

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

You are invited to share your ideas and comments on the Draft 1994 Work Plan. You may use this tear sheet to present your views. If needed, use the space on the back or attach additional sheets. Please fold, staple, and add a postage stamp. Thank you for your interest and participation. **Comments must be postmarked by January 14, 1994.**

1/13/94

To Whom It May Concern

I believe the Alaska Sea Life Center should be supported for the following reasons.

- ① It is important to acquire habitat to protect sea life.
- ② It is important to have a center to rehabilitate ~~these~~ animals that experience problems because of man-made influences.
- ③ Education of both tourists and residents will help produce a larger society of persons who care, and may do something to actively and positively affect the environment.

It is invaluable to do more research regarding the relationships of marine mammals and birds in a transitional or Arctic environment. More study would help preserve the moderate marine environment and fragile intertidal zones. The center would educate people on the benefits of such species as indicators of a healthy environment, and provide an attraction for all visitors to learn about coastal zones and marginal marine habitat at a world class center.

Yours sincerely

Sandra E. Newman

Box 40612

Anchorage, Alaska 99509

Additional Comments:

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:

J. Newman

Box 90612

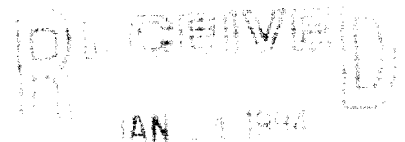
Anchorage, Alaska

99509



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan



FOR REL. BY
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Sirs,

JAN 13 1994

940113074

Regarding the proposed projects to be funded with the state settlement with Exxon:

I am in favor of:

Project 94505 - Genetic stock
identification of Kenai River
sockeye salmon

Project 94255 - Kenai River sockeye
restoration

Project 94258 - Sockeye salmon
overescapement

I am opposed to:

Project 94199 - Alaska sealife
center

Sincerely,

Michael J. Cota

P.O. Box 84133

Fairbanks, AK 99708

January 4, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for **Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration**, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, I ask for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

Prince William Sound salmon fisheries are distressed. During the ten years prior to 1989, the average annual return of all salmon to the PWS management region was 22 million fish. Total natural and hatchery salmon returns have dwindled to 10.5 million in 1992 and 7.0 million in 1993, in response to ecosystem changes that require further investigation. The damaged salmon resources and the lost services provided by those resources have heavily impacted all user groups. Revenues to PWSAC, primarily dependent on sales of returning fish, have fallen far short of what is necessary to maintain its restoration and enhancement efforts.

While the extent of short- and long-term damage to the Prince William Sound ecosystem is still being assessed, it is more important than ever to the people of the Sound that the salmon enhancement programs be maintained to both restore and replace these lost resources and services. The economic viability of the entire Prince William Sound region will be devastated if the hatchery system is allowed to fail during this period of distress.

Because of the extent of the economic hardship in the region, it is also appropriate to ask the EVOS Trustee Council funds to repay the PWSAC debt to the State Aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund, in addition to the funding request for 1994.

Please help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover.
Thank you.

Help us so we can help ourselves
Sincerely William F. Welton

94 01 13 072

Kenneth M. Duffus
20441 Ptarmigan Boulevard
Eagle River, AK 99577-8736
(907)694-2359/FAX (907)696-8111

JAN 13 1994

January 10, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 "G" Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Sirs:

REF: Projects 94255, 94258 and 94504 (Restoration of the Kenai River Sockeye Salmon)

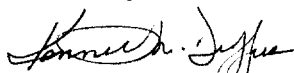
As an Alaskan citizen and fisherman, I feel that it is paramount that the council utilize the funds from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill settlement to try and restore the damage caused by the spill. While the funds are quickly disappearing the economic effects of the devastation to the Kenai River will be felt for years by all who rely on these waters for recreation as well as a living. I therefore urge you to support funding for the following projects:

- 1) PROJECT 94255 - Kenai River Sockeye Salmon Restoration**
- 2) PROJECT 94258 - Sockeye Salmon Overescapement**
- 3) PROJECT 94504 - Genetic Stock Identification of Kenai River Sockeye**

Projects that are not directly aimed at restoration of the damaged fish and wildlife caused by the Exxon Valdez can not and should not be supported. Projects such as Project 94199 - Alaska Sea Life Center, do a great job of promoting tourism but do little if anything for residents and users of the damaged lakes, streams and shorelines of this state. Therefore I am also requesting that you oppose funding for Project 94199 - Alaska Sea Life Center.

If you have any questions or I can be of further assistance please contact me at the above address.

Sincerely,


Kenneth M. Duffus

January 4, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for **Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration**, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, I ask for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

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While the extent of short- and long-term damage to the Prince William Sound ecosystem is still being assessed, it is more important than ever to the people of the Sound that the salmon enhancement programs be maintained to both restore and replace these lost resources and services. The economic viability of the entire Prince William Sound region will be devastated if the hatchery system is allowed to fail during this period of distress.

Because of the extent of the economic hardship in the region, it is also appropriate to ask the EVOS Trustee Council funds to repay the PWSAC debt to the State Aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund, in addition to the funding request for 1994.

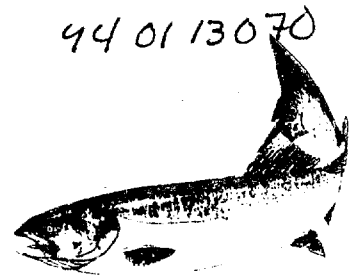
Please help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover.
Thank you.

Paul Deiser
P.O. Box 520692
BIG LAKE, ALASKA
99652

94 01 13070

THE CHITINA DIPNETTERS ASSN.

1002 PIONEER ROAD
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701



JANUARY 10, 1994

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
645 G STREET
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99501

JAN 10 1994

MEMBERS OF THE EVOS TRUSTEE COUNCIL:

I AM WRITING IN SUPPORT OF EVOS TRUSTEE COUNCIL FUNDING FOR PROJECT NUMBER 94421, COMMON PROPERTY SALMON STOCK RESTORATION, IN THE DRAFT 1994 WORK PLAN. IN PARTICULAR I ASK FOR FULL FUNDING TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING SALMON ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION SYSTEM OPERATED IN THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND BIOREGION BY THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AQUACULTURE CORPORATION (PWSAC).

AS A SPORT FISHERMAN AND PERSONAL USE FISHERMAN (DIPNETTER AT CHITINA ON COPPER RIVER) I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PWSAC AND THERE EFFORTS IN SALMON ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGION AND ALSO THE HATCHERY ON THE GULKANA RIVER BETWEEN PAXSON AND SUMMIT LAKES WHICH PRODUCES SOCKEYE SALMON FOR ALL USERS OF THIS RESOURCE.

AS PRESIDENT OF THE CHITINA DIPNETTER'S ASSOCIATION WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PWSAC IN ALL OF THERE HATCHERY SYSTEM FOR SALMON ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS WHICH SHOULD BE MAINTAINED TO BITH RESTORE AND REPLACE THESE LOST RESOURCES AND SERVICES AND THIS HATCHERY SYSTEM SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO FAIL.

THANK YOU
Byron W. Haley
BYRON W. HALEY PRESIDENT
CHITINA DIPNETTER'S ASSOCIATION
1002 PIONEER ROAD
FAIRBANKS, AK. 99701-2818

January 4, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for **Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration**, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, I ask for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

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While the extent of short- and long-term damage to the Prince William Sound ecosystem is still being assessed, it is more important than ever to the people of the Sound that the salmon enhancement programs be maintained to both restore and replace these lost resources and services. The economic viability of the entire Prince William Sound region will be devastated if the hatchery system is allowed to fail during this period of distress.

Because of the extent of the economic hardship in the region, it is also appropriate to ask the EVOS Trustee Council funds to repay the PWSAC debt to the State Aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund, in addition to the funding request for 1994.

Please help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover.
Thank you.

Douglas R. Jensen
Box 92535
Anch. AK 99509
(907) 274-5141

1/10/94

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G St.
Anch. Ak 99501

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I have lived in Cordova for 18 years. I have fished in Prince Wm Sound for 18 years. Ever since I came here I have been able to make a living catching fish in Prince Wm Sound. Now I am not able to make a living here.

Before the oil spill in 89 there were lots of herring and salmon, since the oil spill the environment in the sound has gone through hell. Fish don't seem to live to well out there.

As you know Prince Wm Sound Aquaculture has a lot to do with the amount of fish in PWS. They grow fish for commercial fisherman, sport fisherman, and mother nature. PSWAC remote releases fish in areas where there are poor natural returns, as well as hatchery releases for sports and commercial fisherman.

Unfortunately PWSAC has to support itself, its was doing fine until the oil spill, now do to extremely poor returns PWSAC is about to go broke. PWSAC can have a leading role in the restoration of PWS salmon if you will help them survive.

Please support project #94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration in the 94 work plan. In addition to this there will be other opportunities to keep PSWAC alive financially, please support them. The people of PWS were damaged just as much as the environment, PWSAC can play a major roll in restoring both, please help.

Sincerely



Jim Kallander

Box 2272

Cordova Ak 99574

1/11/94

To: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G. Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

From: James L. Mykland
P.O. Box 1241
Cordova, AK 99574

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

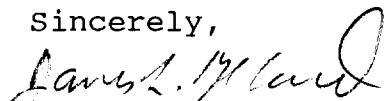
Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for Project #94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. Specifically I want to see full funding for Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC) until they recover from damages inflicted on them by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in 1989.

I have been an Alaskan resident of the Prince William Sound (PWS) area for the last 14 years. I feel that the economic viability of the entire Prince William Sound region will be devastated if the hatchery system is allowed to fail during this period of distress. I feel that it is the utmost of importance that project #94421 be funded.

I also feel it is appropriate that the EVOS Trustee Council pay PWSAC's \$24 million debt to the State of Alaska Aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund. The fishermen of PWS have had salmon run failures the last three seasons. For PWS's resources and fishermen to survive we need financial help. Solving PWSAC's economic plight would go a long way to helping the restoration of PWS.

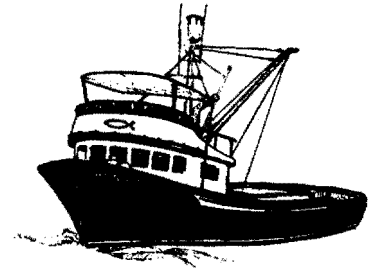
Sincerely,


James L. Mykland

940113066

Glasen Fish Co.

Commercial Fishing & Fish Tendering



P.O. Box 432 • Cordova, Alaska 99574 • (907) 424-3539

January 11, 1994

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

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

My name is Michael Glasen and I am a commercial fisherman and a full time resident of Prince William Sound. I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for the common property salmon stock restoration project number 94421 in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. That project asks for money to fund their operating expenses as needed because of the budget shortfall experienced by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation.

The financial distress expressed by PWSAC reflects the position of each commercial fisherman participating in the Prince William Sound salmon seine fishery. We need PWSAC to continue and we must have adequate opportunity to harvest the returning salmon.

I also support PWSAC's request for the EVOS Trustee Council to pay in full, in the form of a grant, the debt owed to the State of Alaska Revolving Loan Fund by PWSAC. I believe this could be of immediate and significant benefit to the people of Prince William Sound.

Please help us as we struggle to rebuild our lives as we are learning how to deal with the day to day realities forced upon us by the oil spill. Thank you.

Michael Glasen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Glasen", written over a horizontal line.

January 4, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for **Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration**, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, I ask for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

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Because of the extent of the economic hardship in the region, it is also appropriate to ask the EVOS Trustee Council funds to repay the PWSAC debt to the State Aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund, in addition to the funding request for 1994.

Please help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover.
Thank you.

Sandra W. Egan

PWSAC Board member and seiner.

*1815 Mt. Baker Hwy
Bellingham WA 98226*

94 0113064

Virgil L. Carroll
Box 319
Cordova, Alaska 99574

JAN 13 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, Ak 99501
Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Dear Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

We are writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, we are asking for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

We have fished commercially in the Prince William Sound since 1969 and have never seen things as bad as they have been these past three years. There is something drastically wrong with the ecosystem of PWS and we would like to see funds from the Exxon settlement used for the restoration of the Sound. We are tired of hearing that that money is being used to buy back timber or to buy land! We want that money used to help PWSAC maintain their salmon enhancement programs to both restore and replace these lost resources and services. The economic viability of the entire PWS region will be devastated if the hatchery system is allowed to fail during this period of distress. We also support tagging programs that the Department of Fish and Game is proposing.

We urge you to help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Virgil L. Carroll
Virgil L. Carroll
Charlette J. Carroll
Charlette J. Carroll

POB 319
Cordova Ak 99574-0319

January 4, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1994

Re: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Members of the EVOS Trustee Council:

I am writing in support of EVOS Trustee Council funding for **Project Number 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration**, in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. In particular, I ask for full funding to maintain the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC).

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Please help the resources and the people of Prince William Sound recover.
Thank you.

Marta Lelling

PWS Salmon fishermen

1779 Pioneer Peak Dr
Wasilla AK 99654

Dear Reviewer:

Attached is the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Draft 1994 Work Plan which is a list of restoration projects currently under consideration for implementation in 1994. We request your comments on these projects.

In the fall of 1991, the United States of America and the State of Alaska settled their claims against the Exxon Corporation and Exxon Shipping Company for natural resource and service damages from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree dated August 28, 1991, the undersigned three State and three Federal Trustee Council Representatives, in consultation with the public, are responsible for determining how restoration funds are to be spent. Restoration funds are being used to restore, enhance, replace, rehabilitate or acquire equivalent resources and services in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. Overall guidance for the yearly expenditure of restoration funds will be delineated within a Restoration Plan. The Restoration Plan will be a foundational document against which projects proposed for annual work plans will be developed. A draft Restoration Plan has been developed and any program of work for 1994 must be consistent with that draft plan.

Potential projects for implementation in 1994 were selected from a list of project titles encompassing all proposals received from the public and government agencies during the past several years. Project titles were developed into brief project descriptions and budgets and are presented as the Draft 1994 Work Plan before you now. We are seeking your comments to guide the Trustee Council in their final selection of projects to be conducted in 1994. Written comments, in order to be considered during the development of the final version of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration 1994 Work Plan, must be postmarked by **January 14, 1994**, and sent to the following address:

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

Please note: The cover of this document indicates whether it is an abridged version without the brief project descriptions. If you would like to obtain a copy of this document with the brief project descriptions or if you have any other questions concerning this document or its distribution please contact the Oil Spill Public Information Center, 645 "G" Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or you may call:

(907) 278-8008
(800) 478-7745 (Alaska)
(800) 283-7745 (outside Alaska)

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Title: Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration

Project Number: 94421

Lead Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Cooperating Entities: Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC)
Valdez Fisheries Development Association (VFDA)
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA)

Cost of Project, FY94: \$5,336.8K

Project Startup Date: February 1, 1994

Duration: Eight months

Geographic Area: Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet, North Gulf of Alaska

INTRODUCTION

Alaska's salmon, including those produced in wild streams, state hatcheries and private non-profit hatcheries, are considered the common property of all Alaska residents. Common property salmon fisheries supported by fish produced from all of these sources were injured by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. In recent years, the collapse of common property fisheries in Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet have created a particular hardship on commercial fishermen. In particular, the pink salmon produced by Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet streams and hatcheries held a major role in sustaining the ecosystems of these areas by their contribution to the food web. Other species of salmon produced here have also contributed, but to a lesser degree. By incubating, rearing and releasing salmon eggs, fry and smolt at hatcheries, this project would restore the common property fisheries to their pre-spill levels and would assist the commercial fisheries and impacted predator species in the spill area.

In 1971, the Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development (FRED Division) of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) was created by the Alaska State Legislature. The legislature directed the division "through rehabilitation, enhancement, and development programs to do all things necessary to insure perpetual and increasing production and use of food resources of Alaska waters." In other words, the common property fisheries.

In 1973, the United Fisherman's Association (UFA) was formed, organizing commercial fishermen at the state level for the first time. Fishermen's groups such as UFA were a driving force behind Alaska's salmon hatchery programs. This group, along with others, believed it would take artificial propagation as well as some restrictive regulations to bring the

commercial harvest level back up from an annual harvest level of 23 million fish between 1973 and 1975.

In 1973, the legislature implemented limited entry in the commercial salmon fishery with the long term goal of increasing economic returns to commercial fishermen. With the limited entry program in place, legislators felt more confident about expanding the hatchery program because the economic benefits of a rehabilitated fishery resource would not be dissipated among an ever-increasing number of fishermen. At this time, legislators also began to accept that nongovernmental hatcheries had much to recommend them from the perspective of public finance issues: the operation of private hatcheries could be funded from the harvest of returning fish and from tax assessments on the fishermen who had access to the hatchery production, thus shifting the cost of the facilities from the shoulders of the general public to the people who derived benefits directly from them. Thus, fisheries organizations and other Private Non-Profit (PNP) groups were encouraged to build and operate PNP hatchery facilities. The 1974 Alaska State Legislature authorized the Commissioner of ADF&G to issue permits to PNP corporations for the construction and operation of salmon hatcheries.

As the PNP hatchery program developed and hatchery technology progressed, it became evident that the cost of developing viable salmon hatcheries was far greater than was initially expected. In 1974 funds became available through the Renewable Resources Development Fund that was established that year. Additional state loans for construction of PNP hatcheries became available in 1975 when the commercial fisheries loan program was expanded to include hatcheries. The following year, a separate fisheries enhancement loan program was established.

Another positive step toward the long range goal of increasing the commercial salmon harvest occurred in 1974 with the passage of the Magnuson Act. This created a 200 mile limit along Alaska's coastline where foreign registered boats could not fish.

In 1976, Alaska legislation was passed creating Regional Aquaculture Associations that were responsible for the regional planning and coordination of salmon enhancement activities. The legislature felt that comprehensive planning on the regional level; primarily, careful hatchery site selection, would help mitigate potential problems such as intermingling of hatchery and wild stocks.

All of this legislation and funding set the stage for the development of the public and private hatchery programs that developed during the 70's and 80's.

The hatchery program in Alaska went from five operating facilities in 1971 to thirty-eight in 1990. In the early stages of this development, the majority of the hatcheries were built and operated by the State of Alaska. For example of the twenty-six facilities in 1980 eighteen were publicly funded and operated and eight were privately funded and operated. By 1985 the number had increased to thirty-six (twenty public and sixteen private). It was a cooperative effort to build and maintain the common property salmon stocks of Alaska.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Resources and/or Associated Services

The primary goal of the proposed project is to maintain operations of seven hatcheries in Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet, in order to promote recovery of the common property salmon stocks to their pre-spill levels. The direct beneficiaries are the commercial, recreational and subsistence fishermen, as well as local populations of fish, birds and mammals dependent on salmon. Achievement of this goal is explained in the following three plans put together by the corporations that now operate these seven hatcheries. Four of these seven hatcheries are owned by the State of Alaska which currently makes bond payments on three of them. At the time of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, three of the four state hatcheries were operated by the State of Alaska using General Fund monies. Because of the cooperative relationship between private non-profit hatcheries and the state in producing common property fisheries (as described in the history of Alaska salmon aquaculture above), operation of these facilities, which remain in the ownership of the State, was given to the private non-profit (PNP) aquaculture facilities with the proviso that operation costs could be recovered by the harvest of salmon for this purpose only in special harvest areas. This is the same procedure used by the PNP's to recover operating costs for the facilities they own as well as operate. In 1993, sales from returns of adult salmon to these special harvest areas were insufficient to meet operating costs. Because of poor returns in previous years reserve accounts have been depleted to the extent that the PNP's could not make up this shortfall from reserves. For Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation and Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, accepting the responsibility for operating state facilities has increased the budget shortfalls for their entire organizations.

The monies being requested from the Trustee Council are for operating expenses only. None of these monies will be used to retire loans or to make interest payments on loans. Further, none of these monies will be used to replenish contingency reserve accounts. The monies being requested from the Trustee Council are only for operating budget shortfalls, not the entire operating budget where the aquaculture associations have some operating monies. Specific budget details will be provided to the Trustee Council in the near future. Any monies recovered by the associations through litigation against Exxon, Alyeska, or subsidiaries thereof as regards to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill will be used to repay these project costs to the Trustee Council.

PLAN I - PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCTION

This plan advocates maintaining the existing salmon enhancement and restoration system operated in the Prince William Sound bioregion by the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation. The aquaculture corporation was created under the Private Nonprofit Hatchery Act (AS Title 16.10.8) to "rehabilitate the state's depleted and depressed salmon fishery." For 18 years, this restoration/enhancement system has sustained and augmented the salmon resources in the Sound. Pre-spill, healthy natural and hatchery stocks of all five species of Pacific salmon supported a strong commercial fishing industry of 800 permit holders and 20 processing plants, and the economies of six Sound communities. In addition, the salmon resources fostered a growing sport fishing industry, and provided the basis for the subsistence lifestyles of the region. At various life stages, salmon are a food source for birds, marine mammals and other fishes in the PWS and North Gulf of Alaska ecosystem. During the ten years prior to 1989, the average annual return of all salmon to the PWS management region was 22 million fish.

Total natural and hatchery salmon returns have dwindled to 10.5 million in 1992 and 7.0 million in 1993, in response to ecosystem changes that require further investigation. The Draft Restoration Plan lists pink salmon and herring in PWS as "non-recovering." The damaged salmon resources and the lost services provided by those resources have heavily impacted all user groups. Revenues to the aquaculture corporation, primarily dependent on sales of returning fish, have fallen far short of what is necessary to maintain its restoration and enhancement efforts. While the extent of short- and long-term damage to the Prince William Sound ecosystem is still being assessed, it is more important than ever to the people of the Sound that the salmon enhancement programs be maintained to both restore and replace these lost resources and services.

Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC) was founded by the fishermen, processors and communities of Prince William Sound in 1974, following several years of low salmon returns, to restore and enhance the salmon resources of the region. The private, non-profit, regional aquaculture association began with one pink salmon hatchery, and during the subsequent ten years built a second, multi-species hatchery, largely with state aquaculture loans. During the same period, the state of Alaska built and operated three salmon hatcheries in the Prince William Sound area. As state revenues declined, the state shifted the cost and responsibility of its 3 state hatchery operations in PWS to the private sector. This in addition to its capital construction debt have greatly increased PWSAC's financial responsibilities since 1989.

Pre-spill, the combined production of the five hatcheries in the Prince William Sound/Copper River region contributed substantially to the salmon harvest, particularly to the commercial catch. In the commercial fishery prior to 1989, hatcheries produced up to 75% of the pink salmon catch, 25% of the chum and sockeye, and smaller percentages of coho and chinook.

Project Description

Wild returns of pinks ranged from average to record highs. However, in 1991, an aberrant return of adult pink salmon, spawned in the parent year of 1989, came in late and dark, and millions went unsold. In 1992, the wild and hatchery pink salmon return was approximately one-third of the projected size; in 1993, pinks came back at about one-fifth of their expected strength, and wild chum returns were far under projections. The 1993 wild and hatchery sockeye returns to the Sound were less than half the expected strength.

These failed salmon returns to Prince William Sound, coupled with deflated fish prices, resulted in financial disaster for commercial fishermen and for PWSAC in 1991, 1992, and 1993. In an effort to understand the ecosystem of the Sound and determine the causes of the failures, the fishermen and PWSAC have joined in a bioregional coalition -- Prince William Sound Fisheries Ecosystem Research Planning Group (PWSFERGP) -- encouraged and funded by the Trustee Council. While the scientific questions are being answered, the role of the salmon enhancement programs in research, restoration and replacement of lost services must be maintained. PWSAC is requesting \$3.9 million from the Trustee Council to fund its FY94 revenue shortfall. This request is not intended to set a precedent for operational funding by the Trustee Council.

Endeavoring to maintain operations, PWSAC has cut its budgets for each of the last three years, has committed the remainder of its contingency funds, and is actively pursuing additional funding sources, as well as means of increasing revenue. On PWSAC's behalf, the Department of Commerce has asked that \$4 million in aquaculture loan funds be included in the Governor's FY94 supplemental budget request to the Legislature. The chance of success of this request is very unsure, given the present condition of the State's finances. Litigation claims settlements from Alyeska and Exxon could increase revenue, although it is questionable when and by how much. In addition, this year the PWSAC Board of Directors, in an effort to achieve better value for fish sold, authorized a product development and marketing project, supported by the Department of Commerce and the Governor. Additional revenues resulting from any of these efforts would reduce the amount of PWSAC funding sought from the Trustee Council.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Resources and/or Associated Services

The primary goal of the proposed project is to maintain operations of the hatcheries in Prince William Sound, in order to promote recovery of the populations and distributions of injured salmon resources to their pre-spill levels, and/or replace those resources.

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

You are invited to share your ideas and comments on the Draft 1994 Work Plan. You may use this tear sheet to present your views. If needed, use the space on the back or attach additional sheets. Please fold, staple, and add a postage stamp. Thank you for your interest and participation. **Comments must be postmarked by January 14, 1994.**

Jan. 11 '94

I am currently enrolled at Alaska Pacific University in the Environmental Science program. I believe The Sea Life Center would not only be a wonderful learning and research facility, but more important injured marine mammals desperately need the best care available to them when they become injured due to human interaction. For example, an oil spill. I personally am dedicating my future career to the care and research of marine mammals. I will continue my education after receiving my degree from APU until I have a masters in Marine Ecology. I am originally from N.Y. and have traveled to AK with hopes of interacting with its wildlife, especially marine mammals. Enough on me, my point, I do believe all too well how desperately a center like this is needed. Don't we owe this to our marine mammals? I believe we do. As long as humans depend upon petroleum and refined products it is their responsibility to ensure the safety of the planet's oceans and the species they contain. I vote yes! Please keep me informed; I am extremely interested.

940113062

Additional Comments:

Thank you
Sincerely
Carol A. Gebauer

(fold here)

Return Address:

Carol Gebauer
4101 University Dr
APU Box 335

Anchorage, AK
99508-4672



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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To Whom It May Concern,

I feel that the proposed sea life center will be a true benefit to the future of our ecosystem. The money used to build such center could not be better used.

Thank You,

John Huber

94 01 13061

Additional Comments:

(fold here)

Return Address:

John A. Wilson
4020 Palo Verde Ave
Ft. Belknap, Alaska, (99704)



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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Dear Trustee Council,

Some things just make plain sense. This self-supporting, eco-tourism, environment oriented idea is probably one of the smartest ideas I've heard.

Please support the Ak Sealife Center idea.

Sincerely,

Shawn Williams

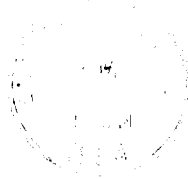
907-337-1526

94 01 13 060

Additional Comments:

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

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EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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I HAVE LIVED IN SEWARD ALL MY LIFE
44 YEARS. I HAVE WORKED & PLAYED IN
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS.
I BELIEVE IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE STUDY THE
EFFECTS OF THE OIL SPILL IN GREAT DETAIL & OVER
THE LONG TERM. THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED BY STUDY
OF THIS ECOSYSTEM COULD BE CRITICAL TO EFFORTS
TO MITIGATE ANY FUTURE SPILLS. SEWARD'S PROPOSED
RESEARCH FACILITY (PROJECT 94199) HAS MY
FULL SUPPORT. I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE IT.
YOUR SUPPORT

Thank You
Patrick O'Brien
Box 48
SEWARD AK 99664
8295-122

940113059

Additional Comments:

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:

PAT O'BRIEN

Box 48

SECARET AK 99664



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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To whom this concerns:

As a 13½ yr. resident, I support and see a need for the Alaska SeaLife Center. I think the North Pacific Research Institute is necessary and an appropriate project to be included in the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration, 1994 Work Plan. I volunteered during the ~~during the~~ 89 oil spill and see the need for the center, especially in the proposed location. We need the Research Institute for the current and future good it will do our state. As a teacher, I urge you to approve this unique Alaskan opportunity to provide our children, adults, and visitors with this educational, research, and rehabilitation facility.

Thank you,

Julie Britton
Julie Britton

94 0113 058

Additional Comments:

(fold here)

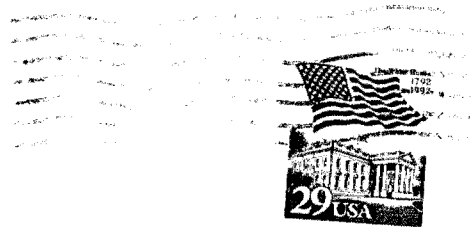
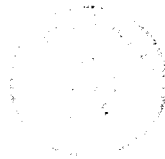
Return Address:

Jillie Britton

P.O. Box 3435

Soldotna, Alaska

99669



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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Please adopt Project 94199, the Alaska Sea Life Center. This project will provide needed research & monitoring capability. It should also be self supporting (by tourism) after initial building costs.

Also adopt projects 94126, 94110, & 94505 & 94147.

Focus acquisition projects on Prince William Sound

Thank you

Jeff Adams

940113057

Additional Comments:

(fold here)

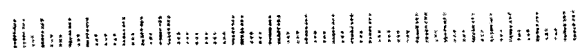
Return Address:

Francis J. Adams
P.O. Box 441
King Salmon, AK 99613



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan



**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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I feel it is extremely important that the Salmon enhancement, restoration, and research programs operated PWSAC be maintained. ~~PWSAC~~ PWSAC is in a financial bind at present due to run failures and depressed salmon prices. These factors cycle up & down as a normal phenomena in the fish business. The Exxon Valdez oil spill has probably contributed significantly to the downturn on these cycles.

I think it is appropriate that the EVOS Trustee Council fund Project # 94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration. PWSAC should be funded at a level to maintain present programs during these tough financial times. It is also appropriate to ask EVOS to repay the PWSAC debt to the State aquaculture Revolving Loan Fund. The future of the fish business in the Prince William Sound area is dependent on PWSAC continuing to function.

Sincerely, Emil V. Nelson, seiner
FV NUKA PT Box 130
Homer, AK

Additional Comments:

940113056

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:

E. NELSON

Box 130

HOMER, AK 99603



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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I AM INTERESTED IN HOW THE NORTH PACIFIC
"EL NIÑO" REACTS WITH THE FOOD CHAIN AND KEYSTONE
SPECIES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA. I AM OPPOSED
TO CLEARCUTTING TIMBER ANYWHERE IN PRINCE WILLIAM
SOUND. I AM OPPOSED TO NATIVE GROUPS HOLDING
THE COUNCIL HOSTAGE, THREATENING TO CLEARCUT
LAND NOT PURCHASED OUTRIGHT. I AM NOT
INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING "TIMBER RIGHTS ONLY."
I AM CONCERNED ABOUT OVERFISHING
EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD AND AM
FOR MILITARY ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN
FLEETS IN ALASKA'S COASTAL WATERS' REGULATIONS
I AM PERSONALLY OPPOSED TO ANY FISH
HATCHERIES. (EXCEPT KIDS PONDS RAINBOWS). I SUPPORT
"SUSTAINED YIELD" MANAGEMENT OF ALL OUR
SEA LIFE NOT RELYING ON THE "ENDANGERED
SPECIES ACT" TO CONTROL OVERHARVESTING.
ALL LANDS ACQUIRED MUST BE OPEN
TO MULTIPLE USES SUCH AS HUNTING
AND CAMPING ETC. THANK YOU FOR ASKING.
PAUL RADMAE

940113055

Additional Comments:

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:

PAC LADMAE

BOX 2935

VALDEZ, ALASKA 99686



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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I Feel that all three projects #94345
#94421 and #94139 are good and advantageous
projects in our area.

In order of priority in my opinion are

#1 project 94345 this will see that the
natural runs will continue, and if there is
a problem, where they live.

#2 project 94139 this will see to it that
the natural runs that return will have a place
to spawn and increase the survival rate of
said runs.

#3 94421 this would help to increase the
number of fish that will be marketable,
and should, if managed properly, be able
to pay its own way with growth.

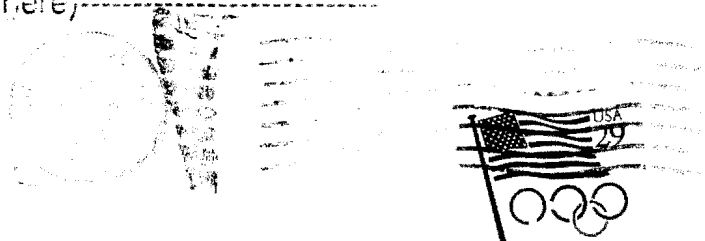
94 01 13 054

Additional Comments:

(fold here)

Return Address:

Val McLay
P.O. Box 785
Homer, AK 99603



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

Lorna J. Barnhart
6600 Baby Bear Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 349-1758

RECEIVED
JAN 13 1994
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

January 10, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft Work Plan

Dear Trustees;

It is my firm belief that funding of the project to build the Alaska SeaLife Center would be a profitable and educational decision. Not only is the Prince William Sound and surrounding area beautiful, but it is a habitat for a unique combination of sea life.

Funding of a project such as the Center will promote positive public awareness of the efforts taken to arrive at a balance between development of Alaska's natural resources and the protection of our unique ecosystems.

As unmolested marine habitats diminish as a result of progress and development, the need for a thorough understanding of those habitats is vital to Alaska's ability to continue to utilize her abundant marine resources.

Funding of this project would be a wise investment in Alaska's future.

Sincerely,


Lorna J. Barnhart

**COMMENT SHEET
EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION
1994 DRAFT WORK PLAN**

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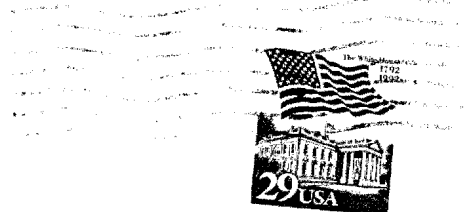
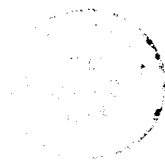
940113053

Additional Comments:

----- (fold here) -----

Return Address:

Lorna Barnhart
6600 Baby Bear Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99507



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Attn: Draft 1994 Work Plan

94 01 12 052

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

RECEIVED
JAN 12 1994

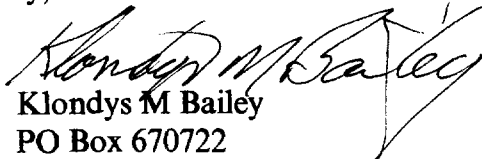
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Council,

I am a Cook Inlet commercial fisherman (Salmon Drift Gillnet & Halibut Long Line) and an active member of UCIDA. I would like to go on record as being IN FAVOR OF 'Project 94505, Genetic Stock Identification of Kenai River Sockeye, 'Project 94255, Kenai River Sockeye Salmon Restoration' and 'Project 94258, Sockeye Salmon Overescapement'.

I would also like to go on record that I **STRONGLY OPPOSE** 'Project 94199, Alaska Sea Life Center'. This tourist attraction, that requires 200,000 tourist per year to break even, clearly can not be devoted to research. This type of Project should be funded by State & Local "TOURIST" moneys, not "EXXON VALDEZ RESTORATION FUND" moneys!

Sincerely,


Klondys M Bailey
PO Box 670722
Chugiak, Alaska 99567-0722

94 01 12 051

Robert H. Blake
P. O. Box 94
Cordova, AK 99574

January 10, 1994

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: 1994 Draft Work Plan

Council Members:

This letter is being forwarded in support of your work plan project identified as #94421, Common Property Salmon Stock Restoration. I am a 41-year resident of Cordova, and have been a commercial fisherman for the past 33 years.

Since the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, fisheries stocks in Prince William Sound have declined. The Sound's residents and fishermen have seen the decline of salmon, herring, deer, birds and plankton. Prior to 1989, the Sound used to be a rich nursery for salmon, halibut, herring, crab, shrimp, and other shellfish. Now there is evidence of a continuing decline in the fisheries resources here.

Limited studies are in progress to try to ascertain what is causing all this; many professional and laypeople feel the ultimate cause was the oil spill. In the face of declining oil revenues, the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game cannot fund needed research alone. The State regularly turns to the Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC) to share in research funding for salmon tagging and recovery projects.

PWSAC was created in 1974 with the full support of Alaska's Governor, the Legislature and the residents of the Sound. As PWSAC became evermore successful in the aquaculture science, support from the State and its agencies has waned. While the Department of Fish and Game supports PWSAC's endeavors, it cannot muster political support, nor help to enhance the present legislators' blase attitude toward support of the fisheries.

With the decline of the returning salmon runs, the fishermen and PWSAC (which the fishermen created), are experiencing extreme financial hardship. The State is working to help

January 10, 1994

fishermen overcome some of this devastation with loan modifications for their permits and vessels. As allowed by law, PWSAC also has loans from the State for hatchery construction. The State has not been able to help PWSAC through this revenue shortfall as much as it would like to. PWSAC now faces loan payments to the State of \$2.5 million per year.

Since 1988, PWSAC has assumed the cost of operating three of the State's salmon hatcheries that benefit the commercial, subsistence and sport fisheries of Prince William Sound. The State was unable to maintain the funding for these operations. PWSAC also operates its own two facilities in the Sound. Notwithstanding the fact that PWSAC assumed the State's third facility this past July, PWSAC has reduced its FY 94 annual expense budget to below the FY 92 costs.

The residents, fishermen and businesses of Prince William Sound communities - Cordova, Valdez, Whittier, Seward, two native villages, and to a certain extent, a percentage of Anchorage businesses and the upper Copper River subsistence fisheries are dependent upon the Sound's salmon fisheries. PWSAC is the major producer of this resource.

Your favorable consideration of the Project #94421 grant would be a fitting use of the EVOS settlement funds. Please do not let this project be neglected.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert H. Blake", written in a cursive style.

Robert H. Blake

RHB/pmd