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PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP  
MEETING TRANSCRIPTS  
JULY 27-28 1995  
V. 1

# EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SETTLEMENT TRUSTEE COUNCIL

RESTORATION OFFICE  
Simpson Building  
645 G Street  
Anchorage, Alaska

## PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

July 27-28, 1995  
9:00 a.m.

VOLUME 1

July 27, 1995

### PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS in attendance:

MR. DOUGLAS MUTTER	Department of the Interior
Designated Federal Officer	
MR. RUPERT ANDREWS	Sport Hunting & Fishing
MS. MARY MCBURNEY, alternate for Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
MS. KIMBERLY BENTON	Forest Products
MS. PAMELA BRODIE	Environmental
MR. DAVE COBB	Local Government
MR. CHIP DENNERLEIN	Conservation
MR. JAMES DIEHL	Recreation
DR. JOHN FRENCH	Science/Academic
MR. JAMES KING	Public-at-Large
MR. VERN McCORKLE	Public-at-Large
MS. BRENDA SCHWANTES	Subsistence
MR. CHARLES TOTEMOFF	Native Landowners
MS. MARTHA VLASOFF	Public-at-Large
MR. GORDON ZERBETZ	Public-at-Large

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EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

#### **TRUSTEES COUNCIL STAFF**

MS. MOLLY McCAMMON	Executive Director, EVOS Trustees Council
MR. BOB LOEFFLER	Director of Planning, EVOS Trustees Council
DR. STAN SENNER	Science Coordinator, EVOS Trustees Council
DR. ROBERT SPIES	Chief Scientist, EVOS Trustees Council
MS. SANDRA SCHUBERT	Project Coordinator, EVOS Trustees Council
MS. CHERRI WOMAC	EVOS Trustees Council staff

#### **OTHERS PARTICIPANTS:**

MS. DEBORAH WILLIAMS	Trustee Council Representative for Mr. George Frampton, Special Assistant to Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt
DR. JOE SULLIVAN	Alaska Department of Fish & Game
MR. RAY THOMPSON	U.S. Forest Service
MR. BUD RICE	National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior



P R O C E E D I N G S

(Recorder's note: There was no amplification or public address system operational during the proceedings on July 27, 1995, because of technical problems in the Restoration Office facilities.)

(On Record: 9:13 a.m.)

MR. McCORKLE: (Initial comments regarding lack of public address system and general instructions regarding conference microphone use omitted.) So, if we're all ready now, I'd like to call then to order the July 27th and 28th meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Public Advisory Group, and ask for a call of the roll and determination of a quorum, please.

MR. MUTTER: Rupert Andrews?

MR. ANDREWS: Present.

MR. MUTTER: Chris Beck?

MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney for Chris Beck.

MR. MUTTER: Karl Becker? (No response) Kim Benton?

MS. BENTON: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Pamela Brodie?

MS. BRODIE: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Dave Cobb?

MR. COBB: Here.

MR. MUTTER: Chip Dennerlein? (No response) Jim Diehl?

MR. DIEHL: Here.

MR. MUTTER: John French?

1 MR. FRENCH: Here.  
2 MR. MUTTER: Jim King?  
3 MR. KING: Here.  
4 MR. MUTTER: Nancy Lethcoe? (No response) Vern  
5 McCorkle?  
6 MR. MCCORKLE: Here.  
7 MR. MUTTER: Brenda Schwantes?  
8 MS. SCHWANTES: Here.  
9 MR. MUTTER: Thea Thomas? (No response) Charles  
10 Totemoff?  
11 MR. TOTEMOFF: Here.  
12 MR. MUTTER: Martha Vlasoff?  
13 MS. VLASOFF: Here.  
14 MR. MUTTER: Mr. Zerbetz?  
15 MR. ZERBETZ: Here.  
16 MR. MCCORKLE: We have a quorum. I'd like to recognize  
17 Jim King for introductions.  
18 MR. KING: For those of you who don't know her, I  
19 wanted to introduce my alternate who is Sharon Gagnon over here.  
20 Some of you met her during the last session when she was an  
21 alternate also.  
22 MR. MCCORKLE: So, she should stand and take a little  
23 bow. (Indiscernible)  
24 MS. GAGNON: No, thank you, I'll -- I'll save that for  
25 another time.  
26 MR. MCCORKLE: Well, we'd like to welcome you. We're

1 very glad to have you here. Anything else you'd like to add?

2 MR. KING: Well, I was just going to say Sharon is an  
3 education specialist, I guess you would say, on the Board of  
4 Regents of the university, and the current president of the  
5 regents, but also she has a world spectrum in this regard, and  
6 she's also on the Board of Overseers for Harvard University and,  
7 she told me this morning, a university developing in Magadan,  
8 Russia, so she has a very broad spectrum, but she's an Anchorage  
9 resident and has lived through the oil spill and understands it the  
10 way people here do and she participated and made some good  
11 contributions at our last session, and so, I hope that she'll have  
12 a good contribution at this session.

13 MR. McCORKLE: I'm sure she will, even if you choose to  
14 be brief in your remarks. We're delighted to have you here, and  
15 our group just gets better and better. We have more important  
16 people, and more important people every time, so we're glad to have  
17 you, and please do feel free to talk to us whenever you can. I'd  
18 like to ask if there's any additions or amendments or changes to  
19 the agenda that you all have before you? Hearing none, we will  
20 adopt the agenda as submitted. I'd like to ask now for a motion to  
21 approve the minutes of our June 13th and 14th meeting?

22 MR. COBB: Moved to approve.

23 MR. McCORKLE: There's been a motion, is there a second?

24 MR. ANDREWS: Second.

25 MR. McCORKLE: It's been moved and seconded that the  
26 minutes for the June 13-14 meeting be approved. The question is on

1 the adoption, all in favor say aye.

2 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Oppose, no. (No response) And, the  
4 minutes are adopted. We are pleased to have with us today Deborah  
5 Williams, the Department of Interior alternate Trustee Council  
6 representative, who will address us on the meeting of the last  
7 Trustee Council. Deborah, would you like to come up here and talk  
8 toward a microphone? Thank you so much for coming.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Perhaps I will stand, for two reasons,  
10 one, so you can all hear me, and two, it feels good to stand.  
11 Well, thank you for inviting me here today. It's a great honor to  
12 be before you. Actually, what I wanted to do was perhaps talk less  
13 about the last meeting and talk about what you are about to embark  
14 upon and just share a few of my thoughts on this very important two  
15 day meeting here about to begin, and, then, also be available for  
16 questions and answers. I know -- I think from now on we're going  
17 to make it a policy to have a Trustee Council member here to answer  
18 any questions you have, and also again, perhaps to give a -- give  
19 a few thoughts before embarking upon your meeting. Let me do what  
20 I said I was going to do, and that is share a few thoughts on what  
21 you're about to embark upon. You're clearly going to be spending  
22 two hard days working at the Work Plan, and your input to the  
23 Trustee Council is very important. We believe that we have the  
24 best PAG that we've ever had. I agree with Vern's promise that it  
25 keeps getting better and better. I think it's the strongest, most  
26 impressive PAG, certainly in my experience and from what I've heard

1 that -- in the experience of the Council. And so, we do look  
2 forward to your recommendations, and we look forward quite candidly  
3 to you sharpening your scalpel and making some hard cuts in the  
4 Work Plan. There are more projects than we can appropriately fund.  
5 We are in the process, of course, of tapering our spending on Work  
6 Plans, and, of course, that's difficult when you get lots and lots  
7 of good proposals. But, to be responsible Trustees, and I hope we  
8 can be responsible PAG members. You're going to have to make some  
9 hard decisions, and the Trustee Council really looks forward to  
10 your recommendations on what can be either be eliminated from the  
11 Work Plan or deferred, what proposals, perhaps, are not as well  
12 developed as others and need more work before they can be funded.  
13 But, we would greatly appreciate it if you could come to us with a  
14 package that does not exceed \$18 million. Right, Molly? And, that  
15 means some hard decisions, but that's why you're here. That's why  
16 we have all these capable minds around this table, and so, I would  
17 just like to impress if you could bring to us a package that does  
18 not exceed \$18 million, we would greatly appreciate it. And, that  
19 was the main thing I wanted to emphasize. We do look forward to  
20 your making some tough decisions, so that when we make our tough  
21 decisions, we'll have the benefit of your careful analysis in front  
22 of us. Anyway, that was the gist of my message, besides to thank  
23 you, and again to commend this group for awfully hard work to date,  
24 and to also just to thank you for the time you've spent on this  
25 important effort. But, I'd also like to answer any questions that  
26 you might have, either in my individual capacity or -- except that



1 I am speaking for the Council members as a whole.

2 MR. McCORKLE: There is an invitation, questions are  
3 solicited. Yes, John.

4 DR. FRENCH: How much money do you expect to go into  
5 the restoration reserve this year?

6 MS. WILLIAMS: Part of that depends on whether you can  
7 help us trim down the Work Plan. Our goal, of course, is to have  
8 \$12 million. Is that correct, Molly? And, the only thing that  
9 will impair that goal, I think, is if we just can't trim down the  
10 Work Plan to the point that we need to support that \$12 million  
11 contribution to (indiscernible) for the long-term research and  
12 monitoring and other restoration activities, but certainly that's  
13 our goal.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions? If not, might we  
15 reserve a question or two for later on, if you stay with us awhile  
16 in case something should come up.

17 MS. WILLIAMS: I am afraid -- I can stay with -- just a  
18 little bit. I have a 10:00 o'clock commitment, but I will be happy  
19 to stay here a little bit, and then if, you know, you do have some  
20 questions come up, I'm -- I'll be on call, if you'd either like to  
21 call me or would like me to come down either today -- may be a  
22 little tricky, but tomorrow I could come down and solicit  
23 questions.

24 MR. McCORKLE: We're awfully glad to have you here Ms.  
25 Williams, and if there are questions between now and 10:00 we'll  
26 sort of stop what we're doing to entertain that question, knowing

1 that you have a schedule, and perhaps we can call you tomorrow if  
2 some things come up.

3 MS. WILLIAMS: That would be wonderful.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Last chance? Okay, thank you, very much,  
5 we're awfully glad to have you here.

6 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Now she's gone and again, by golly, things  
8 are supposed to be hopping there today. We'll wait for Molly to  
9 come back before hearing her report. John, you haven't been here  
10 for awhile. Anything you want to talk to us about, or say? I see  
11 -- I see a frown on your brow.

12 DR. FRENCH: Well, not particularly. I mean, I was  
13 weathered out at the last meeting, but I -- being as I'm not quite  
14 as current as I could on some of these projects.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Martha, where are your, Martha, anything  
16 you'd like to add before we go around the table on our delay tactic  
17 here. Martha has always got something to say, our illustrious co-  
18 vice-chair.

19 MR. VLASOFF: Boy ....

20 MR. McCORKLE: Not yet, by golly, I just put too many  
21 people on the spot. Well, I always like to pick on -- she's not  
22 here yet -- Jim Diehl, who is always invited to say something, but  
23 never says a word, but -- except on those occasions when he does,  
24 it's very important. How are things down south?

25 MR. DIEHL: Things are fine down south. It's been  
26 raining more in Anchorage, actually, than down south.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, all right. Well, we have delayed a  
2 minute or two, and ...

3 MS. McCAMMON: Thank you.

4 MR. McCORKLE: ... are you here?

5 MS. McCAMMON: I am here. I have two emergency phone  
6 calls this morning, so I apologize.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Oh-oh. So, I mean, do you need more time?

8 MS. McCAMMON: No.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. We recognize the Executive Director  
10 Molly McCammon who is going to give us the Executive Director's  
11 report about things on the agenda, so, it's all yours, Molly.

12 MR. McCAMMON: All right, thank you, Mr. Chairman. There  
13 are two -- I wanted to call your attention to two items that should  
14 be in front of you, or that you received in your last packet, and  
15 these are draft meeting notes from the June 1st and June 16th  
16 Trustee Council meetings. The Council did meet on June 1st in  
17 Cordova, and held a public hearing at that time, and ended up doing  
18 a tour the next day, and visited all of the lands -- flew over all  
19 of the lands in Prince William Sound that are under consideration  
20 for acquisition. They also took action on the Fleming Spit  
21 project, and heard consideration discussion about negotiations on  
22 Eyak lands. And, at that time, the Council agreed to go into  
23 mediation on those negotiations. They did so for almost ten days,  
24 over a period of ten -- actually 10 to 14 days. Unfortunately,  
25 the results of those negotiations was that the Trustee Council and  
26 Eyak Corporation were not able to come to agreement on the timber

1 exchange. There were two problems, one, was an issue of the state  
2 having to have a best interest finding, which is a process that  
3 takes two months. That process is underway and will be completed  
4 by August 15th, approximately. The other issue was on the part of  
5 Eyak Corporation, and once the state's best interest finding is  
6 completed, that process in August, then we'll be going back to Eyak  
7 Corporation to see if they still want to do -- continue to do the  
8 timber exchange, but I just -- I did want to report to you that the  
9 results of that negotiation were not -- mediation were not  
10 successful. The Council then met again on June 16th by  
11 teleconference to adopt a policy of a negotiated indirect rate with  
12 the University of Alaska for projects that the Council funds to the  
13 university. The 25 percent indirect rate reflects approximately a  
14 50 percent reduction in the university's normal indirect rate, and  
15 I think it -- it also reflects a very sincere good faith effort on  
16 the part of the university to work very closely with the Trustee  
17 Council and to cooperate in our effort to maximize our research  
18 dollars. So, this was something we've been negotiating for six  
19 months, and I -- I think it's something we can be very grateful to  
20 have, and it will be in effect for three years. So, you have those  
21 notes there, and if there's any questions on any of those things,  
22 feel free to either ask now or talk to me at a break, or at any  
23 other time. Some of the things that we've been doing in --  
24 recently, in addition to the university indirect rate, is  
25 establishing the restoration reserve within the court registry  
26 system. The Trustees took action last November to set up the

1 restoration reserve account. These are funds that are still held  
2 within the court, they're not taken out, they're not locked up, but  
3 the Council wanted to invest them a little bit differently. They  
4 wanted them on some longer term investment strategies so that we  
5 could get a higher interest rate. Currently, the court by the time  
6 fees are deducted, the funds within the court system only receive  
7 about three percent interest earnings, which is pretty low, and  
8 with this long-term investment strategy that we have, we're  
9 anticipating getting six to seven percent on those funds, so this  
10 will be -- when you're talking millions of dollars, this will be a  
11 major improvement. It's taken six months to do this because when  
12 the Department of Law and the Department of Justice gave the orders  
13 to the court, they wrote back some orders trying to interpret what  
14 the Trustee Council wanted, and nobody could understand it, and  
15 it's taken six months to actually come to some agreement of the  
16 language so that everyone understands how the funds will be  
17 invested and how the whole system is being set up. So, we should  
18 have that within -- it was filed with the court yesterday, and  
19 we're hopeful that this will actually be in place within the next  
20 week or so.

21 DR. FRENCH: That's six to seven percent after fees?

22 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

23 MR. KING: Is that invested in government bonds or  
24 some sort of ...

25 MS. McCAMMON: Treasury, security ...

26 MR. KING: ... notes or something?



1 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah. Right, it's very low risk type of  
2 investment. The other thing that we've been working on a lot in  
3 the last few weeks is getting ready to go out to bid on an audit of  
4 the Trustee Council funds. This was a recommendation of the GAO  
5 audit two years ago. We included money in this fiscal year's  
6 budget. We contracted with the Office of Management and Budget for  
7 the State of Alaska, their chief auditor, to help us prepare the  
8 request for proposals. That's gone through about it's twentieth  
9 draft. We're hoping the twenty-first draft will be finalized on  
10 Monday, and it will actually be published and we'll be accepting  
11 proposals on that. It's our goal to have the contract let for that  
12 by sometime in September, with the goal of having a final audit by  
13 March 1st.

MR. McCORKLE: Congratulations, that's a --  
14 that's a notable achievement, and this is a little side item, I  
15 hope it will be done by March 1st, but want to take a bet?

16 MS. McCAMMON: Well, it's in the contract.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, all right.

18 MS. McCAMMON: You have a deliverable by March 1st in a  
19 contract so they don't get to play ...

20 MR. McCORKLE: Liquidated damages? Well, that's  
21 wonderful, congratulations.

22 MS. McCAMMON: It will be very interesting to see what  
23 the audit turns up in terms of -- what they'll be doing, basically,  
24 is verifying all of our accounting -- all of our numbers, and  
25 determining whether they are accurate and we believe they are.  
26 We've already had a firm in Juneau look through our numbers, and

1 though it's not a certified audit, they do believe that our  
2 accounting is accurate. But, I think more importantly, they will  
3 be looking at all of our financial processes, and coming up with  
4 any recommendations where they see any problems, in terms of  
5 tracking the money and actually having good accounting procedures.  
6 So, that's the part that we'll actually be looking forward to the  
7 most.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Kim.

9 MS. BENTON: Molly, what's the GAO that's factored into  
10 this? Just because I think that the Trustee Council process took  
11 some pretty bad hits after they came in and sifted through the  
12 paper work, so after the independent auditors come in does that  
13 information go back to the GAO, or do they come back in -- how does  
14 that get out that we're doing a good job?

15 MS. McCAMMON: After the GAO audit comes out, it's my  
16 understanding that under that process, the federal agencies have to  
17 respond back on the recommendations in the audit for a period of  
18 some three years, and they've been doing that on an annual basis,  
19 and the last report went out, I believe, a couple of months ago,  
20 and basically informed the GAO that an audit would be underway this  
21 year. But, it's my understanding that that completed the response  
22 to that audit at that time. But, once the audit comes out, we'll  
23 be -- it's our goal to include it as part of our annual report next  
24 year.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Molly, could I ask you a further question?  
26 Is this strictly a financial audit, or will it also be a

1 programmatic audit?

2 MS. McCAMMON: Well, we didn't ask for a performance  
3 audit because a performance audit would have gone into each of the  
4 agencies and picked out, say a harbor seal project, and actually  
5 looked at whether that project was spending the money the way the  
6 project description had said it was going to spend the money. You  
7 start -- a recommendation from this audit could be to do a  
8 performance audit, and the way we've drafted the contract, we could  
9 certainly -- we left that as an option, but that would probably be  
10 very expensive, and whether it's worthwhile, I think is -- is  
11 questionable, but that is an option just later on.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Just because I asked the question, I guess  
13 I should underscore, I -- not necessarily suggesting we have a  
14 programmatic or performance audit. We sort of have that from the  
15 scientific committee and the peer review group. It was just a  
16 question there, you know, different kinds of audits, and looks like  
17 ours is a special kind.

18 MS. McCAMMON: Right. This is a very challenging audit  
19 because it's both state and federal governments and it's a mixture  
20 -- some multiple list of agencies, so it's really going to be a  
21 challenge for whoever does it. And, kind of the word we got back  
22 was well, if it was just the state, people have no problem with it,  
23 but federal agencies there were. So, it will be interesting to see  
24 what kind of responses we have from it. On the aspect of habitat  
25 protection, we have been reviewing -- having a significant number  
26 of meetings and negotiations all throughout this past summer since

1 our last meeting. Just to bring you up to date on several of  
2 those, on Afognak Joint Venture, those lands, the timber on those  
3 lands will have a check cruise done on it this summer, expected to  
4 take approximately two weeks, and once that information comes back  
5 we'll be starting negotiations with them in September on those  
6 lands. Akhiok-Kaguyak was completed last May. The next  
7 installment is due in September. That process is going very well.  
8 The same with Old Harbor, the second payment is also expected in  
9 September, and that should complete that transaction. Our Chenega  
10 negotiations are progressing. We're still hopeful that -- I mean,  
11 it would be my goal if we could have some kind of an agreement that  
12 we could bring to the Trustee Council in September. So, we're  
13 still hopeful to have something there soon. There have been recent  
14 discussions with both English Bay and Port Graham Corporation in --  
15 for their lands that are in-holdings within Kenai Fiords National  
16 Park. At this point, I think we're making progress with both  
17 corporations. In particular with Port Graham that just getting the  
18 corporation comfortable with the Trustee Council's process and some  
19 of the options that are available in terms of conservation  
20 easements and cooperative agreements and things of that nature. At  
21 this point, we don't have any -- any offer on the table, we're  
22 still talking and we'll continue to do so in the fall. So, there's  
23 no anticipated action in the near future -- immediate future on  
24 those two. Kodiak Island Borough, we had a check cruise on Shuyak  
25 lands in the past week or so. We're hoping that that information  
26 will be incorporated into the final appraisal, and we're hoping

1 that that will be -- the transaction will be completed by September  
2 8th. So, it's -- it's very close. With Koniag, there have been  
3 continuing negotiations on the conservation easement, and  
4 apparently significant progress has been made in the past few  
5 weeks, and we're hopeful that a final deal on Koniag will be  
6 completed in September. And, on Tatitlek, we actually had two  
7 transactions with Tatitlek going on. One, is -- we call it  
8 Tatitlek One, and this was the original group of lands that was  
9 offered by Tatitlek Corporation. Those plans are being appraised  
10 this summer. It will take approximately 30 field days. Once that  
11 work is done, then we're hoping the appraisal will be completed  
12 sometime this fall, and then we'll have negotiation with Tatitlek.  
13 Tatitlek Two is -- is a separate deal, and this deal is actually in  
14 a little bit of transition right now. The Tatitlek Village Council  
15 have requested the Trustees to consider purchase of timber rights  
16 that has already been sold at Bidarka Point, which is right outside  
17 of the village. Based on that request, the negotiators approached  
18 the corporation and asked if -- if that was a possibility, and that  
19 was Citicorp Corporation which owns the timber rights. Citicorp  
20 indicated to us that, at this time, at least the initial  
21 indications were that they were not interested in selling those  
22 timber rights, but they would be interested in doing an exchange  
23 for timber rights at Cape Yakataga, which are owned by the Mental  
24 Health Trust Lands Authority. And, so we started upon discussions  
25 there. There is some -- in order to make a deal like that  
26 worthwhile, the Citicorp has to be sufficiently large in size, and



1 several other bays were included. It appears now that their  
2 corporation is re-thinking their strategy on that and may be going  
3 back to Citicorp just focusing on Bidarka Point. So that's --  
4 transaction is still in transition right now, but the major part of  
5 the Tatitlek negotiations, I think, are just awaiting the  
6 appraisal. For Eyak Corporation, the main thrust of our efforts  
7 was to complete the timber exchange to protect the view shed along  
8 Orca Narrows. That depended on two actions happening, one, was the  
9 timber exchange between timber rights along the view shed with  
10 timber rights at Bomb Point, the backside of Bomb Point, and doing  
11 an exchange there, and that's the one that ended up going into  
12 mediation and was unsuccessful. It also depending on an expedited  
13 conveyance of three extra sections of land to Eyak Corporation, and  
14 -- by July 15th, and that was actually accomplished ahead of  
15 schedule, in approximately the third week of May -- third week of  
16 June. So, at this time, there is cutting in the view shed by Eyak  
17 Corporation, and we will be awaiting the state's completion of  
18 their best interest finding in August. We're trying to get the  
19 rest of the appraisal information we need along Orca Narrows, and  
20 we will be going back to Eyak Corporation at that time. We're also  
21 trying to get some resolution to the issues, the appraisals for the  
22 core lands. The core lands are within the coastal zone management  
23 area for Cordova, and they are -- they include an area of meriting  
24 special attention, and the effect of an ANSCA on timber values is  
25 being looked a now on it -- there's no final resolution to that.  
26 In the meantime, Eyak Corporation is embarking upon a long-range

1 planning process, land use plan, for their land, and we'll be  
2 providing them assistance -- technical assistance in that aspect  
3 with any of the information that we've collected through the  
4 evaluation process on anadromous streams and wildlife values and  
5 habitat values, and things of that nature, and we're hoping that  
6 that process will provide a framework for our discussions for a  
7 comprehensive package on the larger deal, and we're hoping that  
8 that will -- we can resume talks on the comprehensive package  
9 probably this winter. In addition to the large parcels, as you  
10 know, we have 29 small parcels that are under active consideration.  
11 Those are all being appraised at this point, and we are expecting  
12 to have the appraisals back by August 15th. At that time, we'll  
13 sit down and try to draft a package that -- of proposed  
14 acquisitions that we hope to bring to the Trustee Council in  
15 September. Tentatively, the schedule that we're looking at now is  
16 to have the August 25th meeting just focus on the Work Plan, and  
17 tentatively have a meeting on September 8th to have a small parcel  
18 package at that time, and hopefully some finality on a couple of  
19 the large parcels. And, I know that we don't have anything  
20 specific to bring to the Public Advisory Group at this time, so  
21 what I would be recommending is that probably -- if we go ahead  
22 with the September 8th, if we are indeed ready, and it's still  
23 tentative, so the date could definitely slip, that we have some  
24 kind of a teleconference meeting, work session, briefing, for the  
25 Public Advisory Group sometime that week prior to the September 8th  
26 meeting. I'd be happy to answer any questions at all about this

1 concept.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Kim, then John.

3 MS. BENTON: Molly, the work that you're doing with  
4 Eyak and helping them with their land planning, is that -- is that  
5 coming out of the landowner assistance project, or is that still  
6 being considered habitat negotiations?

7 MS. McCAMMON: It's just ongoing agency assistance.  
8 Basically, this is all the information that was collected during  
9 the evaluation phase, and we've just offered to make that  
10 information available to the corporation, and the folks that did  
11 the evaluation will be providing any assistance, if it's requested.  
12 So, it's pretty much an ongoing agency response.

13 MR. McCORKLE: John.

14 DR. FRENCH: Molly, this is fairly specific question,  
15 that is the (indiscernible) ownership of Termination Point been  
16 adequately addressed, as far as you're concerned?

17 MS. McCAMMON: In my last discussions with Alex Swiderski  
18 on Termination Point, it's my understanding that it looked like it  
19 was going to be.

20 DR. FRENCH: I don't know the details of the  
21 legislation, but as I understand it, Senator Murkowski had  
22 submitted some language through Congress that would clarify  
23 (indiscernible).

24 MS. McCAMMON: That's correct, and -- but I believe that  
25 the person who was litigating also had filed some papers in court  
26 that have the potential of clearing up the title issue on that

1 particular parcel, but I -- one way or another, it looks very  
2 promising.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

4 MS. BRODIE: There's been some communication, I  
5 believe, with Chugach Alaska Corporation about possibly timber  
6 trades with Mental Health. Has anything come of that?

7 MS. McCAMMON: That's correct. Chugach Alaska is  
8 interested in -- they aren't interested in selling any of their  
9 timber interests or any of their lands. However, they would be --  
10 they have expressed an interest in possibly participating in some  
11 kind of an exchange, and what we've asked the Forest Service to do  
12 is to look at their lands to see if there were any possibilities  
13 there, and then also to possibly consider the Mental Health Trust  
14 Lands as another option of doing kind of a three-way switch there,  
15 like we're considering at Tatitlek, and they'll be working on that  
16 in the next few months. But, it's one of the things that Chugach  
17 hasn't identified specifically what their interested in trading, so  
18 I think it's going to be up to us to put together a proposal to  
19 bring to them, to try to get support for, and that will take some  
20 time to work up. We've also heard a request from Seldovia Native  
21 Association for, I believe, Crescent Creek -- Crescent River -- for  
22 about 44,000 acres that they are interested in selling to the  
23 Trustee Council. There's also been some interest expressed by the  
24 Chignik villages for lands that they own down there that would be  
25 potentially incorporated into the federal wildlife refuge system.  
26 So, there's -- there's several other major landowners now that have

1 expressed interest in the last few -- few months. The City of  
2 Kenai has also expressed interest in selling the mouth of the Kenai  
3 River to the Trustee Council, and that's approximately 2,000 acres,  
4 mostly wetlands.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Pam, did you have another questions?

6 MS. BRODIE: Yeah, could you explain the best interest  
7 finding with the (indiscernible).

8 MS. McCAMMON: I will try, and Deborah if you think I'm  
9 blowing it, step in. Because of the unique nature of the  
10 transactions that we're doing and because the Trustee Council is  
11 made up of both state and federal agencies, when the Council  
12 authorizes an acquisition of some interest, and this could be  
13 actual fee acquisition of land, or it could be just purchase of  
14 timber rights, that is an interest in lands. And because of this  
15 mixture -- the Trustee Council itself cannot own lands or interest  
16 in lands, so one of the Trustee agencies is authorized to do that.  
17 But, because of the state-federal mix of the Trustee Council when,  
18 for example, the Forest Service is authorized to purchase timber  
19 interests and they do, and the Forest Service, for example, on Bomb  
20 Point, the Forest Service purchased those timber interests, there  
21 is also a provision in it that gives the state the right to enforce  
22 against the federal government for how those interests are managed,  
23 and that gives kind of a check and balance so that if the Trustee  
24 Council authorizes a federal agency to buy land to protect it for  
25 habitat protection and then they end up trying to do things on that  
26 land that are contrary to the purpose for which it's purchased, the



1 opposite government has the ability to enforce against that  
2 government, and vice-versa if the state were to do an acquisition,  
3 the federal government would have the ability to enforce against  
4 that government, and this is kind of a unique aspect of the Trustee  
5 Council operations here. As a result of that, through this  
6 process, when the Forest Service acquired the timber interests, the  
7 state also acquired an interest in those timber rights at Bomb  
8 Point, and so for the Forest Service to do an exchange, the state  
9 has to relinquish its rights, and in order to relinquish its  
10 interest, they have to do a best interest finding, and that takes  
11 a public process of public notification, a public hearing if it  
12 seems like it's generated enough interest to do so, and ...

13 MS. BRODIE: Is all of this best interest finding just  
14 related to that view shed tray, not anything (indiscernible -  
15 simultaneous talking).

16 MS. McCAMMON: That's correct, just the trays.

17 MS. BRODIE: ... and, the core lands, has there been --  
18 I'm not sure exactly the word to use on that, but has there been  
19 any timber cruises at that yet, or is there agreement for an  
20 appraisal?

21 MS. McCAMMON: Yes, there has been. Yes, all of that  
22 land has been cruised and it's in various stages of appraisal, and  
23 the one thing that's really holding that final appraisal up is the  
24 final determination on the effect that ANCSA has on the value.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Any further questions for Molly? Were you  
26 finished with your report, or have you some (indiscernible -

1 simultaneous talking).

2 MS. McCAMMON: No, I have a couple -- couple of other  
3 things here.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Carrying on then, have you come to  
5 administrative issues yet?

6 MS. McCAMMON: Yes, I'm kind of going in a train here.

7 MR. McCORKLE: ... hopping about.

8 MS. McCAMMON: Hopping about. I think you also have  
9 before you the budget, and if you turn to administrative issues  
10 here, 96100 which is the budget for our administrative costs, and  
11 what this actually includes, and this was requested by several PAG  
12 members at the last meeting, to see a copy of this, and what this  
13 actually is, is the administration public information and science  
14 management aspects or functions of our office. This includes  
15 funding for all of our science management, which is the Chief  
16 Scientist, all of our peer reviewers, the technical, independent  
17 outside review of all of our projects. It also includes funding  
18 for many workshops, the annual workshop in January, and things of  
19 that nature. This also includes funding for our public information  
20 program, which includes the Oil Spill Public Information Center.  
21 It includes our information management project, which is developing  
22 a database that will be available on Internet, and be available to  
23 the public and to other scientists. It includes the Public  
24 Information Office upstairs here, which publishes the newsletters,  
25 the annual report, response to all reporter inquiries, things of  
26 that nature. It also includes the costs of travel to communities

1 in the spill area for public meetings. This also includes the  
2 budget for the Public Advisory Group for holding the meetings and  
3 for the travel. It includes funding for the Trustee Council  
4 meetings. The administration costs are primarily focused on the  
5 restoration office, which is the office here in Anchorage. We have  
6 approximately 12 staff here that serve primarily as support staff,  
7 that includes the library downstairs which has three staff members.  
8 It includes the Public Information Specialist. It includes a  
9 number of planners, and the science coordinator, and folks like  
10 that. The cost here reflects a reduction of nearly 20 percent from  
11 last year. Last year's budget was at approximately \$4.2 million.  
12 We're looking at \$3.4 this year. It is expected to go down again  
13 next year, and as part of this overall weaning of the -- of our  
14 funding, we'll be reducing things year-by-year as we go along. The  
15 Public Advisory Group budget, which is on page -- I think it's on  
16 page 30 -- 34, is approximately \$20,000 less than it was last year,  
17 and what actually is less here, I think is -- actually a more  
18 accurate accounting or reflection of what we think the costs are  
19 going to be for travel. In the past budget, we assumed that all 17  
20 people were traveling to all meetings, and requiring travel and per  
21 diem, and here we've actually gone through and we've done a better  
22 accounting of how much we've actually spent in the past, and how  
23 much we expect to spend this year. So, I think this is -- there is  
24 still room in there, it's not so tight that -- I don't anticipate  
25 even that \$121,000 will be totally expended.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, yes, it will.

1 MS. McCAMMON: But, in the past I know definitely that  
2 the \$146,000 was not totally expended, so I think this is more  
3 realistic. The other thing that we have in here is that in the  
4 past and currently, we have all of the Public Advisory Group  
5 meetings tape recorded and transcribed verbatim, and what we've  
6 found in the past year is that for the Public Advisory Group the  
7 transcripts are really not used anymore at this point, and so what  
8 I've recommended in here that we continue to tape record the  
9 meetings, and have the detailed minutes taken instead of the  
10 transcript, so that saves some money there. Otherwise, it's pretty  
11 much -- it's very similar to what it was in the past. And, I'd be  
12 happy to answer any questions about this.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Are there any questions for Molly, either  
14 -- first of all on the PAG budget and then we'll go to the general  
15 budget, if there are questions that you might have. On the PAG  
16 budget, I'd like to offer a comment. I agree that we don't  
17 necessarily need to have complete detailed -- complete transcripts  
18 of the PAG meetings, so long as we do maintain a recording, but I'd  
19 like to -- I guess the reason some of us have not asked for those  
20 is because we didn't think that we could. We thought it would be  
21 a -- maybe even a waste. However, since I've received copies in  
22 the last couple of months, I've really used them a lot. But, what  
23 I'd like to ask is when we do the detailed minutes, that they have  
24 just a tad more detail in them so that it will be a little more  
25 helpful. Doug's done a splendid job of doing minutes, realizing  
26 that we have the transcript to fall back on if there was ever a

1 question, but I think -- I'd like to suggest that we consider, at  
2 least, summation of major discussions. If somebody brings up a  
3 point and it's just a point and no one responds or there isn't  
4 discussion, I'm not sure that necessarily needs to be summarized in  
5 the detailed expanded minutes, but if we spend five or ten or  
6 fifteen or twenty minutes or more than two or three people talk on  
7 this, or there are views on this subject which are divergent from  
8 one another, I do think that a statement should be made that  
9 subject X was discussed, two or three of the important points  
10 seemed to be ABC and list those, not a detailed description, just  
11 outlining what the points are because I think we need to use these  
12 detailed minutes then as a memory jogger of the things we talked  
13 about. That's really helpful, and then also, as you look back over  
14 three or four meetings, it's important to know we actually did  
15 discuss certain points, or at least it came up for discussion, and  
16 maybe if we want to have the details, we go back to the recordings,  
17 but if we can have major topics shown as a topic for discussions,  
18 that were discussed, and major, sort of up to the drafter's  
19 decision, and then two or three points that were significant under  
20 that issue, at least that's my view, and I -- see if there are  
21 others who disagree or would like to comment on that, you're  
22 certainly welcome to do so at this time. John.

23 DR. FRENCH: I guess, my question would be what's form  
24 of the record is being used most by the Trustee Council in terms of  
25 getting information about the PAG to them.

26 MS. McCAMMON: The meeting notes.

1 DR. FRENCH: The meeting notes, so I would concur with  
2 Vern completely then. We should try to get a little more  
3 information into it.

4 MS. McCAMMON: I think that's very do-able under any kind  
5 of a contract that we would do. It would be someone who would  
6 professionally tape record the meetings and professionally take the  
7 minutes, and that would part of the instructions.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Anything on the general budget that  
9 anyone would like to comment on. We certainly are hearing that  
10 that funding levels for all programs are being minimized as we  
11 proceed for the next few years. The budget seems to indicate that.  
12 We've heard a request from the Trustee Council designee that we  
13 provide them an \$18 million target budget. I don't know if we're  
14 prepared to do that, but we can certainly offer good comments on  
15 this budget. So, there being no further comments then on either  
16 the PAG budget or the overall Trustee Council budget, we then defer  
17 back to Molly to continue with her report.

18 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I'd also just like to  
19 encourage people to take this home with them and look through it if  
20 they're really interested and if you have any questions or comments  
21 after that, get them in and we'd be glad to respond to them at that  
22 time. Let's see, there -- one of the other items that -- actually  
23 I forgot to mention it earlier on activities is on the Alaska Sea  
24 Life Center, and in order to -- when the Council approved that  
25 project they did it conditionally, and there are five conditions  
26 that are attached to it. We have been working on all of those

1 conditions. They have not all yet been met, and until they are  
2 completed we will not be going to the Legislative Budget and Audit  
3 Committee nor to the trust account for those funds until they are  
4 completed. They are all progressing and we expect to have them  
5 resolved by September, but at this point we're still doing work on  
6 them. The two remaining conditions that are still being worked on,  
7 one is on the operating and construction costs, and I basically  
8 have to sign off that those seem reasonable, and since I'm no  
9 builder what we've done is contracted with the Alaska Industrial  
10 Development Authority to review those, and they will be reporting  
11 on their findings in approximately 10 days. So, their review will  
12 be the basis for whatever decision we make on those. The second  
13 aspect is an agreement that's being negotiated between the SAAM's  
14 board and the University of Alaska for providing overall scientific  
15 leadership at the facility, and that's still in negotiations.  
16 We're hopeful that we'll have that resolved by September.

17 MR. MCCORKLE: Good news.

18 MS. MCCAMMON: Okay, going on to the next set of issues  
19 or PAG issues, and some of these actually will require some form of  
20 action or at least assent to go forward with the direction that  
21 we're taking. The first one is the itinerary for the Valdez trip,  
22 and that is scheduled for September 19th and 20th, at this time,  
23 and I believe you have before you a draft itinerary which has out-  
24 of-town folks coming to Anchorage on the evening on September 18th,  
25 and then the morning, September 19th, flying to Valdez, spending a  
26 couple of hours in Valdez visiting the small parcels that are being

1 considered. There is a SERVS drill that is occurring at that time,  
2 and apparently it's not going to be on water as we had originally  
3 anticipated, but is a land drill, so this would also include  
4 visiting this at the command center potentially, and then I put on  
5 here as a possibility having an open house or some kind of a public  
6 forum in Valdez and just giving people in the community a chance to  
7 come meet with the Public Advisory Group and deliver comments, or  
8 -- either meet formally or informally, and then leave Valdez around  
9 noon on Stan Stephens' vessel and go to Chenega from there. And,  
10 what we would potentially do is start on the eastern side of the  
11 Sound and do kind of an -- and go to Chenega following that route  
12 so we could see some of the Tatitlek lands, Eyak lands, Montague  
13 Island, and then end up at Chenega where folks would overnight on  
14 the boat. The next morning we would off load, tour the community,  
15 meet with residents there, and then leave Chenega for Valdez, but  
16 before actually heading back to Valdez stop at a few of the oiled  
17 beaches. Any -- if there's any mussel bed projects going on at  
18 that time, any kind of projects that are out in field, any of the  
19 sea plan projects, try to hook up with anyone there so we could see  
20 some of the activities that they have underway, and then basically  
21 cruise back to Valdez with the idea of leaving there on the 10:00  
22 o'clock flight. Now, this is all tentative, and Cheri Womac has  
23 been doing a tremendous job trying to see if she can get any  
24 confirmation about when plane flights are in September and they  
25 change to their fall schedule and getting any airline to commit to  
26 when they're going to have a plan in or out. It's been really



1 difficult, if not impossible. So, it's still very draft-like at  
2 this -- at this moment. But, this is kind of our suggested  
3 itinerary at this point, and if this looks good from the PAG's  
4 perspective, then we'll go ahead and start trying to put --  
5 finalize some of these and put some of these details in order.

6 MR. McCORKLE: I'd like to ask Chuck Totemoff, for the  
7 moment, to comment on our visit to his home grounds, but before we  
8 do that, are there any comments from the rest of the -- the group  
9 that you'd like to make? It looks like a very exciting time. I'm  
10 sorry that SERVS is not going to be on the water, watching what  
11 they may do on land may be a bit boring, maybe not, who knows.  
12 What could they be doing on land? Okay, if they blow the whistle  
13 I run to their -- all run to their boats ...

14 MS. McCAMMON: Well, Dave probably knows.

15 MR. McCORKLE: ... or their cars and charge off to the  
16 water. What would be happening, do you think, Dave?

17 MR. COBB: Since this is Sea River's drill, Sea River  
18 has determined that they want to bring in all of the equipment from  
19 outside the Prince William Sound and stage it -- put it on some  
20 small vessels and stop. But, the incident command center will be  
21 in place and I think from a standpoint of knowing how an incident  
22 command center works, and how this one works, we could probably see  
23 that 30 to 45 minutes, with a tour of that facility, and I think a  
24 good example of how the incident command center works happened last  
25 weekend when the crew ship caught fire in Prince William Sound.  
26 So, it -- it worked very well.

1 MR. McCORKLE: What did it do?

2 MR. COBB: It -- the SERVES people, Captain Plummer,  
3 the fishing vessel coordinator, Coast Guard, all assembled together  
4 and worked on getting vessels out there to the -- the cruise ship,  
5 put the fishing vessel -- put myself on standby. We did have a lot  
6 of fishing vessels in port that could have responded, and it could  
7 be that type of thing. It was impressive.

8 MR. McCORKLE: When they're bringing all of the equipment  
9 from outside the area to the area, what equipment is that going to  
10 be? What kind of equipment do you envision?

11 MR. COBB: I don't know what this one will be. I  
12 know there is a lot of it stockpiled in Anchorage and other areas,  
13 and so they anticipate flying in a lot of it in C1-30s, and  
14 bringing in things like that. That's the extent of what I know.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Well, do you just sort like -- everything  
16 will be off-loaded, and sort of marshalled up or lined up so people  
17 can actually see the various equipment, booms, and ...

18 MR. COBB: That's what we're hearing.

19 MR. McCORKLE: ... oil suckers and on and on.

20 MR. COBB: We won't know until it actually happens.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, well, maybe it will be exciting.  
22 Maybe I'll have to change my view on that. Any other comments,  
23 yes.

24 MR. KING: Question, are the alternates invited on  
25 this, or ...

26 MR. McCORKLE: Oh no, no -- no, no.

1 MS. McCAMMON: No.

2 MR. McCORKLE: That commercial, oh no, no, no, no.

3 (Laughter) I guess the alternates could come if they could get

4 there.

5 MS. McCAMMON: I think the alternates could only come if

6 they paid their own way and if there was room on the boat, and I'm

7 not quite sure how many -- how many?

8 MS. WOMAC: 32.

9 MS. McCAMMON: 32, so there probably would be room for a

10 few.

11 MR. McCORKLE: And, over-nighting on the boat, how will

12 that be?

13 MS. McCAMMON: I have no idea, I haven't been on this

14 boat. (Laughter)

15 MR. McCORKLE: Are there like bunks, or I'm not sure ...

16 MS. McCAMMON: There are rooms -- yeah, there's bunks in

17 rooms or something. Yeah.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Back in the Navy again.

19 MS. McCAMMON: But, they can do two or three people.

20 MS. WOMAC: Curtained bunks.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, well now that's -- will that moor

22 off Chenega? Yeah, probably at Chenega Bay. So there we will be,

23 Chuck, what do you think about that?

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: Well, it can be done.

25 MR. McCORKLE: It can, huh. Could we -- could we plan an

26 event, I mean, maybe a little barbecue or ...

1 MS. McCAMMON: I'm not sure at this time, you know, we  
2 haven't talked with the captain.

3 MR. McCORKLE: ... I guess, a little coffee and punch or  
4 something.

5 MS. McCAMMON: ... in terms of timing, when we would  
6 arrive and all that, and what the mileage is ...

7 MR. COBB: It is ten hours.

8 MS. McCAMMON: It's about ten hours, though, I think, but  
9 I don't know if it's ten hours direct if we did this kind of around  
10 that would make it longer, I'm not sure -- (indiscernible) deep sea  
11 fishing.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, right.

13 MS. McCAMMON: It's the trolling off the back  
14 (indiscernible).

15 MR. McCORKLE: Well, it sort of -- everybody's there and  
16 Chip is there, if we -- but I see the next day, of course, we do  
17 have time to visit with people off boat, but it might just be fun  
18 to think of something, maybe we could bring something. I don't  
19 know, what could we bring?

20 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yourselves would be fine.

21 MS. McCAMMON: We'll work with Chuck and we'll see about  
22 setting up something up if you want -- if the community wants to do  
23 something that evening, or the morning -- it's really up to you.

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: I think we probably will.

25 MR. McCORKLE: I think we -- be careful that if we do  
26 something that we help, so we -- I mean, I've lived in small

1 communities all my life, and suddenly here comes everybody from out  
2 of town and now what do we do? You have to cut the fish pie ten  
3 times more. But -- so, it's not the idea to cause a problem.  
4 Maybe we could show up, maybe we could bring something, and maybe  
5 we could share someday.

6 MS. McCAMMON: Potluck.

7 MR. McCORKLE: That's a possibility. They do have ...

8 MR. MUTTER: (Indiscernible) for Chuck's house.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, Chuck, anything you'd like to talk  
10 about with respect to the agenda?

11 MR. TOTEMOFF: I think it's a real good agenda as far as  
12 seeing oiled beaches. There's a number of them up there, and it's  
13 pretty close to our village. We have (indiscernible).

14 MS. McCAMMON: We have to figure out the logistics of  
15 getting out there.

16 MR. TOTEMOFF: Big boats can just sit offshore and carry  
17 people.

18 MS. McCAMMON: They must have smaller boats on top of  
19 them, I'm sure.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Some Zodiac.

21 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah, something like that probably. And,  
22 we're also planning on having -- if you could have some folks  
23 there.

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: We'll have people there. And, as far as  
25 mussel restoration, I don't think we're going to see any in  
26 September, or anything. Maybe we can have reports, you know, bring

1 in someone like that. And Chenega lands, you know, as far as the  
2 (indiscernible), if that big boat can make it through Dangerous  
3 Pass, (indiscernible).

4 MR. McCORKLE: Well, certainly we have a -- beginnings,  
5 I think, of an excellent opportunity. It does highlight the fact  
6 that we are interested in looking at areas that have been impacted,  
7 and it's -- it is not a junket, and you can see that because of the  
8 kinds of things that have been proposed for us to see, that a good  
9 job has been done in trying to help us maximize an opportunity to  
10 be more sensitive and have a better understanding for the things  
11 that have impacted that area of the state. So, I'm really thrilled  
12 about these prospects, and I assume that if people have ideas or  
13 suggestions along the way, they can give you a buzz, and  
14 (indiscernible), John.

15 DR. FRENCH: Just one other comment on those same sort  
16 of lines. I personally view that -- the opportunity to interact  
17 with the residents of those communities is an important part of  
18 this trip, and I'd be very reluctant to see those cut down any more  
19 than what they're now. I'd like to see us have at least an hour in  
20 each of the (indiscernible) and Chenega to meet with the local  
21 residents.

22 MR. McCORKLE: In fact, we might even want to emphasize  
23 a little bit the open-house idea, I think is an excellent idea, and  
24 if, you know, if it happens to slop over there into the noon hour,  
25 maybe we could do that. Of course, it's a pretty tight schedule,  
26 so we can't do a lot of this if we are going, you know, have that

1 scheduled stretched too much.

2 DR. FRENCH: That's what I'm saying. If we cut  
3 something, I don't want to see those items cut.

4 MS. McCAMMON: They also have a morning call-in show. I  
5 don't know if it's still on the air with all of the budget  
6 reductions on public radio now, but if we do we could get a few PAG  
7 members on that, that morning, it's -- it goes Sound-wide and you  
8 get calls from all over.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Doug.

10 MR. MUTTER: The last field trip the staff put together  
11 a very nice itinerary package that showed the beaches before and  
12 after and sites. It would be useful to have something like that.  
13 We're looking at parcels -- there is some good information about  
14 why we're looking at those parcels, that would be a nice package.

15 MR. McCORKLE: That's right. I had forgotten that point.  
16 That was really helpful as we were -- those of you who were on that  
17 trip remember the pass out materials that we got before we arrived  
18 at each of the areas, that did give us a little synopsis as to what  
19 we were going to see and what we might see. And, as I recall, we  
20 studied those pretty much, so, a great idea.

21 MR. MUTTER: And on that, we had to provide our own  
22 Zodiacs, so we need to check out with Stan to see if we need to do  
23 that. The Forest Service provided them.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Well, those are the kinds of details that  
25 really have to be looked at, like how do people get from where the  
26 airplane lands to where we're going.

1 MS. McCAMMON: Right, we've got that on there.

2 MR. McCORKLE: In some areas there is only a few cars.

3 MS. McCAMMON: Fortunately, we have Dave Cobb's, as chief  
4 expeditor in Valdez.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Who knows everybody, and (indiscernible).  
6 Any other comments, yes, Jim.

7 MR. DIEHL: Brad Phillips was very explicit about what  
8 kind of footwear he wanted us to have on his boat, and I think it  
9 would be helpful to advise us in advance a little bit about what to  
10 wear, wear boots, bring rain gear.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Boots and rain gear.

12 MR. DIEHL: Gotcha.

13 UNKNOWN: Rubber boots.

14 MR. McCORKLE: But, not the kind that make black marks.

15 MR. COBB: Stan's used to that, I mean he hauls --he  
16 has people, he is running three and four boats a day, twice a day  
17 some of them.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I think -- we should know that, and  
19 maybe carry on to -- or pass the word on that we are sensitive to  
20 those things and if there are things we need to be careful of,  
21 we're ready to do that, so we can take your swimming lessons  
22 beforehand. Okay, thank you, Molly.

23 MS. VLASOFF: Molly, I've got one more question.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Martha.

25 MS. VLASOFF: Did you contact Tatitlek (indiscernible).

26 MS. McCAMMON: No, we haven't. And, actually stopping at



1 the community -- we could see if that's possible given the time,  
2 you know. I don't know what the status is, is the dock going to be  
3 done by then?

4 MS. VLASOFF: The ferry?

5 MS. McCAMMON: No, the dock -- yeah, the big dock --  
6 probably not. I don't know, it's going to be awhile.

7 MS. VLASOFF: No, they're just working on it this  
8 summer.

9 MR. McCORKLE: There's a lot of activity going on.

10 MS. VLASOFF: I didn't ask because, you know, if you  
11 have or not, but I know that ...

12 MS. McCAMMON: Do you think that they would like the PAG  
13 to come and stop?

14 MS. VLASOFF: They've got the airport going in, the  
15 ferry terminal ...

16 MS. McCAMMON: It's a lot going on.

17 MS. VLASOFF: There's a lot going on, but I think it  
18 would be worth the time spent to find out if they would be  
19 interested.

20 MS. McCAMMON: Okay, and once we have a better idea what  
21 the timing is to get from one location to another, because by  
22 September we also have darkness at night, so that we have to deal  
23 with. So, we'll talk to the boat operator and we'll see -- and,  
24 then I'll talk to Gary.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, any other questions before we  
26 go on? Okay.

1 MS. McCAMMON: Okay, the next item -- our meeting  
2 schedule, and there are two things that should be before you, and  
3 one of them is, at the last meeting you requested a restoration  
4 office meeting schedule of events that were upcoming, just so that  
5 you could keep them in mind, and be informed of what was going on.  
6 There's one before you. I'm not sure -- there's a couple of  
7 additions to it. It -- it changes frequently, and so what we've  
8 done at the bottom is we've put a little date -- that even since  
9 the date 7/25, it's changed. One thing that should be included on  
10 here is the tentative Trustee Council meeting on September 8th on  
11 habitat protection. In October is -- there's going to be an oiling  
12 work shop, and we don't have the dates for that yet, but it will be  
13 sometime in October, and then in November the technical review  
14 session of pink salmon genetics, sockeye I.D. and strain proposals  
15 is actually the 28th and 29th of November. Otherwise, it's  
16 accurate.

17 UNKNOWN: Could have put the hour on it.

18 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah, almost, hourly. But, what we'll do  
19 is plan on sending these, we're -- we'll be updating these  
20 regularly and we'll plan on sending them out to you every couple of  
21 weeks, and then once a month depending on frequently they change.  
22 Right now it's changing a lot because we're putting together our  
23 fall schedule for all of the technical review sessions, so there's  
24 a lot going on from that perspective. There's several meetings  
25 that we're trying to schedule that aren't on here yet. So, this  
26 will be changing quite a bit in the next few weeks.

1 MR. MUTTER: Molly.

2 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

3 MR. MUTTER: When would you anticipate the PAG meeting  
4 over this period of time?

5 MS. McCAMMON: Well, if you look at the next item in  
6 here, which is the tentative schedule of PAG meetings. We didn't  
7 go as requested, we laid out a tentative schedule here for the FY  
8 '96 meetings. We did not go into specific dates because it -- it  
9 seems like if we just set an approximate time then -- if there's  
10 some discussion here, maybe we could get some actual dates nailed  
11 down. But, what we've put together were four meetings. We didn't  
12 do the field trip at this point, we left that open, but in terms of  
13 four meetings in Anchorage to focus on work plan and other issues,  
14 we anticipate seeing one in late November or early December, and  
15 this would be prior to that tentative December 12th meeting on the  
16 final aspects of the work plan. One probably in February, and this  
17 would be right after the annual work shop in January, and it would  
18 be during development of the invitation to submit FY '97 proposals.  
19 One in late May or early June, as we're developing the draft Work  
20 Plan, but before the recommendation as -- developed for publication  
21 and the draft work plan, and then one in July, similar to the one  
22 we're having now, which would be prior to the final recommendation  
23 on the FY -- actually that should be the FY '97 Work Plan. So  
24 those are just some approximate (indiscernible).

25 MR. McCORKLE: Are there any general thoughts about these  
26 dates? Brenda.

1 MR. SCHWANTES: Not about these dates, but I had a  
2 question.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. We'll -- hold your question for  
4 just a second, and let's -- probably it's not going to be possible  
5 for us to select dates at this time, but I think we might want to  
6 put a few minutes on our agenda for the field trip meeting to see  
7 if we can become a little more firm on some of these dates. For  
8 example, if Tuesdays are just out for you because that's the day  
9 you do so and so, we probably should be thinking about those kinds  
10 of things. There were one or two people at our last meeting and  
11 said certain dates were not possible for them, and one of them was  
12 today so a couple of them are not here. But, we might be able to,  
13 at least -- at least hear of the days that are just not workable  
14 for people and see how many of us that really affects. Chuck.

15 MR. TOTEMOFF: I'd like to come back to your habitat  
16 report, and sort of -- I just wanted to let you know that, you  
17 know, September 8th that the Chenega Corporation and the Council  
18 (indiscernible) agree on the (indiscernible) deal. It's kind of  
19 encroaching upon our time line. You know, our annual meeting is  
20 set for November, and this deal has a condition upon it --  
21 (indiscernible) shareholder approval. And, according to that, I  
22 have to give 60 day notice to the shareholders of that meeting, and  
23 this is going to be on it.

24 MS. McCAMMON: Well even -- the Trustee -- the whole  
25 Chenega deal does not have to go back to the Trustee Council at  
26 all, unless it goes above the \$48 million dollars that was

1 indicated in the resolution, and unless it -- but, it's subject to  
2 fair market appraisal plus 20 percent with that cap, so if it falls  
3 within the range in the resolution, it actually doesn't come back  
4 to the Trustee Council for any action.

5 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, well, see, my problem is that I have  
6 to get everything into the shareholder packets. This doesn't give  
7 me (indiscernible) sent out, then we have to vote on it. It  
8 doesn't give me very much time.

9 MS. McCAMMON: So, what you're saying is that September  
10 8th is too late, or too early?

11 MR. TOTEMOFF: Well, it's -- it's almost too late to get  
12 into the packet.

13 MS. McCAMMON: But this -- having September 8th when I  
14 said Chenega -- we hope to have it accomplished by then, it could  
15 be accomplished any time between now and then, and if it actually  
16 requires Trustee Council action, and you did have a timing issue  
17 like that, then we would arrange to have a meeting of the Trustee  
18 Council before then.

19 MR. TOTEMOFF: Okay. I just wanted to make sure that  
20 you're aware of that.

21 MS. McCAMMON: Okay.

22 MR. McCORKLE: That is with regard to the tentative  
23 meeting schedule. We interlined the September 8 date so they could  
24 -- tentative Trustee Council meeting.

25 MS. McCAMMON: It's the same with the Kodiak Island  
26 Borough and Shuyak, that really -- unless something changes --

1 differs from the resolution, does not have to come back to the  
2 Trustee Council for further action, in which case we'll probably  
3 only have small parcels on the September 8th.

4 MR. TOTEMOFF: What about things like the conservation  
5 easements.

6 MS. McCAMMON: That's all within the authority that the  
7 negotiators and the agency have -- that (indiscernible) come back.

8 MR. TOTEMOFF: And geographic areas -- and -- within the  
9 conservation easements that's within?

10 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

11 MR. TOTEMOFF: (Indiscernible)

12 MS. McCAMMON: As long as -- has a whole -- it falls  
13 within the general guidelines within the resolution. Yes.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Brenda, you were next.

15 MS. SCHWANTES: Yeah, I remember there was some discussion  
16 of -- at the last meeting or the meeting before about a complete  
17 list of all the projects, and I don't remember if we just decided  
18 that we were going to refer to those, you know, the plans for a few  
19 (indiscernible), but I think it would be helpful for me and a lot  
20 of the people on Kodiak if there was a complete listing of all the  
21 projects that have been funded, that are being funded, or that will  
22 be, or, you know, that possibly could be funded in the future.  
23 With this information -- this is really helpful, but also a  
24 geographic area. I think that would be very helpful. Is there  
25 anything like that?

26 MR. McCORKLE: There is such a list.

1 MS. McCAMMON: We do have that, Brenda.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Yes. It's downstairs.

3 MS. McCAMMON: And we track it on a quarterly basis. We  
4 track the progress of all of those projects, and where they are in  
5 terms of their report being reviewed and finalized, and for FY '95  
6 projects, where they are in terms of completing -- the efforts  
7 here. We do quarterly, back to '92.

8 MS. SCHWANTES: Okay, and you have all the projects on  
9 those reports, and we can get a copy of those.

10 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Any further comments before we go on?  
12 Yes, Gordon.

13 MR. ZERBETZ: I wanted to ask Molly a couple of  
14 questions about the schedule, of the restoration office tentative  
15 schedule. First off, on the oiling workshop in October 1995, what  
16 entities, what groups will that be? Will that be the PAG or the  
17 Trustee Council?

18 MS. McCAMMON: No, its a technical review session. So,  
19 the PAG is invited to attend if they would like, but it's -- it's  
20 not specifically with the Public Advisory Group, or specifically  
21 with the Trustee Council.

22 MR. ZERBETZ: It's a staff effort, then?

23 MS. McCAMMON: It's a technical review session, and we  
24 will be having people from communities involved in it. We'll be  
25 having -- invited experts, we'll be having agency people, the PAG  
26 is invited.

1 MR. ZERBETZ: Okay, and the other question was with  
2 respect to the September 29 - October 1 event down at Girdwood.  
3 Who is sponsoring that?

4 MS. McCAMMON: That is a project actually that was funded  
5 by the Trustee Council this year, to do a seabird restoration  
6 conference, and I'd have to double check on this, but the way it  
7 ended up -- this has gone through a couple of transformations  
8 because the original -- one of the original justifications for this  
9 project was to have it in Alaska so Alaskans could attend and  
10 participate in it, and not have it as part of the Pacific seabird  
11 annual conference, which tends not to be in Alaska, and then they  
12 came back with a -- part of the proposal that had it in Seattle.  
13 We kind of jumped up and down a lot. It's now in -- in Girdwood at  
14 Alyeska. Then they came back with a draft that said it was close  
15 to the public. We really jumped up and down with that one. What  
16 they're having now is a -- I believe an open -- mainly an open  
17 session the first day -- I believe it's the first day that it's  
18 geared towards the public, and then the rest of it is technical  
19 papers and sessions. But, we have some more information of it --  
20 about that in the back, but I can get that to you.

21 MR. ZERBETZ: Thank you.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Is the bird man from Juneau want to  
23 comment?

24 MS. McCAMMON: We jumped up -- we jumped up and down a  
25 lot on this.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Does the bird man from Juneau wish to



1 comment, being our Pacific seabird expert.

2 MR. KING: Well, I don't know anymore than Molly just  
3 said. I -- it's also a (indiscernible) -- a puzzle that emerged  
4 from what I was supporting in here.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Well, we know that you'll -- the two of  
6 you will keep (indiscernible) because Jim will see that that  
7 meeting happens here, open to the public.

8 MS. McCAMMON: Open to the public, absolutely.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, thank you. Martha.

10 MS. VLASOFF: Yes, as far as the meetings for annual  
11 restoration workshop, January 15th to the 18th, I was wondering --  
12 in looking at the tentative dates for PAG meetings, can we schedule  
13 the PAG meeting in the spring to coincide with that annual  
14 restoration workshop so that the PAG members could attend that, and  
15 be a part of that?

16 MS. McCAMMON: Well, that workshop is a four day  
17 workshop, and it really -- there are only a couple of weeks --  
18 actually, we have a very narrow window there to have that workshop  
19 because it's time to get the greatest benefit of having the results  
20 of the prior year's field season, and yet be useful in developing  
21 the next year's work, and so really there's only about two weeks  
22 there in which it can be. This is the same week it was in last --  
23 this past year, and that seemed to work pretty well for people.  
24 The overall response for the researchers was that the timing worked  
25 well. If the PAG wanted to have a meeting in conjunction with  
26 that, the Monday is Martin Luther King birthday which -- I mean if

1 the PAG -- you would have to either have a meeting on that Monday,  
2 or on a Saturday. And, that would be fine if the PAG wanted to do  
3 that. We'd be happy to set that up.

4 MS. VLASOFF: I think it would be very helpful for the  
5 PAG to participate and, you know, just from going to these annual  
6 restoration workshops, you know, I believe that the input that you  
7 can ...

8 MS. McCAMMON: And, if you look into the PAG budget, we  
9 did put in \$10,000 for members travel and per diem (indiscernible)  
10 meetings, with the idea that four meetings, (indiscernible) annual  
11 workshop and others, that it's open, and those who wanted to could,  
12 and that travel and per diem would be paid. But, I think there's  
13 funding -- enough funding in here included.

14 MR. McCORKLE: John.

15 DR. FRENCH: Well, first, is this item I'd like to  
16 request that we put in discussion the future PAG meetings on the  
17 agenda for tomorrow. Let's get the (indiscernible) talking,  
18 because I do think, especially this December meeting, you need to  
19 try to think -- begin to think about possible dates because  
20 people's schedules tend to be very busy at that time of year. But,  
21 second of all, specifically with respect to the restoration  
22 workshop, I agree it's important and valuable for PAG members to  
23 attend it -- if we schedule our PAG meeting right on top of it, we  
24 won't benefit from any of the integration of the material that can  
25 concur from that, so I would speak against having the PAG meeting  
26 actually coincide with it.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Any other comments on that? Chuck.

2 MR. TOTEMOFF: Not specifically to that, but I remember  
3 last year we had a PAG meeting during AFN meeting, and that's why  
4 I wasn't able to attend those days. I don't recall when is AFN.

5 MR. McCORKLE: It's in November.

6 MS. McCAMMON: I think -- no -- I think it's more like  
7 October 18th, or something like that. It's actually a little bit  
8 later than it is normally. It's around October 18th this year.

9 MR. TOTEMOFF: And, this oiling workshop, maybe you  
10 coincide that.

11 MS. McCAMMON: That's what we were thinking of, and we  
12 wanted to check with -- see what the schedule was so that people  
13 could take advantage of both of them.

14 MR. McCORKLE: I -- I guess need to offer a minority  
15 report on that. I attended the four day sessions -- popping in and  
16 out. Being as how I am not publicly funded and have to support  
17 myself, I can't always go to all the things I want to, but a four  
18 day meeting in a row and then slam dunk a PAG meeting on the end of  
19 it, takes away a week and a half, and that's one aspect to  
20 consider. Second, I really do like John's suggestion that it take  
21 some generation time here to absorb all -- I mean, group meetings  
22 are quite interesting, and I hate to miss the -- if I had to pick  
23 between them and the PAG meeting, of course, I'd pick the PAG  
24 meeting, but -- so those are some considerations. Hearing no  
25 objections, we will move to tomorrow's agenda to start out with a  
26 few minutes talk about the PAG schedule for the coming year, which

1 then sort of begs the question of, you know, would we all think  
2 about it overnight, and see what we can -- can bring to the  
3 discussion tomorrow, and see if there's anything that we can  
4 conclude. I think you had a good point, John. We're still in  
5 Molly's report. I'd like to say, I think we're going to finish up  
6 the morning agenda a bit early. I don't know that the report that  
7 we have on the information groups going to be -- going to take an  
8 hour, and we'll -- I'd like to suggest that we hear Molly's report,  
9 the conclusion of Molly's report, go on to the information report,  
10 then take a short recess and come back and maybe -- well, lunch  
11 won't be ...

12 MS. McCAMMON: We could take a few minute break right  
13 now.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Do you want to do that?

15 MS. McCAMMON: I think -- no, I probably have about  
16 twenty more minutes.

17 DR. FRENCH: Take a break.

18 MR. McCORKLE: I think we've been overruled, we'll take  
19 a break. Let's get back at quarter of 11, okay. Thanks.

20 (Off Record 10:30 a.m.)

21 (On Record 11:45 a.m.)

22 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, let's go back on the record, and we  
23 are continuing with the report from Molly McCammon.

24 MS. McCAMMON: Okay, Mr. Chairman, if you'll recall on --  
25 another issue that came up a couple of months ago was the issue of  
26 funds ...

1 MR. McCORKLE: Could we have your attention, everybody,  
2 please, thank you, go ahead.

3 MS. McCAMMON: Phone debit cards or some way of  
4 reimbursing folks for phone calls. We have talked with all of the  
5 various contracting people, and they do not recommend using a phone  
6 debit card because basically there's no verification of what it's  
7 being used for, that it's being used on Trustee Council business.  
8 They said if we wanted to do something like that, they would  
9 recommend that the PAG members submit a logging reimbursement-type  
10 voucher that we would put together, along with a copy of your phone  
11 bill with all the unnecessary numbers blackened out. This then  
12 would be routed through and be available for reimbursement. I  
13 would recommend, if you wanted to do something like that, that we  
14 proceed with that process, and limit it on a trial basis to see how  
15 it works, limit it to \$100 per year, as a start.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Discussion, please. Yes, Gordon.

17 MR. ZERBETZ: Possibly, we could think -- say you'd like  
18 to have a phone log, and since I like the telephone debit cards,  
19 there might be some sort of hybrid arrangement of the person who is  
20 issued a telephone debit card to keep a log and submit it.

21 MS. McCAMMON: There's no way of verifying that those  
22 were the numbers you actually called is the problem.

23 MR. ZERBETZ: Oh, I realize that.

24 MS. McCAMMON: So, we went through the contract people  
25 and this is what they would recommend as the best way.

26 MR. McCORKLE: As taxpayers ...

1 MS. McCAMMON: I should honestly say that the Trustee  
2 Council in the past has not looked very favorably on this, and I'd  
3 be willing to do it on a trial basis, but I think we really have to  
4 work closely with the contracting people. They're really not keen  
5 on it, at all.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Gordon.

7 MR. ZERBETZ: There is another alternative, and that is  
8 -- I'm giving you the whole benefit of my communications  
9 background, but quite seriously though, another way of doing this,  
10 I know through the alternate telephone company, GCI, who I'm not  
11 endorsing one way or another, but they do have a system of issuing  
12 a separate calling card for each person, and it's very easy -- it  
13 sets a very easy way to keep track of it -- they give you a print  
14 out at the end of the month of all of the calls completed by each  
15 person.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Any other comments?

17 MR. ZERBETZ: This is a system that we use in the Alaska  
18 Defense Force with the various officers.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Kim, did you ...

20 MS. BENTON: Molly, you say 100 minimum dollars for the  
21 group?

22 MS. McCAMMON: No, per person.

23 MS. BENTON: The other way -- I don't know if it works  
24 (indiscernible), but I know on my office phones we have call  
25 accounting, you know, it would -- just giving a separate number to  
26 the PAG calls that you're going to make, you know, at the end of

1 the month, all the -- cut that out (indiscernible) and observing it  
2 (indiscernible).

3 MR. DIEHL: So, you've got to tell them that there  
4 really (indiscernible) market technology (indiscernible).

5 MR. McCORKLE: I'd like to suggest that we see how -- how  
6 deep this water really is, and for -- between now and the end of  
7 this year, that we do the manual hand-kept log. If there's a great  
8 deal of calling, and over there in the comment section of the  
9 report, the commentary which identifies the person and subject  
10 discussed, if those are of substance, then I think we should try  
11 and do something a little more modern and up-to-date,  
12 electronically slick, but I'm not persuaded yet that we're talking  
13 about a whole bunch of money here. And so, the several folks that  
14 are out of town and that do need to call, I think -- one of the  
15 first ways to do is to present the staff records for a couple of  
16 months, and that gives us something to go on, and if there's an  
17 overwhelming use that we're putting this communication to, then I  
18 think we need to do -- become as modern and up-to-date as we can,  
19 and there are ways to do (indiscernible) just as well. But, I do  
20 realize that we've tried to ask for thorough accounting, how along  
21 the way in everything we do, and so we want to take those things  
22 into account as well, but this issue is for those folks who are not  
23 in daily contact either with the center here, or with each other  
24 all the time for them to be in contact with their constituent  
25 folks, and if that is an issue, I think we should have something  
26 that's, you know, substantial to go on and help us reach a policy

1 decision. Jim.

2 MR. DIEHL: The other thing is, you just identified  
3 like what would be the purpose of this, and that's what is, you  
4 know, would just be between PAG members, would be just -- that's  
5 the hard part as far as I can see. Is -- what calls are allowed  
6 and what calls would be allowed with such a thing, and, you know  
7 like, who are you calling up, and it would be, you know, the logic  
8 could go many different ways, and that would -- that would be the  
9 problem that I see that Molly is talking to would have, not -- not  
10 just the accounting.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I -- could sure respond to that.

12 MR. DIEHL: I mean that's -- that would be -- that  
13 would be the hardest part.

14 MR. McCORKLE: As I recall, I think maybe Pam you might  
15 want to address this. I believe, it was early on, what was a  
16 suggestion you brought to the group, but for those who live out of  
17 town or in Kodiak, Valdez, or far away from centers, who need to or  
18 would like to talk to members who are in their constituency or  
19 support group, or maybe to each other. For example, I was almost  
20 going to call John over the last few weeks because we're supposed  
21 to talk a little bit about the PAG budget, but I didn't do that  
22 because I think we both sort of came to an agreement on that, but  
23 that would have been the kind of thing that would have been listed,  
24 and in a call log, you generally put down who you talked to and the  
25 subject talked, and if that's done then we, you know, go on good  
26 faith and fair dealings that we're putting down the truth here.



1 But, I don't know how much of this there is. Pam, did you want to  
2 -- or Jim, further question.

3 MR. DIEHL: Follow up on that was, is this done in any  
4 PAG?

5 MS. McCAMMON: No, not by any advisory group.

6 MR. DIEHL: It's not done.

7 MS. McCAMMON: By any advisory group that I'm aware of,  
8 at least under the state system.

9 MR. DIEHL: You know, another argument -- I know I  
10 personally spend hundreds and hundreds of dollars on one project  
11 awhile ago on telephone calls, and I'm sure at that time, Molly, I  
12 had the lowest income in here of anybody, and (indiscernible -  
13 simultaneous talking)

14 MR. McCORKLE: Do you want to look into (indiscernible -  
15 simultaneous talking). (Laughter)

16 MR. DIEHL: At times, but, you know, like it might  
17 just be part of our -- part of our thing to the more meaningful  
18 stuff to just make a phone call, you know, (indiscernible).

19 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I think for a good majority  
20 of these things, the office here can handle with our phone set up,  
21 we have an 800 number. If various PAG members want to get together  
22 and discuss something, they can always call our 800 number and ask  
23 us to set up a conference call for them. You could have called us  
24 and asked to set up a conference call with John, and we could have  
25 arranged a time and done that kind of logistic ...

26 MR. McCORKLE: Well, John wouldn't have answered.

1 MS. McCAMMON: So, we -- we are available and willing to  
2 provide that kind of support at any time, too. But, this was in  
3 response to, it seemed like fairly strong feelings on the part of,  
4 at least several PAG members, and we're trying to be responsive to  
5 that, at least on a trial basis to see if something like this makes  
6 any sense.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

8 MS. BRODIE: The -- what I had in mind when I proposed  
9 it was being able to talk to a constituent, so that -- that Chuck,  
10 for example, Chenega Bay Corporation shouldn't have to pick up the  
11 tab for Chuck to talk to other Native corporations. Cordova  
12 Fishermen United shouldn't have to pick up the tab for Thea to talk  
13 to commercial fishing organizations in Kodiak and the Kenai  
14 Peninsula.

15 MS. McCAMMON: But, this is where we get into what --  
16 what you represent and you are -- were not selected on the Public  
17 Advisory Group to represent all of the environmental groups in the  
18 state, and that's where we get into that whole thing of the  
19 interest group, and to that discussion, and the Trustee Council  
20 made that very clear when they set up the Public Advisory Group  
21 that they weren't looking for PAG members to represent that  
22 constituency and be the spokesperson for the constituency group.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

24 MS. BENTON: I seem to recall -- I'm sorry -- on that  
25 one, and I'll use an analogy that Charlie Cole used to use because  
26 I think it's a good one, that we would be funnel because we would

1 be able to talk to, have better access to those interests groups.  
2 I'm certainly not going to sit here and represent the forest  
3 products industry, and I spend quite a bit of time individually on  
4 the phone saying, are you going to participate in landowner systems  
5 program, is that of interest to you -- would this project be of  
6 interest to you. My people aren't here in Anchorage, and it's the  
7 people that I work with, and so if I was selected to just come here  
8 and just represent my views, somebody made a bad choice, because I  
9 can't do that. I mean, I don't work in the timber industry every  
10 day. I work with the other people who do, and I think Pam is the  
11 same way in the environmental group. I see her as a funnel for the  
12 other group, and if you can't reach out and talk to them, then I  
13 don't know how you can come to the table and express their views.  
14 I don't know how we got off on that.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, further comments? Pam.

16 MS. BRODIE: I guess I am confused, Molly, because it  
17 hasn't been clear to me what the Trustee Council (indiscernible).  
18 I thought we were supposed to be communicating with other members  
19 of the interest group (indiscernible).

20 MS. McCAMMON: Oh, right, I guess I should clarify that.  
21 I think the PAG -- or the Trustee Council does look for you to  
22 communicate with members of the interest group, but they don't see  
23 these -- these particular people on the PAG being their  
24 representative of the interest group, and when you, Pam Brodie,  
25 speak that you are representing all of the views of the  
26 environmental community or that Kim Benton is representing all the

1 views of the timber industry, and that we seek other public comment  
2 and other views of -- of folks, and so we take -- we look at from  
3 a broader perspective. But, I mean, we've spent days and days and  
4 days, I know, just since I've been on, talking about this whole  
5 issue. I mean we had it at the beginning meeting which was in,  
6 what, February or March? I know it happened the two years before  
7 then, and there is a -- there's a fine line there, and I'm trying  
8 to set up a process that makes it possible for folks who feel a  
9 need to talk to various interests groups who are scattered around,  
10 to make that possible, and this is what I'm suggesting. The  
11 Council has in past when this has been brought to them was not keen  
12 about it, it's not done for other advisory groups. We talked to  
13 the contracting people, they're willing to try this, and I would  
14 suggest that we just try it, but I encourage you to use our office  
15 to facilitate this kind of discussion to the greatest extent  
16 possible, because we can easily do that, and we have an 800 number.  
17 Our Juneau office has an STS line. We get long distance calls very  
18 cheap that way. So, I mean, we have some other options to -- just  
19 to keep costs down.

20 MR. McCORKLE: For the -- to help clarify where we are,  
21 could you restate again what you have proposed we do, in -- in sort  
22 of an interim program.

23 MS. McCAMMON: As an interim program that we would have  
24 a log reimbursement voucher paper or form, and that you would  
25 submit that plus your phone bill with the numbers you're not  
26 seeking reimbursement blacked out, so you just show the numbers

1 you're seeking reimbursement, and submit that for reimbursement.  
2 And, we were looking at just limiting it to \$100 for a year. If  
3 we're doing this for the next -- this is September -- just for the  
4 next two months -- I don't know, we could just see what comes in on  
5 a trial basis, I suppose.

6 MR. MUTTER: Do you have a log form worked up?

7 MS. McCAMMON: Cherri has one worked up, yes.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Would there be a motion to accept this  
9 recommendation as our policy, as our practice for the next several  
10 months?

11 MS. BRODIE: So moved.

12 MR. ANDREWS: Seconded.

13 MR. McCORKLE: (Indiscernible) seconded that this  
14 outlined program be the program under which we operate until  
15 further notice. So the question is on the adoption of that. All  
16 in favor say aye.

17 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no.

19 MR. ZERBETZ: No.

20 MR. McCORKLE: And the motion is carried with one  
21 dissenting -- one loud dissenting. I'd like to call to the PAG's  
22 attention that Dr. Spies has arrived and is here, and welcome, glad  
23 to have you here. Is there a place to put him on the program, or  
24 are we just going to make him sit.

25 MS. McCAMMON: Soon, very soon.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Soon, okay, very soon, okay. Also,

1 (indiscernible) before we go back to the Executive Director, it's  
2 been discussed that when we talk we speak toward the microphone,  
3 not necessarily toward one end or the other of the table, so that  
4 we get your -- your testimony and your comments recorded. Chuck.

5 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, Molly, can you clarify, or Vern,  
6 whoever, clarify again the policy on PAG members talking to other  
7 PAG members. Was there -- I remember there was open meetings where  
8 I'd like to state (indiscernible).

9 MS. McCAMMON: I'll have to get back to you on that,  
10 Chuck. I'm not sure what the -- the policy is. All of our  
11 meetings here are subject to the open meetings -- the state's  
12 Opening Meetings Act. I don't know how it relates specifically to  
13 how many PAG members can talk to each other and when it becomes a  
14 conspiracy specifically.

15 MR. MUTTER: Well, as I -- as I recall since this isn't  
16 a decision-making body, that that wasn't a problem.

17 MS. McCAMMON: ... might not apply.

18 MR. COBB: Yeah, we're not making any decisions ...

19 MS. McCAMMON: ... recommending, advising.

20 MR. COBB: I think you're still covered under  
21 (indiscernible)

22 MS. McCAMMON: I'll -- I'll check on that.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Alaska has a special rule that Dave is  
24 referring to, but we also have to take into account the federal  
25 rules because we have federal offices, so it may be that you could  
26 give us advice about that before the turn of the century. Let's

1 carry on, we're really trying to push on here folks.

2 MS. McCAMMON: Okay, the other -- the next item is more  
3 informational. In your briefing materials that was sent out on  
4 July 6th, the very last item was that we did arrange that if PAG  
5 members wanted to attend the first day of the four day training  
6 session, the Systematic Development of Informed Consent Training,  
7 that they could do so from Tuesday, September 26th, from 8:30 to  
8 4:30, and if you are interested you should let LJ Evans or Cherri  
9 or myself know, and maybe following that, if the PAG is interested  
10 at a future day, we could arrange a one day session, a special one  
11 day discussion on -- have it tagged onto a meeting in the future.  
12 So, that's more of an informational item. The other item that I  
13 wanted to bring your attention to is the report about the killer  
14 whale project, and this memo was developed at your request from  
15 your last meeting. There were some concerns raised about project  
16 95012, and that there was perhaps multiple biopsies taken of  
17 individual killer whales. At this point, there is no -- there is  
18 still no approved -- detailed project description for the National  
19 Marine Mammal Lab component of Project 95012. They are not in the  
20 field in Prince William Sound. Apparently, they have made an  
21 inquiry about a vessel charter for August, but there is no approved  
22 project there for August. As mentioned in this memo, Dr. Spies did  
23 write NOAA on June 23, and suggested that any biopsies of killer  
24 whales in 1995 be collected solely by Craig Matkin of the North  
25 Gulf Oceanic Society. The samples would then be shared between the  
26 two research teams for purposes of genetic, stable isotope, and

1 other analyses. In order to reduce the policy -- the possibility  
2 -- of the same individual whales being sampled more than once.  
3 And, we just wanted to assure you that before any final project  
4 description is approved for the National Marine Mammal Lab that --  
5 that would be our intent. And, then the final item that I have, is  
6 the proposed collection of harlequin ducks for project 95025, and  
7 you should have all received a package which includes the  
8 recommendation by the Chief Scientist on this, and backup  
9 information. The recommendation is to deny the request to collect  
10 25 harlequin ducks in eastern Prince William Sound. However, Dr.  
11 Spies has recommended instead approving the collection of 25  
12 harlequin ducks at an alternative location, such as Kodiak Island  
13 or Afognak Island. These collections, however, would still be  
14 subject to existing federal and state permit procedures and all.  
15 And, Dr. Spies is here, and if anyone has questions on these, then  
16 he would be happy to answer them.

17 MR. MCCORKLE: Dr. Spies, (indiscernible).

18 MS. SCHWANTES: I have one question. I read through the  
19 memo, the paperwork there, and I -- I didn't see anywhere in the  
20 paperwork why the request was denied to take the ducks in the  
21 Prince William Sound area, but suggested they be taking -- taken in  
22 another area. If you could just help me (indiscernible -  
23 simultaneous talking).

24 DR. SPIES: Well, our greatest concern was the  
25 populations in Prince William Sound is strictly off of the evidence  
26 of the (indiscernible) on the western side of Prince William Sound,



1 and the fact that we don't know how the eastern and western  
2 populations interchange in the Prince William Sound. We want to be  
3 very circumspect and collect these birds somewhere there is just  
4 less of a chance it could be a problem for the population.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions? Jim.

6 MR. KING: Was another element of that the fact that  
7 Prince William Sound is closed for hunting -- for hunting of those  
8 and Kodiak is open? Was that an element of that?

9 (Aside comment regarding microphone use)

10 DR. SPIES: Yeah, well, certainly, we're certainly  
11 aware of that. Yeah.

12 DR. SENNER: Jim, Prince William Sound isn't actually  
13 closed to harlequin hunting. What they've done is they've delayed  
14 the opening of hunting for any sea ducks there until October 1st  
15 rather than September 1st start up, and that allows a larger number  
16 of birds to move into the area, and then they have specifically  
17 restricted the bag limit once the season is open for harlequin  
18 ducks, and those restrictions apply only in Prince William Sound,  
19 and not in the Kodiak area, so, in fact, part of the thinking was  
20 that since the Department of Fish & Game being the managing  
21 authority here has, in their judgment found it important to  
22 restrict hunting in Prince William Sound, but not outside of Prince  
23 William Sound, that there was then greater justification to -- to  
24 go outside the Sound and (indiscernible).

25 MR. KING: Makes sense to me.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments on this?

1 MS. SCHWANTES: Oh, I was just curious if the population  
2 in Kodiak, going around the area that the ducks would be taken, is  
3 stable and if there's any problem that you anticipate with that?

4 DR. SPIES: We're not worried that there's a problem  
5 with harlequin in that whole Kodiak (indiscernible).

6 DR. SENNER: Yeah, and the -- Danny Sweep will help her  
7 -- at Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge is very much aware of the  
8 request to collect birds. He has not raised any concern about  
9 that, and would still have opportunity to do so, because if they  
10 want to go to Kodiak, or the refuge land on Afognak, for example,  
11 they're going to have to go to the refuge authorities, so they'll  
12 -- they'll have an opportunity to weigh in on that. But we -- it's  
13 been run up the flag pole, so to speak, and no concern about that  
14 has been raised.

15 MR. MCCORKLE: Anything further, gentlemen? Anything  
16 further from the PAG? Thank you, very much. We may have another  
17 question along the line if you're still here. Madam.

18 MS. MCCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

19 MR. MCCORKLE: Thank you, very much. It's always nice to  
20 have those details because ...

21 MS. MCCAMMON: Eight minutes late.

22 MR. MCCORKLE: Right on time, and we appreciate the  
23 substance that you bring us. It's very, very helpful and  
24 encouraging to have that. Next on our agenda is a report on the  
25 information management sub-group meeting that took place by  
26 teleconference and in person here a week or so ago, and I see that

1 Molly is also on the agenda here. I would defer five minutes for  
2 this report. I'm trying to get Dr. Loeffler on here early because  
3 I know we've got a huge afternoon coming, and this project is sort  
4 of in process, but it's quite interesting, and those who were at  
5 the meeting learned that a lot more is going on, for the good, than  
6 we realized, and maybe that gives you a little platform on which to  
7 launch the report.

8 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I could probably just take  
9 two minutes here. Basically what we did at this first meeting was  
10 to go over all of the activities that we have currently underway,  
11 and these are described in the meeting summary that Doug Mutter  
12 magically makes appear the next day after a meeting. And, also in  
13 another document that you have before you called the draft EVOS  
14 Trustee Council Communication Plan. So, between those two  
15 documents, I think you can see what we're doing, what the audience  
16 is intended for. The next meeting of the group is to actually go  
17 through these and kind of brainstorm and talk about them in more  
18 detail. That meeting is tentatively set up for Wednesday, August  
19 16th at 1:30 p.m. If anybody here would like to be patched in by  
20 teleconference, just let us know. We would be happy to do so.  
21 And, if between that time you have any questions about any of this,  
22 just contact us or get a hold of Chris Beck or whatever.

23 MR. McCORKLE: By way of background, I think perhaps  
24 everyone who is here today was here when this idea came before the  
25 group at the last meeting. Essentially it was to -- to see if  
26 there is anything we can do to facilitate and make easier and more

1 effective the communication that takes place between the technical  
2 community and the actual work of the Trustee Council and its  
3 several stats of -- I -- and so we did listen pretty much to what  
4 the program was last time. It's a very daunting program, it's not  
5 a lightweight show. I made elaborate notes which I'm not going to  
6 over with you, except just one point at the end, which was very  
7 interesting to me. I asked, you know, are records being kept as to  
8 what is going on to the present time, and, by golly, there are  
9 records being kept, and you can make -- correct me if I'm wrong  
10 here, some of these might not be quite accurate, but they're in the  
11 ball park. So far, there have been 8,500 visitors to the  
12 information center downstairs, there have been 12,500 requests for  
13 data, there have been 27,400 documents sent out so far to people  
14 requesting, and there are about 100 telephone -- incoming telephone  
15 calls per week that require some kind of staff action and report,  
16 and there are more statistics, but those are the most exciting  
17 ones, and we look forward to being able to give you a better  
18 report, more extensive report, and I think support for these  
19 programs once the little subcommittee meets one more time and  
20 brings it's report back to you. The programs are worthy of support  
21 and they're quite elaborate, and I do hope that you will read the  
22 pass out that we received today. Mr. Rupert, Andrew.

23 MR. RUPERT: I think -- direct this to Molly, I really  
24 think the information center downstairs is just a great thing, and  
25 I'm concerned after the next five years, what's going to happen to  
26 it. Has there been any thought given, or are they going to

1 transfer it to the UAA campus or the Marine Center at Seward, or  
2 what are they going to do with it.

3 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, we've been thinking about  
4 that quite a bit, and there -- there is several different functions  
5 that the library has. One is maintaining a collection on the 1989  
6 spill, and oil spills in Alaska. I think eventually that  
7 collection will probably be transferred to some other resource  
8 library in the state and that they will maintain it. It's quite  
9 possible that what we'll do for the first few years after the  
10 transfer, also transfer our librarian to help with that transition.  
11 So -- and I don't know if this will happen two years from now or  
12 five years from now, but that is probably what will happen with  
13 that aspect of it. Alaska also maintains the administrative  
14 record, which is the formal record that the Trustee Council has.  
15 That function will be absorbed within our staff here. They also  
16 provide information to scores of school kids and just kind of  
17 general public members on things like, well, what happen at the  
18 spill, and what the status of the resources. We've been focusing  
19 a lot and what -- on trying to produce easily understood, it's kind  
20 of attractive brochures and documents that the public -- that we  
21 can just give to the public, and that we would do up here rather  
22 than have OSPIC do it. One is the annual report. We're also  
23 looking at publishing four or five documents this year, one, that  
24 describes the spill area ecosystem, one that talks about the  
25 history of the spill, what happened, and, you know, some things  
26 like that. And, that will make it a lot easier to get, you know,

1 massive qualities of kind of mass information out. And, then the  
2 other aspect is how we maintain our data base of reports and  
3 studies and kind of the information data base, and we're developing  
4 it right now. That is potentially something that could end up at  
5 Seward, or it could up at the university, or somewhere, but when we  
6 develop anything like this, we really look in terms of the long-  
7 term, who will take it over and how will it be maintained, and  
8 that's part of our planning efforts.

9 MR. ANDREWS: Thank you.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions? Well, if not, it's not  
11 time to launch lunch, but we do have some extra time here and I'd  
12 like to ask Bob Loeffler if he is ready to give us at least a 45  
13 minute introduction to the afternoon program.

14 MR. LOEFFLER: No, I'm ready to start.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Ready to start.

16 MR. LOEFFLER: I think we can ...

17 MR. McCORKLE: Do you need to turn the drapes?

18 MR. LOEFFLER: I'm going to use overhead projector and  
19 some slides, just -- and then talking, and so, I think a five  
20 minute break while I set this thing up.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Five minute break, let's get back though  
22 in five minutes and see if we can't jump ahead.

23 MR. LOEFFLER: I'm sorry, maybe a ten minute break.

24 MR. McCORKLE: For a five minute break, we'll take ten  
25 minutes.

26 (Off Record 11:16)

1 (On Record 11:25)

2 MR. McCORKLE: Let's begin, please. Ladies and  
3 gentlemen, I'd like to talk a little bit about how we proceed.  
4 Let's go back on the record, and before I introduce Bob Loeffler,  
5 who really needs no introduction at all, probably won't get any,  
6 except to say hi. We all have his memorandum dated July 6th, I  
7 think (indiscernible), and I'd like to call your attention  
8 particularly to the last full paragraph. It says that at previous  
9 meetings we indicated that a detailed review of fish and marine  
10 mammal clusters would be conducted at this meeting. However, given  
11 the schedule from the July meeting, it doesn't seem possible to  
12 devote as much time to those areas as we have on the ecosystem  
13 projects, subsistence and archeology. I'd like to ask the Council  
14 or the PAG if they would like to have a little bit of time given to  
15 fish and marine mammal clusters, and also to ask those who will be  
16 presenting today, in the next five and not more than ten minutes  
17 summarize the things that they think will be in their presentation,  
18 after which I'd ask the PAG for two or three minute commentary as  
19 to whether or not that seems to embrace the things that we'd like  
20 to hear today. So, first of all, to the last paragraph of Mr.  
21 Loeffler's memorandum, I saw that you wish to speak, has there been  
22 a shift in this proposal since we last -- since we received it?

23 MR. LOEFFLER: No.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: I think that given the time constraints  
26 and the tendency for a detailed discussion like we had on

1 subsistence and archeology, to consume most of a morning or an  
2 afternoon. I think that we wanted to focus on our primary mission  
3 was to get your comments on the Work Plan as a whole before Molly  
4 has to make a final recommendation. So, I -- I was going to go  
5 through each -- I and Stan Senner, together were going through each  
6 cluster of the Work Plan, with Bob Spies, the Chief Scientist here,  
7 to give back up and give some of the more scientific -- some  
8 scientific insight that may be left out. So, we will be going over  
9 the fish and marine mammals clusters, we just will not be doing in  
10 the detail, if that's all right with you.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, that's -- I'm glad to have that  
12 clarification. So, as I understand it, then we will spend some  
13 time on each of the clusters, at least from the standpoint of  
14 getting an overview, and then perhaps when that is accomplished,  
15 maybe by the end of the day, we may then be able to come back and  
16 revisit each of the clusters again, if there are specific  
17 questions, or clarifications or additional information you might  
18 want.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: That would certainly work.

20 MR. McCORKLE: How about the group members, now, does  
21 that sound like a program for you? Is that okay? Pam is nodding  
22 yes, and Kim is nodding yes, and Brenda, all the women are saying  
23 yes, so obviously we don't ask any of the guys.

24 MR. McCAMMON: That's the right answer.

25 MR. McCORKLE: That's the right answer, so, ladies and  
26 gentlemen, without further ado, Mr. Loeffler.



1           MR. LOEFFLER: For those of you who are -- who were here  
2 last year, what we did last year as we voted on every project in  
3 the Work Plan. I think, with your concurrence, we'd like not to do  
4 that this year, and what we'd like to do instead is start out with  
5 an overview of the Work Plan as a whole, and then go through each  
6 cluster and take your comments then, if you would give them, or  
7 again at the end step back, once you've seen all of them, and look  
8 at -- and look at it as a whole.

9           MR. MCCORKLE: Well, before we proceed then, can we agree  
10 on the process. What we just heard is a program to -- for us  
11 pretty much to listen to a presentation of a moderate brief but  
12 sufficient overview of each of the cluster areas before we jump  
13 into questions.

14           MR. LOEFFLER: Questions are welcomed during the  
15 presentation and during each cluster as well, if that's all right  
16 with you.

17           MR. MCCORKLE: Yes, Doug.

18           MR. MUTTER: What is -- what is it you expect the PAG  
19 to do here?

20           MR. LOEFFLER: Well, what I think that we're looking for,  
21 again with your concurrence, is we're looking for -- with respect  
22 to each cluster, we're looking for comments, suggestions, notations  
23 about what's critical, or what's low for priority and things that  
24 can be delayed, and we'll take them from individuals, of course, if  
25 you believe that what your comment should represent a view of the  
26 PAG as a whole, then we'd like to have it voted on, so we can tell

1 the difference between an individual's comment, which we welcome  
2 and encourage, and the comments of the PAG as a group, which we'd  
3 also welcome and encourage.

4 MR. McCORKLE: What I'd like to suggest is that we hear  
5 each of the clusters and an individual unit, reserve a few minutes,  
6 ten, fifteen at maximum at the end of each cluster for a  
7 commentary, but no questions while the presentation is being made.  
8 If people would like to have a question, jot it down, because I  
9 think what happens is we get off on a point which is very  
10 important, but it may be -- does not allow us to get through to the  
11 end of the cluster, and we may not even get through them all  
12 tomorrow if we talk too much along the way. Doug.

13 MR. MUTTER: Just a follow-up question. When Deborah  
14 was here she said she wanted the PAG to help cut this Work Plan to  
15 \$18 million or less, which in my mind that means taking some action  
16 on some projects or percentage of cluster -- I don't know how we're  
17 going to do that without getting more specific than just what do  
18 you think about this cluster.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I'd like to interject here, maybe  
20 even exercise the prerogative of the Chair to say, we will not do  
21 that. What we will do is we will hear all of the clusters first,  
22 so we get an (indiscernible) view of this project, and then come  
23 back if you want to, line-by-line, or vote this part of the project  
24 or that. I think we have a much better background in which to do  
25 that rather than cutting and choosing along the way. If that's  
26 okay with you, I'd like to propose -- I'd like to strongly urge

1 that we get through the whole program, cluster by cluster,  
2 reserving a brief time at the end, 10 or 15 minutes of each  
3 cluster, in case there are important questions right then, but I'd  
4 like to get through the program, and then come back and be as  
5 detailed as you prefer or wish to be, and I sense that may be a  
6 consensus then that will be the order of the program. Could you  
7 work with that.

8 MR. MUTTER: I take that as my marching orders.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, we'll go -- we'll go along that way  
10 then, thank you, very much.

11 MR. LOEFFLER: Before I begin, I would like to do one  
12 thing, and that is remind you of some of the criteria we discussed,  
13 ways to think about the Work Plan, and that when you think about  
14 the Work Plan as whole, when you step back and see all of the  
15 projects, things we talked about before was thinking was whether  
16 the Work Plan addresses the correct problems, that is, are there  
17 important restoration issues that are missing from this Work Plan,  
18 or are there important restoration issues -- are there issues we're  
19 investigating that are unrelated to restoration. Second, does it  
20 reasonably allocate resources, or are something sort of under  
21 represented, and some things over represented, and is it  
22 financially sustainable. That is, is it something that we can  
23 carry through to the end of -- can we carry it through until the  
24 reserve begins. Is it something that we can keep up to finish.  
25 And, so that's a way to think about the program as a whole. When  
26 you're looking at individual clusters, be it the marine mammals,

1 pink salmon, subsistence, you may also begin to think of what's  
2 critical, or to put it another way, what would be irresponsible,  
3 given the mission of the Trustee Council, for them not to address.  
4 You might think of what -- what would give a long-term legacy so  
5 that five years from now when you're talking about back when the  
6 spill happened and you were on the PAG, something that you could  
7 tell people that people cared about five years from now or twenty  
8 years from now. And, the third, what's less critical to do, and  
9 what can be delayed, and is less critical, of course, is useful for  
10 what Deborah Williams said, how to reach our \$18 million target  
11 this year. So that's maybe a way to think about as Stan and I and  
12 Bob Spies sort of go through this information -- digest it. One  
13 last note on how I'm going to proceed before I actually proceed, is  
14 I'm going to take the clusters in the order that they are, and the  
15 raspberry book -- the sequel, so to speak -- the draft Work Plan,  
16 and you can follow along either on the table which begins on page  
17 12, which is a line-by-line item, of each project, or you can  
18 follow along in the appendix, which begins on page 81, but it's  
19 really the most of the book. Those tables duplicate each other,  
20 one in greater -- in greater detail than the other, and they  
21 duplicate -- no this -- this would be the draft Work Plan, I think  
22 you may have the wrong raspberry book.

23 MR. McCORKLE: I have the one that my notes are in.

24 MR. LOEFFLER: All right. So, that will be the table at  
25 the back, and I'll be using the same part of it. So, that -- let  
26 me begin with a little bit of overview, and then I'll start with

1 pink salmon. If you remember, you should have seen this before,  
2 and this is the categories -- took me awhile to figure out -- this  
3 is the categories that we put -- that the Executive Director gave  
4 her preliminary recommendation on. There are three versions of  
5 fund, ready to fund -- mostly ready to fund now contingent upon  
6 some (aside comments) contingent upon some activity occurring or  
7 some problem being addressed, and contingent upon some following  
8 being address that will occur after August 25th, so defer until the  
9 fall, lower priority and do not fund, and do not fund hides a  
10 variety of sins. There are some things that you just --  
11 inappropriate for funding and things that should not be funded this  
12 year, so do not fund does not mean it's necessarily a bad project.  
13 So, that's the categories that you were talking about. This is how  
14 they breakdown. Just briefly, we've got a 121 projects monitoring,  
15 research, general restoration projects that may -- 30 million, and  
16 some version of fund -- recommendation, we had approximately two-  
17 thirds of those were recommended. The way they break down by  
18 cluster, is this, this is also in the Work Plan, and you'll notice  
19 that -- that pink salmon and herring, including the SEA plan is  
20 close to half of the \$18 million target. It's an expensive portion  
21 of the Work Plan. Some other things that this might bring up is  
22 subsistence includes only the -- right here includes only then  
23 projects which are directly related to replacement/enhancement  
24 (indiscernible) subsistence resources. But a lot more of our Work  
25 Plan is really subsistence, so this number is in some ways a  
26 misnomer because to the extent that we try to restore or understand

1 subsistence resources, pink salmon, herring, harbor seals, they're  
2 included elsewhere, so that in some ways the most important things  
3 we do with subsistence may not be in here. But, this represents a  
4 sort of de facto allocation of the resources, partially because  
5 there are some things that we don't have good ideas for, and  
6 partially because there are some problems that we just tend to  
7 address.

8 MS. BRODIE: I'd also like to point out that although  
9 the Sound ecosystem assessment is a separate line item, the fact  
10 that it is also designed to help pink salmon and herring.

11 MR. LOEFFLER: It's focus is pink salmon and herring.  
12 So, when I pointed out these three being almost half of our \$18  
13 million dollar cap, it's the pink salmon and herring program which  
14 are almost half of that cap.

15 DR. SENNER: Bob, you may want to explain what numbers  
16 those represent.

17 MR. LOEFFLER: Thank you. This represents the -- doesn't  
18 represent all submitted here, it represents fund -- fund  
19 contingent, defer and lower priority categories. And, as I go  
20 through this, the clusters, that will always be what is  
21 represented.

22 DR. SENNER: Everything but the do-not-fund, right.

23 MR. COBB: Your figure, 21-270-80 hundred is  
24 different than ...

25 MR. LOEFFLER: That was a misprint.

26 MR. COBB: Then it's the correct figure there.

1 MR. LOEFFLER: I was actually hoping to go through, say  
2 all of this year without anybody noticing that, and so far, nobody  
3 has.

4 MR. DIEHL: There's -- there hasn't been any of --  
5 have there been any general rule as far as -- you have a total down  
6 here at the bottom, what will actually go out, is that where we ...

7 MR. LOEFFLER: This is all -- this is all the projects  
8 except those in the do-not-fund category. We are -- we would like  
9 to get a target of about \$18 million.

10 MR. DIEHL: For this category?

11 MR. LOEFFLER: For things that we fund, and the Trustee  
12 Council will decide in August and December.

13 MR. DIEHL: When in actually things that are deferred,  
14 things that are ...

15 MR. LOEFFLER: By deferred, it's not deferred to next  
16 year, it's just deferred until the fall, so that, including  
17 everything we fund for '96, so we're hoping to fund not -- we're  
18 hoping to fund some portion of this which equals approximately \$18  
19 million. To the extent we do that, of course, is the decision of  
20 the Trustee Council.

21 DR. SENNER: The goal or the end is to get everything  
22 into either a fund or a do-not-fund category by Christmas  
23 (indiscernible), but the fund category needs to be at about ...

24 MR. DIEHL: \$18 million.

25 DR. SENNER: \$18 million, correct.

26 MR. DIEHL: So you're not looking at (indiscernible)

1 that would be gotten for things that just didn't occur because of  
2 -- I'm not sure I understand this area.

3 MR. LOEFFLER: I mean, there will be some savings,  
4 because some projects won't meet their contingencies.

5 MR. DIEHL: That's what I ...

6 MR. LOEFFLER: Right, there will be some.

7 MR. DIEHL: But, we're not looking at that.

8 MR. LOEFFLER: No (indiscernible).

9 DR. SENNER: We have to assume today, Jim, that the  
10 stuff in the defer and funds contingent categories is potential  
11 (indiscernible). That's why I say, ultimately we've got to have  
12 about another three million plus of do-not-funds out of that.

13 MS. BENTON: One of the things that's not on here, and  
14 I don't know what kind of cluster you would call it, but it's just  
15 to give us all a little bit of perspective that I think is kind of  
16 interesting is another big chunk of money that's not there is the  
17 \$3.4 million that's going forward as a fund -- that covers the  
18 Trustee Council, are time and the admin, and I think that in  
19 comparison it's just worthwhile to know that that's another big  
20 piece of the pie.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: It's a big piece of the pie. Yeah,  
22 something that he did say, a large, much-shrinking piece of pie  
23 (indiscernible).

24 DR. SENNER: Kim, also what isn't there would be  
25 habitat would be costs of actually purchasing properties, the -- in  
26 other words, the service costs of, you know, appraisals and



1 whatever, do not show up there.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Just a point of interest then, how much is  
3 that? I mean, we've always had about a \$3 million figure hanging  
4 out there for various kinds of admin, but for service on purchase  
5 of and acquisition of things, how much is that?

6 DR. SENNER: I'm looking for Molly.

7 MR. LOEFFLER: As of right now the project to do that is  
8 project 126, which is not reflected in here, nor in the admin  
9 budget, it's separate, and I believe that's at about \$186,000 right  
10 now, but there is some expectation it may (indiscernible).

11 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you.

12 MR. LOEFFLER: Well let's begin to look at pink salmon,  
13 and then at the very end, consistent with as Vern outlined, we'll  
14 come back to both this so that we can ask general questions of the  
15 Work Plan as a whole.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Before you take this light off, this  
17 little discussion I thinks has really been helpful. I think the  
18 question that came up are very, very important. Any further  
19 questions you'd like to ask on this now while it's up there. This  
20 is sort of the ball park we're trying to play in. Before we go  
21 into specifics of pink salmon, this is our -- sort of our last  
22 chance to look at this, not that we can't bring it back. Any --  
23 have you all got your questions answered that you'd like to have on  
24 this outline approach? If so then, let's have the introduction to  
25 the next cluster, or the first cluster.

26 MR. LOEFFLER: Pink salmon -- move it up -- pink salmon

1 includes really four sort of general approaches. One of which is  
2 the SEA plan, which we'll go over later, but then there are these  
3 three. For those of you who are around the fishing industry in  
4 1989, you'll remember that one of the profound and lingering  
5 effects of the oil spill, was the fact that the oil -- that the oil  
6 produced mortalities in the eggs of the pink salmon in the streams  
7 that were oiled. This trio of projects both monitors that  
8 mortality, to find out if it's continuing, searches for essentially  
9 a mechanism of cause for it's -- for it's lingering nature, perhaps  
10 genetic damage, and looks at -- and looks at oil concentrations in  
11 (indiscernible) of the streams. So, this is really designed to  
12 track and understand the lingering effects of -- that we've  
13 observed more on pink salmon. It will probably continue, both the  
14 research it's done, and until we find those statistical differences  
15 between steam -- oiled and unoiled streams, with respect to egg  
16 mortalities. So, that's what this group of projects does. This  
17 group, stock separation and management, focuses on the management  
18 of a resource, how to protect -- how to protect the injured stocks.  
19 And, one way we do it is through marking salmon, which is to say  
20 coded-wire tag now transitioning to otolith marking, and that  
21 allows Fish & Game actually to see where -- to separate during the  
22 season the hatchery runs from the wild ones, so they can manage the  
23 fisheries, so to focus on the wild runs, hatchery runs, protect  
24 those going back to injured -- injured streams. This will be  
25 transitioning to the Department of Fish & Game, will take this  
26 over, I believe, in the year FY '99. So, that it's one of, I

1 think, of the Trustee Council's successes. It's a very important  
2 tool for management, which we developed, got running, and will  
3 transition to the Department of Fish & Game for their ongoing use.  
4 Genetics stock structure and straying addresses a complex and a  
5 difficult set of issues with respect to the -- the nature of  
6 genetic interactions, so that the managers can figure out what  
7 stocks exist and need protecting. So, for example, where there is  
8 a homogeneous stock and, that therefore you can -- you can protect  
9 it all at once or agency protect individual genetic strayings. The  
10 straying portion of that is an experiment, actually in Southeast  
11 Alaska, to try -- to look at the effects of oil on -- look at  
12 natural straying rates and the effects of how oil incubation, of  
13 course, is a straying rates, it's in Southeast Alaska so that they  
14 don't have the compounding environmental influence as the Prince  
15 William Sound, and there are compounding influence of the oil, so  
16 they can do sort of a laboratory study. Alternative hatchery  
17 release sites has not been fully reviewed yet by the Chief  
18 Scientist, and it's a difficult and ambitious proposal to try to  
19 determine whether it's possible for PSWAC to release their salmon  
20 runs from a hatchery at either a different time or a different  
21 location, to naturally separate the hatchery runs from the wild  
22 runs, so you don't have the mixed stock fishery interaction. That  
23 would allow fishermen to concentrate on hatchery runs and leave the  
24 wild ones more protected. So, in total, these are a stock  
25 separation and management tools that we hope to leave the industry  
26 and the managers with to protect -- could be used to protect the

1 population for a long time.

2 DR. SENNER: Do you want to mention the review on those  
3 three.

4 MR. LOEFFLER: Yeah, that's a good -- I forgot.

5 DR. SENNER: The bottom three (indiscernible).

6 MR. LOEFFLER: These are all, including some of the  
7 genetic work in here, are under review, and there will be a fall  
8 session review to try to determine which of those or all of them  
9 will be funded. And, the reason for the review, is part because  
10 they bring up difficult issues, part because they're expensive, and  
11 part because if there is some overlap in technique and -- between  
12 them all, so to try to resolve the overlap and to resolve this  
13 rather expensive program, there's going to be review, I believe in  
14 September -- November. The last one is supplementation for  
15 enhances, which is to say making more fish. It involves --  
16 supplementation in (indiscernible) Creek in Kodiak, Port  
17 (indiscernible) and this is monitoring one -- this was done on  
18 Montague Island. I think that's all I have for pink salmon,  
19 (indiscernible) accepted. I wonder if there is any need for -- I  
20 mean ...

21 DR. SPIES: I think that's covered the bases pretty  
22 well, Bob.

23 DR. SENNER: I just stress that on the review that Bob  
24 Loeffler just mentioned that, if it is an expensive but also  
25 technically sophisticated group of salmon proposals, and we felt  
26 the real need to go out and obtain additional scientific peer

1 review and to have a special session would really help us as we  
2 sort through what we've got here. We -- we need to be able to  
3 understand ourselves, and how it -- how it is integrated in an  
4 effective package, and if we don't understand that ourselves, we  
5 certainly can't convey that to you in an effective way, and if we  
6 can't convey it to you, the public certainly is not going to  
7 understand. So ...

8 MR. LOEFFLER: I'll tell you another category of that and  
9 the reason for the review is the high cost. These are those high  
10 costs. This year, and a number of these projects have -- some of  
11 these projects have commitments in here up to seven years long.  
12 So, it's both a high cost in an individual year and in a collective  
13 sense, and it's important to rationalize that, and that's one of  
14 the goals of the review, either rationalize or justify it, make  
15 sure we're comfortable with it.

16 MR. MCCORKLE: Go ahead, Pam.

17 MS. BRODIE: I just want to bring up something that I  
18 and others here brought up many times before, but it's just sort of  
19 an unresolved issue and that's the question of, what is funded or  
20 should be funded or can be funded by agencies, particularly Fish &  
21 Game. Certainly, the toxic effects of oil is directly related to  
22 the spill, but stock separation and management and supplementation  
23 of both -- seems that -- were overlapped heavily with Fish & Game  
24 duties.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: Let me -- one way we look at that, and I  
26 think this is a grey area in which your input is welcomed and

1 encouraged, but one way that people look at that is, it is a -- it  
2 can be seen as a useful responsibility for us to develop the tools,  
3 but not to carry it out forever. So, while I don't think it  
4 started that way, it may end up that way. But, this was not done  
5 prior to 1989, marking salmon, although there was some feasibility  
6 testing going on. It was -- we developed this as a tool for Prince  
7 William Sound, and we'll be developing otolith marking. But, once  
8 it's developed, we're turning that over to the agencies, and we may  
9 not continue it -- funding of that, contingent upon Fish & Game  
10 (indiscernible) to take it over and carry it out. So, in that  
11 sense our role is to develop the tool, get it ready, but it's  
12 indefinite application is the responsibility of Fish & Game, and  
13 that's one way to do this in respect to this.

14 DR. SENNER: I just want to add one further thought on  
15 that, Pam, the rationale goes even a little farther in the linkage  
16 to the oil spill in a sense that the marking that is done with  
17 coded-wire tags and ultimately the otolith markings, the -- we felt  
18 there was a compelling argument that could be made that that level  
19 of management program was not required prior to the oil spill, but  
20 as a result of the oil spill we now have even greater need to be  
21 able to distinguish between wild stock and injured wild stocks and  
22 hatchery fish or stocks from other streams that may be uninjured.  
23 So, that's the kind of the thinking -- Joe, jump in here if you  
24 want to add anything -- Joe Sullivan, Department of Fish & Game --  
25 but I think that was the original rationale for saying, okay, this  
26 is legitimately an oil spill function, but as Bob said, the view

1 has been let's give them a tool, and then the longer term  
2 management clearly is an agency responsibility.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Rupert has a question.

4 MR. ANDREWS: Yeah, I'd just go along with what Pam  
5 started. To the best of my knowledge, pink salmon weren't injured  
6 by the oil spill. In fact, the returning runs were so big we were  
7 taking away from the natal streams and dumping them, and so I have  
8 a real problem with some of these studies that we're funding from  
9 the oil spill money as it relates to actual damage from the oil  
10 spill.

11 (Recorder's note: Dr. Spies was out of microphone range for  
12 much of his commentary)

13 DR. SPIES: Well, those returns, part were dominantly  
14 hatchery returns and there -- we do have evidence of  
15 (indiscernible), you know study of the wild stock streams and the  
16 differences in egg mortality, and it's also -- in fact, it was  
17 pretty (indiscernible) on the growth, and that could be related to  
18 (indiscernible) growth and return. (Indiscernible) projected  
19 measure or calculated measure of damage to the pink salmon, and the  
20 fact that we had injury to the eggs in the oiled streams  
21 (indiscernible). So, there were dead pink salmons -- pink salmon  
22 dead on the surface of the water (indiscernible).

23 MR. ANDREWS: Thank you, you know, I've had the  
24 impression that the real problem, of course, was mixed stock  
25 fishing where heavy fishing on hatchery fish was over fishing the  
26 wild fish. That's the impression I've had.

1 DR. SPIES: That certainly was a compliment to a very  
2 complex picture, but that was certainly a component, and that has  
3 been entertained by a number of biologists as a complex situation  
4 with the hatcheries (indiscernible) production, and perhaps mixed  
5 stock fisheries on the western side of (indiscernible) as well as  
6 the oil spill, so we had a pretty complex situation.

7 MR. McCORKLE: John.

8 DR. FRENCH: I supported the marking projects in the  
9 past primarily because I believe it -- that we need, through the  
10 efficacy of the otolith marking, but after I talked to the managers  
11 at DIPAC hatchery at length, I've been convinced that the otolith  
12 markings has proved its efficacy and is a very effective method,  
13 and for that reason I find it very questionable, at least in my own  
14 mind, how much we should be paying for coded-wire tagging and  
15 you're presumably proving and proving the method the management  
16 agency, namely Fish & Game, and no longer just proving the efficacy  
17 of the science. I think the efficacy of the science has been  
18 proven.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: What were funding is development of the  
20 otolith and coded-wire tagging system -- the otolith thermal  
21 marking system, and we're funding it -- originally we're funding it  
22 through one year of overlap, and many of the scientists, not  
23 necessarily those, not necessarily PWSAC managers, but many of the  
24 research scientists were quite concerned because the coded-wire tag  
25 is sort of integral to SEA plan and a lot of the other studies.  
26 So, they wanted two years of overlapping in case -- so they'd have



1 a back up. So, on their recommendation, I believe Molly's  
2 preliminary recommendation is to continue the development through  
3 two years of overlap.

4 DR. SPIES: One of the features of thermal mass  
5 marking is it's never been tried on this kind of scale before.

6 DR. FRENCH: It's been tried in very large scale with  
7 the DIPAC for at least three years now.

8 DR. SPIES: And, there was a concern -- there is also  
9 concern that the -- that we can get the kind (indiscernible)  
10 differentiate different hatchery stocks from other stocks. But the  
11 main -- there a many reasons we want overlap, we just wanted to get  
12 that kind of insurance (indiscernible) to value this hatchery we  
13 wanted to make sure (indiscernible).

14 MR. McCORKLE: Dave.

15 MR. COBB: Yeah, I just want to make a point that on  
16 the coded-wire tagging that PWSAC and Valdez Fisheries and other  
17 hatcheries have participated in the program by -- we pay for all  
18 the tagging. We do the tagging ourselves, we pay for it, we even  
19 supplement the department's budget to recover those tags. So, it's  
20 not solely -- totally Exxon funded effort, but it's -- you know,  
21 we'll all partners in the whole program.

22 MR. LOEFFLER: It's been about 15 percent funded  
23 actually.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Jim King.

25 MR. KING: I don't understand this kind of work very  
26 well, but, I get the feeling in looking at the material that's been

1 presented to us that there's not a guarantee that goes with these  
2 things. There still may be questions after we spend this much  
3 money, we may need more, so that the concept of developing a tool  
4 is not guaranteed for this price.

5 MR. LOEFFLER: Nothing is ever guaranteed. I think that  
6 people were relatively confident that with respect to otolith  
7 thermal marking -- well, the tool with respect to coded-wire tag is  
8 pretty well established, certain (indiscernible). With respect to  
9 the transition to otolith marking, I think people are relatively  
10 confident that they can get it to work, but then that's -- that  
11 they were totally confident that really want two years of overlap.

12 MR. KING: So, what happens when you've done the work  
13 and you need another ...

14 MR. LOEFFLER: Then I suspect you'd have to make a  
15 decision to either to go back to coded-wire tag, which would still  
16 transition to the agency, or you might, either way it's a solvable  
17 problem in that respect.

18 MR. McCORKLE: John, any response?

19 DR. FRENCH: I'm not here as a peer review scientist,  
20 but I guess I'm convinced it works.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Dr. Spies, any response?

22 DR. SPIES: Yeah, well I appreciate Dr. French's  
23 comments, and, you know, the confidence that he has in this, and I  
24 think our reviewers feel fairly confident it would work, but they  
25 are getting strong messages from reviewers, we really need the  
26 overlap years because of the value to the fisheries and the

1 importance of the questions being asked, particularly with the SEA  
2 program we've got fish from -- from one particular hatchery that  
3 was tracked and we want to make sure to differentiate the Esther  
4 Island hatchery versus those. So, you kind of backup the coded-  
5 wire tag because (indiscernible).

6 MR. MCCORKLE: Comments from the gallery.

7 DR. SULLIVAN: Joe Sullivan ...

8 MR. MCCORKLE: Speak up, please, so we can hear your  
9 comments.

10 DR. SULLIVAN: I guess one way to look at this is kind of  
11 like a rosetta stone approach. Okay, do the -- with coded-wire  
12 tagging, you have neither the manpower or the money to tag every  
13 fish, and with thermal marking, you are tagging every fish. And,  
14 to get to -- what for the people of the particularly hatcheries,  
15 granted DIPEC may feel real comfortable with it right now, and  
16 that's good. But, to make the translations, I think that they need  
17 this period of -- the time where you see, this is what you get with  
18 coded-wire tagging, and this is what you get with otolith marking,  
19 and like the rosetta stone, you're able to make the translation  
20 between essentially through their (indiscernible). Do you see what  
21 I'm saying? And, then they'll be on their way and they'll know  
22 what they're doing.

23 MR. MCCORKLE: Are there any further interim comments on  
24 this cluster before we shut down. Yes, Martha.

25 MS. VLASOFF: Well, I'm just going back to what Pam  
26 brought up to begin with. I don't know -- I know that there is

1 always a problem with any where there's hatchery fish being raised,  
2 there's always a problem with stock separation from the wild stock  
3 and the hatchery stock, and I -- I don't know what effect the oil  
4 spill has had on that, but I know that even if there hadn't been an  
5 oil spill there would still be the problem of separation of the  
6 stock, and the management of those stocks. So, I just, you know,  
7 I agree with Pam that we need to take a -- you know, keep an eye on  
8 the agencies and make sure that the differences of this -- the  
9 normal duties of the agencies, and it really is something that  
10 (indiscernible).

11 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Now, this doesn't mean that  
12 we're going to stop talking about this cluster, but we're going to  
13 take a hiatus for lunch. We'll come back and go through herring  
14 and on, and then we'll come back at the end of all that, and so if  
15 you've got questions, and didn't get them out now, please write  
16 them down so you can bring them up again, and we'll come back at  
17 1:00, is that okay, or earlier if you wish. Lunch is here, it's  
18 just outside that door, can you smell it? So, we stand in recess.

19 (Off Record 12:05 p.m.)

20 (On Record 1:00 p.m.)

21 MR. McCORKLE: We're coming back from recess, and we now  
22 are going to go into that period of the agenda entitled "Public  
23 Comments." Are there members of the public who are here at this  
24 moment that would like to comment? Seeing and hearing none at this  
25 moment, what we will do then, if this meets with your approval, we  
26 will ask that question again a couple of times during the hour, and

1 if there are members of the public here we'll stop what we're doing  
2 for their comments. Okay. Before we begin, we'd like to welcome  
3 Dr. Dennerlein to our group, and I told you some years ago, both he  
4 and I had official capacities that kept us busy in Haines, he was  
5 statewide, I was in Haines, so I have these pictures of Dr.  
6 Dennerlein as he was -- the state park down there about sixty years  
7 ago, forty years ago, and does in Haines, it rains and fogs all of  
8 the time, so I'm going to pass these down to Mr. Dennerlein so you  
9 can all see them. (Laughter) Do this little bit as a public  
10 comment period, and you can see Chip in his hey-day, there's Chip  
11 in his hey-day. (Aside comments). He hasn't changed a whisker.

12 MR. DENNERLEIN: My hair only stayed on my head long  
13 enough for my wife to marry me. And then -- and it fell out  
14 immediately thereafter, and God was just merciful.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Since there are no members of the public  
16 here, we'll go back into our presentation, and I believe we're  
17 going to hear -- the herring cluster is up next.

18 MR. LOEFFLER: I should probably worry that when -- right  
19 before I went -- in fact this is the wrong number so  
20 (indiscernible). Right before I started to get ready to speak  
21 again, I noticed that the Chairman had asked for a strong cup of  
22 coffee. I don't know what that means.

23 MR. McCORKLE: If you see me dozing off, just shake the  
24 table.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: Well, especially those of you from around  
26 Prince William Sound will remember that -- note that the herring

1 biomass of Prince William Sound, declined by about 75 percent in  
2 recent years, from a record 1992 biomass. The precipitous decline  
3 was first noticed in 1993 and continued, I think 1994, and I  
4 believe there is no herring fishery there this year as well. The  
5 herring, of course, has affected the economy, but it's also an  
6 important food source for the remainder of the ecosystem, so in a  
7 sense for seabirds and marine mammals, harbor seals, and some  
8 seabirds, especially. So, in some sense studying herring is  
9 important for its ecological connections. These are the five  
10 projects, and they really come into a couple of categories. The  
11 first -- only link that reproductive impairment and disease --  
12 these are laboratory studies to demonstrate -- to track the disease  
13 -- it was first noticed after the decline, and I never get to say  
14 this in polite company, but the disease was viral hemorrhagic  
15 septicemia. First for VHS was the disease noticed in 1993. After  
16 the -- the project, I believe, first demonstrated that it is  
17 probably not the cause of morbidity in '94, but they did notice the  
18 fungus, and this was still continuing to investigate the effects  
19 and spreading of the disease. The productive impairment is -- a  
20 laboratory studies to demonstrate possible genetic damage to oil  
21 exposed eggs. So, this is looking at the disease and possible  
22 links to oil, excuse me, the -- decline and possible links to  
23 oiling. This is -- the project coordinator -- it's a support  
24 project, and it provides -- it would provide (indiscernible) help  
25 provide some overall integration to the program. Genetic stock  
26 structure and egg spawn deposition surveys are a version of the

1 sort of the things that help management that we went over in pink  
2 salmon. The genetic stock structure would investigate what the  
3 stock structure is, so that -- that is whether it is one genetic  
4 stock or two or multiple, so that the managers of Department of  
5 Fish & Game, can determine whether indeed whether they should be  
6 focusing on, you know, the eastern Sound has a bad year or whether  
7 they can harvest the western Sound independently. So that it,  
8 stock structure information will -- will help their management.  
9 Egg spawn deposition survey is a new tool to estimate -- to  
10 estimate and predict herring spawn abundance some years into the  
11 future. It estimates the biomass -- the biomass of all herring.  
12 So, it's something that would be integrated into Fish & Game  
13 management, presumably as the technique that is out. Together  
14 these would cost close to a million and a half this year, and some  
15 of the projects should be closing out this year, and some will be  
16 continuing for a couple of years. So, they really fall into three  
17 categories, to sum up, actually two, really. Sort of investigating  
18 some of the problems of herring and things useful for management.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Are there any questions on -- on herring?  
20 Kim.

21 MS. BENTON: On the 166 budget, is that something you  
22 think that most of these questions will get answered?

23 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking).

24 MR. LOEFFLER: That one's got a variety of questions and  
25 I (indiscernible)

1 DR. SPIES: 166? Yeah, continuing to do the egg  
2 deposition surveys that have been done in the past, that we did  
3 after the spill, and those are studies that establish what the  
4 damage was to the herring, mainly through really dying eggs, and  
5 poor fertilization and so on and so forth (indiscernible). And  
6 then those -- those are looking at deposition of eggs and trying to  
7 use that as an abundance, and we're also have recommended that  
8 they, like they do in British Columbia to use the abundance of the  
9 juvenile fish (indiscernible) the youngest of the age class and do  
10 a survey, to use that as a predictive technique, to look at the  
11 future recurrence of herring. Both of those aspects are ...

12 MR. LOEFFLER: I think one of Kim's questions, if you  
13 don't mind, was that that had five contingencies in the draft plan  
14 before we fund it. Her question was, whether those contingencies  
15 are likely to be answered.

16 DR. SPIES: Excuse me, I didn't understand her  
17 question. I'm glad you interrupted me.

18 MS. BENTON: That's okay.

19 DR. SENNER: Kim, some of those are on their way to  
20 being resolved now. Others are probably going to take, we expect  
21 to do -- have a herring project review session again in mid-  
22 November, in part, choosing that timing so that more of the results  
23 from this current field season are in and analyzed and so we can  
24 see really what we've got to work with. So, I don't expect that --  
25 that this project 166 is going to be ready for a Trustee Council  
26 decision in August, and that would probably need to -- continued to



1 be deferred until December, even while we're working on several of  
2 those questions.

3 MS. BENTON: Is that something -- we're talking about  
4 \$18 hundred total, is -- you know, it's almost half a million  
5 dollars, the budget is large, that that money would be reserved out  
6 in anticipation that it later be funded, or is the (indiscernible).

7 MR. LOEFFLER: I suspect that we will -- that we will not  
8 know whether we've hit the \$18 million target until December. And,  
9 in fact, they will do a portion of that in August, and then you'll  
10 say, well, you know, we have about -- let's say they fund \$11  
11 million, though there may be -- there may be \$9 million left for  
12 December, and there will be sort of more competition.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Any further questions? Hearing none on  
14 herring, let's go forward on the Sound Ecosystem Assessment. Oh,  
15 yes.

16 MR. DENNERLEIN: One -- sort of -- and that is just  
17 sort of generic question. This is big money projects that is all  
18 pieces together. Is this sort of one of the real foundation  
19 projects, biologically? I mean, in the sense that -- I mean  
20 herring in their -- their food content, their energy -- you know,  
21 the energy budget they provide to everything else, is this -- is  
22 this sort of one of the real fact foundation biological projects in  
23 ...

24 DR. SPIES: It's undoubtedly an important resource,  
25 and, you know, that was injured by the spill, and there was a  
26 decline in biomass that we're concerned about, both from the

1 economic standpoint and ecological standpoint. Yeah, I'd  
2 characterize this as one of the basic, you know, kind of building  
3 blocks of the restoration program.

4 MR. DENNERLEIN: And, to only follow up, do you think  
5 that the study will -- are there going to be pieces, Bob in this  
6 study that -- in terms of future herring management for other  
7 activities in the Sound, we're looking at oil, and we're relating  
8 it to the spill, but there are a lot of other activities that are  
9 going to go on. Human activities are -- you know, whether it's  
10 timber operations, whether it's human development, you know, there  
11 is -- I just saw some ...

12 DR. SPIES: Yeah, there are some things -- stock  
13 identification where we have one stock or two or whatever we have  
14 in Prince William Sound is an important question. We need to  
15 establish what that is before we really get too far, because that's  
16 the first managing question, it's the first piece of scientific  
17 information needed to get a good management for how this stock is  
18 doing. Another aspect is the disease program. Maybe something  
19 comes out of there in terms of the impound fishery, transmission of  
20 diseases during impound fishery, and also, the third thing I think  
21 of off the top of my head that's going to benefit management is the  
22 -- possibly the institution of new method, possibly a new method --  
23 for looking at -- predicting year class strength, and I was kind of  
24 getting when I was -- just answered her questions --which is the  
25 looking at the zero plus plus age class, rather than the amount of  
26 eggs that are deposited, you look at how many juvenile herring

1 (indiscernible), and that seemed to work very well in British  
2 Columbia. That was suggested by the reviewers as something to do  
3 -- that's contained in that 166 project. So, that's the third  
4 thing to come out of it.

5 MR. DENNERLEIN: So, picking better indicators to  
6 manage, sort of natural health and population.

7 DR. SPIES: And putting in predict, yeah, predict  
8 strength of the year class.

9 MR. DENNERLEIN: Okay, thanks, that helped.

10 MR. LOEFFLER: Following through the draft plan, the next  
11 is the SEA program and related projects. And, I'm not going to  
12 spend much time on this, I think you had a good -- a good window on  
13 the SEA program in March. If you will remember, it focuses on the  
14 ecological links responsible for the populations of pink salmon and  
15 herring. It's our -- sort of our foundation and maybe flagship --  
16 ecological study, and it's breadth, its integration and certainly  
17 in its cost, and I think that's as much as I'm going to say. There  
18 is a review of -- of the SEA plan program that's going to occur  
19 again in the fall, and once they can -- have looked at the genetic  
20 lab results. The only additional study is pristane monitoring,  
21 which is relatively -- to the (indiscernible) esoteric. The  
22 pristine is a relatively simple measure of marine productivity,  
23 that's actually produced even mussels, but it allows prediction of  
24 future fish production and harvest levels.

25 DR. SPIES: We think.

26 MR. LOEFFLER: We think. And, I'm actually not going to

1 go any further on those, unless there are questions. Kim.

2 MS. BENTON: It's not a question, but it's a part of  
3 the SEA program that is not recommended for funding, and I don't  
4 think it's going to be funded, its the coordination and  
5 communications program, and I noticed that as part of your working  
6 group you had a member of the Sea Life Center, and maybe at the  
7 August meeting it would helpful to have a member of the SEA program  
8 communications team to figure out how we can all work together on  
9 this.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Well, certainly that's a good idea, but my  
11 -- my feeling as a result of the meeting we had is that really  
12 isn't a program and much to put forward yet. Is that ...

13 MS. McCAMMON: In terms of the communications program?

14 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, from the Sea Life Center, probably  
15 can integrate into the ...

16 MS. McCAMMON: (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking)  
17 talking about the future of the Sea Life Center, what Kim is  
18 suggesting is that science center be involved in (indiscernible),  
19 and we've tried to get a hold of Jody (indiscernible), he's out  
20 fishing. And, a lot of the kinds of things that are suggested in  
21 that aspect of the program we're covering in 96052, (indiscernible)  
22 through aerial watch and some of the other projects. We thought  
23 (indiscernible).

24 MS. BENTON: Yeah, no I understand why the project  
25 isn't funded, I just think, you know, they have a lot of great  
26 things that their doing and a lot of information that goes out --

1 shouldn't it be looped in.

2 MR. McCAMMON: Excellent idea, yes. Yeah, we do plan on  
3 doing that. And, as a matter of fact, Fitzpatrick (ph) who is the  
4 person who is in charge there -- database and modeling is very  
5 closely involved with the development of our database here and has  
6 been very helpful.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Jim.

8 MR. KING: I'm wondering why the pink salmon and  
9 herring studies were split off from the SEA program, the ones that  
10 were?

11 MR. LOEFFLER: I don't think they were split off. I'm  
12 not sure what you mean.

13 MR. KING: Well, it's the herring cluster and salmon  
14 ...

15 MR. LOEFFLER: Oh, the only reason why they're in  
16 separate clusters is because the SEA program involves both of them,  
17 and so rather than try to draw some -- it's difficult to draw a  
18 line about which part of the SEA program is pink salmon and which  
19 part is herring, we just put it separately, that's all.

20 MR. KING: Well, would the ...

21 MR. LOEFFLER: We could have one giant cluster that was  
22 pink salmon, herring and SEA program, and you're welcome to think  
23 about it that way.

24 MR. KING: Was the things you put in the herring and  
25 the pink salmon cluster agree with objectives of the SEA program?

26 MR. LOEFFLER: The SEA program's information is useful

1 for some of the other things. For example, in pink salmon remember  
2 we had the toxic effects on oil, that's not being investigated by  
3 the SEA program, not directly. Their not doing stock structure and  
4 management, nor actually supplementation. But they're more looking  
5 is complimentary to those but different, and you're looking at the  
6 ecological links that control productivity and harvest levels. So,  
7 for example, they're investigating how climatic factors -- how  
8 climatic factors influence population, how some of the prey  
9 switching hypothesis -- in fact, there are a lot of -- I guess,  
10 pollock in the Sound now -- influence them -- so they can do some  
11 predictions of more climatic, ecological, things like that --  
12 factors. But it's -- so I believe it's complimentary, but  
13 separate. Does that answer your question?

14 MR. KING: The SEA program would be more basic  
15 research and the other two would be more management oriented, is  
16 that a more ...

17 DR. SPIES: Well, one useful way to look at it is --  
18 in terms of managing products, the -- the -- there's the short term  
19 things that need to be done through some of the stock separation,  
20 stock I.D, build management tools like otolith mass marking, and  
21 then there's kind of a longer term, more basic, looking at  
22 ecosystem, it's going to be -- it's going to help in the management  
23 in the long-term. It's not going to help you in two, three, four,  
24 five years, but it might help you in six or eight or ten years from  
25 now, in terms of predicting information.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

1 MS. BRODIE: That kind of carries a red flag. When  
2 we're talking about a program that's seven years after the oil  
3 spill to get information that we have a use for fifteen to twenty  
4 years after the oil spill. In terms of looking for places to cut,  
5 that would be -- come up to my mind as things that seem like they  
6 might be useful pieces of information, but getting pretty remote.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Any more, Pam?

8 MS. BRODIE: Not really a question, sort of I'd like  
9 the PAG to think about that.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Have you got a check mark by that Pam?  
11 Mary, you're next.

12 (Laughter)

13 MS. MCBURNEY: And I just wondered -- kind of respond to  
14 that, but it's going to be increasingly difficult to find things  
15 that are related directly to the oil spill, and at this point, we  
16 may be fortunate if we can even find echos. So, my feeling is that  
17 in looking at many of these project, probably one of the most  
18 valuable things that we can do, especially with fisheries resources  
19 and other natural resources is figure out how to better manage them  
20 for the future, and perhaps that -- that's the best legacy that we  
21 can do with some of the research dollars that we're going to spend.

22 MS. BRODIE: It's hard for me to tell which those are.  
23 I mean, I'd be interested in more comment about that.

24 MS. McCAMMON: Pam, I think part of it is, too, with the  
25 SEA program, is that this is the third year of funding, would be  
26 the third year of funding at this level, and I think the argument

1 that I think has been pretty persuasive with us is that you need a  
2 certain number of years at certain levels to start fulfilling some  
3 of the expectations of the project, and they should be getting  
4 results this coming year, that hopefully will feed into where the  
5 projects ultimately goes. But, the idea is that it will taper  
6 down, it will go down by over a million dollars in FY '97 and  
7 another million past that, so it is on the decline now. And this  
8 -- the 456 does reflect -- oh, they came in with a good half of a  
9 million over this, so it does reflect a reduction, although it's a  
10 -- it's stable funding actually from last year, from '95.

11 DR. SPIES: And, we went into this think knowing if  
12 you're going to do it right, you're going have to do it in a number  
13 of years.

14 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Are there further questions on this  
16 segment? Okay, that doesn't mean that we won't revisit it at the  
17 end of the session, but let's continue on with the next little  
18 program -- cluster -- clusterette.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: The next being sockeye salmon, and going  
20 by Kenai and Kodiak separately. With respect to the Kenai River  
21 runs, sockeye salmon, there's an imperfect understanding of what  
22 the mechanism and the amount of injuries to those runs. What we  
23 found in the past is sort of a two-prong approach to those runs.  
24 The first is stock separation and management, and that I think of  
25 as a success of sorts of the Trustee Council, that is -- that is a  
26 program to -- through a genetic stock identification to identify



1 the -- the probable destination of the commercial catch, so they  
2 can do that in season, and they've proven that it's useful, and  
3 they can have -- I think a forty-eight hour turnaround. It's  
4 proven a useful management tool, so they can say whether what  
5 proportion of the catch is going to the Kenai, or going to the  
6 other upper Cook Inlet streams, Susitna, west side streams. So,  
7 it's very useful tool, I think for the Department of Fish & Game,  
8 and it will be transitioning over to the department for -- as a  
9 permanent -- as a permanent part of the repertoire. So, I think  
10 that's something we will have developed, we the Trustee Council  
11 will have developed -- it has application beyond just the Kenai  
12 River, and to all, I believe, Kenai and upper Cook Inlet sockeye  
13 runs. We've also done a research component, 258 has been there in  
14 some form for a couple of years, sort of new relative  
15 (indiscernible) project, to investigate the mechanism and amount of  
16 injury. There has been a decision to close out Kenai portions of  
17 those -- the stock feeding separation -- the management tool, which  
18 would transition to Fish & Game, that is, it would continue without  
19 Trustee Council funding -- and to close out the research, but that  
20 -- that is -- whether or not to close them out is in part dependent  
21 upon the strength of the run this year. So, we're going to look at  
22 the 1995 return before we make final close out decision is made,  
23 and they might be so closed in the future. With respect to Kodiak,  
24 there is a lot -- there is a much greater level of understanding of  
25 the mechanism and amount of injury, overescapement-type injury to  
26 the sockeye lakes in southern Kodiak and the lakes on Afognak

1 Island. And, what we're doing is really monitoring that, in some  
2 cases monitoring a smolt counts, in other cases monitoring other  
3 elements, and that monitoring typically provides Fish & Game with  
4 the ability to do a harvest plan to protect the fisheries. So, for  
5 example, the smolt out migrations use for prediction, it let's Fish  
6 & Game then do some monitoring to figure out -- or then develop  
7 their harvest in a way of future protection to the run. Finally,  
8 there are two supplementation proposals in the draft plan. One is  
9 Coghill Lake, FY '96 would be the fourth of the five years of  
10 fertilization for Coghill Lake, and as part of this recommendation,  
11 includes a recommendation that if funded it transition the  
12 monitoring portion of that transition to Department of Fish & Game  
13 after FY'97, that was in last year's work plan and this year. And,  
14 then a feasibility study was proposed for Solf and Columbia Lakes  
15 also in Prince William Sound. So, that being the sockeye  
16 component. Supplementation or enhancement, continued monitoring  
17 the injury in Kodiak, and close out the research stock separation  
18 and management pending a review of the strength of the '95 run.

19 DR. SENNER: Bob, are the costs of doing that, in that  
20 1.4?

21 MR. LOEFFLER: Yes, (indiscernible). So, if it was  
22 closed out, I believe it would be roughly \$600,000 less. It would  
23 be about \$8.86 thousand.

24 MS. McCAMMON: Bob, could you maybe do a little overview  
25 of the issue of whether -- how we determine whether the run has  
26 return to normal.

1 DR. SPIES: Yes, that's and interesting question.  
2 We've been -- having discussions with Fish & Game about what  
3 criteria to use to determine if the -- if it's a poor run or not.  
4 We haven't really come to any final conclusions on that. The Fish  
5 & Game has suggested in a memo from Danny Schmidt (ph) and Stan  
6 Carlson -- and he did -- Stan Carlson did a pretty sophisticated  
7 analysis of a factor called return for spawn, that's how many  
8 returns you have for spawning female, originally, and using that  
9 ratio, looking at how it changes over time, and our main peer  
10 reviewer for salmon fisheries, Phil Mundy, has looked at that, and  
11 has come back with a recommendation that we have further  
12 discussion. So, we really haven't settled on -- on what would be  
13 a good criteria to use, whether we look at an overall run strain,  
14 or we look at the age class, distribution within the run and so  
15 forth. So, that's kind of where we're at.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Dave.

17 MR. COBB: Are there any preliminary indications as  
18 to the strength of the '95 return.

19 DR. SPIES: I think Joe could probably best answer  
20 that.

21 DR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, I guess one of the key  
22 (indiscernible - simultaneous talking). Well, at this time of  
23 year, that's a -- that's a daily question. The last answer I had  
24 to that is about two days old. The -- one of the key things that  
25 they're looking at is the proportion of the run that is one fresh  
26 water, three ocean fish, and in a normal year that -- I think they

1 are around 45 percent of the run, I think, we're talking about mid-  
2 20s now. Unless things change, and they could change, from -- Ken  
3 Holbrook's point of view, that means that the run has failed. On  
4 the other hand, there has been weird years, like last year was a  
5 weird year, when it looked like things were going to hit the fan,  
6 then at the last minute, you know, the fish came in when we thought  
7 it was all over. So, in -- in a typical year, we would say this is  
8 bad news.

9 MR. LOEFFLER: But the size of the run, however, has been  
10 relatively (indiscernible).

11 DR. SULLIVAN: I think -- that I don't know the answer  
12 to. I think that they run up the river at this point, to the best  
13 of my knowledge, is probably within what we had -- had looked at as  
14 the -- as the range of escapement goal we were looking for. So,  
15 relative to what -- what is that, plus what has the commercial  
16 fisheries gotten, and in general just salmon, and what's the  
17 component. Again, I think as Bob said, the criteria for whether  
18 the runs have failed or not, or fails or not, as I'd rather not  
19 give up on them yet, is open for question, but at least we threw  
20 that out on the paper before the fish came back, so it's not like  
21 we're playing hindcast.

22 MR. McCORKLE: John.

23 DR. FRENCH: Joe, I have a -- if you can clarify for  
24 me, why five days a week, a person use the dip net fisheries open  
25 at the mouth of the river if, at least new stories are indicated  
26 that's because of the escapement goals have been met.

1 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, first of all I don't manage that,  
2 but like I said, it's a -- trying to determine whether the run has  
3 failed or not failed is a formula that has -- that isn't clear  
4 year, and it's not simply numbers of fish back. What I'm getting  
5 at with one-three fish is that if that is a reflection of the oil  
6 spill overescapement on that particular year class, then that, of  
7 course, has impact not only to this year -- in other words if you  
8 put -- let's say we get an 800,000 fish back eventually, why  
9 shouldn't we open that to dip netting if that's enough to take care  
10 of it, but what it does mean, is that next year, you know,  
11 components of the same year class that are in short supply this  
12 year will be in short supply next year, and, you know, depending  
13 upon what happens to the following year class and what component of  
14 the run that is next year.

15 MR. LOEFFLER: Joe, isn't it (indiscernible -  
16 simultaneous talking) that this is the biggest year, so it's an  
17 ever decreasing portion of the fisheries, the 1989 brood. I mean  
18 if you done that -- so the next year, two years from now what  
19 happens to the 1989 brood that's relative and significant.

20 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, I hope so. I mean, you know, I'm  
21 not looking for run failures, but I -- and I think, you know, a  
22 fair number of smolt go out last year, so I hope that things do  
23 come around. There -- you know, it would be nice to walk away from  
24 this. But, like I said, and as Bob said, we really need to sit  
25 down and figure out what are the implications of what we get back,  
26 not just the number of fish that come back this year, because you

1 -- like I said, you will get components of various year classes in  
2 a particular year. They're not typed like the pink salmon would  
3 be.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Chip, did you have a question?

5 MR. DENNERLEIN: Well, where -- Joe, you're talking  
6 about the Kenai, right now, okay, because that was a question over  
7 here, is what river, what fish, you know, to clarify. So, we're  
8 now in what would normally be a real peaking time, I think, and  
9 we're right now technically due -- according to the last two weeks  
10 of July, if it's a failure, but you're hoping -- but you still  
11 don't know climatic ocean conditions, weather, there may be ...

12 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, that's true, but if you're looking  
13 at the ocean conditions, look at what's coming back to Bristol Bay.

14 MR. DENNERLEIN: ... Bristol Bay, right.

15 MS. McCAMMON: Joe, does the department have any  
16 management contingencies prepared for this year, for this project?

17 DR. SULLIVAN: You mean relative to openings and openers  
18 and closures?

19 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah, for the commercial or the sport  
20 harvest?

21 DR. SULLIVAN: I -- I'm really not up on that Molly. I  
22 would be -- yes, I'm sure that -- I mean, we have escapement goals,  
23 we need to meet that.

24 MS. McCAMMON: But, the overall total -- total numbers,  
25 correct, as far as you actually having escapement goals?

26 DR. SULLIVAN: No, it's escapement goals because -- well,

1 that's what I'm saying, one great year is -- is a goal for a  
2 particular year class. When all these guys come back to spawn,  
3 they don't care who they're mating with, you know, I mean, as long  
4 as they're both in the same creek.

5 MR. LOEFFLER: Then what is the matter if one/three year  
6 fails, but the others make up for it.

7 DR. SULLIVAN: That's what I'm saying, Bob, is that when  
8 you look at what you're going -- in other words, if you get 800,000  
9 fish back now, when you should have gotten a couple of million fish  
10 back, you know, that's a major reduction in numbers of fish. What  
11 we're trying to do in any given situation, is let enough fish go so  
12 that you'll make your escapement. However, we also want to sell  
13 fish, you know.

14 MR. LOEFFLER: (Indiscernible)

15 DR. SULLIVAN: Pardon me.

16 MR. LOEFFLER: No, no, I understand that, I think so.

17 DR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, I mean that's the goal is to get  
18 enough fish back to spawn to take care of the future. But, we also  
19 would like to have fish to catch, to sell, and for sports fishermen  
20 to catch, and the subsistence users to take. I mean, that's the  
21 difference between escapement and returns. Returns are all the  
22 fish, escapement is what gets up the stream to spawn.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Rupert is next, and then we'll get the  
24 others.

25 MR. ANDREWS: Joe, I just wanted to ask -- I know the  
26 department has an escapement goal, there's a range ...

1 DR. SULLIVAN: Right.

2 MR. ANDREWS: Is -- is that range in a state of flux, I

3 mean, if it's not fixed in concrete ...

4 DR. SULLIVAN: You mean for the Kenai or for the ...

5 MR. ANDREWS: We're talking Kenai River only, sockeye.

6 DR. SULLIVAN: Is that a questions, or, I mean ...

7 MR. ANDREWS: It's going to be a question.

8 MR. McCORKLE: We're on our way to a question.

9 MR. ANDREWS: We're on our way to a question.

10 DR. SULLIVAN: Okay.

11 MR. ANDREWS: I guess part of the question is -- is the

12 escapement goal a fixed range or can it be changed?

13 DR. SULLIVAN: Oh, of course, the more fish is going to

14 change it.

15 MR. ANDREWS: And secondly, two year prior to '89, you

16 had overescapement according to the goals, which -- the goals are

17 somewhat artificial anyway.

18 DR. SULLIVAN: That's right.

19 MR. ANDREWS: So, you really don't know what your

20 maximum, optimum and this type of escapement is.

21 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, that's true.

22 MR. McCORKLE: (Indiscernible) from the gallery, sir,

23 would you come to the table, so we can hear you, thank you, very

24 much.

25 MR. BUD RICE: This is Bud Rice, I have a question for

26 Joe. When will we know whether or not the run is a success or



1 failure this year?

2 DR. SULLIVAN: From our point of view, well -- and I --  
3 we will have data to take to the table before the meeting on the  
4 10th of August. We will -- we feel that, you know, considerably  
5 before that, and that's only two weeks away, we will know whether  
6 -- at least our field, whether the run has failed or not. And,  
7 hopefully, we'll have been able to get that information to Bob in  
8 a sufficient in the amount of time, but, I mean, I don't know what  
9 perhaps you should have a meeting with Mundy et al. prior to the  
10 August 10th meeting, but we feel like we will have that  
11 information, more than just a day or two in advance, you know, that  
12 a week in advance is to kind of discuss that situation.

13 MR. BUD RICE: Aren't there late runs, sockeye runs, on  
14 the Kenai, that could go well after the meeting?

15 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, I think what we're looking at is the  
16 number as the fish pass the sonar counter in the lower river, is  
17 really what I'm talking about when I say -- and obviously, there's  
18 a little trick here too, if you make it pass that, you still  
19 haven't gotten past the sport fisheries, you know, but that's --  
20 that's the number that we're best -- that we're looking at --  
21 that's where we're counting the fish.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Molly.

23 MS. McCAMMON: Joe, could you just do one quick  
24 description of one -- if the run comes back successfully when these  
25 projects will be closed out, if there is a failure according to  
26 this definition of that, you would like to do -- what else kind of

1 works? Can you describe that?

2 DR. SULLIVAN: Well, we would -- what we would continue  
3 to look at would be the lake condition work in 258, for example we  
4 would continue to work at lake conditions, try to find out, you  
5 know, what's happening with the copopod populations, what's the  
6 size of the fish or the fat content of the fish going into winter.  
7 Basically, trying to predict from our lake projects and so forth,  
8 what is -- what is going to happen, you know, next year when the  
9 fish come back and if it -- if it collapsed this year, or doesn't  
10 succeed, we would again want to separate them out, the different  
11 year classes and where the fish are headed and that sort of thing.  
12 That's the other thing that we're looking at is just the other tool  
13 gives us and being able to separate Kenai bound fish, Kasiloff  
14 fish, and so forth, so that we can -- as fish come in we can get  
15 some drift where things are headed for the Kenai for the sockeye.  
16 Did I answer your question?

17 MS. MCCAMMON: Yeah, I just wanted ...

18 MR. DENNERLEIN: I just -- I have a couple of  
19 questions -- not very -- maybe not very knowledgeable or details --  
20 informed questions here, but the question -- this is the run that  
21 is coming is a run escaped during the spill where you felt you  
22 might have had an over -- overescapement, and too many fish in the  
23 river, is that what we're talking about here?

24 DR. SULLIVAN: Not exactly. In other words, I think that  
25 the one/threes would have been a year or two after the spill, but  
26 the what happens -- you notice, we've had three overescapements in

1 the past, okay, one was the Glacier Bay, and the next one was a  
2 natural overescapement, and the third was the Exxon Valdez. Okay.  
3 Everything went hunky-dory for awhile because when -- typically, if  
4 you get smolt out of many different sizes, up to -- as long as  
5 you're talking at least two grams, then you should get a fair  
6 number of fish back, and we've got lots of different sizes of  
7 sockeye going out from different lakes all over. But, at least  
8 some minimal size, and then you get quite a few fish out, and I  
9 think the last really big group we had out was something like 25  
10 million smolt salmon, and then I think what we had done for those  
11 fish, had basically used up the resources. Now, how the mechanism  
12 of using up the resources because we haven't seen one of our  
13 theories, it's not that the biomass copepods went down, but that  
14 the biomass of copepods available to the fish went down, either  
15 because of a selective pressure against copepods that stayed at the  
16 surface, you know, ovigerous (ph) copepods. In any event, whatever  
17 the mechanism was, it appeared that from that point, that things  
18 started heading down hill, and had a multiple year effect. In  
19 other words, if you're eating up your resources, you may have just  
20 enough to get out and be okay, but there's not going be anybody  
21 left for the next year. Obviously at some point, I'm sure that the  
22 system will correct itself, but in any event, it took us -- it's  
23 taken awhile, and if there were -- that big year class was followed  
24 by six million smolt out, and then maybe two million goes out, less  
25 than 500,000 smolts out. We also, unfortunately, let me qualify  
26 that with a huge qualifier though, is that the problem that we have

1 here is that we later found out that our trap -- our smolt trap  
2 efficiency on which we were basing those numbers was screwed up,  
3 and so our window of certainty suddenly got very large -- or  
4 uncertainty, let me put it that way. So, that's why we don't know  
5 whether this is going to be a poor year or not because it appears  
6 that our smolt traps were designed to catch a particular size  
7 smolt, and if you're too big or too little, then this guy will go  
8 around the trap.

9 MR. DENNERLEIN: Let me ask you -- if I can just have  
10 two quick follow up ...

11 MR. McCORKLE: Very quick.

12 MR. DENNERLEIN: Sockeye -- pink salmon and/or coho  
13 salmon returns feed at different niches, but they would provide  
14 sort of a check and balance to see, in fact, is our theory about  
15 copepods right, or are there other things going on in the river  
16 affecting smolts that are moving, you know -- are those returns  
17 just as healthy?

18 DR. SULLIVAN: The pinks would not be impacted by this,  
19 but the pinks -- when they get up, they're out of the gravel and  
20 they're out to sea.

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: Right, cohos would ...

22 DR. SULLIVAN: The cohos -- I don't know the answer to  
23 coho, we've never really looked at the coho. They obvious -- among  
24 other things they'll be eating sockeye, you know, I mean, they  
25 depend upon those, and I just don't know what the answer is.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Your second quick question?

1                   MR. DENNERLEIN:       Okay, well that was just -- just if  
2 you had a control point where -- here's a fish that is returning,  
3 a multi-year fish, coho, is returning to the same river system. It  
4 doesn't feed in the same niche, you suspect it's availability of  
5 copepods is the issue. If the -- if coho are coming in being  
6 healthy as ever, then you're really focusing on the sockeye's food  
7 source. If coho are bell-curving the same way sockeye is, then it  
8 may not be copepods, it may be something else, and so where I'm  
9 going with this, is I'm always interested in science and the  
10 control group, number one, and number two, I'm interested in real  
11 world management.     When environmental stress comes on in  
12 populations, the contingent factor in the equation has increased  
13 importance, so in the spirit of Rupe Andrews' comment, this is when  
14 I get real conservative about my escapement goals because we have  
15 habitat degradation, we have a serious of factors on the river that  
16 are on -- being addressed by many agencies that are on the front  
17 page, and, you know, is it that man hunted the animals to  
18 extinction, maybe not, but if the waterhole is dried up, and all  
19 the animals went to the one waterhole, man might have had a much  
20 bigger effect than he used to have when there were twenty-five  
21 waterholes, and that's where I'm going with this is that I think,  
22 if there are a number of stresses on the Kenai, and we don't have  
23 another salmon control group, I'd be as conservative as I could  
24 right now with my escapement goals.

25                   DR. SULLIVAN:   You know, I guess, you know, I think there  
26 -- I think one of the things that Rupe may have been alluding to is

1 more fisherman wanted the escapement goals to be higher so that  
2 they would have more fish to catch. I guess the problem I would  
3 have -- I mean, I'd like -- I fish down there, too, and I would  
4 like more opportunities, but the question I would have with that is  
5 if overescapement is our problem, do we want to exacerbate that by  
6 upping the ante, you know, on the number of fish back, see.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, I must intervene here, and for  
8 the record inquire if there are members of the public that would  
9 like to address the group before our time is up. Hearing none,  
10 then we'll continue on, but we still have to do that from time to  
11 time between 1:00 and 2:00 o'clock to live up to our commitment.  
12 Also, what we would like to do is return to our -- sort of our  
13 format, which is the compelling questions that we must answer or  
14 are asked to answer at the end of each little cluster. What we  
15 want to entertain today, and then, for example, revisiting  
16 escapement 101, we can do that after we've been through the whole  
17 program, so we can -- we really would like to hear all of this, and  
18 those of you who have questions or are not necessarily absolutely  
19 compelling, but comments that we all would like to hear, write them  
20 down so we can come back to them. This is not an idea to cut off  
21 debate, but an attempt to move through the whole program, and then  
22 come back and spend lots of time wherever you'd like. So, if we're  
23 finished then with this cluster, let's go onto cutthroat and Dolly  
24 Varden.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: Cutthroat and Dolly Varden, I think will  
26 be relatively quick. It has not been a major focus on -- they've

1 not been a major focus of the Trustee Council in the past.  
2 Immediately after the spill there was a variety of studies -- one  
3 in particular, which indicated that in areas -- in oiled streams,  
4 it was likely that cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden were slower  
5 growing and grew smaller sizes than in unoiled streams, and that is  
6 the extent of the injury. There is a little bit of concern whether  
7 that in fact was related to environmental factors or related to  
8 oil, and -- but since that time, there's been very little study.  
9 The Trustee Council program has been -- is -- been  
10 supplementations, that is currently to monitor previous  
11 construction is what the '95 Work Plan. And, for the first time  
12 since those original research studies, you know, a research study  
13 that would hopefully confirm whether the suspected injury was  
14 there, and to determine the relationship between a variety of  
15 different life stages of cutthroat trout, which should be useful  
16 for the management. That's all I'm going to say on that. Hasn't  
17 been a major emphasis of the Trustee Council.

18 MR. MCCORKLE: Are there any questions, we can't let him  
19 get away that easy.

20 MR. COBB: I guess one of my questions then on one of  
21 the projects is that it says this project will not aid restoration  
22 of the species on a regional basis.

23 MR. LOEFFLER: Which?

24 MR. COBB: Well, this was 960438. I guess it brings  
25 up a bigger question of when you don't have populations of  
26 cutthroat, Dolly Varden that are anywhere near as large as pink

1 salmon or coho, or any other anadromous species like that, how can  
2 you overlook these smaller indigenous populations from the overall  
3 context, I guess, because they are significant. I mean, we're at  
4 the upper end of the range on cutthroat, so how can we overlook  
5 these issues, I guess -- I guess, I don't feel there's enough  
6 emphasis being allowed on -- for cutthroat and Dolly Varden.

7 DR. SENNER: That's a fair -- sort of two parts, that  
8 comment -- second comment you made is a valid public comment. In  
9 regard to your first part, Dave, I think part of the concern that  
10 we've got right now is that we have not -- the 043B up there under  
11 supplementation, we have not yet gotten any monitoring results from  
12 a previous attempt to supplement cutthroat populations. We'd like  
13 to see how that's going before we look at some of these other  
14 proposals for new supplementation projects, that's one  
15 consideration. Another one, specifically, in regard to 043A, which  
16 you just mentioned, the comment about it's not certain how this  
17 project will aid the restoration of the species on a regional  
18 basis, I'm not exactly sure what we meant by that comment, but ...

19 DR. SPIES: ... more than two streams.

20 DR. SENNER: Yeah, okay, but the other point I was  
21 going to make is that Mile 18, of course, is way out on the Copper  
22 Delta, and it's not -- certainly not one of the streams where you  
23 could argue that there was oil impact. So, there are a couple of  
24 things operating there.

25 MR. COBB: I guess I just didn't want to see us  
26 getting into a situation where we're trying to tie these small



1 populations to a bigger whole picture or a bigger regional basis,  
2 but yet each is significant because they are such small  
3 populations.

4 DR. SPIES: I think one of the things 145 will do is  
5 provide some basic information on the different -- the composition  
6 of this population in terms of what proportion were specifically in  
7 in fresh water and what proportion goes to salt water, and when  
8 they go to salt water, and we don't really have that information,  
9 and that's pretty basic for the management of those stocks, so the  
10 funding of this 145, and by the way there is quite a big matching  
11 complement to get back some of the concerns that were raised about  
12 the agencies, or matching complement, the Forest Service is liable  
13 to work (indiscernible) close out because it's going to give them  
14 an approach that will be useful (indiscernible).

15 MR. McCORKLE: Are there any further comments? Chip

16 MR. DENNERLEIN: I disagree with Dave that I think  
17 it's important to put some emphasis on these, I mean, for both a  
18 biologically and we're in a world where, you know, used to pay  
19 bounty on Dolly Varden tails, and now we have special single hook  
20 restrictions, and everything else in lots of areas, and limits --  
21 it's a real important species even in discreet, you know, limited  
22 populations, it's going to be important -- it's a very important  
23 sports species, both of these are. And, so anything that can aid  
24 in that is an investment, I think, in sustainability over time.

25 DR. SPIES: We're also interested in how these -- how  
26 these, (indiscernible) in terms of supplementation with root balls,

1 and how that -- how the salmon population interact with the young  
2 Dolly Varden and cutthroat is a real question too, so we're  
3 interested in all three.

4 MR. DENNERLEIN: Great.

5 MR. McCORKLE: We will be leaving the ecological section  
6 of our commentary, moving on to mammals. Unless there are any  
7 other comments right here, and there are still no members of the  
8 public here, we'll entertain those folks for another ten minutes,  
9 but right now we'll go on for marine mammals.

10 MR. LOEFFLER: Marine mammals and certainly harbor seals  
11 were in rather drastic decline in Prince William Sound and the  
12 Northern Gulf of Alaska prior to the spill. The spill took a  
13 portion of the population and exacerbated the decline. The major  
14 portion of our research on marine mammals is trying to find out --  
15 one of the factors noted in your -- recovery -- or one of the  
16 factors responsible for the decline in harbor seals. They're  
17 investigating such things as disease, low production, changes in  
18 the availability of food, and the mortality by humans. So, we're  
19 trying to figure out what the factors are that have been causing  
20 the decline, and it's a relative -- I believe a three year project,  
21 and either next year or the year after. Figuring out the reasons  
22 why harbor seals are declining I think has important implications  
23 for the subsistence users and commercial fisheries, both because  
24 harbor seals are important for subsistence and they're -- because  
25 they're considered -- listing as depleted on the Marine Mammal  
26 Protection Act. So, I think this is -- this may be something that

1 does leave a legacy, something that -- something we can point to  
2 five or six years from now. The only other portion of marine  
3 mammals is that, we've been thinking of monitoring -- we've been  
4 projecting to monitor killer whales every two years, and -- so for  
5 that reason it was recommended to not -- to close out last year's  
6 monitoring and not monitor them this year, only that is still under  
7 discussion. In addition, I think we're going to need to as money  
8 sort of ratchets down, I think we're going to need the monitoring  
9 program as a whole, and figure out what proportion goes to  
10 monitoring and how to best integrate monitoring information in a  
11 cost effective way. But, for the moment, we're working on sort of  
12 under the assumption the killer whales, the AB pod which was the  
13 pod purportedly injured and monitored every two years.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Questions? Yes, John.

15 DR. FRENCH: Is there a recent survey of harbor seal  
16 populations in ....

17 DR. SPIES: Harbor seal?

18 DR. FRENCH: Harbor seals, yes.

19 DR. SPIES: There's trend counts that Kathy Frost does  
20 every year.

21 DR. FRENCH: Well, what did this year's data compare to  
22 the previous?

23 DR. SPIES: I -- I haven't seen the report yet, so --  
24 it looks, but the ...

25 DR. FRENCH: The reason I ask is this year's harbor  
26 seals outside of the Prince William Sound seems to have stabilized

1 from last year's data.

2 DR. SPIES: Yeah, well, we -- we have seen a  
3 stabilization, the population levels are not -- the index  
4 populations levels are not back to pre-'89 levels yet, but we've  
5 seen some definite indications of stabilization in the data. It's  
6 not the same downward slope. It looks like it's kind of leveled  
7 off.

8 DR. FRENCH: We're looking to a return to '89  
9 population as an index?

10 DR. SPIES: Yes.

11 MR. COBB: Where's her study area, is she doing it  
12 Sound-wide?

13 DR. SPIES: She's got some index populations that are  
14 pretty much down as far as the essential portion of -- includes  
15 Knight Island, Seal Rocks, I think there's at least a dozen, I  
16 can't name them all off now. A dozen rookery that she looks at,  
17 and she looks at them mainly in the fall molting period

18 MR. COBB: Would they need some harbor seals. We've  
19 got plenty in Port Valdez? They can come take them.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments? Are we ready to go on  
21 to the nearshore ecosystem?

22 MR. LOEFFLER: In addition to going on to the nearshore  
23 ecological system, we're going to exchange speakers, and that is  
24 Stan Senner.

25 MR. McCORKLE: DR. SENNER, welcome, glad to have you  
26 here.

1 (Aside comments)

2 DR. SENNER: The nearshore habitat which includes  
3 shallow waters nearshore, but also the intertidal, subtidal areas,  
4 were considered among the hardest hit by the spill, and have  
5 continued to play a prominent role in the program, and certainly  
6 have a pretty high price tag. If you can't from the back see it,  
7 we're looking at more than \$3 million in the FY '96 program. The  
8 single biggest piece of that is in the nearshore vertebrate  
9 predator project, which focuses on four key vertebrates, higher  
10 vertebrates, sea otter, river otter, harlequin duck and pigeon  
11 guillemot, and in the restoration plan the primary sort of  
12 strategies for restoration in the nearshore arch, simple monitoring  
13 the status and recovery of the critters, and then secondly where  
14 their recovery is not taking place, it's time to identify causes,  
15 what are the limiting factors, why isn't recovery occurring. So,  
16 at -- I don't recall which meeting it was, your April meeting or  
17 June, one of those, we had a presentation from the National  
18 Biological Service on the NVP project, Jim Bodkin, sea otter  
19 researchers talked with you. I'm not going to go into that in  
20 great detail. You can see the price tag of almost \$1.8 million.  
21 The real focus of the NVP project is this identification of factors  
22 that limit recovery, and especially looking at this question of is  
23 there ongoing contamination that might be reducing the health and  
24 productivity of these nearshore vertebrate predators. A very  
25 closely related project which is not at present a part of the NVP  
26 suite of studies, is avian predation on blue mussels, this was

1 proposed by the Forest Service, and just in -- in a nutshell, or a  
2 clam shell, is that -- sorry -- the blue mussels are a key source  
3 -- key gray item -- key member of the nearshore ecosystem, and if  
4 you're looking at blue mussels in the context of what's happening  
5 to recovery of these other predators, you may want to also be  
6 considering in your modeling efforts all -- the effects of all the  
7 other birds that eat blue mussels: glaucous-winged gulls, mew  
8 gulls, migrant shore birds, wintering and migrant waterfowl like  
9 scooters -- all could be having a significant effect on mussels,  
10 and if you have a study that draws conclusions about mussels, but  
11 haven't taken into account the effects of the avian predations,  
12 that may be an omission. So, that's at least a proposal that --  
13 that's in the mix right now. A second major component of the  
14 overall nearshore ecosystem is the monitoring the recovery of the  
15 intertidal and subtidal areas. This 96 package has three pieces  
16 that are simply close-outs of work that has been ongoing for  
17 several years in Herring Bay and elsewhere in Prince William Sound,  
18 and I believe they're -- all three of those are Prince William  
19 Sound studies. But, any rate, there would only be one new piece as  
20 possibility in this year's package, and this is the -- what we call  
21 coastal habitat study, and for those of you whose recollections go  
22 back to the early days of the oil spill, we spent -- the Trustees  
23 I should say, spent lots and lots of money, millions of dollars  
24 documenting the effects of the oil spill and coastal habitats in  
25 Prince William Sound, the Kenai coast and lower Cook Inlet, and  
26 then also all the way out to Kodiak, Alaska Peninsula. I have in

1 my head that in the early days the damage assessment, we probably  
2 spent \$18 million dollars on that, something on that order, a very  
3 significant piece of change. And, indeed it would have been had  
4 this case all gone to court, it would have been -- those impacts  
5 would have been centerpieces of -- of a court case. The last real  
6 -- last full round of monitoring of those coastal habitats was  
7 1991, I believe, and so, here we are 1995, several years later.  
8 There's considerable evidence of recovery in those intertidal  
9 areas, but not -- it's not complete. A lot of concern about fucus  
10 in the upper -- I'm sort of looking at Bob Spies -- fucus in the  
11 upper intertidal especially.

12 DR. SPIES: The Herring Bay studies have indicated  
13 fucus may not have been recovered and it could be a key factor in  
14 recovery, so ...

15 DR. SENNER: So, one thing to point out is that this  
16 stuff is expensive. It's \$550,000 proposed this year. By the  
17 original proposal would jump up to \$900,000, next year, then it  
18 would drop down a ways for the next year, recovering all three  
19 areas of Prince William Sound, lower Cook Inlet, Kenai and in  
20 Kodiak, and it's very expensive, but not because there's anything  
21 fancy going on, but you have lots of people running around the  
22 intertidal gathering samples, and then try to go back to the lab in  
23 Fairbanks and sit there all winter long and sort these guys with  
24 tweezers and a hundred dissecting scopes, and it's just -- it's  
25 expensive stuff. So, that -- that's what that's all about. Fate  
26 and persistence of oil includes a close-out for \$10,000 of the

1 Kodiak assessment work, and, Bob Loeffler, this would involve some  
2 community meetings to kind of wrap up that -- that program. And,  
3 then as discussed earlier, we are still on track for a workshop on  
4 oil and kind of beach issues that we need to reach some kind of a  
5 meeting of the minds on, and this is -- the particular issue is  
6 what do you do with those beaches that still have residual oil, and  
7 this is a major concern in Chenega, but not only in Chenega. We're  
8 looking at now to a workshop this fall, September or October,  
9 probably October, involving people from affected communities  
10 involving experts on bioremediation and other removal techniques.  
11 People who are familiar with the intertidal systems. Bob Loeffler  
12 is -- has or will talk with several of you, Martha, Chuck and  
13 others about what we have in mind in that workshop and what your  
14 ideas are for what needs to be in that workshop. The key thing to  
15 tell you is that, although it -- there cannot be a decision on any  
16 additional oil removal project in time for the August meeting of  
17 the Trustee Council, by having this workshop in the timely way here  
18 in the fall, we still have the December meeting of the Trustee  
19 Council that could take action on oil removal proposals. So, we --  
20 we're keeping the doors wide open, hopefully we'll put together,  
21 with your help, a good workshop on it, and see if we can reach some  
22 meeting of the minds on that. Lastly, although harlequin ducks are  
23 a component of the nearshore vertebrate predator project, that  
24 primarily concerns contaminants and on the possibility of affecting  
25 harlequins. There has been ongoing work done by the Department of  
26 Fish & Game on harlequin ducks and their numbers and productivity



1 in Prince William Sound. That is project 427. There's also a new  
2 proposal from National Park Service in conjunction with the Kodiak  
3 National Wildlife Refuge staff, that's 161, that would do satellite  
4 telemetry work on harlequins in the Kodiak-Alaska Peninsula area.  
5 So, that's a proposal under consideration. Lastly, we've got a  
6 database project which I believe involves simply pulling together  
7 all the work that's done on hydrocarbon levels in all of the  
8 studies and making those available in a consistent format so when  
9 any study makes reference to hydrocarbon levels, what we found  
10 where, that they are all working from a common database. So,  
11 that's the NVP package.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Are there questions? John and then  
13 Brenda.

14 DR. FRENCH: First, just verification. Under the NVP,  
15 104 is included in that dollar amount?

16 DR. SENNER: Yes, 104 is in that dollar amount.

17 DR. FRENCH: Second question relates to the monitoring,  
18 the \$1.6 million project for these three areas or something like  
19 that. Is there -- how much of that's logistics and is there any  
20 way we can save money tying it in and coordinating it better with  
21 other projects?

22 DR. SENNER: Bob, you may be able to speak to that --  
23 John, some of the work that's been going on in Herring Bay, we have  
24 been able to achieve some savings because they've got a fixed, you  
25 know, camp all summer at Herring Bay. My perception with this is  
26 that they're scattered out at a number of different index sites,

1 and they're going to be moving around quite a lot, and they're  
2 probably -- probably stocked to just their own logistics.

3 DR. FRENCH: Especially two phases outside of the Sound  
4 which may not be this year, but those -- I guess there's nothing  
5 else to coordinate it with.

6 DR. SENNER: Yeah, and the single biggest -- the two  
7 big expenses are the charter vessel time, and then that sorting  
8 back in the lab.

9 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I think there's probably not an  
10 efficient way of getting around that cost, but I was hoping there  
11 might be to get around the costs. It's an awful lot of money.

12 DR. SPIES: We've attempted in the past to achieve  
13 some savings in logistics and we've been partly successful, but in  
14 this case they have to visit certain areas during certain low tide  
15 cycles, and it's very difficult to -- I know it sounds on the  
16 surface easy to do, it's very difficult in practice to. Unless you  
17 get absolute huge (indiscernible) in Prince William Sound  
18 (indiscernible).

19 MR. RICE: As I recall, Ray Highsmith, whose is the  
20 project leader for this, said that his platform might be able to  
21 support other projects, because of their logistics they can't  
22 really think back to somebody else's project, but they might be  
23 able to provide some sort of logistic support for other projects.  
24 So, that's -- maybe it's a different angle for the question you've  
25 asked.

26 DR. FRENCH: But, it should save money.

1 DR. SENNER: This project is a good illustration,  
2 though, of when -- not to get too far off the path here, but it is  
3 an illustration of a question that everyone needs to wrestle with,  
4 is how long do you monitor and sort of what's the payoff, and if --  
5 if knowing the case and degree of recovery, that may be a payoff in  
6 its own right, that may be sufficient to spend the money, or we may  
7 feel we need more payoff, that it has to relate to some management  
8 action, or address some research question. I'm not saying I have  
9 answers on that, but this is a project that illustrates the kind of  
10 question and the fact that it has a big price tag shows the  
11 importance of wrestling with that question.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Are there further questions? Yes, Dave.

13 MR. COBB: On the monitoring recovery of intertidal  
14 the close-out word there, what -- how much is -- money does that  
15 close-out work involve of that \$1.1 million?

16 DR. SENNER: It's quite a lot, Dave, probably half --  
17 Bob, half of that amount is close-out for those three? Just a sec  
18 and I can -- Herring Bay, this is 86 would be 185, mussel bed  
19 that's \$200,000. Yeah, I mean we're looking at \$600,000 or so,  
20 Dave, would be close-out, and again the reason is when we say  
21 close-out in this case it doesn't just mean writing up a report.  
22 What it means -- putting all the lab work and sorting on the  
23 samples they're gathering in this field season. They'll take back,  
24 do the sorting and write a report, and that's where the cost comes  
25 in.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Before we go to Brenda, we need to note

1 for the record that Molly has just felt an earthquake.

2 MS. McCAMMON: There was an earthquake just now. There  
3 was this morning an earthquake at 2:10, and the locusts were ...  
4 (Laughter).

5 MR. McCORKLE: Brenda was next.

6 DR. SENNER: Didn't I talk -- that the NVP project was  
7 earth shaking.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Brenda.

9 MR. SCHWANTES: My question had to do with the monitoring  
10 project as well. I wanted to know -- look at it from a different  
11 angle. What would be the impact of not doing this part of the  
12 project, and I guess, you know, how big of a difference does it or  
13 would it make with no guarantees that the pay off is going to be  
14 anything that has to do with restoration? That's kind of the angle  
15 I was looking at it. And, I also wanted to know if this type of  
16 research is applicable, or all of this type of research, is  
17 applicable to all geographic areas, or basically, just the Prince  
18 William Sound area?

19 DR. SENNER: I can help, and maybe Bob will want to  
20 jump in. Let me answer the second question first. We specifically  
21 talked with the proposers of this work about Kodiak, Prince William  
22 Sound, Kenai, lower Cook Inlet, and what's applicable there. They  
23 -- their sense, based on their prior work, is that there's a lot of  
24 similarity in what's going on in the intertidal habitat in Prince  
25 William Sound and their Kodiak-Alaska Peninsula samples, but much  
26 less similarity between Prince William Sound and Kodiak area and

1 what's going on in outer Kenai coast, lower Cook Inlet. I don't  
2 know why that is. That just was a comment they made sort of  
3 biologically of what they were finding. The other -- Bob, do you  
4 want to comment on that, did I say that right?

5 DR. SPIES: Yeah, I think -- I think that's correct.  
6 I think there's a basic question here, also of all of these  
7 monitoring programs is, I've always emphasizes -- talking about the  
8 spill in general, is that there was no pre-spill data, and so, a  
9 lot of these cases that were an effect of the spill are not as  
10 tight as we'd like them to be. In other words, if we had pre-spill  
11 and post-spill you would know for sure that there was some changes  
12 that you were looking at are not just due to the differences,  
13 they're naturally there between oiled an unoiled, but actually  
14 there was a change at a site, at the time of oiling. And, as we  
15 get further and further out from the oil spill, and we see no  
16 difference between oiled and non-oiled areas, one begins to suspect  
17 that maybe these differences occurred to some extent before the  
18 spill, and that, you know, in a sense we might be throwing money  
19 after -- trying to look at recovery of something that actually --  
20 has not been impacted or is already back to where it is going to  
21 be. So, that's a concern that -- and, my general philosophy is  
22 that maybe we need to be thinking about what we're getting from  
23 other source of efforts on the SEA program and some of the  
24 ecological programs, that might give us something of more lasting  
25 value than trying to figure out exactly when something might be  
26 returning to a natural state, maybe we're off in our estimation of

1 what the injury was. I want to make that basic question, I think  
2 it was implied in something you were asking about, you know, do we  
3 need to go out and monitor. It's always -- we're looking at -- in  
4 the case of intertidal studies it's a pretty big price tag by  
5 itself, and our philosophy that we'd like to follow these and to  
6 balance that against the philosophy, we'd like to kind of track the  
7 major impacts until they recover, just for having that knowledge.  
8 But, you know, it's the price tag.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Chuck.

10 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, I've been watching this program for  
11 a number of years now. I don't know how many millions have been  
12 spent, you know, monitoring, figuring what's going on out there.

13 DR. SENNER: A lot.

14 MR. TOTEMOFF: But, before -- I think you've already  
15 found out that this oil is still harming the environment out there,  
16 and post-spill to '96 do more studies, even though you know it's  
17 still harming the environment, you know, I just -- I notice in your  
18 subject of your workshop, but you're already looking at '96 here  
19 spending another \$3 million to do it, same thing they've been doing  
20 since '89.

21 DR. SENNER: So, your feeling is we don't continue --  
22 we don't need to continue to document the damage that we know has  
23 occurred? We don't need to prove it again.

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: Well, I guess my question is that if there  
25 is going to be further clean-up, will there be any programs to  
26 monitor that progress too?

1 DR. SENNER: I don't know the answer ...

2 MR. TOTEMOFF: See, my point is, are we getting the most  
3 for our money here?

4 DR. SENNER: That's the question, and we all need to  
5 come to some agreement on that. That's a good question.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Martha.

7 MS. VLASOFF: Well, I have the ...

8 MR. McCORKLE: Could you speak up just a bit, Martha, we  
9 want to hear what you say.

10 MS. VLASOFF: I have the same concern that Chuck has  
11 that, you know, you see \$10,000 there to do a workshop on issues --  
12 oil issues, and compare that to the money that -- that we're still  
13 dumping into trying to determine if the injury or, you know,  
14 recovery of an injury, it's frustrating, you know.

15 DR. SENNER: To be fair there, Martha, that -- that  
16 10,000 is specifically to wrap up a project that has been underway.  
17 This -- the budget for that isn't even up there. We're just  
18 absorbing that out of our administrative budget and it may lead to  
19 very substantial expenditures. That's what, I guess, we don't know.  
20 But, your point is well taken.

21 MS. VLASOFF: I can't let it go by without saying how  
22 frustrating it is for -- for local community. You know, when  
23 those are the key issues, you know, especially in Chenega.

24 DR. SENNER: I think the record needs to be very clear  
25 on -- with your comments and Chuck's.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Before we go to Jim, I seem to be hearing

1 some -- what of a movement toward, I think, some kind of consensus  
2 that there are some folks on the PAG that are beginning to look  
3 more closely at the amount of money which is put toward continuing  
4 assessments of the damage done by the oil spill. Is that -- is  
5 that what some people are beginning to feel. Is there -- I see  
6 some heads nodding yes. Maybe they thought that would be true.  
7 Okay, Mr. King.

8 MR. KING: Well, I just wanted to ask about the  
9 hydrocarbon database. Is that this archive that's being developed  
10 at Auke Bay, that we've heard about?

11 DR. SENNER: Yes.

12 DR. SPIES: That also includes interpretation. Jeff  
13 Short is in charge of that database, is the senior chemist there,  
14 and he has provided us continuous interpretation of the hydrocarbon  
15 database, because a lot investigators don't have training in  
16 hydrocarbon environmental chemistry, he's able to help us keep a  
17 consistent interpretation.

18 MR. KING: So, this is this thing that will help  
19 separate Exxon oil from other people's oil.

20 DR. SPIES: Yeah, that's a component of that.

21 MR. McCORKLE: We're still on the nearshore ecosystem.  
22 Anymore comments on that before we move? Yes, Kim, and then back  
23 to Martha.

24 MS. BENTON: I have a question on the shoreline  
25 assessment in Kodiak. Because the request was for \$35,000 and it  
26 got knocked down to \$10,000, my question is what came out of that?



1 It's supposed to be for close-out, report writing and for holding  
2 community meetings, can you do it all?

3 MR. LOEFFLER: I think that they'll be able to complete  
4 the same objectives for a less amount. I don't think -- I think  
5 that they saw that it was absorbed in -- basically, Ernie Piper is  
6 going to do a lot of it, and Ernie's salary is picked up elsewhere.

7 MR. McCAMMON: Also, Kim, the other thing it says, the  
8 initial reports on that assessment is pretty much the -- and all of  
9 the areas that they've gone to where they've --- where there had  
10 been oil documented before, it's gone now. We're going to talk  
11 about it. I think they have one more set, one more location to go.  
12 Areas that were most heavily impacted they visited first, and then  
13 the smaller areas.

14 MR. LOEFFLER: Well, actually the last reason why they  
15 are able to decrease the budget is they're just doing more this  
16 fiscal year and they're going to get a lot more of the report  
17 ready.

18 MS. BENTON: (Indiscernible) (Laughter). But I just  
19 had a question to make sure I'm understanding 161 the harlequin  
20 duck program. The way I'm reading this, is that the harlequin  
21 ducks will have transmitters and then they'll go up to satellite  
22 and we'll be able to identify where they're nesting, I mean, where  
23 they're living, where they're, whether this is (indiscernible).

24 DR. SENNER: Well, it will -- the transmitters don't  
25 last for a whole year, Kim, so depending upon when you put them on,  
26 it will answer where they're -- it will tell us where they move

1 over a period of four to six months after they're put on, and so,  
2 if you, for example, put them on molting birds in August, we will  
3 then know whether Kodiak birds fly to Prince William Sound for the  
4 winter or whether they stay in Kodiak, or go to the Kenai coast, or  
5 whatever. And, so it will tell movements for a period after a --  
6 time after you put them on.

7 MS. BENTON: I just -- I have a question because both  
8 161 and 122 the habitat for murrelets, one of the things that kind  
9 of makes -- addressed in the Executive Director's comment is that  
10 this will be a helpful tool for harvest management strategies, and  
11 I would agree with that as long as the information is fairly  
12 specific. So, under 161 you'll be able to tell general regions of  
13 migrations, but not specific areas of nesting?

14 DR. SENNER: Oh, 161, when that refers to harvest  
15 management, that means hunting, not trees.

16 MS. BENTON: Gotcha. Oh, I forgot.

17 DR. SENNER: The 122 (Laughter). So, let's talk about  
18 122 when we get over there. Yeah, 161 -- the reason that's  
19 important, Kim, is that if you're going to have a sport harvest  
20 somewhere and you don't know -- and that's in the fall, and you  
21 don't know where those birds came from nesting-wise, you don't know  
22 what population you're shooting, your depleting. Now, sport  
23 harvest for harlequin isn't a huge deal, there's not -- there's not  
24 a tremendous sport interest in them. On the other hand, it's an  
25 injured species, it is something we actually can have an impact on  
26 by adjusting what harvest there is, and at least there's some

1 rationale for continuing that. We don't know what will happen on  
2 that particular project proposal. It's undergoing further review  
3 after they revise their proposal. We haven't heard back from the  
4 science peer reviewers on that. So, I don't know exactly where  
5 we're headed on that point.

6 MS. BENTON: Thanks.

7 MR. McCORKLE: We'd like to continue onto seabird/forage  
8 fish and related projects if there are no further questions for  
9 this cluster. Oh, there is one.

10 MS. VLASOFF: Yeah, I just wondered if -- if half of  
11 that monitoring coverage, the intertidal project is for close-out,  
12 if, you know, in the interest of cost savings or -- can those  
13 samples be kept on ice or can they just be -- how long can they be  
14 kept, you know, until we can determine if this is really necessary  
15 information, or, I mean, how important is this?

16 DR. SENNER: There are probably in formulan (ph) or  
17 some other preservative, and so in that sense, they have a shelf  
18 life of a number of years.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: However ...

20 DR. SENNER: Go ahead.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: Your about to say the same thing.

22 DR. SENNER: I'll say what I was going to say, and then  
23 we'll see if it was the same thing. Just from a standpoint of kind  
24 of effectively managing and finishing up what's been done. They've  
25 got a team of people that put together -- that did all the sampling  
26 and has done all of the lab work to date, and if you were to cut

1 that off today, and say, we're not going to do it for a couple of  
2 years, those people are going to go away, get different jobs, and  
3 then when you reassemble them two years -- let's say two years  
4 later you wanted to do it again, then you're probably looking at  
5 hiring people and training them all over. And, in that sense, it's  
6 nice to kind of get it done once you've started it. But, that's --  
7 that's just my ...

8 DR. SPIES: The other thing, there is no particular  
9 piece of information that's going to tell you whether you need to  
10 do it or not, to tell you get a sample, so there's not -- I don't  
11 see an external piece of information that's going to form a  
12 decision one way or the other as to go ahead.

13 MR. LOEFFLER: You were going to say something?

14 MR. McCORKLE: Dave.

15 MR. COBB: I guess my question, following Martha's  
16 would be -- is that last year's data critical to your -- to  
17 finishing up on that last year's information and data, is it  
18 critical to the overall scope of restoration? Is it highly  
19 critical or is it less sensitive, less critical than the first?

20 DR. SPIES: Well, basically all those projects are  
21 just looking at the recovery of the system. So, to the extent that  
22 you think recovery is an important part of the restoration program,  
23 then we -- made that assumption that knowing when the system is  
24 back to normal is an important thing to know, it's important to  
25 spend restoration money on it. That's true, but -- and it's not  
26 really in all honesty give us anything that we can do particularly

1 directly in the ecosystem.

2 MR. COBB: Or is it going to give you anything that  
3 you don't already know?

4 DR. SPIES: What?

5 MR. COBB: Or is it going to give you anything that  
6 you don't already know?

7 DR. SPIES: It will give us what we -- it's give us  
8 some additional information on the recovery of the system, which we  
9 -- we can't necessarily predict it now.

10 MR. LOEFFLER: I just might add that intertidal -- that  
11 -- I personally have been critical of many of these projects for a  
12 quite few years, and I guess people have convinced me in part that  
13 the intertidal was a repository of where the oil went, and if part  
14 of our sort of basic mission, but if people look back ten years  
15 from now and said, this is the portion of the ecology that was  
16 really obliterated in some sense by the oil clean-up, and you don't  
17 know what happened to it, then people will have a justified  
18 criticism, and that it's one of the areas -- it's where the oil went  
19 -- it's one of the areas that was directly related to the spill and  
20 sort of -- we might not be considered responsible if we didn't  
21 finish that story, and so that's, I think the argument in its  
22 favor.

23 DR. SENNER: Dave, I would -- just to refine your  
24 question, I would -- I think there are two questions for you as a  
25 PAG member to think about. One is what you want to spend to close-  
26 out work that we've already made an investment in, up to a certain

1 point, and how much more you want to spend to finish that up. And  
2 then, secondly, one needs to consider a whole fresh question,  
3 though, what commitment would one want to make to a new round of  
4 data gathering knowing it's multi-year, lots of dollars kind of  
5 thing. So, there's sort of -- what do you do -- what do you want  
6 to spend to close-out -- what do you want to spend in the way of  
7 new commitments, and I won't ...

8 DR. SPIES: Right now -- right now as far as  
9 intertidal studies are concerned, we're looking at several million  
10 dollars over probably four -- three or four years, at least, or  
11 maybe even six years. We know that there was injury up to '91 and  
12 that's the last one we know area wide intertidal communities, and  
13 so, if we stop now we won't know anything beyond '91. And then  
14 we're subject to this criticism that, you know, we knew what  
15 happened, we had a hundred million, you know, hundreds of millions  
16 of dollars, we knew what happened up to '91 to the major part of the  
17 ecosystem, but then we didn't track it any further, so -- I'm not  
18 advocating one way or the other, but that's kind of where we're at.

19 MR. McCORKLE: John.

20 DR. FRENCH: Is it possible to take the sites that we  
21 studied and narrow them down to a small number of index  
22 (indiscernible) currently being done, I imagine some of it has been  
23 done already.

24 DR. SENNER: Unfortunately, that's (indiscernible -  
25 simultaneous talking).

26 DR. SPIES: We cut habitats and cut sites.

1 DR. SENNER: John, unfortunately with this project,  
2 you're sort of at the point to either do it or you don't, and  
3 you're not in a position -- you can knock off maybe some nickels,  
4 but not big money. You either do it or you don't.

5 MR. McCORKLE: That's a very significant point, and also  
6 this concern that we examine closely any new start-up projects, as  
7 we seem to be on the down slope, not only of money, but on the  
8 amount of information to be returned, but it's -- I think also we  
9 want to be very careful in shutting down projects without enough  
10 money to adequately do them if they've been -- you know, if they've  
11 been a viable project to begin with we ought not to cut off  
12 sufficient funds to adequately close out projects. Brenda.

13 MS. SCHWANTES: Did you say that no data has been taken or  
14 the monitoring hasn't been done to explain where?

15 DR. SPIES: For the area wide. Well, we've had a  
16 Herring Bay study that's gone on continuously, and that's being  
17 phased out now. That was at Herring Bay, and, you know, Herring  
18 Bay is not the whole spill area, so we can't necessarily be assured  
19 that recovery that's occurred in Herring Bay has necessarily  
20 occurred in all other areas.

21 MS. SCHWANTES: It's the same for all the other areas.  
22 So, basically what's happening is you think -- the project wants to  
23 get data four years later from when it last saw it, then how  
24 consistent is the lapse in the, you know, the yearly -- I mean,  
25 what can you tell four years later in retrieving this data, and  
26 then leaving out three years of a big chunk of this

1 (indiscernible).

2 DR. SPIES: We don't know the fluctuations in between,  
3 but hopefully because you're comparing oiled and non-oiled areas,  
4 you'll know where those are converging. In other words, the damage  
5 in oiled areas are beginning to look more like unoiled areas, and  
6 that's kind of the basic question we're looking at.

7 MS. SCHWANTES: You mean some of these other projects we  
8 could put off a few years and take new data now, and then wait  
9 three or four years to take a little more data?

10 MR. McCORKLE: John.

11 DR. FRENCH: In comparison to other intertidal studies  
12 and others, (indiscernible) five year monitor and cycle is a  
13 reasonable cycle, it takes a long time for the intertidal to  
14 recover in that sense, do we have any (indiscernible) state  
15 projects in (indiscernible) do it again in five years.

16 DR. SENNER: I was going it is fair to say, I think,  
17 the longer the interval between those samplings, the less you  
18 really can say with the sampling out. You know, the less strong  
19 any conclusions are.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Is that true? If you've taken studies for  
21 two or three or a natural cycle, and then you have a pause for  
22 three - four, some odd number of years, and go back as a check,  
23 that does in fact show you what has taken place in that interim  
24 even though it may not give a degree by degree.

25 DR. SENNER: Well, what you don't know is what other  
26 events might have influenced things between, and just one example



1 was if you -- you showed that the fucus were hard hit in '91 and  
2 you go back in '95 and the fucus are thriving, well, you could, in  
3 fact, probably say they recovered from the effects of the spill.  
4 However, if the -- if you wait until 1998 and you come back and the  
5 fucus are in bad shape, who knows, they may have recovered in '94  
6 and from -- for some totally different reason taken a big hit and  
7 been wiped out again by the time you got there in 1998.

8 MR. McCORKLE: As a result of the oil spill?

9 DR. SENNER: No, of something totally different.  
10 That's what I'm saying, the longer the interval, the less  
11 conclusive you're going to be after that next round is sampled.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Or go more.

13 DR. SPIES: We would ...

14 DR. SENNER: Probably go less.

15 DR. SPIES: We would also be a lot purer biologist, if  
16 we just have these smooth lines -- you know, it goes down, it goes  
17 up. These systems are real sloppy and jump around too much.

18 MR. McCORKLE: John.

19 DR. FRENCH: Stan made a very valid point. There were  
20 two events in 1989 that seriously impacted the intertidal. One was  
21 an earlier freeze in January, where we had several days of  
22 significantly sub-zero weather in conjunction with a low tide  
23 cycle. So, we had some serious freeze damage that occurred  
24 concurrently with this, which makes it even more difficult a  
25 picture to sort out. Then, again, it's a matter of comparing oiled  
26 versus unoiled sites.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Other comments? Thank you. Are we  
2 hearing a break, we've only been here for an hour and a half. Is  
3 that okay? Do you want to break?

4 UNKNOWN: Little break.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Little break, and then we'll come back in  
6 about eight or nine minutes.

7 (Off Record 2:30 p.m.)

8 (On Record 2:44 p.m.)

9 MR. McCORKLE: We're back on the record. Before we  
10 begin, I had asked Doug to go back to our records and pull out the  
11 rules from our guidelines to talk about what the Trustee Council is  
12 expecting the Public Advisory Group to do. So, for your  
13 convenience, I'd like to pass these around so that you might all  
14 have them. It sort of impinges upon our discussion of the  
15 telephone -- maybe, we won't pass it out, getting a censoring here  
16 -- so that can be helpful. We have had this presented to us a  
17 couple of times by Doug, when we began, but this is a little help  
18 to have a piece of paper to take along with us. We just completed  
19 a very interesting discussion on the nearshore ecosystem and are  
20 now heading into the seabird/forage fish and related projects. So,  
21 if we may continue on with that please, we'd be delighted to hear  
22 the presentation.

23 DR. SENNER: Okay, there are two sort of suites of  
24 projects here. One is the seabird/forage fish, the shorthand is  
25 APEX project and then others which fall into that broad heading  
26 that aren't a part of that ecosystem study. You heard a

1 presentation back in the spring from Dave Duffy on project 163, the  
2 APEX project, the animal. This is another one for which Trustee  
3 Council action will be deferred until December, and we have a two-  
4 day review meeting scheduled in November to go over the results of  
5 the current pilot project in 1995. I won't say a lot more about  
6 that except that it -- it is addressing questions about what is  
7 limiting the recovery of marine birds, particularly guillemots and  
8 murrelets, and it is -- it has value in that way also for what's  
9 happening to harbor seals, and other marine mammals that might  
10 depend on forage fish as prey. And, it has, at least, potentially  
11 some management applications down the road should there develop  
12 interest in Alaska in commercial fisheries, targeting some of these  
13 small oil-rich fishes, and there are those kind of fisheries  
14 elsewhere in the country. Currently there is no interest, or no  
15 active interest that I'm aware of in Alaska. But, that's -- that's  
16 the APEX project. Bob Loeffler, that's an interesting typo, I  
17 hadn't see that before -- for the fish.

18 MR. LOEFFLER: I -- we all knew that, we just weren't  
19 sure you were going to. (Laughter)

20 DR. SENNER: Several other projects that tie into this.  
21 There is work in the field right now, 1995, to develop an index for  
22 monitoring the reproductive success of murrelets, that's out in the  
23 field right now. The work -- excuse me -- the recommendation of  
24 the -- from the Executive Director and the Science Review Committee  
25 was to close out that work, and take a break in the fiscal year  
26 '96, and sort of step back and see what we've done after several

1 years of murrelet work, and try to synthesize that, put it all  
2 together and see where it leads in the way of other studies, if  
3 anywhere. So, this is recommended as a close-out. There was some  
4 possibility of some limited survey work done in 1996, depending on  
5 the results of the review of the APEX project. This project,  
6 mapping nesting habitat is the proposal from the Forest Service,  
7 and this is to take an existing vegetation map for Prince William  
8 Sound, which has been developed from satellite imagery and through  
9 aerial photography, and apply it to what we've now learned about  
10 where marbled murrelets nest, at least those that are timber  
11 nesting murrelets, there are some that nest on the ground, and so  
12 this would be the mapping project, trying to pull together what  
13 information we now have on murrelets and apply to a map. We don't  
14 know yet what the Executive Director's recommendation on this will  
15 be. We asked for a revised project description. That's being peer  
16 reviewed now, and we're looking at budget issues and others. So,  
17 we don't -- the recommendation right now is that's -- what do we  
18 call it -- defer or a fund contingent, I've forgotten? It is a  
19 defer, okay, and so that was deferred pending review of the revised  
20 project description results. Under the budget question we were  
21 also looking to the Forest Service for greater cost sharing as part  
22 of their ongoing main interest responsibilities. So, that's where  
23 that is. This one, status and ecology of kittlitz's murrelets with  
24 the new work, this was proposed by a private contractor. As you  
25 know, much of what is done does tend to come through the agencies.  
26 This is one that is a private contractor. Kittlitz's murrelets may

1 be one you've never heard of and that reflects the fact that it's  
2 probably one the -- there's probably less known about this bird  
3 than just about any other marine bird in the North Pacific, it's  
4 not even a larger area, and yet there's evidence that it may have  
5 been hit quite hard by the spill. So, right now, we have that in  
6 a category recommended to fund it, learn some basic information  
7 about this species. Kim, if it helps you any, it doesn't nest in  
8 trees. (Laughter) It's a ground-nesting, screen slopes.

9 MS. BENTON: Well, we should say that a lot.

10 DR. SENNER: I thought that would make you feel better.

11 DR. SPIES: There's really (indiscernible).

12 MS. BENTON: Of course. (Laughter)

13 (Aside comments)

14 DR. SENNER: Okay, just a couple of others. The common  
15 murre population monitoring -- the common murre was, in terms of  
16 numbers of birds killed, numbers of individual birds killed, was  
17 hit very, very hard. This is a monitoring project, would become a  
18 sequence of three -- a round of three years of monitoring at three  
19 key locations outside -- or outside the Prince William Sound,  
20 Barren Islands and the other names escape me, but there is one --  
21 one is off the Alaska Peninsula coast, and I forget the other.  
22 We've recommended this right now as a lower priority, in part  
23 because the feeling was this is something that could be put off for  
24 a year, but we would not lose anything in terms of our -- our long  
25 term information, and it too fits into the larger -- that larger  
26 question of how much more money do we put into monitoring, what

1 ends are we doing it. And, I didn't mean to skip the marine bird  
2 survey. This also falls into that category. This is the basic  
3 boat survey project that's been done in 1989 and '90, '91 and then  
4 again in '94 in Prince William Sound, and being proposed again in  
5 '96. This one would monitor basic marine bird numbers, including  
6 murrelets and guillemots, but also a variety of sea ducks, and sea  
7 otters. So, that's -- that's the marine bird survey. Seasonal  
8 movement and pelagic habitat use -- it's not on here, but that's a  
9 common murre, this is a research project. There's a pilot effort  
10 on the way right now. L.J. Evans isn't here, but she just visited  
11 it last week and watched them put satellite transmitters, you plant  
12 them in some murre, and the proposal is to expand this to kind of  
13 do as is being discussed for harlequin ducks, to know more about  
14 their movements. One of the big questions is where all these  
15 murre go in the winter, and that is some information that could  
16 have some management benefit. This too, right now, is recommended  
17 in a lower priority category, I believe, if my memory is right.  
18 Lastly, this is a very small one, \$15,000. The Trustees are  
19 currently supporting a three-day workshop, which will happen up at  
20 the Alyeska Hotel at the end of September on seabird restoration,  
21 and people will be coming in from world-wide to talk about  
22 different techniques for actively restoring the seabird population.  
23 The idea is to pull together the best minds and most experienced  
24 people in the world to talk about that. Any of you are welcomed to  
25 attend. If you want more information, give me a call about that.  
26 The people proposing that workshop have asked for some money to

1 help actually publish the results. We're not sure yet what we  
2 think about that. We probably see how the workshop goes and see  
3 whether it's something that really is worth spending -- investing  
4 more money into. So, that's the -- that's the package here, \$2.8  
5 million, and again, the big ticket item is decision deferred until  
6 December.

7 MR. McCORKLE: First question goes to Rupert.

8 MR. ANDREWS: Just a point of information. I've been  
9 under the impression that right along, the mussel tissue of these  
10 marine birds have -- has been analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons  
11 and retention, and what-not, and -- I guess there's a data base  
12 that's been collected on that, and would that -- with that sort of  
13 a comment, I would really say that I think this is an extremely  
14 important project, and, you know, we should continue to go ahead  
15 with it. I know it's being deferred for some other results, but I  
16 look at this, you know, as a real long-term basic-type project.

17 DR. SENNER: Okay, that's helpful. We certainly ...

18 MR. ANDREWS: Am I correct in my assumption though about  
19 the retention of hydrocarbons in the mussel tissue and what not?

20 DR. SENNER: Well, we have some data on -- upon  
21 contaminant levels in some of these birds, and one of the things  
22 this study will do is -- is look to see whether we're continuing to  
23 get those contaminant levels, but also what -- what there is in  
24 eggs and young. That's at least a component of this, and then the  
25 other part is the connection to the forage fish themselves.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Dave, you have a question?

1 MR. COBB: How much of the marine bird survey work  
2 could be taken up by other projects that are dealing with the same  
3 species for different reasons, but you're out there working with  
4 the bird population in an area, at the same time they could be --  
5 seems like they could give you a census of what's there without  
6 going and doing a total other project.

7 DR. SPIES: I could answer that, Stan, if you don't  
8 mind. The institute of methodology of using bird surveys, along  
9 with the different transects in '89, we have now four or five  
10 surveys we've done, using its -- identically transects, identical  
11 methods, and we could census the populations by other means, but  
12 the data wouldn't be comparable so it's difficult to make  
13 statements about recovery of the species using different methods.

14 DR. SENNER: Dave, they are doing some sharing of some  
15 field camps, and I think there is some other projects that are  
16 using some -- that I think use some of the boat charter time for  
17 this project, but it's a little bit like one we talked about  
18 before. It's hard for this project to use other people's platforms  
19 that others may be able to use some of these platforms.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions? Kim.

21 MS. BENTON: I have a question on 96122. There was  
22 some questions the last time that we reviewed this to understanding  
23 exactly what the U.S. Forest Service when this project -- that  
24 would be a normal agency management function, and I would think  
25 that, you know, finishing their -- drafting their vegetation-typing  
26 map should be a normal agency function. Have they revised this



1 project description and sent it back into you, or where is that at?

2 MS. McCAMMON: They have sent a revised proposal, but it  
3 hasn't been reviewed yet, we just got it early this week, I think,  
4 so it hasn't been...

5 DR. SENNER: Kim, we have a revision -- I've read  
6 enough of it to say that one of things they have done is reduced  
7 the budget to -- so that they would pick up all of the salary time  
8 of the primary person that would be the GIS work, so that would be,  
9 they would -- in other words, they would pick up all that on their  
10 own rather than charge each of them time for this project. But, I  
11 think the basic goal they're after is not to redo the vegetation  
12 maps, that that is sort of their responsibility, but to take the  
13 murrelet information from the Trustee -- that the Trustees have  
14 gathered and to apply that to their vegetation map.

15 MR. BENTON: So, that's to take a look and say, wow,  
16 there's big trees here on our vegetation-typing map, and tell us  
17 (indiscernible) murrelets could be living here.

18 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking)

19 MS. BENTON: So, are they done with their vegetation-  
20 typing map so there is a point now we can take the information  
21 that's here, and is this going to be on public and private land, or  
22 just on public land?

23 DR. SENNER: It's my understanding it would be on both  
24 public and private, and the veg-map is -- is not entirely done, but  
25 that would be happening concurrently with doing the murrelet one.

26 MS. BENTON: A recommendation that I would have on, I

1 suppose, this project around civil and private landowners of Prince  
2 William Sound. The way that this is written, they would welcome  
3 some good murrelet information, some good murrelet nesting habitat,  
4 to just take and say, these are trees, and therefore, murrelets  
5 might live there. They're not going to use that, because they  
6 don't ...

7 MR. LOEFFLER: I think that more questions may be asking  
8 what the scale of the result.

9 MS. BENTON: Right.

10 MR. LOEFFLER: And -- do you know the answer to that?

11 DR. SENNER: No, I think that's a good question.

12 MR. LOEFFLER: And it matters -- what you're saying is if  
13 it's -- 1:24,000 scale they might use is, if it's 1 to 63, one is  
14 at 250.

15 MS. BENTON: No, no, what I'm saying is not -- what  
16 they're doing is taking the vegetation-typing map and looking at  
17 them and saying, these trees are here, we know murrelets live  
18 there, therefore, there might be murrelets there. Now, when you go  
19 and plan your harvesting activity, know that they might live there.  
20 They already know that.

21 DR. SENNER: I think it's more -- I think it's going to  
22 be -- Ray Thompson may want to jump in, but I do think there's more  
23 than that. There's matters of slope, and size and trees, feces  
24 composition ...

25 MR. McCORKLE: Could we get you to the microphone,  
26 please, there, sir.

1           MR. RICE:       There have been some pilot projects along  
2 this line -- there's more to it than just old growth forest,  
3 habitat -- that's a component. There are other aspects like  
4 protected harbors or bays, if you have a full growth forest in a  
5 protected bay area, you're probably going to have more murrelets  
6 using that shoreline than you're going on a exposed peninsula-type  
7 if you have a forest there. You probably wouldn't have as many  
8 nesting murrelets. So, there's a lot -- there are a number of  
9 other components to -- murrelet nesting habitat than just over  
10 forestry.

11           MS. BENTON:     So, how detailed can you get for \$100,000.  
12 I mean -- how ...

13           MR. RICE:       It does matter whether there is scales --  
14 important sign scale, or whether it's, I don't know what you'd call  
15 it.

16           MR. LOEFFLER: I think that's a good question to  
17 register. I mean, Ray do you have anything to add?

18           MR. RAY THOMPSON: I can't remember ...

19           MR. LOEFFLER: I know you're not the (indiscernible -  
20 simultaneous talking).

21           MR. THOMPSON: I can't remember the scaling ...

22           MR. MCCORKLE: Can we get you to come to the table,  
23 thanks.

24           MR. THOMPSON: This is Ray Thompson. I can't remember  
25 the scale, I might be able to get that from the project  
26 description, which I have with me, but I do know that all those

1 habitat components will be a component of a map product which is  
2 derived from this, and I think it hopefully will give some -- have  
3 some predictive uses and looking at other, you know, habitats  
4 elsewhere and be able to give an idea of whether or not this might  
5 be a likely place for you to find murrelets. It's something to  
6 consider for whatever reason you might want to consider that, but  
7 it's -- it sort of ties vegetation to the work that was done to  
8 determine what components create marbled murrelet habitat, and it  
9 gives you a product that is useful to scientist, (indiscernible)  
10 who ever might want to use that, and without that you're sort of --  
11 you don't answer the that questions, you don't tie, you know, these  
12 two things together. And, the Forest Service, of course, has done  
13 a lot of vegetation work for a lot of years, and everything from  
14 timber-type maps to more sophisticated work done in the last few  
15 years, on all vegetative components, tend to be vegetation maps, so  
16 that part of it's done, or pretty close to being done, and then  
17 linking the marbled murrelet habitat components to that should give  
18 us a pretty useful model or might -- or we think it will be useful.

19 MS. BENTON: Well, my concern is this, and from a  
20 public agency standpoint or federal or state, public landowners,  
21 that information might be useful for you. For the private  
22 landowners that are out at Prince William Sound that are going to  
23 end up identified as having potential murrelet habitat on their  
24 lands, they want to make sure when that information goes out to the  
25 public with the Exxon Oil Spill Trustee Council scientist's stamp  
26 of approval, that that's accurate and that's a good sign. And, I'm

1 not sure for \$100,000 we're going to be able to buy that, and I  
2 don't think that's fair to the private landowners. And, that's --  
3 that's my concern.

4 MR. THOMPSON: I can understand -- some implications to  
5 management of those lands, if they should be determined. You know,  
6 perhaps potential habitat -- I don't know what to say about that.  
7 You know, we all kind of live in the same world, and we can't put  
8 doors between, you know, between us.

9 MS. BENTON: It's not that we don't want to use good  
10 science, it's just that murrelets I'm familiar with are from the  
11 Lower 48, and this wouldn't even touch what -- some of the work  
12 that they've done, and I think that we need to be real cautious if  
13 we're going forward with this to know exactly what we're getting  
14 into, what kind of science, what decree, and what kind of money we  
15 might need to fund this information.

16 DR. SENNER: I -- I think that's fair. Kim, the only  
17 problem, if I were to have, is that the \$100,000 figure your using  
18 would be the Trustee contribution, and that there is a matching  
19 contribution of possibly another \$100,000 from the -- from the  
20 Forest Service, right, and so the total project would be more than  
21 the \$100,000.

22 MS. BENTON: But, the murrelet portion is funded here,  
23 and that's \$100,000.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Yeah, still in the seabird/forage fish and  
25 related projects portion, are there any further questions on this  
26 topic before we move on? I know that many people have been waiting

1 also, excitedly for this next session on subsistence, so without  
2 further ado, we'd like to move into that, if we may.

3 DR. SENNER: And, Sandra Schubert is the new  
4 cheerleader up here.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Welcome, glad to have you hear.

6 MS. SCHUBERT: Well, I know that everyone asked me when  
7 you talked about subsistence, so this will kind of be a review of  
8 what you've had before. The Trustee Council has supported four  
9 strategies for restoring subsistence, which is one of the services  
10 injured by the oil spill, and the foremost and probably the primary  
11 strategy is restoration of the injured resources. To the extent  
12 that the injured resources were used by subsistence users, the  
13 restoration of those resources benefits subsistence. The one  
14 project under that strategy that isn't talked about and won't be  
15 presented in any of the other clusters, is a project to survey  
16 octopus, and the project was begun in -- this year with Trustee  
17 Council funding and the recommendation on that is to defer until  
18 the '95 field season is over. In '95 they're looking at how  
19 feasible it is to do an octopus survey and evaluating techniques  
20 for doing surveys, and there will be a fall review of those efforts  
21 and, if it is found to be feasible, then in '96 the actual survey  
22 would take place. The next strategy is enhancement and replacement  
23 of subsistence resources, and these are primarily efforts to  
24 establish or improve salmon runs in communities that rely on  
25 subsistence. And, there noted there by project number of -- one of  
26 the projects, 127 is the Tatitlek coho release, and this is in

1 conjunction with the FDA who provides the smolt and the Trustee  
2 Council funds will be used to pay for transport of the smolt to  
3 Boulder Bay near Tatitlek, and where the smolt will be held in net  
4 pens for a couple of weeks before being released. This is a  
5 project that has been ongoing -- it's a continuation, and it's  
6 purpose is to establish a subsistence for Tatitlek village. A  
7 similar project is 272, except there's a typo, which is a chinook  
8 release in conjunction with Norenberg Hatchery and that's near the  
9 village of Chenega, very similar. Two other projects, 220, which  
10 is the eastern Prince William Sound salmon restoration, and 222  
11 which is Chenega salmon restoration are both habitat improvements.  
12 One is elimination of water fowl barrier and the other is  
13 installation of log structures. So, both of them are to enhance  
14 the fish runs in those areas. Project 225 has a recommendation of  
15 defer. That project is to create a pink salmon or enhance pink  
16 salmon run near Port Graham. The peer reviewers had a number of  
17 questions about that proposal. There has been no response to those  
18 questions from the PI, that's under review right now by Spies and  
19 the peer reviewers. The other two projects in that -- under that  
20 strategy, one is clam restoration, and this is a project that was  
21 funded in '95, funds went to Chugach Regional Resources Commission  
22 to develop and perfect a means of producing clam sea stock, and  
23 that's underway right now at the Qutekcak hatchery in Seward.  
24 There's also a fall review of that schedule, and if everything goes  
25 as planned, if the seed stock is produced in viable quantities, and  
26 if the EA, which is being done this year, is approved, the proposal

1 in '96 includes actual planting of clam seed on the beaches in  
2 Prince William Sound, with the notion that in future years  
3 additional beaches, including at least one area on Kodiak Island  
4 would also receive part of the clam seed stock. The last project  
5 is the PSP shellfish testing project, which I know the peer  
6 reviewers had some questions about. The idea here is that to  
7 address health concerns with Kodiak residents who -- there have  
8 been several incidents of PSP poisoning in the last few years, and  
9 as the reliance on shellfish is increased after the spill as a  
10 replacement resource, this proposal would develop a new testing  
11 method for PSP, and I know there's been some correspondence between  
12 Dr. Spies and John French who has been involved in that project,  
13 so, they could address questions you have on that. The next  
14 strategy is participation and communication of subsistence users  
15 and the restoration process, and there are really three projects  
16 there and some of these we have been holding meetings on and still  
17 working out the final details, but the recommendation on all of  
18 them has been to fund them assuming we get everything worked out.  
19 Project 052 was funded in '95 and we were calling it a pilot  
20 effort, there were community facilitators hired in Port Graham,  
21 Chenega and Tatitlek to serve kind of as liaisons between the  
22 community and the scientist, the community and the Trustee Council  
23 Restoration Office. Their proposal in '96 was expand, community  
24 facilitators for additional communities, and also the project  
25 system coordinated by the Department of Fish & Game this year,  
26 proposal is to have that coordinated in '96 by regional Native



1 corporation. Also, in '96, the proposal would focus more on the  
2 collection of traditional and ecological knowledge, and would take  
3 the first steps to try to integrate local knowledge with western  
4 science in an effort to improve restoration. The next set of  
5 projects dealing with harbor seals are being combined into one  
6 project that would really have two components, one, is biological  
7 sampling of harbor seals, and this would involve the subsistence  
8 users taking samples and providing them to researchers who are  
9 working on harbor seal restoration. The other component of that is  
10 a continuation of what Fish & Game has done for the last two years  
11 with Trustee Council funding, and it's a collection of local  
12 knowledge on harbor seals, on transience and abundance, you know,  
13 observations about winter haul out sites and so on. The final  
14 project in that category is documentary subsistence seal hunting  
15 which was proposed by the Village of Tatitlek and it's recommended  
16 for funding, and it would be done under a contract to somebody who  
17 knows about making documentaries in consultation with Chenega and  
18 Tatitlek, and that proposal was actually a multi-year proposal.  
19 The concept being that each year a documentary would be produced on  
20 a different injured species, and the recommendation at this point  
21 is to fund it for the harbor seal portion and then we go look at  
22 future proposals. The final category is food safety testing, and  
23 there is not a recommendation to provide additional funding for  
24 that this year. It was funded in '95 and previous years by the  
25 Trustee Council, and in '95 actually just in the last couple of  
26 weeks, Fish & Game awarded a contract to Dames & Moore to train up

1 to three people in each community in the spill region to handle  
2 abnormal resources that community members might find -- to handle  
3 them meaning to send them into processing and some sort of analysis  
4 to see what could be determined, what the cause of the abnormality  
5 was, and that effort is planned to continue without Trustee Council  
6 funds, except for perhaps a small amount of technical assistance  
7 that would be provided by the Department of Fish & Game through  
8 OPEC II, which is the community involvement traditional knowledge  
9 project that would kind of be rolled into that effort.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Are there questions for Ms. Schubert?  
11 Yes, Brenda.

12 MS. SCHWANTES: The only subsistence project that I see on  
13 here with the Kodiak area in mind is the Ouzinkie clam restoration  
14 project, and it looks like it's tied in with the Chugach project,  
15 and you said that may have a possibility of being -- that some of  
16 those beaches may -- that one beach probably -- may have a  
17 possibility of being planted. How -- what does that look like as  
18 far as that happening, and are there any other projects in the  
19 Kodiak area that you know of that I don't know of that are going  
20 the subsistence track?

21 MS. SCHUBERT: Right, there were some other projects  
22 proposed from Kodiak, but you're right, the only one that is being  
23 recommended -- well, actually there are two that are being  
24 recommended for funding or still under consideration. One is the  
25 Chugach clam project, which does include Ouzinkie, and the PSP  
26 project which was put forward by KANA, and Martha Roberts has been

1 involved in that.

2 MS. SCHWANTES: Okay.

3 MS. SCHUBERT: And both of those ...

4 DR. FRENCH: Excuse me, Kodiak Tribal Council, not  
5 KANA.

6 MS. SCHUBERT: Right, okay, I'm sorry, yeah, your KANA,  
7 so the involvement wanted to address both of those as far as the  
8 technical, but both of those are defers pending resolution of the  
9 technical concerns.

10 DR. SPIES: Right, the PSP project, we had some  
11 questions and I've been corresponding with John French about those,  
12 and John, I've got another letter on the way to you, I don't think  
13 you've gotten it, I just wrote it yesterday.

14 DR. FRENCH: But, Molly told me (indiscernible).

15 DR. SPIES: And, we've got some questions about --  
16 some technical questions about the method itself, the availability  
17 of certain kinds of standards and final care by, and questions  
18 about whether hiring local residents before the assays actually  
19 worked out is the best way to go about this. Questions were  
20 running who is going to commit to this if the Trustee Council --it  
21 seems to be in the business now of developing (indiscernible) so  
22 other people can carry on with it, and not have the long-term  
23 commitment to these, the question is would anybody pick this  
24 program up in the future once it has been developed by Trustee  
25 Council funds. And, also, not as significantly, a question about  
26 liability, if we have a new assay to look at PSP, what is the

1 liability to the Trustee Council should this -- could we be sued by  
2 someone to eat shellfish from beach in which this assayed been  
3 tested on and found to be all right, when in fact it weren't all  
4 right. There is questions about liability of the Trustees and  
5 related question about liability (indiscernible) doing this. So,  
6 we're trying to get some answers to this question.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Pardon me, Molly, would you like to ...

8 MS. McCAMMON: No, go ahead.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Gordon.

10 MR. ZERBETZ: Could I ask, is a lab -- are you actually  
11 doing the lab work or I mean, this lab work being done at the  
12 present time and where?

13 DR. SPIES: John can answer that.

14 DR. FRENCH: Well currently the only PSP testing within  
15 the State of Alaska is being done by the Department of  
16 Environmental Conservation out of the Palmer lab, and in essence,  
17 the project really has two components, one's that community  
18 involvement information exchange type project component, the other  
19 is, as they said is development of the screening method, and that  
20 would -- is specifically designed to be able to be done in four  
21 locations than just at the Palmer lab. And, it would not be a  
22 substitute in the sense -- it -- a confirmation of detected levels,  
23 but as Bob indicated, it is being proposed as a way of screening  
24 negatives, and so there is potential risk involved in that, and  
25 that is a very appropriate, very serious question. The other one  
26 is -- is at this point, the State of Alaska has no mandate to any

1 state agency to handle non-commercial shellfish, both recreation  
2 users and subsistence users are totally devoid of any information  
3 that -- as to the safety of the beaches or the shellfish that they  
4 may be choosing to eat, and we're one of the few states in the  
5 nation that's the case -- where there's no either beach monitoring  
6 or batch testing of shellfish on at least some kind of a level.  
7 And, at this point, there's no indication that the state is willing  
8 or prepared to specifically mandate a specific department to do so,  
9 and that's what's necessary before this can be taken over as a  
10 management tool, or co-management tool by the state agency, and  
11 then, short of that it is very unlikely that this project would  
12 lead to a long-term improvement in the shellfish use by non-  
13 commercial users. But, that's something we hope to be able to  
14 facilitate somehow down the line, but whether it's through this  
15 project or some other means, is another question.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Molly.

17 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to let Brenda  
18 know that there were four other projects, at least four, a total of  
19 four submitted for Kodiak salmon restoration efforts, and these  
20 were done in conjunction with the aquaculture association, and all  
21 four of them have pretty serious technical problems in terms of  
22 having a recommendation if they should go forward at this time.  
23 But, it would be our goal in this coming year in the community  
24 involvement project and for our staff efforts here and work with  
25 folks in those communities to see if any of those efforts or some  
26 other efforts might be possible.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions, Kim?

2 MS. BENTON: I have a quick question on the liability  
3 issue, knowing the way that the lawyers have been on all the other  
4 things, do you think that they'll ever get over that on the PSP  
5 testing? Do you think they'll ever get over that?

6 DR. FRENCH: I think the only way of getting around it  
7 is probably what the state will avoid doing is certifying beaches.  
8 We cannot certify beaches, we cannot certify lots, at least the  
9 University of Alaska won't be able to. The University of Alaska  
10 will be able to provide data on samples that were submitted to them  
11 and allow other people to draw conclusions from those as to the  
12 safety of the beaches, but we could not. I can promise you right  
13 away, my lawyers will not allow me to say, that these -- if these  
14 samples were clean, well, any lots from this beach are going to be  
15 clean. And, that's -- that's the shortfall of this sort of data.  
16 But, that's the same position all of the state agencies are  
17 (indiscernible) right now, too. But, that is one of the big  
18 reasons why the state government has stopped short of mandating a  
19 specific agency, say the Department of Health or DEC to undertake  
20 official testing of recreational or subsistence shellfish.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Martha, you had a question.

22 MS. VLASOFF: Well, with -- in regards to what Brenda  
23 was saying, I know last year when we brought subsistence proposals  
24 to the Trustee Council, some of them -- or most of them were  
25 funded, but -- but we did take the ones that we thought were our  
26 priority to the DCRA for -- for funding from the other -- the

1 criminal funding, so, you know, this suggestion that -- that it's  
2 something that you can keep working on that (indiscernible) I  
3 don't know where -- where those funds fit right at the moment, but  
4 it's still another aspect.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. I'm a bit remiss for not  
6 having said so earlier, but during the break people asked me to be  
7 sure and remind all people who spoke to speak up a bit. As we wind  
8 down toward the end of the afternoon and get on toward 5:00  
9 o'clock, we tend to droop a bit. So, let's keep our upper lip  
10 stiff and speaking up with some volume here so we can come through.  
11 And, Pam, I think you were next.

12 MS. BRODIE: Thank you, the replacement -- enhancement  
13 replacement project, I've been looking at them, and some of them  
14 seem to be just funding ends after two or three years, but some of  
15 them continues as far as these charts go, putting fish in the  
16 water, then what happens? If the village gets accustomed to having  
17 a certain enhancement, then who is going to fund it after that or  
18 is there an idea that eventually the subsistence resources will  
19 come back, and will then (indiscernible).

20 MS. SCHUBERT: Well, I think that our general kind of  
21 approach on a lot of these projects was to limit funding to one  
22 life-cycle of the species, the coho or -- so, I'm not sure exactly  
23 which one you're asking about, but maybe Stan or Bob wants to give  
24 a general answer to the question.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: I think that -- that all of them, or  
26 almost all of them, have a caveat in the Executive Director's

1 recommendation that they end at some time certain.

2 MS. SCHUBERT: That's what I'm remembering too, but there  
3 might be one that we have a different idea about things.

4 MR. LOEFFLER: Yeah, I don't really ...

5 MS. BRODIE: But, my question is more a practical one,  
6 I mean, you can say, okay, it will end in five years, but if in  
7 fact people get used to -- to a new run and then you say, okay,  
8 funding ends after five years, you may be -- the Trustees may be  
9 creating a problem, bigger than what they're solving.

10 MS. SCHUBERT: It may be pressured to continue funding,  
11 even though we've said now that we don't intend to.

12 DR. SENNER: In some of these cases too, we've tried to  
13 encourage from the outset that there be thinking about that  
14 transition to some other source of funding before the Trustees  
15 commit anything to it, so that it's not a matter of going cold  
16 turkey -- or cold salmon (laughter) -- down the road, and so that  
17 that question is thought about up front, but, I don't know, Molly,  
18 do you have ...

19 MS. McCAMMON: Well, I think the Chenega release, first  
20 off when the Council approved it to begin with, it was with the  
21 understanding that it would be paid for after the first  
22 (indiscernible) by cost recovery. In the second year of the  
23 project, we received additional information that indicated there  
24 were never going to be enough fish produced in all likelihood to  
25 have a cost recovery fishery in addition to subsistence use of the  
26 fishery. And so, the Council -- had a decision at that time, they



1 could have eliminated the project at that time, but there was a  
2 definite feeling that subsistence use of resources had not  
3 recovered and that there is much more reliance on salmon because of  
4 the problems with harbor seals now, that, at least in terms of the  
5 next five years, it was important to do these remote releases, and  
6 for that reason also, the Council approved Tatitlek project last  
7 year, with that same understanding. But, it's been since the  
8 experience with Chenega, we asked the question early on with  
9 Tatitlek, is there cost recovery possible here, and it's not. And,  
10 I mean, it's been very much up front, subsistence -- a five year,  
11 four or five year project, and then after that the Council has no  
12 commitment after that. And, we would certainly help to work with  
13 the corporation or whomever to try to transition in the longer term  
14 if the communities still wanted it. Or, we'd look at, you know,  
15 where it fit into the sense of priorities after that. It could  
16 still come forward, and compete with all the other proposals.

17 MS. BRODIE: Because if you're -- especially harbor  
18 seals, that may need to go on, likely need to go on long, maybe  
19 forever.

20 MS. McCAMMON: We'd just be in mix of competing proposals  
21 again four years from now, five years from now.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Dave Cobb.

23 MR. COBB: I can say about the Tatitlek program, is  
24 that the FDA has worked with Tatitlek prior to this funding, and  
25 when that funding is gone the FDA will continue to work with  
26 Tatitlek, providing them with the smolts because they're part of

1 overall sport fish program, and so there is a continuation there  
2 with that program. It's a long-term commitment.

3 MS. McCAMMON: And half the coastal project, too.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Kim.

5 MS. BENTON: I missed (indiscernible). I don't know  
6 what the cost recovery is, what do you mean by this?

7 MS. McCAMMON: Cost recovery is when you have a  
8 commercial fishery upon the return and then you sell those fish and  
9 the money you make from it gets to support of the fishery run which  
10 is established.

11 MS. BENTON: Any hopes that they would meet those  
12 conditions?

13 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

14 MR. COBB: The cost recovery could be by Chenega Bay  
15 Corporation to do their own cost recovery, so it wouldn't  
16 necessarily have to be a commercial opening, in fact, all  
17 hatcheries do a cost recovery, and it's not a commercial.

18 MR. ANDREWS: Doesn't that run counter to your  
19 subsistence proposal then?

20 MS. McCAMMON: Well, I think it's more of a side element  
21 of it the way the attorneys that looked at it too, is that, if the  
22 primary purpose is for subsistence use, and if you have a smaller  
23 commercial component of it that allows you to keep that ability to  
24 provide for subsistence over the longer term, then that's okay. If  
25 you were just doing a strictly economic development project or  
26 something like that, just for that purpose alone, that's when you

1 start getting into problems. The (indiscernible) project actually  
2 is like that too, because it has a commercial aspect of it which  
3 allows it to become self-sustaining.

4 MR. McCORKLE: But not collecting huge profits. It's  
5 more of a break-even basis kind of thing, returning in general  
6 economic benefit to some part of society.

7 MR. ANDREWS: Just a follow up, self-sustaining in this  
8 case would be then if they did recoup enough money, it would pay  
9 the cost of the PWSAC hatchery producing these fish for them or are  
10 they going to build a new hatchery for themselves, because they're  
11 buying -- they're buying the smolt, the imprint, at that site.

12 MS. McCAMMON: It would be just repaying cost for the  
13 project.

14 MR. ANDREWS: Just repaying the cost, okay.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Are we finished? Well, thank you very  
16 much, good discussion. We are concluding with subsistence and  
17 going onto archaeological resources.

18 MS. McCAMMON: And I got shanghai-ed into ...

19 MS. McCORKLE: Oh, here we have Molly McCammon to lead us  
20 through.

21 MS. McCAMMON: Stan and Bob talked to me -- be bored with  
22 Stan by the end of the day.

23 (Aside comments)

24 MS. McCAMMON: Okay, you can see by the overhead up here  
25 that there are actually four aspects to the archaeology cluster.  
26 The first aspect is monitoring, and this is indexed by monitoring

1 of damaged sites that were discovered primarily during the clean-up  
2 phase, these are either sites on public lands, they're  
3 approximately fifteen or twenty of them. What the Department of  
4 Natural Resources has established is a rotating, monitoring program  
5 where they go every three or four years and monitor these sites to  
6 see if there is any additional damage. The second area is to  
7 complete artifact restoration, and this is actually to complete  
8 some restoration of damaged sites. There's one site left of the  
9 ones on public lands that still needs some work, to complete that  
10 project. The third aspect is a new program for site stewardship,  
11 this has been working cooperatively with local residents in -- I  
12 believe, Chignik, Kachemak Bay and somewhere on Kodiak Island, to  
13 monitor sites that were discovered during the clean up days, and  
14 just to keep an eye on them and do routine check stopping. It's a  
15 pilot effort, and in the past the Trustee Council funded a project  
16 that developed kind of a curriculum for site stewardship, and they  
17 -- they didn't go on and fund the second phase of it, so it's -- at  
18 this time, recommending funding of this pilot effort, but it is  
19 still uncertain what the Trustee Council will do with it. And,  
20 then the last phase of this, there were four projects that were  
21 submitted that had some phase -- some aspect of repository  
22 development in it, and also aspects of training of people to work  
23 at those repositories, and then for planning on what -- more  
24 regional approach to repositories. And, we had several, I think  
25 there have been two meetings in the last few weeks where folks were  
26 involved in this. The planning effort seems to be going pretty

1 well. There's a draft project description that's been developed  
2 and folks are reviewing it now. The attorneys are reviewing this,  
3 we're working very closely with them so that they're brought along  
4 from the ground floor on this. And, we hope to have that ready for  
5 Trustee action in August. So, the total this year if all of these  
6 were to go forward is \$400,000 - 450,000, something like that. And  
7 that's pretty much it for archaeology this year.

8 MR. McCORKLE: How about some questions for Molly. Yes,  
9 John.

10 DR. FRENCH: Is Rick Knecht involved in the funding for  
11 repositories.

12 MS. McCAMMON: He was invited to the first meeting,  
13 unfortunately he was out in the field. I know people have talked  
14 to him several times since then. I'm not sure if he in on the  
15 second meeting or not, but we have been in touch with him quite a  
16 bit.

17 DR. FRENCH: I know he has some serious ideas that I  
18 think sound good to me, but again, I mean, at least pass them on.

19 MR. McCORKLE: More questions? Certainly we must have  
20 some questions.

21 MS. McCAMMON: I think the meetings that -- the first  
22 meeting that I was at was very positive in that we're looking at a  
23 regional approach for the non-Kodiak region specifically right now,  
24 and trying to really focus on what the needs are and what aspects  
25 the Trustee Council might be able to fund, and then, if there are  
26 other desires of the communities to kind of leverage that money

1 into other things within the community, beware of the alternate  
2 funding sources to do some other things, too. But, I think  
3 everyone's been pretty positive about it, and it has a lot of  
4 potential. I've talked about it with almost all of the Trustees  
5 and their aware of this planning effort and they're supportive of  
6 it.

7 MR. McCORKLE: John.

8 DR. FRENCH: Just a quick follow up, the  
9 (indiscernible) to what Rick's been trying to put forward anyway,  
10 is the concept that a true repository where you're storing  
11 artifacts for a long period of time is fairly expensive space  
12 because of the climate control. Whereas to display them in kind of  
13 a cultural center on a rotating or otherwise basis where you just  
14 -- where you actually are dealing mostly with display elements, the  
15 public interaction element, that they're much, much cheaper space  
16 available, so it may be appropriate to do that kind of spacing --  
17 much larger number of places, whereas there's a lot of cost savings  
18 in keeping them as a true repository to a minimum.

19 MS. McCAMMON: Right. The non-Kodiak region actually  
20 presents a -- some different challenges than Kodiak because in  
21 Kodiak there's an obvious hub community that's large enough -- has  
22 a high visitor component, they can support a \$350,000 a year  
23 operating cost facility. The rest of the spill area, there's  
24 really no obvious hub community, it's not Seward, it's not Homer,  
25 it's not Valdez, it's not Cordova, probably the closest thing to a  
26 hub we have is Anchorage for those communities. So, if the

1 decision is to choose one regional facility for that region, it's  
2 going to be interesting.

3 DR. FRENCH: The Alaska Historical Museum here in  
4 Anchorage probably has fairly decent repository facilities already,  
5 doesn't it.

6 MS. McCAMMON: I don't know. It's a beautiful facility,  
7 I enjoy it.

8 DR. FRENCH: I mean most of the repository stuff you  
9 don't see, is the point.

10 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

11 DR. FRENCH: It's not what people think of when they  
12 think of having a cultural museum in their community, it's what  
13 keeps the artifacts good to keep displaying until (indiscernible --  
14 simultaneous talking).

15 MS. McCAMMON: I think there's a lot of potential with  
16 these kind of, you know, cases that are climate controlled, and I  
17 have no idea how much they cost and what the operating cost of  
18 those climate cases are, and what they require, but that will be --  
19 I think all will come out in the planning effort. There's --  
20 there's a lot of effort among smaller communities throughout the  
21 state, Anaktuvak Pass has a museum. You know, various places do,  
22 and I think the idea is to try and pull in some of the experiences  
23 from those other communities, and see what's appropriate at each  
24 community's level. We'll be looking really closely at operating  
25 and maintenance costs, and where the Council is willing to put any  
26 money forward here, we're going to want to be assured that they're

1 not building something that the community can't afford.

2 MS. BRODIE: I think you referred to the site  
3 stewardship program, 149, as a pilot program.

4 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

5 MS. BRODIE: ... and I'm looking at the budget and it  
6 goes down. Suppose it's considered to be successful pilot, then  
7 wouldn't you need a much larger budget?

8 MS. McCAMMON: Well, where it's pilot is that you're  
9 only, I believe, three, there may be four, but I think three areas  
10 that are being monitored or there is site stewardship over, and the  
11 recommendation was that it would be kind of a seed project in those  
12 three areas, and then they would be taken over by some private  
13 entity in the future. Where it has the potential for expansion is  
14 in a wider area in the spill area, but not these specific sites,  
15 but if other sites were identified in other areas within the spill  
16 area wanting to establish some kind of a site stewardship program.  
17 That's where it has the potential to be expensive.

18 MR. MCCORKLE: Further questions? If not, thank you,  
19 very much. I appreciate it that, and we move on now to reducing  
20 marine pollution. Doesn't have a very big budget, so it shouldn't  
21 take very long.

22 MS. McCAMMON: It's down to \$7.5 thousand.

23 DR. SENNER: Knowing that this is the sleepy time of  
24 the day, we just have this continuing shock (indiscernible). Whose  
25 talking -- I'm your tour leader, I'm putting this up here and Bob  
26 will give you your ...



1 MR. LOEFFLER: He's actually going to -- he's going to  
2 move his mouth and hands while I actually provide the voice.

3 (Laughter)

4 DR. SENNER: This is a very small aspect of Trustee  
5 Council -- at this time a small aspect of the Trustee Council's  
6 program. That part of the restoration plan, if you remember, it  
7 allows projects to reduce marine pollution in certain cases, and  
8 there is a project that has come together that was really fostered  
9 by the combined communities of Prince William Sound to develop a  
10 plan to identify and remove major sources of marine pollution and  
11 solid waste in the Sound. Now that's a -- they started last year  
12 and this is just a quick -- a closing portion, but what they're  
13 trying to do is identify, sort of a regional plan coming into  
14 compliance and ridding the area of some of the marine pollution  
15 which, in fact, certainly could be hurting sort of local  
16 populations of fish and wildlife. I suspect that in the next phase  
17 of the plan is to come back and actually implement those solutions  
18 for all of the communities at Prince William Sound. There may be  
19 an aspect of that that requires, or when they come back for Trustee  
20 Council funding, we've been very clear to them that this is not  
21 something that is just going to be Trustee Council funded. So, I  
22 think what they're trying to do is put together a funding plan with  
23 lots of sources and including the contribution by the communities  
24 themselves, and if they get that funding plan from many sources, it  
25 maybe that they come to the Trustee Council for some, and  
26 particularly -- that particular effect injured resources and

1 services, but, in any case, if that does come back to the Council,  
2 and I have no prediction right now, it would leverage money from  
3 elsewhere to -- I think a good significant benefit to the region as  
4 a whole. That's it, any questions?

5 MR. McCORKLE: Surely there must be some questions. This  
6 is a very exciting project.

7 DR. SENNER: It actually is -- it's a project which is  
8 exciting in the sense that it one that we -- that was truly not  
9 originated by any of the Trustee Council agencies. It is being  
10 implemented by outside the agencies, and it involves a cooperative  
11 effort of all five communities. So, I think it's been very  
12 community oriented from the get-go.

13 MR. ZERBETZ: I have one question. Is this planning  
14 effort going forward predicated or assuming this is going to be a  
15 public type of solid waste management (indiscernible) or will it be  
16 -- or will they also consider the private sector?

17 MR. LOEFFLER: They're investing a variety of waste  
18 streams from oily waste to bilge water and solid waste is one of  
19 the waste streams, but they're looking at solid waste regionally,  
20 I mean all the sources. I'm not sure I understood your question,  
21 frankly. I'm not sure I understood your question about it.  
22 They're looking at (indiscernible.)

23 MR. ZERBETZ: Are they thinking of hiring a private  
24 garbage man as well as public or one that's operating out of a  
25 public entity?

26 MR. LOEFFLER: I'm not sure, but I suspect they are

1 looking at all sides as a possibility.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Any further questions? Chip.

3 MR. DENNERLEIN: This -- I guess this one question raises  
4 an issue, Bob, I think this is great because ultimately we're  
5 dealing with the oil spill, but we're all -- we're ultimately  
6 dealing with the health of Prince William Sound ecosystem, and hope  
7 we can come out of this with -- also (undiscernible), and I -- I  
8 don't -- I don't know quite how to frame this, and, you know, maybe  
9 even Kim can help me out but, in terms of -- we're talking about  
10 timber in terms of purchasing habitat, and we're dealing with that.  
11 We also -- I don't know if there's anything we do about some  
12 operations for more than exists, you know, working with companies  
13 to address -- let me say that this has come to my mind now because  
14 if you're talking at Hinchinbrook, there is no time, day or night,  
15 that a freighter is not in sight, moving around logs to Japan, and  
16 there's no time, you know, and if you take a look at some of the  
17 hillside that are being cut right now, and this is a health of the  
18 Sound, this is the marine ecosystem as well. I bring this up  
19 because there is no possible way that soil is going to remain on  
20 some of those slopes that I saw, and they're -- you know, way over  
21 the angle of oppose, and so if you're looking at the whole system,  
22 I don't know how to approach this, I don't know what to say about  
23 it, but I would be willing almost to bet scientifically in a  
24 broader ecosystem snapshot, some of what I've seen is going to have  
25 a much more lasting effect than some of the oil. And, that's, I  
26 mean, that -- environmental engineers with would back me up, from

1 some major companies. In fact, it was some of those folks out  
2 there doing work that mentioned this to me when I first took a look  
3 at it. And, I don't know how -- if there's a way to, you know, if  
4 we're going to work with people on solid waste, if there's some pro-  
5 active way to work on standards, our practices, in the broader  
6 health of the Sound.

7 DR. SENNER: This does not address, for example,  
8 logging on hillsides. This does not address private practices of,  
9 people on their own land, and I think that's a very different --  
10 however, that's a good point.

11 MR. LOEFFLER: A good way into landowner's assistance  
12 program, right?

13 MR. DENNERLEIN: Okay.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Well, then if there are further questions  
15 on this particular segment of producing the link of the marine  
16 pollution, the final rubric here is habitat improvements with about  
17 \$100 million worth of consultation here, so let's carry on.

18 DR. SENNER: Four proposals that fit into the category  
19 of habitat improvements, and need to make clear at the outset that  
20 this does not include the habitat acquisition and protection monies  
21 either to acquire those habitats or to do appraisals, or any other  
22 preparation for acquisitions, so none of that shows up here. The  
23 projects do involve, Chip, one called landowners assistance, which  
24 is underway now in 1995, and the concept, in fact, is to be able to  
25 go to private landowners, offer the assistance of the Trustee  
26 agencies in looking at -- in resources injured by the oil spill,

1 and what is being done on those private lands, and if -- are there  
2 ways to mitigate injury to those critters or to enhance, you know,  
3 restore populations. Right now, that -- this proposal is  
4 essentially in a defer category, however, because we really don't  
5 have a lot of hard results that come back into this office yet for  
6 the '95 season. So, the deal is would we want to find out in the  
7 fall what level of interest there's been, how happy the  
8 participating landowners have been with what they've got, that kind  
9 of thing. So, we deferred a decision on that, but it in part could  
10 address the kind of thing you're raising. Afognak Island Park,  
11 this was -- came in as a lower priority and it had to do with ways  
12 to restore log habitat there, and it's one that, as I recall would  
13 have a payoff 15 or 20 years down the road, and we had some  
14 question about the -- whether there would be any of the -- any of  
15 the people around now who would be involved in planning for that  
16 would remember it 20 years down the road, and so we're -- we rated  
17 that as a low priority for funding. Restoration of wetlands on  
18 Montague Island was a Forest Service proposal, to take an area that  
19 was uplifted by the earthquake and altering a -- wetland habitat --  
20 they're trying to restore some of those fresh water wetland areas.  
21 That proposal did not have -- the project description was not very  
22 strong, needed a lot more clear linkage to the oil spill, and a lot  
23 clearer presentation of what it is that needs to be done, and we've  
24 heard sort of mixed views from Ducks Unlimited, Alaska Department  
25 of Fish & Game, and those folks about what they really think about  
26 that project. So, it's -- it's in a defer category until we can

1 get some more information and have a stronger basis for a decision.  
2 The last one here, Kenai habitat restoration and recreation  
3 enhancement, this is from the Department of Fish & Game and  
4 Department of Natural Resources, and it's the lion's share of this  
5 money. It's more than \$600,000 out of the \$900,000, and they would  
6 propose to do two basic things, one is to survey a habitat  
7 degradation along the Kenai River and identify specifically  
8 opportunities for restoration through boardwalks, revegetating  
9 stream banks, that kind of thing, and then some of the monies would  
10 actually be used to do that restoration work. We think this is a  
11 pretty interesting proposal. There's lots of public interest in  
12 it, however, there's also a lot of other money being, actually out  
13 there identified to be applied to Kenai River restoration,  
14 including \$3 million that came from Exxon Valdez criminal monies to  
15 Fish & Game and DNR, and another million dollars in federal money  
16 that is coming through NOAA, and we have again recommended  
17 deferring a decision on that project until there's a clear  
18 understanding exactly who is doing what and where the contribution  
19 from the Trustee Council might effectively fit into this larger  
20 problem. It's clearly a situation where tens of millions of  
21 dollars could be spent upon the Kenai River. There's no question  
22 that there's a big need, so -- but then that makes it all the more  
23 important to want to be very strategic about how Trustee Council  
24 dollars fit into that picture. Molly, do you want to add anything  
25 to that? So, that's habitat improvements.

26 MR. McCORKLE: How about some questions? John.

1 DR. FRENCH: I'm not sure the Afognak projects is a  
2 good project, but it does bring up a real question that I think we  
3 need to consider, and that is in the habitat acquisition process,  
4 are we just going to buy land, buy habitat, assume that it's going  
5 to improve its management by putting it into a new management  
6 philosophy, or are we going to assist the agencies which are mostly  
7 poorly funded at this point in terms of their management dollars in  
8 identifying the best management strategies to help meet the Trustee  
9 Council's goals that are being imposed on them by the acquisition,  
10 as opposed to what those normal agencies are. I think it's quite  
11 possibly -- possible, at least in some of these acquisitions, we  
12 may want to provide some additional monies to help identify those  
13 resources that are most important to be managed.

14 DR. SENNER: I think that's a very good comment, and,  
15 in fact, one of the things we've talked about here on Kenai, is  
16 that there are a number of Kenai parcels, which are at least on the  
17 plate for acquisition, it's a small parcel project here, with the  
18 Trustee Council. One of the possibilities is that maybe we ought  
19 to be spending some of this money to immediately address some of  
20 the habitat restoration needs on lands that might be acquired by  
21 the Trustee Council. So, that will be an example of just what  
22 you're saying. The difficulty in the Afognak case is again, just  
23 that the -- we can go out and survey those restoration  
24 opportunities, now and it involves tending stands of (indiscernible  
25 - simultaneous talking) 25 years down the road.

26 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I read that, there's a description

1 (indiscernible).

2 Mr. McCORKLE: Pam.

3 MS. BRODIE: The -- the idea of going to going to  
4 places like Montague Island where the wetlands was destroyed by  
5 nature, trying to restore, how would it -- I don't think it would  
6 be a good idea for people to go try to change nature back --  
7 where nature has changed something to try to get nature to go back  
8 to the way it was, unless there's a really compelling reason, like  
9 maybe if there's an endangered species that would go extinct like  
10 the (indiscernible) Canada geese, I guess, were -- would have gone  
11 extinct without using intervention after the earthquake, doing the  
12 habitat change, but I think if the Trustees are getting into a  
13 project like this one on Montague Island, (indiscernible).

14 DR. SENNER: We raised some of the same questions, and  
15 there was not a strong linkage back to murrelets, eagles, some of  
16 the other clearly injured species, and I don't rule out the  
17 possibility of those connections, but at least with the -- there  
18 wasn't a very compelling case made in the proposal and we're  
19 looking for -- information of that, but Ray's got a ...

20 MR. THOMPSON: Stan, I just want to say that several of  
21 the people from the Forest Service went out to Montague Island and  
22 San Juan Bay, took a look at it, and are providing more focus in  
23 that description than what we had in the other one, and that will  
24 be available here in this office on Monday. They're working on it  
25 right now, and I think it will -- it will point more directly to  
26 some of those opportunities for restoration of resources, and



1 they're trying to attempt to actually restore that whole wetland  
2 that would be physically impossible considering the situation  
3 there, but there are niches within that, that I think we can  
4 provide, you know, some restoration work that is valuable under the  
5 guidelines of the oil spill directions.

6 MR. McCORKLE: More comments? This is a million dollar  
7 project. Kim.

8 MS. BENTON: I have comments on two projects, and I'll  
9 take 141 first. I don't like this project, and I'll probably run  
10 down it a lot so, I'm not going to bug it a lot. I just think it's  
11 a normal -- should be a normal management responsibility, and when  
12 you buy something, you own it and you should manage it, and if they  
13 can't afford to manage it, they shouldn't be buying anymore land.  
14 As far as getting some information on what kind of trees grow back  
15 and how many, I think that's existing data that could easily come  
16 from private operators. I could tell you on Koncor's operations on  
17 Montague, they're the same operator on the Seal Bay land, a  
18 thousand seedlings per acre and, that's generally what they do.  
19 So, you maybe save some money by contracting the existing operator.  
20 The other project that I wanted to speak to on, I'll hopefully add  
21 a little bit of what Chip was saying into it, is the landowner  
22 assistance project. There are a lot of private landowners out in  
23 the spill affected region, and there are probably more operators in  
24 the spill affected regions that we would wish to participate and  
25 share this knowledge and implement this knowledge than are going  
26 to. When they're private landowners, they're subject to state and

1 federal laws, as they apply to private lands, and that's really all  
2 that we can do. And, I've been fortunate to work with positive  
3 landowners who are participating in this process, but with every  
4 industry and every issue, we have some that are probably not quite  
5 as great, but there really isn't any way to push them into the  
6 process. Having said that, the landowner assistance project for  
7 '96 is deferred until we figure out where we're at for '95. There  
8 were some late bloomers, if you will, as far as participants who  
9 wanted to participate in the landowner assistant project. I know  
10 that the environmental manager at Koncor has met with the team last  
11 week and Chugach Alaska hoped to sit in on that meeting, if they  
12 weren't, they wanted me to come and tell you that they were  
13 interested also in some projects on Montague Island. Koncor  
14 presently is trying to work with the landowners assistance team on  
15 some issue on Afognak Island, but I would hope that project  
16 (indiscernible).

17 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you for that comment. How about  
18 others? Yes, Chip.

19 MR. DENNERLEIN: Well, just -- I guess, on the habitat  
20 restoration, it is -- I agree with some of the habitat restoration.  
21 I think that the Kenai is a major issue which the state ought to be  
22 taking on, state and federal agencies. I think there's some level  
23 of participation. But, I -- I guess what I really want to say is  
24 just that -- to say I'm frustrated at the moment because if there's  
25 anybody here from the Fish & Wildlife Service, you should be  
26 ashamed of what you're doing at Jim's Landing. They have -- they

1 have paved up to the damn bank, and if -- it is done for  
2 convenience, it is not done because there weren't alternatives, and  
3 I don't care what we pay to restore, and if we're going to tell  
4 private owners that they should have buffers on the river, and  
5 we're sitting here in shared state-federal Council, and they have  
6 gone out, and the Fish & Wildlife Service in a section of the river  
7 that runs through a refuge, went out for convenience and paved up  
8 to the bank, they ought to be ashamed of themselves.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Are you a little upset by this?

10 MR. DENNERLEIN: I am. I am really upset because this  
11 is what we're face -- this is -- I mean, I think this is -- the  
12 only I reason I mention it is the Council's -- not to make a speech  
13 -- it is the day I have to sit here to decide if we're going to  
14 take some precious money to buy a piece of land to do a research  
15 project or to pay somebody to restore a bank, and the somebody who  
16 has got money in the pot claimed damage is out there destroying the  
17 bank faster than we can pay somebody else to fix it, and that's why  
18 it's germane here, and I'm -- it's constantly, you know the real  
19 world is -- I don't know how we get these standards set, but, you  
20 know, the regional office ought to get a message that that standard  
21 of convenience is inexcusable, when we're also sitting down here,  
22 you know, trying to figure out how to save the Kenai River, and the  
23 governor is on the river and senators are calling it a national  
24 treasure, and that's all the money we're supposed to be spending to  
25 restore it, and somebody goes out for convenience when there --  
26 with a little thought there would have been alternatives, and paves

1 up to the bank. And, before it's over, somebody will spend money  
2 to restore what they just trashed without thinking. You know, that  
3 -- that's a very painful thing because that -- then we're going to  
4 turn around and ask private owners please keep a buffer, or we'll  
5 trash it when it's convenient. It just really grates on me a lot.  
6 So, if there's anybody here from Fish & Wildlife Service, you just  
7 got telegraphed the way I feel, and I think there are a number of  
8 angry fishermen who called me will -- will -- I hope somebody gets  
9 out there and corrects that problem.

10 MR. MCCORKLE: Well, thank you, very much for that  
11 commentary. I think, being as how it's the hour of the day that it  
12 is, I think we can indulge ourselves of a pyrotechnic or two, along  
13 the way. I'd like to -- before we do that though, I'd like to --  
14 on behalf of the group -- okay.

15 MS. MCCAMMON: Mr. Dennerlein, are you suggesting then  
16 that if any acquisition for Fish & Wildlife Service comes before us  
17 that it be conditional? (Laughter)

18 MR. DENNERLEIN: Yes, I might make that suggestion,  
19 and I -- you know, I would -- I would if had had time to have the  
20 photographs with me, but we just finished that, to say -- not to  
21 waste people's time. I would have had this Council send a note  
22 anyway, a short letter that said, you know, we're considering minor  
23 restore this river with joint federal and state money, and here  
24 we're out here setting a terrible example, and I think that is --  
25 that's -- you know, and I don't know what the upper ranks of the  
26 service think, but I can tell you that the biologists in both state

1 and federal agencies have almost a universal opinion that there was  
2 another way to do this if anybody had stepped back and thought for  
3 a second.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

5 MS. BRODIE: Deborah Williams was here this morning,  
6 you missed her Chip. (Laughter) She wanted our input.

7 (Aside comments - Laughter)

8 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I was going to say on behalf of the  
9 -- not that -- we're not quitting, we've got lots more to do, but  
10 we have come to a point in the presentation, which is called the  
11 end, which is really sort of a hiatus because I'd like to -- on  
12 behalf of the group, extend to the presenters and the staff our  
13 thanks for bringing us in a -- neat packages, information that  
14 helps us to better see what it is we -- we should understand more  
15 about. Now, what is to happen next, today and tomorrow, is for us  
16 to have time to get specific on things that we have heard today, or  
17 that have maybe brought up questions that we need additional  
18 information on, opportunity to express opinions, just out right  
19 opinions. So, I need to have from the group your direction as to  
20 how you'd like to proceed. Would you like to continue on today?  
21 Would you like to recess until tomorrow morning, using the night to  
22 caucus together and come up with questions for our presenters and  
23 staff tomorrow. I saw that Martha had a suggestion.

24 MS. VLASOFF: Well, I'd just like to get a copy of the  
25 overhead.

26 MR. McCORKLE: The overhead programs?

1 MS. VLASOFF: Yeah, I wanted -- I want a printed copy  
2 that I could take tonight and compare it with the work plan, and  
3 ...

4 MS. McCAMMON: The numbers aren't all accurate on that.

5 MR. LOEFFLER: The numbers -- are identical on the Work  
6 Plan. I -- it will take me just a minute to make xerox for --  
7 actually it will take me a minute for Cheri to make xeroxes.  
8 (Laughter)

9 MS. VLASOFF: Also, that the -- some of the -- some of  
10 the comments that you had before you began about what we need to  
11 consider in our recommendations. If you could include that also,  
12 because it was really useful information that I can -- I can't  
13 absorb everything I've looked at.

14 MR. LOEFFLER: That's going to take about ten minutes, so  
15 we'll have an introductory memo, which has those comments, and then  
16 the -- the overhead's themselves.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Molly.

18 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, if I could for just a  
19 minute, and when -- when Deborah was up here this morning she said,  
20 okay, I want you guys to come up with an \$18 million package for  
21 me, and I have to admit I kind of gulped because I'm not going to  
22 have an \$18 million package for her on August 25, and I'm just  
23 going through all these costs here, as you can see, we're deferring  
24 a whole lot until December. We probably are looking at maybe two-  
25 thirds of the whole program in August and another third in  
26 December. So, really to get the whole package, it's going to be --

1 it's going to be financing some things. I think when we go through  
2 this tomorrow what we have to think about is, okay, what do we  
3 think may get funded in December, and maybe there are things that  
4 we end up saying, well, these projects somehow don't go because of  
5 the results, or whatever, these can go. So, we have to start  
6 thinking a little bit about priorities too, and I think what would  
7 be very helpful for us is kind of a sense of the body, and not a --  
8 you know, a 12-vote, you know, project-by-project, or a six/five  
9 vote or whatever, but just kind of an overall sense that this is  
10 the right approach, that -- or that this seems lesser priority, or  
11 only fund if some of these other things fall apart, or consider  
12 this as the last, or something is missing and you want to put more  
13 emphasis on something else or -- or some ideas like that.

14 MR. McCORKLE: That's -- that's very good advice. Some  
15 meetings ago -- two perhaps -- I think it was two meetings ago, we  
16 sort of took a consensual decision to -- to do just exactly that,  
17 to -- to give sense to the body, realize that there may be an  
18 occasional line item or two, in one budget or another that doesn't  
19 -- win the approval of one of us or small groups, but a general  
20 approach to things, as sort of where we -- by tomorrow speak --  
21 might as well begin today, so that we don't -- so we can be  
22 directed. We're only effective when we're directed and defective  
23 if we miss all that objective, so the idea is to give some general  
24 direction as to how we think, and there might even be room to  
25 incorporate some thoughts like Dr. Dennerlein, although I don't  
26 think so. (Laughter) We do have a bit of a luxury of time, we've

1 got some time tonight, and we have tomorrow morning. Now, many  
2 people are going to have to leave for planes that depart around  
3 2:00 o'clock, or whatever, some folks will have to leave earlier  
4 than that, so we don't have expansive amounts of time, and I'd like  
5 to appeal to us to do a little bit of referral and reference  
6 tonight, if we can. The overheads and the opening comments that  
7 set forth some criteria which we could make some recommendation  
8 tomorrow will be very helpful. We ought to wait until we get  
9 those, and so, what would you like to do with the rest of the hour?  
10 Somebody said discuss things. Oh, recess. Oh phooey, I'm was  
11 ready for another discussion here. If that is the will of the  
12 group, remember we meet at 8:30 tomorrow.

13 MS. McCAMMON: We're going to try downstairs.

14 MR. McCORKLE: We're going to try downstairs. All right.  
15 Check downstairs. Let's try and start at 8:30 if we can, because  
16 there are people who will have to leave and we don't want to a  
17 quorum to escape, and we don't want to miss the comments that some  
18 of you may make on points along the way. So, with that in mind --  
19 oh, yes, Dave.

20 MR. COBB: I just had one question for Molly. On the  
21 budget breakdown on these projects, is there a lot of these  
22 projects with a contingency fund built in?

23 MS. McCAMMON: Contingent fund, or ...

24 MR. COBB: Well, for instance the project, and a lot  
25 of projects have say ten percent of their budget as a contingency  
26 fund, or yet labelled as ...



1 MR. MCCORKLE: They won't admit it anyway.

2 MS. MCCAMMON: No.

3 MR. COBB: Yeah, they won't admit it.

4 MS. MCCAMMON: Yeah, and one of the things in the past,  
5 we've actually had quite a bit of money every year that's lost, and  
6 the agencies have said, well, you know, if we won't use it, we  
7 won't spend it, we'll give it back to you. We say great, then it  
8 takes us four years to clear the books out, in the meantime, you're  
9 we're taking that money off the table for four years, and so this  
10 year we have really squeezed them hard, and I'll tell you people  
11 have not been happy because they say we're nickel and diming them  
12 to death, and really pushing too hard. But, we'll probably get  
13 some savings from that, but I don't think a real significant. But,  
14 I think the budgets are fairly tight.

15 DR. SENNER: Also, the flip side of that Dave, is that  
16 if a project does have a need that was simply unanticipated, and  
17 they can come back ...

18 MS. MCCAMMON: They can always come back.

19 DR. SENNER: ... to the process and say, look, we need  
20 \$9,000 to whatever it is, and we don't like to encourage that, but  
21 it is an option in an urgent situation.

22 MR. MCCORKLE: Anything else.

23 MR. DENNERLEIN: This is -- I'll say this is not a  
24 question I'm going to ask because I missed -- out of the room, a  
25 new question about what you just said, so I won't waste my  
26 colleagues time, but in the spirit of the same thing, I think, what

1 Dave's questions to me -- you know, what I hear his question is  
2 about, sort of, what is the decision universe we're operating in.  
3 I mean, can we look at contingency money that realistic, can we  
4 look at this sort of what parameters to think about, and I -- the  
5 numbers -- the numbers, Molly, what is two-thirds, one-third mean,  
6 what ...?

7 MS. McCAMMON: Well, I think what we're looking at is  
8 funds -- fund contingent -- lower priorities for all those, except  
9 for the do-not-fund, total about \$21 million. But, we're trying to  
10 get down to \$18 million, we have to find \$3 million from somewhere.  
11 A lot of the pink salmon stuff is on the table in December.  
12 Probably going to have to be some choices there, not everything in  
13 the pink salmon aspect is going to be able to be funded, there has  
14 to be priorities there. The sockeye, sockeye as we -- if we close  
15 out those projects this year, there is half a million dollars right  
16 there. There are a number of new efforts, the killlitz murrelet  
17 project, the PSP project that's still deferred. You start  
18 totalling up five or six of those and you have a million dollars  
19 right there. Those are new ongoing efforts. Some of them have a  
20 lot of promise, some still have some questions and concerns.

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: And so how does that breakdown  
22 between your sort of two-thirds, one-third now -- December. I mean  
23 if we say we like all this -- is it like, don't worry, if we funded  
24 everything tomorrow, it's still only \$16 million, but in December,  
25 you're over, or it is, you know, that's the universe I'm trying to  
26 figure out.

1 MS. McCAMMON: Well, I guess my gut feeling is that for  
2 right now, I mean I would love to get it all done in August, but I  
3 don't think it's realistic, and I think what we're going to end up  
4 doing is funding those that seem real obvious and clear and taking  
5 all the ones that we're waiting for the '95 results, and all the  
6 ones that are kind of new efforts, that even though you might think  
7 you want to fund it, just wait and see how these defers turn out,  
8 and then prioritize those against each other.

9 MR. DENNERLEIN: Do you have clear -- do you have an  
10 extra boil down list of -- I mean, did you boil off that residue in  
11 any lists, you guys, so that we ...

12 MR. McCORKLE: That's called distill.

13 MS. McCAMMON: Well, the only thing that's really boiled  
14 down is that all of the do-not-fund for the most part, cannot come  
15 back to life. So, that's -- that was actually pretty good.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Molly, I need to ask the question, we're  
17 talking about getting down to eighteen, but that doesn't include  
18 the three for administration and so forth and the .8 for other  
19 kinds of things, so let's call -- say we've got \$4 million more,  
20 does it mean we've got to come down to \$14 million?

21 MS. McCAMMON: No, no, eighteen for the Work Plan.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, so then there's ...

23 MS. McCAMMON: This year's about twenty.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, there is -- there is budget --  
25 resource for those other activities?

26 MS. McCAMMON: Those are already (indiscernible).

1 MR. MCCORKLE: Kim.

2 MS. BENTON: (Indiscernible) but, are we going to get  
3 away from this next year or are we going to be in the same  
4 situation where we're going to have work projects that are going to  
5 be ready in August, and then we're going to have some that aren't  
6 ready again until December because they need to see the field  
7 information.

8 MS. McCAMMON: We'll have fewer. There will -- I don't  
9 think we'll ever totally get away from it because the field season  
10 isn't done until summer, and some you just want to wait until you  
11 get the results of field season.

12 DR. SPIES: One of the things that happens, we try to  
13 move the Work Plan back further into the spring and summer, and in  
14 that -- there are kind of trade offs involved in that, and one is  
15 you don't have the information that you have later.

16 MS. McCAMMON: What's different about it this year is  
17 that we really are trying to map out long-term and so we're being  
18 more cautious about things. We're having all these review sessions  
19 this fall, in addition to our normal review, and I think there will  
20 be less next year. More of an effort this year.

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: So you -- using the word contingency  
22 in a different way. I mean, I'm trying -- you know ...

23 MR. MCCORKLE: There is no contingency. (Laughter)

24 MR. DENNERLEIN: No, no, our own contingency, I mean.  
25 Obviously what I'm trying to figure out is to give you a sense, to  
26 get you a package to bring in August where we don't walk away

1 thinking we've done a good job, but what we actually have done is  
2 set up a train wreck for December or pain -- a lot of extra pain,  
3 and so is there a sense that, you know, you would advise us to say,  
4 don't count on all of the defers coming in, but count on half of  
5 them, but, you know, what's the -- if you were doing your family  
6 financial planning, you're to say, if you go much beyond this, you  
7 know, you're really -- you're taking to the bank a wish and a  
8 prayer that those things happen in December, but they could turn  
9 out to be a lot of painful decisions instead, so maybe you want to  
10 reserve a little bit here. Is there any ...

11 (Indiscernible - simultaneous talking)

12 MR. LOEFFLER: I was just going to suggest that, that I  
13 don't think you need to worry about which is December and which is  
14 August, and I don't think we're trying to craft -- I don't think  
15 you want to do the mats, you come down to exactly eighteen, I just  
16 -- not expecting that to come from it. I think if you -- if you  
17 say, irrespective of when the decision is, December or August, here  
18 are some things that we think are lower priority,  
19 that helps us make the decision, whether it's December or August,  
20 and if we sort of could through that process to get from \$21 down  
21 -- to whatever it comes out to, \$19 or \$18 or \$17, \$12, whatever.  
22 We're further along. I think you need to (indiscernible).

23 MR. DENNERLEIN: So, we have in front of us, so I know  
24 what guidance to look for, we have in front of us a list that while  
25 it's a little high, you know, the dead have not come back to life,  
26 so your judgment that they were weak was correct because they

1 failed to revive themselves, and so now what you have in front of  
2 us is -- there -- no, no turkeys. A reasonable cut, a little over  
3 the top that you think are credible, some ready to go now, some  
4 which you deferred pending information, and then you're just asking  
5 us from a public point of view, here we have a credible program,  
6 that the public think some of these are more important than others  
7 as a matter of public interest. That's -- is that our decision?  
8 You're not asking us to opine on the science now?

9 MR. McCORKLE: Go ahead, Bob.

10 MR. LOEFFLER: I was just going to -- and I don't think  
11 it's necessary for you to do the -- if you have some things that  
12 are lower priority, we'd like to know that. If when you get done  
13 with that, you go, oh, it's \$19 million and I'm not sure what's  
14 next, I don't see any need for you to do arbitrary ...

15 MR. DENNERLEIN: I'm not.

16 DR. SENNER: And, if you some that are higher priority  
17 ...

18 MS. McCAMMON: It's the feeling of the group that eight  
19 or \$9 million on salmon and herring is appropriate, we want to hear  
20 that. If you think it's too much, we want to hear that. You don't  
21 have to go through and tell us specifically which projects to cut.

22 DR. SENNER: And, if there is projects that ...

23 MS. McCAMMON: But, if there are, fine.

24 DR. SENNER: ... that's your prerogative as well.

25 MS. McCAMMON: Or, if there's something you say, we  
26 really don't know what to do with this, but we know this one is

1 essentially, and I really don't know about the others, that's fine.  
2 That helps.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Jim.

4 MR. KING: Question for Molly, you know there's the  
5 perception by a lot of people that a lot of these projects are over  
6 priced, that the -- the agencies, or whatever, ask for 40 percent  
7 more so they can live in luxury and you say you're under some  
8 pressure from the same agencies about nickel and diming on your  
9 budget, so we don't really have the facts to look at whether these  
10 things are overpriced, but I have -- would you want us to address  
11 that, and say this looks like too much for the result that ...

12 MS. McCAMMON: Only if you have some, you know, basis for  
13 that, because, I mean, we've been looking at them, we've had  
14 several staff people looking at them, and we've looked at it and  
15 said, you know, we don't think you should use -- you need to use  
16 helicopters, can't you just hire, you can't go out and do this,  
17 it's a whole lot cheaper, or something. And, we have gotten a lot  
18 of projects down as a -- as a result of that, but I would say  
19 overall projects are not 40 percent added too. They're not,  
20 they're pretty lean.

21 MS. BENTON: I think the next time we have the review  
22 of projects with the scientists or the principle investigators, Jim  
23 should sit through them because I used to have that view, and then  
24 I sat through and found out what we're paying for that wealth of  
25 experience and that really shocked me. A lot of those people who  
26 are doing the really fantastic things are making a lot less than I

1 am. They're living on a lot less because of what they believe in,  
2 and I came away from that with a real strong feeling that what I  
3 had been believing for years was not right.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

5 MS. BRODIE: The pizza was great. (Laughter) Okay,  
6 how many for pizza and how many for sandwiches? I also think this  
7 -- this meeting room is much more informal, that's not a bad thing,  
8 we'd be happy to meet here.

9 Ms. McCAMMON: Well, it's just the -- the speaker, you  
10 know, if we had the sound system up here, that would be ...

11 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I think what Pam is saying is we're  
12 a little closer together, and more apt to -- we can have closer  
13 interact, and maybe you want to consider putting the table in this  
14 configuration downstairs. Would anybody be in favor of that, or do  
15 you like the -- if that's an option Cheri, you might want to move  
16 the tables into this configuration some day. We just sort of like  
17 being together.

18 (Aside comments)

19 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I guess, all we're saying is if it's  
20 possible to do, sort of closer together is nice. Bob.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: Did you notice by Cheri coming back into  
22 the room, our work is done, and so she is handing out what Martha  
23 requested.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Three cheers for Cheri. Any other  
25 comments? Anything for the good of the order before we recess.  
26 Well, I think it's been a splendid day, thank you all for coming



1 in. Hope you'll come back tomorrow, we need you desperately. And,  
2 those of you who are rushing out, be sure and get the copies from  
3 Cheri. Thanks to staff again for everything, and we'll see you at  
4 8:30 in the morning. Check downstairs, it might be downstairs, and  
5 then again it might be up here. Thank you.

6 (Off Record 4:17 p.m., July 27, 1995)

PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP  
MEETING TRANSCRIPTS

JULY 27-28 1995  
V. 2

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SETTLEMENT  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

RESTORATION OFFICE  
Simpson Building  
645 G Street  
Anchorage, Alaska

July 27-28, 1995

VOLUME II

July 28, 1995

RECEIVED  
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EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL  
TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

1                    C O N T I N U A T I O N   O F   P R O C E E D I N G S

2            (Present were: PAG members: Vern McCorkle (chair), Rupert  
3 Andrews, Kim Benton, Pam Brodie, Dave Cobb, Chip Dennerlein, Jim  
4 Diehl, John French, Jim King, Brenda Schwantes, Chuck Totemoff,  
5 Martha Vlasoff, Gordon Zerbetz; EVOS Trustee Council Staff, Molly  
6 McCammon and Bob Loeffler; Chief Scientist Dr. Robert Spies;  
7 Science Coordinator Dr. Stan Senner; and Designated Federal Officer  
8 Doug Mutter.)

9            (On Record 8:36 a.m.)

10           MR. McCORKLE: Good morning, folks. We'd like to go back  
11 into session from our recess of yesterday. You asked that we put  
12 on the agenda, that we interline an item whereby we would talk  
13 about future PAG meetings. We have a memorandum from the Executive  
14 Director under the date of July 19, which looks like this, we  
15 several -- actually four dates -- presented for the future, so, per  
16 your request, how would you like to proceed? Do you want to adopt  
17 this, amend it, or have a comment period? Have a comment period.  
18 Dave, have you comments you'd like to begin with?

19           MR. COBB: No, I mean have a comment period later.

20           MR. McCORKLE: Oh, later -- okay. Do I understand that  
21 we're not quite ready to talk about the future meetings yet. You  
22 want to put it ahead on the agenda to, like, ten o'clock, eleven.  
23 We will be finished at 11:30, if we have to stop the clock --  
24 (laughter) -- what is your wish?

25           MS. VLASOFF: We might as well take care of it now.

26           MR. McCORKLE: I hear a couple of voices saying let's

1 take care of it now. Well, who cannot come on any of these dates?  
2 (Aside comments) Or can't come in November -- can't come in  
3 February -- no? I guess what we need is a big calendar. We don't  
4 -- oh, here is the calendar -- madam has a calendar. Fridays are  
5 bad days for me -- just to start off with a comment. I miss staff  
6 meetings at my house if I am here on Friday. That doesn't mean we  
7 couldn't change our staff meetings, and we probably would do that  
8 if we pick a Friday here. How about you guys? Molly.

9 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I would recommend if this  
10 works for people to do it on December 4 and 5, Monday and Tuesday,  
11 or Tuesday-Wednesday.

12 MR. ANDREWS: December 4 and 5th?

13 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah, and only because we have the week of  
14 December 27th -- or November 27th through December 1st -- for those  
15 days we have technical review sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday,  
16 Thursday, Friday. Although we could do something on the 27th and  
17 then finish on the --

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The 27th is the week after  
19 Thanksgiving.

20 MS. McCAMMON: Thanksgiving. That's always a hard  
21 weekend.

22 MR. McCORKLE: What seems to be before us is Monday,  
23 Tuesday, Wednesday, November 4, 5, and 6, as days to select from.

24 MS. McCAMMON: Or sometime that week.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Or sometime that week. The first week of  
26 November.

1 MS. McCAMMON: December.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, the first week of December.

3 (Aside comments)

4 MS. McCAMMON: Either that or the week before  
5 Thanksgiving is --

6 MR. McCORKLE: Mondays and Tuesday are out -- okay --  
7 leaves us Wednesdays, Thursdays, middle of the week for those of  
8 you who want to stay over and shop in Fridays.

9 (Laughter)

10 MR. LOEFFLER: Actually, I -- December would be better  
11 because we need to get stuff to them two weeks beforehand, and that  
12 means --

13 MS. McCAMMON: December 6 and 7?

14 MR. ANDREWS: What day of the week is that?

15 MS. McCAMMON: Wednesday and Thursday.

16 MR. ANDREWS: Wednesday and Thursday, Vern.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Wednesday, Thursday -- okay December 6th  
18 and 7th are now the schedule, pending any outrageous  
19 (indiscernible) to the contrary. So shall we -- we'll adopt by  
20 consensus -- we'll adopt December 6th and 7th, which is Wednesday  
21 and Thursday. Let's move on to the February meeting in 1996.  
22 Martha.

23 MS. VLASOFF: Well, yesterday I just said that, that I  
24 think that the PAG members should be at the -- at the work session,  
25 and -- you know, re-thinking that, it doesn't have to coincide, but  
26 if -- if Molly said there was money to -- to enable PAG members to

1 be at the work session, I think it's really, really important that  
2 the input from the Public Advisory Group is heard and they  
3 participate in that, and so, I'm not saying it has to coincide,  
4 but, you know, I think we should all be there.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments. Cheri, could I ask you  
6 to crank up the volume just a tad. I'm right by Pam (indiscernible  
7 -- public address system volume increased) Thank you very much.  
8 (Aside comments) Well, we're sort of stuck on February, folks. Do  
9 you like the idea of a Wednesday-Thursday mid-week days? Is that  
10 -- people are sort of saying, yeah, that's not a bad idea. So,  
11 maybe we can focus on a Wednesday-Thursday combinations. Molly,  
12 what does February offer?

13 MS. McCAMMON: Valentine's Day or Ash Wednesday.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Hey, Valentine's Day.

15 MS. McCAMMON: We could do, let's see, if we met -- let  
16 me think -- February 7th, 8th -- is that too early, do you think?

17 DR. SENNER: No, the only thing that may not have  
18 happened by then would be the NVP review. We don't when that is,  
19 and I wouldn't worry about that.

20 MS. McCAMMON: I would say February 7 and 8th then would  
21 probably ...

22 MR. McCORKLE: Wednesday, Thursday, February 7 and 8.  
23 Hearing no objections, we're tentatively adopt that, and let's go  
24 on to late May, early June, item three on the agenda. What  
25 Wednesdays and Thursdays are open there?

26 MS. McCAMMON: Probably, either May 22nd-23rd or June

1 5th and 6th because the other one in between is Memorial -- Day.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Well, how about June 5th and 6th, we doing  
3 a tentative (indiscernible) in the first week or so of each of  
4 these months, it's easy to sort of block out time then. We've got  
5 December 6-7, we've got February 7-8, we have June -- what is it 6-  
6 7?

7 MS. McCAMMON: 5th and 6th.

8 MR. McCORKLE: 5-6 -- we're sort of focusing in on those,  
9 and then we've got July, Wednesday-Thursday.

10 MS. McCAMMON: In July would be -- around ...

11 MR. McCORKLE: Well, that's very close to June, isn't it?

12 MS. McCAMMON: . . . around the time we have now, so it  
13 would probably be later July, probably the 24th and 25th.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Or August -- is that too late?

15 MS. McCAMMON: No, I think that's too late.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

17 MS. McCAMMON: Well, let me think. We may want . . .

18 MR. McCORKLE: We just met three weeks before, so --

19 MS. McCAMMON: We may want July 31st and August 1st.

20 MR. McCORKLE: That's a Wednesday-Thursday, right?

21 MR. McCORKLE: Right.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

23 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, what we could do is set  
24 these out, and then as we get even closer to the dates, they can  
25 always be modified too.

26 MR. McCORKLE: That's why I said we still have --



1 MS. MCCAMMON: Modified too.

2 MR. MCCORKLE: We'll agree on these tentatively, but if  
3 there are compelling reasons why the group or staff thinks we  
4 should moderate and amend it, we can take it up as we get close to  
5 that date. Martha?

6 MS. VLASOFF: Could you just go down and repeat the  
7 dates.

8 MR. MCCORKLE: Yes. I'm showing for meeting number one,  
9 it will be the November-December meeting, it is December 6th and  
10 7th, which is Wednesday-Thursday; February 7 and 8, Wednesday-  
11 Thursday; June 5 and 6, Wednesday-Thursday; and July 31-August 1,  
12 Wednesday-Thursday.

13 MS. MCCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, also what we don't have in  
14 here is the field trip for the year.

15 MR. MCCORKLE: Yeah.

16 MS. MCCAMMON: So, that will be plugged in somewhere.

17 MR. MCCORKLE: Thank you. That's a good bit of business,  
18 and hearing no objections we'll accept that as the agreed to by  
19 consensus until further notice, with the caveat that if, looking a  
20 year ahead, we have picked a bad combination somewhere along the  
21 line, we can take it up at that time.

22 This is an important day, and I'm glad the sun is shining  
23 again as we start off with good prospects, and the Chair would like  
24 to assign itself a preemptory five minute opening statement, after  
25 which it will shut up for the rest of the day and do its job, which  
26 is to assist you in doing yours. Following one of my celebrated,

1 non-scientific gaffs of yesterday, I was accosted in the kitchen by  
2 one of our leading scientists who said upon my -- challenging the  
3 efficacy of whether or not we should have unending annual analysis,  
4 the scientist said, you know, isn't it a shame, you know, here  
5 we've been gathering this research for all these years, and now  
6 that we're getting to the point where we're about trying to reap  
7 the benefits of these rewards, we're confronted with the challenge  
8 of having to think about throwing out some, or maybe not doing the  
9 analysis -- whereupon the old cliché came rushing to mind, are we  
10 really throwing out the baby with the bath water in our zeal to cut  
11 programs and -- and take shortcuts. So, I think we have to take  
12 care that in the work that we are about to undertake today that we  
13 keep in mind what we're really supposed to be doing here, and at  
14 the end of the day we've got to come up with some recommendations.  
15 Not to do so, I think, would not be holding up our end of the  
16 bargain as an advisory group. As we opined yesterday, to be  
17 effective we've got to be directive, and if we're not, we're  
18 defective in our ultimate objective, so we've got to do something.  
19 So, I'd like to bring back an old tool, pursuant to your approval,  
20 and that is to refer to a yester meeting and bring forth the  
21 "parking lot" idea --that's what these boards are here for -- and  
22 as we go through the presentation today, if it's possible to decide  
23 that we're going to put a project by number on the parking lot,  
24 that means -- that doesn't mean it's dead, it means that's one we  
25 want to look at again as to the possibility of maybe assigning to  
26 a deferred classification, or maybe not at all, so that maybe on

1 some of the other charts we can come up with projects that we think  
2 really do have to go forward. What about that idea of using the  
3 parking lot idea to put in front of us, so we don't have to make  
4 notes on the table or in the margins, those ideas that as we go  
5 through the presentations today and hear the experts and then have  
6 our discussion afterwards, that we decide that, yeah, this is a  
7 thing that we want to put on the parking lot and we'll look at it  
8 later to see whether or not it continues on.

9 MR. LOEFFLER: Mr. Chairman, I think it's important that  
10 it's not necessary for people to make comments about specific  
11 projects, that if they believe that there is an over-allocation of  
12 resources to an area, or if they believe that there's concept that  
13 needs further investigation or less investigation, I think that  
14 they can leave that to the scientific staff to determine which  
15 project. I don't mean to discourage comments on individual  
16 projects and, of course, we welcome and encourage them, but if  
17 people have an area that they would like to see more or less  
18 emphasis on, we're equally amenable to broad policy suggestions as  
19 we are to, I think, the sort of project-by-project analysis.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I think that that's certainly true.  
21 We don't want to do project-by-project analysis, but there may be  
22 some projects, maybe new ones . . .

23 MR. LOEFFLER: Sure.

24 MR. McCORKLE: . . . that we don't even want to consider  
25 or recommend that they be put into a project -- er, put into a  
26 category -- new projects -- and if we have to decide we do a new

1 project at the expense of -- completing the analysis on an old  
2 project, maybe that's where you'd like to discuss and we do not  
3 need to do the parking lot. I was trying to come up with a little  
4 system whereby we could graphically see and it would be easy for us  
5 to walk through and get through this in a couple of hours, but  
6 there maybe some other approaches as well. I see some thinking  
7 going on. Kim?

8 MS. BENTON: I think your suggestion is good, and I  
9 think that when the Trustees -- it would be an easy kind of thing  
10 to forward on to the Trustees, and if we have specific projects  
11 that can be listed out if we have general areas that we think can  
12 be carved down, those can be listed out. We're not going to come  
13 down to a certain budget, but I think they are the ones that are  
14 going to have to whittle this down to a smaller amount, and it will  
15 be easy for them to take some guidelines along.

16 MR. MCCORKLE: Molly.

17 MS. MCCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, last year when we put this  
18 together for the Trustee Council, what we had with the spreadsheet  
19 was Chief Scientist's recommendations, the PAG recommendations, the  
20 Executive Director recommendation and then, you know, whatever the  
21 Trustees did. And the PAG recommendation usually was -- it was a  
22 vote -- it was on each project and it was 12, you know 7-6, or  
23 whatever, and kind of what you got from that was either the PAG  
24 really split on this project, or, it looked good to them. And I  
25 think what would be -- I was trying to think how we would present  
26 this to the Council in this next go-round, and I think what would

1 helpful would be, as we develop our spreadsheet, is maybe some  
2 overall, general statement or comments at the beginning that, you  
3 know, it looks pretty good, you know, the balance seems appropriate  
4 -- or not -- whatever the case may be; if you're going to maybe --  
5 saying something like, if you're going to prioritize, you know,  
6 don't start any new projects if it turns out we're not going to  
7 have enough money, or, you know, whatever some general aspects are,  
8 and then maybe by each cluster having a general statement. For  
9 example, on pink salmon, these we think are absolutely essential;  
10 these, maybe not; these we don't think you should do at all -- or,  
11 too much pink salmon, not enough pink salmon -- whatever -- and  
12 having like a block within each cluster that we kind of summarize  
13 the kind of the consensus of the group, the sense of the body.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments, please.

15 MS. McCAMMON: That would be very helpful.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

17 MS. BRODIE: I don't quite understand the parking lot  
18 process. Is the idea that we'll all bring up some suggestions and  
19 put them in the parking lot and then when we get all the  
20 suggestions then we go back and discuss each one?

21 MR. McCORKLE: Were you here the day we did the parking  
22 lot?

23 MS. BRODIE: Yes, but we never did anything.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Is that right?

25 MS. BRODIE: With the things that were in the parking  
26 lot.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Well, we sort of did.

2 MS. BRODIE: (Laughing) They were abandoned cars!

3 MR. McCORKLE: The idea is to have a piece of paper up  
4 here that we can all see, so that as we go through the process, if  
5 there's something we want to say we'd like to go on with the  
6 discussion here, but we want to come back to this particular thing  
7 because we're not sure what we think about that --

8 MS. BRODIE: For instance, if I propose doing  
9 something, then should we discuss that and decide what to do on it  
10 and then go on to the next idea . . .

11 MR. McCORKLE: It's entirely up to the group.

12 MS. BRODIE: . . . or do we get all the ideas out there  
13 first before we discuss them?

14 MR. McCORKLE: This is entirely -- this is your group.  
15 You know, we can do this however you want. All I was trying to do,  
16 and I think Molly and Bob also, we've each come up with little  
17 ideas as to how to make it easy. We remember how it was in the  
18 past. It wasn't too easy. We lost our way and didn't know exactly  
19 what we might have been doing. Kim.

20 MS. BENTON: I think approaching this by cluster is the  
21 best approach, and if we're talking about something in a certain  
22 cluster that Pam has a comment on, then we'll talk about it at that  
23 time instead of coming back and revisiting it, and that way we'll  
24 be able to get our consensus of that cluster.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Molly.

26 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, what we did too when we

1 developed this recommendation in here, the first go-around we ended  
2 up with about \$26 million, and then we kind of sat on it overnight  
3 and then came back and said, okay, now, it's too much, and then we  
4 started, you know, whittling around -- down -- and trying to really  
5 hit the priorities at that time. So, you know, it may take -- you  
6 may want to do a two-step process too.

7 MR. McCORKLE: How about some comments from those of you  
8 who have not yet commented. John.

9 DR. FRENCH: I think we should probably go through each  
10 cluster, cluster-by-cluster, but I think it's valuable, as you've  
11 suggested -- I don't know if parking lot is the right term or not  
12 -- but to put those items that we feel strongly in a favorable  
13 sense on, on a board, and those that we feel in a negative sense on  
14 another board, so we can sort of get a cumulative listing of  
15 concepts, perhaps more so than projects, but directions that we  
16 think that should be increased in funding or at least given high  
17 priority in funding and those areas that perhaps should not be  
18 funded or have a lower priority.

19 MR. McCORKLE: I see heads nodding everywhere. Does that  
20 sound like a good program -- we just happen to have two parking  
21 lots here, and the only reason I said parking lot -- what I -- I  
22 sort of wanted to pay for the use of the cost of that expert that  
23 came and did the parking lots three months ago, so we've brought  
24 back parking lot, and we can now say, yes, that's paid for.  
25 (Laughter) So, do you like the idea? -- First of all, cluster by  
26 cluster is how we'd like to go, and then as we are discussing

1 within that cluster, we may or may not do some prioritizing, and if  
2 we choose to do that, we can do it up here on these pieces of paper  
3 so we can all see at a go. Pam.

4 MS. BRODIE: That's good to me. I do want to bring out  
5 something that's broader than a cluster -- a suggestion --

6 MR. McCORKLE: A universe.

7 (Laughter)

8 MS. BRODIE: . . . and that is projects which are  
9 monitoring in the sense of going out and counting certain numbers  
10 of animals and that are new, that are not close-out projects, I  
11 tend to see those as lower priority than other projects of which  
12 they are actually discovering a better understanding of the  
13 functioning of the ecosystem. So, I would suggest taking a hard  
14 look at whether those should be funded, and maybe as we go through  
15 the clusters Stan or Bob could point those out to us -- or Bob.

16 MR. McCORKLE: So is that sort of like an over-arching  
17 statement you'd like, as we go cluster by cluster to ask our  
18 experts to help us understand more particularly those that are  
19 simply -- those that are snout-counting and those that are -- maybe  
20 more important.

21 MS. BRODIE: Yes.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Would you like to summarize again  
23 the two -- I think I heard two aspects there. You'd like to have  
24 them help us understand A or B about certain things. What were  
25 those again, just for their --.

26 MS. BRODIE: If it's just a project just counting a



1 certain species and it's new, it's not a close-out project, those  
2 are the ones I would like to see highlighted.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Does that sound like something we could  
4 do?

5 DR. SENNER: It is something you could do, but . . .

6 MR. McCORKLE: No, you could do.

7 DR. SENNER: Well, it is something that we could do,  
8 but there aren't any new monitoring projects. There are monitoring  
9 projects where one could say the function is essentially just  
10 counting, as you indicated, but most of those, I think all of those  
11 are ongoing ones.

12 DR. SPIES: We've done them in the past.

13 DR. SENNER: Yeah.

14 MR. McCORKLE: John.

15 DR. FRENCH: I was basically going to echo what Stan  
16 said. I don't think there are any brand new monitoring projects,  
17 but the question more is the frequency of monitoring and that's  
18 certainly something we can discuss. I think in many cases it's  
19 been drawn out to about the reasonable limit in terms of getting  
20 any statistically significant monitoring, and probably these five  
21 year cycles of monitoring and what we've got on five year cycles  
22 are about the maximum that can be stretched out in a meaningful  
23 sense.

24 DR. SENNER: I think looking at the question of to what  
25 end or what purpose are we monitoring, does this project lead us  
26 somewhere beyond knowing what the numbers of critters are, that's

1 a very valid question. It's just we can't get into the new versus  
2 the old doesn't apply.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Doug.

4 MR. MUTTER: I thought Pamela's says monitoring or new  
5 projects.

6 (Aside discussion)

7 MS. BRODIE: I think this is an improved idea. What  
8 people are saying is take a look at the ones that are monitoring,  
9 and let's look at the purpose of it.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, we now have the new, improved Pam  
11 idea (laughter) and unless we -- er, Jim King.

12 MR. KING: I have a general comment too, before we  
13 get into the particulars, and I'd like to say I'm not against any  
14 of the proposals, I see them as very well prepared and commendable  
15 proposals, but I did have the feeling that there were too many  
16 proposals to build management tools being addressed at the Trustee  
17 Council that probably should be addressed to the normal agency  
18 funding sources. And then the second area that caught my attention  
19 was that there seems to be too much emphasis trying to determine or  
20 monitor whether restoration has occurred and not enough emphasis on  
21 the enhancement provision of the settlement. So, as I went through  
22 these things, I tried to look at them in terms of enhancement. If  
23 we're enhancing something, which is legitimate under the  
24 settlement, we really don't have to worry about how it is in  
25 relation to what it might have been back in the good old days. So,  
26 I found that I wasn't equipped to really make a determination on

1 enhancement for every one of these proposals. I kind of bogged  
2 down on it, but I think I would like to see us and perhaps staff  
3 pay a little more attention to that enhancement provision. That's  
4 a wonderful piece of the package, and we need to use it.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Maybe we could ask then that  
6 among the other things that you try and include in your comments  
7 per cluster, would be those projects which are concerned with  
8 enhancement, and it will be up to us also to help remind, as we go  
9 through the clusters, that that is a category we would like to  
10 examine. John.

11 DR. FRENCH: Yes, just a few more comments on  
12 monitoring. I, like many others, am discouraged at the continued  
13 high cost of monitoring, but I think that staff has made a sincere  
14 effort to try to keep monitoring costs to the minimum that is  
15 practical. Now, I know that we're not officially supposed to be  
16 doing mitigation activities, but one of the few activities that  
17 really can come out of this process in terms of useful information  
18 is being able to follow through some of these monitoring  
19 activities, some of these natural -- monitoring some of the natural  
20 restoration and being able to come back with an answer for the next  
21 time it is needed as to what types of activities and how long  
22 restoration is going to take, what kind of damage to be expected in  
23 another oil spill, and we can't do that without effective  
24 monitoring, without somehow monitoring at least to some definable  
25 end point, and I think we need to -- staff needs to try to work  
26 harder at defining that end point, but I do think it's important to

1 continue that legacy and try to complete those projects, so that we  
2 have indeed an index that says, you know, high energy beach coastal  
3 habitat is indeed going to take 10 or 15 years, or whatever the  
4 answer is, to restore itself.

5 MR. McCORKLE: John, did you say working back to an end  
6 point or working forward to an end point?

7 DR. FRENCH: To -- we need to be able to define what  
8 the appropriate end point for monitoring is. Now, in some senses  
9 that is working back because we don't -- we didn't start from a  
10 good baseline of data, so it's a combination of trying to look at  
11 what the end result are, how stable they are, to what extent the  
12 changes that occurred were, balancing oiled versus unoiled sites.  
13 Unfortunately, monitoring is a more complex issue that it would  
14 have been if some of the data we're accumulating now was available  
15 before the oil spill.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Thanks. Thanks for that clarification.  
17 These over -- over-arching preliminary comments I think are  
18 important because they sort of help set the scene for the technical  
19 reports we're going to get shortly, although we don't want them to  
20 go on forever, but I think it's important if you have something  
21 that applies generally to what we're going to do, that this is a  
22 good time to say that -- and, Chuck, did you want to be next, and  
23 then we'll come over here?

24 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, just some more general comments  
25 regarding this whole process. Every time I talk to some of my  
26 older shareholders and people, they always keep telling me the same

1 thing, you know, Nature will repair itself, which is why I've  
2 always advocated general restoration projects. I still don't  
3 understand all of this monitoring and endless studies and things  
4 like that. You know, if what we're after is a legacy here, you  
5 know, from this whole process, you know, let's put some things that  
6 we can see. You know -- you know, granted the scientific data is  
7 useful, and I agree with that, but there's got to be more emphasis  
8 put on general restoration projects from my point of view.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Who was it -- oh, yes, Jim  
10 Diehl.

11 MR. DIEHL: I've kind of answered -- um -- what  
12 Chuck's talking about in my own mind by saying, you know, we were  
13 given, the state and federal government was given \$900 million to  
14 restore natural resources in Prince William Sound, and if we can't  
15 come up with saying how long it took for those resources to be  
16 restored, that's a very big question mark that -- you know, why  
17 couldn't we at least come up with that -- in my mind -- and that  
18 makes the monitoring important --

19 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you.

20 MR. DIEHL: -- to me.

21 MR. McCORKLE: A couple more comments -- let's go to  
22 Brenda next and then we'll come over to this side.

23 MS. SCHWANTES: I'd just like to agree that I think all  
24 the projects are very important, and I think our job is to try and  
25 prioritize, not to -- is to prioritize -- and part of that, I  
26 think, is determining what's more important -- is monitoring more

1 important or is enhancing more important, and I kind of -- I feel  
2 that enhancing is also more important than monitoring, although we  
3 have to look at the tradeoffs between, you know, cutting out a  
4 program that has already been implemented and started, and looking  
5 at the costs of not completing that program. Maybe with other  
6 types of monitoring programs that are happening -- maybe just  
7 looking at the type of monitoring programs and seeing which ones  
8 are working or are successful, maybe looking at it from that angle,  
9 but my recommendation would be prioritize in clusters and then have  
10 some overall comment, such as prioritizing types of programs --  
11 types of programs within the projects. That would be my  
12 recommendation.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Was it Pam or Kim over here I  
14 saw a hand up, and then, Rupert, were you reaching for your  
15 microphone? No -- oh, okay. All right. Anything from here before  
16 we go with the presentation.

17 MS. BRODIE: When in this process is the PAG going to  
18 look at the administrative budget -- at this meeting or at a  
19 different meeting?

20 MS. McCAMMON: The budget -- Mr. Chairman, the budget is  
21 going to passed on August 25th, so any comments overall on the  
22 administration budget are fine now, or if you want to take it home  
23 and look at it more closely and then comment back later, that's  
24 fine too.

25 MR. McCORKLE: We don't meet again before August 25th ...

26 MS. McCAMMON: No.

1           MR. McCORKLE: ... do we? So that budget's fairly well  
2 been around to look at, and so I guess, if I understand what you've  
3 said, that we can put a few minutes aside today to discuss, or if  
4 people would like to send in written or verbal comments, they can  
5 do that as well, but we're sort of past that process -- but it can  
6 come up.

7           MS. McCAMMON: The kinds of things that we've been doing  
8 are pretty much -- have been standardized over the last year, and  
9 we reduced it by \$600,000, actually \$800,000 this year. So,  
10 overall if there is any general comments on it or any specific  
11 questions or comments.

12           MS. BRODIE: Maybe when we go through the clusters, we  
13 can ...

14           MR. McCORKLE: Actually, it doesn't come up in a cluster,  
15 but we . . .

16           MS. McCAMMON: But we can bring it up.

17           MR. McCORKLE: Yeah. I was wondering if you -- if you  
18 had a little bit of warning -- like now -- maybe you could give us  
19 like a five minute walk-through towards the end of the session as  
20 to what things have been cut out, what did you do to eliminate  
21 nearly a million dollars, and what are we going to be missing and  
22 what's left. Would that be helpful?

23           MS. McCAMMON: I could do that right now, if you want to.

24           MR. McCORKLE: Well, I'd like to get into the scientific  
25 part because I think that's going to take us a long time.  
26 Administrative part is pretty -- I don't think that will be such a

1 long thing, but it's up to the group. Kim, did you want to comment  
2 on this?

3 MS. BENTON: I just think at some point we'd be remiss  
4 if we didn't look at \$3.4 million section of the work plan, and  
5 that isn't to say it's good, it's bad, it's whatever, it's just  
6 something that, you know, we've looked at but -- I could look at  
7 these projects but not fully understand them without an explanation  
8 either, and we spend a tremendous amount of time dissecting  
9 projects and ratcheting them down, and I think for something that's  
10 that big of ticket item that we need to at least acknowledge that,  
11 yeah, it's a big part of the pie, and, yes, this is why it is, and  
12 it would make me feel a little more comfortable.

13 MR. McCORKLE: I think that's an excellent comment, Kim.  
14 As you can see by looking at the list, it's number two or three on  
15 the list as far as magnitude is concerned, so it ought to come up.  
16 Martha.

17 MS. VLASOFF: Just got a general comment, I'd like to  
18 say that management issues seem to be the main justification there  
19 is for funding EVOS projects, you know, from the comments that were  
20 made, and I just wanted to note that I think we're shifting away  
21 from restoration to management issues, and I don't feel comfortable  
22 with that. We should keep on the restoration issues, you know,  
23 instead of switching over to . . .

24 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, Martha.

25 MS. VLASOFF: . . . for management reasons.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Gordon, you haven't said a peep yet over



1 there this morning. Anything you'd like to add? We're going to go  
2 into our presentation at 9:30 -- I mean at 9:15 -- so let's have at  
3 it here for a few more minutes, and then we'll get with it. That's  
4 a little signal to you guys.

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We don't have a presentation.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, yes, you do.

7 (Aside comments and laughter)

8 MR. ZERBETZ: I've been observing all these pearls of  
9 wisdom this morning, and I am very interested in the dialog we have  
10 had to date on the merits of monitoring vis-a-vis enhancement. As  
11 an old sailor I realize it's important to know where we have been,  
12 but of course, I'll let you know at the present, of course, I lean  
13 toward the enhancement matters more strongly.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Rupert.

15 MR. ANDREWS: Well, I wasn't going to say anything, but  
16 . . .

17 MR. McCORKLE: You sort of got forced into it, I'm sorry.

18 MR. ANDREWS: . . . it looks like we don't get a chance  
19 to talk about habitat acquisition.

20 MR. McCORKLE: We certainly can, if you wish.

21 MR. ANDREWS: I'd like to talk a little bit. I'd like  
22 to know what we're going to do with and I'm looking at the figures  
23 here, and it's 841,000, is that what I see in the budget this year,  
24 proposed or requested for '96 -- oh, . . .

25 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman,

26 MR. ANDREWS: . . . for '96.

1 MS. McCAMMON: . . . those are habitat general  
2 restoration projects, and that's a cluster, so you will be talking  
3 on those -- habitat improvement.

4 MR. ANDREWS: Good.

5 MR. McCORKLE: It is at 9929 for this coming budget.

6 MR. ANDREWS: It's no secret I want to buy the Karluk  
7 River, you know.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, all right. (Laughter) Is the  
9 Karluk River for sale?

10 MS. McCAMMON: Not that we can afford.

11 (Aside comments)

12 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, everything is for sale at a price.  
13 Well, if everybody -- if everybody has had their opportunity for an  
14 opening comment, what I'd like to propose is that those folks who  
15 walked us through the clusters yesterday sort of be on deck to  
16 revisit each of those, and probably here's a chance for us to look  
17 at each project, for the group to have questions anew which might  
18 have come up yesterday, a follow-up from yesterday, because at the  
19 end of that cluster we probably want to say, what do you think  
20 about this cluster. So, I think we began with -- with Bob  
21 yesterday.

22 MR. LOEFFLER: Mr. Chairman, do you -- do people want to  
23 use the overhead or are they comfortable using the handout versus  
24 the overhead.

25 DR. FRENCH: Yes, that's fine.

26 MR. LOEFFLER: Okay. Well, then -- if everybody has --

1 if someone doesn't have the handout, let us know, we'll get you a  
2 copy. (Aside comments) I think that what I'd like to do is just  
3 remind you -- um -- initially -- also if someone in the audience  
4 doesn't have one of the handouts that we're going to use, please  
5 let Cheri know. I'd like to remind people initially that of the  
6 general budget allocations, which I think are the second page of  
7 the overhead, and that these are sort of derived by considering the  
8 projects, and just to remind you that it's a good place to refer  
9 back. But following that, I guess that I would start with pink  
10 salmon. And, if you remember, pink salmon has four general  
11 components, one of which is the SEA Plan, which is not listed on  
12 this page, and one of which is the toxic effects of oil, that is,  
13 the profound lingering effects mostly on egg mortality; stock  
14 separation and management, including marking salmon for the  
15 managers, genetic stock structure and strain investigations; and  
16 then alternative hatchery release sites; and then finally there is  
17 limited supplementation agenda involving Kodiak, Port Dick, and  
18 monitoring previous work on Montague Island, and I guess that's  
19 about all I need to say.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Of the individual projects that are  
21 listed, and you may find them either in the draft plan which is the  
22 raspberry book number two, or you can find a synopsis of it also in  
23 this long sheet, for those who have that . . .

24 MR. LOEFFLER: The long sheet is the same as the xerox of  
25 the appendix in the . . .

26 MR. McCORKLE: That gives you an opportunity to refresh

1 yourselves on the particulars on each of the projects. Molly.

2 MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to put a few  
3 of these things into a little bit of context. If you look at our  
4 recommendation, we're recommending deferring a decision on a lot of  
5 these, the ones in particular that relate to strain, a number of  
6 the genetics projects, and those that are doing stock  
7 identification, and the reason for that is that there were a lot of  
8 really excellent proposals that were submitted, and we found in our  
9 review that there was a wide variety of opinion as to which ones  
10 should go forward when. Pretty much on a lot of these people  
11 wanted to do them all, but we really had a lot of disagreement over  
12 which ones should go first and what the timing and sequence -- and  
13 it was apparent to all of us that there was too much here, and we  
14 really weren't sure how to pick and choose among those. This also  
15 related into whether we should hold back on some of the things we'd  
16 started over the last year or two and start some new efforts and  
17 then come back to those other efforts, and kind of what the  
18 implications of that were. For that reason, we recommended  
19 deferring a whole bunch of these until we have a more detailed work  
20 session on them in October, I believe.

21 DR. SENNER: November.

22 MS. McCAMMON: November -- is when that's scheduled for,  
23 late November. And I think just as a general just observation from  
24 the staff and the scientific staff and the staff here, we think  
25 there is too much in this package, and what we hope to do at that  
26 workshop is to kind of lay out a schedule of what are we actually

1 trying to accomplish here, what information do we really need to  
2 know now, and kind of set forth a sequencing of projects in that  
3 area.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Molly, does -- have you guys done a tally  
5 as to the dollar value for all of those projects which are  
6 recommended do-not-fund. I was wondering if that would be a way  
7 that the group might want to go, because if you wanted to say  
8 subject to the staff's recommendation do not fund either now or  
9 ever, we can set aside those, at least for now, which will save X  
10 dollars on our way down to 18. Brenda.

11 MS. SCHWANTES: I think they already did that. I think  
12 they set aside all the do-not-fund.

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.

14 MS. SCHWANTES: Umm -- but I was curious as to what the  
15 dollar amount for the new projects was.

16 MS. McCAMMON: Well, about, for pink salmon in the defer,  
17 fund, fund contingent . . .

18 MR. McCORKLE: Yeah, that's what I should have said,  
19 rather than "do not."

20 (Aside comments)

21 MS. McCAMMON: This brought into the whole thing that  
22 some people wanted to stop doing some of the old, continuing  
23 projects and do some of the new ones because it was their strong  
24 belief that these were actually more important than some of the  
25 other ones that we had been doing, and that's where we got into --  
26 actually, it became fairly controversial, and we realized that in

1 order to bring some resolution to it, we were going to have to get  
2 some independent, outside reviewers in here, a wider of group of  
3 people, and we were going to have to take a more comprehensive look  
4 at it.

5 MS. SCHWANTES: Yeah, not just the pink salmon dollar  
6 amount for new projects, but all of the clusters . . .

7 MS. McCAMMON: We do have the new -- yes, it's coming.  
8 But this category we deferred a whole chunk of it, probably more so  
9 than any other cluster.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Kim.

11 MS. McCAMMON: For that reason

12 MS. BENTON: I was trying to get a handle on how much  
13 money that's actually been (indiscernible -- out of microphone  
14 range).

15 MR. LOEFFLER: Including all of the "fund," "fund  
16 contingent," etc, it's 3.2 -- approximately 3.3 million in pink  
17 salmon, including the deferred projects, but not including the SEA  
18 program.

19 MS. BENTON: Out of the SEA program, that's four  
20 million roughly?

21 MR. LOEFFLER: That's 4.6.

22 MS. BENTON: Is there a percentage that's for salmon?  
23 I mean, I just think looking at (simultaneous talking) . . .

24 MR. LOEFFLER: It's difficult to draw that line . . .

25 MS. BENTON: Okay.

26 MR. LOEFFLER: . . . but, in general, it focuses on the

1 populations of pink salmon and herring.

2 MS. BENTON: Is there duplicity between SEA programs  
3 and these -- are not -- okay.

4 MS. McCAMMON: But a lot of the SEA program are things  
5 like oceanography, the role of phytoplankton, I mean it's a lot of  
6 things that kind of relate to those pink salmon and herring, they  
7 are systematic-type research projects. I think of this nearly 3.3  
8 million that -- I don't think we can fund 3.3 million. I think  
9 we're looking at, at least, a million dollar reduction there.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Is that million dollars made up of the  
11 deferred recommendations?

12 MS. McCAMMON: Primarily.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Yeah. Brenda?

14 MS. SCHWANTES: I had a question about the proposals, is  
15 -- are they all excellent technically, are they all well written  
16 proposals? Maybe that may be a way we could look at . . .

17 DR. SPIES: All the projects that remain in the  
18 package are quite good.

19 MS. SCHWANTES: All good, okay.

20 DR. SPIES: They're not all equally as excellent, but  
21 scientific excellence and need and management and so far have to be  
22 balanced out, but they are all quite good proposals.

23 MS. SCHWANTES: Okay.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

25 MS. BENTON: Well, I appreciate what Molly has said  
26 because looking -- if you add in the SEA projects, this is 9.5

1 million for pink salmon and herring, which is almost half the  
2 budget, and clearly these are important commercially, but it just  
3 seems out of balance, and I can't look at these projects and say  
4 which should go ahead and which shouldn't, so I'm really glad  
5 you've got a process to do this, but maybe the PAG -- I mean I'd  
6 like to get a sense of the PAG of whether people agree that that  
7 whole block is too much. It does seem to me too much.  
8 Unfortunately, we don't have the commercial fishing representatives  
9 or the hatcheries representative here today.

10 MR. McCORKLE: John.

11 DR. FRENCH: Yeah. With these comments are contingent  
12 on the perception that the pink salmon returns are indeed returning  
13 rapidly to something closer to normality, that we get a disastrous  
14 return (indiscernible), you know, I think you need to revisit the  
15 whole issue. But I think in that respect, there is probably too  
16 much pink salmon work being proposed. Specifically, I think it's  
17 important to continue those projects looking at the toxic effects  
18 of oil. In many respects these were unexpected results, and I  
19 think it's important to elucidate them. Second, in terms of a  
20 general principle, I think it's important that we try to transition  
21 management tool type developments, such as the otolith marking and  
22 such and some of the genetics works to the agencies as rapidly as  
23 possible. I'm not, in principle, opposed to EVOS funding  
24 development of new management tools, but they need to be  
25 transitioned in a appropriate manner, and that should be as timely  
26 as possible. Finally, with respect to supplementation, if indeed



1 we are seeing a return to normality in pink salmon, why, I think  
2 the supplementation programs themselves should be given a very low  
3 priority.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Jim.

5 MR. KING: Well, I see both the pink salmon and the  
6 herring cluster here as, to me, good proposals that should have  
7 gone to the legislature for funding, and I would think that the  
8 EVOS money would be better spent through the coordination of the  
9 SEA Plan. And so, that's just a general way of looking at it.  
10 There are three items in pink salmon that appear to be enhancement;  
11 they are the waterfall barrier bypass improvements, and Fort Dick  
12 spawning channel, and I'm not sure what Montague rehabilitation  
13 monitoring would be, but those relate to enhancement, and maybe  
14 they are more in the purview of the settlement, but I don't have  
15 any problem voting to send the pink salmon and the herring back to  
16 Fish & Game to look at other sources.

17 MR. McCORKLE: There is a little caption for that  
18 project, which is 139C1 on page A3 of this long sheet that you  
19 have, if you wanted to look a little more closely at the Montague  
20 program. Those are good comments. Are they leading us anywhere --  
21 on pink salmon? Kim?

22 MS. BENTON: I propose that for our little  
23 (indiscernible) that's going to go at the front of this section  
24 that we agree as a group that we agree that this amount -- dollar  
25 figure -- is high, but we also agree that we don't know how to get  
26 it down, so we agree with the concept of the Executive Director of

1 having, employing, the expertise of others to help do that.

2 MR. McCORKLE: To help do what?

3 MS. BENTON: Whittle this down.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

5 MR. LOEFFLER: Are you talking about pink salmon or ?

6 MS. BENTON: Pink salmon.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.

8 MR. COBB: I guess in defense of pink salmon, since  
9 I raise pink salmon, there are certain areas of Prince William  
10 Sound that pink salmon have recovered; there are certain areas of  
11 Prince William Sound that pink salmon were never damaged, but there  
12 is also a large part of the pink salmon habitat in Prince William  
13 Sound that's still is not recovered, and I think those areas are  
14 particularly the south-west district, AFK Hatchery, in that  
15 particular area. Last year, the eastern district had a record run  
16 of pink salmon, 15 million; this year we had -- actually came in  
17 right at we'd projected in the eastern district; wild stock returns  
18 in the eastern district are down a little bit in some systems, but  
19 overall they seem to be up. So, I guess that I would caution that  
20 you don't want to cut out -- I think we're on the verge of seeing  
21 pink salmon come back, but we don't want to stop in those specific  
22 areas that need further review and further projects to address  
23 those areas. So, I think, you know, the role of the hatchery is  
24 something that hasn't been addressed, long-term, in supplementing  
25 some of the streams in areas that haven't come back, and I think  
26 that's an important area that the Trustees ought to look at. I

1 know there's a couple of projects in here that are starting to  
2 address that issue, but still I think it's an area that needs to be  
3 looked at and looked at strongly. As far as herring goes, we're in  
4 a world of hurt with herring in Prince William Sound, and so I --  
5 it's pretty hard for me to agree with Jim that we should turn all  
6 these over to the State of Alaska. Well, spend three months in the  
7 legislature trying to get funding for the Department of Fish &  
8 Game, it's just not going to happen. So, do we write these -- this  
9 resource off? I think not. I think we need to put a lot of effort  
10 into herring -- and we're seeing some returns in the eastern  
11 district that weren't there last year on juvenile herring and stuff  
12 like that, so I think that I would defer to the scientists to tell  
13 me what needs to be done, but I think overall we can't short these  
14 programs.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Pam.

16 MS. BRODIE: I appreciate the information that Dave has  
17 provided, and when there are areas that haven't recovered if  
18 there's something that could be done to fix those areas, I think  
19 that should be looked at, but I also agree with John French that if  
20 the overall numbers have recovered that I would question these  
21 enhancement projects -- why we need to be doing new enhancement  
22 projects to make more pink salmon. And my understanding of the  
23 problem, the economic problem with pink salmon, is lack of demand  
24 rather than lack of fish, and that just making some more fish is  
25 not necessarily very smart economics.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Jim Diehl.

1           MR. DIEHL:       You know, you just mentioned most of the  
2 eastern district has recovered?

3           MR. COBB:       Well the eastern district really wasn't .  
4 . .

5           MR. DIEHL:       It wasn't hit.

6           MR. COBB:       It wasn't hit, not all of it.

7           MR. DIEHL:       But the southwestern part was hit, and so  
8 by hit or you're talking the fisheries -- I mean where they raise  
9 the hatcheries or the wild population?

10          MR. COBB:       Both.

11          MR. DIEHL:       Both was hit.    So, I kind of draw a  
12 distinction between the hatchery fish and the wild stock. I want  
13 to know, you know, what's gone on with the wild stock in that  
14 section of the Sound, and -- and as far as comparing the pinks to  
15 the herring, there's no herring hatcheries, right -- ?

16          MR. COBB:       Norway.

17          MR. DIEHL:       . . . and herring has taken -- herring  
18 took a really big hit. I mean, they haven't even had a season in  
19 how many years now -- three or four?

20          MR. COBB:       Four.

21          MR. DIEHL:       This is the fourth year. So, you know, I  
22 -- on that account I see the herring as being real important and  
23 maybe the pink salmon as -- there's an awful lot of projects in  
24 here for pink salmon and a -- you know -- a lot fewer for the  
25 herring, and I don't understand that exactly, except that a lot of  
26 it, or a lot of it is hatchery related.

1           MR. McCORKLE: Is it possible that we really need to, now  
2 that we've had this much discussion, consider pink salmon and  
3 herring sort of in the same talk? What I am hearing you saying .  
4 . .

5           MR. DIEHL:       No --

6           MR. McCORKLE: Don't jump to conclusions here. What I'm  
7 hearing people saying is that while they are different with respect  
8 to their resurgence, that we've got three and a half million for  
9 pinks and 1.4 for herring, maybe pinks need to have a slight  
10 reconsideration as to the volume of dollars, but certainly not  
11 herring; that we need to consider maybe additional support for the  
12 herring effort, and maybe -- and then you'd throw into that the SEA  
13 Plan, another four and a half million, we're now talking nearly ten  
14 million. Does not -- do we need not to consider all that together,  
15 with respect to dollars and programs supported. Dave?

16          MR. COBB:       I guess while I like the cluster concept,  
17 in my mind it's hard to differentiate between the two major species  
18 in the Sound that have -- were -- affected, and that being herring  
19 and pink salmon. And so I understand, you know, there's a large  
20 group -- a bunch of money -- that the SEA Plan is going to need,  
21 and it's probably the primary tool that we're going to use to  
22 determine what's wrong with the Sound -- you know, why things  
23 aren't coming back and why things are coming back. So, I think  
24 it's -- I just have a hard time splitting it all out and splitting  
25 hairs to -- you know. I think those are the two enhancement  
26 restoration projects that need the money -- a lot of money.

1 MR. McCORKLE: You said two.

2 MR. COBB: Well, the two areas.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Two areas, okay. I think that the cluster  
4 approach has been helpful to allow us to focus, but then it's also  
5 bringing us into a new area here where we realize that these two  
6 clusters do have a relationship and they've got -- they have an  
7 over-arching program which is the SEA Plan. Yes, sir -- Doctor.

8 DR. SPIES: I might just briefly comment relative to  
9 the amount of money that is being spent on pink salmon and herring.  
10 There's a lot more management options with pink salmon, due to the  
11 hatcheries and due to the attractability of being able to tag these  
12 things with coded wire tags, internal mass marking, and so forth,  
13 and there is a lot less that can be done with herring in terms of  
14 management, and I think that those, the balance of those funds  
15 reflect more of what can done than anything else. Certainly the  
16 economic importance of salmon in the past and salmon overall to  
17 Alaska plays a part in that as well.

18 MR. McCORKLE: So, if I understand you then, even though  
19 we might conscientiously want to come up with more money for  
20 herring, we might not be able to use it all.

21 DR. SPIES: I think so. I think we're doing -- I  
22 think we have a very, very reasonable and even aggressive and  
23 ambitious program for herring right now, and the one thing we would  
24 like to see, of course, is that the program be pulled together  
25 more, and the coordinator position I think -- that coordination  
26 proposal is a good way to do that, and we're working very actively

1 with Fish & Game to do that. So, I think we're doing a very good  
2 and reasonable job and even aggressive job of trying to do  
3 something about the herring resources.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you for that information. Does  
5 anybody feel like you could, start us start summarizing where we're  
6 going on maybe these three projects that we're talking about --  
7 pink salmon, talked about herring, talked about the SEA Plan, is  
8 the direction beginning to show itself? John.

9 DR. FRENCH: Just a comment -- I'm somewhat against  
10 combining SEA with all these other discussions. SEA is really a  
11 systematic -- a systemic -- study. It looks at food chains, it  
12 looks at physical dynamics of the Sound, it provides a basis for  
13 much of the upper -- the higher levels of the food chain in the  
14 Sound, and this affects not only pink salmon and herring, but also  
15 affects other things that are utilizing the food sources, such as  
16 the forage fish and the apex and the other clusters that are  
17 developing. Most of them don't rely as directly on the information  
18 that SEA is developing as the pink salmon and herring do, but they  
19 really do depend on that data base being there. So, although I'm  
20 in concurrence with those people are aghast at how expensive  
21 oceanography is, I think that's a real fact of life, and I would be  
22 reluctant to see us recommend cutting SEA just because it's cutting  
23 pink salmon and herring. I think we need to look at it in the  
24 broader context.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Pam -- er -- Kim, I'm sorry.

26 MS. BENTON: I don't know if it's appropriate, but I

1 would suggest that we need to say that this is a high budgeted area  
2 that we need to take a harder look at, and that we agree with the  
3 concept of having the scientists take a look at it, but also there  
4 may be some members of the PAG that we could recommend that have a  
5 high enough degree of interest to participate in that process. I  
6 know I wouldn't want to do that, but Dave might.

7 MR. McCORKLE: There is was a request for comment over  
8 here in the gallery. Do you want to come forward and grab a  
9 microphone and let us hear your comments.

10 DR. SULLIVAN: I just wanted to point out that the two  
11 things on the enhancement projects for pink salmon that a couple of  
12 things you should look at that it's not all just pink salmon. They  
13 were thrown into the pink salmon cluster because that's the most  
14 appropriate place for them, but if you look at -- if you go to the  
15 comments here, and I can address two of these, and I hope Ray can  
16 address the third one, but 139A, under Little Waterfall Creek, area  
17 bypass improvement, one thing you should keep in mind is that's  
18 pink salmon and coho that that would help. It's also Kodiak area.  
19 The Port Dick spawning channel helps pinks and chums as well, and  
20 one of the things about pinks when we -- when we were doing the  
21 NERDA (ph) part of this is we wound up focusing on pinks as an  
22 indicator species, not only for themselves but for other species as  
23 well. So, Port Dick, a lot of that really does impact chum salmon.  
24 And as far as Montague Island, I hope Ray could address that one.  
25 I thought that one was also largely impacting chums -- is that  
26 true?



1 MR. THOMPSON: That's true -- it's pinks and chums.

2 DR. SULLIVAN: Yeah. So, essentially what you've got  
3 there is more than just pink salmon, and you do have one project in  
4 each of the three major areas.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Kim has possibly shown us a  
6 way to proceed. Would you like to restate your comment of a moment  
7 ago and see if that doesn't help us move toward a -- either some  
8 action or a motion.

9 MS. BENTON: That we could generally agree that the  
10 budgets for this cluster is very high . . .

11 MR. McCORKLE: The pink cluster.

12 MS. BENTON: The pink cluster, and we need to take a  
13 harder look at it, and we agree with the Executive Director's  
14 direction of having the scientists do that but we also have some  
15 interested Public Advisory Group members that would like to  
16 participate in that process.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Can I have comments on that, does that  
18 sound like a reasonable approach to going forward on the pink  
19 salmon program?

20 DR. FRENCH: If that's a motion, I'll second it.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, Pam -- er -- Kim -- I've got you  
22 turned around today. Kim, that was your motion moved by John  
23 French, is there any further discussion? Yes, it's too late for  
24 you to discuss. (Laughter)

25 MR. DENNERLEIN: Well, I didn't -- I didn't miss the  
26 comments --

1 MR. McCORKLE: (Laughter) No. Go ahead -- Chip.

2 MR. DENNERLEIN: I'm going to agree, and I take it  
3 this is -- we discussed yesterday about taking individual PAG  
4 comments, but this would come as a sort of a sense of the group, as  
5 I understand.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.

7 MR. DENNERLEIN: Is that correct?

8 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.

9 MR. DENNERLEIN: Then I would -- I would just like to  
10 say that I -- I'm going to agree with this, and rather than pick  
11 between projects, I would just saying in arguing for it the Council  
12 set a balanced approach in which they sort of divided habitat and  
13 science, and I think within science, in each category, we also  
14 should look at sort of a balanced approach. And so, if you apply  
15 what I think the Council's tried to do in balancing the approaches,  
16 this seems to be a heavily weighted area among the variety of  
17 species and research that could be done. I read through this, I  
18 think there is probably endless numbers of good research projects,  
19 but I do think it's weighted, and I think something else, I think  
20 that if not true overlap, as time goes on in the management of  
21 fisheries, some of these projects may recommend some more targeted  
22 and better projects. I think we can learn if we glean this down,  
23 we will do some things that will actually recommend more efficient  
24 and better studies for some -- some of the others in the future.  
25 So with that in mind, I'd leave it to the scientists and the team,  
26 but I'm going to vote with sense of PAG on this one.

1           MR. McCORKLE: We are still debating Kim's motion, any  
2 further discussions? I'd like to then ask if you could bring us  
3 sort of to the focus and tell us what the minutes will show we're  
4 voting on.

5           MR. MUTTER: All right. Correct me if I'm wrong, Kim.  
6 The motion was that the pink salmon budget appears high and should  
7 be examined; that the PAG supports the Executive Director's efforts  
8 to bring experts together to examine the program; and that the PAG  
9 suggests knowledgeable PAG members be invited to participate in  
10 that.

11           MR. McCORKLE: Does that carry all of your thoughts? It  
12 does not mention a suggestion that the overall budget be reduced.  
13 Was that a part of your initial thought? I think we - that clause  
14 maybe needs to be inserted somewhere. Doug, would you read it  
15 again and see if there's a place that we can insert that idea.

16           MR. MUTTER: Okay. Yeah. I think the first time Kim  
17 suggested it, she said it was too high, and the second time I think  
18 she said it needed to be looked at, and what I wrote was pink  
19 salmon -- the pink salmon budget appears high and should be  
20 examined. You want to say "should be reduced"?

21           (Aside comments)

22           MR. McCORKLE: Examined toward the effort of reducing --  
23 or something of that nature -- or in an effort to reduce . . .

24           MR. MUTTER: Okay.

25           MR. McCORKLE: Is there any further comment? All in  
26 favor, say aye.

1 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection). And the  
3 motion is carried. Congratulations, you've done the first piece of  
4 work today. That's good news.

5 DR. SENNER: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to add that  
6 when the review session is scheduled in November, if one or more  
7 representatives of the PAG want to sit in on that and participate,  
8 you're entirely welcome.

9 MR. McCORKLE: I think we should then leave this then,  
10 put this on the shoulders of the individual members who would like  
11 to participate, to call, find out when and where it is, and be  
12 there.

13 MR. LOEFFLER: You'll be seeing notices of all the review  
14 sessions, and so (simultaneous talking)

15 DR. SENNER: Yeah, we'll do a schedule and where these  
16 are all working sessions, we're not looking to have huge crowds,  
17 but we're delighted if there's participation from the PAG.

18 MR. ZERBETZ: Mr. Chairman.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Gordon.

20 MR. ZERBETZ: I would ask for a show of hands of the  
21 people that are willing or wish to participate further in these  
22 sessions that we're talking about.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Do you want us to do that at the end of  
24 the day when we've done all the sessions, or do you want to do it  
25 session by session.

26 MR. ZERBETZ: On the pink salmon.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Who would like to be part of the pink  
2 salmon review? (Mr. Cobb, Dr. French, and Mr. Andrews indicate in  
3 the affirmative). We have Dave and John and Rupert, as a  
4 beginning.

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.

6 MR. McCORKLE: And Pam.

7 MS. BRODIE: No. (Aside comments) Karl Becker would  
8 probably be very interested.

9 MR. McCORKLE: I'm sure Thea would be there. (Aside  
10 comments) Let's move on to herring. Could we have just a little,  
11 brief introduction to herring before we have our discussion.

12 MR. LOEFFLER: If you -- herring -- we have five projects  
13 in herring, one of which the project coordinator has designed  
14 really to support and bring greater coordination, integration, and  
15 sort of effectiveness to the group as a whole. The other we have  
16 really two components, the reproductive impairment and disease is  
17 investigating sort of the continuing effect of disease and whether  
18 that and any relationship they may or may not have of disease or  
19 any genetic damage to oil-exposed eggs. The second, the stock  
20 structure, is more management and management related, that is the  
21 genetic stock structure investigations -- investigate in fact  
22 whether there is one or multiple stocks of herring, and egg  
23 deposition survey does a variety of things, but it provides -- one  
24 of its most notable is that it provides a more, hopefully a more  
25 effective method of assessing herring populations after they spawn  
26 as a way to predict future returns.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Discussion please. Yes, Dave.

2 MR. COBB: I would like to put a motion on the table  
3 that we fully fund the herring segment and that, whenever possible,  
4 we look at addition funding for that segment.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a second to the motion?

6 MR. ANDREWS: Second.

7 MR. McCORKLE: It's been moved and seconded that we  
8 support the program for herring and where possible to enhance the  
9 amount of money being spent on this project. How about discussion.  
10 Pam.

11 MS. BRODIE: Could we hear from Stan and Bob Spies  
12 about increasing this, why -- whether there were other credible  
13 projects that weren't included.

14 DR. SENNER: I will tell you that very quickly. We've  
15 got a recommendation -- all of the herring projects that were  
16 proposed are in a category that will probably lead to funding them,  
17 so there were no decisions made to not fund a herring project, and  
18 as Bob just said, I -- I don't think we're in a situation where we  
19 can just add money to herring and make effective use of it. We've  
20 got a good package here, and we're, as always, trying to keep  
21 things lean, but I think it's a good package.

22 MS. BRODIE: When you're referring to the ones that say  
23 defer, that they should be funded, or did you mean that there  
24 should be additional projects in your motion?

25 MR. COBB: I think if a defer project is a viable  
26 project and the reason for which it was deferred is taken care of,

1 and, you know, the recommendation of the Chief Scientist is to  
2 continue or to add that project, then I would -- you know, that's  
3 what I'm talking about.

4 DR. SPIES: One of the areas that we could probably  
5 use input from the Public Advisory Group right now is we were  
6 looking very hard at the herring disease proposal, and one of the  
7 things we're trying to do in that proposal is determine if oil was  
8 the cause of the outbreak of either VHF or ichthiophonis or had  
9 some bearing on the bringing that condition into the population,  
10 and trying to understand whether those particular pathogens could,  
11 in fact, have resulted in a decline of the population. That's kind  
12 of the general objective of that program, but it is a multi-year  
13 program, and it's fairly expensive and -- \$1.5 million -- and it's  
14 -- it's looking back at some of the causes of -- that could have  
15 contributed to the decline and the role of oil and the role of  
16 those pathogens in the overall population decline.

17 DR. SENNER: But it is one that has a possible  
18 management payoff in the sense of ...

19 DR. SPIES: Yeah.

20 DR. SENNER: . . . to the extent that disease continues  
21 to be a factor, both limiting recovery but also in addressing  
22 future management issues, such as how to handle the pound fisheries  
23 that are in Prince William Sound, also down in Southeast, and I  
24 think in Kodiak as well for herring, and those there's a management  
25 -- we think a management payoff there.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Chip.

1                   MR. DENNERLEIN:       Now, you hear -- see my ignorance in  
2 fisheries. This is a question for the staff, and that's just in  
3 all of these projects that we're looking at oil, are these projects  
4 -- it seems to me in management and in the return or the long-term  
5 benefits from these studies, natal habitats, causes of disease are  
6 things that would help us manage herring forever, and when I say  
7 these things I don't know that they're directly related to oil, but  
8 for example, as activity occurs in Prince William Sound, port  
9 development, population growth, log transfer sites, if we know  
10 there are certain habitats that are important to herring, that will  
11 be a very important management tool, and similarly, I don't know if  
12 disease is transferred from farmed fish or impounded fish over to  
13 herring, but we also have tremendous hatchery runs and  
14 concentrations in areas of the Sound now, and I know that there's  
15 a nexus to oil, and I know we need to look at that, my question is  
16 are we looking at some other things -- I don't know about this  
17 study, but, Bob and Stan, you know, sometimes I have reviewed  
18 studies where you spend a lot of money looking for a needle in a  
19 haystack instead of looking for the crowbar in a haystack, and I  
20 just want to make sure that we're not missing some things that we  
21 would want to know in science. You know, maybe -- I don't about  
22 disease transfer from hatchery fish to herring, but, you know, are  
23 we going to find that out because that's ongoing?

24                   DR. SENNER:       Yeah, let me just explain on that, and,  
25 Joe, if I don't get it right, jump in, but the issue in that case  
26 is that evidence, particularly from the Atlantic Coast, has been



1 that very large populating of herring are prone to disease  
2 outbreaks, and when you have spawning herring you have  
3 concentrations of herring, but then the -- where the management  
4 dimension comes in is that if you have a pound fishery where you're  
5 artificially enclosing a bunch of spawning herring in nets, then  
6 you've really got a concentration, and is that a condition that  
7 promotes the outbreak and spread of disease. We don't know the  
8 answer to that, but on the face of it that sounds like that's a  
9 possibility.

10 DR. SPIES: One of the things that happens with  
11 ichthyophonous, in particular, and Joe can correct me as well if I  
12 make a mistake here, is that it is carried at a low level in the  
13 population and it seems to break out when the population levels are  
14 high, and fish are in close contact -- close contact of fish seems  
15 to be a -- a pre-requisite for rapid spread of this disease. So  
16 whether that happens naturally in aggregations of -- large  
17 aggregations of herring, when the populations are large, or whether  
18 it happens in the impound fishery, we don't know, but certainly  
19 aspects of those particular research projects I think will shed  
20 some light on that question, and I think also your reference to the  
21 herring natal habitat, you're absolutely right that understanding  
22 where the over-wintering of some of these herring takes place and  
23 some of the rearing habitat and the distribution of that habitat  
24 within Prince William Sound can be extremely useful for future  
25 management actions and decisions relative to protecting those  
26 habitats.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Joe, did you want to make a comment?

2 DR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, relative to the influence --

3 (Dr. Sullivan is asked to approach a microphone)

4 MR. McCORKLE: Those of you who are on the outside, don't  
5 make us remind you all the time, if you come up to the table, pick  
6 up a microphone. Got that?

7 DR. SULLIVAN: Yes.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you.

9 DR. SULLIVAN: Okay. Relative to the question though of  
10 whether the salmon hatcheries are impacting this disease, I don't  
11 think that's true. The -- both VHS and ichthyophonus can infect a  
12 large number of species of fish. Salmon can -- have been -- have  
13 -- have both of them, but from an empirical point of view we have  
14 not seen VHS in -- in any salmon stocks except the Puget Sound  
15 area, and you know, I think we would have seen it by now had that  
16 been the case, and we do ichthyophonus once in a while in salmon.  
17 Our perception is that they have gotten it by eating herring, but  
18 it has never been -- I mean, it is the occasional salmon rather  
19 than any kind of problem in a hatchery.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Jim King.

21 MR. KING: I made a somewhat negative comment about  
22 herring that muddied Dave, and so I'll tell you why and perhaps I  
23 can be corrected if I am wrong. My feeling was that the connection  
24 between -- there's no question that herring have suffered in recent  
25 years in the Sound, but the connection between the oil spill and  
26 what's happening to herring is a little bit tenuous, and what is

1 needed is some very basic biological study of herring, and that's  
2 I felt that the SEA program, perhaps, in addressing the basic food  
3 habits of herring, was the best way to do. Are those correct  
4 statements, or --?

5 DR. SPIES: Yeah, I think the SEA program is going to  
6 provide some very basic information about herring, along with the  
7 natal habitat study, that it's going to be very valuable for the  
8 long-term management of that species, and also for the protection,  
9 which is an important part. If we have a better protective  
10 capability in that fishery, I think everybody is going to be a lot  
11 better off.

12 MR. KING: Perhaps some of these herring projects  
13 actually belong in the SEA program.

14 DR. SPIES: Well, they're closer related, certainly,  
15 but, I mean, there's sort of a history to that in terms of trying  
16 to keep a cap on the SEA program spending and so forth, so --  
17 (laughter).

18 MR. McCORKLE: David.

19 MR. COBB: My only other comment would be -- would be  
20 to say that the relationship between the oil spill and herring is  
21 that -- at least in my mind -- that the oil was the environmental  
22 factor that triggered the stress levels that increased or caused  
23 the disease to be manifested. So, I think, you know, that's the  
24 aspect I -- you know -- I hope that they look at, and I think  
25 that's why it's important to do those studies and do everything we  
26 can for the herring.

1 DR. SENNER: We should -- oh, I'm sorry, go ahead.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Well maybe we can just follow up on Dave's  
3 comment there. Do you feel that in the protocol laid out in the  
4 herring program that that objective may be met.

5 MR. COBB: I think it will.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, Jim Diehl.

7 MR. DIEHL: I think you can't, for sure, attach  
8 herring to the Prince William Sound spill -- the Exxon Valdez spill  
9 -- but I see, you know, the Trustee Council having this money as an  
10 opportunity to study the life cycle of the herring much more  
11 closely, and I would certainly assume, I mean it might not be  
12 scientific, but I assume that the oil spill stress caused by the  
13 toxics is a reason -- is a good enough reason for me for the  
14 disease to go up -- the disease rate for it to -- you know, you  
15 have a virus -- we all carry viruses in our body, and when we're  
16 placed under stress those viruses show up, and you know, comparing  
17 human to herring might be a stretch, but to me it's logical, and  
18 you know, anything we can do to study the life cycle of a natural  
19 species like this, not artificially enhanced or anything, not  
20 enhanced by man, is going to be a benefit, and herring stocks were  
21 so of the first to go in the East, and they certainly have a large  
22 place as a food fish in the ecosystem.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Was there a comment from the scientific  
24 table?

25 DR. SENNER: Well, I just wanted to say that in regard  
26 to the agency role here, under the herring natal habitat project

1 one of the goals is to develop a survey technique that would  
2 replace or supplement the traditional spawn deposition surveys that  
3 Fish & Game has done for a number of years, and we're very firm, or  
4 we're trying to be very firm in obtaining an agency commitment to  
5 take over that survey work, and so that that's not something that  
6 we would plan to support in perpetuity. So this is one of those  
7 cases where we can help develop a tool and do some important  
8 research, but the agency increasingly will need to be picking up on  
9 that one.

10 MR. McCORKLE: John.

11 DR. FRENCH: Yeah. I think, as Dave said, this whole  
12 package is very important, and I support sending forward the  
13 message that it should all be funded, particularly the disease. I  
14 think the oil spill and the cleanup activities are very plausible  
15 sources of stress, but also oil is known to have suppressed immune  
16 function in various cases. I think there's two very plausible  
17 links to disease there. Also, the diseases, both viral hemorrhagic  
18 septicemia and ichthyophonus are known to occur in other species,  
19 particularly gadoids species. We are seeing a large influx of  
20 pollock into the -- into Prince William Sound. The information  
21 from this may have much broader implications than just herring. I  
22 think it's an important set of projects, and especially the disease  
23 components, and should be funded.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Are you ready to vote. I have heard a lot  
25 of comments saying that this is a package we should recommend go  
26 forward. Does that mean that -- (indiscernible aside comments from

1 the PAG members) There isn't a motion yet -- is there a motion?

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, there is. Call for the  
3 question.

4 MR. McCORKLE: I forgot that. We got a motion. Would  
5 you state the motion again.

6 MR. MUTTER: The motion was to fully fund the herring  
7 projects and, where possible, enhance funds, and that was explained  
8 as fund the deferred projects if the Chief Scientist supports them.

9 MR. McCORKLE: The action is on adopting this motion.  
10 All in favor, say aye.

11 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) And the  
13 motion is carried. Now we get one more big element before we have  
14 a little recess, and that will be to discuss the Sound Ecosystem  
15 Assessment and related projects, the so-called SEA program. Who  
16 can give us a brief overview of that?

17 MR. LOEFFLER: The SEA program includes a related project  
18 which is not part of the program specifically. The SEA program is  
19 4.6 million and is expected to ratchet downwards somewhat in the  
20 next few years. It's projected to go 4.6, 3.6, 2.6 by FY 1998,  
21 with unclear funding thereafter. It's a program that in general  
22 focuses on the ecological -- the underlying ecological  
23 relationships that support the production of herring and pink  
24 salmon in the Sound, and because those fish are in some ways  
25 foundations for a lot of the marine ecosystem, they are prey for a  
26 lot of the seabirds and marine mammals, its sort of a foundation

1 study for a lot of our -- for a lot of the other clusters as well.  
2 So that is the -- that is the SEA program. There's an additional,  
3 quite innovative and highly regard study, pristane monitoring in  
4 mussels and predators, and that provides a simple measure --  
5 pristane is a compound which is produced by -- produced actually by  
6 the mussels and related to the level of food for pink salmon and  
7 herring, and so by measuring pristane you have a simple measure of  
8 marine productivity, thus allowing some future predictions about  
9 fish production and harvest levels. It's quite an innovative  
10 proposal that we're sort of proud of actually.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Is there a motion to send  
12 forward the SEA program as presented? I -- you can't blame me for  
13 trying. I know there's a lot of support for major elements of this  
14 program. Chip.

15 MR. DENNERLEIN: I'll make the motion and then we'll  
16 open it for discussion.

17 MR. COBB: Second.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Moved and seconded, thank you. Who would  
19 like to begin the discussion, the maker of the motion?

20 MR. DENNERLEIN: Speaking to my motion, it will be a  
21 discussion and question for the staff. It's the -- the obvious  
22 question is going to be, any duplication or sequencing or -- you  
23 know -- if we're looking to pare down a program, as in we've  
24 targeted the pink salmon area, I think that the sense of my  
25 colleagues is that we didn't really pare down herring for a number  
26 of interesting reasons, one, because it was I think viewed by

1 people as sort of a foundation building block of a lot of different  
2 species from birds to commercial fisheries to the, you know, one of  
3 the foundation blocks of the chain. That's my interest and this is  
4 what was damaged in Prince William Sound was the ecosystem. What  
5 that means, it was altered, and this gets at some of the broader  
6 viewpoint. I do like the pristine, I think it's -- any time that  
7 we begin to learn something about indicators which put us a little  
8 more ahead of the bell curve of things, we can start to make more  
9 intelligent management decisions, I think that's a finding, those  
10 kind of things, whether it's testing -- better testing for PSP or  
11 pristine monitoring, I like those kind of innovative proposals that  
12 are really returns on investment that come out of this project.  
13 So, I'm inclined to say that's what we ought to be doing is looking  
14 at the ecosystem, we ought to be looking at projects which we learn  
15 some things from but actually result in some returns in investment  
16 for -- for long-term management, but within this large number are  
17 there any things that could be sequenced where, you know, if not  
18 outright duplication -- the more sophisticated part of that  
19 question I guess is what I asked earlier -- sometimes if you do a  
20 study in sequence, it recommends a little more refined strategy for  
21 your next study and you get a little more out of that one for your  
22 money, Bob, you know, and that's sort of my question here -- is  
23 there any fertile, you know, ground for that kind of thinking, or  
24 is this really package boiled down to its essence?

25 DR. SPIES: I think -- it's -- the SEA program's been  
26 very -- is -- first of all is highly integrated, and they went



1 through a long planning process. It's been reviewed in a great  
2 deal of detail on several occasions by independent peer reviewers  
3 and we're very satisfied that it is about as integrated and  
4 squeezed down and sequenced as I think it can get, and we're very  
5 pleased with it. I think you could ask the question about some of  
6 the other ecosystem programs that we're doing, the nearshore  
7 vertebrate predators and the forage fish. I think those are both  
8 good efforts but, you know, in an ideal world perhaps maybe we  
9 would have started those sometime after we had all the -- all the  
10 information in from the SEA program, at least one or two of them.  
11 I do think though that the -- I agree with your point of view that  
12 this is -- the SEA program is really a very basic -- it's providing  
13 very basic information about the oceanography of the Sound, what  
14 drives the annual phytoplankton production, and its system depends  
15 to a great deal on -- a great deal on phytoplankton production and  
16 the copopods and how they feed and how they interact with the  
17 larval fish and their predators, the larval fish, and all that's --  
18 is understanding what's going on in the water -- in the water  
19 column of Prince William Sound, and the Sound depends to a large  
20 degree on that production, and so I think this is going to help us  
21 in a lot of different ways to understand the biological  
22 oceanography of the Sound and in fisheries and also what's  
23 happening with the bird and marine mammal populations. So, this is  
24 a great program, there's no doubt about it.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Is it the view of the group that this is  
26 such an underpinning, all-important study that it should not be --

1 should receive no recommendation for reduction. This is the  
2 largest package in the program. It's 4.7 million. If there is  
3 ever a place you wanted to -- to look for a cut, it's in the  
4 biggest one. That doesn't mean it's the best one to cut. Maybe we  
5 reduce some other programs along the line and say this is one that  
6 we have to accept in its nearly five million dollar  
7 (indiscernible).

8 DR. FRENCH: Just for the record, I'd like to say that  
9 my employer, the University of Alaska, is a major recipient of  
10 funds in this project. It is my intent to abstain on the motion.

11 MR. McCORKLE: That -- hearing no objection to that, we  
12 will allow you to abstain. Pam.

13 MS. BRODIE: I'm uncomfortable with approving this \$4.7  
14 million . . .

15 MR. McCORKLE: I thought you might be.

16 MS. BRODIE: . . . because there doesn't seem to be  
17 very much breakdown about how it's spent, and I was wondering if,  
18 if you did need to cut it, are there sections that could come out  
19 that would still leave valuable projects without doing the whole  
20 thing? Is it possible to do a good project for less money?

21 DR. SPIES: Well, some of the overall objectives of  
22 that program relate to the -- to the -- to determining factors or  
23 processes in the ecosystem that affect fisheries production, and  
24 the program is very highly integrated, so if you take out parts of  
25 the oceanography, for instance, or parts of the zooplankton  
26 production or parts of the phytoplankton production measurements,

1 you really lose an essential part of that. You're not going to be  
2 able to answer some questions, and it's so highly integrated and  
3 each part depends so much on other parts of the program, that I  
4 don't really see that -- that I think could be penny wise and pound  
5 foolish here. By taking a small part out, you could really lose a  
6 lot of information. So, I feel pretty strongly that it's very  
7 difficult to cut parts of it out. If you could cut parts of it  
8 out, and you could still learn a lot about oceanography, you could  
9 still learn a lot about zooplankton, but the interactions between  
10 these different components and how they work together could be lost  
11 if you don't have every part of the program in there, I think.

12 MR. MCCORKLE: Molly.

13 MS. MCCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to note for  
14 the record that when this proposal was first being considered by  
15 the Council, it was projected by the proposers at \$4.6 or five  
16 million forever, I mean on into the future. At the workshop in  
17 January last year, the chief scientist of the program, Ted Cooney,  
18 gave a very eloquent presentation about the project and described  
19 how they basically needed three years of level funding and then  
20 they saw it tapering down. Taking him at his word, we put numbers  
21 to that tapering down, and they have committed to reducing the  
22 project by a million dollars for each of the next two years. Now,  
23 if they still feel they need additional funds, they will go out and  
24 seek alternative funding from other sources, but they have  
25 committed -- made a commitment -- that this year it was level  
26 funding, and then next year it will be 3.6 and the year after 2.6,

1 and I think they have been very cooperative at doing that.  
2 Although I think if we didn't squeeze them on that, it would 4.6 or  
3 five million, and it's not because they'd be out there wasting  
4 money or anything, I think there are always good things that could  
5 be done, but they have committed to doing that, and I think that  
6 shows a real good faith effort at working with us.

7 DR. SENNER: Also the Alyeska consortium, just as one  
8 example, has just given them a quarter of a million dollars worth  
9 of cruise time, donated a vessel, and made a cruise at their  
10 disposal a certain number of days a month. I don't know the  
11 details, but it is a significant contribution to the effort.

12 DR. SPIES: We've also gotten in-kind services from  
13 the Coast Guard in the past, and they're using their money pretty  
14 efficiently, I think.

15 MS. McCAMMON: Right. You do get into a little bit of a  
16 trap, in a way, by making a project so integrated that really it  
17 makes it really hard to reduce it -- but that's what you want it to  
18 be.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Rupert.

20 MR. ANDREWS: A little bit of information -- I think  
21 last time we were talking about university projects with a 40  
22 percent administrative overhead, didn't they reduce that  
23 substantially?

24 MS. McCAMMON: Twenty-five percent.

25 MR. ANDREWS: And it's reflected in this project?

26 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

1 MR. ANDREWS: Yeah?

2 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Kim.

4 MS. BENTON: I agree with the motion, I just have a

5 component that fell out that I'm hoping with the 4.7 million they

6 could keep in there, and that's the coordination and

7 communications. I'm familiar and I'm on the mailing list for all

8 the information that goes out, and they do an excellent job of

9 trying to get community coordination and get information out to the

10 local people about what they've been doing, and if that doesn't

11 happen because they can't afford, I hope the Restoration Office

12 picks it up or be sure that that's a component that stays. I think

13 we need all the good information out to the public that we can get,

14 especially on a big ticket item like this.

15 MR. McCORKLE: We'll go to Jim King, then Jim Diehl.

16 MR. KING: I was just noticing that in both the

17 herring and the SEA plan, there are some defer decision and

18 contingent funding, which I assume indicates that the staff is

19 still working and will be working on these.

20 MS. McCAMMON: There is late reports.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: No, there's a SEA review.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Speak up folks.

23 MR. LOEFFLER: Isn't there a --

24 MS. McCAMMON: No, it's --

25 MR. LOEFFLER: A review of the SEA plan scheduled for the

26 fall?

1 DR. SPIES: SEA program?

2 MR. LOEFFLER: Yeah.

3 DR. SPIES: There's a --

4 MR. McCORKLE: We are combing our memory, Jim.

5 MS. McCAMMON: No, it's all contingent because there are

6 some principal investigators that have late reports, and since this

7 has been published, those reports have been rolling in, and I

8 anticipate by the end of August they will be -- we will be all in

9 shape there.

10 MR. KING: Well, what I was wondering is if there is

11 going to be more staff discussion and work on these?

12 MS. McCAMMON: Not on these two. Basically, we've been

13 redoing the budget. The budget came in higher, and we've been

14 working with Ted Cooney on a revised budget to come down to 4.6,

15 and those numbers have been coming in, and they probably will be

16 acceptable.

17 DR. SPIES: We do have an annual review scheduled for

18 the SEA Plan sometime after the first of the year, and -- we've had

19 one every year for the past several years.

20 MR. KING: I wondered if perhaps the pink salmon

21 committee we formed this morning should perhaps be included in

22 those kind of meetings.

23 MR. LOEFFLER: Er -- Mr. Chairman?

24 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: I think that what we -- we're going to do

26 is invite you to all of the meetings and then let your

1 participation -- it's at your discretion, but you're certainly  
2 welcome for all of them, and you'll be informed of them all.

3 MR. McCORKLE: That really does put the opportunity right  
4 squarely on our shoulders to participate in as many of these  
5 reviews as we -- as we feel we can. Some I feel we must, that  
6 certain of us must do that. We go to Jim Diehl next and then to  
7 Gordon.

8 MR. DIEHL: Yeah, I think it's important to remember  
9 that the SEA Plan -- the Sound Ecosystem Assessment Program -- is  
10 something we pushed for quite a long time, and it's something that  
11 it -- it involves a non-profit located right in the heart of Prince  
12 William Sound in Cordova, and you know, it's just started up the  
13 past year or two, and I think it's important to -- and it's well  
14 integrated, and it's important to fund it fully.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Gordon Zerbetz.

16 MR. ZERBETZ: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, just a question to  
17 the staff. I had meant to inquire yesterday about the appendix  
18 sheets that Bob gave us -- or provided us -- page A12 of the  
19 appendix sheet, which has the sub-projects listed -- some sub-  
20 projects listed there for the SEA monies, and I was wondering if  
21 there was a breakdown for us of the amounts of each of these.

22 MR. LOEFFLER: There are a variety of projects, only some  
23 of them are listed on page A . . .

24 MS. McCAMMON: Only the new ones.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: Only the new ones are listed on page A12.

26 MR. ZERBETZ: Would you have the amounts for those?

1           MR. LOEFFLER: Well, there -- we have the whole breakdown  
2 upstairs. I can get it if you want.

3           MR. ZERBETZ: I'll take a look at it.

4           MR. LOEFFLER: Okay.

5           MR. McCORKLE: There was a question over here. Chip.

6           MR. DENNERLEIN: I -- I'm going to support funding of  
7 this, but I would feel much better if my colleague Pam Brodie felt  
8 better, and so I'll make sort of my rationale because, not to hear  
9 myself talk, but since this is a public record I think I owe it  
10 (interruption by Mr. McCorkle) -- I'm representing to say why  
11 because I think there's mostly a positive mark here. I am very  
12 hesitant to support just large block amounts. I spend most of my  
13 time on the ground trying to figure out what it is exactly we need  
14 to do when we don't have enough money. You know, there's people  
15 and bear running all over Katmai, and there's 10 things we need to  
16 do, but I spend a week going that's nice but what are the four we  
17 need to do to achieve critical mass to get this train back on the  
18 track. And I would normally do that here and I would not just  
19 swallow five million dollars. The reason that I am going to  
20 support this one is, as I've said, one, it is the overview project.  
21 I think it goes right to the heart of an ecosystem look. I think  
22 out of this project, in addition to finding new techniques, it may  
23 provide one of the models for the kind of research if these  
24 disasters ever happen again, that from the get-go we establish an  
25 integrated ecosystem look. I think there's an investment in the  
26 approach. I think there's a good record between the scientists and



1 the EVOS staff. There is some intellectual honesty in refining  
2 this project, about the scientists standing up and say we at least  
3 need three years, the staff sort of giving a little discipline on  
4 the numbers, the scientific community responding, that's a good  
5 process. The integrated studies I think are terrific because for  
6 those of us who have observed this process from the beginning, I  
7 think it's -- this is -- it's turned from chaos to something that  
8 really is truly integrated. Another reason is that we talk  
9 endlessly about public-private support, and it usually means, you  
10 know, you get some money from the industrial development authority,  
11 some from the legislature and some from the feds. This actually,  
12 we have some private entities, not only federal government, Coast  
13 Guard, but the consortium at Alyeska, that other people have some  
14 confidence in this project and want to help make it work. I think  
15 that -- I think speaks for it. So, I -- I like this. I think a  
16 lot of work has gone into it, and I think that it has a lot of  
17 indicators in it for me, although the number is large, of  
18 confidence building for me. It has a number of indicators that say  
19 that's the kind of behavior we ought to be exhibiting when we put  
20 together a program, and so I tend to trust -- my confidence level  
21 is up in this, and I tend to trust the staff, and I think I'm going  
22 to go with the package, and after finally wanting to see something  
23 integrated, I don't think I'm going to tinker with this one at this  
24 point and piecemeal it.

25 MR. McCORKLE: I will call for the vote after we hear a  
26 response from Pam. Your name was mentioned. I think you have a

1 right to ...

2 MS. BRODIE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 MR. McCORKLE: . . . a few seconds or minutes.

4 MS. BRODIE: I have always supported the SEA project in  
5 the past, enthusiastically, and I -- we've heard persuasive  
6 testimony from Dr. Spies that this is very good, but at the  
7 beginning of this discussion I thought we had a lot of agreement  
8 that the combination of pink, herring and SEA was almost half the  
9 budget and that seemed out of balance, and now we're saying don't  
10 cut herring and don't cut SEA, go ahead and cut pinks, but, you  
11 know, maybe -- maybe that will be a million dollars out of it, it's  
12 still going to be nearly half of the budget, and if the Trustees  
13 are serious about cutting the budget, well then, that means it's  
14 going to have to come out of some other places, and it seems to me  
15 it's still going to be out of balance. I don't know what to do  
16 with that because it seems like we can't cut -- we can't the SEA  
17 project, and I don't to eliminate it. I don't think anybody here  
18 wants to eliminate it. So, I think it's kind of still leaving a  
19 problem with the Trustee Council.

20 MR. McCORKLE: I did hear -- and we will call for a vote  
21 in a minute -- but I did hear from the scientists that if the SEA  
22 program goes through, there might be other places that could be  
23 looked at as reduction, and after we have this vote and come back  
24 from a recess, that's what we better be about, because unless I've  
25 misheard -- you better tell us now -- because I think what I heard  
26 you say was that this is the centerpiece program, and there maybe

1 some other places where we could more logically look for making cut  
2 recommendations.

3 DR. SPIES: Maybe one of our problems is our -- some  
4 of our accounting of -- methods are a little too simplistic. I  
5 think that the point SEA program does support pink salmon and  
6 herring is perhaps a little simplistic. It has a wider ecosystem  
7 view, so just adding up pink salmon and herring and throwing in the  
8 ecosystem too maybe is a little bit of -- the SEA ecosystem study  
9 is a little bit of an oversimplification.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. I'd like to call for the vote.  
11 Would you read the motion before the house.

12 MR. MUTTER: Okay. There's two ways to write the  
13 motion and, Chip, you can tell me which way you meant. One is that  
14 the PAG moves to fully fund projects in this cluster as recommended  
15 by the Executive Director. The other way is to fully fund projects  
16 in this cluster -- because are recommended not to fund -- which way  
17 do you prefer to have that stated?

18 MR. DENNERLEIN: In keeping with my speaking to my own  
19 motion, it's to part of that was -- was the quality of the  
20 involvement of the staff and the science community, so I intend to  
21 include the Executive Director in my motion.

22 MR. MUTTER: Okay. So the motion is to fully fund  
23 projects in this cluster as recommended by the Executive Director.

24 MR. McCORKLE: You have been included in. All in favor,  
25 say aye.

26 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection)  
2 Congratulations, the motion is carried.

3 MR. MUTTER: And John French abstained.

4 MR. McCORKLE: And John French abstained from voting, but  
5 I assume you will not abstain from the recess, which is now  
6 declared, for 10 minutes. We will be back and action will take  
7 place at 10:30. I hope you're all here.

8 (Off record 10:21 a.m.)

9 (On record 10:30 a.m.)

10 MR. McCORKLE: Dr. Loeffler, are you ready? (Aside  
11 comments) Okay, folks, we are ready to go. Remember our goal is  
12 to find places to make recommendations to get us close to our  
13 budget figure. Are you prepared to begin with the discussion on  
14 sockeye?

15 MR. LOEFFLER: At your pleasure.

16 MR. McCORKLE: We want to begin. Those who aren't here,  
17 just don't get to play.

18 MR. LOEFFLER: Okay. With sockeye, if you'll remember,  
19 the focus really -- a lot of the discussion has been on the Kenai  
20 River. If you look at the sockeye cluster, the majority of the  
21 cost is really on the Kenai River, and we've had two programs for  
22 the last three or four years. The first is a research and a stock  
23 separation and management program, both are proposed to close out  
24 as transfer -- the management would be then transitioned to the  
25 Department of Fish & Game, but that's pending a discussion of 1995  
26 return. If the 1995 return is what is viewed as a failure, then

1 maybe perhaps we should continue into it because it is such an  
2 important area and Fish & Game is going to have to use their own  
3 money essentially to deal with it, both in a management sense and  
4 a research sense to understand why. So a lot of our discussion has  
5 been what's a failure. So, that's been the Kenai portion. The  
6 Kodiak portion is, at least scientifically, less controversial.  
7 It's an ongoing monitoring program for -- for some lakes which have  
8 not -- which for the most part have not as yet recovered. The  
9 monitoring information provides data for the Department to  
10 construct or harvest management plans, which -- i.e., how much fish  
11 to catch and when -- and where -- which in fact has helped the  
12 lakes recover. The supplementation -- the more controversial is  
13 Coghill Lake. This will be a fourth year of a five year  
14 fertilization program -- and a transition to the Department of Fish  
15 & Game after next year, with a smolt feasibility study for two  
16 other lakes in Prince William Sound. So -- that's all. That's  
17 sockeye.

18 MR. MCCORKLE: Discussion on the sockeye program is now  
19 solicited. Yes, Chip.

20 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would just like to suggest, and I  
21 don't whether we're going to do these by motions, but speaking of  
22 fertilization I think this is a fertile area for reduction. I  
23 think that -- I think the sockeye program -- I am prepared to make  
24 two suggestions -- to take your comments to heart, Mr. Chairman, of  
25 the business we need to be about, and in looking over the package  
26 this is one of the places I wouldn't -- I want to get out a

1 calculator and play scientist and play accountant, but for my input  
2 and role and PAG, I would say that this is a place that most -- it  
3 seems to me looking over this and talking to some people in the  
4 field, this is one of the best candidates for trimming.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you for that comment. Doug?

6 MR. MUTTER: Did you make a motion?

7 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would make a motion that the PAG  
8 direct the staff to review the sockeye program, with the idea that  
9 this is a likely -- a likely candidate for reductions to achieve  
10 our target funding.

11 MR. McCORKLE: It's been moved by Chip, seconded by  
12 Rupert. Further discussion, please? The question has been called.  
13 All in favor of the motion, say aye.

14 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
16 is carried. That's good -- that's cranking out the business.  
17 (Laughter) Oh, dear, am I in trouble now. (Laughter) Cutthroat  
18 and dolly varden trout . . .

19 DR. FRENCH: Before we leave that section . . .

20 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Mr. Vice President.

21 DR. FRENCH: Before we leave that section . . .

22 MR. McCORKLE: Too late.

23 DR. FRENCH: An additional . . .

24 MR. McCORKLE: No, I'm teasing. I apologize.

25 DR. FRENCH: . . . an additional motion, and that is  
26 that we recommend to staff that they close out the management-

1 related sockeye activities in as expeditious manner as possible.

2 MR. COBB: Second.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Moved and seconded that the management  
4 aspects of the sockeye program be closed out as expeditiously as  
5 possible. Further discussion. All in favor, say aye.

6 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

7 MR. McCORKLE: The motion is carried. The motions so far  
8 have been unanimously, with one exception where we had to have an  
9 abstinence by Dr. French, and Kim doesn't even know that we cut out  
10 the program. (Laughter) We are on now to cutthroat and dolly  
11 varden trout.

12 MR. LOEFFLER: They considered clear-cutting a portion of  
13 the sockeye.

14 MS. BENTON: Oh, I see. I'll sit here for the rest of  
15 the day.

16 (Laughter)

17 MR. LOEFFLER: They had considered that expenses had  
18 achieved an over-escapement of sorts.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Could we have a brief comment on the  
20 cutthroat and dolly varden trout projects.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: Okay. If you remember, cutthroat and  
22 dolly varden trout have not been a large part of the Trustee  
23 Council's program since the spill. The injury is slightly  
24 problematic, but based on previous studies the expectation is the  
25 injury is due -- that there has been some slower growths and  
26 smaller individuals. As you know, cutthroat trout in particular,

1 Prince William Sound is the northernmost, western-most portion of  
2 their range, doesn't exist elsewhere in the spill area, streams  
3 tend to be small and the populations small, or that the streams are  
4 few number and the population per stream rather small. So, we have  
5 had in the past a small supplementation effort. This -- for  
6 supplementation is still a small effort, and what we're doing is  
7 monitoring previous supplementation efforts, finishing monitoring  
8 so we can determine the success, and on the basis of that we may  
9 decide to do additional supplementation in the future. The  
10 flagship, small as it is, in this group is a research project --  
11 (aside comments) what -- the flag boat, so to speak -- and this is  
12 a project with about 50 percent participation by the Forest  
13 Service, so it's a matching -- it's an approximately matching funds  
14 project -- which would confirm -- which would hopefully confirm  
15 that nature of the injury, that in fact there was injury, and  
16 provide some information about how different sub-populations of  
17 cutthroat and dolly varden react should provide useful management.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you for that overview. Dave Cobb.

19 MR. COBB: As I said yesterday, I think this is an  
20 overlooked segment that needs to be addressed.

21 MR. LOEFFLER: Sorry, Dave, I was just trying to get you  
22 to -- I should have waited until you finished -- I was just going  
23 to try to get you to elaborate on the kinds of things you think are  
24 overlooked, whether supplementation or just understanding.

25 MR. McCORKLE: He was about to do that. (Laughter)  
26 Thank you both.



1 MR. COBB: Now, I've lost my train of thought.  
2 MR. McCORKLE: Shucks -- oh well.  
3 MR. COBB: It's an area that needs to be addressed,  
4 I think, to understand it better. I think it's -- there's  
5 populations out there that, since it is our most northern and  
6 western -- that area is part of the northern-western edges of the  
7 species, I think it's unconscionable to not look at it and to not  
8 understand it, instead of just writing it off. I think the fear  
9 that since they are so small remnant populations, they could easily  
10 be wiped out, and I think it's an area that we need to put more  
11 emphasis in, and I would move that the -- that we spend the money  
12 that's asked for.  
13 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a second to the motion?  
14 MR. TOTEMOFF: Second.  
15 MR. McCORKLE: It's been moved and seconded by Dave and  
16 Chuck that the cutthroat and dolly varden program be recommended as  
17 proposed. Brenda.  
18 MS. SCHWANTES: I may have missed something, but it said  
19 fund contingent upon cost-sharing, and I was wondering if . . .  
20 MR. McCORKLE: The cost-sharing has been changed.  
21 MS. SCHWANTES: That's -- okay, thanks.  
22 MR. LOEFFLER: Dave, just from my -- is your motion to  
23 fund as indicated, or fund as indicated with greater emphasis if  
24 possible.  
25 MR. COBB: I would say fund with greater emphasis if  
26 possible.

1 MR. McCORKLE: So, we're changing the motion now. That  
2 was not part of your first motion, but that's what you want to do.

3 MR. LOEFFLER: I'm sorry, that's what I understood.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Doug, what you got there?

5 MR. MUTTER: To fully fund as proposed, with greater  
6 emphasis if possible.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Is that okay with you, Chuck?

8 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, further discussion on cutthroat and  
10 dolly varden.

11 MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Rupert.

13 MR. ANDREWS: I just have a problem seeing how some of  
14 these studies are related to actual effects of the oil spill  
15 itself, not that I disagreed with research for cutthroat. I would  
16 agree, but I just don't see the tie-in, that's all.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Can someone help Rupe with that? Dr.  
18 Spies.

19 DR. SPIES: Yeah. The -- the idea of this -- the main  
20 proposal here that we're talking about with cutthroat and dolly,  
21 the research proposal, it is an effort to understand the life  
22 histories of the different forms, and it's not so much a repeat of  
23 the former monitoring studies that we've done with dolly varden,  
24 cutthroat trout, to establish the injury, and those are done by  
25 Kelly Helpa (ph) at the Department of Fish & Game mainly, and those  
26 studies resulted in a finding of reduced growth rates in the oil

1 spill area, but this study is -- is going to help clarify the life  
2 history of those, and it wasn't really known during the injury  
3 studies, kind of the different components of the populations  
4 relative to the life history makeup, so I think this program as  
5 proposed is not so much related to the injury as it is to  
6 understanding those populations so they can be better managed in  
7 the future. So, that's the advantage, I think, that we'd get out  
8 of these programs.

9 MR. ANDREWS: I can see that, I just wonder how the oil  
10 spill impacted this. We have a lot of life history on cutthroat in  
11 Southeast Alaska, both on the resident and anadromous forms. If I  
12 was going to do research, I'd get into the homing instinct problem,  
13 which we really don't understand, and they stray around quite a  
14 bit. It's just that, Bob, I have a little problem here trying to  
15 piece this thing together as how the oil spill impacted, you know,  
16 some of this.

17 DR. SPIES: Basically, it's an injured species. We  
18 don't know if it's recovered or not, and this is an attempt to  
19 learn more about that particular species and -- so that we can do  
20 more of the kind of thing that Dave is suggesting, is to better  
21 management -- potentially, with more knowledge we can have better  
22 management of the species.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Rupert, is the thrust of your question to  
24 try and connect these species with the oil spill?

25 MR. ANDREWS: I was trying to see the linkage.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Has there been linkage? Is there linkage?

1 DR. SPIES: Both of these are listed as injured  
2 species where the status of recovery is not known.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Does that help?

4 MR. ANDREWS: No. I definitely would go for the  
5 enhancement project here and improvement structures, I think that's  
6 warranted, but -- that's all I want. I don't want to pursue it any  
7 further.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Any further discussion? Pam.

9 MS. BRODIE: I'd like a clarification of the motion.  
10 This raspberry book has six . . .

11 MR. McCORKLE: Which raspberry book? The draft?

12 MS. BRODIE: The draft fiscal year work plan . . .

13 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

14 MS. BRODIE: . . . has six proposed projects. One is  
15 recommended, one is deferred, and four are do-not-fund. Dave,  
16 could you explain whether your motion is saying just do the one  
17 that's recommended, do the one that's recommended and the one  
18 that's deferred, or do still more?

19 MR. COBB: My motion is to follow the recommendations  
20 presented to us by the staff. If they say do not fund, I don't  
21 have a problem with that -- if there is some scientific basis for  
22 them not to fund that or some other basis. I think if a project's  
23 deferred but has good scientific merit, then I think it ought to be  
24 reviewed and looked at.

25 MR. McCORKLE: So, we're talking about projects 43B and  
26 145, which in the aggregate are 240,000.

1 MS. BRODIE: So that the motion is to support staff  
2 recommendation for this?

3 MR. McCORKLE: The motion is to do those two and more, if  
4 possible.

5 MR. COBB: Uh-huh.

6 MS. BRODIE: Well that's where I'm confused because .  
7 . .

8 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

9 MR. COBB: Well, that would cover the deferred one.

10 MS. BRODIE: Which the staff will make a recommendation  
11 on.

12 DR. SPIES: Yeah. It is being deferred because the --  
13 the detailed project description for last year hadn't arrived yet.

14 MR. McCORKLE: That's the 43B.

15 MS. BRODIE: So, if that's taken care of, then staff  
16 will recommend it.

17 DR. SENNER: If that's -- yeah -- if we receive a  
18 satisfactory project description, we'll review it, and if it's  
19 satisfactory we would likely recommend funding then.

20 MS. BRODIE: Okay, because I will agree with this  
21 motion if it means going along with staff recommendations. If it  
22 means expanding from that, then we don't . . .

23 DR. SENNER: We don't envision any opportunity for  
24 additional studies not presently in one of those categories.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Well, and I think your view is protected,  
26 Pam, because there is a -- one recommend to fund, one defer, and

1 four do not funds, isn't that right?

2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Yeah. So that would mean then that we  
4 would do, at a minimum, 145, which is 200,000, and no doubt we will  
5 also do 43B, which is the 40,000, which I'm pretty sure is going to  
6 happen -- if you recommend such.

7 MS. BRODIE: Thank you.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Does that help what you needed to have?

9 MS. BRODIE: Yes, exactly.

10 MR. McCORKLE: How about another question, John?

11 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, I support dolly varden and cutthroat  
12 work, but I, in principle, have a concern about too much habitat  
13 modification and building structures and streams, intend to take  
14 the Chief Scientist's comments about inter-species interactions and  
15 the unknown nature of those somewhat to heart, and I appreciate  
16 that Rupe has greater experience with habitat enhancement for  
17 sports fish than I do, but I'm concerned about this type of a  
18 supplementation project, where we're not enhancing the numbers of  
19 individuals, but actually attempting to modify the habitat so it  
20 favors one species over another. At least from the Chief  
21 Scientist's point of view, I gather that you're not convinced that  
22 it's well enough understood that it's going to enhance dollies and  
23 cutthroat over cohos?

24 DR. SPIES: Right, and the reviewers are raising  
25 issues as predation between species that's unpredicted once you put  
26 these structures in, so we wanted further clarification, and it

1 wasn't in the proposal, so -- but that was the main issue.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Bob Loeffler.

3 MR. LOEFFLER: Mr. Chairman, Mr. French, 043B for 1996,  
4 which is to monitor previous construction, not do new construction.  
5 So, we'd monitor, in fact -- to help answer your questions.

6 DR. SENNER: And that's in fact one of the reasons we  
7 recommended do-not-fund some of these other projects until we can  
8 better evaluate the one where that manipulation is going to take  
9 place.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Does that help, John?

11 DR. FRENCH: Yes. No, that's fine, I can support the  
12 motion.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Great. I'd like to call for the motion to  
14 be voted. Would you call -- read the motion, as we understand it  
15 to be?

16 MR. MUTTER: Do I have to?

17 (Laughter)

18 MR. McCORKLE: If you can.

19 MR. MUTTER: The way I understand the motion is to  
20 fully fund the projects as proposed by the Executive Director, with  
21 greater emphasis, if possible, meaning fund the deferred projects  
22 if the staff okays them.

23 MR. McCORKLE: You've heard the motion, all in favor say  
24 aye.

25 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

26 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion

1 is carried. Congratulations. Now, nearshore ecosystem -- pardon  
2 me, marine mammals.

3 MR. LOEFFLER: Marine mammals has two components, the top  
4 predators, so to speak, for this cluster is the marine mammal  
5 research project, which is an integrated group of three projects  
6 which together investigates the factors limiting recovery or  
7 causing the decline in harbor seals. The decline in harbor seals  
8 is sort of a -- both a scientific and social problem in that the  
9 harbor seals are an important subsistence resource, one that's been  
10 declining for a number of years prior to the spill, in addition  
11 it's also been listed as a depleted species, with all of the  
12 potential problems that that might create. So, it's an important  
13 research -- group of research projects -- for those reasons. The  
14 second and smaller portion of the marine mammal is monitoring  
15 killer whales, and we've recommended just close out monitoring for  
16 this year, based on the monitoring -- on the monitoring schedule  
17 which has monitoring every two years, and monitoring was done last  
18 year, so at this point it is not recommended for this year although  
19 there is some ongoing discussion.

20 MR. McCORKLE: The Chair recognizes Jim Diehl.

21 MR. DIEHL: You made last -- although there is some  
22 ongoing discussion, what's that about? Bob?

23 DR. SENNER: Yeah, I can shed some light on that, and  
24 Dr. Spies can. There were two killer whale projects, an A and a B,  
25 to the program. One came in from Craig Matkin and the -- at North  
26 Gulf -- and the other from Marilyn Dahlheim (ph), and the



1 recommendation is to not fund the -- the Marilyn Dahlheim portion  
2 at all. And then the second part was to close out, for the time  
3 being, Craig Matkin's monitoring program -- monitoring and some  
4 research, it was not entirely monitoring. We're having a back and  
5 forth now with Craig on exactly what makes sense here, and I can  
6 give you a couple, at least pieces, of that. He -- he's in the  
7 midst of working with the Science Center in Cordova to have some  
8 GIS -- geographic information system -- work done on the various  
9 sightings he's accumulated over a period of years, and depending on  
10 how you define close-out, that would or would not get covered under  
11 a close-out. And strictly speaking, when we use a term close-out,  
12 it's just to wrap up any analysis and then write a report . . .

13 MR. DIEHL: Yeah, from last year.

14 DR. SENNER: He is coming back and saying he really  
15 would like to have the resources to be able to fully finish that  
16 GIS work and rather than leaving it partly done. That's -- so  
17 that's an element here. He's also asking to be fair here for some  
18 additional limited monitoring monies for '96. He is coming to us  
19 and saying, rather than monitor kind of fully every other year, he  
20 would rather monitor on a lesser basis but have something every  
21 year. So, we don't know yet what -- I think -- what our opinion is  
22 on that, we've just had some communications from Craig about it and  
23 we're trying to take a look. The larger question here, and we're  
24 certainly interested in your views and the larger Public Advisory  
25 Group, is this does seem to be one of those cases with killer  
26 whales -- or killer whales seem to be one of those cases where you

1 can monitor and count critters, but it's not clear to what end you  
2 are doing the monitoring. What is it that we do with that  
3 information. That's at least a question to consider. The other  
4 part of the killer whale one, which makes it difficult, I think, is  
5 that we have a recovery objective, which is probably not a very  
6 good one, and that is, that it says that there need to be 36  
7 animals in the AB pod again. It's a very specific, I mean down to  
8 the naming the animals -- the number of animals in the pod. That  
9 may not be a realistic recovery objective; that may never happen.  
10 And so part of our thinking this year has been this is maybe a good  
11 time to step back a little bit from killer whales, kind of close  
12 down and report on what we've had in progress, but step back from  
13 it for a year, then reconsider that recovery objective, what's  
14 appropriate, and consider whether we ought to be doing more in the  
15 future. That's what we're thinking.

16 MR. DIEHL: Did -- er -- I had a phone call -- a phone  
17 talk with Craig a couple of months ago about his '94 season, and he  
18 was concerned that he couldn't find an additional so many whales  
19 for the AB pod. Have you guys heard anything about that?

20 DR. SPIES: Yeah, he mentioned that to me as well. I  
21 talk to Craig fairly frequently, and he'd mentioned some -- that in  
22 '94 encounters that he had with AB pod that there were some  
23 individuals that he wasn't able to . . .

24 MR. DIEHL: Four or five.

25 DR. SPIES: Right, and . . .

26 MR. DIEHL: And he was going to try to verify that in

1 this year's field work.

2 DR. SPIES: That's right, that's what the killer whale  
3 biologists surely like to see, kind of two years of data, you know,  
4 before they are ready to write off any particular individuals.

5 MR. DIEHL: So, just as a point of information, if  
6 we're -- you know, he's doing it every year, no matter what, and  
7 we're supporting him with funds one year out of the two years that  
8 he's out in the field, or, you know, that's the way it's looking  
9 right now. He's keeping an eye on things. The other -- the other  
10 point that he brought up when I talked to him was that these four  
11 or five whales that he was concerned about were closely related to  
12 individuals that died right after the spill. They were sub-pod  
13 group members. And I don't know, I didn't get details from him,  
14 I've got nothing written from him, but I was wondering, you know,  
15 if he was to find in some way that the AB pod -- the social order  
16 of the AB pod was disrupted greatly after the spill, and the way  
17 the animals interact, all that, you know, that much is -- from what  
18 scientists know is that they are a highly social animal, and the  
19 breaking of that social bond may have caused -- or the disturbance  
20 of the social bond may have contributed, it seems, to the further  
21 deaths of whales in the AB pod, here, and he wanted to explore that  
22 a little bit more. I don't know exactly how they're related, but  
23 he said they were extremely closely related. What I need is a  
24 chart going, you know -- and he's doing the genetics on these pods  
25 and trying to figure out who is the father of whom and who is the  
26 mother of whom, and stuff like that . . .

1 DR. SPIES: He's got some independent funding to do  
2 some genetic work and some contaminant work that I believe is  
3 outside the scope of the Trustee Council funding effort.

4 MR. DIEHL: Right.

5 DR. SPIES: Yeah. He's collecting those core samples  
6 from killer whales this year under -- while he's out there  
7 monitoring.

8 MR. DIEHL: I just wanted to point it out to the group  
9 that, you know, here we have this guy out there doing this stuff,  
10 not necessarily funded anyhow, and if he's making a request that,  
11 you know, that he needs -- he may need to do surveys more often or  
12 some of his other funds are drying up, and he's finding out this --  
13 nothing's verified as yet. It takes two years to verify that a  
14 killer whale is dead, two years of absences, but if -- if he wasn't  
15 out there, we wouldn't know for four or five years whether or not  
16 a whale is missing in the AB pod.

17 DR. SENNER: One of the difficulties though, I think,  
18 in trying to decide what's the best way to go is that Craig has  
19 told us the things that you have just said, he's also said there's  
20 as many killer whales out there overall as he's ever seen, and so  
21 from the recovery standpoint what is our -- what are we after, and  
22 do we base recovery on that AB pod and the number of individuals or  
23 do we declare victory on the larger -- you know . . .

24 MR. DIEHL: On the larger scale -- you know, like,  
25 well, you know, the pinks -- the pinks in the eastern Sound weren't  
26 hit.

1 DR. SENNER: Right.

2 MR. DIEHL: They recovered right away. But the killer  
3 whales roam a bit more, and it -- if there was circumstantial  
4 evidence that they were hit by the oil spill, and as far as I'm  
5 concerned, in the world of whale research, hopefully, an event like  
6 this comes along once in a great long while, a pod transecting or  
7 going through the oil spill, a bunch of members -- one third of the  
8 pod -- dies, and then, you know, as far as I'm concerned that's an  
9 opportunity to look at exactly what kind of overall effect it has,  
10 that kind of disturbance has on the entire pod over the long range,  
11 and -- you know, in that aspect we should keep an eye on that pod  
12 (indiscernible). Plus, it's more of a more -- of course, you've  
13 got this guy running around doing additional research and finding  
14 out additional stuff that we don't even require, but it all relates  
15 to that species, which is a very important species for recreational  
16 users and commercial tourism.

17 MR. McCORKLE: The staff has recommended three quarters  
18 of a million dollars worth of these projects be approved by us, and  
19 yet we're going to have to ask of the three in the category  
20 research which one can we do without. Pam.

21 MS. BRODIE: I think it's extremely important to find  
22 out what's happening to harbor seals, and in so far as these seal  
23 projects can shed some light on that, I think it's important to  
24 support them. I don't know very much though about what Fish &  
25 Wildlife -- is it -- who handles seals? Is it NOAA or Fish &  
26 Wildlife Service?

1 DR. SPIES: NOAA has delegated that to ADF&G,

2 MS. BRODIE: Okay. I don't know what NOAA is doing to  
3 find out about harbor seals or if they could pick up any of this,  
4 but just in general, I think, we've got to find out what's  
5 happening to harbor seals and try to stop the decline, and I think  
6 that's much -- much, much more important than the killer whales  
7 because they're not a threatened species because the overall  
8 populations of killer whales are good. I think this 50,000 level  
9 for killer whales to close out a project, the second year of a two  
10 year project, that sounds reasonable, but I don't think -- although  
11 I think Craig Matkin is a very good researcher, I wouldn't want us  
12 to see -- I wouldn't want to see us putting a lot of resources into  
13 killer whales, but I do think it's appropriate with harbor seals.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Other comments please. Yes, Brenda.

15 MS. SCHWANTES: I'd like to make a motion that we -- we  
16 fund the projects as recommended by the Trustee Council in the  
17 marine mammal cluster.

18 MR. McCORKLE: You mean staff?

19 MS. SCHWANTES: Staff -- yes, sorry.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. And is there a second?

21 MS. BRODIE: Second.

22 MR. McCORKLE: And Pam. Further discussion? Yes, John.

23 DR. FRENCH: Yes, I concur completely with Pam that the  
24 harbor seal problem is something that really needs to be addressed.  
25 I think with both harbor seals, but particularly with killer

1 whales, there is a big problem with not knowing what they're  
2 movement is -- the inter-mixing between the populations within the  
3 Sound and outside the Sound are, but that becomes an extremely  
4 expensive to try to get into, so I'm not going to propose that we  
5 get into that, but I think that those are the types of things that  
6 do need to be addressed by other agency funding and are being --  
7 it's being done to a certain extent, but, for example, with killer  
8 whales, our knowledge of the population structure outside the Sound  
9 is very, very meager, so our ability to integrate that into the  
10 interactions that are observed much more -- in much finer detail by  
11 Craig Matkin and others, are -- are somewhat limited, and that gets  
12 back to Stan's question, what is the restoration objective. If you  
13 are seeing, certainly, the transient pods but perhaps the other  
14 ones intermixing to some extent, when is an appropriate restoration  
15 end point? Is AB something that we're simply not going to be able  
16 to restore to its previous status.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Other further comments. That was a good  
18 viewpoint. Pam -- and -- who did? Oh, I didn't see it behind  
19 Dave's head. I'm sorry.

20 MR. DENNERLEIN: I am going -- I will support the  
21 staff's recommendation and I think that harbor seals are the  
22 species that we should be looking at. My question is to the staff  
23 -- relates to Dr. French's observations -- we've learned a little  
24 bit more about harbor seals recently. In fact, it was only very  
25 recently that, as a result of some fly-overs, not very many years  
26 ago, for oil spill work and monitoring that we discovered that

1 Glacier Bay might have the largest concentration of seals on the  
2 Pacific coast, and here we were in the middle of a national park  
3 and suddenly discovered through a piece of research done for other  
4 purposes, that this might be one of the most significant seal  
5 rookeries in the North Pacific. My question there is directly  
6 related to these projects about health in the Sound. While we  
7 don't know all about movement, we do have some really good control  
8 points, one of them in the largest protected marine system in the  
9 National Park Service, where we have large concentrations of these  
10 animals and -- and is this research, if we're going to look at  
11 effect of oil spill and things, are we taking advantage, Bob, of  
12 data -- you know, Glacier Bay now has a count program, they have a  
13 science program, Tom Taggart (ph) is down there doing some good  
14 work with his teams out of -- in Glacier Bay -- NMFS has paid a  
15 fair amount of attention with biological opinions recently because  
16 of the cruise ship issues and Sound signature -- are we matching  
17 what we're going to study here to what could be control points  
18 where we would have, you know, factors such as changes in prey,  
19 changes in climate, change of but not an oil spill, so we have some  
20 sort of control point to get at, at least weeding out causes and  
21 effects.

22 DR. SPIES: I can't speak totally for Kathy Frost and  
23 for Dr. Castellani at the University of Alaska, but they're both  
24 very competent, are aware of the marine mammal efforts throughout  
25 the state, and nationally and internationally, and so I would  
26 assume that they are quite aware of that, but I will bring that to



1 their attention, the fact that they should be looking at that  
2 Glacier Bay data as a potential comparison, especially for some of  
3 the health related issues and Castellani's . . .

4 MR. McCORKLE: John.

5 DR. FRENCH: Just another observation related to that.  
6 Glacier Bay and, in general, Southeast harbor seal populations are  
7 healthy, Prince William Sound westward are not healthy to marginal;  
8 there's something other than the oil spill that's affected that.  
9 That's been longer than six -- than the '89 collapse.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments along that line? The  
11 motion is to adopt the recommendations of the staff. Pam.

12 MS. BRODIE: I don't think there's anything for sea  
13 otters, and that was . . .

14 MR. LOEFFLER: Sea otters are in the nearshore.

15 MS. BRODIE: Oh, thank you.

16 MR. McCORKLE: So, are you ready to vote?

17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Call for the question.

18 MR. McCORKLE: The question has been called. All in  
19 favor of the motion, please say aye.

20 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
22 is carried. And now I have the distinct concern to mention to us  
23 that we have only suggested that \$1.8 million be tentatively  
24 considered for maybe reduction. So, we're not doing too well, are  
25 we, gang?

26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We've heard nothing yet.

1           (Laughter)

2           MR. McCORKLE: Okay. All right. Well, we're going to  
3 hear it now. We're going to the nearshore ecosystem, which is a  
4 three and a third million dollar package. Do we have a very brief  
5 -- oh, before we do that, in the limited time we have left, if we  
6 could maybe perhaps set aside our desire to professorialize and  
7 bring us back to box one, and move pretty closely to what you  
8 figure is the crucial point that you wish to make. It's very  
9 instructive to me to hear all of the discussion, because I am not  
10 a scientist and I really appreciate it, probably to the point that  
11 I probably should be calling the discussion to a halt more quickly  
12 than I did, so maybe I could help you -- or ask you to help reign  
13 in a bit on that very interesting background, because we're not  
14 going to make it if we have it all. So, Molly.

15           MS. McCAMMON: Mr. Chairman, could we -- could I beg your  
16 indulgence a little bit since I have to leave in about ten or  
17 fifteen minutes here, and skip to subsistence and archaeology  
18 really quickly.

19           MR. McCORKLE: I forgot about that. You are leaving  
20 momentarily -- how about administration? Can anybody talk about  
21 that? Do you trust Loeffler to talk about that? (Laughter) Yeah,  
22 we do have to suffer the departure of our Executive Director,  
23 almost momentarily, so maybe we can amend the agenda a bit and have  
24 her make the presentation now on subsistence and archaeology. Is  
25 that okay? So be it -- so ordered -- so done.

26           MS. McCAMMON: Okay. In the subsistence projects -- I

1 think the recommendations that we have here, the one recommendation  
2 that I am most uncertain as to -- or the project that seems to  
3 raise the most questions that still remain unanswered is probably  
4 the PSP screening program, and that one, because of some of the  
5 legal questions and the issues relating to are we developing a  
6 program that anybody is going to be able to take over. This is to  
7 ascertain whether beaches that are used for subsistence and  
8 recreational purposes are determined to be safe. That one just  
9 raises a lot of questions, and we've had discussions with John  
10 French about this, and it seems unlikely the Council will fund that  
11 unless we can get, unless there's a commitment by Department of  
12 Environmental Conservation or some state or federal entity to take  
13 that program on, and given budget reductions there, I think it's  
14 probably fairly unlikely. So that one just -- I just want to let  
15 people know that that one still raises a lot of questions. That's  
16 project 96212. Of the other projects, there are still a number of  
17 questions on Project 96225, which is Port Graham pink salmon  
18 subsistence project. That one there's still some back and forth  
19 review between the Chief Scientist and the proposers on that, so  
20 I'm not sure where that project is going yet either. Another  
21 project that we have is do-not-fund is Project 96210, the Prince  
22 William Sound youth area watch. If you go back to the  
23 recommendation, the recommendation actually was to not fund this as  
24 a separate project, but to roll it into the objectives of 96052,  
25 the community involvement and interaction project. When we had our  
26 discussions with various people about how to do that, it became

1    apparent that it seemed more appropriate to have it continue as a  
2    separate project, and we've met with the school district, they are  
3    offering to develop the curriculum as an in-kind contribution, we  
4    are working with them to see if we can do it as a pilot effort at  
5    a reduced cost, and they are willing to make a commitment that  
6    within a certain period of years that they would take that project  
7    on themselves -- and find alternate funding for it. So, that  
8    project you'll see back on the list as a "fund" but it will be a  
9    revised project and we will be working with the proposer to revise  
10   that. The other project that still has a lot of questions where  
11   it's going is the clam restoration project, and this is primarily  
12   because this project was developed in conjunction with a capital  
13   investment by the State through their criminal funds for a clam --  
14   for a shellfish hatchery in Seward. That project faced near death  
15   in the past year, primarily because of questions about its long-  
16   term operation and maintenance costs. That appears to be resolved.  
17   Fish & Game has agreed to go forward with it. How the delay though  
18   in getting that project going forward, how that impacts this  
19   effort, we're not sure of, and so we'll be looking at it this fall.  
20   I anticipate -- the reports that we've heard from the project have  
21   been pretty positive, but whether it requires this scale of effort  
22   in this year, we're not certain. So this also could be some area  
23   for reduction, here, and we'll figure that out after the fall  
24   review. Otherwise, I think the proposals are all going forward,  
25   we're working real closely with the proposers on the community  
26   involvement project, and I think we'll have a really good proposal

1 there. Did you have anything else, Sandra, about those, do you  
2 think?

3 MR. McCORKLE: Well, we are left with the fact that the  
4 staff is recommending that these projects be approved, and you are  
5 left with the fact that we need to think of where we might reduce  
6 something, and John is going to tell us where.

7 DR. FRENCH: No, I'm not going to tell you where, I'm  
8 going to formally acknowledge my conflict of interest on 212, and  
9 I guess I can answer questions if there are direct questions on  
10 that, but I feel have to absent myself from any votes involving  
11 212.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. Hearing no objections, we'll  
13 allow that abstinence. Chuck.

14 MR. TOTEMOFF: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to move that we  
15 approve the budget, I think it was 1.3 million, as the staff has  
16 recommended.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a second to the motion?

18 MR. COBB: Second.

19 MR. McCORKLE: That was Dave Cobb who seconds the \$1.3  
20 million budget as presented be approved. Martha.

21 MS. VLASOFF: I also would like to abstain from the vote  
22 for a conflict of interest on 96052.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Let's see, we have two, is that going to  
24 short us? (Aside comments)

25 MS. McCAMMON: I think you can also just state your  
26 conflict and go ahead and vote too.

1 DR. FRENCH: Well.

2 MS. McCAMMON: That's what the legislature does.

3 DR. FRENCH: Mine's a direct monetary -- mine's a  
4 direct monetary contribution. I mean, I have salary dollars in  
5 that -- in that project.

6 (Aside comments)

7 MR. DENNERLEIN: In my experience it never stopped the  
8 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council from giving themselves  
9 an allocation.

10 (Laughter)

11 MS. McCAMMON: And they're just advisory too.

12 MR. McCORKLE: You're -- we're going to allow the quorum  
13 to stand but we will acknowledge the abstained vote.

14 MS. BRODIE: I think we should commend Dr. French for  
15 taking a more ethical stand than some other entities do.

16 (Laughter)

17 MR. McCORKLE: Dave.

18 MR. COBB: I also have a conflict on 96027.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: We're probably content to have a sense of  
20 the PAG.

21 MR. McCORKLE: I think we should set aside the vote and  
22 just take a sense of the PAG on this cluster. Chip.

23 MR. DENNERLEIN: I don't think I have a conflict on  
24 this . . .

25 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

26 MR. DENNERLEIN: But the sense then that I'll

1 contribute is that I agree -- I agree with the motion, and -- and  
2 in the spirit of what the Executive Director's discussion just was.  
3 I -- I -- the two areas here, and since we skipped over nearshore  
4 -- I'm not going to vote -- I didn't want to discuss either  
5 nearshore or this in -- in just sort of block because I think these  
6 areas they are both subject for some refinements, not to say here's  
7 where you have a million dollars, here's where you have half a  
8 million dollars, but I think because of how the projects are  
9 developing there's some things that you're refining with groups and  
10 we -- you know -- 1.8 -- the only thing I'll say, Mr. Chairman, is  
11 that as -- I think the sense of the PAG in our earlier motions was  
12 more than just sort of maybe, if possible, sometime, we hope the  
13 staff can look to reduce 1.8. I think we said take a look at pink  
14 salmon and sockeye and that's where you're going to find your money  
15 savings, so I think we ought -- I think that what I've advised the  
16 PAG is that you've got about 1.8 or two million dollars in the bank  
17 right now, and I think the other money could come from -- we're not  
18 too far away from some refinements. This is where sequencing  
19 matters. If the clam restoration is a good project, but it needs  
20 to sequence with working out some things, if part of it is ready to  
21 go forward and make it work and part of it isn't, we're talking  
22 about real money in a project the size of \$400,000, in the same way  
23 I see it seems to reflect some things where the community  
24 involvement project, one number went up, one number went a little  
25 down, that seems to indicate to me that we're -- we're sort of  
26 pulling together the elements of a project and making one that's

1 really more effective and targeted, and I think that's a good kind  
2 of thing here, and so I think that what I'm to the point here is  
3 that rather than me piece-mealing it, my sense of what I -- folks  
4 I represent here is to support the subsistence package and not to  
5 arbitrarily cut it, but to work with it as you develop the projects  
6 and refine it as you've talked about because I think the savings  
7 here, without hurting the subsistence work that can be done now,  
8 there really is going to be some savings just from the mechanics  
9 and timing here. So, that's what my input would be.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Twenty-five percent of the PAG has a  
11 conflict of interest or has stated a conflict of interest on this  
12 cluster. I am wondering if it would be all right with you if we  
13 withdraw the motions and seconds and go forward with just a  
14 consensus of the PAG, which is to -- not necessarily to restrain  
15 anything Chip has said, but to go forward with the recommendation  
16 that the project continue to have the study of the staff with  
17 respect to the fact that we do need to achieve some cutbacks, some  
18 synthesis, and some coordination. Mr. Zerbetz.

19 MR. ZERBETZ: Mr. Chairman, I personally would opt for  
20 having a vote at the present time. I would, however, like to  
21 express -- I would support the motion, but I would express my  
22 concern with number 96212, the treatment of it as a deferred  
23 project. I think that the PSC situation is -- is something that if  
24 there's any glimmer, if there's any glimmer of a better method of  
25 testing for it, we deserve it to give it our best shot. It should  
26 be even in the form of even a mini-Manhattan Project to try and see



1 if we can get some way of testing for PSP that is less cumbersome  
2 that what we have now.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Any further comments? Yes, Dave.

4 MR. COBB: Only to say that I support these projects.  
5 I think this is an area that's been underfunded in past years and  
6 needs to be considered for full funding and not picked apart.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Any other comments? If not, we're going  
8 to have a roll call vote on this, which I think will then help  
9 clear everybody's record and also give the sense of the PAG.

10 MR. MUTTER: Do you want me to read the motion?

11 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, please.

12 MR. MUTTER: Okay. The motion is to approve the budget  
13 of approximately 1.3 million as recommended by staff. Rupert  
14 Andrews?

15 MR. ANDREWS: Yes.

16 MR. MUTTER: Kim Benton.

17 MS. BENTON: Yes.

18 MR. MUTTER: Pam Brodie.

19 MS. BRODIE: Yes.

20 MR. MUTTER: Dave Cobb.

21 MR. COBB: Abstain.

22 MR. MUTTER: Chip Dennerlein.

23 MR. DENNERLEIN: Yes.

24 MR. MUTTER: Jim Diehl.

25 MR. DIEHL: Yes.

26 MR. MUTTER: John French.

1 DR. FRENCH: Abstain.  
2 MR. MUTTER: Jim King.  
3 MR. KING: Yes.  
4 MR. MUTTER: Vern McCorkle.  
5 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.  
6 MR. MUTTER: Brenda Schwantes.  
7 MS. SCHWANTES: Yes.  
8 MR. MUTTER: Chuck Totemoff.  
9 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes.  
10 MR. MUTTER: Martha Vlasoff.  
11 MS. VLASOFF: Abstain.  
12 MR. MUTTER: Gordon Zerbetz.  
13 MR. ZERBETZ: Yes.  
14 MR. McCORKLE: Ten voting in favor, and so the consensus  
15 of the PAG is send forward. Would you like to talk briefly in the  
16 few seconds you have left on the archaeological resources cluster.  
17 MS. McCAMMON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We are working very  
18 closely on the project 154 for the repository planning effort.  
19 This is one that the project description is being developed in  
20 close conjunction with representatives from the communities  
21 involved, and also with Department of Justice and all of the  
22 attorneys involved in this, so that we don't go down a track and  
23 get yanked at the and. And I think it reflects a very responsible  
24 approach for this year, and I would hope that the PAG would support  
25 this effort.  
26 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a motion? Chip.

1 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would -- I would move to support  
2 this budget as proposed by staff.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Moved and seconded by Chip and Rupert. Is  
4 there any further discussion?

5 MR. ANDREWS: Call for the question.

6 MR. McCORKLE: The question's been called -- which is to  
7 adopt the recommendations of the staff. All in favor, say aye.

8 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection). The motion  
10 is carried. You are thanked profusely for the part of -- in our  
11 program today and yesterday and for all of the help that you do.

12 MS. McCAMMON: Could I do the admin budget real quick.

13 MR. McCORKLE: If you've got a minute to go over the  
14 admin budget, that is one that's been called for -- what do you  
15 need?

16 MS. McCAMMON: A copy -- my copy.

17 MR. McCORKLE: This?

18 MS. McCAMMON: The admin budget.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, I don't have it.

20 MS. McCAMMON: I didn't bring it down with me. Does  
21 anybody have an admin budget right in front of them? (Aside  
22 comments) There were some questions about how the admin budget was  
23 reduced this year from \$4.2 to \$3.4 million, and I'll go through it  
24 very briefly. The components in the budget are the Oil Spill  
25 Information Office, and this reflects basically a maintenance level  
26 budget of approximately \$300,000. That is what it costs to

1 maintain the facility next door. That's on page 2 of 65. I'm just  
2 going to deal with the very, somewhat gross level here. On page 6  
3 is synthesis and dissemination, this project is a component is  
4 approximately \$200,000. This is actually, probably, the squishiest  
5 part of the budget, if you want to call it that, and this is  
6 developing the data base that will go on the Internet that provides  
7 the access of all of our studies and information and data that's  
8 being collected, through this process, getting it out in a format  
9 to the general public, to EVOS researchers, and to the general  
10 public. This is an aspect that we have a -- an informal public  
11 group that Carol Fries at Department of Natural Resources has been  
12 meeting with to make sure that the kinds of things we're developing  
13 are in line with what the public is interested in seeing. And also  
14 we're be working with Chris Beck and the informal public advisory  
15 group on this one as it develops.

16 On page 10 is the Chief Scientist and peer reviewers. This  
17 reflects an approximately \$50,000 reduction in the Chief Scientist  
18 contract for this coming year, and this includes all of the  
19 independent peer review of our project proposals, of detailed work  
20 study plans, of the cost of having the mini, the little peer review  
21 sessions that we're having in the fall, and then also the Chief  
22 Scientist's contract.

23 On page 14 is operations. This reflects an approximately  
24 \$400,000 reduction from last year. Primarily, we're tightening up  
25 on -- on travel -- in all honesty we were a little too flush this  
26 year and we will be lapsing a significant amount of money, so this

1 actually reflects a more accurate representation of what we're  
2 spending here, but it's pretty much the costs of running the  
3 meetings, of having the office here. We have also reduced the  
4 office staff in Juneau. We're only having the one person, Traci  
5 Cramer, and that's resulted in reduction there.

6 If you skip through all of operations and then go to the  
7 Public Advisory Group, we went through that briefly yesterday.  
8 That's on page 34. That reflects about a \$25,000 total reduction.  
9 Primarily, it's a more accurate accounting of how much money is  
10 actually spent on travel to hold the Public Advisory Group  
11 meetings.

12 If you go to the next category, the restoration work force,  
13 which is on page 42, this reflects almost \$100,000 reduction, and  
14 what you see here is the staff support from the agencies for this  
15 process. In the past, we have funded two full-time people per  
16 agency; we've reduced that to one person per agency for a total of  
17 about \$115,000 per agency, and what you're seeing is that as time  
18 goes and we get the process more underway, the amount of  
19 involvement from the agencies in review is being reduced. I would  
20 say in another year we will probably have that down to half a  
21 person, per agency. I think that's pretty much -- those are the  
22 major components of the budget, major elements.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Questions came originally from Pam and  
24 Kim, and there's a question also from Chuck. Pam, anything you'd  
25 like to ask before Molly must depart? Or do you need a moment to  
26 think?

1 MS. McCAMMON: And you can also see on the first page how  
2 we are projecting further reductions over the years too. We see  
3 this as a definite decline there.

4 MS. BRODIE: I hesitate trying to cut costs in terms of  
5 public involvement, but I do think it's common that government  
6 agencies will send out big documents to everybody who has sent in  
7 a comment and maybe they don't really want them, and I wonder if  
8 there are possible savings with sending people postcards saying  
9 send this back if you want to receive document like this, or if  
10 this is happening.

11 MS. McCAMMON: Well, what we did last year is we pared  
12 through the mailing list because just anybody who had sent in a  
13 comment had gotten put on the mailing list, and we went through and  
14 asked people -- and we now have two mailing lists. One is just  
15 people who want to receive the newsletter and the annual report,  
16 and the other is people who want to receive the big, icky document  
17 -- like that. And when we pared through it, if we got --  
18 basically, the way we did it, and we did it somewhat arbitrarily,  
19 we made a distinction between in-state and out-of-state, and a lot  
20 of the out-of-state people we've never heard from since then, and  
21 if they didn't send back a card, we did take them off the mailing  
22 list. The in-state people we were a little more reluctant to do  
23 that right away, and pretty much we kept the in-state on, we're  
24 giving them another year, we'll do another paring of the mailing  
25 list, but it went down from about 4,000 to -- I don't know --  
26 Cheri, what is it now? About 2,300. And we are -- we don't send

1 out the big documents to everyone any more.

2 (Aside comments)

3 MR. McCORKLE: Kim did you want to have a comment?

4 MS. BENTON: I just appreciate the opportunity to go  
5 through this and the way that it's outlined like this. It's just  
6 -- I feel this responsibility when there's this big, huge number to  
7 sort of have a handle on what is happening, and this is the first  
8 time I -- my comfort level is real good.

9 MS. McCAMMON: And I really apologize for not getting it  
10 to you -- as a matter of fact, none of the staff saw it until last  
11 week, so -- and if there are any comments or questions about it,  
12 then we will be glad to respond to those anytime in the next few  
13 weeks.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Chuck Totemoff.

15 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yes, this is a question on salaries --  
16 figures. Does that include all of the fringe benefits?

17 MS. McCAMMON: Yes.

18 MR. McCORKLE: John French -- Dr. John.

19 DR. FRENCH: This is a very general question, but my  
20 understanding of general administration is that it is unspecified,  
21 indirect, administrative costs to operate on general projects. How  
22 come a detailed administrative budget has a general administration  
23 category?

24 MS. McCAMMON: Because -- boy, this brings up a lot of  
25 questions we've had from the staff here about what's the difference  
26 between general administration and indirect. What this doesn't --

1 because we don't have our own administrative staff here, in other  
2 words we don't have somebody who develops our payroll, we don't  
3 have somebody -- we do have someone on staff who is covered -- paid  
4 for by this general administration who assists with the contracts  
5 and the billing, but a lot of that work is handled for us in Juneau  
6 by the Department of Fish & Game. We don't have somebody who  
7 actually does the contracts for our copier, for this building  
8 lease, here in the building, those are all done outside. That's  
9 what general administration covers.

10 DR. FRENCH: Yeah, these are basic, general -- general  
11 indirect costs.

12 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

13 DR. FRENCH: What percentage does that come out to?

14 MS. McCAMMON: The way -- under the financial operating  
15 procedures, what was adopted by the Council four years ago was 15  
16 percent for personnel, and then a range of 2 to 7 percent on  
17 contracts. This is all being looked at and revised in the next  
18 month, prior to going out to audit, and just this whole process has  
19 raised a lot of questions about what should be -- what's a direct  
20 cost, what's an indirect cost, what should be covered by general  
21 administration, and we're looking at all of that, and we'll  
22 probably come up with some revisions in the next month.

23 DR. FRENCH: Thank you, I appreciate that  
24 distinguishment.

25 MR. McCORKLE: I'll entertain a motion to adopt.

26 MR. COBB: Move to approve.



1 MR. McCORKLE: Moved to approve by Dave and second by  
2 Rupert. Any further discussion? The motion's been called, the  
3 question has been called. All in favor, say aye.

4 ALL PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The budget  
6 is adopted. Anything else you'd like to do before you go.

7 MS. McCAMMON: No, except I really would like to express  
8 my appreciation to all of the members of the Public Advisory Group  
9 and the communities who we have worked with very closely in the  
10 last year on a number of these efforts, and I would actually like  
11 to maybe ourselves and all these folks a little bit on the back,  
12 especially when you look at the subsistence projects and the  
13 archaeology projects because if you look back in the past there  
14 weren't a whole lot in these categories, and I think what you're  
15 seeing here is a result of a major outreach effort that we've  
16 undertaken in the last year, and I really appreciate all the work  
17 that -- and assistance -- that folks like you on the PAG have  
18 given us in doing this.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you very much. Chip.

20 MR. DENNERLEIN: On that score, and I spoke to the  
21 subsistence package, but one of the things in both of those that I  
22 am impressed with, and I really think reflects well on the  
23 communities and the participants and the staff, I mean these were  
24 not only -- there were missing -- it was a missing category, I  
25 think, it was a -- a category both substantively, scientifically,  
26 and in the human dynamics it was somewhat ignored, and -- and it

1 also is very sensitive, and I think to see it represented is  
2 wonderful, to see it represented in a kind of comprehensive way is  
3 a very good move, and I think it also separates, you know, just  
4 going out and building something from getting at the human issues.  
5 I mean the community involvement from just going out and building  
6 a building that we don't know what -- so it's not -- and I don't  
7 know how to say this sensitively so I'll say it insensitively, it  
8 -- you know, the fear is either you ignore it or all you do is pass  
9 money around to people to make them happy. I don't think we've  
10 done either of those. This is the first time that I seen, I think,  
11 this important category, which really gets at in a sort of  
12 meaningful way an issue in the spill of involving people in the  
13 region. Not just to build a building, not just to pass money  
14 around, not just to say we can't deal with it, but sort of  
15 confronts it, and I know it's going to be ongoing, but I -- I think  
16 this is a big step forward, and I think the groups do deserve a pat  
17 on the back, it makes sense of something that has not -- we have  
18 not been able to make sense of before.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, Professor Dennerlein. If  
20 somebody could jump right in there -- we appreciate those kinds of  
21 remarks and accept them on behalf of everybody. Move on now to  
22 nearshore ecosystem, which is -- what? It's almost a \$3 million  
23 program. In fact it's 3.3. Who will be -- Stan will lead off on  
24 that with a brief introduction to our discussions.

25 DR. SENNER: Real brief. If you've seen, if you've got  
26 the overview sheet in front of you, looking at four components with

1 a core, integrated, ecosystem project -- that's the one at the top  
2 NVP -- nearshore vertebrate predator -- at almost 1.8 million and  
3 a related project, 104, avian predation on mussels, so that's --  
4 that's half of the overall total. Under the heading of monitoring  
5 recovery of intertidal, there is one new project there, that's 037,  
6 that's about \$550,000 a year and that would be starting in '96 and  
7 looking there to some sort of a multi-year commitment if we were to  
8 carry through on that. Then closing out several projects on which  
9 there's been work over the past two or three years. Fate and  
10 persistence of oil, the only expenditure actually identified there  
11 at this point is \$10,000 to close out the Kodiak assessment work  
12 that's been undertaken, a commitment there for a workshop in  
13 October and then leaving open the possibility of Trustee Council  
14 action on programs that might emerge out of that workshop. And  
15 then lastly under the heading of additional monitoring, there are  
16 three projects, one of them 427 is a ongoing harlequin duck project  
17 in Prince William Sound. 161 would be a new project on a pilot  
18 basis on harlequins outside of Prince William Sound, and then  
19 lastly the hydrocarbon database is sort of a wrap-up of a --  
20 identifying where all the samples have been taken on hydrocarbons,  
21 interpreting them, and making that information available as a  
22 service for all the other projects that need hydrocarbon data, as  
23 well as responding to public inquiries and the scientific  
24 community. So, that -- that's the package. One thing -- just to  
25 go back up to the top on the nearshore vertebrate predator project,  
26 when the Trustee Council approved that this last spring, they

1 essentially were doing what was done for the SEA program in the  
2 sense of saying, okay, we're going to get this project going, and  
3 sort of implicit in there is a commitment to sustain at some  
4 significant level until it has achieved some results, however,  
5 subject to annual authorization, and so there is always opportunity  
6 for guidance and action by the Trustee Council to change the  
7 funding levels there.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you.

9 DR. SENNER: Bob Loeffler, any -- or Spies -- Dr.  
10 Spies?

11 DR. SPIES: I just want to say in the nearshore we  
12 haven't really gotten results yet, so we're really going to have  
13 kind of wait for about 18 months to see where we are on that  
14 program.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Monitoring is a large part of this budget.  
16 There has been some talk in the past hours as to how much  
17 monitoring we wanted to do. Does anybody want to address that  
18 subject? Dave.

19 MR. COBB: I would move that this cluster be targeted  
20 for fine tuning and -- at the discretion of the staff.

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: Second.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Moved and seconded by Dave and Chip that  
23 this project be fine tuned by the staff. Do you want to address  
24 that just a little bit more so we have a more clear picture of what  
25 you have in mind.

26 MR. COBB: I think this is an area for reduction.

1 MR. McCORKLE: All in favor say aye. (Laughter)

2 Pam.

3 MS. BRODIE: May I offer a friendly amendment that you  
4 say reduction, rather than fine tuning.

5 MR. COBB: All right. Change fine tuning to  
6 reduction.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Fine tuning has just been changed.

8 Dr. John.

9 DR. FRENCH: I would like to address this question to  
10 the Chief Scientist. How -- what adverse impacts do you think  
11 there would be if the -- the next year work for NVP was delayed  
12 until '97, beginning of '97 year, instead of trying to do a full  
13 field season this coming year.

14 DR. SPIES: I think it would be fairly disruptive at  
15 this point, since we've -- we started this off with an effort  
16 that's linked to something ongoing in '96, and I think we've  
17 essentially have wasted '95 money and momentum that we've got. I  
18 think if we're going to do something, we either let it go for a  
19 while or kill it.

20 DR. SENNER: This is a project though where we have not  
21 yet done a thorough budget review in advance of the August Trustee  
22 Council meeting, so it's not -- there may indeed be some  
23 possibility for savings there. We -- we don't know that.

24 MR. McCORKLE: So, in the spirit of the motion though,  
25 there's a possibility that there could some refinements, if we  
26 don't use fine tuning and don't use reduction, but some

1 modifications.

2 DR. SENNER: Right.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Chip.

4 MR. DENNERLEIN: If I can make a friendly to the  
5 friendly, and I'll speak to it directly. I would like it to say  
6 fine tuning and reduction, and I'm going to give you one example.  
7 I said I wouldn't piecemeal before, now I'm going to piecemeal, if  
8 I can speak to my friendly suggestion.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Please do -- briefly.

10 (Laughter)

11 MR. DENNERLEIN: I -- here's real specific -- how's  
12 this one. I'll give you one example that proves the point. I've  
13 been wrestling with this -- you know, I like birds and how  
14 important are -- is the avian predation, even though I'd like to  
15 learn a lot about surf birds and other birds. There's an avian  
16 predation study in here, and there's a nearshore predation study in  
17 here, and there's \$127,000 to do birds on the edge of Montague  
18 Island. This is a big project, and I've talked to some of the  
19 scientists, and now I don't think I'm confused about what I want to  
20 say. I want to say that if somebody is looking at a variety of  
21 factors in nearshore predation, that is, in accordance with Mr.  
22 Senner's earlier remarks today, a missing piece of that, and this  
23 should be big enough to roll somehow that piece in. And so, I  
24 think there's specific examples where fine-tuning, not just  
25 reduction, I'm not saying kick the predation by birds, I'm saying  
26 you should be able to get on site and roll in some of that work

1 somehow if you are in a couple of these other projects. That would  
2 reduce a number, but it's also fine tuning the approach that some  
3 of the projects in this package are taking. That's specifically  
4 one example which could save us, you know, \$127,000, or a portion  
5 of \$127,000 if you roll projects together like we just saw in  
6 subsistence. So that's what I mean by fine tuning as well as  
7 reduction.

8 MR. McCORKLE: If you can get two field teams to work  
9 together.

10 MR. DENNERLEIN: And if you can't, we won't fund  
11 either one of them.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Chuck.

13 MR. TOTEMOFF: Yeah, speaking to the motion here, the  
14 motion was to refine or reduce, and item three, fate and  
15 persistence of oil, it was just mentioned earlier that there's  
16 going to be a workshop in October, and based upon those findings,  
17 there may be new projects that come out of here to address the  
18 oiling conditions, especially in the southwestern district.

19 (Aside comments)

20 MR. LOEFFLER: You may want to just note that your motion  
21 does not address any potential results of the oiling workshop.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, we now have so many conditions on  
23 this motion, I'm not sure we've got a motion any more. Yes?

24 MR. MUTTER: Well, the PAG has a meeting scheduled  
25 December, so any new projects you could put on the agenda and  
26 discuss at that time, and so I don't think you need to put it in

1 this motion.

2 MR. TOTEMOFF: That's for clarification of the motion.

3 MR. McCORKLE: So, what you're asking is whether or not  
4 this motion will include reduction funds as -- for the fate and  
5 persistence of oil phase of the project?

6 MR. TOTEMOFF: Right.

7 MR. McCORKLE: And it doesn't say that it won't.

8 MR. TOTEMOFF: Right.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Chip.

10 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would suggest that in terms of our  
11 first responsibility -- let me suggest this, in terms of our first  
12 responsibility here, I think we've said this is the other place,  
13 right now, this is the other place to look to fine tune and reduce  
14 dollars in this project to get before the Trustee Council in August  
15 a fundable package that is within our target goals, giving our  
16 public input, this -- this would be the most responsible approach.  
17 The second, when the chairman conveys that message and as the  
18 director -- you know, this is a sense of the PAG, and if I listen  
19 to what Chuck is saying that we should say -- as new information  
20 comes in -- you know, there may be projects that drop out, there  
21 may be somebody who can't get on site, there may be new tech or  
22 better techniques we learn, that we will also look to some of the  
23 categories here and make use of that new information. So, we're  
24 not saying that this -- the only thing that will ever be done here  
25 is to reduce. Tuning may mean to take advantage of some new  
26 workshop information and suggest a project, and we would do that in



1 consultation with the scientists, the information gained in the  
2 workshop, and our own review, and so that -- I think we could leave  
3 the motion to "fine tune" and look for reductions now for our first  
4 responsibility to get a fundable package, and then let the Council  
5 know this is an area we'll be taking advantage of new information  
6 as it comes in.

7 MR. McCORKLE: I would like for you to read the motion.

8 MR. MUTTER: The motion is that this cluster be  
9 targeted for fine tuning and reduction at the discretion of the  
10 staff -- and we'll include in the meeting summary that that  
11 doesn't include any new project ideas coming from the oiling  
12 workshop.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Is there any further comment before I call  
14 the vote? Yes, John.

15 DR. FRENCH: Yes. Although I would support close --  
16 looking closely at these dollar amounts, I cannot support the  
17 recommendation for reduction, the reason being that this is -- the  
18 nearshore system -- is indeed the area that's been most clearly  
19 documented as having been hit. The areas covered by the NVP  
20 program, looking at the predator relationships, really haven't been  
21 looked at very clearly, and, as the Chief Scientist said, I think  
22 the implications of letting this one drop are probably greater than  
23 letting the next one drop, although that's an assumption I'm  
24 making, namely that the APEX program -- for the reasons we talked  
25 about yesterday, I think it's important to do the monitoring,  
26 although I hate to see the numbers of dollars there go that way.

1 There may be some other areas to reduce costs, but I support the  
2 funding of those two packages, and -- for those reasons I'm not  
3 going to be able to support this motion.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Any further comments? Are you ready for  
5 the motion? Would you read the motion one more time, to make sure  
6 we've got it.

7 MR. MUTTER: This cluster be targeted for fine tuning  
8 and reduction at the discretion of the staff.

9 MR. McCORKLE: All those in favor of the motion say aye.

10 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no.

12 DR. FRENCH: Aye.

13 MR. McCORKLE: One opposed, who is recorded. Well, we've  
14 done some good work there. We have a little bit more to go. I'd  
15 like to ask your directions on how you'd like to proceed. We have  
16 left to discuss seaboard -- sea bird/forage fish and related  
17 projects, reducing marine pollution, habitat improvements, habitat  
18 acquisition was asked to be put on the agenda, and then there may  
19 be some other things you'd like to have put on as well. Do you  
20 want to prioritize among those remaining topics, or do you want to  
21 go on past noon? Do you want to just stop? What do you think  
22 you'd like to do.

23 MR. COBB: Finish it up.

24 MR. DENNERLEIN: Let's finish.

25 MR. McCORKLE: All in favor -- we'll do that? Okay. The  
26 next item on the list then is to move on seabird/forage fish and

1 related projects, \$2.83 million. Stan, do you begin that?

2 DR. SENNER: I'll begin. Umm -- this cluster has two  
3 components. One is the -- sort of THE seabird/forage fish apex  
4 project at 1.9 million. This is a project that's underway in '95  
5 on a pilot basis. Results are to be coming in and evaluated at the  
6 end of November, and we've got another one of these two day review  
7 sessions, with peer reviewers coming in, participation by members  
8 of the Public Advisory Group would be welcome at that meeting, and  
9 we're expecting to make a recommendation to the Trustee Council in  
10 December. The -- the rest of the funds, 800,000 or so is scattered  
11 among half a dozen different projects. A couple of them definitely  
12 fall into that category, Pam, of ones that you flagged earlier on  
13 of monitoring with not necessarily an end point beyond the  
14 monitoring. Those would be the marine bird survey, number 159, and  
15 the common murre population monitoring -- 144. Others of these,  
16 like 021, seasonal movement and pelagic habitat use of common  
17 murre, that would be a research project, and -- so there's sort of  
18 a scattering. There's a mixture here of monitoring and research in  
19 this other category. But that's -- that's the quick overview.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Discussion. Kim.

21 MS. BENTON: There's a project in this cluster that I'd  
22 like to see deferred until FY97 until the project is a little  
23 better defined, and that would 96122. I think by deferring it to  
24 97 the other thing that is important that it will allow is to  
25 include private landowner participation, and without private  
26 landowner participation in this project, the usefulness of the

1 information is going to really decline.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Further comments. Oh, John, I didn't  
3 realize your hand was up -- I thought you were resting there.

4 DR. FRENCH: I'd like to put a motion forward that we  
5 recommend reduced funding for the seabird/forage fish complex, with  
6 -- including looking at possible delays in implementation of parts  
7 of the projects, especially to allow for further development of  
8 baseline data from the SEA projects and other related projects.

9 MR. COBB: Second.

10 DR. FRENCH: (Interrupts -- indiscernible)

11 MR. McCORKLE: Now, wait, hold it folks. We've got to  
12 get this motion down first before we have discussion. So, John  
13 would you go back and restate your motion.

14 DR. FRENCH: The PAG recommend that staff look for  
15 reductions in the seabird/forage fish group of projects and that  
16 these reductions possibly include delays in implementation of  
17 certain aspects of the project, particularly the apex project.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Kim, do you want to second that?

19 MS. BENTON: I'll second it, and add the deferral of  
20 Project 96122.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Do you accept that? Well, that's sort of  
22 implicit in the motion, but you want to make it more explicit.

23 MS. BENTON: More explicit.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Are you seconding the motion or  
25 not?

26 MS. BENTON: Yes.

1 MR. McCORKLE: The motion is now seconded. I think there  
2 was one person ahead of you -- Jim Diehl, did you -- okay -- you're  
3 (indiscernible) -- Kim, what would you like to do.

4 MS. BENTON: I would like to add, so that it's very  
5 specific, an amendment that 96122 be deferred until FY97.

6 MR. ZERBETZ: I'll second the amendment.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, there's been an amendment moved and  
8 seconded. Let's discuss the amendment. Anything you want to say  
9 further.

10 MS. BENTON: I've looked at this project and I've tried  
11 to get a good handle on what it is, and I think part of the  
12 usefulness of this project will be to have good information that  
13 will be used by both public and private landowners in Prince  
14 William Sound as they make development plans. There has been no  
15 private landowner participation in this project thus far, I think  
16 some of the vegetation typing has yet to be completed, pushing it  
17 to FY97 I don't think we lose a lot, and I think that we'd be able  
18 to gain private landowner participation, the usefulness of the  
19 information, and also make sure that what we're doing is what we  
20 should be doing.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Thanks, Kim. Any further discussions on  
22 this amendment. Pam.

23 MS. BRODIE: Can we hear from staff about that?

24 DR. SENNER: On that particular 122?

25 MR. McCORKLE: Yes.

26 DR. SENNER: The -- certainly some of the questions,

1 Kim, that you've just raised are ones that we ourselves are still  
2 looking at, particularly the status of the veg map, how much more  
3 work is needed to be done and is the cost sharing that the Forest  
4 Service is willing to do, is it -- is it, for example, able to do  
5 the completion of that so that the Trustee money would only concern  
6 the murrelet part. Those are sort of unanswered questions. The  
7 Forest Service has submitted a revised project description. We've  
8 not been able to evaluate that yet, so we may be able to shed some  
9 light on that soon, but we don't know the answer yet. I don't know  
10 I can do any better than that, except I think we'll take very  
11 seriously any recommendation that you come up and look at some of  
12 these questions.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Does anyone else wish to discuss the  
14 deletion of 122? Jim. We're talking about the amendment now.  
15 Pam.

16 MS. BRODIE: I think I'm going to vote against this  
17 amendment, just because I think we should be having the staff look  
18 at everything, and it sounds like they are looking at this one. I  
19 don't think we need to target it further.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Chip.

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: Umm -- I'm unsure here. If I vote  
22 against the amendment, it would only be because if there's an  
23 element of this project that a reduced number, if there's a piece  
24 that -- that makes sense to get ready -- you know, if we're talking  
25 about murrelets up on slopes and development, and the real impacts  
26 are going to be logging operations and other things, I'm totally

1 persuaded by Kim's argument that if you could buy -- you know, take  
2 one year and the result would be that you'd get participation from  
3 landowners who are really going to take actions affecting habitat,  
4 the utility of what we learn could be -- have a significant effect  
5 on the species, and so I may not vote to tie your hands  
6 specifically, but I want the record to reflect that nobody goes out  
7 and spends a bunch of money on trying to -- if they're going to go  
8 into the field and they could wait a year and go into the field and  
9 look at both slopes, instead of going to the field this year with  
10 their travel budget and look at slope A and try and go back next  
11 year, wait for the year, get an integrated program with landowners,  
12 and do it on one shot. That's what specifically I'd like the staff  
13 to really grill the project on, because I think any time we can get  
14 private landowner participation in a system-wide look at these,  
15 that's what we ought to be about.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Stan or Bob?

17 DR. SENNER: That's helpful advice.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Jim Diehl.

19 MR. DIEHL: This is -- this is just not on private  
20 lands though, right?

21 DR. SENNER: That's right. This would be both public  
22 and private.

23 MR. DIEHL: Well right now under the provisions of the  
24 new rescissions bill, there may be some reason for getting this now  
25 because of public lands out there -- is that part of --?

26 DR. SENNER: Well, that was, in fact, Jim, one of -- in

1 our initial discussions on this, one of the considerations in favor  
2 of moving ahead with 122 is the uncertainty of what Congress would  
3 do in the sense of requiring . . .

4 MR. DIEHL: Well, the salvage logging provisions have  
5 passed.

6 DR. SENNER: . . . salvage logging or mandatory, you  
7 know, cuts, that kind of stuff.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Can you speak up so we can hear you.

9 (Aside comments)

10 MR. LOEFFLER: I was just going to say, with respect to  
11 salvage logging, is there a lot of marbled murrelets on the -- in  
12 the boreal forest?

13 DR. SENNER: Yeah, but Bob has raised the question that  
14 most of the salvage logging is over on the Kenai Peninsula part of  
15 the Chugach. That's not where marbled murrelets are a big deal.  
16 In the Sound is where the murrelets would be a concern, but  
17 nonetheless we did kind of think about what you just said.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Could I have a restatement of the  
19 amendment, please, to make sure we stand (indiscernible).

20 MR. MUTTER: The amendment is to defer 96122 until FY97  
21 and further refinement.

22 MR. McCORKLE: So, it is not to eliminate or delete, but  
23 to defer. Any further discussion on the amendment? Yes, Kim.

24 MS. BENTON: The second portion of the amendment was to  
25 include private landowner participation -- to allow to include.

26 MR. McCORKLE: To allow for inclusion of private



1 landowner participation.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Jim King.

3 MR. KING: I'm a little nervous about tying the hands  
4 of the staff in this way, so I think I'd vote against this because  
5 it probably needs more discussion, and the subject has been brought  
6 up now and I'm sure the staff will look at it -- so I think that --  
7 .

8 MR. McCORKLE: Any further comments? Yes, Chip.

9 MR. DENNERLEIN: I'm going to go with Kim on this one  
10 because I think we re-worded it. You know, Doug, I know you have  
11 your work cut out for you here, but I -- I don't think that now, as  
12 I just heard read, it completely kills this, but it really gives a  
13 stronger message than just a little of piece advice. And, Kim, if  
14 you'll bear with me -- one, instead of allow for private section  
15 inclusion, could we say actively seek -- because I think we want to  
16 send -- if I'm hearing the group, and I'll speak maybe only for  
17 myself, it's worth it to take a real action to say as you look at  
18 these projects, because we've still got a lot of staff refinement,  
19 where you're going into the field and you've got one side of the  
20 room and the other side of the room, one's public and one's  
21 private, and we like an ecosystem approach, don't just say to the  
22 research we want your project to allow participation, you know.  
23 You want to say to him, if there's any way possible you can make a  
24 system approach of this and involve private landowners so we get  
25 valuable data, we are going to be much more likely to fund you. I  
26 think that is a message we want to give as this program goes down

1 the trail over the next four or five years. So, in that spirit,  
2 I'm going to vote for this amendment.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Any further commentary before we vote on  
4 the amendment? Let's go down the trail and see what's there. All  
5 in favor of -- perhaps we'd better just have it read one more time.

6 MR. MUTTER: The amendment is defer 96122 until FY97  
7 for further refinement and actively seek inclusion of private  
8 landowner participation.

9 MR. McCORKLE: That will be included in the main motion.  
10 All in favor, say aye.

11 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. And the ayes have it. And  
13 now, I'd like to ask if when it's convenient, as soon as possible  
14 you could read the motion that is now before the house.

15 MR. MUTTER: John better pay attention to this.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Listen to this John. (Laughter)

17 MR. MUTTER: Okay, the motion is to recommend reduced  
18 funding of this cluster and that staff look at delay in  
19 implementation of certain parts, such as apex, and that we defer  
20 96122, etcetera.

21 DR. FRENCH: I'm not sure if I was recommending a total  
22 delay of apex or a delay of parts of apex, but I guess -- it's --  
23 the wording is okay.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Yeah, what did you say, and who seconded  
25 this?

26 DR. FRENCH: I would prefer it to say

1 MR. McCORKLE: Who seconded this?  
2 DR. FRENCH: I would prefer it to say . . .  
3 MR. McCORKLE: Kim, you seconded this.  
4 DR. FRENCH: . . . delay in certain components of the  
5 group, the cluster, and not specify the specifics.  
6 MR. McCORKLE: That's what I heard, that's what I heard,  
7 and to delay certain -- components -- pursuant to staff addition  
8 study, etc., etc.  
9 MR. MUTTER: Okay, so it's recommend reduced funding of  
10 this cluster and that staff look at delaying implementation of  
11 certain parts, and then the amendment we just enacted.  
12 MR. McCORKLE: Any comment from staff? Can you live with  
13 that?  
14 MR. LOEFFLER: Yeah, I think it's fine.  
15 DR. SENNER: It's your judgment. I mean we could  
16 certainly offer comments, but I think you should proceed.  
17 MR. McCORKLE: All right. Any further commentary? Jim  
18 King.  
19 MR. KING: I'd like to point out there's going to be  
20 the seabird workshop in October and maybe that would shed some  
21 different light on some of these bird projects, of which there are  
22 a major number here. I'd also like to point out that the birds  
23 have not gotten a great deal of attention so far in the process  
24 here, and that's not because they don't deserve it, I don't think,  
25 so I would be very cautious about cutting out the bird projects at  
26 this point.

1 DR. SENNER: Mr. Chairman.

2 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, sir.

3 DR. SENNER: I will, I guess, offer one general remark  
4 on the seabird/forage fish project, the apex, and that is that it  
5 suffers a little in comparison to the SEA project -- the SEA  
6 program -- and the nearshore vertebrate predator project, simply  
7 because it's the newest kid on the block, so to speak. It's out at  
8 a pilot basis in this field -- 95 field season -- and so it has not  
9 yet had the opportunity to achieve the kind of integration that  
10 some of the others have. If you look at the management pay-offs  
11 down the road and kind of new information that may be generated,  
12 apex actually, I think, comes out higher than the nearshore  
13 vertebrate predator project, which is, in many respects, largely  
14 continuing to document the nature of the injury from -- in the  
15 nearshore ecosystem -- but has -- presents -- less opportunities  
16 for action in the future. So, it's -- it's very complicated, and  
17 I think we'll take your advice well to give that some real  
18 scrutiny, we need to look whether there are opportunities to delay,  
19 but it's not a simple matter.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Well, having some of the discussion, I  
21 think you get a sense of the kinds of things that concern us.  
22 Chip.

23 MR. DENNERLEIN: Yeah, I just want to say -- this is  
24 again under your guidance of specific -- my comment earlier, very  
25 specific, about \$127,000 on bird predation in the nearshore. I  
26 didn't make that as a motion, and I talked about it why I wanted

1 refinement as well as reduction. I want to convey that, if this is  
2 a better place to integrate something like that, if apex has more  
3 promise, you know, put it here or put it -- you know, I think -- I  
4 associate myself with Jim's remarks that birds shouldn't short-  
5 shrifted, but if this has more promise to become an integrated  
6 project, put it here instead of there, and I'm comfortable in  
7 saying that because in this package I have not seen a reckless  
8 scientific recommendation yet from the staff, so I think you know  
9 what we're trying to get at.

10 MR. MCCORKLE: Congratulations, you've just received a  
11 very nice compliment. John.

12 DR. FRENCH: I should probably clarify my thinking a  
13 little bit. First of all, I agree with Jim that birds are  
14 important and my proposed -- my -- I did not intend to indicate  
15 that I felt birds should get the short-shrift with the motion,  
16 however I do feel that the apex particularly and some of these  
17 other projects are integrated enough into the systemic studies from  
18 things like SEA that they could be even stronger if some of the  
19 models could be developed from SEA first, and therefore, and the  
20 fact that these are the new kids on the block, make them, perhaps  
21 for poor reasons, but make them the most logical place to try to  
22 make cost-savings immediately by delaying their implementation and  
23 absorb those costs into later budgets, and in my own thought that's  
24 more what we need to be trying to do with this particular set of  
25 projects. It's not so much don't do them, but wrap them up more  
26 closely.

1           MR. McCORKLE: Further discussion. Very well. I'd like  
2 to ask your permission to -- to slip over reducing marine pollution  
3 . . .

4           MR. MUTTER: We didn't vote.

5           MR. McCORKLE: Oh, pardon me, we didn't vote yet, did we?  
6 I'm trying to get this thing done too quickly. Is there any  
7 further discussion on the main motion?

8           UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Call for the question.

9           MR. McCORKLE: The question has been called, could we  
10 have a restatement of the motion.

11          MR. MUTTER: Recommend reduced funding of this cluster  
12 and that staff look at delaying implementation of certain parts,  
13 and that we defer 96122 until FY97 for further refinement and to  
14 actively seek inclusion of private landowner participation.

15          MR. McCORKLE: All in favor of the motion, say aye.

16          PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

17          (Ms. Benton and Ms. Schwantes left the meeting at 12:07 p.m.)

18          MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
19 is carried. Thank you very much for a good discussion on a very  
20 important topic. Could we move to habitat improvements, jumping  
21 over the reducing marine pollution for a moment because that's a  
22 very -- another large package, another million dollars, probably  
23 we'll have a few minutes of discussion on it, or would you rather  
24 do the marine pollution first?

25          MR. DENNERLEIN: I'll go with you, Mr. Chairman.

26          MR. McCORKLE: How about the rest of you? Shall we do

1 it, let's go to habitat improvements, and if we could have the  
2 overview on that -- Stan.

3 DR. SENNER: Four projects, which makes it easy.  
4 Landowner assistance with -- the proposal is to continue a project  
5 initiated in 1995. We have recommended deferring on that until we  
6 had a clearer idea of what level of interest and participation  
7 there's been from landowners in '95. We don't have the answer to  
8 that yet. Preliminary indications are that the interest level  
9 wasn't all that great, but the jury is still out on that. The  
10 second one, Afognak Island habitat survey, we recommended this as  
11 a lower priority, and as we discussed yesterday, only because of  
12 certain -- the pay off is sort of 25 years out there. Third,  
13 restoration of wetlands on Montague Island, the issue there was  
14 that -- the detailed project description was not all that detailed  
15 and needed a clearer linkage to the oil spill injured species if --  
16 if we were to be able to give that serious consideration, and we're  
17 still waiting for a revised proposal on that. And then lastly, the  
18 Kenai habitat restoration, which is the big ticket item there, that  
19 came in at more than \$600,000. There is a recognition that there  
20 is some lineage to the spill, there's certainly high public interest  
21 in that, but a lot of question by staff on how that relates to  
22 other monies which have been allocated out of the criminal  
23 settlement, by Congress through the NOAA budget, whatever resources  
24 ADF&G and Fish & Game and Fish & Wildlife Service and NOAA all are  
25 putting to that, and we're just not clear what's strategic, in  
26 terms of Trustee Council dollars. So, that the package.

1                   MR. McCORKLE:   Chip.

2                   MR. DENNERLEIN:       Well, I'm -- I'm a habitat sort of  
3   guy, so I'll wade in here with a couple of comments.  First, after  
4   just having spoken very strongly to actively seeking landowner  
5   involvement, the other side of that is there's no reason to sit  
6   around with money that nobody wants to spend.  So, I would not want  
7   to just take this money away, but I would -- my sense is to the  
8   staff, you know, that if we get to the end of the year here, if we  
9   get to that next round of decision we're talking about and we've  
10  learned something from the oil -- the conference on oil, the  
11  conference on shorebirds, and nobody is sitting -- standing there  
12  wanting to do habitat restoration, this is a legitimate place to  
13  look -- I wouldn't call it a contingency, Stan, but I would say  
14  that, you know, we don't need to sit on money that can't be spent  
15  and for which we have a real documented use.  That would be number  
16  one in that program.  I would hope that -- that in saying that, if  
17  you would actively try to work with landowners on this.  Secondly,  
18  as a former state park director, I'm going to recommend cutting  
19  \$45,000 out of this budget.  There's hardly enough in here to give  
20  somebody -- you know, they'll get a nice vacation on Afognak  
21  Island, and I guarantee you from the logging shows that are going  
22  on now, and if we build some decent relations with companies, we  
23  are going to know how many seedlings per acre we need to regenerate  
24  on Afognak Island.  You know, we're going to be able to sit down  
25  with the work that Koncor have done or Jim Carmichael, and it's  
26  going to be enough applicable to habitat in the state park that we



1 can probably do this, you know, with a couple thousand dollars of  
2 literature search and a meeting, and at that time we'd be ready for  
3 some implementation. I think this is a -- you know -- this is a  
4 neat week or two in the field for somebody and dead research on the  
5 shelf, so I'm going to recommend cutting this one.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Are moving to adopt with minus 141?

7 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would -- yeah -- if you want to  
8 list these, Doug, and read them back -- my motion would be: one, to  
9 actively seek landowner assistance but to look at this category, if  
10 no landowners -- if landowners are not coming forward, to look at  
11 this category for a potential source of reduction or assist -- or  
12 fund assistance to other needed projects; number two, that 96141 be  
13 eliminated and that the sense of the Council be that -- that state  
14 managers work with timber and restoration data from other public  
15 and private operators which could provide information about Afognak  
16 at the time restoration occurs. My third is -- I'm not very  
17 impressed with the restoration of the wetland on this one, I'm just  
18 going to move to eliminate it, and I'd ask you to speak to it . .  
19 .

20 MR. McCORKLE: 176?

21 MR. DENNERLEIN: Yes, The final one on Kenai habitat  
22 and restoration, my fourth point, would be that I think the Kenai  
23 is extraordinarily important, that this, with -- how do I say this  
24 -- that the staff should look at the expenditure of this money in  
25 relationship to other available sources. There's about 30  
26 organizations doing work on the Kenai now, that -- that's what I

1 would ask. And in speaking to that, Cheri has been kind enough to  
2 be getting a letter xeroxed, which Dave Cline signed at Audubon,  
3 and I had a hand in, on the Jim's Landing issue which I spoke  
4 yesterday --

5 MR. McCORKLE: Could you speak to the motion, because  
6 we'd love to hear you later, but let's -- I want to move on to  
7 this, if we can.

8 MR. DENNERLEIN: Okay, then the motion would be -- I  
9 am going to speak to this motion and say that on the Kenai habitat  
10 and restoration, I don't recommend a specific cut now, but that the  
11 staff should look . . .

12 MR. McCORKLE: Review?

13 MR. DENNERLEIN: . . . at review of this to see if  
14 there are any overlapping dollars, overlapping funds or -- or other  
15 efforts underway, and with that . . .

16 MR. McCORKLE: Second to the motion?

17 MS. BRODIE: Second.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Moved and seconded. Thank you so much.  
19 Now, let's listen to (aside comments) -- that was a wonderful job,  
20 Chip, a nice piece of work. Thank you, Pam, for seconding. Any  
21 further comment? Yes, Jim -- King.

22 MR. KING: I think it's a good motion. If I had been  
23 doing it, I would have looked to eliminate the Kenai work, not  
24 because it isn't worthwhile but because it has such a weak  
25 connection with the oil spill and it's being addressed in other  
26 directions.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Staff has sort of heard that -- but made  
2 no comment. Yes, Stan.

3 DR. SENNER: Do you want a comment? I think, Jim, the  
4 connection has been that we have considered all along to be an  
5 injured resource -- that's one, and two, that sport fishing as a  
6 service was also considered an injured resource. Most of our  
7 effort to date for sockeye have concerned the fish,. and you know,  
8 the research and management aspects of it, but there is a habitat  
9 component protecting and restoring sockeye, although there -- they  
10 are a fish that involves the lake and their life cycle, the smolts  
11 still need to migrate out and need good habitat to do that, and so  
12 we feel there's a connection there. Certainly, it's appropriate if  
13 you think that connection isn't as strong as you'd like it to be,  
14 but we feel there is a connection there.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Does the staff also feel that it could use  
16 its good office to facilitate the integration of external funds to  
17 this project -- or a project like it?

18 DR. SENNER: I think -- yeah, I think our hope is that  
19 there is a role for a modest, strategic investment of Trustee  
20 Council dollars that can help make this whole package an effective  
21 one.

22 MR. McCORKLE: Modest, strategic investment. That's very  
23 -- nicely put. (Laughter)

24 DR. SPIES: I'm not sure we're suggesting a leadership  
25 role in trying to get the Kenai River -- (Laughter -- simultaneous  
26 talking)

1 DR. SENNER: (Indiscernible -- laughter) our job, but  
2 (indiscernible)

3 MR. McCORKLE: Jim King, you still have the floor.

4 MR. KING: Just a final comment that I'm not against  
5 the Kenai work at all. I think the proposal is probably very good,  
6 but in the context of looking at places that we can cut, I would  
7 say this is an area that is perhaps less demanding than some of the  
8 others that we --.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Any further comment before we -- yes,  
10 Dave.

11 MR. COBB: I would just second Jim's comments. I  
12 agree with him fully.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Are you ready to hear the motion? Yeah --  
14 Chip.

15 MR. DENNERLEIN: I just (radio interference).

16 MR. McCORKLE: Oh, hello.

17 MR. DENNERLEIN: I would just say in closing out our  
18 motion that I recommend that all these reductions in habitat  
19 because I -- I would just like to say to my colleagues and on the  
20 record that I'm going to fight like heck, you know, for habitat  
21 acquisition. It's one of the things I think is most effective, but  
22 like -- like -- whether we're in science or whether in habitat, I  
23 think spending our dollars in each category in the most effective  
24 way is what's important, and I think we can be much more effective  
25 in some of our acquisitions in Prince William Sound and small  
26 parcels and other things elsewhere than just putting a bunch of

1 habitat restoration on the end. And so, it is my spirit that of  
2 that \$694,000, we don't just go out and spend it, that this  
3 Council's participation with this money in the Kenai is maybe to,  
4 you know, help tip scales, make a strategic thing, a piece, happen,  
5 but it's not that we're out there with a new program of restoring  
6 habitat.

7 MR. McCORKLE: You have had the last word. Thank you  
8 very much. Would you like to state the motion before the house.

9 MR. MUTTER: The motion is regarding 96058 to actively  
10 seek landowner assistance, if not forthcoming, to look at reduction  
11 in funds or transfer of money to other projects; regarding 96141,  
12 that it be eliminated, that state managers work with other public  
13 and private operators for data; regarding 96176, eliminate;  
14 regarding 96178, Kenai habitat is important but the staff need to  
15 examine expenditures of this on this project, related to what other  
16 organizations are doing for overlapping funds.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Any further additional comments. If not,  
18 I'd like to call for the vote. All in favor, say aye.

19 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
21 is carried, and congratulations, you did another wonderful piece of  
22 work -- a lovely piece of work. We have left before us, to one  
23 page ahead, the reducing marine pollution, a big \$29 million -- a  
24 \$30 million budget here. Would we like to have a comment, a very  
25 brief comment, from the staff.

26 MR. LOEFFLER: (Indiscernible -- aside comments) . . . to

1 identify solutions to marine pollution and solid waste programs  
2 that may be plaguing Prince William Sound. I went through it in  
3 greater detail yesterday. I intend to repeat it at this time.

4 MR. McCORKLE: And I need to clarify the record. I said  
5 \$29 million, I should have said \$29,000 -- I apologize.

6 MR. ZERBETZ: Mr. Chairman.

7 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, Dave -- oh, all right.

8 MR. ZERBETZ: I move for approval.

9 MR. McCORKLE: A motion made -- and second by -- Zerbetz  
10 and Dave. Any further discussion? Are you ready for the question.  
11 All in favor of adopting the motion, say aye.

12 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
14 is carried. There is one last thing on your requested agenda --  
15 what is it? I've lost it here.

16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: A request for lunch.

17 MR. McCORKLE: A request for lunch (laughter). Did we do  
18 it? Well, the first one -- the requester has departed the room, so  
19 we don't need to do that. Martha.

20 MS. VLASOFF: I've got one more motion that I wanted to  
21 make, to develop a tool -- have the staff develop a tool to  
22 differentiate between oil spill related projects and the normal  
23 operating functions of recognized EVOS Trustee Council agencies.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Would you read it one more time so we can  
25 catch it up here.

26 MS. VLASOFF: Sure. (Aside comments regarding Ms.

1 Vlasoff's microphone) Okay. To have the staff develop a tool to  
2 differentiate between oil spill related projects and the normal  
3 operating function of recognized EVOS Trustee Council lead  
4 agencies.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a second to the motion?

6 MR. KING: Second.

7 MR. McCORKLE: It's been moved, and seconded by Mr. King.

8 Would you like to speak to your motion for a moment there.

9 MS. VLASOFF: I've been speaking to it for sometime now,  
10 so I think it's -- it's pretty succinct.

11 MR. McCORKLE: This is your opportunity to have another  
12 word on it if you wish.

13 MS. VLASOFF: I just -- I just believe that I've read  
14 through the GAO report and this states that there has been too much  
15 emphasis and sometimes too much influence from the agencies in the  
16 funding of oil spill projects, and we see a lot of -- I've noticed,  
17 and I'm not the only one that noticed a trend toward emphasizing  
18 management, developing management tools for resources, and I  
19 believe that -- that we should have the staff develop some sort of  
20 tool to -- to make sure that this doesn't continue because I  
21 believe there's a better use of the oil spill money in restoration  
22 functions.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, Martha. Would anybody else  
24 like to address or speak to the question.

25 MR. LOEFFLER: I guess I would, but I guess I'd like to  
26 follow.

1 MR. McCORKLE: You have the floor.

2 (Mr. Andrews left the meeting at 12:20 p.m.)

3 MR. LOEFFLER: As one of the individuals who is likely to  
4 be tasked with the prospect of developing a tool, I think it's  
5 maybe useful for me to speak to it. The restoration plan itself  
6 has a policy that's clear we should not funding normal agency  
7 activities, yet we are funding things which increase the precision  
8 of management, and I think it's one of the things that protects  
9 some of the resources. So, in terms of developing a tool, one of  
10 the ways we've gone at it is by saying we're willing to develop  
11 management techniques that would not be developed otherwise,  
12 consistent with once there's a -- consistent with a plan for an  
13 agency to take over that technique. Now, we may not have applied  
14 that policy or applied it in a way that satisfies you, and I'm very  
15 happy to take a message back that there's too much normal agency  
16 management in this work plan. I'm not sure what other tool we're  
17 going to develop. So if the sense of your motion is that we should  
18 be harder on normal agency management and that there's too much  
19 normal agency management, I think that's a message we can take to  
20 the Trustee Council quite clearly. If the message is that there is  
21 a magic tool for us develop, I'm probably going to be slightly at  
22 a loss as to what to do.

23 MS. VLASOFF: If there isn't something specific, it's --  
24 I really believe that it's just going to continue. So, I think  
25 there needs to be some specific system or --

26 MR. LOEFFLER: Okay. I appreciate that.



1 MS. VLASOFF: Criteria --

2 MR. LOEFFLER: Well, we certainly can go back and take a  
3 look at it, if that's your recommendation.

4 DR. SPIES: One thing one can do, for instance in the  
5 case of the Kenai River sockeye is look at what has been expended  
6 in the past to manage the fishery and make some allowances for  
7 perhaps how that might change historically without the spill, and  
8 then look at, you know, post-spill spending, and kind of do some  
9 simple subtraction. So, that's kind of one way that might at the  
10 problem that Martha is referring to.

11 MR. McCORKLE: Martha, did you have in mind a specific  
12 mechanism or more of a policy statement. What would be -- what  
13 would come closest to achieving your goal?

14 MS. VLASOFF: I think a mechanism would be best because  
15 I seen. . .

16 MR. McCORKLE: A kind of matrix.

17 MS. VLASOFF: I've seen policy statements that just kind  
18 of, you know, really don't achieve any --.

19 MR. LOEFFLER: We can certainly try to give it more  
20 precision.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Gordon.

22 MR. ZERBETZ: I was going to suggest possible  
23 substitution there of words for tool, perhaps along the lines of  
24 more formal analysis procedure.

25 MR. McCORKLE: Are you making that amendment?

26 MR. ZERBETZ: No.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Well, let's talk a bit more. John?

2 DR. FRENCH: I -- I support Martha in the attempt to  
3 try to make a gray area a little more black and white. It's  
4 certainly one that's troubled many of us. But I personally think  
5 that staff, especially Bob Loeffler, worked very hard to try to  
6 implement that part of the Restoration Plan, and I'm not sure that  
7 tasking them with an additional task will really accomplish the  
8 objective. I think that it would perhaps be useful if some non-  
9 agency organization was able to do this, but there's none -- no  
10 particular ones that come to mind. So, I guess, I'll support this  
11 motion, but I do it with some reluctance because I don't have a  
12 great level of confidence it will succeed.

13 MR. McCORKLE: Jim King.

14 MR. KING: I have the feeling that the staff, in  
15 giving the rationale behind their evaluation of a lot of these  
16 projects, have in fact done just about what the motion calls for,  
17 and I wouldn't see it needing to be a major undertaking like Bob's  
18 little explanation there about how some of the decisions are made.  
19 It would be nice to have those written down and available as  
20 guidelines or whatever. So, I think it's a good -- I'm supporting  
21 the motion because I think it's a thing we need to continue to  
22 think about and the Trustee Council needs to keep thinking about.

23 MR. McCORKLE: Jim Diehl.

24 MR. DIEHL: I was a little bit confused by Martha's  
25 use of the word "tool" too. Maybe (indiscernible) (Pause) Was  
26 there a motion?

1 MR. McCORKLE: Yes, we have a motion.

2 MR. DIEHL: Could you restate it.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Okay.

4 MR. DIEHL: Because.

5 MR. MUTTER: The Trustee Council staff develop a tool  
6 to differentiate between oil spill related projects and normal  
7 operational functions of EVOS Trustee agencies.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Pretty clear. Anyone who has not  
9 commented yet who would like to? Pam.

10 MS. BRODIE: I think it's a good thing to do, and I  
11 think maybe the word "criteria" would be more apt than tool. So,  
12 I would suggest that as friendly amendment, changing "tool" to  
13 "criteria."

14 MR. McCORKLE: Would that be acceptable to you?

15 MS. VLASOFF: Sure. That would be great.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Okay, with that done -- Chip -- that's  
17 what you have in mind?

18 MR. DENNERLEIN: I'm going to vote for the motion  
19 which that word change.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Let's vote the motion then. Could  
21 we have a restatement.

22 MR. MUTTER: The Trustee Council staff develop criteria  
23 to differentiate between oil spill related projects and normal  
24 operational functions of EVOS Trustee agencies.

25 MS. VLASOFF: And if the staff needs help on that, you  
26 know, I don't know if the PAG members would be willing to -- to

1 participate in that kind of a process, but --.

2 MR. LOEFFLER: Why don't I send out a draft and send back  
3 your comments. I'm real happy to do it.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Do we have (indiscernible)

5 MR. LOEFFLER: Yes, we do.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Sounds good to me. Call for the motion.  
7 All those in favor, say aye.

8 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

9 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) The motion  
10 is carried. The business before us on the agenda is finished, I'd  
11 like to call for comments for the good of the order, and I  
12 recognize Chuck Totemoff.

13 MR. TOTEMOFF: Actually, it may be another piece of  
14 business here. I was just recently informed this morning that one  
15 of the elders in Chugach Region, particularly in Port Graham,  
16 passed away this morning. I think he was almost 80 years old, and  
17 his name was Walter Meganack, Sr. Some of you may have heard of  
18 him in the past. I am requesting that the staff work with me to  
19 try to present some sort of recognition of, you know, his past  
20 efforts, you know. He was involved a lot in the early years of the  
21 spill, as far as testifying and things like that. I would like to  
22 request staff's assistance in preparing something for the next  
23 Trustee Council meeting to recognize that.

24 MR. McCORKLE: I knew Elder Meganack, and what you say  
25 certainly is true. He was an important leader in that part of the  
26 state during the early days after the spill.

1 MS. BRODIE: I second that.

2 MR. McCORKLE: If you have made a motion, you now have a  
3 second. Any further discussion?

4 DR. FRENCH: Move for unanimous consent.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Unanimous consent -- all in favor, say  
6 aye.

7 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) And the  
9 motion has been accepted unanimously, and thank you very much for  
10 bringing that before us. We are now in for the good of the order,  
11 and anybody have about a minute to say whatever they'd like. Chip.

12 MR. DENNERLEIN: I passed out a letter (radio  
13 interference through Mr. Dennerlein's microphone) (laughter and  
14 aside comments) -- I passed out a letter regarding the my  
15 pyrotechnic speech of yesterday, Mr. Chairman, two things I'd like  
16 to do. One is to -- just to let the Trustee Council know that  
17 there's nothing like putting a little light and heat on the  
18 subject. As of this morning, the decision in the Fish & Wildlife  
19 Service has been reversed, and they put the project on hold to get  
20 in the field and take a look at what they've done. (Inaudible  
21 interruption) And secondly -- maybe this is a piece of business --  
22 I think it would be appropriate for the Council to ask staff, the  
23 PAG, or even a sense of the Council -- we don't -- to convey to the  
24 Fish & Wildlife Service a concern that public agencies show  
25 stewardship and leadership in the kind of projects that we are  
26 trying, you know, in the efforts that we are trying to fund. I

1 mean, we just sat in front of us, wrestling with, you know,  
2 \$694,000 of restoring habitat on the Kenai, and this agency is not  
3 setting a very good example, and I think it is germane, there is a  
4 very clear nexus between me being asked to opine on hundreds of  
5 thousands of dollars of habitat restoration to -- and a member  
6 agency has been out there doing damage. I don't think we have to  
7 be -- you pick an answer -- but I'm going to suggest we just sense,  
8 maybe just a phone call, I don't care what you want to do, to the  
9 Fish & Wildlife Service, and say that they would show some  
10 leadership in -- in development projects affecting the habitats  
11 we're attempting to restore.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Would there be any public process that  
13 should have happened as a normal result of this? In other words,  
14 might this have gone through a public review, a comment? Might it  
15 possibly be that there is a large body who are -- is in favor of  
16 this? I just ask that as . . .

17 MR. DENNERLEIN: Yes.

18 MR. McCORKLE: . . . as a strictly academic question.

19 MR. DENNERLEIN: Absolutely. The question is not that  
20 there shouldn't be a project here; there absolutely should be --  
21 for public recreation, for public safety, it's a point at the river  
22 you need to take out a boat. The point was that they -- people  
23 opted for convenience over a little more work which could have been  
24 much less intrusive on a large stretch of the riverbank, and that's  
25 the example I'm concerned about; that we don't send a message that  
26 if you've a private landowner, you know, if it's more convenient,

1 do it this way. The message is, take a little bit of care, you  
2 could have your project and do a much better job.

3 MR. McCORKLE: And public agencies could very well lead  
4 in . . .

5 MR. DENNERLEIN: They should be leading.

6 MR. McCORKLE: . . . in demonstrating this. Pam.

7 MS. BRODIE: I second.

8 MR. McCORKLE: The motion has been made and seconded.  
9 Any additional discussion? Yes, would you like to come forward and  
10 grab a mike.

11 MR. RICE: This is Bud Rice. There should have been  
12 the National Environmental Policy Act document on this, either an  
13 environmental assessment or maybe it was a sub-set of an EIS. I  
14 think the group might want to look into that to see what was  
15 prepared, if anything. Sometimes an EA is done and it's not  
16 circulated for public comment, and if that was the case here, that  
17 was a serious error. I'm surprised that this problem wasn't --  
18 wasn't elucidated earlier.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Well, I'm really surprised that there  
20 wasn't an EIS or at very least an EA done, and I think it's  
21 appropriate for us to ask those kinds of questions. I just want us  
22 to make sure that we know how we want to ask the questions. That  
23 was the only reason I brought up these countervailing points of  
24 view. Any further discussion on the motion? All in favor, say  
25 aye.

26 PAG MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MR. McCORKLE: Opposed, no. (No objection) And the  
2 motion appears to have passed unanimously. We're still in for the  
3 good of the order. Anybody else would like to say something that  
4 we just need to hear before we go, like have a safe trip home?  
5 Look forward to seeing you next time. Yes, Dave.

6 MR. COBB: I move to adjourn. (Laughter)

7 MR. McCORKLE: Is there a second?

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Second.

9 MR. McCORKLE: So be it. We've adjourned. Thank you  
10 very much.

11 (Off record 12:36 p.m.)

12 END OF PROCEEDINGS

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF ALASKA                    )  
  ) ss.  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT        )

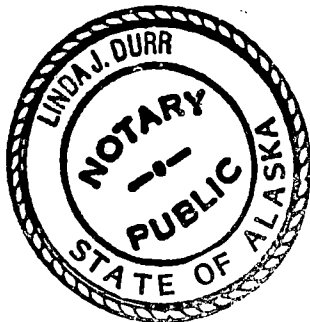
I, Linda J. Durr, a notary public in and for the State of Alaska and a Certified Professional Legal Secretary, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing pages numbered 03 through 341 contain a full, true, and correct transcript of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement Trustees Council Public Advisory Group meeting taken electronically by Ladonna Lindley and me on July 27 and 28, 1995, commencing at the hour of 9:00 a.m. on July 27, 1995, 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 and Sandra Yates Norris 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 7th day of August, 1995.



*Linda J. Durr*

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Linda J. Durr, Certified PLS  
Notary Public for Alaska  
My commission expires: 10/19/97