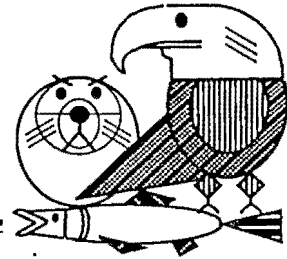


Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 G Street, Suite 401, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Trustee Council

From: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

Date: August 15, 1995

Subj: Public Comments on the Draft FY96 Work Plan

Attached are the public comments received on the Draft FY96 Work Plan. Through August 14, we received twenty-one comments on the draft including comments received by letter, phone, fax, and at the teleconferenced public meeting.

RECEIVED
AUG 25 1995

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

mm/bl/raw

Trustee Agencies

State of Alaska: Departments of Fish & Game, Law, and Environmental Conservation

United States: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Departments of Agriculture and Interior

CHENEGA CORPORATION

Post Office Box 8060
Chenega Bay, Alaska 99574-8060
(907) 573-5118
Fax (907) 573-5135

July 18, 1995

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

**RE: PUBLIC MEETING ON TRUSTEE'S DRAFT 1996 WORK
PLAN**

Dear Sirs:

Please accept my written comments on Project 96160 Assesment of Recovery from Surface Oiling, Subsurface Oiling, and Subsurface Invertebrate Contamination by Oil on Gulf of Alaska Shorelines and Project 96094 Improving Recovery Rates on Shorelines in PWS Using Enhanced Bioremediation.

PROJECT 96160 AND 96094

Historically, residents of Chenega Bay and Chenega Corporation consistently maintained that shorelines that were impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill be clean of all oil contamination. We felt it was very important to emphasize the value of restoration in all areas that was habitat to marine mammals, bird and terrestrial life. 6 years and 4 months have elapsed and oil is still bleeding into the environment. There is mousse under rocks and boulders, or just pooled, tar mat anywhere you look and heavy oil stain on the base of rock and boulders from the mid-intertidal to the upper-intertidal in many areas critical to wildlife habitat.

The mini-survey conducted by the State earlier this spring clearly documented that oil is persisting in the beaches of PWS. It's been an ill-fated practice of the State to wait on reports before deciding what approach to take.

In the case of the shoreline and mussel-bed survey performed by the State and NOAA, in 1995, no action will be noted until 1996, if at all. A delaying tactic that is resulting in "*more harm than good.*" As the EVOS TRUSTEE COUNCIL is quick to repeat in all its publications for uses of the settlement monies;

*"Restoration funds must be used....":
for the purpose of restoring, replacing, enhancing or
acquiring the equivalent of natural resources injured
as a result of the EVOS or the reduced of lost services
provided by such resources.*

Rather than beat on a dead horse... the States' policy of "zero tolerance", a compromise must be identified. Do something not nothing. Studies and workshops have been ongoing since 1991.

The "draft recommendation" as made by the Chief Scientist that "*The main problem is that oil residue is offensive to local residents, who want something done about it.*" Is offensive and reckless. Dr. Bob Spies does not live in PWS, live off the waters or lands of PWS. All Prince William Sound is a free laboratory at the State's expense. He further comments that this study is expensive and time consuming, and may not satisfy local concerns. Dr. Spies has heard of concerns. We want the oil out. Expensive? No more than its costing the Spawning Channel Construction Project, Port Dick Creek in Lower Cook Inlet or the SEA Trophodynamic Modeling and validation through remote sensing studies, and the list goes on.

The EVOS Trustee Council has allocated \$24 million to the Restoration Reserve. With that I believe oil removal can be done. It is reasonable to believe that any degree of oil removal will enhance the natural recovery of the remaining oil after a treatment.

The Hazardous Substance Spill Technology Review Council effectively and correctly reported that in 1994 the *PES-51 Project* on Latouche/Sleepy Bay was an innovative restoration technique and effective in removing weathered oil from subsurface sediments. Furthermore that this modified air knife

Page 3
EVOSTC

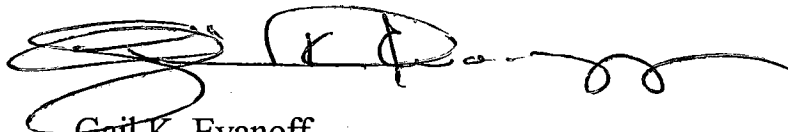
injection system followed by injection of a biosurfactant to displace the weathered oil from the surface and sea water flush was accomplished without any evidence of dissolved hydrocarbons or increased microbial activity in the sea water and for approximately 30 days after treatment there was a period of enhanced bioremediation of residual hydrocarbons. Removing 60-80% of the trapped oil and leaving 20-40% for natural degradation is an acceptable process well worth approving a plan for.

The EVOS Trustee Council is making the effort to meet with the PWS oil impacted communities. For that I am thankful. But, there is available technology that is useful and successful and it must be used.

One final comment, the HSSTRC left me pondering over the fact that another spill of the magnitude, or worse, than the Exxon Valdez is very probable because, "It is likely that more crude oil and product will be carried through Alaskan waters in the next twenty years than has been since oil was discovered in Cook Inlet. With an aging plant and aging ships, the risk can be greater in the future than in the past."

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
CHENEGA CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gail K. Evanoff', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gail K. Evanoff
VP Corporate Operations

cc:file
gke/caw evostc

CHENEGA CORPORATION

☑ 3333 Denali Street, Suite 220-E
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 277-5706

☐ Post Office Box 8060
Chenega Bay, AK 99574-0060
(907) 573-5118

2

July 19, 1995

RECEIVED
JUL 25 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

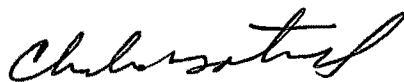
Dear Trustee Council Members:

Following an extensive review of the Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan, Chenega Corporation would like to express its support of the following projects and ask that they be given priority consideration for funding:

96090	Mussel Bed Restoration and Monitoring
96052A	Community Involvement and Use of Traditional Knowledge
96131	Chugach Native Region Clam Restoration
96222	Chenega Bay Salmon Restoration
96272	Chenega Chinook Release Program
96154	Chugach OSIR Community Repositories, Cultural Centers, Subsistence Restoration Facilities, Comprehensive Services, Development Planning Project
96115	Sound Waste Management Plan
96058	Landowner Assistance Project

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Totemoff
President & CEO

Public Meeting July 20, 1995 on Draft 1996 Work Plan

On line via teleconference: Cordova and Homer Legislative Information Offices

Molly McCammon and Bob Loeffler gave brief overviews of the restoration program and the 1996 Draft Work plan. Two individuals made comments, which are summarized below.

Paul Swartzbart (Cordova) - I want to know more about the Eyak negotiations.

The people in Cordova are very much hoping that you can conclude or achieve some kind of comprehensive deal that will be good for Eyak shareholders as well as tourist operators and fishermen in Cordova. We haven't given up and we hope you haven't either.

Henry Makarka (Cordova): I am a shareholder in Eyak Corporation, but I am speaking to you today as an individual. My concern is about the on-going process you've been conducting with Eyak. I've had thoughts of my own about your obligations and objectives and I've thought very seriously about what is your objective, especially in that you have a responsibility of restoration of the oiled areas. You mentioned about ongoing negotiations with Eyak and it seems to me there is a stalemate situation or a gridlock. I think because of the precedent set with Seward and Kachemak and Kodiak, I feel that the Trustees are probably negligent regarding habitat protection in Prince William Sound.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

July 19, 1995

To EVOS Trustee Council,

Thank you for publishing & sending out the Sea Bulletin. I just finished reading the June issue of Pacific Herring and found the information very interesting.

I am so happy that continued research in PWS herring is being studied. These last few years have been such a loss for so many in this area. We need our herring back to service the fishing industry.

Thanks again

PWS sac roe herring permit holder

Olaf Gildnes

OLAF GILDNES

P.O. Box 380

CORDOVA, AK 99574

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Farallon Island Station
In Cooperation with
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



6
Palomarin Field Station
Point Reyes Bird Observatory

July 24, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G. Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501
Attn: Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan
Fax: (907) 276-7178

Dear EVOS Trustees,

I am writing you regarding EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound. This project is very important for EVOS restoration objectives, and especially the information that it will provide the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator Project EVOS 96025.

As the Director of the Pacific Flyway Project at Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory, I deem this project very important because it will provide information on 3 species of shorebirds: black oystercatchers, surfbirds, and black turnstones. The northern Montague Island study site is the most important spring staging area known for surfbirds and black turnstones. Both of these species estimated populations are relatively small (<100,000), and yet one-day counts have estimated over 50,000 surfbirds and 25,000 black turnstones at Montague Island in spring. We still have very little information on how these shorebirds are using northern Montague because it was only in 1989 that scientists first documented their use of Montague.

I would urge the Trustees to fully fund the Avian Predation on Blue Mussels Project for FY96. This research will have many benefits for both oil spill restoration objectives and shorebird conservation.

Thank you very much.

Gary Page

Director, Pacific Flyway Project

Arctic Alaska Antarctic Eastern Pacific Ocean All Western States Mexico Mono Lake

Janet R. Klein
P.O. Box 2386 Homer, AK 99603
(907) 235-8925

August 3, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 278-8012

Attn: Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan

Dear Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon the draft restoration plans being considered for the expenditures of Exxon Valdez Oil Spill monies for FY 1996.

I strongly support the development of a stewardship program to protect and preserve the cultural resources of Southcentral Alaska, particularly in regions injured during the oil spill.

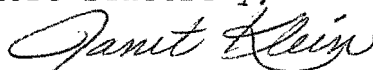
The story of the prehistoric peopling of Alaska is recorded on the land, primarily in archaeological sites. Like contemporary libraries, these unique repositories retain the documentation of past human events. Each site is unique, irreplaceable and worthy of protection.

As a 17 year resident of Kachemak Bay, I have witnessed the rapid and rampant natural and human-caused damage of and destruction to archaeological sites. Far too many are being lost, to active looting and also to benign neglect by the very agencies responsible for preserving them. The proposed stewardship program offers a practical, manageable approach to training and coordinating volunteers to monitor sites and to educate residents.

I encourage each of you to help preserve the cultural heritage of Alaska through funding a long-term stewardship program.

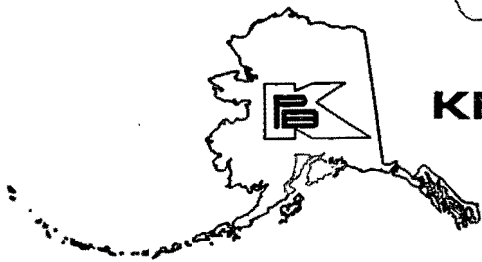
Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Most sincerely,


Ms. Janet R. Klein

RECEIVED
AUG 4 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA • 99669-7599
BUSINESS (907) 262-4441 FAX (907) 262-1892

8
DON GILMAN
MAYOR

July 26, 1995

RECEIVED
JUL 31 1995

Ms. Molly McCammon
Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Ms. McCammon: *Molly*

I have had the opportunity to review the Kenai Habitat Restoration & Recreation Enhancement Project proposed by the Alaska Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Game. Based on its beneficial impacts to restoring and protecting fish habitat on the Kenai River, I would strongly encourage you to support the project.

Over the past several years the Kenai River has become a river in demand. Demand from the public to access its bountiful salmon populations. Demand on its river banks as the people try to catch one of the record king salmon or fill up the freezer with red salmon. Demand from commercial fisherman who are concerned about the cumulative effects on the fish habitat. Demand on the overall fish habitat as there is an attempt to balance competing interests.

The Kenai River has become not only a river in demand but a river in conflict. The conflict is the result of private landowners believing they are being asked to do more to protect the river than the public land managers. Funding of the Kenai Habitat Restoration & Recreation Enhancement Project will serve as a valuable example that public land managers are equally committed to restoration and protection of the river.

There is a need to find a balance to the demands on the river. The Kenai Peninsula Borough will continue to work in close cooperation with federal, state and local governments to ensure the restoration and recreational enhancement of the Kenai River. Again, please place this project at the top of the priority list. It is of critical importance to all Alaskans.

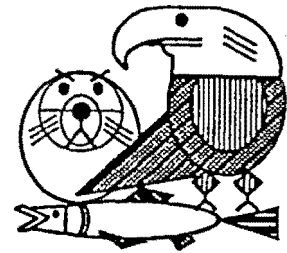
Sincerely yours,

Don Gilman
Mayor

cc: Jim Ayers, Office of the Governor

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office
645 "G" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



TO: Molly McCammon, Executive Director
Public Comment Record

July 31, 1995

FROM: Bob Loeffler

SUBJECT: Telephone Public Comment

July 31, and again on August 3rd I took a phone call from an individual who asked that their comments be relayed to the Trustee Council. Given the subject of her request, the request from August 3rd will also be relayed to the science coordinator, and ADF&G.

The person was:

Ms. Denny Kay Weathers
Box 1791
Deep Bay, Hawkins Island
Via Cordova, Alaska 99574

July 1. Her comments are summarized below.

1. The Trustee Council should not be purchasing timber, especially near Cordova. Restoration funds to purchase timber are a waste of money. Trees were not oiled, and the purchases are not restoration and do not restore what was injured. This is especially true near Cordova. Cordova was not oiled and is not in the oiled area. "The Trustee Council should be sued for what they have done."
2. The logging company is currently cutting in the Orca Narrows viewshed purchased by the Trustee Council in January 1995. Thus, a breach of contract is occurring, but, of course, the Trustee Council doesn't care because they are just interested in keeping their jobs. The individual relayed the townships and sections purchased, and that logging was occurring inside that area. I called Dave Gibbons to relay the message. He told me that USFS personnel were just in the area and had marked previously cut trees near the proposed log-transfer site that Eyak was allowed to remove, but that cutting was not, at least a few days ago, occurring the purchased area. I called Ms. Weathers back and relayed the message, and was told, "Of course that's not true, but that's what you would expect they'd say."

August 3. Ms. Weathers called back August 3rd to discuss King Crab. She believed that King Crab was injured by the spill, and that the Trustee Council should study the crab to determine what has happened and where they have gone. Her comment is summarized below.

The commenter is one of the six King Crab fishermen in the Sound. 1988 was a good

DRAFT

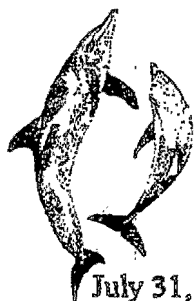
season. In 1988, they had a massive catch, so much so that ADF&G shut the season early because the poundage was caught. The season was closed in 1989 due to oil (i.e., zero tolerance, not for lack of crab). Now there is no crab. (The last opening was in 1991. They were only one of two to fish the opening and there was really no catch). They did a study last year (ADF&G gave them 15 days above and below Nellie Juan), and the pots came up with undefinable gook. NOAA told them that some oil sunk during the spill, and in some cases accumulated in low pockets on the bottom. King Crab feed on the bottom and are easily disturbed. There were crab in 1988; none now. Either the spill killed or them or they moved. Trustee Council should fund a study to determine what happened or where they moved to.

The commenter also made a point that a study would have been funded except there are only a few crab fishermen, so the Council doesn't care about them. They have written before and not one of the Council members even wrote back. If they were Native, we would have done a study, but they are not. It's discrimination. Its only government people who are getting the money — bureaucrats, ADF&G folk who are safe in their job, or other government scientists. They are the ones making money off the oil spill, and people affected aren't being helped.

cc: Stan Senner, Science Coordinator
Joe Sullivan, ADF&G

DRAFT

10

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON**

Marine Mammal Research Program
Departments of Marine Biology and
Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences
4700 Avenue U, Building 303
Galveston, TX 77551-5923

Information (409) 740-4715
Physiology Lab 740-4721
Behavior Lab 740-4718
FAX 740-4717

July 31, 1995

Dr. R. Spies,
Chief Scientist, EVOS Trustee Council,

Dear Bob,

I am writing this letter to comment on your recommendations to the Trustee Council relating to proposal 96012B. I am confused about the roller coaster ride that we seem to be traveling on with respect to both the relevance and scientific quality of our proposed work. My perception of the reviewers comments at the meeting in January was that the type of research we were proposing was both appropriate and desirable to address the questions which are of concern with respect to the recovery of harbor seals in Prince William Sound. I think that since that time we have gotten caught up in a mixture of science and politics. I would like to think these are separate issues, but maybe I am naive.

It seems to be a recurring criticism of the reviewers that look at our proposals that both the fatty acid signature analyses and stable isotope approaches are unproven and therefore suspect. This criticism seems, at least from my perspective, to only be applied to projects that involve killer whales. There is ongoing work using these techniques with a wide variety of other species, including several EVOS funded projects in Prince William Sound. This suggests to me that the criticism is really not science-based but is perhaps more killer whale related. If so, lets be honest about it. I have asked my colleague, Dr. Sara Iverson, to address this issue with you. In particular the comments attributed to Ian White. I do not know Dr. White, but I must disagree wholeheartedly with him.

I was surprised to see the reference to Ian White, who apparently is doing cutting edge research into the application of fatty acid signatures to killer whale diets. Dr. Iverson, who initially developed and has validated this technique in lab studies over the past 5 years, has never heard of the gentleman, and indeed questions his assertion that the whales could be differentiated using only 2 fatty acids. His conclusions are very simplistic and apparently he doesn't really understand the technique at all. This is simply my interpretation, but the inclusion of Dr. White in these decisions sounds similar to the discussion regarding genetic samples which came about last fall, when Mr. Matkin received a large amount of money to have genetic analyses undertaken by a graduate student in British Columbia even though we offered the services of Dr. Rus Hoelzel who would do all of the analyses for \$10K. Dr. Hoelzel is a world authority on killer whale genetics, but I guess EVOS wanted to support an up and coming graduate student at ten times the cost.

For this research project to be able to answer the questions posed, you would need more than 15 samples from representatives of each of the resident and transient whale groups sampled haphazardly across both time and space. If differences are found under the proposed sampling protocol, you could never say definitively that those differences were attributable to dietary, geographic or temporal changes in the whales. In addition, if the question is whether killer whales are eating harbor seals, you would also need to be collecting fatty acid signatures on all potential prey species, including harbor seals. As an aside, neither stable isotopes nor fatty acid signatures will ever tell you how many prey are being consumed, but only that certain prey are being eaten. I am not sure where the suggestion that we would be able to answer that question came from but we certainly never implied that we could say how many seals were being consumed. What we can say is what proportion of the diet is derived from seals and then make some extrapolations based on energetic principles.

The only way that any project will truly be able to address the questions at hand (even in a pilot project capacity) will be to sample both resident and transient whales throughout Prince William Sound through the summer. This necessitates having at least 2 sampling platforms, to be able to be in two places at the same time and adequately be able to sample whales over as broad a geographic area as possible. Being able to sample resident whales in June and transient whales in September will not tell you anything definitively, because you have nothing to compare them to. If there are differences, is it a temporal change that all whales go through or is it truly a difference between residents and transients? Alternatively, if there is no difference, does that mean the technique doesn't work?

The criticism being leveled by some of the local fishermen in the Sound that there will be multiple boats chasing the same whales is ludicrous. Why would we waste time and effort to be sampling the same whales when there are dozens of whales in the Sound. Craig Matkin's sampling is naturally going to be concentrated in certain areas because that is where the whales of importance to him are located. Samples obtained from Craig can be incorporated into the sampling regime but cannot be the sole source. Whales need to be sampled from the eastern reaches of the Sound as well and Craig doesn't go there.

There was also a suggestion about splitting the samples for different types of analysis. It is true that we can deal with milligrams of tissue when we are doing the analysis, but let's think this through. If these samples are going to be split, we have to address two problems: 1) what analyses are going to be performed? and 2) what tissues are we dealing with? In terms of the first question, the analysis for pollutants is one that does require relatively large quantities of tissue (100s of mg). Analyses for genetics, stable isotopes and fatty acids can all get away with smaller quantities. The second question is in many ways more critical. If we are dealing with a biopsy plug that is 9 mm in diameter and 24 mm deep, we are not dealing with a large mass of blubber tissue. Anatomically, blubber is divided into three layers. The blubber in the biopsy includes material from the two outer layers. The significant layer for both fatty acid signature analysis and stable isotopes (for recent feeding history) is the middle layer. There will be a very small amount of blubber from this layer in the biopsy sample and there is certainly not enough to be split into 4 different types of analyses nor to be sampled between different labs. I would also not trust an

inexperienced individual to be splitting samples in the field, based on where the separation between layer one and two occurs. Frankly, I also doubt if Ian White is aware of any of these details either.

I feel that throughout this whole episode our science has been critically evaluated by either inappropriate scientists or biased individuals. More recently, approval has been driven by unfounded public concerns. I feel that our proposal (usually considered to be somewhat proprietary by funding agencies) has been used to develop ideas and indeed possibly competing proposals by other labs. For example, see Matkin's proposed research for next year in the Draft Work Plan for FY1996. The whole process has left a bad taste in my mouth, but we are determined to do good science. If EVOS doesn't want us to address these questions in as professional a manner as possible then maybe we don't want to be involved. However, we feel that if we back out then others will simply take what we have proposed and go ahead and try to do the same analysis. This also isn't fair and therefore we intend to stick around and try to make this work.

I propose that we do some basic analyses this year to use the samples obtained to map out differences within the biopsy samples across the 2 layers of blubber and the skin. This will allow us to assess the nature and size of the biopsy sample. I also propose that you recommend funding of a true pilot project next year to compare resident and transient whales sampled both throughout the Sound as well as at different times through the summer. These samples could be used to properly address the question whether whales are consuming harbor seals. This approach would require funding on a similar level to what we had initially proposed and would require us to have our own platform. These techniques will work. These techniques will allow us to answer the questions we have posed. But to do this they require both an appropriate protocol and adequate field sampling.

Temporarily, until August 18, I can be reached by FAX at (813) 281-5677.

Yours sincerely,



Graham A.J. Worthy
Associate Professor of Marine Mammalogy

cc. Molly McCammon, Executive Director, EVOS
Dr. Marilyn Dahlheim, NMFS/NOAA
Mr. Bruce Wright, NMFS/NOAA
Mr. Byron Morris, NMFS/NOAA

COMMUNICATION

E·S·S·E·N·T·I·A·L·S

11

August 1, 1995

VIA FAX
Page 1 of 1

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Trustee Council Members:

I am writing in support of FY96 project 96058, Landowner Assistance. In the most recent Draft FY96 publication, both the Chief Scientist and Executive Director's Draft Recommendations seem to indicate a preference to not fund this project for FY96 pending results from FY95. There have been, however, several landowners and land managers who have expressed an interest in participating in this project. Just as habitat acquisition as a restoration tool took some time to generate interest, participation and a coordinated program, this project has taken some time to develop as well.

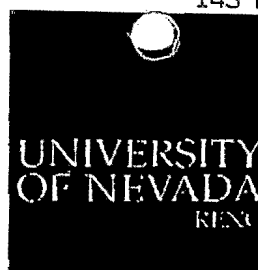
I am hopeful that this project will assist in restoration on private lands that are not for sale and see this as a wonderful restoration tool for a limited expenditure of funds. With the wealth of information that has been gathered through Trustee Council projects in combination with conscientious private landowners, this project has great potential. I would very much like to see this project continue and I would ask that this project be given priority consideration for funding.

Thank you for all of your hard work and for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

With sincere appreciation,



Kimberley Benton
Forest Products PAG Representative



12
Ecology, Evolution and
Conservation Biology/186
1000 Valley Road
Reno, Nevada 89512-0013
(702) 784-4439
FAX (702) 784-4583

31 July 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street; Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501
Attn.: Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan
FAX: (907) 276-7178

Dear Oil Spill Council,

It has come to my attention that you will shortly be evaluating the EVOS proposal 96104, *Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound*. I would like to endorse the proposal, and encourage that the project be funded.

I have been and am very interested in shorebird ecology and conservation, especially along the Pacific Flyway. Having spent parts of five summers studying various shorebird species in Alaska, I am well aware of the importance of the Prince William Sound for shorebirds. Three shorebird species that potentially eat Blue Mussels, Black Turnstones, Black Oystercatchers and Surfbirds, occur in the sound in significant numbers. Biologists at Montague Island have counted over 25,000 turnstones and 50,000 Surfbirds in single day censuses. The 50,000 Surfbirds may represent half of the world population, and Black Turnstones a quarter of the world population! Considering the importance of the Prince William Sound, relatively little (with a few exceptions) is known about how shorebirds utilize the area, especially the rocky intertidal shorebirds.

The *Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound* proposal is one of high scientific value. I urge the Oil Spill Trustee Council to fund this project. The restoration of the sound depends on studies such as these as does the conservation of Pacific Flyway shorebirds.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nils Warnock".
Nils Warnock, Ph.D.

Western
Hemisphere
Shorebird
Réserve
Network



Red
Hemisférica
de Reservas
de Aves
Playeras

13

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G. Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501

August 2, 1995

Attn: Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan

Dear EVOS Trustees:

I am the current director of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), a program of Wetlands for the Americas which promotes the conservation of shorebirds and shorebird habitat throughout North and South America.

I am writing you about your recommendation for EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound. This project is very important because: 1) It addresses EVOS restoration objectives, and will provide critical information on how shorebirds, gulls, and sea ducks influence the blue mussel abundance and distribution for the Near shore Vertebrate Predator Project EVOS 96025; and 2) will collect information on the importance of Montague Island to both wintering flocks of black oystercatchers, and more importantly, the spring migration surfblinds, and black turnstones.

Past surveys have indicated that each spring Montague Island supports >50% the world's population of surfblinds and black turnstones. The use of Montague Island by such extraordinary numbers of surfblinds and black turnstones appears to be unique to Montague Island - there are no known areas in North or South America that support even a few thousand of these birds. Yet our information on their numbers and distribution is still limited. EVOS 96102 would provide information on the spring ecology of surfblinds and black turnstones.

The EVOS Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan list the Executive Director's recommendation for Avian Predation on Blue Mussels as "Lower priority" because of limited funds available for new projects. The Chief Scientist recommends that the project be funded. I would urge the Trustees to follow the recommendation of the Chief Scientist and fully fund for FY96 EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EVOS draft plan.

Ian Davidson
Director, WHSRN
Wetlands for the Americas

A Program of **WETLANDS FOR THE AMERICAS**
Un Programa de **HUMEDALES PARA LAS AMERICAS**



P.O. Box 1770 • Manomet, MA 02345 U.S.A. • Phone: (508) 224-6521 • Fax (508) 224-9220

Environment
CanadaEnvironnement
Canada

Post-it™

FAX TRANSMITTAL MEMO 7671

NO. OF PAGES

TO: BOB LOEFFLER

FROM: DR. R. BUTLER

CO.:

CO.: CWS

DEPT.:

PHONE #:

FAX #: (907) 276 7178

FAX #: (604) 946-7022

Pacific Wildlife Research Centre
5421 Robertson Road, RR #1
Delta, B.C.
V4K 3N2

August 1, 1995

Dear EVOS Trustees:

I am writing you about your recommendation for EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound. In your draft work plan you list this project as Lower priority because of limited funds available for new projects, despite a recommendation to fund the project by the Chief Scientist. I would argue that this project is very important for EVOS restoration objectives, and especially the information that it will provide the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator Project EVOS 96025.

I have studied shorebird migration in Canada and Central America for the Canadian Wildlife Service since 1988. The Avian Predation on Blue Mussels, EVOS 96104 will provide us critical information on the numbers, distribution, and phenology of spring migration by two relatively unknown shorebirds; surfbirds, and black turnstones. With thousands of these shorebirds staging at Northern Montague Island study site, this area is the most important spring staging site known for surfbirds and black turnstones.

This project would provide important information for both oil spill restoration and for shorebird management and conservation. I urge the Trustees to fully fund for FY96 EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Butler, Ph.D
Research Scientist
Tel: (604) 946-8546
Fax: (604) 946-7022



July 17, Bill Schuster, Seward:

15

Comments on the Draft FY 96 Work Plan ~~for review~~ (Comment taken by phone)

Reviewed the projects in the Draft FY 96 Work Plan. He totaled all the projects which actually restored resources on the ground, they totaled \$2.38 million. What you have recommend is \$21.28. Which ends up being 11.2% of all the projects you are recommending, actually restore resources on the ground. The rest goes toward research. He thinks it is inappropriate to spend so much money on research. It may be good research, but it doesn't restore the resources. You have a limited amount money and should be spending those dollars on what was injured or disturbed. Your priorities aren't in the right place.

16
R.D4, Box 348
Canton, N.Y. 13617
August 3, 1995

RECEIVED
AUG 7 1995

EVOS Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Sir:

The "Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan" was received on this date., August 3, 1995 and on page 1 is the statement "To be most useful, your comments must be received by the Trustee Council on or before August 4, 1995.

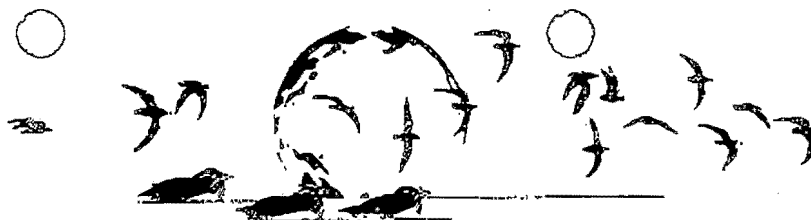
The 84 page publication is dated June 1995.
If the intent was to have comments "on or before August 4, 1995" why was the publication sent too late for any reasonable reply ?

Since there is obviously impossible compliance in this case, I will appreciate having you advise me accordingly.

Sincerely,

Clarence Petty
Clarence Petty

Pacific Seabird Group



17

DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

Craig S. Harrison
Vice Chair for Conservation
4001 North Ninth Street #1801
Arlington, Virginia 22203

August 3, 1995

BY FAX (hard copy to follow)
Molly McCammon
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

Re: Comments on Draft 1996 Work Plan

Dear Ms. McCammon:

The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) will file comments next week on the draft 1996 Work Plan. I want to raise, once again, our difficulties in obtaining a copy of the Draft 1996 Work Plan in a timely manner. I received a copy by Federal Express on July 21, after alerting your office that once again my copy was delayed. I appreciate receiving a copy once I had alerted your office, but I do not think this should be the standard operating procedure for me to receive these documents. In most cases I would not know when your office issued a draft work plan. As far as I can tell, they have been issued on different dates for each of the past four years, and I would hope that I could simply receive them immediately when they become available. When your office provides 4-6 weeks to comment on a document, a one-month delay in delivery cuts out the heart of the public comment period.

I repeat below my previous communications on this subject. I do not wish to become a nag, but this is a genuine problem concerning PSG's opportunity to comment on the expenditure of the EVOS trust funds.

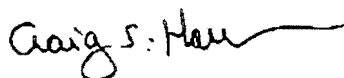
PSG's opportunity to comment on the 1992 draft Work Plan has come so late in the year that the Trustees have funded the projects already (June 3, 1992).

PSG cannot meet the January 14, 1994 deadline for comment. PSG's chair George Divoky did not receive the draft 1994 Work Plan until January 10, 1994, and I received it a few days later. PSG wants to remain actively involved with the restoration process and to share its experience regarding the biology and management of seabirds, but we cannot function effectively when the Trustee Council gives us only a few days to review a lengthy work plan that involves complicated issues. Moreover, extremely short deadlines cause us to truncate our internal review process. (January 21, 1994).

PSG cannot meet the October 3, 1994 deadline for comment. I did not receive the draft 1995 Work Plan until September 24, and apparently did so only because I called the EVOS office to obtain one earlier that week. We raised the identical problem with respect to receiving the 1994 work plan in our January 21, 1994 comments. As we said in January, PSG wants to remain actively involved with the restoration process and to share its experience regarding the biology and management of seabirds, but we cannot function effectively when the Trustee Council gives us only a few days to review a lengthy work plan that involves complicated issues. Please let us know what we can do to obtain these draft reports in a timely manner. Why has PSG been deleted, apparently more than once, from the mailing list? (October 4, 1994).

Please let me know what, if anything will be done to alleviate this problem. It is not something that I want to bring up again.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Harrison

18

RECEIVED
AUG 3 1995

July 26, 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Trustee Council Members:

As a resident of Chenega with a great interest in restoration, I would like to express my support of the following Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan projects and ask that they be given priority consideration for funding:

96090	Mussel Bed Restoration and Monitoring
96052A	Community Involvement and Use of Traditional Knowledge
96131	Chugach Native Region Clam Restoration
96222	Chenega Bay Salmon Restoration
96272	Chenega Chinook Release Program
96154	Chugach OSIR Community Repositories, Cultural Centers, Subsistence Restoration Facilities, Comprehensive Services, Development Planning Project
96115	Sound Waste Management Plan
96058	Landowner Assistance Project

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,

PH Wilson Jr.

19

RECEIVED
AUG 3 1995

July 26, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Trustee Council Members:

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96115	Sound Waste Management Plan
96058	Landowner Assistance Project

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,

Nick Wilson

RECEIVED
AUG 3 1995

July 26, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Trustee Council Members:

As a resident of Chenega with a great interest in restoration, I would like to express my support of the following Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan projects and ask that they be given priority consideration for funding:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 96090 | Mussel Bed Restoration and Monitoring |
| 96052A | Community Involvement and Use of Traditional Knowledge |
| 96131 | Chugach Native Region Clam Restoration |
| 96222 | Chenega Bay Salmon Restoration |
| 96272 | Chenega Chinook Release Program |
| 96154 | Chugach OSIR Community Repositories, Cultural Centers, Subsistence
Restoration Facilities, Comprehensive Services, Development Planning
Project |
| 96115 | Sound Waste Management Plan |
| 96058 | Landowner Assistance Project |

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,

Carol Ann Wilson

RECEIVED

AUG 3 1995

July 26, 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Trustee Council Members:

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96115	Sound Waste Management Plan
96058	Landowner Assistance Project

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,



22

WESLEY F. HAMILTON
- ATTORNEY AT LAW -
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET
ZELIENOPLE, PENNSYLVANIA 16063

August 9, 1995

Telephone 412 452-7776

Bob Loeffler
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street; Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Mr. Loeffler:

Because of the late arrival of the Draft 1996 Plan, my comments are going to be brief, and I will apologize if I display ignorance. I really would have preferred to have had individual project narratives so that I could further critique and comment.

So that you have a background of my work, I have been doing environmental work in Pennsylvania for more than 20 years. Most recently, my efforts have included land acquisition for the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks, erosion control work, and other environmental efforts, plus my organization, of which I am President, is in the third year of a four year osprey reintroduction program, and we are about to embark on a barn owl reintroduction program, and hopefully a loggerhead shrike program.

I first of all want to commend the council for the land acquisition portion of the program. It is the single most important feature as it will protect the entire area of the spill in perpetuity. I urge you to continue with that work with every available dollar you can spare.

Hopefully you will consider the balance of my comments as words of caution, or at most constructive criticism. In the case of the loggerhead shrike, we have found that symposiums have been held over the world, and studies have shown no conclusive results, but yet the species is declining at a 5% rate worldwide. Our approach, as in the case of the osprey and barn owl, is not to study things to death.

The studies that you are proposing be funded are meritorious, but each should be examined from the standpoint of what it will produce, and what alternatives may exist.

For instance, the pink salmon program does not appear to me to have any potential yield to it, except to tell us what we already know, being that the salmon does not tolerate the oil. What about changing the emphasis from the study to acquisition of conservation easements along streams, or even the purchase of these lands to protect future spawning runs? What about the possibility of monies being set aside for the raising of pink salmon once the waters have cleansed themselves sufficiently to allow for the species survival?

August 9, 1995

Page 2

I certainly admit my ignorance as I am not a scientist, but I am very concerned about the studies being done on mammals and waterfowl which are also subject to the same comments. I have found that there are professionals all over the country who are willing to help with captive breeding programs and species reintroduction. If things are going to be studied, why not study reintroduced and augmented populations while you are studying the effects of the pollution upon the remaining wildlife?

Keep up the good work. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Wesley F. Hamilton

WFH.slm



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

August 15, 1995

RECEIVED
APR 29 1997

RECEIVED
AUG 31 1995

Honorable Don Gilman
Mayor
Kenai Peninsula Borough
144 N. Binkley
Soldatna, AK 99669-1892

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Mayor Gilman:

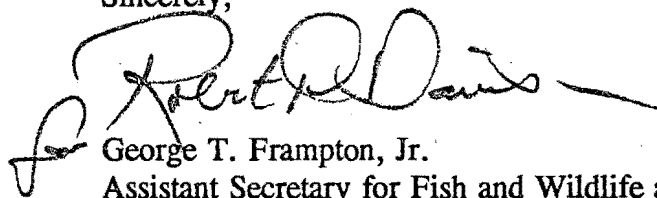
Thank you for your letter of July 26, 1995, in support of the Kenai Habitat Restoration and Recreation Enhancement Project (project #96180). Because of the value of the natural resources on the Kenai River and the importance of recreational, subsistence and commercial fishing for the local economy, we support the protection of important fish and wildlife habitat in the Kenai River watershed.

As the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responsible for managing lands in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, we fully support the protection and rehabilitation of important salmon spawning habitat in order to preserve the biological integrity of the Kenai River watershed. Because of its significant land management responsibilities in the Kenai River watershed, the Service would be interested in exploring the possibility of a joint federal-state project with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

As part of the work plan process for fiscal year 1996, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (Council) is currently considering project #96180, along with many other proposals. As you are aware, the Council is scheduled to consider projects for the Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan at the next Council meeting, which is currently scheduled for Friday, August 25, 1995, in Anchorage. At that meeting, the Council plans to receive the recommendations from the Chief Scientist and Executive Director. Their recommendations, the recommendations of the Public Advisory Group and input from local officials and the public-at-large will help guide the Council's decisions regarding which projects should be funded in the FY 1996 Work Plan.

We very much appreciate and value your interest and participation in the restoration process. We look forward to working with you and the borough in the future to protect the significant natural resources on the Kenai Peninsula.

Sincerely,


George T. Frampton, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Honorable Don Gilman

2

cc: Ms. Molly McCammon, Trustee Council
 Mr. Jim Ayers, Office of the Governor
 Mr. Frank Rue, Commissioner, ADF&G
 Mr. John Shively, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

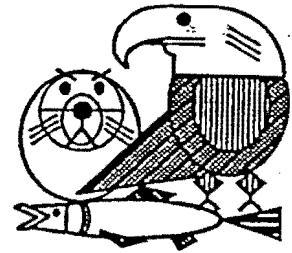
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Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 "G" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907) 278-8012 Fax: (907) 276-7178



TO: Public Advisory Group

July 27, 1995

FROM: Molly McCammon
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Public Comment on the Draft FY 96 Work Plan

The comment period for the Draft FY 96 Work Plan closes August 4, 1995. Thus far we have received only six comments: four letters and two people testified at the public meeting. The letters and a summary of the public meeting testimony is attached.

Attachments

RECEIVED
AUG 25 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Public Meeting July 20, 1995 on Draft 1996 Work Plan

On line via teleconference: Cordova and Homer Legislative Information Offices

Molly McCammon and Bob Loeffler gave brief overviews of the restoration program and the 1996 Draft Work plan. Two individuals made comments, which are summarized below.

Paul Swartzbart (Cordova) - I want to know more about the Eyak negotiations. The people in Cordova are very much hoping that you can conclude or achieve some kind of comprehensive deal that will be good for Eyak shareholders as well as tourist operators and fishermen in Cordova. We haven't given up and we hope you haven't either.

Henry Makarka (Cordova): I am a shareholder in Eyak Corporation, but I am speaking to you today as an individual. My concern is about the on-going process you've been conducting with Eyak. I've had thoughts of my own about your obligations and objectives and I've thought very seriously about what is your objective, especially in that you have a responsibility of restoration of the oiled areas. You mentioned about ongoing negotiations with Eyak and it seems to me there is a stalemate situation or a gridlock. I think because of the precedent set with Seward and Kachemak and Kodiak, I feel that the Trustees are probably negligent regarding habitat protection in Prince William Sound.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Farallon Island Station
In Cooperation with
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Palomarin Field Station
Point Reyes Bird Observatory

July 24, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G. Street; Suite 401
Anchorage, AK 99501
Attn: Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan
Fax: (907) 276-7178

Dear EVOS Trustees,

I am writing you regarding EVOS 96104, Avian Predation on Blue Mussels in Prince William Sound. This project is very important for EVOS restoration objectives, and especially the information that it will provide the Nearshore Vertebrate Predator Project EVOS 96025.

As the Director of the Pacific Flyway Project at Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory, I deem this project very important because it will provide information on 3 species of shorebirds: black oystercatchers, surfbirds, and black turnstones. The northern Montague Island study site is the most important spring staging area known for surfbirds and black turnstones. Both of these species estimated populations are relatively small (<100,000), and yet one-day counts have estimated over 50,000 surfbirds and 25,000 black turnstones at Montague Island in spring. We still have very little information on how these shorebirds are using northern Montague because it was only in 1989 that scientists first documented their use of Montague.

I would urge the Trustees to fully fund the Avian Predation on Blue Mussels Project for FY96. This research will have many benefits for both oil spill restoration objectives and shorebird conservation.

Thank you very much.

Gary Page

Director, Pacific Flyway Project

Arctic Alaska Antarctic Eastern Pacific Ocean All Western States Mexico Mono Lake

July 19, 1995

To EVOS Trustee Council,

Thank you for publicizing + sending out the Sea Bulletin. I just finished reading the June issue of Pacific Herring and found the information very interesting.

I am so happy that continued research in PWS herring is being studied. These last few years have been such a loss for so many in this area. We need our herring back to service the fishing industry.

Thanks again

PWS sac roe Herring permit holder

Olaf Gildnes

OLAF GILDNES

P.O. Box 380

CORDOVA, AK 99574

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

CHENEGA CORPORATION

☑ 3333 Denali Street, Suite 220-E
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 277-5706

☐ Post Office Box 8060
Chenega Bay, AK 99574-0060
(907) 573-5118

July 19, 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RECEIVED
JUL 25 1995

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

Dear Trustee Council Members:

Following an extensive review of the Draft Fiscal Year 1996 Work Plan, Chenega Corporation would like to express its support of the following projects and ask that they be given priority consideration for funding:

96090	Mussel Bed Restoration and Monitoring
96052A	Community Involvement and Use of Traditional Knowledge
96131	Chugach Native Region Clam Restoration
96222	Chenega Bay Salmon Restoration
96272	Chenega Chinook Release Program
96154	Chugach OSIR Community Repositories, Cultural Centers, Subsistence Restoration Facilities, Comprehensive Services, Development Planning Project
96115	Sound Waste Management Plan
96058	Landowner Assistance Project

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the restoration process.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Totemoff
President & CEO

CHENEGA CORPORATION

Post Office Box 8060
Chenega Bay, Alaska 99574-8060
(907) 573-5118
Fax (907) 573-5135

July 18, 1995

RECEIVED
JUL 24 1995

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
645 G Street, Suite 401
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3451

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
TRUSTEE COUNCIL

**RE: PUBLIC MEETING ON TRUSTEE'S DRAFT 1996 WORK
PLAN**

Dear Sirs:

Please accept my written comments on Project 96160 Assesment of Recovery from Surface Oiling, Subsurface Oiling, and Subsurface Invertebrate Contamination by Oil on Gulf of Alaska Shorelines and Project 96094 Improving Recovery Rates on Shorelines in PWS Using Enhanced Bioremediation.

PROJECT 96160 AND 96094

Historically, residents of Chenega Bay and Chenega Corporation consistently maintained that shorelines that were impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill be clean of all oil contamination. We felt it was very important to emphasize the value of restoration in all areas that was habitat to marine mammals, bird and terrestrial life. 6 years and 4 months have elapsed and oil is still bleeding into the environment. There is mousse under rocks and boulders, or just pooled, tar mat anywhere you look and heavy oil stain on the base of rock and boulders from the mid-intertidal to the upper-intertidal in many areas critical to wildlife habitat.

The mini-survey conducted by the State earlier this spring clearly documented that oil is persisting in the beaches of PWS. It's been an ill-fated practice of the State to wait on reports before deciding what approach to take.

In the case of the shoreline and mussel-bed survey performed by the State and NOAA, in 1995, no action will be noted until 1996, if at all. A delaying tactic that is resulting in *"more harm than good."* As the EVOS TRUSTEE COUNCIL is quick to repeat in all its publications for uses of the settlement monies;

*"Restoration funds must be used....":
for the purpose of restoring, replacing, enhancing or
acquiring the equivalent of natural resources injured
as a result of the EVOS or the reduced of lost services
provided by such resources.*

Rather than beat on a dead horse... the States' policy of "zero tolerance", a compromise must be identified. Do something not nothing. Studies and workshops have been ongoing since 1991.

The "draft recommendation" as made by the Chief Scientist that *"The main problem is that oil residue is offensive to local residents, who want something done about it"*. Is offensive and reckless. Dr. Bob Spies does not live in PWS, live off the waters or lands of PWS. All Prince William Sound is a free laboratory at the State's expense. He further comments that this study is expensive and time consuming, and may not satisfy local concerns. Dr. Spies has heard of concerns. We want the oil out. Expensive? No more than its costing the Spawning Channel Construction Project, Port Dick Creek in Lower Cook Inlet or the SEA Trophodynamic Modeling and validation through remote sensing studies, and the list goes on.

The EVOS Trustee Council has allocated \$24 million to the Restoration Reserve. With that I believe oil removal can be done. It is reasonable to believe that any degree of oil removal will enhance the natural recovery of the remaining oil after a treatment.

The Hazardous Substance Spill Technology Review Council effectively and correctly reported that in 1994 the *PES-51 Project* on Latouche/Sleepy Bay was an innovative restoration technique and effective in removing weathered oil from subsurface sediments. Furthermore that this modified air knife

Page 3
EVOSTC

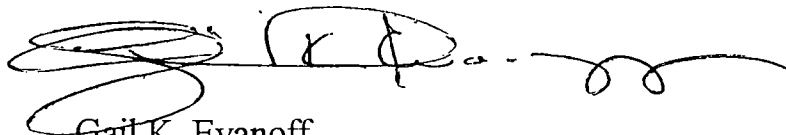
injection system followed by injection of a biosurfactant to displace the weathered oil from the surface and sea water flush was accomplished without any evidence of dissolved hydrocarbons or increased microbial activity in the sea water and for approximately 30 days after treatment there was a period of enhanced bioremediation of residual hydrocarbons. Removing 60-80% of the trapped oil and leaving 20-40% for natural degradation is an acceptable process well worth approving a plan for.

The EVOS Trustee Council is making the effort to meet with the PWS oil impacted communities. For that I am thankful. But, there is available technology that is useful and successful and it must be used.

One final comment, the HSSTRC left me pondering over the fact that another spill of the magnitude, or worse, than the Exxon Valdez is very probable because, "It is likely that more crude oil and product will be carried through Alaskan waters in the next twenty years than has been since oil was discovered in Cook Inlet. With an aging plant and aging ships, the risk can be greater in the future than in the past."

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
CHENEGA CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gail K. Evanoff', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gail K. Evanoff
VP Corporate Operations

cc:file
gke/caw evostc