there was just a lot of endorsement of the research proposals that
8 we had put together, or the research plan that we had been working
9 on as a very sound and reasonable and needed approach for looking
10 at marine ecosystems and how they're put together and how they're
11 presently wired. We have since, from that workshop, gone ahead in
12 the system that's laid out in terms of submitting proposals and
13 working with different agencies and working with the EVOS Trustee
14 staff, and put together a proposal which we have here in front of
15 you today and for your consideration, and what we wanted to do
16 today was not so much to do an exhaustive review of that work
17 proposal, we have Jerome here working on -- as the lead agency
18 there with Fish and Game, NOAA is also designated, I think, in the
19 work plan, as a lead agency, but we just wanted inform the PAG of
20 the genesis of this project, where it's coming from, why it was put
21 together, the scientific review that it has received of a very high
22 caliber already, and we're excited about it. It's something that
23 answers Prince William Sound's needs on a very broad-based level.
24 The subsistence and commercial fishing interest and tourism
25 interests and sports fishing interests in Prince William Sound are
26 primarily driven by the marine system, and it's something that we

1 in Prince William Sound are highly tied to and intimately tied to,
2 so that we -- we want to present that to you today. We appreciate
3 the opportunity to make this presentation. We understand that --
4 I mean, things have sort of been thrown up in the air today, for
5 lack of a better analogy.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Like a week full of Mondays.

7 MS. BAKER: Right, a week full of Mondays. So, we
8 wanted to take this opportunity to entertain questions from the
9 PAG, introduce ourselves further and solidify again who we are and
10 what we're trying to accomplish and who we represent. It's there
11 on the table for people's comments, and we'd surely entertain any
12 questions.

13 MR. HULL: I'd like to just add a couple of things.
14 Am I on?

15 MR. PHILLIPS: You're on.

16 MR. HULL: Okay. First, it is largely a volunteer
17 effort. We did have support from the Trustee Council, I believe,
18 to the tune of fifty thousand dollars to help with the planning
19 effort, but, for example, Torie and myself are not paid staff.
20 We've volunteered all our time and effort on this, as have the
21 members from the Department of Fish and Game, people on the staff
22 of the Prince William Sound Science Center, other members of the
23 community, and the -- from the Prince William Sound Aquaculture
24 Corporation. We've had three staff members working gratis on the
25 development of this proposal, and it's been a very positive step
26 forward for not just the commercial fisheries groups in Cordova but

1 for the whole area of the Sound, I believe, because it's brought
2 together a lot of the diverse interest groups that have been at
3 odds over some issues since the oil spill and it's provided a forum
4 for some real cooperative efforts in trying to address resource
5 management issues, and I think that's another real important
6 benefit of this process. I think one of the next steps in this
7 process is that the steering committee, which was, I guess, the
8 link between our group and the Trustee Council, is going to come
9 out with recommendations based on the workshop and the review of
10 the SEA plan, and I would suggest that the Public Advisory Group
11 get copies of those recommendations as well as copies of the peer
12 reviewers' review of the SEA plan. I think that would be valuable
13 to you in your decision-making process. So, we're happy to open it
14 up to questions.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Are there any questions from the group?
16 Pam?

17 MR. BRADY: Yes. Thank you for coming, and I want to
18 say thank you particularly for the work you're doing, and I'm
19 really pleased that people in the community are working on planning
20 what sort of science is going to help, and that you're taking this
21 kind of large look at the ecosystem. I'd like to know what you
22 think about the relationship between the SEA plan proposal and the
23 1994 and other annual work plans that we get, which seem to be a
24 list of individual projects that aren't necessarily related to one
25 another or anything else. Do you think that for Prince William
26 Sound, what you're proposing would replace these work plan

1 projects, or that these would be part of what you do, or that they
2 would both be done separately and not have much influence on each
3 other, or something else?

4 MS. BAKER: Right. Thanks, Pam, I think that's a
5 really good question. I think if you all would, just for your
6 general reference to that question, turn to the -- I think page ten
7 of your proposal, within there they do talk about existing agency
8 programs. I think that's one of the formats that all proposals
9 must address or be presented, and we went through the 1994 work
10 plan and looked at things that we thought would either benefit from
11 work that we had in our proposal or areas that we felt definitely
12 there would be information that would help integrate in what is
13 contained in the SEA plan and in the SEA proposal. I mean, it's a
14 rather exhaustive list. It's my understanding that one of the most
15 integrated projects that is already existing in the FY94 work plan
16 is most definitely this forage fish influence program. I
17 understand that Jerome can speak more specifically to other
18 particular Fish and Game projects or NOAA projects or marine type
19 projects that would link out better, but I think there's a lot
20 there, as outlined in our proposal, that already does exist in the
21 FY94 work plan that would integrate and give a -- have a very good
22 mutual benefit for both, if that answers your question.

23 MS. BRODIE: So, you are endorsing this list of
24 projects on page ten?

25 MS. BAKER: I wouldn't say that it's an endorsement as
26 much as it's a -- oh, I think, as it says here, that these are the

1 ones that -- that there would be a good interaction between what we
2 have going and what we envision as a result of the review of the
3 SEA plan and what is existing in the FY94 work plan. I wouldn't
4 say that it was exhaustive, and I wouldn't -- you know, at that
5 point, but yes, that those would be some really good core projects.

6 MR. HULL: I think that how close the links are would
7 have to be addressed by some of the people who put together the
8 other projects, but there is interaction between them and how close
9 they are, I couldn't tell, but that's -- they certainly would be
10 beneficial.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: John?

12 MR. McMULLEN: Now, in reviewing your proposal here, and
13 relative to the work plan, in thinking about the meeting that the
14 executive director Jim Ayers was holding in Cordova this week, one
15 question is, did you invite (indiscernible) to be part of that?
16 I've been -- I think one question that we've had is, how do these
17 new -- these proposals, how did they get put in front of the
18 Trustee Council, what are your expectations there? They're the
19 people that put the five million dollars on the table and said, we
20 contemplate putting another five million dollars there, and talking
21 with George Frampton originally about this, I thought that the
22 concept was that this may be -- this approach may be a transition
23 from what was occurring, the remnants of which are in the 1994 work
24 plan, and the process of integrative research programs that --
25 projects that Jim Ayers talks about as being the way of the future,
26 and are you comfortable with the way that your efforts are fitting

1 into this, or do you still have to learn that, or what?

2 MR. HULL: I think there's a fair amount of
3 uncertainty as we go along exactly how we integrate what we're
4 doing with what Jim Ayers envisioned the process, and I guess
5 there's some -- some anxiety. You know, honestly, there's some
6 anxiety about how -- you know, how those are going to be integrated
7 together, but we are attending that workshop those two days, so we
8 will be working with them, and the three scientists he mentioned
9 were at the workshop in Cordova, so those links are there and
10 obviously this is a transition process for Jim Ayers and Molly and
11 the whole Trustee Council process, so we're working as best we can
12 on that.

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Kim, and then James.

14 MS. BENTON: Can I ask a question in reviewing the
15 budget? The largest line item is for the Prince William Sound
16 Science Center, two point four million. Could you just give me an
17 idea? It seems like an awful lot for a budget item. What types of
18 projects shall be (indiscernible) for that?

19 MS. BAKER: Well, you know, I don't think that I can
20 -- I mean, I can't break it down totally. We are, you know, much
21 in the same old process of putting together the operation and the
22 budget plans for more further detail. What I can say specific to
23 any of these budget items is that a lot of what we're doing as --
24 if you had a chance to read the verbiage, is start-up. A lot of it
25 is start-up and a lot of that, I think, which comes under the
26 Prince William Sound Science Center is for a lot of the equipment

1 and the purchases and the work they are doing in the initial phase
2 of a program of this size. I can't really, I think, discuss it too
3 much more than that, but that's sort of how it breaks out in terms
4 of looking at what resources and expertise is available in the
5 region and trying to capitalize on that, so that's where the Prince
6 William Sound Science Center fits in, as a lead agency for
7 scientific research.

8 DR. MONTAGUE: Brad?

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes?

10 DR. MONTAGUE: Could I make a couple of comments on this?

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Could you? Well, yeah, I was going to ask
12 you to.

13 DR. MONTAGUE: First of all, relative to John's question,
14 the '94 work plan, and the whole work plan isn't -- the timing
15 isn't such that it's going to be put under the ecosystem umbrella.
16 You've probably got the '94 work plan and this one ecosystem
17 project for '94, then the meeting this Thursday and Friday is to
18 plan '95 so that the whole program would be under kind of the
19 ecosystem umbrella. So in '94 that will be separate, and basically
20 you've got the projects to consider in the work plan, and then
21 you've got the ecosystem project, and then on behalf of the
22 executive director, there was a couple of things I needed to say
23 about this. First of all, the Trustees and the executive director
24 were very grateful to you all and the steering committee and the
25 group in Cordova for working on this and getting it to where it is,
26 but, you know, as Kim was quick to notice, it's a very general

1 proposal. The budget is very general, and as currently presented,
2 isn't suitable for requests for funding by the Trustee Council, and
3 the executive director has asked -- I believe has asked you, but
4 maybe some other -- maybe the group from Cordova to develop the
5 details of these into specific projects with detailed budgets like
6 are in the usual work plan format, you know, the form two a's, two
7 b's, three c's, that show the specifics that you were asking. So,
8 at this time, it's just a general proposal to show the direction,
9 but at this stage Jim would not recommend, you know, an acceptance
10 of the project without more detail. So, Kim?

11 MS. BENTON: In terms of timing, are they looking -- if
12 we're supposed to comment on these projects, if you're looking to
13 have a detailed budget by -- before our time frame and kind of have
14 our comments on this project (inaudible)?

15 MR. HULL: Let me speak to the time frame just a
16 little bit. We only found out at the end of December that this
17 proposal was due on January 7th for the Public Advisory Group, and
18 we were working under the impression that the proposal, along with
19 the detailed budget, which would explain what all the funding was
20 going towards, would be available by the 17th of this -- of January
21 for review by Bob Spies and your group before it went to the
22 Trustees. So we were put under a timeline, a deadline, just to get
23 a general proposal out in the same format that it's always gone out
24 as, and the group -- our science committee is working on the
25 detailed budgets and operational plans that go along with this, and
26 we'll have those ready by the 17th to be reviewed by Bob Spies so

1 that -- and I hope that then you would also have the benefit of
2 review of those as well as all the other projects that are going
3 forward.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: In regard to timing, we've had a further
5 communication with Mr. Ayers this morning after we finished with
6 our discussion on the phone, and I'd ask Eric to relay what his
7 desire is in terms of our getting information in. I think it will
8 help everybody work. So, if you -- do you have a mike there that
9 you can use? Eric will tell us about the conversation with
10 Mr. Ayers after we completed our conference call this morning.

11 MR. MYERS: As the executive director indicated, he is
12 very anxious to get the input of the Public Advisory Group as a
13 part of the information he really wants to use to develop his own
14 recommendations to the Trustee Council. The timing, as you know,
15 is really tight. In talking with Doug, and also with Brad, we were
16 trying to brainstorm a process by which the Public Advisory Group
17 could have the benefit of the chief scientist's recommendations and
18 still make a timely recommendation that could feed into the process
19 that's been outlined to get us to the January 31st meeting, and one
20 possible scenario, and I've wanted to broach this as a possibility,
21 would be to, tomorrow afternoon, instead of adjourning the meeting,
22 go into recess and -- with the intention of our providing the chief
23 scientist's recommendations to the PAG as soon as they become
24 available, which I believe will be -- I haven't confirmed this,
25 it's either the 17th or the 18th, but get them to you as quickly as
26 possible on the 17th or 18th and then have a teleconference on the

1 20th for purposes of some final recommendations being made by the
2 Public Advisory Group, and use the time that's available remaining
3 today and tomorrow to work with the agency personnel to learn as
4 much as you can about the specific project proposals and to use the
5 time between now and the 20th to do additional reading of the
6 materials and whatever other queries you want to advance to the
7 agency people to come up with final recommendations. In order to
8 make the chief scientist's recommendations available to the PAG, it
9 may be one way of going about that because it seemed to be a very
10 strong feeling on the part of the PAG that you wanted the chief
11 scientist's recommendations. It's only a suggest -- a possibility,
12 and I'm raising it as one possibility. Jim is anxious to make sure
13 that we don't end up with seventeen individual qualitative letters
14 of comment on the eve of the Trustee Council meeting.

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Does the committee see any problem with
16 that approach, of just recessing and then having the
17 teleconference? Pam?

18 MS. BRODIE: Well, it is going to be expensive. I
19 don't know about PAG's budget to do -- it would probably be a very
20 long teleconference and we'd need a -- somebody doing the
21 transcript again, so I think that we're talking about some
22 thousands of dollars to do that --

23 MR. PHILLIPS: The choice is to either --

24 MS. BRODIE: -- as well as our time.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, but your choice is to either do it or
26 don't do anything, and don't give him the information, so I don't

1 think we have much choice, do we?

2 MS. BRODIE: Well, we have some choices in that we can
3 turn in our comments individually.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: He's asked us not to do that though.

5 MS. BRODIE: Before the chief scientist, you know, just
6 do the best we can and then he will take into account the chief
7 scientist's opinions also.

8 MR. PHILLIPS: He specifically asked us not to do that,
9 unless I didn't get the message.

10 MS. BRODIE: I think he asked us not to do them
11 individually after the 20th, or after the 21st, but we can do them
12 individually if we get them in by the 14th, like everybody else.

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Is that what you understand, Eric?

14 MR. MYERS: Umm ---

15 MR. PHILLIPS: I thought he didn't want to deal with
16 seventeen different --

17 MR. MYERS: I think that the process that was used
18 last time, which gave a fairly precise recommendation for each
19 project, is what -- which really resulted in focused discussion and
20 debate on the part of the PAG on specific projects, was something
21 that was useful as a precedent.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: I agree with you.

23 MS. BRODIE: (Inaudible)

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, we did, all together. We debated it
25 and then came up with a position on each one, instead of him having
26 to sift through seventeen positions and having to come out with

1 some kind of consensus. I would think, if it were me, I would put
2 them in the round file or start my evening fire with them.

3 MR. CLOUD: It's just not very practical, given the
4 fact that we're still on the public comment period today, at 3:30,
5 and most of us, or some of us have scheduled other things for
6 tomorrow afternoon. I mean, we just have to get going on this.
7 And the other thing is, we're just going to have to hold our
8 discussion to a very limited amount of questions instead of hashing
9 over a thirty-six thousand dollar project for a half an hour.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

11 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, I think one of the things, and
12 several people had mentioned it, was that when we know that certain
13 people aren't going to be at our meetings, they shouldn't be
14 planned, you know. Apparently, everybody was aware that Dr. Spies
15 wouldn't be here.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Not everybody. I wasn't.

17 MS. FISCHER: I think that then when -- Doug, you say
18 that it was announced at the last meeting, or you knew at the last
19 meeting it was mentioned, and maybe not all of us picked it up, but
20 it was aware, so I think that needs to be taken into consideration
21 when these meetings are called, so we know, you know, how to deal
22 with them. My other understanding is that Dr. Spies is not going
23 to be here until 3:00 tomorrow. Now, does that mean that he's
24 going to land at the airport at 3:00 or is he going to be here at
25 the meeting at 3:00, because that -- if that's the case, he may not
26 be here until 4:00 o'clock.

1 MR. MYERS: Right. Well, I believe that's what I
2 indicated, that his plan was -- his plane was landing at 3:00,
3 weather permitting, and that he would be here about 3:30 or
4 whenever he could make his way in from the airport.

5 MS. FISCHER: If his plane isn't late.

6 MR. MYERS: Well, that's true.

7 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, coming in from Seattle on that --

8 MR. PHILLIPS: And if they haven't lost the luggage.

9 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, so we're talking about 4:00, and if
10 people are wanting to catch a 5:00 o'clock plane or, you know,
11 trying to get back home tomorrow night, which was the plan, which
12 everybody, according to the agenda that we received, made their
13 plans accordingly. Do you see what I'm saying? I mean, I can
14 stay, but how many stay, how many can change their plans, and I
15 think we need to do that and decide what time we're going to start
16 in the morning to try to get through this and try and get as much
17 done as possible.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, James?

19 MR. KING: My understanding of the role of the PAG
20 was that we were selected to represent a wide variety of interests,
21 and am I hearing now that Jim Ayers has decided that he wants from
22 us not a report on the interests that we represent but a consensus
23 of just the personalities that are here, because I feel those are
24 two very different things, that if we are going to effectively
25 represent the interests that we are supposed to, he's going to have
26 to look at the individual reports from the members of the PAG, and

1 so I think that needs clarification because I think there are some
2 of the group here that are going to have strong things to say that
3 we may not be able to reach a consensus on.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: James, you may remember last time we had
5 discussions on each project, we tried to come up with a consensus,
6 and Doug also recorded any of the people who objected or had
7 another view. It just expedites his understanding of what we're
8 doing, and it's certainly a lot easier if we all agree on
9 something, or most of us do, that that point of view be put down
10 and then any other points of view, instead of trying to sit through
11 seventeen letters on each subject. I'd would -- jeez, I'd be
12 horrified if I had to do that and come up with something
13 meaningful. Of course, I have to work for a living. He's got lots
14 of time to do it, I guess.

15 MR. MYERS: If I can try and respond, I think one of
16 the things he is really desirous of hearing is the discussion and
17 debate among the PAG members about the particular project proposal
18 and having one person write a set of comments on the work plan is
19 not necessarily going to have the same kind of benefit of the
20 discussion that would take place as a group. It's -- do you see
21 what I'm saying?

22 MR. KING: Well, I do. It's going to be a
23 considerable problem -- you know, effort to get that. You're
24 suggesting that everybody here needs to talk themselves out on
25 their thoughts on each of these projects. Now, I know from my own
26 point of view that there are a lot of these projects that I don't

1 really know anything about. Dick Eliason, I think, perhaps put it
2 in the best focus when we did this last year when he said this is
3 a hum ho project -- or a process, that we were voting on things
4 that we really didn't know a great deal about, and I would think
5 that a report from the individuals about the proposals they do know
6 something about would have a lot more meaning than, you know,
7 voting on things by a group where often we're voting on something
8 we don't really understand.

9 MR. MYERS: Well, to the extent that there could be
10 projects identified about which the group feels strongly
11 collectively, that's important to know, if there is a consensus
12 regarding specific projects, and unquestionably there will be
13 projects about which some individuals know nothing, or don't know
14 enough or whatever, but to the extent that a consensus or a group
15 opinion can be brought forward regarding particular project
16 priorities, that's the kind of information that's particularly
17 valuable.

18 MR. KING: Well, perhaps, but the minority opinions,
19 I think, are important from this type of group. Isn't that
20 correct?

21 MR. PHILLIPS: They are expressed. We've taken -- he's
22 making notes on every one of them. If there are minority opinions,
23 those will be sent to the PAG. We don't want to muffle anybody.
24 It's just a matter of him being to weigh. If it's sixteen to one
25 on a subject, that makes a difference as though it was eight to
26 eight, and I think Doug has been pretty articulate in putting down

1 the views that we have, and I'm just trying to expedite his work
2 and the time he's got to do it, to get it in to the Trustee Council
3 in a meaningful fashion. I think that we should try to help him in
4 his request and --

5 MR. MYERS: In no way am I suggesting or trying to
6 discourage your focusing on a particular project you have a
7 particular interest in and know something specifically about. I
8 know that Jim has been -- has taken a keen interest in one of the
9 projects concerning orca research and his efforts to understand
10 that project and to share information with the other PAG members,
11 I think, is a worthwhile effort on his part to get into the details
12 of a particular proposal, so certainly that kind of input is
13 valuable. At the same time, the kind of discussion that takes
14 place amongst the PAG members in formulating a consensus or some
15 sort of collective opinion is very valuable as well.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: I'd like to ask Doug to review here what
17 he's doing. I think it might be helpful.

18 MR. MUTTER: Well, earlier this morning when we talked
19 about this issue, we -- I thought we'd sort of agreed that what we
20 would do would be, by the end of our meeting, try and provide some
21 general comments and recommendations on the work plan as a whole,
22 and as we heard presentations and asked questions on each project
23 we would solicit comments and recommendations from the PAG. If we
24 can develop a consensus, fine. If we can't, fine. If we just have
25 some general comments, we'll put those down, and then by the 21st,
26 or sooner, each individual who so wishes can submit written views

1 on the project. That seems to be -- I thought we'd agreed that was
2 kind of a reasonable approach, and we probably ought to get on with
3 it or we're not going to get through them.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: In regard to your project over here, all
5 I would do is to encourage you to flesh out the details as fast as
6 you can and get them to us so that we can handle them. Otherwise,
7 I'd hate to see them go by the board because they weren't done in
8 a timely fashion. So if you could do that. Do you have anything
9 else now in your presentation? We have got to get on with what we
10 started to do this morning. Yes, John?

11 MR. McMULLEN: I was just going to offer a variation of
12 what Doug was talking about as far as getting our comments together
13 in a report. Kim and I were talking over here about the fact that
14 we wanted some more input from the chief scientist, and we wanted
15 to be able to comment on the project and we'd probably, given a
16 little more time, probably get a broader range of comments from
17 this group if you put it in writing than if you just talked about
18 it today and tomorrow. We were wondering about the feasibility of
19 getting this information that the chief scientist has to offer,
20 completing our comments, written comments on this series of
21 proposals, and several of us, the group here would get together
22 then and do -- you know, similar to those, and put the final -- put
23 a report together. There is a PAG report expressing all points of
24 view and also listing how we came down in numbers on each side of
25 an issue. Now, is that reasonable?

26 MR. MUTTER: Isn't that the same result as if we go

1 through and make our collective comments now and everybody submits
2 their opinion in writing?

3 MS. BENTON: (Inaudible -- out of microphone range)

4 MR. PHILLIPS: I'll go buy a gavel to get through this
5 today. Yes?

6 DR. FRENCH: Before Torie and Dan leave, I'd like to
7 just make a few quick comments. First, I think this is a very
8 large step forward and a very positive one. There are, I think,
9 maybe some weaknesses in terms of the integration of some of the
10 physical oceanography, with some of the final biological outcomes,
11 but I can talk to you more about that later. I'll be around the
12 remaining part of the week. But also, contrary to what the
13 executive director has indicated, I personally find a whole lot
14 more information in this proposal, as you put it forward now, than
15 there are in many of the work plan proposals in the gray booklet,
16 and in that sense, I would like to move that the PAG endorse the
17 work that the SEA steering committee, or that's represented in the
18 SEA proposal here and encourage the executive director to work as -
19 - with the SEA steering committee in as timely a manner as possible
20 to assure that this project does get funded, or at least gets
21 initiated in the FY94 context.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: I second that motion.

23 MR. CLOUD: For some reason or other, I don't seem to
24 have a copy of any proposal.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: It's been moved and seconded that we
26 endorse -- are you talking about --

1 DR. FRENCH: I'm talking about the --

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Are you talking about this document?

3 DR. FRENCH: I'm talking about -- yeah, the revised
4 project of 94320, as opposed to the 94320 that's in the gray book.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: I, for one, have not had a chance to read
6 and digest this, and to vote on it, to say that we endorse it or
7 not endorse it, I'm not saying I wouldn't, but it's kind of in the
8 blind if we just do it now without an opportunity to even analyze
9 it. But you can vote on it if you'd like. There's a motion that's
10 before you. Any comments on it? John?

11 MR. McMULLEN: Mr. Chairman, what we'd be doing is
12 endorsing a process that the Trustee Council asked for, and I think
13 they came up with a very good base document. It appears to
14 describe where they're going, and what we're asking -- what we're
15 saying here is that -- and I think this is a very deserving
16 project, that we endorse this -- endorse and urge the executive
17 director and the restoration process here to work with the SEA plan
18 authors and scientists, you know, in developing this into the
19 project proposals for consideration by the Trustee Council for
20 funding, just to take it forward.

21 MR. CLOUD: I agree with John. It's along the line,
22 at least the way they've described it, and as I've read it while I
23 was listening to the description.

24 MR. DIEHL: I move that we take a vote.

25 MR. CLOUD: Well, wait a second, I'm talking. And it
26 is basically in line with what we asked for last year, a lot more

1 coordination and bringing in people and organizations that were not
2 just the agencies themselves involved.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: All right. The motion is before you. Is
4 there any further discussion on the motion?

5 MS. BRODIE: Would you read the motion?

6 MR. PHILLIPS: The motion was to endorse -- would you say
7 it again, John? To endorse this --

8 DR. FRENCH: Well, to endorse this -- endorse the
9 project as outlined in this revised document, and that we encourage
10 the executive director to work with the SEA steering committee to
11 ensure that the project is implemented in a timely manner and in
12 the context of the FY94 work plan.

13 MR. DIEHL: Can I move to table that until we can all
14 read it?

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, you can move to table, and the
16 motion to table is not -- you can't discuss it. If you want to
17 move to table, that's your privilege. Do you want to do that?

18 MR. CLOUD: That's a heavy decision.

19 MR. DIEHL: Well, we want more discussion.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: I know, but the rules are that if you do
21 move to table, that cuts off all discussion, and that's what we
22 have to do, so --

23 MR. DIEHL: Can I move to table until --

24 MR. PHILLIPS: To a specific time.

25 MR. DIEHL: -- tomorrow morning or something?

26 MR. PHILLIPS: Certainly. To a time certain, you can do,

1 or just table. Those are the two options you have.

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

3 MR. PHILLIPS: The motion is to table the motion until
4 ten o'clock tomorrow morning. Those in favor say aye.

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

6 MR. PHILLIPS: No. Those opposed? I guess the two votes
7 carried it. It is tabled until ten o'clock tomorrow morning, and
8 then --

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Are we done with public comment?

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, we are open for any public comments
11 on the 1994 work plan, as proposed here, and that's all we will
12 entertain this afternoon. So if there's anybody else in the
13 audience that has anything to say about the 1994 work plan, we're
14 open. Is there anybody who wants to be heard?

15 MR. McKEE: Right here.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Is it on the 1994 work plan?

17 MR. McKEE: Yes, it is.

18 MR. HULL: Mr. Chairman?

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

20 MR. HULL: Just in closing, the endorsement proposed
21 by John French was what we were looking for from the Public
22 Advisory Group, just for some clarification. The other thing is
23 that you might just -- since there are lawyers hanging around, the
24 steering committee of the SEA plan, the steering committee might
25 refer to the steering committee that was the link between our group
26 and the Trustee Council, and so, instead, you might refer to it as

1 the planning group. So, just for clarification there.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you. Watch what you say about
3 lawyers. One thing that I think that still is pertinent on an
4 endorsement of that thing is that you refine those numbers, because
5 I don't know whether the motion was to endorse the budget and
6 everything else that went with it, but I think that's your critical
7 thing on whether you'll be taken serious.

8 MS. BAKER: Thank you.

9 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thanks for coming by and thanks for
10 being so darn patient today. I think I'm running out of patience,
11 however. Okay. Does anybody else want to be heard now? We have
12 one. Anybody else in the audience that wants to be heard on the
13 1994 work plan? Would you identify yourself and indicate to us
14 what part of the work plan you want to talk about?

15 MR. McKEE: I am Charles McKee, and I'd like to talk
16 about the allocation of funds part.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: I beg your pardon?

18 MR. McKEE: I'd like to talk about the allocations of
19 monies for the work plan.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Well --

21 MR. McKEE: That is part of the work plan, isn't it?

22 MR. PHILLIPS: We have nothing to do with the allocation
23 of the funds. We either approve the plans and the Trustee Council
24 is in the funds business, we're not.

25 MR. McKEE: I understand that, but there's a price tag
26 to every plan that comes in.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: That is -- the Trustee Council determines
2 that. We just approve or put our recommendations on the specific
3 plan. I'd like to have you confine your remarks to a specific part
4 of the plan, and we will be glad to listen to that. I don't want
5 to get into a general conversation about money because we don't
6 have anything to do with that, and we are so far behind today, and
7 we've got a job that we have to complete, and I'm going to complete
8 it if I have to get my elephants out here. It's about 3:30.

9 MR. McKEE: Well --

10 MR. PHILLIPS: What are you going to talk about on the
11 plan?

12 MR. McKEE: Well, since this is the PAG --

13 MR. PHILLIPS: That's correct.

14 MR. McKEE: I feel it an obligation on my part to
15 present this. It's a letter to Senator Ted Stevens and addresses
16 --

17 MR. PHILLIPS: I will not entertain that sort of thing
18 this afternoon. If you have something to talk about on this plan
19 that's in this book, we'll entertain it. Other than that, we're
20 not going to get into generalities. I've told you that.

21 MR. McKEE: It's not a generality.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: A letter to Ted Stevens has nothing to do
23 with the 1994 work plan.

24 MR. McKEE: Since you're the PAG, I feel it a must I
25 submit this letter to you.

26 MR. PHILLIPS: We're going to take a break for about ten

1 minutes and I will be back.

2 MR. McKEE: But I'm going to submit this letter to
3 you, a copy of it. That's all I want to do.

4 MR. PHILLIPS: We'll take a break and be back here in ten
5 minutes.

6 (Off record at 3:42 p.m.)

7 (On record at 4:00 p.m.)

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, we're going to get back to work
9 here. Unfortunately, our resident expert on fisheries will not be
10 here tomorrow, so we're going to try to get through the fishery
11 projects, and we would ask you -- I think the most expeditious way
12 is for you to go through the items we've got, and if you'd make
13 notes on the numbers and any questions you have on those, then we
14 will come back and ask the question. Otherwise, we're never going
15 to stuff it in here in an hour, it's just not going to happen, so
16 let's try to leave our comments for the last. And then there's the
17 suggestion has been made that we rank these different projects.
18 Doug, would you suggest how this could be done?

19 MR. MUTTER: Well, if you recall last year, Senator
20 Eliason suggested this at the end of our meeting so we never really
21 instituted it, but -- and I think there was some discussion with
22 Eric Myers and Jim Ayers about doing it, and what we could do is
23 each of us have one of these sheets, is as we go through the
24 discussions on the projects, if you feel comfortable in ranking the
25 project as one, high priority, two, medium, three, low priority in
26 your estimation, and at the end of the meeting tomorrow just turn

1 those in, and we can let them tabulate that information in whatever
2 way they want. It still doesn't preclude each member from
3 submitting some written comments, but that gives them some kind of
4 an idea of where we're coming from.

5 MS. FISCHER: (Inaudible)

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

7 MS. FISCHER: I remember when we did this last, or at
8 the last time that we did this, I think it was for the '93 report,
9 and then Attorney General Cole at the time made a comment that he
10 didn't feel like the PAG group had put much time or effort into
11 commenting because by the time you guys reduced it down there
12 wasn't a whole lot there that was said -- or on our comments, and
13 if you remember, it was in the minutes that he felt that we didn't
14 do a lot, and some of us kind of, you know, I was reminded of it,
15 and I do remember when he said that, and will this be the same
16 thing again? We can decide to keep our remarks up and on time.

17 MR. CLOUD: I straightened him out.

18 MS. FISCHER: Did you? Oh, thanks. I'm so glad you
19 were there, Jim.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, let's -- what is -- would you
21 identify the next -- the number of the project you're going to --
22 by the way, I'm going to appoint John McMullen to represent the PAG
23 at this meeting on Thursday and Friday, and I've asked him to be as
24 objective as possible on all the things that are presented, to
25 report back to us, not just the things that he may have an interest
26 in, but everything that they do, and I told Mr. Ayers that I'd

1 appoint somebody, and John has said he would do it for us, so if
2 you'll make a note of that, and he can get back to us after it's
3 over with. Okay, where do you want to start?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Page 134, Project 94086, and in response
5 to the questions I couldn't answer this morning on the thirty-six
6 thousand dollar pumping the sand project, apparently the fine sands
7 that don't move up from (indiscernible) to the shore, they're
8 created on the shore from the wave action that breaks them down
9 into the smaller pieces, and also that technique has been
10 successfully applied elsewhere.

11 MR. PHILLIPS: Thanks a lot for coming back.

12 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay. The Herring Bay project, sometimes
13 it's hard to find the pleasure in the Trustee Council process, but
14 whenever we find a new finding, it kind of, you know, it just
15 surprises me, it makes it kind of pleasurable, and this project, in
16 '93 they put out current leaders, and the year before they hadn't
17 really recognized that the most productive areas for mussels and
18 such were where there was greater current action, and where there
19 was greater current action is where most of the oil went. So that
20 may help explain why, you know, which means that the most
21 productive areas were the ones that were hardest hit, which could
22 at least offer suspicion about the systemic-wide effects that we're
23 seeing in Prince William Sound. But anyway, one of --

24 MR. PHILLIPS: Would you -- fucus, is that the brown weed
25 that -- perhaps there's another popular name also? What do they
26 call it, snap or --

1 DR. MONTAGUE: Pop weed?

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Pop weed, or something like that. Okay,
3 thank you.

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay. And so this project will, one,
5 further try to verify that it was indeed the most productive areas
6 that were injured, and this continues a four-year project that has
7 been reduced, and our largest project is about seventeen million
8 dollars down to just about half of six hundred thousand a year,
9 seven hundred thousand a year, and was sort of determined to be the
10 focused remnant of what was recommended for intertidal research,
11 and it is one that is recommended by this Project 94320, the
12 ecosystem project. And this goes back and looks at specific quads,
13 and actually specific plants, even, that have been tagged to see
14 what their growth rates have been. Okay, the next project -- and
15 a good bit of this project, I think about two hundred and fifty
16 thousand has already been paid to them to finish the '93 report.

17 MS. FISCHER: (Inaudible)

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Correct. Okay, the next one is page 164,
19 Project 94137, stock identification of chum, sockeye, chinook, and
20 coho salmon in Prince William Sound, and this is the last year of
21 this project. It says ninety-five two hundred and sixty-one
22 thousand, but it should only be forty-six K to finish up the work
23 of '94, and this is recovering coded wire tags that were placed in
24 these species in '90 and '91 by the Trustee Council. Okay, page
25 170, Project 94139, salmon in-stream habitat and stock restoration,
26 and there's six sites in here where stream improvements are going

1 to be done in terms of developing spawning channels, they create a
2 better environment for spawning than apparently occurs there
3 naturally, and to improve some bypasses that have been constructed
4 earlier that need renovating, and it's a joint project of the
5 Forest Service.

6 MS. McBURNEY: May I have question?

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Um-hmm.

8 MS. McBURNEY: Since one of our policies that we're
9 working from in the restoration plan is the government agencies
10 will be funded only for restoration work that they don't normally
11 conduct, I'm just curious as to who has been responsible in the
12 past for maintaining each of these facilities, that if deferred
13 maintenance or no maintenance has been taking place, like with the
14 Shrug Creek barrier bypass, who is at fault there?

15 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I wouldn't say who was at fault
16 there, but I think those are Forest Service bypasses on Forest
17 Service land and was doled by the Forest Service, but I don't know
18 that they're -- do you have any comments on this, Ray?

19 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. I'm Ray Johnson from the Forest
20 Service. I don't know the exact reasons why they weren't done
21 because generally it amounts to not enough funding, not enough
22 people, and lack of priority, and of all that group of reasons, I
23 don't really know, and I might be able to find out an answer in a
24 few minutes, (inaudible) was going to discuss this me (inaudible).

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Are these directly related to oil spill
26 damage, these projects?

1 MR. JOHNSON: Well, they -- the species that utilize
2 those streams were directly injured, or a species, pink salmon and
3 so forth, were injured by the spill. These sites themselves, the
4 actual structures, were not injured by the spill, if that's what
5 you mean.

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah. I wondered if we're spending that
7 kind of money on something that wasn't damaged by the spill. I'm
8 just asking.

9 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, this is -- you know, it's basically
10 a habitat, you know, for the species that was injured by the spill,
11 it's a habitat improvement project, and it's not -- not a
12 replacement of a structure or a renovation of a structure that was
13 damaged in some way.

14 MR. PHILLIPS: Kind of like a recreation thing that could
15 have been -- never mind.

16 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, Brad, what it does is, you know,
17 pink salmon were injured, wild pink salmon were injured, these
18 other salmon were injured too, but the fish from these streams are
19 part of the same -- I mean, we don't know what all the stocks are,
20 but we think they're part of the injured group, salmon in Prince
21 William Sound, and this would improve the natural productivity of
22 the pink salmon and other (indiscernible). And the next project is
23 page 196, Project 94165, herring genetic stock identification in
24 Prince William Sound, and in the discussion of herring and pink
25 salmon, I just briefly want to point out this paper we handed out
26 in late morning or early afternoon entitled 1993 Prince William

1 Sound Fishery Problems, and if you look under herring -- do you all
2 find that one? No, it's not.

3 MR. PHILLIPS: One ninety-six?

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, that paper.

5 DR. MONTAGUE: This paper that I handed out earlier
6 today.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Here's yours.

8 DR. MONTAGUE: It's entitled 1993 Prince William Sound
9 Fishery Problems. Okay, and I just want to point out here that the
10 1993 forecast, as you can see toward the middle of the page, was
11 over fifteen thousand tons, and the actual catch was only a
12 thousand tons. They were smaller, and the size was normal in other
13 areas, and as you can see from this chart, the catch was pretty
14 much as forecasted in the other areas. So, this project of herring
15 genetic stock identification in Prince William Sound, the current
16 techniques for genetic stock assessments, we're not sure if we're
17 going to capable of differentiating very closely related stocks of
18 herring, so what this project does is look at the four most likely
19 genetic stock identification techniques to see if one of them may
20 work. If it works, then we would, in the future, come back with a
21 full scale stock identification program to see if, you know, the
22 geographic differences in herring are different stocks or the same
23 stocks, or the timing of different runs between fall and spring are
24 the same stocks or different stocks. So, it's just an experimental
25 technique to see what the best technique is for determining genetic
26 differences. The next project, page 202, 94166, herring spawn

1 deposition, this was already approved so I think we can skip this
2 one.

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Already approved?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Page 202, Project 94166. Okay, the next
5 one is page 214, Project 94184, and you'll refer back to the sheet
6 of the 1993 Prince William Sound Fisheries Problems. At the bottom
7 of the first page, you can see that the forecast for Prince William
8 Sound for pink salmon was twenty-five million, the return catch was
9 five point five million, and the other four areas of the state I've
10 listed -- we've listed here for comparison are very similar to the
11 forecast, if not better than the forecast.

12 MR. PHILLIPS: What's the cycle on a pink salmon?

13 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I don't --

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

15 MR. PHILLIPS: Is it two years?

16 DR. MONTAGUE: What do you mean by the cycle?

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, from the time they go out and they
18 come back.

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Oh, two years, yes.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Two years.

21 DR. MONTAGUE: You mean the life cycle, yes.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Then is it still possible that these would
23 related to the oil spill, being five years away?

24 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I'm glad you mentioned that.
25 Another one of my -- gee, this a neat finding, maybe this is all
26 worth it things, is that last year and the year before we'd

1 indicated to the PAG and the Trustee Council that it appeared to us
2 that there was potentially genetic damage in the pink salmon in the
3 oiled wild streams, and that the fry and the egg survival was lower
4 in 1992 and '93 than in '90 and '91, and the chief scientist had
5 indicated that this may well be a stream effect, meaning that the
6 streams of the -- the unoiled streams that we're comparing it to
7 maybe were just better in the beginning and the oiled ones were
8 worse in the beginning. So, as part of another one of the projects
9 in here, we took eggs from those streams and incubated them, you
10 know, in tent areas in the stream as well hatcheries, and lo and
11 behold, the hatchery eggs and fry mimic the survival of eggs and
12 fry in the streams, so that shows that it wasn't a geographic
13 effect, it was those fish that were injured, it wasn't the result
14 of their environment. So, you know, I don't think that explains
15 the tab going from twenty-five million to five million, but it does
16 show an injury to wild pink salmon.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: As a result of the spill?

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Um-hmm.

19 MS. FISCHER: Jerome, I had a question.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

21 MS. FISCHER: Oh, you wanted to wait until the end,
22 didn't you? Okay, I'll forget it then.

23 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay. Project 94184 is recovering coded
24 wire tags put on pink salmon in 1993.

25 MR. PHILLIPS: What page?

26 DR. MONTAGUE: Page 214. There was certainly discussion

1 of ash fall on the streams. I don't have the actual answer for
2 that one. I'll try to get that for you. Okay. The next project
3 on page 220, number 94185, is coded wire tagging of wild pink
4 salmon for stock identification in Prince William Sound, and this
5 one would -- you know, since we'd be setting up weirs in the wild
6 oiled streams, capturing the fish and putting coded wire tags on
7 them and turning them loose to be recovered in another project in
8 1995, and the purpose of why that information is of interest and
9 important is that there seems to be a lack of stream stability in
10 some of the wild pinks from some of the wild streams so that they
11 stray into other streams, and this basically would define that and
12 would help pinpoint whether they're separate stocks or not, meaning
13 if these eight streams seem to intermix over the years, then
14 they're probably the same stock. Okay. Page 226, Project 94187.
15 Okay. This is -- we talked about -- I don't know if we talked
16 about it yet, but we will talk about coded wire tagging of hatchery
17 fish, which in years before has been carried on by the hatcheries.
18 This project would propose phasing out coded wire tagging and using
19 so-called otolith marking, which is a bolt in the head that can be
20 marked with a telltale mark by changing the incubation temperature
21 in the water, and the advantage to this is that it's really cheap,
22 and the precision of making your estimates on forecasts and catches
23 in infinitely improved, and the reason is that currently you can
24 only tag the very small number with coded wire tags, of the total
25 millions that come back, you might only tag, you know, less than
26 ten percent, so to get an accurate picture of what's returning, you

1 have to catch an awful lot of fish to catch the ones that have the
2 tags, and then to catch enough of those to really say anything.
3 But if you know all of the fish are marked, then you know even a
4 very small sample is representative. So, in the future, you
5 wouldn't need the -- one of the most expensive parts of the process
6 is capturing and decoding, but with otolith marking, it's cheaper
7 to mark in the first place and cheaper to recover later on and more
8 accurate. So, this would propose putting it into two hatcheries,
9 and over several years fading out coded wire tagging and using this
10 alone. Okay, page 232, Project 94189, and by the way, I think all
11 these pink salmon projects were listed in Project 94320, the
12 ecosystem project, as having relevance to the ecosystem approach.
13 This project, in short, would try to determine if Prince William
14 Sound pink salmon are all one stock or various substocks, or not
15 substock but composed of different stocks.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: What does that do?

17 DR. MONTAGUE: Hmm?

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, if you find out, what does that do
19 for you?

20 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, potentially, a lot of different
21 things. One, if they're all the same stock, then since the
22 hatchery fish originated from those same wild fish, then they're
23 all the same, so even though the hatchery fish didn't come from all
24 the streams that make up the area, if they're all the same, it
25 really doesn't matter much, and that's kind of a simplification.
26 Another thing that it would do would be that currently every stream

1 is managed as if it's a different stock, so it's a great effort to
2 ensure a proper number of fish back to all the individual streams
3 that are monitored, and if they were all the same, we wouldn't need
4 that kind of precise escapement monitoring. Okay, page 238,
5 Project 94191. This is the project that in 1993 showed this
6 reduced egg and fry mortality in the oiled streams was not a stream
7 effect but indeed was being carried by the fish, probably
8 genetically, and what this project will do in 1994 is that that
9 finding was so outstanding that current peer review recommends
10 replicating it to see if that's exactly -- if there wasn't some
11 sort of an experimental anomaly that allowed that to happen.
12 That's one of the aspects of it, and the other is to check the egg
13 and fry survival in the oiled streams again to see if it's -- you
14 know, five years after the spill it's still increasing and it's so
15 far kind of been increasing, it's getting worse every year, the egg
16 and fry mortality in the oiled streams.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: It will tell you why?

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Hmm?

19 MR. PHILLIPS: Your study will tell you why they're
20 decreasing?

21 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, the part that's just going to the
22 streams to see if they're still exhibiting reduced survival won't,
23 but the laboratory part will. See, in '93, the findings that the
24 hatchery -- the same streams, fish had the same mortality in the
25 hatchery as they did in the stream. Paired with that, we had a
26 genetic project to try to see if there were broken chromosomes, and

1 we couldn't find broken chromosomes, but we're still convinced that
2 it's being carried genetically, so they've got a new genetic
3 approach this year that we hope will prove the genetic area.

4 MR. DIEHL: Who carries out the genetic part of that
5 research?

6 DR. MONTAGUE: That's contracted and done partially by
7 our state-wide geneticist, Jim Seeb, and some of it's contracted
8 out.

9 MR. DIEHL: Who's that -- who wrote the contracts
10 (inaudible)?

11 DR. MONTAGUE: I don't, I don't. I should, but I've got
12 the flu. LGL is one of them. Okay, project 94192 on page 244, the
13 project I mentioned earlier about tagging wild fish to estimate
14 strain. This is the project that recaptured the tagged fish in the
15 various streams, and that's one of the things that it does, and the
16 other thing is that it has weirs and stream walks to accurately
17 count the escapement. Usually, escapements are just monitored by
18 aerial overflights, but this project would, in the process of
19 picking up the carcasses, will count the total return to the
20 stream. And, you know, it's a good project for '94. The ones like
21 we just do it is the only tagged fish that you're going to be
22 recovering are hatchery fish that strayed into the wild streams
23 because last year we didn't tag any wild pink salmon. The next one
24 is page 250, 94199. Does anybody know if Kim Sundberg is handy?
25 Eric, could you -- I'll skip this one and come back to it, and if
26 he's not here I'll cover it. Page 250. Okay, the next one is page

1 268, Project 94237, it's river otter recovery monitoring, and this
2 is a project that we chose to go to an every other year monitoring
3 cycle in '92 so we didn't do or didn't propose this project in '93,
4 but I would like to do it in '94. In kind of a sideline study that
5 was done on the Herring Bay project that wasn't funded by the
6 Trustee Council, but was carried out by the same investigators at
7 the same time, found -- if I can find it here, found that the
8 livers of the fish that make up one to sixteen percent of the river
9 otter diet have -- high levels of hydrocarbons are found in the
10 livers of intertidal and subtidal fish, mainly the crescent gunnel,
11 so further evidence of long-term injury in 1993 hydrocarbons at
12 high levels in the primary prey of river otters, and river otters
13 are the only semi-terrestrial species that we're currently
14 monitoring. I know Chuck mentioned deer, which we don't have
15 anything going on deer, but this -- we do have a good link to
16 injury and relates to systemic illls in the Prince William Sound
17 area, and what it does is, it looks at latrine sites and inspects
18 scat piles to determine if their diet changed quite a bit after the
19 oil spill because they weren't finding, apparently, the same kind
20 of fish they used to eat. So, that's the two things that will be
21 monitored in this project.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Are you saying that the salmon in the
23 western part of Prince William Sound were contaminated that weren't
24 near the oil spill? It says Esther Passage is one of your study
25 points and that's --

26 DR. MONTAGUE: I think that was a control site, meaning

1 an area that wasn't oiled.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, it wasn't oiled at all.

3 DR. MONTAGUE: I think it's a control site, and compared
4 to oiled areas --

5 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, that makes sense.

6 DR. MONTAGUE: And we did have the hunting and trapping
7 seasons closed on those from '89 through '91, and based upon the
8 results of this project, you know, I would consider closing them
9 again.

10 DR. FRENCH: Jerome, were the livers of the prey fish
11 high in actual hydrocarbons or in the indicators induced by the
12 hydrocarbons? Generally, the metabolic activity in the liver is
13 the highest of anywhere in the fish, and you'd expect lower levels
14 of hydrocarbons there.

15 DR. MONTAGUE: I'll try to get a more specific answer,
16 but the notes that I have was high levels of hydrocarbons. Okay,
17 the next one is page 274, Project 94241, rock fish management plan
18 dated development, and just a thumbnail sketch, rock fish were the
19 only fish that were killed outright by the spill. The closures in
20 salmon fishing caused a dramatic shift either in '89 or '90 from
21 salmon to rock fish, and the harvest went up about a thousand-fold,
22 and the rock fish are really having a hard time recovering.
23 They're a long-lived species that take a long time to recover, and
24 our knowledge of their general biology is insufficient for managing
25 them, for having a management plan, so this would collect the data
26 necessary to develop a management plan.

1 MR. McMULLEN: Jerome, I'm not trying to be
2 argumentative, but just for clarification, you said that the only
3 fish killed outright by the spill.

4 DR. MONTAGUE: I guess adults, adults.

5 MR. McMULLEN: Yeah, there are repeated sightings of
6 salmon fry being taken aboard skimmers with oil.

7 DR. MONTAGUE: You're absolutely right for fry. Okay,
8 page 278, Project 94244. This project is a relatively small
9 project. It's main purpose is to bring to the local sea otter and
10 harbor seal subsistence hunters information that would indicate
11 that -- for instance, you know, where hunter "A" is hunting now has
12 really been hammered, there isn't a very good harvest seal and sea
13 otter population there, but if you go over to this new place,
14 you'll have better hunting and you won't be hammering populations
15 that are already hurt, so that's what the purpose of this project
16 is.

17 MS. FISCHER: I want to comment, and I understand that
18 they're working with Fish and Game quite a bit, and I forget what
19 the guy's name is, but is doing a lot of hunting of the sea otters
20 and the seals and that in Prince William Sound, and I understand he
21 gives the daily report. I think when he goes out he catches sixty
22 to seventy-five a day and skins them.

23 DR. MONTAGUE: Yeah?

24 MS. FISCHER: Yeah. I mean, this guy is -- but he's
25 Native and he does it on a subsistence.

26 DR. MONTAGUE: Is it sea otter or harbor seal? I mean,

1 do you know?

2 MS. FISCHER: I think it's sea otters. But Fish and
3 Game has been dealing with him because he reports as to how many a
4 day he gets and they're so plentiful out there, it's pathetic.

5 MR. PHILLIPS: No comment.

6 DR. MONTAGUE: It won't be at sixty a day.

7 MR. TOTEMOFF: There's not enough animals out there to
8 support that type of hunting.

9 MR. DEGANGE: There's no harvest of that magnitude out
10 in the Sound.

11 MS. FISCHER: I've seen some of his reports that he's
12 mailed to Fish and Game, because he's working directly with them,
13 and he brought one -- because I couldn't believe it either, but I
14 think like every other week he goes out.

15 DR. MONTAGUE: (Inaudible) is less than the number for
16 the whole area for the sea otter.

17 MS. FISCHER: Well, I think it's the sea otter, not the
18 harbor seal so much.

19 DR. PHILLIPS: How many coats will that be?

20 MS. FISCHER: Well, it takes quite a few to make a coat.

21 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay, the next one is Project 28 -- or
22 page 286, Project 94255, Kenai River sockeye salmon restoration.
23 This project has three components. The price has come down quite
24 a bit because initially in '92 and '93 we were testing various ways
25 to identify -- to be sure that we could identify the Kenai River --
26 the fish were Kenai River bound as opposed to some other place, and

1 we got a -- you know, a genetic stock identification technique that
2 we've proven it's going to work. So, what this would do is to do
3 test fishing and sonar counting of salmon as they entered Cook
4 Inlet, of sockeye salmon, and direct fishermen for sockeyes that
5 aren't bound for the Kenai. So, that's one aspect of the process,
6 the project, and the other aspect is enhanced enumeration of
7 incoming adults, so we have a very accurate number of adults that
8 are returning, and once, you know, the escapements are reached then
9 you can open up the fishing. That's this project, and the next one
10 is sockeye salmon over-escapement, 94258 on page 294, and this is
11 the project that, among other things, that counts the outgoing
12 smolt, which are used to estimate the forecast of how many fish are
13 going to come in and come back three years later, and it does that
14 in several places on the Kenai River and the Russian River, as well
15 as test areas like the Kasilof and on the Tustemena. And so far,
16 this smolt production has just gone down, down and down, and it
17 hasn't -- we haven't had the year where it's better than the last
18 year yet, and we really think it's key to monitor that every year.
19 And the other aspect of the project is to finally pinpoint what is
20 happening in the lake that is preventing recovery and form at the
21 end of this project in 1994 the specific proposals on what kind of
22 hard restoration actions you can take in the lake to bring the
23 productivity back up. The next one on page 304 is Project 94259,
24 Coghill Lake sockeye salmon restoration. This has gone on for a
25 couple of years. It's kind of an interesting system. Coghill has
26 a dome of saltwater underneath the fresh water that there's no

1 mixing between, and the peculiar thing about restoring this system
2 is that usually carcasses from the fish make the nutrients in the
3 lake, but in Coghill, unless they die, and many of them do die near
4 shore, they sink through this layer into the salt water and don't
5 add nutrients to the lake. So, this project uses liquid fertilizer
6 on the lake that doesn't -- that stays in the fresh water and
7 doesn't mingle with the saltwater dome that's separated from the
8 fresh water, and this kind of fertilization is a tricky business,
9 and a good bit of the cost of the project is the biological
10 monitoring of the effects of this fertilization and how successful
11 and are you over-fertilizing or is this an adequate rate. And then
12 PWSAC is doing another restoration project for the Coghill that's
13 releasing smolt at the mouth of the outlet of Coghill with the hope
14 that adults will return and get up into the system and start some
15 natural fertilization unassisted.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: Is this -- again, is this related to the
17 oil spill? This is up in Coghill, which isn't --

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, the -- as we said originally when
19 this was approved, that the problem with Coghill predated the oil
20 spill, it did, and we haven't tried to show anything about that,
21 but that the sockeyes were injured is proven and that the
22 commercial fishing and sports fishing services were injured is
23 proven, and that's how this project is --

24 MR. PHILLIPS: This is justified as a replacement?

25 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, both a replacement for sport and
26 commercial fishing, but as an actual restoration for sockeye.

1 MR. PHILLIPS: Regardless of where they are?

2 DR. MONTAGUE: Right, and as you can see, the Council is
3 making a lot of its habitat acquisition decisions on does it have
4 an injured species there, not was it injured at this site. So --

5 MR. PHILLIPS: That's encouraging. Maybe that will apply
6 to recreation too.

7 MR. DIEHL: What's the idea again? Was that lake
8 damaged by over-escapement?

9 DR. MONTAGUE: We think so. We think that was a
10 (inaudible). We may get through it. Okay, page 316, Project
11 94272. Did you have any luck getting Kim or anyone from Sam's
12 group to talk about 199?

13 MR. MYERS: (Inaudible)

14 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay. This project -- we finally got the
15 environmental assessment completed and we hope it will be ready by
16 the January 31st meeting, and this is the program between PWSAC and
17 Chenega to start at, you know, an artificial chinook salmon run
18 there as a replacement for loss of subsistence resources, but it
19 will be a common property fishery and, you know, anybody that
20 catches them can catch them, but it's put forward as a subsistence
21 replacement project. Okay, the next project is on page 320, 94279,
22 subsistence food safety testing, and this will be the last year
23 that there's going to be any hydrocarbon testing in the project, we
24 think we're just about done with that, and this year will be the --
25 presented to the communities as the final opportunity for them to
26 get any sort of this testing done. The emphasis will be on the new

1 sites, not previously tested ones, and you know, a short summary of
2 this project is that it has been outstandingly successful, and
3 especially in terms of having the subsistence communities
4 comfortable with findings and comfortable with the Trustee Council
5 process, and it's been more successful than we'd originally
6 anticipated, and part of it is this newsletter, which is
7 distributed to the subsistence communities.

8 MS. FISCHER: Jerome, do you think that they'll look at
9 new areas, what new areas?

10 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I think that they determine that by
11 going to the villages and saying that this is where we looked
12 previous years, you know, here's the map, where would you suggest
13 we look now that we haven't looked before. Can you comment on
14 that, Chuck? I mean, is that the way that it's been done?

15 MR. TOTEMOFF: Say that again?

16 DR. MONTAGUE: That the site selection is done jointly
17 with the communities, and she had asked why --

18 MS. FISCHER: What areas.

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Or what new areas would we look at, and I
20 was saying that we haven't pinpointed them because they're
21 developed in conjunction with the communities.

22 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, that's correct.

23 DR. MONTAGUE: Okay, the --

24 DR. FRENCH: Question, that was the last -- this was
25 going to be the last year that project would be --

26 DR. MONTAGUE: The last year of the hydrocarbon testing,

1 I think.

2 DR. FRENCH: What's going -- what is the four hundred
3 and twenty-one point five K for '95 for again?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: It doesn't. It was hopefulness on the
5 part of the principal investigator. In the future, we would
6 continue to propose that the newsletter and some visits as a
7 liaison between the Trustee Council and the subsistence communities
8 be continued. Page 326, 94280, spot trout survey and juvenile
9 shrimp habitat identification. This is kind of a touchy subject.
10 They -- over-fishing was responsible in many ways for -- we think
11 that was responsible in many ways for the great reduction in spot
12 shrimp in Prince William Sound, and as a result of there being
13 fewer numbers there during the damage assessment process when we
14 tried to determine oil injury, we couldn't catch enough of them to
15 -- basically to make any determination one way or the other about
16 whether they were injured or not, but based upon the other
17 intertidal injuries we're seeing, and the fact that a complete
18 closure of fishing, which usually brings about some sort of
19 notable, measurable recovery, hasn't happened, so that -- between
20 the damage to the intertidal and the fact that the fishing closures
21 hasn't resulted in any kind of a change whatsoever makes us a
22 little more suspicious that it is -- or at least the oil spill is
23 contributing to the failure to recover, and this would identify the
24 habitat of the juvenile, the rearing shrimp, which would help us
25 pinpoint that these habitat areas that they're using are also the
26 same ones, whether there's oil or oil was drifted to, it would

1 further indicate that it is an oil spill problem and would provide
2 information necessary for the proper management for spot shrimp.
3 Okay, Project 94320, we've covered. Okay, Project 94345 on page
4 346, the kind of pink salmon escapement monitoring that we've done
5 in Prince William Sound ever since the spill where we have weirs in
6 some of the streams and people there to actually count the incoming
7 adults so we have a very accurate escapement count, and aerial
8 surveys as well as stream walks, this isn't being done for the pink
9 salmon streams on the lower Kenai Peninsula, and this project would
10 bring better management to this area that's more or less been
11 neglected, both in the damage assessment process and the
12 restoration process.

13 MR. PHILLIPS: Was it affected by the oil spill?

14 DR. MONTAGUE: The pink salmon were, but we didn't study
15 those areas.

16 MR. PHILLIPS: (Inaudible)

17 DR. MONTAGUE: But probably were. I mean, it was an
18 oiled area. Okay, the next project is on page 368, 94421, and if
19 you've followed, I guess, some of the headline news over the past
20 few years, there have been poor prices and poor quality for -- poor
21 quality due to some natural causes which had resulted in low
22 prices, and then just general low salmon prices that had put the
23 hatchery systems and -- well, the three hatchery organizations in
24 Valdez and PWSAC and the Tutka hatchery across from Homer there in
25 a very bad financial position. And then as I showed you in this
26 handout of what happened in '93, we were really plastered by the

1 fact that they didn't basically get very many fish in their cost
2 recovery fisheries that maintains the hatcheries. So, all three of
3 the groups basically indicated that they found themselves in --
4 well, in a situation where they would more than likely have to
5 close, and that the '94 egg take and rearing wouldn't be done,
6 which would mean there wouldn't be any enhanced return in '96, two
7 years later, and in Prince William Sound this would amount to a
8 seventy to eighty percent reduction in the return, and if the poor
9 system-wide health problem is there as well, then the wild run that
10 does return could also be bad. So, I guess the worse case would be
11 you'd have a guaranteed seventy to eighty percent reduction and
12 then the wild fish would return poorly as well. So, it's a sticky
13 situation and I guess it's a sticky decision-making process for the
14 PAG and the Trustee Council, but certainly there would be a huge
15 calamity if this happened. And if the hatchery fish were injured,
16 and we estimate that in Prince -- the southwestern district of
17 Prince William Sound, that two to three million adults didn't come
18 back that would have come back from the '89 ocean survival period,
19 so they -- you know, the hatchery stocks were injured and they are
20 part of the common property fishery that's mixed with both the wild
21 and the hatchery fish. So, it's an expensive project. It's a one-
22 time request. They've indicated that, you know, they aren't
23 looking for long-term support from the Trustee Council. Again, I
24 think it's a -- obviously, it's not your run of the mill
25 restoration project, but there's reason to consider it. Pam?

26 MS. BRODIE: Jerome, I've heard a lot of speculation

1 that one and possibly the major cause of the problems with fishing
2 -- with the salmon and fishing in the Sound is overproduction from
3 the hatcheries, and I wondered if there has been any studies of
4 this in Prince William Sound or anything looking at what's happened
5 with problems with other hatcheries?

6 DR. MONTAGUE: I'll make a short stab at it. John can
7 probably answer it better, but it -- worldwide salmon prices, I
8 don't think would be affected too much by a big or poor production
9 in Prince William Sound.

10 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry, I don't mean prices. I'm
11 talking about the fish returns.

12 DR. MONTAGUE: John, do you want to answer that?

13 MR. McMULLEN: Well, we deal with -- PWSAC deals with the
14 Department of Fish and Game on an ongoing basis on the evaluation
15 of (inaudible -- coughing) wild stock interaction. That's why we
16 put on a million tags a year and put up the first hundred thousand
17 dollars last summer so the Trustee Council would put some money
18 into the tag recovery. Our interest has been, as is the Department
19 of Fish and Game, the primary maintained wild stock. We have known
20 tag/untagged ratios that in -- that based on our information that
21 we provide the Fish and Game and they do -- they do scan catches at
22 all the canneries and processors where those fish are landed, they
23 look for tags, they look at tag ratios in the fishery, where wild
24 stocks are versus -- and hatchery stock, and they also get the data
25 from us at our spawning rack where we take all the tags -- you
26 know, collect all the tagged fish to determine if the ratios --

1 tags on the tag ratios are holding, you know, on the returns, and
2 from this information, anyway, the statisticians and our biologists
3 and the Fish and Game biologists determine if there are wild stocks
4 mixed in with our fish or where our wild stocks might be caught
5 with -- with -- where our stocks might be caught with wild stocks.
6 And although there's -- you know, biologists are conservative, you
7 know, and therefore concern runs high for wild stock, which it
8 should, but the most conservative of these biologists in Cordova,
9 and project -- research project leaders say they do not have
10 information which indicates that hatchery fish are impacting wild
11 stock. Ted Cooney at the University of Alaska has been doing
12 plankton work down at the hatchery since 1979, and of your
13 estimated plankton abundance, how much -- he and the graduate
14 students, how much young salmon eat and what percentage of the
15 available plankton to them they actually devour, it's a very low
16 percentage, but there's also a lot of other species in the Sound
17 and apparently in larger numbers than they have been in past years,
18 which prompted this forage fish study that seems to be such a high
19 priority for -- in the Sound, hydro-acoustical work, net sampling,
20 whatever, they look species, numbers, and they think that during
21 these times when the plankton has been in short supply in the last
22 couple of years because of a variety of reasons, I guess. We don't
23 know why, that's why the Trustee Council put five million dollars
24 into this, that the hypothesis behind the SEA plan is that when
25 plankton are not in abundance, then no fish like the young pollack
26 and the large numbers out there of other species start feeding on

1 small fish rather than plankton. They shift over, which is -- the
2 hypothesis is, this is adding, you know, greatly to mortality of
3 both hatchery and wild fish. Why, in the past couple of years, our
4 fish haven't even returned at thirty percent of projection that
5 we've come to expect over the life of our hatchery in the mid-
6 seventies, so that's about it.

7 MR. PHILLIPS: Does that answer your question?
8 (Inaudible)

9 MS. BRODIE: It is the plankton, was what I was after.
10 I'm sorry, I didn't make my question clear. It wasn't -- it --
11 but, yeah.

12 MR. McMULLEN: Did I give you enough on plankton that it
13 helps?

14 MS. BRODIE: (Inaudible)

15 DR. MONTAGUE: I'd like to move back to page 250, Project
16 --

17 MR. PHILLIPS: I hate to interrupt at this time, but I
18 have to go. I have a meeting scheduled at 6:00. I will not be
19 with you tomorrow, but I'm going to turn this over to our very able
20 vice chairman and she has you under control for the rest of the
21 meeting and she'll tell you what time she wants to start in the
22 morning (inaudible due to radio interference). I thank every one
23 of you for (inaudible) patience (inaudible).

24 DR. MONTAGUE: This is the last project we have on page
25 250, 94199. This is the Alaska Marine Research Institute, which
26 you may have known previously as the Seward Sea Life Center, and

1 this project has evolved quite a bit. I mean, it isn't the Seward
2 Sea Life Center anymore, it's the Marine Research Institute based
3 in Seward that has twelve and a half million in funding already
4 approved for it out of the criminal settlement money to the state,
5 and as you can see there isn't a cost here, but by the 17th we
6 expect to have a detailed budget as to what would need to be added
7 to the twelve and a half million from the state criminal settlement
8 money to construct this world class North Pacific marine research
9 institute, and it will not have any sort of a recreational or Sea
10 World component. It will be a research institute and more than
11 likely be an arm of the University of Alaska and would be used for
12 restoration research and implementation, you know, in the future.
13 Pam?

14 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry. What page were you on?

15 DR. MONTAGUE: Two fifty.

16 MS. BRODIE: (Inaudible)

17 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, because there was someone here that
18 could speak to this in a little more detail, but they weren't here,
19 so -- so we did get through them in an hour. Yes?

20 DR. FRENCH: Jerome, there's been a lot of discussion,
21 especially amongst -- within the University circles, and taking
22 into consideration the fact that restoration-related research
23 projects -- research facilities projects, have also been evolving
24 over several years in both Kodiak and in Cordova, that perhaps the
25 best approach to this North Pacific Marine Research Institute isn't
26 to have all of the facilities built in Seward, but have them

1 regionally distributed as is most appropriate for the restoration
2 type of activity they're involved in. Have you been party to any
3 of those discussions and if so, do you have any comments on that?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I haven't been party to those
5 discussions, but my first comment, I guess, would be that the
6 twelve and a half million has already been pinpointed where it's
7 going to go, so --

8 DR. FRENCH: As is three million pinpointed for Kodiak,
9 but again, towards a facility that's been under planning as a major
10 research facility for eight years as opposed to maybe eight weeks
11 for this one?

12 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I haven't been party to those
13 discussions and I can't add much to it.

14 MS. McBURNEY: You just mentioned that if the -- I know
15 that this sounds derogatory, that the Sea World aspects have been
16 removed, but my recollection of the money that the Sea Life Center
17 was to receive from the criminal settlement from state was that it
18 had to prove self-sufficiency, and that that particular aspect was
19 what they were counting on as far as their operational support for
20 the future.

21 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, they do need to prove self-
22 sufficiency. I guess the real problem came in that this project
23 ended, the Justice Department said that the type of recreation that
24 would result from going to the "Sea World of the North" wasn't the
25 type of recreation that was injured, and they wouldn't make that
26 broad of a step that all recreation is the same, so they basically

1 said that the project would not go as "Sea World of the North," and
2 that pushed the -- so then its long-term survival is going to
3 depend upon having top notch researchers that's going to attract
4 funds that's going to keep the place going.

5 MR. McMULLEN: Madame Chairman?

6 MS. FISCHER: Yes.

7 MR. McMULLEN: I just wanted to add to John's comment
8 about regional fisheries investigations and wanting to take nothing
9 from the Seward center there, you know, we believe that, you know,
10 there have been a group of scientific people developing the SEA
11 plan in Prince William Sound. Most of the people that have been
12 working on the plan live there, some -- at least one person at the
13 University of Alaska Fairbanks who works down there has been
14 working there for twelve or thirteen years and has also been
15 stationed out of Prince William Sound in our hatchery system down
16 there. We think that we have the office space, people, logistics,
17 the whole supply system set up in the Sound to work in the Sound,
18 and it would be inefficient to say that there's going to be one
19 center for all coastal research in this part of Alaska, the upper
20 Gulf of Alaska or wherever, and so we're going to continue to urge
21 that we can fund projects out of Prince William Sound from agencies
22 and organizations that are located there and let Seward find its --
23 hopefully find its own way to -- you know, to its program and
24 success, but not at our disadvantage, please.

25 MS. FISCHER: John French.

26 DR. FRENCH: I want to emphasize that, as I said, and

1 I spoke to Jerry Komisar, the president of the University of
2 Alaska, this morning, to confirm that this is literally the
3 position of the University of Alaska, that due to the long-term
4 planning and the emphasis of the area, the various areas that are
5 involved here, Kodiak fisheries and Seward and marine mammals and
6 the broader marine science issues, and Cordova with the Prince
7 William Sound Science Center, we feel very strongly that a regional
8 approach is much more effective in terms of utilizing both
9 available facilities and personnel, and that to do that, and if the
10 University is expected to manage this project, why we expect to be
11 allowed to go forward with that sort of an approach.

12 MS. FISCHER: May I say something too? There is another
13 little niche in this project too, I think, with the Alaska Marine
14 Research Institute. I know, in some of the criminal settlement
15 that Alyeska had to pay, Serve (ph) has to provide a rehabilitation
16 center, and they're looking now to get this up and running. This
17 was supposed to be up and running by July, and basically this is
18 what this was supposed to do, plus research and that, and that's
19 going to be done in Prince William Sound. Well, they're looking at
20 either Cordova or Valdez right now. They're concentrating more on
21 Valdez since Serve is in Valdez and they have purchased some
22 property in there.

23 DR. FRENCH: I didn't necessarily mean to eliminate
24 sites, I just wanted to --

25 MS. FISCHER: Yeah.

26 DR. FRENCH: -- indicate the geographical breadth that

1 we feel is important in our consideration.

2 MR. CLOUD: Could you expand on that a little bit? Do
3 you mean that the University wants to manage these things
4 regionally? Does that mean that the University wants to have a
5 facility?

6 DR. FRENCH: What it means is basically in terms of
7 fisheries, the University has been planning over the course of at
8 least eight years a major fisheries research facility in
9 conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the
10 Alaska Department of Fish and Game and some other lesser agencies
11 to develop a multi-million dollar facility in Kodiak. This is
12 under planning currently. It will continue to be built regardless
13 of whether or not oil spill monies go into that, but it would be
14 very foolish to duplicate what could be added to that at relatively
15 low cost and put it all into Seward when neither the personnel to
16 operate it nor -- well, nor the infrastructure that it would be
17 based on are present in Seward at this point. The incremental cost
18 to do it in Kodiak, as part of the Kodiak Fisheries Center, is by
19 far and away the most cost-effective way to do it, and also it is
20 consistent with, as I said, many years of University planning, and
21 like many other agencies, we don't like to be told, you've got to
22 throw out what you've been doing and run up a flag in Seward.

23 MR. DIEHL: You mentioned that the Seward facility was
24 (inaudible).

25 DR. FRENCH: The Seward Marine Science Center, which is
26 part of the University of Alaska Fairbanks' School of Fisheries and

1 Ocean Sciences, Institute of Marine Science -- if you got all that,
2 you're doing better than I am. Anyway, it traditionally has been
3 the home of our oceanographic research vessel, the ALPHA HELIX, and
4 the logistical staging point for our oceanographic work. It also
5 has been the center for some general marine biology work and much
6 of the -- just marine biology survey work that was done for Alyeska
7 and other surveys in the Sound. So, yes, the Seward Center does
8 have a history of doing work in the Sound although most of it's
9 oceanographic. There has also been a long-term planning emphasis,
10 mostly in conjunction with the people who wanted to develop a sea
11 life center, to put the core of our marine mammal expertise in
12 Seward. So, that's -- the Sea Life Center, in its previous
13 incarnation, was consistent with those plans. To focus everything
14 in Seward is not consistent with our plans.

15 DR. MONTAGUE: And that's what this request is?

16 DR. FRENCH: Yes.

17 MR. DIEHL: And the other thing is, I was supposed to
18 ask you whether or not -- did I misunderstand you to say that --
19 did I misunderstand you to say that the courts have kind of ruled
20 something in the interim from when we had that report from these
21 people?

22 DR. MONTAGUE: No, the courts haven't, and in John
23 Sandor's wording, it's ghostly legal in their relations.

24 MR. DIEHL: This place -- this will have to sustain
25 itself on visitors to an aquarium, not a Sea World thing, just an
26 aquarium like --

1 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, as it's currently planned, it won't
2 sustain itself on any kind of tourism or visitors. It will be, you
3 know, like (inaudible) or something, it will get private grants and
4 the research monies and stuff like -- that's how it's currently set
5 up.

6 MR. DIEHL: Okay, so that's a complete shift away from
7 our report here the last time around, right?

8 DR. MONTAGUE: Right, it is, and, you know, it doesn't
9 prohibit that from happening in conjunction, it's just that it
10 can't be done through the Trustee Council. Kim?

11 MS. BENTON: I have a quick follow-up. I guess I get
12 a little tired of -- when somebody is terming ghostly legal
13 opinions. Is there any way, if we're supposed to make an
14 intelligent decision on these projects, that we can request the
15 Trustee Council's legal counsel to give us public instead of hidden
16 opinions on projects?

17 DR. MONTAGUE: Probably not, but --

18 MS. BENTON: Can you try?

19 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, maybe. You can ask, but you know,
20 even if the Trustee Council members themselves can't achieve it,
21 you know. I mean, when one of the Trustee Council members says
22 they're not going to vote on the project as it's constructed, then
23 that's probably all they need to know. If one thinks there's a
24 legal problem, then that's that.

25 DR. FRENCH: I was present at the last Trustee Council
26 meeting, and I know that at that point George Frampton indicated

1 serious concern, but he did indicate that he thought it could be
2 rewritten in such a way as he would be able to support it. Isn't
3 that pretty much what he said?

4 DR. MONTAGUE: Yes, and that's what we've done. Pam?

5 MS. BRODIE: I think I'm following up on various
6 questions, that the twelve and a half million criminal money that's
7 already been appropriated for this, written into that legislation
8 was that it had to be self-supporting. This is something
9 different, so this doesn't really have the twelve and a half -- or
10 I should say, does this project -- would it be getting the twelve
11 and a half million or would it have to be re-appropriated by the
12 legislature?

13 DR. MONTAGUE: Yes, it does, because it, you know, listed
14 all the things that it was going to be and the research institute
15 was one of them. So I think --

16 MS. BRODIE: But it was based on a big -- financially
17 feasible as to -- according to AIDEA studies.

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I think the deal is that the Trustee
19 Council isn't going to commit anything to it either unless its
20 financially feasible and it's financially self-sustaining and, you
21 know, various things are being considered. You know, one idea that
22 I had is not in here, but you know, before a research institute can
23 start gathering its own money they have to develop a reputation and
24 they kind of have to get some money for awhile. So, you know, one
25 idea, and the Council can't just up and commit to it, but I guess
26 you can sort of see that a fair number of Trustee Council

1 restoration projects may end up there for a few years and then
2 presumably that would carry them four or five years and then they
3 would develop their own expertise and attract their own money, but
4 that was an idea I had but that's not what's in there yet. But
5 something like that will have to be done. Some funding will have
6 to be given to it in it's first years.

7 DR. FRENCH: I'd just like to add to -- a little bit to
8 that. You can make arguments that the center will be self-
9 supporting on other things than tourism. I mean, by bringing in
10 research dollars, you can indeed pay for the operating and
11 maintenance of the facility. It's just different, a different
12 facility than what was originally envisioned in that appropriation
13 from the legislature.

14 MS. BRODIE: My question -- that gets to the heart of
15 my question, was that AIDEA did a feasibility study and said yes,
16 go ahead, but now it seems like if this is a different project, the
17 AIDEA feasibility study wouldn't apply to the different project.

18 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, that's probably true. I mean, I
19 think a new feasibility study (inaudible).

20 MR. CLOUD: Well, isn't it possible to fund a, you
21 know, organization to do research, and then along side of it using
22 state's appropriation and any private money (inaudible) put
23 together a center for tourism?

24 DR. MONTAGUE: Well, I guess that can be done. It's just
25 been my observation that the Council alone won't fund what it takes
26 to build the research institute so they just won't do it, they

1 won't entertain the idea of twenty or twenty-five million, but they
2 would entertain it as half-funded.

3 MR. CLOUD: The twenty to twenty-five million, was
4 that included not only the research --

5 DR. MONTAGUE: No, that was, like, forty-five million
6 with all the other stuff?

7 MR. CLOUD: There was what?

8 DR. MONTAGUE: There was forty to forty-five million for
9 the Sea World component, and -- yes, I mean, it -- many people
10 hoped that if this project went through in the Council that private
11 organizations would get together funds to build a neighboring
12 tourist facility.

13 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary? One last question, Jerome. So,
14 this project description that we have before us basically is
15 asking, the way I understand it, is for equipment for which
16 purposes they haven't yet determined for projects that have not yet
17 been determined or proposed, and it's a blank check for a big
18 question mark for the '94 budget?

19 DR. MONTAGUE: That isn't how I would characterize it.
20 The -- and then, as I mentioned, further details are being
21 developed and kind of feverish meetings are being held between now
22 and the end of the month to try to put together, you know,
23 realistic details of how much it would take to build this, how
24 other institutes like this have survived, you know, how much
25 funding they needed before they could survive, and so on and so
26 forth, so I hope to have that but, I mean, I don't the Council

1 would approve it just based on what's in here.

2 MS. FISCHER: Ms. Gagnon, did you have a question?

3 MS. GAGNON: Yes, I was wondering if before (inaudible
4 -- out of range of microphone) to make some sort of recommendation
5 on it, it would be helpful to have someone who -- someone who hoped
6 to be there today (inaudible).

7 DR. MONTAGUE: We could have Kim Sundberg do it tomorrow.
8 He's -- I mean, I've covered it very generally. He has a lot more
9 up to date information on it, so I can arrange for --

10 MS. FISCHER: Okay. One more question and then Jerome's
11 got to leave. I want to mention, he's got to get out of here.

12 MR. JOHNSON: I just want to clarify a concern that was
13 brought up on normal agency management on fish barriers, fish
14 passes, that sort of thing, and particularly on the Shrode (ph)
15 Lake project, that's kind of like maintaining a thirty-two year old
16 car, after awhile you need to restore that, and things get worn out
17 and they don't work. In this case, walls are eroded, footings are
18 eroded out so they're not stable, and the gabions are not in good
19 shape, and so they need to be replaced, and that's the reason they
20 want to do that, is just to make that structure work the way it's
21 supposed to work, and annual maintenance, or periodic maintenance
22 has been done on that as well as the other ones in this particular
23 proposal. I just wanted to clarify that. Thank you.

24 MS. FISCHER: Pam? Okay, one more.

25 MS. BRODIE: It's about the Sea Life Center, but your
26 whole presentation. Your projects, the projects here that you

1 presented total sixteen point five million dollars, not counting
2 the Alaska Marine Research Institute, which is up to twenty-five
3 million dollars, and a lot of these -- most of them probably would
4 incur future costs that -- as the projects are continued. Then
5 we've got the SEA plan, with this (indiscernible) approach, which
6 is starting out with five million dollars but that will lead into
7 larger research projects, which may or may not mesh with these, and
8 I'm concerned about the -- about that we haven't really maybe done
9 the necessary planning to be spending the money right, and what I
10 glean from you is to know which of these projects are the priority
11 ones that really need to be done this year and are going to help
12 work with the SEA plan for the future, as opposed to ones that
13 maybe can wait until next year and we'll see if they really fit in
14 with the goals and strategies and that.

15 DR. MONTAGUE: We are presenting that information to the
16 executive director and it will be considered in his executive
17 director approved package that he's going to present to the Trustee
18 Council, and we've given a lot of thought to it. For instance, if
19 you don't assist the hatcheries, then there's no point in
20 installing all these otolith markers, obviously, and some of the
21 projects that you've indicated, the monitoring ones, a few of them
22 could wait, you know. If Ayers basically said this is what I'm
23 going to allocate funding wise, then we would have to wrangle and
24 do that, but --

25 MS. FISCHER: (Inaudible) he's stated that, that he
26 would look at priority projects first and then take a look at some

1 of the others. He stated that this morning.

2 MS. BRODIE: But in terms of our voting --

3 DR. MONTAGUE: But relative to that, you know, I've heard
4 several comments that you really needed the chief scientist's
5 input, but I guess I wonder -- I mean, the public advisory group,
6 are you really carrying the hats of all these different interests
7 that may give the Trustee Council more useful information, to give
8 them kind of your unadulterated opinion, because they get their own
9 chief scientist report and they get their own agency report and to
10 have your decisions affected by what the Trustee Council and the
11 agency says sort of hurts the purity of the public comment.

12 MS. FISCHER: Thank you, Jerome. I guess we're getting
13 pretty close to adjournment for tonight, but one of the things that
14 Doug had brought up, and that Brad and I talked about earlier was
15 starting a little bit earlier tomorrow so we can finish. Does
16 anybody have any objection to an eight o'clock start-up? Can't
17 make it? But the majority of the people could be, okay? So, we'll
18 start at eight in the morning, and Doug will talk to the agencies,
19 list the agencies and try to have them here. He's going to address
20 that, and Jerome will see if Kim can address also this subject,
21 that last subject that we were discussing. That will be on the
22 agenda tomorrow. Doug, will you --

23 MR. MUTTER: In order to get through all the projects
24 that you have, here's a suggested agenda, which allows for a little
25 bit of presentation times and discussion and then any kind of
26 action you want to take, I hope. At eight o'clock, anything we

1 need to do in terms of recommendations on Fish and Game projects.
2 Fish and Game has the most projects of anybody with twenty-eight.
3 Everybody else is a lot smaller kind of an operation. So, I
4 thought we'd spend a half an hour, if we can, and decide if we want
5 to take any kind of action on those projects. Then at eight
6 thirty, the Park Service, they've got one project, so that
7 shouldn't take too long. Then at nine, the Fish and Wildlife
8 Service, they have nine projects, give them an hour. We said at
9 ten o'clock, we tabled the SEA plan until then to discuss, so I put
10 that in at ten for a half an hour. Ten thirty to eleven thirty,
11 DNR, take a lunch break. At twelve thirty, the Forest Service,
12 they have seven projects. The DNR also has seven projects. One
13 thirty to two thirty, NOAA with eight projects, two thirty to about
14 two forty-five, DEC has one project -- three projects, and two
15 forty-five to three, the executive director, and adjourn at three.
16 So that's it. Does that seem reasonable?

17 MR. CLOUD: When do you want to vote?

18 MS. FISCHER: Perhaps we should do this as we go along,
19 don't you think, and then that way it gets --

20 MR. MUTTER: If you're going to take a vote, if you're
21 going to each individually take the sheet and give your rank, high
22 medium and low, we'll turn those in at the end of the day, so you
23 can do that as you do this.

24 MS. FISCHER: Well, I think we should get a consensus,
25 perhaps, don't you think?

26 DR. FRENCH: You may want to leave us a half an hour or

1 so towards the end of the meeting for some general resolutions on
2 the work plan.

3 MS. FISCHER: Um-hmm.

4 DR. FRENCH: But did you only give the executive
5 director fifteen minutes there?

6 MR. MUTTER: Right.

7 DR. FRENCH: I would encourage us to give him half an
8 hour because I think at least I have a lot of questions that I'd
9 like to have answered.

10 MR. MUTTER: Okay. That means you're probably going to
11 adjourn close to four o'clock.

12 MS. FISCHER: Also, may I say something too? Some of
13 the areas where -- some of the agencies only have one project, and
14 maybe we will get through that within ten minutes or so too, so --
15 and maybe we can move them all up. Is there some way, Doug, that
16 they will all be available so that in case one does finish quicker
17 that we can do it, go right on to the next one, instead of the
18 allocated time that you've got?

19 MR. MUTTER: Well, I think we'll -- we'll ask them to
20 be here before their allocated time.

21 MS. FISCHER: That would be good.

22 MR. MUTTER: I don't think it will go faster.

23 MS. FISCHER: Well, if somebody has one project, it
24 shouldn't take a half hour, hopefully. Anything else to be brought
25 up today to be discussed? Yes?

26 MS. BENTON: To see if I understand, we're going to go

1 through tomorrow and vote and fill out the little sheet, but we're
2 also encouraged to turn in our own comments by -- do we have a
3 deadline? I guess the 21st is too late, so --

4 MS. FISCHER: By the 16th then, I guess, huh?

5 MR. CLOUD: Actually, I don't think -- if we're going
6 to make comments tomorrow on the plan, then I don't think there's
7 a problem with getting in your own comments by the 21st. It was a
8 problem if we weren't going to make comments on it tomorrow.

9 MS. FISCHER: Um-hmm.

10 MR. McMULLEN: Do we anticipate that all our comments
11 will be ready by tomorrow?

12 MS. FISCHER: I think basically that's the idea, to try
13 to get as many of our comments in tomorrow, and then if you have
14 individual comments, you know, it can be done, but it will be at
15 least shortened out. You might just have one project you need to
16 comment on. Pam? You had your hand up?

17 MS. BRODIE: I thought that what Jim Ayers wanted the
18 most from us was some discussion of the project. We could all go
19 home, which was what I had initially wanted to do, and we could
20 just all make our own comments. But I thought that what Jim Ayers
21 was saying was he wanted us to be able to discuss this, so for
22 instance we would know what our scientific representative thinks of
23 the science of those particular projects or what our commercial
24 fishing representative thinks are the most important fishing ones
25 to help us, but it doesn't sound like this schedule is going to
26 have any time for that.

1 MR. McMULLEN: Well, if you want to get done in a day,
2 that takes a day right there, a whole day.

3 MS. FISCHER: And he will -- he wanted our comments so
4 that he could make his decision to hand that back to the Trustees
5 before the 31st, and if we wait until the 21st to give, you know,
6 our comments, it would be too difficult to do that.

7 MS. BRODIE: I'd like to ask Eric what you think is
8 maybe the best way we could spend our time to make a useful try?

9 MR. MYERS: In my discussions with the executive
10 director, it's my understanding that he's anxious to get input from
11 the PAG that would indicate, especially where there was some kind
12 of consensus regarding projects or priorities, and that the kind of
13 input that he's looking for would not only reflect a discussion
14 amongst members as to what they individually think, but also reach
15 some sort of conclusion, if at all possible, regarding projects,
16 as expressed, either or both, through a vote and/or some sort of a
17 ranking exercise as was exercised by Doug. So, something more than
18 just a sharing of information, but an attempt to actually reach
19 some sort of conclusion on specific individual projects, and what
20 I thought I heard you discussing was to try and do that as you
21 address the projects through the course of the day.

22 MS. FISCHER: That's what we're going to try and do.

23 MR. CLOUD: I think that it makes a lot more sense to
24 go through a vote, which is going to take about an hour, going
25 through each project, vote and discuss. I hope it doesn't take
26 more than an hour. But it makes more sense to do that after you

1 have everybody's go-through, so if we can get everybody's go-
2 through in the morning out of the way and then do it in the
3 afternoon, we --

4 MR. MUTTER: You wouldn't rather hear their go-through
5 and then discuss it and vote and then go on and express their mind?

6 MS. FISCHER: I think that would be better.

7 MR. CLOUD: The thing of it is, there's a lot of these
8 that interact with each other. I think you can have a better feel
9 of the project as a whole after you go on through the entire review
10 of the projects so that you can remember, well, that projects
11 sounds an awful like -- that Forest Service project sounds an awful
12 lot like that other project.

13 MR. MUTTER: Or we could spend the morning just having
14 presentations and then discussion and then in the afternoon do our
15 voting. But you've got to go back over the same ground.

16 MR. CLOUD: Well, it depends on how much arguing you
17 can do during the discussions.

18 MR. MUTTER: And re-arguing.

19 MS. FISCHER: Any other comments on it? Okay, will
20 these doors be locked so that people can leave their stuff here, or
21 should we take them or what?

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

23 MS. FISCHER: Okay. We'll recess for today. Oh, I'm
24 sorry, Eric.

25 MR. MYERS: Just one point of clarification, I want to
26 make sure that these worksheets are -- are these sufficient for

1 your purposes of recording your votes and/or prioritization
2 tomorrow, and does everybody -- if we need more copies for whatever
3 reason, please accost me first thing in the morning and we'll make
4 more copies, but hopefully hang on to what you've got.

5 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Well, recess until eight a.m., and
6 everybody please be here as quickly as possible.

7 (Recess at 5:23 p.m., January 11, 1994)

**EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SETTLEMENT
TRUSTEE COUNCIL**

**RESTORATION OFFICE
Simpson Building
645 G Street
Anchorage, Alaska**

January 11 and 12, 1994

VOLUME II

January 12, 1994

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On Record: 8:29 a.m., January 12, 1994)

(Present: Dr. French, Mr. Diehl, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Mutter, Ms. Fischer, Ms. McBurney, Mr. King, Mr. McMullen, Ms. Brodie. Ms. Gagnon arrived at 10:30 a.m.; Mr. Sturgeon arrived at 11:15 a.m.; and Mr. Totemoff arrived at 12:03 p.m.)

MS. FISCHER: I'm going to call the meeting back to order, and as people come and -- let's -- we're going to do is go back over some of the things that Fish and Game talked about yesterday, review that, make our comments, you know, move onto the next one. Okay. So, we can kind of fill in our -- our forms here. Doug is going to go over the different projects and we can comment at that time. We -- maybe come to a consensus, or whatever. Doug, do you want to start?

MR. MUTTER: Well, first of all, do you want to make any general comments on the Fish and Game projects as a group? I thought I would just run through each project and see if you wanted to put any comments in support of, against or just questions that the Trustee Council ought to consider? Things that aren't clear. So, no general comments? Jim.

MR. KING: I guess my general comment would be that, I see with a lot of these proposals a conflict with the first and last policies in the draft plan, that is that they don't apparently address an ecosystem approach to the study, and that -- it appears to me that a lot of these are within the normal management framework that Fish and Game has mandated to do and that they

1 ordinarily go to the legislature chair for funding, and that the
2 legislature in their wisdom determines whether these things are in
3 the public interest or not. So, I look at the people in the PAG
4 and our experience with agencies is pretty limited compared to the
5 experience of the Trustee Council themselves. So, I don't -- I
6 think all of these projects are good to excellent. Probably,
7 they're all excellent. They need doing. They've been written by
8 sincere people who've done their homework and worked really hard
9 and I endorse them from that point of view, but I have a concern
10 that, and I think there's a public perception that these are things
11 that should normally be funded some other way. And, so, for that
12 reason I've given a -- are we marking these things high, medium or
13 low? Is that the way we're doing it?

14 MR. MUTTER: Right. High, medium, low, one, two,
15 three.

16 MR. KING: So, I'm marking these, a lot of them low,
17 not because they're not good studies, but because I'm concerned
18 that this is not the way the settlement money was suppose to be
19 funded, or used.

20 MS. FISCHER: Yes, Jim.

21 MR. CLOUD: I think we should -- as we're reviewing
22 these projects, we should keep two things in mind. Number one,
23 this is the 1994 work plan that was generated on projects that have
24 been generated for the last three or four years by our management
25 structure that was in place, for the last three or four years.
26 And, this ecosystem is, or system, whatever you say, system,

1 management approach that has yet to be implemented, has yet to be
2 implemented. And, we can probably expect more broader and -- a
3 broader reaching and better coordinated effort in the future. At
4 least, that's the expectations that I have after listening to
5 comments of Mr. Ayers yesterday. But, recognize that this is under
6 the old system. These are projects these people believe ought to
7 go forward, recognize also the State of Alaska is -- and the
8 federal government, probably are in no shape whatsoever to fund
9 these projects, at all. So, this work wouldn't be done if it isn't
10 done -- taken by the -- by this Trustee Council (indiscernible -
11 loud noise) information. A lot of the information that -- that is
12 generated by these projects is important to determine any -- what
13 actions need to be taken to commence the recovery of damages --
14 damage services and species in the spill. So, I think we should
15 keep those things in mind as we go through ...

16 MS. FISCHER: Mary.

17 MS. McBurney: Just a couple of general comments first to
18 follow up on something Jim said about the restoration plan. One
19 thing that I kept referring back to though was on page 11, which
20 were the assumptions by the Trustee Council regarding the '94 work
21 plan, where they do address the restoration plan. And, outside of
22 those projects that have been previewed (indiscernible - music
23 interference) there are a couple of others. They do state that
24 other approved restoration projects to be implemented must be
25 consistent with the restoration plan, and I think that we should
26 keep in mind the nine policies, in particular, as we go through

1 each and every one of these projects, and let that be kind of the
2 guiding force as far as making some fairly intelligent decisions at
3 this point. Granted, each and every project is not going to
4 probably hit on all nine cylinders here, but I'm sure that we will
5 be able to get a good idea of how consistent they are, with at
6 least the intent and the spirit of the restoration plan. And, to
7 comment on the other Jim's comment regarding some of the Fish and
8 Game projects, I would tend to take exception with the comment that
9 many of those projects do not fit into an ecosystem type overall
10 plan because a lot of the information that is currently being
11 proposed as far as gathering the information through either genetic
12 stock identification programs, retrieving coded wire tags on
13 through monitoring oil that has spilled -- oiled and treated
14 shorelines and whatnot, actually does address ecosystem level-type
15 questions and certainly gives you the background information that
16 would be necessary to take a look at some of these species in
17 ecosystem-type format. And, so in that respect there are a number
18 of the Fish and Game projects which I would rate highly, based on
19 the fact that they would provide some very important information to
20 give us a head start for when we do have this ecosystem-type plan
21 in place, hopefully for the '95 work plan.

22 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, are there any other comments? Yes,
23 Pam.

24 MS. BRODIE: I've -- am frustrated with the fact that
25 this Department of Fish and Game has submitted to us proposals so
26 similar to the ones submitted in the last couple of years which the

1 Trustee Council has been rejecting. I think that -- that -- I hope
2 that the Department of Fish and Game tries to learn from experience
3 about what sort of things are approved and not approved. And, I
4 would be much more inclined to go for proposals if I didn't feel
5 that we were being handed just the department's wish list of things
6 that it has always wanted to fund. If we were given some sense of
7 priorities of what is really oil spill related versus what is -- is
8 regular agency function, and I -- I don't feel that I can vote on
9 these intelligently as I would like to and it's possible that I
10 might just change my mind on some of these projects, but, you know,
11 I will do the best I can, but I think that Fish and Game is not
12 making our job easier for us.

13 MS. FISCHER: John.

14 MR. McMULLEN: Well, I don't think -- in the first place,
15 I don't believe that action or inaction on the part of the Trustee
16 Council, you know, should be anybody's guiding light, because the
17 fact is, you don't know where you stand on any particular proposal
18 that -- that you submit to the Trustee Council until you've seen it
19 passed through their political process. You know, I was in a
20 meeting this last week with several people concerned -- associated
21 with the Trustee Council and the statement arose there that the
22 federal government and the Department of Justice, you know, in
23 their shadow -- shadow opinions, represent a dual standard on the
24 project acceptance and by the Trustee Council, and that was said by
25 one of the -- one of the Alaska Trustees. You know, I think the
26 state ought to take a stand on -- on the matter in which these

1 proposals that come before them are created and decided upon.
2 Secondly, there was an oil spill in Prince William Sound and that
3 oil flowed along the coastline the whole way out to Chignik, so
4 that's the extent of the impact area, I suppose. But, after that
5 spill I think all the scientists realized we didn't know very much
6 about the ecological interactions in Prince William Sound where
7 most of the oil remained. And, they didn't know much about the
8 stocks of fish in the Sound, although they've been managed
9 intensively for years, and years, and years. And -- and, I think
10 one of the goals of the Department of Fish and Game is to
11 understand these inter -- the ecological interactions of -- in
12 various trophic levels in -- in the Sound and understand
13 relationships between different groups of fish that migrate into --
14 into the many streams in the Sound, the salmon, to understand the
15 herring in Sound, as indicator species -- put forth in the SEA plan
16 by the group that's working down at Cordova. Put that together at
17 the Trustee Council's, if not request, at least the Trustee Council
18 put up the money to get that planning job done. So, our -- our
19 alternative is to either study -- study these issues or not study
20 them and be equally unprepared the next time around to -- to deal
21 with, you know, depleted fisheries and an understanding of how to
22 restore them over time. So, I don't -- I don't think this is a
23 wish list of the Department of Fish and Game, I think it's, at
24 least, these array of studies are an attempt to understand
25 interaction between species and between groups of fish and the
26 environment in Prince William Sound. And, we all know that there

1 is no other money in state government to -- to fund such studies,
2 and it's appropriate that after the damage was caused by the oil
3 spill that these studies be funded to handle -- that they be
4 undertaken.

5 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, I'm going to ask everybody to try to
6 keep your -- I know, you know, that it's important to hear what we
7 have to say, but I think we need to try to limit our time, if we
8 want to get out of here this afternoon, has not been -- we need to
9 decide do we want to extend, you know, the time. So, I just wanted
10 try to ask everybody to try to keep it a little bit limited so we
11 can keep moving, okay.

12 MS. BRODIE: John, I'm so sorry, I'm sorry, but I just
13 wanted to -- I'm sorry John, I came on to harsh. The message I'm
14 trying to get across is I really think Fish and Game would be
15 better off -- that Fish and Game would get more funding from the
16 Trustees than ask for somewhat less, with better justification.
17 It's fine for Fish and Game to ask for everything, saying we really
18 should get it because they're all good projects. I'm saying, I
19 don't think it's a successful strategy with the Trustee Council and
20 they would end off better off.

21 MR. McMULLEN: I understand, perhaps (indiscernible - out
22 of range of microphone)

23 DR. FRENCH: Yes. I'd have to concur with Mary and
24 John that I think in terms of ecosystem information, not so much --
25 they're not integrated into the approach yet, but in terms of the
26 information, I think many of these projects with the exception of

1 the sand deposition projects are good projects. That project, I
2 think we can't support. But, I do think that the Alaska Department
3 of Fish and Game has a history of burying extra personnel support
4 into these Exxon projects. And, I realize that Fish and Game has
5 had a decrease in their legislative support and in that sense their
6 budget is hurting, but I don't feel comfortable with the concept of
7 utilizing the projects supported by the Exxon settlement to help
8 provide the infrastructure, at least beyond absolutely minimum
9 necessary infrastructure within the department, and I think that's
10 happening in these budgets. And, I don't quite know what to do
11 about it. I think that's probably going to fall on deaf ears.
12 But, I think these budgets are far from being as slim as they could
13 have been if they were well thought out and if that was one of the
14 objective in the people putting the projects together.

15 MR. DIEHL: All I can say is I have absolute proof of
16 what John just said that they're padding on the budgets. In the
17 killer whale project that has been the results and why research in
18 the killer whale project, they tried to rip-off the Alaskan
19 expertise, in my opinion. They just tried to take the project
20 right away from him and put it right in their bureaucracy, when it
21 was being done more cheaply since 1984. And, the whole thing has -
22 - has upset me and given me less confidence in the, at least in
23 NMFS' abilities, at least in their -- their ability to carry forth
24 this research in a cheap (indiscernible).

25 UNKNOWN: (Indiscernible).

26 MR. DIEHL: That's national -- that's NOAA. I think

1 part of the problem is that National Marine Fisheries Services is
2 a law enforcement agency, they are not a research agency. The
3 other portion of the problem is that NOAA, in the form of the
4 Marine Mammal Lab in Seattle, is a research agency, so they think
5 they know how to go forth -- how to go about doing these things,
6 but in fact there's -- I see big problems within that -- the
7 National Marine Mammal Lab in Seattle. What -- what I've seen is
8 administrators trying to take credit for work they did not do,
9 written credit. Seen the Alaska expertise come back with a
10 copyright lawyer to -- to prevent this from happening, and ever
11 since that deal the relationship between Alaskan expertise and this
12 administration has gone way down hill to the point where -- to the
13 point where ...

14 MR. CLOUD: Wouldn't you expect that.

15 MR. DIEHL: I would expect that. Well, I would expect
16 people to know about these laws that -- that are administrating
17 projects. I would expect people who are administrating projects to
18 have an idea of -- of what we're trying to do. Spending money in
19 Prince William Sound if at all possible. I would expect them to be
20 informed by Auke Bay of just how this thing is set up and that, if
21 there is Alaskan expertise, they should be included and not
22 deliberately excluded. And, I would expect that an administrator,
23 if they're going to deliberately exclude the Alaskan expertise, to
24 be able to put in writing the reasons for that exclusion. And, if
25 it's not in writing, I would say revert to the 1991 RFP. That must
26 be done in this case, and to exclude them, because this is a public

1 process we have here. And, maybe NOAA is used to doing things in
2 very unpublic way, but this process demands response to questions,
3 and they have not been -- response has not been forthcoming from
4 this administrator.

5 MR. MUTTER: Could we go through the Fish and Game
6 projects? I think everyone should write their name on the their
7 own sheets and if you feel comfortable in giving a project high,
8 medium, low, you should do that on your sheet, and what I'll do is
9 write down any collective commentary that you wish to put forward
10 on the project, if there are any.

11 MR. KING: I need to make more comment before we go
12 ahead with this. As a conservationist on the committee, I'm
13 looking at a little conservation of some of this money, and my
14 feeling is that, I can't fault any of these projects, but I think
15 the Trustee Council ought to look very closely at what is in fact
16 their responsibility and what is, in fact, the legislature's -- or
17 of the Congress' responsibility. And, not spend any of that money
18 that they don't need to because we've got some very exciting things
19 looking ahead that are beginning to well up out of this process,
20 and I am referring to the Cordova plan, the Seward research plan,
21 and the Kodiak Center, research center plan, and these things are
22 going to need some money. Also, we haven't really gotten into the
23 habitat protection aspect of this, very far yet. If you look on
24 page ten, you see of the draft plan that this year half the money
25 will be gone, and it's going fast, and if we are going to achieve
26 any of the really major good ideas that are coming out of this,

1 we're going to have to be careful. And, the other aspect of this
2 that we've talked about, that I've talked about, is endowments and
3 endowed chairs. And, I think we need to be ready to consider how
4 endowments should be worked into the fisheries proposals at Cordova
5 and Seward, and Kodiak. I don't see any real long-term benefits
6 coming to a good many of the resources that were damaged, or, any
7 real knowledge coming out of a lot of these studies. I'm not going
8 to say any more about fish endowments because, I think, the fish
9 people will come up with that, what they want and what they need,
10 but I would recommend that we save enough money to have endowed
11 chairs at the university for things sea mammals, ornithology. You
12 know, there's been thousands of ornithologists visit Alaska. There
13 has never been a full time academic ornithologist that spend a
14 lifetime in Alaska. And, I think that would apply to a lot of
15 these other sciences. Anthropology could be well-served by an
16 academic chair with a good academic program, recreation and
17 planning, coastal zone economics. So, I guess considering these
18 needs, this is where I'm going to take a very conservative approach
19 to approving any of the spending that's on the table before us.

20 MS. FISCHER: Okay, John, and then let's move on with
21 the ...

22 MR. McMULLEN: I just want to say before that I know
23 something about the habitat protection plan. Turn on your
24 television tonight at eight o'clock, turn to PBS and see the -- see
25 the hour long program on Kodiak bears. It's -- it's been a
26 National Geographic Magazine article and an Anchorage Daily News

1 article, and the solution on both, you know, all these articles is
2 Oil Spill Trustee Council funds.

3 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking in the background)

4 MR. CLOUD: I move for approval of project 94066.

5 MR. MUTTER: That's the harlequin duck recovery
6 monitoring project, and I've got a comment that you put on
7 yesterday that says they also -- they also need to take a look at
8 other bird species as well

9 DR. FRENCH: Well, I'll second -- I'll second it.

10 MS. FISCHER: Okay. (Indiscernible)

11 MS. BRODIE: I'd like to suggest a different process,
12 rather than moving and seconding the projects at random, that just
13 either Donna or Doug go through them in order and we vote on them.
14 How does that ...

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do you want an up or down vote
16 or are you going to try to prioritize them?

17 MS. FISCHER: Okay. (Simultaneous talking --
18 questions). Well, we were going to do the Fish and Game, since we
19 discussed Fish and Game yesterday. That's why John moved on that,
20 right? Or, Jim moved on that.

21 MR. CLOUD: I withdraw my motion and support Pam's
22 motion that we just vote on them.

23 MS. FISCHER: Is that all right with a second? Is that
24 all right with a second?

25 DR. FRENCH: That's fine except I'm still not sure how
26 this relates to a high, medium, low criteria.

1 MR. CLOUD: High, medium, low criteria is additional
2 information.

3 DR. FRENCH: Additional information. So, we're going
4 to vote on these and say that they were all ...

5 MR. CLOUD: Just yes or no, and then your weight is
6 given in the high, medium and low.

7 MS. FISCHER: Maybe once we have a move to vote, then
8 somebody can give a grade and we can kind of discuss it a little
9 bit and then move on. See if we can all keep a consensus.

10 MR. CLOUD: I think what we need to do is just vote on
11 them and if there is any discussion, we'll have to do the
12 discussion at the time we're voting on each project and move on
13 instead of polling everybody (indiscernible). If somebody wants to
14 volunteer what's their weight is ...

15 MR. KING: I'm opposed to voting yes or no because
16 there's a lot of these proposals that I don't know enough about and
17 you have to recognize that we have not seen the scientific panels
18 report, we have not seen the final reports from the 1993 -- for any
19 of these things, and there are some of these proposals that I can
20 endorse and vote yes on with a certain amount of confidence, but
21 I'm not sure there's any that I can vote no on without having a lot
22 more information. And, so, I'd hope we could go through and give
23 a score of high, medium and low, and low could mean either we don't
24 like or we don't know.

25 MS. FISCHER: Let me say ... Okay, and do what?

26 MR. MUTTER: I'll just go through and ask if there's a

1 consensus on high, medium and low. If there is, I'll write it
2 down, if there's not, you'll have a chance to put your own voice
3 in.

4 MR. CLOUD: But, that isn't what we were asked to do.
5 We were asked to vote on these.

6 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, let me ask. Well, that would pretty
7 much be voting, I mean if we all feel that it's a low mark, we're
8 voting for a low mark, really. But, let's take the Fish and Game
9 since we did hear Fish and Game yesterday, and we're a little more
10 acquainted with that, and then as we get to the other areas, then
11 we can also talk to the people of that department. Would that be
12 all right? Instead of starting at the very beginning, I mean it
13 would be nice to go '007 and start down, but we did hear from Fish
14 and Game.

15 MR. CLOUD: (Indiscernible) Fish and Game list that
16 they gave us yesterday.

17 MS. FISCHER: Oh, all right, I thought you meant start
18 at the beginning.

19 MR. CLOUD: And then this rating, and then we just
20 move on.

21 MS. FISCHER: Right.

22 MR. MUTTER: I think if we do the high, medium and low
23 that gives Jim Ayers information. I don't know if you're all going
24 to ...

25 MR. CLOUD: Well I -- I disagree, I mean I think that
26 if you vote no on something ...

1 MS. FISCHER: They're going to know why ...

2 MR. CLOUD: I mean, if there are some that I'll vote

3 no on, and there are some that I'll vote yes on and that -- high,

4 medium and low applies on a yes vote.

5 MS. FISCHER: Okay, well let's go to 94064, isn't that

6 the first one on Fish and Game?

7 MR. MUTTER: That one's already approved.

8 MS. FISCHER: Already approved. Okay.

9 MR. MUTTER: So, the first one the harlequin duck

10 monitoring.

11 MS. FISCHER: That would be, what number is that? Okay.

12 '066. Is that approved, Bill?

13 MR. MUTTER: It's a vote to support it.

14 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, I have some questions. It says in

15 the project description that the '93 results were still pending,

16 number one, and I was just curious as to whether this is going to

17 be something that's going to be an annual project that every year

18 they're going to be coming back for more money. It's a four year

19 duration, and it seems awfully expensive for the objectives that

20 they hope to accomplish. This is an example of a project that I

21 would hope could be put off for a year until an ecosystem plan is

22 in place because this is the sort of project that would be best

23 integrated into an overall plan. This is a good example of a

24 single species. Let's go take a look at harlequin ducks-type

25 program.

26 MR. DIEHL: It's a single species that does feed

1 though in the tidal interchange area, and my understanding is that
2 it's used as a marker for how -- for if and how that area is
3 affecting wildlife. I'd, you know, give it a yes.

4 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam.

5 MS. BRODIE: I'm going to pretty hard on the monitoring
6 projects which are just counting critters, because for almost all
7 of these they've been counting them every year, and without a
8 monitoring plan, I -- it might be justified, but without a
9 monitoring plan, I'm not going to be supporting them. However,
10 this particular one said they might need to do some chemical
11 analysis based on data that they've already got it, and I would
12 say, if they determine that's warranted, they should come back to
13 the Trustees for that money, but I don't support

14 MS. FISCHER: Okay, do you feel that the budget is --
15 you want to give it a low grade then, you feel the budget is a part
16 of that too, so, Doug, you need to put in there that if they need
17 money for the chemical plan that we would like to have them, you
18 know, go back to the Trustees for that, so we'll give it a low
19 grade right now.

20 MR. CLOUD: You know, we're just going to have to come
21 up with a process to do these things. We have got to come up with
22 a consensus on each project, and that can only be (indiscernible)
23 yes or no or abstained votes, and then wait until -- you'd like to
24 -- maybe I'd suggest another way then, and that is just poll each
25 member in order, right down the line, we can make our brief
26 comments, reason why we're voting yes or no or abstaining and our

1 weight, and then move on. Otherwise, we will never get ...

2 MS. FISCHER: We'll never get through this, I agree with
3 you. John.

4 MR. McMULLEN: I -- I agree with that. I was sitting
5 here thinking yes or no is not going to do it for me because I'm
6 going to have a hard time saying no to most of the projects because
7 they have been -- they have been filtered from a much larger group
8 of projects, and I think that just, you know, with as little
9 information as we have, just a brief explanation in reading this,
10 you know, I'm -- thinking about all the time and effort that's gone
11 into these projects in the past and the people that have, you know,
12 planning and all this, we don't have a -- really a good idea of
13 what it's all about, so I think that maybe weighting to the best of
14 our ability is the thing to do. And I don't know, you know,
15 otherwise, I'm in agreement with Jim ...

16 MS. FISCHER: Okay, then let me poll each member then.

17 MR. KING: Well, one other thought, could we just say
18 how many high votes, how many medium votes and how many low votes
19 then we could ...

20 (Indiscernible - simultaneous discussion)

21 MR. CLOUD: There are comments that everybody is going
22 to want to make (indiscernible) and that is what the Executive
23 Director says he wants.

24 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam, '066, what do you give it?

25 MS. BRODIE: No.

26 MS. FISCHER: You've already made your remarks, you gave

1 it a low.

2 MS. BRODIE: No or low.

3 MS. FISCHER: No, no, okay. Jim.

4 MR. CLOUD: Yes, my vote is yes, and I give it a
5 medium.

6 MR. DIEHL: My votes yes, and I give it a one.

7 MR. MUTTER: That's high?

8 MR. DIEHL: That's high.

9 DR. FRENCH: My votes yes, and gave it a medium, the
10 reason being, again, the money in a monitoring budget, I feel it is
11 ...

12 MR. KING: I have two votes, mine and Rupe Andrews as
13 well. And, I give the harlequin project a low. I believe it's too
14 costly and that it's something that a management oriented proposal
15 that might better be funded some other way.

16 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a low. I think it can wait
17 until there's an ecosystem plan in place.

18 MR. McMULLEN: I give it a -- I guess in the mid -- mid
19 range -- a two. They -- they say that this -- these words, you
20 know, there beginning to have problems, and it seems to be the
21 reason on it.

22 MS. FISCHER: I give it a low. I feel that it's a
23 budget that continues to stay in there at pretty much the same
24 rate. I feel that it can go with the ecosystem, or can be, you
25 know, brought in under the ecosystem and then they can look at it.

26 MR. MUTTER: 94068, deposit sands to promote clam

1 recruitment. Pam.

2 MS. BRODIE: No.

3 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

4 MR. CLOUD: I'd like to note that my vote carries for
5 Vern McCorkle as well. I vote yes, but a low priority.

6 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

7 MR. DIEHL: I vote no with a three.

8 DR. FRENCH: I vote no.

9 MR. KING: Low, low. That's two lows.

10 MS. MCBURNEY: (Indiscernible - laughter) very strong
11 feeling about it, but I -- I give it a low mark

12 MR. McMULLEN: I want to give it a low (indiscernible),
13 but I'll give -- give thirty-six thousand dollars, there may be
14 some reasonable information needed from this. I'll vote it low, or
15 give it a low.

16 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

17 MS. FISCHER: Vote low.

18 MR. MUTTER: Okay. 94070, restoration of high
19 intertidal fucus.

20 MR. FISCHER: Pam.

21 MR. BRODIE: I'm a little confused. Are there three
22 levels of yes, and no, so basically four things we can ... Okay.
23 I vote no.

24 MR. MUTTER: The lady is actually right.

25 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes, with a high priority. Fucus
26 is a very important aspect of the ecosystem recovery.

1 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

2 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes because it's actually
3 intertidal and related to the harlequin ducks as far as I can see.

4 MR. MUTTER: High, medium, low?

5 MR. DIEHL: High.

6 MR. MUTTER: John.

7 DR. FRENCH: I vote yes with a high. Again, the
8 reasoning being that it provides the information necessary to
9 restore the ecosystem. The actual restoration part of it is not in
10 the project, but that can wait until the ecosystem study.

11 MR. KING: Low, low. I believe that it's going to
12 recover naturally and within a few, probably before anybody can get
13 out there and do anything for it.

14 MS. MCBURNEY: I give this one a low, and the reason for
15 that is one of the objectives is to create a model of affected
16 shorelines that will predict which high intertidal areas have
17 depressed fucus population. Well, you know which beaches have been
18 washed, and it's probably the most expensive aspect of this
19 particular project is going to be putting together nice, fancy
20 computer models which are going to require two hundred and sixty
21 thousand dollars worth of contractual costs. So, I don't think
22 this one's as tight as it could be.

23 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it a low. I think
24 natural recovery, you know, the fact that it's a non-utilized
25 resource and harvesters (indiscernible) see it get -- get good
26 shape.

1 MS. FISCHER: I gave it a high and a yes.
2 MR. MUTTER: 94081. Recruitment monitoring of little
3 neck clams.
4 MS. BRODIE: Low. This is Pam.
5 MR. CLOUD: No, it's not in the book, what's the
6 actual status of that currently.
7 MS. FISCHER: It's in the book, on page one twenty-four.
8 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
9 MR. CLOUD: Jim Cloud and Vern McCorkle vote yes and
10 a low priority.
11 MR. DIEHL: Both yes, with a medium priority.
12 MR. MUTTER: John.
13 DR. FRENCH: I'd say yes with a medium priority.
14 MR. KING: Low, low -- two lows.
15 MS. MCBURNEY: I'd give it a low right now, but again
16 this is a monitoring program that I think better would fit
17 underneath an ecosystem plan.
18 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it a low. I'd wish I'd
19 seen -- I'd wish I'd seen the study in this -- this group of
20 studies dealing with sea otters and the sea (indiscernible). Their
21 -- their effect on -- on clam and other populations and intertidal
22 areas, I think and (indiscernible) I'm not sure here what kind of
23 information you can get with sea otters (indiscernible).
24 MR. MUTTER: Donna.
25 MS. FRENCH: I give it a low. I feel it's a very
26 expensive project. Past shown history has shown that they've been

1 up and down and out of the Sound and back in the Sound. I'm not so
2 sure that oil really did do it.

3 MR. MUTTER: Okay 94137, Sockeye ID of Chum, Sockeye,
4 Chinook and Coho in Prince William Sound.

5 MS. FISCHER: Is that the number you were on?

6 MR. CLOUD: What about '86?

7 MS. FISCHER '86, yeah.

8 MR. MUTTER: Sorry. Yes, I missed that one, thanks.
9 Okay, 94086.

10 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam.

11 MR. BRODIE: I vote no because I'm not convinced that
12 annual monitoring is necessary in this case, continuing it every
13 year and it's expensive.

14 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes and a high priority. So does
15 Vern.

16 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

17 MR. DIEHL: I'm going to -- I'm going to vote no with
18 a low priority. I'm going to vote no. (Indiscernible)

19 MR. MUTTER: John.

20 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes, but with a low priority.
21 I don't, I'm not sure it's well thought out at this point.

22 MR. KING: Comment. I'm not voting yes or no on
23 these things. I just look at this as something I feel doesn't
24 quite fit the criteria of ecosystem research and it's involved with
25 management, so I give it a low, low, on that basis, not because it
26 isn't a good study. Cordova plan will take care of it further on.

1 MR. MUTTER: Carol.

2 MS. MCBURNEY: No.

3 MR. MUTTER: John?

4 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it a low and I think
5 that in its present form its too costly for a single location
6 study.

7 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

8 MS. FISCHER: I vote no, pretty much for the same
9 reason, and also, you know, experimentally in Herring Bay, that's
10 where one of the task force zapped during the oil spill, and that's
11 where the clean up crews, you know, went in to for rest and food
12 and recreation on one of the great big barges they had out there.
13 So, I feel that it's unrelated to the oil spill. I vote no, very
14 low.

15 MR. MUTTER: Okay, now we're on 94137, Stock ID of
16 Chum, Sockeye, Chinook, Coho ...

17 MS. FISCHER: 94110?

18 MR. MUTTER: That's the DNR project.

19 (Indiscernible - simultaneous discussion)

20 MR. MYERS: One point of clarification if I could.
21 The last vote ...

22 REPORTER: Could you give him a microphone, please.

23 MR. MYERS: The last vote said no, very low, and it
24 raised the same question that Pam asked. Did you put ...

25 MR. MUTTER: I put no.

26 MR. MYERS: Okay. Just wanted to make sure. Put the

1 tabulation later on and it'll

2 MR. MUTTER: (Indiscernible) as I interpret it.

3 UNKNOWN: What are we on now?

4 MR. MUTTER: 94137 Stock ID of Chum, Sockeye, Chinook
5 and Coho Prince William Sound.

6 MR. DIEHL: 164 in the orange book.

7 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no, largely because Dr. Spies
8 gave it all priority.

9 MR. CLOUD: I'm voting yes with a high priority. So
10 is Vern.

11 MR. DIEHL: Vote yes with -- yes with a medium
12 priority.

13 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority. I
14 think this is useful information that will help develop ecosystem
15 plans.

16 MR. KING: Low, low, it's a management study.

17 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a high.

18 MR. McMULLEN: I give it a -- I should give it a high,
19 but I'm going to give this one to medium. It's a wrap up of a
20 study that's been ongoing since, you know, it's part of the oil
21 spill assessment and restoration and coming to a conclusion here
22 shortly.

23 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

24 MS. FISCHER: I vote yes for it, but with a low mark
25 because I think the budget is overstated and, like John, it's been
26 an ongoing thing.

1 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94139, Salmon Instream
2 Habitat and Stock Restoration.

3 MR. DIEHL: What page is that on?

4 MR. MUTTER: One seventy.

5 MS. FISCHER: One seventy.

6 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no, I think it should be your
7 regular Fish and Game funding.

8 MR. CLOUD: I'm voting yes with a medium priority. I
9 mean, it should be a regular funding, but it probably wouldn't be
10 done at this point time.

11 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority because it
12 needs to be done and its a widespread project.

13 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority. The
14 only reason I don't give it a high priority is some of the items I
15 do agree could be done under normal maintenance and upkeep type
16 activity.

17 MR. KING: Low, low, it's a management thing that
18 should be funded some other way.

19 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a low. It -- it seems that a
20 lot of these facilities should have been better maintained by the
21 Forest Service. It's part of their (indiscernible - shuffling
22 paper) and also it seems like an exorbitant contractual component
23 to the budget.

24 MR. McMULLEN: I'll give it a mid-range. It is a
25 restoration -- they are restoration projects, it was explained to
26 us yesterday that, I guess normal or fundable maintenance had been

1 performed on these facilities but they had -- they had deteriorated
2 to the point where they might go out of service if the -- if
3 there's not funding -- funding for them.

4 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

5 MS. FISCHER: I vote -- I'd put in a mid-range. I feel
6 the budgets is overstated.

7 MR. MUTTER: Okay, next project would be 94165, Herring
8 Genetic Stock Identification Prince William Sound.

9 MS. BRODIE: I'll vote yes with medium.

10 MR. CLOUD: I'll vote yes with a high priority.

11 MR. DIEHL: I'll vote yes with a medium.

12 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a high priority. I
13 think it's critical we get a better handle on here.

14 MR. KING: I give it a low, low. I think this is the
15 sort of thing that the Cordova plan will address better in the
16 future and probably in a more coordinated way.

17 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a high priority.

18 MR. McMULLEN: I give it a high priority. There's been
19 problems, as we know, of the herring in the Sound and this program
20 must be upgraded and the understanding of this fish.

21 MS. FISCHER: I also give it a high priority. After
22 last year's herring fail -- failure, I don't feel that we can wait
23 for the ecosystem to kick in. I think it's something that needs to
24 be addressed now because if we have the same failure this year then
25 we've really got some problems in the Sound.

26 MR. MUTTER: Okay, my understanding is 94166 is already

1 approved, so the next project would be 94173, Pigeon Guillemot
2 Recovery Monitoring.

3 MR. DIEHL: No, that's not Fish and Game.

4 MR. MUTTER: That's not Fish and Game, sorry. It's
5 94184, Coded Wire Tag Recovery for Pinks in the Prince William
6 Sound. Thank you. So, 94184.

7 MS. BRODIE: This is part of a group of projects that
8 I'm really torn about, which -- and that is including the five
9 million dollars to keep up the Prince William Sound hatcheries
10 going for another year, plus these coded wire tag recoveries, which
11 I think are also properly aquaculture association duties. And, I
12 am going to support these at this time, but I want to make it clear
13 that at some time the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association
14 is going to have to be self-supporting and that they can't keep
15 coming back, I believe to the Trustees for operational funds. And,
16 I understand things have been very tough recently and I don't want
17 the economy of Prince William Sound to suffer inordinately because
18 of our penny-pinching over a brief period, but in the long term it
19 does have to self-supporting. So, I will vote yes with medium
20 priority.

21 MR. McMULLEN: Madam Chairman, can I offer ...

22 MS. FISCHER: Yes.

23 MR. McMULLEN: Thank you, Pam, I appreciate your comments
24 and your thoughts. Last year the Trustee Council wouldn't put any
25 money in the tag recovery until we did. Although we didn't have
26 very much money, we did put in a hundred thousand. The Department

1 of Fish and Game insists that they be involved in this project. We
2 do the tagging, you know, we pay for that, all tagging. Number two
3 is that there is -- there is a policy that's developing in state
4 government called user pay, and the Department of Fish and Game was
5 exercising that, and we requested that the Department of Fish and
6 Game get on the stick and put this into regulation, and, you know,
7 on a statewide basis determine how, if you are in the aquaculture
8 business or any other business dealing with fisheries, and you want
9 to go up here and do something -- projects, whatever it is, whether
10 they're ongoing or new, say we want a remote release station or do
11 a rehab project or whatever, that we -- we have to have an
12 evaluation plan and it has to be funded prior to the, you know, and
13 completed prior to the time that Fish and Game will give its okay
14 to do something or to say -- decide not to. So, this is all coming
15 in progress, you know, it's progressing towards this and the cost
16 of doing business is, you know, is increasing, and we're assuming
17 these responsibilities, just as we did for -- assume responsibility
18 for the three state hatcheries in our region, which they said they
19 can no longer fund. So, they were going dump them or we -- we
20 don't take them over. So, you know, there -- there's a great
21 responsibility falling on the aquaculture associations in the state
22 to handle these fisheries questions. And, so, you're absolutely
23 correct there when you say it should happen. It is happening.
24 And, I appreciate your support on this, you know, at the time here.

25 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

26 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes with a high priority.

1 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
2 MR. DIEHL: This is the coded wire tag
3 (indiscernible)?
4 MR. MUTTER: Right, yeah.
5 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.
6 DR. FRENCH: John.
7 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a high priority. I
8 think that it, not the most cost effective technology that's being
9 used right now, but we should recover the tags.
10 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
11 MR. KING: This is an example of why I don't want to
12 vote yes or no. I can sense there's a whole lot about this project
13 that I don't understand.
14 MR. MUTTER: You can abstain if you wish.
15 MR. KING: No, I'm going to give it a low, low, and
16 that is to be interpreted to fund it with caution, look closely at
17 ...
18 MR. MUTTER: Mary.
19 MS. McBURNEY: I give it a high priority.
20 MR. McMULLEN: I give it a high priority. These studies
21 are all -- these are all -- the objective of these studies is to
22 protect wild stock and determine if hatchery stocks are somehow
23 impacted.
24 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting yes on it, but I'm giving it a
25 medium priority. I know it is a priority, but I feel that there's

1 two projects here that are closely related, and if you'll read on
2 both of them, I think they could be combined and the budget
3 reduced. I think they could work together to -- to work in both
4 areas, even though one is with the wild stocks, they're still going
5 to get some hatchery stock and some of the codes and that, so I
6 think they could be a combined budget.

7 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94185, Coded Wire Tagging of
8 Wild Pinks for Stock ID.

9 MS. FISCHER: This one I wanted combined with '84.

10 MS. BRODIE: Yes, medium.

11 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

12 MR. CLOUD: This may show my ignorance about this
13 project, but I'll vote yes with a low priority.

14 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

15 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

16 MR. MUTTER: John.

17 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority.

18 This project is just placing the tags, it's going to incur a lot of
19 cost down the line. I think the information is important, but I
20 think the loss from delaying this project a year wouldn't be that
21 great.

22 MR. KING: A low, low.

23 MR. MUTTER: Mary.

24 MS. MCBURNEY: I give this one a high.

25 MR. MUTTER: John.

26 MR. McMULLEN: I give this a high priority. There's been

1 one year's data collected already, which -- which has indicated --
2 they're looking at the streams of salmon between streams and strain
3 of hatchery fish in the streams. They found that wild stock --
4 these wild fish between -- tend to stray more between the streams
5 than the hatchery fish do. There's the question of the placement
6 of the tags affecting the fish's ability to home, and they're
7 actually looking at this, they're taking x-rays of fish and putting
8 tags in other places, but they didn't -- they didn't know if the
9 affected strain was a direct effect of the oil spill and oil in the
10 streams, and they want to get -- extend their data base on this,
11 and I think it is very important that we understand just to
12 determine -- to understand stocks.

13 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

14 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting yes on this, but with a low
15 priority because I think it can be combined with '84.

16 MR. CLOUD: John, can I ask a question?

17 MR. McMULLEN: Yes.

18 MR. CLOUD: What's -- what's the -- what's the deal
19 with the results of the studies? So, if they learn that while --
20 are they concerned that wild stocks tend to stray more into other
21 streams than where they were born.

22 MR. McMULLEN: Well, they're trying to define what a --
23 what -- they're trying to define the pink salmon stock of Prince
24 William Sound. And, biologists find it -- find it easy to separate
25 stock by streams they, you know that in -- they -- they manage
26 fisheries in a manner which gives certain numbers of fish in the

1 individual streams and they say, well this is -- we need this and
2 we're going to manage the (indiscernible). We're going to withhold
3 the commercial fisheries until we get certain numbers of fish in
4 the steams and then until everything is compartmentized. Now they
5 -- now they're starting to believe that a stock of pink salmon may
6 occupy a large geographic area, and -- and they may not -- they
7 apparently don't all go to the stream in which they were -- they
8 were -- they were born. And, this changes the whole management
9 strategy because in Southeast Alaska, for instance, they don't --
10 they don't -- they just manage for overall escapement. You may
11 come up short in some streams, you may overescape in some, some may
12 be right on, but overall you still got the brood stock necessary,
13 and to replenish the system. And, you find on -- on years of good
14 salmon -- pink salmon survival, you find salmon in every stream and
15 every little creek in the Prince William Sound, or elsewhere in
16 Alaska, where even the -- even though they're weren't' spawners in
17 there on the parent year. And they have -- and then you put the
18 hatchery fish in there and people say, well are hatchery fish
19 impacting the wild stocks, are they causing genetic problems. The
20 hatchery -- the individual hatchery, we spawn pink salmon by the
21 hundreds of thousands as they arrive. We don't pick and chose, we
22 don't pick for size or whatever. We just take them as they come
23 and so we maintain that genetic -- frequent -- gene frequencies in
24 the hatchery stock to as -- as they were in the wild stocks, and
25 part of the studies here are going to be directed towards
26 determining if these fish have changed genetically in the

1 hatcheries, even subtly over time, or if really they could -- Fish
2 and Game has to worry less about moving the fish between streams or
3 fish -- hatchery fish into streams. It's complex.

4 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

5 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94187, Otolith Marking -
6 Inseason Stock Separation.

7 MS. BRODIE: Yes, medium.

8 MR. CLOUD: I give this a yes and a high priority.
9 It's high time that the Fish and Game started using this new and
10 more cost effective technology in following fish stock.

11 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

12 DR. FRENCH: Yes with a high, for the same reason as
13 Jim.

14 MR. KING: Low, low. This is a normal development of
15 management.

16 MS. MCBURNEY: I give this one a very high mark. This is
17 going to be a very valuable tool for addressing some important
18 ecosystem level questions. When you can identify every hatchery
19 fish, you've got a very, very valuable tool.

20 MR. McMULLEN: I give this a high. This -- this is a new
21 and developing procedure, although in Washington and in Southeast
22 Alaska where it's used at the DiPac (ph) Hatchery in Juneau, in
23 recovering fish, every fish that came back that was supposed to be
24 marked, you know, is -- is examined in the adult, was marked, so
25 this is a good system, and will replace coded wire tagging, which
26 we think may have some failings in that you insert, you know, a

1 half millimeter, or millimeter wire, you know, into the head at a
2 very small size, and therefore you may be -- there is -- there is
3 differential mortality between tagged and untagged fish. This
4 would resolve that. You'd get a better estimate of what -- of
5 what's out in the water and wild fish, hatchery fish interactions.

6 MR. CLOUD: How would you like to have a six inch
7 coded wire tag ...

8 MS. FISCHER: Yes, I want mark for all the reasons
9 (indiscernible - simultaneous talking).

10 MR. DIEHL: Not me, I'd probably never find my way
11 home.

12 (Laughter)

13 MR. MUTTER: Okay, 94189, Pink Salmon Stock Genetics in
14 Prince William Sound.

15 MS. BRODIE: No.

16 MR. MUTTER: No?

17 MR. CLOUD: Yes with a medium priority.

18 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

19 DR. FRENCH: Yes with a high priority. I think it
20 provides good opportunities, good technology anyway to provide the
21 stock separation information that's needed.

22 MR. KING: Low, low. This a normal management
23 function.

24 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a high. It's very important
25 information again, essential for dealing with ecosystem level
26 questions, and also I believe this is -- possibly be money well

1 spent. It's not a big ticket item.

2 MR. McMULLEN: High priority.

3 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

4 MS. FISCHER: I -- Yes, medium.

5 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94191, Oil Related Egg and
6 Alevin Mortalities.

7 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no, I think. Maybe John can
8 answer my question. Yesterday, Jerome said that this was a repeat
9 because the original -- the findings the first time it was done was
10 so astounding, but either he didn't explain or I missed his
11 explanation about what was astounding and why it needs to be
12 redone.

13 MR. McMULLEN: Madam Chairman.

14 MS. FISCHER: Yes, Jim.

15 MR. McMULLEN: These results were, you know, I just saw
16 these about a month ago. What -- what Fish and Game is -- what
17 happened after the oil spill was Ernie Brand (ph) at the University
18 of Idaho has written several papers saying, pink salmon were not
19 damaged by the oil spill. There was no oil damage, there's no
20 genetic damage. What Fish and Game has found, they've gone to
21 oiled and non-oiled streams, they've taken -- they've taken eggs
22 from -- from the stream beds that were spawned in these locations,
23 and they've also taken eggs from fish that were in those streams,
24 about ready to spawn. They moved those eggs into a hatchery, these
25 special incubators, and then -- well, what -- what they were doing
26 is, I'm not sure they took the eggs from the stream, but they --

1 they looked at rates of mortality on eggs that were deposited in
2 oiled and unoiled streams than rates of mortality on eggs that were
3 put in the incubators from fish that were in oiled and unoiled
4 streams. What they're finding is that in those fish that occupied
5 oiled streams that -- that over two or three years now, that the
6 mortality rates on those eggs, you know, they now were similar in
7 the -- in the -- they said the hatchery results mimic the stream
8 results and the mortalities on eggs in unoiled streams and in the
9 unoiled -- eggs in the hatchery remain fairly constant while
10 mortalities continue to rise on -- on those eggs that were -- that
11 were deposited in oiled streams and in hatchery incubators,
12 indicating that whatever is killing these eggs, is -- it's a
13 genetic, you know, some genetic problem there, and not just the
14 fact that there -- that there's some oil residue remains in the
15 stream. And, they've got to follow it to determine if its going to
16 continue to rise, going to observe it to continuing problem with
17 this, or will it, you know, will it go away.

18 MS. BRODIE: So, the study is indicating that the
19 problem is not just from oil in the streams, but in fact from
20 genetic damage.

21 MR. McMULLEN: Yeah, that's correct. And, the bio-
22 nutionist tell me they've looked at this every way they can and
23 they are satisfied that they can say that.

24 MS. BRODIE: Then, why do we need to repeat it. It
25 sounds, it sounds so astounding to me.

26 MR. McMULLEN: Well, we -- we don't -- I think you've got

1 to -- they need verification. I think they also want to know which
2 direction these mortalities are heading. It -- is it indicating
3 we're going to take even larger losses in the coming year.

4 MS. BRODIE: Well, I'll give it a yes and a low
5 priority. Thank you, John.

6 MR. McMULLEN: Yeah.

7 MR. CLOUD: Low, low, with a follow-up question.
8 Would -- wouldn't you need to follow -- continue these studies to
9 try to get a clue as to what you could do to mitigate the ...

10 MR. McMULLEN: Why, I think -- I would expect what would
11 happen, and I don't know, you know, I haven't sit and talked to
12 anybody, but I would expect that those fish which carried, you know
13 which were carried eggs which were genetically damaged would --
14 they would probably, you know, here it is survival, and they --
15 they would -- that the -- the -- how would you say, you'd think
16 this situation would right itself after awhile, you'd think --
17 you'd (indiscernible) mortality in eggs which were damaged in fish
18 and they would drop out of this stock, you know, eventually, and
19 you would just have those undamaged fish remain.

20 MR. CLOUD: Well, I give this a yes and a high
21 priority.

22 MR. DIEHL: Give it yes with a high priority.

23 DR. FRENCH: I'm discouraged by the high cost, but I'll
24 give it a yes with a high priority.

25 MR. KING: I'll give it a low, low. I think it's
26 something that will fit into the ecosystem approach that -- that's

1 further down the line.

2 MR. MUTTER: Mary.

3 MS. MCBURNEY: I'll give it a high in terms of need, but
4 I wish I could give it a low or a medium for the budget. It's
5 really top heavy with personnel.

6 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it high because of its
7 value. I -- it's -- it's a study that's definitely shown that
8 there is affecting from the oil on pink salmon. I am concerned
9 about the size of the budget.

10 MS. FISCHER: I'm giving it a no, mainly due to the
11 budget. I think we need to send a message to let them know that
12 some of these budgets are just being duplicated and over -- over
13 cost.

14 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94192, Evaluation of
15 Hatchery Straying on Wild Pinks in Prince William Sound.

16 MS. BRODIE: No.

17 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

18 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

19 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

20 DR. FRENCH: Yes, medium. I think the information is
21 important, but I again concerned about the high cost and I can't
22 see giving it a high priority at that -- that cost.

23 MR. KING: Low, low. It's clearly a management
24 budget.

25 MR. MUTTER: Mary.

26 MS. MCBURNEY: This one I have mixed feelings about also.

1 I'm going to give it a medium, but primarily because of the high
2 cost.

3 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it a medium rather than
4 a high because of the cost. This -- this is another part of the
5 study which dealt with -- put tags on wild fish on several streams
6 that costs -- it's pretty expensive, yet -- yet it set up right,
7 large, bright crafts, you're going to cruise out in the Sound.
8 But, I think this is essentially understanding salmon in the Sound,
9 but once again I'm going to give it a medium because of the price.
10 I think the overall cost of this project is high.

11 MS. FISCHER: I'm giving it a yes with a low grade. I
12 think the information is important, but should be a management
13 project to cover budget.

14 MR. MUTTER: Okay, the next project is 94199, Alaska
15 Marine Research Institute. Do you want to wait and see if we can
16 get additional information on that? Do you want to go right on?

17 MR. CLOUD: Well, I can't vote -- voting on something
18 that doesn't have a budget. It's as if they haven't figured out
19 what it is.

20 MS. FISCHER: Right.

21 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I'd recommend we defer this one
22 until we see if we can get some more information.

23 MR. MUTTER: Okay.

24 MS. FISCHER: Does everybody feel that way, I mean that
25 we need to defer? All right, I'm going to vote against it.

26 MS. BRODIE: I would also vote against it. We've --

1 we've discussed this a lot, and I think there -- I haven't heard
2 anybody in this group speak for it. So, we know the budget is
3 going to be large, we don't know if it's going to be twenty-five
4 million or twenty-four million, but it's going to be big.

5 DR. FRENCH: I don't know if we know that, Pam, because
6 the discussions about concentrating it on research facilities --
7 research infrastructure facilities is -- is an entire shift in the
8 cost. It could be significantly lower than that, but I don't feel
9 comfortable in voting on it without Jim Ayers' assurance as to how
10 that whole issue is going to be approached.

11 MR. DIEHL: This whole project is, you know, it's just
12 frustrating to me because these people don't seem to have their
13 ducks in a row.

14 MS. FISCHER: They don't.

15 MR. DIEHL: And, it seems to me that we're writing --
16 we're making this for them, and it's very frustrating -- and that
17 makes me wonder how this -- what kind of administration they have.

18 MS. FISCHER: Jim.

19 MR. KING: I'd speak in favor of -- of a research
20 facility, but we don't know at this point how it's going to relate
21 to research so, it's difficult to vote on this.

22 MS. FISCHER: Mary.

23 MS. MCBURNEY: As it's written, no, because all it's
24 asking for is equipment for a facility that doesn't exist and for
25 projects that don't exist.

26 MS. FISCHER: Right.

1 MR. McMULLEN: I would have to speak in favor of this
2 project. I'm not sure what priority I would give it. It is -- it
3 one -- one of the state priorities, I know that it is, and I look
4 at it, you know, from the point of view of Trustee Council actions
5 and determinations and policies, and I think that you got to draw
6 a line in the sand sometimes.

7 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting no on it. I feel like it's out
8 of the oil spill area. I feel that if they want to put that type
9 of center it should be within the area that would -- could be most
10 directly harmed, you know, from all the way from Kodiak to all the
11 way up into Valdez Arm or on the western shore there where tankers
12 come and go.

13 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94237, River Otter Recovery
14 Monitoring.

15 MS. BRODIE: Dr. Spies gave most things a high priority
16 and a few things medium to low priority and this got a medium, and
17 I'm voting no.

18 MR. MUTTER: No?

19 MR. CLOUD: I'm voting yes with a low priority.

20 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

21 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

22 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote no on this project, mostly
23 because I don't understand the report.

24 MR. KING: Give it a low, low. It's clearly a
25 management oriented study.

26 MS. FISCHER: Mary.

1 MS. McBURNEY: I'm not sure.
2 MR. MUTTER: Do you want to abstain.
3 MS. McBURNEY: I'm abstaining.
4 MS. FISCHER: John.
5 MR. McMULLEN: Low.
6 MR. MUTTER: Donna.
7 MS. FISCHER: No, low, over budget.
8 MR. MUTTER: Project 94241, Rockfish Management Plan
9 Data Development.
10 MS. BRODIE: Although rockfish were clearly injured,
11 I'm not convinced that this project is related to the oil spill,
12 and Spies gave it a medium. I vote no.
13 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
14 MR. CLOUD: Yes, low priority.
15 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
16 MR. DIEHL: I give it a yes with a medium priority.
17 DR. FRENCH: Yes with a low priority.
18 MR. KING: Low, low. Probably a good study for --
19 for further down the -- the line, but for '94 low, low.
20 MS. McBURNEY: I give it a medium.
21 MR. McMULLEN: I give it a medium priority and find the
22 rock -- I'm told the rockfish are -- populations are fairly
23 fragile, they're long life is easily -- easily depleted, so I think
24 that the resources that have been (indiscernible) damaged in the
25 oil spill deserves study.
26 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

1 MS. FISCHER: No. There are also studies showing that
2 it was (indiscernible) there was a lot of taken out by human
3 fishing, you know.

4 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94244, Seal and Otter Co-op
5 Subsistence Harvest Assistance.

6 MS. BRODIE: No.

7 MR. CLOUD: This is one of the few time I agree with
8 Pam. No.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Holy cow!

10 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

11 MR. DIEHL: Which (indiscernible - simultaneous
12 talking).

13 MR. MUTTER: '244.

14 MR. DIEHL: Yes, simply because its a subsistence. We
15 don't have a very good (indiscernible). Fish and Game people where
16 to go.

17 (Indiscernible - background talking)

18 MR. MUTTER: Did you want to give it a priority, Jim.

19 MR. DIEHL: I give it a yes with a medium.

20 MR. MUTTER: John.

21 DR. FRENCH: I think I'd also give it yes with a medium
22 priority.

23 MR. KING: A low, low. I'm not opposed to that but
24 the Fish and Game has an extensive subsistence division that deals
25 with this sort of thing already.

26 MR. MUTTER: Mary.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: That's another one that I'm kind of torn
2 on. I'm sure there would probably be useful to some degree. It --
3 I suppose I'd give it a medium, but simply because it tends to have
4 low project cost, but I'm not sure what the overall benefits going
5 to be.

6 MR. McMULLEN: I understand the need for subsistence
7 harvest, lifestyle, but oftentimes you hear about the
8 (indiscernible) to utilize local people who understand their areas
9 and regions, and have physical knowledge. I don't think you need
10 a Fish and Game biologist to tell them -- subsistence harvesters
11 about their -- about where to find animals. I'd say no.

12 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

13 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting no on this, due to the fact
14 that talking to the different villages and the -- news accounts in
15 the paper about all the sea otters in the Sound this year, and it
16 was creating a lot of problems for the fishermen that were out
17 there.

18 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94255, Kenai River Sockeye
19 Salmon Restoration.

20 MS. BRODIE: Yes, high priority.

21 MR. CLOUD: Yes, high priority.

22 MR. MUTTER: This is getting to be a trend.

23 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a medium priority.

24 DR. FRENCH: Medium priority. I don't -- I think a lot
25 of the effort on the Kenai River should be covered under normal
26 management strategies.

1 MR. KING: Low, low for the same reason, it's normal
2 management.

3 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a high.

4 MR. McMULLEN: Rupe Andrews and I didn't attack this
5 project and the other -- its sister project, but we -- we did
6 question some aspects of it, and I did draw some comment from
7 people on there that tried to enlighten me on this project. I am
8 going to give it a low. Basically, when it was realized that there
9 may be problems in the Kenai River because of several years of over
10 escapement into the stream and production of more fry than the
11 system with support. Both the commercial fishermen and the
12 Department of Fish and Game said, the last thing we want to do is
13 do anything to rehabilitate these stocks, we want to let them do it
14 naturally if it takes -- no matter how long it takes. And, those
15 were the statements in the Anchorage paper, and I told Fish and
16 Game people that, you know, if that was their attitude, you know,
17 why did they have to know so much about, you know, put the money
18 into the system then if they were just going to wait and see. They
19 do have sonar counters downstream and this -- this is -- program
20 enhances those, you know, those counts and their capability. I
21 think the work -- I think it's good that the work should be done
22 because -- because of the, you know, highly utilized -- these are
23 highly utilized stocks of fish and are becoming a real important,
24 even political question in the state. So, I say yes, with a low.

25 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

26 MS. FISCHER: No.

1 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 24258, Sockeye Salmon Over
2 Escapement.

3 MS. BRODIE: Yes, low priority.

4 MR. CLOUD: Yes, high priority.

5 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

6 DR. FRENCH: Yes, medium priority. I can -- continue
7 to have the feeling that over escapements is an overstated problem,
8 but I could indeed be proven wrong on that.

9 MR. KING: Low, low, it's a normal management
10 problem.

11 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a medium, but again addressing
12 the budget consideration, awfully high.

13 MR. McMULLEN: Low priority.

14 MS. FISCHER: No, due to budget factor.

15 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94259, Coghill Lake Sockeye
16 Salmon Restoration.

17 MS. BRODIE: Vote no. The problem pre-dates the oil
18 spill problems at Coghill Lake, and Dr. Spies gave it a low
19 priority. I think it should be part of the regular Fish and Game
20 budget, not oil spill.

21 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes with a medium priority. This
22 is a replacement on a damaged service.

23 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a low priority.

24 DR. FRENCH: I vote low priority. I agree with Jim,
25 it's a replacement and appropriate, but I don't see any reason
26 giving it priority.

1 MR. KING: Low, low.

2 MS. McBURNEY: Not sure whether to answer this, one is a
3 commercial fishing reference at Prince William Sound person. This
4 has been something that a great deal of work has gone into to date,
5 but I would like to see it go forward and would give it a high
6 priority.

7 MR. McMULLEN: The Coghill Lake Sockeye, in ordinary
8 times, are the dominant, or the largest stock in the Sound. They
9 not only supply fish to commercial fishery, but are highly sought
10 after by -- by recreationalist and the subsistence fishermen. Just
11 -- the problem -- you're correct -- does pre-date the spill, but
12 conditions in the Sound which -- which maybe, you know, are thought
13 to be poor, the environmental conditions, you know, problems --
14 have not contributed to good survivals of smolts leaving the lake,
15 and you know, having to travel through the -- through the Sound,
16 and the problem is -- undoubtedly has led to higher mortalities
17 than they would ordinarily experience. So, I think they are being
18 impacted by whatever is going on in the Sound. PWSAC has
19 contributed more funds to this projects than anyone else over the
20 time because we go up to the lake, take the eggs from the stock,
21 within the Fish and Game guideline, put them into hatcheries and
22 bring those fish back to the lake for inputting, you know, to try
23 to restart this stock. This is a stock that in one phenomenal year
24 produced over a million adults that came back and are now producing
25 almost nothing. Despite all that, I'd give a -- I'll give that a
26 medium, but the project will go forward.

1 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

2 MS. FISCHER: Okay, I give it a yes, but a low priority.

3 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94272, Chenega Chinook
4 Release Program.

5 MS. BRODIE: I say yes, medium priority. It's
6 relatively inexpensive, and according to the plan, the -- this
7 appears that it will be phased out as subsistence resource recover.
8 I'm worried about that though that there would be pressure in keep
9 it going forever.

10 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority. It's a replacement
11 for a lost subsistence resource.

12 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

13 DR. FRENCH: Yes with a high priority. It's a low
14 cost, it's a replacement fishery that's apparently got a fairly
15 high levels of support in local communities.

16 MR. KING: I give it a high, high for reasons already
17 stated.

18 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a high. Chenega was very,
19 severely impacted as far as use of subsistence resources after the
20 spill and I think this is a fairly inexpensive and cost effective
21 project. It could have some very nice long term positive impacts
22 for the community in terms of providing alternate resources for
23 subsistence, but it also contributes to the common property
24 fisheries and could be used for sport and commercial catch as well.

25 MR. McMULLEN: I don't think I can vote on this one
26 because when this original project was discussed before, here -- I

1 don't know if it was here, then there was money for the -- for some
2 -- some of the hatchery costs. We provide the fish, we bring -- we
3 transport them down there, we put them in the water in pens and
4 Chenegans were going to continue to feed them. So, there -- we're
5 -- we are direct recipient of funds, so I'd better not vote on
6 this, although I would say that we recommended this project, the
7 people of Chenega, originally. These are not just fish for
8 Chenega, but for the southwest district, whoever comes into the bay
9 can fish.

10 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

11 MS. FISCHER: Yes at a medium priority.

12 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94279, Subsistence Food
13 Safety Testing.

14 MS. BRODIE: I was puzzled about this one yesterday.
15 Jerome says that it's been very successful and previously we've
16 been hearing that this was a very unsuccessful program, and I'm
17 confused about it, but I'm going to vote no, at this point.

18 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

19 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

20 DR. FRENCH: Yes with a high priority, but only on the
21 condition that this -- this be the last year of the study. I think
22 it has been successful. I think the people that have been involved
23 in it indicated it will go another year. I think the villagers
24 expect it to. I think we -- the effect on subsistence was
25 significant enough that we owe them that, but I do think it's time
26 to phase out the project.

1 MR. KING: High, high, for substantially the same
2 reasons that John just mentioned.

3 MS. McBURNEY: High for, you know, the reasons for John.

4 MR. McMULLEN: (Indiscernible - paper shuffling).

5 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

6 MS. FISCHER: Yes, but low, budget overstated.

7 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94280, Spot Shrimp Survey and
8 Juvenile Shrimp Habitat ID.

9 MS. BRODIE: Dr. Spies rated this a low priority and
10 I'm not convinced that the problem is due to the oil spill problem
11 now.

12 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes with a medium priority.

13 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority.

14 DR. FRENCH: Vote yes with a medium priority. Again,
15 I don't know if the problem is related to the oil spill, but I
16 think the information is important for understanding the ecosystem.

17 MR. KING: Low, low. It's a management oriented
18 study.

19 MS. McBURNEY: I give it a low. I think this one is
20 another example of a project that can wait for an ecosystem plan.

21 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range. These stocks are going
22 downhill. I think we should find out something about them.

23 MS. FISCHER: I vote yes, high priority. I feel
24 incorporation in ecosystem important too.

25 MR. MUTTER: Project 94320, Ecosystem Study Plan.

26 MS. BRODIE: '280?

1 MR. MUTTER: 320.
2 MS. BRODIE: Yesterday it was tabled until ten o'clock
3 ...
4 MR. MUTTER: Oh, that's right.
5 MS. BRODIE: ... and now it's now five minutes to ten.
6 (Laughter)
7 MS. FISCHER: Well, we thought Mr. Ayers would be here.
8 MR. MUTTER: You want to wait five minutes, is that
9 what you're telling me?
10 (Laughter)
11 MS. FISCHER: Let's finish up Fish and Game, then we can
12 come back to that.
13 MS. BRODIE: I -- I don't think we necessarily need to
14 come back to it. I think we can do it now ...
15 MS. FISCHER: Okay.
16 MS. BRODIE: ... and I vote yes, high priority.
17 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes, high priority. I look at this
18 project as the litmus test of this ecosystem management concept.
19 MR. MUTTER: Jim.
20 MR. DIEHL: Yes, high priority. I think these guys
21 have put in a lot of work and I like the way they're -- the way
22 they've organized this entire thing.
23 MR. MUTTER: John.
24 DR. FRENCH: Yes, high priority.
25 MR. KING: I give it a medium, medium because of
26 price. I certainly endorse the concept of an ecosystem plan.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: I give this project a high priority,
2 probably the highest. This is going to provide the road map on
3 which hopefully future work plans are going to be based.

4 MR. McMULLEN: High priority for the same reasons.

5 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

6 MS. FISCHER: I vote for the amended version that they
7 have placed in here, not what's in the book.

8 MR. MUTTER: That's what we're voting on.

9 MS. FISCHER: Okay, we're voting on the amended. Okay.
10 And, I guess, oh gosh, I'm mixed on the priority. I feel it's
11 very, very important, but I think they need to watch the budget.
12 I think they're really over cost on the budget.

13 MR. MUTTER: You just want a yes with no priority?

14 MS. FISCHER: Yes and low priority.

15 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94345, Salmon Spawning
16 Escapement on the Lower Kenai Peninsula.

17 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no, but I don't understand this
18 one very well as to why it's necessary and how it helps.

19 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

20 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

21 MR. DIEHL: Well, I'm going to have to say yes with a
22 high priority.

23 DR. FRENCH: Yes, with a low priority. Again, I'm not
24 sure I fully understand the project.

25 MR. KING: Low, low. This is clearly -- looks like
26 normal management.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes with medium.

2 MR. McMULLEN: I think the lower Kenai Peninsula streams,
3 particularly those in the outer coast were -- were those streams
4 that were impacted by oil, if any -- if any in the Kenai Peninsula
5 were. This is distressed fishery on -- in the -- on the lower --
6 on the lower Cook Inlet and other side there. I give this yes with
7 a high priority.

8 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

9 MS. FISHER: No.

10 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94421, Common Property Salmon
11 Stock Restoration.

12 MS. BRODIE: As I stated before, I'm going to support
13 this, for this one year, with the understanding that if the
14 aquaculture association gets money in a settlement from Exxon that
15 it will be repaid, and I give it a medium priority.

16 MR. CLOUD: I'm going to vote yes with a high
17 priority. It -- without the hatchery program we'd have a hard time
18 doing a lot of the other restoration that Council wants to do. We
19 have to make sure that this is -- remains a viable part of the
20 program.

21 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a medium priority.

22 MR. FRENCH: Yes with a high priority. I think the
23 hatchery system is critical to restoration of the Sound. I do,
24 however think we probably have to draw the line in a single year.

25 MR. KING: I give it a low, low, not because I object
26 to the concept, but it seems like it using up oil spill money for

1 housekeeping and should be funded some other way.

2 MS. McBURNEY: High priority.

3 MR. McMULLEN: I can't vote.

4 MS. FISHER: I give a yes with a high priority because
5 it is common property and I think that it's important with the
6 research and the work that that hatchery does. And, right now the
7 fishermen are going to depend on it for their survival.

8 MR. MUTTER: Project 94504, Genetic Stock ID of Kenai
9 River Sockeye.

10 MR. DIEHL: What page is that on, Doug?

11 MR. MUTTER: Pardon me?

12 MS. BRODIE: Yes, high priority.

13 MR. CLOUD: Yes, high priority.

14 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

15 MR. DIEHL: Yes, high priority.

16 MR. FRENCH: Yes, but medium priority. I just have a
17 hard time giving a high priority to Kenai River stocks.

18 MR. KING: Low, low, this is a management oriented
19 Cook Inlet. I know it needs doing, but not in '94.

20 MS. McBURNEY: Medium priority.

21 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give this high priority, and
22 I would have been even more enthusiastic about that if they'd said
23 that the objective of this was to identify the numbers and timing
24 of Susitna River stock through the Cook Inlet system there, so that
25 they get -- so that they could achieve, you know, the needed
26 escapement in the -- in the northern streams, but I think it's

1 essential, yes.

2 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

3 MS. FISHER: No. (indiscernible - coughing) on your
4 agenda, and does everybody want a five minute break?

5 MR. MUTTER: Next on the agenda will be the Park
6 Service, one project and the Fish and Wildlife Service with nine,
7 I think.

8 MR. FISHER: Okay, well let's -- Sandy, is Sandy here?
9 Okay, we'll do you next Sandy, so let's take a five minute break
10 and come right back.

11 (Off Record: 10:03 a.m.)

12 (On Record: 10:10 a.m.)

13 MS. FISHER: Everybody take their seats, please. We
14 have Sandy with the Forest Service and then we're going to go right
15 on with Tony with Fish and Wildlife Service. So, gentlemen, it's
16 in your ...

17 MR. RABINOWITCH: Good morning.

18 MS. FISHER: Good morning.

19 MR. RABINOWITCH: Actually, I -- just to real quickly
20 mention, I have a new role and that represents the Department of
21 Interior, not just the Park Service, though -- though I will for
22 project 94216, represent the Park Service. I'll keep it extremely
23 brief. That project is really intended to be a mirror image of the
24 recreation projects that you have some familiarity from -- from
25 past years in the Prince William Sound. And, what this does is
26 extends that into the -- essentially the rest of the spill area.

1 It's on page 258 in the large book, 94216. And, I think I'll leave
2 it at that, see if you have questions. I know you have a lot to do
3 today, so I'll try to help -- help you get along with that.

4 MS. FISHER: Let's start the vote on this, and then as
5 you go down if you have a question that maybe you can think of,
6 then he can answer, ask it at that time. Okay, we'll start with
7 Pam.

8 MS. BRODIE: Sandy, why isn't this just regular agency
9 function?

10 MR. RABINOWITCH: My answers are all simple. The Park
11 Service just simply wouldn't take on an areawide project like this.
12 We would do a park-specific -- for example, we would do general
13 management plans, which all of the parks in the spill area already
14 have, and they're still current, and we think appropriate. So, we
15 just simply haven't and wouldn't do work like this, if it weren't
16 for the oil spill.

17 MS. BRODIE: I'll give it a yes, low priority.

18 MR. CLOUD: Well, in reading through this because you
19 didn't explain it to us, I guess we'll have to take that and read
20 it here. So, this area -- this plan would cover the area from
21 Seward to the Barren Islands, and Region Two, Kodiak Island and the
22 Alaska Peninsula, and in Cook Inlet, the Barren Islands to Kenai.
23 Is that right?

24 MR. RABINOWITCH: It would cover all the spill area not
25 -- with the exception of Prince William Sound, which includes all
26 those areas you just mentioned.

1 MR. CLOUD: Well I -- I think that this is probably
2 something that the Park Service should be doing anyhow, and if they
3 aren't going to do it anyhow, then it shouldn't be funded by this
4 group, so I vote no.

5 MR. DIEHL: I think as a -- as a -- as one of the few
6 recreation planning projects I've seen, as a recreational user and
7 representing recreational users, that it's very important to get
8 site-specific information from local communities and to go on from
9 there developing that problem -- plan for recreation, simply
10 because the Gulf Alaska, like western Prince William Sound, is
11 having more and more recreation business all the time. So, I vote
12 yes with a high priority.

13 MR. FRENCH: I'm going to put on my Kodiak hat for a
14 moment. I think that -- I don't see a whole lot of pressing need
15 for this project, but I do know that it has a fair amount of
16 regional support vote in most of the regions that are -- it's going
17 to cover and as Jim said, it's one of the few recreation projects
18 that are going. So, I'll vote yes for it with a medium priority.

19 MR. KING: I give it a high, high, on the grounds
20 that we really haven't done much for recreation, even though my
21 (indiscernible) support down there or not.

22 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a medium. The Trustees had
23 basically asked for this sort of information be compiled for Prince
24 William Sound and I feel that this would be just a continuation of
25 that planning process, and just making it more region-wide.

26 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.

1 MS. FISHER: And I give it a no because it's also a --
2 I feel it's a departmental area that they should be addressing and
3 working on, and it's out of the oil spill areas.

4 MR. MUTTER: John, I didn't get what you said.

5 MR. FRENCH: I said yes, medium.

6 MR. MUTTER: Okay.

7 MR. RABINOWITCH: If for the record, I can make one
8 clarification, there's no work intended to occur outside the oil
9 spill area in the project.

10 MS. FISHER: Okay, I guess, Tony, we'll go on to you.
11 Thank you, Sandy.

12 MR. TONY DeGANGE: My first project is on page 70, its
13 94020, black oystercatcher interaction with intertidal communities.
14 Oystercatchers were -- were a marine bird that was impacted by the
15 spill and they continue to show impacts from the spill a number of
16 years after -- afterwards. And, this study continues both the
17 damages subsequent to restoration work we've been conducting and it
18 will focus on monitoring further reproduction and growth of
19 oystercatcher -- oystercatcher chicks, and populations on Montague
20 and Knight Islands, which were in the path of the spill. The --
21 some of the significant findings that we've had in some of the
22 earlier work is -- is lower growth on oil beach nesting sites.
23 Although the chicks are being feed at potentially higher rates than
24 unoiled sites. If you have any -- I don't know how we want to
25 proceed? Do you want me just to go through them all or one at a
26 time?

1 MR. FRENCH: Go through all of them.

2 MS. FISHER: Okay, sure.

3 MR. DeGANGE: Okay, so I'll just continue on with it --

4 down the road. The next project is 94039, common murre monitoring.

5 Murres were another species that were really hard hit by the Exxon

6 Valdez oil spill. And, right after the spill and in the first

7 couple of years after the spill, production would -- production was

8 down and the population at the colony sites were lower. Our '93

9 work suggested the population is recovering with relatively high

10 production and population counts, and we'd like to continue this

11 study for another year to see if the -- this trend is -- if it is

12 a trend or just one year that was looking good for some reason.

13 94039 on page 76, I mean, excuse me, 94040 on page 82 is reduce

14 disturbance near injured murre colonies. There's relatively little

15 actual restoration we can do for a number of these marine bird and

16 marine mammal species and this is one thing we can do. And,

17 basically, this is will be using educational tools to educate tour

18 operators, fishermen, recreation, it's about the sensitivity of

19 murres and seabird to disturbance. And, producing brochures,

20 pamphlets, etc. to educate these folks and kind of show them what

21 can happen if they go near these colonies and disturb them. 94041

22 is removal of introduced predators. This will take place on two

23 islands west of the spill area, about forty -- forty to fifty

24 kilometers near the western edge of the spill zone, and one site in

25 the eastern Aleutian Islands. This is one -- moving into its

26 predator specifically foxes is one way you can really increase

1 seabird population because many islands that had seabird colonies
2 no longer have them because of introduced predators. And, many of
3 the seabirds that nest in the Shumagin Islands, where two of these
4 sites are, move into the spill zone during the non-breeding season,
5 up into the Kodiak waters and other places within the spill zone.

6 MR. FISHER: Tony, how many -- have you had a number --
7 how many foxes are (indiscernible).

8 MR. DeGANGE: Well, there's many islands that
9 (indiscernible), foxes were introduced on hundreds of islands in
10 Alaska and many of them, most of them still have foxes. I mean, we
11 are trying to remove them from islands in Alaska, primarily in the
12 Aleutian Islands, and this sort of -- sort of concentrates a little
13 further (indiscernible).

14 MS. FISHER: So, you're doing this -- what islands ...

15 MR. DeGANGE: Well, there's the Chernabura and Simeonof
16 in the Shumagin Islands. There's Kagamil in the Islands of Four
17 Mountains.

18 MS. FISHER: Okay.

19 MR. DeGANGE: 94102 on page 150 is a study on marble
20 murrelets. We've been conducting restoration work on marble
21 murrelets in Prince William Sound and along the Kenai Peninsula.
22 The folks -- this work is -- is -- it interfaces well with the
23 ecosystem -- proposed ecosystem study and also forage fish study,
24 number 94163. And, that will be determining the types of forage
25 fish and prey used by marble murrelets and they're an apex predator
26 in Prince William Sound. Determining the foraging range and

1 patterns of disbursal from their nesting areas and characterizing
2 the foraging habitat of this species. 94159 is marine bird, sea
3 otter boat survey on page 184. The objectives of this study is to
4 determine the distribution and estimate -- estimate abundance,
5 document recovery of certain species, and this study will also
6 support some of the other restoration studies that have been
7 proposed, such as harlequin ducks, marble murrelets, even
8 guillemots. And, one of the reasons we want to do this this year
9 is to basically increase the power of our ability to detect
10 significant -- detect trends and population changes.

11 MR. MUTTER: What's the number on that on?

12 MR. DeGANGE: Number 94159 on page 184. Many of the
13 species that we've been monitoring using these boat -- boat surveys
14 have been in the long term decline since the 1970's, and our
15 results suggest that the populations are -- have pretty much
16 stabilized at low levels. Next project is 94173 on page 210, it's
17 the pigeon guillemot recovery monitoring. Pigeon guillemots were
18 also injured by the oil spill, and this study is -- is primarily
19 taking an ecosystem approach by again monitoring diet and foraging
20 areas, and also by monitoring reproductive success and -- and
21 growth of young to see how they react -- how they are influenced by
22 -- by diet. Another objective of this study is to identify the
23 predators that -- there's one hypothesis that predators are keeping
24 the pigeon guillemot population depressed in Prince William Sound,
25 and this is one of the species that is -- has decreased
26 dramatically since the early 1970's and it's staying at a pretty

1 low level. The next project is number 94246, it's sea otter
2 recovery monitoring on page 282. Again, this is a continuation of
3 some of the long-term work we've been doing on sea otters since the
4 oil spill. The purposes of the study are to estimate and monitor
5 the abundance of sea otters, to mark mortality trends through beach
6 -- through beach cast carcasses. It has interesting -- right after
7 the spill we detected a -- a large increase in the proportion of
8 primate animals in the recovery carcasses. Last year, it looks
9 like it was getting more towards normal, since we have a lot of
10 pre-spill data on these -- this item, and we want to continue this
11 work because again to see if this trend is, if there is a trend
12 here rather than just one year of what we -- positive results.
13 And, the other thing we'd like to do is to investigate serum
14 chemistry and pathological conditions. Some of the work we did in
15 1992 suggests that there was some blood variables that were
16 indicative of long-term damage to kidney and liver function, and
17 we'd like to repeat this two years from those dates to see if -- if
18 we're still finding this in the sea otter population. That's the
19 last of the actual field projects we have listed in the work plan.
20 Any questions?

21 MR. CLOUD: The fox removal project, that was up last
22 year, wasn't it? I couldn't find it on the status report. Was
23 that approved last year?

24 MR. DeGANGE: No, it was not.

25 MR. CLOUD: It wasn't approved.

26 MR. DeGANGE: No.

1 MR. CLOUD: Think it had anything to do with your
2 success on how to take Hagemeister Island?

3 MR. DeGANGE: Well, we weren't' successful there -- I
4 wouldn't say ...

5 MR. CLOUD: Naturally. Not very cost effective.

6 MR. McMULLEN: I have a question. I wondered are rats a
7 problem on any of those island.

8 MR. DeGANGE: There are twenty-two island in the
9 Aleutians that have rats on them. I -- I don't think that these
10 islands have rat problems. That's not a issue we're getting into
11 right now, just because the effects of rats are -- are masked by
12 the larger effects of foxes on these islands.

13 MS. BRODIE: I can add something to that. Ed talked
14 extensively to -- daily with Fish and Wildlife Service about this
15 project. And, he said there are forty some islands with introduced
16 foxes, so there's about twenty-two, that also have rats or other
17 problems. According to Ed, they're not even going to attempt
18 predator removal with the islands with rats because they can't
19 eradicate the rats. It's just the islands where the foxes are the
20 only problems. And, they have done it in the past according to Ed
21 it has been inexpensively done in the past, although there was a
22 tragedy in which a couple Fish and Wildlife Service employees were
23 killed in a storm.

24 MR. McMULLEN: Well, these are fox only island.

25 MR. DeGANGE: Yeah, the results of taking fox off these
26 islands are absolutely dramatic, what happens.

1 MR. CLOUD: Maybe we could move the foxes to the
2 islands with the rats.

3 MR. DeGANGE: We have situations where they're both on
4 the same island.

5 MR. CLOUD: Well, if you remove the foxes then the rat
6 population will probably go up.

7 MR. DeGANGE: That would be indicated ...

8 MS. BRODIE: That was just saying -- is they are not
9 going to remove the foxes on the island which have rats, only the -
10 - sorry, only the islands that don't have rats.

11 MR. RABINOWITCH: If I might add one other --
12 particular history information on this one, and that is that last
13 year, I think, the Trustee Council grappled with this project, as
14 you pointed out. In part, I would attribute that to the fact that
15 they didn't have a policy on how to deal with the rat by the spill
16 area. Now they do, policy number 3 in the draft restoration plan.
17 And, I think that this is consistent with the policy. Of course,
18 you be -- make your own judgment, but I think that's the policy to
19 look at.

20 MR. DeGANGE: We purposely selected islands that we had
21 the problem and which we knew those population seabirds moved into
22 the spill zone during non-breeding season.

23 MR. FISHER: Okay, shall we have Doug start the polling
24 then.

25 MR. MUTTER: 94020, Black Oystercatcher Interaction
26 with Intertidal.

1 MS. BRODIE: I vote no because it is a recovery.
2 MS. FISHER: Jim.
3 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes, medium priority.
4 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority.
5 MR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a high priority.
6 MR. KING: Low, low. It's a good study, perhaps fit
7 in with the ecosystem in future years, ecosystem approach.
8 MS. MCBURNEY: I'll give a medium priority, because I
9 think there is a need for continuity in the (indiscernible) and we
10 had a problem with our herring spawn deposition project, which, had
11 that one been funded, we would not have lost an opportunity for the
12 collection, and this might be another herring-type situation. So,
13 I'm going to give a medium.
14 MR. McMULLEN: Mid- range.
15 MS. FISHER: I -- yes, medium.
16 MR. MUTTER: Project 94039, Common Murre Population
17 Monitoring.
18 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no, as I am for most of the
19 monitoring projects because I don't think the case has been made
20 that these need to be counted, populations need to be counted every
21 year.
22 MR. CLOUD: I'm voting yes with a medium priority. I
23 would say that we can -- need to have a continuing program of
24 monitoring populations of even recovering species so that we know
25 when to stop buying land.
26 (Laughter)

1 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

2 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority, but not
3 for his reasons.

4 MR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a high priority. Also,
5 I'd like to compliment the Fish and Wildlife Service for keeping
6 this budgets more in line than the Department of Fish and Game.
7 Also, I think it's important that these studies are just more than
8 monitoring. They do -- they do indeed seem to be looking at some
9 of the other aspects -- the ecosystem-related aspects of these
10 birds.

11 MR. KING: I would like to endorse all these bird
12 projects, having spent some time working on this type of projects
13 and I know they're worthwhile, but in keeping with my ratings, I
14 feel that this is the sort of thing the agency does, normally, or
15 should do, and that -- for that reason I am committed to giving it
16 a low, low. I would reiterate here, I hope that we can get -- save
17 some money somewhere along the line to get endowed chairs.

18 (Laughter)

19 MS. FISHER: Mary.

20 MS. MCBURNEY: I give this a low (indiscernible) because
21 I feel that most of all of these monitoring for single species
22 projects should be conducted under more integrated ecosystem plan.
23 And, this one is one that could probably wait a year and then be
24 implemented under those sorts of guidelines,

25 MR. McMULLEN: Low priority for the same reasons.

26 MS. FISHER: I'm saying yes, medium.

1 MR. MUTTER: I see Sharon is going to ...

2 MS. GAGNON: I apologize for my late arrival.

3 MR. MUTTER: What we're doing here is asking for --
4 going through each of the projects after a brief presentation by
5 representatives, questions, and then we're voting on whether we
6 think its a high or low priority or if we don't think
7 (indiscernible). We're going around the table. Right now we're on
8 project 94040, Reduce Disturbance Near Injured Murre Colonies:

9 MS. FISHER: Pam.

10 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no because I think that this is
11 more than is necessary. I don't think we need a slide show. I do
12 think it's intent is useful, but that it can be handled as part of
13 normal agency functions. That it is easy to communicate with the
14 target audience through local weekly newspapers and local public
15 radio stations, and that you don't need a special program to talk
16 to all these people individually as much. So, that's a no vote.

17 MR. CLOUD: I'm voting yes with a low priority. But,
18 I'd also like to address some of Jim's comments about -- although
19 a lot of these things are probably things that Fish and Wildlife
20 Service ought to be doing and has been doing in the past, they do
21 have a link to the spill, and in view of the Secretary of Interior
22 Babbitt's events on the USPS, has diverted a lot of funds from the
23 budgets of departments like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to
24 publish the USPS in the absence of Congress's funding of that
25 project. So, some of these things probably wouldn't be done if
26 they weren't done in conjunction with the Exxon-Valdez Trustee

1 Council.

2 MS. FISHER: Okay, Jim.

3 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority. You
4 know, I think slides show a real appropriate ways of clearly having
5 an impact rather than just a little announcement in the paper or
6 something like that. And it's also very useful as tools for
7 (indiscernible).

8 MR. FRENCH: I'll vote no and echo Pam's comments on
9 it.

10 MR. KING: Low, low, it's an agency
11 responsibility.

12 MS. MCBURNEY: I vote no. If this is such a concern and
13 it's such a problem that there is harassment of these birds, then
14 I think they should be taken care of by regulation and setting
15 minimum distances from murre colonies.

16 MR. McMULLEN: This project it is designed to improve the
17 compatibility of resources and human beings. I'll vote yes and
18 give it a high priority.

19 MS. FISHER: I'll vote no, pretty much for the same
20 reason that Mary said. I feel that, you know, if this is a real
21 problem then they should set regulations.

22 MR. MUTTER: Sharon, do you feel you're ready to vote,
23 or?

24 MS. GAGNON: Yes, I'll vote no.

25 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94040, Introduced Predator
26 Removal from Islands.

1 MS. BRODIE: I vote yes on this one and give it a top
2 priority. It may come as a surprise to a lot of Alaskans, but the
3 Sierra Club is not an animal rights organization, and we are in
4 favor of removal of introduced species which are causing a problem.
5 This particular project has the potential for a real restoration of
6 bird population, very significant restoration, unlike any other
7 bird projects, that I'm aware of.

8 MR. CLOUD: Well, I originally was going to vote no on
9 this, largely because of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service track
10 record on removal of introduced species and the -- usually the
11 extraordinarily large cost of trying to do that, the cost benefits
12 seems out of wack, but in that there is a direct link with recovery
13 of birds injured by the spill that's probably is a good project, so
14 I vote yes with a medium priority.

15 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a high priority.

16 MR. FRENCH: I support the removal of foxes, but I'm
17 going to vote no on this project because I don't think I want to
18 start the process of funding projects outside the spill area.

19 MR. KING: I've seen some of the islands that foxes
20 have been removed from and there's just no question that -- it is
21 the most dramatic thing you can do to favor Alaskan bird life
22 anywhere is to clean up those remnants of the fox farming era, and
23 so I give that a high, high.

24 MS. MCBURNEY: I think this project has a lot of merit,
25 however, I will -- I'm going to give it a low mark simply because
26 it is outside the spill area and I'm just concerned of the

1 precedent that would set.

2 MR. McMULLEN: I think we -- we -- the PAG in its review
3 of the restoration plan changed some wording regarding work outside
4 of the spill area, and I think we did agree that it is -- it is
5 possible to do -- should be possible to do that. Although I -- I
6 don't think reason should be found for spending money elsewhere,
7 when they're reasonable I think that they should be considered. I
8 think this is a short-term expenditure for a long-term resource
9 gain and I'm going to give it a high priority.

10 MR. MUTTER: Sharon.

11 MS. GAGNON: I'll vote yes with a high priority.

12 MR. MUTTER: Donna.

13 MS. FISHER: And, I'm voting no for the reason that
14 it's outside the spill area.

15 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94102, which is Murrelet
16 Prey and Foraging Habitat in Prince William Sound.

17 MR. BRODIE: I'll vote yes, low priority.

18 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

19 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a medium priority.

20 MR. FRENCH: Yes with a high priority. I think --
21 again, I think this is valuable information in helping understand
22 the ecosystem.

23 MR. KING: Medium, medium. This looks like a good
24 project.

25 MS. MCBURNEY: Low priority. This should be waiting
26 until we have an ecosystem plan in place.

1 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.

2 MS. GAGNON: Yes with a medium priority.

3 MS. FISHER: I voted yes with a low priority.

4 MR. MUTTER: Project 94159, which is Marine Bird and
5 Sea Otter Boat Surveys.

6 MR. DeGANGE: Can I make a point on this project?

7 MS. FISHER: Sure.

8 MR. DeGANGE; The Trustee Council at their last meeting
9 approved -- this survey has two components, the winter survey and
10 a summer survey. The winter survey was approved by the Trustee
11 Council at the last meeting, and I'm -- presumably at the next
12 meeting on January 31st will either approve or disapprove the whole
13 thing, or just the summer survey. I don't know what's going to
14 happen at the next meeting.

15 MS. FISHER: So, this has already ...

16 MR. DeGANGE: Just the winter, interim funded.

17 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking)

18 MS. BRODIE: I have a question about this one. I have
19 been voting against the routine annual monitoring, but I notice in
20 this one the cost for this year is two hundred and eighty-six
21 thousand, and for next year is forty-three thousand. Can you tell
22 me the significance of that, and does that indicate that there's --
23 that that's the end of the project?

24 MR. DeGANGE: Well, I -- I can't answer that. I'd have
25 to talk to -- I'm assuming the forty-three may be for analysis and
26 write-up during the next fiscal year.

1 MS. BRODIE: Okay. I'm going to vote no, at this time,
2 although I would change that if this were the final part of the
3 project.

4 MR. CLOUD: Maybe this year includes a boat.
5 (Laughter)

6 MS. FISHER: Okay, Jim, what do you vote.

7 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium.

8 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a medium priority for me too.

9 MS. FISHER: John.

10 MR. FRENCH: Yes, but with a low priority. I'd like to
11 see it worked into an ecosystem plan and it maybe should have a
12 higher priority than that, I don't know this frequency sampling
13 there, yet a medium to low priority.

14 MR. KING: This sort of thing needs to have a long-
15 term, permanent funding base, and is important as the bond on the
16 '94 plan, I have to give it a low, low.

17 MS. FISHER: Mary.

18 MS. MCBURNEY: If the purpose of this is to provide
19 (indiscernible) data on the birds, which it looks like it calls for
20 continuing from the '70's onward, I would give it a low for this
21 year, but simply because you've sampled in '89, '90, '91 and '93.
22 Perhaps this could wait another year and to work into an ecosystem
23 plan.

24 MS. FISHER: John.

25 MR. McMULLEN: This is an inventory and cataloging
26 project and -- and now it -- it is designed -- I guess I have vote

1 against this. It's re -- called windshield biology, you drive
2 around with that things to feel good about it until you've done
3 your job. I don't like it, I vote no.

4 MS. GAGNON: Yes with a low priority.

5 MS. FISHER: I'm voting no.

6 MR. MUTTER: Project 94173, Pigeon Guillemot Recovery
7 Monitoring.

8 MR. BRODIE: No.

9 MR. CLOUD: Yes, low priority.

10 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

11 MS. FISHER: John.

12 MR. FRENCH: Yes, I guess, a medium priority.

13 MR. KING: Low, low.

14 MS. MCBURNEY: Low.

15 MR. McMULLEN: Low range.

16 MS. GAGNON: Medium.

17 MS. FISHER: Yes, low priority.

18 MR. MUTTER: Project 94246.

19 MS. BRODIE: I vote no. Again, I don't think they need
20 these every year.

21 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes with a low priority, but I echo
22 Pam's reason. Perhaps some (indiscernible - paper shuffling)
23 monitoring could be done at longer intervals once this plan is in
24 place.

25 MR. DIEHL: Got to vote yes with a high priority.

26 MR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority. I

1 think the serial chemistry component of the project is good. I
2 think they'll grow monitoring and probably a little more extensive
3 than necessary on a yearly basis.

4 MR. KING: Low, low.

5 MS. MCBURNEY: Low.

6 MR. McMULLEN: I -- I voted no on the last sea otter
7 monitoring project specific, because I knew I would vote for this.
8 I will vote for it. It's a one year duration. I wish more was
9 being done with sea otters and their food supplies and changes in
10 those supplies, but I'll give it a mid-range.

11 MS. GAGNON: Yes, mid-range.

12 MS. FISHER: I vote no, and also I wanted this budget
13 is quite high.

14 MR. MUTTER: Project 94506, Pigeon Guillemot Recovery.

15 MS. BRODIE: I give this a yes, top priority, because
16 it's a close out for a relatively small amount of money.

17 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium.

18 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a high priority.

19 MR. FRENCH: I'll say yes, high priority, in terms of
20 close out.

21 MR. KING: A high, high, we're closing out.

22 MS. MCBURNEY: High priority.

23 MR. McMULLEN: High range.

24 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high priority.

25 MS. FISHER: Yes, high.

26 MR. MUTTER: I think we've got all Forest Service

1 (indiscernible - coughing) .

2 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yeah, I just have one other
3 informational comment ...

4 MS. FISHER: Sure.

5 MR. RABINOWITCH: ... and, that is in the future you'll
6 begin to see the national biological survey here at the table on --
7 as employees from both Fish and Wildlife Service and Park Service
8 is transferred to the biological survey, you'll begin to see them,
9 particularly in the '95, when we start the '95. Just so you know
10 that's coming.

11 MS. FISHER: Okay, William and Judy, do you want to
12 come up?

13 MR. MUTTER: These are DNR projects.

14 MS. FISHER: Thank you fellows. Thank you. And, as
15 you go down your list will you give the numbers and the page number
16 in the large book it's in so we can follow along. Give your name
17 and department your from.

18 MS. JUDY BITTNER: My name is Judy Bittner with the
19 Department of Natural Resources, I'm the state historic
20 preservation officer. And, Department of Natural Resources for the
21 '94 work plan is the lead on the three archeology projects. The
22 first archeology project is 007 on page 60. This is a continuation
23 of the site-specific archeological restoration project. This is a
24 project based on the Archeological Resources Protection Act
25 approach, in which there is a baseline data set on those archeology
26 sites that have been identified as the damaged directly by the

1 spill either through clean up activities or through vandalism.
2 This is a continuation. Some of the results of this year's project
3 are being pulled together right now, there was a very late start
4 this last season, and it's because of the climate section approved
5 this project and get the money to the agencies. Some of the work
6 was completed and the sites visited by the various agencies,
7 National Park Service, Forest Service, DNR, and Fish and Wildlife
8 Service. This year the Park Services as the lead is pulling notes,
9 reports together, there would be one report that will come out,
10 combining all the different agencies, work and the Park Services,
11 this is the one that's also processing the site analysis for
12 chemical and oil contamination.

13 MR. CLOUD: In the status report for 1993, it
14 indicates that you only spent fourteen thousand dollars out of the
15 project last year.

16 MS. BITTNER: Yes, there are, the footnote, I looked at
17 that as well because I know there's been a lot more spent. The
18 footnote on that says that those are the financial figures as of
19 June, and most of the work was done after June. A lot of the work
20 was conducted July, August and September. The field work went into
21 September and then with the interim budget was the report writing
22 money, so in the '94 budget is the report writing for the '93 work,
23 as well as the -- the field work for '94. The report writings for
24 the '94 work will have to be in the '95 budget, just because of the
25 timing of your budget cycle.

26 MR. FRENCH: Does that project include sites that are

1 on private land in addition to public lands?

2 MS. BITTNER: No, this is just the public lands, and
3 that's why it's agency based. Let me say, the ones on private land
4 are taking to the tracks.

5 MS. FISHER: And, are these areas that were definitely
6 effected or are they areas that did have oil spill workers on it
7 that did the damage, were they done prior to the spill, and the
8 acknowledgment only came after the spill.

9 MS. BITTNER: These are the ones that have had some --
10 just do all -- looking at all the documentation through the records
11 from people, including biologists that were on-site or the
12 archaeologists, but there is a definite link between either the
13 vandalism that was fresh vandalism during this spill time, or it
14 was directly oiled and damaged by the clean up process. There is
15 vandalism throughout that area, and it's an ongoing, some of them
16 have been previously vandalized, but had evidence of fresh
17 vandalism (indiscernible). And, so there -- that's why the numbers
18 are really quite low, there's very definite connection there with
19 these very small number of sites, although we think it's been
20 broader in terms of the damage and the vandalism.

21 MS. FISHER: Mary, you had a question.

22 MS. MCBURNEY: Yeah, I -- could you clear on, at least
23 the scope of work for '94, but just looking ahead to '95, it states
24 that the purpose will be to discover additional injured sites.
25 And, I'm just kind of curious, is the next step then going to be
26 just do a search and hunt kind of process to see if there are any

1 more injured sites out there, because it sounds as though this
2 year's funding is going to be linked to documentation, as opposed
3 to just going out and doing surveys?

4 MS. BITTNER: This -- the '94 plan is still working with
5 the known, the nineteen known injured sites, the ones that they
6 were either -- were not able to get to because of the lateness in
7 the season, with their first visits or the follow-up visits, but
8 the process is such that the -- the first visits set up the status
9 of the site and map the site, and also through that visit determine
10 what sort of damage has been done and what kind of restoration
11 would be best for that specific site. Some of them, it was just --
12 we'll get into the regular management of the -- with the landowner
13 and does not need follow up work, just because of the nature of the
14 site. Some of them will need restoration through re-vegetation, to
15 stabilize the area because it's been disturbed in active erosion.
16 Other areas are being actively disturbed still, and we'll need some
17 data recovery. So, each one will -- will have just the process of
18 the site specific restoration is to -- to set that status and then
19 go back to the next year someone to revisit to see if they do need
20 additional work, or to perform that additional work. But, it's not
21 going to be a -- a search for new ones.

22 MS. MCBURNEY: Why is the duration of this project to be
23 five years?

24 MS. BITTNER: Some of them will take, with the sites for
25 -- more than one year in terms of recommendations for the -- either
26 data recovery or working to stabilize or restore the specific

1 nineteen sites. And, I don't know that that there is a plan at
2 this time that -- to search for those additional sites, which the -
3 - the damage assessment studies has projected that they're out
4 there. But, that has not been incorporated into this one. That
5 may in a different year get rolled into a ...

6 MR. FISHER: I have one more question, is Tatitlek one
7 of the areas too -- because Natives are ...

8 MS. BITTNER: There's a site near Chenaga. Dr. Reger.

9 DR. REGER: (Indiscernible - out of range of
10 microphone). There are no sites that were identified in the
11 Tatitlek area specifically. The nearest one would have been over
12 in the Chenega area.

13 MS. FISHER: Okay. Alright, Doug, you want to start
14 the polls. (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking) Okay, you had
15 three.

16 MS. BITTNER: 94015 is on page 66. This is the
17 archeological site stewardship project. This was funded in the FY
18 '92 project. This is one of the -- one that got the earliest
19 support from the Trustees. It is a community based program to
20 assist our local residents in monitoring those sites in their areas
21 that are most significant to them, and are subject to vandalism or
22 danger in some way. This project, in '92, was to develop a
23 handbook and a field book, and to get all the materials together to
24 set up this program in the spill area, and the program is now ready
25 to implement, and this would be the implementation. It's a
26 volunteer based project which is -- should work with and coordinate

1 with the agencies working in that area, as well as the law
2 enforcement people, as well as incorporated into public education.
3 We'll see as kind of a comprehensive community based program that
4 will take advantage of the people and the people's interest,
5 provide them training and some meanings to kind of report back,
6 within their own community or to the landowners, whether it be
7 private or public, in their particular area. It take advantage of
8 people in their usual movements throughout their area, and is not -
9 - it's a volunteer, not a paid basis, although it may include some
10 reimbursement for expenses, if there are special trips that will be
11 -- that they need to be taken out to an area on a -- in this area.
12 This is one that has gotten support in, particularly the Kodiak
13 area and various communities in the outer Kenai, in some
14 communities within the Prince William Sound. And, it will be
15 identifying those communities and working with those communities
16 that show the highest interest, and coordinate with existing
17 programs. And, in Kodiak it started a similar kind of program, and
18 you'll see it working closely with the Native group in the area,
19 but it is not just for the community. Any questions? No
20 questions? The last project is 94386 on page 250. This is the
21 artifact repository project for planning and design. We were asked
22 to put together a proposal by the Restoration Group and the
23 Restoration Team. There have been many proposals from the public
24 that have been submitted to the Trustees, with a -- with the
25 variations on this. A theme of having repositories in local
26 communities throughout the spill area. Kodiak was a -- the Kodiak

1 repository was funded in '93. These are similar, but smaller scale
2 projects that have been proposed. What we did was take the -- take
3 those proposals and we were asked to put together a project that
4 would explore the ideas and the options available within that --
5 within the area of both Prince William Sound and the Kodiak area.
6 We envisioned a planner as well as an archeologist working with a
7 group of community-based advisory group, looking at existing
8 programs and facilities in interested communities, looking at the
9 program and coordination possible between Kodiak repository,
10 existing university museums, the state museums, or in the museum
11 (indiscernible - coughing) facilities and programs in the area and
12 coming up with options and alternatives to present to the Public
13 Advisory Group and the Trustees of how to approach this issue of
14 museum programs or repositories, artifact repositories in regions
15 or communities within the spill area.

16 MS. FISHER: Now, I have a -- now you mentioned
17 museums. Are you talking about that as though there is a museum in
18 the area of the spill that you would purport the artifact or
19 something like that going into that museum?

20 MS. BITTNER: I think what -- the way -- the way
21 envisioned it is to look at all the existing facilities in the area
22 and see how programs can be coordinated and mutually supported, and
23 it could be through artifact loaning or between or as a source of
24 the artifacts that go into local communities, it could be a source
25 of training, or group efforts in which there would be traveling
26 exhibits or programs to pull together. A program that can work in

1 many small communities and when each individual community do not
2 have a lot of resources, and they'll have to look at the ability to
3 sustain these programs. And, so, the way I envision it happening
4 is just take a very comprehensive view to look at what -- what can
5 work, what can be sustained in terms of both facilities and
6 programs on the long term within this area, say, try meeting the
7 needs that are represented in the various proposals that came to
8 the Trustees.

9 MS. FISHER: Okay, you done.

10 MS. BRODIE: I have a question.

11 MS. FISHER: Sure Pam, I'm sorry.

12 MS. BRODIE: I supported the Kodiak repository, but I
13 am disturbed now at this idea of building another seven -- seven
14 repositories. That sounds like it could get very expensive, and
15 I'm not convinced it's needed everywhere. I think it might make
16 sense to have some repositories in the actual villages, but rather
17 than building museums in places like Whittier, that it would be
18 better to send the artifacts to already existing ones in Alaska.

19 MS. BITTNER: Like Valdez.

20 MS. BRODIE: I wonder why we need all of these and if
21 you have any idea of what it's going to cost ultimately to build
22 all of these?

23 MS. BITTNER: Well, that's what the projects working at,
24 that there's been a strong expressed desire for this and that is
25 what the this document or this project would explore some of these
26 -- the same questions, or is every -- is it feasible to build a

1 facility in every community? Are there existing facilities that
2 can be used for these programs, or enhance in some way just house
3 collections and programs, and would it be best to have these
4 existing museums and facilities with satellite programs. I think
5 this is -- it is really a planning and design, and looking at the
6 various options from building facilities and what it would cost to
7 using existing facilities and programs, and how that might work on
8 a sustained basis. I think it's more exploring various ideas.

9 MS. BRODIE: Good. It says for two hundred and forty-
10 three thousand dollars, I would think that there would be people
11 right now who would know what sort of facilities there are in these
12 villages, what the opportunities are.

13 MS. BITTNER: I think in terms of going to, you know,
14 Tatitlek and Chenega and Port Graham and all these places in the --
15 take a serious look at the needs of collections and artifacts,
16 finding out what programs are already existing there and what it
17 would take to put those together as well as a comprehensive one.
18 I think there are bits and pieces of information, but I don't know
19 that that information is ready -- readily accessible.

20 MR. MUTTER: Do you want to vote on these and then take
21 up the other DNR projects? 94007, Site Specific Archeological
22 Restoration.

23 MS. BRODIE: I say yes, low priority, and the reason
24 I'm saying low is because I'm getting alarmed about the cost of
25 this. I've supported it in the past, but I didn't realize this was
26 going to be taking five years at practically half a million dollars

1 a year. I think this is getting very pricey.

2 MR. CLOUD: I also say yes, low priority, for the same
3 reasons, very expensive and probably could wait until comprehensive
4 plan that's better coordinated with the institutions all around the
5 country that are interest in studying these and restoring these
6 sites.

7 MR. DIEHL: Yeah, I have a -- I have a hard time
8 understanding, I'm going to say -- I'm going to say yes with a
9 medium priority vote with reservations about why DNR is involved in
10 this thing. Why isn't there -- have not -- non-profits outside the
11 -- it just seems like other groups should be brought into this
12 (indiscernible), you know, because we have the money here, it seems
13 to me we give it (indiscernible). I'm not sure how appropriate
14 (indiscernible). I say yes with a medium priority. I don't
15 understand it.

16 MR. FRENCH: I'll say yes with a medium priority. I
17 think care of our cultural sites is important. I'm very concerned
18 about the fact that the sites are being chosen mostly on a basis of
19 whether their on public or private land, and import -- eligible for
20 oil spill money, rather than the importance of the specific
21 cultural sites, but I do think it's important to take care of.

22 MR. KING: High, high. I don't know whether it's too
23 costly or not.

24 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a medium. I think it's
25 necessary to stabilize and restore the current nineteen sites that
26 are being worked on, but I am concerned about the -- the search

1 implied approach to identifying more sites. If there's not an
2 apparent need at this point, I don't think we need to go and start
3 looking for need. And, for five years at the current level of
4 budget support necessary, I'm not sure this is particularly cost
5 effective.

6 MS. McMULLEN: I vote yes, but at low priority because of
7 the uncertainty involved, estimated one hundred and twelve sites
8 and the five year duration and the cost, and if they were
9 identified previously, I don't why they weren't protected at the
10 ...

11 MS. GAGNON: I vote yes with a high priority. My
12 feeling is once archeological sites are gone, they're gone forever.
13 They can't -- you can't build new ones (indiscernible). Give it a
14 high priority.

15 MS. FISHER: I vote no due to cost, budget restraints,
16 and how this has grown. I supported it in the past, but I feel at
17 the rate it's going now, it can no longer be supported by me.

18 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94015, Archeological Sit
19 Stewardship.

20 MS. BRODIE: I vote no on this as I have in the past.
21 I just don't see how it could be effective in protecting the sites.
22 It's not as though -- I understand this was a copy of a stewardship
23 program from outside where people check parking lots, but the areas
24 involved here are so far apart and remote that I think that someone
25 who wants to vandalize and that knows where a site is, is going to
26 do it. I don't see how this can stop it.

1 MR. CLOUD: Now that we have financed the materials
2 that are supposed to be used in this stewardship program, I think
3 that the agency should implement the program out of their own
4 resources, or resources from communities and other interested
5 parties. So, I'm voting no.

6 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

7 MR. DIEHL: I'm going to vote yes with a low priority.
8 I think these kinds of things need to be take care of by local
9 people, and that initiatives to take care of them should --
10 comfortable with people, and I think it's a shame that we don't
11 have local people here lining up a way to do that and -- and asking
12 us for money to do that. That's why I give it a low priority,
13 because I really think that this is a local people concern and it
14 absolutely needs to be taken care of at that level, and I would --
15 I would resent an agency putting together -- coming in and
16 organizing something like this, if I were a local person in a
17 village in a remote area. You know, I -- you know, should be easy
18 to organize it..

19 MR. FRENCH: I personally have some doubts as to how
20 effective this program will be, but I do know that it has strong
21 support at some of the local communities, among some of the --
22 local archeology people. It also is one of the few programs that
23 allows local priorities to be exercised, so that some of the effort
24 can be concentrated on important sites that are outside the
25 specific purview of the oil spill. I'll vote yes with a medium
26 priority on this project.

1 MR. KING: I think it's worth a try and I give it a
2 high, high.

3 MS. McBURNEY: I'm going to give this one a medium
4 priority, simply because I like projects that tend to empower the
5 local people to watch their own resources, and I think this is a
6 nice way that the settlement monies can be used to enhance some of
7 these efforts of local communities to preserve their cultural, and
8 I think it would be a nice way to ducktail with the new
9 repatriation (indiscernible) as well. And, it's just a feel good
10 program for me, but definitely medium priority.

11 MR. McMULLEN: My opinion is the same as that of John
12 French and Mary. I vote yes with a medium priority.

13 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high priority.

14 MS. FISHER: You know, I know when this project got
15 started and I think it is a good project. I think it does
16 represent a lot of the communities in the Sound. Unfortunately, I
17 think it also adds a lot into areas that may be, could be combined
18 into a major area. I feel there are museums in the Sound that can
19 probably handle this and save some of the cost. I wonder where the
20 cost is going to come to in the future, you know, how's it going to
21 be financed in the future if they build this. So, I give it low
22 marks.

23 MR. MUTTER: Okay, I think the third project was 94386,
24 Artifact Repositories - Planning and Design.

25 MS. BRODIE: I say yes, low priority, and I would
26 encourage the people who are doing it, if it is funded, to set

1 priorities, which communities really need these -- need new
2 facilities.

3 MR. CLOUD: While -- while it may be reasonable to put
4 in artifact repositories in other communities, other than the one
5 the Trustee Council approved last year in Kodiak, I think this
6 particular project this year is too big, because it lacks a
7 comprehensive plan. We have an expensive project in Kodiak that
8 the people in Kodiak got very involved in with volunteer effort,
9 who do a lot of the ground work, lay it out, well-thought out and
10 with participation from the local people in the community both in
11 the effort and the financing scheme, that I'm going to have to vote
12 no on this because it is not well thought out, it's sort of a move
13 them out and see what there is there, and I think that communities
14 ought to be encouraged first to come up with their own plans and
15 volunteer effort to lay the ground work for a request, that is a
16 lot more concrete for financing from this organization. It
17 shouldn't just be used to pad the budgets of various agencies, just
18 to go out and look for interest, rather, you can advertise for
19 interests and encourage local participation (indiscernible).

20 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a low priority, for the same
21 reasons as Jim stated.

22 MR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority. I
23 do believe in local control over cultural -- cultural heritage. In
24 that sense, I think it deserves further study. I do not, however,
25 and would be very disappointed to see seven additional sites build.
26 I do think that the idea of perhaps regional sites is -- is

1 warranted though, so I think it's worth spending a certain amount
2 of money looking at that issue. I would be very disappointed to
3 see this extent the point of -- they putting sites into Port Lions
4 and Old Harbor and Akhiok, all of which I know has requested sites.
5 I think the idea that Kodiak doesn't represent the Prince William
6 Sound area, I think, is a very valid argument. So, I do think
7 there are some things that would come out of this project.
8 Hopefully, this will not be taken as an invitation to simply find
9 ways to spend more money.

10 MR. KING: I see this as more of a local
11 responsibility than an agency responsibility and I therefore gave
12 it a low, low.

13 MS. FISHER: Mary.

14 MS. MCBURNEY: At this point, I'd give it a low priority.
15 Okay, I'll just leave it at that.

16 MR. McMULLEN: I'll vote yes at mid-range as I did the
17 previous project. I think they fit together.

18 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high priority.

19 MS. FISHER: I'm going to vote yes, low priority on
20 this. I think this is another area where they could work with
21 local museums on this, and bring it in with that. I wonder how it
22 would be financed in the future.

23 MR. MUTTER: Okay, I see John Sturgeon has joined us.
24 John, what we're doing is getting a brief presentation on each of
25 the project in the '94 work plan, and doing questions, and then
26 going around and voting on whether we think it's high, medium or

1 low priority or we don't support it.

2 MR. STURGEON: Okay.

3 MS. FISHER: We'll do the rest of DNR.

4 MR. WIENER: Would you like to do restoration or
5 habitat.

6 MS. FISHER: Either one, I (indiscernible) start on
7 would be fine. How many do you have.

8 MR. WIENER: Two.

9 MS. FISHER: Just two, okay. Then if you give the
10 number and the page that's shown in the big book, you name, please
11 identify yourself and department. You have to put it on, yeah, put
12 it on your side. Doug, he's used to a mike.

13 MR. ART WIENER: Okay, my name is Art Wiener, I'm DNR
14 and I'm here to represent the habitat protection projects, 94110
15 and 94126 to be found on pages 154 and 160 of the document. The
16 two projects are interrelated. They propose under the aegis of the
17 habitat protection program which I'm sure you're all very familiar
18 with. '110 is essentially a continuation of the technical support
19 work that's conducted by the habitat protection work group which is
20 now called the habitat work force. The group that designed the
21 evaluation method for evaluating private -- large parcels of
22 private land, the results of which were published in the
23 comprehensive habitat protection document that was released just
24 recently. The current project, one ten, is a continuation of that
25 work, where the team will provide support to negotiators who are
26 currently negotiating the seventeen highest ranked parcels that

1 were voted upon by the Trustee Council. So, that's an ongoing
2 effort on the part of the technical folks who work with the
3 negotiating teams to review and analyze various deals that are
4 negotiated by them with the landowners. The way that basically
5 works, the negotiating team goes out, has preliminary negotiations
6 with the landowner, they come back with new reconfigured parcels,
7 that we then reevaluate and score, and if possible, do cost benefit
8 analyses of, assuming we have appraisals. What we'll also be doing
9 under '110 is developing, and at present we're in the draft level
10 of this, is a paragon, where evaluation methods for doing small
11 parcels. The large parcel evaluation dealt with parcels of land
12 that were in excess of a thousand acres. The small parcel analyses
13 is now looking at everything from one acre right on up to a
14 thousand acres. And, also we're continuing to look at any
15 additional large parcels, that we may not have evaluated in the
16 first round because they weren't nominated by the landowner. We
17 anticipate that possible some landowners will come in at this time
18 and bring in additional large parcels to us, and that will also be
19 evaluated under '110. The small parcel paragon is somewhat
20 different than the parcel, in that large parcels were evaluated
21 primarily on their ability to support habitats of injured resources
22 and services. The small parcel evaluation method is inclined more
23 to look at management. What benefit acquisition of protection of
24 the small parcel would be to those large parcels that are either
25 currently in public ownership or identified in the large parcel
26 process for protection. Oftentimes, a relatively small piece of

1 land has very strategic crucial value for the protection of large
2 parcels, in terms of access or various other parameters that we
3 will evaluate, in terms of its relationship to the surrounding
4 land. So, basically, one ten will be doing negotiator support,
5 evaluation of small parcels and evaluation of additional large
6 parcels that come in from the public. And, I would expect that at
7 the 31st meeting, the Trustees will make a decision on whether or
8 not to go forward with small parcel evaluation. I know that a
9 number of the agencies are keenly interested in seeing some of the
10 small parcels go into public ownership. '126, and I'll take
11 questions on both of them together, because you probably know that
12 they are interrelated. '126 is the project that provides funding
13 for support to appraisers, title searches, habitat. The other kind
14 of negotiator support and acquisition support that necessary to
15 acquire parcels of land. It's rather expensive when you go out and
16 do appraisals, in this neck of the woods, it costs an awful lot of
17 money, and so, we've put a good sum of money aside to provide that
18 kind of support to the negotiators and the folks that are in the
19 process of acquiring land. And, that money is primarily for those
20 kinds of efforts, title searches, hazardous material surveys and
21 appraisals. And, that's basically those two projects.

22 MS. FISHER: Any questions? Mary.

23 MS. MCBURNEY: Do I notice the duration of both of these
24 projects is for one year. Is it the intent that once this work is
25 done, the books are closed as far as potential habitat acquisition
26 opportunities that may come in future years?

1 MR. WIENER: No. No, the -- what will probably happen
2 is the magnitude of the effort will diminish in the sense of the
3 evaluation effort. But, there will probably be continued
4 negotiation support necessary from the team. But, in terms of
5 evaluating parcels, the large -- we did eight hundred and forty
6 thousand acres in the parcel analysis. We don't anticipate an
7 effort any where near that magnitude in the future. But, we
8 probably will have to continue on to the future to provide
9 technical support to negotiators and to evaluate any small parcel
10 or possibly large parcels that come in the future. But, it will be
11 significantly diminished.

12 MS. MCBURNEY: Okay, and I'm to take that by orders of
13 magnitude as opposed to just by a few percentage points.

14 MS. WIENER: Oh yeah, orders of magnitude.

15 MS. MCBURNEY: The other question I had, on the
16 contractual end of DNR's budget on the first project, it's
17 startling. Could you kind of outline why that contractual line
18 item is so high. That's primarily the production of mapping
19 support. That's the support for the folks in DNR that produce the
20 wallpaper maps and all the maps that go into the document. That's
21 primarily why that's so high, it's just expensive to produce the
22 colored maps. In the last document we produced, I think ninety
23 maps in eight and one-half by eleven format, and I don't know how
24 many of the big wallpapers. In the small parcel system, or the
25 small parcel method, undoubtedly we're going to produce quite a few
26 maps just to locate these small parcels that will be scattered

1 across the entire effected area. It is also is a function of the
2 number of nominated parcels. Both of the projects are dependent
3 upon, you know, how many parcels we actually run through the
4 process. In the small parcel analysis, if we don't get nominations
5 either from the public for the agencies, we're not going to spend
6 anywhere near the amount of money that we have budget. So, it
7 really is and also a negotiator support if the -- if the
8 preliminary negotiations fall flat, then there isn't much need for
9 our help, so we won't be spending much money there. In a sense
10 these are placeholder number depending on the response we get from
11 the agencies and from the folks that we're negotiating with. Sir.

12 MR. KING: In reading this over in our book, it says
13 that it'll be analyzing small parcels greater than one hundred and
14 sixty acres, and I think you clarified that, that you're going to
15 be looking at smaller pieces now, but that was the concern I had
16 when I first read this, and that when you go to page 161 and you
17 have a list of resources and associated services and the bottom
18 four there are recreation, wilderness, cultural resources and
19 subsistence. And, I felt that all of those could be very adversely
20 affected by very small parcels of in-holdings or budget access and
21 that sort of thing, so.

22 MR. WIENER: Yeah, we're going down way below one
23 sixty, we're going down to one acre parcels. That's -- I don't
24 know why one sixty is still in here, but that's an error.

25 MR. KING: Okay, thank you.

26 MS. FISHER: Okay, Doug, let's take the vote then.

1 MR. MUTTER: Okay, project 94110.

2 MS. BRODIE: I vote for this with a top priority. The
3 public comments on habitat acquisition, there were about two
4 thousand public comments and ninety percent supported habitat
5 acquisition and there will be habitat acquisition. I think these
6 expenditures are essential to make sure that the money is spent
7 wisely.

8 MR. CLOUD: Forty-two percent of the respondent to the
9 draft plan were from outside the State of Alaska, so it hardly is
10 a -- information that was given in the breakdown of respondents,
11 hardly was a represent -- a representative sample of the people
12 that live in Alaska. This project and the next project lacks an
13 emphasis on public land management for improving habitat on public
14 lands. It lacks identification of public lands for exchange for
15 private lands, and it has been an issue that has been brought up
16 time and time again by members of this group and the general
17 public. The Trustee Council has ignored PAG input and concerns on
18 this subject and there have been no other tools used to protect
19 critical habitat other than out and out fee simple acquisition.
20 This -- this project and the next project smack of a land grab
21 program by government land managers, and I will vote no, and so
22 will Vern.

23 MR. MUTTER: Jim.

24 MR. DIEHL: Yes with a number one priority. I don't
25 want (indiscernible), but for the first one, I know we established
26 at this PAG meeting that the correct word for habitat harm, we

1 substituted in the word, alters. It is my -- it is my thought that
2 the second definition, in my dictionary, from my Webster's, of
3 alters is more adequate and that definition is to castrate or to
4 spay, and that's what I can show a clear cut does to the habitat.
5 It has a very immediate effect is -- is made worse by the raininess
6 of the environment in these areas, and I vote yes with top
7 priority.

8 MR. FRENCH: I think we're likely to see some more
9 habitat acquisition. I can support a small amount of more habitat
10 acquisition. I think there are some disturbing trends going
11 forward here, particularly in terms of small parcels, and it looks
12 like we're looking for ways to spend money to evaluate every iota
13 of property out there, and I have difficulty supporting that
14 direction. I do recognize that we need technical support for the
15 habitat acquisition process. Because these projects are written,
16 I'm going to vote low priority on both of them, but yes, low
17 priority.

18 MR. KING: I think that it's extremely important to
19 look at the small, smallest denomination of possible in-holdings
20 and I give this a high, high.

21 MS. FISHER: Mary.

22 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a medium. I think that it's
23 very important that we have our homework done, finding out what the
24 values are of potential acquisition sites, however, I would like to
25 see a little bit more attention paid to how these sites would
26 enhance protection of injured resources in a more ecosystem

1 approach. Otherwise, I think that since it's just going to be a
2 one year duration, basically completely, a comprehensive site
3 assessment, I feel fairly comfortable, perhaps we will not be
4 looking at these large budgets in the future.

5 MS. FISHER: John.

6 MS. McMULLEN: I think many of us who responded to
7 Trustee Council's questionnaire state that we favored acquisition
8 of critical habitats. And, we assumed at the time that those
9 habitats have, you know, large scale surveys of habitat taking
10 place to determine what those -- where those critical habitats
11 were, and that the purchases control, you know, need -- protection
12 could be given at that point. However, a lot of the program on
13 habitat acquisition is directed towards pre-selected sections of
14 large volume of use sites, etc. etc. And, we realize that it's
15 going to take most of the money that the Trustee Council has
16 available to it to satisfy those purchases. I'm disappointed with
17 this project. That a real (indiscernible) project would -- would
18 tend to cause me to vote, but I won't vote no, yes, I'll vote yes,
19 but give it a low priority.

20 MS. FISHER: Sharon.

21 MS. GAGNON: I would really like to consult with Lew
22 Williams before voting on this, is that possible. It would
23 probably be tomorrow before I could ...

24 MS. FISHER: John.

25 MR. STURGEON: I agree with Mr. Cloud. I think that as
26 the project was originally set up to identify and acquire critical

1 habitat, and I think it's going far beyond that. I'm not sure all
2 this land you want to purchase is critical to the restoration of
3 the species effected. Also, I feel very strongly that there has
4 not been much work done in alternatives. There -- there's a lot of
5 activity going on in the spill area, timber harvesting, road
6 building and landowners have asked for assistance and minimizing
7 the impact of those activities on the oil spill -- or the species
8 that have been effected by the oil spill, and there has been
9 absolutely nothing come back from the oil spill of millions and
10 millions of dollars we're spending. There's a lot of things that
11 could be done, alternate harvesting schedules, rerouting roads,
12 dozens and dozens and dozens of things that could be done at a
13 much, much more cost effective for those companies that their
14 landowners, but don't want to just sell their land. And, in
15 addition, I think that, I just don't quite understand the
16 prioritization of the land that their acquiring, suppose to
17 critical habitat and looking at it, from my perspective, seems a
18 lot more political than it is based on science. And, so I'm going
19 to vote no because I think that an alternative should be looked at
20 before they start spending hundreds of millions of dollars. That
21 doesn't mean that critical habitat can't be acquired or shouldn't
22 be acquired, but I think there's some -- some alternative ways to
23 look at spending this money much, much more effectively and still
24 protecting the habitat. I don't see anything in here as far as
25 actually real restoration, in other words replacing communities.
26 And they say that's not practical, we're asked that all the time.

1 If we disturb a bottom of an area we store logs, we have to
2 transplant heal grass, for example, and a lot of mitigation work
3 that is currently being done or asked to be done by government
4 agencies. I don't see anything in here that looks at that as an
5 alternative also. So, I'm going to vote no for both projects.

6 MR. MUTTER: I'd like to go ahead and go through the
7 other project to make sure that everybody's vote on that.

8 MR. CLOUD: We haven't heard from Donna.

9 MR. MUTTER: Oh, I'm sorry Donna, I apologize.

10 MS. FISCHER: It's all right. I'm voting no on this
11 project pretty much for the same reasons that John spoke on and
12 that Jim Cloud did. I know I've asked the question several times,
13 who will own the land, and nobody has ever really stated who would
14 own the land. I have a problem with that. I think we've got an
15 awful lot of federal land in Alaska and I'd hate to see any more
16 federal land in Alaska. I think somewhere it's got to stop, so if
17 it's going to be federal land, I don't know. Can you answer that?

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It depends on the parcel. If
19 it's immediately adjacent to existing federal land, let's say,
20 probably it would go into ownership of the federal owner, or the
21 adjacent federal -- for instance, the refuge in Kodiak or the
22 Chugach National Forest.

23 MS. FISCHER: It would go more into federal land if we
24 don't own that --

25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, it depends upon the
26 juxtaposition of the parcel to the closest public landowner.

1 That's the simple answer. It may not in some cases, but in
2 general, I think that's what will happen.

3 MS. FISCHER: But still, we give the federal government
4 a lot more land is my complaint, so I'm voting no.

5 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94126.

6 MS. BRODIE: I vote yes, top priority for that, and I'd
7 like to take this opportunity to answer a couple of other things
8 that have been said. Donna, we have talked about this before,
9 about who owns the land, that it is on a case-by-case basis. In
10 the practical fact, it would mean federal ownership for Kenai
11 Fjords National Parks in-holdings, if any are acquired, and Kodiak
12 National Wildlife Refuge in-holdings, if any are acquired. Afognak
13 could go either way, but most likely would be state because the
14 local people prefer state ownership and because the state has been
15 the one which has been working on this so far. It was the state
16 which acquired Seal Bay. There is a lot of local support in Kodiak
17 for a state park that is there, including Jerome Selby, whom I have
18 heard give a --

19 DR. FRENCH: He's also a bear guide, I might point out.

20 MS. BRODIE: -- give a passionate speech about how
21 there's too much government ownership of lands, and then at the
22 same time --

23 DR. FRENCH: As I said, Jerome has a conflict of
24 interest he doesn't usually recognize.

25 MS. BRODIE: Well, this was for Afognak. This was not
26 for Kodiak Island, if that's what you're talking about. He was

1 very supportive of state ownership of --

2 DR. FRENCH: For those of you who haven't been there,
3 bears occupy both islands.

4 MS. BRODIE: Yeah. I'm not sure that he's a guide in
5 both places.

6 MS. FISCHER: Okay, well, I --

7 MS. BRODIE: Finally, Prince William Sound, it would be
8 probably neither of them acquiring it. It would probably be
9 conservation easements because that's what the local landowners in
10 Prince William Sound want is conservation easements. It could go
11 either way, or no ownership. The other thing, regarding what Jim
12 Cloud said about forty-two percent of the comments were from
13 outside of Alaska, I just did a calculation, and if we assume that
14 all of the people who did not support land ownership, and that
15 doesn't mean that they opposed, it means they -- in their letter
16 they did not say anything supporting land ownership, but if we
17 assume that all of those were in Alaska and that everybody who
18 wrote in from Outside was supporting, it still means that eighty-
19 three percent of the Alaskans who wrote in support habitat
20 acquisition.

21 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Jim?

22 MR. CLOUD: You haven't voted. You haven't voted by
23 abstaining?

24 MS. BRODIE: I did, I did.

25 MR. CLOUD: Oh. On this particular project, you know,
26 I suppose everybody knows how I'm going to vote, but I still have

1 to ask if this group approves this, are they approving the blank
2 check from the budget that's listed 2BD under capital outlay?

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I believe so, because we don't know
4 how many negotiations are going to require expenditures for
5 appraisals and title searches and things of that nature. The
6 costs, we just don't have any idea.

7 MR. CLOUD: The capital outlay on this is to be used
8 actually to make acquisitions? Because it says acquisition funds.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's to provide support for
10 acquisitions. The dollar value there is woefully inadequate to
11 really do any direct acquisitions, to provide support to
12 acquisitions.

13 MR. CLOUD: Well, but the 2BD could be. I mean, that
14 could be a hundred million dollars. Yes?

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I might be able to help a little
16 bit. Jim Ayers held a meeting of the agency negotiators a week ago
17 and at this point in the drafting, I believe the answer is real
18 hard to say, that is, that, you know, the bottom (inaudible due to
19 distance from the microphone) and so forth would stop short of
20 actually funding any acquisition, and that that is -- would be --
21 come back to the Trustee Council and say there's preliminary work
22 to be done, here's (inaudible) and so on and so forth, and then a
23 dollar figure for a particular parcel (inaudible). That's my
24 understanding of how Jim's trying to (inaudible).

25 MR. CLOUD: Last year we approved the -- some of us
26 didn't approve of it, but last year when this subject came up, we

1 specifically asked, and I think put a resolution forth, that any
2 particular land acquisitions should be brought back before this
3 group for review, and I don't believe that that ever happened. I
4 think they just went ahead and did it anyhow, which sort of adds to
5 my earlier comment that the Trustee Council is choosing to ignore
6 input from PAG members on this subject. Well, you -- it may come
7 as a surprise, but we're voting no on this.

8 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

9 MR. DIEHL: Once again, as the person here for
10 recreational users, I have to vote yes, high priority, and I have
11 no problem whatsoever with the federal government owning, or the
12 state government owning public lands. I figure public lands are
13 for public use. I do oftentimes have problems with federal
14 regulations and state regulations about use that affects me on
15 those lands, but I have no problems fighting against over-
16 regulation.

17 MS. FISCHER: John?

18 DR. FRENCH: I was going to vote low priority on this,
19 but I think in reflection of Jim Cloud's point of view that there's
20 basically a blank check in this project in terms of leaving it wide
21 open for any and all amount of habitat acquisition, and I
22 personally believe we need to set aside specific amounts targeted
23 towards habit acquisition, towards a reserve fund as we were
24 talking about yesterday, and towards other general types of use so
25 we can use the money in a planned systematic manner, as opposed to
26 going out and buying Seal Bay here and Kachemak Bay there, and I'm

1 not opposed to those specific acquisitions, but I think there needs
2 to be more planning introduced into the process. So, I guess I'll
3 cast my vote no on this.

4 MR. KING: I'll succumb to the temptation to
5 editorialize a little bit too. It's true that you hear people all
6 over Alaska criticize the government agencies that -- both state
7 and federal that manage land, but those criticisms are not near as
8 intense or direct or as difficult to cope with for a lot of people
9 as a no trespassing, private property sign. We're not used to
10 that, and if we can resolve some of the problems with the access to
11 the resources of the country by keeping it in the wonderful public
12 areas that we have, I have to endorse that, so I give this a high
13 and a high.

14 MS. MCBURNEY: I give it a medium, consistent with my
15 position on the previous project. There are going to be some good
16 opportunities, I would anticipate, for habitat acquisition in the
17 future. We need to be prepared to deal with those contingencies.

18 MR. McMULLEN: I like the first words in the project
19 proposal introduction where they talked about protection --
20 identification and protection of essential wildlife and fisheries
21 habitat, and they went on in the second paragraph to identify
22 Kachemak Bay State Park and Northern Afognak Island as examples of
23 those essential habitats, and it's not in keeping with my point of
24 view and many of my associates. What this means to me is that
25 there are really not going to be any good studies of the essential
26 habitats. In keeping with my previous vote, I think I voted yes,

1 and low, I will -- I recognize reality and I will give it that, but
2 I would, you know, urge that the Trustee Council reconsider, you
3 know, some of its work and direct some of it at that essential
4 habitat. I think the money would go a lot farther and do a lot
5 more good than just purchase large tracts of land.

6 MS. GAGNON: Again, I would like to (inaudible -- out
7 of microphone range).

8 MR. STURGEON: I'm going to vote no on this one again,
9 the reason being that it seems, as I said before, that until
10 there's been some additional work done on management alternatives
11 and some -- a considerable bit of prioritization, there's precious
12 little land, private land in Alaska, and if we are going to put
13 land in the federal ownership or state ownership, it should be that
14 land that's critical that's really needed, and I have no objection
15 to that because there are some lands that I think are critical that
16 are better served being in public ownership, but I think you need
17 to look at alternatives and I think that you need to look at the
18 habitat protection of some critters and make sure that the money is
19 being spent wisely, and I guess that I've read through this, and
20 I've read the analysis, and I guess I don't see it, so I'm voting
21 no.

22 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting no, and Mr. Payne (ph), I'll
23 talk to you after awhile. I'll show you where the government has
24 no trespassing signs up.

25 MR. KING: You can take those down.

26 MS. FISCHER: No, you can't.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's what I do.

2 (Laughter)

3 MS. FISCHER: We have two more projects. Is it two
4 more? Thank you. Three?

5 MR. MENEFEE: Well, actually, what I'd like to do is
6 address the three natural resource -- DNR projects, but I'd also
7 like to address recreation in general because it seems like from
8 listening to last -- yesterday's conversation, as it was mentioned,
9 there seems to be a big hole around recreation, people are unaware
10 of what's going on with it, and I think I need to fill you in a
11 little bit on that, if you'd like.

12 MS. FISCHER: Sure, but would you mind if we did that
13 after lunch, do your project, so we can try and get out of here and
14 try and keep on schedule as much as possible? We're already
15 running behind on our --

16 MR. MENEFEE: It would also help if I would fill you in
17 a little bit about Project 94217, which is one of the projects
18 we're addressing. That would help explain why some of these other
19 projects are in existence and it would also address what's
20 happening to recreation. So, my name is Wyn Menefee. (Laughter)
21 I work for DNR. 93065 was the Prince William Sound recreation
22 plan, and it's subsequently in next year's budget, 94217. The
23 Trustee Council wanted to get information on recreation -- injury
24 of recreation services, and their concern was is they wanted to get
25 a public consensus on what to do about this recreation and the
26 injury that's happened to the service of recreation. That was our

1 main goal. We spent the summer soliciting comment on recreation --
2 potential restoration projects for recreation, injury that occurred
3 to recreation, management and restoration goals for recreation.
4 This all deals with Prince William Sound only, special designations
5 that could be implemented in Prince William Sound that would help
6 the restoration. Recently we produced an injury statement for
7 recreation. I don't know if you have seen that. That has been
8 peer reviewed and it has been included in the restoration plan.
9 November 5th and 6th, we had a public participation workshop, a
10 two-day workshop, that was spoken of yesterday here, and there
11 seems to be some confusion over what happened with the results
12 there, and I would like to explain that. We evaluated thirty
13 proposed recreation projects. Those thirty projects were
14 prioritized, used in an evaluation criteria that took into -- the
15 evaluation criteria addressed legalities of the civil settlement,
16 public concerns and Trustee concerns. We went through project by
17 project, somewhat like what you're doing now but in a more detail
18 and mathematical fashion. We went through and evaluated projects.
19 We realize that there is such a diversity in public interests and
20 opinions that to expect to get a full consensus on any one of these
21 projects may be too difficult, we would be spending days upon end
22 doing that, so we went to a mathematical approach and we evaluated
23 with this evaluation criteria, gave it a numerical score as in
24 average scores were brought out which prioritized projects. What
25 that did was -- gave us those thirty projects in priority order.
26 We were then given a week to write up as many detailed project

1 descriptions as possible within that week. It was going to be --
2 we had to get it into the '94 work plan, and we found we had until
3 the 22nd of November. As soon as we got through with the workshop,
4 we were told that deadline got moved up on us, so we had to really
5 quick get as many as we could in. What happened was that we got in
6 six projects out of the top five. There is one that's out of order
7 and that's because it's included in a project that was already
8 written up, and I would just let you know what those are. One was
9 the first -- the highest priority, and I'll do some priority order,
10 was remove evidence of clean-up activities. This involves rebar,
11 signing, flagging, all of this type of stuff that all these
12 projects out in Prince William Sound, they left behind things, and
13 yes, they were supposed to be picked up by people doing the studies
14 and people doing -- people painting on rocks saying, well, this
15 beach segment starts here and ends there, all that should have been
16 taken care of and cleaned up, but it wasn't, and so this is a
17 project that says let's get this taken care of and cleaned up
18 because it's a visual impact on the recreational use in the area
19 because wilderness quality, for one, is a very important thing to
20 the recreational users in Prince William Sound and that detracts
21 from the recreational quality. That project was incorporated into
22 94266, which is the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
23 project. It's to remove oil and study beach segments. There's --
24 I can address that separately if you would like, and I'll show you
25 where it's included in that project. As is -- let me jump out of
26 order. The sixth priority was remove persisting oil from

1 recreational beaches. That's also included in that 94266. It was
2 already written up that different agencies can give input on high
3 priority needs, into where oil should be removed from beaches, and
4 we put in the fact that recreation beaches need to be addressed,
5 and they have been ignored in the past. So, that was included,
6 okay. Back into the priority order. The second priority was an
7 educational program. All through the summer with public comment
8 and all through the workshop, education was important to shoreline
9 recreation. There was a proposal to -- and I'll address this
10 separately, the 94419, the leave-no-trace educational program, I'll
11 cover that in a moment. Shoreline trash clean-up for Prince
12 William Sound, that was Project 94316, was the third priority. The
13 fourth priority was the Prince William Sound recreation, education
14 information center at the Portage railroad station, and although
15 that was a U.S. Forest Service project, I can address that a little
16 bit too. And it went through, and there were some other projects.
17 We have since been working on analyzing public comments, analyzing
18 the workshop and putting together the final report. We have since
19 found that through -- this was very much oriented toward a public
20 participation workshop, and we took what the public was viewing as
21 being important to them, and also -- we also took into account what
22 they thought related to an injury. Basically, you can't spend
23 civil settlement money unless it relates directly to an injury, and
24 they evaluated that for each project. If it didn't meet that, it's
25 an illegal expenditure in the public's view. Well, there were
26 sixteen projects out of those thirty that didn't meet the public's

1 view, and those we have since dropped off. But the Trustees --
2 after we finished that workshop, we put into the '94 work plan,
3 within the limited time frame that we had, those six projects.
4 Aside from that, we did a four sentence write-up on each project of
5 those thirty in priority order, and we forwarded that to the
6 Trustee Council so that they could make informed decisions. If
7 they did not agree with our analysis, or our priority, they could
8 still see Project 30 down there at the bottom of the list, but they
9 may like it so much that they want to bring it up. They got the
10 information. They know that these projects exist, but they were
11 also given the priority order. The top projects were education and
12 service. There was also addressed throughout the summer with
13 public comment and also at the workshop that there's a need for
14 more management of recreation, but it's not -- it shouldn't be
15 coming out of EVOS funds, and we've been hearing about this general
16 agency management, and a lot of the projects that they thought --
17 they valued as good projects, maybe, but the link to restoration
18 wasn't there so they were dropped. But there -- that was addressed
19 and there are, out of this information, the public land managers
20 that deal with recreation can use this information in their future
21 management plans and such. This final report we're -- that's what
22 the 94217 deals with, is we have to finalize this final -- this
23 report on all the information that we've gathered, and this has to
24 be peer-reviewed and then it has to be submitted to the Trustee
25 Council, and this is to help them make informed decisions. We have
26 been trying to get short brief statements to them along the way to

1 let them know where we're at, even though they don't have the final
2 report in the hand when they come to make these decisions at the
3 end of the month here, hopefully, they're going to have the
4 information that they need to make those decisions. Now, those
5 three projects, the projects that I need to address that ADNR has
6 are, first of all, 94200, which is on page 255, or 254. This is
7 public land access and 17B easement identification. This was not
8 actually included in the analysis for the workshop, but what this
9 project does is, it does affect recreation in the sense that it
10 identifies for the public where they can get it onto public lands
11 through private lands. That's what the 17B easements do. The 17B
12 easements aren't necessarily great for recreational use within
13 themselves. Some of them, yes, you can camp at, but most of them
14 are either a transfer from, let's say, a boat travel to hiking into
15 federal or state land, that's what a 17B easement is supposed to be
16 for, is that transportation -- change of mode of transportation,
17 that's what it's for, and they're usually about one acre, or
18 they're a trail, but they do access public and state lands. The
19 project is not to go out and clear these sites. The project is not
20 to go out and put signs along these sites. All it does is it
21 identifies them in, let's say, an atlas, and makes GIS maps of
22 them, because right now if you wanted to go out and find out, let's
23 say, on Eyak lands, how can I get -- there's some federal land up
24 above Eyak lands, how do I get through the Eyak land to get to
25 that? Well, that's what this atlas would do, it would identify
26 that, and that is a help to recreationalists, and it also is a help

1 to the Native corporations in a sense that it stops trespass,
2 because these are legally mandated sites that people can have
3 public access on. This would identify those sites for the public
4 and for the Native corporations. Hopefully, it will stop
5 recreational trespass, and it incorporates it all into one
6 document. That's what the project 94200 does. Sandy, from the
7 National Park Service, did address 94216, which is the Gulf of
8 Alaska recreation plan, and basically it's carrying forward this
9 same thing that we've done for Prince William Sound to the rest of
10 the area. I've already addressed 94217 on page 262. It's to
11 finalize our report. We're still doing some information gathering
12 on the special designations part of the report, and the Trustees
13 wanted to get -- how do you implement any special designations, for
14 instance, a national sea shore, national recreation area, marine
15 sanctuary, what the process is you need to go through to put a
16 designation on the land. Possibly, these might have benefits and
17 these are also addressed within that report. That's more of a
18 research oriented portion of our project. It does not deal much
19 with public comment. We have gotten some comment on public
20 designations and that is included. Let's go on to -- well, I
21 already spoke about 94266. There's -- we have a little bit of
22 recreation in there, but let's go to 94316, which is on page 338,
23 shoreline trash clean-up. This project has been supported very
24 much so through public comment and in the workshop. It was -- it
25 was the third priority out of the workshop, the recreation
26 workshop. This project is not necessarily the agency going out and

1 doing this shoreline pick-up -- trash pick-up. It is contracted to
2 a nonprofit organization to organize a volunteer effort. It is
3 including gas reimbursement for the people that haul people out to
4 beaches. Let me explain what the project does. Recreational users
5 were affected by oil on the beaches in the sense that, let's say,
6 a kayaker or a motorboater that wants to go ashore out there, if
7 there's oil on the beach, the smell, the visual impact, all this
8 detracts from the recreational experience. You can't go out and
9 clean every piece of oil off the beaches in Prince William Sound,
10 that we've admitted, that's virtually impossible. Because there's
11 a visual impact, I'll call it a visual impact deficit, there's a
12 problem with the land out there. There's also a sub -- secondary
13 problem, and that's a lot of marine litter that gets on the
14 beaches, oil cans, plastics and whatever else that comes from
15 people throwing things overboard from their boats. We can't remove
16 all the oil, but one of the things we can do on the high use
17 recreational sites is remove the trash, and what that will do is
18 improve the aesthetics of that area. That will enhance a
19 recreational experience where people already have an injury. So,
20 what it's doing is it's enhancing a recreational experience, as
21 described under the civil settlement. This project originally was
22 looked at for the whole spill area. The workshop people identified
23 that -- for one, that's a little difficult to do the whole area,
24 and for Prince William Sound, the restoration team had already
25 picked an arbitrary number out of the sky to give to it and they
26 said that that was not sufficient to do the whole spill area. We

1 worked on it a little further, and that's where we came up with the
2 budget that's addressed there. It is a volunteer effort. I want
3 to make a mention on the waste oil disposal facilities, 94417, that
4 was not included in the workshop, the recreational workshop, but it
5 will, in essence, help prevent marine litter that comes onto the
6 beaches where recreational users are impacted, so in that sense it
7 does help restore recreation. That was 417 on page 354. That is
8 not an ADNR project. Neither is the leave-no-trace educational
9 program. That's not a Forest Service project, but I think I should
10 speak on it because that came right from the recreational workshop,
11 and what that does is, the main thing it's addressing is that
12 recreational use was displaced from certain areas because of the
13 oil. People did not want to go back to the same areas that were
14 oiled. A concern -- in some areas of Prince William Sound a
15 concentrated use, it brought in a little more use. Also, the
16 publicity of the Sound, all across national news, there was media
17 covering how Prince William Sound -- it basically brought it into
18 everybody's repertoire of a place to go, and use shows that the use
19 increased dramatically right after the spill, and basically we
20 attribute that to the media coverage of Prince William Sound
21 because of the spill. What's happened is, there's impacted sites
22 around the Sound that's getting worse, they are being degraded and
23 it's affecting the recreational experience. One way to stop the
24 degradation of these resources is to have this leave-no-trace
25 educational program, and it targets the recreational users through
26 brochures, video. It also uses an actually training course for,

1 for instance, commercial guides and land managers of how to
2 recreate without impacting the land, and this has been a proven
3 effective tool in other wilderness areas in the Lower 48. The
4 people that have put it together at the National Outdoor Leadership
5 School, they would, in fact, be the group that implements this
6 project. It's more or less a contract project, once again. The
7 U.S. Forest Service would be administering it and ADNOR would be
8 helping. The idea being that this would help to reduce impact on
9 recovering resources, and, you know, when I talk about recovering
10 resources, I include bird nesting areas and such like that, and
11 also on the recreational sites. The U.S. Forest Service also has
12 a project, the recreational information center at Portage, on page
13 364. This project also came from that workshop. That basically is
14 a project to address injured perceptions, people's perceptions of
15 where recreational use is still available in Prince William Sound,
16 has been injured because of the spill. People -- a lot of people
17 still think, oh, I can't go to the spill, into this area or that,
18 because of the oiling. Also, they wonder where can I go that I
19 won't affect a recovering species. There are all these types of
20 questions. This center, because it hits the mainstream of the
21 tourism use that comes from Anchorage on down to the Kenai
22 Peninsula and such, and people going to into Prince William Sound,
23 well, here's one of the main access points. This -- right at the
24 train station there's the little center that's already been
25 established. It has a chance of going under right now, but it
26 could be improved by the purchase of the building and some minor

1 improvements within the building. That's what this deals with. If
2 they don't purchase the building, they probably can't get much
3 information out, it's just a little corner thing. If they purchase
4 the building, they can expand into the full building. It's through
5 the Prince William Sound Tourism Coalition. Information on the oil
6 spill could be distributed there on recreational opportunities and
7 such.

8 (Chuck Totemoff joins the meeting)

9 MR. CLOUD: Is this your project?

10 MR. MENEFE: This is through the U.S. Forest Service.

11 MR. CLOUD: So they're going to cover it later?

12 MR. MENEFE: They may. That's the reason why I'm
13 covering it, is just merely to let you know what came out of the
14 workshop because the person that was going to be covering it was
15 not at the workshop and they may not be able to give you full
16 information on it. So, the projects that we have are 94200, which
17 is the 17B access atlas, and the 94316, which is the shoreline
18 trash pickup, and those are the two projects that DNR is the lead
19 on, but all these other projects I just spoke about were primarily
20 the result of the recreation of Project 94217. 94217, the DNR is
21 the secondary leader in the project. I would be happy to answer
22 questions. I hope this has enlightened you a little bit about what
23 94217 has been coming up with. I'm open for questions. Yes, Pam?

24 MS. BRODIE: For 94217, why does it cost ninety-one
25 thousand dollars just to do some research and write a report?

26 MR. MENEFE: The 94217, I believe is coming -- that's

1 starting at September, is it not, and it includes the workshop and
2 basically all that it's including is the --

3 MS. BRODIE: Oh, that includes the workshop that
4 already happened?

5 MR. MENEFE: Yeah.

6 MS. BRODIE: Oh, so this has already been approved?

7 MR. MENEFE: That part of it has, and then the part
8 about continuing on into the final report, it's just salaries. It
9 doesn't include travel. It includes some GIS work, some reports,
10 that's about it. It really doesn't -- there's not a lot of excess
11 costs in there other than just salaries, and I'd like to note that
12 we were allotted a certain amount of money for 93065 and we came in
13 quite a bit under it because we don't -- we were not trying to
14 spend any more than what's needed to accomplish the project.

15 MS. BRODIE: I understand the price now that it
16 includes the workshop.

17 MR. MENEFE: Okay.

18 MS. BRODIE: Thank you.

19 MR. MUTTER: Are we ready to vote?

20 MS. FISCHER: Yeah.

21 MR. MUTTER: Okay. 942 -- we'll just vote on the two
22 DNR projects, the Forest Service is going to be here after lunch
23 and we'll take care of it.

24 MR. CLOUD: Well, we should vote on all the ones that
25 are listed under DNR here.

26 MS. FISCHER: Well, that's -- there's two.

1 MR. MENEFEE: Do you see some others?

2 MR. CLOUD: You have 200, 262, 272, 266, 316.

3 MR. MENEFEE: Now, we're co-leaders or cooperating
4 agents in some of those. We're only doing the lead ones for DNR,
5 which is 200 and 316.

6 MR. MUTTER: Okay, let's take 94200. Pam?

7 MS. BRODIE: Yes, I vote for it, and I would give it
8 top priority because it's relatively inexpensive, and I think the
9 preventing trespass is important. Jim?

10 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

11 MS. FISCHER: Yes, Jim?

12 MR. DIEHL: Yes, high priority.

13 MS. FISCHER: John?

14 DR. FRENCH: Yes, medium priority. It's a good
15 project, but I don't see that it's too time critical.

16 MS. FISCHER: James?

17 MR. KING: Aye, high.

18 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

19 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, medium priority, but I do wonder if
20 some of the Prince William Sound work on the 17B easements could be
21 incorporated into the recreation implementation plans.

22 MS. FISCHER: John?

23 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.

24 MS. GAGNON: Yes, medium priority.

25 MS. FISCHER: John?

26 MR. STURGEON: 200, yes, high priority.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

2 MR. STURGEON: 316, yes, medium.

3 MR. MUTTER: We're just doing 200.

4 MS. FISCHER: 200. Chuck, I see you've joined us, and
5 what we're doing, is we're going over the -- have you got your
6 sheet, Chuck?

7 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, I do.

8 MS. FISCHER: We're voting on them, and what we're doing
9 is either yes, high, low, medium, whatever, or no.

10 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, I read the project proposals. I'll
11 vote for it.

12 MS. FISCHER: Okay, yes. Would you recommend that to be
13 a high priority, medium, or low priority?

14 MR. TOTEMOFF: High priority.

15 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

16 MR. MUTTER: Donna?

17 MS. FISCHER: Yes, medium. I feel the budget here is
18 low and it's a good project.

19 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94316, shoreline trash
20 clean-up.

21 MS. FISCHER: What page was that on?

22 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no on this one because I don't
23 think it's really oil spill related, and at least in Prince William
24 Sound, I think it was occurring before the oil spill, there was
25 volunteer --

26 MR. MENEFE: There was some, that's correct, there was

1 some, the difference being that this would provide some
2 reimbursement for the people going out, the charter boats used, the
3 gas reimbursement, a little different because before it was purely
4 volunteer and on a very small scale. You could only do, like, one
5 site per summer, and this would be addressing all of Prince William
6 Sound, several different sites, and it would identify those sites.

7 MR. CLOUD: It's a good way for recreationists to get
8 their gas paid for.

9 MS. FISCHER: And they like that.

10 MR. MENEFEE: It's a one weekend project.

11 MR. CLOUD: That's one weekend (inaudible).

12 (Simultaneous indiscernible conversation)

13 MS. FISCHER: Aren't they also charging -- I mean,
14 they're making it like a weekend trip and charging for the people
15 to go out on the boat is --

16 MR. MENEFEE: I personally can't tell you how exactly
17 they did it before, but --

18 MS. FISCHER: I know Stan Stevens used to do it, take
19 the people out and didn't charge anybody, but I think now they're
20 charging and making it --

21 MR. MENEFEE: Well, that's because you have problems
22 with getting people to take them out unless they got some money for
23 it.

24 MR. MUTTER: Jim?

25 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium priority.

26 MR. MUTTER: Jim?

1 MR. DIEHL: Yes, high priority.
2 DR. FRENCH: Yes, medium priority.
3 MR. KING: I see this as kind of a localized problem
4 and I give it a low.
5 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, medium.
6 MR. McMULLEN: I would bet that the Prince William Sound
7 beaches are the least trashed of any -- all -- any beach in Alaska.
8 I've been on several Aleutian Islands and Bering Sea beaches, and
9 it would drive these people crazy. However, this is a low cost
10 project and it will be of value to a number of people who will be
11 working and feeling good about the Sound. I say yes, mid-range.
12 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?
13 MS. GAGNON: No.
14 MS. FISCHER: John?
15 MR. STURGEON: Yes, mid-range.
16 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, mid-range.
17 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I say yes, low priority, because I
18 know there is some beach, you know, involved here, and -- but I do
19 like the budget, it is low budget, and I think there could be some
20 reimbursement.
21 MR. CLOUD: John brings up a good point.
22 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Can we break for lunch?
23 MR. CLOUD: Sure, but let me -- John brings up a good
24 point on other beaches around the country. Could this same thing
25 be done to pick up the dead foxes we're going to on this
26 (inaudible)?

1 MS. FISCHER: We're going to reconvene at 1:00 so we can
2 continue on.

3 (Recess at 12:12 p.m.)

4 (On Record at 1:16 p.m.)

5 MS. FISCHER: Let's get started then. I call this
6 meeting back to order. Okay. We have Ray Thompson of the Forestry
7 Department, and he's going to address the different subjects he has
8 here. If you'll give the name or the number, the page, and also
9 identify yourself for the record?

10 MR. THOMPSON: Is the mike working all right? I'm Ray
11 Thompson with the Chugach National Forest, and on my right here is
12 Steve Henek from the Chugach Forest, and he will be assisting me on
13 some of the information on the recreational (inaudible). I have
14 eight of these, well, seven of them, excuse me, to go through very
15 quickly, and the first one is 94043 on page 90, and that one's a
16 cutthroat dolly varden habitat restoration project in Prince
17 William Sound, and basically this is a project which is oriented
18 toward improving in-stream habitat for cutthroat trout and dolly
19 varden and use a variety of techniques to do that, and this project
20 has some of its work on Chenega lands and one on CAC lands and the
21 rest are on national forest, and they're all similar projects just
22 varying by -- you know, where they're being implemented. And I
23 don't know if I need to go any more in detail on that. It's a
24 fairly standard type of a habitat, you know, project. Some of
25 these areas have had work done on them before, and it's just
26 upgrading the existing habitat improvements or adding to those, or

1 in some cases they are new projects.

2 MS. FISCHER: Okay. The next one?

3 MR. THOMPSON: The next project is 94139 on page 170.
4 This is a similar type of a project, salmon in-stream habitat and
5 stock restoration, a similar type of a process, and this project
6 here resulted from a three year study of the impacts and, you know,
7 two different salmon stocks in the Prince William Sound area, and
8 the project basically is, you know, habitat improvements and, you
9 know, channel improvements which allow access to, you know, some of
10 the upstream areas. Many of these -- well, like, I guess all of
11 these are -- I don't want to say maintenance or improvements of
12 existing structures, but many of the existing structures can be
13 improved to make them work better, and like we talked yesterday
14 about Shrode (ph) Creek, this project is one that actually will end
15 up replacing a portion of the existing structure, which over the
16 thirty-two years of existence has deteriorated to the point where
17 it doesn't work well at all. So, this is a similar type to forty-
18 three. I think that's -- that's kind of a summary of it. If all
19 of you are somewhat familiar with, you know, fish habitat
20 improvements, fish ladders, channelization, those kinds of things,
21 you'll have kind of a perspective on that.

22 MR. CLOUD: I might note, we already voted on this
23 one.

24 MR. THOMPSON: You did that yesterday when -- from the
25 Fish and Game?

26 MR. CLOUD: Yes.

1 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah, fine. I figured that you probably
2 did. And the next one, you're probably familiar with it also from
3 the information that was given to you this morning, 94217, which is
4 the recreation -- Prince William Sound area recreation
5 implementation plan, kind of a misnomer for a title there, but this
6 is primarily a close-out project, and if you weren't informed this
7 morning, this project has been funded to complete the report by
8 April of '94 by the Trustee Council, they did that in their last
9 meeting, so this project is basically being done right now.

10 MR. CLOUD: Is it primarily already approved by the
11 Council?

12 MR. THOMPSON: Right.

13 MS. FISCHER: Which number is that?

14 MR. THOMPSON: '217 -- 94217.

15 MS. FISCHER: 217? It's already approved?

16 MR. THOMPSON: It -- yes, it was approved in -- at the
17 last meeting before the final report, and that was due in April of
18 this year and that's on schedule.

19 MS. FISCHER: Hmm.

20 MR. CLOUD: (Inaudible)

21 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, it kind of clocks (ph) it out.

22 MR. THOMPSON: It -- I don't know whether it would be
23 worth the time to spend on it, but it might be interesting for you
24 folks to express an opinion on it if you haven't had a chance.

25 MR. CLOUD: That guy from DNR already talked to us.

26 MS. FISCHER: Yeah.

1 DR. FRENCH: The guy from DNR already talked about it
2 quite a bit.

3 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, and if it's already been approved
4 too, I think we can move on.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Okay, then. The next one you don't have
6 in your package because it's one that was ordered by the Trustee
7 Council at their last meeting, and that was to develop a project
8 description for the EIS development, restoration plan and
9 environmental impact statement development, and that is in draft
10 form right now, and it's -- the EIS, as you know, has been directed
11 to be done by the Trustee Council and this is a formalization of
12 that project report description, so we'll know what we're doing and
13 the time frames and so forth, and it's not finalized yet, it's just
14 in the process of being drafted, and we will have that available
15 for you as soon as it gets done, and it appears right now just that
16 the cost of that will be in the neighborhood of three hundred
17 thousand dollars, plus or minus, I'm not sure.

18 MR. CLOUD: Is that one on our sheet here?

19 MR. THOMPSON: No, it's not. It's new, it's being
20 developed right now, and it's not in the book, but it's one that
21 the Forest Service has a lead on and it would be --

22 MS. BRODIE: I think it is in this.

23 MR. THOMPSON: It might be. I haven't looked through
24 that one, Pam, so --

25 MS. BRODIE: It's 94422.

26 MR. THOMPSON: Is that what they call it in there?

1 MS. BRODIE: Yes, restoration plan NEPA compliance.
2 MR. THOMPSON: It might be and --
3 MS. FISCHER: Forest Service, Fish and Game, Interior,
4 NOAA (inaudible).
5 MR. THOMPSON: Um-hmm, the federal agencies.
6 MS. FISCHER: Is that it?
7 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah.
8 MS. FISCHER: Okay.
9 MR. THOMPSON: That might be 422 in there. I'll have to
10 let Ken Rice know that because the number we're going by was 418,
11 but I'll check that.
12 MR. CLOUD: But we really don't have any description
13 to go over on this.
14 MR. THOMPSON: No, we don't, but I just want to make sure
15 that you're aware that that project is one that the Forest Service
16 has a lead on, and we will have that project description soon, but
17 I can't tell you when.
18 MS. FISCHER: Okay.
19 MR. THOMPSON: Okay, the next --
20 MS. FISCHER: Well, is -- let me ask you, that price of
21 three hundred and seventeen thousand, is that what it --
22 MR. THOMPSON: Well, I'm not sure how firm these figures
23 are and, you know, I hate to throw them out because sometimes they
24 get cast in concrete when they do have an opportunity to change
25 upon review, but what's been drafted is three hundred twenty-seven
26 thousand eight hundred, and like I say, this has not had complete

1 review and approval on it so that may change over the next week or
2 so, and this should be available by the Trustee Council meeting.
3 Okay, there's nothing else on that one. '419 -- 94419 on page 358.
4 This is a project that, you know, follows up the signing of a
5 memorandum of understanding with the National Outdoor Leadership
6 School last year to, you know, finish, I guess, the information
7 development and distribution of that information for no trace -- or
8 excuse me, leave-no-trace use of the national forest and other
9 lands. I think, you know, the BLM and the Park Service are also
10 part of that memorandum of understanding, so it applies more than
11 to the forest. But it is -- NOAA and the Forest Service basically
12 agree that education is a very effective tool in reducing impacts
13 of recreation on other users in Prince William Sound and elsewhere,
14 and as we are all very well aware, we don't need to add to the
15 abuses that land has already taken over the years, and this is one
16 way that we can help work on that. It's -- the project has, you
17 know, three phases. The first one is to reproduce and distribute
18 a pamphlet, around a hundred thousand copies of that, and it's
19 called leave-no-trace, outdoor skills and ethics in the temperate
20 coastal zone, and the next part of that is adapt that document to
21 a shorter pamphlet which is easier to read and get the nuts and
22 bolts out of that and make it available for distribution for people
23 using those types of areas. And another part would be to train
24 people to, I guess, facilitate the process of no trace use of
25 public lands, and the last part would be an educational video, and
26 this would all be put together, the final project date is a little

1 over a year -- well, it would be twelve of '95 so it's more than a
2 one year project.

3 MR. CLOUD: Is it a sole source contract (inaudible)?

4 MR. THOMPSON: That's what -- that's what's proposed.

5 MR. CLOUD: So it's never been out to bid to see if
6 somebody else could do it more cost-effectively?

7 MR. THOMPSON: Not that I'm aware of. Okay, then on
8 Project '420, which is on page 364, the recreation information
9 center at Portage, and again this is an effort to distribute
10 information, make it more available directly to those people who
11 are using Prince William Sound, and as they go through the Portage,
12 you know, I guess you'd say the train station down there on their
13 way to Whittier, you've got kind of a captive market, and as they
14 go through the center there, there's an opportunity to provide them
15 with quite a variety of information and it's the Forest Service's
16 proposal to, you know, sole source contract with the tourism
17 coalition down there to utilize space and just distribute
18 information at that point. Let's see.

19 MR. CLOUD: Who owns the train station now?

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Major Marine.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Well, let's see, it says -- yeah, Major
22 Marine, yeah, and it's just space that's leased in there for this
23 activity.

24 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

25 MR. THOMPSON: Okay, and then the final item that we have
26 here is 94505, which is habitat protection information for

1 anadromous streams, marbled murrelets. This project is in the
2 final stages of close-out right now. The project writing, you
3 know, information compilation, that sort of thing, and it's on
4 schedule and it's scheduled to be completed by April of '94, so
5 that project has moved along and it's in its final stages now so
6 funding for this will complete that project.

7 MR. CLOUD: How many acres do you think this would
8 affect?

9 MR. THOMPSON: That's a good question. I don't have an
10 answer for it. I'm sure that the acres that have been examined,
11 and the acres that have been determined to be marbled murrelet
12 habitat and so forth are available. If you'd like that, I can see
13 if I can round that up and get it for you.

14 MR. CLOUD: You're surveying all public lands?

15 MR. THOMPSON: Well, all the --

16 MR. CLOUD: (Inaudible)

17 MR. THOMPSON: No, the lands in the spill area that -- I
18 don't have a great deal of background on this project, but it --
19 there was some discriminating techniques that went into the process
20 to start with so that they wouldn't be blindly, you know, running
21 around in the woods looking at properties, but I'm not sure --

22 MR. CLOUD: I assume that you go on private lands if
23 you get their permission.

24 MR. THOMPSON: Certainly, yeah, and I'm not sure in all
25 cases how that permission works, but I know in some cases there was
26 some negotiating back and forth on, you know, timing, and how many

1 people and some of those kinds of things. Yes?

2 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, why isn't project part of the data
3 acquisition and support for the habitat protection project?

4 MR. THOMPSON: I don't really know. I don't really --

5 MS. MCBURNEY: Through the HPWG process?

6 MR. THOMPSON: I don't really have an answer for that,
7 and some of these seem very similar, I'm sure, but they were
8 apparently defined by the restoration team as being different
9 enough that they had a different enough focus that they wanted to
10 separate them so that too many things don't get mashed together,
11 and then you have these projects that are sort of nebulous, with
12 extravagant budgets, and people look at those pretty carefully.
13 So, if you can break those out, it's a little truer to the actual
14 objective that you're trying to accomplish, rather than having a
15 bunch of them melded into one. Okay, and that's -- that's all of
16 the projects that the Forest has the lead on, even though we're
17 involved in about nine or ten others. Yes, Pam?

18 MS. BRODIE: Also about 94505, there are several parts
19 to it. There's the marbled murrelet part, the initial part, and
20 then there are three A, B, and C that are all close-outs. Are
21 these together a total of four thousand and six dollars? I didn't
22 add them up. Is it four separate projects or is it three projects
23 that add up to four thousand?

24 MR. THOMPSON: Well, let me -- let me look at that. I've
25 sort of recently become tuned into what's going on the '94 work
26 plan, and I don't believe these would be separate. If you look at,

1 you know, page 390 and 391, you know, the Fish and Game, you'll
2 read that project description of what they're doing on those
3 budgets and so forth, and you turn back to page 389 and that
4 budget's the same over there, so that's basically the work that
5 shows up in the summary document on the front. Do you see what I
6 mean by that?

7 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry, no, I don't. Could you say
8 that again?

9 MR. THOMPSON: If you look at -- on page 389, okay,
10 there's ADF&G has a column there of what they're funded for, and
11 then if you look over on '505, Project '505A, 390, 391, you'll see
12 a summary of what Fish and Game is doing, you'll notice the -- you
13 know, the budget -- budget --

14 MS. BRODIE: I see. So the 94505 is the three of them
15 combined?

16 MR. THOMPSON: That's the subparts of '505, right.

17 MS. BRODIE: And each of those three is the close-out?

18 MR. THOMPSON: The combined, yeah, each of those close-
19 outs.

20 MS. BRODIE: Okay (inaudible). Thank you.

21 MS. FISCHER: Are we ready to start the vote then on
22 this?

23 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94043, cutthroat dolly
24 habitat restoration in Prince William Sound.

25 MS. BRODIE: What --

26 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam.

1 MS. BRODIE: Why is this Forest Service rather than the
2 Fish and Game? I wondered this about the first two, as a matter of
3 fact, although one of them we already voted on.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Well, I believe the -- you know, the first
5 one -- I can't tell you all the exact reasons because I don't have
6 that kind of a corporate history on these things, but dealing with
7 that, you know, that habitat and so forth on the upland streams and
8 so forth is -- have been debated for a long time between the Forest
9 Service and the Fish and Game, and on the national forest part,
10 we've been doing some of this kind of work for a hundred years or
11 so, and you know, I don't know if that has anything to do with this
12 particular project or not, but it's just a -- you know, a carry-
13 over that we get involved with these kinds of things on a regular
14 basis, and a lot of the species work that's done in the stream is
15 done by the Fish and Game, and a lot of the habitat work, you know,
16 for those fish is done by the Forest Service. That's the way we
17 work nationwide on a lot of things.

18 MS. BRODIE: I'm going to vote no on this one.

19 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

20 MR. CLOUD: I'm going to vote yes on this one, but I'd
21 like -- with a high priority. I'd like to point out that this is
22 a good example of a habitat restoration project that doesn't
23 require going out and buying land, and it affects a great --
24 greater area, and there are more services, and it is -- it's a
25 better use of an effort to improve habitat on public lands, which
26 are the vast majority of the lands in the spill area.

1 MR. DIEHL: I'll vote yes and give it a medium, a two.

2 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes and give it a medium
3 priority also.

4 MR. KING: A low, low, it seems like an agency
5 management responsibility.

6 MS. MCBURNEY: I'd vote yes but with a low, and I also
7 question what sorts of habitat restoration would be taking place at
8 Shrode Creek and Otter Creek that isn't also going to be done in
9 the Project 94139, which also targets those two areas for
10 restoration activities.

11 MR. THOMPSON: Well, the best that I can -- the way I
12 understand that is, in '139, the structure improvements there are
13 basically passes and so forth that allow the access of the fish
14 into the stream, and project '43 makes -- once they arrive in the
15 stream, it makes the habitat they find there much better to
16 complete their life cycle, and Project '139 improves some existing
17 situations in some cases, and on Shrode Creek it actually takes a
18 very deteriorated, old structure and rebuilds that so it's
19 functioning like it was originally designed -- or I shouldn't say
20 originally designed; a new design has been drafted for that so it
21 will work much better than the original, and allows the, you know,
22 fish to get in there, and Project '43 is the habitat, and as you'll
23 notice as you read those that cutthroat and dolly varden and salmon
24 are mentioned in both projects because when you open access into a
25 stream for one species, very generally, it opens it for others. I
26 mean, you don't have any way of discriminating well -- very well on

1 what uses that. So if you access a stream for salmon, very likely
2 cutthroat and dolly varden are going to use that also and, you
3 know, vice versa. I don't know if that answers your question, but
4 there is some similarities, but they have a different focus on
5 access versus habitat.

6 MS. MCBURNEY: Essentially on the outcome.

7 MR. THOMPSON: Essentially.

8 MS. FISCHER: What did you vote, Mary?

9 MS. MCBURNEY: A low.

10 MS. FISCHER: Low, okay. John?

11 MR. McMULLEN: This project features protection and
12 improvement of critical habitat. Yes, mid-range.

13 MS. GAGNON: Yes --

14 MS. FISCHER: Sharon, I'm sorry.

15 MS. GAGNON: Yes, mid-range.

16 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

17 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, and I'll give it a high priority.

18 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I vote -- okay, go ahead.

19 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, I happen to know that these species
20 of fish were directly impacted by (inaudible -- out of microphone
21 range).

22 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I'd say yes and mid-range. I do
23 feel it could be combined. I agree with Mary. I think that could
24 be combined with '139.

25 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94419, I think is the next
26 one.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: 94139?
2 MS. FISCHER: '139.
3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We already voted on '139.
4 MR. MUTTER: '419.
5 MS. FISCHER: What's the next one?
6 MR. MUTTER: '419.
7 MS. FISCHER: '419.
8 MR. MUTTER: Leave-no-trace educational program.
9 MS. FISCHER: Oh. Pam?
10 MS. BRODIE: Yes, low.
11 MR. CLOUD: Yes, low.
12 MR. DIEHL: Yes, high priority.
13 DR. FRENCH: Yes, medium.
14 MS. FISCHER: I thought we voted on this before.
15 MR. KING: Low, low.
16 MS. MCBURNEY: Low.
17 MR. McMULLEN: Low.
18 MS. GAGNON: Yes, low.
19 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?
20 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, medium.
21 MS. FISCHER: Low, yes, low.
22 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94420, recreation
23 information at Portage.
24 MS. FISCHER: Pam?
25 MS. BRODIE: No.
26 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

1 MR. CLOUD: I have a question on this one. The Forest
2 Service already has a very substantial investment in the visitor's
3 center at Portage Glacier, just right down the road, so why not
4 combine your effort into that instead of a new location just a
5 couple of miles away?

6 MR. MUTTER: Would you care to answer that?

7 MR. HENEK: Well, the visitor's center at Portage
8 isn't really designed to accommodate a large-scale brochure and
9 general purpose information. It does do that to a degree. This --
10 it's pretty much a single purpose for glacier type interpretation.
11 This is focused pretty much at the highway traveler and those
12 waiting for the train getting onto Whittier, to capture them and
13 give them as much information as possible before they get into
14 Whittier, or even passing by the area.

15 MR. CLOUD: And some of this hundred thousand is being
16 used to purchase the building, or to just purchase a lease?

17 MR. HENEK: The building would be purchased by the
18 Prince William Sound Tourism Coalition from Major Marine, and it
19 would operate the building, and there would be some renovation
20 inside to accommodate the interpretive exhibits and the video area.

21 MR. CLOUD: But what does the hundred thousand go for
22 then?

23 MR. HENEK: Specifically? Part of it goes to the
24 purchase.

25 MR. CLOUD: Part of it does go for the purchase of
26 somebody else to buy it?

1 MR. HENEK: The Prince William Sound Tourism
2 Coalition. They would become the owners.

3 MR. CLOUD: Well, then, no.

4 MR. HENEK: They're a nonprofit organization also.

5 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, but that's (inaudible).

6 MR. CLOUD: Every one of them is a nonprofit
7 organization.

8 MS. FISCHER: They're a new organization too.

9 MS. BRODIE: I'd like to suggest that you might want to
10 buy a building for the Sierra Club while you're at it.

11 (Laughter)

12 MS. FISCHER: Okay, well, Jim, you voted no?

13 MR. KING: Well, maybe the Research Development
14 Council needs a building too.

15 MR. CLOUD: No, no.

16 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Jim?

17 MR. DIEHL: I'll vote yes with a medium priority.

18 MS. FISCHER: Okay. John?

19 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority too.
20 I think that it's a high priority of the recreation planning group,
21 as I understand it, and I think it is an effective way of getting
22 information to the recreational users entering the Sound area.

23 MS. FISCHER: Mr. King?

24 MR. KING: Low, low.

25 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

26 MS. MCBURNEY: I'll give it a medium. We really haven't

1 done anything to really address the many of the tourist service
2 injuries and I think this is a fairly inexpensive one.

3 MS. FISCHER: John?

4 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.

5 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

6 MS. GAGNON: Yes, low.

7 MS. FISCHER: John?

8 MR. STURGEON: I'll pass.

9 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

10 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.

11 MS. FISCHER: I'm voting no. It's outside the spill
12 area and it should be a department function.

13 MR. MUTTER: Project 94422.

14 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam?

15 MR. MUTTER: Do we need to vote on the NEPA compliance?

16 MS. BRODIE: We don't have any information on that.

17 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, we don't have any information so --

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: All we have is dollars.

19 MS. FISCHER: Yeah. Let's just pass on that because --

20 MR. THOMPSON: I -- you know, the only thing I can give
21 you on that is the draft is scheduled to be done in June and the
22 final in October of this year, and --

23 MR. CLOUD: That's all right. The Council is going to
24 do whatever they have to do anyhow.

25 MS. FISCHER: Yeah. Let's go to the next one.

26 MR. MUTTER: 94505, information needed for habitat

1 protection.

2 MS. BRODIE: I'm going to vote yes, medium on this. I
3 think it's important because it is close-outs. I'm a little
4 concerned about the price.

5 MR. CLOUD: I'm going to vote yes and medium, and I
6 think this is again an example of habitat protection efforts that
7 can be done on public lands without increasing in the land holdings
8 of the federal.

9 MR. DIEHL: I'll give it a yes, number two.

10 DR. FRENCH: I'll give it a yes, medium, in the sense
11 that it's important in terms of work that has been done and is
12 being closed out on identification of critical habitat. I am
13 concerned that my addition of the numbers don't come out the same
14 as the numbers on the sheet though.

15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Could be. I don't take any response.

16 MR. THOMPSON: We can check that. I'm glad you noticed
17 that because editing will take place.

18 MR. MUTTER: Jim?

19 MR. KING: Low, low.

20 MS. MCBURNEY: Medium. I just question that many of the
21 activities in this close-out may duplicate portions of 94110.

22 MR. McMULLEN: Because it's a close-out, I'll give it a
23 mid-range. Otherwise, I would give it a lower rating because a lot
24 of -- there's been a lot of stream survey work done over a lot of
25 years, you know, and there's a lot of information in your library
26 and offices, and maybe there's enough of that information, but I'll

1 give it a medium rating based on the fact that it's finishing up
2 the project.

3 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

4 MS. GAGNON: Yes, medium.

5 MS. FISCHER: John?

6 MR. STURGEON: Yes, low.

7 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

8 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, medium.

9 MS. FISCHER: I'm going to give it a yes, low. Okay,
10 and we've got a -- who -- do we have somebody calling in? Who do
11 we have calling in? Oh, we have to call Byron?

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

13 MS. FISCHER: Sure.

14 DR. FRENCH: Do we want to cover the NEPA compliance on
15 at this point because that's -- I think the Forest Service leads?

16 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Okay, go ahead and call him. We'll
17 do the -- oh, okay. Let us take a two minute break.

18 (Off Record at 1:45 p.m.)

19 (On Record at 1:49 p.m.)

20 STAFF: I'll turn you over to Donna, who's
21 chairing today.

22 MS. FISCHER: Byron, this is Donna Fisher, and we're
23 going to ask you if you'd keep your comments very brief, very
24 quick. If you identify your project by number, the page number
25 it's on in the book and, you know, get right to it so that we can
26 vote. We're a little bit behind schedule and we're trying to get

1 out of here. What we will try and do, as soon as you do the
2 description, then we'll let any of the members of the PAG group ask
3 questions to you. Is that all right with you?

4 DR. MORRIS: That's fine, Donna.

5 MS. FISCHER: Can you hear all right?

6 DR. MORRIS: I can hear you.

7 MS. FISCHER: Okay, we'll get started. You give the
8 numbers of the projects and the page number they're on in the book.

9 DR. MORRIS: Well, first of all, I apologize for not
10 having somebody there. The elements conspired against us, and I
11 did not know that -- exactly when you'd get to NOAA and I wasn't
12 anticipating doing this. You caught me at home with the phone just
13 as (indiscernible). The switchboard got blown out over the weekend
14 with the power outage, and Bruce Wright was -- I'd intended on him
15 being there to go through these projects. I do not have a work
16 plan with me so I can't tell you the page number, and I'll try, but
17 I do have a list of projects by number so you can just turn to
18 them.

19 MS. FISCHER: I think I've gone through and gotten quite
20 a few of the page numbers, so we'll try to help you out here,
21 Byron.

22 DR. MORRIS: Okay. I think -- you're just doing the
23 ones that we are the lead agency on, correct?

24 MS. FISCHER: Yes.

25 DR. MORRIS: Okay, you've probably gone through some of
26 the other ones already since some of the other agencies are leads.

1 I believe the first one would be 94083.

2 MR. CLOUD: Page 128.

3 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

4 DR. MORRIS: Okay. This is a long-term project. This
5 is the first time it's gone before the Council for funding. It
6 started under cleanup and response, and what the project is is to
7 measure the effect of the hot water washing that was conducted
8 during cleanup on the recovery of the intertidal zone, and it's run
9 by a group out of Seattle, and what they're comparing is hot water
10 wash sites, cold water wash sites, and control sites, and they
11 found over the years that the hot water wash sites, the upper inter
12 -- high upper intertidal, is not recovering, the fucus and
13 barnacles and what have you are not coming back, so they're
14 proposing to continue this work. They also look at the fate of the
15 buried oil, the oil that sunk into the deep sediments. They're
16 trenching and taking samples and doing chemical weathering analysis
17 of the oil that still remains in some of the selected sites. The
18 study was conducted last year out of federal restitution funds on
19 a modest scale, it was an in-between year and they had a limited
20 sampling program. This is the first year they're going back and
21 doing a more extensive sampling program with this study. So
22 basically, it's -- the results of this study, we'll be able to see
23 what effects the hot water, the high pressure washing had on the
24 recovery of intertidal organisms, and to date, they don't know when
25 it's going to recover because recovery has been retarded all along
26 there at the control sites, or to the cold water wash sites.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

2 DR. MORRIS: They also -- I should say, they also have
3 a mollusk side project, looking at the shallow subtidal beneath the
4 hot water wash beaches, which also show effects of both -- either
5 and/or the hot water and the movement of the oil from the
6 intertidal to the shallow subtidal in terms of clam populations and
7 other robensic (ph) animals that live in the -- just below the low
8 tide mark.

9 MS. FISCHER: Yeah, just continue on through your other
10 projects, Brian -- Byron, sorry.

11 DR. MORRIS: Move right along to 94090. I have a
12 question to ask you first. Have you dealt with the DEC's projects
13 yet?

14 DR. FRENCH: No.

15 MS. FISCHER: Not yet.

16 DR. MORRIS: We're the lead agency on this, but the
17 bulk -- the major part of the budget and the efforts of this
18 project is clean-up or restoration remediation of the mussel beds
19 themselves, which is a DEC project, and I'd like to defer that part
20 to Mark Brodersen, if I could, because I can't say exactly how
21 extensive a clean-up effort they have in mind, I'm not sure they
22 know yet, but our portion of it is to just to look at the effects
23 of removal of mussel beds, manipulation of mussel beds by trenching
24 or by moving the mussels for a tidal cycle if they -- on the
25 decreased oil that then allows beneath the surface of the mussel
26 bed. We're doing mainly the chemical components, the recovery of

1 loss of hydrocarbons by the manipulation techniques that they've
2 been employing, and this is an ongoing project that's been
3 conducted. This will be the third year, I believe, of monitoring.
4 I should say, there's still lots of oil under certain mussel beds
5 and it's remained relatively fresh over time, and we feel that
6 without doing some sort of a treatment, which I defer to DEC, we
7 feel that oil is not, you know, going to move or go away on its own
8 for years.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Byron, you're fading out on us a
10 little bit.

11 DR. MORRIS: Okay. And there are certainly food chain
12 implications in these contaminated mussels to the sea otters, river
13 otters, harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers, and a lot of the
14 recovery studies, restoration studies for those species are
15 utilized in this mussel bed information. Did you hear that?

16 MS. FISCHER: Yes, thank you.

17 DR. MORRIS: Moving up -- any questions on this
18 project? Should I move on?

19 MR. McMULLEN: Yes. The oil that remains beneath the
20 mussel beds, is there a toxic effect there, or is it just a
21 physical condition having the -- in some way inhibiting some
22 (inaudible - extraneous noise)?

23 DR. MORRIS: There appears to be a toxic effect
24 measured in the harlequin ducks and black oystercatchers, and -- in
25 other words, through ingesting these oiled mussels, they feel
26 they're still being exposed to the oil. The oil is still toxic in

1 that regard. The question we haven't quantified -- that these
2 other projects haven't quantified, is how much these other
3 resources are feeding on these oiled mussels.

4 MS. BRODIE: Byron, this is Pam Brodie.

5 DR. MORRIS: I can barely hear you.

6 MS. BRODIE: Byron, this is Pam Brodie. Can you hear
7 me now?

8 DR. MORRIS: That's better. Yes, that's better.

9 MS. BRODIE: Do you know, with the mussel beds, how
10 many of them there are that you folks are talking about cleaning?

11 DR. MORRIS: I don't have those numbers. There are
12 dozens of oiled mussel beds, and whether they're all worth cleaning
13 or not, I don't think we know for certain yet. I think there are
14 certain candidates, all ones that we would tackle first and see how
15 that works. I think that's the proposal, starting with the worst
16 ones first.

17 MS. BRODIE: Thank you.

18 DR. MORRIS: You're welcome. (Pause) I should -- I'll
19 go on to 94092, killer whale monitoring. This project mainly
20 involves going out to the field and taking photographs of killer
21 whales. Specifically, we're searching for the AB pod, which
22 suffered high mortality rates in 1989 and 1990 and are barely
23 showing signs of recovery. They went from thirty-six whales in
24 that pod in '89, or pre-'89, pre-oil spill, to twenty-three whales
25 at the end of 1990. Thirteen whales died. Since that time, in
26 1991 there was no sign of recovery. There were no new deaths, but

1 there were no new births. In '92 and '93, there has been
2 additional calves added to the pod and no additional mortalities,
3 but the pod is still significantly reduced from its pre-spill
4 numbers. We propose to continue monitoring the pod and the
5 composition of that particular pod. Of course, we can't single out
6 the pod and the field encounter and those specifically -- when we
7 photograph it, so we do encounter and photograph all killer whale
8 pods that we run across in the field.

9 MR. DIEHL: Byron, this is Jim Diehl. Can you hear
10 me?

11 DR. MORRIS: Yes, I can.

12 MR. DIEHL: I thought this project was going to be
13 deferred for one year?

14 DR. MORRIS: We're considering that. The decision has
15 not been made whether we're going to offer or if we defer this a
16 year or not. We feel, personally, with a lot of projects, that we
17 would have preferred that the monitoring plan, the overall
18 monitoring plan be in place in '94, and that didn't happen. Other
19 like projects that we're considering, maybe we don't need to do
20 every year anymore, depending on the purposes of the project
21 itself. If we just want to keep tabs on the pods in terms of the
22 number of individuals, we probably don't need to do it every year.
23 If we want to look at its birth rates and death rates and sort of
24 population dynamics and the health of the pod, we should do it
25 every year.

26 MR. DIEHL: Well, are you aware that Craig Manken (ph)

1 has a permit to do exactly this study that expires in 1998 from
2 NOAA?

3 DR. MORRIS: I don't know the details of Craig Manken's
4 permit or how long they continue. He has done the work in the
5 past, in fact, since 1985 he's been doing some monitoring of the
6 killer whale pods, and he has the pre-spill data that we use to
7 show the mortality.

8 MR. DIEHL: I do have a copy of that permit here
9 somewhere, and the abstract -- the abstract is pretty much -- it's
10 not word for word exactly, the description that's in the book, but
11 it covers all the areas.

12 DR. MORRIS: I don't doubt that and, you know, these
13 permits may be multi-year so he may well have had the permits from
14 '89 on or he's had them renewed since then. He, in fact -- we did
15 not do killer whale work in '92 and he, in fact, went out in the
16 field and gathered the killer whale information for that one year,
17 but I don't know if it's funded.

18 MR. DIEHL: Is it the job of NMFS to enforce the
19 Marine Mammal Protection Act?

20 DR. MORRIS: Yes.

21 MR. DIEHL: I also have here parts of the Marine
22 Mammal Protection Act that say that duplications of research should
23 not occur because of the additional harassments on the animals.

24 DR. MORRIS: Yeah.

25 MS. FISCHER: Good point. Can you answer that?

26 DR. MORRIS: I'm not sure what the question implies.

1 I agree with the statement.

2 MR. DIEHL: My question implies that if you go forward
3 with this project, it will be a duplication of research that has
4 been performed since 1984 by North Gulf Oceanic Society and that
5 Craig Manken is permitted by your agency to do this research for
6 1994, he already has the permit, and that --

7 DR. MORRIS: That permit is that -- that doesn't mean
8 he has the funding to do the work.

9 MR. DIEHL: He has assured me that he has ninety
10 percent of the funding. Together, he has assured me that he has
11 funding to do the killer whale photo-identification work, and in
12 addition to that, he's getting ready to do biopsy work, and haven't
13 you -- have you received a copy of his application for a permit and
14 NOAA to do the biopsy work on the killer whales in Prince William
15 Sound?

16 DR. MORRIS: No, we haven't. We received a letter from
17 Craig asking us for his permit, which I presume he would have sent
18 to our permitting office in Washington, D.C., and I haven't --

19 MR. DIEHL: Did you get a copy of his permit
20 application from Washington, D.C. then?

21 DR. MORRIS: I was not aware of the fact that he's
22 submitted it.

23 MR. DIEHL: Have you been on vacation lately?

24 DR. MORRIS: Oh, yeah, over Christmas, a little bit.

25 MR. DIEHL: Well, I just feel like I have more
26 information than you do on this, and I have all the paperwork, and

1 this is a duplication of research.

2 DR. MORRIS: Yeah, it may well be. I won't argue that.
3 I don't know that to be a fact.

4 MS. FISCHER: Okay, I'm going to move this along. I
5 think you've made a statement, Jim, and you know --

6 MR. DIEHL: Thanks.

7 MS. FISCHER: -- we get kind of the gist of it. Does
8 anyone else here have any more questions?

9 DR. MORRIS: Just assure Jim I will look into that. I
10 wasn't aware of the information he had.

11 MS. FISCHER: Thank you.

12 MR. DIEHL: Thank you.

13 MS. FISCHER: Byron, do you have any more?

14 DR. MORRIS: Yes, nine -- there's one I don't have a
15 number for, so you'll have to tell me which one is the subtidal
16 monitoring study.

17 DR. FRENCH: '147.

18 MS. FISCHER: '47?

19 DR. FRENCH: '147 is the next one.

20 DR. MORRIS: This one -- I just have to preface my
21 remarks. It's a little misleading in the book plan because it's --
22 last year (indiscernible) there were five parts to it, two NOAA
23 parts and three Fish and Game parts. Only one part is proposed to
24 continue in '94, so when you look at the overall budget for that
25 project, it's like six hundred and something thousand. About four
26 hundred -- over four hundred thousand of that is for close-out of

1 the '93 work, and the hundred and eighty thousand or so is to
2 continue taking sediment samples, subtidal sediment samples. This
3 past year, we restricted our efforts to within the Sound and
4 sampled its twelve sites, stations we'd set up in the Sound. Next
5 year we propose to go outside the Sound and go along the Kenai
6 Peninsula and Kodiak and do the same work and then be able to
7 compare the recovery or the remaining contamination of deep
8 sediments I'm talking down to a hundred meters or more in depth.

9 MR. CLOUD: Byron?

10 DR. MORRIS: Yes.

11 MR. CLOUD: This is Jim Cloud. The one that we're
12 looking at, comprehensive monitoring program, has a hundred and
13 twelve thousand --

14 DR. MORRIS: Okay.

15 MR. CLOUD: (Indiscernible) twenty-nine thousand. Is
16 that what you're looking at?

17 DR. MORRIS: Okay, you're not looking at the subtidal
18 sediments? You're looking at the comprehensive monitoring program?

19 MR. CLOUD: Yeah.

20 DR. MORRIS: That's one I can guarantee you we're going
21 to withdraw because we did not -- weren't able to get a monitoring
22 plan done yet, so there's no monitoring plan to administer.

23 MR. CLOUD: So we'll just cross out 94147?

24 DR. MORRIS: Yes.

25 MS. FISCHER: You're going to withdraw this then?

26 DR. MORRIS: Yes.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay, we'll cross that off our agenda.

2 MR. MUTTER: I think, Byron, the one you were talking
3 about, the subtidal, was 94285.

4 DR. MORRIS: Okay. Shall we skip past and just discuss
5 this?

6 MS. FISCHER: Is that the subtidal sediment recovery
7 monitoring?

8 DR. MORRIS: Right, right. That's the one -- that's
9 the study where the -- the only part to continue is to go outside
10 Prince William Sound to the Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak, and the Alaska
11 Peninsula and repeat the work, the same work that we did inside the
12 Sound, to find out how much oil still is in the sea floor. We did
13 find oil contamination still in the sea bed within the Sound this
14 year, so we expect we'll find some of the contamination, probably
15 less than inside the Sound outside this coming summer.

16 MS. FISCHER: So the subtidal sediment recovery
17 monitoring program is the one you're going to cancel?

18 DR. MORRIS: No, the comprehensive monitoring plan,
19 94147, somebody said, that's the one.

20 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

21 DR. MORRIS: The subtidal sediment monitoring, we hope
22 to continue. We haven't been outside the Sound since 1990. We did
23 find oil sediments along the Kodiak and Alaska Peninsula in 1990,
24 and we expect to find them again. The pattern of this oil is --
25 between 1989 when the spill hit and 1991, the oil decreased in the
26 shallow areas and increased in the deeper waters. In other words,

1 it's moved down. I know John French is the one that asked for some
2 of this work to be done again in Kodiak where he felt there was
3 some impact on flat fish, at least juvenile flat fish that rear in
4 the bays. I don't know if John's there or not.

5 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I'm here, Byron.

6 DR. MORRIS: Okay. This is in response to concerns you
7 expressed though last year in 19 --

8 MR. McMULLEN: Can I ask a question? Is there a
9 companion project in Prince William Sound? I see you say you're
10 going to compare results obtained with project, compare those with
11 the results obtained in Prince William Sound, but I'm not sure if
12 there's a --

13 DR. MORRIS: The results from the Sound would have been
14 taken this summer. It would be from the year previous in the
15 Sound.

16 MR. McMULLEN: Okay.

17 DR. MORRIS: We sampled the Sound in '93. I shouldn't
18 say -- it's not this summer, last summer. We're supposed to sample
19 outside in '94.

20 MS. BRODIE: Byron, this is Pam again. I can't hear
21 you very well, so you may have answered this, but I don't
22 understand the purpose of this project. Why do you want to know
23 these things? What can you do with information?

24 DR. MORRIS: Well, from an environmental toxicology
25 standpoint, we do believe that the oil is still there in the
26 environment. The oil is usually remaining in the intertidal or

1 it's moved to the sea bed, and we feel from an environmental
2 toxicology viewpoint that there's still the concern of the effects
3 of that oil either through direct exposure or through the food web,
4 and the first question you want to ask is what's still there, what
5 oil is still there, and in what concentration.

6 MR. MUTTER: Do you want to move on to --

7 DR. MORRIS: Sure.

8 MR. MUTTER: -- 94290, hydrocarbon data analysis?

9 DR. MORRIS: I should move back, I think, to 94163.

10 MR. MUTTER: Okay.

11 DR. MORRIS: I'll get these back in order again. And
12 I can't give you any details of this project yet because it's still
13 in the design phase, but what we've wanted to learn for years, what
14 is the prey base that a lot of the injured resources rely on, and
15 is it sufficient to promote recovery, or is it perhaps expecting
16 recovery? We know very little about the forage fish that are
17 important prey of many of the marine mammals and sea birds in the
18 Sound and in the oil spill area. This would be the first book that
19 quantifies the prey base, identifying the sea -- seasons and the
20 quantities of both the forage fish, and by them we're talking
21 herring, capelin, sand lance, juvenile pollack, and (indiscernible)
22 zooplankton deposited in the larger (indiscernible), and this
23 proposal this year is to do a sort of simple broad scale
24 reconnaissance program of observing what's there, and then based on
25 that we would focus the project forward in future years, but this
26 is really just the start-up of a long-term study, and it

1 complements the ecosystem study. In fact, it may end being brought
2 into the -- as part of the ecosystem study when that gets fully
3 designed.

4 MS. FISCHER: Okay, let's keep going, Byron, move on.

5 DR. MORRIS: Okay, excuse me. 94290 is the hydrocarbon
6 data analysis, and this is a service, essentially a service project
7 for all the projects that are still taking samples and looking for
8 oil contamination. It does the interpretation of the hydrocarbon
9 data by a senior chemist for the other project leaders, and it
10 maintains a long-term hydrocarbon data base, both the data itself
11 and the quality control and quality assurance for the data. Some
12 has been important and some that we've initiated in the first year,
13 and we feel that it should continue as long as hydrocarbon samples
14 are being collected by any of the projects, and it's just --
15 basically, it's just -- it's a hundred thousand dollars, and so
16 basically it's salaries for a couple of months.

17 MS. FISCHER: Okay, and I think you have one more,
18 Byron?

19 DR. MORRIS: Okay.

20 MS. FISCHER: (Inaudible)

21 DR. MORRIS: The ecosystem study, 94320.

22 MS. FISCHER: We've already done that.

23 DR. MORRIS: Okay, you know about that. What am I
24 missing now?

25 MR. CLOUD: I think that's it.

26 MS. FISCHER: I think that's it. Are there any

1 questions from the group here? I think everybody's pretty much --
2 okay, Pam?

3 MS. BRODIE: Yeah, Byron, that last one, 94290. Again,
4 I couldn't hear you very well. It says in the book, six years. Is
5 this the beginning of a six year project?

6 DR. MORRIS: Okay, I don't think I heard you very well,
7 so I -- 94290?

8 MS. BRODIE: Yes.

9 MR. CLOUD: Hydrocarbon data analysis.

10 MS. BRODIE: Are we partway through this already, or is
11 this just starting and you're planning to go on for six years with
12 it?

13 DR. MORRIS: This -- let's see, this would be the fifth
14 year of that service.

15 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry, what year?

16 DR. MORRIS: Fifth year.

17 MS. BRODIE: Oh, this is the fifth year out of six?

18 DR. MORRIS: I don't have the work plan, so I'm not
19 sure what the statement actually says. I feel that the project
20 should continue as long as other projects are continuing to do
21 chemical measurements or taking samples for chemical analysis for
22 oil. This is the project that maintains that data and provides the
23 -- a lot of the projects, the people that are conducting them
24 aren't chemists, they are pollution biologists, and this provides
25 that service that would interpret the results of the analysis of
26 the samples as they collect it to them for their projects.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Byron, this says the project start-
2 up date of October 1, 1993. Did you just start this project last
3 year, or have they done anything on this project?

4 DR. MORRIS: No, that would be -- well, we're -- it's
5 late. I mean, that would have been the start-up date for this work
6 plan when it was originally described, but because the whole work
7 plan approval was delayed, we have received interim funding from
8 October through January for this project.

9 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

10 DR. MORRIS: This is for continuing it for the rest of
11 the year.

12 MS. FISCHER: All right. Any other questions?

13 MR. MUTTER: Byron, what we're going to do is go around
14 the table, project by project, and the PAG members are going to
15 give a high, medium, low, or can't support kind of vote. So,
16 you're welcome to listen in.

17 DR. MORRIS: I'd like to. Thank you.

18 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Project 94083, monitoring of oiled
19 and treated shorelines.

20 MS. FISCHER: Pam?

21 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no on this because -- because
22 it doesn't seem to me that the amount of new information that
23 we're getting is worth the price tag.

24 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

25 MR. CLOUD: Yes, low.

26 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

1 MR. DIEHL: I'm voting no for the same reason as Pam
2 stated.

3 MS. FISCHER: John?

4 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes, but low priority. I don't
5 think that this type of study really needs to be done every year
6 for the -- with the slow recovery rates that have been documented
7 so far.

8 MS. FISCHER: James?

9 MR. KING: Low and low. It seems like it's mostly
10 taken care of already.

11 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Mary?

12 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, but low. It fits an ecosystem
13 approach, but I feel that this is something that can wait until we
14 have an integrated ecosystem type of plan. Otherwise, it's a lot
15 of money to go heading off in our own direction.

16 MS. FISCHER: Okay. John?

17 MR. McMULLEN: No.

18 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

19 MS. GAGNON: No.

20 MS. FISCHER: John?

21 MR. STURGEON: No. I think it's a terrible amount of
22 money for the amount of data that -- information that's gathered.

23 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, medium.

25 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I'm voting no. I think NOAA's
26 budget is many, many times overstated.

1 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Project 94090, mussel bed
2 restoration and monitoring.

3 MS. BRODIE: I vote no because of the price tag. I am
4 concerned about the mussel beds. I would like a better sense of
5 how many of them there are. If there are a hundred, for example,
6 that would be almost \$8,000 per mussel bed, and dozens sounds like
7 it's less than a hundred. I'm concerned about taking helicopters
8 out to clean mussel beds and wonder if this can't be something that
9 as people are going out into the field to do something else, that
10 they can clean up the mussel beds while they're at it. Maybe I
11 don't understand the process well enough, but I hope that that can
12 be explored.

13 DR. MORRIS: Could I interject in this? I probably
14 shouldn't, but I feel like I unfairly represented DEC's component
15 of this project and -- because I don't have enough information on
16 what they're proposing, and that is the bulk of the budget, and I
17 wonder if it wouldn't be better to revisit it when you go over
18 DEC's projects as well.

19 MS. FISCHER: Mark -- we have Mark here. We can have
20 him make a statement on it.

21 DR. MORRIS: Great.

22 MR. BRODERSEN: Why don't we just wait on this until we
23 take up the DEC's stuff. I think that's actually --

24 MS. FISCHER: Okay.

25 MR. MUTTER: All right, then. Let's go to 94092,
26 killer whale recovery monitoring.

1 MS. BRODIE: I vote no on that one for the reasons that
2 Jim Diehl has said.

3 MR. CLOUD: This is Jim Cloud and Vern McCorkle. We
4 vote no, but if you do go ahead with it, you probably can have it
5 fund itself by selling photography to Free Willy Two.

6 (Laughter)

7 MS. FISCHER: Jim? The other Jim.

8 MR. DIEHL: I vote no on this project.

9 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote no. I think Jim has raised some
10 serious questions as to how this project is being operated, and I
11 think they need to be cleared up.

12 MS. FISCHER: James?

13 MR. KING: Low, low.

14 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

15 MS. MCBURNEY: No.

16 MS. FISCHER: John?

17 MR. McMULLEN: I'll have to vote no because of the mixup
18 here in research efforts.

19 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Sharon?

20 MS. GAGNON: No.

21 MS. FISCHER: John?

22 MR. STURGEON: No.

23 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: No.

25 MS. FISCHER: And I'm voting no for the same reasons.
26 I think Jim stated a good case.

1 MR. CLOUD: Well, that's the first one we've turned
2 down.
3 MS. FISCHER: Every one of us.
4 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Project 94147, operating --
5 MS. FISCHER: We crossed that off.
6 MR. MUTTER: Oh, that's withdrawn, correct?
7 MS. FISCHER: It's withdrawn.
8 MR. MUTTER: 94163, forage fish influence on injured
9 species.
10 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam?
11 MS. BRODIE: I'm -- I don't quite know what to do on
12 this. It sounds like an important project. The Prince William
13 Sound people are saying this is very important, and yet, if I
14 understood correctly, Byron was saying that this was in a very
15 early stage of design, and it is pretty expensive, so I -- I think
16 I'll say yes, medium, but the question here is, is we'd better know
17 -- people had better know what they're proposing before it's really
18 funded.
19 MS. FISCHER: Jim?
20 MR. CLOUD: Yes, medium.
21 MS. FISCHER: Jim?
22 MR. DIEHL: Yes, medium priority.
23 MS. FISCHER: John?
24 DR. FRENCH: Yes, high priority. I think this is an
25 area that we've generally ignored in the past. Forage fish are a
26 key to a lot of ecosystem studies and the relationship of a lot of

1 predators to other things that are going on in the oil spill area,
2 and I think it's important that it go and that it be followed up
3 with appropriate other projects. Again, I agree with those of you
4 that have indicated that it doesn't have enough data, but I think
5 it's important enough that we need to encourage them to go ahead
6 with it.

7 MS. FISCHER: James?

8 MR. KING: I think this fits with the ecosystem
9 planning and could be deferred for '94, so I give it a low, low.

10 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

11 MS. MCBURNEY: I think that this is a good project,
12 basically, and I'd like to see more projects that take a species
13 approach as this does, however, I will give it a two for now,
14 simply because I think it should be integrated into a larger
15 research plan.

16 MS. FISCHER: Okay, John?

17 MR. McMULLEN: I'm going to give it a high priority. I
18 believe it is being integrated into a research plan, and that it's
19 essential to understanding interaction because different
20 (inaudible) species of fish and plankton in the Sound.

21 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

22 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high.

23 MS. FISCHER: John?

24 MR. STURGEON: I'd say yes, medium. I think it's a
25 basically pretty good study (inaudible) and I'm just kind of blown
26 away by the price tag, but it's an exceptionally good project.

1 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

2 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.

3 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I'm voting no on this due to the
4 statement that he made that it was still in the design stage, and
5 I feel for it still being in the design stage and sticking a six
6 hundred and six thousand dollars price tag with it, I just feel
7 like they're padding the budget. I think it's a good project, but
8 I can't go along with it.

9 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Project 94285, subtidal sediment
10 recovery monitoring.

11 MS. BRODIE: I'm voting no on this one again. I think
12 it's too high a price for the value of the new information it would
13 recover.

14 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

15 MR. CLOUD: Yes, low priority.

16 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

17 DR. MORRIS: Donna, could I ask a question --

18 MS. FISCHER: Certainly.

19 DR. MORRIS: -- a question of Pam?

20 MS. FISCHER: Certainly, Byron.

21 DR. MORRIS: I think (indiscernible) I think there is
22 a lot of confusion in terms -- what she thinks the price tag of
23 that project is, and what she's referring to as a high price tag?

24 MS. BRODIE: Six hundred and twenty-nine point two
25 thousand dollars.

26 DR. MORRIS: No, that's what I was trying to explain.

1 The project is a hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars for next
2 year. The bulk of it is the close-out cost of last year's five-
3 part program.

4 MS. BRODIE: With the current --

5 DR. MORRIS: That's where the work plan failed to show
6 close-out costs and continuation costs adequately. The projects --
7 they've already approved the close-out for this project. The only
8 item remaining is the one part that goes out and samples, and
9 that's a hundred and eighty thousand dollars if my memory serves
10 correctly.

11 MS. BRODIE: You're saying it's almost five hundred
12 thousand dollars for close-out?

13 DR. MORRIS: In '93 there was five -- it was a million
14 dollar project. It was made up of five separate studies, clams
15 (indiscernible) beds, tidal fish, sediments and microbial work.
16 The only part that we propose the continuation is the subtidal, the
17 actual sediments themselves. I know it's real confusing. I've had
18 to try and point that out every time we get to that because it
19 looks like a huge project for continuation, but it's not.

20 MR. MUTTER: So we're voting on a hundred -- about a
21 hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars for '94 then?

22 DR. MORRIS: Correct.

23 MR. MUTTER: Okay.

24 DR. MORRIS: And the only way you could find that is in
25 one budget table in the front, that's the only way it shows up.
26 Thank you for letting me interject.

1 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Pam, let's go back to you with that
2 information.

3 MR. DIEHL: I vote yes with a medium priority.

4 MS. BRODIE: I'm going to stay no.

5 MR. MUTTER: Okay, Jim?

6 MR. CLOUD: I'm staying with mine.

7 MR. MUTTER: Okay. John?

8 DR. FRENCH: I'll vote yes with a medium priority.

9 This includes some subtidal work outside of the Sound which hasn't
10 been done since the spill, since immediately after the spill, and
11 I think that it needs to be done at about this time. Depending on
12 what it shows up, it may be the only time it has to be done.

13 MS. FISCHER: James?

14 MR. KING: I think that it should be deferred until
15 the ecosystem plan is implemented, so I'll give it a low.

16 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

17 MS. MCBURNEY: A low rating. I feel that it should also
18 be incorporated into a large ecosystem research plan.

19 MS. FISCHER: John?

20 MR. McMULLEN: Well, I'll give it a mid-range if it is,
21 indeed, the last phase of this project that's being closed out and
22 under the assumption that this is a hundred and eighty-seven
23 thousand dollars that we're talking about, not six twenty-nine
24 point two.

25 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

26 MS. GAGNON: Yes, medium. Excuse me. Yes, medium to

1 high.

2 MS. FISCHER: John?

3 MR. STURGEON: I'd say no, deferred for more ecosystem

4 planning.

5 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

6 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, medium.

7 MS. FISCHER: And I'm saying no. I think that the

8 figures presented to us, even though it's been changed, are still

9 going to wind up being six hundred and twenty-nine. I just feel

10 that all their budget is six hundred and some thousand, so I'll say

11 no.

12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

13 MS. FISCHER: Yeah.

14 MR. MUTTER: Okay, the next project, the last NOAA

15 project, 94290, hydrocarbon data analysis and interpretation.

16 MS. FISCHER: So, I lied.

17 MR. MUTTER: Pam?

18 MS. BRODIE: No.

19 MR. CLOUD: Yes, high.

20 MR. DIEHL: Yes, with a high priority.

21 DR. FRENCH: Yes, with a high priority. I agree with

22 Byron, this is an important aspect in terms of assuring the

23 integrity of the data.

24 MR. KING: High, high, important archive.

25 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

26 MS. MCBURNEY: I'm not quite so sure. I think I'm going

1 to pass on this.

2 MS. FISCHER: Pass on that. John?

3 MR. McMULLEN: We've got a lot of work going out there
4 that needs a lot of support. High priority.

5 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high.

6 MS. FISCHER: John.

7 MR. STURGEON: Yes, high.

8 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

9 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.

10 MS. FISCHER: And I have yes and medium. Believe it or
11 not, it's below the six hundred thousand and it is important work.
12 Okay, Byron, we hope you're feeling better and we are sorry we took
13 you out of your sick bed. You can go back -- crawl back to it now.
14 But thank you and get well soon.

15 DR. MORRIS: Thanks very much and keep up the good
16 work.

17 MS. FISCHER: Now, where are we at? We have three more.
18 We're going to do Bart -- I mean Mark, and if he can do it in a
19 half hour, we can be out of here at three.

20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible)

21 MS. FISCHER: Right. That will give us time for general
22 discussion then. And he's also going to do Jim Ayers' executive
23 report. Okay? Okay, you know the routine? Yes, Eric, are you
24 going to do it?

25 MR. MYERS: No, I was just going to say, unless
26 somebody knows something different, I believe that Jim Ayers should

1 show up momentarily.

2 MS. FISCHER: Oh, okay.

3 MR. BRODERSEN: While we're being facetious, as was I
4 when I agreed to do (indiscernible).

5 MS. FISCHER: No, I -- just in case he doesn't, in case
6 they -- you know, get grounded somewhere or if the plane has not
7 landed yet or something. They might have gone into Cordova or
8 Yakutat and couldn't get out.

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Heaven forbid.

10 MS. FISCHER: Yeah. If you would give your name, your
11 department, the numbers and the page number for us, and we'll get
12 started here real quick.

13 MR. BRODERSEN: I'm Mark Brodersen from the Department of
14 Environmental Conservation. We have a very limited number of
15 projects here which I don't know the page number, but we can figure
16 them out as we go through.

17 MS. FISCHER: Sure.

18 MR. BRODERSEN: The first one is '090 here, mussel bed
19 restoration monitoring, which Byron suggested we defer, so I got up
20 here, it's on 142. DEC and NOAA have been looking at the oiled
21 mussel beds now as a source of contamination of the higher trophic
22 levels of the food chain for ducks, et cetera, for quite awhile.
23 We're also looking at methods of being able to clean them up.
24 Initially, in the spill, it was thought that you should not try and
25 clean mussel beds, that you'd do more harm than good. Then it
26 turns out with time here, we've learned that that's true for some

1 mussel beds but not others. The mussel beds that are in low energy
2 areas, like in the back of coves and that kind of thing do not get
3 cleaned by natural action. Instead, the oil is staying underneath
4 the mussel beds, and that also corresponds quite nicely to where
5 critters such as ducks feed in heavy weather because there's not
6 much energy back there. This apparently is a source of continuing
7 recontamination of these critters from the mussels that pull the
8 oil up out of the mussel beds from underneath them. The monitoring
9 that NOAA's been doing over the last few years indicates that these
10 mussels are continuing to have a fairly high level of hydrocarbons
11 in them. We are still waiting for the results of this year's
12 monitoring that NOAA did on the mussel beds. The project that you
13 see before you is based on cleaning fifty beds. That works out to
14 about seven thousand dollars a bed for those of you who want to do
15 the calculation real quickly. The lion's share of that money is
16 going to vessel contracts and to people from the spill area to go
17 out and actually clean the beds. There will be some government
18 people, i.e., DEC and NOAA people on site there, but in large part
19 it's actually go out, and what will be done here is you physically
20 remove the bed, you treat it like sod and put it off to the side,
21 you take the contaminated sediments out from underneath, broadcast
22 them around a bit, put clean sediment back underneath, put the
23 mussels back in place. This is all in one tidal cycle. The
24 mussels re-establish themselves before the next low tide. They're
25 very efficient at this we've done three years worth of work now on
26 this to make sure that this actually happens. The hydrocarbons

1 that are underneath the bed when they're broadcast on the higher
2 tidal like this dissipate very quickly. When the sunlight hits
3 them, they get photo-oxidized, et cetera, it's gone. So it's just
4 a question of moving the oil from one place to another and very
5 quickly get it cleaned up and get rid of the potential source of
6 contamination. There may be more than fifty beds that need to be
7 done, there may be less. Let's say, we're waiting upon the results
8 of the monitoring that NOAA did this year to actually figure out
9 the exact number that we want to go out and hit. Let's see. The
10 next one we have is 266, shoreline assessment, oil removal. When
11 this project was originally written up, it was to do a full-blown
12 assessment like we did this summer. Since then, we've gotten the
13 results of this summer's shoreline assessment. The recommendations
14 from that are that we focus on three things: one was mussel beds
15 which we just covered, the other is to clean up the surface oil
16 around the Chenega area, which appears to be stabilized and no
17 longer being naturally cleaned, then the third one was to remove
18 flagging, rebar, stakes, et cetera, left over from experiments that
19 are no longer going on out there. The project is being re-directed
20 towards that. The cost will drop accordingly. I'm sorry, I don't
21 have it done yet, but that's where we're aiming at this, is to take
22 that into account, the results that were presented at the last
23 Trustee Council meeting from this project. Once again, the lion's
24 share of the money will go to vessels and to people from those
25 spill areas that actually do the clean-up. Twenty-five words or
26 less on what they found this summer was that the subsurface oil in

1 the last two years was reduced between forty-five and fifty
2 percent. We think it's going to go away of it's own accord, but
3 that the surface oil appears to have stabilized remarkably and it's
4 going to require some assistance. Most of these areas are around
5 Chenega, and we'd like to get in there and get rid of -- basically,
6 what it consists of is getting in there and chopping it into fine
7 little pieces and leaving it, and then it goes away pretty rapidly
8 after that. It just needs to be broken up. It's in strong asphalt
9 now, and it's not amenable to photo oxidation or microbial
10 degradation or anything. If you work it into small little
11 particles, it will go away pretty quickly. The other one that we
12 have on here is '417, waste oil disposal facilities. Let's see,
13 where's that project? It looks to be about 355, 354, somewhere in
14 there. This project is the result of the public meetings that we
15 held last spring. I went to twelve of them, and in eight of the
16 communities they wanted something done like this so we came back
17 and put this together. What this is, is it more or less parallels
18 the idea of habitat protection. You're trying to reduce further
19 insults to the critters that were injured out in the spill area.
20 A lot of the smaller communities are saying they have trouble
21 disposing of their waste oil. They were looking for some kind of
22 assistance to be able to do this kind of activity. We looked
23 around and found that there are waste oil burning facilities
24 available that can be put into the smaller communities fairly
25 cheaply. There's one operating, for instance, in Whittier now,
26 there has been for quite awhile. This was to put in -- which been

1 on an experimental basis in six communities, these waste oil
2 burners, and have the community basically burn their waste oil
3 rather than letting it get back into the marine environment, which
4 has been an ongoing problem, as I'm sure most of you are aware, in
5 the spill area and elsewhere in the small communities. It's hard
6 for them to get rid of it. Yeah?

7 MS. MCBURNEY: So this is to take care of liquid oil, but
8 not necessarily oil that's sort of in pads or any solid waste?

9 MR. BRODERSEN: No, this is -- this is like for when
10 people change oil in their fishing boats and their cars or
11 whatever, to try and keep them from throwing it overboard, and then
12 also it generates heat for some municipal building or wherever the
13 facility happens to be close to. That gets me through the DEC's
14 projects that weren't covered elsewhere.

15 MS. FISCHER: I have a question on that waste oil, on
16 the waste oil disposal facilities. Now, it says here that local
17 organizations definitely can apply for funding for this.

18 MR. BRODERSEN: Right.

19 MS. FISCHER: What do you do? I mean, you -- do they
20 have to give you an estimate of what it would cost to put it in, or
21 do you tell them what it would cost?

22 MR. BRODERSEN: We would work with the community to
23 develop what the cost would be and how to get it done, et cetera.
24 The -- part of the cost of this project is going out and working
25 with the communities. It's not free to get into a lot of these
26 smaller communities.

1 MS. FISCHER: Because I remember at one time that Valdez
2 did present, you know, a project quite similar to this, and the
3 Trustees turned it down, and the one reason that we did present
4 this was because the waste oil incinerator and disposal was in
5 Valdez, you know, and it was during the duration of the oil spill,
6 and it really wound up being a mess, but the Trustees turned it
7 down. Why would they change on that opinion now?

8 MR. BRODERSEN: This one, we've been talking with the
9 lawyers and have crafted it in such a fashion that, as currently
10 constructed, they feel this one is legal, just barely.

11 MS. FISCHER: Well, I think this is --

12 MR. BRODERSEN: And we're trying to push the envelope to
13 get some precedent set out there for doing these kinds of
14 activities, quite frankly.

15 MS. FISCHER: Well, I think this is one of the better
16 projects that will continue to try to keep our harbors, our bay and
17 what have you clean, and I think it's good. I'm glad to see that
18 there is a change there.

19 MR. BRODERSEN: Well, it is an attempt to be responsive
20 to people that were talking to us at the public meetings too, to
21 say this is not something the DEC came up with, this is something
22 that --

23 MS. FISCHER: The local governments --

24 MR. BRODERSEN: -- the meeting folks said to us, we need
25 these, and so we tried to figure out a way to accommodate it.

26 MS. FISCHER: Good. Okay.

1 MR. MUTTER: Mark, on the list here we have another
2 project, 94423, Oil Spill Public Information Center.

3 MR. BRODERSEN: 94423.

4 MR. MUTTER: Yeah, it's got DEC --

5 MR. BRODERSEN: Oh, that's the Oil Spill Public
6 Information Center. Yeah, that's -- DEC and Fish and Game will
7 just be carrying the personnel and contractual obligations for
8 maintaining the oil spill center that's right over here.
9 Previously, that was in the executive director's budget as being
10 split out as a separate project, and to identify the cost of that,
11 make it little easier to see.

12 DR. FRENCH: Any guesses on how that cost will relate
13 to last year's cost?

14 MR. BRODERSEN: They should be the same or less, much
15 less actually because the CACI contract is being removed, one
16 person is being deleted, some other facilities are being let go.
17 I expect it to be substantially less.

18 MS. FISCHER: On the left, that's off the --

19 MR. BRODERSEN: That's the office that's right across the
20 way here, the library right across the way.

21 MS. FISCHER: Does that include rent and that too, even
22 though it's the BML (ph), sort of be decided or be (inaudible).

23 MR. BRODERSEN: The rent for the building as currently
24 projected, they pay a quarter of it in that project since they have
25 a quarter of the building.

26 MS. FISCHER: Oh, okay.

1 DR. FRENCH: You're also listed as lead on the
2 executive director's budget, and since he's not here --

3 MR. BRODERSEN: We're not lead on the executive
4 director's budget.

5 DR. FRENCH: Would you like to add on that?

6 MR. BRODERSEN: We have some expenses on it. We're --
7 the way the executive director's budget -- the executive director's
8 office's budget is going to be set up is that there are six sub-
9 projects in it now. It will be the executive director's office in
10 Juneau, it will be the operations budget here, and it will be --
11 the Public Advisory Group will be one of the sub-projects. How
12 many (inaudible) three. The finance committee, which is being
13 terminated, is another one. We have to include it to make sure we
14 get a full fiscal year budget. I can't -- I'm not remembering them
15 all, but anyway, it's -- what it is, is we're taking the previous
16 four administrative pieces, which were the finance committee, the
17 restoration team, the Public Advisory Group, the executive
18 director's budget, rolling them all into one project. The initial
19 cost of that project, of those four projects, the four this year
20 that were initially proposed, was about five point seven million.
21 I think when Jim gets all done with this, he's going to be
22 somewhere around four point five million. He will have made a
23 substantial reduction in it, in spite of adding some new people in
24 there. He's tightening up how things are being done, getting rid
25 of travel, trying to get more out of individuals, tightening up on
26 the CACI contract, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, for at least a

1 million dollars savings and probably more by the time all is said
2 and done.

3 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Any other questions? John?

4 MR. STURGEON: The question I have is on the mussel bed
5 cleaning. If you don't clean it, what happens to the oil
6 eventually? Does it disintegrate, or does it stay there, or does
7 it change its state? What would happen if you don't do anything
8 (inaudible)?

9 MR. BRODERSEN: Yeah, we thought it would disappear, that
10 actually it would be attacked by microbes and be eaten, but it
11 turns out that the mussel beds are such a thick mass that it
12 prevents oxygen from getting down there. Most of these areas are
13 toxic, it smells like hydrogen sulfide. Those microbes that use
14 hydrogen sulfide rather than oxygen for their oxidative -- or their
15 energy source are very slow-acting. We can take you out to mussel
16 beds where you can flip it over and it smells like it spilled
17 yesterday here, five years after the spill. It's just not
18 disappearing. We're going to have to do something to intervene on
19 this, or we're going to have to wait a long time.

20 MR. STURGEON: So these -- the oil is just not doing
21 anything, it's not --

22 MR. BRODERSEN: It's just sitting there.

23 MR. STURGEON: It's sitting there?

24 MR. BRODERSEN: Yes, it's still fresh. It smells
25 abominably.

26 MR. STURGEON: How many -- you mentioned a number of beds

1 you're going to clean. How many are out there (inaudible)?

2 MR. BRODERSEN: The mussel beds in Prince William Sound
3 are quite discontinuous. Some of the mussel beds we're talking are
4 no bigger than this area that we're all looking at each other here.
5 Some of them are even half the size of this, they're quite small.
6 The problem is that these are the areas that the critters go to eat
7 in when they can't eat anywhere else, there's a low energy area,
8 the waves are not wiping them out when they're trying to get
9 through it. I do not have exact evidence that this is what's
10 happening, but I can just paint you a pretty logical picture that
11 it probably is what's happening. The cost is low, we can study it
12 for ten years, or we can go out and just take care of it and be
13 done with it, and the cost is a lot less to go out and take care of
14 it and be done with it than it is to study it forever. There is a
15 component of this that comes with NOAA, where we want to measure
16 the areas of the oil concentration before and after to make sure
17 that what we've done is actually doing what we think it's going to
18 do. It's not a good idea to clean up something without knowing
19 you've really cleaned it up, so that's the fair component of this
20 is.

21 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Pam?

22 MS. BRODIE: Yes. Also about the mussel beds, you said
23 it would be seven thousand dollars per mussel bed. That, I
24 presume, is for DEC's costs?

25 MR. BRODERSEN: Our chunk is three hundred fifty thousand
26 dollars.

1 MS. BRODIE: Whereas it's another seven thousand per
2 mussel bed for --

3 MR. BRODERSEN: No, I don't think NOAA is quite that
4 high.

5 MS. BRODIE: So the total would be about fifteen
6 thousand?

7 MR. BRODERSEN: NOAA's component of this is two hundred
8 and sixteen thousand dollars, some of which will go toward looking
9 at the mussel beds that are cleaned, and some of that two hundred
10 sixteen thousand dollars goes to other stations where they are
11 doing some mussel monitoring just to try and figure out the health
12 of mussels and from that the health of the ecosystem. The mussel,
13 because it filters so much water, it's an incredibly good
14 integrator of what's in the water. Worldwide, there's a mussel
15 watch that's used to look for pollutants, et cetera, in the water,
16 and so part of their two hundred sixteen thousand dollars is to
17 continue that, and part of it is to monitor the before and after in
18 some of these clean beds to make that what we're doing actually
19 (inaudible).

20 MS. BRODIE: Isn't there any way that the cleaning of
21 these mussel beds could be done as part of other trips to these
22 areas rather than taking helicopters out to each site just to clean
23 a mussel bed?

24 MR. BRODERSEN: When the actual cleaning is done, I would
25 anticipate using vessels. NOAA moves by helicopter because of the
26 people that they're using, and the few people that they're using

1 for the mussel beds, it's something of a toss up. I personally
2 dislike helicopters because of having to depend upon the rotors
3 going around to keep you in the air, so my preference is usually
4 towards boats. Plus, when you're taking in a bunch of local folks
5 to help clean there, like, for instance, if we were going to use
6 the Chenega-ites to go in there, they would come out of Chenega by
7 vessel, stay in the vessel over the low tides, clean it, and the
8 next low tide you go on to your next site. If you're cleaning
9 fifty beds, you're basically looking at fifty tidal cycles that
10 you've got to go in and do this on. Using vessels or helicopters
11 of convenience, if you will, is not a very likely scenario to get
12 this kind of thing done in any kind of time frame. Out of a ten
13 day period, you can generally work about five days, providing the
14 weather isn't bum, because of the way the low tide is low some days
15 and high others. There's a cycle through here. You can't work all
16 the time. You have to get in there when your opportunity arises
17 and do it, and it's a comforting thought to think that you could do
18 this using vessels of convenience, but it's not practical, it
19 really isn't.

20 MS. FISCHER: Are there -- James?

21 MR. KING: Well, I was wondering about the --
22 apparently the mussels themselves are taking up the oil, and what
23 happens to it after it's consumed by a mussel? Does it continue to
24 recycle as that mussel dies and --

25 MR. BRODERSEN: A mussel will slowly deteriorate the
26 hydrocarbons off, once it no longer has the source of hydrocarbons

1 underneath it. It's not as fast as a mammal or something like
2 that, but it will reduce its concentration of oil with time, and so
3 the mussels themselves will flush themselves out when they're put
4 back without this contamination underneath them and become healthy
5 members of the environment again.

6 MR. KING: Are these mussels not healthy that --

7 MR. BRODERSEN: Well, I wouldn't go so far as to say
8 they're not healthy, but when they have hydrocarbons in them, they
9 contaminate other sources, other critters, other higher trophic
10 levels, some of them.

11 MR. KING: And has there been any study on the
12 effects of -- on the contamination of other --

13 MR. BRODERSEN: Oystercatcher, the harlequin, otters.
14 I'm trying to think of other -- in the earlier years, there were
15 some more done. Generally, this requires -- what's the polite term
16 for -- you have to go out and kill the creature to be able to
17 actually study it, once it's eaten the mussels. We try to avoid
18 doing that, so there hasn't been as much done as some of the
19 scientists would have like to have done.

20 DR. FRENCH: There's quite a bit of work on mussels and
21 petroleum hydrocarbon contamination, and they'll stay alive but no,
22 they're not healthy, but yes, and they don't turn over the
23 hydrocarbons in the sense that a fish or a mammal does. They don't
24 have the high levels of oxidated enzymes, so it mostly, indeed, is
25 physical deterioration, and so yes, the mussels can't be counted on
26 to turn over the oil by themselves.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay. Are we ready to vote on these
2 projects now?

3 MR. MUTTER: 94090.

4 MS. FISCHER: Pam.

5 MS. BRODIE: I'm torn on this one. I think it's
6 important, but I am -- would like to have cheaper methods explored,
7 so I'm going to vote no at this point.

8 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

9 MR. CLOUD: You know, you can only buy seven acres per
10 mussel bed. Yes, high priority.

11 MS. FISCHER: Jim?

12 MR. DIEHL: Yes, but a medium priority.

13 MS. FISCHER: John.

14 DR. FRENCH: Yes, a medium priority.

15 MS. FISCHER: James?

16 MR. KING: Medium, medium.

17 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

18 MS. MCBURNEY: Medium.

19 MS. FISCHER: John?

20 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.

21 MS. FISCHER: Sharon?

22 MS. GAGNON: Medium.

23 MS. FISCHER: John?

24 MR. STURGEON: High.

25 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

26 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.

1 MS. FISCHER: No. Next one?

2 MR. MUTTER: 94266 (indiscernible).

3 MS. FISCHER: Pam? (Pause) Pam?

4 MS. BRODIE: I'm sorry. I'm lost here.

5 MS. FISCHER: Page 6.

6 MS. BRODIE: Okay. We don't know what we're voting for

7 here. We don't know how much money it is.

8 MR. BRODERSEN: It's less than eight hundred and sixty

9 thousand, I'll guarantee you that.

10 MS. FISCHER: Okay, you're saying no, Pam?

11 MS. BRODIE: I'm saying no, and I -- until I know more

12 about this, and why weren't they pulling out these rebars and doing

13 the cleanup when they visited these sites before?

14 MR. BRODERSEN: A lot of these experiments are still

15 ongoing. Part of the cost of this project, once we do get a cost

16 to you, will be figuring out which ones are still in use and which

17 ones aren't. It would be penny wise and pound foolish for us to go

18 around pulling out rebar without checking first to make sure we

19 weren't destroying some other experiments that the Council was

20 funding. It's going to be a bit of an effort to make sure that we

21 don't pull out existing stuff, and we're now getting into a winding

22 down stage on a lot of these projects so it's time to get them out

23 of there, but there has been a lot less, and a lot of it, quite

24 frankly, is not from the Exxon Valdez process but the Exxon Valdez

25 studies are blamed anyway, so let's go get them out of there and

26 get rid of it.

1 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Jim?
2 MR. CLOUD: Yes, high priority.
3 MS. FISCHER: Jim?
4 MR. DIEHL: Yes, low priority.
5 MR. FRENCH: I had the advantage of hearing Ernie
6 Piper's presentation to the Trustee Council on that, and I would
7 say yes, high priority, as long as the money is redirected in the
8 directions that Ernie recommended.
9 MS. FISCHER: James?
10 MR. KING: I give this a high, high, although I felt
11 like there was too much in the budget, but that perhaps could be
12 reduced.
13 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Mary?
14 MS. MCBURNEY: Medium priority.
15 MS. FISCHER: John?
16 MR. McMULLEN: This is 266 --
17 MS. FISCHER: Yes.
18 MR. McMULLEN: -- that we're discussing here?
19 MS. FISCHER: Yes, page 6.
20 MR. MUTTER: 94266?
21 MS. FISCHER: Yes, 310 in the book.
22 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.
23 MS. FISCHER: Okay.
24 MS. GAGNON: Yes, high.
25 MS. FISCHER: John?
26 MR. STURGEON: Yes, high.

1 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?

2 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.

3 MS. FISCHER: No, since they're not sure of the budget
4 and they think it's lower.

5 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Project 94417, waste oil disposal
6 facility.

7 MS. BRODIE: I'm going to vote no on this one, and I'm
8 torn here because I do think it's a very good thing to do, but it
9 seems to me it's a bit of a stretch to do it with the oil spill
10 money.

11 MR. CLOUD: I vote yes with a high priority, and I
12 applaud the efforts of the DEC to make available a source for
13 people to get rid of their pollutants.

14 MS. FISCHER: Okay, Jim?

15 MR. DIEHL: Yes, with a high priority.

16 MS. FISCHER: John?

17 DR. FRENCH: Yes, with a medium priority. I don't
18 think it's really time critical, but it should be done.

19 MS. FISCHER: James?

20 MR. KING: I have a concern about the funding on this
21 one and the applicability, so I gave it a low, low.

22 MS. FISCHER: Mary?

23 MS. MCBURNEY: For the sake of the communities, I think
24 it's a high priority, and I'd like to see a follow-up project,
25 perhaps later on, to deal with the solid voided waste.

26 MS. FISCHER: John?

1 MR. McMULLEN: Mid-range.
2 MS. GAGNON: High.
3 MS. FISCHER: John?
4 MR. STURGEON: High. I think it's -- to me, a real good
5 use of the spill funds, a good project.
6 MS. FISCHER: Chuck?
7 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, high.
8 MS. FISCHER: And I say yes, high, and think it's needed
9 and long overdue.
10 MR. MUTTER: The two projects that we didn't take
11 action on, then, at this point in time, are the executive
12 director's office and the Oil Spill Public Information Center. I
13 presume you don't want to take action since we don't have any
14 information, given the current reorganization?
15 MS. FISCHER: Jim is leaving here, and I just want to
16 ask, we were going to ask if anybody had any suggestions on new
17 projects. Jim, do you have anything?
18 MR. CLOUD: No, I don't. If you have anything for
19 voting, like any resolutions or anything, Sharon, representing Lew
20 Williams, has my proxy --
21 MS. FISCHER: Your vote?
22 MR. CLOUD: -- and Vern McCorkle's.
23 MS. FISCHER: Okay.
24 MR. CLOUD: I'm sorry I have to leave early.
25 MS. FISCHER: Shall we take a five minute break since
26 the director is here? Yeah, okay, we'll take a five minute break.

1 We'll take a five minute break, and then we'll come right back in
2 five minutes and listen to the director, and then we should be able
3 to dismiss the meeting.

4 (Off record at 2:55 p.m.)

5 (On record at 3:00 p.m.)

6 MS. FISCHER: I'm going to call this meeting back to
7 order. Eric, could you poke your head out there and get Jim in
8 here? (Pause) Mr. Ayers, we've come back to order now
9 (inaudible).

10 (Pause)

11 MR. AYERS: I apologize for my delay, and actually
12 that of Dr. Spies. He just left in Washington, D.C., I guess, late
13 last night, but I understand that you've made progress without us,
14 and I appreciate that. There are a couple of things that I would
15 mention. One of those is that I appreciate also the fact that you
16 have looked at projects with a critical view of: are they clear,
17 is it understandable, what are they going to lead to, how much
18 money does it really take, and in those areas where there have been
19 questions, it's my understanding you've also raised questions about
20 those, which will help us in trying to get information together
21 before the Trustee meeting. I don't want to take up your time, I
22 talked some yesterday, but I would be happy to answer questions if
23 any of you have questions of me at this point.

24 MS. FISCHER: Does anyone have any questions?

25 DR. FRENCH: Yeah. Specifically with respect to
26 Project -- I think it's 94199, what used to be the Seward Sea Life

1 Center, which I guess now is the vehicle for research
2 infrastructure development. Could you enlighten us at all about
3 what's been going on there in terms of the discussions and the
4 current intent of that project?

5 MR. AYERS: Well, yes, I will. I'm a little
6 disappointed that, as a member of the University, the University
7 hasn't advised you --

8 DR. FRENCH: Well, I'm aware of some. I'd like to hear
9 it directly from you though.

10 MR. AYERS: Okay. If we were starting today, one of
11 the things I think we'd want to know is what kind of capability do
12 we have to conduct monitoring and research, and one of the things
13 that I find flabbergasting is that we do not have such an
14 inventory, nor have we looked at what it is that we have in order
15 to go conduct what it is we want to do. So, what I did with that
16 particular project is ask Kim Sundberg to engage in a look with the
17 various resource agencies and others and what kind of resource and
18 research capabilities would we like to have, do you we need to
19 have, in order to look at the long-term monitoring research of the
20 injured species, since that is what we're supposed to be doing, and
21 then what gaps do we have that could be accommodated by this
22 facility that's being proposed, if in fact they want us to give a
23 portion, or contribute a portion, monies to that facility. So we
24 -- I had Sundberg meet with a variety of people from Fish and
25 Wildlife Service, from NMFS, from ADF&G, and the University, and
26 engage in a discussion paper of are these generally the things that

1 we think we ought to be looking at with regard to -- I'm going to
2 say the spill area, and then we can talk about ecosystem if you
3 want to, and what is it that we need to have in order to feel
4 comfortable that we have the facilities necessary to conduct those.
5 Secondly, what is it that we can do to help integrate the research?
6 And let me say one of the things that I'm concerned about. We have
7 millions of dollars worth of proposals, as you now know, and as
8 you've probably seen in the past, and I'm just now seeing. On what
9 basis are we deciding which project ought to be funded, and does it
10 get a hundred thousand or two million? I'm not clear on how this
11 monitoring is being integrated. If you go over in the library
12 right now, there's not copies of the damage assessments over there.
13 There's very little over there about what monitoring has been going
14 on and the millions of dollars that have been spent. Where is this
15 being integrated? As a member of the public, and what I heard you
16 say is where has the money gone, I can't remember who it was last
17 time but you had a unanimous agreement. I want a member of the
18 public or a scientist or a resource manager, and in some cases one
19 person may be all of those, to be able to walk into a facility that
20 we have at some point after we've spent six or seven hundred
21 million dollars and be able to sit down, and if they want to know
22 what's going on with sea otters, type in sea otters and find out
23 what the damage was, where that is, what's going on today, what do
24 we know about them, and what's the current monitoring or research
25 project going on, and have that in some central location, maybe not
26 the hard copy, but certainly an update and status report. That is

1 another thing that I think needs to be housed someplace. We spend
2 a half a million dollars a year on that -- on the library across
3 the hall, and yet it is not integrated into our program. My view
4 is that that ought to also be integrated into a marine research
5 institute. Seward is the place for two reasons. I'm trying to
6 stay on task here. Two reasons, at least. One, they have now got
7 twelve and a half million dollars of state money and approximately
8 three and a half million dollars of other money headed towards them
9 anyway with which to construct the facility, and secondly, it is
10 road, train accessible to the majority of the population of the
11 people of this state and certainly anyone else coming into
12 Anchorage as the hub. And let me also mention that it is in the
13 spill area, whether we like it or not, and I -- you know, I
14 understand that it's not -- it's not in the -- located on a primary
15 spill site but it is in the spill area by legal definition. So my
16 view is the research institute needs a -- needs to be accomplished
17 someplace, but before we get to that, we need to know what we have,
18 and it needs to get coordinated a little better, and then we need
19 to fill the gap.

20 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, if I can respond to that a little
21 bit?

22 MR. AYERS: Sure.

23 DR. FRENCH: I guess my biggest concern is that a lot
24 of time and investment has been put into certain -- developing the
25 infrastructure of other sites, including the one I direct in
26 Kodiak, and that in many cases the cost-effectiveness of addressing

1 certain of the restoration initiatives can be done most effectively
2 by using multiple sites as opposed to an individual site, and I'm
3 not opposed at all to having a single marine research institute
4 umbrella, whatever we want to call it, to oversee everything and
5 piece it together and be the Seward Marine Science Center and
6 Fisheries Center, both under the same direction of the School of
7 Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. What I am concerned about is
8 deciding that everything needs to be focused just in Seward simply
9 because it's in Seward, when there are other appropriate locations,
10 and indeed, there have been a lot of planning and a lot of other
11 dollars to make it more cost-effective to put some of those things
12 in other locations.

13 MR. AYERS: One of the reasons I asked Kim Sundberg to
14 withdraw, I just got a fax of a paper that he drafted yesterday.
15 I want -- and I don't know who the University has assigned to it,
16 but I want a representative of each of the groups to take a look at
17 that draft. You could read the draft that he has now described as
18 what kind of research we need to go on in total from intertidal
19 research all the way up to marine mammal research. You could read
20 that document and assume that we're doing exactly what you are
21 suggesting we not do, and I agree with you that we do not need to
22 focus all aspects of this to -- there are other institutions that
23 are conducting research, Prince William Sound Science Center,
24 Soldotna, Kodiak. NMFS conducts a lot of their business out of
25 Seattle. It is not intended -- certainly, it's not my intention,
26 and I've said this now to Kim, that, for example, you move all of

1 that activity, or even focus it in one place.

2 DR. FRENCH: Well, once again, over the last eight
3 years the National Marine Fisheries Service has been looking at
4 increasing both their research and management capabilities in the
5 Kodiak facility, and then suddenly we're saying no, we don't want
6 this in the Kodiak facility, let's stick it all in Seward. When
7 that's no longer with consistent with their -- what isn't
8 consistent with their management strategy may be consistent with
9 their research strategy or it may not be, but it's certainly not
10 cost-effective with respect to what planning has taken place and
11 what funds are already in position and what lands have already been
12 identified and donated and all the rest of these things. As I
13 said, there's a lot of cost arguments that make a diversified
14 geographical set of centers, or center and satellites make a whole
15 lot more sense than just stick it all in Seward, which is indeed a
16 site that has many weaknesses, including the fact that it's a
17 tidewater site. I -- just one other quick question. I was aware
18 of the Seward meeting. I was -- never been specifically aware of
19 who was representing the University, and I know I should know that,
20 but could you enlighten me on that?

21 MR. AYERS: Well, the person that intended -- that
22 engaged me in the first conversation, and the person that attended
23 the meeting last week was Dr. Komisar.

24 MR. FRENCH: Okay, yeah, and I have talked to Jerry
25 Komisar and he didn't mention specifically that meeting but, okay,
26 he was present?

1 MR. AYERS: Yes, he was present during the entire
2 meeting. He actually had a draft, and I assume -- I assume he
3 still has it, but it's a draft of an overview, and what I asked was
4 that Kim Sundberg work with a representative of each of the
5 agencies and then ferret out, if I can use that term, what aspects
6 -- Fish and Wildlife Service talked about the need to have some sea
7 bird, shore bird, even, facilities. There was talk about wet
8 tanks, but they talked about a very limited scope and then inter-
9 creation of the information that we have as opposed to what you're
10 suggesting, and I agree with you.

11 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I'm comfortable with the position
12 that Jerry Komisar has been promoting. I've talked to him about
13 that as recently as yesterday morning.

14 MR. AYERS: I don't know where Kim Sundberg is, but
15 I'd be happy to have you talk directly to Kim Sundberg and get a
16 copy of his most recent draft, and one of the reasons I didn't want
17 to get a hundred of those drafts floating around is because it's
18 not -- it needs to have your input before it gets further. And so,
19 Eric, if you wouldn't mind making sure that John gets in touch with
20 Kim and that there's some kind of work --

21 MR. McMULLEN: Madam Chairman?

22 MS. FISCHER: Yes.

23 MR. McMULLEN: Just a comment, Jim. I was concerned
24 about some of the same things that John was. All I have in my mind
25 was what the Trustee Council members were saying themselves when
26 they said rewrite this project, and that research must be here, you

1 know, this must be written up as being the hub of research in this
2 part of the world where, as you know, we have research efforts
3 ongoing in the Sound and facilities and logistics programs set up
4 there where -- I appreciate your feelings about research being able
5 to be conducted in different regional areas rather than
6 administered out of one place.

7 MR. AYERS: The North Pacific is a big place.

8 MR. McMULLEN: Yes, sure.

9 MR. AYERS: Let me say one other thing. I think one
10 of the best investments of money that I've seen so far are the two
11 different situations where we've spent money to get people in a
12 round table discussion and talk about what the hell it is we are
13 doing before we go do something else, and we did that with -- with
14 public members, and we paid for it, and my view is that
15 participation of the public with scientists, and getting them in a
16 room talking about what is it that happened, and what is it that
17 we're doing, and what do we think we need to do next, I think has
18 been one of the best investments, and I intend to do that at least
19 a couple more times before we say what it is we're going to
20 actually do in Seward. I do think we ought to do some things in
21 Seward, and I think -- for those two reasons that I mentioned
22 awhile ago, the fact that they have fifteen million dollars already
23 notwithstanding in which to pour the concrete and do some things.
24 But I think John French, as well as the average fisherman on the
25 street in Cordova, ought to have some say so about how they think
26 this is all integrated into a package.

1 MS. BRODIE: I think you're taking a very rational
2 approach on this, as other people seem to be, and I'm really
3 pleased. I'm feeling certainly better about this project after
4 hearing this, but I'd like to know the timeline of the decision
5 making. It seems like something that's important enough and
6 expensive enough that people had really better understand what
7 they're voting for if they vote for it, and I don't see a reason
8 why, on January 31st, the Trustee Council needs to make a decision
9 about this. What is the timeline for the decision making?

10 MR. AYERS: Well, one of the things that I'm learning
11 quickly is that there -- first of all, that the six Trustees can
12 change at any time, and that at no time should I assume that I know
13 what it is that they want to do in an official act with an
14 expenditure. I think generally I'm touch with them enough to know
15 how they're feeling about policy. Timeline, I think that January
16 31st -- that the Trustee Council does need to take a look at what
17 the concept is and get the concept clarified, and then say yes, we
18 want to go forward with that concept, and we need to give them a
19 ballpark amount of money, which was a frustration at the last
20 meeting. I think that, you know, it's going to need an
21 environmental assessment, it's going to take some continued
22 conversations, so my view is that on January 31st the project will
23 be a little more defined and that includes some numbers, and then,
24 probably, you know, a recommendation to them that they approve an
25 EA and some other conditions and some more details be brought back
26 to them at the next meeting. I don't have that in writing. I

1 mean, you know, I need to see some more, but generally, that's what
2 I'm thinking. The timeline is for conceptual approval at this
3 meeting, and it will be brought back to them at their next meeting.
4 Yes, sir.

5 MR. KING: We went through all the '94 proposals this
6 afternoon, as you know, and voted on them, and in most cases I took
7 a very conservative approach that I -- in view of hoping to save
8 money, I was worried about the compatibility with the first and the
9 ninth policies that -- from a draft plan, that is the ecosystem
10 approach, and the funding of agencies for projects that they are
11 really responsible for. The reason I was conservative was that the
12 last time we met, this group, we passed a resolution regarding an
13 endowment fund, and I feel that we need to think about that. We
14 haven't talked about it much today, but I wonder if you should
15 bring us up to date on anything that might be going on in that
16 line.

17 MS. FISCHER: Well, you know, we asked about adding any
18 more projects, so maybe this is something you could bring up for
19 the group to discuss, James. I mean, for everybody to bring out,
20 but I would like to hear Mr. Ayers' remarks too. I'm going to turn
21 the chair over to somebody else. I need to leave to try to catch
22 my plane, hopefully, if I can get into Valdez, so John, John French
23 or somebody?

24 DR. FRENCH: Sure, I'll be glad to.

25 MS. FISCHER: Okay. I do want to make a comment before
26 I leave. I enjoyed the restoration update. I like the idea of

1 this newsletter coming out on a fairly frequent basis, I believe
2 it's going to come out on. I think it's informative and good for
3 us. I feel we'll keep up with things without going through a lot
4 of paperwork.

5 MR. AYERS: L.J. and Molly are primary organizers and
6 authors of that, and it's through their hard work, and we are
7 committed, we are going to spend the energy and the money to make
8 sure that there's a regular communication with the public.

9 MS. FISCHER: Thank you. You all have a happy New Year.

10 MR. AYERS: Thanks.

11 DR. FRENCH: Did you want to say anything more about
12 endowments?

13 MR. AYERS: I didn't know if you wanted me to respond
14 to the question or not.

15 DR. FRENCH: I think if you can briefly. I mean, I
16 know you did some work on it by telephone yesterday.

17 MR. AYERS: So don't give that long, expanded answer
18 on it.

19 DR. FRENCH: Not at this point.

20 MR. AYERS: Yeah, I understand. I got the message.
21 I think endowments will have a serious legal problem, and we're
22 researching it, and I think the answer is to begin to talk about
23 the importance of monitoring and research for -- to ensure recovery
24 and restoration, and that requires at least a reserve to get
25 through that long-term research and monitoring requirement, and I
26 am focused on it, and I am personally, now, with the input from the

1 scientist, personally of the mind that it needs to be established.
2 I don't know how much.

3 MR. KING: Is there going to be a way to fix the
4 legal problems?

5 MR. FRENCH: Maybe we'd better go back to some
6 formality. Mr. Chairman, Mr. King.

7 MR. AYERS: Yes, I think so. There are two avenues.
8 One is to build it within the confines of the existing legal
9 decree. The other is -- actually, there's three. The other is to
10 go to court and have a discussion with Judge Holland about how to
11 depict 2001, and then the third aspect is simply to go to Congress
12 and -- which I think will be much more difficult than either of the
13 other two. But yes, there's three different ways to --

14 MR. KING: Well, thanks, Jim.

15 DR. FRENCH: Okay. I think we should try to wrap up
16 our agenda here because I think other people are trying to --

17 MR. STURGEON: Mr. Chair?

18 DR. FRENCH: Yes. Yes, go ahead.

19 MR. STURGEON: A little different topic, Jim. One of the
20 things that have been bothering me, I guess, as of late, is the
21 whole acquisition project. I would guess it's one of the larger
22 expenditures of all the projects, at least in one total. One of
23 the frustrations I have, I guess, is that one of the rationales for
24 purchasing a lot of this habitat is to prevent it from -- habitat
25 from being damaged, I guess is the term you used in the book, and
26 at least a couple that have went through, that damage has been

1 basically defined as timber harvesting, and there's other damages
2 that they talk about and some of the other acquisitions. There are
3 those villages and private landowners in the spill area who have
4 said, gee, we're concerned about the spill, we want to help the
5 restoration process, but I'm sorry, we're not interested in selling
6 our lands. That's something that's very important to us, or in
7 other cases, they're not interested in selling the timber resources
8 or whatever, and those are the decisions that villages have made.
9 I guess one of my frustrations is that, although we've approached
10 the staff and Trustees on several occasions, that they look at
11 maybe working with these private landowners who have decided to
12 develop their lands, yet really nothing has come of it, and an
13 example is, I would say, would be like the sequence of timber
14 harvesting, for example, the added buffers along streams. There's
15 places like on Montague Island that have still -- used to have big
16 fish runs, and they're basically gone because of the earthquake.
17 There's restoration work that can be done. There is -- if there
18 are areas that are nesting sites for marbled murrelets, for
19 example, that should not be delayed for a few years, and harvesting
20 shouldn't be delayed for a few years. We don't know what those
21 are, no one's approached us. I guess there's just dozens and
22 dozens and dozens of examples I could bring up of things that can
23 be done for people that have -- the villages and the private
24 landowners that have decided to develop their lands but are also
25 concerned about the -- helping the restoration process. I see a
26 lot of energy going into buying habitat, and I guess I -- if it's

1 critical habitat, something that's important, I don't have any
2 objection to it if it's critical, but it just seems like there's a
3 lot of opportunity to be working with those people that have
4 decided to develop their lands, and there's really -- there's
5 nothing in all these projects, nor have those people been
6 approached to do anything with management. You know, another
7 example is that if you want forests to come back faster after
8 they've been harvested, you can bring in different species to plant
9 there. You can bring in species that would -- instead of
10 commercial species, you could bring in species that would help
11 wildlife. I mean, there's just dozens and dozens of things, and I
12 guess there are some of us that believe that you can develop areas
13 of Alaska and still minimize the impact on the environment, and I
14 think that we're not looking at putting our hands out looking for
15 money, we're just saying, we seem to have been lost in the equation
16 here. There's a lot of activity going on. My particular company,
17 we're logging on Afognak Island a lot, we're logging on Montague
18 Island, we're going to be logging on Knight Island, and there's
19 just a lot of things that could be done that we're willing to work
20 with, and I'm sure the other landowners are the same way on
21 management type things. I guess I -- I guess you spoke on this a
22 little bit yesterday. I guess there was some confusion, but I'd
23 just be interested in your thoughts on that.

24 MR. AYERS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Sturgeon. I didn't
25 understand the question yesterday. I was on the teleconference,
26 and actually there was quite a bit of discussion. I agree. I'll

1 check into it. I made some notes yesterday based on what was said.
2 There were some things that I thought had gone on that hadn't. I
3 think, certainly, one of the things that is happening in other
4 places with regard to restoration -- let me say that when you look
5 at Commencement Bay down in Oregon, or you look at what they're
6 doing in Newfoundland, or whether you look at what the court said,
7 and primarily it's a result of circula (ph) as well as what the
8 scientists say. Habitat protection is a primary component, but
9 with -- of restoration. With habitat protection certainly comes a
10 lot more than acquisition, and it seems to me only reasonable that
11 we would do an approach, both in information, an aggressive
12 information effort with regard to both small parcel and large
13 parcel, perhaps even workshop and publication that talks about ways
14 to address the issue. The issue of marbled murrelets bothers me a
15 little bit. I have been reading a quite a bit about that, you
16 know, just because it's -- this whole business about its nesting
17 habits, and the concern about marbled murrelets. You know, it
18 looks like we could get into even more trouble with the marbled
19 murrelet if we're not careful, and certainly we ought to be
20 spending some time helping you and the industry, through the
21 public, to take a look at what can we do with marbled murrelets.
22 Certainly, buying hundreds of thousands of acres, if there's a more
23 efficient way to do some protection there, or buying -- acquiring
24 habitat and at the same time having an integrated approach that
25 includes helping people understand what forest management practices
26 might be utilized to better protect habitat along with acquisition.

1 MR. STURGEON: I think other things you'll need, a
2 monitoring enforce practices act, for example. I know the DEC and
3 EPA are having trouble with funds, and in fact we're helping to
4 fund it ourselves, and those are things that would be very helpful
5 to show how compatible the government is with the resource
6 protection, coming up with new methods and new technology. I mean,
7 the government is going to continue in the spill area for a lot of
8 these corporations, and in our company, we've got another forty,
9 fifty years of harvesting, like on Afognak, depending on how fast
10 we do it, so this really is something long-term that can be done.
11 There's other people in the same boat as we are, and it just seems
12 like if some energy could be put in to see how we could make these
13 development activities as compatible as possible, and in fact,
14 maybe even help the restoration process by doing something a
15 certain way or doing something else, I think it would be -- in
16 fact, I'd like to see a proposed project -- some kind of a project
17 for 1994, it it's not too late.

18 MR. AYERS: A public information project, I assume?
19 Not a technical -- we're not talking the science and technology
20 center grant and putting up ten million dollars to have people go
21 start developing the BAT?

22 MR. STURGEON: Well, I'm not sure. All I'm saying is
23 that if these activities are to continue as we talked, and if the
24 things that are being done up here are slowing down the restoration
25 process, the way it's worked is if you're a private landowner and
26 you said -- or they asked you, are you a willing seller, and if you

1 said no, it's like you had leprosy. You've never heard from the
2 Trustees again or the staff again. But the development continues,
3 and in fact, they really believe that the activities that we have
4 -- have some effect on the restoration process, or the restoration
5 of the Sound or the spill area, then I would think that they should
6 approach those landowners and say, okay, you chose not to sell your
7 land. If you're interested in trying to minimize the impact, if
8 you're trying to help the restoration process, here's some things
9 that you can work on or here's some ideas, and we will work with
10 you on it. But, you know, like if we've asked for that help, and
11 we have not gotten it, and it just seems to me that there's so much
12 energy and so much money going into the actual habitat acquisition,
13 and the rationale being habitat protection, yet where there's
14 actual activity going on, it's like it's in some kind of never-
15 never land that people pretend isn't there anymore.

16 DR. FRENCH: Okay. I think this discussion could go on
17 for days, and I -- it's an important discussion, I don't want to
18 cut it off, but I do want to make sure we want to get through our
19 agenda. There are a couple of other items we have left here, the
20 first one being the deferred projects. We deferred '199, the
21 Alaska Marine Research Center. Does anyone wish us to take any
22 action on this at this point? Okay, seeing none, does anyone wish
23 to bring forward any other new projects that were not in the work
24 plan at this time? Chuck?

25 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah. I mentioned yesterday the
26 recreation projects that did not get written up as part of the

1 workshop that was conducted in November, and I'm just wondering
2 what the status of those projects are. We were told that the first
3 time projects would be written up and presented in the 1994 draft
4 work plan, but they were not. The Trustees, I believe, are going
5 to receive a final version of this in April of '94, but I think
6 that will have been too late for consideration for '94 funded
7 projects. Whether they decide to fund them or not is in question,
8 but we'd at least like to get them written up and presented to the
9 Trustee Council, before the 31st preferably, but that probably
10 won't happen. I think the first four projects were written up, and
11 they are in the draft 1994 work plan. What I'm asking for is
12 Projects 5 through 10 to be written up.

13 DR. FRENCH: Mr. Ayers, any comments?

14 MR. AYERS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Totemoff, I know that
15 there was a report that was to be done summarizing the survey
16 regarding the recreation program that Veronica Gilbert was working
17 on. Molly, do you know about an additional list of projects? I
18 mean --

19 MS. McCAMMON: Well, there was a list of the best ten
20 projects that was out, and the first four or five --

21 REPORTER: Would you please speak into the mike?

22 MS. McCAMMON: Okay. There was a list of about ten
23 projects that was developed and included in the work plan, and this
24 was a decision that was made, I believe, in early November, before
25 we came on. There were four or five projects that were included in
26 the work plan, and those are listed -- Projects 94217, 94200,

1 94316, Prince William Sound area recreation implementation plan,
2 public land access and 17B easement identification, the shoreline
3 trash cleanup for the oil spill area, shoreline assessment and oil
4 removal, the leave no trace educational program, and the recreation
5 information center at Portage. I'm not sure at this point what the
6 status of the additional projects are. It's my understanding they
7 were pending completion of a recreational survey that was -- that's
8 been taken in the last year, and development of that -- a report on
9 that survey, which is supposed to be done, I believe, in March or
10 April, and then at that time, those -- the additional list of
11 projects were supposed to be further developed.

12 DR. FRENCH: So they are still moving forward?

13 MS. McCAMMON: They are still moving forward, yes.

14 DR. FRENCH: They're probably moving forward at a time
15 frame that will be too late for the '94 work plan.

16 MR. AYERS: Let me respond to something, Mr. Chairman
17 and Mr. Totemoff, because we've talked about this actually once
18 before, not these projects specifically but your ideas. One of the
19 things that the state did do is that the state invested a large sum
20 of money into recreation out of its share of criminal settlement
21 funds, and I have asked Neil Johansen from the State Park Service
22 to come to the Trustee Council meeting and talk about what they're
23 doing because they're just now developing their plan of what
24 they're going to do with that money, and it is -- you know, it's
25 more than five million dollars worth of funds that's available for
26 the very things that we're trying -- that I understand are proposed

1 within the recreational report. What I've asked is that we try and
2 get those two things together, and then we'll see what the gaps
3 are, but I think we can help give guidance there, and I don't know
4 that I'm interested in starting to plow a lot of money into
5 parallel efforts at this point. As a matter of fact, you're going
6 to see me become, hopefully, as conservative as Mr. King, assuming
7 that I can live through it.

8 DR. FRENCH: Mr. Totemoff.

9 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes. My concern was -- is that everybody
10 that was in that recreation workshop spent a lot of time, money and
11 effort in trying to develop their proposals, and we were told going
12 in that the first time would be written up. That's all I'm asking
13 for is some assistance to get the other five proposals in a written
14 up form so maybe we can have something that's presentable when the
15 DNR minds come along for recreation.

16 DR. FRENCH: It sounds like most of them are moving
17 forward, and that they're not lost, they just may be lost for this
18 particular cycle. As long as they're not time critical, that may
19 not be too detrimental.

20 MR. TOTEMOFF: Mr. Chairman?

21 MR. AYERS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Totemoff, I'll tell you
22 what I'll do. I'll personally investigate it before I leave here
23 today. I'll find out what the status of those other projects are,
24 and I'll make a decision about whether to write them up or not, and
25 if I decide we're not going to write them up, I'll tell you why.

26 DR. FRENCH: Do we have resolutions on any other

1 projects that might be of interest the '94 work plan, like relate
2 to endowments? Sharon?

3 MS. GAGNON: (Inaudible). It seems to me that we have
4 recommended very highly, and it should seem to be in agreement with
5 the idea of a reserve of some sort, which we have phrased in terms
6 of endowment, in order to assure long-term work that is necessary
7 to this whole endeavor. I think that most of us were hoping that
8 this would be reflected in some way in the '94 work plan, and if
9 the group is in agreement, I would certainly be happy to put forth
10 a resolution to that effect, that we would -- like the Trustees,
11 that would resolve that the Trustees include in the 1994 work plan,
12 and endowments or reserve fund which would ensure long-term
13 monitoring the spill area. And then I would like for that amount
14 to be in the amount of thirty million dollars.

15 DR. FRENCH: Is there a second?

16 MR. KING: Second.

17 DR. FRENCH: There is a resolution on the floor, it's
18 open for debate.

19 MR. KING: Did we pass a resolution to this effect at
20 our last meeting to --

21 DR. FRENCH: We passed a resolution supporting the
22 endowments in general in the framework we put forward. We
23 recommended dollar amounts, but that was in a general context as
24 opposed to specific to the '94 work plan. Yes, Pam?

25 MS. BRODIE: I really think that we have debated this
26 question exhaustively in previous meetings, and made a clear

1 recommendation to the Trustees, and I do think that this is going
2 over the same ground that we've been over and, in fact, the
3 Trustees, as long as they don't spend all the money there is
4 essentially a reserve, and it may be more than thirty million
5 dollars that they're going to have in reserve. I don't think -- I
6 would oppose this motion because I don't think it's necessary.

7 DR. FRENCH: Jim, I mean, John.

8 MR. McMULLEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I can't vote for this
9 motion at this time because I don't know -- I can't remember what
10 previous action we took but this may be in conflict with that.

11 DR. FRENCH: It's in the minutes package, if you want
12 to refer to it. I don't believe it's in conflict, but --

13 MS. GAGNON: Mr. Chairman, it's not my intention to
14 introduce anything that's in conflict with what we did before. I
15 was hoping I was saying the same thing. What my intention was, was
16 to have this addressed in the '94 work plan. That's the intention
17 of my motion.

18 DR. FRENCH: Mary, did you have a comment?

19 MS. MCBURNEY: It's just that I think this is quite
20 premature. At this point, we haven't received any recommendations
21 back on what these -- what these options are for other sorts of
22 long-term funding, which is part of the action that we did take at
23 our last meeting, was to examine a range of options.

24 DR. FRENCH: I think the term reserve fund is about as
25 general as you can get. Any other comments? Mr. King?

26 MR. KING: I see this as important in the context of

1 a lot of things that we have been talking about today, developing
2 continuity in programs for which we have all expressed interest in,
3 one year or one to five year projects, and knowing full well that
4 every question you answer leads to two more questions, I'd like to
5 speak in favor of starting to set up this reserve, which would in
6 some way be built into an endowment that would go on answering
7 academic questions and management questions for the very type of
8 projects that are in this '94 plan indefinitely because I don't see
9 that we're going to answer these questions, even though we're
10 looking at a lot of really good projects this year.

11 DR. FRENCH: Our previous resolution, as I recall it,
12 referred to an endowment to support the objectives of the
13 restoration plan. Is that more or less consistent with the
14 proposer's intent here?

15 MS. GAGNON: Yes, although I think that Jim has alerted
16 us to the fact that that may take another form.

17 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, but I mean, you're not trying to
18 limit the uses of it at this point?

19 MS. GAGNON: No.

20 DR. FRENCH: Any other comments at this time? I guess
21 we should take a roll call on it, Doug.

22 MR. MUTTER: Okay. Pam Brodie?

23 MS. BRODIE: No.

24 MR. MUTTER: Jim Cloud? He's not here.

25 MS. GAGNON: Yes (inaudible).

26 MR. MUTTER: Jim Diehl?

1 MR. DIEHL: No.

2 MR. MUTTER: Donna Fisher. John French?

3 DR. FRENCH: Yes.

4 MR. MUTTER: Jim King?

5 MR. KING: Yes and yes.

6 MR. MUTTER: For Rupe Andrews?

7 MR. KING: For Rupe Andrews.

8 MR. MUTTER: Mary McBurney?

9 MS. McBURNEY: No.

10 MR. MUTTER: John McMullen?

11 MR. McMULLEN: No, without further consideration.

12 MR. MUTTER: John Sturgeon?

13 MR. STURGEON: Yes.

14 MR. MUTTER: Charles Totemoff?

15 MR. TOTEMOFF: No.

16 MR. MUTTER: And Sharon?

17 MS. GAGNON: Vern McCorkle and I both vote yes.

18 MR. MUTTER: That's great.

19 MS. BRODIE: I have some more questions for Mr. Ayers.

20 DR. FRENCH: Oh, before we get to that, are there any

21 other resolutions related to new projects for the FY94 work plan?

22 None? Okay, go ahead.

23 MS. BRODIE: Thank you. In our discussion and voting

24 on these projects, we tried as best we could to consider the

25 importance of the project and the -- and whether the cost seemed to

26 be justified, but I for one, and I think others would agree with

1 me, were concerned that we don't really know whether these price
2 tags are appropriate, and if perhaps they might not be done for
3 less money, and of course the more expensive the project is, the
4 more we're concerned about that, and I would like to offer a
5 motion, I guess, that we encourage the staff to take a hard look at
6 the budgets, especially the budgets of the most expensive projects,
7 and try to make these projects as efficient as possible.

8 MS. MCBURNEY: Second.

9 DR. FRENCH: I'm not sure whether you expect a response
10 from the executive director or not.

11 MS. BRODIE: I wasn't starting thinking that I was
12 going to offer a motion.

13 DR. FRENCH: I guess that since it's a motion --

14 MS. BRODIE: But maybe that's what I want.

15 DR. FRENCH: I guess that since it's a motion, we
16 should open the floor for debate. Any comments?

17 MS. BRODIE: I'll say a little more. In particular,
18 the Prince William Sound project, the five million dollars for the
19 ecosystem project which got very enthusiastic support here from
20 myself and I think everyone else, but we're not -- at least, I'm
21 not sure that it's developed enough yet to justify the five million
22 dollars. That may be the right amount, but it seems to be still in
23 very early stages. The research institute in Seward certainly is
24 very squishy in terms of numbers. The hatchery is another big one.
25 It may be the right amount for the hatchery, but I'd like to have
26 the somebody outside of the aquaculture association looking to see

1 if there aren't any ways that that could be done any more cheaply,
2 and anything else that's a big ticket item like that.

3 DR. FRENCH: Jim?

4 MR. KING: I just want to say, Rupe and I are in
5 favor of this, and have been voting this way all day.

6 DR. FRENCH: Mary, did you have a comment?

7 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, it was just going to be an editorial
8 comment, kind of a follow-up on Pam's previous comment. In some of
9 my deliberations today, I consistently ranked many projects as a
10 lower priority, primarily because of budgetary considerations or
11 the -- some questions that weren't really answered to my
12 satisfaction as far as possible overlaps between different
13 projects, and one that I'm just going to throw out for comparison
14 is just the -- the cutthroat and dolly habitat restoration in
15 Prince William Sound has two sites that are identical to two other
16 sites that appear in another salmon enhancement project, and I know
17 that there are a number of areas -- well, again, going back to a
18 shoreline assessment, I believe it was for marbled murrelet
19 habitat, that had a component that seemed as though it should have
20 also been under the umbrella of the habitat restoration assessment
21 process, and I would like to see maybe a few more efficiencies
22 taking place in those budgets and those overlaps.

23 DR. FRENCH: John McMullen.

24 MR. McMULLEN: With the change of administration within
25 the Trustee Council process here, it has come to where I think
26 there's a very visible concern and interest in the integration of

1 projects, getting better efficiency from, you know, with the amount
2 of money spent, and so I think your motion, you know, speaks to
3 processes which have been already adapted, at least in concept, and
4 by the administration, as I understand it.

5 DR. FRENCH: John Sturgeon?

6 MR. STURGEON: Yeah, I think this is a related issue. I
7 think one of the things that bothers me about the budget sometimes,
8 especially the larger ones, that a couple of times where there have
9 been some cases of duplication, also where agencies have taken work
10 that they would normally do without an oil spill and plug it in to
11 be funded. An example is the bald eagles nesting study. Well,
12 that's what the National -- the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does
13 as a matter of business, and trying to get it funded from the oil
14 spill is to me not quite real ethical, and there's a doubling up of
15 the killer whale study we discovered today, and those things kind
16 of hurt the credibility of all the projects, so I would ask you to
17 look -- have your folks go through those real closely.

18 DR. FRENCH: I'd like to ask for unanimous consent on
19 this resolution. Any dissent? (No response) Okay. Yes, Pam?

20 MS. BRODIE: I'd also like to offer a motion from the
21 Public Advisory Group in appreciation of former Attorney General
22 Charlie Cole for the enormous amount of hard work and dedication
23 and -- hard, effective work and dedication that he's put into
24 making this settlement process work.

25 MR. STURGEON: I second that.

26 DR. FRENCH: I ask for unanimous consent with our

1 wholehearted support for that resolution.

2 SIMULTANEOUS VOICES: Aye.

3 (Unanimous consent)

4 DR. FRENCH: Anything else? Doug?

5 MR. MUTTER: Well, before you adjourn, I have just a
6 couple of quick items to go over.

7 DR. FRENCH: Anybody have anything else before we
8 close? Dr. Spies?

9 DR. SPIES: Yeah, I'd just like to say that we're
10 going to transition here with a new director, and I've been trying
11 to support him in the process of getting in and trying to come up
12 to speed very quickly in this process, and he asked me to try to
13 have my comments for everybody the 18th of this month, and I think
14 it's unfortunate in a way that I wasn't able to be here with full
15 sets of comments, and I apologize for that, but we're kind of going
16 through an awkward period now and I hope that you'll understand,
17 and I think they could go much smoother next time around and, you
18 know, much better interaction.

19 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I think we all certainly concur with
20 that. You missed a lot of negative comments about us not having
21 access to your comments yesterday, but yes, we -- I think we all
22 sympathize and with the time frame, it's really compressed, yeah.

23 MR. AYERS: (Indiscernible -- simultaneous
24 conversation) we're having a meeting tomorrow and the next day to
25 try to put some kind of framework within this process and give it
26 more structure from the inside out, and that's (inaudible).

1 DR. FRENCH: Anything else? Seeing none, Doug, go
2 ahead.

3 MR. MUTTER: Okay. First of all, those of you who are
4 travelling, please get your travel vouchers in as soon as possible.
5 As part of the transition, we're going to make some changes in how
6 we do the travel, and it would be helpful if we get all the past
7 travel cleaned up within the next few weeks, so I'd encourage you
8 to do that. And if you have any markup sheets that you want to
9 leave here for me to compile and forward to the executive director,
10 why, you can do that and/or send them in with your written comments
11 next week.

12 DR. FRENCH: I guess frequently we end with some kind
13 of discussion of the next meeting. Is there anything related to
14 that at this point?

15 MR. MUTTER: I think -- Jim and I spoke, and I think
16 what we want to do at this point is not schedule the next meeting
17 until we know what the work plan is going to look like and how the
18 Trustee Council is going to operate and then schedule something for
19 later, maybe early summer.

20 DR. FRENCH: If nobody has any other comments, I guess
21 I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

22 MR. McMULLEN: So moved.

23 MS. BRODIE: Second.

24 DR. FRENCH: We're adjourned.

25 (Adjourned at 3:50 p.m., January 12, 1994)

26 (E N D O F P R O C E E D I N G S)

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT)

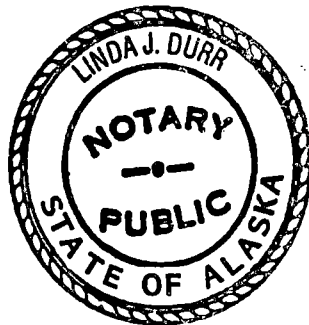
I, Linda J. Durr, a notary public in and for the State of Alaska and a Certified Professional Legal Secretary, do hereby certify:

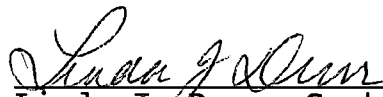
That the foregoing pages numbered 03 through 416 contain a full, true, and correct transcript of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement Public Advisory Group meeting taken electronically by Ladonna Lindley on January 11 and 12, 1994, commencing at the hour of 9:30 a.m. on January 11, 1994, at the Restoration Office, 645 G Street, Anchorage, Alaska;

That the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by me, Sandy Yates, and Angela Hecker to the best of our knowledge and ability from that electronic recording.

That I am not an employee, attorney or party interested in any way in the proceedings.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 20th day of January, 1994.





Linda J. Durr, Certified PLS
Notary Public for Alaska
My commission expires: 10/19/97