11.29.02

Draft 03.27.18

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

4230 University Drive Suite 220 • Anchorage, AK 99508-4650 • (907) 278-8012 • fax 276-7178

AGENDA
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
April 9, 2018
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Anchorage, Alaska

Trustee Council Members

STEVEN E. MULDER
Alternate for Attorney General Jahna Lindemuth
Alaska Department of Law

JAMES BALSIGER
Administrator, Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
U.S. Department of Commerce

LARRY HARTIG
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

TERRI MARCERON
Forest Supervisor
Chugach National Forest
U.S. Department of Agriculture

DAVID E. ROGERS
Alternate for Commissioner Samuel Cotten
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

STEPHEN WACKOWSKI
Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

Meeting in Anchorage: USGS Alaska Pacific University Campus;
Dr. Glenn A. Olds Hall Conference Room, 4210 University Drive
Teleconference Number: 800.315.6338. Code: 72241#

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Draft 03.27.18

1. Call to Order	
2. Consent Agenda - Approval of Agenda* - Approval of November 14, 2017 Meeting Notes*	
3. Public Comment (3 minutes per person)	
4. Public Advisory Committee (PAC) Comments - April 2, 2018 meeting summary	Kurt Eilo, PAC Chair
5. 2016-2018 PAC Conservation/Environmental seat vacancy, status of solicitation	Phil Johnson, PAC Designated Federal Officer US Dept. of the Interior
6. Executive Director Update EVOSTC FY18 Budget: GAO May 2018 Visit*	Elise Hsieh, EVOSTC Executive Director
7. Portage Lake price adjustment*	Lauri Adams, EVOSTC Habitat Director *If needed, available for questions:* *Great Land Trust Staff*
8. Kenai River Parcels - Lofstedt Parcel, KEN 4011* - Shuey Parcel, KEN 4010*	Lauri Adams *If needed, available for questions:* *Great Land Trust Staff*
9. Koniag Subsurface Proposal*	Lauri Adams *If needed, available for questions:* *Great Land Trust Staff*
10. Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project*	Erika Ammann, NOAA Fish Biologist
11. Kenai Watershed Forum: Stream Watch Program*	Elise Hsieh *If needed, available for questions:* *Jack Sinclair, Kenai Watershed Forum*
12. ADNR Outreach Proposal*	Elise Hsieh *If needed, available for questions:* *ADNR Staff*
Adjourn	

* Potential Action Item

DRAFT 12.19.17

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

4210 University Drive • Anchorage, AK 99508-4626 • 907 278 8012 • fax 907 276 7178

TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Anchorage, Alaska
November 14, 2017

Chaired by: Steve Mulder
Trustee Council Member

Trustee Council Members Present:

Terri Marceron, USFS
Steve Wackowski, USDOI
Jim Balsiger, NMFS
• Steve Mulder, ADOL **
David Rogers, ADF&G *
Larry Hartig, ADEC

• Chair
* David Rogers alternate for Samuel Cotten
** Steve Mulder alternate for Jahna Lindemuth

The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m., November 14, 2017 on the USGS Alaska Pacific University Campus, Dr. Glenn A. Olds Hall Conference Room, 4210 University Drive, Anchorage.

1. Approval of the November 14, 2017 meeting agenda

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the November 14, 2017 draft meeting agenda.

Motion by Hartig, second by Marceron

2. Approval of the January 11, 2017 meeting notes

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the January 11, 2017 draft Trustee Council meeting notes.

Motion by Hartig, second by Balsiger

Public Comment: **One public comment was offered.**

3. Approval of Investment Fund Annual Asset Allocation

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve the following Asset Allocation for FY18: Domestic Equities 35% +/- 7%, International Equities 22% +/- 7%, Domestic Bonds 43% +/- 5% and Cash Equivalents 0% + 10%/- 0%.

Motion by Hartig, second by Rogers

4. Approval of EVOSTC Long-Term Monitoring Program (Gulf Watch Alaska), Long-Term Monitoring of Marine Conditions and Injured Resources and Services, Project 18120114

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve funding of $2,574,860 which includes GA, for FY18 funding of the Long-Term Monitoring of Marine Conditions and Injured Resources and Services Project 18120114, proposal dated August 23, 2017.

Motion by Marceron, second by Hartig

5. Approval of PWS Herring Research and Monitoring Program, Herring Research and Monitoring, Project 18120111

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve funding of $1,578,800, which includes GA for FY18 funding of the Herring Research and Monitoring Project 18120111, proposal dated September 11, 2017. This amount includes funding of 18170111-D, Gorman; proposal dated July 26, 2017, contingent upon submission of a revised proposal by November 15, 2017 and approved by the Executive Director.

Motion by Balsiger, second by Rogers

6. Approval of Data for Long-Term Programs Project 180120113

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve funding of $218,000 which includes GA, for FY18 funding of the Data for Long-Term Programs Project 18120113, proposal dated August 23, 2017.

Motion by Hartig, second by Marceron

7. Approval of Lingering Oil - Immunological Expressions of PAH Exposure in Fish, Project 18170115

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve $492,750, which includes GA, for FY18 funding of the Lingering Oil Proposal

Immunological Expressions of PAH Exposure in Fish Project 18170115, proposal dated August 23, 2017.

Motion by Steve Wackowski, second by Hartig

8. Approval of Pigeon Guillemot Restoration Research in Prince William Sound, Project 18100853

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve funding of $173,438, which includes GA, for FY18 funding of the Pigeon Guillemot Restoration Research in Prince William Sound, Alaska Project 18100853, proposal dated October 5, 2017.

Motion by Hartig, second by Marceron

10. Approval of EVOSTC Reporting Procedures

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to adopt the revised Reporting Procedures, draft dated October 9, 2017.

Motion by Marceron, second by Balsiger

11. Approval of FY18 EVOSTC Annual Budget, Project 18180100

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve $2,261,585, which includes GA, for funding of the FY18 EVOSTC Annual Budget Project 18180100, budget dated October 26, 2017, with addition of $10,000 plus GA for Annual Marine Science Symposium with the expectation that the AMSS funding would be presented to the Council in subsequent years and up to $10,000 which does not include GA for the Executive Director to initiate outreach activities for the public.

Motion by Balsiger, second by Rogers

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to authorize the Executive Director to reallocate previously disbursed, but unencumbered, end of year administrative budget funds in an amount to be determined by the Executive Director to the publication costs of scientific articles or journals, including the Deep Sea Research Journal.

Motion by Balsiger, second by Rogers

12. Reauthorization of ADNR/State Parks Kenai River Flats Riverbank Protection, Project 17170116

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve reauthorization of $327,000, which includes GA, for FY18 funding of ADNR/State Parks Kenai River Flats Riverbank Protection, Project

17170116 for the ADNR/State Parks Kenai River Flats Riverbank Protection Project 17170116 dated August 31, 2017. This authorization is authorized until May 1, 2019.

Motion by Rogers, second by Marceron

13. Approval of Habitat Protection

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to approve funding for the protection of the PWS 4009 Port Valdez – Meals Hill parcel with the purchase of interests in land to be at the fair market value established by an approved appraisal and the total cost of which, including due diligence, initial enhancements for public use, and closing costs, not to exceed $5,200,000.

This purchase is further conditioned upon:

1. due diligence reports, which are acceptable to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Department of Interior Solicitor's Office and the Alaska Department of Law; and

2. provided that the EVOSTC Executive Director, in consultation with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Department of Interior Solicitor's Office and Alaska Department of Law, determines that it is in the interest of the Council to move forward with purchase of the interests in the Parcel.

Authorization for funding for the purchase of interests in the Parcel shall terminate if a purchase agreement is not executed by May 1, 2019.

Motion by Hartig, second by Marceron

14. Adjourn

APPROVED MOTION: Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Balsiger, second by Marceron

Adjourn at 12:30

Portage Lake Protection Project, Afognak Island

Prepared by Great Land Trust

March 27, 2018

Property Name:	Portage Lake
Owner:	Natives of Kodiak – Surface, Koniag, Inc - Subsurface
Agency Sponsor:	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Acreage	Estimated 2880 acres
Appraised Value:	To be determined upon completion of appraisal – Appraisal expected to be finalized by May 2018
Funding Request	To be determined upon completion of appraisal – Not to exceed $11,500,000, including due diligence and closing costs

Overview:

The Portage Lake project was previously approved for purchase by the Council for $8,500,000 (Council Resolution 16-02). Significant work has proceeded toward completing this purchase, but changes in the timber market have resulted in a higher than estimated total purchase price of up to $11,500,000. The requested amount would reauthorize purchase of the Portage Lake property and increase the amount up to a total of $11,500,000, subject to the final appraised value. The final purchase may proceed in two phases as determined by a survey that is presently underway.

The project encompasses approximately 2880 acres surrounding Portage Lake on northern Afognak Island. The property is contiguous to Portage Lake, Portage Creek and the Portage Creek Estuary in Discoverer Bay. The Portage Lake property is accessed by float plane at Portage Lake, the existing road network on Afognak Island, or by boat in Discoverer Bay.

As described in the Proposed Management section, this property on Afognak Island will be managed by the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources and consistent with the management of Afognak Island State Park. Natives of Kodiak owns the surface estate and Koniag, Inc. owns the subsurface rights to the property. This acquisition involves the surface estate. The fair market value of property will be determined by an appraisal compliant with EVOSTC, USPAP, and UASFLA appraisal standards and reviewed by a State of Alaska approved review appraiser. Closing may be in two stages with the approval of the parties.

The Kodiak Archipelago contains high-priority habitat for EVOS species recovery and habitat protection. Protection of this large, ecologically-rich area contiguous to other EVOSTC protection projects would contribute to EVOSTC mission of ecosystem and species recovery and maintenance in the Kodiak Archipelago. EVOS-affected species in the Kodiak archipelago are dependent on the coastal, riverine, wetland, and upland habitats provided by the Portage Lake property. Protection of Portage Lake would complete a contiguous protected wildlife corridor between Afognak Island State Park and the Red Peak unit of the Kodiak Island National Wildlife Refuge for fish, shore birds, sea birds, migratory birds, and terrestrial and marine mammal species.

Protection of Portage Lake builds on Past Council Actions:

The Portage Lake protection project furthers the efforts of past EVOS Trustee Council actions focusing on Afognak Island.

In 1993, with Council support, the State acquired surface title to 41,549 acres on northern Afognak Island. This mature spruce forest is adjacent to highly productive marine waters, includes anadromous fish streams, and provides excellent habitat for bald eagles and marbled murrelet nesting. In 1994, the Alaska State Legislature designated these lands as the Afognak Island State Park.

In 1998, with Council support, the Afognak Joint Venture (AJV) transferred to the state and federal governments surface title to approximately 41,376 acres of land on northern Afognak Island and easements on an additional 400 acres.

In 2016, with Council support, the Ouzinkie Native Corporation transferred to State and federal governments surface title to 36,364 acres of land on northern Afognak Island and the Triplet Islands to be managed for conservation purposes. The Portage Lake property is directly adjacent to the lands acquired from Ouzinke.

Property Description and Habitat:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service identifies Afognak Island among the most productive habitat in the Gulf of Alaska. The Portage Lake lands contain saltwater and freshwater access points, approximately three river and stream miles, and one navigable lake. Of the three river and stream miles, each of the miles support anadromous species identified in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Anadromous Waters Catalogue, including four species of Pacific salmon. This includes Portage Lake, which is a sockeye system. The property contains three miles of coastline in Discoverer Bay serving coastal wildlife communities such as seabirds identified as EVOS-affected species, Steller sea lions and sea otters. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory shows the property contains approximately 750 acres of wetland habitat. The Portage Lake lands also contain Sitka Spruce, salmonberry, and blueberry, among other native plant species. The property contains a mix of virgin forest and land where the timber has been harvested. The property is unimproved except for logging roads.

Restoration Benefits:

A number of EVOS-affected species would benefit from the protection of the Portage Lake property, including Pigeon Guillemots, sea otters, cutthroat trout, sockeye salmon, pink salmon, Dolly Varden, and bald eagles. Protection of Portage Lake would provide permanent habitat protection for these species and assist the EVOSTC in reaching and maintaining its recovery objectives in the Kodiak Archipelago.

The Portage Lake property also contains significant wetlands, including Fish and Wildlife Service-identified nationally declining wetlands. Significant portions of these wetlands are functionally connected. Estuarine wetlands on or adjacent to the property provide habitat for Intertidal Communities and other EVOS-affected species. Marine wetlands provide habitat for Subtidal Communities. Palustrine wetlands filter water entering lakes and streams used by fish and bird Injured Species. Palustrine and riverine wetlands also provide spawning habitat for sockeye salmon, pink salmon, and Dolly Varden. Protection of the property would assure high function of these wetlands, which would benefit EVOS-affected species.

The Portage Lake lands connect a habitat corridor between the Afognak Island State Park with the recent Ouzinkie Native Corporation protection and the Kodiak Island National Wildlife Refuge. These lands provide essential habitat and migratory grounds for more than 250 species of fish, birds, and mammals. The natural abundance and wild setting attract thousands of visitors to the Wildlife Refuge and State Park annually; addition of this property would benefit recreation and tourism, which were also identified by the EVOSTC as an Injured Service. In addition, the purchase of the property would benefit subsistence harvest levels, which is identified as an Injured Human Service.

Potential Threats:

Conservation of Portage Lake would eliminate the threat of future habitat fragmentation, road construction, subdivision, development and industrialization of northern Afognak Island. Without this purchase, these lands could be available for subdivision of recreational parcels around Portage Lake and sale of timber on the property like much of the adjacent land.

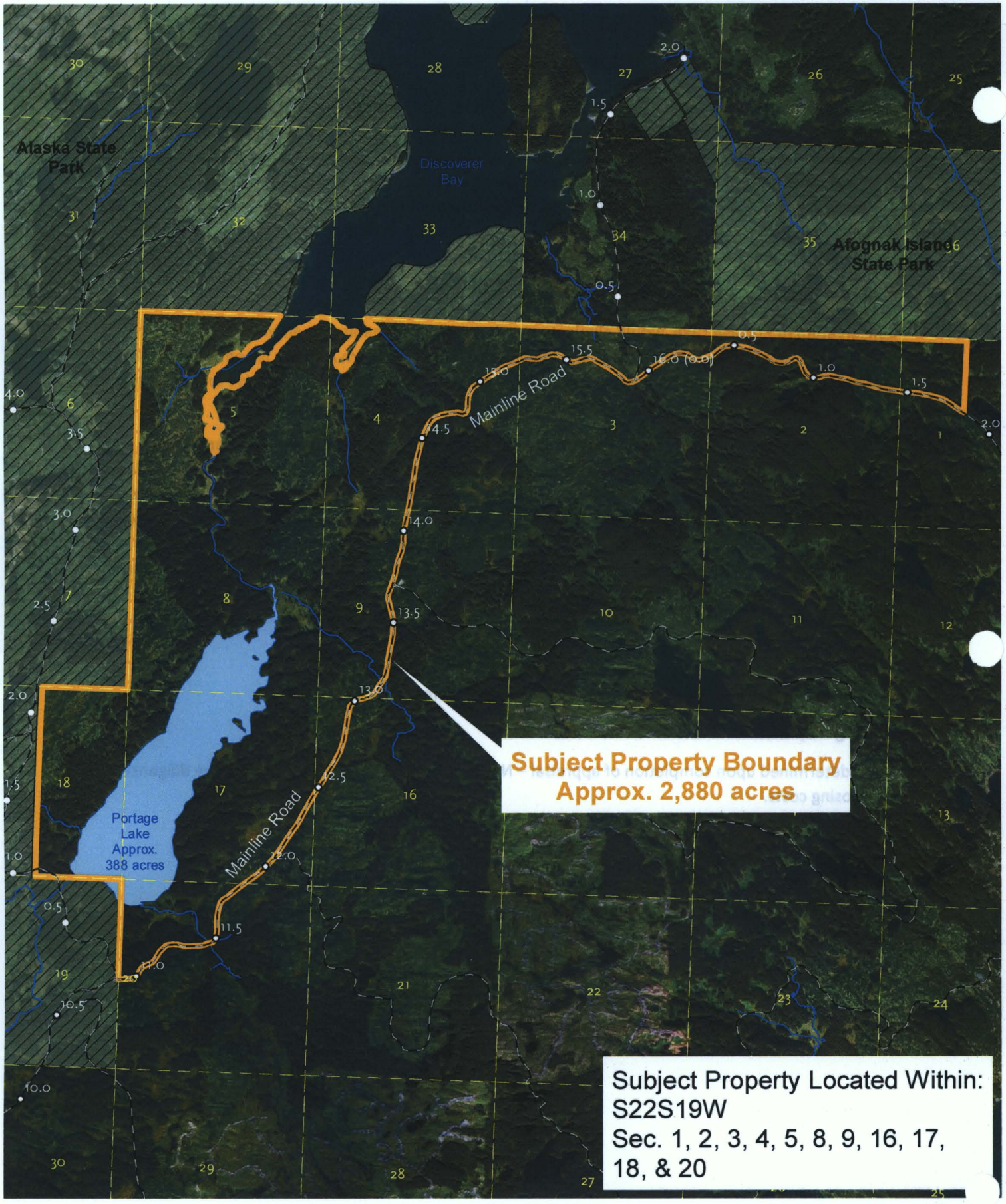
Conserving contiguous tracts of land reduces habitat fragmentation and thus removes barriers to species mobility. Species' ability to freely move across landscapes ensures a greater rate of reproductive success, greater access to food, and more opportunity to establish territory in higher-quality habitat. When populations experience barriers to reproduction, they are at greater risk of experiencing a decline in genetic diversity, and a decrease in genetic diversity decreases a population's ability to adapt to a changing environment and can increase the effect of deleterious alleles on the population. Conserving contiguous tracts of lands also protects pathways between resources. Ample access to resources reduces species stress and makes them less susceptible to disease and starvation.

Proposed Management:

Alaska Department of Natural Resources; conservation easement to the US/BLM.

Funding Request:

To be determined upon completion of appraisal – Not to exceed $11,500,000, including due diligence and closing costs.



Natives of Kodiak Land - Portage Lake, Afognak Island - Proposed New Boundary Map

Subject Property
Section Lines
Roads
Protected Area
Past EVOS Action
Anadromous Waterbody

N

0 0.5 1 Miles

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization

Imagery: Esri et al. Captured 9.16.2010
Map Prepared: 9.14.2017

Photo: Portage Creek

Photo: Portage Lake looking north to Discoverer Bay, Northern Afognak Island

Property Name:	Lofstedt Parcel: 2688 Beaver Loop Road, Kenai, AK 99611
Owner:	The Estate of Vernon Lofstedt
Agency Sponsor:	Proposed for ADNR/State Parks
Appraised Value:	To be determined upon completion of appraisal
Funding Request	Up to $800,000, including due diligence and closing costs
Acreage	Approximately 10 acres
Legal Description	T 5N R 11W SEC 10 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0001709 HORSESHOE END AT RIVER BEND SUB TRACT 1

Overview:

This parcel is an approximately 10-acre parcel containing about 5 acres of wetlands, 5 acres of uplands, with 780 feet of Kenai River frontage. The parcel has road and river access. The parcel is located on the lower Kenai River in the State of Alaska's Kenai River Special Management Area. The parcel ranks in the highest priority category in the 2014 GLT EVOSTC Habitat Land Prioritization. The sellers own a partial interest in the subsurface estate which would be part of the sale. The remaining subsurface interest is in private ownership. The attached photographs and maps show the parcel and its location in relation to other past and presently proposed EVOSTC-funded habitat projects.

Added Benefit to Past EVOS Trustee Council Actions:

Since 1994 the Council has made efforts to focus on the Kenai River and has acquired multiple Kenai River properties containing riverine, riparian, and wetland habitat. The subject property is adjacent to the 100-acre Cone parcel acquired in 1996 with EVOSTC funds, which was approved by EVOSTC resolution 95-11-20, and thus this project builds on past EVOSTC efforts. The Cone parcel is jointly managed by ADNR/ADFG. The wetlands between the two parcels are continuous.

Protection Benefits:

The Lofstedt parcel provides high-value habitat for EVOS injured species. It includes and is immediately adjacent to freshwater, intertidal and subtidal wetlands providing habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, marine mammals, and anadromous fish. The parcel benefits the following EVOS-affected species and services: Bald eagles, Dolly Varden, harbor seals, intertidal communities, pink salmon, river otters, sockeye salmon, commercial fishing, passive use, recreation and tourism, and subsistence.

In addition to the habitat provided for EVOS-affected species, the parcel provides the following additional resources. The naturally vegetated riverbank helps provide excellent rearing and overwintering habitat for Dolly Varden, chinook and coho salmon. There is extensive high value tidal marsh supporting intertidal/subtidal resources on and adjacent to the parcel. Harbor seals and Beluga whales feed in proximity to this parcel. Waterfowl, shorebirds, Bald eagles and raptors use this area for feeding, nesting, and staging. The property contains extensive wetland habitat which is part of a larger wetland system.

Potential Threats:

The parcel contains desirable Kenai River frontage and adjacent uplands. The parcel could be subdivided into small house lots. The landowner plans to list the property with a real estate agent if EVOS does not purchase it.

Proposed Management:

The property would be held by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, with a conservation easement to the U.S./BLM.

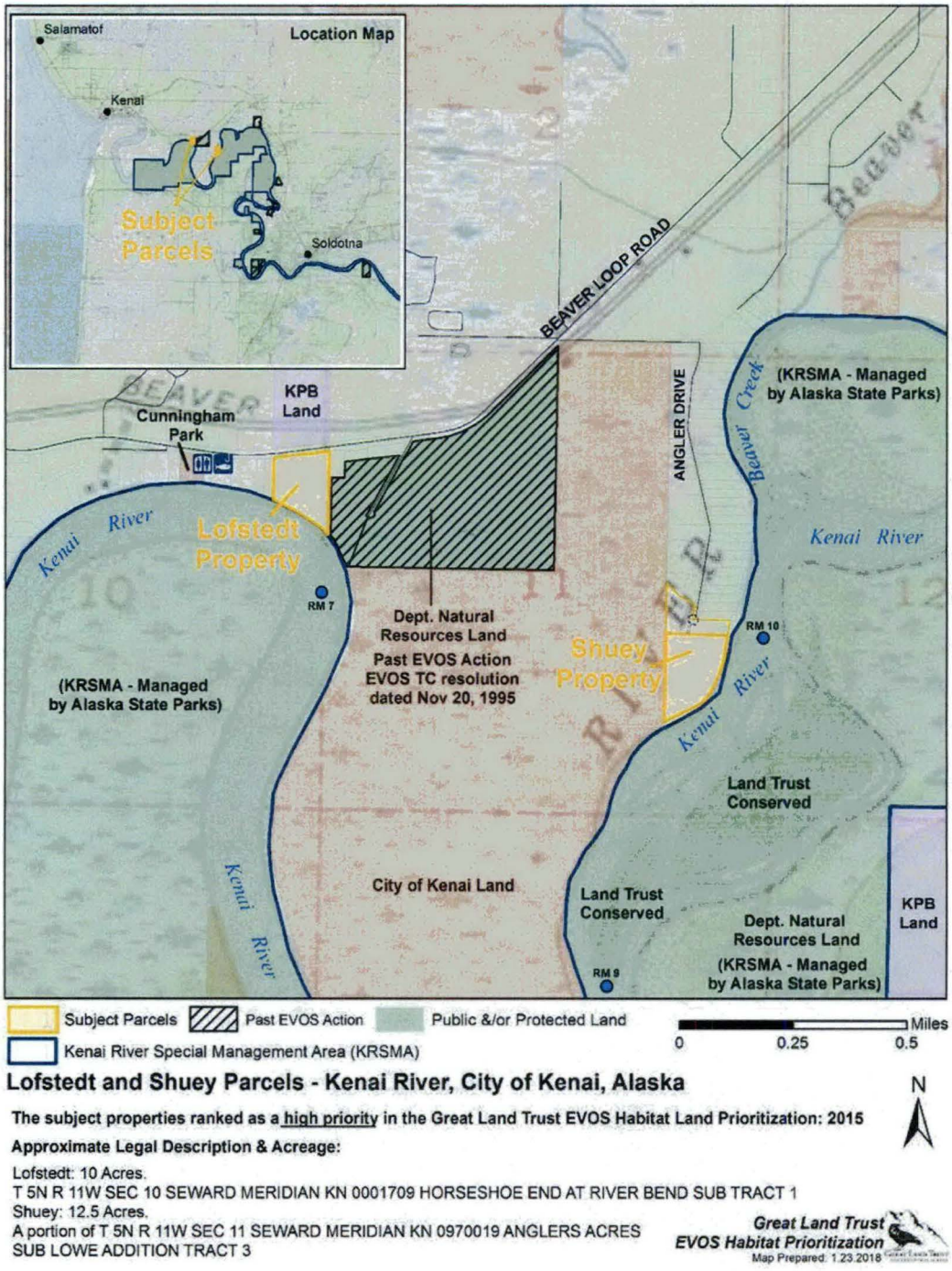
Funding Request:

Up to $800,000, including due diligence, closing costs and initial enhancements, with the final purchase price to be determined upon completion of the appraisal.

Photo: Lofstedt Parcel (looking downstream/ west) on the Kenai River showing the Kenai River frontage and the parcel's wetlands and uplands.

Photo: Lofstedt Parcel on the right and the 1996 EVOS Acquisition Cone Parcel on the left, Kenai River in the center to the south.

March 21, 2018



Lofstedt and Shuey Parcels - Kenai River, City of Kenai, Alaska

The subject properties ranked as a high priority in the Great Land Trust EVOS Habitat Land Prioritization: 2015

Approximate Legal Description & Acreage:

Lofstedt: 10 Acres.
T 5N R 11W SEC 10 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0001709 HORSESHOE END AT RIVER BEND SUB TRACT 1
Shuey: 12.5 Acres.
A portion of T 5N R 11W SEC 11 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0970019 ANGLERS ACRES SUB LOWE ADDITION TRACT 3

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization
Map Prepared: 1.23.2018

March 21, 2018

Maps: Vicinity map and parcel map with aerial imagery showing the Lofstedt parcel outlined in blue.

March 21, 2018

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Subject: FW: Two wetland parcels along the Kenai River
Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:51:32 AM

Will you save the three letters in the meeting and other folders?

From: David Wartinbee [mailto:davidwartinbee@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 8:26 AM
To: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
Subject: Two wetland parcels along the Kenai River

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am also a Stream Ecologist who has been watching the continual degradation of the surrounding riparian and wetlands along the Kenai River. I am also a local resident with a daily view of the river. As humans, we seem to love our streams to death because we don't understand the critical connections between rivers and the surrounding wetlands and riparian vegetation. As scientists we can trace many of the nutrients found in these areas to the salmon that have returned from the ocean, spawned, and deposited their nutrient rich bodies along the river.

EVOS has an opportunity to purchase some critical properties that contain wetlands and riparian vegetation along the Kenai River. These are untouched at this time and I am familiar with these two area of the river. I am writing this short note to ask that you purchase these tracts. By protecting these sections, the river will continue to cycle waters, nutrients, and aquatic organisms into and around the edges of the river.

Thank you for your consideration.

David C. Wartinbee PhD, JD
Retired Professor of Biology
907 260-1935
P.O. Box 157
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC); Adams, Lauri (EVOSTC sponsored)
Subject: Fwd: Shuey and Lofstedt parcels
Date: Friday, April 06, 2018 1:48:19 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cliff and Kathy Heus <corkheus@gmail.com>
Date: April 6, 2018 at 1:37:18 PM AKDT
To: elise.hsieh@alaska.gov
Subject: Shuey and Lofstedt parcels

April 6, 2018

Elise Hsieh, Trustee Council Executive Director

From Cliff and Kathy Heus

We reside at 4540 Kenaitze Ct, Kenai AK in the Illiamna View Subdivision. Our property overlooks the Kenai River close to Mile 12 of the Kenai River. We also own acreage below our residence that adjoins the Kenai River.

We are currently involved in opposing the development of a gravel pit adjoining our river property and support efforts to purchase river properties that would protect the Kenai River from development that has the potential to negatively impact the Kenai River. The Kenai River is a significant attribute to the community and should be protected.

We support the EVOS purchase of the Shuey parcel the large wetlands on the downstream portion next to Beaver Creek and the Lofstedt parcel near Cunningham Park.

Hopefully this will arrive in time to be considered at your Monday meeting.

Kathy Heus

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Subject: Fwd: Parcels for Protection
Date: Friday, April 06, 2018 12:30:02 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dale and Barb <dsandahl@gci.net>
Date: April 6, 2018 at 12:26:02 PM AKDT
To: <elise.hsieh@alaska.gov>
Subject: Parcels for Protection

We have received information that two wetland parcels on the Kenai River are being considered for protection. We have lived in Kenai since 1968 and are very familiar with both the Lofstedt and Shuey parcels. Thank you for your consideration as we believe both parcels if protected will enhance and promote a healthy Kenai River. We live in Illiamna View Subdivision overlooking the Kenai River and adjacent reparion wetlands. Studies show what can happen to our most valuable resource if not protected.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale and Barb Sandahl

Property Name:	Shuey Kenai River Parcel: 1600 Angler Drive, Kenai, AK 99611
Owner:	Debra and Curt Shuey
Agency Sponsor:	Proposed for ADNR/State Parks
Appraised Value:	To be determined upon completion of appraisal
Funding Request	Up to $600,000, including due diligence and closing costs
Acreage	Approximately 12.5 acres
Legal Description	A portion of T 5N R 11W SEC 11 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0970019 ANGLERS ACRES SUB LOWE ADDITION TRACT 3

Overview:

This parcel is an approximately 12.5-acre portion of a 17-acre undeveloped Kenai River parcel currently being subdivided. The 12.5-acre parcel contains high-value wetlands and one-quarter mile (1300 feet) of Kenai River frontage. The parcel has road and river access. The parcel is located on the lower Kenai River in the State of Alaska's Kenai River Special Management Area near the Beaver Creek confluence. The parcel ranks in the highest priority category in the 2014 GLT EVOSTC Habitat Land Prioritization. The subsurface estate is owned by the State of Alaska. The attached photographs and maps show the parcel and its location in relation to other past and currently proposed EVOSTC-funded projects. The parcel is adjacent to undeveloped wetlands owned by the City of Kenai that are dedicated to open space as per the 2030 City of Kenai Comprehensive Plan.

Added Benefit to Past EVOS Trustee Council Actions:

Since 1994 the Council has made efforts to focus on the Kenai River and has acquired multiple Kenai River properties containing riverine, riparian, and wetland habitat. The proposed property is in close proximity to the 100-acre Cone parcel acquired in 1996 with EVOSTC funds, which was approved by EVOSTC resolution 95-11-20, and thus is additive to past EVOSTC efforts. The land between the Cone parcel and the Shuey parcel is owned by the City of Kenai and managed for open space.

Protection Benefits:

The Shuey parcel provides beneficial habitat for EVOS injured species. It includes and is immediately adjacent to freshwater, intertidal and subtidal wetlands providing high-quality habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, marine mammals, and anadromous fish. The parcel benefits the following EVOS-affected species and services: Bald eagles, Dolly Varden, harbor seals, intertidal communities, pink salmon, river otters, sockeye salmon, commercial fishing, passive use, recreation and tourism, and subsistence.

In addition to its habitat value for EVOS-affected species, the parcel provides the following resources. The naturally vegetated riverbank helps provide excellent rearing and overwintering habitat for Dolly Varden, chinook and coho salmon. There is extensive high-value tidal marsh supporting intertidal/subtidal resources on and adjacent to the property. Harbor seals and Beluga whales feed adjacent to this parcel. Waterfowl, shorebirds, Bald eagles and raptors use this area for feeding, nesting, and staging. The property contains extensive wetland habitat which is part of a larger wetland system.

March 21, 2018

Potential Threats:

The parcel contains desirable Kenai River frontage and building sites. The property is on one of the most popular stretches of the river and it is common to see as many as 50 boats in the water on a fishing day.

Proposed Management:

The property would be held by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, with a conservation easement to U.S./BLM.

Funding Request:

Up to $600,000, including due diligence, closing costs and initial enhancements, with the final purchase price to be determined upon completion of the appraisal.

Photo: Shuey Parcel downstream of the confluence with Beaver Creek and across from land conserved by a conservation easement.

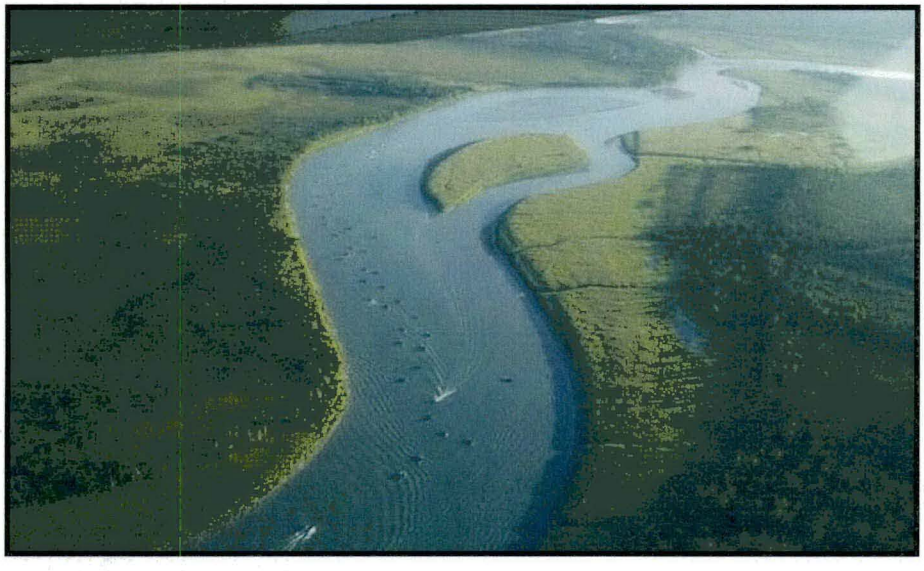
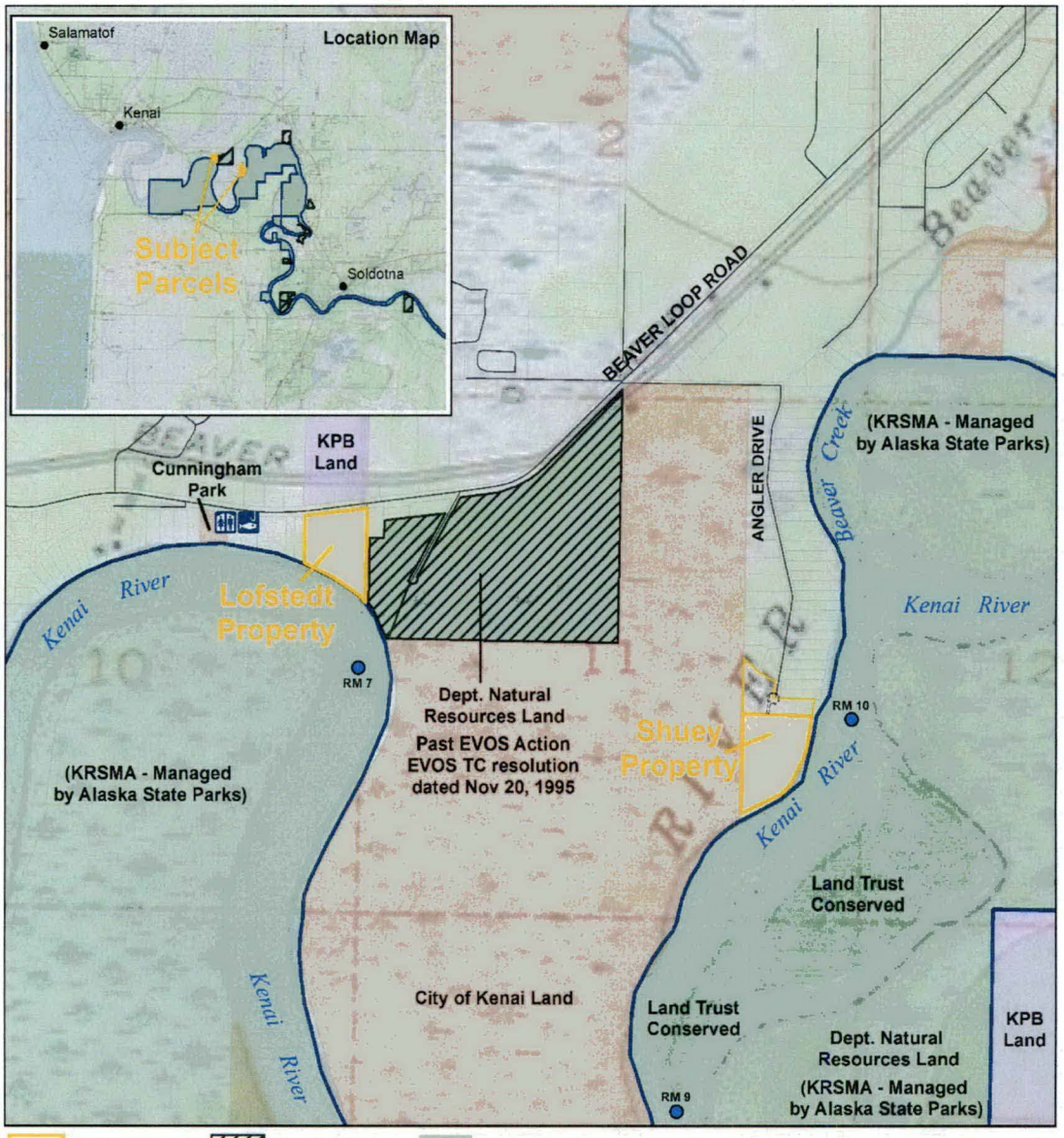


Photo: Shuey Parcel is directly downstream of the confluence with Beaver Creek (top right in photo) and across from land conserved by a conservation easement and land owned by the State and the City of Kenai. Note the presence of over 50 boats on the river.

March 21, 2018



Lofstedt and Shuey Parcels - Kenai River, City of Kenai, Alaska

The subject properties ranked as a high priority in the Great Land Trust EVOS Habitat Land Prioritization: 2015

Approximate Legal Description & Acreage:

Lofstedt: 10 Acres.
T 5N R 11W SEC 10 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0001709 HORSESHOE END AT RIVER BEND SUB TRACT 1
Shuey: 12.5 Acres.
A portion of T 5N R 11W SEC 11 SEWARD MERIDIAN KN 0970019 ANGLERS ACRES SUB LOWE ADDITION TRACT 3

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization
Map Prepared: 1.23.2018

March 21, 2018

Vicinity map with aerial imagery showing the Shuey parcel outlined in blue.

March 21, 2018

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Subject: FW: Two wetland parcels along the Kenai River
Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:51:32 AM

Will you save the three letters in the meeting and other folders?

From: David Wartinbee [mailto:davidwartinbee@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 8:26 AM
To: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
Subject: Two wetland parcels along the Kenai River

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am also a Stream Ecologist who has been watching the continual degradation of the surrounding riparian and wetlands along the Kenai River. I am also a local resident with a daily view of the river. As humans, we seem to love our streams to death because we don't understand the critical connections between rivers and the surrounding wetlands and riparian vegetation. As scientists we can trace many of the nutrients found in these areas to the salmon that have returned from the ocean, spawned, and deposited their nutrient rich bodies along the river.

EVOS has an opportunity to purchase some critical properties that contain wetlands and riparian vegetation along the Kenai River. These are untouched at this time and I am familiar with these two area of the river. I am writing this short note to ask that you purchase these tracts. By protecting these sections, the river will continue to cycle waters, nutrients, and aquatic organisms into and around the edges of the river.

Thank you for your consideration.

David C. Wartinbee PhD, JD
Retired Professor of Biology
907 260-1935
P.O. Box 157
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC); Adams, Lauri (EVOSTC sponsored)
Subject: Fwd: Shuey and Lofstedt parcels
Date: Friday, April 06, 2018 1:48:19 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cliff and Kathy Heus <corkheus@gmail.com>
Date: April 6, 2018 at 1:37:18 PM AKDT
To: elise.hsieh@alaska.gov
Subject: Shuey and Lofstedt parcels

April 6, 2018

Elise Hsieh, Trustee Council Executive Director

From Cliff and Kathy Heus

We reside at 4540 Kenaitze Ct, Kenai AK in the Illiamna View Subdivision. Our property overlooks the Kenai River close to Mile 12 of the Kenai River. We also own acreage below our residence that adjoins the Kenai River.

We are currently involved in opposing the development of a gravel pit adjoining our river property and support efforts to purchase river properties that would protect the Kenai River from development that has the potential to negatively impact the Kenai River. The Kenai River is a significant attribute to the community and should be protected.

We support the EVOS purchase of the Shuey parcel the large wetlands on the downstream portion next to Beaver Creek and the Lofstedt parcel near Cunningham Park.

Hopefully this will arrive in time to be considered at your Monday meeting.

Kathy Heus

From: Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Subject: Fwd: Parcels for Protection
Date: Friday, April 06, 2018 12:30:02 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dale and Barb <dsandahl@gci.net>
Date: April 6, 2018 at 12:26:02 PM AKDT
To: <elise.hsieh@alaska.gov>
Subject: Parcels for Protection

We have received information that two wetland parcels on the Kenai River are being considered for protection. We have lived in Kenai since 1968 and are very familiar with both the Lofstedt and Shuey parcels. Thank you for your consideration as we believe both parcels if protected will enhance and promote a healthy Kenai River. We live in Illiamna View Subdivision overlooking the Kenai River and adjacent reparion wetlands. Studies show what can happen to our most valuable resource if not protected.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale and Barb Sandahl

Property Name:	Koniag Subsurface: Various parcels on Kodiak, Afognak and nearby small islands
Owner:	Koniag, Inc.
Agency Sponsor:	Proposed for ADNR, USFWS
Appraised Value:	To be determined upon completion of appraisal
Funding Request	Up to $3,000,000, including due diligence and closing costs
Acreage	Approximately 89,475 acres of subsurface estate
Legal Description	See descriptions below

Overview:

The Koniag Subsurface project proposes to acquire subsurface estate associated with conserved surface estate lands held by the State of Alaska and USFWS on Kodiak and Afognak Islands and nearby small islands from Koniag, Inc. The interests in the surface estate parcels associated with this project were acquired with past *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) funding and/or were acquired with associated conservation funding programs which benefit past EVOSTC-funded projects. The EVOSTC has previously purchased approximately 80,000 acres of subsurface interests through the Habitat Protection Program. Subsurface estates are pursued where the associated surface lands are conserved and to prevent impacts from incompatible activities potentially damaging to surface protected habitat values.

Koniag Inc., is interested in selling subsurface estate under approximately 89,475 acres of past habitat protection projects on Kodiak and Afognak Islands. (Approximately 88,719.58 subsurface acres would go to the State of Alaska and 755.42 acres to the U.S.) The attached maps provide locations of the various parcels. Conserving this subsurface acreage would further benefit many past Trustee Council projects and investments.

Added Benefit to Past EVOS Trustee Council Actions:

This project will benefit past EVOSTC actions by conserving subsurface estate interests in habitat projects previously funded by EVOSTC actions, as described in the chart below.

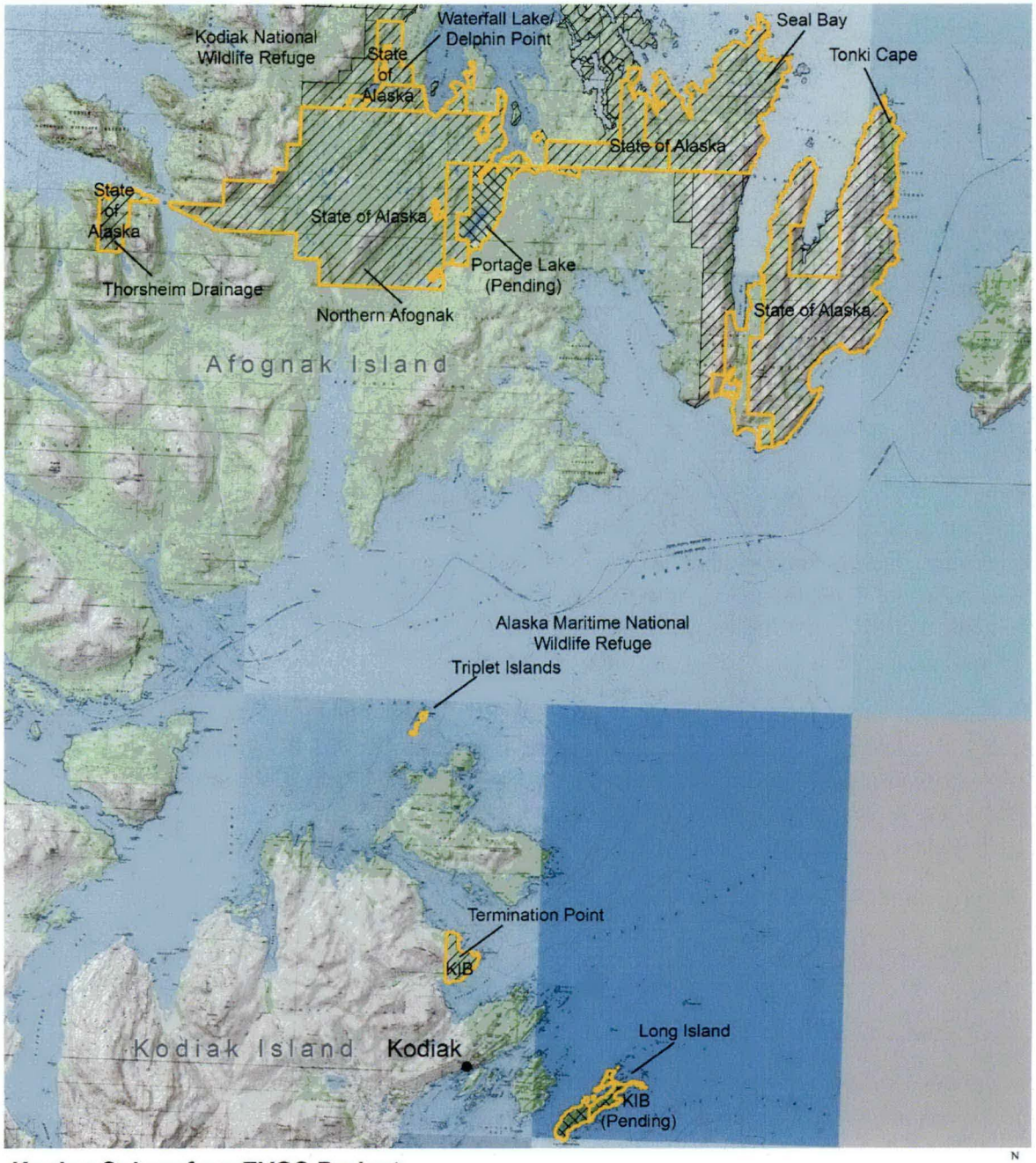
Proposed Management:

Where the associated surface estate interest is held by the State of Alaska or a municipal subdivision, the subsurface interest would be held by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, with a conservation easement to the U.S.

Where the associated surface estate interest is held by the U.S., the subsurface interest would be held by the USFWS, with a conservation easement to the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Funding Request:

Up to $3,000,000, including due diligence and closing costs. Final expenditure amount to be determined upon completion of the appraisal. The purchase amount would be adjusted accordingly if any pending surface estate projects do not close.



Koniag Subsurface EVOS Project

N

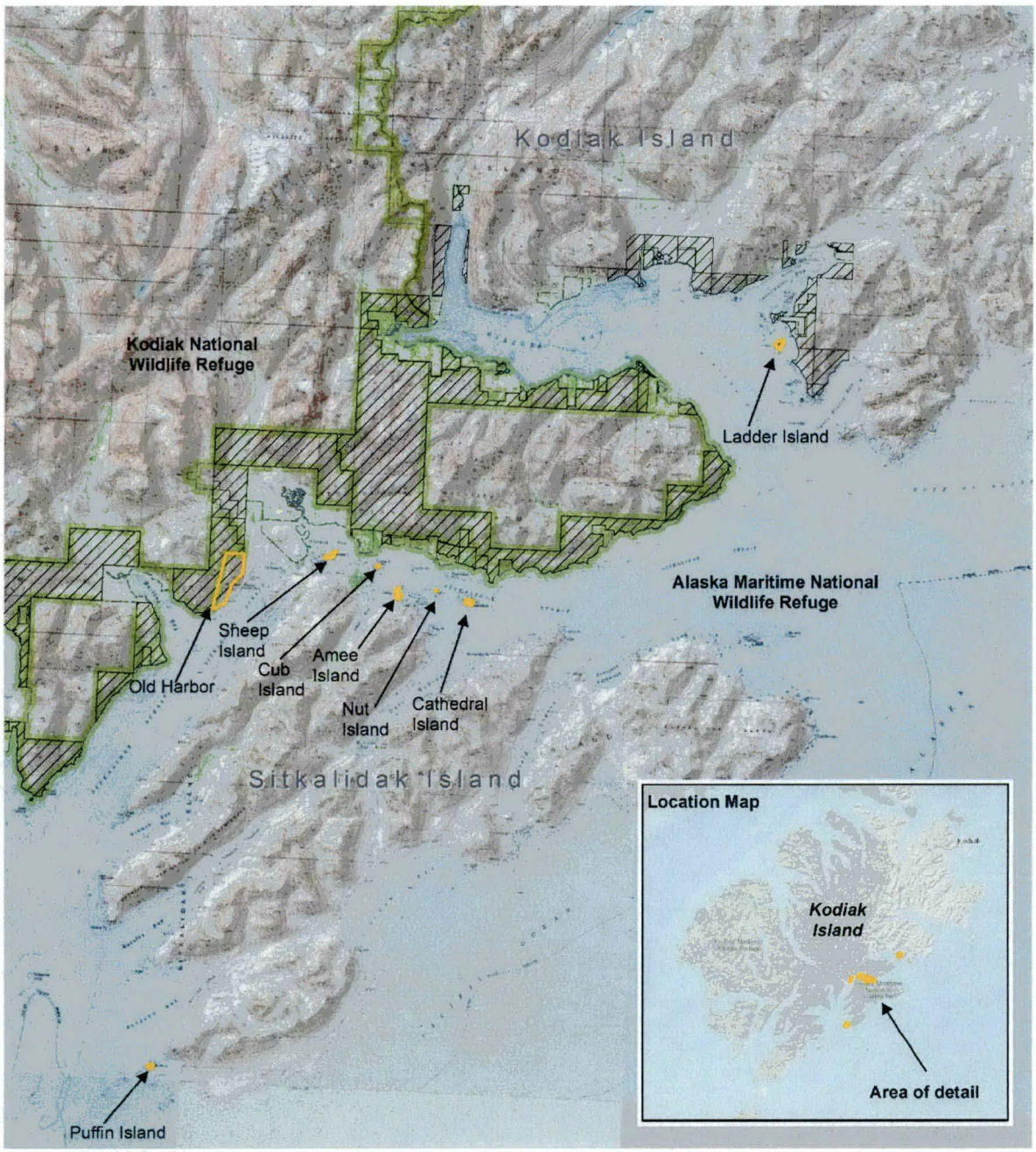
Koniag Subsurface with Conserved or Pending State or Federal Surface | Past EVOS Action | Active EVOS project

Approximate Acreage:

Northern Afognak: 36,299; Termination Point: 1,028; Long Island:1,258; Thorsheim Drainage: 1,953; Portage Lake: 2,880; Delphin Point: 3,752 ; Seal Bay Tonki Cape: 41,549; Triplet Islands: 65

0 5 10 Miles

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization



Koniag Subsurface EVOS Project
Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge Surface Estate

N

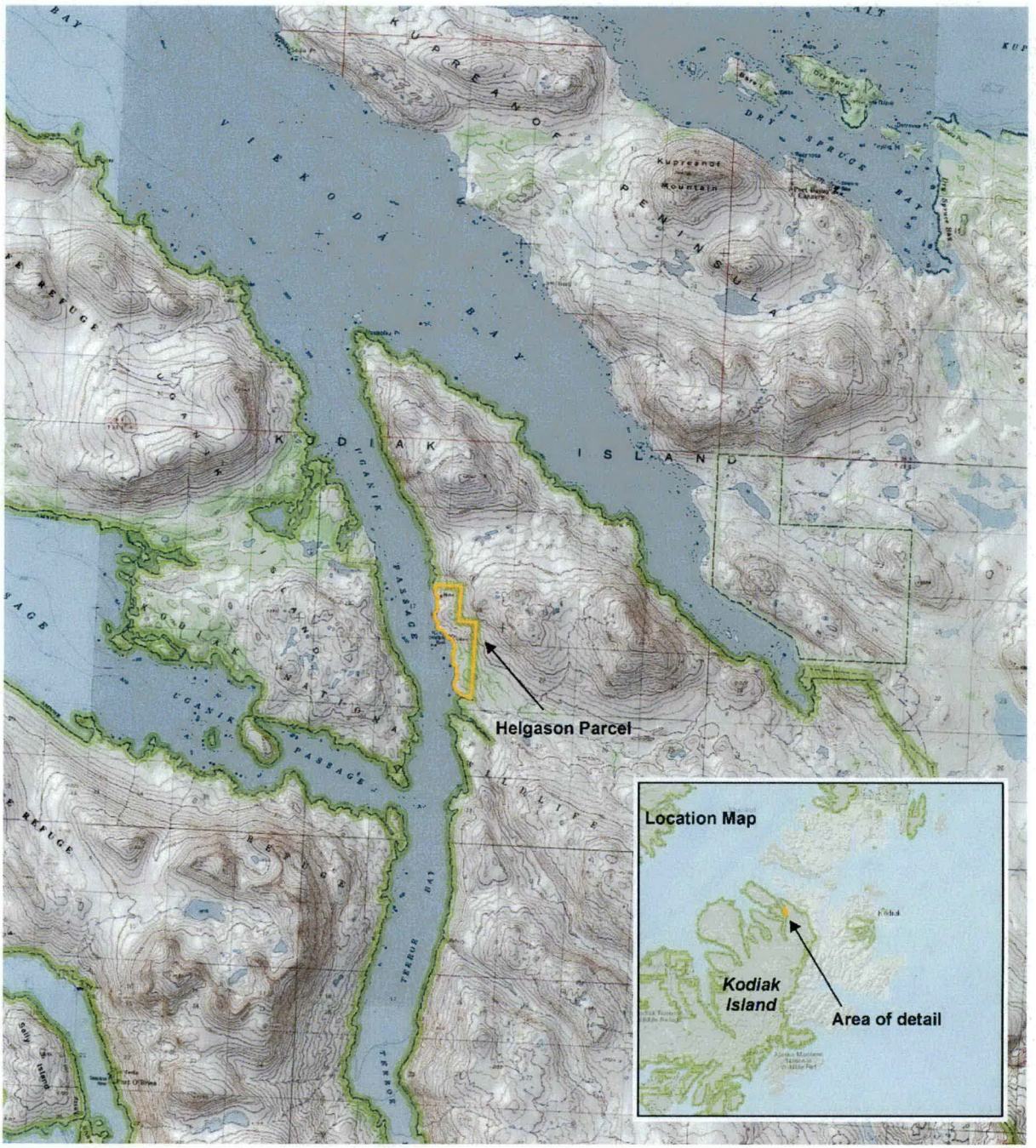
Koniag Subsurface with Conserved Federal Surface | Past EVOS Action | Kodiak NWR

Approximate Acreage:

Nut Island 1; Sheep Island 19; Cub Island 5.75; Amee Island 22; Puffin Island 0.92; Ladder Island 31; Cathedral Island 20.75
Old Harbor 440

0 5 10 Miles

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization



Koniag Subsurface EVOS Project
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Surface Estate

Koniag Subsurface with Conserved Federal Surface Kodiak NWR

Approximate Acreage:
Helgason Parcel, 150 acres

0 2 4 Miles

Great Land Trust
EVOS Habitat Prioritization

Table 1. Parcel information

Property Name	Acres	Legal Description	Surface Estate owner	Past Trustee Council Resolution
Thorsheim Drainage (2017 EVOSTC Uyak Natives Inc. acquisition)	1,953	Legal Description of Uyak Thorsheim Drainage Property TRACT A and TRACT B OF THE UYAK PARTITION SUBDIVISION, according to the official plat thereof, filed under Plat Number 2006-7 in records of Kodiak Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska; Located within Township 22 South, Ranges 21 and 22 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The acres described aggregate 1952.94 acres.	State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 16-02
Portage Lake (anticipated 2018 EVOSTC-Natives of Kodiak acquisition)	2,880	Legal description TBD based on survey results expected April 2018. Habitat protection project is in progress. Subsurface interest would be acquired if surface estate interest is purchased from NOK.	Proposed for State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 16-02
Termination Point (2016 EVOSTC – Leisnoi Inc. acquisition)	1,028	Legal Description of Leisnoi Termination Point Parcel Tract C, T. 27S., R. 19W., Seward Meridian, Alaska, Kodiak Recording District Containing 1028.00 acres, more or less According to the Supplemental Survey Plat accepted by the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management in Washington, D.C. on April 11, 1978. Located in the Kodiak Island Borough, Kodiak Recording District, Alaska.	Conservation Easement Kodiak Island Borough/U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 15-03

Long Island (anticipated 2018 EVOSTC-Leisnoi Inc. acquisition)	1,258.5	Habitat protection project is in progress. Subsurface interest would be acquired if surface estate interest is purchased from Leisnoi. Legal Description of Leisnoi Long Island Parcel A Township 27 South, Range 18 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. Section 32: Government Lot 1, According to the Bureau of Land Management Township Plat Accepted by the Chief, Cadastral Survey on January 9, 1980. Township 28 South, Range 18 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. Section 4: Government Lots 1 and 2; Section 5: Government Lot 2; Section 6: Government Lot 2; Section 7: Government Lot 1; Section 8: Government Lot 1, and portions of: Section 5: Government Lot 1; Section 6: Government Lot 1, Situated southerly of a line more particularly described as follows: Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. "HEAD 1907, 1933" Published UW1868, as shown on the Bureau of Land Management plat of Township 28 South, Range 18 West, of the Seward Meridian, Alaska accepted January 9, 1980; Thence South 39°55'36" East 2,600.7 feet to a point on the line of Mean High Water of Vera Bay. This being the "True Point of Beginning" for the boundary between Parcels A and B of this conservation easement. Thence South 61°53'00" West 135.7 feet to a witness corner to the meander corner for Vera Bay, a 2 1/2 inch stainless steel pipe monument with 3 1/4 inch brass	Proposed Conservation Easement to Kodiak Island Borough/U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 15-03

Long Island cont.		cap marked "WCMC, PUBLIC EASEMENT, 10201S, 2016"; Thence continuing South 61°53'00" West 164.0 feet to a witness corner to the meander corner for Cook Bay, a 2 1/2 inch stainless steel pipe monument with 3 1/4 inch brass cap marked "WCMC, PUBLIC EASEMENT, 10201S, 2016"; Thence continuing South 61°53'00" West 49.8 feet to a point on the line of Mean High Water of Cook Bay, and the Terminus of the Boundary Line. Township 28 South, Range 19 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. Section 1: Government Lot 1; Section 11: Government Lot 2; Section 12: Government Lot 1; Section 13: Government Lot 1; and Section 14: Government Lot 1, According to the Bureau of Land Management Township Plat Officially Filed September 20, 1991. As shown on the maps attached hereto and made a part of this description as "Exhibit A 2". The natural meanders of mean high water form the true bounds of this easement description. Legal Description of Long Island Parcel B Township 27 South, Range 18 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. Section 31: Government Lot 1, According to the Bureau of Land Management Township Plat Accepted by the Chief, Cadastral Survey on January 9, 1980. Township 28 South, Range 18 West, Seward Meridian, Alaska. The portions of:		

Long Island cont.		Section 5: Government Lot 1; Section 6: Government Lot 1, Situated northerly of a line more particularly described as follows: Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. "HEAD 1907, 1933" Published UW1868, as shown on the Bureau of Land Management plat of Township 28 South, Range 18 West, of the Seward Meridian, Alaska accepted January 9, 1980; Thence South 39°55'36" East 2,600.7 feet to a point on the line of Mean High Water of Vera Bay. This being the "True Point of Beginning" for the boundary between Parcels A and B of this conservation easement. Thence South 61°53'00" West 135.7 feet to a witness corner to the meander corner for Vera Bay, a 2 1/2 inch stainless steel pipe monument with 3 1/4 inch brass cap marked "WCMC, PUBLIC EASEMENT, 10201S, 2016"; Thence continuing South 61°53'00" West 164.0 feet to a witness corner to the meander corner for Cook Bay, a 2 1/2 inch stainless steel pipe monument with 3 1/4 inch brass cap marked "WCMC, PUBLIC EASEMENT, 10201S, 2016"; Thence continuing South 61°53'00" West 49.8 feet to a point on the line of Mean High Water of Cook Bay, and the Terminus of the Boundary Line. As shown on the maps attached hereto and made a part of this description as "Exhibit A 3". The natural meanders of mean high water form the true bounds of this easement description.		

Northern Afognak (2016 EVOSTC - Ouzinkie Native Corporation acquisition)	36,299	Seward Meridian Alaska T 21 S., R. 19 W., Section 21, excluding Discoverer Island; Section 28, lot 1; Sections 29, lots 1 to 5, inclusive; Sections 30, 31 and 32; Section 33, lots 2, and 3. Containing 2,875.92 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. T. 22 S., R. 19 W., Sections 6 and 7; Section 18, lot 2; Section 19. Containing 2,127.47 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. T. 21 S., R. 20 W. Sections 25 to 36, inclusive. Containing 7,585.19 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. T. 22 S., R. 20 W., Sections 1 to 11, inclusive; Section 12, lots 1 to 5, inclusive; Section 13, lots 1, 2 and 3; Sections 14 to 29, inclusive. Containing 18,285.20 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. T. 21 S., R. 21 W., Section 36, SE 1/4. Containing 160 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. T. 22 S., R. 21 W., Section 1, S 1/2, NE 1/4; Sections 10 – 15, inclusive; Section 16, lot 1;	State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 14-02

Northern Afognak cont.		Section 17, lots 1 and 2; Section 18, lot 1. Containing 5,146.01 acres, as shown on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989. Together with the following two parcels within T. 21 S., R. 19 W., S.M. as created by deed recorded in Book 91 at Page 901 on July 12, 1988, Kodiak Recording District: 1. The portion of Section 34, lot 1, identified on the BLM plat of survey officially filed December 22, 1989, south and west of the center line of Slough Creek; now described by the land survey performed in 2015 by Joshua Frantz Ivaniszek, Alaska Professional Land Surveyor No. 12314, and the Record of Survey recorded on September 14, 2015 as Plat No. 2015-24 in the Kodiak Recording District, containing 68.6 acres. 2. Starting at a rock point located in Discoverer Bay approximately 200' SW from the log transfer site in T.21.S., R.19 W., Section 27, S23°E to the line of mean high water, the true point of beginning. Then S36°E for 1400', then S54°W for 1555', then N36°W to the line of mean high water, then meander along the line of mean high water to the point of beginning; now described by the land survey performed in 2015 by Joshua Frantz Ivaniszek, Alaska Professional Land Surveyor No. 12314, and the Record of Survey recorded on September 14, 2015 as Plat No. 2015-24, in the Kodiak Recording District, containing 51.1 acres.		

Northern Afognak cont.		Aggregating 36,299.49 acres, as shown on the BLM plats of survey officially filed December 22, 1989 and the record of survey recorded on September 14, 2015 as Plat No. 2015-24, referenced above.		
Triplet Islands (2016 EVOSTC Ouzinkie Native Corporation acquisition)	65	Seward Meridian Alaska T. 25 S., R. 20 W., Sections 23 and 26 (Fractional), all. (The Triplet Islands) Aggregating 65 acres more or less.	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 14-02
Waterfall Lake/ Delphin Point (2009 EVOSTC/Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation/ American Land Conservancy Uganik/ Shuyak acquisition)	1,754.82	<u>Uganik</u> Parcel No. 1: Tract A and Tract D of Delphin Bay addition to the Afognak JV Subdivision, according to the official Plat thereof, filed under Plat No 2004-14, located in the Kodiak Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska Containing 1,748.65 acres, more or less Parcel No. 2: Township 21 South Range 20 West Section 21: Lot 2 Section 22: Lot 2 Containing 6.17 acres more or less	State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 08-16
Waterfall Lake/ Delphin Point (2009 EVOSTC/Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation/ American Land Conservancy Uganik/ Shuyak acquisition)	1,996.79	<u>Shuyak</u> Tract B and Tract C of Delphin Bay addition to the Afognak JV Subdivision, according to the official Plat thereof, Filed under Plat No 2004-14, located in the Kodiak Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska Containing 1,996.79 acres, more or less.	State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 08-17

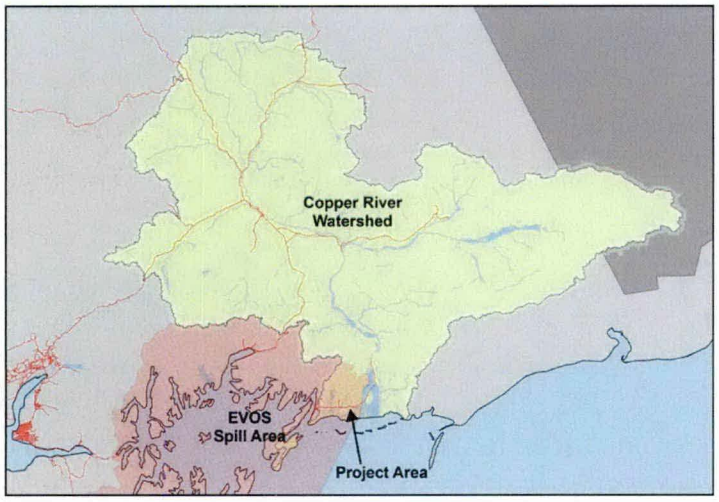
Seal Bay/Tonki Cape (1993 EVOS AKI/ Old Harbor acquisition; 1994-0131-852)	41,549	TBD	State of Alaska	EVOSTC Resolution 93-08-23
Nut Island (September 27, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0139-091)	1	T34S R24W, SM Lot 1 Section 30	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Sheep Island (September 27, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0139-091)	19	T34S R25W, SM Lot 1 Section 22	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Cub Island (September 27, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0139-091)	5.75	T34S R24W SM Lots 1,2,3,4,5,7 Section 23	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Amee Island (September 27, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0139-091)	22	T34S R25W SM Lots 1-5 Section 25	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Puffin Island (September 27, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0139-091)	0.92	T36S R26W SM (TBD: Sections 35 and 36 contain approximately 3.5 acres)	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Ladder Island (May 25, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0137-219)	31	T33S R23W SM Lot 2 Section 14 Lot 3 Section 15 Lot 1 Section 22 Lot 2 section 23	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02

Cathedral Island (May 25, 1995 EVOSTC- Old Harbor acquisition; 1995-0137-219)	20.75	T34S R24W SM Lots 1-5 Section 29	U.S.	EVOSTC Resolution 94-11-02
Helgason (Kodiak NWR inholding)	150	USS 7886	U.S.	Acquired with Land and Water Conservation Funds

Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project

COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT

The Copper River watershed and its delta is a system of many complex, relict channels with base flows that continue to evolve and change over time due to glacial influences and post-earthquake uprise. Of particular ecological significance are the estuaries within the Copper River Delta that support the continued health of the overall ecosystem. The southwestern portion of the Copper River watershed, including the Copper River Delta, is identified as an *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill (EVOS) affected geographic area and is a top priority for EVOS Trustee Council restoration, as it supports salmon and trout fisheries, numerous bird species, commercial fisheries, and important ecotourism for the region. Along the Copper River Highway, which acts as a dike on the delta, project proponents have identified the top 13 priority culverts for restoration under EVOS and one culvert which will be replaced by our project partner AKDOT within the project area. By removing or replacing these 13 culverts, we intend to restore hydrologic function and fish passage on the Copper River Delta. Once complete, this project will expand access to over 22 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous and resident fishes, while concurrently reducing the risk of infrastructure damage (i.e. highway washouts) during flood events.



PROJECT SUMMARY			
Barriers Replaced	11	Project Cost	$7,478,963
Barriers Removed	2		
Miles Habitat Re-opened	22	GA	9%
		TOTAL	**$8,152,070**

The current schedule devised by the project proponents identifies implementation beginning in 2020. However, necessary hydrology and design work would begin immediately in preparation for this work. The unique hydrologic regime of the Copper River Delta requires installation of flow gauges and analysis of the data to improve project design. Initial hydrology and design funding for preparation is estimated at $54,500 for hydrology and $193,750 for design. Investment in hydrology and design work by the April 2018 meeting will advance the projects and contribute to meaningful progress in this high priority ecosystem.

Supporters of the project include: ADOT, Eyak Corporation, Cordova District Fishermen United, ADF&G and the City of Cordova.

Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project

Photo: Copper River Delta

Photo Credit: www.shorezone.org

COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT

Project Background: The Copper River watershed and its delta is a system of many complex, relict channels with base flows that continue to evolve and change over time due to glacial influences and post-earthquake uprise. Of particular ecological significance are the estuaries within the Copper River Delta that support the continued health of the overall ecosystem.

The southwestern portion of the Copper River watershed, including the Copper River Delta, is identified as an Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) affected geographic area (Figure 1) and is a top priority for EVOS Trustee Council (EVOSTC) restoration, as it supports salmon and trout fisheries, numerous bird species, commercial fisheries, and important ecotourism for the region. Within this EVOS affected area of the Copper River watershed lies State Highway 10, commonly referred to as the Copper River Highway. This two-lane dirt and asphalt road persists on the remnant rail bed of the former Copper River and Northwestern Railway. Due to improper culvert design during construction, this 50-mile stretch of road bisecting the Copper River Delta between Cordova and the Copper River now functions similarly to a dike at many of the 73 culverts originally intended to provide drainage. While the disturbance by some of the culverts is well known for the area, there are no plans by ADOT (Alaska Department of Transportation) or USFS (United States Forest Service) to preventively address the culverts due to prioritization of limited funds towards roads that see more traffic use in the region. As such, the presence of this roadbed has unintentionally disrupted the Delta's hydrology, led to reduced ecological function, and resulted in expensive road repairs following major high water events.

The injured resources and services in the southwestern portion of the Copper River watershed and nearby areas have received past EVOSTC habitat protection support in the form of conservation easements. This project will bolster these protection efforts of the EVOSTC by providing on-the-ground restoration actions. Specifically, this project will improve ecological function, while concurrently reducing the likelihood of infrastructure damage caused by high water events along the Copper River Highway. Both ecological impairment and infrastructure damage become increasingly costly to repair if left unchecked. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), United States Forest Service (USFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP) have formed a partnership to conduct these proposed on-the-ground restoration actions that will benefit the many ecological processes and species that inhabit the Copper River watershed., as well as the injured services in the community of Cordova.

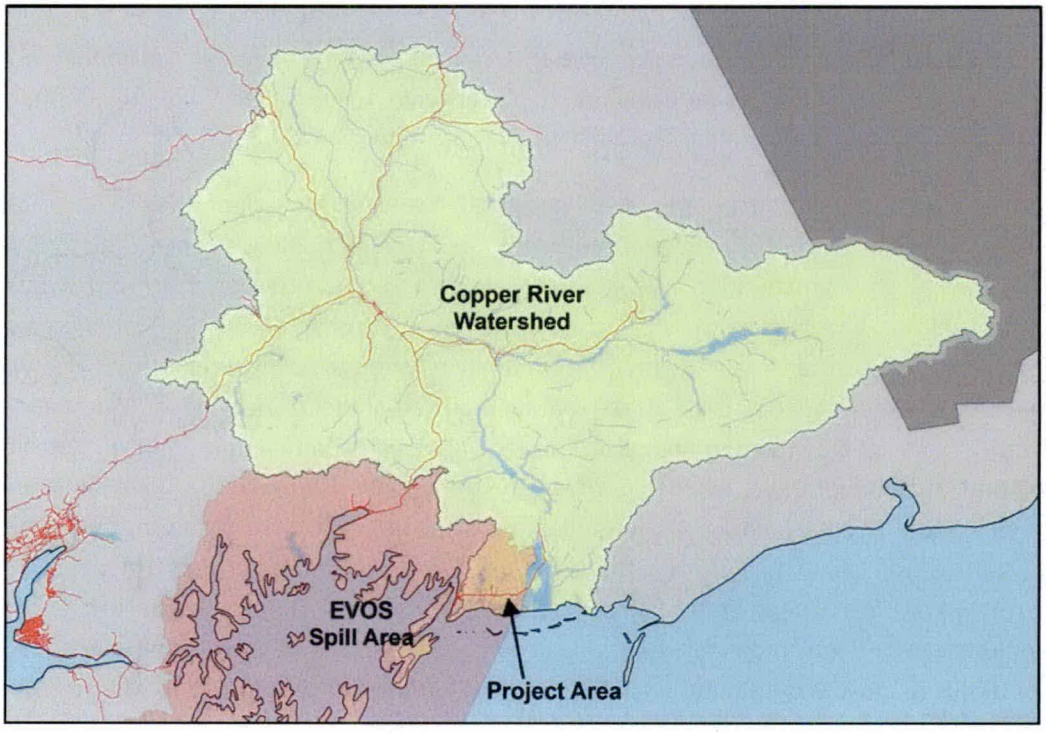


Figure 1. Geographic extent of the Copper River watershed in yellow. Pink shaded area in the southwestern corner of the watershed delineates the EVOS affected area within the proposed project area.

Project Narrative: Within the Copper River watershed are hundreds of road-stream crossings (culverts); roughly one culvert for every two miles of road. Many of these culverts have altered the natural hydrologic processes necessary to maintain the health of aquatic ecosystems. This project focuses on re-establishing proper hydrologic and ecological function, which includes restoring fish passage for improved access to spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous and resident fishes in the EVOS affected portions of the Copper River Delta. This will be achieved by replacing culverts prioritized for causing the greatest level of ecological harm with newer, larger culvert designs that utilize Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) or Stream Simulation type techniques. Where possible, we propose removing culverts completely and either decommissioning the historic roadbed or building a ford.

Most Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT/PF) culverts now in place under State roads were installed decades ago following "hydraulic design" principles of meeting water flow capacity needs. We know now that a bare, narrow culvert can create a high-velocity or a low flow barrier for juvenile and adult fish at the different flow levels a stream experiences throughout the seasons. This partnership will implement "stream simulation" culvert designs to the greatest extent possible for restoring Copper River delta natural hydrology conditions. Stream simulation is a method of designing crossing structures (usually culverts), with the aim of creating within the structure a channel as similar as possible to the natural channel in both structure and function. The premise is that the simulated channel should present no more of an obstacle to aquatic organisms than the adjacent

natural channel.[1] By trying to match the channel width, depth, and slope of stream sections above and below a culvert being replaced, the "simulation creates the diverse water depths and velocities, hiding and resting areas, and moist-edge habitats that different species need for movement."[2] Given that ADOT/PF's mandate is road safety, rather than fish passage, and that the Copper River Highway is a low use road in the statewide competition for funds, these culverts fall in the challenging category of being low priority crossings on high value streams. Stream simulation crossings are wider than traditional crossings, and therefore less prone to blockage from woody debris or beaver dams.[3] This increased flow capacity also protects road infrastructure by reducing the likelihood of flood flows over-topping a road or eroding the road embankment.

To determine the top restoration priorities in the geographic area of consideration, assessment data was collected by State and Federal agency partners and the Copper River Watershed Project at all 73 culverts identified along the Copper River Highway and side roads (e.g. Cabin Lakes Road). These data were then analyzed to determine conservation priorities by using an innovative, multi-part scoring system to calculate a ranking of each assessed culvert and its relative priority for replacement with regard to its physical condition and assumed potential to deliver ecological benefits to anadromous fish if removed or replaced with AOP or Stream Simulation type design culverts. The culvert prioritization tool and criteria can be found online at: https://copperriver.org/programs/fish-habitat-restoration/culverts-are-the-culprits/. Using this initial ranking of the 73 assessed culverts, and in consideration of our current capacity, we have identified the top 13 priority culverts for restoration under EVOS and one culvert which will be replaced by our project partner ADOT (Figure 2) within the geographic area of consideration. By removing or replacing these 13 culverts with an AOP or Stream Simulation type design culvert, we intend to improve hydrologic function on the Copper River Delta and to restore fish passage at the proposed project sites. Once complete, this project will expand access to over 22 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous and resident fishes, while concurrently reducing the risk of infrastructure damage (i.e. highway washouts) during flood events. Following this proposed restoration effort, additional culverts may be brought forward to EVOS Trustees for restoration consideration. In addition, the ecological benefit for restoration conducted under this proposal will be enhanced by a culvert replacement undertaken by ADOT, which will yield an additional two miles of fish passage and cost over $590,000.

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[1] USDA Forest Service, *Stream Simulation: An Ecological Approach to Providing Passage for Aquatic Organisms at Road-Stream Crossings*, August 2008.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid.

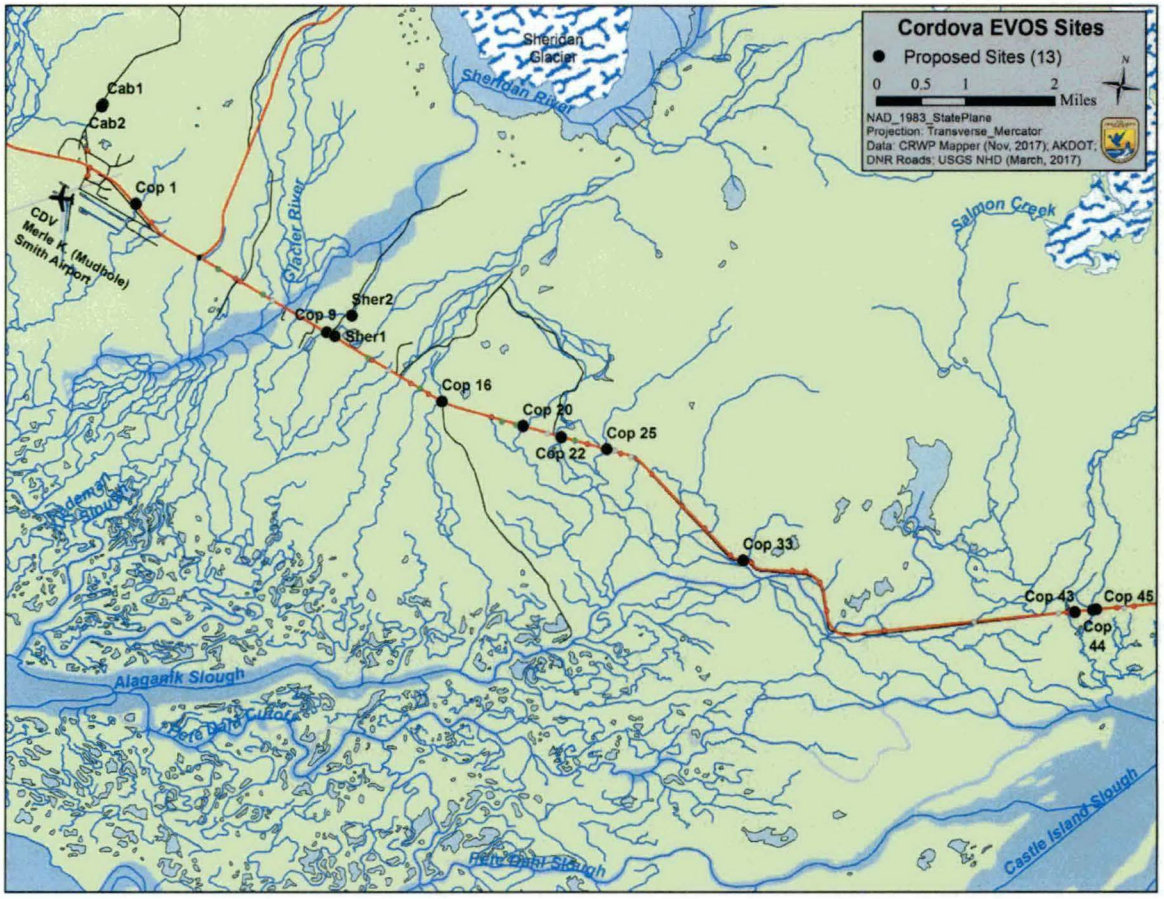

Figure 2. *The 13 priority culverts identified for replacement within the EVOS affected area during a 5-yr project period, given the current capacity to conduct this type of work in the Cordova area. Additionally the culvert to be addressed by project partner ADOT/PF, Cop16, is shown.*

Injured Resource Benefits: The on-the-ground habitat restoration actions described by this proposal will further benefit the resources aided by conservation easements previously established by EVOSTC to protect habitats within the Copper River watershed and nearby areas.

Species Benefits: Direct benefits to specific species will vary by location; however, project restoration efforts will improve the function of the Copper River ecosystem and benefit all of the associated aquatic and terrestrial habitats (Table 1). Undersized culverts impede fish passage, limiting access to critical habitat by both season and life stage. This lack of habitat accessibility can limit the number of fish that survive or successfully reproduce minimizing the amount of fish a habitat can support. Undersized culverts also interrupt ecological processes and reshape stream system form and function. Restoration actions that re-establish connectivity and improve access to critical habitat are considered a high priority.

Table 1: *The following table provides a description of the ecological benefits to Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) affected species and services that are expected to occur at each project location as a direct result of this effort to improve ecological function and fish access to more than 22 miles of spawning and rearing habitat.*

CRWP ID	State of Alaska culvert ID	Ecological Benefits to EVOS Affected Species and Services	Benefit to EVOS Injured Resources and Services	Stream Miles
Cab 1 Cab 2	20101904 20101905	**Elsner River Tributaries:** A failing culvert on a tributary to Elsner creek is blocking upstream fish passage to 0.1 miles of habitat where a second culvert on an abandoned road is blocking access to an additional 0.2 miles of upstream habitat. Both culverts should be removed to achieve full ecological benefits.	Dolly Varden; Recreation and Tourism; Commercial Fishing	0.3
Cop 45 Cop 43 Cop 44	20100511 20100508 20100510	**Lower Copper River:** Culverts present in this cluster of projects affecting a complex of interconnected channels that feed into the lower copper river. In order to provide fish passage and correct drainage problems in this area, these culverts need to be replaced at the same time. Due to these undersized culverts, drainage in this area has been a recurring problem for fish and human use.	Recreation and Tourism; Commercial Fishing	2.4
Cop 22 Cop 25 Cop 20	20100488 20100491 20100486	**18-Mile System:** The three project sites in this system represent a watershed scale restoration. The first project sites is a barrier on the West Fork of Milepost 18 stream that impedes upstream access to 2.3 miles of high quality habitat. The site at the middle fork of Milepost 18 creek is considered a barrier to upstream fish passage into 5.6 miles of high quality habitat. The third site is on the east fork of Mile 18 Creek and blocks access to 2.5 miles of upstream habitat	Cutthroat Trout; Recreation and Tourism; Commercial Fishing	10.4
Sher 2 Cop 9 Sher 1 Cop 1	20101902 20100475 20101903 20100467	**Sheridan River Tributaries:** The primary site at the Sheridan Tributary is a severely undersized culvert. The upstream channel width is approximately 10 feet whereas the existing culvert is only 1.5 feet diameter. Downstream lies another undersized culvert that is 4 feet in diameter. The third culvert on a Sheridan Tributary is located on Goat Camp Road and can be replaced with a ford to minimize cost. The fourth culvert blocks access to 3.2 miles of ecologically productive tributary that drains a large wetland channel complex feeding into the Sheridan River.	Recreation and Tourism; Commercial Fishing	5.5
Cop 33	20100499	**Black Hole Creek:** This culvert is undersized and impeding access to 3.2 miles of known spawning and rearing habitat.	Cutthroat Trout; Dolly Varden; Recreation and Tourism; Commercial Fishing	3.2

Service Benefits: On the Copper River Highway (State Highway 10), undersized culverts present a public safety and maintenance concern for flooding. The Copper River Highway was breached by flood waters in 2006 and 2017 due to undersized culverts. By replacing these undersized culverts with larger designs, we will reduce the risks to public safety.

Recreation, Tourism and Subsistence: The Copper River Highway provides primary access from the City of Cordova to recreational opportunities, including US Forest Service trails and cabins, fishing, and hunting. Undersized culverts can endanger road stability, which leads to costly repairs and lengthy delays for use of the road. Recreational tourism on the delta is centered on fish, wildlife, and scenic vistas, which are supported by a healthy and functional watershed. Ecological restoration on the Copper River Delta benefits local residents and visitors by improving conditions for trout and salmon that are popular subsistence and recreational fisheries, as well as for migrating and nesting waterbirds.

Commercial Fishing: Commercial fishing is the foundation of the local economy, and restoration actions will directly benefit sockeye and coho salmon, commercially harvested species.

Description of Work: This project will address a total of 13 culverts identified as restoration priorities and an additional matching 1 culverts will be replaced by project partner ADOT. Of the 13 EVOS funded priority culverts identified, two of the culverts will be removed completely and the remaining eleven will be replaced with AOP or Stream Simulation type designed culverts using an approach that combines geomorphic and hydrologic data to allow for juvenile salmonid passage, sediment transport, and flood conveyance. The culverts will be constructed to withstand a 100 year flood event and with a design life of 50 years. Furthermore, the replaced culverts will reduce maintenance of the Copper River Highway and side roads; maintenance of the culverts will be conducted by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT/PF).

Culverts addressed in this project are located on either USFS managed roads or roads belonging to ADOT/PF. Both landowners are willing to collaborate with partners on this project, as is the neighbor to the USFS lands, Eyak Corporation.

Estimated Cost: The EVOSTC request for this work is $7,811,961 (Table 2). EVOSTC funds will be used to conduct restoration work at 13 existing culvert locations. Restoration work conducted by project partner ADOT/PF provides leverage funding for this project in the approximate amount of $590,000

Preliminary cost estimates for all 13 high priority culverts are complete. Costs include NEPA consultation: USFS has a Categorical Exclusion for this type of work on Forest Service lands and both USFWS and NOAA have programmatic consultations for culvert replacements. Following completion of this project, the top tier feasible projects listed for the EVOS affected area of the Copper River watershed will be complete.

The initial cost estimates were developed by USFWS fish passage engineer, Heather Hanson, P.E., based on historical cost data for construction of similar culverts in the project area. Ms. Hanson has been an

Alaska licensed civil engineer since 1999 and is trained in USFS stream simulation methods for aquatic organism passage at culverts. The USFWS made site visits and carried out initial surveys as needed to develop this cost estimate.

Project Management:

Pre-Construction: Prior to culvert construction, hydrologic data will be collected to aid in culvert design. Permitting actions will also occur in advance of construction.

Construction: The USFWS will serve as the primary fiscal agent; through cooperative agreements, USFWS will provide EVOSTC funds to CRWP and ADF&G for design and construction through a competitive bid process. ADOT/PF will be involved in design review for culverts present on their lands. Project partner CRWP has 20 years of experience in supporting regional partnerships, resulting in completed fish habitat restoration for the Copper River watershed. The CRWP has coordinated the removal of fish passage barriers at eight sites; constructed four best management practice structures to help filter stormwater run-off draining to aquatic and marine waters; and conducted nearly 200 stream habitat surveys and 82 culvert surveys to create and populate a database of fish passage barriers for a multi-agency information needs project. The CRWP's budget ranges from $450,000 - $700,000 annually, and has proven capacity to manage federal, state, and private grants, agreements, and contracts.

Project Inspection: Post-construction inspection for this restoration project will be closely tied to the projects implementation. Project inspection will occur in two phases. The first phase will be a physical inspection of the constructed culvert. The second phase, an assessment of culvert functionality for restoring fish passage conducted by USFS, will ensure that the restoration measures accomplished the project goals. Inspections will occur throughout the duration of the project construction and are expected to continue for one year post-construction. Further details regarding project inspection can be found in **Appendix 1. Project Inspection.**

Table 2: *Once completed this project will rehabilitate hydrologic functioning at 13 road-stream crossings in the EVOS affect portion of the Copper River Delta, thereby restoring fish passage and access to more than 22 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for multiple species of anadromous and resident fishes.*

PROJECT SUMMARY			
Barriers Replaced	11	Project cost	$7,478,963
Barriers Removed	2		
Miles Habitat Re-opened	22	GA	9%
		TOTAL	**$8,152,070**

Schedule:

April 2018:	Proposal to EVOSTC
April 2018- 2020	Hydrology and Design
May 2020-2022:	Phase 1 project Implementation
May 2022-2024:	Phase 1 post project Inspection
May 2023-2025:	Phase 2 Project Implementation
May 2025-2027:	Phase 2 post project Inspection

Appendix 1: **Project Inspection Plan**

Appendix 2: **Letters of Recommendation:**

ADF&G habitat:

Eyak Corporation

Cordova District Fishermen United

ADOT/PF

Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District

Appendix 1: Final Inspection Plan[1]

Introduction

Replacing culverts with "fish-friendly" designs developed with stream simulation techniques improves passage for aquatic and riparian organisms and increases conveyance of flood flows and debris, restoring ecological conditions and stream channel function, preventing road damage during floods, and reducing highway maintenance costs.

Although stream simulation techniques have been broadly applied throughout North America and the ecological benefits of fish-friendly culverts are well-documented, post-project inspection is valuable to: (1) ensure function, (2) allow for adaptive management, and (3) document use by anadromous fish.

The functionality of the new fish-friendly culvert can be assessed by measuring channel profile, channel stability, and bed material dimensions before and after installation. Stream simulation designs are developed with inherent uncertainty about site-specific hydrological and meteorological conditions. A detailed pre-project assessment can reduce uncertainty about flow regime, bed load, and other factors that can improve project design before implementation. Post-project inspection can further improve the project outcome by identify shortcomings that can be mitigated with simple interventions such as installing larger bed material inside a culvert, or adding additional grade control.

The proposed project sites are located on the Copper River Delta, a landform with dynamic and complex geomorphology shaped by marine, tectonic, and glacial activity. Hydrological and meteorological conditions within the project area can change rapidly and are relatively unique, even compared to other locations in Alaska. Post-implementation inspections provide an opportunity to learn how to tailor stream-simulation design for local conditions. This proposal aims to replace 14 culverts over 6 years. Final inspection of culvert installations will ensure that the proposed restoration meets the requirements of restoration under EVOS and will improve analysis and reporting of project accomplishments to EVOS Trustees.

Evaluating fish presence in the impacted catchments will provide resource managers with additional information that will improve management of these aquatic ecosystems, ensuring the benefits of this project to watershed health within the EVOS affected area are maintained. Observing upstream extent and life stages of anadromous fish above the fish-friendly culverts may also provide an indicator of project success in some systems. Documenting the presence of anadromous Coastal Cutthroat Trout, a species injured by EVOS and presently listed as "very likely recovered," will provide data that may be useful for assessing species recovery. These data will also be utilized to update the state of Alaska Anadromous Waters Catalog. Alaska

[1] Written by Luca Adelfio (Hydrologist, USDA Forest Service, Chugach National Forest) and peer-reviewed by project partners.

Department of Fish and Game estimates that only half of eligible waterbodies are presently listed in the Anadromous Waters Catalog. Documenting fish use will ensure the habitat value of project catchments is fully realized by land managers.

Methods

We propose an inspection plan that will: (1) validate the functionality of the fish-friendly culvert installations, (2) increase efficacy of future fish-friendly culvert designs, and (3) provide information about anadromous fish presence in the restored catchments.

To accomplish these goals, we will conduct post-construction investigations of channel profile and fish presence.

Post-construction investigation of channel profile

We will quantify changes in channel profile and function as compared to the pre-construction channel profile and the design specifications. This investigation will be conducted approximately 2 years after culvert replacement, allowing time for the channel profile to adapt to the hydraulics of the new culvert.

Our data collection and analysis methods will follow standard Forest Service procedures for channel profile measurement as described in the Region 10 Aquatic Habitat Management Handbook (USDA Forest Service 2001) and the National Inventory and Assessment Procedure (Clarkin and others 2005).

We will quantify channel characteristics within a study reach that will extend approximately the length of 20 bankfull widths upstream and downstream from the culvert. Our investigation will include: conducting a detailed plan survey around the culvert, measuring channel cross-sectional profiles, longitudinal profile, streambed particle size and elevation, and large wood. We will focus on metrics that most efficiently capture channel function such as median particle size within the culvert, residual pool depth downstream from the outlet, streambed elevation within and near the culvert, and channel and bankfull width.

We will use these data to assess changes in channel profile and function that correspond with the installation of the new culvert. For example, if the post-construction elevation of streambed measurement suggests bed material scour, our inspections may capture the change and a simple intervention may be applied to improve culvert function. These observations can also be used to validate if the culvert is conveying water and passing fish as intended and to inform future fish-friendly culvert designs.

Post-construction investigation of fish presence

Fish surveys will be conducted in all anadromous habitat reaches upstream from the new culvert within 2 years of installation. We will follow American Fisheries Society standards for fish capture and handling (Zale and others 2013). Capture methods will be appropriate for the habitat unit, and may include baited traps, nets, snorkeling, or electrofishing. Capture methods will be approved in advance by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and will be conducted in a manner that minimizes stress and disturbance to fish. After capture, fish will be identified to species, measured, and released into the habitat feature where they were captured. At least two fish surveys will be conducted in each stream to capture differences in fish presence associated with life stage and season.

Data archiving and reporting

All stream channel profile data will be shared with project collaborators after each field season and will be available to the public upon request. All fish survey data will be reported to Alaska Department of Fish and Game and nominations will be submitted to update the state Anadromous Waters Catalog.

Annual reports will be written and shared with project collaborators and the EVOS TC. At the end of the inspection period, a peer-reviewed final report will be produced that describes our findings and makes recommendations for future fish-friendly culvert designs. The final report will be completed within 1 year after data collection is finished.

Timeline

An inspection timeline is presented in Table 1. We anticipate three culvert installations per year for six years, however, if implementation timelines change, the inspection schedule will be adjusted to ensure the post-construction investigations of channel profile are conducted 2 years after project implementation and the fish presence investigations is conducted within 2 years of implementation.

Table 1. Inspection Timeline.

Objective	Target completion relative to project implementation	Schedule Phase 1 (by Fiscal Year)	Schedule Phase2 (by Fiscal Year)
Project Implementation	-	FY 20-22	FY 23-25
Post-project channel profile survey	2 years after	FY 22-24	FY 25-27
Post-implementation anadromous fish surveys	2 years after	FY 22-24	FY 25-27
Annual Reports	-	FY 22-24	FY 25-27
Final Report	-	FY 25	FY 28

Budget

The average annual cost to inspect three culvert replacements is: **$33,300**. The annual cost breakdown for the channel profile survey and the fish presence survey is:

Annual Channel Profile Survey Costs (for three sites per one year)

Description	Amount (USD)
Airfare (for 2 Anchorage-based Surveyors)	$1,000
Per Diem (For 2 Anchorage-based Surveyors)	$2,200
Survey supplies and materials	$150
Alaska Marine Highway vehicle transport	$450
Salary for field work (4 employees, 5 days)	$7,500
Salary for platting, data analysis, reporting	$12,000
Total:	**$23,300**

Annual Fish Presence & Life Stage Survey Costs (for three sites per one year)

Description	Amount (USD)
Equipment and supplies	$500
Salary for field work (3 employees, 8 days)	$7,500
Salary for data analysis and reporting	$2,000
Total:	**$10,000**

The proposed inspections will occur for three years per phase (anticipated FY 22-24 and FY 25-27) and the total cost will be **$199,800**.

References

Clarkin, K.; Connor, A.; Furniss, M.J. [and others]. 2005. National Inventory and Assessment Procedure- For Identifying Barriers to Aquatic Organism Passage at Road-Stream Crossings: National Technology and Development Program. 81 p.

USDA Forest Service. 2001. Aquatic Habitat Management Handbook. Juneau, Alaska: Alaska Region. 124 p.

Zale, A.V.; Parrish, D.L.; Sutton, T.M. 2013. Fisheries Techniques (3rd ed.). Bethesda, MD: American Fisheries Society. 1009 p.

Appendix 2: Letter of Recommendation

The Eyak Corporation
901 LeFevre Street
PO Box 340
Cordova, AK 99574
Email: abutler@eyakcorp.com
Toll Free: (800) 478-7161
Phone: (907) 424-7161
Fax: (907) 424-5161

March 6, 2018

Elise Hsieh
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh,

On behalf of the Eyak Corporation, I am writing to express support for the proposed Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project that will replace thirteen culverts blocking fish passage and access to spawning habitat on the Copper River delta, including four situated on easements crossing Eyak Corp land. As the General Manager of Cordova Operations for the Eyak Corporation, one of my responsibilities is overseeing activities on Eyak Corporation Lands in the Prince William Sound region.

We support this effort to improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat on the Copper River delta, including the sites that could potentially impact Eyak Corporation land. Salmon have sustained Eyak Natives for generations and we want to ensure this invaluable resource is around for our grandchildren's children and more.

As a Cordovan, I am also interested in supporting healthy salmon habitat on the Copper River delta so that we can continue to harvest salmon. Our community and the Native people have rellied on healthy salmon for generations.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with the proposal partners on the permitting necessary to implement this fish passage improvement project. Please contact me at (907)424-7161 or abutler@eyakcorp.com with any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Angela Butler
General Manager of Cordova Operations

THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF HABITAT
Central Region Office

333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1565
Main: 907.267.2342
Fax: 907.267.2499

November 15, 2017

Elise Hsieh
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh,

On behalf of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G), I am writing to express support for the proposed Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project that will replace thirteen culverts and improve or restore access for anadromous fish to spawning and rearing habitat in the Copper River delta. The ADF&G has statutory authority for protecting fish habitat in the State of Alaska. I am the Habitat Biologist responsible for permitting and project review in the eastern Prince William Sound area for the ADF&G Division of Habitat, and I visited all of the proposed replacement sites in June 2017.

The Copper River Highway acts as a dike, altering hydrology through the delta's wetlands. Many streams supporting anadromous fish cross the highway in culverts that are complete or partial barriers to upstream migration. The ADF&G supports work in this area to maintain or restore fish passage across the highway. Replacing these culverts will benefit coho salmon and other anadromous fish species, by improving or restoring access to spawning and rearing areas currently underutilized on the north side of the highway. Improving productivity in the Copper River delta area will benefit the area's subsistence, sport and commercial fisheries.

I have worked with the Copper River Watershed Project, the proposed project manager, on several fish habitat and water quality improvement projects in the Cordova area. The organization has successfully carried out numerous habitat improvement projects in the area with a high level of dedication and attention to detail. ADF&G biologists have worked successfully with the Copper River Watershed Project on several projects that required cooperation from multiple agencies and stakeholders.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with the proposal partners on design review and permitting necessary to implement these fish passage improvement projects. Please contact me at (907)267-2446 or megan.marie@alaska.gov with any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Megan Marie
Habitat Biologist IV

ecc:
Stormy Haught, Area Research Biologist, Cordova
Jay Baumer, Sport Fisheries Management Biologist, Prince William Sound
Jeremy Botz, Commercial Fisheries Management Biologist, Copper River

Cordova District Fishermen United
PO Box 939 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574
phone. (907) 424 3447 | fax. (907) 424 3430
web. www.cdfu.org

November 28, 2017

Elise Hsieh
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh,

On behalf of Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU), I am writing to express support for the proposed Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project that will replace thirteen culverts blocking fish passage to spawning habitat on the Copper River delta. As an organization dedicated to perpetuating the health of our salmon fisheries, we represent commercial fishermen who depend on healthy salmon runs in the Copper River watershed to sustain our livelihoods.

We learned firsthand after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill how impaired habitat affects the health of salmon populations and ultimately the health of the commercial fishing industry. We support this effort to improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat on the Copper River delta, in particular for coho salmon. Maintaining habitat connectivity increases available habitat for spawning and rearing, ultimately increasing the number of salmon available to support local fishermen, including commercial, sport and subsistence fishermen.

As local Cordovans, we are dedicated to supporting healthy salmon habitat on the Copper River Delta so that we can continue to harvest strong, sustainable salmon runs for generations to come. Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal. Please contact me at rachel@cdfu.org with any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Rachel Kallander
Executive Director
Cordova District Fishermen United

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Cordova Ranger District | 612 2nd Street P.O. Box 280 Cordova, AK 99574

File Code: 2500
Date: March 6, 2018

Elise Hsieh
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
430 University Drive; Suite 220
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4650

Dear Elise Hsieh:

The proposed Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project will occur within watersheds managed by the Cordova Ranger District of the Chugach National Forest. Some of the culvert replacements will occur on roads that are maintained by the Forest Service. The proposed project meets the management objectives of the Chugach National Forest and mitigates impacts of the Exxon *Valdez* Oil Spill by improving conditions for injured species and the people that depend on these resources. In addition to improving aquatic ecosystem health, this project will improve access for tourism and subsistence, benefitting the local economy and quality of life.

I support this project and I hope the Trustee Council will fund this important work.

Sincerely,

ROBERT SKORKOWSKY
District Ranger

cc: Kristin Carpenter; Ron Britton

THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION
Design and Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5316
Main: 907-451-2273
TDD: 907-451-2363
Fax: 907-451-5126

March 14, 2018

Elise Hsieh

Executive Director

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

4230 University Drive, Suite 220

Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh,

I am writing to express support for the proposed Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project that will replace 14 culverts blocking fish passage to spawning and rearing habitat on the Copper River delta. We are participating as a member of the project partnership because nine of these barrier culverts are on the Copper River Highway, a State road owned and maintained by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT &PF).

Compared to road needs across the State, the Copper River Highway ranks as a low priority because of its low traffic volume. This highway is also in relatively good shape, making it very unlikely that these culverts would be funded for replacement by ADOT&PF absent a road safety problem.

We do see the value in replacing hydraulically under-sized culverts with those that mimic more natural stream conditions to improve fish passage as the proposed replacements will also be capable of handling higher flow regimes and better protect infrastructure and the meandering of steams on the Copper River delta during large rain events.

With this benefit in mind, we will contribute to this restoration work by participating in the planning process and review designs for each crossing to ensure they align with ADOT&PF standards. Upon completion, we will be responsible for the continued maintenance of each site. Staff from several divisions of our agency have worked successfully since 2010 with these partners to replace other high priority culverts based on associated fish habitat on the delta and are prepared to continue this partnership for the proposed culverts on ADOT&PF roads.

We support this effort and look forward to working with all partners to ensure that this proposed project maintains safe roads for the community while improving fish passage on the Copper River delta.

Please contact me at 907-451-5389 or via email at jstutzke@alaska.gov with any questions regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jeff Stutzke, P.E.

AKDOT&PF

Northern Region Hydraulic Engineer

cc:

Dan Adamzcak, DOT&PF Maintenance and Operations

Kenai Watershed Forum: Kenai Peninsula Coastal Stream Watch Proposal

Summary

Kenai Watershed Forum proposes to expand its highly successful Stream Watch program, with initial eighteen-month funding from EVOSTC to support additional stream protection activities in the intense summer public use centers on the southern Kenai Peninsula, around the stream and river mouths of the Kasilof, Ninilchik and Anchor Rivers and Deep Creek for the 2018 and 2019 summer field seasons. The combined 2018-19 proposed budget is $91,282.

Organizational History and Collaborating Organizations

Founded in 1997 by a group of concerned citizens, the Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) has grown from a small grassroots collective focusing on the Kenai River Watershed (2,200 square miles) to a regionally respected 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission now encompasses the entire Kenai Peninsula (16,000 square miles).

With seven permanent employees, KWF utilizes a non-adversarial approach, focusing on solutions through high quality research, education, and restoration programs to meet the evolving needs of the region. This can be seen on the water and at the conference table. KWF facilitates hard conversations on natural resource issues, as evidenced by its role in facilitating the formation of the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership, which has brought varying entities to the table and has received national recognition through the National Fish Habitat Partnership. KWF is proud of its nationally recognized programs including the Stream Watch program. With an annual budget of $1M, with more than 23 active grants and contracts from a variety of sources including local, state, and federal governments, the organization's mission is working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula, and it is a recognized leader among watershed organizations in Alaska and beyond.

Stream Watch, one of the KWF's longest running programs, is a national award-winning volunteer program that promotes river stewardship on the Kenai Peninsula. Founded in 1994 by the U.S. Forest Service, the Stream Watch program was formed in collaboration with a small group of enthusiastic river users looking to share river protection information on the Russian and Kenai Rivers. In 2011 the KWF began jointly administering the program and expanded it to encompass sites on the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers. To date, Stream Watch has been supported by many agencies and organizations including but not limited to: the **Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, Alaska Conservation Foundation, Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (Alaska State Parks and Department of Mining, Land and Water), Alaska Recreation Management, City of Soldotna, Chugach National Forest, ConocoPhillips, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Sportsman's Warehouse, Trout Unlimited (Kenai Peninsula Chapter)**, and private donations. With the generous support from those organizations, Stream Watch has grown to assist the following land management agencies in hands-on river restoration projects and peer-to-peer education on the Kenai Peninsula:

- USDA Forest Service, Chugach National Forest (Russian River Recreation Site)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Kenai-Russian River Ferry, Moose Range Meadows)
- Alaska Department of Natural Resources: Alaska State Parks (Bings Landing) & Division of Mining, Land and Water (Kasilof River Special Use Area)
- City of Soldotna (Centennial Park)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Support

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has existing cooperative agreements with the Kenai Watershed Forum and can efficiently administer the funds on behalf of the Trustee Council. The Service's Habitat Restoration and Conservation Partnerships Program has supported Stream Watch in past years through sponsorship of the Kenai National Fish Habitat Partnership. The Stream Watch scope of work presented in the proposal also has a strong nexus with the Service's Coastal Program.

Stream Watch Program Goals

With over 300,000 visitors to the peninsula each summer, Stream Watch provides much needed assistance in protecting world-class fisheries and outdoor recreation areas with the following goals:

- Recruit, train and coordinate 60 active volunteers per summer to promote salmon habitat protection and complete conservation projects on salmon-bearing rivers on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Protect salmon habitat through the installation, maintenance and seasonal removal of 3+ miles of habitat protection fencing per summer.
- Coordinate river restoration projects with agency partners that are volunteer appropriate.
- Remove 1000+ pounds of wildlife endangering litter from salmon-bearing waterways and beaches per summer
- Share information with 300+ people on how to conserve salmon habitat along salmon-bearing waterways on the Kenai Peninsula through peer-to-peer education.

Stream Watch Accomplishments

The Stream Watch program has celebrated a number of successes over the course of its existence including the following:

- 23 years of program stability as of 2017
- Program and volunteer recognition through the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust and United States Senator Dan Sullivan in 2017
- Program recognition through the National Outdoors Initiative in 2012 as a national example for community partnerships and effective on-the-ground volunteer-based environmental protection
- Facilitating over 13,000 volunteer hours over the life of the program
- Sharing river protection information with over 45,000 people
- Removing over 13,000 pounds of litter over the life of the program
- Removing and recycling over 300 pounds of fishing line over the life of the program
- Removing 4 fish passage barriers
- Completing an erosion control project by installing 300 feet of spruce tree revetments

Coastal Program Provisions and Objectives

Stream Watch has several resources at its disposal to ensure the funds requested from the *Exxon-Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) are effective at cleaning up our waterways and coast lines. These include its:

- Growing volunteer base (Last year, volunteers donated over 1280 hours, which equates to $35,584 in match.)
- Growing brand recognition across the Kenai Peninsula
- Strong relations with land management agencies and community groups
- Access to vehicles and equipment from the Kenai Watershed Forum
- Existing supplies (i.e. hand sanitizer, bear spray, educational materials, etc.)

Kenai Watershed Forum proposes a multi-year program, with an initial eighteen-month funding cycle to provide for the 2018 and 2019 summer field seasons. This funding would expand Stream Watch services in the spill area communities of Kasilof, Ninilchik and Anchor Point. Following this initial 2018-2019 program, KWF proposes a third summer field season with funding for 2020 that would be reviewed by the Council in fall 2019. With EVOSTC funding, Stream Watch would expand and leverage its existing resources and beach cleaning by: 1) training, supporting, and equipping its volunteer base to patrol for and remove litter and fishing debris from seven designated waterways and coast line sites, and 2) meeting the additional goals during summer field seasons as noted below for 2018-2019:

- Hire one 5-month south peninsula volunteer coordinator
- Recruit one 3-month student intern
- Conduct 10 beach litter patrol and debris removal "events" per summer (an expansion of five events in 2017)
- Conduct daily volunteer patrols of three major coastal fishing areas of the Kenai Peninsula-Kasilof River, Deep Creek/Ninilchik River and the Anchor River.
- Triple our geographical reach by conducting beach litter patrols and debris removal at new locations
- Remove 3000 pounds of trash from our beaches per summer (1500 lbs. more than 2017)
- Enlist over 400 volunteer hours specifically related to beach litter patrols and camp site cleaning per summer (almost double that of 2017)
- Secure matching grant funds up to $25,000

Additional Partners under this Program:

Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership (31 members)
Kenai Mountains-to-Sea Conservation Strategy working group
Cook Inletkeeper
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust
Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
City of Homer
Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce

Kenai Watershed Forum Stream Watch Program Budget

Summer Field Seasons 2018-2019-2020
EVOSTC Fiscal Year (EFY) = February 1 – January 31

The EFY18-19 Stream Watch (SW) budget is for 18 months to accommodate the 2018-2019 summer field seasons.

The EFY20 budget is for the typical 12 months and funds the 2020 summer field season.

EFY18 & 19 Budget - Coastal SW Program (5 months/yr.)				
Budget Item	**Wage**	**Weeks**	**2018 Field Season Totals**	**2019 Field Season Totals** (assuming 2.5% COLA)
Coastal Coordinator	$19.89	21	16,708	17,125
Benefits	$7.79	21	6,544	6,707
Summer Intern	$10.00	13	5,200	5,200
Benefits	$0.87	13	450	450
Vehicle (by month)	$1,500	4	6,000	6,000
Gas	$40	20	800	800
Supplies			8,000	3,000
Total Direct			43,702	39,282
Indirect	10.00%		4,370	3,928
Fiscal Year Total			**48,072**	**43,210**
TOTAL 2018-2019 PROGRAM				**$91,282**

EFY20 Budget - Coastal SW Program (5 months/yr.)			
Budget Item	**Wage**	**Weeks**	**2020 Field Season Total** (assuming 2.5% COLA)
Coastal Coordinator	$20.90	21	17,556
Benefits	$8.18	21	6,871
Summer Intern	$10.00	13	5,200
Benefits	$0.87	13	450
Vehicle (by month)	$1,500	4	6,000
Gas	$40	20	800
Supplies	$3,000		3,000
Total Direct			39,877
Indirect	10.00%		3,988
Fiscal Year Total			**43,865**
TOTAL 2020 PROGRAM			**43,865**

THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Natural Resources
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1340
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
Main: 907.269.8731
Fax: 907.269.8917

March 23, 2018

Elise Hsieh

4230 University Drive
Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh:

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this proposal for interpretive services and products for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) at the cost of up to $94,094. As requested by the Council in November 2017, the EVOSTC office and Interpretation and Education unit of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) have collaborated on this proposal.

The Interpretation and Education unit has a combined experience of over 45 years writing and designing interpretive media in Alaska similar to what we propose here. Our methods go beyond merely providing facts to the public, but include a blend of intellectual and emotional connections. Interpretive media is intended to provide meaningful connections to a resource and create opportunities for developing stewardship.

The goal of this project is to enhance EVOSTC's public outreach by informing and educating the public about the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill event, its lasting impacts to the State of Alaska, and achievements to mitigate those impacts on spill-affected habitats, species, and services. We propose to achieve this through three distinct tasks that include:

Task 1 – 30th Anniversary Film: a 10-minute film with musical accompaniment reviewing a brief history of the spill, the inception of the Council, and the EVOSTC work over the last 30 years. It will be complemented by a three-foot by five-foot "movie" poster printed on synthetic paper. A shorter, edited version of the film will be created for social media.

Task 2 –Traveling Display: two pop-up traveling display banners (similar to the banners created 10 years ago) that can be used for a variety of events and will include shipping cases, extra printouts on synthetic paper, and options to add additional sets; and

Task 3 – Static Interpretive displays: three panels (similar to those at Eagle Rock) that tell the story of the spill, the Council, and the habitat enhancement and restoration projects that have taken place or are taking place at the site. Content can include information regarding support for EVOS-affected species and habitat restoration using before and after themes. Panels should be generic enough to be adapted and fabricated for additional EVOSTC habitat enhancement sites as appropriate.

All three products can be shared on social media. The following venues have expressed strong interest in the film and traveling display: the Alaska Marine Highway System Ferries, Anchorage School District, Anchorage Museum, Seward SeaLife Center, Homer's Pratt Museum, Valdez Museum, Kodiak's Baranov Museum and Cordova Center. The panels have the support of the DPOR (see attached) and will be installed at EVOSTC habitat enhancement and restoration sites: (1) Dimond Creek, Homer, (2) Mineral Creek, Valdez, (3) Eshamy Bay Public-Use Cabin, Prince William Sound.

Although commemorating a 30-year anniversary, all three tasks should be created bearing in mind that the products should retain relevance for up to ten years. It is vital to build a new generation of stewards for the spill area and foster an understanding of that critical event in Alaska's history and to appreciate the work of the Council.

Our unit will work closely with EVOSTC and accept advice and assistance in writing and locating photographs and other graphics for this project. If original graphics, products, or services are needed that would exceed the proposed budget, we can consider amending the budget. If scope changes occur, cost savings or additions will be reflected in final billing.

As an aside, under a prior EVOSTC project, State Parks created interpretive panels for Kenai River Eagle Rock boat launch/public access that was acquired for public use with EVOSTC funds. These panels review the history of the spill, the Council, and the work at Eagle Rock. We look forward to the panels being on display late summer 2018.

DPOR will invoice the EVOS Trustee Council no later than 90 days upon completion of this entire project. A detailed breakdown of proposed services and fees is attached.

Sincerely,
Meg Anderson
269-8752

On behalf of Emily Angel,
Project Manager, Interpretation and Education
Div. of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

COST ESTIMATE PER TASK

FIRM: Alaska State Parks D&C			PROJECT TITLE: EVOS Outreach and Education									
TASK NO: 1	TASK DESCRIPTION: EVOS 30th Anniversary Film										DATE:	3/9/2018
GROUP: 1	METHOD OF PAYMENT: FP	FPPE	T&E	CPFF			PREPARED BY: Nicole Acevedo					

SUB-TASK NO.	SUB-TASK DESCRIPTION	LABOR HOURS PER JOB CLASSIFICATION										
		Interp Manager	Content Writer	Videographer	Design	Music						
1	Research and Write Script	15.0	75.0	15.0								
2	Film New Video Clips			75.0								
3	Produce and Edit Video	22.5	15.0	150.0								
4	3' x 5' Vertical (Movie) Posters		2.0		5.5							
5	Musical Accompianment					10.0						
TOTAL LABOR HOURS		37.5	92.0	240.0	5.5	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
* LABOR RATES ($/HR)		$91.00	$78.00	$60.00	$60.00	$200.00						
LABOR COSTS ($)		$3,412.50	$7,176.00	$14,400.00	$330.00	$2,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

EXPENSES

SUB-TASK NO.	ITEM(S)	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	Airfare, Lodging, Rental Vehicle, And Per Diem	1	$2,500.00	$2,500.00
2	Fifteen (15) Printed Thumb Drives	15	$5.00	$75.00
3	3' x 5' Vertical (Movie) Posters	16	$20.00	$320.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
		TOTAL EXPENSES:		$2,895

COMMENTS: This project will research and produce a 10-minute film for the 30th Anniversary of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. At least one shorter cut designed for viewing on social media. A combination of historic and current footage and images will be used. EVOS or logo will be printed on fifteen (15) thumb drives for distributing to presenters.

FIRM'S TOTAL COST OF LABOR (or Fixed Price):	$27,319
IF CPFF, TOTAL INDIRECT COST @ 0.00%	$0
FIRM'S TOTAL EXPENSES	$2,895
FIRM'S TOTAL COST (no Subcontracts or Fee)	$30,214
TOTAL SUBCONTRACTOR PRICES:	$0

SUB-CONTRACTORS: Firm Initials and Price Per Task

FIRM:							
AMOUNT:							

* Labor Rates shall be direct labor (base pay) only if Method of Payment is CPFF; otherwise, Labor Rates shall be total rates (i.e. base pay + benefits + overhead + profit.)

COST ESTIMATE PER TASK

FIRM: Alaska State Parks D&C				PROJECT TITLE: EVOS Outreach and Education								
TASK NO: 2	TASK DESCRIPTION: Traveling Exhibit										DATE: 3/9/2018	
GROUP: 1	METHOD OF PAYMENT: FP	FPPE	T&E	CPFF			PREPARED BY: Nicole Acevedo					
SUB-TASK NO.	SUB-TASK DESCRIPTION	LABOR HOURS PER JOB CLASSIFICATION										
		Interp Manager	Graphic Designer	Content Writer / Editor	Contingency							
1	Traveling Exhibit Write/Edit	22.5		60								
2	Traveling Exhibit Design	7.5	60									
3	Contingency				37.5							
TOTAL LABOR HOURS		30.0	60.0	60.0	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
* LABOR RATES ($/HR)		$91.00	$94.00	$78.00	$80.00							
LABOR COSTS ($)		$2,730.00	$5,640.00	$4,680.00	$3,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

EXPENSES

SUB-TASK NO.	ITEM(S)	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	Pop-up Banner Stands	10	$300.00	$3,000.00
2	Traveling Display Shipping Cases	5	$200.00	$1,000.00
3	Graphic Banner Prints 31.5" x 81" Viewing Area	10	$375.00	$3,750.00
4	Print Ten (10) Sets Banners On Bulletin Paper	20	$30.00	$600.00
5	Opt:Ten (10) Additional Sets (Banners, Stands, Cases)	10	$975.00	$9,750.00
				$0.00
			TOTAL EXPENSES:	$18,100

COMMENTS: Research, write, design, edit, and print a minimum of five (5) sets of two (2) interpretive banners (total 10), with the option of purchasing up to ten sets of more. Process should involve experts in the field.

Print on synthetic (bulletin) paper ten more

Expenses include shipping FOB Anchorage.

FIRM'S TOTAL COST OF LABOR (or Fixed Price):	$16,050
IF CPFF, TOTAL INDIRECT COST @ 0.00%	$0
FIRM'S TOTAL EXPENSES	$18,100
FIRM'S TOTAL COST (no Subcontracts or Fee)	$34,150

SUB-CONTRACTORS: Firm Initials and Price Per Task

FIRM:							TOTAL SUBCONTRACTOR PRICES:	$0
AMOUNT:								

* Labor Rates shall be direct labor (base pay) only if Method of Payment is CPFF; otherwise, Labor Rates shall be total rates (i.e. base pay + benefits + overhead + profit.)

COST ESTIMATE PER TASK

FIRM: Alaska State Parks D&C				PROJECT TITLE: EVOS Outreach and Education									
TASK NO: Interp	TASK DESCRIPTION: Three Interpretive Displays											DATE:	3/9/2018
GROUP: 1	METHOD OF PAYMENT: FP	FPPE	T&E	CPFF			PREPARED BY: Nicole Acevedo						
SUB-TASK NO.	SUB-TASK DESCRIPTION	LABOR HOURS PER JOB CLASSIFICATION											
		Interp Manager	Graphic Designer	Content Writer									
1	Research (writing)	7.5		90									
2	Layout Design	7.5	90										
3	Editing and Review	15	15	7.5									
TOTAL LABOR HOURS		30.0	105.0	97.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
* LABOR RATES ($/HR)		$91.00	$94.00	$78.00									
LABOR COSTS ($)		$2,730.00	$9,870.00	$7,605.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	

EXPENSES

SUB-TASK NO.	ITEM(S)	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	Fabrication and Shipping	3	$475.00	$1,425.00
2	Panel Mounting Structure (Type D)	3	$2,700.00	$8,100.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
				$0.00
		TOTAL EXPENSES:		$9,525

COMMENTS: Writing, designing, editing, and fabricating interpretive panels—$7,000 each.
Content writer: 4 days researching and writing draft. Publication specialist: 4 days researching for images and/or creating artwork, and designing a draft. Review: Manager spends approximately 2 days making editing decisions and communicating with the client.
The remainder of the cost goes to fabrication, which is approximately $450-$500 per panel. Expenses include shipping FOB Anchorage.

FIRM'S TOTAL COST OF LABOR (or Fixed Price):		$20,205
IF CPFF, TOTAL INDIRECT COST @	0.00%	$0
FIRM'S TOTAL EXPENSES		$9,525
FIRM'S TOTAL COST (no Subcontracts or Fee)		$29,730
TOTAL SUBCONTRACTOR PRICES:		$0

SUB-CONTRACTORS: Firm initials and Price Per Task

FIRM:						
AMOUNT:						

* Labor Rates shall be direct labor (base pay) only if Method of Payment is CPFF; otherwise, Labor Rates shall be total rates (i.e. base pay + benefits + overhead + profit.)

THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Natural Resources
DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION
KENAI/PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGION OFFICE
P.O. Box 1247
Soldotna, AK 99669-1247
Main: 907.262.5581
Fax: 907.262.3717

February 28, 2018

Ms. Elise Hsieh
4230 University Drive
Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Ms. Hsieh:

I would like to express my support on behalf of the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation's (DPOR) Kenai/Prince William Sound Region to create and install three panels that would address the spill, the Council, and the habitat enhancement and restoration projects that have taken place or are taking place at Diamond Creek, Homer; Mineral Creek, Valdez; and the Eshamy Bay Public-Use Cabin, Prince William Sound—all sites in the Kenai/ Prince William Sound Area that are managed by DPOR. These panels would serve to educate the public regarding the value of conserving and rehabilitating habitat affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill by showing them the before and after of these locations and letting them experience the results of the work of the Council first-hand, encouraging understanding and stewardship of the spill area and its ecosystems, species and resources.

Sincerely,

Jack Blackwell
Parks Superintendent
Kenai/Prince William Sound Region

Meeting Summary

A. GROUP: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) Public Advisory Committee (PAC)

B. DATE: April 2, 2018

C. LOCATION: Teleconference – *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council conference room, Grace Hall, Suite 220, 4230 University Drive, Anchorage, AK

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: (T = via teleconference)

Name	Principal Interest
Kurt Eilo (T)	Sport Hunting/Fishing, PAC Chair
Gary Fandrei (T)	Aquaculture/Mariculture
John French (T)	Science/Technical, PAC Vice-chair
Stacy Studebaker (T)	Recreational Users
Amanda Bauer (T)	Commercial Tourism
Patience Andersen Faulkner (T)	Subsistence
George Skladal (T)	Public at Large

E. NOT PRESENT:

Name	Principal Interest
David Totemoff, Sr.	Native Landowner
Emilie Springer	Commercial Fishing
VACANT	Conservation/Environmental

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Name	Organization
Philip Johnson	Designated Federal Officer, Department of the Interior
Elise Hsieh	Trustee Council Executive Director
Cherri Womac	Trustee Council Staff
Shiway Wang	Trustee Council Science Coordinator
Lauri Adams	Trustee Council Habitat Director
Linda Kilbourne (T)	Trustee Council Staff
Helen Woods	Alaska Research Library and Information Service
Mandy Lindeberg (T)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Rys Miranda (T)	Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR)
Sylvia Kreel (T)	ADNR
Emily Angel (T)	ADNR
Megan Marie (T)	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Dave Mitchell (T)	Great Land Trust (GLT)
Ellen Kazary (T)	GLT
Luca Adelfio (T)	U.S. Forest Service

Erika Ammann	NOAA
Trent Liebich	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Veronica Varela (T)	USFWS
Heather Hanson (T)	USFWS
Meg Anderson (T)	ADNR
Kristin Carpenter (T)	Copper River Watershed Project

H. SUMMARY:

At 10:31 a.m. the Designated Federal Officer (Philip Johnson) opened the meeting. Seven PAC members were present via teleconference, establishing a quorum.

The PAC approved the draft September 28, 2017 meeting summary. The chair will sign the meeting summary and it will be posted on the EVOSTC website.

The PAC approved the meeting agenda without change.

Johnson updated the PAC on status of the Conservation/Environmental seat vacancy. The vacancy was advertised in the Federal Register and spill area newspapers. Two individuals applied. The applicant information will be provided to a senior Department of the Interior (DOI) official who will make a recommendation to the Secretary. The DOI Secretary is the selecting official for PAC vacancies.

Public Comment: The floor was open for public comment, telephonically. Kristin Carpenter with the Copper River Watershed Project expressed support for the Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project proposal. No other comments were provided by phone participants.

Annual Budget:

EVOSTC FY18 Annual Budget Adjustment: The Executive Director (Elise Hsieh) informed the PAC that the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) had recently requested to visit EVOSTC project sites in May 2018. The GAO staff will pay for their travel, however travel expenses for Trust agency and EVOSTC staff that accompany them will not be paid for by the GAO. To accommodate these unanticipated expenses associated with the GAO visit, the PAC recommended that the FY18 Budget be updated to include $14,170 ($13,000 plus $1,170 General Administration [GA]) for travel and other expenses related to the GAO audit and visit.

Habitat Acquisition:

Portage Lake Cost Adjustment:

The Habitat Director (Lauri Adams) provided information on a requested price adjustment for the Portage Lake project. The EVOSTC previously approved the purchase of the Portage Lake parcel on Afognak Island, currently owned by the Natives of Kodiak, Inc., in Resolution 16-02 for up to $8,500,000. Significant work has progressed on that project, but EVOSTC staff recently learned that the final appraisal will be higher than the maximum amount previously authorized by the Council for the purchase due to changes in the timber market. Therefore, staff are recommending that the Council approve an additional $3,000,000, for a total "up-to" purchase amount of $11,500,000. The final purchase would include the fair market value as established by an approved

appraiser and associated expenses, including due diligence and closing costs. French asked if the only change was the purchase price. Adams said that the parcel boundary was adjusted so that the road was not included.

Small Parcel Purchases on the Kenai River: Adams discussed two small parcels on the lower Kenai River that will be presented to the EVOSTC for consideration. They both are river-front parcels and rank in the highest-value category for their habitat benefits based on the 2014 Great Land Trust (GLT) prioritization work. The parcels are also adjacent to the Kenai River Special Management Area and other properties previously protected with EVOSTC funds, and thus would be additive to prior EVOS habitat protection investments. The Shuey parcel is approximately 12.5 acres and the Lofstedt parcel is approximately 10 acres in size. Benefits reports describing the habitat values of these two small parcels, including photos and maps, were provided to the PAC as part of the meeting materials. The amount requested for the Shuey parcel is up to $600,000 and for the Lofstedt parcel up to $800,000, including due diligence and closing costs.

Studebaker asked if there were any buildings on either of the properties. Adams said that both parcels were undeveloped.

Purchase of Subsurface Estate in the Kodiak Archipelago: Adams described an opportunity to acquire subsurface rights under existing EVOSTC-funded surface estate lands on Afognak, Kodiak and nearby small islands: The Council for many years has directed the EVOSTC office to pursue subsurface purchases in connection with surface estate purchases in order to add to the protective value of the surface habitat being conserved. Working on behalf of the EVOSTC, Great Land Trust has been negotiating with Koniag, Inc. for several years, and Koniag has now indicated its interest in selling all of its subsurface interests in the Afognak/Kodiak archipelago that underlie surface parcels previously purchased and conserved for their habitat values. Mapping of all of the parcels is still being finalized, but the total subsurface estate is estimated at over 89,000 acres, most of which would go to the State of Alaska, as it lies beneath previously purchased surface lands for which the State holds title. A small amount (less than 1,000 subsurface acres) would be added to the National Wildlife Refuge System on Kodiak Island and its nearshore islands within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. A benefits report which describes the subsurface parcels to be purchased and which includes maps of their locations was provided to the PAC in the meeting materials. The total amount requested for this purchase, including due diligence and closing costs, is $3,000,000.

Studebaker asked how many parcels would be involved. Adams believed it was around 15 parcels. Anderson Faulkner asked if Koniag, Inc. could come back to the government at some point in the future requesting additional funding. Hsieh said no because once they sold their property interest there would be no further grounds for a request for funding related to that parcel.

French asked about the relative value of surface to subsurface lands. Hsieh noted that ratio was quite variable, depending on the mineral value and/or energy resources present in the subsurface estate. These parcels lack high-value mineral or energy resources, however with new technology, resource extraction cannot be ruled out in the future. That is one of the reasons for protecting the subsurface estate. Given that additional information, French expressed his support for this proposal.

Habitat Enhancement:

Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project: The Copper River Watershed Project, with the support of the Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT), Eyak Corporation, Cordova District Fishermen United, Alaska Department of Fish & Game and the City of Cordova, has submitted a proposal to remove and replace priority culverts along the Copper River Highway for $8,152,070 (includes GA). The Highway acts as a dike on the Copper River Delta, along which project proponents have identified the top 13 priority culverts for restoration under EVOS and one culvert which will be replaced by project partner ADOT within the project area. By removing or replacing these 13 culverts, the project works to restore hydrologic function and fish passage on the Copper River Delta. Once complete, this project will expand access to over 22 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous and resident fishes, while concurrently reducing the risk of infrastructure damage (i.e. highway washouts) during flood events. This area is within the EVOS-affected geographic region and the project goal is to mitigate EVOS impacts by improving conditions for EVOS-affected and injured species and the people that depend upon these resources. In addition to enhancing aquatic ecosystem health, this project will improve access for tourism and subsistence.

Studebaker asked whether the project would extend all the way out to the abandoned bridge. The answer is no, all the proposed work would occur within the EVOS-affected area.

Fandrei asked if any other funding sources would be available to help supplement the EVOS funds. The answer is no. The road is not slated for any funding due to lack of traffic.

Kenai Watershed Forum - Stream Watch Program: In order to further diversify EVOSTC habitat enhancement work in the spill area, EVOSTC staff approached the Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) to learn more about their Stream Watch Program. Trustee agency staff provided excellent feedback about this program and the KWF has submitted a proposal for PAC and EVOSTC review. The proposal is for $99,497 ($91,282 plus $8,215 GA) in funding to expand the KWF stream protection activities in the intense summer public use centers on the southern Kenai Peninsula, around the stream and river mouths of the Kasilof, Ninilchik and Anchor Rivers and Deep Creek for the 2018 and 2019 summer field seasons. With EVOSTC funding, Stream Watch would increase and leverage its existing resources and beach cleaning capability by: 1) training, supporting, and equipping its volunteer base to patrol for and remove litter and fishing debris from seven designated waterways and coastline sites, and 2) meeting the additional goals during summer field seasons as noted below for 2018-2019. The USFWS has existing cooperative agreements with the Kenai Watershed Forum and can efficiently administer the funds on behalf of the Trustee Council. The USFWS Habitat Restoration and Conservation Partnerships Program has supported Stream Watch in past years through sponsorship of the Kenai National Fish Habitat Partnership.

Eilo asked if the EVOSTC would be listed as a sponsor on any outreach materials. Hsieh thought this would likely occur.

Outreach:

ADNR Outreach Proposal: As requested by the Council in November 2017, the EVOSTC office worked with ADNR State Parks to provide an outreach proposal up to $102,562 ($94,094 plus $8,468 GA) to create the following outreach products. These products can be shared in social

media and the EVOSTC office has also received strong interest by the Alaska Marine Highway System Ferries, the Anchorage School District, Anchorage Museum, Seward's Alaska SeaLife Center, Homer's Pratt Museum, Valdez Museum, Kodiak's Baranov Museum and the Cordova Center as venues for the film and the traveling displays noted below. The proposal includes production of:

1. A 10-minute film and accompanying display poster reviewing the EVOS and Trustee Council work;

2. Traveling displays of two pop-up banners that can be used for a variety of events, similar to the older versions that were created 10 years ago and are still in use; and

3. Three interpretive displays to be installed at habitat enhancement project sites. Similar to the Eagle Rock panels, these can be generic enough for multiple locations and a second panel can also be site specific, including information regarding support for EVOS-affected species and habitat restoration. ADNR has identified three locations so far for placement: 1) Dimond Creek, Homer; 2) Mineral Creek, Valdez; and 3) Eshamy Bay Public-Use Cabin, Prince William Sound.

Hsieh said that an additional outreach funding request may be submitted in November 2018 to fund the production of additional duplicate materials for circulation. Hsieh noted the products will not be heavily branded with the 30th anniversary of the EVOS. Due to the anniversary, it is good timing for developing new outreach materials, however they are typically used for five years or more, and focusing on the upcoming anniversary could limit their future use.

Studebaker asked if the film would rely mostly on old footage, new footage, or both? Emily Angel said that both historic and contemporary footage would be used, and they would cover as much as possible in 10 minutes.

The PAC members stated that it was important to highlight the impacts of the spill and EVOSTC successes.

Studebaker said asked if the budget could support a PAC trip to Prince William Sound (PWS). A similar trip for the 20th anniversary, where PAC members turned over rocks to expose lingering oil, was very instructive for PAC members. Many members of the public still don't "get it" and do not realize that lingering oil remains in some EVOS-affected areas. It was noted that there currently is no funding allocated to support a field trip.

French said that a goal should be to raise people's consciousness. He also recommended that the effects of the EVOS outside of PWS (i.e., downstream communities) be mentioned in the outreach materials. The extent of the spill was massive, with oil reaching the Shumagin Islands.

There was considerable discussion of what role, if any, the PAC should play in the review of outreach materials. Should they be consulted (serving as editors) or just receive periodic updates? Hsieh described the complicated, fast moving, iterative process used in developing these products. It was noted that EVOSTC staff are professionals and their judgement should be trusted.

Eilo noted that the PAC is excited about this project and that individual PAC members are offering up their expertise. Some of the long-serving members have considerable knowledge about the spill

and restoration efforts. Johnson noted the PAC serves as a whole body vs. as individuals.

Hsieh said that EVOSTC staff will send out a copy of the Eagle Rock interpretive panel, to give the PAC a better understanding of what these materials will look like.

Studebaker asked if the PAC could have an opportunity to preview some of the materials at the fall meeting. She also asked if the fall meeting could be held in PWS. It was noted that travel funding was not allocated for the meeting to be held outside of the Anchorage area. Helen Woods will work with Parks and see if any materials can be shared at the fall 2018 PAC meeting.

PAC Motions:

Motion: Patience Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion to approve the September 28, 2017 meeting summary. Seconded by John French. **Motion carried**

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Stacy Studebaker. **Motion carried**

Motion: French introduced a motion stating that the PAC recommends the EVOSTC approve the requested Annual Budget adjustments associated with the GAO visit, not to exceed $14,170. Seconded by Gary Fandrei. **Motion carried**

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion recommending that the EVOSTC approve the proposed Portage Lake price adjustment, as presented to the PAC. Seconded by Studebaker. **Motion carried**.

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion recommending that the EVOSTC approve the purchase of parcels KEN 4010 and KEN 4011 on the lower Kenai River. Seconded by French. **Motion carried**.

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion to move the Koniag subsurface habitat purchase proposal forward to the EVOSTC for their consideration. Seconded by Studebaker. **Motion carried.**

Motion: Fandrei introduced a motion recommending that the Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project be forwarded on to the EVOSTC for their consideration. Seconded by Studebaker. **Motion carried.**

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion to forward the Kenai Watershed Stream Watch proposal on to the EVOSTC for their consideration. Seconded by Studebaker. **Motion carried.**

Motion: French introduced a motion recommending that the EVOSTC approve funding for the proposed ADNR outreach activities. Seconded by Fandrei. **Motion carried**

Motion: Andersen Faulkner introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by French. **Motion carried**

Meeting Close:

The meeting was adjourned by Eilo at 2:26 p.m.

I. FOLLOW-UP:

1. The PAC meeting notes and recommendations will be distributed to the EVOS Trustee Council prior to their next teleconference, which will be held on April 9, 2018 in Anchorage. The DFO and the PAC Chair will plan on attending this meeting. The DFO will update the TC on status of filling the existing vacancy on the PAC. The Chair will summarize the outcomes of this PAC meeting. The PAC members are welcome to attend telephonically.

J. NEXT MEETINGS:

Trustee Council Meeting (Anchorage on April 9, 2018)

K. ATTACHMENTS (provided to PAC members prior to the meeting):

1. April 2, 2018 *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) Public Advisory Committee (PAC) draft meeting agenda.

2. September 28, 2017 *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) Public Advisory Committee (PAC) draft meeting summary.

3. Portage Lake Protection Project benefits report.

4. Shuey Kenai River Parcel benefits report.

5. Lofstedt Kenai River Parcel benefits report.

6. Koniag Subsurface Various Parcels benefits report.

7. Copper River Watershed Enhancement Project proposal.

8. Kenai Peninsula Coastal Stream Watch Project proposal.

10. ADNR Parks Outreach Proposal

L. CERTIFICATION:

PAC Chairperson **Date**