



# **HABITAT ACQUISITION**

Prepared by:

### Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

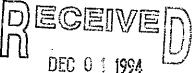
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November 28, 1994

# **Report of the Executive Director** concerning Habitat Acquisition November 28, 1994



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EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL IVE RECORD

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# Status of Habitat Acquisition

Three years after the state and federal governments settled their claims against Exxon Corporation for the 1989 oil spill, the Trustee Council has completed the information, review and policies that are the foundation for a spill-wide habitat protection and acquisition program.

During 1992, the first year after the settlement, the Trustee Council evaluated the habitat on lands for which some threat, usually logging, was likely. This process was called the Imminent Threat Process. As a result of this process, the Trustee Council approved funds to purchase inholdings in Kachemak Bay State Park and land surrounding Seal Bay on Afognak Island. The Afognak land was subsequently designated a State Park by the 1994 Alaska Legislature.

In 1993 and 1994, the Trustee Council worked to establish the foundation for a comprehensive approach to habitat protection and acquisition. That foundation includes a policy framework made up of the Restoration Plan, and an Environmental Impact Statement on the Restoration Plan; a comprehensive evaluation of habitats for protection or acquisition; public and scientific review; and appraisals.

The information, policies, and public and scientific review, are now in place, and the Trustee Council is moving forward with the acquisition process. Appraisals and negotiations are underway with large-parcel landowners in all regions of the spill area. The Trustee Council authorized funding for acquisition packages on south Kodiak Island on November 2, 1994. Others may be available during the winter and spring.

In the spring of 1993, the Trustee Council asked landowners to nominate small parcels, those less than 1,000 acres, for possible protection or acquisition. The nomination period was open for 90 days — from May 15, 1993 to July 15, 1993. A ranked list of small parcels will be presented to the Trustee Council in late fall.

## Information, Review & Policies Necessary For Habitat Acquisition

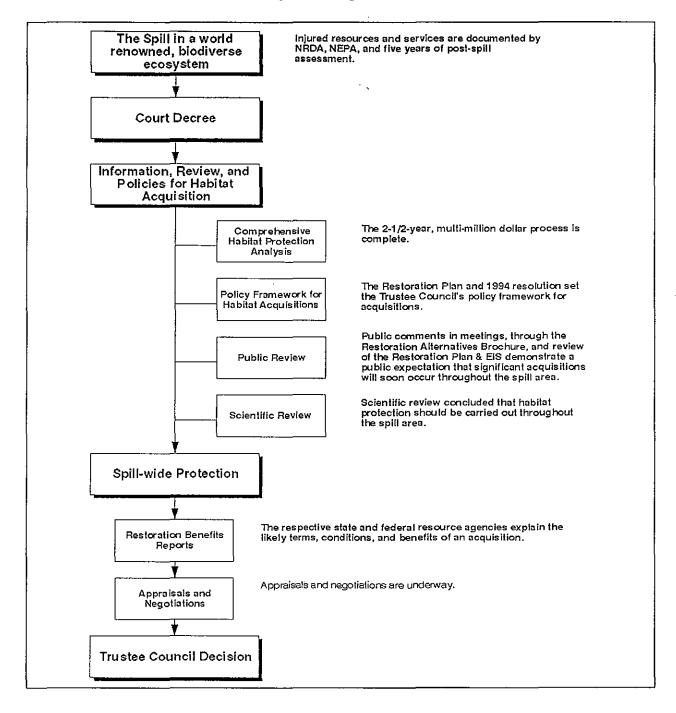
Summary. Over the past two and a half years, the Trustee Council has devoted extensive time and effort to develop a balanced habitat protection and acquisition program necessary for restoration. They have undertaken policy discussion, public review, scientific analysis, and appraisals at a cost of approximately \$4 million. The foundation of a balanced habitat protection and acquisition program is now in place. It includes:

- Agreement that habitat acquisition is integral to the Trustee Council's mission "to efficiently restore the environment injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill to a healthy, productive, world renowned ecosystem, while taking into account the importance of the quality of life and need for viable opportunities to establish and sustain a reasonable standard of living."
- A comprehensive habitat analysis evaluation and ranking that identifies and evaluates the available lands for habitat critical to long-term restoration and maintenance of resources and services injured by the spill.
- The Trustee Council policy framework for the habitat acquisition program. The framework includes the Restoration Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, and the January 1994 "Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection Program." The preferred alternative of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Restoration Plan identifies between \$295 and \$325 million for habitat acquisition. While these amounts are not a fixed allocation and do not represent a spending decision, they do provide initial guidance for habitat protection and acquisition activities after considering the needs for other restoration activities.
- Extensive public review that demonstrates support and an expectation by the public and by the Public Advisory Group that habitat acquisitions will be a significant part of the restoration program, that further acquisitions will soon occur, and that acquisitions will be balanced throughout the spill area.
- The scientific recommendation that habitat be protected throughout the spill area. The recommendation by the Chief Scientist and Core Peer Reviewers is based on a strong concern that the habitat and biodiversity of the ecosystem be protected throughout the spill area.
- **Restoration Benefits Reports** by agencies of the State of Alaska and United States that explain the likely terms, conditions, and benefits to restoration provided by potential acquisitions. Drafts of these reports are part of this document's attachments.

• Completion of appraisals and negotiations by lead agencies in light of the available habitat information and with the expectation of realizing affordable prices.

**Recommendation.** With the completion of the information and review described above, the Trustee Council has the basis to proceed with a large-parcel habitat acquisition and protection program. For that reason, the Executive Director recommends that the Trustee Council take action on appropriate acquisition proposals as they become available. However, not all acquisition proposals will come before the Trustee council at the same time. To accomplish a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration that is consistent with the scientific and public recommendation that protection extend through all regions of the spill area, the Executive Director further recommends that in their deliberations on individual proposals, the Council ensure that actions to protect habitat in one region do not preclude the ability to protect appropriate habitat in other regions of the spill area.

**Organization of this Report.** This section of the report is organized according to the figure below. It traces habitat protection and acquisition-related events and policies from the spill injury, through the court decree. It describes the information, review, and policies that form the necessary basis for Trustee Council action on a comprehensive, ecosystem approach to habitat acquisitions, balanced throughout the spill area.



Information, Review, & Policies for Habitat Acquisition

#### Comprehensive Habitat Analysis. After a 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-year process, Trustee Council staff have completed an evaluation of the large-parcel habitats in the spill area.

Soon after the settlement between Exxon Corporation, and the State of Alaska and the U.S. government, Trustee Council staff began work on a comprehensive review and analysis of habitat in the spill area. Their findings are presented in the *Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process: Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking* (November 1993), and have been subject to scientific and public review. They are an important part of the information base for Trustee Council acquisition actions.

Drafts of the habitat evaluation process have been distributed for public review on four occasions. The broad outlines of the program were distributed in July 1992 as part of the *Restoration Framework Supplement*. In February 1993, the public reviewed an initial detailed methodology as part of the *Opportunities for Habitat Protection / Acquisition*. Public review of the first ranking methodology was again requested in June 1993 in the *Supplement to the Draft Restoration Plan Summary of Alternatives*. The final methodology as the *Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process: Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking*. As part of that review, agency staff individually met with all commenters who proposed new information that may not have been taken into account as a part of the draft rankings. An update to the 1993 information was presented at the November 2, 1994 Trustee Council meeting.

The Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated over one million acres of habitat in 96 parcels for their potential benefit to the resources and services injured by the spill. Of that amount, 19 parcels totalling 290,000 acres were rated as having high benefit to restoration; another 346,400 acres in 28 parcels were rated as having moderate benefit; and the remainder — 428,300 acres in 49 parcels — were rated as having low benefit. However, even low benefit parcels contain high-rated habitat for one or more injured resource.

The key habitats necessary for the maintenance of the resources and services injured by the spill exist in all regions of the spill area. They are explained in attachments to this report.

Policy Framework for Habitat Protection and Acquisition. The "Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection Program," Restoration Plan, Environmental Impact Statement, and a November 2, 1994 Resolution Concerning Habitat Protection form the Trustee Council's policy framework for habitat acquisitions.

The Trustee Council has the responsibility to use the opportunity given them for the immediate and long-term restoration of resources and services injured by the spill. However, the Trustees' responsibility to act has been tempered by their recognition that restoration is a long-term commitment and requires careful balancing of many priorities. To assure that the appropriate activities are undertaken, and that restoration reflects the appropriate balance of activities, the Trustee Council postponed a long-term commitment of funds until the Restoration Plan and the accompanying Environmental Impact Statement were complete. This has allowed for extensive public participation and scientific guidance in the development of a restoration program as well as compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Restoration Plan was signed on October 31, 1994. On November 2, 1994 meeting, the Trustee Council adopted a final Restoration Plan. With these actions, a long-term policy framework is in place that reflects an ecosystem approach to restoring the resources and services injured by the spill.

Trustee Council Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection. On January 31, 1994, soon after the *Draft Restoration Plan* was adopted as interim guidance, the Council adopted the *Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection Program*. While the resolution discussed various aspects of the Habitat Protection Program such as negotiation and the role of small parcels, it also established a basic direction for large parcel acquisitions. The resolution directed the Executive Director to review the *Comprehensive Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking* on the basis of public comment, input from the Public Advisory Group, an understanding of where the injury actually occurred, and the benefits that would accrue to the populations actually injured. Based on his review, the Executive Director was directed to recommend a comprehensive habitat acquisition package for balanced and cost-effective protection throughout the spill area.

The Restoration Plan. Trustee Council policy with respect to habitat protection and acquisition is given in the Restoration Plan. The plan establishes Habitat Protection and Acquisition as "one of the principal tools of restoration...important in ensuring continued recovery of the spill area." The plan establishes Habitat Protection and Acquisition as one of the essential elements of a comprehensive, balanced approach to restoration along with General Restoration, Monitoring and Research, and the Restoration Reserve.

The Environmental Impact Statement. The preferred alternative of the EIS for the Restoration Plan assumes for purposes of analysis of the environmental effects that between \$295 and \$325 million will be spent for habitat protection and acquisition activities.

#### Budget Assumptions of the EIS Preferred Alternative

Figures in millions through the last payment to the Restoration Fund

Restoration Category	<b>Budget Assumptions</b>
Administration, Science Management, and Public Information	\$20 - \$35
Monitoring and Research	\$130 - \$165
General Restoration	\$ 65 - \$100
Habitat Protection and Acquisition	\$295 - \$325
Restoration Reserve	\$100 - \$130

November 2, 1994 Resolution Concerning Habitat Protection. On November 2, 1994, the Trustee Council used the budget assumptions of the EIS preferred alternative to adopt an initial, flexible placeholder for habitat protection and acquisition efforts. Specifically, the Trustee Council resolved..."to pursue habitat protection and acquisition throughout the oil spill area so as to promote restoration of injured natural resources and services throughout the oil spill area and that \$295 to \$325 million is an initial, flexible placeholder for habitat protection and acquisition efforts (this amount is in addition to previous expenditures for habitat protection and acquisitions)..."

The Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection Program, the Restoration Plan and its accompanying Environmental Impact Statement, and the November 2, 1994 Resolution Concerning Habitat Protection establish the basic direction for a large-parcel acquisition program.

Public Comment and Public Advisory Group Comment. Public comments and the Public Advisory Group recommendations since the spill demonstrate a public expectation that habitat acquisitions will be a large part of the restoration program, that purchases will be made throughout the spill area, and that further acquisitions will soon occur.

There have been innumerable opportunities for public comment on Trustee Council actions: during Trustee Council meetings and community meetings, through public review of documents such as the Restoration Plan and its EIS, and in individual meetings with Trustee Council members and staff. One consistent element of the comment has been the public demand for habitat protection throughout the spill area.

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The most comprehensive Trustee Council effort at soliciting public comment occurred during development of the Draft Restoration Plan. In Spring 1993, the Trustee Council completed one of the most extensive public participation efforts ever undertaken on a natural resource issue in Alaska. Approximately 2000 people responded to a newspaper brochure or to public meetings asking how the restoration effort should be prioritized.

More than 90% of the people who responded said that habitat protection and acquisition should be part of the restoration program. The extent of support varied little depending on the respondent's location — within the spill area, within Alaska, or outside of Alaska. To gauge the public views about what emphasis should be placed on each category of restoration, the brochure asked what portion of the remaining settlement fund should be allocated to each of four restoration categories. Of those who answered that question, the average allocation of the remaining settlement fund to habitat protection was 66%. The average varied from 81% from non-Alaskan respondents, 60% from respondents within the spill area, and 42% from Alaskan respondents outside the spill area. In addition, hundreds of people nominated areas for purchase. The areas ranged throughout the spill area from land adjacent to Cordova to southern Kodiak Island.

The strong support from people living both within and outside the spill area has been reaffirmed by the recent public comment on the draft EIS and by the Public Advisory Group. The majority of the 211 people who responded to the draft EIS favored habitat acquisitions; in fact, 134 of them favored a greater allocation of funds than that assumed in the preferred alternative (Alternative #5).

The Public Advisory Group has been kept informed of the habitat protection and acquisition activities through briefings at most of their meetings. In May 1993, the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group approved a draft "Approach to Restoration" that recommended that the Trustee Council "Protect habitat critical to resources injured by the oil spill, or threatened by potentially injurious actions." Recently, the Public Advisory Group considered alternatives in the Draft EIS, and supported Alternative #5 which includes a range from \$295 to \$325 million for habitat protection and acquisition.

Scientific Review: A Spill-wide Approach is Necessary. After reviewing the injury and restoration data, and the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process, the Chief Scientist and core peer reviewers concluded that habitat protection should be carried out throughout the spill region in order to aid the injured populations.

The Trustee Council *Resolution to Proceed with Habitat Protection Program* directed the Executive Director to review the Comprehensive Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking, taking into account "our understanding of where injury actually occurred and the benefits to accrue to the populations actually injured."

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Injured fish and wildlife depend heavily on habitat in areas other than where they were actually killed or injured. In addition, prespill data is lacking for most resources and services, and damage assessment studies generally do not allow injury data to be widely extrapolated. Thus, precise estimates of the location of injury throughout the spill area are not possible. The Trustee Council's Chief Scientist, Dr. Robert Spies, and the core peer reviewers for the restoration program addressed this issue in a memo dated September 1994. After reviewing the possibility of using damage assessment information, the extent of shoreline oiling, and carcass collection data to pinpoint the location of injury, the Trustee Council's science advisors concluded that limitations of the data, and the fact that most injured species such as sea otters, birds, or marine mammals have sizeable ranges in movement, would render this approach imprecise. They recommended that "Habitat protection should be geographically balanced" throughout the spill area in order to provide optimum protection.

**Restoration Benefits Reports.** Restoration Benefits Reports explain the likely terms and conditions of an acquisition, as well as the biological justification for an acquisition. The reports provide the information necessary for individual acquisition decisions and for understanding how an individual acquisition fits into an area-wide framework.

The Trustee agencies are the land and resource managers statutorily responsible for the care and stewardship of spill-area resources. These agencies reviewed the *Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process* and used their combined scientific knowledge and perspective on spillinjured resources and services to determine the benefits that protecting key habitats in the spill area would have for resources and services injured by the spill. Their conclusions are recorded in the Restoration Benefits Reports. The reports also include the likely terms and conditions of potential acquisitions.

By viewing all of the conditions and terms of purchases within a region, the Trustee Council can assess whether potential acquisitions will together accomplish appropriate ecosystem-wide protection balanced throughout the regions of the spill.

Restoration Benefits Reports are included in attachments to this report.

Appraisals. Under Trustee Council direction, appraisals are underway for lands being considered for potential acquisition. Recommended terms and conditions are not likely to be available until a proposal for an individual acquisition is ready to come before the Council for action.

The Trustee Council approved a 12-step appraisal process to establish the fair market value of all potential acquisitions. In summary, the process establishes appraisal standards, provides the opportunity for landowner review, and requires final approval of the appraisal by Trustee Council agencies. The appraisal standards used are the Unified Appraisal

Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) established by the federal government for federal land acquisitions, and the Uniform Standard of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) established by the Appraisal Standards Board of the Appraisal Foundation. The appraisal process does raise questions, however, regarding the establishment of value for habitat lands necessary for restoration that do not have inherent economic values like timber or minerals.

Under Trustee Council direction, negotiations are underway for lands outlined in the attachments to this report. The negotiations are being conducted to provide spill-wide protection. Further, they are being conducted to provide an acquisition package consistent with the Trustee Council mission. Technical work to support negotiations is also ongoing and may continue in the future. Appraisal price and the process for determining value are likely to be a difficult and important aspect of the negotiations. Recommended sale terms and conditions are not likely to be available until a proposal for an individual acquisition is ready to come before the Trustee Council for action.

# **Small-parcel Habitat Evaluations**

In the spring of 1994, the Trustee Council asked landowners to nominate parcels of less than 1,000 acres for potential protection or acquisition. The nomination period was open for 60 days — from May 15, 1994 to July 15, 1994.

Approximately 240 different parcels were nominated for protection or acquisition. Of these 94 are on the Kenai Peninsula, 134 on the Kodiak Archipelago, and 12 in Prince William Sound. No parcels were nominated for Shuyak or Afognak Islands. The parcels are currently being reviewed to determine whether they qualify for further evaluation according to threshold criteria that were published in the nomination packet. The threshold criteria include determinations of whether the parcel is within the oil spill area, whether the parcel has a seller, whether there is a link to restoration, and whether the property, if acquired, can be reasonably incorporated into public land management in a way that will facilitate restoration objectives.

Following the review against the threshold criteria, Trustee Council staff will complete a more detailed analysis concerning the potential benefits to restoration, threat to the parcel, and ability to manage the parcel. A ranked list of small parcels will be presented to the Trustee Council in late fall.

# Large-parcel Acquisition Activities

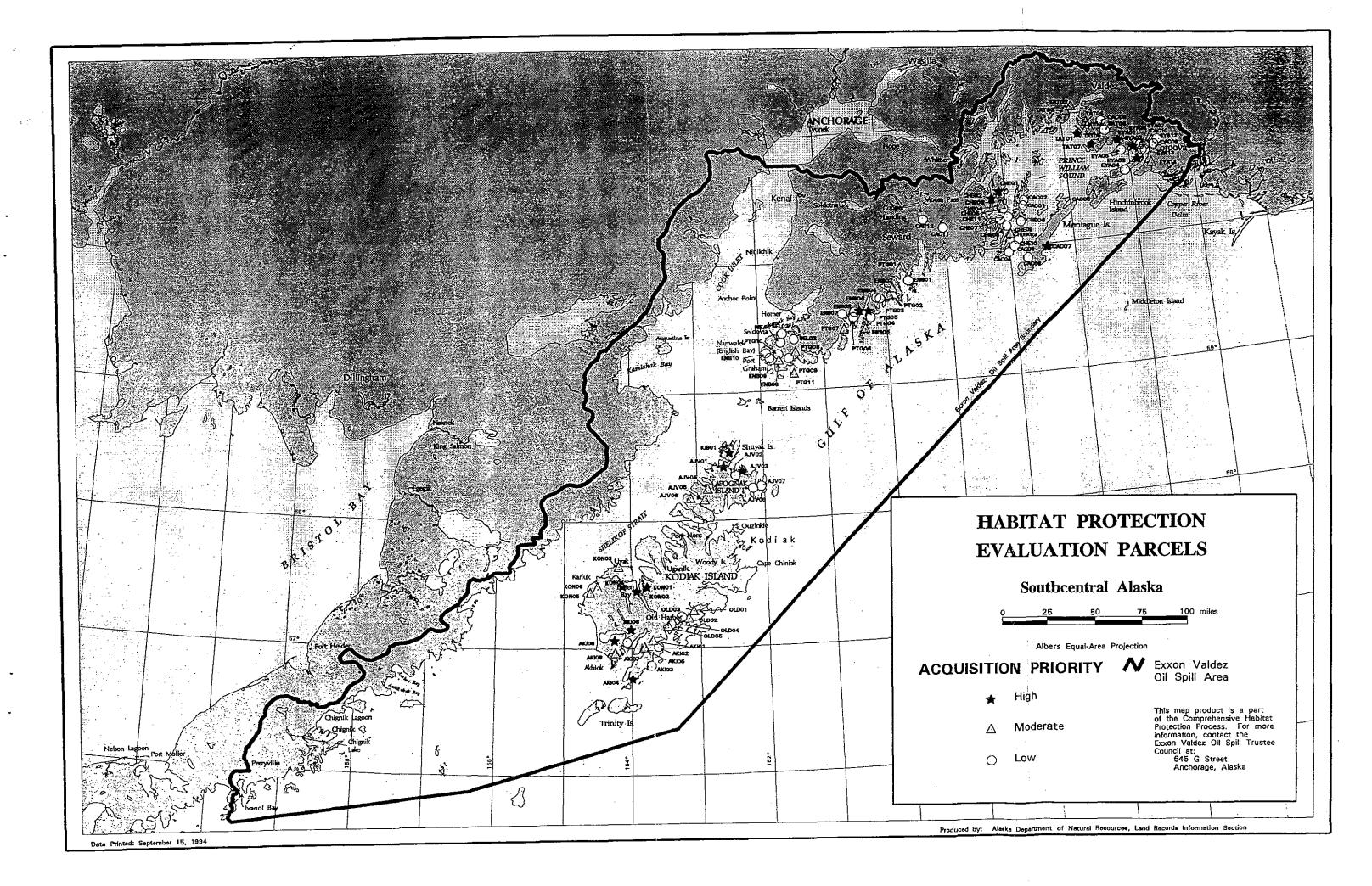
The status of appraisals and negotiations are described in this section of the report. A spillarea map shows all potential large-parcel acquisitions in the spill area. It is followed by a summary of the status of negotiations and appraisals with all of the large-parcel landowners in the spill area.

Attachments provide more detailed information about potential acquisitions. Each attachment includes:

- an overview of the geography and land ownership;
- a map showing potential acquisitions;
- a matrix that describes how the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated currently proposed habitat acquisition parcels; and
- draft Restoration Benefits Reports that describe potential acquisitions their boundaries, the likely terms and conditions and their benefit to restoration.



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### LARGE PARCEL NEGOTIATION STATUS SUMMARY

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Landowner	High Value Parcels	Region	Acres	LEAD/ Coop	Will Discuss	Ownership Related Parcels ** Status		Anticipated Timeline	
Afognak Joint Venture	AJV 01, Shuyak Strait AJV 03, Pauls/Laura Lake	KOD	13,400 27,100	DOL/ USFWS	Fee Simple, w/ add'l parcels included	Surface Estate AJV Subsurface Koniag Native Allotments	Moderate Parcels: AJV 04, 05, 06 Low Parcels: 07, 08 w/in & adjacent to Tonki Bay	Authority to appraise was received from AJV on June 20 and appraisal was requested June 22. AJV has requested an appraisal of moderate value lands in the previously indicated parcels and two low value parcels adjacent to Tonki Bay that have recently been evaluated by the HWG. A pre appraisal conference was held 8/19/94. Appraisal details have been resolved.	Timber portion of appraisal may be completed late fall. Negotiations will resume upon acceptance of an approved appraisal.
Akhiok Kaguyak	AKI 04, Aliulik Peninsula AKI 06, North Olga Bay AKI 08, Upper Station Lk	KOD	34,300 16,900 15,600	USFWS/ DOL	Fee Simple, conservation easements, other parcels must be included.	Surface estate AKI Subsurface, USA Native Allotments	AKI 01-05	The appraisal of twelve tracts of AKI lands (119,885 acres) is complete. The contract appraisal has been reviewed and approved. Negotiations with the landowner are ongoing.	Negotiations are ongoing. The earliest an agreement for sale would be available; early Nov.
Chenega	CHE 01, 02 Eshamy Bay Jackpot Bay	PWS	7,900 12,100	USFS & DOL	Fee simple for core parcels, partial interests; timber, for remainder of Chenega lands.	Surface estate CHE Subsurface CAC	Remainder of Chenega lands	The timber cruise portion of the appraisal is complete and verification underway. Negotiations will continue upon acceptance of an approved appraisal.	Draft appraisal completed mid Nov. Negotiations, Proposal late Nov.
English Bay	ENB 06	KEN	3,800	NPS/ DOL	Fee simple, surface estate	Surface Estate ENB Subsurface CAC	Other ENB holdings w/in Kenai Fjords NP: ENB 02, ENB 05	All remaining ANCSA acreage entitlement of ENB will be taken from lands within the boundary of Kenai Fjords NP. It would be advantageous to purchase selections and avoid the costs of conveyance. Total acreage, 17,600. Negotiations will resume upon acceptance of an approved appraisal.	
Eyak	EYA 01, Port Gravina EYA 02, Sheep Bay EYA 03, Windy/Deep Bay	PWS	3,400 9,100 7,100	USFS/ DOL	Eyak has submitted a detailed proposal which has raised issues surrounding public access and less than fee acquisitions, specifically the definition of timber rights.	Surface estate EYA Subsurface CAC	EYA 04-12	TC passed resolution on 5/3/94 to acquire the timber interest in Orca Narrows sub parcel, subject to detailed proposal being submitted by Eyak within 15 days. The proposal was submitted and an appraisal has been ordered. The appraisal of the Orca Narrows subparcel is being reviewed by the landowner. Permission to appraise has been rescinded on the remainder of Eyak lands.	
Kodiak Island Borough	KIB 01, Shuyak Island	KOD	26,700	DOL/NPS	Fee simple	Surface Estate KIB Subsurface AK	none	The borough planning and zoning commission and the borough assembly have authorized the mayor to proceed with the transaction. DOL requested an appraisal April 12. Timber portion of the appraisal is nearing completion.	Draft appraisal due early Nov. Appraisal review completed early Nov. Proposal will be submitted upon acceptance of an approved appraisal.
Koniag	KON 01, Brown's Lagoon KON 02, Uyak Bay KON 04, Karluk River	KOD	9,900 7,000 28,200	USFWS/ DOL	Fee simple, but must include a mix of high, mod, low parcels	Surface estate KON Subsurface USA Native Allotments	KON 03,05,06 Note: Some coastal areas, primarily in Uyak Bay have been removed.	The appraisal of Koniag lands is complete and has been reviewed and approved. Negotiations with the landowner are underway.	Negotiations are ongoing The earliest an agreement for sale would be available; early Nov.
Port Graham	PTG 05, Delight/ Desire Creeks	KEN	11,500	NPS/ DOL	Fee & Unspecified partial interest, possibility of conservation easements.	Surface Estate PTG Subsurface CAC	Other PTG holdings w/in Kenai Fjords NP: PTG 01, 02	All remaining ANCSA acreage entitlement of PTG will be taken from lands within the boundary of Kenai Fjords NP. It would be advantageous to purchase selections and avoid the costs of conveyance. Total acreage, 23,300. Negotiations will resume upon acceptance of an approved appraisal.	
Tatitlek	TAT 01, Bligh Island	PWS	8,800	USFS/ DOL	Fee simple @, Emerald Bay, Sawmill Bay, Two Moon Bay, Whalen Bay, Hell's Hole. Less than fee for remainder.	Surface estate TAT Subsurface CAC	Undefined at this time.	Tatitlek has granted permission for TC contract appraisal to take place and a task order has been issued to the contract appraiser by the USFS. However, field work associated with the appraisal is weather dependent and consequently on hold.	Negotiations are on going.
NOTE:	Chugach Alaska	PWS ar	nd Kenai Fj	ords presen	atly being considered. Negotiators h	ave met with Chugach	attorneys and have asked	d moderate and low that it would like to sell. Chugach is the subsurface that Chugach consider selling its subsurface estate for these parcels.	
	Old Harbor **	conser	ation ease	ments. Nego	ing paid for with Federal restitution otiations are ongoing and a proposi in discussions at the request of land	al will be submitted to t	he Trustee Council in early		DRAFT: 10/31/94

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### Attachment A Prince William Sound Regional Overview of Potential Acquisitions

This attachment has four parts:

- an overview of geography and land ownership in Prince William Sound;
- a map showing potential acquisitions in Prince William Sound;
- a matrix which shows how the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated currently proposed acquisitions for each of the injured resources and services that depend upon upland habitats; and
- and a draft Restoration Benefits Report that describes potential acquisitions: their boundaries, the likely terms and conditions, and their biological justification.

Geographic Overview. Prince William Sound is a large semi-enclosed body of saltwater defined by the arc of the Chugach Mountains and two large islands, Hinchinbrook and Montague, that shelter its waters from the full force of the stormy Gulf of Alaska. The Chugach Mountains along the north rim of the Sound rise to more than 13,000 feet. Rivers and streams flowing off these slopes mostly follow short, straight paths to the sea.

Prince William Sound records great tectonic activity. Because of the continuing upward and downward adjustment of different parts of the Sound, few shorelines have extensive fine sediment deposits (mudflats). Most of the shoreline is moderately high energy gravel beach alternating with rocky headland. Local areas of mud bottom in relatively calm waters can be found on some of the heavily oiled islands such as Knight, Eleanor, Green and Evans.

The Chugach Mountains are located at the point where storms moving off the North Pacific have reached the end of their track and become stalled in place. The Chugach Mountain barrier generally serves as an effective block to the direct movement of intensely cold winter air from interior Alaska into the Prince William Sound region. As a result, even though the Sound is the northernmost part of the spill area, its waters offer suitable year round conditions for many marine mammals and overwintering habitat for populations of several birds.

The forests of northern Prince William Sound are the northernmost extension of the coastal forest type that extends down the Pacific coast to northern California. Most mature trees in productive forest stands are 100 to 200 years old, but trees 200 to 300 years old are common and trees 400 years old and older are scattered through older, low elevation stands. The largest trees occur in the most temperate areas of the Sound which is toward the west and southwest. Forests of the Sound exist on the large islands of the outer Sound, and in a thinner strip along lower elevations of the coastal mainland. The areas closer to the mountains have colder winter climate, more snow, and smaller, somewhat slower-growing

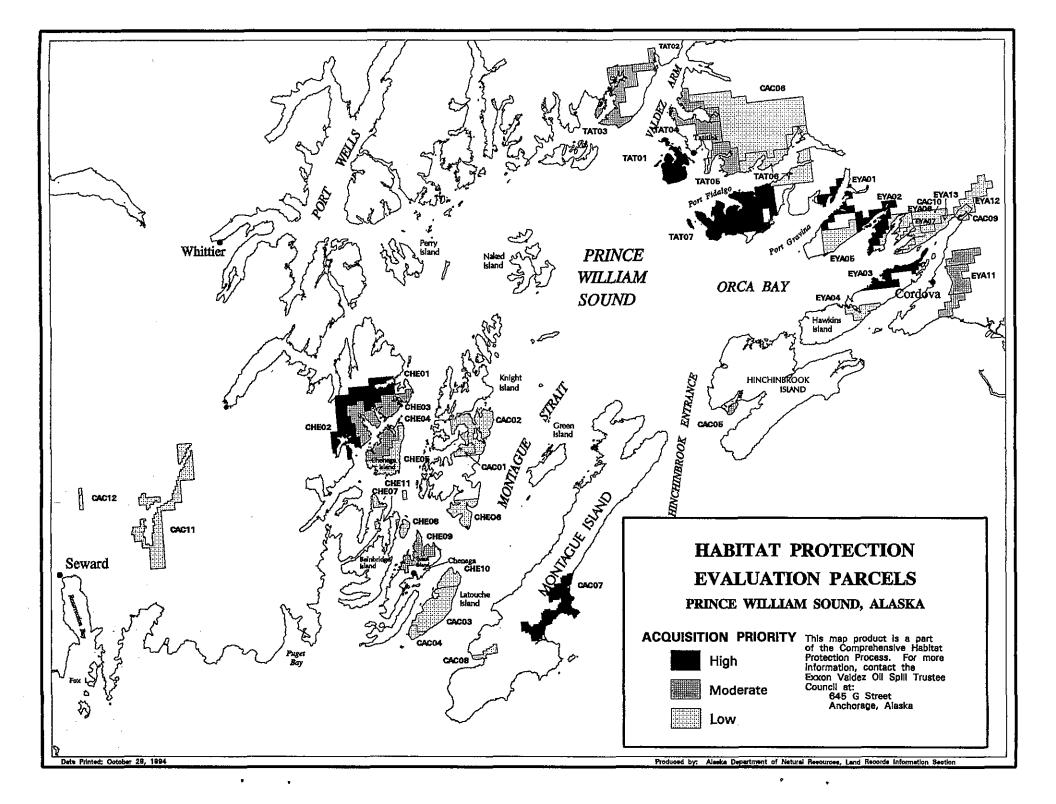
Prince William Sound



trees. Nearly all of the forest in the region is coastal forest of western hemlock, Sitka spruce, and mountain hemlock.

Land Ownership. Most of the land in Prince William Sound is a part of the Chugach National Forest. The State of Alaska has significant mountain holdings in the northern Sound, and owns isolated coastal parcels, thirteen of which are State Marine Parks. In addition, there are four native corporations with ownership in the Sound: Eyak, Chenega, Tatitlek, and Chugach Alaska Corporations.

Prince William Sound



Prince William Sound

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### PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND - RESTORATION BENEFITS FOR CURRENTLY PROPOSED HABITAT ACQUISITION PARCELS\*

PWS Region	acreage	Bald eagle	Sockeye salmon	Pink salmon	Dolly Varden	Cutthroat trout	Pacific herring	Blk Oyster- catcher	Comm. murre	Harbor seal	Hartequin ducks	Intertidal Subtidal	Marbled murrelet	Pigeon guillemot	River otter	Sea otter	Archeol. resource	Wilder- ness	Recr- Tourism	Subsis tence
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EYA 01/Port Gravina (H - 54)	3,400		L L									1997 - 1997 -	1947 - 1947 - 1947 - 1947 	L		1				
EYA 02/Sheep Bay (H - 75)	<u>9,10</u> 0														<del>ب</del> قد مقد با الله . مع قد مقد با الله .	دما وسند				
EYA 03/Windy-Deep Bay (H - 63)	7,100		L	-	the before the	3				· in most in and		institute of the second			هي الدر الم		L		3	
EYA 04/Canoe Passage (L - 30)	<u>3,70</u> 0		L						· L	<u> </u>	L	. مظريا ماد		L.		an ana ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang a				
EYA 05/Outer Sheep Bay (L - 30)	7,600		L			L				L	L	L					L	North States		
EYA 06/W Simpson (L - 26)	4,000		L	L		L						3-52- K					L	States in the		
EYA 07/E Simpson (L - 28)	3,300		L				L	L					and the second second		L		<u> </u>			
EYA 08/Power Creek (L - 21)#	4,800										L	<u> </u>	L			<u> </u>	L	L		
EYA 09/Eyak Lake (L - 21)#	5,100		No. of Concession, Name	L		And An Addition				L	L				ورواري والمحمد المحمد محمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد محمد المحمد المحم لمحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد محمد محمد محمد محمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد المحمد محمد محمد محمد محمد محمد محمد محمد	L	۲ L	L		
EYA 10/Eyak River (L - 18)#	3,800			L				· <u> </u>		L	L		L			L	Ľ	L		
EYA 11/Core Parcels (M - 42)	13,700			L						L	L	L	L				L	L.		
EYA 12/Rude River (L - 13.5)	6,900	L	L		L	L				L	建建建			L		L	L		L	
EYA 13/Orca Narrows (L - 20)	4,600		L	L	Ĺ	L	L			L	L	L		L			Ĺ			
	. <u> </u>										•						J			
TAT 01/Bligh Island (H - 69)	8,800		L	L	L	L			L											
TAT 02/Sawmill Bay (M - 51)	3,200		L		L	L		L	L	L				L	L.	L				
TAT 03/Columbia Bay (M - 37.5)	13,500		L	國家議	Ł	Ľ		L	L		Ľ	L	L	L	Ľ		۲Ľ _			
TAT 04/Galena Bay (M - 36)	13,200		٤		L	L			L	L	L					L				
TAT 05/Landlocked Bay (M - 36)	7,400		L		L	L			L	L			<b>NAME</b>	L		L.		i	L	
TAT 06/Port Fidalgo (L - 31.5)	17,555		Ľ					L	L					L		L		L	L	
TAT 07/Two Moon Bay (H - 70)	32,500		L						L		L	ļ						L		
CHE 01/Eshamy (H - 66)	7,900						L		L		a la com		副政治	L		1660X	L			
CHE 02/Jackpot_(H - 72)	12,100						L	L	L			的形式					-			
CHE 03/Granite-Paddy (M - 34)	15,000		L		L		L	al aite	L	L	L			L					的意识	
CHE 04/NW Chenega (M - 38)	7,300		L	L	L	L .	Ĺ		L				-11-16-16-	L ę					L	
CHE 05/SE Chenega (L - 22)	8,300		L		L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L .				L			L	
CHE 06/S Knight (L - 27)	5,400				L	L	Ĺ	L	L	L	L	L :		L	L	L			L	
CHE 07/NE Whale (L - 15)	1,500	建酸	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		L	L ,			L	L.	L		L	
CHE 08/Fleming (L - 30)	1,700		Ĺ	L	L	L	L		L	i.					L	L	L	-	L	
CHE 09/NW Evans (M - 45)	6,200		L	an a		L	L	e She	L					L						
CHE 10/Sleepy Bay (L - 16)	3,700		- <u> </u>	L		L	- <u> </u>	L		L		415			L	E	· · · · · · · · ·	L	Ľ	
CHE 12/Pleiades Is. (L - 17.5)	400	L	L	L		L	Ŀ	L	L		<u>`</u>	L	L			J	Ļ		 L	
<u></u>		L							<u> </u>	<u> </u>							<u> </u>			
		= high ·		[	L	⊨ low v														
= moderate value = indicates that the specific resource is not present																				

\* Parcels under active consideration and negotiation are shown in bold typeface.

# Note: These parcels are all parts of EYA 11/Core Parcels (ie., the EYA 11/Core Parcels has three smaller parcels within it).

(revised draft 10/31/94)

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Source: Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process --- Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking

Prince William Sound

## Restoration Benefits Report Eyak Lands

#### REGION

The Eyak Lands are located in eastern Prince William Sound in the vicinity of Cordova, Alaska.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

The Eyak lands consist of more than 70,000 acres in eastern Prince William Sound. Eastern Prince William Sound is characterized by a less rugged coastline than the western Sound. There is a general character of low forested hills dissected by streams, low marsh lands and tidal flats. The area presents a broken pattern of muskeg bogs and large areas of boreal forest covering entire hillsides and extending to 2,000 feet in elevation.

Eastern Prince William Sound's better growing conditions produce extensive western hemlock/Sitka spruce forest. The eastern sound has few islands and the beaches are more open and flat as a result of the 1964 earthquake uplift.

The subsurface estate is owned by Chugach Alaska Corporation.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

Eyak parcels include important habitat for several species of fish and wildlife for which significant injury resulting from the spill has been documented. Over 30 anadromous streams have been documented. These streams provide important spawning habitat for pink and sockeye salmon, cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden char.

Occasional spawning of Pacific herring is documented in several of the bays.

The mature hemlock/spruce forests on the Eyak parcels provide important habitat for bald eagles as well as probable nesting habitat for marbled murrelets. Harlequin ducks feed and molt along shorelines and nearshore rocks; some areas are heavily used by molters and there is possible nesting along the many anadromous streams.

Feeding and known latrine sites for river otter exist along the shorelines as well as probable denning sites.

Sea otter use is high in parts of the area with a pupping haulout at Cedar Bay, pupping concentrations in Deep Bay and possible wintering concentrations.

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The area has high scenic value, supporting high value wilderness-based recreation including hunting, fishing, sea kayaking and camping. The remainder of the area, which is immediately adjacent to the community of Cordova, is of very high importance to the community for recreation, maintenance of scenic quality and watershed protection. The parcels possess high cultural resource values, with numerous documented historical and archaeological sites.

The Eyak parcels directly and indirectly support extensive recreation and subsistence opportunities for Cordova residents. In addition, the scenic and fish and wildlife values of the area are becoming increasingly important as a resource to support the community's growing tourism industry. Diversification of the Cordova economy is an important community objective as a way to dampen the economic fluctuations of recent years due to highly variable fish harvests.

Restoration of injured species will benefit from acquisition of this important habitat through protection from activities and disturbances which may adversely affect their recovery. The principal threat to the area is imminent, widespread timber harvesting via clearcutting. Substantial acreage is currently under contract with the Rayonier Corporation, with logging planned to begin in the Spring of 1995.

Protection of habitat in the spill area to levels above and beyond that provided by existing law and regulation will have a beneficial effect on the recovery of injured resources and lost or diminished services provided by these resources.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The proposed acquisition would consist of fee simple acquisition of approximately 13,700 acres known as the "core parcels" in the immediate vicinity of the community of Cordova. The core parcels would become part of the Chugach National Forest. Management would be for protection and restoration of resources and services injured by the spill. In particular, the core parcels contain highly important eagle nesting and wintering habitat, as well as important spawning habitat for anadromous fish.

On the remainder of the Eyak parcels being considered, the Trustee Council would acquire a limited conservation easement consisting of commercial timber rights, public access rights for non-consumptive uses, an acreage limitation of 5% on the conversion of forested lands to other purposes, and a limitation on development in Sheep Bay to day use facilities necessary to facilitate tourism activities. U.S. Forest Service administration of the limited conservation easement would focus on ensuring that the habitat protection for which the easement was acquired is realized. Since the lands would remain in Native ownership, this will require development of a close working relationship with The Eyak Corporation to avoid potential

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conflicts between protection of habitat and the legitimate economic and cultural interests of the Corporation and its shareholders.

The acquisition price would be determined at the time the appraisal is completed. A down payment of 20 percent with five to seven equal installments is proposed, with interest accruing on the unpaid balance at a rate equal to the fifty-two week United States treasury bill rate compounded and adjusted annually. The source of revenue would be the civil trust funds.

#### RECOMMENDATION

A specific recommendation cannot be made at this time because it is not yet possible to determine an acquisition price.

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Prince William Sound Restoration Benefits Report: Eyak Lands

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### Restoration Benefits Report Tatitlek Lands

#### REGION

The Tatitlek lands proposed for acquisition are in eastern Prince William Sound.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

Sawmill Bay (TAT 02) is located on the west side of Valdez Arm approximately two miles southwest of Valdez Narrows opposite Jack Bay. The bay, approximately 1.5 miles long by 0.75 miles wide, is generally surrounded by extremely steep terrain with the Anderson Glacier overhanging the peaks to the north. The lower elevations are forested with Sitka spruce and western hemlock with an increasing proportion of mountain hemlock as elevation increases. The forest understory consists of a relatively dense mixture of devil's club, blueberry (*Vaccinium*), salmonberry, ferns, mosses and lichens. Alder is found in several steep avalanche slopes. The north end of the bay is shallow and supports an important eelgrass community with the upper beach zone fringed with various grasses. This parcel is bordered by public lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service to the northwest and southwest and state-selected acreage to the south.

The shorelands support a rich diversity of wildlife habitat including seabird colonies, bald eagle nests, and harbor seal haulouts. Spawning pink and chum salmon are found in Stellar Creek and Twin Falls Creek. Mink and river otter inhabit nearshore terrestrial areas. Sea otter pupping and rearing habitat has been documented, and harbor seals are commonly observed throughout the bay. Pacific herring consistently utilize the rocky substrates in the shallow areas for spawning habitat. The bay also supports many terrestrial bird species and seabird populations. The Stellar Creek area is an important nesting and brood rearing area for harlequin ducks. Marbled murrelets have also been documented in this area and may even nest in the old-growth forests within the bay. Bald eagles are often observed feeding in the bay. The broad mudflats at the north end of the bay support an extensive eelgrass community and are highly productive habitat for mussels and clams. Sawmill Bay is also regarded as a popular anchorage because of its easy accessibility by boat from Valdez.

Columbia Bay (TAT 03) is a south-facing embayment of the mainland located west of Valdez Arm. This parcel includes Heather Island and most of the east side of the bay. The rapidly retreating terminus of the Columbia Glacier lies at the head of the bay and is recognized as Prince William Sound's most visited scenic attraction.

Prince William Sound - 25 -Restoration Benefits Report: Tatitlek Lands It is thickly forested with Sitka spruce below which grows a dense understory of Sitka alder, willow, devil's club, *vaccinium*, ferns, mosses and lichens. Blue joint and beach rye grasses fringe the upper beach zone. Several lakes and streams surrounded by meadow dot the interior of the tract. The parcel is almost entirely bordered by public lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

Mountain goats heavily use alpine areas and depend upon low-elevation coniferous forest for shelter during winter. A small number of brown bears feed on salmon runs at the head of Granite Cove located opposite the parcel. Evidence of Sitka black-tailed deer has been documented in the old-growth forest near the parcel but numbers are very low and probably limited by the deep snow cover common to the area. The shorelands and adjacent areas support a rich diversity of bird species. Canada geese intensively use the open wetlands and early successional vegetation recently exposed by the retreat of the Columbia Glacier. Marbled murrelets are abundant throughout the bay and some probably nest in large conifer crowns located on the parcel. Other injured species such as black oystercatchers, common murres, and bald eagles are common residents of the area.

Pink, coho, king, and chum salmon are found in streams. Northern sea lions, porpoises and whales inhabit nearshore waters. Pacific herring consistently utilize the rocky substrates in the shallow areas as spawning habitat.

There are large numbers of harbor seals on ice flows and in the waters adjoining the parcel. Sea otters and harbor porpoises are observed in Columbia Bay. The Columbia Bay area is popular for its outstanding hunting, wildlife viewing, and sea kayaking opportunities. The bay and its resources support several guiding operations.

The "Hells Hole" tract (TAT 07a) is located north of Port Gravina between Knowles Bay and St. Matthews Bay. The shoreline is low with broad beaches and spits at the mouths of two large saltmarsh lagoon complexes, which are complexes uncommon in Prince William Sound. Hells Hole itself is a shallow tidal estuary formed by two major drainages. A similar large saltmarsh complex is located west of Hells Hole at the mouth of another unnamed anadromous stream. The upland portion of the tract is comprised primarily of extensive muskegs with numerous low gradient streams. Thin bands of Sitka spruce grow in well-drained areas along the beach fringe and stream courses. Large forested stands of Sitka spruce and hemlock are located north and east of Hells Hole. The parcel is bordered by U.S. Forest Service lands on the east and small isolated tracts of U.S. Forest Service lands on the north and southeast. Private timber harvest has occurred in sections 24, 28, 32, and 33.

The Hells Hole tract provides excellent fish habitat with 28 anadromous streams and lakes documented within its boundaries. These streams support populations of spawning pink salmon, spawning and rearing coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden. The

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shorelands and saltmarshes support a rich diversity of fish and wildlife habitats including saltmarshes, extensive tide flats, a seabird colony, mature spruce forests, bald eagle nest sites, and harbor seal haulouts. Adjacent coastal waters provide important Pacific herring spawning areas, and support productive kelp beds. These nearshore waters also provide high value harbor seal feeding areas, and sea otter feeding and pupping habitats. Moderate populations of marbled murrelets and pigeon guillemots are found in this area. Murrelet nesting may occur in mature spruce and hemlock stands. The Hells Hole area is an important wildlife viewing and sportfishing area.

Snug Corner Cove (TAT 07b) has historic value because Captain Cook used the cove to overhaul one of his ships during his exploration of Àlaska. The cove is timbered with Sitka spruce, although it has undergone significant logging and roading. It supports several resources injured in the spill including eagles, pink salmon, Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout, harbor seals, otters, black oystercatchers, and probably marbled murrelets. There is a small seabird colony at Gull Island. The Snug Corner Cove drainage has seven documented coho rearing streams, two of which also support pink salmon spawning. There is a good anchorage with increasing use by recreational boaters.

A total of 68,566 are being appraised as follows:

TAT 01 (Bligh Island):	8,829	high
TAT 02 (Sawmill Bay):	3,233	moderate
TAT 03 (Columbia Bay):	13,480	moderate
TAT 04 (Galena Bay):	10,919	moderate
TAT 04a (Galena Bay lagoon):	1,786	low
TAT 07 (Two Moon Bay):	21,775	high
TAT 07 (Two Moon Bay). TAT 07a (Hell's Hole): TAT 07b (Snug Corner Cove):	4,391 4,153	moderate low

It is not possible to determine which parcels will be acquired until the appraisal is completed.

Title to the subsurface estate is held by Chugach Alaska, Inc. Chugach Alaska has expressed its willingness to discuss sale of the subsurface estate as part of a transaction to purchase other lands in the spill area held by Chugach.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

The Sawmill Bay parcel includes important habitat for several species of fish and wildlife for which significant injury resulting from the spill has been documented. A rocky shoreline heavy with kelp beds, pockets of eelgrass and rich in invertebrates supports feeding harlequin ducks and marbled murrelets, as well as black oystercatchers and pigeon guillemots. Habitat contained within the parcel may function as nesting habitat for marbled murrelets. Recovery

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of these injured species will benefit from acquisition of this important habitat. There is also high potential recovery benefits for river otters and concentrations of sea otters which feed along the shoreline. Harbor seals, an injured species with seriously reduced population levels, will likely benefit from parcel acquisition. Recovery for Pacific herring, an injured species documented to spawn near the shoreline, will benefit as will pink salmon populations, documented in two stream drainages on the parcel.

The area has high scenic value and supports high value wilderness-based recreation including hunting, fishing, sea kayaking and camping.

The Hells Hole tract is a unique area providing important habitat for many of the fish and wildlife species and habitats injured in the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. This includes bald eagles and black oystercatchers which nest and feed along the shoreline, and moderate populations of marbled murrelets and pigeon guillemots. The tract provides high-value feeding and pupping habitat for sea otters and land otters. Harbor seals feed and haulout on tract beaches. It provides pink salmon spawning and cutthroat trout spawning and rearing habitat. The acquisition of this parcel will help assure the recovery of the injured species by conserving high value habitat. Recovery of nearshore spawning Pacific herring, as well as injured cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, and pink salmon will be aided by conservation of this parcel. The scenic and recreational values of this area, including sport fishing, sea kayaking, and camping, will also benefit. This is a unique and productive area with many restoration opportunities and benefits.

Protection of the habitat in the spill area to levels above and beyond that provided by existing law and regulation will have a beneficial affect on recovery of injured resources and lost or diminished services provided by the resources. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat and fish and wildlife populations will be the highest management priority. Public use of the lands will include sport, personal use, and subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping, and recreational uses insofar as consistent with public safety and permitted under law or regulations. There shall be no commercial timber harvest on these lands nor any other commercial use of these lands except any such limited commercial use as may be consistent with state and federal laws and the goals of restoration.

The acquisition of these parcels with highest management priority on the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and populations will allow an expeditious recovery of injured resources and services by precluding additional impacts to habitat and disturbance to fish and wildlife populations. No species-specific restoration efforts are proposed at this time for these parcels.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The acquisition price will be determined at the time the appraisal is completed. Although

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specific terms have not been discussed, Tatitlek has been advised that payment will be by down payment and installments.

#### RECOMMENDATION

A specific recommendation cannot be made at this time because it is not yet possible to determine an acquisition price.

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## Restoration Benefits Report Chenega Lands

#### REGION

Southeast Prince William Sound.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

The Chenega Corporation lands identified to provide habitat protection through fee simple and partial interest acquisition are composed of approximately 70,000 acres along the southwest side of Prince William Sound. Included are Chenega Island and parts of Evans, Latouche, Flemming, and Knight Islands as well as significant areas on the mainland on the west side of Dangerous Passage. Chenega lands have some of the highest ranked parcels in the Comprehensive Habitat Evaluation Process and have been identified as providing potential habitat protection for damaged resources and services linked to the spill.

The area is characterized by mountains with elevations to 2,500 feet. The lower slopes adjacent to lakes, streams and bays are forested with old growth Sitka spruce and western hemlock. Until recently, western Prince William Sound was glaciated and still remains very remote and wild. In the Eshamy and Jackpot area there are 22 anadromous streams of which two (Jackpot and Eshamy) are major producers of pink and sockeye salmon. The area is very important for commercial, sport, and subsistence fishing, with the village of Chenega being the major user. The area is also an important destination point for recreation users.

All lands being considered for acquisition from Chenega Corporation have a split estate with the subsurface ownership with the regional corporation, Chugach Incorporated.

Section 704 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act required that within three years (by December 2, 1983), a study with recommendations as to the suitability or nonsuitability of wilderness within the Prince William Sound area of the Chugach National Forest be completed and submitted to Congress. The report recommended that some lands be classified as wilderness. The lands recommended for wilderness are contiguous to Chenega lands as shown on the enclosed map. Congress has never acted on the report as submitted. However, all land within the proposed study area is being managed as wilderness area pending action on the study.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

Western Prince William Sound is one of the areas most impacted by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. All resources and services in the area were injured and will benefit from habitat protection.

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In the fall of 1993, Chenega Corporation indicated a willingness to consider selling fee simple title to two of their high ranked parcels, Jackpot Bay and Eshamy Bay (CHEO1 and CHEO2). These two parcels are being appraised for fee simple acquisition and consist of approximately 7,900 acres in CHEO1 and 12,000 acres in CHEO2, for a total of 19,900 acres. On the remainder of the Chenega lands the corporation has proposed selling all timber harvest rights with possible consideration for additional partial interests. The remaining Chenega lands considered available (approximately 36,000 acres) are presently being appraised for timber interests. The lands being appraised for timber include 15,000 acres of moderately ranked lands and 21,000 acres of low ranked lands as evaluated in the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process.

High value resources and services in the Eshamy/Jackpot area are: pink salmon, sockeye salmon, cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, bald eagles, black oystercatchers, harbor seals, harlequin ducks, pigeon guillemots, river otters, recreation/tourism, wilderness, and subsistence.

Of the high value resource and services identified on this parcel, sockeye salmon, pink salmon, cutthroat trout, and Dolly Varden are susceptible to water quality and potential over-harvest impacts. Bald eagles are generally considered to be more tolerant of development impacts if there is no loss of nesting habitat. Impacts to bald eagles may be mitigated by proper planning and adherence to existing regulations. River otters are considered to be generally tolerant of development if denning habitat is protected. Increasing development has a high potential for user group conflicts if harvest and access are restricted or the numbers of users increase. Subsistence, recreation, and wilderness are all sensitive to development because of the concentrated nature of the resources and topography that support these services. Harlequin ducks are sensitive to disturbance and are highly likely to be impacted by possible developments. Pigeon guillemot colonies require special protection from habitat loss and disturbance.

#### High Benefit in the Eshamy/Jackpot area:

Eshamy and Jackpot Bays have the highest number of wild pink salmon in the region with 22 anadromous streams. Eshamy Bay is also the highest sockeye producing system in western Prince William Sound. Both Jackpot and Eshamy represent the northwestern most range for cutthroat trout. The area has important wintering lakes and supports strong populations of Dolly Varden as well as fourteen documented bald eagle nests and important feeding areas. The area is an important breeding area (although lingering damage from the spill is still apparent) and important overwintering area for harlequin ducks. A large colony of pigeon guillemots is located adjacent to the parcel. Eshamy has high concentrations (based on pre-spill documentation) of river otters. The area is a destination for sport fishing from population centers, and it has a high level of recreation with a potential for significantly more. The parcel is an inholding in a wilderness area within the preferred alternative for the

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Prince William Sound - 32 -Restoration Benefits Report: Chenega Lands

Nellie Juan Wilderness Study Area. The parcel also has high value for the village of Chenega.

The remainder of Chenega lands (CHE03 to CHE09) have the following high value resources and services: pink salmon, bald eagles, black oystercatchers, harbor seals, harlequin ducks, marbled murrelets, pigeon guillemots, sea otters, wilderness, cultural resources, and subsistence.

On the remainder of Chenega lands, habitat was rated as high value for eleven resource and services in the comprehensive habitat evaluation process. Acquisition of timber rights for these land would benefit the injured resource and services. Pink salmon are susceptible to water quality and timber harvest impacts. Bald eagles are generally tolerant of development impacts if there is no loss of nesting habitat. Black oystercatchers are sensitive to loss of nesting habitat and disturbance during nesting. Harlequin ducks are highly sensitive to disturbance and loss of nesting habitat. Impacts to harbor seals are not known. Marbled murrelets are sensitive to loss of nesting habitat and disturbance during nesting. Sea otters are sensitive to disturbance during pupping which occurs in May and June. Pigeon guillemot colonies require special protection from habitat loss and disturbance. Subsistence, cultural resources and wilderness are all sensitive to development because of the concentrated nature of the resources/services and the topography that support them.

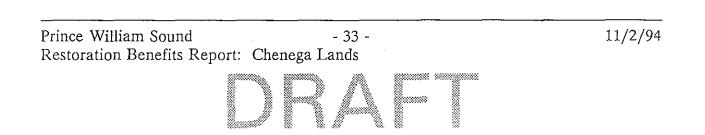
The two fee simple parcels are among the most popular recreation destinations in Prince William Sound. They are important sport fish and hunting areas, and have excellent anchorages. They would be managed to maintain and restore habitat and for recreational use. Recreational uses allowed within the area would be those non-developed recreational uses consistent with wilderness.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The approval to begin negotiations for acquisition of Chenega lands was made by the federal Trustees in August of 1993 with funds to be available from federal restitution funds. In the fall of 1993 the Trustee Council authorized the state and the U.S. Forest Service to negotiate jointly for acquisition using civil funds. Actual monies for acquisition will be a combination of federal restitution and civil funds.

Present acquisition price is pending the values established by an approved appraisal. Actual land and interests to be acquired are dependent upon final negotiations once appraisal values are available to the corporation for consideration.

Terms of payment will be dependent upon actual costs and final size of acquisition as well as a final determination as to federal requirements for partial payment and interests rates.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The two parcels CHEO1 and CHEO2 together rank as one of the highest, if not the highest, parcels in the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process. They are located one of the areas most heavily impacted by the spill. While providing not only the capability to provide a high degree of essential quality habitat protection to species linked to the spill, they also provide important public service sites for recreational use and sport fishing and land within the Nellie Juan-College Fjord Wilderness Study Area.

The remaining partial interests, consisting presently of an offer of timber rights, is recommended, because the timber provides essential habitat. However final disposition of the proposal is dependent upon pending appraisal values and negotiations with Chenega.

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### Attachment B Kenai Peninsula Regional Overview of Potential Acquisitions

This attachment has four parts:

- an overview of geography and land ownership on the Kenai Peninsula;
- a map showing potential acquisitions;
- a matrix which shows how the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated currently proposed acquisitions for each of the injured resources and services that depend upon upland habitats; and
- and a draft Restoration Benefits Report that describes potential acquisitions: their boundaries, the likely terms and conditions, and their biological justification.

Geographic Overview. The outer Kenai Coast, including Kenai Fjords National Park, is a part of the coastal spruce-hemlock forest. Several miles of forest grow along the coast in a land emerging from glaciers of the Kenai Mountains. On the eastern side of the peninsula, forests are transitional between the coastal forests that characterize much of the remainder of the spill area and the boreal forests of interior Alaska.

Lower Cook Inlet fills a wide rift that opens between the Kenai Peninsula and the Alaska Peninsula. This low elevation zone served as a major outflow route for ancient glaciers. The waters of Cook Inlet are generally shallower than 330 feet. A characteristic current system in the lower Inlet made up of two gyres rotating in opposite directions has been noted in lower Kachemak Bay west of Homer. This mixing system brings together upwelling coastal water, seawater from the Gulf of Alaska, and freshwater runoff from the upper bay, an extremely productive biological zone.

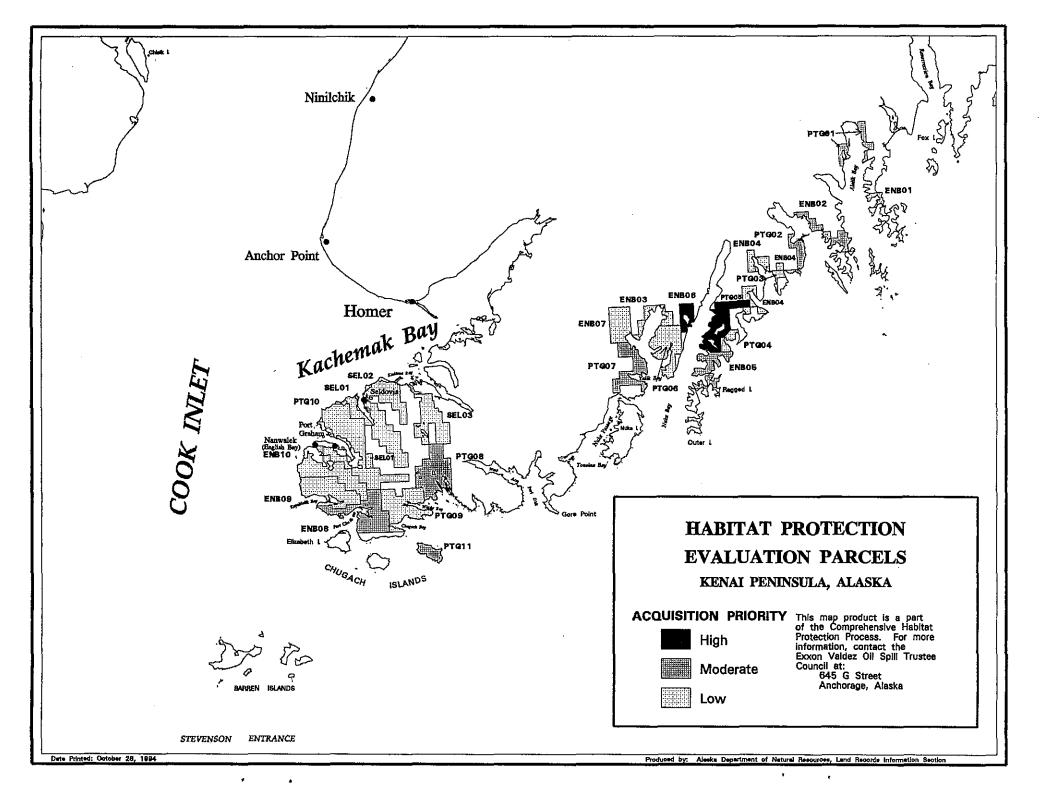
Frequent and heavy rainfall from Gulf of Alaska storms fall on the outer Kenai Coast. The interior and eastern side of the peninsula is in a rain shadow caused by the interception of storms from the south by the icefields and mountains of the southern Kenai Peninsula.

Land Ownership. Land on the Outer Kenai Coast is primarily within Kenai Fjords National Park and Kachemak Bay State Park. Municipal and state lands make up most of the coast near Seward. Native corporation lands cover much of the tip of the Kenai Peninsula near Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Seldovia. In Cook Inlet, land ownership is a mixture of Native Corporation, State, and municipal lands along the east shore, with a mixture of national park, state reserves, and Alaska Native Corporation land on the west shore.

Kenai Peninsula

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Kenai Peninsula



Kenai Peninsula

### KENAI --- RESTORATION BENEFITS FOR CURRENTLY PROPOSED HABITAT ACQUISITION PARCELS\*

Kenai	acreage	Bald eagle	Sockeye salmon	Pink salmon	Dolly Varden	Cutthroat trout	Pacific herring	Blk Oyster- catcher	Comm. murre	Harbor seal	Harlequir ducks	n Intertidal Subtidal	Marbled murrelet	Pigeon guillemot	River otter	Sea otter	Archeol. resources	Wilder- ness	Recr- Tourism	Subsis tence
ENB 01/Bear Cove (L - 30)	1,400		L_	L	L	L		L	L	L	L	0. 				L.	L	·		L
ENB 02/Harris Penn (M - 48)	6,200	L	L	L	L	_			L	L										L
ENB 03/N Arm Nuka (L - 27.5)	4,600		L	L	L				L			L. Carlos				L	L		L	L
ENB 04/Paguna-Taroka (L - 18)	5,900	L	L	L	L	L			L	L					L	L			L	L
ENB 05/McArthur Pass (L - 30)	7,600	L	L	L	L	L			L	L	Ĺ			L	L	L				<u> </u>
ENB 06/James Lagoon (H - 55)	3,800		L			L	L		L	L							L			L
ENB 07/Beauty Bay (L - 30)	8,900		L	L		L		L	L		L			L	L	L				L
ENB 08/Port Chatham (M - 45)	15,700	10000000000000000000000000000000000000		1	Ĺ							Guine -			L			L		
ENB 09/Dogfish Bay (L - 20)	14,700		L		; L		Ľ		L	L	L		an in the second	L	L			L	L	
ENB 10/English Bay River (L - 12)	15,400	L					L		L	L	L	L	L	L			L	L		
PTG 01/Upper Aialik (M - 47.5)	4,300					L			Ļ											L
PTG 02/NW Lagoon (M - 45)	3,500		L	L	L	L		ļ	L	L				1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1						L
PTG 03/Sandy Bay-Paguna (L - 22.5)	3,400	L	L	L	L	L			L	L		L		建能到	L	L	L		L	L
PTG 04/Black Bay (L - 15)	2,300	L	L	L	L	L			L	L	L	L			L	Ļ	L		L	L
PTG 05/Delight-Desire (H - 52.5)	11,500	L				—			L	L							L			L
PTG 06/Surprise-Quartz (L - 25)	12,400	L	L	L	L	L	國家陸	L	L		L	L			Ļ					L
PTG 07/Shelter-Yalik (M - 39)	10,500		L	L	L	L		·	L	L	L					L	100		L	L
PTG 08/Rocky Bay (L - 30)	16,200		L			L			L		L			L				L	L	
PTG 09/Windy-Chugach (L - 22.5)	15,300		L		L	L	L		Ļ		Ļ			L				L	L	
PTG 10/Pt. Graham Uplands (L - 5)	28,400	L	L		L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	Ľ	L		L	
PTG 11/Chugach Is. (M - 45.5)	3,300	L	L	L	L		΄L		L		L			L	Ĺ			·	<u></u> Ц	
SEL 01/Seldovia Bay (L - 24)	18,600	L	L		L	-	ange sporter		L	L				L `	· .	L	4	an a		
SEL 02/Barbara Cr (L - 30)	10,100		L		L	_		. L	L	L		-		L		L				
SEL 03/Jakalof Bay (L - 22)			L	L				L	L	L		L		L -		L		L		
		= high v	value	[	L	= low	value								-					
		= mode	rate value	• [	_	= indic	ates that t	he specifi	c resourc	e is not p	resent									
			* Parcels	under acti	ive consid	eration ar	id negotiat	ion are sh	own in b	old typefa	ce.									
(revised draft 10/31/94)												Source: Co	omprehens	ive Habitat F	Protection	Process —	Large Parc	el Evaluat	ion and Ra	nking
Kenai Region																<u> </u>				···

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## Restoration Benefits Report English Bay Lands

Parcels ENB 01 through 07

#### REGION

English Bay Lands are located along the length of the peninsula from Aialik Bay near Seward, to Jackalof Bay near Homer. Fourteen of the parcels are located within Kenai Fjords National Park, and one is within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

English Bay (ENB) parcels 01 through 07 are located on the deep water fjords of Kenai Fjords National Park. The landscape of the park and these parcels is characterized by a highly indented coastline interspersed with protected waters and extremely scenic uplands. Many of the fjords support tidewater glaciers. Upland slopes are predominately steep, although there are several relatively flat areas. Soils are generally shallow. Most of the land is covered by a sparse forest of Sitka spruce and western hemlock. Understory vegetation is typical of that found with this forest type. Parcel ENB 06 contains James Lagoon, a large tidally-influenced waterbody that is bordered by sandy beaches and both forested and marshy lowlands. Numerous, short clearwater streams drain into the lagoon.

Kenai Fjords National Park is the only fjord system in the United States protected by the designation of a national park. State waters adjacent to the park are teeming with marine life and are often occupied by harbor seals, sea otters, Northern sea lions, porpoises and minke, humpback, Orca and gray whales. Several species of salmon, including pinks and reds, are supported by the park's upland habitat. Numerous species of marine and other birds, including many injured by the spill, are found throughout the area. The park is a birder's paradise. Upland areas support black bears, moose, Dall sheep, mountain goats, marten, lynx, foxes, river otters, minks, coyotes and wolverines.

Kenai Fjords National Park is now the prime attraction for the city of Seward's tourism economy. Numerous businesses related to the park have been created in the city. Many of the fledgling businesses have matured into companies of significant size. Companies are still adding capacity to carry more tourists to see the park, its magnificent landscape, and its viewable wildlife. The Alaska Railroad runs summer trains to Seward, which are scheduled to connect with park tour boat operators in the park. Many nationally distributed magazines carry monthly advertisements for guided trips to the park, and daily advertisements run in the Anchorage paper. Recently, large cruise ships have discovered Seward, with their passengers filling the park's visitor center as they disembark into town and seek out points of

Kenai Peninsula - 41 -Restoration Benefits Report: English Bay Lands

interest. Many of the cruise ship tourists take flight-seeing tours of the park and helping to spawn yet more jobs. Half the park's commercial use licenses in effect for 1994 are for flight-seeing businesses.

The parcels in this package contain most of the resources and services injured by oil spill. By protecting the habitat upon which these resources depend, the Council's goal of providing restoration benefits through protective measures can be accomplished on the Kenai Peninsula.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

Parcels have been evaluated by the Trustee Council staff in 1993 and score from high to low. High and moderate parcels comprise 10,000 acres; low rated parcels comprise 23,349 acres. However, even low-rated parcels provide valuable benefits to many resources and services. For example, ENG05 provides high individual benefits for marbled murrelets, wilderness, and cultural resources, as well as moderate benefits for Pacific herring, black oystercatchers, intertidal and subtidal biota, and recreation and tourism.

Fifteen of 19 listed injured resources and services are present on and directly associated with these lands. The following list contains those rated by the Trustee Council staff as having high or moderate potential to benefit restoration. Injured resources and services, and some of their activities on these lands, include: spawning pink salmon, feeding and likely spawning Dolly Varden, spawning Pacific herring, nesting bald eagles, feeding black oystercatchers, feeding and haulout areas for harbor seals, molting harlequin ducks, intertidal and subtidal biota including some dense mussel beds, kelp and eelgrass areas, probable nesting marbled murrelets, feeding pigeon guillemots, high use areas and latrine sites for river otters, and feeding sea otters. Services include: nationally known and advertised recreation and tourism destinations, pristine wilderness qualities and several prehistoric and historic cultural resources sites including some from the Russian historic period. Additionally, a small commercial pink salmon fishery is, in part, supported by James Lagoon, parcel ENB 06.

Acquisition of these lands will result in habitat protection for not only the lands acquired, but also for a much larger area. The lands under consideration are located within the designated boundaries of Kenai Fjords National Park. As such, adding these lands back into park status will ensure that the thousands of acres of protected habitat in the park are not fragmented by various man-made developments. Lands within the exterior boundary of the park total 669,000 acres.

This area is receiving steadily increasing recreational visitation. Both large, commercially operated and small privately-owned boats ply the fjords in greater numbers. The area is well

Kenai Peninsula - 42 -Restoration Benefits Report: English Bay Lands

known by sports fishers who seek out salmon and halibut. Kayakers, photographers and hikers from around the world have discovered the park and use it regularly. The park provides some remote visitor cabins. Flight-seeing is increasingly popular and a growing number of tourists see the park in this way. The number of commercial users in the park is on a steady upward trend. Over 30 businesses now operate with National Park Service commercial use licenses.

Park management will maintain habitat acquired in its natural condition, thereby protecting injured resources and services from further injury. Park rangers and other park staff will regularly patrol the park, ensuring a high level of compliance with park regulations and Trustee Council restoration goals. At the same time, services like recreation and tourism can continue to occur and increase, in balance with restoration needs. Cultural sites of particular importance to the Native community will be protected consistent with state and federal laws. The commercial pink salmon fishery associated with James Lagoon will be maintained by protection of spawning and rearing habitat.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These parcels are currently selected under the authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. From the beginning of discussions, the English Bay Corporation has consistently stated their desire to sell the entirety of their lands within the park on a fee simple basis. Since the subsurface estate of these parcels will be conveyed to the Chugach Alaska Corporation, that value is being appraised and an offer will be presented to Chugach Alaska Corporation.

Although a number of additional parcels have been rated by the Trustee Council staff on the Kenai Peninsula near the villages of Port Graham and English Bay, ratings were from moderate to low value. Lands within the boundaries of Kenai Fjords National Park represent the best potential to acquire lands on the Kenai Peninsula which have the highest potential to contribute to the Council's restoration goals.

Because the appraisal for these lands has not yet been completed, the acquisition price and other terms and conditions have not yet been determined. However, the sources of revenue are the civil restoration and federal restitution monies.

Lands acquired would be managed by the National Park Service pursuant to the National Park Service's Organic Act, 16 USC 1, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), 16 USC 3101. These two laws provide the key legislative mandates for management. For Kenai Fjords National Park, ANILCA section 201 (5) says,

Kenai Peninsula - 43 -Restoration Benefits Report: English Bay Lands

Kenai Fjords National Park... shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To maintain unimpaired the scenic and environmental integrity of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, and coastal fjords and islands in their natural state; and to protect seals, sea lions, other marine mammals, and marine and other birds and to maintain their hauling and breeding areas in their natural state, free of human activity which is disruptive to their natural processes....

These mandates from Congress mesh well with Trustee Council restoration goals for the injured resources and services. The very core of the National Park Service mission is both protection and use. On the one hand, most areas will be left in their natural state, thus providing undisturbed habitat for the many species that will benefit from such protection. On the other hand, services like recreation and tourism can continue to occur and people from Alaska, the lower 48 states and from around the world can use the park, marvel at its scenery and learn about its natural resources.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Because the appraisal has not yet been completed, a specific recommendation cannot be made at this time. However, all indications are that a fee simple acquisition for the full acreage will be presented.

Kenai Peninsula - 44 -Restoration Benefits Report: English Bay Lands

# Restoration Benefits Report Port Graham Corporation

Parcels PTG 01 through 07

#### **REGION: KENAI PENINSULA**

Port Graham Lands are located along the length of the peninsula from Aialik Bay, near Seward, to Jackalof Bay, near Homer. Fourteen of the parcels are located within Kenai Fjords National Park, and one is within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

Port Graham (PTG) parcels 01 through 07 are located on the deep water fjords of Kenai Fjords National Park. The landscape of the park and these parcels is characterized by a highly indented coastline interspersed with protected waters and extremely scenic uplands. Many of the fjords support tide-water glaciers. Upland slopes are predominately steep, although there are several relatively flat areas; soils are generally shallow. Most of the land is covered by a sparse forest of Sitka spruce and western hemlock. Understory vegetation is typical of that found with this forest type.

Parcel PTG 01 contains Pederson Lagoon, a large tidally-influenced waterbody that is bordered by lakes, a glacier, and both sandy beaches and forested shoreline. The lakes on the parcel support spawning sockeye salmon which are used by both sport and commercial fishers. Parcel PTG 05 contains both Delight and Desire Lakes and Creeks, with forested lakeshores and stream-sides. These streams and lakes support spawning populations of both pink and sockeye salmon. The areas are used by both sport and commercial fishers. It is not uncommon to find several aircraft (fly-in charters and privately-owned planes) and boats in the vicinity when the fish are running.

Kenai Fjords National Park is the only fjord system in the United States protected by the designation of a national park. State waters adjacent to the park are teeming with marine life and are often occupied by harbor seals, sea otters, Northern sea lions, porpoises and minke, humpback, orca and gray whales. Several species of salmon, including pinks and reds, are supported by the park's upland habitat. Numerous species of marine and other birds, including many injured by the spill, are found throughout the area. The park is a birder's paradise. Upland areas support black bears, moose, Dall sheep, mountain goats, marten, lynx, foxes, river otters, mink, coyotes and wolverines.

Kenai Fjords National Park is now the prime attraction for the city of Seward's tourism economy. Numerous businesses related to the park have been created in the city. Many of the fledgling businesses have matured into companies of significant size. Companies are still

Kenai Peninsula - 45 -Restoration Benefits Report: Port Graham Lands

adding capacity to carry more tourists to see the park, its magnificent landscape, and its viewable wildlife. The Alaska Railroad runs summer trains to Seward, which are scheduled to connect with park tour boat operators in the park. Many nationally distributed magazines carry monthly advertisements for guided trips to the park, and daily advertisements run in the Anchorage paper. Recently, large cruise ships have discovered Seward, with their passengers filling the park's visitor center as they disembark into town and seek out points of interest. Many of the cruise ship tourists take flight-seeing tours of the park, and helping to spawn yet more jobs. Half the park's commercial use licenses in effect for 1994 are for flight-seeing businesses.

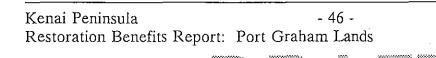
The parcels in this package contain most of the injured resources and services from the oil spill. By protecting the habitat upon which these resources depend, the Council's goal of providing restoration benefits through protective measures can be accomplished on the Kenai Peninsula.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

Parcels have been evaluated by the Trustee Council staff in 1993 and score from high to low. High and moderate parcels comprise about 29,000 acres; low rated parcels comprise about 18,000 acres. However, even low-rated parcels provide valuable benefits to many resources and services. For example, PTG03 provides high individual benefits for harlequin ducks, marbled murrelets, and wilderness, as well as moderate benefits for Pacific herring, black oystercatchers, and pigeon guillemots.

Sixteen of 19 listed injured resources and services are present on and directly associated with the lands in this package. The following list contains those rated by the Council staff as having high or moderate potential to benefit restoration. Injured resources and services, and some of their activities on these lands, include: spawning sockeye and pink salmon, overwintering and feeding Dolly Varden, spawning Pacific herring, nesting bald eagles, nesting and feeding black oystercatchers, feeding and important pupping areas for harbor seals, feeding harlequin ducks, intertidal and subtidal biota including some large mussel beds, and areas with kelp, feeding concentrations of marbled murrelets, feeding pigeon guillemots, possible denning sites and latrine sites for river otters, and pupping and feeding sea otters. Services include: nationally known and advertised recreation and tourism destinations, pristine wilderness qualities and several cultural resources sites. Additionally, a small commercial sockeye salmon fishery is, in part, supported by Pederson Lagoon, parcel PTG 01. Similarly, parcel PTG 05, the Delight and Desire Lakes area, supports in part both sockeye and pink fisheries that are used by sport and commercial fishers.

Acquisition of these lands will result in habitat protection for not only the lands acquired, but also for a much larger area. The lands being considered are within the designated



boundaries of Kenai Fjords National Park. As such, adding these lands back into park status will ensure that the thousands of acres of protected habitat in the park are not fragmented by various man-made developments. Lands within the exterior boundary of the park total 669,000 acres.

This area is receiving steadily increasing recreational visitation. Both large, commercially operated and small privately-owned boats ply the fjords in greater numbers. The area is well known by sports fishers who seek out salmon and halibut. Kayakers, photographers and bidders from around the world have discovered the park and use it regularly. The park already provides some remote visitor cabins. Flight-seeing is increasingly popular and a growing number of tourists see the park in this way. The number of commercial users in the park is on a steady upward trend. Over 30 businesses now operate with National Park Service commercial use licenses.

Park management will maintain habitat acquired in its natural condition, thereby protecting injured resources and services from further injury. Park rangers and other park staff will regularly patrol the park ensuring a high level of compliance with park regulations and Trustee Council restoration goals. At the same time, services like recreation and tourism can continue to occur and increase, in balance with restoration needs. Cultural sites of particular importance to the Native community will be protected consistent with state and federal laws.

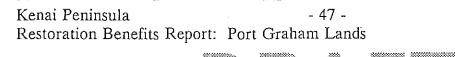
### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The parcels under consideration are currently selected under the authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The subsurface estate of these parcels will be conveyed to the Chugach Alaska Corporation. This subsurface estate is being appraised and an offer will be presented to Chugach Alaska Corporation.

Although a number of additional parcels on the Kenai Peninsula near the villages of Port Graham and English Bay have been rated by the Trustee Council staff, ratings were from moderate to low value. Lands within the boundaries of Kenai Fjords National Park represent the best opportunity to acquire lands on the Kenai Peninsula which have the highest potential to contribute to the Council's restoration goals.

Because the appraisal for these lands has not yet been completed, the acquisition price and other terms and conditions have not yet been determined. However, the sources of revenue are the civil restoration and federal restitution monies.

Lands acquired would be managed by the National Park Service pursuant to the National Park Service's Organic Act, 16 USC 1, and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation



Act (ANILCA), 16 USC 3101. These two laws provide the key legislative mandates for management. For Kenai Fjords National Park, ANILCA section 201 (5) says,

Kenai Fjords National Park... shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To maintain unimpaired the scenic and environmental integrity of the Harding Icefield, its outflowing glaciers, and coastal fjords and islands in their natural state; and to protect seals, sea lions, other marine mammals, and marine and other birds and to maintain their hauling and breeding areas in their natural state, free of human activity which is disruptive to their natural processes....

These mandates from Congress mesh well with Trustee Council restoration goals for the injured resources and services. The very core of the National Park Service mission is both protection and use. On the one hand, most areas will be left in their natural state thus providing undisturbed habitat for the many species that will benefit from such protection. On the other hand, services like recreation and tourism can continue to occur and people from Alaska, the lower 48 states and from around the world can use the park, marvel at its scenery and learn about its natural resources.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Because the appraisal has not yet been completed, a specific recommendation cannot be made at this time.

### Attachment C Afognak and Shuyak Islands Regional Overview of Potential Acquisitions

This attachment has four parts:

- an overview of geography and land ownership;
- a map showing potential acquisitions on Afognak and Shuyak Islands;
- a matrix which shows how the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated currently proposed acquisitions for each of the injured resources and services that depend upon upland habitats; and
- and a draft Restoration Benefits Report that describes potential acquisitions: their boundaries, the likely terms and conditions, and their biological justification.

Geographic Overview. Afognak and Shuyak Islands form the northern part of the Kodiak Archipelago. Many of the forces that shaped the two islands also shaped Kodiak Island itself. This section provides a geographic overview of both regions: Afognak and Shuyak Island, and Kodiak Island.

The two regions form the southernmost region of the spill. They are dominated by the effects of the subducting Pacific plate in the Aleutian Trench. Volcanic activity in the arc behind the subduction zone is intense. About 15 recently active volcanic peaks dot the crest of the Alaska Peninsula in the spill area. As a result of repeated ash deposition over the Alaska Peninsula subregion, the usual shoreline of rocky headlands along this generally exposed coast includes many sandy intertidal areas and shores.

The Kodiak Archipelago is generally subsiding because of subduction in the Aleutian Trench located to the southeast. The average elevation of the Kodiak Archipelago is low compared with the other spill regions. Only a few small glaciers are found on the crest of Kodiak Island, generally on the limited area of slopes above 4,000 ft (1,200 m). As a result of the small area of glaciers, rivers in this subregion contain much less sediment than most of the rest of the spill area, allowing a greater percentage of high quality clearwater aquatic habitat important for spawning anadromous fish.

Most of the coast of Kodiak Island is steep rocky cliffs and headlands with interspersed pocket beaches of boulders and coarse gravel, reflecting exposure to severe fall and winter storms. The coast of Afognak Island and smaller islands in the north archipelago is similar but with less rugged and more subdued topography. During the Pleistocene ice age mountain glaciers flowing from the crest of Kodiak Island toward Shelikof Strait carved deep U-shaped valleys and narrow fjords. Southwestern Kodiak Island experienced continental glaciation that left gentle topography with glacial till deposits. Unconsolidated glacial material has been eroded and re-formed into beaches of gravel, sand, and glacial boulders.

Afognak and Shuyak Islands



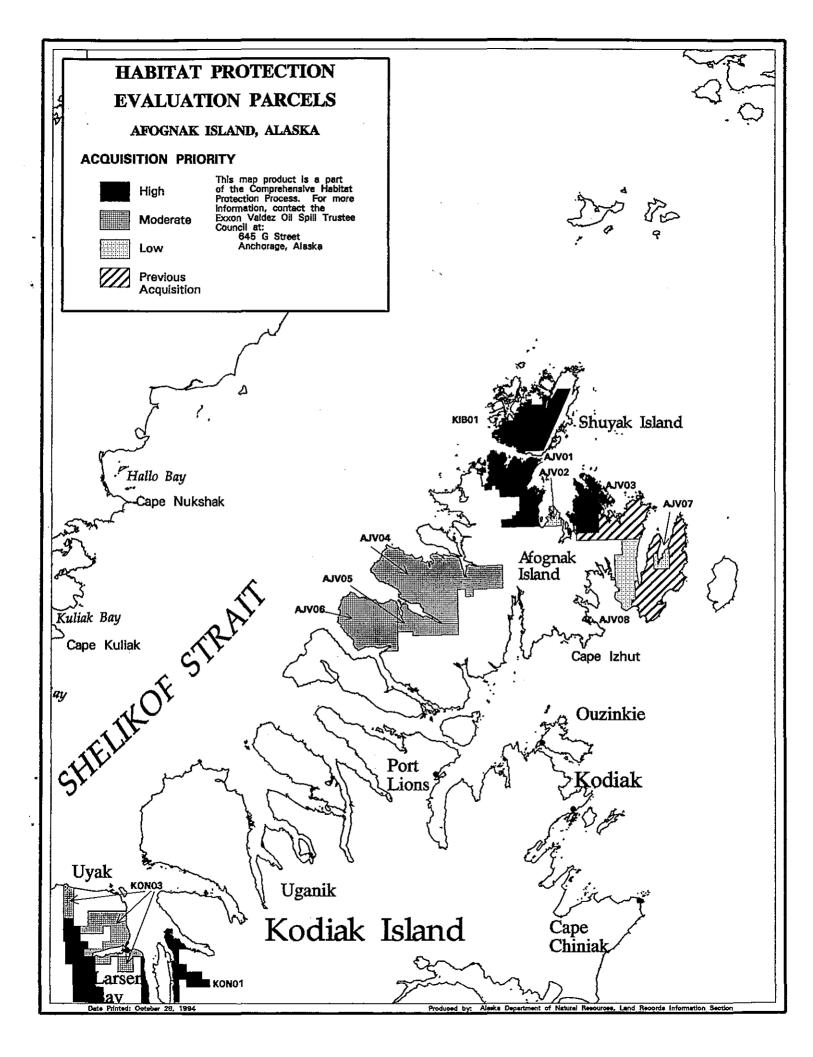
One of the distinctive features of the Kodiak Archipelago is its position close to the deep water of the Aleutian Trench. Marine waters south and east of the archipelago are characterized by full ocean salinity of 32 parts per thousand and clear water with minimal glacial turbidity. The very deep water of the trench strongly modifies the climate, moderating winter temperatures, but also cooling summers. Ocean current systems bring bottom water up from the trench through submarine canyons to the pelagic and nearshore environment of the archipelago, conditions that make a highly productive marine environment. Continental shelf waters surrounding the archipelago produce a significant share of Alaska's king and other crab harvest.

Large private or municipal landholdings in the Kodiak area are concentrated on the two northern islands — Shuyak and Afognak — and on the southern part of Kodiak Island. These two areas have very different upland habitat. The northern islands are heavily forested with dense, old-growth stands of coastal forest type that extends to Prince William Sound and in Southeast Alaska. On south Kodiak Island the spruce treeline is advancing and was probably limited in the past partly by geographic isolation. The Kodiak Archipelago is made up of national wildlife refuge lands, Alaska Native lands on Afognak and north, west, and south Kodiak Island, and state and borough land.

The remainder of this section discusses land ownership and key habitats on Afognak and Shuyak Islands. Similar information for the Kodiak Region is given in Attachment D.

Land Ownership. Shuyak Island is divided between two owners: the State of Alaska and the Kodiak Borough. The western part of the island is a State Park. The only public ownership on northern Afognak Island is the recently created Afognak Island State Park. Six private parcels on Afognak Island are owned by Afognak Joint Venture, which is owned by two Kodiak Village Corporations.

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Afognak & Shuyak Islands

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### AFOGNAK/SHUYAK --- RESTORATION BENEFITS FOR CURRENTLY PROPOSED HABITAT ACQUISITION PARCELS\*

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Afognak - Shuyak	acreage	Bald eagle	Sockeye salmon	Pink salmon	Dolly Varden	Cutthroat trout	Pacific herring	Blk Oyster- catcher	Comm. murre	Harbor seal	Harlequin ducks	Intertidal Subtidal	Marbled murrelet	Pigeon guillemot	River otter
KIB 01/Shuyak Is (H - 63)	27,900	L	L			.—			L						
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AJV 01/Shuyak Strait ** (H - 65)	27,100		L			—		:	L		and the first of a local state of the second	na siya aya kuta da siya da siya da siya	a di Talah managan katalan sa kata sa		
AJV 02/Delphin Pt (L - 19.5)	2,100		L	L	L			L	L	L					
AJV 03/Pauls-Laura Lk (H - 78)	13,400				L	<u> </u>		* 7	L.						
AJV 04/Paramanof (M - 48)	56,700					. —			L						
AJV 05/Inner Malina Bay (M - 40)	12,700		L						L	L	L				
AJV 06/Malina Penn (M - 45)	27,300				L				L	L		L			
AJV 07/E Tonki Bay (L - 25)	2,500		L.			L			L	L	L	L	L	L	
AJV 08/W Tonki Bay (L - 10.5)	13,400		L	L	L	L		L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
	* Parcels a	under acti	rate valu ve consi	L	-	tiation are	cates that e shown		peface.			gotiation	of a com	olete prop	oosal.

(revised draft 10/31/94)

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Source: Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process - Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking

Afognak - Shuyak Region

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### Restoration Benefits Report Shuyak Island

#### REGION

Shuyak Island is directly north of Afognak Island in the Kodiak Island archipelago.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

Shuyak Island, lying at the northern tip of Kodiak Island, has a crenulated, rocky coastline and low rolling terrain. It is thickly forested with Sitka spruce below which grows a dense understory of Sitka alder, willow, devil's club, blueberries, ferns, mosses and lichens. Blue joint and beach rye grasses fringe the upper beach zone. Numerous lakes and streams surrounded by bogs and meadows dot the interior of the island. The Shuyak Island parcel occupies the center of Shuyak Island and represents over half of the island's acreage. The parcel is bordered by the Shuyak Island State Park on the northwest and the proposed Alexander Baranov State Game Refuge on the east. Several small private parcels exist along Shuyak Strait on the south and Perevalnie Passage on the north. The area provides good deer and river otter habitat and supports a population of brown bears. Its shorelands support a rich diversity of wildlife habitat including seabird colonies, bald eagle nests, and harbor seal haulouts. Pink, coho and chum salmon are found in streams and Steller sea lions, sea otters, porpoises and whales inhabit nearshore waters. There are large populations of ducks along the coast. The area is popular for its outstanding hunting, wildlife viewing, fishing, and sea kayaking opportunities. The island supports several lodges and guiding operations.

26,565 acres are being appraised. All of the acreage is included in one parcel which is proposed for acquisition. If this acquisition is approved by the Trustee Council, the parcel will be managed as part of the Shuyak Island State Park which will provide protection for the entire island.

Title to the subsurface estate is held by the State of Alaska.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

The parcel includes important habitat for several species of fish and wildlife for which significant injury resulting from the spill has been documented. A rocky shoreline heavy with kelp beds, pockets of eelgrass and rich community of invertebrates supports feeding harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers, marbled murrelets, and pigeon guillemots. Black oystercatchers and pigeon guillemots nest and harlequin ducks molt along the shoreline. The mature spruce forests on the parcel provide probable nesting habitat for marbled murrelets. Restoration of these injured species will benefit from acquisition of this important habitat

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 55 -Restoration Benefits Report: Shuyak Island



through protection from activities and disturbances which may adversely affect their recovery. There is also high potential recovery benefits for river otters and concentrations of sea otters which feed and breed along the shoreline. Harbor seal, an injured species with seriously reduced population levels, have the potential to benefit from parcel acquisition through protection of haulout areas and control of potential disturbances. Recovery for Pacific herring, an injured species documented to spawn along the coastline, will benefit as will pink salmon populations, documented in six streams, and Dolly Varden, documented in eight streams. These resources would be protected from activity which may adversely affect water quality and habitat.

The area has high scenic value and supports high value wilderness-based recreation including hunting, fishing, sea kayaking and camping. The area also possesses high cultural resource values, with fifteen documented historical archaeological sites.

Protection of the habitat in the spill area to levels above and beyond that provided by existing law and regulation will have a beneficial effect on recovery of injured resources and lost or diminished services provided by these resources. The draft Shuyak Island State Park management plan specifically recommends these lands for inclusion in the park. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, will manage the park from offices in Kodiak and will maintain seasonal rangers and cabins on the island. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat and fish and wildlife populations will be the highest management priority. Public use of the lands will include sport, personal use, and subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational uses, consistent with public safety and permitted under law or regulations of the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will manage the fish, wildlife, and aquatic plant resources from offices in Kodiak and will maintain biologists to monitor the commercial, sport, and subsistence resources and habitats on the island. There will be no commercial timber harvest on these lands nor any other commercial use of these lands, except any limited commercial use that may be consistent with state and federal laws and the goals of restoration.

The acquisition and designation of this parcel as state park land with highest management priority on the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and populations will allow an expeditious recovery of injured resources and services by precluding additional impacts to habitat and disturbance to injured fish and wildlife populations. No species-specific restoration efforts are proposed at this time for this parcel.

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 56 -Restoration Benefits Report: Shuyak Island

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The acquisition price will be determined at the time the appraisal is completed. A down payment of 20 percent with seven equal annual installments is proposed with interest accruing on the unpaid balance at a rate equal to the fifty-two week United States treasury bill rate compounded and adjusted annually. The source of revenue will be the civil trust funds.

#### RECOMMENDATION

A specific recommendation cannot be made at this time because it is not yet possible to determine an acquisition price.

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 57 -Restoration Benefits Report: Shuyak Island



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Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 58 - . Restoration Benefits Report: Shuyak Island



### Restoration Benefits Report Afognak Island

#### **REGION: AFOGNAK ISLAND**

Afognak Island is north of Kodiak Island and immediately south of Shuyak Island in the Kodiak Island archipelago.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

A total of 155,064 acres are being appraised as follows:

PARCEL	ACREAGE	<u>RANKING</u>
AJV 01	26,754	high
AJV 01a	19,357	high
AJV 01b	7,397	low
AJV 02	2,153	low
AJV 03	13,396	high
AJV 03a	10,396	moderate
AJV 03b	3,000	low
AJV 04	56,706	moderate
AJV 05	11,601	moderate
AJV 06	28,256	moderate
AJV 07	2,470	low
AJV 08	13,355	low

It is anticipated that not all of the acreage being appraised will be acquired. AJV has indicated that it will not agree to acquisition of only the high value parcels.

If parcels AJV 01a, 01b, 02, 03a, 03b, 07, and/or 08 are acquired, the Alaska Legislature will be asked to include them in the newly established Afognak Island State Park. If parcels 04, 05, and/or 06 are acquired, they will be made available to the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

Title to the subsurface estate is held by Koniag, Inc., a part owner of AJV. Koniag is willing to discuss sale of the subsurface estate. Koniag has also indicated a willingness to sell the subsurface estate at Seal Bay and Tonki Cape.

AJV 01, 01a, and 01b are located in the north central portion of Afognak Island. The rocky shoreline is highlighted by several large bays. Blue joint and beach rye grasses fringe the upper beach zone. The uplands are typified by low mountainous and rolling hill terrain interspersed with numerous lakes and streams. The parcel is thickly forested with Sitka

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 59 -Restoration Benefits Report: AJV Lands

spruce below which grows an understory of devil's club, mosses, *vaccinium*, ferns, salmonberry, blueberry, and alder. Along with the stands of dense spruce forest are openings of brushy vegetation (alder, willow, elderberry, salmonberry) and open grassy meadows of bluejoint and fireweed. The Shuyak Strait Parcel is bordered on the north by Shuyak Strait, on the west by Blue Fox Bay and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, on the east by Perenosa and Delphin bays, and on the south by land owned by the Ouzinkie Native Corporation. The area provides good deer and elk habitat and supports a relatively low density (less than 0.25 per square mile) of brown bears. Its shorelands support a rich diversity of wildlife habitat including seabird colonies, bald eagle nests, and harbor seal haulouts. Pink, coho, and chum salmon, rainbow trout, and Dolly Varden are found in the streams and Northern sea lions, whales, and porpoises inhabit nearshore waters. There are large populations of sea otters, seabirds, and ducks along the coast. The area is popular for its hunting, wildlife viewing, fishing, and wilderness experience opportunities.

AJV 03, 03a and 03b parcels are located in the northeastern portion of Afognak Island. The rocky, crenulated shoreline is highlighted by several bays and has numerous nearshore rocks and islets. Blue joint and beach rye grasses fringe the upper beach zone. The uplands are typified by low mountainous and rolling hill terrain dominated by the Laura Lake - Paul Lake system. This stream and lake complex has been enhanced with two fish ladders (installed in 1952) between Paul's Lake and Laura Lake and one fish ladder in Gretchen Creek (installed in 1952) to provide pink and coho salmon access to upper reaches of the drainage and to enhance the sockeye salmon run. The parcel is thickly forested with Sitka spruce, below which grows an understory of devil's club, mosses, vaccinium, ferns, salmonberry, blueberry, and alder. Along with the stands of dense spruce forest are openings of brushy vegetation (alder, willow, elderberry, salmonberry) and open grassy meadows of bluejoint and fireweed. The parcels are bordered on the north by the Gulf of Alaska, on the west by Perenosa and Discoverer bays, and on the east and south by Seal Bay and Afognak Island State Park. The area provides excellent deer and elk habitat and supports a relatively moderate density (between than 0.25 and 0.33 per square mile) of brown bears. The shorelands support a rich diversity of wildlife habitat including seabird colonies, bald eagle nests, and harbor seal haulouts. Pink, coho, sockeye and chum salmon, rainbow trout, steelhead, and Dolly Varden are found in the streams and lakes and Northern sea lion, whales, and porpoises inhabit nearshore waters. There are large populations of sea otters, seabirds, and ducks along the coast. The area is popular for its hunting, wildlife viewing, fishing, and wilderness experience opportunities. The area supports bear guiding operations.

Parcels AJV04, AJV05, and AJV06 are contiguous tracts of land located in the southwestern portion of Afognak Island and totaling approximately 97,000 acres. These parcels received a moderate rank by the Trustee Council staff. The topography of the area is mountainous with several river and lake systems in the adjoining valleys. The shoreline varies from mudflats to rocky headlands with numerous offshore rocks and islets. The vegetative cover

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 60 -Restoration Benefits Report: AJV Lands is characterized by discontinuous stands of Sitka spruce primarily at the lower elevations. Along with the stands of Sitka spruce are areas of alder, salmonberry, willow, elderberry brush and devil's club interspersed with open grassy meadows of bluejoint and fireweed.

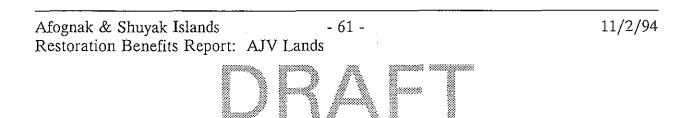
AJV07 is a north facing stream valley on Tonki Cape. It is an inholding within previously purchased conservation lands. It has three salmon spawning streams with coho, pink, and chum salmon and Dolly Varden trout. The stream valley is wooded with Sitka spruce. It has an eagle nest and adjacent coastal waters provide some herring spawning and moderate sea otter habitat. It provides access to the interior of Tonki Cape, and its purchase would complete public holdings on Tonki Cape.

Most of AJV08 is very steep, and only a few sections have timber. Section 33 and part of 34 have been cut. The remainder of the tract is comprised of brush and alpine tundra. There are two salmon streams which support pink and coho salmon, and Dolly Varden trout. Five documented eagle nests lie along the shoreline. There are some elk, brown bear, and deer. Waterfowl, seabirds, and harbor seals use the tract and adjacent waters.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

AJV 01, 01a and 01b include important habitat for several species of fish and wildlife for which a significant injury from the spill has been documented. A rocky shoreline heavy with kelp beds, pockets of eelgrass, mussels, and rich in invertebrates supports feeding harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers, marbled murrelets, and pigeon guillemots. Black oyster catchers and pigeon guillemots nest and harlequin ducks molt along the shoreline. There is substantial evidence of nesting marbled murrelets and a high probability that harlequin ducks nest within the area. Logging may directly affect the foraging and nesting activities of these species, and hence impact their rehabilitation. There are twenty-five documented bald eagle nests within the parcel with feeding and roosting along the shoreline. Recovery of this injured species would benefit from acquisition of this important habitat. There are also high potential recovery benefits for river otters which likely den in the area, and for concentrations of pupping and feeding sea otters found in Blue Fox Bay and in western Perenosa Bay. Both types of otter feed along the shoreline. Harbor seals, an injured species with seriously reduced population levels, has the potential to benefit from parcel acquisition. Recovery for Pacific herring, an injured species documented to spawn along the coastline, will benefit as will pink salmon populations, documented in twelve streams, and Dolly Varden, documented in seven streams. The area has high scenic value and supports high value wilderness-based recreation including hunting, fishing, and camping. The area possesses high cultural resource values with five historic and prehistoric sites, two having been documented as important by the State Historic Preservation Office.

AJV 03, 03a and 03b include important habitat for several species of fish and wildlife for



which significant injury from the spill has been documented. A rocky shoreline accentuated by nearshore rocks and islets is heavy with kelp beds, pockets of eelgrass, mussels, and rich in invertebrates which supports feeding harlequin ducks, black oyster catchers, marbled murrelets, and pigeon guillemots. Black oyster catchers and pigeon guillemots nest and harlequin ducks molt along the shoreline. There is substantial evidence of nesting marbled murrelets and a high probability that harlequin ducks nest within the area. Logging may directly affect the foraging and nesting activities of these species, and hence impact their rehabilitation. There are twenty-four documented bald eagle nests within the parcel with feeding and roosting along the shoreline. Recovery of this injured species would benefit from acquisition of this important habitat. There are also high potential recovery benefits for river otters which likely den in the area and for concentrations of pupping and feeding sea otters found in Discoverer, Perenosa, Phoenix, and Seal bays. Both types of otter feed along the shoreline. Harbor seals, an injured species with seriously reduced population levels, have the potential to benefit from parcel acquisition. Recovery for Pacific herring, an injured species documented to spawn along the coastline, will benefit as will pink salmon populations, documented in five streams, and Dolly Varden, found in most waterbodies on the parcel. The area has high scenic value and supports high value wilderness-based recreation including hunting, fishing, and camping. The area possesses high cultural resource values with fourteen historic and prehistoric sites, seven having been documented as important by the State Historic Preservation Office.

AJV04, AJV05, and AJV06 provide outstanding restoration benefits to many resources and services injured by the spill. The coastline and nearshore rocks provide key nesting habitat for bald eagles and pigeon guillemots, and molting areas for harlequin ducks. Marbled murrelets, pigeon guillemots, black oystercatchers, harlequin ducks, and bald eagles feed in the productive intertidal and subtidal areas. The coastal estuaries adjacent to the parcels are extremely important to overwintering seabirds and sea ducks. Harbor seals and sea otters use the sheltered bays for foraging and pupping areas and the nearshore rocks for haulout sites. The streams and intertidal areas provide spawning and rearing habitat for pink salmon, Dolly Varden and Pacific herring. The stream systems also support substantial populations of chum and coho salmon, and rainbow and steelhead trout. The parcels have outstanding wilderness qualities and numerous cultural resource sites.

Protection of the habitat in the spill area to levels above and beyond that provided by existing law and regulation will have a beneficial affect on recovery of the injured resources and lost or diminished services provided by the resources. Title to the lands shall be conveyed to the State of Alaska for inclusion in the recently established Afognak Island State Park. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat and fish and wildlife populations shall be the highest management priority. Public use of the lands shall include sport, personal use, and subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational uses insofar as consistent with public safety and permitted under law or regulations of the Board of Fisheries or Board of Game. There shall be no commercial timber harvest on these lands nor any other commercial use of

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Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 62 -Restoration Benefits Report: AJV Lands these lands except for limited commercial use that is consistent with state and federal laws and the goals of restoration.

The acquisition and designation of this parcel as state park lands with highest management priority on the protection of fish and wildlife habitat and populations will allow an expeditious recovery of injured resources and services by precluding additional impacts to habitat and disturbance to fish and wildlife populations. Acquisition of AJV 03a will assure continued operation of the ADF&G research and management fish weir near tide water and the continued maintenance and operation of the fish passes in the Laura-Paul's Lake system.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The acquisition price will be determined at the time the appraisal is completed. Although specific terms have not been discussed AJV has been advised that payment will be by down payment and installments.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

A specific recommendation cannot be made at this time because it is not yet possible to determine an acquisition price.

Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 63 -Restoration Benefits Report: AJV Lands

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Afognak & Shuyak Islands - 64 -Restoration Benefits Report: AJV Lands

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## Attachment D Kodiak Island Regional Overview of Potential Acquisitions

This attachment has four parts:

- an overview of land ownership for Kodiak Island (an overview of the geography of Kodiak Island is given in Attachment C.)
- a map showing potential acquisitions on Kodiak Island.
- a matrix which shows how the Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process evaluated currently proposed acquisitions for each of the injured resources and services that depend upon upland habitats; and
- and a draft Restoration Benefits Report that describes potential acquisitions: their boundaries, the likely terms and conditions, and their biological justification.

Geographic Overview. The Kodiak Island region was shaped by many of the forces that shaped Shuyak and Afognak Islands, and the geographic overview of Kodiak Island is discussed in Attachment C.

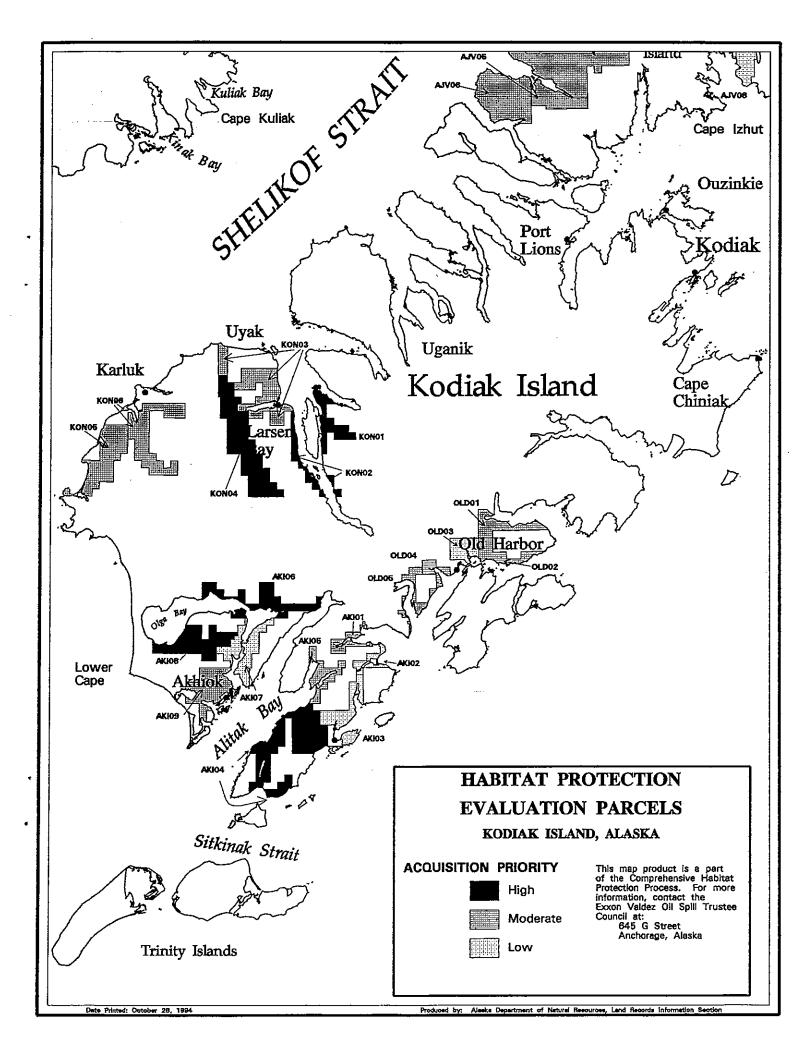
Land Ownership. On southern Kodiak Island, almost all public land is within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

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Kodiak Island

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Kodiak Island



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### KODIAK - RESTORATION BENEFITS FOR CURRENTLY PROPOSED HABITAT ACQUISITION PARCELS\*

AKI 04/Aliulik Penin (H - 65)   34,300   -   -   -   -   L	Kodiak	acreage	Baid eagle	Sockeye salmon	Pink saimon	Dolly Varden	Cutthroat trout	Pacific herring	Blk Oyster- catcher	Comm. murre	Harbor seal	Harlequin ducks	Intertidal Subtidal	Marbled murrelet	Pigeon guillemot	River otter	Sea otter	Archeol. resources	Wilder- ness	Recr- Tourism	Subsis- tence
OLD 03/Midway Bay (L - 28)   7,300   -   L   -   L   <	OLD 01/Kiliuda Bay (M - 34)	9,500				L			L			an the second	L	L			L				
OLD 00J/lidding Bay (M - 35)   0LD 04/Barling Bay (M - 35)   4,600   —   L   —   L </td <td>OLD 02/Sitkalidak Str (L - 30)</td> <td>8,000</td> <td></td> <td>—</td> <td>L</td> <td>L</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>L</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>L</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>L</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>L</td> <td></td>	OLD 02/Sitkalidak Str (L - 30)	8,000		—	L	L				L				L			L			L	
OLD 05/3 Saints Bay (M - 37.5)   5,300   -   L   -   L	OLD 03/Midway Bay (L - 28)	7,300	••••••	—		L			L	L.	L			L			L		L		
AKI 01/Kaiugnak Bay (M - 45)   4,900   -   -   L	OLD 04/Barling Bay (M - 35)	4,600				L			L		L	s			L		L`				
AKI 02/Kiavak Bay (L - 30)   4,200   4,200   12,400	OLD 05/3 Saints Bay (M - 37.5)	5,300			L	L	<del></del>	L		ÚC - C		<u></u>	<u>.</u>				<u> </u>				
AKI 02/Kiavak Bay (L - 30)   4,200   I   L   <			and the second s				*			· - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						Station and		(market and the states of the			
AKI 02/Nichar Dory (L - 30)   12,400     AKI 03/Kaguyak Bay (L - 30)   12,400     AKI 04/Aliulik Penin (H - 65)   34,300     AKI 05/Sulua-Portage (M - 50)   8,200     AKI 06/N Olga Bay (H - 67.5)   16,900     AKI 07/Olga Narrows (L - 25)   15,200     L   L     AKI 08/Upper Station Lks (H - 60)   15,600     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900     Mit 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900     Mit 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   9,900     Mit 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,000     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 54)   9,900     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 54)   1     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 54)   1     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 54)   1	AKI 01/Kaiugnak Bay (M - 45)	4,900		—			—										L			L	
AKI 03/Ráguyak Bay (L - 30)   12,400     AKI 04/Aliulik Penin (H - 65)   34,300     AKI 05/Sulua-Portage (M - 50)   8,200     AKI 06/N Olga Bay (H - 67.5)   16,900     AKI 07/Olga Narrows (L - 25)   15,200     AKI 08/Sulua-Portage (M - 60)   15,600     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900     Mi 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900     Mi 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900     AKI 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 58)   9,900     AKI 09/Sukhoi - Kempff (M - 58)   9,900     AKI 09/Sukhoi - Kempff (M - 54)   7,000	AKI 02/Kiavak Bay (L - 30)	4,200				L			L	L	L							SA THE STATES		L	L
AKI 05/Sulua-Portage (M - 50)   8,200   -   L   -   L	AKI 03/Kaguyak Bay (L - 30)	12,400				L		L		L			1755.AQ	L							
AKI 06/N Olga Bay (H - 67.5)   16,900   L	AKI 04/Aliulik Penin (H - 65)		1011 101 100 10000				—			_											
AKI 07/Olga Narrows (L - 25)   15,200   L	AKI 05/Sulua-Portage (M - 50)	8,200		—		L		-		L										Ĺ	L
AKI 08/Upper Station Lks (H - 60)   15,600   L	AKI 06/N Olga Bay (H - 67.5)	16,900					—		L.	L	1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-						L				
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Akt 09/Sukhoi-Kempff (M - 42.5)   15,900   -	AKI 08/Upper Station Lks (H - 60)	15,600	COMPACT AND		L					L			Ĺ.	L	L		L				
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KON 05/Halibut Bay (M - 42) 21,900 21,900 — L L L L L L				- 1		and and a second se Second second s		L		L			L		L -	~					
KON 06/Sturgeon River (M - 36) 22,400 L L L	KON 06/Sturgeon River (M - 36)	22,400								<u> </u>	L.			L						L	
= high value			= high v	alue	[	L	= low	value													
= moderate value = indicates that the specific resource is not present			-		[	—	-   = indic	cates that	the specif	ic resourc	e is not pr	resent									

\* Parcels under active consideration and negotiation are shown in bold typeface.

(revised draft 10/31/94)

Source: Comprehensive Habitat Protection Process --- Large Parcel Evaluation and Ranking

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Kodiak Region

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## Restoration Benefits Report Akhiok-Kaguyak Lands

#### **REGION: KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO**

The subject Akhiok-Kaguyak (AKI) lands are located within the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill area along the coast on the south end of Kodiak Island. The lands were subdivided for analysis purposes into AKI01 through AKI08.

#### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

The topography of the region consists of rolling hills, some mountains and an interspersion of lakes, short streams and rivers. The land is not forested but is covered with dense grasses and shrubs on the areas with well drained soils. Cottonwood, willow and alder thickets are found along the numerous drainages.

The proposal achieves protection in perpetuity on the entire 119,885 acres contained in AKI01 through AKI08. Nearly two-thirds of the land would be acquired in fee with the remainder committed in a conservation easement providing non-commercial public access to the easement lands (see terms and conditions).

Acres proposed for fee acquisition or conservation easement:

High ranked acres:	74,812
Moderate ranked acres:	13,485
Low ranked acres:	31,588
Total acres:	119,885

Subsurface: The subsurface estate is owned by the United States.

#### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

The AKI lands are part of a large, intact ecosystem which provides multi-million dollar commercial, subsistence and recreational benefits to the larger Kodiak population and the State of Alaska. The area's biodiversity is extraordinary because of rich aquatic and marine environments. This ecosystem's foundation is clean, free flowing water which supports an abundant fishery that sustains Kodiak's people and wildlife. The AKI lands contain a rich assemblage of species, habitats and services injured by the oil spill. The area supports high subsistence use of sockeye, coho, and pink salmon, and Sitka black-tailed deer. The following is a summary of injured resources and services found on AKI lands that received a high score in the Trustee Council staff's large parcel evaluation.

Kodiak Island



Sockeye Salmon:	Four sockeye producing drainages cross AKI lands; Akalura, Dog
	Salmon, Horse Marine and Upper Station. The Service estimates that total commercial harvest of sockeye salmon returning to these drainages is from 772,000 to 1,099,000 fish. Commercial harvest value of these stocks ranges from \$6.5 to \$9.3 million.
Pink Salmon:	Thirty-five (35) pink salmon streams wholly or partially are on AKI lands. The Service estimates that total commercial harvest of pink salmon returning to these drainages is from 204,500 to 623,000 fish. Commercial harvest value ranges from \$120,000 to \$360,000.
Dolly Varden:	Dolly Varden are widespread and abundant throughout AKI drainages. Lake systems such as the Upper Station Lakes provide critical overwintering Dolly Varden habitat.
Pacific Herring:	Herring spawn in the nearshore waters off most AKI beaches. Commercial sac-roe and food/bait herring harvests are substantial in adjacent management units. The 1992 sac-roe harvest for districts adjacent to AKI lands was 523.5 tons. The average price paid from 1979-1992 was \$943/ton. The 1992 harvest value consequently is estimated to have been \$494,000.
Bald Eagle:	Seventy-six (76) known bald eagle nests are within the package. Eagle feeding concentration sites are found at the package's many anadromous fish streams. The headwater drainage of Upper Station Lakes is a critical early winter feeding area for bald eagles. Eagles gather at this area to feed on late run sockeye and coho salmon.
Black Oystercatcher:	Colonies and feeding groups occur along most of AKI coastline. Documented nesting occurs along the rocky areas of the Aliulik Peninsula.
Common Murre:	AKI04 was the only parcel of the 81 parcels evaluated to rank as having a high restoration value to common murres. Winter feeding concentrations occur along nearshore waters and within several bays on the Aliulik Peninsula.
Harlequin Duck:	Nesting occurs along the numerous drainages within the package. Molting aggregations are common on nearshore rocks.

Marbled Murrelet:	Although undocumented, nesting is highly likely; broods have been spotted in nearshore marine waters. Large winter feeding concentrations occur in Portage bay.
Pigeon Guillemot:	Numerous nesting colonies are found along rocky shorelines; Cannery Cove, within Olga Bay, has the largest colony with over 100 birds.
River Otter:	Otters are widespread with sizeable populations, especially along streams flowing into lakes. River otters provide income to local trappers.
Harbor Seal:	Seven known haul-out sites are on rocks adjacent to AKI lands. Anchor Cove within Olga Bay is a noted haulout and feeding area.
Intertidal/Subtidal Biota:	Extensive mussel and eelgrass beds occur along large stretches of shoreline. King crab molting occurs in nearshore waters of Olga Bay.
Recreation/Tourism:	AKI lands support prime sport fishing, deer and bear hunting. Several hunting and fishing guides are established on AKI lands. Economic benefits to the local, regional and state economy are worth hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Public access will be fully restored to the 76,646 acres of fee acquisition and restored with reasonable control by AKI to the 43,239 acres covered by easement.
Wilderness:	Evidence of human use is generally limited to coastal sites with good access. The area retains outstanding wilderness attributes.
Subsistence:	Many of the lands are primary harvest areas for Akhiok village residents. Wildlife resources harvested include fish, deer, waterfowl, crab and clams.
Cultural Resources:	Archaeological sites are found extensively on these lands. The region's rich fish and wildlife resources supported an unusually large human population. Most bays contain prehistoric and historic village sites.

Kodiak Island



Two spill-injured species did not receive a high score for restoration benefit; sea otter and cutthroat trout. Sea otters are found in low numbers in this area of Kodiak and cutthroat trout are not found on the Kodiak Archipelago.

<u>Direct Benefits</u>: The proposal is for a comprehensive ecosystem based acquisition that broadly achieves the Trustee Council's objectives on southern Kodiak Island. Akhiok-Kaguyak lands encompass a large portion of the coastline of southern Kodiak Island. North Olga Bay (AKI06) received the highest score of any Kodiak Island parcel. Three major sockeye and pink salmon producing drainages, Dog Salmon Creek, Akalura Creek and Horse Marine Lagoon, are located within this parcel. The nearshore waters of the Aliulik Peninsula (AKI04) have tremendous marine food resources that sustain common murres, marbled murrelets, harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers and bald eagles. Concentrations of bald eagles gather at Upper Station Lakes (AKI08) to feast on the returning sockeye and pink salmon. Large Pacific herring harvests occur offshore from these lands. All Akhiok-Kaguyak's coastal properties have pockets of dense eelgrass and mussel beds that are considered high value intertidal and subtidal habitat.

Three parcels of Akhiok-Kaguyak land received a moderate score. However, these parcels encompass the coastline of protected bays and have strategic value to ensure protection of restoration benefits for this entire package. Sulua/Portage Bays (AKI05) have two documented harbor seal haulouts as well as high marbled murrelet, pigeon guillemot, and harlequin duck feeding concentrations. Kiavak Bay (AKI02) supports rich intertidal and subtidal biota that are food for pigeon guillemots, harlequin ducks, black oystercatchers as well as bald eagles and river otters.

<u>Benefits of management consolidation</u>: The current patchwork of federal/private land ownership is confusing to the general public wishing to use these lands for recreation or subsistence. A considerable amount of state and federal staff time is spent answering questions on land boundaries and location of public easement trails across AKI lands. Exact boundaries and easement trailheads are often difficult to determine in the field. The proposal would eliminate this problem for the public.

Trespass by commercial operators, particularly big game guides, on federal or AKI lands is a perennial problem. The guides may be permitted to only use refuge lands or to only use AKI lands. Land ownership consolidation would greatly reduce the confusion and trespass.

Several agencies of the federal government and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) currently work cooperatively on fish and wildlife management and research projects on the Kodiak Archipelago. Wildlife species and anadromous fish have wide ranges that include both public and private lands. Private lands can be closed or have restricted access at any time. Acquisition of these lands would ensure continued access for fish and wildlife research and management.

Kodiak Island

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is actively surveying land and issuing conveyances to Native corporations on Kodiak Refuge. The proposal would reduce the amount and cost of survey and conveyance through consolidating lands. AKI lands that are completely surrounded by federal land and purchased in fee would not require a survey.

<u>Other Benefits</u>: The conservation easement will provide for perpetual economic benefits to AKI. The easement will allow compatible natural resource-based use of the easement lands. This would include commercial guiding services that are not exclusive of use by the general public. The natural values of the region would be protected on these easement lands.

The rich salmon runs of the region support a high density of brown bears. Several bays in the region are used by wintering emperor geese and Steller's eiders. Local residents and non-residents use the lands for bear and deer hunting as well as fishing. The economic and social values of protecting this intact ecosystem cannot by overstated. Although this restoration effort focuses on habitats of high value for specific injured species and services; the long term success of any regional protection effort requires that biodiversity, the basic fabric of the ecosystem, be maintained. To ensure this result, acquisition of moderate and low ranked parcels is essential. Ecosystem disruptions within the area, regardless of the parcel's rank, will permeate the area and diminish the value of surrounding parcels.

Acquired lands will be managed as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Kodiak Refuge). A primary purpose of the Kodiak Refuge is the conservation of fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity. Subsistence use is also a purpose of the Kodiak Refuge. The well established legal mandates and authorities under which Kodiak Refuge is managed will ensure injured resources and services are protected in perpetuity.

Special management note: Three fish weir sites will be acquired under this proposal. Long-term right-of-way leases, without a rental charge and with renewal provisions, will be issued to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for continued use of these sites.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Acquisition Price: Down Payment:	\$46 million 50% minimum
Term of Payment:	Balance paid in three annual installments
Interest Rate:	No interest paid

Kodiak Island



Sources of Revenue: Initial payment:

> Joint Restoration Fund: Federal Restitution Fund:

\$13 million \$10 million

Balance paid over three years:

Joint Restoration Fund:

\$23 million

<u>Conservation Easement, Subsistence Access Easement and Land Exchange</u>: The majority of AKI lands would be acquired in fee simple. However, protection of AKI03, AKI07a and AKI08 would be obtained through a conservation easement. AKI wishes to consolidate ownership and management of lands around the village of Akhiok. The parcels AKI03 and AKI07b would be exchanged for federal land adjacent to AKI08 and the village "home" area (AKI09). All exchanged refuge lands would be subject to the conservation easement. The exact amount of refuge lands to be exchanged cannot be identified at this time. The conservation easement provides broad habitat protection, management access for achieving purposes of the easement and controlled but reasonable public access. The exchange will occur on a value for value basis. Refuge lands have been identified and prioritized for exchange to AKI. An appraisal of these lands will soon be contracted. Once the appraisal is completed, refuge lands will be exchanged for AKI03 and AKI07b on a value for value basis.

The entire 119,885 acres at issue will be covered by an access easement for subsistence. In essence, the easement converts the guarantees in ANILCA Title VIII into a property right running with the land.

Acres in Fee Simple:	76,646
Acres in Easement:	43,239

Total acres protected: 119,885

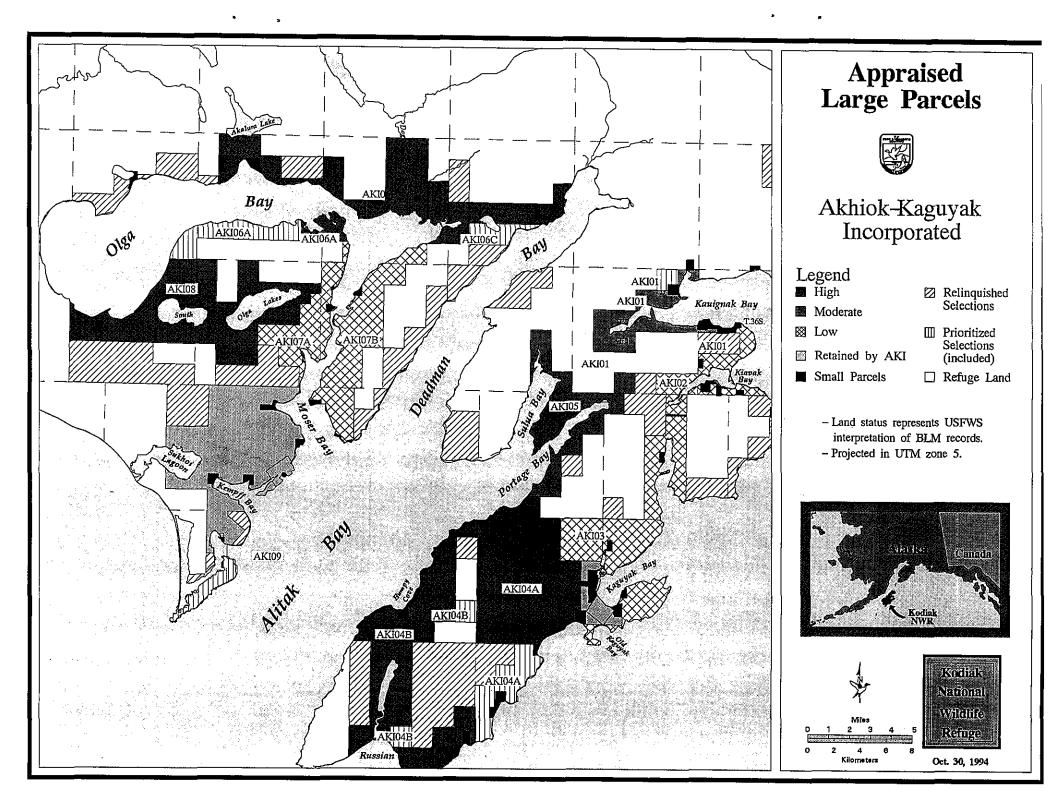
### RECOMMENDATION

Based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's well established and long standing legal authorities and extensive experience in managing fish, wildlife and habitat nationwide and specifically on Kodiak, it is recommended that the parcels acquired from Akhiok-Kaguyak be managed by the Service as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Perpetual protection and conservation of the injured resources on the AKI lands is entirely consistent with the legal authorities and management programs of the Kodiak Refuge. This action would provide important benefits to resources and services injured by the spill and would be an enduring natural legacy and a source of invaluable sustained economic and social values for Alaska and the nation.

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Kodiak Island



Kodiak Island

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# Restoration Benefits Report Koniag Lands

### **REGION: KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO**

The subject Koniag lands are located within the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill area along the coast and inland waterways on the west side of Kodiak Island. The lands were subdivided for analysis purposes into KON01 through KON06.

### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

The topography of the region is unique when compared to the rest of Kodiak Island. The majority of Koniag lands were not covered by glaciers during the last ice age. The rolling hill topography and distinctive flora contrast with the rugged terrain found elsewhere on the island. The land is not forested and a large portion has vegetation similar to arctic tundra. Broad valleys and longer rivers also characterize the region.

Acres proposed for acquisition:

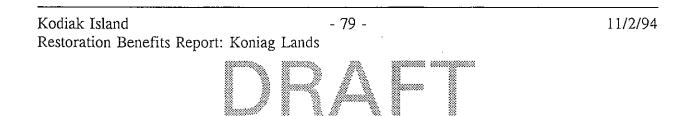
High ranked acres:	47,417
Moderate ranked acres:	46,648
Low ranked acres:	0
Not ranked:	1,129*
Total acre:	95,194

This small tract on Uyak Bay was recently conveyed to Koniag.

Subsurface: The subsurface estate is owned by the United States.

### **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

The Koniag lands are part of a large, intact ecosystem which provides multi-million dollar commercial, subsistence and recreational benefits to the larger Kodiak population and the State. The area's biodiversity is rich because of rich aquatic and marine environments. The ecosystem's foundation is clean, free-flowing water which supports an abundant fishery that sustains Kodiak's people and wildlife. The Koniag lands contain a rich assemblage of species, habitats and services injured by the oil spill. The lands support high subsistence use of sockeye, coho, and pink salmon, and Sitka black-tailed deer. The following is a summary of injured resources and services found on Koniag lands that received a high score in the Trustee Council's large parcel evaluation.



Sockeye Salmon:	Karluk River/Lake is one of the most productive sockeye salmon systems in the Kodiak Management Area. The Service estimates that total commercial harvest of sockeye salmon returning to this drainage is from 1,109,000 to 1,782,000 fish. Commercial harvest value ranges from \$9.4 to \$15 million.
Pink Salmon:	Fourteen (14) documented spawning streams are wholly or partially on Koniag lands. The Service estimates that total commercial harvest of pink salmon returning to these drainages is from 965,000 to 1,972,000 fish. Commercial harvest value ranges from \$550,000 to \$1.12 million.
Dolly Varden:	Dolly Varden are widespread and abundant throughout Koniag drainages. Lake systems such as Karluk provide critical overwintering Dolly Varden habitat.
Pacific Herring:	Herring spawn in the nearshore waters off most Koniag beaches. Commercial sac-roe and food/bait herring harvests are substantial in adjacent management units. The 1992 sac-roe harvest for districts adjacent to Koniag lands was 103.5 tons. The average price paid from 1979-1992 was \$943/ton. The 1992 harvest value consequently is estimated to have been \$97,600.
Bald Eagle:	One hundred sixteen (116) known bald eagle nests are within the package. Non-breeding birds concentrate along the Sturgeon River during the salmon runs.
Black Oystercatcher:	Large stretches of Koniag's coastline are used by feeding black oystercatchers. Nesting occurs along the rocky areas of Larsen Bay.
Harlequin Duck:	Nesting occurs along the numerous drainages within the package. Molting aggregations are common on nearshore rocks.
Marbled Murrelet:	Although undocumented, nesting is highly likely; broods have been spotted in nearshore marine waters. Large winter feeding concentrations of marbled murrelets occur in Larsen Bay.

Kodiak Island Restoration Benefits Report: Koniag Lands

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Pigeon Guillemot:	Numerous nesting colonies are found along the rocky shorelines of Koniag lands. Uyak and Larsen Bays provide critical winter feeding habitat for pigeon guillemots.
Sea Otter:	Sea otters are abundant throughout Uyak and Larsen Bays. Brown's Lagoon is a known sea otter pupping area and several haulouts are located in the region.
River Otter:	River otters are widespread with sizeable populations, especially along streams flowing into lakes. River otters provide income to local trappers.
Harbor Seal:	Nine known haul-out sites are on rocks adjacent to Koniag lands.
Intertidal/Subtidal Biota:	Extensive mussel and eelgrass beds are along large stretches of shoreline. Uyak Bay, Larsen Bay and Sturgeon Lagoon have extensive eelgrass beds that attract a variety of marine life.
Recreation/Tourism:	The Karluk river drainage is a popular destination for sport fishing, flight-seeing and bear viewing. Island residents and non-residents hunt Sitka black-tailed deer and brown bear on Koniag lands. Several hunting and fishing guides are established on these lands. Recreational use is growing rapidly along with its value to local and state economies.
Wilderness:	Evidence of human use is generally limited to coastal sites with good access. The area retains outstanding wilderness attributes.
Subsistence:	Many of the lands are primary harvest areas for Karluk and Larsen Bay village residents. Wildlife resources harvested include fish, deer, waterfowl, crab and clams.
Cultural Resources:	Archaeological sites are found extensively on these lands. Most bays contain prehistoric and historic village sites. The Karluk drainage is blanketed with cultural resource sites.

<u>Direct Benefits</u>: The Koniag package incorporates some of the highest quality wildlife and recreational lands in Alaska. The highly ranked Uyak Bay (KON02) and Brown's Lagoon (KON01) parcels encompass protected coastline within Uyak Bay that teems with marine wildlife such as harbor seals, sea otters, harlequin ducks, marbled murrelets, and black oystercatchers. The Karluk River (KON04) drainage supports tremendous returns of pink and sockeye salmon worth millions of dollars to the Kodiak commercial fisheries and Alaska's economy. The Sturgeon River (KON06) and adjacent tributaries of Halibut Bay (KON05) also support runs of pink salmon and resident Dolly Varden.

<u>Benefits of management consolidation</u>: The current patchwork of federal/private land ownership is confusing to the general public wishing to use these lands for recreation or subsistence. A considerable amount of state and federal staff time is spent answering questions on land boundaries and location of public easement trails across Koniag lands. Exact boundaries and easement trailheads are often difficult to determine in the field. The proposal would eliminate this problem for the public.

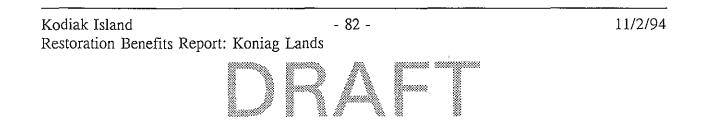
Trespass by commercial operators, particularly big game guides, on federal or Koniag lands is a perennial problem. The guides may be permitted to only use refuge lands or to only use Koniag lands. Land ownership consolidation would greatly reduce the confusion and trespass.

Several agencies of the federal government and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) currently work cooperatively on fish and wildlife management and research projects on the Kodiak Archipelago. Wildlife species and anadromous fish have wide ranges that include both public and private lands. Private lands can be closed or have restricted access at any time. Acquisition of these lands would ensure continued access for fish and wildlife research and management.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is actively surveying land and issuing conveyances to Native corporations on Kodiak Refuge. The proposal would reduce the amount and cost of survey and conveyance through consolidating lands. Koniag lands that are completely surrounded by federal land and purchased in fee would not require a survey.

<u>Other Benefits</u>: Karluk lake is the site of some the highest densities of brown bears ever recorded. Chinook (king) and steelhead fishing on the Karluk river are popular with visitors from around the world. The Kodiak economy benefits from the increasing popularity of recreational fishing on Koniag lands. Waterfowl and seabirds congregate in the protected waters of Uyak Bay during the winter season. Nearshore waters along Shelikof Strait are frequented by killer, minke and fin whales.

The broad, perpetual economic and social values of protecting this intact ecosystem



cannot by overstated. Although this restoration effort focuses on habitats of high value for specific injured species and services; the long term success of any regional protection effort requires that biodiversity, the basic fabric of the ecosystem, be maintained. To ensure this result, acquisition of moderate and low ranked parcels must be included. Ecosystem disruptions within the area, regardless of the parcel's rank, will permeate the area and diminish the value of surrounding parcels.

<u>Proposed Management Structure</u>: Acquired lands will be managed as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Kodiak Refuge). A primary purpose of the Kodiak Refuge is the conservation of fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity. Subsistence use is also a purpose of the Kodiak Refuge. The well established legal authorities under which Kodiak Refuge is managed will ensure that injured resources and services are protected in perpetuity.

## TERMS and CONDITIONS

Negotiations are ongoing and terms and conditions are not final.

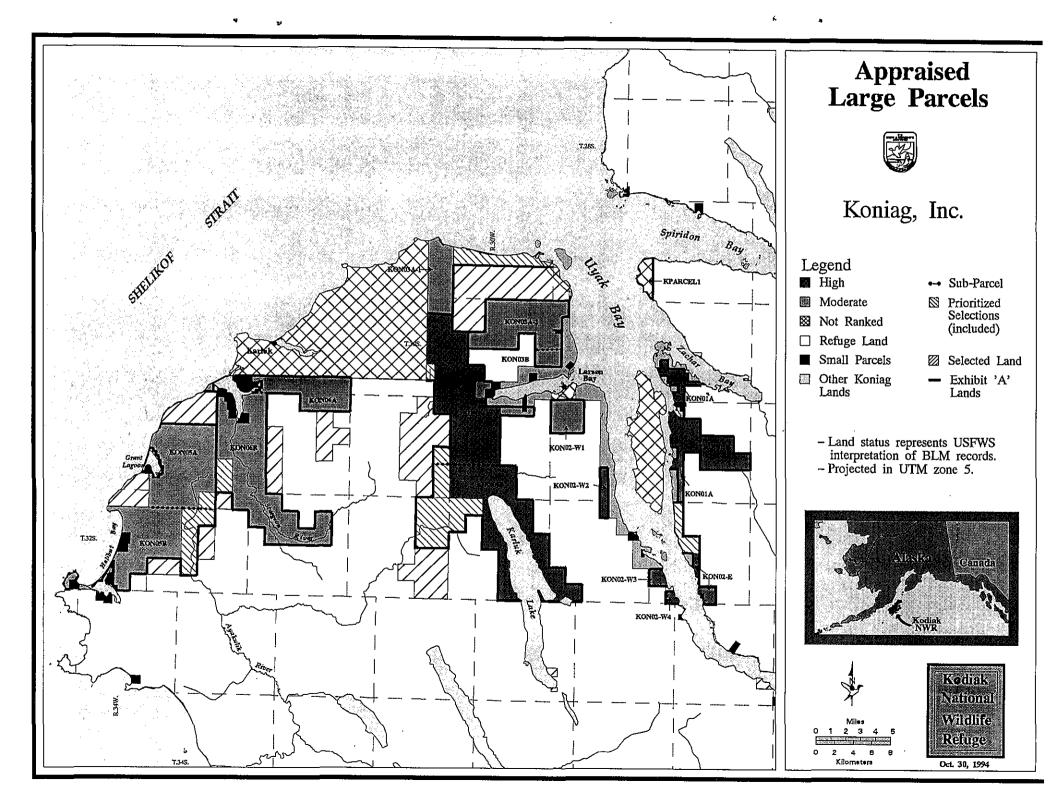
### RECOMMENDATION

Based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's well established and long standing legal authorities and extensive experience in managing fish, wildlife and habitat nationwide and specifically on Kodiak, it is recommended that the parcels acquired from Koniag be managed by the Service as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Perpetual protection and conservation of the injured resources on the Koniag lands is entirely consistent with the legal authorities and management programs of the Kodiak Refuge. Acquisition would provide important restoration benefits to resources and services injured by the spill.

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# **Restoration Benefits Report Old Harbor Lands**

### **REGION: KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO**

The subject Old Harbor Native Corporation (OHNC) lands are located within the *Exxon* Valdez Oil Spill area along the coast on the east side of Kodiak Island. The lands were subdivided for analysis purposes into OLD01 through OLD05.

### PROPOSED ACQUISITION DESCRIPTION

The area is generally mountainous and interrupted by a profusion of short stream valleys. The land is not forested but is covered with dense grasses and shrubs on areas with well drained soils. Stream valleys contain pockets of dense cottonwood, willow and alder thickets.

Acres proposed for acquisition:

High ranked acres: Moderate ranked acres: Low ranked acres:	0 24,159 7,905
7 unranked islands:	102
Total acres:	32,166

Subsurface: The subsurface estate is owned by the United States.

## **RESTORATION BENEFITS**

The Old Harbor lands are part of a large, intact ecosystem which provides multi-million dollar commercial, subsistence and recreational benefits to the larger Kodiak population and the State of Alaska. The ecosystem's foundation is clean, free flowing water which supports an abundant fishery that sustains Kodiak's people and wildlife. The Old Harbor package contains a rich assemblage of species, habitats and services injured by the oil spill. The following is a summary of injured resources and services found on Old Harbor lands that received a high or moderate score in the Trustee Council's large parcel evaluation.

Pink Salmon:	Sixteen (16) documented spawning streams are wholly or partially on Old Harbor lands. The Service estimates that total commercial harvest of pink salmon returning to these drainages is from 83,000 to 248,400 fish. Commercial harvest value ranges from \$50,000 to \$140,000.
Dolly Varden:	Dolly Varden are widespread and abundant throughout Old Harbor drainages.
Pacific Herring:	Herring spawn in the nearshore waters off most Old Harbor beaches. Commercial sac-roe and food/bait herring harvests are substantial in adjacent management units. The 1992 sac-roe harvest for districts adjacent to Old Harbor lands was 635.4 tons. The average price paid from 1979-1992 was \$943/ton. The 1992 harvest value consequently is estimated to have been \$599,000.
Bald Eagle:	Forty-eight (48) known bald eagle nests are within the package. The coastline of the Kiliuda Peninsula supports nest densities from one nest per $1/2$ to 2 miles of shoreline.
Black Oystercatcher:	Black Oystercatchers feed along the rocky shoreline of Sitkalidak Strait. Nesting habitat is also found in this area and on the 7 islands.
Common Murre:	Large groups of murres feed throughout the winter in the protected waters of Sitkalidak Strait.
Marbled Murrelet:	Although undocumented, nesting is highly likely to occur on ocean-front bluffs. Winter seabird surveys consistently find groupings of murrelets in nearshore waters.
Pigeon Guillemot:	There are documented colonies on all of the islands offered in this package. Pigeon Guillemots feed throughout Midway, Barling and Kiliuda bays.
Harlequin Duck:	Harlequin ducks nest along the numerous drainages within the package. Molting aggregations of non-breeding males are common on nearshore rocks.

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River Otter:	Otters are widespread with sizeable populations especially along the numerous streams in this proposal. River otters provide income to local trappers.
Harbor Seal:	There are nine known harbor seal haul-out sites on rocks adjacent to Old Harbor lands. The waters near islands within Sitkalidak Strait are preferred feeding areas.
Intertidal/Subtidal Biota:	Extensive mussel and eelgrass beds occur along large stretches of shoreline. The numerous rocks and islets within Sitkalidak Strait provide substrate for marine plants and invertebrates.
Wilderness:	Evidence of human use is generally limited to coastal sites with good access. The area retains outstanding wilderness attributes.
Subsistence:	These lands are primary harvest areas for the residents of Old Harbor. Wildlife resources harvested include fish, deer, waterfowl, crab and clams.
Cultural Resources:	Archaeological sites are found extensively on these lands although many have yet to be discovered. There are three documented sites on the Kiliuda Bay parcel alone. Kiliuda, Midway, Barling and Three Saints bays all contain prehistoric and historic village sites. Three Saints Bay is the site of the first Russian settlement in Alaska.

<u>Direct Benefits</u>: The proposal is a comprehensive ecosystem based acquisition that broadly achieves the Trustee Council's objectives in southern Kodiak Island. Three Saints Bay (OLD05), Barling Bay (OLD04), Sitkalidak Strait (OLD02) and Kiliuda Bay (OLD01) all received moderate scores. However, the numerous pink salmon streams on these parcels attract nesting bald eagles and support subsistence/commercial fishing. High densities of river otters and harlequin ducks are also found along these drainages. The bays surrounded by Old Harbor lands are used extensively by wintering seabirds. Common Murres, marbled murrelets and pigeon guillemots all follow schools of small fish throughout these bays.

The package includes seven (7) small islands within Sitkalidak Strait that are owned by OHNC. These islands were not evaluated during the comprehensive large parcel process due to their size. The protection of Ladder, Cathedral, Nut, Cub, Amee, Sheep and

Puffin islands will provide a direct benefit to seabirds and marine mammals of the Old Harbor regional ecosystem. All of these islands have documented pigeon guillemot colonies. Black oystercatchers also feed and probably nest along the rocky waterline of these islands. Adding these islands to the package will provide a high restoration benefit to these species.

<u>Benefits of management consolidation</u>: The current patchwork of federal/private land ownership is confusing to the general public wishing to use these lands for recreation or subsistence. A considerable amount of state and federal staff time is spent answering questions on land boundaries and location of public easement trails across Old Harbor lands. Exact boundaries and easement trailheads are often difficult to determine in the field. The proposal would eliminate this problem for the public.

Trespass by commercial operators, particularly big game guides, on federal or Old Harbor lands is a perennial problem. The guides may be permitted to only use refuge lands or to only use Old Harbor lands. Land ownership consolidation would greatly reduce the confusion and trespass.

Several agencies of the federal government and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) currently work cooperatively on fish and wildlife management and research projects on the Kodiak Archipelago. Wildlife species and anadromous fish have wide ranges that include both public and private lands. Private lands can be closed or have restricted access at any time. Acquisition of these lands would ensure continued access for fish and wildlife research and management.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is actively surveying land and issuing conveyances to Native corporations on Kodiak Refuge. The proposal would reduce the amount and cost of survey and conveyance through consolidating lands. Old Harbor lands that are completely surrounded by federal land and purchased in fee would not require a survey.

<u>Other Benefits</u>: The uplands support a moderate to high density of Sitka black-tailed deer. Deer hunting is important to residents and non-residents alike. Brown bears concentrate along the streams during the pink, chum and coho salmon runs. Steller's eiders, northern sea lions and killer whales, all species of national concern, use nearshore waters of Old Harbor lands. Three Saints Bay is of historical significance; it was the location of the first Russian settlement in Alaska.

The economic and social values of protecting this intact ecosystem cannot by overstated. Although this restoration effort focuses on habitats of high value for specific injured species and services, the long term success of any regional protection effort requires that biodiversity, the basic fabric of the ecosystem, be maintained. To ensure this result, acquisition of moderate and low ranked parcels is essential. Ecosystem disruptions

within the area, regardless of the parcel's rank, will permeate the area and diminish the value of surrounding parcels.

<u>Proposed Management Structure</u>: Acquired lands will be managed as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Kodiak Refuge). A primary purpose of the Kodiak Refuge is the conservation of fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity. Subsistence use is also a purpose of the Kodiak Refuge. The well established legal authorities under which the Kodiak Refuge is managed will ensure injured resources and services are protected in perpetuity.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Acquisition Price: \$14.5 million

Down Payment: 50% minimum

Term of Payment: Balance paid in three annual installments

Interest Rate: No interest paid

Sources of Revenue:

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Initial Payment:

Joint Restoration Fund:\$2.5 millionFederal Restitution Fund:\$5.0 million

Balance paid over three years:

Joint Restoration Fund: \$7.0 million

<u>Other Considerations</u>: OHNC will waive its right of first refusal for Native allotments (small parcels) purchased by the Service. OHNC will donate a conservation easement on 1000 acres in Barling Bay (OLD04) and 2000 acres in Midway Bay (OLD03). Lands conveyed will be subject to:

- 1. A non-development restriction
- 2. A reverter to a third party in the event the United States attempts to convey the land to other than the State of Alaska.

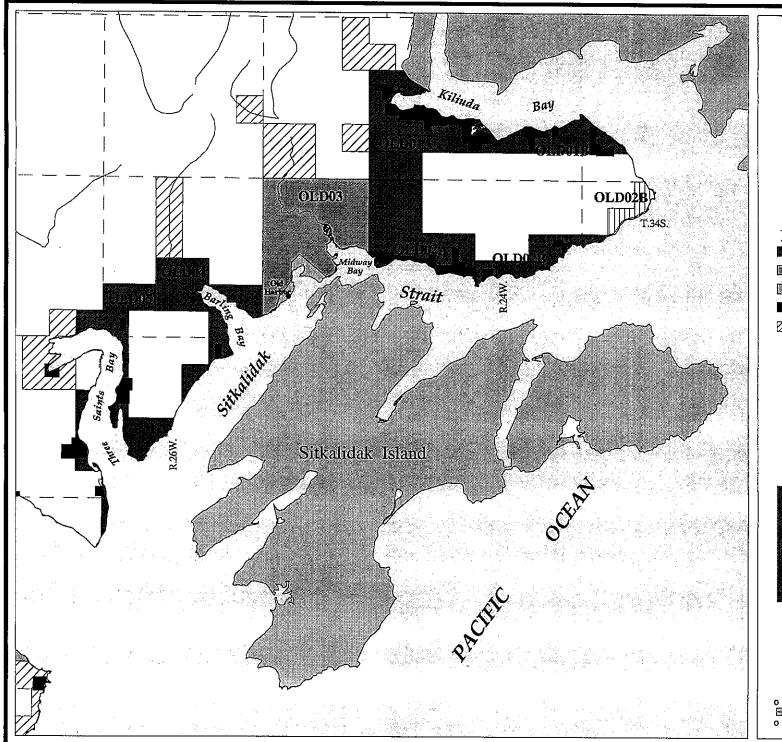
3. An access easement for subsistence purposes as permitted by law.

OHNC will dismiss its Interior Board of Land Appeals Case No. 92-468 which if successful would give OHNC 12,546 acres of selection rights and 4,433 acres of entitlement.

## RECOMMENDATION

Based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's well established and long standing legal authorities and extensive experience in managing fish, wildlife and habitat nationwide and specifically on Kodiak, it is recommended that the parcels acquired from Old Harbor be managed by the Service as part of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Perpetual protection and conservation of the injured resources on the Old Harbor lands is entirely consistent with the legal authorities and management programs of the Kodiak Refuge. Acquisition would provide important restoration benefits to resources and services injured by the spill.







- Land status represents USFWS interpretation of BLM records.
- Projected in UTM zone 5.
- Land Status not shown for Sitkalidak Island and small islands. Proposed acquisition is for Old Harbor lands only.

