

Meeting Summary

A. GROUP: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group (PAG)

B. DATE/TIME: August 7, 1996

C. LOCATION: Anchorage, Alaska

D. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Rupert Andrews	Sport Hunting and Fishing
Kim Benton	Forest Products
Pam Brodie	Environmental
Sheri Buretta	Public-at-Large
Dave Cobb	Local Government
Jim Diehl	Recreation Users
John French	Science/Academic
James King	Public-at-Large
Vern McCorkle	Public-at-Large
Brenda Schwantes	Subsistence
Chuck Totemoff	Native Landowners
Gordon Zerbetz	Public-at-Large

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EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

E. NOT REPRESENTED:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Interest</u>
Chris Beck	Public-at-Large
Chip Dennerlein	Conservation
Nancy Lethcoe	Commercial Tourism
Mary McBurney	Aquaculture
Thea Thomas	Commercial Fishing
Georgianna Lincoln (<i>ex officio</i>)	Alaska State Senate
Alan Austerman (<i>ex officio</i>)	Alaska State House

F. OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Ann Brunner	Public
Veronica Christman	Trustee Council Staff
Hank Eaton	Kodiak Community Involvement Facilitator
Dave Gibbons	U.S. Forest Service
Bill Hauser	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Molly McCammon	Trustee Council Executive Director
Rita Miraglia	AK Dept. Fish and Game
Doug Mutter	Designated Federal Officer, Dept. of Interior

Eric Myers
Ernie Piper
Bud Rice
Patty Brown-Schwalenberg
Sandra Schubert
Stan Senner
Bob Spies
Joe Sullivan
Ray Thompson
Martha Vlasoff
Cherri Womac

Trustee Council Staff
AK Dept. of Envir. Conservation
National Park Service
Chugach Natives
Trustee Council Staff
Trustee Council Staff
Chief Scientist
AK Dept. Fish and Game
U.S. Forest Service
EVOS Community Coordinator
Trustee Council Staff

G. SUMMARY:

The meeting was opened August 7 at 8:15 a.m. by Vern McCorkle, Chairperson. Roll call was taken, a quorum was not present until later in the morning. The summary of the March 13, 1996, meeting was modified and accepted. The summary of the June 5, 1996, meeting was accepted.

Molly McCammon provided the Executive Director's report. The Trustee Council met in Kodiak on June 15 (attachment #1) and participated in the Near Island Research Facility groundbreaking and toured the Alutiiq Archaeological Repository. Molly reviewed the status of habitat protection actions, including the small parcel project and the large parcel effort. The Chenega Board of Directors has approved the proposed Chenega habitat protection project, which must now be voted on by the shareholders. Dave Cobb asked about the status of the Hayward parcel near Valdez--it is progressing, although taking longer than expected. Pam Brodie asked why the State withdrew its support for the Perl Island acquisition--it is not a priority area for future State management. Brodie asked if the Termination Point parcel will become part of the State Park System--yes.

McCammon reported that the Trustee Council asked State and Federal attorneys to request a refund of past fees and a waiver of future fees charged by the Court Registry Investment System for managing EVOS funds. Molly asked the PAG to continue to support this elimination of excess fee charges. Brodie moved (second by Cobb) and it was passed unanimously, that the Trustee Council strive to eliminate court fees for management of EVOS funds (see attachment #3).

McCammon noted that the PAG membership is due up in February 1997, but, if agreeable with the PAG, the membership term would be altered to coincide with the PAG charter renewal in October (attachment #2). There were no objections. The PAG discussed options for changing the group size and composition (e.g., adding a seat for rural communities), but no recommendation was made other than to increase outreach efforts with smaller communities in the spill area to get more participation on the PAG. John French moved (second by Gordon Zerbetz), and it was passed unanimously, to recommend to the Trustee Council that the PAG quorum be changed from 12 to 10 voting members (ref. page 7, *EVOS PAG Background and Guidelines*, March 1995).

Martha Vlasoff reviewed activities related to community involvement (attachment #4). It is proposed that Seldovia have a community involvement facilitator. She also discussed the Traditional Ecological Knowledge project.

Chuck Totemoff thanked the EVOS staff for efforts on the Chenega beach cleanup project. Jim King praised the addition of news clippings in the PAG mailout.

McCammon introduced LJ Evans' replacement, Joe Hunt. Joe reviewed the draft Media Plan (attachment #5). He will focus on the public audience. He noted the need to stabilize the newsletter and the success of the radio spots.

Eric Myers discussed food policy issues. The PAG supported providing food for efficient running of meetings, but stated that prudence and common sense should apply. French suggested that for larger meetings (e.g., the symposium) meal tickets could be sold to cover food costs.

McCammon reported that a revision of the Trustee Council Operating Procedures has been given initial review by agencies. The PAG felt that public involvement and notices have been adequate. It was suggested by McCorkle that the Community Involvement Facilitators be invited to occasionally attend PAG meetings.

Stan Senner outlined the status of plans for the 10th anniversary of EVOS in March 1999. A Steering Committee is coordinating planning (French and Jim King are PAG representatives). Organized field trips are a question--local charter companies may be given the opportunity to carry these out. The PAG suggested that tour operators be given guidance in what to see and do on an oil spill tour. They also suggested considering the whole year as an anniversary, thus promoting summer tours of the EVOS area. Cobb suggested the Community College at Valdez as a possible tour organizer. Cobb, McCorkle, and Zerbetz volunteered to assist with 10th anniversary planning.

Senner and Bob Spies discussed the updated list of injured resources and services. This will go to the Trustee Council for consideration at their next meeting. French asked why intertidal organisms were clumped as an ecosystem rather than listed singly. Brodie asked if crab were injured--no linkage to the spill was provable. King said it was his impression that Kenai sockeye were recovered--they will be closed out as a project.

Senner discussed a request for the collection of Barrow Goldeneye ducks in support of studies for the APEX project. About 50 birds from Prince William Sound would be collected, with negligible impact to the population. After discussion, the PAG generally supported the study.

King moved (second by Rupert Andrews) that the PAG recommend the EVOS Trustee Council invite/request the President of the University of Alaska, in cooperation with the Restoration Office, to prepare a study on the benefits and feasibility of the use of the restoration reserve to continue restoration/enhancement of injured resources and services in perpetuity through endowed programs at the University of Alaska. King said the University would not approach the Trustees with a proposal unless requested to do so. McCammon recommended against preceding with a project to look at reserve funds until the

Trustee Council was ready to take up the issue and thoroughly examine all the alternatives in a comprehensive fashion. After discussion, the motion was defeated (4 in favor, 7 opposed, 1 abstain).

At 11:50 public comment was taken. Theresa Obermeyer commented and distributed a handout.

McCammon highlighted public comments from the public meeting held August 6 (attachment #6) and those received in writing (attachment #7). She then introduced the Executive Director's preliminary recommendations for restoration projects in FY 1997 (attachment #8).

Spies outlined the pink salmon, herring, SEA and related projects, sockeye salmon, cutthroat trout and dolly varden, marine mammals, and nearshore ecosystem project clusters. Discussion ensued about the utility of management tools developed with EVOS funds if they were not to be used by resource agencies. Andrews noted that harbor seals were healthy in Southeast and could be used for comparisons. French questioned the timeline for intertidal studies.

Senner reviewed the seabird/forage fish project cluster.

Veronica Christman outlined the archaeological project cluster. The Chenega artifact repository is on hold pending an area-wide review of needs.

Sandra Schubert reviewed the subsistence cluster. Dave Gibbons said that project #97222 was feasible if the road by the dump was relocated. Benton asked about interest in the project #97281 workshops, noting that not all landowners want to sell lands, other habitat protection options should be examined.

Christman outlined the marine pollution cluster. Project #97115 is recommended by the Executive Director for funding outside the work plan. Cobb supports project #97229.

Senner presented the habitat improvement cluster. Brodie questioned the success of boardwalks for control of riverbank fishing on the Kenai.

Senner discussed the ecosystem synthesis, public education and information, and research facilities clusters. French raised a question about funding for add-ons at the SeaLife Center (projects #97197 and #97252) since so much money was going there already, Cobb concurred. McCammon said that interest earned on the monies already going to the SeaLife Center was about \$1.5 million and might provide possible funding for added work. Brodie stated that she hoped those funds went to high priority projects, not just the SeaLife Center.

McCammon discussed the project management element. This replaces agency management costs in individual projects; it was decided to separate this administration/management from each project and lump it here. This action was recommended by the audit.

McCammon reviewed the administrative budget element. This will total about \$3.0 million in FY 97. The Trustee Council decided to go to ½ time liaisons and the Restoration Office staff

has been reduced by 2. OSPIC is still included, but is expected to be merged with the Anchorage natural resources libraries consortium next spring, which will reduce funding needs. She noted that the Juneau office has moved to less expensive space in the federal building. She also said the lower floor conference room would be given up in January 1997 to save space costs.

Cobb moved (second by Andrews), and it was passed unanimously, that **the PAG approve the workplan, in concept, as recommended by the Executive Director.** PAG members will provide individual comments on the work plan as well.

Schwantes moved (second by Cobb) that the PAG recommend the Trustee Council restructure the PAG to include two village representatives. After discussion, the motion was tabled (motion to table by Zerbetz). The general feeling of the PAG was that village representatives should participate and could participate in the PAG, as currently structured, and through other avenues (e.g., community involvement project, public meetings). Schwantes said there is something to be said for having a title and being able to vote.

King moved (second by Brodie), and passed unanimously, that the PAG praise the staff for their good work.

French suggested the endowment idea be brought back up when the Trustee Council was ready to discuss long-term efforts. Jim Diehl likes having several subsistence projects in the work plan. Sheri Buretta likes the community involvement effort.

Brodie moved (second by Benton) that the PAG encourage the Trustee Council to consider restructuring the PAG for increased effectiveness. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Benton thanked all for the opportunity to participate over the last 4 years, she will not reapply for a seat.

McCammon stated that the PAG is a useful tool if it is given good, concise information. She appreciates the spectrum of views.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

H. FOLLOW-UP:

1. McCammon and Mutter will initiate PAG Charter renewal and the nomination process for the next two-year PAG membership.

I. NEXT MEETINGS:

--PAG field trip to Homer, Port Graham, Seldovia, overflight of Port Dick: September 18-19, 1996

J. ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council Public Hearing in Kodiak - June 15, 1996
2. *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Public Advisory Group Procedure for Member Nomination and Appointment

(for those not present):

3. Resolution to Eliminate Court Fees
4. Community Involvement Report, July 30, 1996
5. Draft Media Plan Projects and Priorities
6. Public Comments from the 8/6/96 Public Hearing
7. Public Comment Received FY 97 Work Plan
8. Executive Director's Preliminary FY 97 Recommendation (8/6/96)
9. Memo from Chris Beck and Mary McBurney on the Admin Budget

K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

J. ATTACHMENTS:

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K. CERTIFICATION:

PAG Chairperson

Date

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Public Hearing
in Kodiak, Alaska
June 15, 1996, Senior Citizens Center, 4:30 p.m.

Trustee Council members present:

DRAFT

STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND GAME:

MR. FRANK RUE
Commissioner

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR:

MS. DEBORAH WILLIAMS
Special Assistant to the
Assistant Secretary

STATE OF ALASKA -
DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

MR. CRAIG TILLERY (Chair)
Trustee Representative
for the Attorney General

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE -
U.S. FOREST SERVICE:

MR. JIM WOLFE
Trustee Representative
for the Regional Forester

STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION:

MS. MICHELE BROWN
Commissioner

Members of the public present:

Stacy Studebaker
Mary Forbes
Brian Himelbloom
Barbara Rudio
Mike Sirofchuck
Hank Eaton
Mayor Selby
Brad Meiklejohn
Brenda Schwantes
Dan Busch
Claire Holland
Heidi Zemach
Bob Pfitzenreuter

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**EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
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Opening comments by Craig Tillery, chair. Trustees introduce themselves.

Note: The following are summations, not verbatim transcription.

Stacy Studebaker: Nominated Termination Point for Trustee Council acquisition three years ago, a 1,000 acre parcel at the end of the Kodiak road system. I want to encourage you, now that the Stratman lawsuit is nearly over, to pursue acquiring that property. That parcel is so important recreation-wise to the community because it's located right on the road system, and accessible to everybody. North Afognak and the Long Island parcel are important too, but for direct benefit to the people of Kodiak, the Termination Point parcel is really, really important. Acquiring land and setting it aside for generations to come is the best way to use the money we have and anything you can do to further that process to benefit Kodiak would be appreciated. You have heard from the people of Kodiak, how does the Termination Point fit into the Trustee's priorities?

Molly McCammon: The large parcel program is for parcels over 1,000 acres, the Small Parcel is for parcels under 1,000 acres. The Large Parcel transactions that the Trustees have completed in the Kodiak area include Seal Bay, Akhiok-Kaguyak, Koniag, Old Harbor, and Shuyak Island. We are stilling working on Afognak Joint Venture and details will be worked out over the next few years for permanent protection on those Koniag lands with a seven-year easement. The Small Parcel program went through a major nomination period and Termination Point was one of those nominated. It ranked highly, and was considered one the Council was interested in. It has commercial timber on it so it needs a timber appraisal which will add to the cost of the parcel because of the timber value. The cloud on the title made the Council hesitant to invest in an appraisal, but in the last six months the questions relating to the title have become a little less cloudy, so money has been put in the budget for the timber appraisal, scheduled for late this summer or early fall. Negotiations can begin when the appraisal is completed.

Deborah Williams: Do you have any thoughts on whom you think should manage the land? Should the Trustee Council purchase it?

Stacy Studebaker: State Parks because they do have other parcels on the road system that they manage well now, and I'd like to see an agency responsible for the land instead of local people.

Mary Forbes: Thank you for your past purchases in the Kodiak area and urge you to continue your efforts toward Afognak. Including Paul's and Laura's Lakes and Termination Point. (Submits 15 letters from individuals supporting habitat protection on northern Afognak Island.)

Brian Himelbloom: I'd like to address Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning. Last year we submitted a proposal thru Kodiak Tribal Council on PSP that didn't get funded. Is there

a possibility of getting this funded? We had a lot of problems with PSP last year, someone even died. Is there a way to having funding be made available to study PSP?

Molly McCammon: Two years ago this project was submitted and we did work with folks about how to answer some technical ways that would set up a new bioassay besides rats or mice. Who would take over the project? No state or federal agency was willing to take this project over, which is a major policy question. Another question was legal liability. If we were setting up a monitoring program, community based, who is liable for actually determining that things are safe? PSP is a big issue in Kodiak and in April while touring the six communities here on Kodiak Island, PSP was mentioned at almost every village. And I'd like to continue working on this proposal and seeing if there is some possibility of reaching a mutually acceptable project.

Brian Himelbloom: We didn't know how to answer the questions about the liability. We were going to work with DEC to coordinate our testing with theirs. We were looking for a quick screening method. The Governor is wanting something done for the subsistence users. A lot of shellfish are clean but you don't know that unless they are tested. Is this a project that can be revisited? Is it worth pursuing? Should we restructure this?

Jim Wolfe: This sounds like a great project of some sort. Are you proposing that this would be a replacement for some shellfish in the Kodiak area that were damaged during the spill? I wasn't aware of any shellfish that were damaged as a result of the spill in Kodiak.

Brian Himelbloom: There were some subtidal and shellfish resources that did get impacted. If we did get a project like this funded, I would expect that it would spread back to Prince William Sound since that area doesn't have this kind of testing either. Other oil impacted areas as well, where shellfish are harvested.

Molly McCammon: Subsistence users still don't have confidence that the resources are safe from the oil impact and from PSP.

Jim Wolfe: A lot of testing has been done by NOAA and ADEC of the fisheries and shellfish which indicated residual oil was affecting only mussels. It sounds like a good project. It sounds like a good project with potential.

Deborah Williams: Was there an increase in PSP after the oil spill?

Brian Himelbloom: 1994 was the year we had the highest incidents of poisoning and record levels of PSP. But there has not been a monitoring program because it takes a lot of resources to do this type of program. I can't say if it's gotten worse, but people's awareness has risen.

Craig Tillery: The message you should probably get from this meeting is that you should be encouraged to look at the issues that created the problems last time. Molly and the staff may be able to help you.

Brian Himelbloom: I just really didn't know if there was an answer to some of these questions. I didn't know if three years down the line some group was going to take over the monitoring or if we can re-tool it in some way. And for the legal liability, we'd have to address that to ADEC. The legal responsibility there is if the product is tested and it's tested wrong there must be some retribution to whoever tested it. Thank you for your time. I appreciate it.

Bob Pfutzenreuter: Two things, I support the Termination Point acquisition. Over the years, the trail has developed, meaning it's gotten deeper, because it's so popular. It's one of the most popular, if not the most popular hike in Kodiak. It would be a tragedy if it were logged. It is a community asset and it would be a crime if something happened to it. The other thing is the Paul's Lake area. Many people have fished this area year after year. It's a beautiful area, big trees with undergrowth and it's another one of the areas that if logged, it will impact severely the silver salmon fishery and productivity of that ecosystem. A very worthwhile area to acquire. As time goes by more people will use this area, which isn't necessarily good, but it's a place people want to return to and I'd hate to see it change in any way.

Deborah Williams: What kind of habitat is in the area?

Bob Pfutzenreuter: Over the years at Termination Point I haven't seen bears, but there are signs of bears. I've seen marbled murrelets, they nest in the area, along with deer, birds, rabbits. I don't think there are any salmon streams in the area, maybe some trout in the lake systems. There are some really big trees that if you peel the moss off them you can see the ash from the Katmai volcano which blew in 1912. Lots of undergrowth, and still fairly pristine. There are active beaver ponds. It's 15 minutes from town, but you feel you are further out than that because you sometimes don't see anyone on the trail. It's tough to find trails in Kodiak because of the undergrowth. Kids to folks in the 70s can hike the trail because of it's easy access and easy trail. Like I said, it's a tremendous asset to the community.

Michele Brown: If the property was acquired who do you think should manage it?

Bob Pfutzenreuter: State Parks I think, I don't know about budget problems, or the number of people they could allocate to that area to manage it. Claire (Holland) may be able to address it.

Deborah Williams: Do you think the community would be willing to do clean up projects?

Several folks speak at once: We already do. Most people who go out there come back with a bag of trash.

Barbara Rudio: I'm currently chairman of the Kodiak State Parks Advisory Board. We'd like to express our appreciation for the purchase of the Shuyak Island lands. On a personal note, I'd like to echo the people who have encouraged the Termination Point acquisition. I'd like to point out that we can access that area all year round. I'd like to add my name to the list of people in favor of purchasing Termination Point. Thank you.

Mike Sirofchuck: I'm a member of the Kodiak State Parks Advisory Board, but I'm speaking as a private citizen. The first thing I'd like to say is thank you for coming to Kodiak, and thank you very much in your work in acquisition habitat and funding research projects. I think the way the money is being used in the Exxon Settlement is the right way and we've seen plenty of examples of that today. As someone who has spent a lot of time on Shuyak Island and the Pillar Lake area on Afognak, I know they are good additions to the State Parks system. We hear a lot of talk about locking up land, but when they become public and a part of the state I think they become more available to the citizens of the state. A lot of the lands are used not only for recreation but for subsistence. I'd like to express my support for the acquisition of the Paul's Lake area. I've spent some time there fishing and it has a strong sockeye and silver run so it's important for habitat that was damaged by the spill. It's also an important recreation area. Some mention has been made about the Long Island parcel which is a valuable recreation area. People get to it by kayak and skiff so a number of people use that area, as I have. It also has a sea lion haul out there along with lots of sea birds. I'd like to add my vote to the Termination Point acquisition. I appreciate that the Trustees have stuck with that. It's been confusing, but I hope resolution is near. I think it's an important parcel and I hope you continue to pursue it. The Near Island habitat pull is mainly the sea lions. There is a place where you can view the sea lions from above and they don't know you're there. There are sea birds out there too, along with deer. It's a good recreational parcel.

Hank Eaton: I'd like to talk about PSP. I followed up on this after our trip to the villages in April. I wrote to the Governor who wrote back and said there was no money for it but there was a facility in Palmer that could do the PSP testing. I talked to John French at the Fish Tech Center, and they said yeah they could do it in Palmer but it takes a week to 10 days to get the results back. If we had a facility here for a minimum amount of money we could take the samples in here on one day and have an answer back in 24 hours. I don't remember from the old days having any problems with PSP. I've eaten clams and dug around here for most of my life. It's been within the 10-12 years that we've had a problem with clams. Clams are a major source of subsistence for the Natives around the Island. The clam beaches on Long Island would have to be cleaned up by the military. The Coast Guard was posted there all throughout the war and you can still see the barracks and facilities. Once it's cleaned up, I think it would be fine for a park. Just keep the three-wheelers off it and Termination Point. I think

with a little pressure the Governor would see his way clear to allocating a few bucks to set-up a PSP facility here at our Tech Center. We then would be able to get results to folks within 24 hours. The Palmer facility won't work for us because PSP can set in fairly quickly and you may get a reading that says the beach is ok, but by that time PSP may have set in.

Deborah Williams: Do you know if the Military has been asked to clean up Long Island?

Hank Eaton: Yes, they were asked to clean up their debris on the whole island. But they have only cleaned up Chiniak.

Mayor Selby: There is a Corp of Engineers Project that is funded to clean up Long Island this summer or next summer. Along with the sea lion rookery on Long Island, there is a large lagoon that is used heavily as a recreational area. There is lots of timber and the south end has a nice lake with fish in it. There are beaches where people picnic. If Long Island was added to Ambercrombie and Termination Point, that would give you a real nice park situation with many different opportunities to recreate. Also, the Borough lands adjacent to Termination Point are already designated as a park area. Monies from the State Criminal Settlement will develop that park. Development was held up until we found out if Termination Point was going to become part of the State Park system. The rest of the Borough's land there at Termination Point is watershed and permanently designated as such.

Brad Meiklejohn: Alaska representative of the Conservation Fund. Let's finish the job in Kodiak. Thank you for all you have done in Kodiak.

Brenda Schwantes: A member of the Trustee Council's Public Advisory Group. The local villages have a big concern about PSP. I encourage testing support. Folks have stopped using these resources as much as they did in the past. Regarding the Afognak Joint Venture land acquisition, please keep negotiating with them. Also, I'm concerned about crab and shrimp stocks, this is a significant issue. I'm concerned about our response to future oil spills.

Dan and Randy Busch: My wife and I are owners and operators of Kodiak Island River Camps. Since 1989 we've used land around Paul's Lake every August and September, through an agreement with Afognak Native Corporation. We think all our guests would endorse the Trustee's acquisition of this land, as we do.

Brian Himelbloom: I want to clarify that we are not asking to build a new PSP testing facility here, but to do some research.

Hank Eaton: Why isn't there a Native Trustee? This is the most important group with a big concern about future oil spills with the oil export ban lifted.

Gale Smith: Kodiak State Parks Advisory Board member. I support Shuyak and Afognak Island acquisitions. I'd like to see the purchase of Termination Point and to add to the facilities.

DRAFT

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Group Procedure for Member Nomination and Appointment

All Public Advisory Group members and alternates must be unanimously approved by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council. The information described below should be prepared by the nominee and submitted to the Executive Director of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council at the following address:

Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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Fax: 907/276-7178

**EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

Nominations for membership may be submitted by any source. From these nominations the Trustee Council will make recommendations for membership and forward their recommendations to the Trustees. Following approval by the Trustees, the Secretary of the Interior will officially appoint those members approved by the Trustees. When appointed, members serve for a term of two years.

Questions should be directed to Cherri Womac, Trustee Council Staff, at 907/278-8012 or 800/478-7745; or to Doug Mutter, Public Advisory Group Designated Federal Officer, at 907/271-5011.

The Public Advisory Group

The October 1991 Memorandum of Agreement between the State and Federal governments mandated formation of a Public Advisory Group. The Public Advisory Group advises the Trustee Council on decisions relating to the planning, evaluation, allocation of funds, and conduct of injury assessment and restoration activities related to the *T/V Exxon Valdez* oil spill of March 1989.

The Public Advisory Group consists of seventeen members to reflect balanced representation from the public at large (five members who need not represent a special interest) and one member each from the following principal interests:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| • aquaculture | • commercial fishing |
| • commercial tourism | • environmental |
| • conservation | • forest products |
| • local government | • native landowners |
| • recreation users | • sport hunting/fishing |
| • subsistence | • science/academic |

Two *ex officio* members have non-voting seats and are representatives of the Alaska State House of Representatives and Senate.

Information Packet

Nominees for membership to the Public Advisory Group should provide the following information:

- A biographical sketch (education, experience, address, telephone, fax);
- Information about the nominee's knowledge of the region, peoples or economic and social activities of the area affected by the *T/V Exxon Valdez* oil spill, or expertise in public lands and resource management;
- Information about the nominee's relationship/involvement (if any) with the principal interest to be represented;
- A statement explaining any unique contributions the nominee will make to the Public Advisory Group and why the nominee should be appointed to serve as a member;
- Any additional relevant information that would assist the Trustee Council in making a recommendation; and
- Answers to the conflict of interest questions listed below.

Conflict of Interest

Public Advisory Group members and their alternates are chosen to represent a broad range of interests. It is possible that action could be taken by the Public Advisory Group when one or more of the members have a direct personal conflict of interest which would prejudice and call into question the entire public process. To avoid this and to enable the Trustee Council to choose appropriate individuals as members and/or alternates to members, it is necessary that each nominee provide the following information with their information packet. If the answer to any of these questions is yes, please provide a brief explanation of your answer. A yes will not necessarily preclude any nominee from being appointed to serve on the Public Advisory Group.

- Do you, your spouse, children, any relative with whom you live or your employer have, or are you defending, a claim filed before any court or administrative tribunal based upon damages caused by the *T/V Exxon Valdez* oil spill?
- Do you, your spouse, children, any relative with whom you live or your employer own any property or interest in property which has been, or is likely to be, proposed for acquisition by the Trustee Council?
- Have you, your spouse, children, any relative with whom you live or your employer submitted, or likely will submit, a proposal for funding by the Trustee Council; or be a direct beneficiary of such a proposal?
- Do you know of any other potential actions of the Trustee Council or the Public Advisory Group to have a direct bearing on the financial condition of yourself, your spouse, children, other relative with whom you live or your employer?

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL

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AUG 19 1996

PUBLIC HEARING/TELECONFERENCE
RE: FY' 97 WORK PLAN

Tuesday, August 6, 1996
7:14 o'clock p.m.

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Fourth Floor Conference Room
645 G Street
Anchorage, Alaska

TRUSTEE COUNCIL STAFF/PAG MEMBERS PRESENT:

MS. MOLLY McCAMMON	Executive Director EVOS Trustee Council
MR. ERIC MYERS	Director of Operations EVOS Trustee Council
MS. REBECCA WILLIAMS	Executive Secretary EVOS Trustee Council
MR. STAN SENNER:	Science Coordinator EVOS Trustee Council
MS. SANDRA SCHUBERT	EVOS Trustee Council Staff
MR. VERN McCORKLE	Chairman, Public Advisory Group
MS. BRENDA SCWANTES	Public Advisory Group, Kodiak
MR. DAVE COBB:	Public Advisory Group, Valdez
MR. JIM KING	Public Advisory Group, Juneau
MR. JIM DIEHL	Public Advisory Group, Girdwood
MS. SHERI BURETTA	Public Advisory Group, Anchorage
MS. PAM BRODIE	Public Advisory Group, Homer

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TRUSTEE COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT (Continued):

MR. RAY THOMPSON	U.S. Forest Service
DAVE GIBBONS	U.S. Forest Service
JOE SULLIVAN	State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

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1 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA - TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1996

2
3 (Tape No. 1 of 1)

4 (On record at 7:14 p.m.)

5 MS. McCAMMON: We're going to get -- go ahead and get
6 started on this teleconference. My name is Molly McCammon, and
7 I'm Executive Director of the Oil Spill Trustee Council. And
8 with me here tonight is Vern McCorkle, who is Chairman of the
9 Public Advisory Group, and we're kind of doing this as a two-
10 way public hearing.

11 As part of the process for development of the 1997
12 work plan, the Trustee Council is sponsoring a public hearing,
13 and the PAG is also using this as a chance to also hear from
14 the public about various proposals before us for Trustee
15 Council action.

16 And I think, Vern, with your indulgence here, I'd
17 like to just recap a little bit of the process of the work plan
18 and highlight where we are now in that process.

19 The work plan actually starts with a workshop in
20 January here in Anchorage where we have all of the
21 investigators on all of the various projects come into town and
22 share the results of their prior work. This gets reviewed by a
23 number of core peer reviewers and others, and based on the
24 input from that workshop, we start to develop an invitation for
25 project proposals.

1 That invitation went out to the public in mid-
2 February; there was a 60-day period to submit proposals. On
3 the basis of that invitation for FY '97, the Trustee Council
4 received 126 proposals, totaling a request of more than \$38
5 million. And of these projects, 120 of the proposals are for
6 research, monitoring, and general restoration projects, which
7 are the subject of the draft work plan. The remaining six
8 projects are things that are outside of the annual work cycle.
9 These are things that we consider more like capital projects or
10 major construction projects.

11 For this year, the Trustee Council has targeted
12 approximately \$16 million for research, monitoring, and general
13 restoration projects in FY '97. In mid-June, on the basis of
14 the review, the technical review, that was done by our
15 Scientific Advisory Group and the Chief Scientist, based on
16 agency review, based on input from the Public Advisory Group
17 and others, I developed a draft recommendation for potential
18 Trustee Council action. That draft recommendation was printed
19 and circulated to the entire mailing list, and we're going
20 through now a public comment period.

21 Now I should emphasize that even though we like to
22 get public comment as early as possible in the process, we do
23 take public comment up until the time that the Council actually
24 votes. So even if we get public comment two minutes before the
25 vote, we make every effort possible to get that comment to the

1 Trustee Council. Even if it's a simple phone call, we usually
2 take notes or summarize the phone call, and we make sure that
3 all the Council members get that input.

4 I should emphasize the Council takes these comments
5 very seriously. They do read all of them; they do listen to
6 people. So I want to emphasize that whatever anyone says does
7 get heard, and this is basically an opportunity tonight for the
8 public to share their thoughts, concerns, comments,
9 observations, whatever, about the proposals that will be acted
10 on on August 29th. And I guess in the draft work plan we had a
11 tentative date for the Council meeting on the 28th, and I
12 should say that it is scheduled now for August 29th.

13 And Vern, would you like to say anything?

14 MR. McCORKLE: No. I guess we should proceed.

15 MS. McCAMMON: Okay.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Welcome to everybody along the net.
17 We have a network tonight of Cordova and Valdez and a large
18 group of people here in Anchorage. I understand there will be
19 others joining us as we go along. Is that right, Molly?

20 MS. McCAMMON: That's correct. And we should
21 introduce the other Public Advisory Group members here.

22 MR. McCORKLE: I thought I would do that. In fact, I
23 thought what we might do is just start to your right and go
24 around the table, includes those who are here at the table,
25 then we'll catch those who are in the rest of the room. And

1 then we will have our first testimony here from James
2 Winchester and one or two others perhaps from Anchorage, and
3 then we'll go to Cordova, and then we will go from Cordova back
4 to Anchorage, then from Anchorage to Valdez, and then we'll
5 sort of follow that process as we go through.

6 So Molly, you have spoken, and next.....

7 MS. SCHWANTES: Hi. My name.....

8 MS. McCAMMON: You have to make it turn green. You
9 have to press the button.

10 (Indiscernible - Simultaneous speech)

11 MS. SCHWANTES: Green means go. Hi. My name's
12 Brenda Schwantes, and I'm on the Public Advisory Group, and I'm
13 from Kodiak.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Just.....

15 MS. McCAMMON: Ray?

16 MR. McCORKLE:each person who's at the table.

17 MR. THOMPSON: Ray Thompson, Chugach National Forest.

18 MS. SCHUBERT: Sandra Schubert. I'm on the Trustee
19 Council staff.

20 MR. SENNER: Stan Senner, the Science Coordinator on
21 the Trustee Council staff.

22 MR. COBB: Dave Cobb, Public Advisory Group for
23 Valdez.

24 MR. KING: Jim King, Public Advisory Group from
25 Juneau.

1 MR. DIEHL: Jim Diehl, Public Advisory Group
2 representing recreational users of Girdwood.

3 MS. BURETTA: Sheri Buretta, Public Advisory Group
4 from Anchorage.

5 MS. BRODIE: Pam Brodie, representing environmental
6 organizations on Public Advisory Group; I'm from Homer.

7 MR. MCCORKLE: Thank you very much. It's delightful
8 to see so many members of the Public Advisory Group here this
9 evening. There are others on staff and in the public who are
10 at the edge of the room, and as you speak, we'd ask you to come
11 forward and give us your name and address. And now I'd like to
12 have some verification that we have anybody on line from
13 Cordova. Cordova, are you there?

14 CORDOVA MODERATOR: Yes. We have one observer and
15 three to testify.

16 MR. MCCORKLE: Thank you very much. Valdez, are you
17 there?

18 VALDEZ MODERATOR: Yes, we're here.

19 MR. MCCORKLE: And do you have people to testify from
20 Valdez?

21 VALDEZ MODERATOR: I'm the only one listening in
22 tonight, and yes, I have a short testifying (sic).

23 MR. MCCORKLE: Okay. Thank you. We'll be back to
24 you in a few minutes. Now I'd like to -- is there anybody else
25 along the line that did not get identified? Cordova and

1 Valdez?

2 (No audible response)

3 MR. McCORKLE: If not, then we're going to return to
4 Anchorage and we'll ask James Winchester, of the Prince William
5 Sound Economic Development Council, to come forward to our
6 little chair right here and address us. If you'd give us your
7 name, and spell the name, and your address, please, would be
8 very helpful.

9 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. JAMES WINCHESTER

10 Good evening. My name is James Winchester. I'm from
11 Valdez, Alaska. I'm the Executive Director of the Prince
12 William Sound Economic Development Council, and my address is
13 Post Office Box 2353, Valdez, 99686. And the Economic
14 Development Council is a regional economic development
15 organization. It's an order recognized by the state as one of
16 the 13 regions of Alaska organized as such.

17 We have two projects up for review, hopefully for
18 approval, with the Trustees this year. The first is a
19 continuation of an ongoing project work, the Sound Waste
20 Management Plan. And the last couple of years have really
21 shown some excellent planning, good community work. We're
22 finally down to the -- to the business end of the Sound Waste
23 Management Plan, and this is to restrict the amount of marine
24 pollution going into the water in the communities and to
25 thereby restore the general environmental health of Prince

1 William Sound.

2 I believe this to be an important project, a
3 significant project, even a ground-breaking project, and I look
4 for support from the Public Advisory Group for the Sound West
5 (sic) -- Waste Management Plan. I guess the project number, I
6 should probably have said, is 97115. And specifically, the
7 Sound Waste Management Plan would have two portions: the
8 construction of environmental operation stations to improve the
9 overall management of solid and oily waste, and secondly, the
10 creation of a comprehensive used oil management system in each
11 community.

12 What this would do -- and the fact that communities
13 of Prince William Sound really don't have anything this
14 comprehensive or this specific. They all do something; some do
15 it better than others. This would put all of the -- the -- of
16 the hazar- -- household hazardous waste, the -- the solid waste
17 eggs in one basket and make it very easier (sic) -- much easier
18 to deal with them. Right now a lot of stuff is going in the
19 water.

20 I was walking down the street in Cordova by the
21 harbor the other day; somebody just tossed a battery out on the
22 riprap. That kind of thing goes on all the time, and one of
23 the reasons is it's just -- there's no good way to get rid of
24 the stuff. This is a good way. This is an excellent project,
25 and I look for your support in putting it forward.

1 Anybody have any questions about the -- this year's
2 edition of the Sound Waste Management Plan? Yes?

3 MS. SCHWANTES: I just have one question. How is the
4 material going to be picked up? Is it going to be picked up
5 once a year or twice a year, and by who, from the.....

6 MR. WINCHESTER: The -- it's interesting. There's
7 some -- we're working with some -- the communities in the Sound
8 to get some cooperative agreements between the towns who have
9 facilities to manage this -- this sort of material and the
10 towns that don't. This fall we're going to be doing a
11 household hazardous waste project; it's actually part of the
12 scope of work of the first Sound Was- -- Sound Waste Management
13 Plan, and Chenega and Tatitlek will be sending their waste
14 either to Valdez or to Cordova for processing. And it looks
15 like perhaps we can look down the road and see something like
16 that happening.

17 Actually, how often it will be picked up will depend,
18 I think, on how much there is and what it is, and how much of
19 it can be disposed of locally by -- by burning or whatever.

20 MS. SCHWANTES: Okay. Thanks.

21 MS. BRODIE: I'm very supportive.....

22 MR. McCORKLE: Could we have your name?

23 MS. BRODIE: Pamela Brodie. I'm very supportive of
24 this project. I think it's one of the really good things
25 that's come out of the EVOS process. But I'm also concerned

1 about the communities becoming self-sufficient with this, and
2 they're not getting to the point where -- where you don't need
3 EVOS funding, and I.....

4 MR. WINCHESTER: Right.

5 MS. BRODIE:was wondering when you expect that
6 to happen for Valdez.

7 MR. WINCHESTER: I think Valdez is there.

8 MS. BRODIE: Oh, yeah.

9 MR. WINCHESTER: I think Cor- -- Cordova is probably
10 there. This -- these will -- this will be for the construction
11 of the facilities and some training in their use. I don't
12 expect that the Trustees will be responsible for ongoing
13 funding and maintenance of the facilities.

14 MS. BRODIE: Thanks.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Further questions for Mr. Winchester?

16 (No audible response)

17 MR. McCORKLE: If not, you wanted to talk about
18 another project?

19 BY MR. JAMES WINCHESTER (Resuming):

20 Yes. We have a second project, a much smaller one,
21 but no less important in my mind. It's -- it specifically
22 concerns Valdez and the Valdez duck flats, Project 97230. The
23 Valdez duck flats are -- are an important intertidal resource
24 in Valdez, and they are under increasing pressure from
25 development, material pollution, human invasion. There's a lot

1 going on down there.

2 If -- if you've been to Valdez you know what I'm
3 talking about. They're right in town; it's a significant area,
4 and that's where the tourism development that -- is going.
5 It's moving down into that area. There's a camper park being
6 developed basically in the flats. The Forest Service has an
7 interpretive center there, and more and more people are using
8 them. There already is environmental damage, and they are
9 significant habitat for oil-spill-impacted species.

10 What this project would do would be to get sufficient
11 funds for the first year to do an environmental work-up of the
12 duck flats, to take a look at where the damage is, what the
13 damage is, what species are there, and then come up with a
14 preliminary conceptual plan to address the difficulties. It
15 isn't simply that there are difficulties now; there are. It's
16 that -- it's also that on down the road the pressure's going to
17 increase, more people are coming. There are more people going
18 down there chasing the birds around and poking the fish, and
19 all the rest of the stuff that goes on, than there ever has
20 been before.

21 So what this would do would allow us to take a look
22 at what's there, where the damage is, and then what can be done
23 to -- to mitigate the damage to the environment and prevent it
24 from -- from escalating. And this -- the bottom line for this
25 project is much, much smaller than a swamp, but -- but this --

1 this is also an important and significant project, not just for
2 Valdez but for the -- the whole Prince William Sound. It's --
3 it's a rich est- -- estuary, and there are many impacted
4 species resident there.

5 MR. McCORKLE: Any questions for Mr. Winchester on
6 this project?

7 (No audible response)

8 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. If not, we appreciate you
9 coming to see us. Thank you.....

10 MR. WINCHESTER: Thank you.

11 MR. McCORKLE:very much for.....

12 MR. WINCHESTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.....

13 MR. McCORKLE:being here.

14 MR. WINCHESTER:Molly.

15 MR. McCORKLE: Are there any other people in
16 Anchorage who would like to talk at this time before we go to
17 Cordova?

18 (No audible response)

19 MR. McCORKLE: You'll have a chance again, so you can
20 be thinking of your comments. Right now, good evening,
21 Cordova. We'd like to entertain your first bit of testimony,
22 and if the person who will speak from Cordova would give us
23 their name, and spell the name, if you would, please, and your
24 address. Thank you. Hello Cordova?

25 MR. KEENEY: This is Cordova.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. GEORGE KEENEY

This is George Keeney. I'm the Public Works Director and Planner for the City of Cordova.

MR. McCORKLE: George, would you spell your last name for us, please?

MR. GEORGE KEENEY: Yes. It's K-e-e-n-e-y, and my mailing address is P.O. Box 151, here in Cordova, zip code 99574.

MR. McCORKLE: Please continue.

BY MR. KEENEY (Resuming):

The -- the first project that I'd like to comment on is your Project 97229. It's with the City of Cordova for the solid waste disposal site. And in our proposal to the EVOS Trustees, we had asked for a sum of money to help start out this project, and in looking at some of the questions that the EVOS Trustees Council did have was the concern of the distance from the airport. The tank that we have located is approximately 17 miles from the city, and it's 4 miles actually from the airstrip itself.

The (indiscernible) that control landfill sites, we'll have to end up compacting and covering each day's refuse as it goes into the pit or the area that's being filled. This will create hardly any impact on gathering of birds or anything in the area. We know that was a concern.

Also, as far as the water control, or water in the

1 area, yes, this whole area is a -- more or a less a glacier
2 chill area, and the soils in specific areas is actually gravel
3 to a depth of over 30 feet. The new landfill site we've
4 already looked at is most likely going to have to be a line
5 landfill site. It will have most likely a leachate collection
6 system.

7 We've gathered up the information on this whole
8 project, also in the SWAMP group, which was the Solid Waste
9 Management Plan that you actually helped finance. We gathered
10 the information up on this -- this project itself. This is one
11 that was split with the SWAMP ground as far as our end result
12 of that project so far.

13 I would answer any questions that you have for me.
14 The -- the one thing I'll tell you, the Manager and our City
15 Mayor were tied up tonight with a delegation from Taiwan, so
16 they are busy with them, and they would have been glad to be
17 here, but at this time, if you have any questions on this one
18 project, I'd sure like to answer them.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you. You've done very well, Mr.
20 Keeney. Molly McCammon, any questions you'd like to address?

21 MS. McCAMMON: (No audible response.)

22 MR. McCORKLE: Any members of the Public Advisory
23 Group? A question for Mr. Keeney?

24 (No audible response)

25 MR. McCORKLE: I think we have no questions from this

1 end, Mr. Keeney. Is there further testimony you'd like to
2 give?

3 BY MR. KEENEY (Resuming):

4 Yes. Yes, I will. Also on the one that James
5 Winchester also gave, which was the SWAMP land, the 97115, that
6 project, I think it's still, as the Public Works Director and
7 part of the group that got together on that plan, it's probably
8 some of the best money I've seen the EVOS Trustees spend. It
9 actually helped us identify all those loose -- through a lot of
10 the problems in the Prince William Sound, and I highly respect
11 everybody there as far as their ideas on this plan.

12 I think it's going to be fantastic. I hope you do
13 fund this. It will mean that it will take the construction
14 cost and help us get these established. It also should set up
15 a precedence all over the world as far as how you take care of
16 these pollution forces. I've heard from quite a few people now
17 that we've got this plan started out, and all over Alaska and
18 in the Lower 48, as far as the harbor areas, are really asking
19 questions on how we intend to work these facilities.

20 These facilities, as they are constructed, they are
21 going to be the sole more or less operation and maintenance of
22 each community as they are built. So truthfully, once they're
23 constructed, we as a -- as a group, as a SWAMP group, were
24 planning on having each community take over the maintenance and
25 upkeep of those facilities. So we shouldn't really be coming

1 back to you, the EVOS Trustees, other than to thank you a
2 million for -- for helping funding it.

3 If you do have questions on that, I can sure answer
4 about any question you can toss my way as far as the SWAMP
5 group.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Mr. Winchester is grinning and
7 nodding, saying yes, he knows that you can. Any other
8 questions from the Anchorage end?

9 (No audible response)

10 MR. McCORKLE: If not, we'll thank you very much for
11 your testimony, Mr. Keeney, and coming out this evening.
12 Please give our fondest regards to the Mayor and the
13 delegation, and we hope you have very much success in that. Is
14 there anybody else to testify from Cordova?

15 MR. KEENEY: Let me give you to Riki Ott.

16 MR. McCORKLE: Riki Ott?

17 MS. OTT: All right.

18 MR. McCORKLE: Good evening, Mr. Ott. Would you give
19 us your name, and spell your name, and address.....

20 MS. OTT: It's Riki Ott, and it's.....

21 MR. McCORKLE:Ms. Ott?

22 MS. OTT: Actually, it's doctor, but we'll let that
23 slide. It's R-i-k-i O-t-t.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Can I have your address, please?

25 MS. OTT: Box 1430, Cordova, 99574.

1 MS. OTT: Okay.

2 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MS. RIKI OTT

3 I'm here to testify -- or to give input on Project
4 No. 97281, which is habitat improvement through redesigned
5 forest workshops. And I'm just going to give an overview of
6 where -- how -- how they arrived at this project, and then I'm
7 going to turn it over to Bob Henrichs, who is with the Eyak
8 Tribal Council and could speak to the Native participation in
9 this grant.

10 Basically, after the oil spill, there was -- it
11 really became obvious in Cordova that there was a tremendous
12 need to diversify their regional economy. And the second thing
13 that happened after the oil spill, that there was an
14 opportunity to use funds from the EVOS settlement to buy back
15 timbers placed for clearcutting. And not all the Native groups
16 saw this as an opportunity. And specifically, in this area,
17 Eyak Corporation, and until recently, Tatitlek and Chenega
18 also, resisted efforts to -- to buy back their land.

19 The EVOS Trustee Council had, and still has, no
20 backup plan for unwilling sellers to promote land stewardship
21 and alternate options for forest management other than simply
22 buying the land or leaving the land with the corporations and
23 the corporations clearcutting. There was a citizen effort to
24 fill this void, which became -- which is the Copper River Delta
25 Project. And this is a project for a sustainable development

1 in this region. It was initially led by the Alaska Clean Water
2 Alliance.

3 There was a series of meetings held this spring in
4 Cordova concerning sustainable development and potential
5 sustainable forestry. This led to a very loose formation of a
6 Copper River watershed forum, which has all the major
7 stakeholders in the area at the table. And that in turn, this
8 process, this ability for us all to talk together, led to
9 several local groups wanting to get involved -- more involved
10 in the project. And this is where Eyak Tribal Council stepped
11 in to sponsor one of the two major undertakings this year.

12 The one undertaking is this -- these workshops, these
13 two workshops through this Project 97281, the EVOS workshops,
14 to basically have a -- a -- a facilitated process to bring
15 Natives and non-Natives together to vision a future. And
16 then -- and then this is where we mesh with the second major
17 undertaking, which is an EPA sustainable res- -- sustainable
18 development challenge grant.

19 This project has also just been submitted. But these
20 two projects mesh because the EPA one is the research component
21 the EVOS one is the public process that will set the framework
22 for the research component. The idea is to have a visioning
23 conference this fall, possibly as early as October, and six
24 months later -- well, conduct the research during the
25 intervening six months, and then in the spring have another

1 workshop to prioritize the options for forestry use, fishery,
2 tourism. I mean, this is a -- a -- a comprehensive plan for
3 this area.

4 Let's see. Those elements, the workshops, the EVOS
5 workshops, and the research are critical to the overall success
6 of this project. But Native participation is also critical to
7 the success of both. And to meet that end, I've been having
8 meetings with Chugach Alaska Corporation, the Land Use
9 Committee, and also Eyak Corporation. And both of these
10 corporations, at this point, are very seriously considering
11 contributing to both of these projects at this time, but
12 because of the summer schedule, it's been really hard to get
13 people together and they're still in the process of discussion.

14 There's no longer any discussion that either of
15 these -- that these projects don't have merit. The -- the
16 question now is how much and where are we going to get the
17 money from. And it's my understanding that Chugach Corporation
18 and Eyak Corporation will be trying to get boards together to
19 make decisions sometime in the next two to three weeks.

20 So in summary, I hope that the EVOS Trustee Council
21 does not limit itself only to land acquisition projects, but
22 would also consider funding projects such as this to promote
23 forest stewardship by facilitating, providing a -- a process to
24 get resident Natives and non-Natives to work together to
25 identify options for forest management.

1 identify options for forest management.

2 And if anybody has any questions, I'd be happy to
3 answer them.

4 MR. McCORKLE: Are there questions for Dr. Ott?

5 (No audible response)

6 MR. McCORKLE: Molly, anything from you?

7 MS. McCAMMON: (No audible response.)

8 MR. McCORKLE: How about the Public Advisory Group?
9 Yes, Brenda?

10 MS. SCHWANTES: Hi. My name's Brenda, from Kodiak.
11 I have a question about ongoing meetings between this -- the
12 group that you're trying to -- to form and discuss options
13 with. Are you planning on having meetings in the future after
14 the initial two meetings?

15 MS. OTT: I have currently another separate grant, a
16 \$10,000 grant, both -- well, actually nine, from EPA and Alaska
17 Conservation Foundation, to do public scoping and help set
18 the -- the framework for this -- for this workshop, and that
19 would help get people to this workshop. Then I would basically
20 cut the consultants loose, and each team of consultants in
21 forestry, fisheries, and tourism, and science would be meeting
22 with the stakeholders that would be affected by their research.

23 So there would be like in-house meetings during the
24 research phase and then again another public meeting in the
25 spring. So I -- I guess I see this as -- it's -- I mean,

1 public participation is like a critical component to both the
2 workshops and the research phase.

3 MR. McCORKLE: Jim?

4 MS. SCHWANTES: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. DIEHL: This is Jim Diehl, representing
6 recreational users. You said that is -- is this one project,
7 or are there two project numbers to this? Or it's just one?

8 MS. OTT: There's one project from the Exxon -- from
9 EVOS Trustee Council, and that is through the Eyak Tribal
10 Council. The second undertaking, the research phase, is
11 through EPA, and that is -- would be to the Alaska Clean Water
12 Alliance. So these groups are working together.

13 MR. DIEHL: I see. Thank you.

14 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, Doctor Ott. I understand
15 that Mr. Henrichs is there and would like to testify next.

16 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. BOB HENRICHS

17 Yeah, okay. My name is Bob Henrichs, P.O. Box 1000,
18 Cordova, Alaska, 99574. I'm President of the Native Village of
19 Eyak Traditional Council. I'm also a Chairman of the Board
20 of -- a Chairman of the Lands Board, or a Chairman of the Lands
21 Committee for Chugach Alaska. And on this forest workshop
22 proposal that we submitted, we felt that it was time to get
23 everybody to sit down and talk about this stuff instead of
24 being at each other's throats.

25 It looks like a real good use of some of this

1 I know that Chugach, we had a Lands Committee two weeks ago --
2 meeting two weeks ago, and the three members that were there
3 agreed that something like this should take place, but they
4 wanted more time to digest the information. And we're trying
5 to get another Lands Committee meeting together, but people are
6 scattered all over the country at this time, and it is the
7 middle of summer, but we will get one.

8 One of the thoughts that were -- was brought up at
9 the meeting was that it was felt that EVOS should fund the
10 whole workshop because of -- it looked like a pretty good deal
11 for them to reach some of the names that they wanted, and that
12 the -- the corporations would be putting a lot of time and
13 effort into it. And if they can get away without having to
14 cough money up, because money's kind of short. You have to
15 realize that while the state and the federal government has
16 settled their claim against Exxon many years ago, all of these
17 corporations are still in litigation with Exxon, and that
18 money's kind of short. But they will -- we -- we will hash it
19 out.

20 It -- I believe -- personally believe this is
21 something that should take place. We should get everybody
22 together and start hashing all this stuff out. It would be a
23 good -- good way to spend some of this money. And while I'm
24 adding here, I'll -- I'll quickly go down this list of projects
25 that I support:

1 97284, a test fishery project; 97001, harbor seal
2 condition and health status; 97064, monitoring habitat
3 (indiscernible) of harbor seals; 97052, community involvement;
4 97210, youth area watch; 97214, a harbor seal documentary;
5 97220; eastern Prince William Sound habitat restoration; 97244,
6 community-based harbor seal management sampling; 97245,
7 community-based harbor seal research; and, of course, 97281,
8 forest workshops; 97282, sea otter population monitoring;
9 97286, elders youth conference; 97295, decim- -- decimation of
10 traditional (indiscernible), 97283, Eyak beach cleanup.

11 And I'll end my testimony on -- I know that the
12 Public Advisory Group has a mind of its own and they don't feel
13 like they're bound by the Chief Scientist's or the Executive
14 Director's recommendations.

15 MS. McCAMMON: I should say neither is the Trustee
16 Council. Thanks, Bob.

17 MR. McCORKLE: Anybody else there to testify before
18 we come back to Anchorage?

19 MS. OTT: No.

20 MR. McCORKLE: Okay. Well, now don't go off the air
21 because we will be returning again one more time before we
22 close out. Now I'd like to return to Anchorage and invite
23 members of the Public Advisory Council or the public or other
24 staff persons to talk to us if they would like to do that.

25 Yes? If you'd come forward and have a chair by the

1 microphone. Give us and spell your name, and also let us have
2 your address, if we may, please. Thank you.

3 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MR. GORDON PULLAR

4 Thank you. My name is Gordon Pullar. That's spelled
5 P-u-l-l-a-r, and I'm the Director of the Department of Alaska
6 Native and Rural Development, which is a component of the
7 College of Rural Alaska at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.
8 Our office address is 2221 East Northern Lights Boulevard,
9 Suite 213, Anchorage, 99508. I'd just like to briefly talk
10 about a -- a project that we have proposed. It's applied field
11 base project and rural development for individuals who may wish
12 to complete a degree in rural development but still live in
13 rural communities.

14 We would like to be able to expand this project in
15 a -- at a small level as a kind of a pilot effort into the oil
16 spill area to reach communities that may have people that would
17 be interested and qualified for this project. And we've had a
18 number of inquiries, so we believe that those people are there.
19 It would be related to the restoration effort in that one of
20 the requirements of the project -- or two of the requirements.
21 One of them is an internship and the other is a research
22 project, in that the students would be able to work with some
23 of the projects that will be funded or that are funded.

24 We have spoken to a few of the principal
25 investigators of existing projects. They all seem receptive to

1 the idea of having students work with them. The result would
2 be that not only the -- the students would be able to complete
3 their degree, but they would be able to do work that is
4 directly related to the restoration project. The other part of
5 the program involves a course of individual study, a -- a -- a
6 credit for prior learning. And it's -- it's a -- a fast -- a
7 fast-track degree program for mid-career people. I'd be glad
8 to answer any questions if.....

9 MR. McCORKLE: Molly, have you any response you care
10 to make?

11 MS. McCAMMON: No.

12 MR. McCORKLE: Other members from the Public Advisory
13 Group for Mr. Pullar, or others in the room? Yes?

14 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: What's the project
15 number?

16 MS. McCAMMON: 275.

17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: 275?

18 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah. It's under public information
19 and education.

20 MR. PULLAR: Thank you again.

21 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you, Mr. Pullar. We appreciate
22 you coming down to be with us this evening and to discuss your
23 project and let us know of its important points. Anybody else
24 here in Anchorage who would like to be next?

25 (No audible response)

1 MR. McCORKLE: If not, then we'll go back along the
2 network and see -- we are going to Valdez -- to Cordova next,
3 returning to Cordova. Anybody in Cordova who would like to
4 speak to us just now?

5 MS. OTT: No. That's it for Cordova.

6 MR. McCORKLE: Well, really? We were hoping for one
7 or two more comments from Cordova, but thank you for.....

8 MS. OTT: Be careful, Ricky's still here. You might
9 get him.

10 MR. McCORKLE: Well, we'll be here a while longer. I
11 guess we'll maybe skip Anchorage and go back to Valdez and see
12 if there's anyone who's come in that would like to talk to us
13 from there. We'd be very much interested in hearing from you.

14 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF MS. KAREN GOODBERLET

15 Yes. My name is Karen Goodberlet. That's spelled
16 G-o-o-d-b-e-r-l-e-t, Box 2923 here in Valdez. And I'd like to
17 make one comment on the duck flats in Valdez here, and I see
18 reference to plastic pollution.

19 In the last month I've talked to a friend of mine who
20 three years ago went in and did a private study with a -- a
21 colleague of hers, and they came out with finding oil there.
22 And I was hoping that that project was an extending look toward
23 pollution as far as oil went in the duck flats.

24 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you very much. Are there any
25 questions for Karen Goodberlet?

1 (No audible response)

2 MR. McCORKLE: Well, then let me say thank you very
3 much for coming out to be with us this evening and to give us
4 your testimony. We really appreciate that. And it looks like
5 I'll give one final call for Cordova. Anybody there from
6 Cordova?

7 (No audible response)

8 MR. McCORKLE: And then a final call for Anchorage.
9 Anybody here in Anchorage who would like to address us?

10 (No audible response)

11 MR. McCORKLE: Any comments from the Executive
12 Director?

13 MS. McCAMMON: No, Mr. Chairman, other than just to
14 say that all of -- that the testimony tonight has been recorded
15 and will be transcribed and given to the Trustee Council
16 verbatim. So I did want you to know that, and it will be
17 summarized for the rest of the Public Advisory Group members
18 who were not able to attend tonight.

19 MR. McCORKLE: Thank you very much. Any member of
20 the Public Advisory Group who would like to have a final word
21 this evening?

22 (No audible response)

23 MR. McCORKLE: And anybody else?

24 (No audible response)

25 MR. McCORKLE: If not, then we declare the public

1 hearings are over, with great thanks to everybody who did come
2 to participate, and we always are glad to have your opinion.
3 Remember, they do not need to end this evening; they can be
4 taken up to the last moment before the Trustee Council votes,
5 which I understand will be August 29th.

6 MS. McCAMMON: 29th.

7 MR. McCORKLE: So thank you very much, and good night
8 Cordova and Valdez and Anchorage.

9
10 (Whereupon, the proceedings in the above matter were
11 adjourned at 7:45 p.m.)
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