

13.08.01 – Reading File

November 2005

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178



November 30, 2005

Mr. Alexander Bychkov
Executive Secretary, PICES
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 6000
Sidney, BC Canada V8L 4B2

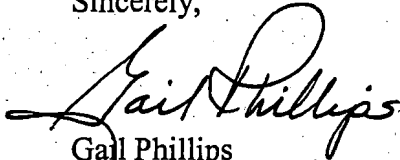
Dear Secretary Bychkov:

We just received your letter with the information on the 2006 international symposium on *Climate Variability and Ecosystem Impacts on the North Pacific*. As much as we would all appreciate a trip to Hawaii during Alaska's break-up season, I wanted to let you know as soon as possible that our organization will not be in a position to co-sponsor this event next year.

Your program looks very interesting and certainly aims at addressing pertinent topics that may affect all of the oceans communities. I am forwarding your invitation to all of our Trustee agencies in case any of them are interested in helping to sponsor or to attend this symposium.

Good luck in your planning endeavors!

Sincerely,


Gail Phillips
Executive Director

Cc: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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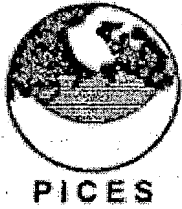
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PICES letter

North Pacific
Marine Science
Organization



October 18, 2005

Ms. Gail Phillips
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
441 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99501, U.S.A.

Dear Ms. Phillips:

I am writing to request your support in developing science in an area of mutual interest to our Organizations.

The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), and the International Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics (International GLOBEC) program are co-sponsoring a symposium on "*Climate Variability and Ecosystem Impacts on the North Pacific: A Basin-scale Synthesis*". This international symposium will occur in Honolulu, on April 19-21, 2006. The goal of the symposium is to bring together scientists that have common interests in examining the influence of climate variability and change on marine ecosystems of the North Pacific and adjacent seas. Research on this topic has been worldwide, but there have been, to date, few attempts to bring together the entire research community to examine the temporal scales and coherence of these climate impacts. This symposium is attempting to achieve such a synthesis.

The organizers have identified several themes for the symposium, which we believe will attract broad participation by scientists from countries bordering the North Pacific. In the interest of achieving synthesis, the program is structured to be entirely plenary—no overlapping sessions. This encourages all participants to attend all presentations—a necessary prerequisite to achieving a synthesis. Products of the synthesis symposium will be 1) sharing of data sets on climate change and ecosystem impacts, 2) improved biophysical models of basin-scale "regime shifts", and 3) an improved understanding of how climate warming and climate variability may impact North Pacific ocean systems. An important product of the meeting will be the proceedings published in a special issue of *Progress in Oceanography*.

I believe that this symposium will be directly relevant to the focal research themes in the Integrated Ecosystem Monitoring and Research (GEM) program that the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council is developing for the Gulf of Alaska, one of the world's most productive marine ecosystems. As you know, climate change can make it very difficult to distinguish between the effects of human impacts, such as oiling, and those natural processes, such as weather patterns, on marine resources. The issues that you are attempting to address include climate change impacts on distributions and abundances of species, physical and chemical changes, impacts on lower trophic levels and energy flow up through the food web, and economic and social impacts of such change. All of these issues have direct relevance to our proposed symposium.

Secretariat
c/o Institute of Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 6000,
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Phone: (250) 363-6366
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E-Mail: secretariat@pices.int
Internet: www.pices.int

Chairman
Vera Alexander

Vice-Chairman
Tokio Wada

Executive Secretary
Alexander S. Bychkov

North Pacific
Marine Science
Organization



International symposia such as this are expensive. The total cost of the symposium is anticipated to be around US \$120,000-130,000. We are requesting support from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council on the order of US\$10,000-15,000. Your support will be combined with that from other organizations such as the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research, National Marine Fisheries Service, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, and North Pacific Research Board, to make this a truly successful and cooperative effort.

We hope you will agree with us that this project is very pertinent to the mandate of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, as this symposium will help to develop better understanding how climate variability will affect productivity of North Pacific marine ecosystems (including the Gulf of Alaska) and their ability to support sustainable commercial and subsistence harvests.

We would welcome your cooperation and support.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander Bychkov
Executive Secretary, PICES

Secretariat
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P.O. Box 6000,
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Chairman
Vera Alexander

Vice-Chairman
Tokio Wada

Executive Secretary
Alexander S. Bychkov

Ruth Bauman

From: Gail Phillips

Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2005 4:32 PM

To: Ruth Bauman

Subject: PICES letter

Please put this on letterhead and bring in for my signature.

Then, make 7 copies for me and put another into the readying file.

Thanks, Gail

12/1/2005

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

441 W. 5th Ave., Suite 500 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2340 • 907/278-8012 • fax 907/276-7178



FAX COVER SHEET

To: Alexander Bychkov

Number: 250-363-6827

From: Gai Phillips

Date: 12/1/05

Comments:

Pages: 2 with cover

HARD COPY TO FOLLOW: X

Document sent by: RB

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November 30, 2005



The Honorable Carolyn Floyd
Mayor – City of Kodiak
710 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Dear Mayor Floyd: *Carolyn -*

Thank you for the City of Kodiak's Resolution #05-44 to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council regarding your position in support of asserting a reopener claim with regard to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement.

The provisions outlined in the 1991 court settlement between the United States, the State of Alaska and the Exxon Corporation clearly identified the limited responsibilities for the EVOS Trustee Council as the administrators of the natural resource damages obtained in the oil spill settlement. The Trustee Council is not authorized to act upon the reopener clause and has no formal role in that decision. The decision as to whether or not to proceed with a claim under the reopener provision is one jointly assigned to the state and federal governments. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the appropriate governmental officials.

However, the Trustee Council's research program has generated a great deal of information relevant to whether a claim could be made under the reopener. The Council provides any information requested by the governments and others for use in evaluating a potential reopener claim.

We do appreciate the fact that your Resolution provided specific examples of harm caused by unforeseen damages and ideas for restoration projects. If you have any further questions in regards to the reopener, please direct your communications to:

The Department of Law
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Sincerely,

Gail
Gail Phillips
Executive Director

Cc: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council

*Hope all is going well
with you. It was nice
seeing you at AML.*
Gail

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

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November 30, 2005



Ms. Sally Dickinson
6124 SW 30th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32608-2120

Dear Ms. Dickinson:

Thank you for your letter to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council regarding your position in support of asserting a reopener claim with regard to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement.

The provisions outlined in the 1991 court settlement between the United States, the State of Alaska and the Exxon Corporation clearly identified the limited responsibilities for the EVOS Trustee Council as the administrators of the natural resource damages obtained in the oil spill settlement. The Trustee Council is not authorized to act upon the reopener clause and has no formal role in that decision. The decision as to whether or not to proceed with a claim under the reopener provision is one jointly assigned to the state and federal governments. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the appropriate governmental officials.

However, the Trustee Council's research program has generated a great deal of information relevant to whether a claim could be made under the reopener. The Council provides any information requested by the governments and others for use in evaluating a potential reopener claim.

If you have any further questions or input to offer in regards to the reopener, please direct your communications to:

The Department of Law
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Sincerely,

Gail Phillips
Executive Director

Cc: *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council

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