

15.2.7 Vol III (1 of 2)

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALTERNATIVES

of the Draft
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill
Restoration Plan

DRAFT

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Summary of Public Comments on Alternatives Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan September 1993

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 1993, the Trustee Council asked the public for their views about issues and alternative ways to heal the injuries caused by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. To help gather public comment, the Council distributed 33,000 copies of a newspaper brochure titled "Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment." In addition, Council staff held 22 public meetings throughout the oil spill area, and in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. The public comment period on the issues and alternatives extended from April through August 6, 1993. Approximately 2,000 people gave written or verbal comments during that time. This document summarizes what they wrote and said.

The newspaper brochure included a questionnaire, 799 of which were returned: two-thirds from within the spill area, one-quarter from elsewhere in Alaska, and one-tenth from outside Alaska. In addition, 792 letters were received: one-quarter were from Alaska. Most of the letters focused on only one issue, habitat protection and acquisition, though many also mentioned fisheries studies and management programs. Between 500 and 600 people attended the public meetings, and approximately a quarter of them also sent in brochures or letters.

Issues and Policies

The newspaper brochure asked five policy questions to guide restoration decisions. We received about 700 written comments. Few people commented on these issues at public meetings. The questions are below.

Injuries Addressed by Restoration Actions: *Should restoration actions address all injured resources and services, or all except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill?*

Restoration Actions for Recovered Resources: *Should restoration actions cease when a resource has recovered, or continue in order to enhance the resource?*

Location of Restoration Actions: *Should restoration activities take place in the spill area only, anywhere in Alaska provided there is a link to injured resources or services, or anywhere in the United States provided there is a link to injured resources or services?*

Effectiveness of Restoration Actions: *Should the plan include only those restoration actions that produce substantial improvement over natural recovery, or also those that produce at least some improvement?*

Opportunities for Human Use: *To what extent should restoration actions be used to create opportunities for human use of the spill area?*

Those who commented expressed strong preferences on three of the issues. About 60% favor addressing all injured resources and services, and ceasing restoration actions when a resource recovers. Two-thirds favor limiting restoration to the spill area. Views on the two other issues are mixed.

Concerning opportunities for human use, there is no strong preference among the four answers offered in the brochure. However, only 13% of the comments favor creating appropriate new uses. To understand public opinion on this issue, one must read the comments themselves. They contain reasons for favoring a certain view, conditions under which new uses would be acceptable, definitions of terms like "appropriate," and concern over how new facilities would be maintained.

Regarding standards of effectiveness for restoration actions, there is no strong preference overall. However, two-thirds of those who commented on this issue from the spill area favor considering restoration actions that produce substantial improvement as well as those likely to produce at least some improvement. Support for this view is strongest in Prince William Sound and Kenai. Responses from outside the spill area are divided on the issue.

Categories of Restoration

The brochure questionnaire asked about four categories of restoration.

Habitat Protection and Acquisition. This category received nearly twice as many comments as any other topic. It is discussed in almost every letter, brochure, and public meeting. More than 90% of the people who commented said that habitat protection and acquisition should be part of the plan.

Hundreds of people nominated areas for purchase or protection. About 370 people recommend purchase of inholdings in Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The next most popular recommendation is a group of seven purchases that letters titled the "citizen's vision." It consists of land in the Kodiak Refuge and lands at Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, and Shuyak Straits. Forty-five people, mostly Cordovans, recommend the purchase of Eyak Lake, Power Creek and Orca Narrows. However, some people, including a 69-person petition, recommend against purchase.

of Orca Narrows.

As to what type of habitat should be emphasized for protection and acquisition, views are mixed. About a third of the people favor emphasizing habitat important to injured resources, a third favor placing an equal emphasis on habitat for injured resources and for human use. In addition, 115 people reject the choices presented in the newspaper brochure. They prefer protecting habitat for subsistence.

Monitoring and Research. About 80% of those who address this issue say that in addition to monitoring recovery and project effectiveness, the Trustee Council should undertake additional monitoring and research. The most frequent recommendation is for an ecological monitoring program.

General Restoration. While not specifically requested, many people recommend specific general restoration topics. Some are supported by dozens of people (in some cases more than a hundred). The most frequently addressed topics are:

- Cleaning residual oil from beaches and mussel beds;
- Fisheries projects;
- Subsistence projects; and
- Archaeology projects.

In addition, other popular projects include:

- Facilities in individual communities (Kodiak Fisheries Industrial Technology Center, Seward Sea Life Center, Tatitlek Harbor, and Valdez Visitor Center);
- Seabird predator control on the Aleutians.

The support is rarely unanimous, even for those topics singled out for comment by only a few people. In addition, approximately 40% of the people who responded did not favor spending any money on general restoration projects, and other cautioned against unforeseen environmental damage that these projects might cause.

Administration and Public Information. Few comments addressed administration and public information. However, nearly all that do are concerned about the money presently spent on administration. The 20 individuals who address public education and information recommend that information from the restoration process be made available to educate the public.

Endowment

Approximately two-thirds of responses favor an endowment. With the exception of some Native communities that are opposed, the support does not vary much by location. Of those who favor endowment, two-thirds say that the earnings should be used to fund long-term monitoring and research; one-half say that some endowment earnings should be spent on general restoration; and one-half say that some earnings should be spent on habitat protection.'

(The total adds to more than 100% because many people say that the earnings should be used for more than one category.)

Spending

The brochure questionnaire presented five alternative ways to use the remaining settlement fund. Each alternative allocates a different percentage of the fund to each of four restoration categories. The allocations are designed to gauge the public views about what emphasis should be placed on each restoration category. People were asked to choose an alternative if one reflected their views about which activities should be emphasized. If none reflected their views, participants could construct their own alternative.

Over half the people designed their own alternative. Thus, no one alternative of the brochure alternatives receives a majority of the response. The responses of the commenter-designed alternatives varies widely.

The table below shows the average allocations that people give to each restoration category. It includes the people who chose one of the five brochure alternatives, and those who designed their own.

Average Allocation of the Remaining Settlement Fund

Restoration Category:	Origin of Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All ¹ Responses
Habitat Protection and Acquisition	60%	42%	81%	66%
Monitoring and Research	9%	12%	9%	9%
General Restoration	16%	19%	8%	16%
Administration and Public Information	5%	5%	5%	5%
Endowment (Including only those who <i>favored</i> endowment)	20%	40%	20%	20%

¹ The columns of the table do *not* total 100%. This is because the endowment allocations include only those respondents who favored an endowment. In addition, 1,028 people provide an allocation to habitat protection and acquisition. Many of them do not specify where their remaining allocation went. Most of the other categories had approximately 650 people respond.

Relation to Alternatives

The five alternatives in the newspaper brochure included answers to the five issues and policy questions explained earlier. They also contained spending allocations by restoration category in order to illustrate how different parts of the restoration program might be emphasized. The average choices made by people who responded do not correspond precisely to any one of the five alternatives in the newspaper brochure.

The average allocation to habitat protection and acquisition is 66%; and the 16% allocation to general restoration is between Alternatives #3 and #4 of the newspaper brochure. The average allocation to monitoring and research is between alternatives #4 and #5, and the average allocation to administration and public information is between alternatives #2 and #3. In addition, the five policies most favored by the people also do not correspond to the answers given by any one of the brochure alternatives. Finally, none of the alternatives in the newspaper brochure include an endowment.

Injury

The brochure did not solicit comments about injury. Nonetheless, many people express strong views about the injuries.

Resources. For resources recognized by the Trustee Council as injured, there is concern that specific resources are showing more signs of injury than were acknowledged in the newspaper brochure. This sentiment is most frequently expressed about fish (especially pacific herring and pink salmon, and on sockeye in southern Kodiak and the Alaska Peninsula); and about subtidal and intertidal injuries (especially the continuing damage to clams, and mussels which people cite as the foundation of the marine food chain). It is also expressed, but to a lesser extent, about the many other species listed in the newspaper brochure.

There was substantial comment on many species that were not thoroughly studied for the natural resource damage assessment, but that people say have changed since the oil spill and should be included in a restoration program. Of these resources, Steller (northern) sea lion, ducks (many species, but especially eiders), deer, shrimp, and dungeness crabs are most commonly identified, but people name over 30 additional species.

Comments throughout the spill area stress the need for an ecosystem approach in each of the regions within the spill area. Most of the comments focus on marine ecosystems rather than upland ecosystems.

Services. The theme of comments about services (human uses) is that services have not received enough attention in the restoration program. Subsistence is the most frequently cited service followed by commercial fishing. Some people spoke about social damage to people in the spill area and to communities.

Process

A number of people commented on the restoration process. Many people say that they have trouble influencing the restoration process, or understanding when and how to get their ideas considered in annual work plans.

INTRODUCTION

In April 1993, the Trustee Council presented in a newspaper brochure alternatives for restoring resources and services injured in the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. The brochure was titled, "Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment." Approximately 33,000 brochures were distributed. The deadline for comment was August 6, 1993. This report summarizes all comments postmarked on or before that date. The newspaper brochure contained a questionnaire which is included as Appendix I.

We received responses in the form of completed brochure questionnaires, letters, telephone calls, and comments from 22 public meetings held in April 1993. We held meetings in these communities:

Akhiok	Juneau	Port Graham
Anchorage	Karluk	Port Lions
Chenega Bay	Kodiak	Seldovia
Chignik Lake	Larsen Bay	Seward
Chignik Lagoon	Nanwalek	Tatitlek
Cordova	Old Harbor	Valdez
Fairbanks	Ouzinkie	Whittier
Homer		

In addition, we received comments from throughout Alaska and other states. People sent in 799 brochures and 792 letters. Between 500 and 600 people attended the public meetings. About 75% of the letters came from outside Alaska and generally focused on habitat acquisition. Approximately 90% of the brochures came from within Alaska and expressed opinions on the entire range of issues and policies presented in the newspaper brochure. Appendix II presents this information in greater detail and includes a breakdown of responses by community and region. Several organizations also sent letters on behalf of their members. A list of these organizations is included as Appendix III.

Who and What Do the Responses Represent? We did not attempt to conduct a scientific survey of public opinion, but instead provided several opportunities for comment to the public. While we can't assume that the results are statistically representative of local, regional, or state populations, the large response does suggest that the results are a good guide to the preferences of the highly interested public. Because this is not a statistically valid sample of any of the populations represented, we use statistics only to the extent that they underscore a major trend. For example, "Based on 700 responses received from within the spill area on Question X, a majority (about 60%) preferred Answer Y."

In this report, we used a few quotes from public responses to illustrate major points. The location from which the response originated is indicated in parentheses after each quote.

Where Do We Go From Here? Summarizing public comments on the alternatives, issues and policies in the newspaper brochure is a critical step in completing the Restoration Plan. The Trustee Council will use the public comments to help choose the policy guidelines that will form the backbone of the Draft Restoration Plan. When the Draft Restoration Plan is completed, the public will have a chance to comment before it is issued in final form. The Final Restoration Plan will provide long-term guidance for restoring resources and services injured by the oil spill.

ISSUES AND POLICIES

The newspaper brochure published in April asked five policy questions to guide restoration decisions. We received about 700 written comments. Few people commented on these issues at public meetings.

Those who commented expressed strong preferences on three of the issues. About 60% favor addressing all injured resources and services, and ceasing restoration actions when a resource recovers. Two-thirds favor limiting restoration to the spill area. Views on the two other issues are mixed.

Concerning opportunities for human use, there is no strong preference among the four answers offered in the brochure. However, only 13% of the comments favor creating appropriate new uses. To understand public opinion on this issue, it is important to read the example comments themselves.

Regarding standards of effectiveness for restoration actions, there is no strong preference overall. However, two-thirds of those who commented on this issue from the spill area favor considering restoration actions that produce substantial improvement as well as those likely to produce at least some improvement. Support for this view is strongest in Prince William Sound and Kenai. Responses from outside the spill area are divided on the issue.

A recurring pattern among responses to some of these questions is, "None of the above." A frequently cited reason for this response is that, except for the issue of location of restoration actions, most of these questions are more germane to general restoration than to habitat protection or monitoring and research.

INJURIES ADDRESSED BY RESTORATION ACTIONS

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

Should restoration actions address all injured resources and services, or all except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill?... and offered the following choices as answers:

- ☐ *Target restoration activities to all injured resources and services.*
- ☐ *Target all injured resources and services except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill.*
- ☐ *No preference.*

About 60% of those who expressed views on this issue favor addressing all injured resources and services. Responses from the spill area as a whole are similar to the overall response. However, responses from Kodiak Island show no strong preference.

All Injured Resources and Services

About 60% of the people who commented on this issue answered, "Target restoration activities to all injured resources and services." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Lack of data makes it difficult to measure population decline accurately.

"Since many injured species had no prespill data and only those who had prespill data could be confirmed as population decline..., to only restore those which could be confirmed (in) decline would be bias." (Kodiak)

"I don't feel that enough info is available to confirm that all species did not decline, such as pink salmon and pacific herring in particular." (Cordova)

"I have a real problem with the identification of what injured resources are out there. Only the top of the food chain is identified." (Kodiak)

Ecological relationships connect all species whether or not their populations declined.

"Even though a species was not directly affected by the oil spill, the food web relationship affected all species." (Seward)

Long-term effects are uncertain.

"No one knows for certain what the long-term consequences of the oil spill might be." (Old Harbor)

"Declines may be subtle, slow to emerge." (Outside Alaska)

Measurable Decline in Population

About a third of the people who commented on this issue answered, "Target all injured resources and services except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Emphasizing the most severe injuries is cost-effective.

"Focus efforts where injuries were greatest. Let natural recovery tend to marginally affected resources. Save money for habitat protection!" (Anchorage)

If you can't measure improvement, how do you account for prudent use of funds?

"If a species' population has not declined then there is no way to tell when restoration has been successful. Money could be misspent." (Valdez)

Other Comments

Some of the comments claim that the questionnaire oversimplified this issue. They argue that the decision may be a matter of priorities rather than a simple choice or that the choices presented in the brochure missed useful options. A recurrent comment is to address subsistence.

Restore injured subsistence resources. The responses of 77 individuals, including nearly all the respondents from Port Graham, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek, contained the following comment:

"Subsistence resources must be restored to prespill quality."

Target ecosystems rather than individual species.

"Take the ecosystem view--loss or damage to a part of the system always has some effect on the whole though our science may be too unsophisticated to detect, measure, or understand it." (Kenai)

Address resources most likely to respond to restoration actions damage.

"Target efforts on those species most apt to respond--not just those most severely damaged." (Cordova)

Set priorities. Some comments suggest different approaches to setting priorities.

"Restoration actions should focus first and foremost on measurable damage to injured resources. ... (T)hen more extensive work could be done." (Seward)

"Emphasize species that are not showing natural recovery..." (Fairbanks)

"Commercially important species that were injured, measurably or not, deserve the greatest restoration effort because of their importance to the people who depend upon them." (Cordova)

None of the above: Rely on natural recovery instead of restoration.

"The more man interjects himself into nature, the more chances there are to foul it up." (Tatitlek)

RESTORATION ACTIONS FOR RECOVERED RESOURCES

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

Should restoration actions cease when a resource has recovered, or continue in order to enhance the resource?... and offered the following choices as answers:

- ☐ *Cease restoration actions once a resource recovers.*
- ☐ *Continue restoration actions even after a resource has recovered in order to enhance the resource.*
- ☐ *No preference.*

About 60% of those who addressed this issue say that a restoration action should cease when a resource has recovered. Support for this view is slightly weaker within the spill area than outside it. Responses from Prince William Sound and Kenai are comparable to the overall response; those from Kodiak Island show no strong preference; most of the seven responses from the Alaska Peninsula favor enhancement.

Restore Until Recovery

About 60% of the people who commented on this issue answered, "Cease restoration actions once a resource recovers." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Enhancement may upset the natural balance of the ecosystem.

"Enhanced resources beyond current or natural levels do more damage because of environmental competition for survival, e.g. (salmon farms, hatcheries vs. wild stock)." (Old Harbor)

"The enhancement of a recovered resource could cause damage to another injured resource which has not yet recovered or to resources not damaged by the spill. It will be important to maintain the delicate balance of the ecosystem as a whole in the restoration process." (Valdez)

"Dangerous concept -- enhancing one resource is often at the cost of another. Also contributes to conflict between resource user groups." (Juneau)

This approach makes the most out of limited funds.

"In order to accomplish the most with limited funds, work with a resource until it shows signs of recovery, then let it go on its own." (Valdez)

"Dollars will soon dwindle! Put resource dollars where they will be most effective. Get

the biggest bang per buck. Do not squander this opportunity and resource." (Anchorage)

Enhancement

About a third of the people who commented on this issue answered, "Continue restoration actions even after a resource has recovered in order to enhance the resource." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

It is difficult to tell when certain resources or services have recovered.

"Due to the complex nature of a resource such as salmon, it will be difficult to tell when it has recovered." (Cordova)

"Recovery is a subjective term. Those people that depend upon a resource that has been injured may take longer to recover than the resource." (Cordova)

Increased use of the spill area calls for enhancement to restore balance.

"Because the face of the spill areas will never be the same with ever changing conditions, recovered resources is an ambiguous goal to reach. The recreational resources and services in existence at the time of the spill are not suitable for the use now occurring in the spill area. Bringing injured resources and services to appropriate levels would involve some enhancement." (Anchorage)

Other Comments

Many comments support enhancement only under certain circumstances, such as those listed below.

Enhance only if the resource was in decline before the spill.

"Only if the species was in decline before the spill, then 'enhance' to an acceptable level." (Fairbanks)

Enhance only to replace lost fishing opportunities.

"Return resource to prespill levels and in the case of salmon anadromous streams enhance to offset lost fishing access since the spill." (Cordova)

EFFECTIVENESS OF RESTORATION ACTIONS

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

Should the plan include only those restoration actions that produce substantial

improvement over natural recovery or also those that produce at least some improvement?... and offered the following choices as answers:

- ☐ *Conduct only those restoration actions that provide substantial improvement over natural recovery.*
- ☐ *Conduct restoration actions that provide at least some improvement over natural recovery.*
- ☐ *No preference.*

Those who responded to this question expressed no strong preference overall. However, two-thirds of those who commented on this issue from the spill area favor considering restoration actions that produce substantial improvement as well as those likely to produce at least some improvement. Support for this view is strongest in Prince William Sound and Kenai. Responses from outside the spill area are divided on this issue.

Substantial Improvement

Nearly half of those who commented on this issue answered, "Conduct only those restoration actions that provide substantial improvement over natural recovery." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Funds are limited. You can't afford to do everything.

"Money would be spread too thin to be effective otherwise." (Valdez)

"Money is very limited and the best use is habitat acquisition. Allocate money only where we will get a substantial return for the investment." (Homer)

Experiments may cause damage.

"Just do the best projects. Experimental projects could do damage. Most resources will recover if left alone." (Cordova)

"Practice minimum intervention, lest restoration efforts cause more damage than the original insult." (Outside Alaska)

At Least Some Improvement

About half of all who commented on this issue, including two-thirds of those within the spill area, answered, "Conduct restoration actions that provide at least some improvement over natural recovery." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Residual effects, like buried oil, still damage uses like subsistence. The responses of 73 individuals, including nearly all the respondents from Port Graham, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek, contained the following comment:

"Following the first rationale (substantial improvement) has already been demonstrated as erroneous because buried oil remains in beaches which still damages subsistence resources by leaking out."

Even restoration actions whose effects are small or uncertain may be significant.

"For although initially an action may seem to be small it may help considerably later."
(Kodiak)

"Hard to predict outcome of any action, especially as it is magnified through the food chain." (Seward)

"Even modest improvements may suffice to enable natural recovery." (Outside Alaska)

Other Comments

Some people question how decisions about effectiveness would be made. Others say this issue is a matter of priorities.

How do you define "substantial" or "effective"? Some comments questioned who would make these decisions. Others offered their own definition of what makes a restoration action effective.

"Who defines substantial? You have not even been able to define the parameter of impairment 2 years and 1/3 of the money later." (Cordova)

"Trustees should prefer projects which provide lasting protection for injured resources and services. A project which speeds up recovery of a damaged population by a few years is a far less effective use of settlement funds than a project which helps protect populations in perpetuity." (Anchorage)

"..(R)estoration options should be evaluated from the perspective of whether they benefit more than a single resource. The Pacific Seabird Group's preferred options generally would benefit other seabirds (and often other organisms), not just a single species."
(Outside Alaska)

Set priorities. Some comments say that restoration actions that produce substantial improvement should be the top priority and less effective actions should have a lower priority.

"While restoration actions that can produce "at least some improvement" should not be ruled out as a policy matter, as a practical matter, given limited settlement funds,

restoration action with only marginal benefits should be accorded an extremely low priority." (Anchorage)

"Substantial improvement is, of course, ideal, but those that would provide some improvement should not be left out." (Valdez)

LOCATION OF RESTORATION ACTIONS

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

Should restoration actions take place in the spill area only, anywhere in Alaska provided there is a link to injured resources or services, or anywhere in the United States provided there is a link to injured resources or services?... and offered the following choices as answers:

- ☐ *Limit restoration actions to the spill area only.*
- ☐ *Undertake restoration actions anywhere in Alaska there is a link to injured resources or services.*
- ☐ *Undertake restoration actions anywhere in the United States there is a link to injured resources or services.*
- ☐ *No preference.*

Two-thirds of all those who responded to this question favor limiting restoration actions to the spill area. Support for this view was even stronger within the spill area, where three-quarters of those who responded would like to see restoration actions limited to the spill area. Fewer than one-tenth of all who commented on this issue favor restoration actions outside Alaska.

Spill Area

Two-thirds of those who responded to this question, including three-fourths of those within the spill area, answered, "Limit restoration actions to the spill area only." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Link to injury is strongest in the spill area.

"We doubt that a well-founded link to injured resources or services can be justified outside the spill area." seventy-three individuals, including nearly all the respondents from Port Graham, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek, submitted this statement.

"In many instances linkages to injured resources and services may be subtle at best. This will be even more the case as distances from the spill affected areas increase." (Cordova).

"I feel that these funds should be used only within PWS, outer Kenai Coast, and Kodiak Island and in proportion to the extent of damage." (Cordova)

Funds are limited and demands within the spill area are great.

"Even a large sum of money such as this can be diluted pretty quickly by trying to spread it too thin." (Kodiak)

"There is not enough money to fund other areas of state. Plenty to do in spill area." (Port Graham)

Alaska Outside the Spill Area

A small proportion of those who commented on this issue answered, "Undertake restoration actions anywhere in Alaska there is a link to injured resources or services." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Restoration actions outside the spill area can sometimes be more effective than those within the spill area, especially for migrating marine mammals or seabirds.

"Mitigation can occur by benefitting seabirds outside the spill area. Supporting the removal of alien species from islands would benefit seabirds overall far more than any other restoration technique." (Homer)

"Some species especially migrant sea mammals and birds continue to decline not because of one local (event), but from interaction all along their life's travels and instincts." (Old Harbor)

Anywhere in the United States

Fewer than 10% of those who commented on this issue answered, "Undertake restoration actions anywhere in the United States there is a link to injured resources or services" Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Migrating marine mammals and seabirds were injured and may be helped outside spill area and outside Alaska.

"Example - protecting migratory bird habitat. Injured species do not recognize state boundaries!" (Outside Alaska)

Other Comments

Some people recommend that the spill area be expanded to include Perryville, Ivanof Bay, and the Susitna drainage. Others recommend that the Trustee Council establish guidelines for considering projects outside the spill area.

Expand the "Spill Area" to include Perryville and Ivanof Bay.

At public meetings in Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake and in the few letters received from Perryville, people expressed strong support for expanding the spill area to include Perryville and Ivanof Bay. Reasons given for this expansion are that the shorelines of these villages were oiled, local commercial and subsistence resources were damaged, and the sockeye salmon run on which these villages depend in Chignik and Black Lakes were also damaged in the spill. Since the public meetings in April, Perryville and Ivanof Bay have been added to the spill area.

"The boundaries you have outlined I think should include all villages (Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lakes, Perryville and Ivanof). We all depend on this fishery not just the lagoon and lakes." (Chignik Lagoon)

Expand the "Spill Area" to include the Susitna River drainage.

"The spill has had a tremendous effect on the fish in the Susitna Drainage and it should be included." (Anchorage)

Focus on the spill area, but consider restoration actions outside the spill area under certain circumstances. Some people suggest that the Trustee Council adopt guidelines for determining whether to venture beyond the spill area.

"If there is nothing that can be done in the spill-affected area, only then should you look at proposals outside the spill-affected area." (Seldovia)

"The following hierarchy represents the most direct means of achieving this objective (offsetting adverse impacts to fish and wildlife populations and their habitats): 1) Benefit species affected where they were affected, 2) Benefit species affected as close as possible to where they were affected, 3) Benefit other species in the spill area, and 4) Benefit other species as close as possible to the spill area." (Juneau)

"The spill area should be the priority, and anything outside that area should be secondary." (Nanwalek)

"Allow actions outside the spill area for species with continuing population decline (lower priority)." (Anchorage)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HUMAN USE

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

To what extent should restoration actions be used to create opportunities for human use of the spill area?...and offered the following choices as answers:

- ☐ *Do not conduct restoration actions that create opportunities for human use.*
- ☐ *Conduct restoration actions to protect existing human use.*

- ☐ *In addition to restoration actions that protect existing human use, also conduct actions that increase existing human use.*
- ☐ *In addition to activities that protect or increase existing human use, also conduct actions that encourage appropriate new uses.*
- ☐ *No preference.*

There is no strong preference among the four answers offered in the newspaper brochure. However, only 13% of the comments favor creating appropriate new uses. To understand public opinion on this issue, one must read the comments themselves. We have included examples of typical comments in this section.

No New Opportunities for Human Use

About one-fifth of all those who responded to this question answered, "Do not conduct restoration actions that create opportunities for human use." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Actions that protect or increase existing human use are unrelated to restoration.

"Protection of existing human use is desirable but it is a separate issue from restoration of the natural habitat and wildlife. Use these funds for restoration activities." (Outside Alaska)

Protect Existing Human Use

About one-third of all those who responded to this question, including about half of those from outside Alaska, answered, "Conduct restoration actions to protect existing human use." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Actions that decrease the impact of human use promote restoration.

"Protecting overused areas is a good idea. Otherwise use NO funds to promote human activities in the spill affected areas as human use is potentially damaging. Let it occur naturally without promoting more." (Homer)

Protect and Increase Existing Human Use

About a quarter of all those who responded to this question, answered, "In addition to restoration actions that protect existing human use, also conduct actions that increase existing human use." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Actions that increase existing human use improve the lifestyle of those affected by the spill.
Seventy-six individuals, submitted this statement:

"Subsistence, sport and commercial fish runs and an enhanced recreation industry will benefit PWS residents whose lifestyle has been altered by the spill.", including nearly all the responses from Port Graham, Chenega Bay, and Tatitlek.

New uses should be near existing communities.

"New uses are OK, but should exist close to towns and villages that encourage use close by and would not create disturbances in pristine areas of the sound and coast." (Valdez)

Appropriate New Uses

Only 13% of all those who responded to this question, answered, "In addition to restoration actions that protect or increase existing human use, also conduct actions that encourage appropriate new uses." Examples of typical comments given in support of this answer include the following:

Let people enjoy the spill area.

"Spend the money to let more people enjoy the Sound. Build more boat harbors! Create new fish runs! Build more cabins! Use the Sound Don't lock it up!" (Valdez)

Projects are "appropriate" if they divert use away from sensitive areas.

"The key word is appropriate. Existing use should be protected, but use has increased as a result of EVOS publicity. Therefore, appropriate management of human use may entail increasing use in some areas to decrease impact on others. In this event, increasing use projects are appropriate. We should not actively seek to increase use of the spill area in general through projects." Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

Other Comments

Several comments express concern about how new facilities would be maintained. Others favor increasing certain uses, but not others.

How will new facilities be maintained?

"Oil spill monies should not be spent on infrastructure projects without a clear vision of the future maintenance funding of those projects." (Cordova)

CATEGORIES OF RESTORATION

HABITAT PROTECTION AND ACQUISITION

Habitat Protection and Acquisition received the greatest share of public comment. Its place in the restoration program was discussed in almost every letter, brochure, and public meeting. It received overwhelming support as a part of the plan. The major disagreement about habitat protection was on emphasis; what should be emphasized and how much. In addition, hundreds of people recommended a total of 50 areas for acquisition and protection.

The newspaper brochure asked four questions:

- Do you agree that habitat protection and acquisition should be a part of the plan?
- What type of habitat should be emphasized: habitat for resources, services, or both?
- Recommendations for specific purchases or protection.
- Spending: What emphasis should the Trustee Council place on habitat protection and acquisition?

Should Habitat Protection and Acquisition be a Part of the Plan?

The newspaper brochure asked the following question:

Do you agree that habitat protection and acquisition should be a part of the plan? The choices were:

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

Almost all responses answered "Yes", habitat protection and acquisition should be part of the plan. This sentiment was expressed by almost 90% of those who returned a brochure and the overwhelming majority of those who wrote letters. The extent of support varied little depending on location. The only exception was in six of the seven brochures returned from Chignik Lagoon and Perryville (the only two villages returning brochures on the Alaska Peninsula) which indicated that habitat protection should not be part of the plan.

Comments Supporting Habitat Protection and Acquisition. Hundreds of people expressed a strong sentiment without giving detailed reasons. However, many comments contained reasons for supporting habitat protection and acquisition. Recurring reasons are summarized below.

Active restoration is ineffective; recovery will occur without our intervention. Many people said that they came to their conclusion to support habitat protection because they believe that most human action to speed up recovery is ineffective -- that nature will achieve recovery on its own.

"...it is better to just acquire habitat and basically say God knows best. We know a little bit, but we don't know enough...We have to admit that all the queens' horses and all of her men

just cannot put it together again. There are some excellent ideals out there, but I believe habitat acquisition is the best way to spend money." (Seward)

"Recovery of species will occur naturally, even without intervention or spending -- (you) should allocate most funds for critical habitat acquisition." (Juneau)

"It seems that there is very little that can be done to cost-effectively restore injured resources and services other than through land and habitat acquisition." (Anchorage)

"We simply cannot fix a broken ecosystem. Therefore I am recommending that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection." (Outside Alaska)

Either buy habitat or the agencies will squander the money.

"Acquisition would at least be a permanent accomplishment for the E-V Trust Funds as opposed to pumping the respective agencies with funds for a plethora of studies of dubious value." (Kodiak)

"Something good must come out of all this. Habitat acquisition is the only tangible thing that can." (Outside Alaska)

Buying land is the key to the rural way of life.

"We believe that habitat protection and acquisition should be a major component of the Restoration Plan...People want to live, work, and visit these lands because of their natural resources in a wilderness setting. If those resources are conserved, they will be the key to the continuation of the rural Alaska way of life." (Old Harbor)

Habitat is needed for a sustainable economy.

"Simply stated: intact forest lands can and do provide an essential biologic foundation for permanent jobs and strong, sustainable economies. It would be tragic, to say the least, if the ecosystems biological resources and coastal communities of the Exxon Valdez impact region were to finally recover from the spill, only to suffer further devastation as a result of unsustainable, "boom and bust" development activities, in particular clearcut logging." (Anchorage)

"Tourism will provide more long-term employment than short-term unsustainable logging. Tourists don't want to see stumps." (Cordova)

Stop logging (and other development). Stopping clearcut logging was a common theme of the letters. However, many letters mentioned preventing habitat loss from other types of development activities as well.

"This (habitat protection) must be done soon, before logging, mining, and recreation developments interfere with the integrity of the ecosystem as a whole." (Cordova)

"I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. If this action isn't taken, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This will only add to the devastating consequences of the Valdez oil Spill. Please help!" (Outside Alaska)

Thank you for Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay. Many letters began with a thank you for the Trustee Council action to purchase Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay.

"I am writing to voice my support of the use of Exxon settlement funds for habitat acquisition in the spill affected area. I applaud the designation of funds for purchases in Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay on Afognak Island." (Homer)

Comments opposing habitat protection and acquisition. Between 5% and 10% of the responses opposed the use of habitat protection either in all cases or in the specific instance that was the subject of the comment. Those that did, however, often used strong language to reflect their disbelief in what was happening. The recurring comments are summarized below.

So much land is already publicly owned.

"Too much government land in Alaska. Not enough privately owned." (Homer)

"I can't figure out why we are going to buy land. What is the government doing buying more land when they own 97% of the State of Alaska?" (Anchorage)

Buying land is not restoration.

"How many trees were damaged in the spill?" (Seward)

"Owning land will not help prevent other spills or help injured resources by itself." (Seward)

Don't restore the fish by hurting the timber industry.

"The logging industry has truly blessed our family and benefited our community. Please do not buy this timber, we will be losing our jobs, and our own will be due for more hard times. This money should not be used for more hardships for the people of Cordova." (Cordova)

With all the budget cuts coming to the agencies, we're using money to buy land? This sentiment was mostly expressed at the meeting at Chignik Lagoon.

"It doesn't make any sense to me to buy habitat...It doesn't make sense to buy habitat if you're going to cut back the Department of Fish and Game so you can't monitor it...If they want habitat and stuff like that, let the tree huggers buy it." (Chignik Lagoon)

Native ownership is important to Native people. Some Native speakers in many regions expressed concern about losing their ownership.

"Our land was sold once and it took so long for us to get it back again." (Cordova)

"Thanks but no thanks. Our land is all we have left and we'll keep it, thank you." (Chenega Bay)

Other comments about habitat protection and acquisition. We received a small number of comments that discussed land management, or the way in which habitat should be protected.

Public land, or land purchased by the Trustee Council should be managed for restoration.

"Covenants should contain specific language that these areas (those acquired for habitat and viewsheds areas) must be managed for habitat and viewshed restoration....We would like to see the Restoration Plan include an administrative alternative that allowed a non-profit agency, such as the Nature Conservancy, to manage conservation areas for either private or government landholders." (Valdez)

"I heard that for land acquired under restoration, the state might consider selling it. I would like to see it locked up under some type of sanctuary status." (Homer)

"While there is plenty of talk here about acquiring land there is nothing about funding for management of these lands once they are acquired from private sources or even who will manage them. If funding goes into acquiring land, then funding needs to go to manage them." (Anchorage)

Type of purchase: easements versus timber rights versus fee simple purchase. Only a handful of people commented about the type of purchase. Not enough to develop any trends.

What Habitat Types, if any, Should be Emphasized?

The full text of the brochure question was:

Protection and acquisition will include all habitat types, but may emphasize one over another. Please indicate the habitat types, if any, that should be emphasized. The brochure choices were:

- ☐ *Emphasize acquiring and protecting habitat important to injured resources.*
- ☐ *Emphasize acquiring and protecting habitat important for human use (important scenic areas and human use areas).*
- ☐ *Place equal emphasis on acquiring the most important habitats for injured species and on the most important habitat for human use (scenic and human use areas).*
- ☐ *Other*

Responses were almost evenly split between "equal emphasis", and "habitat important to injured resources." Very few chose "habitat important for human use." There were some differences among the spill area. Four fifths of responses from Kodiak Island (and over 90% of those in Old Harbor) chose "equal emphasis." The brochure questionnaires returned from the Native villages of Prince William Sound and Kenai almost unanimously chose "other" and wrote in their preference for protecting habitat for subsistence. Very few comments were made on this subject other than through the brochure response form. We received few letters and few comments at the public meeting on this subject.

Below are some common reasons people gave for making their choice. (No reasons are given for choosing *emphasize habitat important for human use* because few people made that choice.)

Reasons for selecting *emphasize habitat important to injured resources*. Below are some reasons given for selecting this choice.

Species first, humans second.

"After critical habitat needs are met, then consider human uses. When choosing between similar habitat acquisitions, factor in the human use value to help make the choice."
(Anchorage)

"Concentrate on natural habitats for all forms of wildlife. The human uses are secondary and will succeed if the natural habitats are secure." (Outside Alaska)

Resources only

"I think its more important to help the animals than having a scenic area for people."
(Anchorage)

"Habitat for increased human use does not need to be acquired. Forest Service and state parks land offer ample opportunity for human recreation (some may need additional development). Money should be for species injured." (Location unknown)

Reasons for selecting *place equal emphasis on the most important habitats for injured species and on the most important habitats for human use.*

Humans were injured too.

"Humans are an injured resource, especially in 'oil spill' communities like Cordova."
(Cordova)

"Since human recreation was a highly injured service, there is no real contradiction to be resolved here." (Anchorage)

Place equal emphasis on humans and species.

"In our experience, many areas which have high value as habitat also are highly valued by the user seeking wilderness values. Thus, many parcels could meet both criteria. There should be stipulations to preserve wilderness values (i.e., timber) and allow recreation access." (Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

Reasons for selecting "Other": *Subsistence*. One hundred and fifteen people, including almost all who responded from the Native villages of Prince William Sound and Kenai did not choose any of the choices the brochure offered. Instead, they chose "other" and wrote in their own choice. These villages were Chenega Bay, Tatitlek, and Port Graham (Nanwalek had no responses). For 80 of the 115 people, the choice was subsistence. These eighty people almost uniformly wrote the following sentence.

"We agree to land purchase only from willing sellers and absolutely oppose land condemnation. We recommend protecting habitat for subsistence."

In addition to these three villages, this choice was received from Cordova, Anchorage, other areas of Alaska, and from outside Alaska. Among the 35 people who chose "other" but did not write this sentence, there were no recurring explanations.

Where Should the Trustee Council Purchase Habitat?

The brochure asked people to write "an area you would like the Trustee Council to acquire or protect." Many people did.

The "Citizen's Vision." The largest number of comments (271 letters) recommended purchase of seven areas which the comments called the "citizen's vision." Almost two-thirds originated outside of Alaska, and few came from the spill area. Below is a typical letter showing justification for each area.

"1. Port Gravina/Orca Bay: The old growth forests of eastern Prince William Sound near Cordova provide exceptional habitat for spill-injured species and support high value wilderness recreation and tourism. **2. Port Fidalgo:** On-going logging activities here threaten the densely forested habitat along sheltered bays near Tatitlek and Valdez. **3. Knight Island Passage:** Rugged mountainous islands with intimate bays provide habitat for spill-impacted species such as killer whales, harbor seals, bald eagles and salmon. **4. Kenai Fjords National Park:** One of Alaska's crown jewels, the heart is threatened by logging and development on private lands within the park. **5. Port Chatham:** This is the last stretch of intact forest habitat along the tip of the outer Kenai Coast. **6. Shuyak Straits:** The Sitka spruce forest on northern Afognak is home to marbled murrelets, salmon, brown

bear, elk and deer. **7. Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge:** Although logging is not a threat here, other development activities would jeopardize prime brown bear habitat and other wildlife values."

Many of the "citizen's vision" letters went on to say:

"Purchasing these habitats would be the best way to guarantee recovery of the areas affected by the spill and would protect them from further injury. It would also preserve valuable tourist attractions and, most important, our unique and priceless Alaskan heritage. Buying wildlife habitat should in fact be the central focus of the restoration plan and should cover broad areas, including entire watersheds."

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. In addition to the 271 letters advocating the "citizen's vision" outlined above, 106 other letters advocated purchase of private inholdings from willing sellers in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. This was the largest number of comments received for a single area.

Seventy letters from outside Alaska came on a form supplied by the Great Bear Foundation of Montana.

"Please register my vote for Alternative 2 among the restoration plans you are considering. As someone interested in the best form of environmental recovery from the Exxon oil spill, I wish to see the greatest amount of threatened wildlife habitat in the spill zone acquired. Alternative 2 dedicates 91% of the remaining \$600 million in the fund to habitat acquisition. In addition, my highest priority for lands to be acquired are Native inholdings and other private parcels from willing sellers in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you."

Other letters, from the City of Kodiak, Kodiak Villages, other areas in Alaska, and from outside Alaska advocated purchase of the refuge inholdings for a variety of reasons:

"Koniag (Corporation) has long maintained that its Karluk and Sturgeon River former wildlife refuge lands on the west side of Kodiak must be reacquired to have a bear refuge worthy of the name." (Kodiak)

An unusually large number of letters advocating purchase of the refuge inholdings came from organizations: Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc.; Boone and Crockett Club; Game Conservation International; Great Bear Foundation; International Association for Bear Research and Management; International Wild Waterfowl Association; Kodiak Audubon Society; Koniag Inc.; National Audubon Society; National Rifle Association (co-signed by Wildlife Legislative Fund of America, and Safari Club International); National Wildlife Refuge Association; and Old Harbor Native Corporation.

The purchases were also strongly supported at public meetings in Old Harbor and Akhiok.

Areas near Cordova. In addition to comments advocating purchase of the "citizen's vision" areas, many comments focused on the potential purchase of Eyak lands at Power Creek, Eyak Lake, Orca Narrows, and nearby areas.

Supporting purchases Forty-one letters, mostly from Cordova, supported purchases around Eyak Lake. Reasons cited include effect on wildlife, tourist industry, views, drinking water, and "atrocious logging practices."

"Support the Trustee Council buying timber rights for Power Creek, Eyak Lake, and other areas in Prince William Sound. Most important thing to protect is the highly visible areas along main PWS traffic routes so tourists won't get bad impressions. It's also important to protect salmon streams since they are important to commercial fishing." (Cordova)

"I urge the Trustee Council to support the agreement now being negotiated with the Eyak Corporation to acquire and protect Power Creek and Eyak Lake and Nelson Bay lands. I am disgruntled about the clear-cutting and the effects this has on wildlife habitat." (Cordova)

Letters advocating some purchases, but against purchase of Orca Narrows. Three letters and one petition advocated purchase of Eyak Lake and Power Creek, but not Orca Narrows.

"We the residents of Cordova, Alaska are against any purchases of timber other than Eyak River, Eyak Lake, and Power Creek areas. By including Orca Narrows in the timber buy out it would eliminate logging in the Cordova area." (Cordova petition signed by 69 people)

"My husband...began fishing in 1975...in 1990, he had to find another career. Indirectly the 1989 oil spill ruined his job....Fortunately he got a full-time job with the local logging company...it has allowed lifelong Cordova residents, such as us, to remain in our town that we love. Spending allocated funds to buy back timber in PWS is senseless...Should the same money be used to help restore what damage was done to our community destroy my families livelihood once more....I am not against the buying of the lands near Eyak Lake and Power Creek in order to protect Cordova's fishing streams, but the Orca Narrows do not pose any threat to the fisheries." (Cordova)

Afognak Island. In addition to the letters recommending purchase of "citizen's vision" areas, approximately a dozen people asked specifically for further purchases on Afognak Island: (approximately half from the spill area and half from elsewhere in Alaska.) Many of these also thanked the Trustee Council for their recent purchase at Seal Bay.

"(Priorities for habitat protection): #1 Seal Bay lands. #2 Pauls and Laura lake Chain. #3 Shuyak Straits conservation unit. #4 Long Lagoon area." (Kodiak)

"The Shuyak Straits/Northern Afognak lands are also of special interest to our members (the Kodiak Audubon Society). Not only are these lands and coastal habitat home to many species that suffered substantial injury to the spill, this wilderness also offers magnificent scenic and recreation values. Acquisition of these ecosystems would insure recovery and protect many

resources and services from further degradation." (Kodiak)

Kachemak Bay. Like Afognak, many letters thanked the Trustee Council for their purchase of Kachemak Bay. One other recommended additional purchases adjacent to the park, and two recommended purchase of Gull Island.

Kenai Fjords National Park. In addition to people recommending purchase of the seven "citizen's vision" areas, almost two dozen people recommended purchase of inholdings in Kenai Fjords National Park. The comments were received primarily from Seward but also from Anchorage and around Alaska.

"I would like to see oil spill money used to purchase native land. English Bay or Port Graham is willing to sell back to Kenai Fjords National Park. The coastal parcels in question are vital components of the park ecosystem for resource protection and visitor use."
(Seward)

There was also significant discussion of Kenai Fjords National Park inholdings at the Seward public meeting.

Other Areas. Hundreds of people recommended areas for purchase. Table 2 shows the areas people recommended, and the number of times those areas were mentioned. With the exception of Orca Narrows, virtually all comments are recommendations for purchase or protection. As described earlier, Orca Narrows had mixed response. The numbers beside each parcel *do not* include recommendations made as part of the "citizen's vision" package.

Also, the Pacific Seabird Group recommended 51 seabird colonies for acquisition. They are not included in the table. Their recommendations include south side of the Alaska Peninsula (13 colonies), Fox Islands in the Eastern Aleutians (16 colonies), Kodiak Island vicinity (16 colonies), Bering Sea (3 colonies), and Gulf of Alaska (3 colonies).

Table 1. Areas Recommended for Purchase or Protection

<u># of</u> <u>cmts</u>	<u>Prince William Sound</u>	<u># of</u> <u>cmts</u>	<u>General</u>
2	Bainbridge Island	271	Citizens Vision
3	Chenega Island	1	Tongass National Forest
1	Chugach National Forest		
89	Cordova area private lands (including: Eyak Lake, Eyak River, Power Creek, Power Lake, and Orca Narrows)		<u>Kenai Area</u>
5	Dangerous Passage	1	Chrome Bay
6	Eshamy/Jackpot Bay	2	Gull Island
2	Evans Bay	1	Kamishak Bay
4	Fish Bay/Port Fidalgo	29	Kenai Fjord National Park
2	Hawkins Island	2	Kenai Peninsula
1	Hinchinbrook Island	1	Rocky Bay
1	Icy Bay		<u>Kodiak Area</u>
7	Knight Island	11	Afognak Island
1	Knowles Head	2	Fox/Red Fox Bay
3	Latouche Island	2	Karluk River
3	Montague Island	8	Kodiak Island
2	Naked Island	106	Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
7	Nelson Bay	2	Long Lagoon
3	Olsen Bay	2	Pauls & Laura Lake Chain
1	Patton Bay	6	Shuyak Island/Strait
4	Port Gravina (including Bear Trap Bay)	2	Sitkalidak Island
1	Red Head	1	Sturgeon River
3	Rude River		
5	Sheep Bay		
5	Simpson Bay		
2	Two Moon Bay		
1	Windy Bay		

Questions about Spending

The question about spending asked, *What emphasis should be placed on Habitat Protection and Acquisition?* People were asked what percentage of the remaining civil settlement fund should be allocated to habitat protection acquisition. They answered by choosing one of the five alternatives that contained a percentage that fit their views, or by writing in a percentage of their own.

Peoples answers differed significantly by location: the average of spill-area responses differed from those of other Alaskan residents and from those outside Alaska. There was also some difference by region of the spill area. The largest average allocation to habitat protection from within the spill area were from people living in Old Harbor and Akhiok.

This question received more comment than any other. More than 1,000 people gave specific percentages that reflected their emphasis. This was much larger than the 650 responses typical of other brochure questions. Most of the additional responses were from outside of Alaska. Many others wrote in giving their support without specifying numbers. Most of the additional responses came from outside of Alaska.

Table 2. Average Allocation of the Remaining Civil Settlement Fund to Habitat Protection and Acquisition

	Origin of Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All ¹ Responses
No. of Responses (%)	414 (40%)	164 (16%)	436 (42%)	1,028 (100%)
Average Allocation	60%	42%	81%	66%

¹ Total includes 14 responses from unknown origin.

Spill Area. The amount of remaining settlement funds that people from the spill area said should be allocated to habitat protection and acquisition varied widely: from 0% to 92% and everything in between. As many respondents picked between 40%-50% as picked 91% (Alternative #2). The average that spill area people allocated to habitat protection was approximately 60% of the remaining settlement funds.

An exception was the Kodiak Region. The average for this region was approximately 80% -- the highest in the spill area. This reflected, in large part, the 127 people from Old Harbor and Akhiok, the vast majority of whom picked Alternative #2 which allocates 91% of the remaining settlement to habitat protection. Twenty-seven responses received from the City of Kodiak allocated an average of just over 50%.

The only areas where people allocated an average of less than 40% to habitat protection were the City of Kenai (15 respondents, averaging approximately 25%), and Valdez (17 respondents, approximately 35%).

Alaska, outside the Spill Area. The approximately 160 responses received from outside of the spill area in Alaska included responses that varied from 0% to 91%. The average allocation to habitat protection was approximately 40%.

Outside Alaska. Responses from outside of Alaska were not widely dispersed. Most specified 80% or Alternative #2. A few specified less; a very few specified nothing.

Of the 436 responses received from outside Alaska, 154 individuals did not fill out the brochure but wrote letters requesting that 80% be allocated to habitat protection. Another 102 advocated Alternative #2. Many others wrote in favoring habitat protection without specifying a percentage. Considering those that answered the brochure, and the letters that specified a percentage, the average amount recommended for habitat protection was approximately 81%.

The overall average. The average amount that was allocated to habitat protection and acquisition, considering all responses that either answered the brochure question or wrote in specifying a percentage, was approximately 66%.

MONITORING AND RESEARCH

The brochure asked three questions about monitoring and research.

- In addition to Recovery and Restoration monitoring, should the Trustee Council also conduct other monitoring activities?
- If "Yes", what activities?
- What emphasis should be placed on research and monitoring?

These questions received significant discussion at the public meetings, in letters, and brochure comments. The greatest interest was in ecological monitoring. A commonly expressed view was that something was wrong with the ecosystem, but that exactly what was wrong is not understood. They also said that this concept was not captured by the Trustee Council's list of species that did and did not experience a population decline. Ecological monitoring and research was often supported as a way to determine what was wrong, and to understand the natural variation of many species.

Some of the people who supported ecological monitoring also said that monitoring and research will be required for more than ten years. Some of these people also said they supported an endowment to fund the continuing research. (The comments concerning endowments are summarized in the Endowment section of this report.)

Should the Trustee Council Conduct Additional Monitoring?

The full text of the newspaper brochure question concerning monitoring is below:

To effectively conduct restoration, it is necessary to monitor recovery and to monitor the effectiveness of individual restoration activities. It is also possible to conduct other monitoring activities: Ecological monitoring and restoration research. In addition to Recovery and Restoration monitoring, should the Trustee Council also conduct other monitoring activities? The brochure choices were:

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

There was strong support for additional monitoring activities; approximately 80% of all respondents favored additional monitoring. The extent of support was similar for within the spill area, elsewhere in Alaska, and from outside Alaska. Akhiok was the only community where respondents opposed additional monitoring and research (9 responses, 6 opposed), and mixed response was received from the City of Kenai (17 responses). All other showed strong support.

If Yes, What Activities?

The newspaper brochure asked:

Please indicate which monitoring and research activities you believe are appropriate.

The choices were:

- ☐ *Ecological Monitoring*
- ☐ *Restoration Research*
- ☐ *Other*

The brochure defined Ecological monitoring as "monitor the general ecosystem health to identify problems and prepare for future spills." Restoration Research was defined as "basic and applied research to benefit injured resources and services." It used the term to mean research into new restoration techniques. The comments indicate that many people understood the term "research" to mean using science to figure out what's wrong. In that common sense use of the term "research", there was little distinction between ecological monitoring and research. And most comments did not make much distinction.

Because of the confusion, the answers to the question are difficult to interpret. However, of those who answered "Yes" to the question concerning additional research and monitoring, ecological monitoring received the greatest support. This was true within the spill area, elsewhere in Alaska, and outside Alaska. Exceptions were Valdez where research was more strongly favored, and Seward which was mixed.

Some Native communities were also an exception to the trend. In Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, and Port Graham, the most popular choice was "Other."

Comments favoring Ecological Monitoring and Restoration Research. People who favored ecological monitoring and those who favored restoration research frequently gave similar reasons. Frequently cited reasons are summarized below.

Knowledge of ecosystems is important. Many of the people who commented said that basic ecosystem information is needed and indicated that long-term comprehensive monitoring may be a way of obtaining that information.

"The ecosystem of PWS and the Gulf of Alaska are poorly understood. Ecological monitoring at the ecosystem level would be very valuable" (Cordova)

"This would provide needed information to aid in direction of efforts to restore and maintain the resources at optimum levels." (Old Harbor)

Baseline Research. People who commented expressed their support of scientific research to help understand the ecosystem, and to gather baseline information to prepare for the next oil spill.

"Baseline research about the marine and coastal environments will benefit the whole state for years to come. Focus on ecosystem relationships and also wildlife population censuses." (Anchorage)

"What we all need is the research to devise the strategy for the inevitable next spill." (Juneau)

Fisheries Research.

"...continued support for scientific monitoring and research is essential, particularly fisheries research. Continued monitoring and research is especially important to ensure proper understanding of ecosystem impacts. Monitoring and research should be focused narrowly on single species or populations but include degradation of habitats, chronic and sub-lethal effects, including changes in physiological or biochemical changes in productivity." (Anchorage)

Monitoring and Research programs should be long-term. People who supported ecosystem monitoring sometimes stated that a monitoring and research program should not be limited to the 10-year settlement period. Many of these people also recommended establishing an endowment that would guarantee long-term funding for monitoring and research.

"Only long-term research and monitoring studies will provide the kind of information needed to assess future spills. Most studies that only last a few years do not provide very useful information because of natural variability!" (Anchorage)

"Because good, reliable monitoring takes years, (fish cycles are 4-6 yrs) the benefits from an endowment will allow those type time frames which don't fit as well in the 8 years remaining of the current funds. There's a strong lack of good baseline data on most species and it's a guess to figure impacts without good baselines. An endowment will help establish those baselines." (Valdez)

Comments favoring "Other." In Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, and Port Graham, the most popular choice was "Other" and the vast majority of these people wrote "Archaeological Monitoring," or they wrote "Restoration research is an invitation to overspending in this area, particular basic research." Many wrote both. The comment concerning archaeological monitoring was received 75 times, and the comment concerning overspending was received 69 times. While most of these comments were from Chenega Bay and Port Graham, they also came from Tatitlek, Alaskans from outside the spill area, and from outside Alaska.

Comments opposed to additional Monitoring. Most comments opposed to additional research and monitoring focused on the cost and on "wasteful and endless studies".

"Please do not allow spill funds to be frittered away on bureaucracy. Studies sound like they make sense, when they usually just spend dollars." (Anchorage)

"Do not piss money away on scientists." (Anchorage)

"Too much monitoring in the effected areas might do more harm than good." (Seward)

Questions about Spending

What emphasis should be placed on Research and Monitoring? People could select one of the five brochure alternatives (which allocated from 0% to 10% of the remaining settlement fund to monitoring and research), or they could write in a percentage.

The range of responses was relatively narrow. Few people wrote 0%, and less than a fifth wrote a percentage greater than 10%. Table 3 shows that the average allocations are also within a narrow range: 9% - 12%. However, a few communities did depart from this range. The highest community averages were found from respondents in the City of Kodiak (27 responses, 12%) and Seward (23 responses, 14%). The lowest was from Old Harbor (120 responses, 5%) and Akhiok (7 responses, 5%).

Table 3. Average Allocation of the Remaining Civil Settlement Fund to Monitoring and Research

	Origin of Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All ¹ Responses
No. of Responses (%)	413 (62%)	162 (24%)	78 (12%)	665 (100%)
Average Allocation	9%	12%	9%	9%

¹ Total includes 12 responses from unknown origin.

The numbers in Table 3 have an important caveat. They *do not* include 103 responses, all but one from outside Alaska, that requested 80% for habitat acquisition and protection and "20% of the funds for fisheries studies and management programs." Because this 20% could arguably be intended for a variety of fishery-related activities only one of which is research and monitoring, it is not included in the averages cited above. If the individuals intended the 20% to be used for monitoring and research, the average percentage for all responses would rise from 9% to 11%.

GENERAL RESTORATION

General Restoration actions restore injured resources and services by directly manipulating resources. This can include management changes, manipulation of habitats, or construction projects. Examples include creating salmon spawning channels, removing predators from seabird colonies, building recreational facilities, and removing oil from mussel beds. General Restoration does not include habitat protection and acquisition, research or monitoring.

The newspaper brochure asked only one question about general restoration. It asked what emphasis should be placed upon it, and gave people the opportunity to select an alternative that fit their views or write percentage allocations of their own. Responses are summarized by region in Table 4.

Table 4. Average Allocation of the Remaining Civil Settlement Fund to General Restoration

	Origin of Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All Responses
No. of Responses (%)	410 (62%)	162 (26%)	76 (12%)	648 (100%)
Average Allocation	16%	19%	8%	16%

We received 648 responses that on allocated funding for General Restoration. General Restoration contains a wide variety of activities, and comments gave a wide variety of allocations. The average emphasis was 16% of the remaining civil settlement funds, but this average hides a great variety of answers.

Alternatives #1 and #2 allocated no money to general restoration, and fully 42% of all responses allocated no money to this category, usually by choosing alternative #2 or writing in 0%. Forty-one percent of responses from the spill area allocated no money to general restoration as compared to 23% of Alaskan respondents from outside the spill area, and 61% of those from outside Alaska. Few comments from any location advocated more than 50% for this category.

Kodiak Island responses allocated the lowest average figure, advocating that approximately 7% of funds be spent on General Restoration. This is largely due to 120 responses from Old Harbor indicating a strong preference for a smaller percentage. Conversely, responses from other spill area communities allocated significantly more than the average. Allocations to

general restoration from the communities of Kenai, Seward, and Nanwalek averaged approximately 30%, and Valdez and the City of Kodiak averaged approximately 20%.

Reasons for Opposing General Restoration. Most of the comments that favored General Restoration focused on specific projects rather than the category as a whole. However, there were many comments that opposed all General Restoration activities. Two recurring reasons are summarized below.

"We (Wilderness Society, Alaska Region) oppose virtually all enhancement and manipulation forms of restoration (i.e., "general restoration") because there is little evidence that they would be effective, and these kinds of restoration generally address only one single species.... We also oppose funding for projects, such as roads, ports, "Sealife Centers," trails, cabins, visitor centers, mariculture, or other infrastructure development as these are regular agency programs or are inappropriate under the restoration goals of the civil or criminal settlement." (Anchorage)

"In general, let mother nature handle re-populating the critters." (Seward)

General Restoration Could Cause Damage. Other comments urged the Trustees to carefully consider whether General Restoration projects could cause additional environmental harm.

"...restoration activities may actually be detrimental to a second population if there is not adequate observation and research." (Fairbanks)

"Trustees should not fund projects which harm a damaged resource or service. For example, a hatchery project which increases the numbers of a certain species but reduces genetic diversity by damaging wild stocks should not be funded. Projects which increase human use at the expense of damaged resources must not be funded." (Anchorage)

General Restoration Topics Frequently Addressed in Public Comments

While not specifically requested in the newspaper brochure, over 350 comments suggested specific General Restoration actions. Removal of residual oil, archaeological resources, subsistence, restoration of fisheries, received particularly strong support. We also received comments on recreation, facilities in individual communities, predator removal on seabird colonies, and projects for birds, fish, and marine mammals.

Clean Oiled Beaches and Mussel Beds. Many people were concerned about continued oiling and over 100 comments urged additional cleanup. Cleaning oiled beaches and mussel

beds received strong support from many areas, particularly Chenega Bay, Port Graham, and Cordova. Most of the comments indicated that oiling continued to impact both subsistence and recreation.

"While the Trustees are considering mussel bed decontamination, they should also plan to restore gravel beaches which periodically release oil in subsistence and recreation areas, by removing the contamination." (Repeated 54 times, from Chenega Bay, Tatitlek, Cordova, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and outside Alaska)

"Oil ought to be removed because persistence continues a major threat to the environment....We (Pacific Rim Villages Coalition, Ltd.) have recommended immediate implementation of appropriate technology to remove oil, which we assert needs no further study as the cause of "poor or slow development." (Anchorage)

"Residual oil in the substrate appears to have a continuing effect on some recreation activities." (Anchorage)

However, a small number of comments stated that enough had been spent on cleaning beaches and additional cleanup should not be funded.

"Spend no more on "cleanup" of the spill. Nature will take care of that from here on." (Anchorage)

Archaeology. Strong support for restoring archaeological resources came from Prince William Sound and Kodiak Island villages, Anchorage, Cordova, Valdez, and outside Alaska. Over 80 comments suggested funding site stewardship programs, monitoring, and museums. Eighteen comments from Valdez supported archaeological restoration in the context of funding an archaeological museum in Valdez.

"Increase emphasis on archaeological site stewardship and monitoring using local residents." (Repeated 55 times, from Tatitlek, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, outside Alaska, Cordova, Chenega Bay)

"...if we had a museum we could save that history for the young ones coming up. If subsistence never comes back they could at least know what it used to be. They could have information about the artifacts, the history, the subsistence, and all that." (Larsen Bay)

"In order to promote the work of both salvaging damaged artifacts and to better inform the world about the Sound and its recovery, what better way than to have this cultural/archaeological/visitor center in Valdez." (Valdez)

Subsistence. Over 70 comments from subsistence communities throughout the spill area, other parts of Alaska and areas outside Alaska urged that attention be paid to restoring subsistence. Comments emphasized funding food sharing programs, testing the safety of subsistence foods, and restoring scarce subsistence species such as harbor seals, waterfowl and clams. Many comments emphasized that the input and concerns of subsistence communities were being ignored. Several people mentioned that they still do not believe that it is safe to eat traditional foods because of possible oil contamination.

"I hope to see our subsistence foods restored and protected from future spills. I feel the villages always get left out and the cities get all the dollars that should go to villages whose lifestyle and food was affected." (Port Graham)

"Consider reestablishing the subsistence food sharing program." (Repeated 56 times, from Chenega Bay, Tatitlek, Anchorage, outside Alaska, Fairbanks, Cordova, Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

"The testing should be done right away because people are going out harvesting thinking things are okay. I don't think it is." (Nanwalek)

"It's been proposed several times that the Trustees provide funds for villagers to hunt elsewhere until the injured species recover. Those requests have gone unheard..." (Tatitlek)

Fisheries. Over 60 comments urging restoration of fisheries and commercial fish species came from Alaska and throughout the spill area, largely from Cordova and other Prince William Sound communities. Pink and sockeye salmon and herring were the species most frequently mentioned. Kodiak Island and Alaska Peninsula comments focused largely on restoring sockeye. In addition, over 100 responses from outside Alaska expressed support for an alternative allocating 20% of remaining funds for "fisheries research and management programs". Most comments on fisheries urged funding management research, unspecified fisheries restoration projects, funding hatchery operations, or financing hatchery debt.

"We don't feel that fisheries projects are getting a fair shake." (Cordova)

"One of the things I'm interested in seeing is Kodiak Island being back into the top ten in the fishing industry by restoring the fish runs." (Akhiok)

"I could see a potential use for some of these funds in our regional aquaculture association. It definitely goes back to the injury. We're trying to build up the fish runs." (Chignik Lagoon)

"The oil has obviously damaged future fisheries resources of PWS, therefore making it

difficult for PWSAC to fulfill its financial commitment. So I feel that part of this fund should be used to pay off PWSAC indebtedness." (Cordova)

Some comments, however, expressed concern that continued or increased hatchery production could harm wild salmon stocks. Other comments emphasized the need for further research before general restoration projects for fisheries could be initiated.

"I would steer clear of all options which involve hatcheries, spawning channels, "creating" new salmon runs, shellfish hatcheries, and the like. These are seldom solutions, rather they bring with them additional problems." (Anchorage)

"There are gaping holes in our knowledge about spill damage and natural fluctuation in the environment. Restoration activities are questionable. Why do restoration on a species that is naturally recovering if we can't even distinguish the natural cycles from the recovery? Why even monitor the recovery if we don't also try to understand the natural processes? Why do restoration when we can't understand what's driving the process?" (Cordova)

Facilities in Individual Communities. Many comments advocated particular construction projects within a specific community. These include 17 comments favoring the Seward Sea Life Center, 18 comments for the Valdez Visitor Center, 6 comments for the Tatitlek Harbor, and 4 comments in favor of the Kodiak Fisheries Industrial Technology Center. These projects were often a focus of the community's comments and generally received the majority if not all their support from the community in which the project would occur.

"... the Sea Life Center will provide research and rehabilitation, but it will also provide education for the public. If we don't keep the public involved in our environment, then we won't build for the future." (Seward)

"This (Tatitlek) harbor project would be one of the most important things anyone could do for this community ..." (Tatitlek)

"We want the Fisheries Technology Center ... so we can get a handle on being able to study these resources." (Kodiak)

However, a few comments opposing general restoration cited the Seward Sea Life Center as an example of inappropriate use of restoration funds.

"The Trustee Council should be stricter in its acceptance of projects supposed to restore the Sound and/or the "resource." I am most familiar with the push for a Seward Sealife Center. Projects such as this which will end up more as a zoo and gift shop are not appropriate use of money supposedly to correct a major human blunder." (Seward)

Recreational and Tourist Facilities. The over 60 comments on funding restoration of recreation and commercial tourism were mixed. While the facilities mentioned above received strong local support, there was little support for construction projects in undeveloped areas. Some comments supported limited restoration for recreation and tourism, including increasing access to recreational areas.

"Purchase recreational access sites but build NO cabins; boat launches are OK."
(Kodiak)

"General restoration funds could be appropriately used in urban/village communities to restore lost tourism and recreation opportunities." (Valdez)

"Spend the money to let more people enjoy the Sound. Build more boat harbors! Create new fish runs! Build more cabins! Use the Sound, don't lock it up!" (Valdez)

Several comments specifically criticized general restoration projects involving the construction of facilities for recreation or tourism.

"I do not understand what recreation facilities, outhouses, trails and visitor centers have to do with restoration of an oil-injured area." (Cordova)

"I see a lot up there about commercial tourism and recreation. In my opinion the more people you have going into an area means they're going to damage the area. You have to limit the people and how they enjoy the area." (Old Harbor)

Seabird Predator Control. Eight of the nine comments received on seabird predator control were strongly in favor of eliminating seabird predators in the Aleutians and stated that it was the most effective means of aiding seabird populations in the Gulf of Alaska.

"The only thing we can do as a community of scientists to replace the bird species which have been lost is to exterminate the rats and foxes throughout the Aleutian Chain."
(Juneau)

ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

The only question that the newspaper brochure asked about administration and public information is the emphasis that should be placed upon it:

What percentage of the remaining funds should go towards administration and public information?

Respondents answered this question in a narrow range. The vast majority allocated between 3% and 8% to administration and public information, with the average being 5% of remaining settlement funds. There was little significant difference by location, and the respondents from no community averaged outside of the 3% to 8% range.

Table 5 shows that the average of respondent's allocation to Administration and Public Information was the same for respondents in the spill area, Alaskans outside the spill area, and those from outside Alaska: 5% of remaining settlement funds.

Table 5. Average Allocation of the Remaining Civil Settlement Fund to Administration and Public Information

	Origin of Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All ¹ Responses
No. of Responses (%)	408 (63%)	159 (24%)	72 (11%)	651 (100%)
Average Allocation	5%	5%	5%	5%

¹ Total includes 12 responses from unknown origin.

Administration. Nearly all of the approximately one dozen people who wrote or spoke about this issue were concerned about the amount of money being spent on administration. Typical examples are below.

"My #1 concern is that bureaucratic and administrative costs will eat up the fund. Do not let this happen. (Anchorage)

"I hope a lot of money doesn't go to pay management staff." (Seldovia)

Public Information. Nearly twenty comments specifically expressed concern that information gathered from the restoration program be made available, that we use this information to educate everyone on all aspects of the spill environment and its restoration.

"One of the problems is that when the agencies say they're trying to involve the local people to help, they mean leasing a boat. When I say involve I mean we want to know what the results are. They spend millions and millions of dollars on research and we don't see the results." (Ouzinkie)

"I think emphasis should be applied to general restoration; for example by educating the people. We as a people would benefit, for we would all comprehend how our environment works and in return would be able to apply our knowledge to restore our damaged lands and resources." (Juneau)

SPILL PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS

Although no specific request was made for the public to comment on spill prevention and preparedness, the subject came up in at least 17 public meetings and was addressed in written comments by 30 people. Frequently occurring viewpoints are summarized below.

Spill prevention is more effective than restoration. Many of the comments expressed this sentiment. A few said that preventing future oil spills is like habitat acquisition -- it prevents further stress on the environment -- but that it is more effective.

"...natural recovery is possible and will take time, but it is happening and will continue to do so. Protection of habitat area, prevention of future spills, that is where our focus should be." (Seward)

"If there is oil development, there's going to be more oil spills in the future. Start getting ready for the next one." (Old Harbor)

In favor of more local prevention and response capabilities. In the public meetings, many people in the communities said they felt unprepared for the next spill. Some said they expected one, and wanted to increase the ability of their community to respond.

"We need a building just for the material, a cache of spill response equipment. If they can spend money on trees, they can spend money to be ready for the next spill." (Ouzinkie)

"I asked what kind of boom material we had left, and we don't have any to protect streams." (Port Graham)

"Establish a grant program for rural communities to participate in oil spill conference or attend 'oil spill' schools." (Chenega Bay)

Prevention is good, but don't use settlement funds. A half-dozen people said that spill prevention and preparedness was not the responsibility of the Trustee Council. They are not opposed to it, just that the Trustee Council should use their money for other tasks.

"I think the oil companies should be forced now to pay for prevention stuff. To say that you're going to take your own settlement and use the money to pay for an advantage to the person that just hurt you is nuts." (Kodiak)

"We strongly oppose any use of criminal or civil funds for spill contingency planning and response efforts or research, as we believe there are many other programs where such activities--albeit important-- are already mandated and these types of activities do not fall within the parameters of the settlement." (Anchorage)

ENDOWMENT

An endowment is a savings program to fund restoration after Exxon's payments end. The topic generated significant discussion at most public meetings and in addition to the answers people gave to the brochure questions, it was the subject of approximately 50 written comments.

The newspaper brochure asked three questions:

- Are you in favor of an endowment or savings account of some kind?
- If so, what should the annual earnings be spent on?
- If you favor the idea, how much should be placed into an endowment?

In addition, a related concept was brought up by three or four dozen people in letters and at a few public meetings: permanent funding for university professors at the University of Alaska. Some of the people who brought this up considered it a form of endowment, others did not. It is discussed at the end of this section.

Are You in Favor of an Endowment or Savings Account of Some Kind?

The newspaper brochure asked:

Are You in Favor of an Endowment or Savings Account of Some Kind? The choices were:

- ☐ *No*
- ☐ *Yes*

Approximately two-thirds of responses favored establishing an endowment or savings account of some kind. This proportion was true of people responding from the spill area, from elsewhere in Alaska, and from outside Alaska. With the exception of four Native communities, the proportion did not vary much by location.

Two-thirds or more of those who commented from Chenega Bay, Port Graham, Akhiok, and Ouzinkie opposed endowments. In addition, responses from Seward were evenly split. Those were the exceptions. The average response from all other communities and regions favored endowments.

Six hundred and ninety-nine individuals responded to the brochure question concerning endowment. These were 60% from the spill area, 20% from elsewhere in Alaska, and 10% from outside the state. Less than 20 people who wrote letters rather than used the pre-printed brochure questionnaire addressed the question.

Comments supporting an endowment. These comments showed recurring sentiments expressed at public meetings, in brochure comments or through letters.

Monitoring and Research will take longer than ten years.

"Because good, reliable monitoring takes years (fish cycles are 4-6 years), the benefits from an endowment will allow those type time frames which don't fit as well in the 8 years remaining of the current funds. There's a strong lack of good baseline data on most species and it's a guess to figure impacts without good baselines." (Valdez)

"There should be money for monitoring activities beyond 2001." (Cordova)

Recovery will take longer than ten years.

"Do we really know how long restoration will take? The endowment ensures we can continue efforts beyond 10 years, a very short period of time in biological terms." (Outside Alaska)

"I think an endowment is a good idea, and 20% sounds all right. You have got to plan for the future, a lot of these things will become apparent later, and at this point the scientists are undoubtedly scientifically guessing." (Port Lions)

Comments opposing an endowment. Frequently expressed comments are:

Habitat protection (or other needs) now! Many people said that they thought the money should be used now to address pressing problems. While the most common recommendation for immediate spending was habitat protection, other needs were also cited.

"Habitat acquisition is extremely important and should not wait for money in the bank." (Anchorage)

"We oppose endowments due to the need for maximum leeway in negotiations for habitat that must occur as soon as possible." (Anchorage)

"The settlement was done so quickly so the money could be made available immediately." (Cordova)

Administration and agencies will eat it up if we save it.

"Without fail, the majority would be eaten up by administration and lawyer yearly taps." (Seward)

"If you're talking about a return from an endowment, it could take a long time and in the meantime only support administration. Endowments aren't all like the permanent fund." (Homer)

What Should the Annual Earnings from an Endowment or Savings Account be Spent On?

The full text of the brochure question asked only those who favored an endowment or savings account to:

Please indicate what the annual endowment earnings should be spent on (you may mark more than one answer). The answers were:

- ☐ *Monitoring and Research*
- ☐ *General Restoration*
- ☐ *Habitat Protection and Acquisition*
- ☐ *No Preference*

It is possible to spend the earnings for more than one purpose, and half the people marked more than one answer.

Approximately two-thirds of all people who favored an endowment thought the earnings should be used for monitoring and research. About half thought it should be spent on general restoration, and about half thought it should be spent on habitat protection. There were some differences throughout the spill area, but in most locations in Alaska, monitoring and research was the first priority. The exceptions were Port Graham and Old Harbor where people favored all three uses approximately equally. The first priority for responses from outside Alaska was habitat protection (85% favor), with the other two purposes receiving 50%.

Possible Endowment Purposes. People wrote in comments below this question on the brochure and in letters. In addition, endowments were a common public meeting topic. Below is a list of purposes suggested by the comments. We have included those purposes that received more than one comment.

Monitoring and Research. This purpose received the most comments at the meetings, and in written comments.

"I believe at least some of the (endowment funds) must be spent on monitoring and research. Some could be spent on restoration and habitat acquisition on a case-by-case basis. (Anchorage.)

"The only reason a long-term mechanism is needed to provide long-term money is long-term monitoring of the environment." (Cordova)

A Related Topic: Arliss Sturgulewski Endowment. Approximately one-half dozen comments specifically referred to an endowment proposed by Arliss Sturgulewski. The organizations endorsing this proposal include the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, North Gulf Oceanic Society, the Area K Seiners Association, and the Arctic Research Commission.

"...I urge you to establish the Marine Research Endowment crafted by Ken Adams, Ron Dearborn, Bill Hall, Theo Matthews, Jerome Komisar, and Arliss Sturgulewski...An endowment of this magnitude could successfully fund the kind of long-term research needed to understand how the coastal ocean community...functions normally..." (UAF, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.)

Marine Resources or Fisheries Problems. Over a dozen comments recommended this use.
"Endowment should be directed to marine resources." (Cordova, 10 responses)

"Fisheries" (Cordova)

Research facility. A few comments recommended this use.
"Ongoing funding of marine studies center in the spill impact zone." (Anchorage)

"A research facility in the state is needed and these funds are an opportunity to build such a facility for Alaska's future and to assure the proliferation of the sealife affected by the spill." (Seward)

Baseline studies. A frequent theme was the need for baseline information for use in responding to future disturbances.

"There will probably be another shipwreck. There needs to be baseline data to compare from damaged areas." (Seward)

Stewardship -- of the land, of built facilities. A few comments recommended this use.
"(Endowment earnings for) Funding for maintenance of acquired lands and built facilities." (Anchorage)

"Maintenance and operation of new and existing marine facilities, stewardship of the affected areas, prevention of future spills." (Anchorage)

"A small endowment for beach cleanup of garbage." (Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

What is the money used for? Thirty-six people from Tatitlek, Chenega Bay, Anchorage, Cordova, and the outside Alaska wrote the following identical comment:

"Where are the funds invested now? Is the interest/revenues accruing to the benefit of restoration? If it is not the monies must be invested prior to spending in a conservative, "

but productive manner." (identical comment received from 36 individuals.)

**Questions About Spending:
How Much Should be Placed into an Endowment?**

The newspaper brochure asked the following question of those who favored an endowment or savings account:

Please indicate the amount that you believe should be placed into an endowment?

The brochure gave readers a choice of answers:

- ☐ *Less than 20%*
- ☐ *20%*
- ☐ *40%*
- ☐ *More than 40%*
- ☐ *Other Amount. If you know the amount, please indicate _____%.*

Answers to this question ranged from nothing to all of the remaining settlement. However, the median amount varied little by location. Also, the answers represent only the two-thirds who favored an endowment -- 465 people. Almost all responses came from returned brochure questionnaires. Very few of the letters addressed this question.

The table shows that the median of responses in the spill area, and outside Alaska favored allocating 20% of the remaining settlement funds to an endowment or savings account of some type. The median of Alaskan responses from outside the spill area favored using 40% of the funds.

**Table 6. Average Allocation of the Remaining Civil Settlement Fund to
An Endowment or Savings Account**

	Origin of the Response			
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	All ¹ Responses
No. of Respondents (%)	258 (55%)	153 (33%)	48 (10%)	465 (100%)
Median allocation of remaining settlement funds to an endowment	20%	40%	20%	20%

¹ All area total includes six responses from unknown origin. The percentage is that of the median response rather than the arithmetic average because people answered the question in categories such as less than 20%, 20%, 40%, greater than 40%, etc. These large categories make an arithmetic average inaccurate.

University Professors; Endowed Chairs

Approximately three or four dozen people, mostly from Fairbanks or Juneau, recommended that part of the civil settlement be used to provide permanent funding for professors at the University of Alaska. Sometimes the people said that an endowment should provide permanent funding, other times they requested a sum be given to the University and they also advocated a research endowment. Ten people gave costs for this amount: they requested an average allocation of \$30 million dollars. Others made their request in numbers of professors which ranged from one to 20. Some linked the proposed professorships with biologic research in the spill area, others did not.

"Long term monitoring and research requires a long-lasting, nonpolitical organizational base. Use of endowment income should be to fund professional chairs within the University of Alaska with 50% for PWS research." (Fairbanks)

"I strongly urge the Trustee Council to give serious consideration to the long term benefits of endowing research and teaching chairs related to ecology, conservation and biology at the UA campuses throughout Alaska. Every dollar that is used in that will provide a return investment that is beyond measure for many years to come." (Juneau)

INJURIES

The overwhelming majority of comments on injuries caused by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill came from people within the oil spill communities, especially from those who attended the public meetings. Less than 10 percent of the comments came from people outside of Alaska. The comments show how passionately people feel about the oil spill and how the injuries are still apparent to people throughout the affected area.

Comments on resource injuries spanned a wide variety of topics but there were three areas that recurred: 1) comments about resources that are currently recognized by the Trustee Council as having been injured by the oil spill; 2) recommendations that the injured resources list should be expanded to include other resources -- resources that were not studied (or not thoroughly studied) during litigation; and 3) concern for restoring the injured ecosystems, especially the marine ecosystems. Except for the ecosystem comments, most comments were about resources with subsistence or commercial value.

For services, the primary theme of the comments was that services (human uses) have not received enough attention in the restoration program. The majority of the comments were about those services which are closely linked to an injured resource for social, economic or subsistence uses. Many people said that the restoration of those resources is extremely important and that those resources should receive the greatest emphasis. There were also many people who wanted to see the restoration program expanded to include social injuries suffered by residents within the oil spill area.

INJURED RESOURCES

Resources listed as injured in the Summary of Alternatives

Fish. Of all the injured resources identified by the Trustee Council, Pacific herring and pink salmon were the most often addressed in the public comments. In general, people commented that these resources were showing more signs of injury than were acknowledged in the brochure, and they expressed their anger that the Trustee Council had not adequately addressed the problems. Similarly, there was a great deal of concern from the Alaska Peninsula, and southern Kodiak Island communities about the consequences of the 1989 overescapements of sockeye salmon runs in these areas. In fact, most of the Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon meeting discussed injuries to the red salmon run that were not acknowledged in the newspaper brochure.

"Very little attention has been given to Pacific herring, a resource that is of utmost importance to the survival of all the other resources that prey on herring for sustenance. More in-depth studies of this resource must be undertaken. I think the impact of oil on herring is much greater than what has been realized by the council and that the impact on

herring has had a detrimental effect on the recovery of all other resources." (Tatitlek)

"It seems irresponsible to me. The pacific herring are the bottom of the food chain. A lot of the birds and other species in the sound rely on herring for food. We were funded for three years, and everyone knew that 1993 would be the important year." (Cordova)

"You only have sockeye salmon on the population decline list. I've fished here all my life, and since 1989 my catch on pinks has gone down 80 to 90%. And you're saying there's no population decline?" (Larsen Bay)

"The thing I was most concerned about was when we were fishing that year, I kept seeing yellow fish. I've never seen red salmon that were completely yellow. I've never seen fish that way before. I was catching one or two of those a week...If those fish are diseased because of that oil we'll be seeing all kinds of damages." (Chignik Lagoon; similar comments on discolored or spotted fish were made from Akhiok and Chignik Lake)

Subtidal and Intertidal. Comments on injuries to subtidal and intertidal areas and organisms formed the second largest group of responses. People who wrote or spoke about these areas were concerned that the importance of these areas as the foundation of the marine food chains were not adequately recognized. They also talked about continuing signs of injury in clams and mussels and wanted a greater emphasis placed on these resources in the restoration program to protect humans as well as other resources that feed on shellfish.

"Studies of impact of oil on ocean bottom environment and resources is greatly under emphasized -- it makes no sense at all not to study the ocean bottom. The effects that it may have on people that use the resources from it could be harmful and we'd like to know if this is a potential problem." (Tatitlek)

"This was the time of year when entire families would walk the beach digging clams, and it was a yearly, seasonal thing. Since the spill, those clam beds were contaminated. These beds have not been tested, and so we have not used them. Every time they have gone to gather seaweed, they have come up with oil." (Port Graham)

"How come you don't have anything in the brochure about shellfish, like clams? That's a pretty wide field to lump it into intertidal. That includes a lot of other organisms, too. We know the clams have declined on beaches here." (Larsen Bay)

Mammals and Birds. Approximately 10% of the total comments on injuries were on the mammals and birds listed in the Summary of Alternatives as injured. The majority of these comments focused on harbor seals and murre, but concern was expressed for marbled murrelets and harlequin ducks. Some people within the oil spill area disagreed with the statement in the Summary of Alternatives that said the harbor seal population may be

stabilizing in the affected area. Others were concerned that the recent die-off of murre was also related to the oil spill.

"Seals are definately in decline, you used to see them in the narrows all the time and you just don't see them any more." (Old Harbor)

"I don't think it's right you should say that the murre that are dying now are not dying because of the spill. These birds feed on the little fish, if you kill that feed off it could affect the birds, all the little things that grow up in the ocean..." (Chignik Lagoon)

Archaeological Resources. There were over 70 comments received from throughout the affected area as well as outside of Alaska that discussed injuries and restoration of archaeological resources. While a few were opposed to using settlement funds for archaeological resources, the vast majority expressed the importance of these resources and wanted to be certain that they were considered in the restoration process.

"During the oil spill, our old village site was vandalized by some oil spill workers. That hit very near and dear to a lot of people here. There must be some mechanism to restore, monitor and protect the old village site." (Chenega Bay)

"The people that are out on the beaches have uncovered artifacts. Some artifacts have been stolen. What about setting up mini museums in the villages and hiring some archaeologists to go out and do those digs and bring that stuff back?" (Larsen Bay)

Additional Resources That Should Be Restored

There was concern about many species that were not thoroughly studied during litigation. Table 7 includes a list of resources that were commented upon that are not currently included in the Trustee Council's list of injured resources. These resources were all mentioned as having changed since the oil spill and should be included in the restoration program.

Table 7: A list of all the additional resources (not listed in the Summary of Alternatives) that were commented on as having been injured by the oil spill.

<u>MAMMALS</u> bear mountain goat deer mink Dall porpoise sea lion <u>SUBTIDAL/INTERTIDAL</u> seaweed snail barnacle sea urchin	<u>BIRDS</u> eider duck other ducks swan brant Canada geese loon cormorant grebe Bonaparte's gull arctic tern black-legged kittiwake tufted puffin	<u>FISH and SHELLFISH</u> tom cod silver salmon northern smooth tongue dog salmon king salmon bottomfish candle fish king crab tanner crab Dungeness crab shrimp
--	---	--

Of the resources in Table 7, Steller's (northern) sea lion, ducks (many species, but especially eiders), deer, shrimp and dungeness crabs were the most commonly identified. Below are examples of comments about the resources people identified as being injured.

"I have been watching the sea lions. Their haulout wasn't hit; they were hit when they were having pups. The oil was six inches thick when it came through the passages. There are 200 animals where there should be 700. There is a significant change since 1989." (Chenega Bay)

"About two years ago there was dead deer all along this whole area. These last two winter we have had cold snaps but not too much. In this one little island one guy counted 80 dead deer. There were dead deer everywhere, I never saw so many dead deer. It was about two years ago." (Akhiok)

"Some of the message you should get across is that some of the population decline we see isn't showing up on the brochure. There's a lot of species that aren't on there. Like the sea ducks. Last winter certain ducks didn't come back, Steller's eider and king eider for example. There are plenty of harlequin ducks in certain places but some of the other ducks are missing." (Old Harbor)

"I noticed that you don't have spot shrimp on your list. Aside from one small opener, fishing for spot shrimp has been closed since the spill. A lot of fishermen think the decline in spot shrimp is from the spill." (Valdez)

"I also would like to see research on crab impacts. When he said that crab were not mentioned it reminded me of when the spill hit Shelikof side of Shuyak in the area of .

Nikita bay...Afterwards there was a thousand, maybe more, dollar sized dungeness crabs dead on the beach in that area. I don't know for sure if they were related to the spill at the time but it was in the summer of 1989." (Kodiak)

Injured Ecosystems

An important topic of conversation at many of the public meetings was on injuries to the ecosystem, and on our limited understanding of how ecosystems function. In each of the regions, many of these comments stressed the need for an ecosystem approach to restoration. Most of the comments focused on marine ecosystems rather than upland ecosystems. The comments pointed out that without an understanding of how the ecosystems function, we cannot restore an injured resource.

"If we don't really know what the injuries were we can't really say much with certainty. So we really need to be looking at the overview of the whole ecosystem, not just targeting maybe a commercially important species." (Kodiak)

"The species are interlinked to the food chain, and we can't say it doesn't have any relationship to the species above and below it in the food chain. By addressing all the injured species, you leave the possibility that new data may arise." (Seldovia)

"...There is strong evidence that whole ecosystems were damaged. For example, they found deformities in the northern smooth tongue and that is the single largest feeder fish... How do we get the focus back on the ecosystem and off the politics?" (Cordova)

SERVICES

For services, the primary theme of the comments was that services (human uses) have not received enough attention in the restoration program. The majority of comments were about those services which are closely linked to an injured resource for economic, subsistence or social uses. Many of the comments in the previous section on injured resources relate to the services discussed in this section. The restoration of those resources is extremely important and people felt that those resources should receive the greatest emphasis. There were also many people who wanted to see the restoration program expanded to include social injuries suffered by residents in the spill area.

General Comments. People often said that services, including human uses, have not received enough attention. Many concerns expressed about injured resources (that have economic, subsistence or social uses) were directly related to services.

Services do not get enough attention.

"The services or human uses I don't think get enough attention..." (Larsen Bay)

Some services can be addressed by dealing with injured resources.

"I don't think the human impacts are getting enough priority. For us, the human impact can be best addressed by dealing with the commercial fish species, it is one of the only things we can do to help the human impact." (Cordova)

Subsistence. People mentioned subsistence more frequently than they mentioned any other service. Most who commented, especially those from Native communities, said it was underemphasized in the restoration program. Other common comments were that people were still afraid to eat some foods, and some resources were still unavailable or contaminated.

Subsistence is underemphasized.

"Subsistence service restoration is vastly under emphasized." This same comment was made 58 times. (Fairbanks, Mat-Su Borough, Anchorage, Lower 48, Cordova, Chenega Bay, Tatitlek)

"I can remember when the head guy from Exxon was sitting in this room with the head guy from the state. The state guy said eat them, they're clean. I told them I'll make a you a deal. You eat our foods for 30 days and then we'll have YOU analyzed." (Ouzinkie)

It is not safe to eat subsistence foods. In addition to saying foods are not safe, many people described the psychological damage and said that by the time the foods recover, their children will no longer be used to eating them. Frequently clams were mentioned as an example.

"You have a bowl of clams and when you look at them, all you can think about is a bowl of oily goop. How is the younger generation going to learn about the oil spill. How do I know, does it turn that color every year? (Larsen Bay)

"I would hope that when my three children are grown, there would be food for them to subsist on." (Port Graham)

Subsistence foods are still unavailable.

"Subsistence has come back a little bit but it's not like it used to be. I'm surprised they don't talk about it here, in the brochure." (Larsen Bay)

"Port Graham residents continue to have serious concerns about many local species and therefore ask you to fund subsistence studies and restoration projects...There has been a serious decline in the populations of all of these species and we must travel quite far to find equivalent resources." (Port Graham)

Commercial Fishing. Fisherman were extremely concerned about the injuries to fish.

Fishing is a way of life and people said this lifestyle has been disrupted.

"The commercial fisheries was the single most damaged user group. Too much emphasis is being placed on 'lock-up and view' rather than 'restore!'" (Cordova)

"Probably one of the most important things you could spend money on is something directly related to improve the commercial fishing and provide recreation opportunities for the village...And help out commercial fishing in each community."
(Old Harbor)

Passive Use. Comments pointed out that there was a significant monetary value associated with this injury and that it is related to aesthetics, cultural and spiritual resources and wildlife. Although only a handful of comments specifically discussed passive uses, many of the hundreds of letters that addressed habitat protection and acquisition appeared to be supportive of this concern.

"I would like to see the emphasis off tourism potential and placed on the value of the land, sea and wildlife simply because they exist and are part of the planet." (Homer)

"...the Trustees would be wise to recognize that the overwhelming loss was loss of passive use of wildlife generally." (Anchorage)

Social Injuries. A handful of people spoke to the various social damage to people in the spill area and to communities. Smaller communities seemed to be more affected by this problem than larger cities like Anchorage.

"The governmental process in our community broke down because of the spill. The whole leadership of our community fell apart. How do we get to restoring that?"
(Ouzinkie)

PROCESS

We did not specifically ask, but people offered many comments on the restoration planning process. Their comments discussed the Civil and Criminal Settlements and the work of the Trustee Council, the restoration process, local influence on the process, projects for the annual work plans, and the restoration plan. (The comments about these restoration issues came from 22 public meetings and from written response to the newspaper brochure.)

Civil and Criminal Settlements. Most of the comments on these issues came from public meetings. People said they have no influence in how the Criminal Settlement money is spent and want to be sure they can influence how the Civil money is spent.

"... These two processes [civil settlement and criminal settlement] should be concurrent with a synchronization of ideas. The end result would be a cohesive restoration of injured recreation resources. Cooperation and information sharing would be beneficial to both parties." (Anchorage)

"Some of the damage sustained as the result of the spill is irrevocable and Exxon should not be allowed to escape their responsibility to continue payment beyond the extremely minor payment of \$900,000,000. The actual damage will run into many billions of dollars that we and future taxpayers will be burdened with, for many decades ahead. Both the State of Alaska and the Federal Government have been overgenerous in giving away our property and our rights to a proper settlement for present and ongoing damages that will extend into the distant future." (Outside Alaska)

"We had absolutely no say on the spending of the criminal fine. Look where the money from the criminal fine went. This money [civil] is going to go the same way." (Cordova)

The Trustee Council. Most comments were about the Trustee Council, their appointment and operating procedure were received at meetings.

People generally applaud the difficult task and hard work required of the Trustees.

"I would like to thank the Trustee Council for their efforts to involve the public in this process." (Cordova)

"As we have all seen, the process of defining damage (beyond the obvious losses of birds, mammals, and some fishes) was difficult enough. Attempting to decide how to restore and enhance injured resources appears to be a problem of similar or even greater magnitude. While I may not agree completely about how restoration funding has been allocated in the past, I nevertheless compliment the Council for attempting to do something." (Fairbanks)

Many said that they can't reach the Trustees with their concerns.

"We better get to know the Trustees pretty good if they are making the decisions."
(Homer)

"How much does the Trustee Council listen to us on these things? It seems like they still have a lot of questions but they want answers that we have already given. Should we beg them, is that what will work? What should we do to make sure they hear us? These Trustee Council members, they have other jobs, too. Where do they find time to pay attention to the important things in this process that they should? (Tatitlek)

"I have heard you say the Trustees are going to want public input. We've already had public input on behalf of fisheries. We've stressed this coding wire tagging business several times. The point still stands that the Trustees receive public input but never do anything with it." (Cordova)

Local Control or Influence on the Restoration Process. Nearly all of the comments on local, or even regional, influence on the restoration process came from the public meetings. There were 78 comments overall. Notes from the meetings showed that almost all of the communities, and particularly the smaller villages, within the spill area commented on their inability to influence the process. Communities are worried that they are not being heard. The smaller villages are especially concerned that their needs will not be addressed, because there are too few people to influence the process. There were also opposing views between regions on how the funds have been allocated so far. Prince William Sound residents said they were being ignored, and Kodiak Island residents said that without the same damage assessment studies that were conducted in Prince William Sound they would not be able to prove injuries in their area. The comments from the public meetings also contained a couple of suggestions - have an occasional Trustee Council meeting in Cordova and Kodiak where they are more accessible to people directly affected by the oil spill; and emphasize local hire especially for monitoring studies.

Influencing the process should be greatest from the spill area communities - regardless of their population size.

"We appreciate you people coming down here, but we know that with the amount of folks we have here, we're not going to get any help out of this money at all. I see it time and time again." (Chignik Lagoon)

"Is there any way to make the Trustees aware we don't have the resources of the environmental groups or whatever, but we do have strong concerns about these issues and we need to be heard too." (Tatitlek)

People said that their community has not received the attention that it deserves.

"Couldn't you start off by accepting it as a comment, that Kodiak is Kodiak and Larsen Bay is Larsen Bay and they are two different places. When these plans are made up they

should reflect that. This village was affected differently from Karluk. And if you include us in the borough we won't see any benefit from this money." (Larsen Bay)

"Like you said, they spent \$100 million in research in Prince William Sound. How many miles of beaches were damaged in Prince William Sound, and how many miles were damaged on Kodiak? It seems to me the most of the damage was done here. Here the oil busted into little pieces and everything ate it. I don't think there was any species of bird or animal that didn't eat it. Some of them got away, but every beach on Kodiak Island has been damaged and the ocean bottom was damaged, and yet you say they didn't do any research here?" (Old Harbor)

"...Prince William Sound is not significantly represented in the work projects...Here in Prince William Sound it was the hottest and most toxic, but they didn't get that kind of contamination in the other regions. We're not getting the right amount of attention." (Cordova)

Some suggestions to the Trustee Council on how to empower the oil spill communities to influence the restoration process.

"It would also be important to use local people and knowledge (to do the work) because you won't get a good picture unless you consult with us." (Chenega Bay with similar comments from Nanwalek, Ouzinkie, Cordova, Seward, and Kodiak)

"You must include the local villages and towns and empower them to understand the research and involve them in the activities. They will feel cheated if you don't. I hope they will be involved throughout the ten years and beyond." (Anchorage)

"Can we invite the Trustees to come to the villages? They really should have a meeting either in Valdez or Cordova or somewhere where the ordinary people could attend" (Tatitlek)

The Restoration Process. Many comments addressed the restoration process in general. People are concerned that they are not being heard, but a minority also state the design for public participation is okay. They cite the formation of the Public Advisory Group as an example of positive direction.

"I am a little worried about what I am hearing. Were we to be in Chenega we'd be hearing the same thing, in Kodiak we'd hear how badly they were hit. I'm concerned as we go through this process that we don't pit each other against ourselves. We need to have a healing process going on to make sure this process works successfully for all of us. ... If we are going to be repairing damage we have to look at what is damaged by doing research and then restoration work. ... The Trustees need to put the money into programs where it will help all of the areas affected by the spill." (Valdez)

"Please LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN damn it." (Cordova)

"Despite this excellent publication, your commendable efforts toward gathering public comment and the theoretical democratic process of the Trustee Council, I fear that politics, bad science, undisclosed pressures will guide the Council's decisions. I fear that public comments won't be considered seriously or given substantial weight." (Seward)

The Restoration Plan. General concerns focus on plan usefulness and flexibility. At this stage of plan development people are concerned about what will be in the plan and want their concerns reflected. Several of the seven comments on this issue state the plan needs to provide process, guidelines and policies to which all restoration activities comply.

"My suggestion is to be sure to make the plan very simple, clear, and black and white." (Cordova)

"I am not inclined to sticking with rigid allocation formats. ... The division between habitat protection and acquisition and restoration I would not like to see prescribed rigidly." (Juneau)

"We also believe that a process based upon the long-term Restoration Plan needs to be established to allocate such funds on an annual basis." (Anchorage)

The Work Plan. Twenty-five people from Alaska commented on the annual work plan process. People were generally unsure of the process used to fund proposals. They are also unsure of what was in the 1992, 1993, and 1994 annual work plans. What money is used to finance the annual plans seems to be an underlying concern about the annual process.

"Regarding the 1994 work plan, I feel awkward voting on something based on just a title. Having looked at the 1993 Work Plan, some titles sounded crazy but when you reviewed it, you got a better understanding." (Seldovia)

"Do all the projects have to go through an agency? If a committee approached the Trustee Council with a proposal, could the funds be directed through our SOS, city government or chamber of commerce?" (Seldovia)

"When the Trustee Council gives a yea or nay on the 1994 projects, will we have an opportunity to give input?" (Whittier)

"Should not squander funds on state/federal agency projects that will be funded from other sources anyway." (Juneau)

DRAFT EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL RESTORATION PLAN
Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment

Questionnaire

Tell Us What You Think!

QUESTIONS ABOUT ISSUE AND POLICIES

The alternatives present policy questions. The answers to those questions will help guide restoration activities. The policy questions are reprinted below. Please mark the appropriate box to let us know your views. If you think that these policies should apply to some restoration activities but not others, please write your views in the space provided beneath each question. For example, if you think that some general restoration activities are appropriate outside the spill area but that habitat protection should concentrate only on the spill area, you would write that information in the comment space.

Injuries Addressed by Restoration

Actions: *Should restoration actions address all injured resources and services, or all except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill?*

- ☐ Target restoration activities to all injured resources and services.
- ☐ Target all injured resources and services except those biological resources whose populations did not measurably decline because of the spill.
- ☐ No preference.

Comments:

Restoration Actions for Recovered

Resources: *Should restoration actions cease when a resource has recovered, or continue in order to enhance the resource?*

- ☐ Cease restoration actions once a resource recovers.
- ☐ Continue restoration actions even after a resource has recovered in order to enhance the resource.
- ☐ No preference

Comments:

Effectiveness of Restoration Actions:

Should the plan include only those restoration actions that produce substantial improvement over natural recovery or also those that produce at least some improvement?

- ☐ Conduct only those restoration actions that provide substantial improvement over natural recovery.
- ☐ Conduct restoration actions that provide at least some improvement over natural recovery.
- ☐ No preference

Comments:

Location of Restoration Actions:

Should restoration activities take place in the spill area only, anywhere in Alaska provided there is a link to injured resources or services, or anywhere in the United States provided there is a link to injured resources or services?

- ☐ Limit restoration actions to the spill area only.
- ☐ Undertake restoration actions anywhere in Alaska there is a link to injured resources or services.
- ☐ Undertake restoration actions anywhere in the United States there is a link to injured resources or services.
- ☐ No preference

Comments:

Opportunities for Human Use:

To what extent should restoration actions be used to create opportunities for human use of the spill area?

- ☐ Do not conduct restoration actions that create opportunities for human use.
- ☐ Conduct restoration actions to protect existing human use. Examples are recreation facilities that protect the environment in over-used areas such as outhouses or improved trails.
- ☐ In addition to restoration actions that protect existing human use, also conduct actions that increase existing human use. Examples are increasing existing sport- or commercial fish runs, or constructing recreation facilities such as public-use cabins.
- ☐ In addition to activities that protect or increase existing human use, also conduct actions that encourage appropriate new uses. Examples are new fish runs, commercial facilities, or visitor centers.

- ☐ No preference

Comments:

DRAFT EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL RESTORATION PLAN
Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment

Questionnaire

QUESTIONS ABOUT RESTORATION CATEGORIES

The questions below discuss the different categories of restoration activities. The questions ask about what categories of activities you believe the Trustee Council should use.

Monitoring and Research To effectively conduct restoration, it is necessary to monitor recovery and to monitor the effectiveness of individual restoration activities. It is also possible to conduct other monitoring activities: Ecological monitoring and restoration research.

In addition to Recovery and Restoration monitoring, should the Trustee Council also conduct other monitoring activities?

☐ NO

☐ YES. Please indicate which monitoring and research activities you believe are appropriate (you may mark more than one answer):

☐ Ecological monitoring (monitor general ecosystem health to identify problems and prepare for future spills)

☐ Restoration Research (basic and applied research to benefit injured resources and services)

☐ Other

Comments:

Habitat Protection and Acquisition Four of the alternatives identify habitat protection and acquisition as a means of restoring injured resources or services (human uses).

Do you agree that habitat protection and acquisition should be a part of the plan?

☐ NO

☐ YES. Protection and acquisition will include all habitat types, but may emphasize one over another. Please indicate the habitat types, if any, that should be emphasized. Suggest your own approach if it isn't covered here.

☐ Emphasize acquiring and protecting habitat important to injured resources. Important scenic areas and human use areas with little habitat important to injured resources would be less likely to be acquired.

☐ Emphasize acquiring and protecting habitat important for human use (important scenic areas and human use areas). Habitat important to injured resources, but seldom used or viewed by people, would be less likely to be acquired.

☐ Place equal emphasis on acquiring the most important habitats for injured species and on the most important habitats for human use (scenic and human use areas). Parcels that are only moderately important for injured resources or services would be less likely to be acquired.

☐ Other

Comment:

QUESTIONS ABOUT SPENDING

Funding Method: Endowment. The Trustee Council could save some of the civil settlement to fund restoration activities after Exxon payments end. It is possible to save any portion of the settlement. For example, if approximately 20% of the remaining settlement funds were placed into an endowment and the principal inflation-proofed, the endowment could fund \$3-\$5 million worth of restoration activities indefinitely.

Are you in favor of an endowment or savings account of some kind?

☐ NO, I believe the funds should be spent within approximately 10 years.

☐ YES. Please indicate the amount that you believe should be placed into an endowment

☐ Less than 20%

☐ 20%

☐ 40%

Comments:

If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, please indicate what the annual endowment earnings should be spent on (you may mark more than one answer):

☐ Monitoring and Research

☐ General Restoration

☐ Habitat Protection and Acquisition

☐ No Preference

Comments:

APPENDIX II. SUMMARY OF NUMBER AND ORIGIN OF BROCHURES AND LETTERS RECEIVED

Table II-1. Summary Table: Total Number of Brochures and Letters Received

	ORIGIN OF RESPONSE				
	Spill Area	Other Alaska	Outside Alaska	Unknown	All Regions
NUMBER OF BROCHURES	496	206	85	12	799
NUMBER OF LETTERS	71	126	591	4	792
% OF TOTAL NUMBER	36%	21%	42%	1%	100%

Table II-2. Total Number of Brochures and Letters Received, Reported by Community and Type of Response

Prince William Sound

	ORIGIN OF RESPONSE					
	Prince William Sound	Cordova	Valdez	Tatitlek	Whittier	Chenega Bay
NUMBER OF BROCHURES	189	124	21	4	3	37
NUMBER OF LETTERS	53	28	24	0	1	0
% OF TOTAL NUMBER	15%	10%	3%	<1%	<1%	2%

Kenai Region

	ORIGIN OF RESPONSE							
	Kenai Region	Homer	Kenai/Soldotna	Seward	Seldovia	Port Graham	Nanwalek	Other Kenai Borough
NUMBER OF BROCHURES	133	24	17	25	4	52	0	11
NUMBER OF LETTERS	13	6	3	1	0	1	0	2
% OF TOTAL NUMBER	9%	2%	1%	2%	<1%	3%	0%	1%

Kodiak Region

	ORIGIN OF RESPONSE								
	Kodiak Region	Akhiok	Kodiak	Larsen Bay	Ouzinkie	Port Lions	Ivanof Bay	Old Harbor	Karluk
NUMBER OF BROCHURES	167	9	29	0	6	1	0	122	0
NUMBER OF LETTERS	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
% OF TOTAL NUMBER	11%	1%	2%	0%	<1%	<1%	0%	8%	0%

Alaska Peninsula

	ORIGIN OF RESPONSE				
	Alaska Peninsula	Chignik Lagoon	Chignik Lake	Chignik Village	Perryville
NUMBER OF BROCHURES	7	5	0	0	2
NUMBER OF LETTERS	1	1	0	0	0
% OF TOTAL NUMBER	1%	1%	0%	0%	<1%

APPENDIX III

Nearly 70 organizations responded with their concerns about the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Plan. National, local, and Native groups are represented, each having comments on the various issues.

ORGANIZATION

Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc.
Akhiok-Kaguyak; Koniag; Old Harbor Native
AKI Corporation
Alaska Center for the Environment
Alaska Wildlife Alliance
Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism
Alaska State Legislature - Rep. D. Finkelstein
Alaska State Parks
Alaska Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Alaska Survival
Alaska State Legislature - Rep. J. Davies
American Rivers
Anchorage Audubon Society, Inc.
Anti-Vivisection Society of America, Inc.
Arctic Research Commission
Bethel Native Corporation
Boone and Crockett Club
California Coastal Commission
Chignik Lagoon Village Council
Chugachmiut
City of Cordova
Cordova Aquatic Marketing Association, Inc.
Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska
Crusade 2000
DOI, Bureau of Reclamation
Federation of Fly Fishers
Forest Service Chugach National Forest
Game Conservation International
Global Citizens United
Great Bear Foundation
Institute of Arctic Biology, University
International Association for Bear Research
International Wild Waterfowl Association
Izaak Walton League of America
Kachemak Bay Conservation Society (KBCS)
Klukwan Forest Products, Inc.
Knik Canoers and Kayakers, Inc.
Kodiak Audubon Society

APPENDIX III, continued

Koniag, Inc.
National Audubon Society
(The) National Outdoor Leadership
National Rifle Association
National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Refuge Association
North Gulf Oceanic Society
Old Harbor Native Corporation
P.W.S. Land Managers Recreation Planning
Pacific Rim Villages Coalition, Ltd.
Pacific Seabird Group
Petition from 69 people
Pine St. Chinese Benevolent Association
Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation
Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance
Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance
Reclaimers of Alaska
School of Fisheries and Ocean Science
Sierra Club
Sierra Club, North Star Chapter (Minnesota)
Sight and Sound, Inc.
U of A Fairbanks, Dept. of Chemistry
U.S. Shooting Team
University of Nevada, Reno
Valdez Convention and Visitors Bureau
Valdez Fisheries Development Association
Valdez Native Association
Washington Wilderness Coalition
Washington Wildlife Commission (Washington State)
Western Conference of Public Service Commission
(The) Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

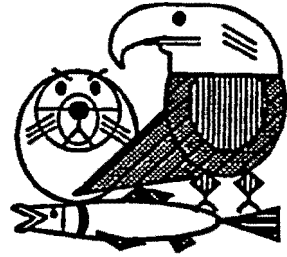
Public Meeting
Comments

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Restoration Office

645 "G" Street, Anchorage, AK 99501

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



TO: Trustee Council

DATE: September 10, 1993

FROM: Dave Gibbons *Mandy Rinken*
Interim Administrative Director

SUBJECT: First Report: Public Meeting Comments

The comment deadline for the Summary of Alternatives -- the newspaper brochure -- passed August 6th. Attached is the first printout of public comments. The printout includes, public meeting comments, all letters, and general comments written on the newspaper brochure. It does not include any statistical tabulations nor does it include a summary. The next Trustee Council meeting was moved forward four days to September 16th, and the tabulations and summary are still four days away.

The amount of public comment we received was astounding. Approximately 2000 people commented: 500-600 in public meetings, 792 wrote letters, and 799 returned brochure questionnaires. (These add to more than 2000 because there was some overlap between meetings, and brochures or letters.)

Making this amount of comments useful requires some organization. Staff coded each letter to the appropriate issue and typed it into a computer database. The table of contents for the report outlines the issues. Letters that addressed more than one issue were divided up. In some cases when the letter could not be divided without robbing it of some meaning, the letter (or a part of the letter) was coded to multiple issues. Thus, there is some duplication. You may see parts of some letters more than once. There is approximately 20% duplication.

This is a first draft. There are still some errors in the report -- a few miscoded comments and formatting errors. Most of these will be cleaned up in a new draft available at the September 16th meeting.

Trustee Agencies

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

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

First Draft; Public Comments Database

(Includes letters, comment section of the brochure, and public meeting comments.

It does not include comments on individual brochure questions.)

September 10, 1993

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ISSUE: 1.0 XX ; General comments about policies

REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5834

Would you say that the key issue is restoring the environment, and any economic benefits would be a bi-product and not geared to beefing up the economy of Alaska?

ISSUE: 1.1 XX ; Injuries to address: GENERAL COMMENTS

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 5487

A big alternative is addressing no injured resources.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5052

My concern is with restoration. Obviously there is ongoing damage. Have you thought about taking that into consideration when talking about damage?

Anchorage # 5050

You are going at it piecemeal. It doesn't make sense to have restoration for each species when there was damage to the entire ecosystem.

Anchorage # 745

General restoration should focus on severely affected species.

Anchorage # 621

I strongly believe that restoration activities should be focused on directly impacted shorelines and natural resources. Use of funds for indirectly impacted areas poses too much possibility of wastage of one of the most critical resources we have - namely dollars.

Anchorage # 220

I believe that most of the resources identified by the Trustees as having been negatively impacted by the spill are questionable at best.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5430

I don't think the spill money should be targeted for those with measurable decline. I don't like the blanket yes or no, and it should be decided on a case-by-case basis. They should be prioritized for which can do the most good.

Homer # 196

I do not want to see funds used for projects/construction studies which do not relate directly to spill damage or the spill area.

Kenai # 291

In general we should help the area to recover and help to improve the sport, subsistence and commercial uses of the area. Most importantly, DON'T lock it up so people cannot use it.

Seward # 5927

I have a concern about tying everything to the populations when in fact it was the overpopulation which caused the decline. I hope you weigh understanding and whether it was a behavioral decline or a genetic change in the copapods. A lot of research goes into understanding. Otherwise bringing up the population to pre-spill levels will not do any good.

REGION: Kodiak

Akhiok # 6161

Put all the resources together and they've been really damaged. Not all, but some. We've had a lot of fur bearing animals injured, like seals, but now we don't see them anymore. Also we know scientifically that the sea lions have declined because we know what's happening to that. Maybe the primary part of it we understand, but ducks and stuff like that, there's still a high percentage missing, they've been taken also. And as far as the animals like deer, we still have some but maybe we lost some to the effects of the spill. But these animals that live in the water, they've been pretty well decimated. Like you say it takes many years for restoration, I think nature takes that course on its own.

Ouzinkie # 5737

The money is supposed to be spent for restoration and enhancement. Regardless of whether 60% of the clam problem is due to oil, 20% due to sea otters, another 10% due to freezing of the clam bed, whatever, the money is there to help restore it no matter whether other things are involved, too.

Ouzinkie # 5704

As I understand it, it's hard to pin down the exact causes things like ducks declining. It might be heavy metals or it might be oil, who really knows. All we know is the population is down. This money has to be spent for restoration purposes. If you could really analyze the causes maybe you could say it is 60% due to the oil, 40% due to the factories in St. Louis. What can be done to enhance our duck population?

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 189

Our first and number one priority is the environment. The plants and animals we killed; it is their home we destroyed and we the humans are the outsiders (aliens) and should have more respect towards their land. So all our efforts and resources should be towards the environment and to prevent a similar disaster from happening again.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 6137

In order for you to be effective we need to review what we know about injuries and what we don't know. For some of these species it is unclear what we do know. There's a few where we can't tell if there are population declines but even so we're not studying them any more. There is even a bunch of species we did not study at all. We have a poor understanding of what drives the Prince William Sound ecosystem. There are gaping holes in our knowledge about spill damage and natural fluctuation in the environment. Restoration activities are questionable. Why do restoration on a species that is naturally recovering if we can't even distinguish the natural cycles from recovery? Why even monitor the recovery if we don't also try to understand the natural processes? Why do restoration when we can't understand what's driving the process? (see written statement by Evelyn Brown).

Valdez # 6032

I wonder about the legality of going far afield for a project to do something that wasn't done before the spill and doesn't address injuries sustained because of the spill.

ISSUE: 1.1 POP ; Injuries to address: POPULATION DECLINE only
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REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5861

You have quite a mix. Suppose you decide to restore all population decline species to pre-spill levels. Would there be any money left?

REGION: Prince William Sound

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

1. Restoration projects should address all injured resources and services except for those biological resources which did not measurably decline. Justification: Natural recovery seems to be working for many species injured by the spill. If a species' population has not declined then there is no way to tell when restoration has been successful. Restoration funds could be misspent. Funding projects to restore injured species and services which did not measurably decline entails more money being spent on monitoring and administration. Less money would be available for funding projects to help the recovery of more seriously injured resources and services. Habitat acquisitions will help species whose populations declined and most of the other species which were injured but did not measurably decline.

Whittier # 6060

For population declines, what can we do? You can study it. I fail to see how you are going to restore them.

ISSUE: 1.1 ALL ; Injuries to address: ALL injured resources and services

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 1620

Address ALL injured resources! Once we establish accountability for corporate misbehavior.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Injuries Addressed by Restoration Actions. Address all injured resources and services. There does not have to be a population decline, but priority to species with such declines.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Injuries Addressed by Restoration Actions. Definition of injury should encompass more than population level effects. We believe that the definition of injury should not focus on detected effects to populations, but should also include degradation of habitats and sub-lethal effects including changes in physiological or biochemical changes or productivity changes. This is crucial since, as the Trustees acknowledge, pre-spill population data is lacking for many species and determination of population declines caused by the spill complicated by high natural variability or declines that had begun prior to the spill. The public is concerned about habitat and sub-lethal effects. We are pleased that the Trustee Council has begun to give treatment to injuries for which there was no measurable population decline, and believe this could be consistently reflected throughout the Restoration Plan. We are troubled by the definition of "consequential injury" that may give more priority to significant population declines than to habitat degradation or contamination. If habitat or sublethal or chronic effects to adults or any other life stages are continuing, but have not yet been manifested or inferred at the population level, there may still be a problem for which restoration is warranted. Because this document was based on studies that focused on documenting injury to individual species for legal proof of harm, it seems that potential future environmental injury has been downplayed. Furthermore, the difference between lack of evidence of injury, and lack of effects must be made explicit. For example, the description of Recovery for Sitka Black-Tailed Deer (p. B7, 1993 Supplement to the Summary of Alternatives) should be changed to say, "since there is no evidence that populations of Sitka black-tailed deer were injured or were not injured, no estimate of recovery time can be made. We encourage the Trustee Council to include in the "Summary of Injury" a more complete description of the more subtle effects; for example, the increased significance of rockfish mortality or physiological changes for such a long-growing species that may live 100 years, or the heavy direct mortality of yellow-billed loons which is of concern since this species has low population numbers. The Summary of Injury should not state there was "no evidence of injury" if there was sub-lethal damage but not population-level effects. "Other Birds" should be listed under "Injured, but not known population decline" on the table of Injured Resources (p. E3, 1993 Supplement).

Anchorage # 271

I believe you should work with EVERYTHING that needs help!

REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5860

It is too early to close the book on any particular species in the area.

Seward # 1091

Injuries addressed by restoration actions: Restoration actions should focus first and foremost on measurable damage to injured resources. When this mission is accomplished, or is a positive improvement plain, then more extensive work could be done but the damaged or injured biological resources should come first.

REGION: Kodiak

Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation

We believe that restoration actions should address as many of the injured resources and services as they can. No one knows for certain what the long-term consequences of the oil spill might be. What we do know is that conserving much of the lands and resources in the area today is the best way to help offset the effects of the spill and give nature a chance to restore things to the way they were before and to insure survival of the animals, plants, and people if we ever suffer similar damage to our natural resources again.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1244

I have just finished a thirty-day kayaking expedition on Prince William Sound, and in addition to feeling a personal attachment, I have engaged in much research and study concerning the 1989 oil spill and the effects that it has had on the beautiful wilderness. After having thoroughly read through the newsletter which was published describing the five alternative ways to use the \$900 million dollars towards restoration--well I cannot say that I align myself fully with any one of the alternatives. I do, however, feel strongly about how the money is spent, and I wish to present my ideas in the hope that they are at least read, and at most taken into account. There are five different issues which the newsletter addresses. 1) I believe that the money should "address all injured resources and services."

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

In response to the questions you posed in your questionnaire, I think all injured resources should be addressed - human, habitat, and animal

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 278

All species in oiled area should be studied, especially herring and pink salmon.

Valdez # 6027

That brings out the problem with the science studies again. I don't think you should close the door on any species in the Sound for which there may be injuries.

ISSUE: 1.1 ECO ; Injuries to address: ecosystem / food chain

REGION: Anchorage**Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment**

Injuries to be Addressed by Restoration Actions: Should restoration actions address all injured resources and services or just those that experienced a population level decline? The definition of injury should not be narrowly focused on effects to populations or single species. In particular, monitoring and research efforts should address ecosystem effects, including chronic or sub-lethal effects. (It is important to note that whether a particular restoration project should be undertaken or implemented in response to the identification of an ecosystem, chronic or sub-lethal resource injury is, of course, a separate question.)

REGION: Kenai**Other Kenai Borough# 204**

Our greatest asset is in our natural resource (for tourism, fishing and study). Target funds to restore and maintain natural habitat. Taking 20 years to accomplish this goal will be more economical and precise in determining which areas of restoration need more or less funding.

Seldovia # 5858

The species are interlinked to the food chain, and we can't say it doesn't have any relationship to the species above and below it in the food chain. By addressing all the injured species, you leave the possibility that new data may arise.

REGION: Kodiak**Kodiak # 5550**

It's difficult to propose a solution when you don't yet understand the problem and that's been the problem since the very onset of this *Exxon Valdez* oil spill issue. I would think one of the most important issues of recovery is what is the most natural state that you want. I think it is the balance of nature. As a subsistence user I say when that ecosystem was disturbed it harmed not only the environment but the human factor. Many of us are still scarred today. If nothing else when the budget is being cut it always seems like one of the biggest cuts is in the subsistence branch of Fish and Game.

Kodiak # 5537

We had one whole fishery totally shut down here. We had a lot of incredible impacts and not as many of the advantages of the other places. I want to make sure the Kodiak villages are equally considered in these surveys. I want to make sure the surveys that are done in Prince William Sound are also done in the Kodiak region, and that restoration efforts are more concerned with the ecosystem than they are with individual species.

Kodiak # 5536

I prefer to see an ecosystem type approach. Let's use the example of the murre. Maybe we could

get more bang for our buck spending money on murres in the Pribilofs but those murres on the Barrens played as part of our ecosystem. What we want is the ecosystem restored. I have pictures of kids playing on dead whales out at Pasagshak. We had a lot of whales die that year. I'm worried about shellfish, too. We had a lot of loss of fecundity. I'm not concerned with saving this or that specific animal in this or that specific area, I'm concerned with saving the whole area of Kodiak.

Kodiak # 5533

I want to go back to your policy questions and issues on where to target your restoration activities. It goes back to the philosophy of whether we're going to look at the whole ecosystems or just very specific things we've been able to measure. From a scientific point of view you can't really measure impacts until you know what was there in the first hand. If we just focus on that we're really missing the boat with these questions. If we don't really know what the injuries were we can't really say much with certainty. As a fisheries biologist I have strong objections to anyone saying we really know what happened. So we really need to be looking at the overview of the whole ecosystem, not just targeting maybe a commercially important species.

Kodiak # 5529

I have a real problem with the identification of what injured resources are out there. Only the top of the food chain is identified. It's true we lost massive numbers of birds and otters, but to date I've not seen any real food chain analysis or any kind of comprehensive look at the ecosystem. I know that right into 1989 and 1990 there was a big scramble to take a comprehensive look at things. Are these the only species we need to restore? Are we looking at restoration in terms of identifying all the resources that are out there? You can't really begin until we know what was hurt out there. We still don't understand what the water column is all about. I think the questions are too shallow.

Old Harbor # 5657

Some of the resources that were damaged are in the Gulf. Our declines here depend on the ecosystem. Seems like we get declines around here and we might think it is part of the ecosystem because these things happen year in and year out. We might be waiting for something to recover and it isn't going to happen because it is part of their life cycle. Like they say harbor seals are in decline but where is that coming from? The killer whales and the sea lions, too. What's causing that, we don't know.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 5338

From the studies in February there is strong evidence that whole ecosystems were damaged. For example they found deformities in the northern smooth tongue and that is the single largest feeder fish. Every species on the first two columns of injured resources feed on them. It's real easy for the politics to overwhelm reality. Kachemak Bay screams loudest and Seward needs its whale jail and Kodiak needs its museum. But if you really turn the focus back, the whole ecosystem of Prince William Sound was the most damaged, and it's not getting any attention. It's not even being studied, particularly the birds. I just feel the trustees forget that the oil ended up in Prince William Sound. How do we get the focus back on the ecosystem and off of the politics.

Cordova # 1020

I believe it is time to shift gears, step back and view the expenditure of the settlement funds in a

new light. There are more ideas on ways to spend the money than there are funds available. We have to take a more holistic look at what needs to be done. Ask what can give us the biggest bang for the buck and make the most difference in the future? We must become very selective. We should not squander these precious and rare funds on hundreds of small, projects that solve localized problems or desires, but to contribute on a larger scale. Keep in mind that no matter what we decide to do, we will never please everyone. To recommend what should be done, we need to review what we know and do not know. We know a few species show documented population declines due to oil. However, for several of these species its unclear what proportion of the population was removed and how fluctuations in the natural environment complicate recovery monitoring and confuse oil damage interpretation. We also know that a few species show potential population decline, but we are not continuing to study the species or cannot distinguish oil spill effects from natural population fluctuations and other outside influence. There are many species that were probably injured (especially as eggs or larvae) and were either poorly studies or not studied at all. We simply had very little baseline information from which to measure the disturbance caused by the oil spill. We have a poor understanding of what drives the PWS ecosystem, natural cycles in abundance, and species interactions. Considering the gaping holes in our knowledge about spill damage and natural fluctuations in populations and the environment, restoration activities are questionable at best. How can we measure the success of restoration on a species when we do know what the actual damage was or we don't understand how natural fluctuations will compound that restoration? Why do restoration on a species that is naturally recovering if we can't distinguish our own restoration efforts. Why monitor the recovery of a species from oil if we don't try to also understand what naturally drives population declines or recovery? Why conduct restoration if it is poorly understood an if mother nature can do better herself? Do we really want to throw this precious money at uncertain restoration measures? For some of the reasons listed above, many enhancement activities are probably a poor use of settlement funds. Some of the enhancement proposals listed as potential projects in the 1994 Work Plan concern species in which oil spill damage was never fully defined (shellfish hatcheries?). We don't know what baseline levels of many of these resources are and if enhancement is really needed. In addition, enhancement exercises generally affect localized, single species and cannot help large areas with multi-species and populations. The effects on the ecosystem of current enhancement activities are unknown (e.g. PWSAC hatcheries). We have never really conducted cost-benefits analyses of enhancement projects and in some cases, never can. Why spend precious funds on activities when their effects on a oil-spill- stressed ecosystem are unknown, that are expensive, that are difficult to evaluate, and that only help restore localized areas?

Cordova # 433

Need to research food chain to find out why there are problems with pink salmon and herring. Need to know what's going on so fishermen can plan next season.

Cordova # 278

The entire food chain is important and should be studied equally regardless of whether it appears to be recovering; ie, Bald eagles, river otters. The health of 1 depends upon the other including the human population.

Tatitlek # 5982

The more man interjects himself into nature the more chances there are to foul it up. I believe it would naturally come back itself, but we're in a global pollution situation now where the whole world .

has to get involved. The oceans are getting affected, it's a slow cancer. Everything is really impacted by everything else.

Valdez # 6014

I have some trouble with the state focusing on species and not habitat. In particular let's focus on species with the injuries that are measurable. For instance sea otters. We have so many sea otters they have decimated the crab and clams and other shellfish. They're over-protected and as far as I am concerned they are affected by lack of action by the government agencies. These sea species will grow if you leave them alone. You don't have to spend millions of dollars to protect the habitat. Another species is pacific perch. They are a food fish just like the herring, and their decline will affect many other species. You're going to see species affected far beyond Prince William Sound.

ISSUE: 1.2 XX ; Restoration for recovered resources: GENERAL COMMENTS
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REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 1078

There is public concern over the proliferation of proposals for use of the remaining \$600 million of oil spill settlement monies, and I urge you to focus expenditures on the most defensible use of these funds - the offsetting of adverse impacts to fish and wildlife populations and their habitats. The following hierarchy represents the most direct means of achieving this objective: 1) Benefit species affected where they were affected, 2) Benefit species affected as close as possible to where they were affected, 3) Benefit other species in the spill area, and 4) Benefit other species as close as possible to the spill area.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Restoration Actions for Recovered Resources: Should restoration actions cease upon recovery of an injured resource or continue to enhance the resource? As indicated previously, habitat acquisition and protection generally represents the best opportunity to ensure the ability of ecosystems to recover and/or avoid additional injury. Where fee simple habitat acquisition efforts are successful, they will, by definition, provide enduring restoration protection. This is appropriate and, indeed, reflects a distinct advantage of habitat protection as a restoration option. In those cases where habitat acquisition/protection is not possible or feasible and direct intervention, habitat manipulation or some other form of active management project or action is deemed necessary, cessation of the restoration action may well be appropriate upon recovery of the injured resource(s), especially if continuation of the restoration action has an annual carrying cost.

REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5862

I think when you consider whether to cease resource recovery, you need to look at the resource in relation to the food source and how the recovery of the species is doing.

Seldovia # 5833

When you make the decision of which resource to enhance or improve, does the committee consider how that impacts not only other species but the economy? How do you weigh out the value of the whole program?

Seward # 1091

Restoration actions for recovered resources: Once a resource has recovered or is making significant progress then it should be grouped with all resources.

ISSUE: 1.2 RCV ; Restoration for recovered resources: CEASE RESTORATION once a resource has recovered

REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5209

Once they get back to pre-spill level, if they (Red Salmon) reach the area where they're taking care of themselves, not dropping all the way down, after they reach that point you should stop.

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 481

No salmon enhancement!

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5437

For habitat enhancement, you could end up with overescapement.

Homer # 5435

I would question restoring something that exceeds pre-spill conditions because it might have effects on the overall ecology.

Seldovia # 5869

It doesn't sound like there is enough money to restore things. How would you even consider going beyond that?

Seward # 265

Generally, DO NOT ENHANCE the spill area. Ignore Hickel at every chance.

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 5539

The statements that have been made here about restoring everything to before the oil spill is, I think, an unrealistic goal. Not only is it unrealistic, it also deludes the public into thinking we can even do that. If we try to go on beyond what the natural environment and the Gulf of Alaska has

provided in the past we're playing God, and I think with that philosophically we're coming from the wrong point of view. There's big questions about whether the number of pinks we've pumped up with hatcheries is the right way to go. If we can come up with some more types of proposals maybe we should just protect habitat the way it is. There is enough history over the last 20 years of people trying to enhance things and then screwing it up. I want to be real careful that we don't try to enhance things too far.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1244

2) I favor the cessation of all "restoration actions once a resource has recovered."

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

Restoration actions should cease once a resource recovers.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 663

Once this (habitat protection in PWS) has been achieved, remaining funds should be spent on restoring these areas to pre-spill conditions.

Cordova # 649

I oppose "enhancement" and increased human use.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

3. Restoration actions for an injured resource should cease once the resource has recovered.

Justification: The enhancement of a recovered resource could cause damage to another injured resource which has not yet recovered or to resources not damaged by the spill. It will be important to maintain the delicate balance of the ecosystem as a whole in the restoration process. The continued focus on recovered resources also depletes funds already in short supply.

ISSUE: 1.2 ENH ; Restoration for recovered resources: ENHANCE (continue restoration in order to enhance the resource)

REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5210

I do think salmon enhancement like a farm or a hatchery would be a good idea. Then let the fish go. We have an aquaculture association started but it hasn't raised enough money to do a heck of a lot.

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 1620

Continue (restoration actions for recovered resources) as we don't see the damage - it has dissipated. We cover so much up.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Restoration Actions for Recovered Resources. It is warranted to continue restoration actions even after a resource has recovered, although the priority should be for actions for resources with on-going injury. We believe there is a strong basis for maintaining habitat protection indefinitely because there was a permanent loss of intrinsic value of the fish, wildlife, habitat, and wilderness values lost in the immediate aftermath of the spill. The statement, "As restoration objectives are accomplished over time, some restrictions imposed on management of the lands may be removed," should be deleted from the Step 8, Management, of Habitat Protection and Acquisition on Private Land (p. C9, 1993 Supplement to the Summary of Alternatives).

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Restoration Actions for Recovered Resources. Continue restoration actions even after a resource has recovered, but priority to species with population declines.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5436

I would only enhance to replace.

Nanwalek #5643

Enhancement would benefit the subsistence users.

Nanwalek # 5617

Could we get some information on enhancement and how we can get funds for proposals?

Port Graham # 5776

I feel that if restoration were to occur to the subsistence species in my area, that would enhance it. I support going beyond prespill.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1303

This is in regards to how the remaining 630 million dollars of the oil spill civil settlement money should be spent. I'm a sea kayaker who has had the opportunity to paddle in the sound on several occasions with some extended and lengthy trips. I believe the best way to spend the money would be your option 2, the acquisition of land to protect it from logging and mining and other consumptive uses. I don't want to see the attempted manipulation of the ecosystems to "enhance" recovery. Lets just acquire more land and let it all recover as nature will allow. I spend a lot of money getting to, and in Alaska in order to kayak there, and will continue to in the future if there is someplace like PWS to go to. I believe with all the other similar users the money we bring in to the state economy in the long run will outweigh that generated by timber and mining. Our money is spread farther and more evenly than just to those of special interest of logging and mining.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Valdez # 6030

It seems to me that restoration first means fixing what was broke and putting it back like it was. If you can't exactly do that then the next thing is compensation, recompense for it somewhere else. Then compensation blends into the word enhancement. There seems to be an extending tentacle here into the enhancement region that goes beyond just putting the balance back. Isn't there a guideline somewhere that tells us how far we can go out into this enhancement area, where instead we are dealing with the balance and putting the balance back like it was?

Whittier # 6057

Why spend money on good stuff that is already okay?

Whittier # 6056

Once we have spent money after the ten years and there is money left over, where does it go? If the eagles are okay, we could use the money to enhance them above this level?

ISSUE: 1.3 XX ; Location of Restoration: GENERAL COMMENTS
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REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5214

Why would you consider using that money in the lower 48? Seems to me that's pretty crazy.

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 1078

There is public concern over the proliferation of proposals for use of the remaining \$600 million of oil spill settlement monies, and I urge you to focus expenditures on the most defensible use of these funds - the offsetting of adverse impacts to fish and wildlife populations and their habitats. The following hierarchy represents the most direct means of achieving this objective: 1) Benefit species affected where they were affected, 2) Benefit species affected as close as possible to where they were affected, 3) Benefit other species in the spill area, and 4) Benefit other species as close as possible to the spill area.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1634 Sierra Club

Geographical priority: Trustees should give preference to projects within the oil spill area, with a diminishing preference as projects move further away from it. However, projects outside the oil spill area should be allowed if they meet the other guidelines, and especially if they can be accomplished more effectively outside the spill area. One of the most effective ways to restore bird habitat is to eliminate predators (such as foxes) which have been introduced to islands by humans. While there are few islands with introduced predators within the spill zone, they do occur along the Alaskan Peninsula, the Pribilofs, and the Aleutians. Removal of introduced foxes on these on these

islands is an appropriate and highly effective way to replace bird habitat. Land acquisition outside the spill zone is also appropriate if habitat values are high. Many of the birds and fish in the oil spill are migratory.

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Location of Restoration Actions: Should restoration actions take place in the spill area only or anywhere there is a link to injured resources or services? Restoration actions outside the spill impacted area should not be categorically ruled out as a policy matter, although priority should be given to effective restoration actions. Before undertaking a restoration action outside the spill area, however, a clear finding should be made that there are no effective alternatives inside the spill area or that the efficacy of restoration projects outside the spill area clearly justified an exception to the general policy of working inside the spill zone.

Anchorage # 745

You should consider habitat acquisition and protection in areas outside the spill area ONLY IF those areas are part of the range of severely affected populations that use the spill area, or if those areas could provide stocks for recolonization of the spill area. The state's use of the spill money on the Fort Richardson hatchery is travesty. Habitat acquisition in Prince William Sound should be a priority over more remote spill-affected areas such as the Alaska Peninsula. In general, acquire land where human pressures are greatest: close to transit systems and population centers and in areas of private development or heavy resource use. Acquiring conservation rights or development rights instead of actual land title should be considered where cost-effective. Please resist pressures to acquire sites or build facilities primarily for recreation or subsistence. These uses will flourish as long as fish and wildlife are restored and pollution is abated and avoided. Acquire habitat in the areas where human pressure is greatest (because of easy access private development, etc). Prince William Sound should take priority over more remote areas like the Alaska Peninsula or Kodiak Archipelago.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5460

I like Alternative 3, but I am not sure I like the policies. I am not sure the restoration action should cease. I am not sure it should be limited to the spill area. It should be considered on a case-by-case basis. I basically like that approach.

Homer # 5441

The link could easily be the species and where it nests or has habitat elsewhere.

Homer # 5440

The map is pretty limited when it comes to migratory birds.

Nanwalek # 5642

The spill area should be the priority, and anything outside that area should be secondary.

Port Graham # 5742

Will herring be tested here and not just in the Sound?

Seldovia # 5835

What would be an alternative if you wanted to restore the murre population without going outside the spill area?

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 6121

To say that you can spend money on a hatchery in a different place I don't think addresses all the impacted areas quite so easily. I don't think your map goes far enough. I think you definitely have a change to take care of species that were killed but I think the impact of the spill goes much further. You don't go through that process here.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Chenega Bay # 5101

Is this graphic taken from the whole Sound? What percentage of the Southwestern district is represented?

Valdez # 6018

When you look at populations, is it with the intent of enhancement with a spin off that would affect oiled areas or is it just to aid the population of that species in general?

ISSUE: 1.3 IN ; Location of Restoration: SPILL AREA ONLY

REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lake # 5253

Spending money outside Alaska doesn't make any sense. Seems like they should spend it in the regions that were affected.

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Mat-Su Borough # 682

Prince William Sound was the most affected by the spill, consequently, spend the money in addressing injuries in Prince William Sound, not elsewhere.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1464 Knik Canoers and Kayakers, Inc.

Our Club (Knik Canoers and Kayakers) believe acquisition of habitat within the spill area offers the best opportunity for recovery after the spill. We would like to see a very high priority given to protection of this unique marine environment. We urge you to select a variety of habitat areas across the length of the area impacted by the spill.

Anchorage # 621

I strongly believe that restoration activities should be focused on directly impacted shorelines and natural resources. Use of funds for indirectly impacted areas poses too much possibility of wastage of one of the most critical resources we have - namely dollars.

Anchorage # 620

I think that virtually all the money should be spent to acquire habitat within (and only within) the spill affected area.

Anchorage # 299

I think more emphasis should be put in restore the areas affected by the spill starting from the PW Sound and less effort toward the outskirts of the oil spill.

Anchorage # 263

Thanks to our governor, Exxon and Judge Holland our state was sold out. We have very little \$ to work with so it must be addressed to the spill area only.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 196

I do not want to see funds used for projects/construction/ studies which do not relate directly to spill damage or the spill area.

Other Kenai Borough# 513

I favor using Settlement funds only to repair and improve the habitat of affected areas. Undamaged or unaffected areas should not be part of the restoration effort.

Port Graham # 5775

Regarding supporting the money being spent on habitat, we strongly support working within the oil-affected areas.

Seldovia # 5882

I want to emphasize that restoration stay inside the spill-affected areas.

Seldovia # 5867

I would caution the Council to be very aware of dealing with proposals coming from agencies and municipalities outside the spill area. That big pot of money must be very tempting for agency budgets. My eyes fell out of my head when I saw the proposal for the Fort Richardson Pipeline. I would not like to give carte blanche to proposals. If there is nothing that can be done in the spill-affected area, only then should you look at proposals outside the spill-affected area. The scientists should be able to sort out the flim-flam from the real projects.

Seward # 326

Money should not be spent outside the affected area.

REGION: Kodiak

Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation

We believe that the focus of the financial resources available to address the effects of the oil spill should be in the oil spill area.

Ouzinkie # 5717

I think that the money should be spent within the spill zone itself. It doesn't make sense to spend the money down south, it should be spent on restoration here. It doesn't make any sense to go outside.

REGION: Outside Alaska

Canada # 1006

I believe that the civil settlement should be used for the following priorities: 1. Take all appropriate steps to absolutely ensure that no environmental catastrophe won't repeat in the future in Prince William Sound. 2. Spend money on the area directly affected by the oil to allow the fauna and flora to regain its natural course. The restoration actions should be undertaken with coordination to what nature already does by itself, without any assistance.

US, Outside Alaska# 1318

I am from Atlanta, Georgia, and I am writing in response to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Bill. During June and July of this year, I spent one month traveling through the pristine Prince William Sound by sea kayak. My expedition led me from Whittier through Culross and Bainbridge passages to the Gulf of Alaska and back again. I was struck by the beauty and serenity of the Sound. Although I only spent one month in Alaska, I feel apart of her environment, and I experienced a sharp pain within me every time I viewed remains from the oil spill. Seeing construction hats and booms left on the beaches from the clean up and oil stained on rocks from the splashing of waves crushed my heart. In my opinion Alternative 2, habitat protection, is the best option for restoration of the Sound. Wildlife and their habitat have received enough damage from the oil spill, and therefore, need protection from disturbances that may occur by other alternatives. I also believe that restoration should be limited to the spill area. There is no reason any of this money should be spent to build roads and marinas etc. because they were not affected by the spill. The beauty of the Prince William Sound relies on her mammal population and preservation of the surrounding land. Therefore, I strongly recommend Alternative 2 as the plan to restore the natural appearance of the Prince William Sound.

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

Restoration actions should be limited as much as possible - money should go instead to habitat protection and acquisition. We should limit restoration actions to the spill area only.

US, Outside Alaska# 1032

I strongly believe that the best option would be plan II, Habitat Protection. I feel that the best way for the environment to recover is to let nature heal itself with limited human intervention. Some restoration actions should be taken to help those organisms hit hard by the spill, while those that were not directly affected by the accident should be left alone. Funds should be used for

actions in spill area only unless it is discovered that being active in other areas has a direct link to the recovery of a species located an affected by the Sound.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Chenega Bay # 5154

The only way this money should be spent outside is if we wrap some of the otters and send them outside.

Chenega Bay # 5153

I strongly support spending in PWS and the immediate affected areas. I can't see spending it outside.

Chenega Bay # 5152

The money should be spent in Chenega Bay.

Cordova # 1497

Spend monies on oil impacted areas and communities.

Cordova # 750

I feel that these funds should be used only with PWS, outer Kenai Coast, and Kodiak Island and in proportion to the extent of damage to each of these areas. "PWS by far being the most damaged."

Cordova # 690

Marine restoration of areas directly impacted by the oil spill. The Prince William Sound has had failed salmon and herring runs. These are examples of being directly impacted by the oil spill.

Cordova # 280

Dear Trustees: As a resident of PWS I would like to see PWS get its fair share of restoration projects. I feel that since PWS took the major hit on the oil, we should see a proportionate amount of funds applied to the area. Unfortunately we do not have a large population base in the Sound to make our voices heard loudly, nor do we have a lot of political influence. I am in hope that this will not be held against us, and the fact that we have suffered the brunt of the damage will be reflected in your funding decisions. Thank you, Jack Barber

Tatitlek # 6002

I don't think they should give the money to outside the oil spill area. That's real bogus. It's too easy for it all to be used up by some other area. That's a terrible idea to use it anywhere else but the oil spill area. I think all the resources should be restored because the scientists are just guessing. Sure it's an educated guess but don't leave anything out just because some egghead told us that.

Valdez # 6019

I don't see how you can possibly consider spending money in an area not directly affected by the spill. If you do, then you got too much money and you should start giving it back. I thought we were talking about Prince William Sound, not Cook Inlet or some other place. Considering Coghill Lake proposals, how could they consider assisting with restoring sockeye salmon that weren't injured,

or consider anything outside the area that had oil? Please explain how the oil spill regions that are on this map were defined.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

5. Restoration of natural resources should be limited to activities within the oil spill impacted area. Justification: The oil spill boundary (page 10) encompasses an immense area extending from Cordova to Chignik on the Alaska Peninsula. Restoration actions if not limited to this area could diffuse the restoration effort to the extent that no cumulative benefit accrues. More will be gained by restoring the oil spill impacted ecosystem as a whole through habitat acquisition and protection than will result from individual projects conducted outside the spill area.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

6. Restoration actions should be directed only towards services in the spill area. Justification: Exxon has already paid several million dollars for advertising to mitigate the effects of the spill on tourism in area outside the spill area. These services have already recovered and expanded beyond their pre-spill levels. Recreation and tourism interests within the spill area are still adversely affected by the loss of the services provided by natural resources damaged by the spill.

Valdez # 245

This is the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Fund. As such, all monies from this fund should be used only in those areas directly affected by the spill and its subsequent clean up activities. It is incumbent upon the Trustees to avoid politics and to assure that restoration plans are directed only toward area of Prince William Sound, the lower Cook Inlet and the Cordova and Kodiak areas. It would be absolutely ludicrous to include other area (ie. Anchorage, Fairbanks, the Interior or Southeast) in restoration activities.

Valdez # 31

Please do not consider using money for anything outside the spill affected area.

ISSUE: 1.3 AK ; Location of Restoration: ANYWHERE IN ALASKA
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REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5215

I believe it should stay in Alaska, basically in the spill area. If someone could come to me and give me a good point, for example if they were saying the currents go somewhere else and affect stuff further away, that would be ok.

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 5507

Cape Suckling could be thought of outside the boundaries but has connections to the entire Sound. Even though it is physically outside, it is intricately linked to the Sound.

Juneau # 5506

Such a process wouldn't be conducive to getting information on state-owned lands. What I am specifically thinking about is Cape Suckling. Many of us know it has seen legislative intent to purchase the land from the university and put the land back into refuge. What is the possibility of finding it on one of these lists? I would support going outside the spill area.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

PSG is concerned that the Trustees have limited their consideration of the restoration of seabirds to the geographic area of the oil slick. While such a geographic criterion may be appropriate for inter-tidal organisms, it ignores the fact that seabirds are migratory. Oiled seabirds were seen in the Pribilof Islands during 1989 and seabirds from the Shumagin and Aleutian Islands probably were killed. Birds may be moving into the oil spill area from elsewhere in Alaska to replace dead birds. The Trustees have thus far refused to implement restoration projects for seabirds elsewhere in Alaska that were directly or indirectly depleted by the spill. Our recommended approach, which we hope will be contained in the Trustees' draft Restoration Plan, focuses on habitat acquisition and the restoration of the natural biodiversity of seabird breeding islands.

ISSUE: 1.3 US ; Location of Restoration: ANYWHERE IN US
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REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1244

4) Undertake restoration action anywhere there is a link to injured resources or services."

ISSUE: 1.3 OUT ; Location of Restoration: OUTSIDE the SPILL AREA (AK or US not specified)
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REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 5364

On the location question, your reason about the murres makes sense. If we vote for locations outside the spill area, what about enhancement work in the Arctic area. Could the money be used for that?

Fairbanks # 1620

The responsibility is to ALL land/accountability for 100% of the damage. The catastrophic damage has to be rebuilt at any cost. We are destroying our very life support system. We need sanctuaries.

This cost reflects the ignorance of the oil giants ignoring the studies before the pipeline.

Unfortunately, we need watchdog groups over "corporate misbehavior". 85% recovery = 85% preventative maintenance to protect the Alaskan ecosystem. I have taught a presentation re: oil and hazardous spill awareness and educate the public (schools, etc --) and am recommended by S.E.R.C., to the Dept. of Education. We sent a bad message to our YOUTH. About Natural Recovery, Alternative 1: Absolutely NOT. This is corporate misbehavior -- unacceptable.

Fairbanks # 1620

Include all areas (in restoration).

Juneau # 5495

I am uncomfortable with the tight box approach. You may have some things in one approach, but you don't want to limit yourself to areas outside the spill. I would look at being more flexible.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5096

PWS was a migratory path for all kinds of species clear up to the North Slope. Species were disrupted by the oil being there. Migratory species and their ranges should be included on the map.

Anchorage # 5084

I favor 80% going for habitat acquisition. I think the Trustee Council will be constrained by the blue line from doing some very good restoration.

Anchorage # 5078

If habitat outside the spill area would protect a species, it should be eligible.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Location of Restoration Actions. Undertake restoration actions in the entire spill affected ecosystem (i.e. increase boundary to each). Allow actions outside the spill area for species with continuing population declines (lower priority).

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Location of Restoration Actions. The definition of "oil spill area" could be misinterpreted (for example, the uplands themselves were not oiled but are the logical focus of restoration); we suggest changing it to the "oiled ecosystem." The entire ecosystem affected by the spill should include the entire Prince William Sound east to the outer (east) boundary of the Copper River Delta ecosystem. As a lower priority, allow actions outside the spill area for species with continuing population declines.

Anchorage # 733 AK Sportfishing Assn and AK State Council of Trout Unlimited

It seems that there is very little that can be done to cost-effectively restore injured resources and services other than through land and habitat acquisition, but without the necessary social science it is hard to make good determinations as to cost-effectiveness of projects such as stock separation studies. We favor a combination of Alternatives 2,4,and 5. We favor the 91% for land and habitat acquisition in Alternative 2, the high standard for cost-effectiveness in Alternative 4, and the flexibility and cost-effectiveness that includes acquisitions outside the spill area in Alternative 5. We realize there is political difficulty in looking outside the spill area. However, the law contains no requirement that acquisitions be geographically limited to the spill area, and the whole notion of acquiring replacement resources implies acquiring uninjured resources away for the locale of the oil.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 314

I would like to see emphasis placed on wildlife and fish species that were impacted by the oil spill, either directly (primary emphasis) or indirectly (secondary emphasis). This should also include accomplishing work in areas outside the oil spill area, but are areas that are used by wildlife species that were impacted by the oil spill, i.e. murre. If research or management can be accomplished somewhere along the migration route of the species, we will be more able to understand that species, which could assist that species in its survival.

Seward # 1091

Location of restoration actions: The primary restoration should be limited to the spill area. If a beneficial link can be established between biological resources within the spill area and elsewhere then restoration efforts outside the spill area may be appropriate. An example would be migratory populations of birds and mammals which may be enhanced by assistance in wintering or breeding areas outside the spill area.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

Most birds killed in the spill were migratory. PSG reiterates its strong objection to limiting seabird restoration to the geographic area that the Trustee Council has identified as the spill area. The Trustee Council has spent too much effort attempting to restore seabird colonies at infeasible sites within the spill area instead of planning for compensatory restoration in breeding areas that may be far from the spill area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1398

As you know, the settlement requiring expenditure of the money inside the spill area would have to be changed to allow expenditure in the Tongass. The Tongass may be the best place to spend it, however, since it's out of the way of future oil spills, is unspoiled by oil, but is threatened with the environmental degradation through clearcutting-- which you might prevent.

ISSUE: 1.3 PVL ; Boundary of spill area - Perryville

REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5193

You would be hard pressed to tell me that it stopped right here because I used to live in Perryville. The tide is really fast that carries between here and there. I've lived in Perryville all my life and I never saw any oil like that on the shores before or again.

Chignik Lagoon # 5191

I know a pilot who flew for Exxon, he said he found a lot of oil clear up to Unimak Pass.

Chignik Lagoon # 5190

These people that live in Ivanoff and Perryville, they fish in this area, this is their primary source of income.

Chignik Lagoon # 5189

It looks like the line on the map only goes to Jack's Point, but there was mousse patties all the way out to Kupreanof.

Chignik Lagoon # 1023 Chignik Lagoon Village Council

The boundaries you have outlined I think should include all villages (Chignik bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lakes, Perryville and Ivanof). We all depend on this fishery not just the lagoon and lakes.

Chignik Lake # 5268

I'm pretty sure Perryville is going to be upset that they're not included in this process.

Chignik Lake # 5254

I don't see why Perryville isn't included here.

Chignik Lake # 5237

How come Perryville is not on the map? They still found oil lumps there a year after the spill.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5060

I can bring you federal documentation that the State of Alaska Fish and Game got information from us about cleaning our beaches before we were shut down, but yet we are not on this list.

Anchorage # 5059

I listened to all the other villages. We are from the Alaska Peninsula. Your map doesn't show us. I would like to find out what our village can do to get on this map. Our beaches were well oiled. We didn't even get our beaches partially cleaned and were shut down. How can we get some money these people are talking about to clean our beaches? There are a lot of dead animals.

REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5873

The area of the spill doesn't include Perryville. Tar balls were found on the beaches there. There are a lot of theories of where they are coming from.

ISSUE: 1.3 NOR ; Boundary of spill area - Susitna River Drainage

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5094

I made a connection of the inter-relationship because of where the species go. I think the Susitna

drainage area has to be considered. Is that line a firm line by Trustee Council action? Every time you see a line it takes on its own validity. I hope there will be a serious look at that.

Anchorage # 5093

The entire Cook Inlet has been hit like that by the intercept fishery, which is a direct result of how those were fished because of the oil.

Anchorage # 5092

You should expand the blue line. This spill has had a tremendous effect on the fish in the Susitna Drain and it should be included. The fish are a mixed stock fish. The Susitna fish were hammered. It has had a disastrous affect. Project 26 speaks to this and if it doesn't, I have a proposal that would address this. The Susitna fish were intercepted. The run was closed for two weeks during the height of the run. This has both a socio and economic effect.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Chenega Bay # 5156

The map shows the spill zone goes all the way up past Kenai.

ISSUE: 1.4 XX ; Effectiveness of Restoration: GENERAL COMMENTS

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1634 Sierra Club

Long-term Effectiveness: Trustees should prefer projects which provide lasting protection for injured resources and services. A project which speeds up recovery of a damaged population by a few years is a far less effective use of settlement funds than a project which helps protect populations in perpetuity. Replanting seaweed, or reducing numbers of indigenous avian predators are examples of poor uses of funds because they make only a short term difference in restoration.

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Effectiveness of Restoration Actions: Should the plan include only restoration actions that produce substantial improvement or just at least some improvement? Again, it is appropriate to recognize that habitat acquisitions (as a type of restoration action) will serve multiple and complementary restoration objectives simultaneously. For example, acquisition of old growth forest uplands will have substantial benefits for marbled murrelets and bald eagles as well as possibly benefitting anadromous fisheries, recreation/tourism and water quality. Thus, in recognition of its synergistic benefits, habitat acquisition should be accorded a priority as a type of restoration action. While restoration actions that can produce "at least some improvement" should not be ruled out as a policy matter, as a practical matter, given limited settlement funds, restoration action with only marginal benefits should be accorded an extremely low priority.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5458

Who is going to do the restoration has a big effect on how effective it is going to be.

Homer # 5443

I would support spending money on whatever is the most effective thing to do.

Seward # 1091

Effectiveness of restoration actions: The mission should be to return as much of this ecosystem as possible to its prespill status. Some things are fast and easy to fix and others are very difficult or slow to recover. The criteria should be whether a resource can recover not how expensive the recovery is.

ISSUE: 1.4 HI ; Effectiveness of Restoration: conduct only actions that provide SUBSTANTIAL improvement over natural recovery

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1634 Sierra Club

Effectiveness: Trustees should select only those projects which are MOST EFFECTIVE at restoring or preventing further damage to the resources and services which were damaged in the oil spill. The question of whether a project is "time critical" should no longer be considered relevant. The question of how severely a resource or service was damaged is also not relevant. For example, even though murrens were the most damaged of any bird species, it should not follow that murre projects necessarily receive high levels of support. Projects to restore murrens -- or any other resources or service -- should be funded only if they will be highly effective at doing so. Massive construction projects do not restore damaged resources and services.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Effectiveness of Restoration Actions. Enhancement and manipulation actions should be required to produce substantial improvement over natural recovery. High priority to actions that minimize further harm to an injured resource or service.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Effectiveness of Restoration Actions. Enhancement and manipulations should be required to produce substantial improvement over natural recovery. High priority to actions that minimize further harm to an injured resource or service.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska # 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

PSG understands that the restoration team is working on a draft Restoration Plan that will soon be available for public review. PSG intends to be as involved with that process as possible. PSG supports using restoration funds for options that are technically feasible, have a high potential to improve the recovery of injured resources and pass muster under a benefit/cost test. PSG believes

that restoration options should be evaluated from the perspective of whether they benefit more than a single resource. PSG's preferred options generally would benefit an entire community of seabirds (and often other organisms), not just a single species.

US, Outside Alaska# 1244

3) I favor "restoration actions that provide substantial improvement over natural recovery.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

4. Conduct restoration actions that provide substantial improvement over natural recovery.

Justification: Allowing restoration funds to be used for projects that "at least provide some improvement" increased the number of projects, reduces funding for projects that will provide substantial improvement, and requires more money for administration, planning, public information, and monitoring.

ISSUE: 1.4 SOM ; Effectiveness of Restoration; conduct actions that provide at least SOME improvement over natural recovery

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 1620

Every effort revives our ecosystem; i.e., the state, locals, laymen, everywhere it occurs.

REGION: Kenai

Seldovia # 5864

I think when the council considers restoration actions which provide some improvement or modest improvement, I would urge you to proceed with caution. I would hate for the funds to be a deep pocket for research. I wrote a letter saying I am appalled at the amount of money going to general restoration off the top. It could greatly be scaled down unless there is a very good chance of species improvement.

ISSUE: 1.5 XX ; Opportunities for human use: GENERAL COMMENTS

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Opportunities for Human Use: To what extent should restoration actions create opportunities for human use of the spill area? The creation of opportunities for human use (such as the outhouse development cited in the Draft Restoration Plan) may be appropriate to the extent that the restoration objective is protection of other injured resources. However, great care must be given to ensure that any restoration activities that would create human use opportunities do not conflict with injury recovery objectives. For example, developing new facilities in areas that might attract new

use and disturb recovering species.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 1036 Silver Eagle Charters

I am especially sensitive to the constant arguments I hear from the forces for unchecked development. I was born in Pennsylvania and raised in New Jersey. I know development! I've been listening to the same song since I was old enough to understand English. The bottom line is that development and "progress" are NOT the answers to unemployment, poverty and other societal ills that we read about every day in the newspapers or hear about on the TV news. If that were the case, then Los Angeles wouldn't have ANY problems cause they're about as "developed" and "progressive" as one can get! The same goes for New York, Chicago, etc. Why is it that such educated beings that we are supposed to be continue to try the same solutions to the same problems with the same bad results and somehow think that THIS TIME it will work? Certainly development, construction, new roads, etc. all provide TEMPORARY relief to unemployment, and TEMPORARY relief to the tax gap. But all too soon, it catches up with us; we still have unemployed people, we still have poverty, we still have hunger...but what we still DON'T have is clean air, clean water, abundant fish and game or healthy forests. What we do need to do is STABILIZE our populations and STABILIZE our economic structure and take care of what we have or in the not too distant future, we'll only have pictures. I have a Master's Degree (with distinction) in Systems Analysis/Operations Research so I understand the fact that a pure capitalistic economy NEEDS to grow in order to survive. We can't afford to support the purity of that economic theory. GROWTH was a good and wonderful thing (I suppose) a hundred years ago, or maybe fifty years ago, but look around. I am amazed at the changes in Alaska just in the last twenty years. Homer has TRIPLED in size since 1970 and the City Council and Chamber of Commerce still have the SAME problems as in 1970, but now they're three times larger! But they think GROWTH is still the answer. Hasn't worked for Anchorage. I've rambled long enough even though I still have a lot more I'd like to say. Please take the LONG VIEW when spending the settlement monies. We really need someone to do that now more than ever before.

Nanwalek # 5640

You need to define human use.

Other Kenai Borough# 513

I think that most human use of these acquired parcels should be permitted and will not interfere with marine or wildlife restoration. For example, I think that building public cabins, picnic areas, and campsites in Exxon Spill parks should be considered.

ISSUE: 1.5 NO ; Opportunities for human use: DO NOT CREATE opportunities for human use

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 574

I do not think it would be appropriate to use restoration funds to facilitate or encourage additional human use of the area. PWS is already accessible by boat, airplane, roads, ferry, etc. More people

in the area will do nothing to restore the area. In fact it would very likely have the reverse effect and degrade the environment.

Juneau # 6117

I don't see how increasing human use will restore the Sound. It will bring in more fuel spills from small boats. I think it is a crazy idea to see that as any kind of restoration.

Juneau # 5496

If they put in cabins in oiled areas, I would be opposed to that. It would bring in more traffic. The human use I am strongly opposed to increasing.

Juneau # 479

The whole concept of creating facilities, increasing access for human consumption, increasing commercially important resources over levels above those in 1989 is an ill-conceived notion of the appropriate use of settlement funds.

Mat-Su Borough # 1152

In my opinion, the civil settlement should be devoted to restoring the Sound to the pre-oil spill state, and not for promoting further human usage.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Opportunities for Human Use. No restoration actions to develop new human uses of the spill area, or to conduct activities that are regular agency functions for recreation, etc. We are opposed to trail-building, new roads, docks or ports, lodges or cabins, or other infrastructure or intrusive development. The Wilderness Society is a national membership organization devoted to preserving wilderness and wildlife, protecting America's prime forests, parks, rivers, and shorelands, and fostering an American land ethic. This non-profit organization has 300,000 members nationwide, nearly 1,400 of whom live in Alaska and many who reside along or use the shorelines of areas affected by the spill. We appreciate this opportunity to comment and look forward to continued involvement in the Restoration Process.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Opportunities for Human Use. No restoration actions to develop new human use of the spill area, or to conduct activities that are regular agency functions for recreation, etc.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

We also oppose funding for projects, such as roads, ports, "Sealife Centers," trails, cabins, visitor centers, mariculture, or other infrastructure development as these are regular agency programs or are inappropriate under the restoration goals of the civil or criminal settlement. As well, we believe that wetland restoration projects such as have been proposed in the past for Montague Island or hazardous waste cleanups, are regular agency programs that, even if they have merit should not receive any settlement funds. Furthermore, we do not believe it is appropriate for the Minerals Management Service to seek any funds from the criminal or civil settlement in order to conduct research or its environmental study, assessments, or other pre-lease work for Outer Continental Shelf.

sales in the spill region or elsewhere in Alaska.

Anchorage # 745

Please do not fund activities intended to increase human use of spill-affected areas. Human uses will rebound in response to restoration of the natural environment. In particular, please do not spend any settlement money for transportation infrastructure to or within the spill-affected area, especially Prince William Sound. This includes roads, airstrips, ports and mooring buoys. Such projects would disturb coastal habitat and increase and concentrate human use of the Sound, slowing the natural recovery of numerous species. If resources are restored, human uses are bound to increase even without any public subsidies. The State is already spending much of its criminal settlement for construction projects to increase human use but do not protect quality of human use, habitat or spill-affected biota. In addition, Governor Hickel's road projects to Whittier and Cordova and the new airstrip at Chenega will create a surge in human use of the Sound. Therefore, no money should be spent to "restore" or enhance human uses. The only appropriate expenditure for human uses would be to mitigate adverse impacts to habitat, wildlife, or aesthetics from existing human uses (for example, construction of a boardwalk or outhouse where heavy recreational use is causing erosion and waste disposal problems). Do not use settlement money or public lands to promote commercial recreation. There is plenty of private land already available in coastal areas: let the recreation and tourism industry operate without subsidies.

Anchorage # 620

I do not think any of the money should be spent on "development" activities like roads, docks, tourist facilities, etc. No capital projects!

Anchorage # 465

The use of oil spill money for the enhancement of public facilities or subsistence users or creation of wilderness area or acquisition of lands, timbered or otherwise is inappropriate. The money was originally acquired as a penalty, the penalty funds should not be used to set up a "bureau" for preservationists. There may be a scientific question whether beach cleaning is in fact a practical matter. It appears that a scientific study of the effects -- long-term -- of the oil spill is practical and should be funded so that methodology and effects will be available in the event of another catastrophe.

Anchorage # 213

Strongly oppose use of funds to develop new use facilities- this would not be appropriate for "restoration" funds and provides an opening for pork barrel politics.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 196

I do not want to see increased facilities/access developed with this money. The less the human impact on areas and wildlife, the better.

Seward # 316

The \$ didn't come from Exxon it came via Exxon from you, you, you there, and me, at the gas pump. More cabin and outhouses would benefit a few hardy backpackers and wealthy European fly-ins, but not the masses.

Seward # 265

Humans do massive damage to pristine area. Our goal must be to REDUCE human impact.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1184

Recently I made my first trip to Alaska and the Prince William Sound area. I spent over a month kayaking and camping with a few friends and had a wonderful time experiencing the beauty and solitude. While in Anchorage, I became aware of the money Exxon has allotted to the areas affected by oil spill in 1989. I grew up near the Great Smokey National Park, and I fear that Prince William Sound area will someday become this commercialized. After reading over the draft, I am in favor of Alternative 2 because I feel as much land should be protected as possible. Hopefully this alternative in the future will not allow for ANY future development because we all need a place as natural as possible without roads, floating fuel stations, cruise lines, etc. disturbing our views. Please consider this letter and consider the impact of increasing tourism will have on the sound. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1101

More hotels and development would not be natural, and much more human interaction could be even more detrimental.

US, Outside Alaska# 1011

I agree it (PWS) is a wonderful place and a good place for people to visit, but I see no need for increased services in the area. There are plenty of options available now: the Princess for those who want the comfort of home, the Klondike or one of innumerable charter boats for a scenic tours or sea kayaks for the more adventuresome. The options abound and are open to everyone from the old and feeble, to the young and vigorous--I don't see that additional cabins or visitor centers will add to people's enjoyment.

US, Outside Alaska# 1005

The fishing industry must balance its impact on the food chain in the Sound. Access to the Sound must not be improved. People traveling in the Sound must be educated, on how to impact.

US, Outside Alaska# 1005

The fishing industry must balance its impact on the food chain in the Sound. Access to the Sound must not be improved. People traveling in the Sound must be educated, on how to impact.

US, Outside Alaska# 1003

I would like to take this opportunity, after having spent 3 weeks kayaking in Prince William Sound, to state my idea concerning money available to clean up the waters. I do not believe that it is necessary to provide further access to the waters and trails as the Sound is a beautiful and untouched place and would only be further damaged if tourist areas are built. Every effort should be made to keep it pristine.

US, Outside Alaska# 1002

My name is Annie Steinbart. I am a student on a NOLS course. For the past 31/2 weeks I have been .

paddling on the Sound. I wanted to write a short letter expressing my views regarding the Exxon Valdez money. After reading the restoration plan paper, I have come to some conclusions. I do not believe the money should be used to reconstruct the Sound--adding visitor centers, cabins, roads, etc. Making our way back to Whittier and stopping at the same campsites, there is already major signs of impact. Burnt trees, fire pits, toilet paper, cigarettes, etc. are only going to be more visible if the Sound is made more accessible.

US, Outside Alaska# 795

Any large fiscal contribution to "enhance" human use should be discouraged (i.e. trail improvement, cabin rental). I believe giving money to this category would be difficult to track, monitor and successfully measure results.

US, Outside Alaska# 793

No funds should be used to build more roads or other man-made facilities.

US, Outside Alaska# 626

Do not use these monies for tourist development or roads.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 5315

One of the things that scares me is the yellow pie in your brochure, labeled 'general restoration.' Particularly the last box, 'use restoration actions to encourage new use of the spill area.' One of the worst things you can do to something that is damaged is make new and undue demands on it. We know that our governor would like to have new docks and facilities and general movement about Prince William Sound on quite a large scale. How do we know that that's not going to turn into a road all around Prince William Sound with mega docks and cruise ship docking facilities and not any stream enhancement?

Cordova # 649

I oppose 'enhancement' and increased human use.

Cordova # 306

No cabins or fish passes!! To many fish passes already--they are screwing up the ecology of the area too!! Let the land managers pay for and build cabins as they see fit-- this is not restoring the area.

Valdez # 6023

So far what I've seen of the plan is that if it isn't bricks and mortar it doesn't go anywhere.

Valdez # 66

Financing any development of human activity should not be a part of this restoration plan.

ISSUE: 1.5 USE ; Opportunities for human use: PROTECT existing use

REGION: Anchorage**Anchorage # 1017 Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance**

3. We want to discourage using these monies for recreational developments, including docks, cabins, trails, camps, etc. in remote areas of the Sound, EXCEPT for those projects that would benefit local residents and be located near existing communities. Thank you for seeking our ideas about the best ways to restore the damage done in our beloved Prince William Sound.

REGION: Kenai**Seldovia # 168**

Restoration implies that you are to return something, to as close as possible, to its original state. If these are intended to restore the effects of the 89 oil spill, then I see no connection between using these funds to enhance public use, or purchase of areas not directly affected by the spill.

Seward # 1091

Opportunities for human use: Funds should be used to protect not promote the spill area. If this area is restored to its prespill era and then protected from future damage there will be no need for promotion. This area will sell itself far beyond its capability to support the use. Thank you for the opportunity to present my thoughts. I know you have a difficult job and many factors to consider but please remember that the animals have no voice and need our protection. We have a wonderful environment in Alaska and I believe it is important to treat it like a frontier developed with 21st century technology and sensitivity rather than raped and pillaged with 19th century mentalities.

REGION: Kodiak**Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation**

While we support restoration actions aimed at creating opportunities for human use of the spill area, we believe, that such actions should be aimed mainly at conserving the land in a way that people may use and enjoy the fish, wildlife, natural beauty, and other resources of the lands and waters in the spill zone.

REGION: Outside Alaska**US, Outside Alaska# 1065**

I feel that if we limit the amount of human recreation, camping, fishing, tour, etc. I also feel that commercial use in these areas should be reduced.

US, Outside Alaska# 1061

Having just completed a three week kayaking tour in the northern sections of Prince William Sound I find myself compelled to write you regarding the oil spill restoration plan. My observations of cleaned beaches and uncleaned but affected beaches and as well as slightly and unimpacted areas deepened my concern for the health of this unique land and priceless resource. Of the 5 alternatives

listed in the public draft of the restoration plans, I most support Alternative 3. I am concerned about the potential in other plans for increasing human use too greatly.

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

Restoration actions could restore previous human use but should not increase human use.

US, Outside Alaska# 1032

The best way to let the land heal itself is to make sure there is no development or intervention. I think money should be used to buy land and keep it protected. I believe that recreational uses and human uses should be kept at the level that it is at. Although I believe people should be allowed to enjoy the Sound. I DO NOT at all support more building or creating of sports for human use in Prince William Sound. More impact means the environment has to work harder to heal itself. Lastly, people who, have in the past, and who need to use the Sound to be subsistence survivors should be allowed as long as it is essential for their health and way of life.

US, Outside Alaska# 1030

I discourage any steps that would increase the level of tourism, as greater numbers of visitors would only encroach on the natural beauty of the area. Once lost, a pristine natural environment cannot be fully regained. Please take advantage of this opportunity to preserve a priceless American commodity -- wilderness habitat. I would very much appreciate any information on the steps being taken towards wilderness acquisition and habitat preservation in Prince William Sound. Thank you very much.

US, Outside Alaska# 1002

I would like the Sound to remain as pristine as possible--maybe some of the money could be used for education--some kind of set up where people could be briefed on minimum impact techniques before getting on the water. This is only an idea--all people would need to be a part of the plan (Kayak rental shops) overall, I would like to be able to visit the Sound again and have the same feelings I do now. Cabins, visitor centers, etc., would take away the feeling of solitude. This is essentially what makes the Sound so inviting.

US, Outside Alaska# 412

I firmly believe that oil spill money should never be spent on brand new human facilities. Improving existing facilities to decrease their impact on the environment would move the restoration efforts in the right direction. Building new facilities to increase use directly opposes the goals of restoration.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 798 Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance

Infrastructure such as trails, developed to mitigate human impacts on the EVOS injured areas, should be located adjacent to and contiguous with existing communities after consultation with the agencies or organizations which will be responsible for their maintenance. Oil Spill monies should not be spent on infrastructure projects without a clear vision of the future maintenance funding of those projects. In general, PWSCA opposes the development of using EVOS settlement funds to create new capital projects in Prince William Sound.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

7. Restoration funds should not be used to change existing type of public use. Justification: AWRTA is concerned that inadequate attention is being paid to the different sectors of the tourism industry: backcountry recreation and tourism which depend on wilderness quality areas free from the signs of man's handiwork; mid-country areas around urban centers where developed trails, campsites, etc. are appropriate, and urban-style recreation and tourism where museums, nature trails, visitor information centers, sport fishing docks, and wildlife viewing areas are appropriate. The development of facilities such as cabins, fuel docks, marinas, in backcountry areas does not restore the losses sustained by backcountry recreation and tourism users any more than converting urban areas into wilderness zones would help urban area to recover their damages. Existing recreation and tourism services already damaged by the spill will be displaced again. As the Trustees know, the courts have ruled that spillers are not responsible for economic losses sustained by the tourism industry as a result of the spill. Nor can tourism business sue for lost access to the natural resources on which their business depend, since the spiller has already paid for these through the Restoration Settlement. Thus the Restoration Settlement process is the only avenue recreational users and tourism businesses have for achieving any type of compensation for their losses. It is important that restoration projects be designed to restore lost services, not to inflict those services with additional losses.

ISSUE: 1.5 INC ; Opportunities for human use: PROTECT and INCREASE existing use

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 603 Klukwan Forest Products, Inc.

I support the use of restoration money for improved and increased human uses. To elaborate, human activity including forestry management and other natural resource industry should be expected to occur within greater Prince William Sound Region on both private and publicly owned lands. Funds can be used to improve facilities associated with these uses such as log transfer facilities, mineral transfer facilities, log storage areas, harbor development, etc. With a perspective of increased environmental protection or improved habitat. This is a good way to answer the concern that the Prince William Sound suffered so much that it needs additional protection. In no way should the money be used to block development of these industries.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1244

5) "Use restoration actions to protect or increase existing human use of the spill area."

ISSUE: 1.5 NEW ; Opportunities for human use: ENCOURAGE APPROPRIATE NEW USE

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 352

I think Alaska should have more cabins/resorts for tourists or residents to stay at.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Valdez # 1697

This letter is in support of the proposed Valdez Visitors and Cultural Center. Prince William Sound plays an important part of the Valdez community as a place of beauty, recreation and livelihood to many residents and visitors. The *Exxon Valdez* oil spill had a serious effect on the entire Prince William Sound area and it is felt that some of the funds available from that event should be used to help restore an economic base that the center would afford us. The cultural center would be an ideal facility to allow visitors and residents alike to relive the history of our community and surrounding area. It would also be an educational aspect for use by Prince William Sound Community College and the Valdez School District. It is important that students understand the development of this area. I strongly urge you to give this cultural center your utmost consideration.

Valdez # 235

Spend the money to let more people enjoy the Sound. Build more boat harbors! Create new fish runs! Build more cabins! Use the Sound don't lock it up!

ISSUE: 2.0`XX ; Categories of restoration activities

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5075

They take species from the oceans and put them in zoos. Can this be reversed?

Anchorage # 5064

The people, that use the land, own the land by right of heritage and have the right to use that for their sustenance. If they are sacred, then the only thing you can touch are the commercial exploitations of the land.

Anchorage # 5043

Will the Coast Guard be coordinating any of these efforts?

Anchorage # 5041

I am wondering if they will replace the ecosystems which were damaged and the animals that were killed? Will the money help for replacement?

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5449

I just got back from shooting a special for CNN. The impression that I got is the Sound is still very sick. Before the Trustees make any decisions, they should maybe spend a week in the Sound. You will get a sense of what the Sound needs. It doesn't need more buildings but restoration.

Nanwalek # 5650

If we get our resources back, we don't want to stop there. We want to continue on long term.

Nanwalek # 5613

Is there a limit on what restoration can be done for a species?

Seldovia # 5871

Some of the restoration will be easy to do.

Seward # 5926

What do you mean by restore a resource? I see this all the time. The extent of the damage and injury just boggles the mind. Is this species by species?

REGION: Kodiak

Ouzinkie # 5734

The people in the villages aren't looking for a handout, they want the resources to be restored. Use whatever research it takes to do that. There ought to be more involvement from the local people because it's their livelihood, it's their life. I'm sure you'll find in all the villages they'll say the same thing. They don't want a handout. They want restoration.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 447

I have just spent 3-1/2 weeks sea kayaking in Prince William Sound. A good amount of that time was spent in spill areas. I was sad to see the abundant wildlife I had been expecting missing from some areas. And the ring of oil along the coast served as a reminder why the wildlife was not there. The Exxon-Valdez oil spill was a great tragedy, but there is no going back on history. But what can be done is the restoration of the Sound to what it used to be. I don't feel it should become more of a tourism area simply because money is there to turn it into one. Its natural balance has already been disturbed enough. I feel that all efforts should go toward returning the Sound to its original state and research should be done to so that if such an event does occur again, clean up and restoration will be more efficient; better understood.

US, Outside Alaska# 445

I have just completed a month long sea-kayaking expedition in Prince William Sound. Having spent this time here, I have formed a rather strong opinion concerning the future of the sound. I feel that the money intended for the restoration after the Exxon oil spill should be spent to preserve the NATURAL STATE of the area (prior to our involvement). We have overstepped our bonds as far as human impact on this environment. It is now our time to do what we can to undo our mistake, and after that we need to leave this environment alone and let it heal. Further human development or "general restoration" will only compound the problems we have caused in this area. I hope that the people who are given the responsibility of making this decision will think about what is the best thing for Prince William Sound and not what is best for us visitors to this area.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 5329

I don't think that we should have to choose between research and enhancement. I think they could

happen simultaneously now and be very effective. I don't understand why there has to be this huge dragging of feet and putting off for another deadline. That message has to get through somehow. And another thing is that each one of you is expendable. A month from now we could look at a whole new table of people promising us everything.

Whittier # 6081

Marketing is the problem with the fish. This money should be used to enhance the productivity of the area, both economically and recreationally. I think you should not isolate that down to creating habitat and wildlife. It would go a long way to spend some money on marketing salmon. It will go a lot further than producing salmon you can't sell and which are destroying other species. If you look at what we are protecting, we are protecting the right of the individual to enjoy the environment and for the environment to live.

ISSUE: 2.1 XX ; Habitat Protection and Acquisition: GENERAL COMMENTS

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 5506

Such a process wouldn't be conducive to getting information on state-owned lands. What I am specifically thinking about is Cape Suckling. Many of us know it has seen legislative intent to purchase the land from the university and put the land back into refuge. What is the possibility of finding it on one of these lists? I would support going outside the spill area.

Juneau # 5505

Regarding habitat protection and acquisition, I put in an proposal about purchasing Eielson Bay watershed. There is nothing going on now but there has been some invertebrate follow up. It was not oiled, and it hasn't been logged. A lot of research has gone on there. It is deteriorating rapidly. I recommended it be kept as a natural forest and managed. Forest Service thought this was a good category.

Juneau # 5482

What is the process for enlarging habitat acquisition and protection lists?

Juneau # 5481

Would that imply that there are specific areas listed for habitat protection?

Juneau # 5476

Do you know where the land suggested for purchase is located?

Juneau # 5471

Is there an intended difference between the habitat protection and the habitat protection and acquisition?

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 6102

Is this analysis (opportunities for Habitat Acquisition) available for viewing?

Anchorage # 5066

What is the word on buying the land? We got word that Attorney General Cole wants to buy the land and doesn't want to mess with restoration.

Anchorage # 5053

I wanted to correct a misconception. The government does not own 97% of the land. Native corporations own 12% of the land in Alaska, including nearly all of the commercially viable timber and forest in this area.

Anchorage # 5030

What developmental aspects are you eliminating? What are you going to underdevelop and by what method are you going to prohibit them?

Anchorage # 5029

Have fishing, logging and mining had any effort to strengthen the law so that these areas receive a prioritization of uses?

Anchorage # 5026

Regarding imminent threat, what about Knight Island and Montague Island?

Anchorage # 5025

In terms of the information displayed graphically, is there any way to identify private or public lands that are near term of being logged over? Would that influence their peril? Will this information be available to the public in terms of influencing what will be spent?

Anchorage # 5022

What commercial seasons are you going to close? What types of property will be exempt from logging?

Anchorage # 5014

Wouldn't it make more sense to shut down all use and make a park with no commercial use and let the ecosystem recover with no further degradation?

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Options for the Habitat Acquisition Process. The Restoration Plan must work from the recognition that the ecosystems of Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska were damaged by the spill and approach restoration efforts from the premise that ecosystems need to be restored. Just as repairing the individual homes of stores flooded out by the Mississippi will not restore the devastated communities, we should not rate the effectiveness of habitat acquisition by judging how well a particular parcel of land might help increase (or sustain) the bald eagle population alone, for example. While we must try to protect and acquire where threatened, important habitat that serve critical functions for species injured by the spill--we must not look just at the pieces, but at the

whole fabric of life that is sustained by intact ecosystems. A comprehensive approach to acquisition on a large-scale should be taken with a new approach to negotiations. If the criteria developed earlier in the Restoration Framework Supplement from 1992 are to be used, ecosystems will have the best chance for restoration using the options: Concurrent Analysis, Imminent Threat Protection process, Threshold Set A. We believe the concurrent analysis with a imminent threat protection process, using the threshold criteria in Set A is the only realistic option for the Trustees in light of the kinds of biological information available and the limitations of existing fisheries and wildlife management programs. Quite simply, the kind of scientific information available about the pre- and post-spill distribution and populations for many fish and wildlife species is inadequate to draw precise conclusions about the effectiveness of most specific management actions. Throughout the world, limitations in our knowledge of ecological systems has led fisheries and wildlife managers to chose protection of wildlife habitat as the best means of protecting wildlife populations. We support use of the "Imminent threat protection process" described in Fig. 2, not the "Evaluation Process" shown in Fig. 1 of the additional handouts to the Framework Document. Based on the information we have at this time, we prefer Threshold Criteria Set A. We believe that habitat protection and acquisition should be at the top of a hierarchy of restoration options. Considering the options given in the Restoration Framework, we strongly prefer concurrent analysis (Fig. 7--we prefer revised Fig. 7 from handout that shows habitat acquisition on same level as management and manipulation) and are opposed to the hierarchical analysis (Fig. 6) where habitat acquisition may only be considered as a last resort. On both Figs. 6 & 7, the "adequate" rate and degree of recovery that leads to "no further action" should be changed to reflect that monitoring will continue to assure that further injury wasn't detected or arise later as a result of latent injury or complex ecological interactions.

Anchorage # 1528 Pacific Rim Villages Coalition, Ltd

Section C, "Habitat Protection and Acquisition", also presents more questions than answers. We do not understand the benefit rating system proposed in the draft. See C-17-19. It is not clear whether other resources will be included, and what happened to "subsistence" and "archaeology". The notes indicate that the comprehensive process may be different from the imminent threat process in other ways as well. See C-19. If you have not figured out a ranking system you ought to so state. How can we comment on something you have not figured out? We also fault your discussion concerning how such parcels will be managed. Your proposal is overly broad and too general, "i.e., they will be managed in a manner that is consistent with the restoration of the affected resources and services". See C-2. The "threat" aspects appear to be an important criteria. Threat is defined as "habitat degradation", which appears to be "human activity", inclusively. (Does this include limiting subsistence?). Section C thus appears to be inconsistent, internally and in comparison with other sections of the supplement. As noted, Section B refers to habitat degradation on account of the persistence of oil. Section C refers to degradation on account of human activity. It also includes a discussion of protection on public land, see C-20. This discussion relates to "modifying statutes and regulations". Id. One such suggestion is to provide a "level of protection not provided by existing regulations and management activities". Id. What does this mean?

Anchorage # 745

You should consider habitat acquisition and protection in areas outside the spill area ONLY IF those areas are part of the range of severely affected populations that use the spill area, or if those areas could provide stocks for recolonization of the spill area. The state's use of the spill money

on the Fort Richardson hatchery is travesty. Habitat acquisition in Prince William Sound should be a priority over more remote spill-affected areas such as the Alaska Peninsula. In general, acquire land where human pressures are greatest: close to transit systems and population centers and in areas of private development or heavy resource use. Acquiring conservation rights or development rights instead of actual land title should be considered where cost-effective. Please resist pressures to acquire sites or build facilities primarily for recreation or subsistence. These uses will flourish as long as fish and wildlife are restored and pollution is abated and avoided. Acquire habitat in the areas where human pressure is greatest (because of easy access private development, etc). Prince William Sound should take priority over more remote areas like the Alaska Peninsula or Kodiak Archipelago.

Anchorage # 733 AK Sportfishing Assn and AK State Council of Trout Unlimited

To be precise, it is not appropriate for anyone to recommend an acquisition without a basis for cost-effectiveness or the trade-off involved in conserving one set of resources having passive use value versus another set of resources having another passive use value. However, it is appropriate to recommend candidates for evaluation. We recommend that private lands in the Bristol Bay drainages, such as around Iliamna Lake, in the Copper River, Gibraltar River, Dream Creek, and Kaskanak Flats (outlet of Iliamna Lake) and in the Karluk River drainage be evaluated as candidate for Acquisitions. The link to the spill is loss passive use of wildlife generally. Passive use is the area of greatest residual injury in this spill. Its continuing loss arises predominantly from the front end mortalities to birds and some marine mammals. These lands have some of the highest wildlife values in the state. They have such values for wildlife species that most likely have high passive use value, such as brown bear, eagles, caribou, moose, salmon, and trout. They also contain in the Iliamna Lake area some of the only inland marine bird and harbor seal populations in the world. Conservation of such lands could be extremely cost-effective, because they lack commercial timber resources and could effectively create great conservation benefits because surrounding lands are already conserved under the Bristol Bay Area Plan and the Kodiak Refuge Plan. These lands also have high values for resources important to commercial fishing, recreation, subsistence and tourism, though we view such values as not nearly as important as restoration of passive use. We also recommend conservation easements along Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik Rivers and support such easements along the Kenai River. Obviously, we recommend lands that are riparian in character because they have such high value for wildlife and fishery resources. We recommend against acquisitions that involve only timber and little threat to wildlife. We recommend against putting much value on merely scenic resources that lack wildlife.

Anchorage # 300

Define acquisition of private lands better. ie, pre-statehood owners (legal title to land), post-statehood owners (legal title to land), out-of-state owners (legal title to land). Discovery of cost of land acquisition VS. restoration of tidelands, shorelands, submerged lands is necessary.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5457

Saying purchase, scares me.

Homer # 5434

There was not a list of what you could do for acquisition.

Homer # 5420

Kachemak Bay State Park was not damaged by the oil spill. The acquisition falls under the service category. It doesn't fall under the resource category.

Homer # 5411

Regarding habitat protection, where does the 91% go?

Homer # 5393

I would like to comment to the Trustees that I would hope their decision for spending the funds weighs heavily in favor of habitat and protection of habitat in the areas affected by the spill and that they give the lowest priority to construction projects, especially roads to Whittier and those kinds of make-work projects that really take the emphasis off the habitat preservation and protection in the area impacted by the spill.

Homer # 5389

Does the Council get into a debate about valuable land that is owned privately but is available for purchase? Does it become a business decision to weigh how much they will spend on it?

Homer # 683

For some time I have been suggesting to the Trustee Council that a small endowment be established to help cover the costs of establishing conservation easements. Perhaps \$2 million would do the job. This would be used primarily for help in offsetting costs associated with donating such an easement, and with the expense of monitoring once it is established. Grants could be made available to organizations such as the Nature Conservancy and the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust from the endowment's interest. If such expenses were covered for people, more easements would be donated. Having granted such an easement on 120 acres of my own land, I speak from experience. In order to donate the easement, I had to front about \$3,000 in costs. The only way to do it was to go into debt.

Nanwalek # 5612

Are you talking about Native allotments?

Nanwalek # 5611

Does the protection include mineral rights?

Seldovia # 5884

I speak on behalf of the land trust and would like to plug our abilities in the area. We do have a great deal of expertise and experience in working with easements. We are going after the same things here. Some of your plans to contact land owners are the very same things we are doing. We would like to work with you on this rather than duplicate work. Please keep us in mind if we can do anything to assist you. We have spoken with Attorney General Cole, and he seemed amenable to this.

Seldovia # 5877

I wasn't under the impression that there was a cost associated with land values.

Seldovia # 5850

Will the general public get to use any of the conservation easements? Once this land is purchased, does it belong to the general public?

Seldovia # 5849

Regarding conservation easements, how big a piece of land is this and what's going to be done with it?

Seldovia # 5839

When you are talking about acquiring the land, who would own it? The committee won't go on forever. Who will own the land?

Seldovia # 5838

Does this mean you are looking at acquisition of small entities?

Seldovia # 5837

What does acquisition include?

Seward # 5971

The timber and mineral potentials, in my opinion, weigh less. You don't have the economic pressures.

Seward # 5970

I have spent a lot of time in Prince William Sound. The Native selected lands in the Sound cost more to use. The cost will go up. The rules are different for Natives to log their land.

Seward # 5948

I support looking at the distribution of lands. It is not just a matter of total acreage but geographic location and seeing how much is coast land.

Seward # 5933

One of things I am puzzled about is who actually owns the property that you buy. Who owns this once the money is spent?

Seward # 5920

What is the process for imminently threatened land?

Seward # 5916

I thought it was basically a political move because it has been on the buyback list for years and yet that park gets priority for any kind of planning. Is it because people use that area?

Seward # 5914

How does Kachemak become the number one priority for buyback?

Seward # 5911

Does Port Graham want to sell their land? Are we talking about buying it anyway?

Seward # 5910

Is there a plan where the environmentalist can get along with the loggers? Is there thought of environmentalist getting with the loggers to form a plan that would protect habitat?

Seward # 5909

You said 14% of the \$20 million is appropriated for timber and habitat buyback?

Seward # 5908

If you were to buy 14% habitat, who would own it?

Seward # 5902

What type of land management will be involved when it is just timber rights?

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 6125

Our position (Afognak Joint Venture) is that we are willing to work with habitat acquisition. We have not been part of the imminent threat part to pursue the opportunity lands or imminent threat lands. We're presently somewhat skeptical of the imminent threat process. We're skeptical that one can carry on a meaningful negotiation under the threat of a running chain saw. The agencies need to communicate to the taxpayers so that they're not being held to ransom and that they're getting value to money from some process. We as the seller must engage in a process that is credible to our shareholders. If we were to sell at less than market value then we as organizations would spend the rest of our lives in court defending ourselves in court against our shareholders. We are never the less tasked with the responsibility of obtaining a return on those assets. There are probably a number of different schools of thought as to what logging does to water quality. We would not argue that clear cuts are pretty but we would argue that the trees do come back. They also do take a long time to come back. We must leave buffer strips along streams, there are regulations that we have to work with. We are supportive of using funds to acquire habitat and I would argue that perhaps as buyer and seller that is the path that should be chosen as a matter of public policy. We do need to be somewhat careful or at least less directly vocal because of conflict of interest.

Larsen Bay # 5584

If individuals have land allotments it was my understanding that the state or federal government wanted first opportunity to buy, is that what you're talking about?

Old Harbor # 5692

Who do we negotiate with to talk about habitat acquisition?

Old Harbor # 5691

I'm a shareholder and on the board of directors, and the way I see the board going is making lots of development, going for more and more development. My point of view is that habitat protection is a good idea. At the same time the shareholders need to see more profit, getting paid to keep their own property the way it is. From what I understand we could make our own contract and we can still hunt on land under habitat protection, but we can't develop on it.

Old Harbor # 5690

So land acquisition might be a good idea for protection when you want never to see buildings on the land?

Old Harbor # 5688

When you talk about habitat protection and acquisition, if you buy land what are you going to do with it?

Old Harbor # 5687

Four years ago we had a deal going with the land trade with the federal government. We almost had a good deal for this village, then the oil spill came and nobody wanted to talk about it. The oil spill killed everything. Most of the people in here are members of the corporation. We had something almost done that was going to help the people for ever. We got injured the worst, and now we are trying to work on a different land acquisition deal with the federal government. Protection of habitat is the important thing. Nobody will ever know what the damage has been. We'll understand it maybe when there's no more birds.

Ouzinkie # 240

Don't spend the money on mountain tops or area that were not affected by the spill.

Port Lions # 5813

I can't see going in and buying up the gross acreage so they can't log it. Wider buffer strips makes more sense.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Chenega Bay # 6090

I would add to that if it is not possible to return them to pre-spill in a short period of time, it is important to recognize that there are other resources that can be used as replacement. We can't wait 50 to 100 years for a resource to recover. We need some other resource put in place. I asked in the PAG meeting about the possibility of transplanting elk down here.

Chenega Bay # 5168

For habitat protection there is \$300,000. Of this allocated amount, how many people in this region are going to be benefitted from this \$300,000?

Chenega Bay # 5143

I would support in terms of restoration action addressing all injured resources. You folks need to work on what constitutes a resource that has come back and is no longer threatened. I am concerned that those resources be returned to pre-spill quality.

Chenega Bay # 5135

I am curious about our subsistence rights because it varies between what the State and Federal government allow.

Chenega Bay # 5134

A major percentage of this is habitat protection. Who are we protecting the land from? Would the land be under State control?

Chenega Bay # 5105

Where does land condemnation fit in?

Cordova # 5346

I'm still concerned about the imminently threatened lands. Charlie Cole said what good would it do to buy 100 acres only to have 1,500 acres all around it logged. He said that made no sense, and that he doesn't want to look at specific parcels. Last year those Eyak lands were red blobs. This year they're not there, they've been logged. I want us to concentrate on the Power Creek Lake and River section, that is an area that is imminently threatened today that was not imminently threatened last year.

Cordova # 5344

The rating system for the imminently threatened habitat areas did not capture the reality of what parcels were really important.

Cordova # 691

Far too much emphasis, up to this time, has been put on habitat acquisition especially in areas that have not even remotely been affected by the 'spill'. I believe that due to the increased logging in the PWS area, and given the pathetic Alaska Forest Practices Act and the willingness of the local native organizations to sell every stick of timber they own, even at heavy losses to them and the environment that I'm forced to at least support critical habitat acquisition. By critical I mean - protect the streams and lakes and leave some place in the Sound where a deer, goat, moose, bird, etc. will have some place to live and some likeness of the place I grew up in will remain.

Cordova # 676

No need to buy trees except where needed to protect marine resources.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

3. Opportunity Areas: AWRTA is concerned that habitat and viewshed acquisition may be perceived as a tool for stopping logging rather than as a means of protecting the most valuable habitats and viewsheds for restoration purposes. We feel that too much emphasis has been placed on imminently threatened lands at the expense of other high value habitat and viewshed areas. We strongly support acquisition of the timber and viewshed resources on Chenega lands in the Dangerous Passage area including, Chenega Island and the mainland from Eshamy to and including Jackpot Bay. Justification: This area receives considerable backcountry recreation and tourism use. Acquisition of all rights necessary to protect habitat, viewsheds and existing backcountry recreation and tourism use would help the recovery of damaged species and lost backcountry recreation and tourism opportunities.

Whittier # 6069

In your property issues, are you basically trying to buy fee simple title or timber or mining rights? Many places in the country buy development rights and the landowner still owns the rights. Can you buy strictly timber or mining rights leaving the owner with the ability to use the land for tourism? That is probably more expensive.

Whittier # 6067

The land sellers want to double their money.

Whittier # 6045

How is the link on the Kachemak Bay buyback linked to the oil spill?

Whittier # 6043

Is the Kachemak Bay purchase coming out of this money?

ISSUE: 2.1 RES ; When purchasing habitat, Emphasize habitat important for INJURED RESOURCES

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1090

It was wildlife and their habitat that was primarily impacted by the spill, which lead to economic impacts. Purchase of habitat for wildlife use is therefore the most applicable utilization of the settlement monies. Good luck in your deliberations. I do not envy you the pressures you are under.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

In habitat protection and acquisition, resources should go to areas and species injured by the spill, not to human use areas.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 706

Habitat should be acquired only where it is critical to protect or restore injured resources impacted by the spill.

ISSUE: 2.1 HUM ; When purchasing habitat, Emphasize HUMAN-USE AREAS

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 664

Habitat acquisition needs to take into account the welfare of all user groups.

ISSUE: 2.1 EQU ; When purchasing habitat, give EQUAL EMPHASIS to habitat important to injured resources and important human use areas

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1633 Forest Service Chugach National Forest

Habitat Acquisition Priorities. We favor the placing of equal emphasis on acquiring important habitats for injured species, and important habitats for human use. If important habitat for either

purpose has been altered, we would still favor consideration of the parcel. Over the long term, much of the visual quality and surface resources of the land will have been restored. For lands managed by the Chugach National Forest, current Forest Plan Direction provides a high degree of protection.

Anchorage # 1213

Purchasing these habitats (citizens group recommendations) would be the best way to guarantee recovery of the areas affected by the spill and would protect them from further injury. It would also preserve valuable tourist attractions and, most important, our unique and priceless Alaskan heritage.

REGION: Kenai

Seward # 281

Another problem I have with projects labeled as wildlife rehabilitation is their value in the grander scheme. It is a waste of money, time, personnel and resources to attempt to rehabilitate individuals. The success rate, especially compared with the cost, is appalling. Protecting populations, wildlife communities, ecosystems and habitat along with prevention are the only cost effective ways to deal with this problem.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 1437

Support the Trustee Council buying timber rights for Power Creek, Eyak Lake, and other areas in Prince William Sound. Most important thing to protect is the highly visible areas along main PWS traffic routes so tourists won't get bad impressions. It's also important to protect salmon streams since they are important to commercial fishing. Research and rehabilitation for commercial fisheries should be funded. The only people in Cordova against buying Eyak lands are the loggers, who would profit by not having the land bought. The loggers are a minority in the town and most people, maybe 90%, want the land protected.

Cordova # 1410

Please use the oil spill money to provide habitat for spill injured species, and high value wilderness recreation and tourism.

Cordova # 798 Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance

We must remember that pristine habitats and scenic beauty are resources upon which commercial tourism, recreation, and passive use depends. Clear-cut hillsides are generally not included in the pristine and scenic category. With respect to commercial, subsistence, and sport fisheries, the protection of wild anadromous habitat is the most important vehicle to insure the recovery of damaged stocks of cutthroat trout, dolly varden, pink salmon, and sockeye salmon. Marbled murrelets, pigeon guillemots, river otter, archaeological resources, clean water and sediments, and designated wilderness areas are resources that depend heavily on intact upland and marine habitat. Saving the marine environment while losing the uplands will result in damages to the ecosystem as great as after the spill.

ISSUE: 2.1 PRO ; SUPPORT Habitat Protection and Acquisition
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REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 5361

There has been some effort to identify critical habitat. You might want to set aside money for protection.

Fairbanks # 5360

I am interested in habitat protection. When you explained that category, \$600 million isn't that much money. I would be interested in having a team that would study the most effective way to get the habitat.

Fairbanks # 1676

Nothing you do will ever erase the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. There is, however, one set of actions you can take to protect Prince William Sound: habitat acquisition. Please spend the settlement money to acquire habitat. Government pork projects will only waste the funds and the opportunity to secure protection for vital coastal habitat. Throughout Alaska and the nation, we will watch for your decision and appreciate your thoughtful consideration.

Fairbanks #1635 Rep. John Davies

I wish to comment on the draft restoration plan. While I support modest, local logging, I do also support the acquisition of critical habitat and special park lands using Exxon / oil spill funds.

Fairbanks # 176

The state has betrayed public confidence re: the Kachemak Bay buy back. The state has not negotiated in good faith to serve the people of Alaska. Habitat acquisition is critical. Please read the answer to items on spending and funding method/endowment.

Juneau # 5497

You mentioned there was \$22 million allocated for habitat protection and could be spent on Kachemak Bay. How close are we to purchasing habitat in other areas?

Juneau # 5493

I consider research and monitoring as one of the more important things we can do. We don't necessarily know enough to fix things, but we could watch the progress of the ecosystem. My understanding of the trade off of the goal of habitat protection and acquisition and one of the policy issues regarding human uses is I see those two as being mutually exclusive. I hope this is recognized in the deliberation process. What is going to be most efficacious is going to involve purchasing or limiting human uses in some areas.

Juneau # 5484

I wasn't aware that any members of the public are here, so I don't see the need to go through injury. I think everyone is either working or has worked directly with the spill. I am sure there is something you would like to get across, but the point is you have already squandered money, and I

don't see the need for anything other than acquisition.

Juneau # 1404

You have a decision before you on what to do with money from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement. I am writing to express my desire that these monies be spent to acquire uplands. In particular, I favor the acquisition of private lands of high scenic and habitat value. I have worked with the logging industry here in Southeast Alaska, and have seen areas of high value exploited for short term gain. Lake Florence on Admiralty Island was one of the premiere cutthroat fishing lakes in the world. Sheeatika Native Corporation owns land around this lake. A move in Congress to trade Federal Land for Sheeatika's holdings around Lake Florence was started by citizens interested in preserving Lake Florence. However, SheeAtika claimed the Forest Service and Congress were moving too slow and proceeded with developing a road adjacent to the lake. The idea of a land trade was dropped. Sheeatika is now clearcutting its land around Lake Florence. No buffers are required between logging units and the lake because Lake Florence is not anadromous. Streams feeding into Lake Florence also do not have buffers because they do not support anadromous fish. The health of Lake Florence is questionable. We cannot predict the extent of negative impacts from logging adjacent to Lake Florence, however, we can say the biological diversity found in old growth forests is lost around Lake Florence. Finally, visitation to Forest Service cabins at the Lake has dropped off sharply. This jewel of Admiralty was plundered for short term profits from old growth stands. This must not happen to lands within Prince William Sound. We cannot rely (rely) on State and Federal laws to protect private lands that are scheduled for clearcutting. Under the State of Alaska Forest Practices Act of 1990, private timber operators are required to retain a buffer of 66 feet along anadromous streams. New studies out in the Pacific Northwest and Southeast Alaska watersheds demonstrate that buffer strips of 100 feet and greater are necessary to fully protect stream ecosystems and water quality. These studies were so compelling that Congress passed the Tongass Timber Reform Act mandating a 100 foot buffer. State requirements for stream buffer on anadromous streams are not based on sound science nor has a 66 foot buffer been proven to provide protection for fisheries. Relying on the State Forest Practices Act to protect fisheries of Prince William Sound makes little sense. I encourage the Trustee Council to protect, by acquisition, the watersheds that have been identified as having high resource values. Thank you for your efforts in meeting the concerns of the public.

Juneau # 1297

I urge you to use the Exxon settlement funds to purchase threatened habitats. Restoration attempts have been less than successful, so it makes little sense to continue to pay for futile efforts to recover land in the spill area. Instead, perhaps we should let Nature take over in the spill area and move to protect other areas from damage from development activities. Please make buying wildlife habitats the main focus of the settlement monies. These purchases should be over broad areas, including entire watersheds as with the recent Seal Bay purchase. Apparently seven areas have already been identified in a "citizens' vision plan." I urge you to look closely at the plan for recommendations. I thank you for your wise choices to protect further damage to our unique ecosystems.

Juneau # 481

Recovery of species will occur naturally, even without intervention or spending--should allocate most of funds for critical habitat acquisition

Juneau # 273

Acquisition of property, timber and mineral rights should be limited to those areas which would provide direct aid or protection of damaged species. Most of the PWS is currently in public holdings and further acquisition will not prevent spills or help us respond to them.

Mat-Su Borough # 1665

Please use settlement funds for habitat acquisition. I believe this is the best use for the money.

Mat-Su Borough # 1546

In response to your solicitation for public comment on how to spend the civil *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement funds, I would like to express my STRONG SUPPORT FOR USING FUNDS FROM THE SETTLEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF HABITAT PROTECTION. While fee simple purchase of land would be preferred as a means to ensure enduring protection for the lands acquired, I recognize that less than fee simple acquisitions may also be effective in achieving the objective of protecting injured wildlife populations and other resources values. In general, I would like to express my particular support for efforts to protect large, contiguous areas of the spill zone (for example entire watersheds as opposed to narrow buffer strips). Of the alternative scenarios described in the Draft Restoration Plan brochure, Alternative 2 appears to offer the most appropriate allocation of funds among various categories of uses. I appreciate this opportunity to comment.

Mat-Su Borough # 1152

I believe the best way to do this is by allowing nature to heal the injuries, and aiding this process by acquiring sections of land in the area to protect them for all time from any human interference and exploitation other than human visits to these areas by means of non mechanized transport. The endowment monies should be spent on slowly acquiring threatened habitat in the Sound, for example areas which are potentially going to be logged sometime in the future. In short, I would like the civil settlement funds to be used in a way likely to preserve Prince William Sound in its pristine WILDERNESS state.

Mat-Su Borough # 1146 Alaska Survival

To try and repair and restore the injured species and the Prince William Sound and other affected areas environment the money needs to be spent on buying uplands important to habitat, commercial, sport, subsistence fishing, wilderness recreation. We heal by protecting the earth from further damage.

Other Alaska # 1519

This letter is to express my interest in the funds that will come into Alaska from the settlement from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. I want it known on record that I would like to see the funds go for the purchases of habitat in Alaska. I feel it is very important to Alaska for habitats be maintained and established for wildlife, forests, and even fisheries. Please use this letter as you see fit in helping to use the funds in this matter. Thank you for your time from a resident of Alaska.

Other Alaska # 1182

We don't live in the Prince William Sound Area but we have resided in Alaska for 33 years and feel a strong attachment for a region where we have many friends and which we have visited quite often. So it is that we are writing to request you do your level best for our now despoiled Sound by voting for

habitat purchases which we feel is the cornerstone for any rational restoration of the region. As others do, we also believe that buying wildlife habitat is the best way to secure recovery of the Exxon spill-impacted area and to protect these ecosystems from further devastation. In addition, we believe you should purchase habitat over very large areas using the integrated watershed concept.

Other Alaska # 1056

As a 15-year resident of rural Alaska I would like to offer my opinion on the use of the Exxon Settlement monies. I believe that the purchase of land and habitat for its permanent protection is the most appropriate and wisest use of the Settlement monies. There is nothing that Alaska offers more valuable to the rest of the world, and to the future, than its wilderness and wild places. It is inevitable that increasing areas of the world will be developed and changed forever by the pressures of population and development. Well preserved natural areas will be increasingly rare and valuable, inevitably, in the future. Please prevent the Settlement money from being wasted on additional agencies, committees, and studies, for it is a rare opportunity to have this opportunity for permanent changes. It is my hope that you will decide to use as much of the Settlement money as possible for the direct purchase and preservation of land and wildlife habitat in Prince William Sound. The purchase of large intact ecological units will provide the most long term stability. Thank you for your time.

Other Alaska # 1033

Though we live in Interior Alaska, I've been lucky enough to see much of the Sound and some of the Kenai Fjords. Logging or other development in those areas would destroy not only wildlife habitat, but vital marine habitat, spectacular scenery, and enjoyment of many people who fish or tour in the area for recreation, as well as the livelihoods of those who support tourism and commercial or sport fishing there. If you can prevent such destruction by spending these funds, please do so!

Other Alaska # 294

Buy land - protect habitat! Put \$ in the field. Too much is being spent in the office.

Southeast Alaska # 1106

I would like to see at least 80% of your remaining funds spent on habitat restoration and protection. I would like to see clear cutting avoided. I would also like to see funding for fisheries studies and management.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5084

I favor 80% going for habitat acquisition. I think the Trustee Council will be constrained by the blue line from doing some very good restoration.

Anchorage # 5080

I think the Trustee Council and the staff has done a great job of coming up with these alternatives. We really need the habitat acquisition.

Anchorage # 1684

These are my comments on your "Restoration Plan" for the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement monies. .

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my ideas on this subject. Prince William Sound has suffered extensively and may never be fully restored. Protection of the ecosystem and prevention of further stresses is the only "restoration" that may be successful. Use of the monies for habitat acquisition from willing sellers offers the public, and private landowners, a rare win-win situation. As our forests are threatened by clearcut logging, surely we must strongly consider such opportunities as they arise. We are now afforded the chance to protect fish and wildlife habitat, maintain the growing fishing and tourism economics (that are in any event much more sustainable in the long run than clearcut logging), retain pristine areas for recreational and aesthetic enjoyment, and allow Native corporations to ensure profits for their shareholders. The settlement should be used for its established purpose: to protect and restore Prince William Sound and surrounding areas. Purchasing habitat best approaches that goal. We must always be mindful of the welfare of future generations, and the availability of these habitat purchases provides a rare opportunity for us to pass something of priceless value on to our children and grandchildren. I very much appreciate your time and effort in considering the public's concerns.

Anchorage # 1669

Kudos to you for the purchases of Kachemak Bay's inholdings and Seal Bay on Afognak! We now urge you to use the majority of the remaining Oil Spill Settlement monies for the purpose of habitat acquisition. In our minds this is the very best way to address the tragedy in Prince William Sound. Truly, the only appropriate response to careless destruction is to remove the threat of repeating ourselves. Clearcut logging throughout the coastal rain forests of Alaska is repetition of our greed and ignorance on a scale exponentially higher than even the spill. As a couple who met in the rain forests on the Philippines, we are seeing a sad reminder of the short term gain - long term degradation - of depleting the natural environment that we are so intricately connected to and dependent upon. The payoff from this shortsightedness is small. The economic, social, biological, and even psychological damage done is far greater than our knowledge of ecosystem "management". It is an amazing sight to see Alaska repeat the mistakes of what has been termed the "Third World". Honestly, how can the Trustees make any choice other than habitat acquisition? How could we say that we are restoring a toxic nightmare by building a sea life center, by putting the money into a huge long-term endowment to sit and make more money, or by studying how many creatures we killed while simultaneously we massacre entire forest systems? Certainly, it is appropriate to spend some funds on marine research. However, we already know the ecosystem was harmed - why continue the practice while we seek the extent? Forest and marine ecosystems will benefit most if we remove them from danger first and then research further actions needed.

Anchorage # 1659

This letter is in response to your request for comments on the restoration plan for the Exxon spill settlement funds. As a second generation Alaskan, I have seen considerable change in the state, much of it destructive to the long-term interests of the state and, ultimately to those of us who plan to spend the rest of our lives here. Protecting habitat, currently threatened by logging, will ensure the long-term health of fish, wildlife, plants and the individuals in the area who engage in a subsistence lifestyle. Preservation of Alaska's abundant resources -- particularly its economically important fisheries -- and unique rural lifestyle will ensure the main components of the quality of life and stable economic base we enjoy today is there for future generations. This would be the most appropriate form of response to a painful, destructive tragedy, the extent of which we still do not know. Please consider habitat acquisition a priority as you develop your restoration plan. Thank

you for considering public comment on this subject.

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Petition in Support of Habitat Acquisition: We urge the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees to invest most of the \$900 million civil settlement monies on acquisition of coastal rain forest habitat threatened by logging. Acquisition and protection of habitat will help ensure that the damaged ecosystem will recover, thereby also helping to ensure a sustainable economic future for residents of the Alaska coastal rain forest. (153-signature petition attached)

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

Simply stated: intact forest lands can and do provide an essential biologic foundation for permanent jobs and strong, sustainable economies. It would be tragic, to say the least, if the ecosystems, biologic resources and coastal communities of the *Exxon Valdez* impact region were to finally recover from the oil spill, only to suffer further devastation as a result of unsustainable, "boom and bust" development activities, in particular clearcut logging. Use of the Settlement funds to acquire and protect habitat offers an extraordinary and unparalleled "win-win" opportunity to advance restoration objectives as well as safeguard future economic opportunities for coastal communities. Habitat needed for recovery of injured resources and services can be protected while private landowners, such as ANCSA corporations with holdings in the spill region, can realize the economic value of their holdings and provide dividends to shareholders, thereby meeting fiduciary responsibilities. The exact amount of acreage that could be protected with Settlement funds is not known at this time and is subject to a number of significant variables the most important of which include identification of willing sellers and highly variable land values. As a gross estimate, however, using the recent Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay acquisitions as rough "ballpark comparables" (approximately \$900/acre, fee simple), it appears that acquisition of roughly 500,000 acres could be achieved using approximately \$450 million of the remaining settlement funds. This acreage estimate could be higher, or the cost figure lower, if the acquisitions were for partial property rights. **Habitat Acquisition Has Enormous Popular Support:** Not only are the merits of giving priority to habitat acquisition compelling, this proposal enjoys enormous popular support. A petition in Support of Habitat Acquisition is attached to these comments reflecting the support of hundreds of individual Alaskans who have joined together to "urge the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees to invest most of the...civil settlement monies on acquisition of coastal rain forest habitat threatened by logging." In discussions with members of the public, ACE has consistently found broad popular support for, and recognition of, the benefits of habitat acquisition and protection.

Anchorage # 1623 Alaska Center for the Environment

The Alaska Center for the Environment (ACE) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Plan "Summary of Alternatives for Public Comment" (hereafter referred to as the Draft Restoration Plan. These comments are divided into an initial Summary/General Comments section, followed by detailed responses to specific questions and issues raised in the Draft Restoration Plan. **Summary/General Comments -** While there are many worthwhile restoration research projects and activities that will receive deserved support from the Trustee Council, ACE continues to believe that acquisition and protection of fish and wildlife habitat generally represents the best opportunity available to advance overall restoration objectives. ACE especially appreciates the continuing habitat acquisition efforts of the Trustee Council that have culminated, to date, with protections for lands at Seal Bay and in Kachemak Bay State Park. **Ecosystem Approach Needed:** The

priority of the Restoration Plan should be to provide an ecosystem approach that protects threatened fish and wildlife habitat within coastal forests, rivers and shorelines by acquiring land, development or timber rights, and/or conservation easements on a willing-seller basis. There are very few (if any) meaningful remaining opportunities to further "clean up" the spill. Moreover, as noted in the Draft Restoration Plan: "For many resources and services, there is no known restoration approach that will effectively accelerate recovery." (Source: 1993 Supplement to the Summary of Alternatives, Draft *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Plan, EVOS Trustee Council, p. B3.) In many cases, habitat protection and acquisition that prevents further impacts to injured resources and services, and allows recovery to occur as a result of natural processes, offers the best opportunity to advance restoration objectives. Habitat protection efforts should emphasize acquisition and/or protection of large blocks of contiguous, intact habitat, complemented by protective management policies on public lands. Habitat manipulation and/or construction projects advocated in the name of restoration purposes should be considered only as a last recourse, in extremely limited circumstances. In general, projects such as roads, ports, visitor centers or other commercial development proposals are regular agency responsibilities and, as such, are inappropriate and/or should be considered an extremely low priority for use of Settlement funds. Habitat Acquisition Serves Multiple Restoration Objectives: It is essential to recognize that numerous, multifaceted and complementary restoration objectives can be served simultaneously through fish and wildlife habitat acquisition and/or protection. Old-growth forests, in particular, provide nesting sites for some of the bird species most harmed by the spill (including marbled murrelets and bald eagles). Pristine riparian and upland old-growth forests also provide crucial habitats for other spill-injured species as well (such as mink, river otter, salmon and other anadromous fish). Watershed protection also serves to safeguard water quality. Additionally, comprehensive habitat acquisition and protection efforts under the Settlement will serve to protect and enhance local community economic opportunities that are dependent upon healthy and productive coastal forest ecosystems, including commercial and sport fishing, guided hunting, tourism, wilderness recreation and subsistence.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Habitat Protection and Acquisition should be based on Widely Accepted Ecological Concepts. Habitat protection and acquisition should generally occur on a broad scale in order to achieve settlement goals. As Trustees, you have the rare opportunity to protect still intact expanses of habitat used by a diversity of species and that support a range of services which were injured by the spill. Elsewhere, resource managers are left with crumb-sized pieces of habitat for designing nature reserves and from which to decide acquisition priorities. Here, we have the opportunity to apply our finite financial resources creatively and maximize habitat protection on an ecosystem-scale instead of simply biting off a few prime chunks. The first step is for the state and federal agencies to recognize their role is a double one and that for their Trustee obligations to be most meaningful, they will commit on-going agency management activities to be compatible with restoration goals. For agencies to use settlement funds to augment existing management actions under the rationale that these are spill-related, and to not work toward the restoration goals in other aspects of its program, thwarts the public interest and commitments made in the settlement. The public should not be asked to pay from one pocket (restoration funds) to study and restore populations and to protect habitat, while at the same time the government has its hand in another pocket to promote activities that would complicate management or destroy or degrade habitats in this same region -- it is the same wallet, the public's. Since public land managers should already be doing all that they can to restore the ecosystems of Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska, habitat protection efforts

should focus on acquisition of large blocks of intact habitat on private lands. In the spill-affected region, we are blessed with the opportunity to do more than just protect isolated pieces such as nesting sites or streamside buffers. Acquisition of especially rich sites is important, but the integrity of these areas cannot be maintained in isolation from the adjacent habitats, nor is their value independent of the quality of the larger watershed or ecosystem. It is well known that habitat loss causes population declines and can facilitate extinction by transforming large populations into smaller, more isolated ones through the process of habitat fragmentation. Consensus exists among biologists that, all else being equal, continuous suitable habitat supports more individuals of a species targeted for conservation than does fragmented (discontinuous) habitat (Thomas et al. 1990). Certain concepts of conservation strategy widely accepted by specialists in the fields of ecology and conservation biology (Den Boer 1981, Harris 1984, Thomas et al. 1990, Wilcover et al. 1986) that are applicable to *Exxon Valdez* restoration include: "Bigger is better." Large blocks of habitat are better than small ones. Blocks of contiguous habitat are better than loose aggregations of fragmented blocks due to problems associated with fragmentation and edge effects including increased predation and susceptibility to blow-down, reduce wildlife dispersal and altered movements, erosion, and others. Protected habitats should be distributed across a species' complete geographic distribution.

Anchorage # 1607

I am writing in response to your request for public comments on the restoration plan for the Exxon spill settlement monies. I would like to see the money spent to protect habitat. Protecting wildlife habitat which is threatened will allow us to protect the true victims of the oil spill - fish wildlife, plants and people dependent on subsistence lifestyles. This would be the most fitting way to respond to such a tragedy. Please consider this proposal as a priority as you develop your restoration plan. Thank you.

Anchorage # 1598

I attended the public meeting in Anchorage on April 26 and am writing to reiterate my comments of that evening. I believe that the best use of the remaining *Exxon Valdez* settlement dollars is habitat acquisition. I was one of those who thought that the settlement was too low and that Exxon should only be allowed to pay in installments if they also paid interest. That they should also be reimbursed by their own settlement is outrageous. These things, however appalling, have already been decided. I think that if you look at the opportunities carefully, you too will reach to conclusion that the best use of the money is to protect the wildlife and subsistence lifestyles that were jeopardized with the spill. Yours is an extremely huge pot of money that will serve to generate idea after idea after ideas of ways to spend it. When I look at the categories of restoration actions that you have identified, however, habitat acquisition stands far above the others. Building fish passes and public-use cabins, as suggested under General Restoration, is not even in the same league. The projects mentioned under Monitoring and Research Program are not necessary and will do nothing to enhance recovery. Of course funds to be allocated to Administration and Public Information, but they should be minimized and used efficiently. THEREFORE, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE 90% OF THE REMAINING DOLLARS SPENT ON HABITAT PROTECTION AND URGE YOU TO WORK WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY IN IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES.

Anchorage # 1548

Please support the use of the settlement funds for the purchase of habitat. In purchasing habitat,

please put first priority on acquiring integral ecosystems and shorelines. Thank you for giving your full consideration and support to these objectives.

Anchorage # 1545

I hope you will consider and use your best efforts to secure funds to purchase of timber from privately owned lands and/or purchase of land parcels of special concern. It would seem a most valuable use of the monies drawn from the Exxon Settlement Fund, both to benefit the state in preserving old timber and assisting private owners about to sell significant amounts of timber from the land.

Anchorage # 1516

This letter is in regards to the "restoration plan" you are currently developing to guide use of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement monies. Please consider my comments on this very important issue. In my mind, spending the money on the protection of the ecosystem, and prevention of any future damages is the best way to restore the area. In truth, Prince William Sound and surrounding areas may never be restored. The acquisition of lands, for purposes of preservation, is our only avenue to at least stave off future catastrophes. An environment which has been stressed by an oil spill certainly does not need the added pressure of logging - particularly in the clearcut fashion that is so often done in Alaska. I would suggest that the money from the settlement be used to the intent and purpose for which it was created - for the restoration of Prince William Sound. I see that best accomplished by using the money to acquire habitat and thereby prevent future degradation.

Anchorage # 1511

EVOS Trustee Council-- would appreciate your getting serious about your charter and quit screwing around playing politics/personal gain. No more fancy boats, superfluous studies, etc. Buy land as described by Sierra Club, help restore fisheries etc. You should be oil enough, experienced enough, devoted enough to know what's needed. If not, get off the trolley and let someone on who does/will.

Anchorage # 1471

Please use the settlement money from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement to purchase wildlife habitat. We need to ensure that critical areas are protected from future oil spill damage.

Anchorage # 1468

Please support the use of the Settlement funds for the purchase of habitat. In purchasing habitat, please put first priority on acquiring integral ecosystems and shorelines. Thank you for giving your full consideration and support to these objectives.

Anchorage # 1458

As a citizen of the State of Alaska I would like to request that you use oil spill funds to buy coastal forest lands in danger of being logged. Please prioritize parcels in immediate danger (i.e. in Cordova). Please do not spend oil spill money on logging roads.

Anchorage # 1454

I strongly support using the majority of the remaining \$600 million on Exxon fines to buy the land and timber rights and protect habitat in at least the seven areas identified as priority habitat acquisition by the Kachemak Bay Citizens Coalition. This is a win-win situation - good for the

landowners and good for the public interest as well.

Anchorage # 1424

Please spend the money from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement on habitat acquisition.

Anchorage # 1417

I am writing to urge that the Trustee Council target the remaining spill settlement monies to upland habitat acquisition. The recent acquisition of Seldovia Native Corporation forest lands and those at Seal Bay on Afognak are wise investments. From what I have gleaned from the news reports on the science of the spill impacts, most seem to agree that there is little prescriptive action that can be taken to speed recovery and that recovery will occur naturally, although the extent of recovery will vary by species. Whether or not the health of the ecosystem will ultimately be restored is problematic. Therefore, the "doctor's orders" ought to be to prevent any more injury to the ecosystem during the multi-decade healing process. Since the Council cannot unilaterally prohibit transport of oil and other hazardous material near or on waters of the spill affected area during the recovery period, its options to prevent further injury to the waters of the spill-affected area appear limited to protecting upland habitat and watersheds from deforestation. Following this logic, the Council should also support whatever measures can be taken to protect critical marine habitat in the spill-affected area, although I am not sure about how such protection can be secured. Acquisition of habitat should therefore, be the highest priority. Funding of further studies from remaining settlement can be justified only if they are integral to the habitat acquisition process, or will result in a preventive health care regimen for the spill-affected region. We can always engage in study, but we can't create old-growth habitat.

Anchorage # 1415

The major disaster impacted upon Prince William Sound and the people and wildlife that treasure it - was the destruction of our precious environment by the oil spill. The only investment that makes sense to endeavor into with this settlement money, is that which will preserve and protect this land surrounding our fragile oceans. I urge you to spend this money wisely by purchasing private Native Corporation land which can be protected as wilderness land - not developed or logged.

Anchorage # 1414

I am writing this letter to express my concern over the use of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement monies. The money available needs to be spent responsibly. I believe the Restoration Plan should be based on the acquisition of threatened habitat. Wildlife habitat still intact should be protected to help aid the spill impacted areas. Large areas should be bought to preserve natural systems such as watersheds. Logging the coastal forests should be stopped to preserve water quality and land habitat. Please take these concerns into consideration and help the recovery of the spill impacted area.

Anchorage # 1409

Please spend the money from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement on habitat acquisition.

Anchorage # 1358

Please spend the money from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement on habitat acquisition. Thank you.

Anchorage # 1250

Buying habitat is the very best way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. The majority of settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustee should buy any and protect at least seven areas identified as part of the "citizens vision". Protect Mother Earth!

Anchorage # 1158

In regards to the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration efforts, I feel that all efforts should go towards habitat restoration. The Exxon spill showed that we can do little once the oil is in the water. Let's focus on protection as much habitat as possible from future oils spills and from other development threats (logging, mining, hydro power, large-scale tourism, etc). I don't believe money should be spent on improving human recreation facilities nor on restoration unless there is clear proof that restoration has measurable and significant advantages over nature and time.

Anchorage # 1099

I have lived and recreated in Alaska for approximately 14 years. Among other areas, I have enjoyed kayaking in and camping in the Prince William Sound area. For many reasons, I urge you to protect one of Alaska's and the nation's most beautiful and productive resources by using the *Exxon Valdez* spill money for land acquisition. There is no higher and better use for these funds. Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.

Anchorage # 1084

I write to support using Exxon settlement funds for habitat purchases in the Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjords and Shuyak and Kodiak Islands. You have already authorized the spending of an enormous sum of money, approximately one-third of the \$900 million settlement, without significant protection of the remaining wild lands of Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjords and the Kodiak Archipelago. You are to be commended for your recent authorizations to acquire lands at Seal Bay on Afognak Island and in Kachemak Bay. However, you can acquire much more habitat and should with the remaining funds available to you. Thank you for taking this comment into consideration.

Anchorage # 1041

The Exxon oil spill despoiled hundreds of miles of beaches along the western Gulf of Alaska and killed off thousands of birds and animals. Therefore, isn't there a moral imperative to spend the fines money on purchasing and protecting the habitats of fish and wildlife? Here is provided a wonderful opportunity to restore rather than destroy the area which was devastated by Exxon in Prince William Sound. I urge you to "seize this moment."

Anchorage # 1034

As private citizens of Alaska, we feel compelled to write to you regarding the allocation of the final \$600 million of the Exxon fines. We feel the very best use that can be made of this money is to buy up habitat in or near the afflicted areas. It seems imperative that the vast majority of the remaining Settlement Funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation, and one key way to achieve this would be through buying up large areas of habitat, including entire watersheds, and then protecting them (along the line of your recent purchase of Seal Bay on Afognak, which was commendable).

Anchorage # 1028

Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska are world famous for spectacular rain forests and abundant fish and wildlife. Logging in this area is an undesirable activity that can be reduced by using Exxon settlement funds for habitat purchases.

Anchorage # 1009

I support use of the Exxon Settlement funds for habitat purchases. Buying wildlife habitat should be the cornerstone of the Restoration Plan. Such purchases are the best way to ensure the recovery of areas affected by the spill and also provide the best protection against further harm to the ecosystems in these areas. Habitat should be purchased over broad areas, including entire watersheds, as with the recent 42,000 acre purchases at Seal Bay on Afognak. I urge you to make purchases of private holdings in the vicinity of Kenai Fjords National Park, Knight Island Passage, and similar areas in the Sound and the Gulf threatened by logging and other forms of development inconsistent with the health of the area's ecosystems. Such developments also are inconsistent with recreation and tourism uses of these areas. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Anchorage # 733 AK Sportfishing Assn and AK State Council of Trout Unlimited

It seems that there is very little that can be done to cost-effectively restore injured resources and services other than through land and habitat acquisition, but without the necessary social science it is hard to make good determinations as to cost-effectiveness of projects such as stock separation studies. We favor a combination of Alternatives 2, 4, and 5. We favor the 91% for land and habitat acquisition in Alternative 2, the high standard for cost-effectiveness in Alternative 4, and the flexibility and cost effectiveness that includes acquisitions outside the spill area in Alternative 5. We realize there is political difficulty in looking outside the spill area. However, the law contains no requirement that acquisitions be geographically limited to the spill area, and the whole notion of acquiring replacement resources implies acquiring uninjured resources away from the locale of the oil.

Anchorage # 694

Buy forest habitat.

Anchorage # 620

I think that virtually all the money should be spent to acquire habitat within (and only within) the spill affected area.

Anchorage # 478

I am strongly in favor of habitat protection and acquisition. Only limited restoration activities are warranted at this stage.

Anchorage # 372 Koniag, Inc.

I believe that the bulk of both the criminal and civil settlements should go to habitat acquisition.

Acquisition would at least be a permanent accomplishment for the E-V Trust Funds as opposed to pumping the respective agencies with funds for a plethora of studies of dubious value.

Anchorage # 371

I think all areas the oil spill spread to should be acquired and protected.

Anchorage # 365
Protect areas with lots of animals.

Anchorage # 352
I think we should have more public parks that show what a beautiful environment Alaska really is.

Anchorage # 230
The only other really justifiable use of the money is for habitat acquisition and protection (and some for public education).

Anchorage # 220
Because the scientific community on both sides of the issues cannot come to an agreement as to the extent of damage to most of the Sound's resources, the best use of the settlement funds is to acquire land and let the resources "heal themselves."

Anchorage # 213
Opportunities for actual restoration of damaged resources are extremely limited beyond what has already occurred during cleanup. Any measures should be carefully considered to make sure they do not do more than good. In general, habitat protection is the best use for most of the funds.

Anchorage # 183
The only productive use of all remaining spill monies is for acquisition of habitat within the "greater spill zone" area.

Anchorage # 116
I believe that for the great majority of the EV settlement funds, HABITAT should be acquired, the bulk of the restoration left to nature and time, with only limited additional studies and monitoring which should come out of regular appropriated agency funding, justified thru the legislative process.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 5463
On acquisition, you could do major land leases for extended time periods and get more land for less bucks. I understand a lot of the land in PWS is owned by the Natives.

Homer # 5423
Money for parks might be for damaged resources. The opportunity to repair a damaged resource is there. It seems that any dollar spent on habitat acquisition is worth more than another \$100 million spent on planning and reimbursement.

Homer # 5397
I guess when you think of cleanup, we are all pretty flattened. I think we are still grieving over the oil spill. It will take a long time to get over that. When we think of cleanup, to think about another oil spill is inconceivable, because I don't think we could handle or survive it in the psychological sense. I hope that there is lot of land acquisition. An island for the birds or a bay for the sea otters is what we should be doing. I would like to see as much money as possible

dedicated to acquisition.

Homer # 1760

1. The alternatives presented in the draft do not represent my position. I believe that the remaining civil penalty money should be used to acquire threatened habitat either as fee simple, or if that is not feasible, then conservation easements and/or timber rights should be acquired. Habitat acquisitions should be the main focus of your efforts, utilizing comprehensive negotiation processes. 2. The parcels being sought should not be narrowly limited by permits currently in hand. The Trustee Council should actively seek out all interested potential sellers of valuable habitat for injured resources and maximize opportunities.

Homer # 1057

I am writing to voice my support of the use of Exxon settlement funds for habitat acquisition in the spill affected area. I applaud the designation of funds for purchases in Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay on Afognak Island. I encourage you to place a high priority on further key purchases to protect vital habitat. Thank you for your consideration of citizen input in your decisions.

Homer # 796

I believe the best use of the funds would be to acquire habitat that is home or breeding and spawning areas to species affected by the spill. In addition the spill clean up has introduced many people to a part of Alaska that was unknown and not visited often by recreational users. This will change because of the exposure received by this area during the clean up. Habitat acquisition would be advisable to preserve the scenic and recreational values of the area and to put ownership and management into state or federal hands, i.e., state parks. Primarily, however, habitat should be acquired for the benefit of the flora and fauna that live there.

Homer # 324

An important decision regarding the status of acquired lands needs to be made. Who will own and monitor these lands? I would like to see them set aside in refuge or state park status which allow a wider range of human enjoyment than national park status--unless the acquisition is an inholding in a national park. It is important that these lands be set aside in perpetuity and not developed when the effects of the spill are judged to be eliminated. Inholdings in state and national parks and refuges should be priorities for acquisition. Afognak Island, Shuyak Island, Kenai Fjords, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and the end of the Kenai Peninsula (Chrome Bay, Rocky Bay, and Windy Bay) are some of my favorite haunts that I would recommend for protection. I think habitat acquisition is by far the best option for restoring injured species. I think there have been more than an adequate number of studies done to identify significant parcels and hope that some habitat will be protected through acquisition and conservation easements before the rest of the money disappears.

Homer # 320

"Monitoring and Research" and "Habitat Protection and Acquisition" are the two most important categories the money should be used for, and the endowment (40%) should be set up to ensure these categories receive support and funding for some time to come. Habitat protection/acquisition is currently very popular and it is important and should be emphasized, but not at the expense of losing the opportunity to learn more about the resources before another spill happens. (and it will!) Little or no support for research monitoring would be a classic case of short-sightedness (but in

keeping with some of the ridiculous proposals floating around out there to spend the \$). Conducting research on many of the resources that will actually answer questions about them is expensive because of the environment and difficulty of working on them. This is an opportunity to actually do work that can answer long-standing questions!

Homer # 253

Acquire as much coastal old growth timber in the spill area from PWS to Kachemak Bay to protect Marbled Murrelet habitat as possible.

Homer # 197

Habitat acquisition, protection, and understanding clearly provide the best long-term approach from the perspective of our children's children.

Kenai # 1472

Please use the money from the *Exxon Valdez* Settlement for wildlife habitat acquisition.

Other Kenai Borough# 1142

As a lifetime Alaskan (45 years) businessman and big game guide with strong interests in and ties to the environment I strongly urge the trustees of the EVOS monies to use this money to protect threatened wildlife habitat that was impacted by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. Areas of particular concern to me are prime brown bear habitat on Kodiak Island within the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge that are threatened by development.

Other Kenai Borough# 513

I think that every effort should be made to move quickly to purchase the damaged areas. We've seen in the state, with the rail belt energy fund, how delay in the spending of appropriated money leads to demands to spend the money on unrelated things.

Other Kenai Borough# 432

Has already sent in the questionnaire. Wanted to emphasize that most of the money should be spent on habitat acquisition because it would best mitigate damages from the spill.

Seldovia # 5881

I think nothing will be better than habitat acquisition.

Seward # 6108

I second that (that habitat protection is the best way to go).

Seward # 5969

I don't think private ownership represents a threat to those lands. There is nothing imminent. There is not very good timber there. Nothing is going to happen but tourism. If Natives take title to their land, in no way will that impact the price of the tour.

Seward # 5968

I have a problem with the process. The timing is very bad for Kenai Fiords National Park. This money will evaporate very quickly by the time the land becomes more threatened than it is. The money

will be gone and the opportunity to protect the habitat will be gone. It will be too late. It should be high on the list. We should not wait till the money is all gone, and we won't have an opportunity to do anything.

Seward # 5966

You were talking about 18 on the list for acquisition. Is Kenai Fiords on the imminently threatened list?

Seward # 5965

I came here for Kenai Fiords National Park, and I support purchasing of the Native lands if they are willing to sell.

Seward # 5964

I wanted to draw attention to page 6 and item #115. If you are not opposed to habitat protection, why is the Kenai Fiords only funded at \$20,000? If you compare that to some of the others, you are talking about a small percentage. If you support habitat acquisition, be sure and write it on the comment form.

Seward # 5956

I came to say I am in support of habitat protection and acquisition. A lot of the coast land is Native land selected and won't be managed by the Forest Service. If it goes over to Native land, a lot of tourism might decline. It won't be the same. Natives might charge us more to use and view the land. The tours will cost a lot more. The money should be used to acquire Native selected land.

Seward # 5952

We have to look at it as a natural renewable resource that my children can see when they grow up. If we cut the trees, they won't grow back as fast because they have nothing to protect them. That is an area which hasn't been addressed because people don't see environmentalists and loggers working together.

Seward # 5937

I have a question about how the alternatives are listed. There is less and less habitat acquisition. It seems biased against habitat acquisition. Is that a random way of numbering them or is there some intent on the part of the Trustees to guide us away from habitat acquisition and more toward comprehensive? Personally, I believe that habitat acquisition is a form of restoration, and I would like to see it labeled as such.

Seward # 5929

Before we leave restoration, I have a general observation. It is interesting to try to quantify species by species. Basically, there isn't enough information to go at it bit by bit. The strategic approach of trying to piece meal it together is fundamentally flawed. In a strategic way, it is better to just acquire habitat and basically say God knows best. We know a little bit, but we don't know enough and should try to get a big hunk of what is out there. It might be better to just bite off big pieces of habitat and let it restore itself. We have to admit that all the queens horses and all her men just cannot put it back together again. There are some excellent ideas out there, but I believe habitat acquisition is the best way to spend the money. I favor habitat acquisition. I

didn't come here to argue about specifics of categories or to give you a general idea of what I think an endowment should be. The one thing I would like you to record and the one thing that I'd like for you to understand is that I believe that habitat acquisition is the best way to go.

Seward # 1091

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the plan you will follow utilizing the settlement from the *Exxon Valdez*. I have three major goals for the settlement funds. One is to protect as much land as possible. The second is to develop and maintain a world class example of how to protect habitat, maintain scenic landscapes, and utilize the land for everyone to enjoy.

Seward # 327

While I recognize wildlife and the areas of habitat have been affected, it observes that natural recovery is possible and will take time, but it is happening and will continue to do so. Protection of habitat area, prevention of further spills, that is where our focus should be. We cannot humanly correct what the Valdez oil spill did. It unfortunately made a lot of greedy people a lot of money. But we can prevent this from happening again. Money should be used to fight the oil companies and any other agency a politician that trust block safer and more strict laws regarding the process involved in piping and moving the oil.

Seward # 281

Another problem I have with projects labeled as wildlife rehabilitation is their value in the grander scheme. It is a waste of money, time, personnel and resources to attempt to rehabilitate individuals. The success rate, especially compared with the cost, is appalling. Protecting populations, wildlife communities, ecosystems and habitat along with prevention are the only cost effective ways to deal with this problem.

Seward # 276

I support the council working with loggers to protect the watershed and habitat areas. Selective logging could/should be done and land should not be purchased to prevent logging in all cases.

REGION: Kodiak

Akhiok # 5008

The Corporation's position is this. In your 1993 plan in November you asked for interested parties to submit to you what you think should be in your 1993 plan. What AKI did was respond to the Trustees inquiry in November and we asked them to consider AKI's lands for acquisition. We got on their list for the imminently threatened lands for Seal Bay. They gave us a score of 30. We joined with Chenega, Shuyak and Afognak Island, and they listed us as Alitak Bay. We are reiterating now to the Trustee council that we remain interested. A copy of this letter dated April 18 went to Marty Rutherford. For those different reasons listed there we would like to have our score increased.

Akhiok # 5007

Habitat protection is the most important thing to do around here.

Kodiak # 5561

I think it's really healthy that you are getting out in the community. All we hear is the newspapers talking about how much land the Trustees have or have not agreed to buy to prevent logging. When they were logging Portage nobody said a word. If the stockholders want to sell it, then sit down and negotiate it.

Kodiak # 5555

I was born and raised here in Kodiak and I've been all over the north Afognak area all my life. My stepson has a cabin up there also, and I've paid attention as I've heard the comments and as I've read them in the paper. I'm a lawyer and I've handled in my career primarily personal injury cases where a lot of money was given to someone who really had no familiarity with how to use the money. By the time they got around to learning how to use it, it was all gone. It goes pretty quickly and it will never be replaced. As I've watched this program here since the spill, I don't see people taking the time now to spend this money to invest so we can be prepared for another disaster. I think when you spend the money you should do the very best you can. You can never have the thing that you had before it happened, but now you have the money instead. Here is an opportunity to pick up some of this land that is in pristine condition, and that same land turns out to be the very same land that was damaged by the oil spill. If that land could be picked up at a reasonable price I think you should do it. I don't recommend squandering the money, but if it is a reasonable price it would give the state a buffer zone to protect the land in all of Kodiak. In that sense we would have the land near Shuyak, and it would allow that land to be a buffer zone. In addition it would be an investment that 20 years from now if there was another spill and we needed resources to respond, it could be selectively logged. That's why there is a lot of value and that is why it is being logged now and it will be logged almost down to the coastline. Between what the oil spill did to us and what the loggers will do to us we're going to lose a very significant part of the environment. I think that is what should be done with the money. I think the people from Anchorage will keep studying this problem until they're blue in the face. It misses the point that the people that should pay for the restoration should be the oil companies and that is why we got this money. Is it adequate? I can't say just now; I don't really know. That money is to pay for what we might lose in the future, too.

Kodiak # 5544

I think that habitat protection is definitely important and I hope that it can continue. This is one of the things we're concerned about. Some very critical habitat is also involved with monitoring some of our weir sites on the island. That is a critical aspect of figuring out whether the fish are coming back or not. We may be in danger of losing some of those sites because of budgetary constraints in Fish and Game. I certainly don't want to sound like I am against any habitat protection. In some cases they may be more accurately characterized as a monitoring site rather than habitat protection.

Kodiak # 1249 Kodiak Audubon Society

The Kodiak Audubon Society is a dedicated supporter of habitat protection and conservation of all wildlife. We urge your support committing most of the remaining \$600 million EVOS Settlement for habitat acquisition, this is the most significant and permanent restoration action the Trustees can and will implement. We appreciate the Trustee Council's consideration in reviewing these recommendations.

Kodiak # 179

Buy fish counting locations (weir sites) on Kodiak Is. from natives.

Kodiak # 179

Purchase recreational access sites but build NO cabins; boat launch areas are Okay.

Kodiak # 21

Of particular importance to the marbled murrelet is "Old Growth" spruce forest, where it builds its nests on the thick moss beds that grown on old growth spruce trees.

Kodiak # 21

We agree with Bob Spies, there is little if any good that more clean up will accomplish, the best course of action is to let nature alone. We also agree with Charlie Cole that providing habitat is the same as direct restoration. We do not agree with the five alternative plans. No single plan is even close. We support habitat protection & acquisition as the #1 priority with at least 80% of the remaining funds.

Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation

Our views on what to do on habitat acquisition are reflected in the enclosed document entitled, "The Kodiak Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Acquisition Project."

Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation

We believe that while Administration and Public Information, Monitoring and Research, General Restoration, and an Endowment should all receive some of the remaining civil penalty funding, the most productive and long-lasting benefits to be obtained from the Fund would occur from Habitat Protection and Acquisition.

Old Harbor # 1012 Old Harbor Native Corporation

We believe that habitat protection and acquisition should be a major component of the Restoration Plan. We believe that the public and the resources involved will be best served by a plan that protects key fish and wildlife habitat in perpetuity. This can be done in such a way that there also will be many locations available for tourism and other appropriate commercial development. People want to live, work, and visit these lands because of their natural resources in a wilderness setting. If those resources are conserved, they will be the key to the continuation of the rural Alaska way of life.

Port Lions # 5811

I disagree with you. I think a good part of it ought to go for land acquisition.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska # 1777

This letter is in regard to the management of the \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I am very concerned about the recovery of the area and urge you to apply at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. If the settlement monies are not used for such protection hundreds of thousands of acres

of private forest land will be clear cut. This would be an additional tragedy to the already devastating consequences for the spill. I hope to see Alaska some day. Please do what you can, in your position of extreme influence to keep Alaska pristine.

US, Outside Alaska# 1775

This is a heartfelt recommendation for at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. If this is not done, the wrong creates (2 legged) will benefit.

US, Outside Alaska# 1770

To this day, four years later, I still become enraged when I recall the Exxon "incident"! Man caused this initial damage and only man can be the one to intervene and correct it at any cost. I strongly recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds of the settlement be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1768 National Wildlife Federation

I am a member of the National Wildlife Federation and I have been asked to write to you to recommend that at least 80% of the remaining settlement funds be used for habitat protection of wildlife.

US, Outside Alaska# 1763

Having seen the oil spill in Prince William Sound, we are very concerned and recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds from the settlement be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1759

Because the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill's effects were primarily on the environment, I feel that the focus of the restoration should be there. We do not have many areas like the one that was despoiled, and we should concentrate our efforts on its restoration. I urge you to provide at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection and restoration. Thank you for your support.

US, Outside Alaska# 1754

I will be in Alaska in September as one of a tour group. I am looking forward to seeing something of this beautiful state for the first time, and I expect to be awed by the grand and pristine environment there. What will future generations of people be able to see in Alaska? The trustees of the Exxon settlement have an unparalleled opportunity to wring some benefit from the disaster of the oil spill in Prince William Sound (which can never really be restored) by spending the major portion of the remaining uncommitted funds for habitat protection. I urge you to devote 80% (about \$480 million) of those funds to habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1753

As a former resident of Southeast Alaska, I have a great feeling for the beauty and the natural resources to be found along the coast. Flying back "home" during the past few years I have been deeply saddened to see the scars left by clear-cutting all the way from California to Juneau. So much is being lost - soil, fish and animal habitat and a biodiversity that will not be seen again during our lifetime or that of our children. With the settlement from the *Exxon Valdez* disaster we have a chance to protect some of the last vestiges of "wild Alaska". Let us not add insult to injury. I urge you to use the settlement funds to buy and protect large areas of habitat; entire watershed areas should be protected, such as those proposed by the "citizens vision". Chief Seattle once said that everything we do should take into consideration the Seventh Generation. If we

continue to strip mine our minerals, forests and fisheries, there will be nothing left for the next generation let alone the Seventh Generation.

US, Outside Alaska# 1747

Please use 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. I was happy to learn that the damage done by the *Exxon Valdez* was not forgotten. Perhaps - one day - in the distant future all will be as it once was.

US, Outside Alaska# 1745

As a member of the NWF and a Park Naturalist, I dream of visiting Alaska someday. Please take the initiative and protect habitat from future oil disasters. I support using 80% of the remaining funds (Alternative 6) to restore and protect habitat. Any alternative that extols timber clearing will not only hurt the environment further but mar your cleanup with more bad press.

US, Outside Alaska# 1739

Regarding the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound: I urge you to spend at least 80% of the remaining uncommitted funds on habitat protection. The cause of the oil spill was carelessness; what was worse was that you and our government were unprepared to deal with consequences. The attitude of Exxon afterward was undefensible, as are present efforts of oil companies to weaken the regulations of the 1990 Oil Pollution Act. You have a responsibility to clean up the remaining damage if that is possible, and to prevent such spills in the future, whether the government requires this or not. Protecting remaining habitat would not make up for the spill, but could perhaps prevent further destruction of the wilderness. I will watch with interest to see what action Exxon takes in the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1737

I'm very concerned about the Exxon spill recovery. I'm also worried about those spills still happening. I believe that at least 80% of the remaining funds from the Exxon Settlement should be used on habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1734

The *Exxon Valdez* oil spill Trustees have roughly 600 million left uncommitted from the 900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. At least 80% of the funds should be used for habitat protection. If settlement monies are not used for such protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This in turn, will only add to the already devastating consequences of the spill. Prince William Sound has suffered enough. It is time to heal the wounds.

US, Outside Alaska# 1733

I urge you to continue to use the EVOS funds to purchase habitat for fish and wildlife, and to protect the forests from clearcut logging. I am a frequent visitor to Alaska, and visitors come to marvel at the wildlife, not to see clearcuts. The ability to use these funds to compensate private owners and gain long-term protection is a rare one. Use it to do so. Clear cutting is a one-time event. Protecting species habitat is a long term event. Protecting salmon runs also helps your economy. I especially would like to see added protection in the Kenai Fjords National Park

US, Outside Alaska# 1720

Of the remaining funds left uncommitted from the clean up fund from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. I suggest that at least 80% of the remaining funds should be used for habitat protection. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1719

I have learned that you are seeking public comments on how to best use the settlement fund regarding the 1989 Exxon oil spill in Prince William Sound, and the various recovery alternatives. In this decision it is important to keep the purpose and goal, and how to best reach it. It seems reasonable to me that protection of the environment in the areas adjacent to the ecosystem that was damaged, as well as what can be salvaged from the devastation that occurred, should be the major purpose and goal for the use of these funds. Therefore, I believe that the majority of the settlement funds should be used to protect the natural environment that surround the destroyed area, to avoid further ecological collapse in the area - and agree with the National Wildlife Federation and other conservation groups who propose that 80% of the funds that remain be used for habitat protection, such as for preventing the clearcutting of adjacent private land. Please consider and support this alternative. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1715

Please use the settlement funds for habitat purchases in Alaska. Thanks.

US, Outside Alaska# 1714

I am shocked and disgusted that restoration in oil spill area is showing such slow progress. I strongly urge that at least 80 percent of remaining funds be used for habitat protection. The Trustees are responsible for the best use of the funds and 35% for habitat protection is at least 50% short and is unacceptable. Please give this matter careful reconsideration. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1713

I would like to see 80% of the remaining funds for *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill be devoted to habitat protection. In view of the damage already done, this would save private forest and speed recovery.

US, Outside Alaska# 1712

I support the recommendation that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1692

I'm writing to express my concern about how to spend the roughly \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1677

You should use at least 80% of the remaining funds from protection of our habitats. But please use as much money as possible to help fix the habitat, it is important to all of us! Yes, it will take time and probably a lot of time, but it will be worth it. If I could, I would help to fix the oil spill, but I, like many others, can't and don't have the power to just fix the environment by ourselves. It takes people like you and people like the president who will take the time to listen to our concerns. I really hope that you will devote at least 80% of the remaining funds to be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1675 (10 people signed this letter)

We recommend adoption of the conservationists sixth alternative. We feel that it is very important that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. Petition with 10 signatures.

US, Outside Alaska# 1674

I am an old man who wishes to leave behind a planet of beauty and majesty for my great grandchildren. I am very concerned that ecosystems are protected. We have done enough damage. We must have more habitat protection. I demand that 80% of your monies be used for habitat protection. Let's get our priorities in order.

US, Outside Alaska# 1670

I write to urge you to use 80% of the roughly \$600 million left from the \$900 million Exxon settlement for habitat protection. The balance would be well spent for assisting with fisheries' studies and management programs. As I see it, the task of restoration is a monumental task. Some populations of creatures indigenous to the area of Alaska which was horrendously damaged by the Exxon Valdez oil spill will take up to 75 years to completely recover - even with the tremendous efforts of environmentalists and cleanup personnel. These efforts are critical in helping recovery happen in this unreplaceable and formerly pristine ecosystem.

US, Outside Alaska# 1667

We have not forgotten the devastation and havoc this spill produced on our planet - or the anger and pain it brings to our hearts. We want 80% of the remaining funds to be used for habitat protection. This is the 6th alternative recommended by conservationists. If settlement monies aren't used for such protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private land will be clearcut which will just add to the devastation. Do something right for the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1662

In regards to the funds remaining from the Exxon Oil Spill. I would recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. This would be considered the sixth alternative, it would protect thousands of acres of private forests from being clearcut.

US, Outside Alaska# 1658

I wish to join the thousands of others begging you to take every action within your authority to protect Alaska's coastal rain forest. While I realize much of it is already protected, you have the power to buy land and timber rights without costing taxpayers any money. Your will be deciding the best way to spend the Oil Spill Settlement money. Using it to purchase the very land threatened by oil pollution is altogether fitting and proper. I support the "seven areas" designated by the Sierra Club and "citizens' vision." Please make land acquisition your priority, for our children's sake.

US, Outside Alaska# 1652

As a very concerned citizen for our wilderness and wildlife, I am writing to ask you as "trustees" to support use of the settlement funds for the purchase of wildlife habitat. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. Settlement funds should also be used to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Please use this money wisely for the continued protection and preservation of wilderness habitat. We are only "keeping" this wilderness for the enjoyment of our future generations of American's - we are in trust of it. If we allow it to be devastated and

raped "today" - there will be no more "tomorrow" for it. You have the opportunity to make the difference. Please use this money wisely - to buy critical areas and to protect and preserve them. Don't waste this money to further ruin beautiful areas in a splendid state like Alaska. Thanking you for your valuable time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1650

I am writing to express my concerns and to recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds from the settlement reached with Exxon be used for habitat protection. If the settlement monies aren't used for such protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This, in turn, will only add to the already devastating consequences of the spill. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

US, Outside Alaska# 1648

As a visitor to your state I am writing to urge you to follow the recommendations of the Alaska Chapter of the Sierra Club to purchase private inholdings in the Gulf of Alaska. What Alaska is seeking is long term economic stability, not the boom and bust of short term exploitation such as we have seen in western Colorado. Real economic stability will come from Alaska's scenic natural values, not timber and oil. The people with real money to spend will come for fishing, hunting, touring and other outdoor activities that benefit a wide range of Alaskans, much more so than extractive industries. Look at the "Lower 48", you can't have it both ways, shoot for long term economic stability.

US, Outside Alaska# 1643 Crusade 2000

We at Crusade 2000 have reviewed a brief summary of the alternatives set forth by the trustees in charge of allocating funds for the restoration of Prince William Sound, which was severely damaged by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. We have come to the conclusion that none of the alternatives presented are acceptable to the American people. The reason is that each alternative which seems to allocate the necessary funds also has certain drawbacks to conservationists and those who believe that the money allocated should ONLY be spent on restoration of the sound. Instead, we urge you to adopt a plan in which at least 80% of the remaining funds garnered after the massive spill is used for habitat restoration, and for that purpose only. We believe that this approach will benefit everyone, including the residents of Alaska and of the rest of the world.

US, Outside Alaska# 1638

I understand you are considering public input about how to best utilize the \$600 million settlement from Exxon for the 1989 Valdez oil spill. I hope you choose the sixth alternative, put forth by the conservationist coalition. This alternative for at least 80% of the funds to be used for habitat protection. Seems like 90% for habitat protection, alternative 2, seems unrealistic, and less than 80% would result in greater losses of funds to bureaucratic administration. I believe you are committed to taking the best course of action and hope you will consider the 80% choice. Thank you for your attention.

US, Outside Alaska# 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

PSG supports habitat acquisition. Our March 19, 1993 testimony to the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries concerning the restoration of Prince William Sound (copy enclosed) identified the islands that should be purchased. The Trustee Council solicits comment on whether 35%, 50%, 75%.

or 91% is an appropriate percentage of funds that should be spent to purchase habitat. There is insufficient information in the April 1993 document to consider intelligently the trade-offs that these funding levels would entail. For example, would the 91% level preclude endowing chairs in marine ornithology? Would the 75% level preclude a comprehensive predator-control program? PSG objects to setting funding levels at this time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

Pacific Seabird Group Recommended Seabird Colonies to Acquire. Alaska Peninsula (South Side): High, Sutwik, Ugaiushak, Fox, Hydra, Central, 2 Unnamed islands (Nakalilok Bay), Unnamed Islands between Unavikshak and Kumlik, Spitz, Brothers, Cherni, Sanak. Fox Islands (Eastern Aleutians); Tanginak (Akun), Kaligagan (including 7 islets on north side), Derbin (Tigalda), Poa (Tigalda), Unnamed islet (Trident Bay), Unnamed islet (Akun Strait), Puffin, Ogangen (Unalaska), Emerald (Unalaska), Ship Rock (Umnak Pass), Kigul (Umnak), Ogchul (Umnak), Vesvidof (Umnak), Adugak (Umnak), Ananuliak (Umnak).

Kodiak Island Vicinity: Flat, Tugidak, Triplets, Cathedral, Ladder, Sheep, Cub, Amee, Nut, Puffin, John, Chinak Island and Rocks, Utesistol, Suitlak, Middle, Kekur. Bering Sea: King, Fairway Rock, Egg (Norton Sound). Gulf of Alaska: Sand, Gull, Middleton.

US, Outside Alaska# 1616 Pacific Seabird Group

Because protecting habitat benefits seabirds and all other wildlife species, PSG supports habitat acquisition as a means of restoring the actual or equivalent resources that the spill injured. Besides acquiring specific seabird colonies (Enclosure 1), PSG strongly supports the purchase of any old growth areas in Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula and Afognak Island. These habitats are important to nesting marbled murrelets, bald eagles and harlequin ducks. Protecting these areas would benefit many other forms of wildlife such as salmon and black oystercatchers as well as enhance recreation opportunities. Land acquisition, however, can be extremely expensive and the Trustees should ensure that the lands purchased are valuable to wildlife and that the benefits are worth the cost. PSG suggests that the Trustees consider the use of conservation easements as well as fee purchase. Restrictions on use and development may provide adequate protection at less cost, allowing more land to be protected.

US, Outside Alaska# 1614

Please use 80% of the Exxon funds to restore habitat and habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1601

If anything has become clear, it is that there is really no such thing as oil-spill restoration. We simply cannot fix a broken ecosystem like we can a broken machine. As for the Exxon oil spill, some beaches still have patches of asphalt-like oil that will probably take decades to degrade in the cold. Sometimes the oil still sheens into the water. Many creatures have not rebounded. Particularly striking is the death of sea otters, harlequin ducks, murre and oystercatchers. Murre populations are not expected to recover for up to 75 years. In the inter-tidal zones, mussel mats retain oil trapped four years ago. Not only is that bad news for mussels, but also for the many animals that eat them. State and federal scientists have found the effects of the oil in organisms from fish to whales - in such forms as brain damage, reproductive failure, genetic damage, structural deformities such as curved spines, lethargy, lowered growth rates and body weights, changed feeding

habits, reduced egg volume, eye tumors, increased number of parasites, liver damage and behavioral abnormalities. In 1990, Congress unanimously passed the Oil Pollution Act, which includes a \$1 billion response fund, tougher civil and criminal penalties and more thorough contingency planning. As far as the out-of-court settlement of civil and criminal charges against Exxon, several environmental groups pointed out last fall that "not one penny has yet been spent on substantive restoration". Therefore, restoration awaits development of a plan to be ready by early 1994. Despite safeguards, tankers still collide, ground and explode, spilling an estimated 3 million barrels of their toxic cargo into the world's oceans every year. Seldom is more than ten percent recovered. I am deeply concerned. I adamantly recommend the adoption of a sixth alternative that uses 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1595

I request your support and approval for the "citizens' vision" for use of the vast majority of remaining Oil Spill Settlement funds for the protection of critical wildlife habitats. The Exxon Valdez spill was a major environmental disaster. Unfortunately, Settlement funds cannot bring back dead, oil-soaked wildlife. However, another foreseeable environmental tragedy of potentially equal or greater proportion is the massive logging and fragmentation of this region's forests. Ultimately, this logging and associated road building may do more to reduce the long-term productivity and sustainability of fisheries and wildlife than the spill itself. Thus, it is logical to spend the Settlement funds where they can help avoid future environmental problems, rather than the largely unmitigateable impact from the spill. The scientists working under the relatively new disciplines of landscape ecology and conservation biology are teaching us that future conservation and management programs must shift to become proactive, preventive, ecosystem-based, and at a watershed or larger level. In other words, most existing protected habitat for fisheries and wildlife may not sustain healthy viable populations over time, if surrounding habitats are increasingly converted and/or fragmented. These recent lessons should be applied in spending the remaining Settlement funds to acquire private lands and timber rights in a manner which will protect the natural productivity and connectivity of at least watershed scale habitats.

US, Outside Alaska# 1582

We implore you to use the money in accordance with sound conservation practices, to restore and protect the Prince William Sound habitat, and improve your safety procedures.

US, Outside Alaska# 1577

I am writing to recommend that at least 80% of your remaining funds be used for habitat protection. I believe that is your responsibility to do so.

US, Outside Alaska# 1561

At any rate, I am hoping that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1560

I am writing this letter to comment on the final restoration plan. I would like to see 80% of the remaining settlement funds be used for habitat protection. This will ensure more protection and help protect the pristine environment.

US, Outside Alaska# 1556

The NWF is asking that 80% of the remaining funds for restoration be used for habitat protection. If our petition is not put to work, more animals will die or be injured and more acres of forestry will be destroyed.

US, Outside Alaska# 1555

The Exxon Oil Spill was an ecological disaster. I am aware that there are funds available from the \$900 million Settlement. I hope that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds will be used for habitat protection. This will protect thousands of acres of trees and the wildlife. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1554

I strongly urge that 80% of remaining funds in the *Exxon Valdez* settlement be used for habitat protection. Thank you for your attention.

US, Outside Alaska# 1541

I am writing to express my concern and recommending that at least 80 % of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. When the "spill" happened, the words horrified - stunned - appalled - sick - can barely explain or define my feeling. Something MUST be done to eliminate this problem - somehow - somehow? I cry each time I see pictures of nature killed, destroyed and perhaps never to return again to its previous state. Your support of the above proposal is direly needed. Thank you for your support.

US, Outside Alaska# 1527

I understand that *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees are seeking public comments on various recovery alternatives. I also understand that there are five alternatives listed that would possibly be employed in this situation: 1. essentially do nothing actively to restore wildlife; 2. about 90 percent of available money would be used to protect public and private land, but there are some drawbacks to this plan; 3. about 75 percent of funds would be used to protect and acquire habitats for wildlife species; 4. about 75 percent would be used to protect wildlife; 5. about 35 percent would be used to protect wildlife. I think that at least 80 to 85 percent of the remaining funds should be used to protect the habitats of various wildlife. Wildlife preservation is essential for the lives and lifestyle of those who live along these waters. Moreover, if the company invests this amount of money to recover these habitations, it will be a deterrent to the possibility of future accidents. Our lives, our future, and possibly the future of this land depend on restoration to the maximum capability possible.

US, Outside Alaska# 1513

Of the \$600 million left from the Exxon settlement, I feel at least 80% of it should be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1510

Please carefully consider the recommendations of the citizens coalition -- purchase of large areas, including watersheds and timber rights, to protect wildlife habitat, thus helping to restore the wildlife and fish hurt by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. You have a rare opportunity to invest in the future of the wonderful state of Alaska.

US, Outside Alaska# 1509

I am writing to urge your office to spend at least 80% of the remaining funds which are available for habitat protection. The ecological balance of nature must be maintained and/or restored. There are many devastating consequences from the spill. Spending a large portion of funds as I've suggested would help reverse some of the damaging consequences.

US, Outside Alaska# 1508

The *Exxon Valdez* spill should serve to remind all of us that any true prosperity we seek in this world must also include consideration for the many innocent inhabitants along the way. Please use 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1506

We know that the time is very close when the Trustees will be making a decision about spending the remaining funds from the Valdez oil spill. We want you to know that we believe it is imperative the funds be used to restore and protect this area for future generations. Please vote to use at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. How could we do less for our children and grandchildren?

US, Outside Alaska# 1503

In response to public comment on the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. I would like to say 80% of the remaining funds should be used for habitat protection. If not, I am afraid hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This, in turn will only add to the already devastating consequences of the spill.

US, Outside Alaska# 1501

I agree with the NWF that 80% of the funds should be for habitat protection including preserving forests.

US, Outside Alaska# 1486

Imagine how angry you would be if someone came along and dumped a black, toxic, mucky substance over your home and everything you've ever known. Not only did they do that, but the money that was paid for damages was not used to cleanup your home! We can only imagine the rage that we would feel. Unfortunately, this scenario is real for the many animals whose homes were destroyed as a result of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. We urge you to use at least 80% of the funds received from *Exxon Valdez* Settlement for restoration and habitat protection. If the money is not spent for habitat protection, then many animals will have lost everything, or died, in vain. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1483

I am distressed to hear that further damage will be impressed upon the wilderness areas of Alaska, our nation's last vast wilderness area. Private lands under responsible, caring and conservation-minded individuals is one of the best ways to preserve this area for future generations. Please do what you can do to ensure the biodiversity, healthiness, and enjoyment of Alaska's wildlands.

US, Outside Alaska# 1480

I am writing to express my concern for the fate of Alaska's wilderness on the wake of the Valdez spill. It is my understanding that you are considering what use to make of the remaining Valdez

settlement funds. The wildlife, and adjoining lands and water have suffered greatly from the spill and it is my request that you direct funds to protect remaining habitat identified as critical for the survival of that devastated ecosystem. Clearcut logging proposed for private lands with in Alaska's most important habitat areas, can only lead to further degradation initiated by the spill. Please designate funds for the purpose of private lands with timber sales especially important and delicate watershed lands. I am most concerned about acquisition of the seven areas identified as the "citizens' vision" area. Alaska is our last wilderness and should remain free from the ravages of unchecked development like clearcut logging and the irresponsible actions of companies like Exxon. Please use your assignment to protect the best of the last.

US, Outside Alaska# 1459

It is my opinion that the \$600 million of uncommitted funds be utilized so that 50% would be for habitat restoration and 50% for research and development. Although habitat restoration has a great deal of priority, I believe that an equal amount should be spent toward eliminating the very problem contributing to the spill, as well as preserving and protecting to the greatest of our ability so that these problems will not recur in the future. Thus, a very significant proportion should be applied to preventive medicine and not simply band-aid work on the present situation.

US, Outside Alaska# 1451

I am writing to you about the subject of the remaining \$600 million settlement reached with Exxon. I support the recommendation that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1450

Regarding the oil spill in Prince William Sound please use at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1439

I would like to take a moment to express my concern on the Exxon Oil Spill Restoration. While I find Alternative 2 to be the best in terms of money spent towards protection of both public and private land, I find certain drawbacks that make it less desirable than I prefer. So, I propose that a 6th alternative that uses 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. I feel that is settlement monies aren't used for such protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest will be clearcut. This in turn will only add to the already devastating consequences of the spill. Please consider my thoughts as you determine final resolution to this question.

US, Outside Alaska# 1438

Unfortunately you have done a bad job. The overwhelming majority of the American people want at least 80% of the remaining funds to be used to increase land acquisition and habitat protection. Although I read your 5 alternative proposals, they are all incompetently unacceptable. Please take into consideration a more liberal, American view on the environment. Work for sound, trustworthy relationships with environmentalists, who have so far saved America from being the environmental nightmare Eastern Europe is.

US, Outside Alaska# 1423

I beg you to spend the entire \$600 million to provide security for the wonderful plants and animals in the areas devastated by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. Those plants and animals have relied upon this

area of the world long before humans decided to start taking more and more of the natural resources. This may be the only opportunity humans have to pay back to the environment some measure of the resources that humans have taken for many, many years. I am sure humans will continue to take and take and take. Buying this land places future decisions in the hands of those committed to protecting these areas for their own sake, rather than for that of humans. Please maximize the impact of your decision making by spending this money in the wisest manner possible. Thank you very much for your consideration of the environment's right to exist.

US, Outside Alaska# 1421

I understand the Council has the responsibility of using Settlement funds to restore the areas damaged by the Exxon spill. Many of these areas are further threatened by clear-cut logging. It would be in the best interest of wildlife in these areas if Settlement funds were used to purchase the land, and I hope your Council will give this serious consideration.

US, Outside Alaska# 1419

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as an ideal way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1408

I am writing this letter to express my concerns about the Valdez oil spill restoration. I am deeply concerned about the devastating effects on the ecosystem. I recently read that \$600 million are left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon. I have reviewed the possible spending alternatives. My recommendation is to spend at least eighty percent of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1399

I am writing with regard to disposition of remaining funds for habitat protection. In my opinion, at least 80% of the remaining funds should be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1398

In conjunction with the stated wishes on the National Wildlife Federation, I ask you to devote 80% of the \$600 million uncommitted funds from the Exxon Civil settlement to habitat protection: purchasing private forest land which would otherwise be clearcut. (I understand that you have proposed allocating \$20 million of these funds to habitat protection in 1993, \$7.5 million of which is designated for Kachemak Bay State Park acquisition.) (I recommend that you continue and augment the habitat protection begun here, allocation about \$48 million for land purchase each year in the next 10 year period.) In addition I recommend tentatively that environmentally sensitive land in the Tongass and/or Chugach National Forest be purchased from the U.S. Forest Service, even paying double the price which a timber sale in that area would bring- in preference to buying non-environmentally sensitive private land in the spill area, land which may not contribute rain water and snow melt

run-off to drainage valleys and salmon breeding streams. Funds designated for habitat protection should be used to protect the most endangered habitat and not wasted in buying land of little or no importance in restoring the ecology. As you know, the settlement requiring expenditure of the money inside the spill areas would have to be changed to allow expenditure in the Tongass. The Tongass may be the best place to spend it, however, since it's out of the way to future oil spills, is unspoiled by oil, but is threatened with environmental degradation through clearcutting--which you might prevent. In conclusion, I repeat my request that 80% of the \$600 million uncommitted funds be used to protect habitat, and I hope you will give very careful study to deciding which land is most important to the ecology of coastal Alaska and which land you ought to buy.

US, Outside Alaska# 1396

I have familiarized myself with Alternative 1 thru 5 regarding the remaining clean-up of the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound, and find none of them satisfactory. Since you are seeking public comments on this question, I would recommend that you implement an additional alternative, urging that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. We will be watching developments.

US, Outside Alaska# 1364

In deciding how to spend the settlement funds from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, I hope you will consider the immense value of buying habitat. In fact, purchasing habitat and protecting wildlife habitat from further destruction is the best way to spend the settlement monies. In purchasing large areas, you can ensure that biodiversity and real wilderness are preserved for ever.

US, Outside Alaska# 1361

I am writing to urge you to adopt a new sixth alternative, sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation, which would commit at least 80% of the remaining funds for the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement to use for habitat protection. It seems that we have learned an important lesson from the Valdez spill: We can not fix a broken ecosystem and despite its appearance, Prince William Sound may never completely recover. We need to use 80% of the remaining 600 million dollars in the fund to protect wildlife. The National Wildlife Federation states that if settlement monies aren't used for such protection, hundreds of acres of private forest land will be clearcut and this will only add to the devastating consequences of the spill. Please live up to your responsibility and adopt this sixth alternative for habitat protection. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1359 Washington Wildlife Commission (Wash. State)

This is to complement the trustees on making a great start by using settlement funds to save Kachemak Bay on the Kenai and Seal Bay on Afognak Island. We know that you are under great pressure to spend the settlement on other projects of little value to restoring fish and wildlife hurt in the spill. This is to urge you to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation by using the vast majority of remaining settlement funds for buying land and timber rights and protecting habitat.

US, Outside Alaska# 1356

I am concerned that of the remaining funds, not enough is allocated for habitat protection. At least 80% of the remaining funds should be designated for habitat protection. Thank you

US, Outside Alaska# 1353

I support alternative 6: At least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1349

I write to cast my recommendation that at least 80% of the remaining settlement funds be used for Habitat Protection. I truly believe it's a national disgrace how this whole "Valdez" debacle has been handled, and urge you to do the right thing for a change.

US, Outside Alaska# 1347

I am writing to urge you to adopt a plan that would use at least 80% of the remaining settlement on habitat protection. Without such protection, there is a danger that many thousands of acres would be destroyed through clearcutting, thus increasing the spill's devastation. Habitats must be protected if wildlife has any hope of recovery.

US, Outside Alaska# 1340

I would like to recommend that the \$600 million left uncommitted from the settlement reached for the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound, at least 80% of this \$600 million be used for habitat restoration and protection. Thank you for your consideration.

US, Outside Alaska# 1337

I would like to comment on the proposed alternatives for allocation funding for the Valdez restoration plan. I believe that the large majority of the funding should ne used for HABITAT PROTECTION. It is critical that the habitats of the many species that were damaged by the spill are restored and protected. Additionally any proposals which involve significant clear-cutting of the Alaskan forests is absolutely out of the question. I urge you to support the compromise alternative suggested by the Conservationists' Coalition in which 80% of the money is used for HABITAT PROTECTION, and that no clear-cutting takes place. Please inform me once an alternative has been agreed upon.

US, Outside Alaska# 1335

I am writing to express my concerns as to how the remaining funds from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement are going to be spent. I agree with the International Wildlife Federation in that a sixth alternative should be added to the list. At least 80% of the remaining funds should be used for habitat protection. I understand this issue is to be decided upon in early August and wished to express my concerns for the environment. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1331 Anti-Vivisection Society of America, Inc.

Our Society recommends that your final restoration plan make provision for the spending of 80% of your remaining funds to protect the natural habitat of fish and wildlife.

US, Outside Alaska# 1328

We now know after the tragic events of March 1989, there is no such thing as "oil spill restoration"; we simply cannot fix a broken ecosystem. Therefore, I am recommending that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1327

As a former Alaska now residing in Washington State, I am very concerned about the growing pressure for widespread development of Southcentral Alaska and the affect such development will have upon the area's ecosystems and wildlife populations. The region, as you know, harbors some of the most vibrant and fragile ecosystems and landscapes found anywhere in the world, and it would be an absolute tragedy to allow these areas and the wildlife values they harbor to be needlessly sacrificed to shortsighted financial concerns. The *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement funds, which you have been appointed to administer, represent a superb mechanism for addressing this issue, and the real beauty of it is that it represents a magnificent win-win situation. With willing sellers, we have an opportunity to protect these vital and irreplaceable ecosystems through outright purchase or easement, while still allowing the present owners to reap the same financial benefits which they would have obtained had the land been logged or otherwise developed. And all of this at no cost to the public. I suggest that the most effective way of using the Settlement funds to assist the recovery of wildlife affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill is to use them to aggressively pursue maximum habitat protection via purchase, easement, or other means which are found to be agreeable to the present owners. In my opinion, purchase should be the preferred vehicle of acquisition. However, where this is not feasible, the next most preferable option should be that which provides the greatest long-term benefit to wildlife and which most effectively precludes future development. It is my opinion that the joint federal-stat Restoration Plan which is now under development should be based upon the above considerations and that it focus on entire ecosystems and/or watersheds. Accordingly, I would suggest that it target essentially all of the Settlement's approximately \$600,000,000 to habitat acquisition and protection and place a high priority upon the purchase of the largest tracts available while supplementing these where possible with smaller but vital parcels.

US, Outside Alaska# 1320

In the four years since the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, our society has become much more aware of the deadly and in many cases long-term effects such a catastrophe can have on the environment. Though a superficial glance at Prince William Sound would seem to indicate that the damage has largely been mended, a closer look (as you are probably aware) reveals lasting, long-term, and perhaps even irreparable damage. I would therefore urge that, as trustees of the millions of dollars left uncommitted from the court settlement with Exxon, you use most of the funds, at least 80 percent, for ongoing habitat protection. We should have learned too much from this to allow another such disaster to occur.

US, Outside Alaska# 1315

I am aware that you are considering five recovery alternatives for the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I support the National Wildlife Federation's stand on the adoption of a sixth alternative that uses 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. Please use your judgment wisely in adhering to the recommendation of the Federation and other conservation groups to make right such a disastrous wrong.

US, Outside Alaska# 1314

More has to be done and enforced with the oil companies. They should be made spill proof. If the spills don't occur there would not be the danger to our animals and fish. All life is sacred these creatures cannot speak for themselves 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1312

I am writing to indicate my recommendation regarding the expenditure of civil damage moneys promised in response to the *Exxon Valdez* disaster. I support the proposal put forth by a consortium of conservation groups which sets aside 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. The habitat of Alaska includes forest areas, and these lands must be protected from clear-cutting which will further damage the already damaged ecology of the area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1310

The area in and around Prince William Sound has been badly damaged by the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. I would like to see at least 80% of the remaining funds for the settlement reached with Exxon be used for habitat protection. Protecting the surrounding area will reduce further man made problems while the Sound is in its lengthy recovery.

US, Outside Alaska# 1308

We have not forgotten the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill in Prince William Sound in March of 1989. If anything has become clear, it is that there is really no such thing as oil-spill restoration. "We simply cannot fix a broken ecosystem like we can a broken machine." So states Rick Steiner, a marine biologist and commercial fisherman from Alaska. In 1990 Congress unanimously passed the Oil Pollution Act which includes a comprehensive liability scheme. All new tankers must have double hulls, and large single-hulled tankers must be phased out between 1995 and 2010. By the time the year 2010 rolls around the oil industry will have weakened many of the acts strong provisions through the regulatory process. We do hope that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds are used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1306

I am writing to express my concern and to recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

US, Outside Alaska# 1305

As a dedicated environmentalist, I am concerned that all of this time since 1989 has passed with roughly \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement with Exxon. I am strongly recommending that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1304

I am writing to express my support of a "sixth" alternative described by the National Wildlife Federation which recommends that 80 percent of the remaining funds from the Exxon settlement be used for habitat protection. This protection should extend to the many thousands of acres of private land which, if clear cut, will contribute to massive destruction of the spill area. It's perhaps corny to say that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, but the disaster of the Exxon oil spill is horrible proof of the truth of that axiom.

US, Outside Alaska# 1302

I am very concerned about the after effects of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill in particular, and the other oil spills every year in general. I was distressed to read of such things as the fishermen's discovery that the progeny of the juvenile pink salmon that had emerged at the time of the spill had only 1/4 to 1/3 return of what had been projected. Also- what seemed even worse to me was that the

effects of oil caused brain damage-reproductive failure - genetic damage - structural deformities - lethargy - lowered growth rates and body weights - changed feeding habits - reduced egg volume - eye tumors - liver damage and behavioral abnormalities. As a result of all the above - therefore- I feel that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1299

Please allocate the remaining 80% of the funding for habitat protection from further oil spills.

US, Outside Alaska# 1296

I am writing in reference to *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees Restoration Plan. I have just returned (in June) from a 2-week vacation in Alaska. It is an absolutely beautiful state, and I would like to see it remain as untouched as possible; however, I would recommend at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. The beauty of the mountains and the birds and animals must be protected. Alaska is our last outpost--protect it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1294

Re: Use of Valdez oil spill funds balance. I support none of the five alternative uses of these approximately \$900 million of uncommitted funds. All five alternatives fall short in protecting the ecology of Prince William Sound. Habitat protection must be protected from all angles, including prevention of clear cutting old growth and other forests in and around the Prince William Sound, both on public and private lands! At least 80% of remaining funds should be for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1293

I would like to see upwards of 80% of the uncommitted funds used for habitat protection. We need to assure that the remaining wildlife in the area have every chance to recover fully as well as protect the ecosystem. Please assure that the bulk of the money goes toward preservation of the natural resources since that is the nature of the injury.

US, Outside Alaska# 1292

Please think seriously of using at least 80% of the remaining funds to help save our wildlife for the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1289

I am writing to ask you to please consider a 6th alternative to spend the 600 million dollars left uncommitted from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. That alternative that would use 80% of the funds for habitat protection. If monies are not used for this, there is danger private forest land will be clearcut. Please consider this option.

US, Outside Alaska# 1288

I understand that your committee is seeking comments from the public as to how to expend uncommitted funds. As a result, I urge you to adopt a sixth alternative to assign 80 percent of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1286

This card refers to the uncommitted funds currently remaining in the Valdez spill settlement fund. My view is that habitat protection is of the most concern and offers the most benefits, hence my

recommendation is that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1285

Re: the \$600 million dollars left uncommitted from \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon's oil spill in 1989: Please use these funds for habitat protection. We need oil but let's protect what we have left.

US, Outside Alaska# 1282

I am concerned about how the remaining funds from the Valdez oil spill settlement are spent. Please use at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1280

I'm writing to "vocalize" my support for conservation groups' recommendation for adopting a 6th alternative (Final Restoration Plan) that uses 80% of remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1278

In regard to \$600 million remaining settlement funds, I would like to see the use of 80% of funds for habitat protection as encouraged by the National Wildlife Federation.

US, Outside Alaska# 1277

I have been greatly disturbed over the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and the destruction it has done to wildlife and the Alaskan waterways. I would strongly urge you to consider that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be spent on substantive restoration and used for habitat protection. Thank you for what you can now do to amend for the oil spill catastrophe.

US, Outside Alaska# 1267

I commend you for your action in using Settlement funds to preserve Kachemak Bay. I have wonderful memories of my visit there in 1983, I hope that you will continue to emphasize preservation of major habitat areas. In the long run, this is beneficial to everyone. We may never have such a large amount of money to fairly compensate land owners for such important ecosystems again. This will also preserve the resources especially fish and other wildlife. Options such as fish hatcheries are a bad deal as we have learned to our sorrow here in Oregon. WE only succeeded in degrading our wild fish stocks. Habitat is the key to preserving native stocks. Please use funds to preserve habitat. I expect to spend three weeks in Alaska to observe wildlife and will be in Anchorage in the in the beginning of September. I hope I may visit your office to learn more about your plans.

US, Outside Alaska# 1266

It is our understanding that the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees are seeking public comments through early August on various alternatives. Although some of the 5 alternatives put forth would be beneficial, they also have drawbacks. We are in agreement with National Wildlife Federation and other conservation groups who feel that a full 80% of the remaining funds (\$600 million) should be used for habitat protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This, in turn, would only add to the already devastating consequences for the spill. Thank your for your consideration of our view.

US, Outside Alaska# 1263

Regarding the joint federal state "Restoration Plan" guiding the use of 600 million settlement monies I strongly urge you appropriate these funds to maximize protection of wildlife as clearly the best way to restore those areas damaged by the Exxon Spill. Equally clearly is the fact that hundreds of thousands of acres of pristine wildlife habitat as in the Kenai Fjords National Park are now threatened by clear cut logging. So, it makes just a lot of sense to use these funds to protect habitat while at the same time private owners get paid for the value of their lands.

US, Outside Alaska# 1261

I am very concerned that the dedicated funds are not being used directly for restoration efforts. Please use at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1260

I am urging that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. Thank you for allowing me the time to voice my opinion.

US, Outside Alaska# 1259

I would like to see at least 80% of the remaining Exxon funds used for habitat restoration. This action would not exactly fit any of the Trustees' Alternative plans but it would protect hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land from being clearcut in the near future. This farsighted plan of habitat acquisition and protection will be a positive legacy of the INFAMOUS *Exxon Valdez* OIL SPILL.

US, Outside Alaska# 1258

I have never been to Alaska but would like to visit in the future. The Exxon oil spill saddened me immensely. I feel that using 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection would be the best plan. Preserving natural areas and forests is the best way to protect them for future generations to enjoy.

US, Outside Alaska# 1257

This letter is written to urge the trustees to use at least eighty percent (80%) of the remaining Exxon funds for habitat protection. We must protect forest lands and other habitat to prevent further adding to the already devastating consequences of the spill.

US, Outside Alaska# 1256

I would like to recommend that at least 80 percent of the remaining settlement funds be used for habitat protection in Prince William Sound. Even though the area has been restored to the best abilities many species are gone. We can never bring back to complete restoration, but we do have a chance to protect the current wild life from further extinctions. They need all the help they can get.

US, Outside Alaska# 1253

In reviewing various recovery alternatives with reference to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. I am writing to let you know I support the recommendation that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1252

I would first like to start off by saying that the Exxon spill was a total disaster. All those animals dying, almost in vain because of oil. So I think what you are doing is great. You have my total support. I think that at the minimum, 80% of the remaining funds be put to and for habitat protection. The animals that did die, died painfully. Why watch the living be in pain too? So help them. They need your help. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1251

I am writing to you relative to the spill recovery proposals. I am writing not only to express my concern but urging "that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection." We are continually losing habitat that is needed for wildlife protection and survival, our survival is connected to theirs and it may be crucially so. Since we don't know and understand all of the implications of various ecological systems, we may be tampering with an "environmental time bomb". Please support alternative #6 80% of the funds used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1247

The devastation caused by the Valdez oil spill will have negative effects for at least a generation. I believe that at least 80% of all available funds should be used for habitat improvement. I have seen the effects of clear cut logging in the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia and Southeast Alaska. I see the prevention of clear cutting as a major goal--everywhere.

US, Outside Alaska# 1246

We are very concerned about the amount of damage to the wildlife and nature of Prince William Sound from the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. We want to recommend that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1243

It was one of the most devastating and saddening occurrences that I have ever seen. Pictures of blackened otters and birds suffering and waiting to die. Seals and whales swimming through the oil to breathe. It is terrible to see these innocent creatures suffer for something they had nothing to do with. It is important to try to prevent oil spills so that the lives and homes of animals won't be destroyed. Habitat protection is important for the survival of animals. Please use at least 80 percent of the remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1241

I am writing to express my concerns related to the Prince William Sound restoration. I strongly urge using 80% of the available funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1240

With regard to the spill recovery proposals, I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1239

I am writing to you to express my deepest concern for the habitat protection after the devastating oil spill in 1989. I recommend that you follow the National Wildlife Federation plan's (along with other conservation groups) that a sixth alternative be added to the list and that alternative would

state that 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1230

I am writing concerning the Valdez Oil Spill and the concern for habitat protection if another spill occurs again in the future. Although as public memory of the spill fades, the oil industry is weakening many of the Oil Pollution Act's strong provisions through the regulatory process. Because of this I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection before another Valdez nightmare happens again.

US, Outside Alaska# 1228

My name is Alyssa Herr. I am an 8th grader who cares deeply about the environment! I read about the spill recovery proposals. I agree with the National Wildlife Federation that 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. I want the best for this world and all its creatures, and I think this might be the BEST way to help them.

US, Outside Alaska# 1225

I am very concerned about the Exxon Spill recovery proposals that are now under consideration. I urge you to adopt the alternative that uses 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. If settlement monies aren't used for such protection, hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This, in turn, will only add to the already devastating consequences for the spill. It's bad enough that we have lost so many thousands of birds, mammals and sealife. Let's not destroy the remaining forests, streams, rivers, and seashore habitats that will help renew life in that area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1224

I am an American Citizen, distressed by the damage to the ecosystem of Prince William Sound by the oil spill from the *Exxon Valdez*. Prior to this accident little thought was given to the protection of the neighboring habitat. As a result the spill caused far greater harm than it might otherwise have done. I strongly believe that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds from the \$900 million settlement be used to acquire and protect such contiguous habitat as might be in danger of similar accidents in the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1220

We are writing to encourage you to use at least 80 percent of the remaining funds for habitat protection. We don't believe this area will recover "naturally" as the damage to habitat was so intense.

US, Outside Alaska# 1217

Regarding the alternatives dealing in the recovery due to 1989 oil spill. I have read various suggestions, but I personally feel that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. If this is done then the cycle of nature will over a period of time make a good chain for the environment.

US, Outside Alaska# 1214

Much concerned about the destruction and damage to wildlife resulting from the oil spill in Prince William Sound in 1989, I believe a significant amount of approximately \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon be used for habitat protection. I realize that

several alternatives have been suggested ranging from nothing to 90 percent for this purpose. The latter, I am told by conservationists, has its drawbacks even though it would involve an expenditure of \$540 million. Therefore, I join them in urging that 80% of remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1212

Please commit no less than 80% of the remaining settlement funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1211

We urge that a minimum of 80% of the remaining settlement funds be spent on habitat protection. The habitat was greatly impacted and the money should be focused there.

US, Outside Alaska# 1209

I hope this huge oil spill has proven that we must prevent anymore from happening. I wouldn't want it to happen on our beautiful Lake Superior. The need to include consideration for the many innocent animals, both large and small, as we prepared our own prosperity. Therefore I urge you to use at least 80% of the remaining \$900 million Exxon settlement for habitat protection. A world without animals would be very drab indeed. Lets protect their habitats.

US, Outside Alaska# 1207

I am writing this letter to express my concerns for the use of the Exxon Oil spill funds. I believe that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. I believe this would be the best way to help for the future of the fish and wildlife in Prince William Sound. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1205

This letter is in regard to the oil spill recovery proposals. I feel it is of the utmost importance that 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. This area needs to be protected for the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1204

In regard to the oil spill recovery proposals, I feel that it is extremely important that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. This is an area that needs to be protected for the future.

US, Outside Alaska# 1202

I am writing to request that the remaining funds from the 900 million settlement reached with Exxon be spent 80% on habitat protection and acquisition.

US, Outside Alaska# 1200

Yes, I'd like to recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1199

I realize this is a complex issue. I believe the best way to go is to use at least 80% of remaining funds for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1198

Please use 80% of the remaining funds to be completely used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1197

Please follow the suggestions made by conservation groups and spend at least 80% of the money available from the Exxon settlement on habitat protection. The money should be used to help wildlife.

A clean, healthy environment for wildlife is good for people, too. Don't let lawyers and bureaucrats get fat from money that should help victims -- the wildlife.

US, Outside Alaska# 1196

I have followed the progress of the *Exxon Valdez* tragedy over the years thru newspapers and magazines and know that this remarkable area has not yet and may never return to what it once was, which of course effects both wildlife and human beings. With this in mind, I'm urging you to earmark 80% of the restoration funds remaining to habitat protection. The future of people lies in how well we take care of what sustains us.

US, Outside Alaska# 1195

Please use at least 80% of the remaining settlement money to protect habitat.

US, Outside Alaska# 1194

Since you are charged with spending the approximately \$600 million from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its oil spill in Prince William Sound, I recommend that most of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1189

After reading several follow-up articles regarding the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill - 4 years later, I feel the need to voice my opinion. I am concerned about our future. I am recommending that at least 80 percent of the remaining funds which are at the present time uncommitted from the Exxon settlement be used for habitat protection. I urge you to really consider this alternative. Thank you for your time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1188

I am writing to urge you to expedite the final final restoration plan for the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement fund and to utilize 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection and preservation of wildlife. This would be a logical use of the money due to the overpowering effect of the spill on the habitat and wildlife of Prince William Sound. This commitment to habitat preservation and protection will help assure the future of the area and its wildlife. I support the National Wildlife Association's call for a commitment of 80% of remaining funds to habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1179

I recommend that at least 80% of remaining funds be used for habitat protection. Please reply. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1177

Please spend at least 80 percent of the remaining funds on habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1176

I am writing in recommendation that 80 percent of the remaining oil spill settlement from the Exxon Valdez be used for Habitat Protection. Thanks!

US, Outside Alaska# 1175

I recommend at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1174

Please use what's left of the \$900 Million settlement for Habitat Protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1173

Please use at least 80% of the remaining funds for Habitat protection. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1172

Regarding alternatives for expenditures of settlement monies. I support the idea that at least 80% of the remaining funds be spent on AK habitat acquisition and/or protection. I would prefer the land so protected not be the land damaged during the Exxon disaster. This would be throwing good \$\$ after bad habitat & there is so much pristine land in AK.

US, Outside Alaska# 1171

I am concerned about proposals for the uncommitted money left from the settlement with Exxon for the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1170

I am very concerned about the drunk ship captain's ruination of Alaska's Prince William Sound and adjoining areas. Please see to it that at least 80% of the funds remaining be used for habitat protection. It is a dire necessity for cleanup of the above atrocity.

US, Outside Alaska# 1168

I recommend that 80% of the remaining funds of Exxon be used for habitat protection. Thank you for your consideration and time.

US, Outside Alaska# 1164

I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds from the settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1162

I recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection. If this action isn't taken hundreds of thousands of acres of private forest land will be clearcut. This will only add to the devastating consequences of the Valdez oil spill. Please Help!

US, Outside Alaska# 1151

Just a short line to urge you to use at least 80 percent of the remaining settlement monies from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill for habitat protection. We must help protect the future of our planet and all life forms therein. Too many times the animals are forgotten and the plant life not even thought of

when it comes to protection. Most conservationists are caring people and I think their views should be given all consideration. By protecting to the fullest the habitat in the affected area, you send a ray of hope to everyone of keeping our earth a good place for ALL to live.

US, Outside Alaska# 1145

I am writing on behalf of your proposals for the use of the monies recovered from Exxon in the settlement of the disastrous spill by the Valdez. Please consider using at least 80% for the protection of habitat.

US, Outside Alaska# 1144

I am writing in regard to the +/- \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I feel that at least 80% of this money should be used for habitat protection and that forest land should be preserved.

US, Outside Alaska# 1143

I'm writing in regards to the Spill Recovery proposals for Alaska. There are 5 alternatives suggested for the \$600 million left from the Exxon Settlement. I would like to recommend a sixth alternative, that at least 80% of the money be used for habitat protection. Why should the earth and the wildlife pay for someone's incompetence?

US, Outside Alaska# 1141

I am writing to urge you to use the majority of the remaining settlement funds for habitat protection. While it has become painfully clear there is no such thing as oil-spill restoration, please do not add to the devastating consequences of the spill by diverting settlement monies from such protection. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

US, Outside Alaska# 1139

As concerned citizens and residents of the Pacific Northwest, we are in sympathy with the view expressed by Rich Steiner in the April/May 1993 edition of National Wildlife magazine. One of his statements in that article is particularly telling: "If anything has become clear, it is that there is really no such thing as oil-spill restoration. We simply cannot fix a broken ecosystem like we can a broken machine." However, the Valdez Oil Spill Trustees CAN do a great deal of good by wise expenditure of the funds remaining from the settlement reached with Exxon. For our part, we favor a "recovery" alternative which commits at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection and acquisition - a prudent approach indeed. The balance of the funds can well be used for research and development activities germane to prevention of further disasters such as the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. But the bulk of the funds must, we believe, be applied to habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1133

I am writing concerning the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and the related settlement monies. I urge you to use at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. Animals are crucial to human survival. Without their natural habitat, animals will die. Without animals, and their habitat, human life is also at risk. Please place as many funds as possible toward habitat protection and help save all of us!

US, Outside Alaska# 1130

We are strongly in favor of allocation at least 80% of the remaining settlement funds for the Exxon Valdez 1989 Oil spill in Prince William Sound be used for habitat protection and restoration. We were in Alaska last summer and observed the extensive degradation of the Sound, and have been following the reports of wildlife disappearance and minuscule recovery.

US, Outside Alaska# 1129

I just finished reading a feature article in the July/August 1993 issue of the National Wildlife Enviro Action New Digest entitled "Exxon Oil Spill Four Years Later" and it brought tears to my eyes. The tragedy that took place in March 1989 was deplorable and inexcusable. The image of the suffering and anguish of all those innocent, defenseless animals will never leave me. I am genuinely concerned about the future of the wildlife in this area of Alaska. I strongly recommend that at least 80% of the remaining funds from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1128

Like most Americans, I was sickened by the 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I understand Trustees have developed 5 alternatives for the roughly \$600 million left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon. My personal concern and recommendation is that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1126

This is my personal comment to you as you draw up the final cleanup plan to be presented this Fall. I am under no illusion that the spill has "healed itself" by the passage of time. That's not the way it works. I want to join with the coalition of conservation groups that are recommending that 80% of the remaining funds in this mess be used for habitat protection. If such monies are not used for this purpose, that we can expect more thousands of acres of private forest land to be clearcut and this would only add to the problems we already have. Please do include this in your final draft!

US, Outside Alaska# 1125

I urge you to commit the majority of the settlement funds to habitat protection. Without habitat protection, no amount of research and planning is meaningful. Too frequently it seems we spend public funds in endless studies of problems, when common sense would indicate that we could greatly alleviate those problems with those same funds. In the case of the environment, habitat is being destroyed faster than we can inventory and understand what we are losing. If we wish to mitigate that destructive effects of human action in this arena, the only lasting option is to protect the habitat that sustains our wildlife and keeps the environment healthy for us all.

US, Outside Alaska# 1124

According to the Environmental News Digest of the National Wildlife Federation July-August 1993 issue, approximately \$600 million are left uncommitted from the \$900 million settlement reached with Exxon for its 1989 oil spill in Prince William Sound. I would like to recommend that at least 80% of those funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1121

I am requesting that 80% of unspent monies accrued as a result of the Valdez oil spill be used to

purchase wildlife habitat! The protection is essential for the survival of nature wildlife. Please, help correct a wrong.

US, Outside Alaska# 1115

Please use at least 80% of your remaining funds to protect the habitat. I am concerned that you are not doing all you can to repair the damage done.

US, Outside Alaska# 1113

Please use 80% remaining funds from uncommitted oil spill for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1110

Please consider using at least 80% of the remaining funds for habitat protection. And try not to allow the clearing of the forest.

US, Outside Alaska# 1108

As a member of National Wildlife Fed., but especially for my own conviction, I urge that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1107

Use 80% of the 1989 oil spill settlement for habitat protection. Prevention of destruction is easier than restoration of devastated areas. This must not become another Valdez disaster.

US, Outside Alaska# 1103

Please use at least 80% of the remaining oil spill funds for habitat protection. It's the least we can do.

US, Outside Alaska# 1096

I've recently been reading some articles about the state of Prince William Sound since the tragic oil spill. My main concern is the wildlife - the ones who are forgotten when the only concern is money. We so desperately need to protect these precious lives and make sure that the whale, the otter, the seal and all of those other inhabitants of the sound area, have a safe and clean future. We must make sure a tragedy like the oil spill never, ever happens again. Please use funds, at least 80 percent of the money available, for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1068

It is high time that the *Exxon Valdez* nightmare was put to rest. We've all been wrenched around, lied to, shammed, and patronized, but now there is NO MIDDLE GROUND. I am writing to adamantly let you know that the SETTLEMENT FUNDS SHOULD BE USED TO ACQUIRE THREATENED HABITAT. The areas to be purchased should be thoroughly analyzed for native vegetation, including rare plants, and habitat value for wildlife. Unique and pristine components of Alaska's NATURAL history should be preserved. These components should comprise the basis of the Restoration Plan. There is no other way to ensure the protection of these areas from a similar (God forbid) disaster but by purchasing them. Areas should be purchased that reflect a variety of natural habitat types and every attempt should be made to include entire watershed systems. I understand that a Restoration Plan has been drawn up by lowly citizens, like myself. I urge you to review and consider this plan. The bottom line here folks is Alaska suffered a wound that affected us in every way ecologically, economically (and these two ARE

TIED TOGETHER), psychologically, emotionally and mentally...the spill didn't leave anybody out. So do the right thing-give a little bit of Alaska back to itself. USE THE SETTLEMENT FUNDS TO PURCHASE UNIQUE AND SPECIAL LANDS FOR ALASKA. Put aside your own agendas - FOR ONCE.

US, Outside Alaska# 1063

I am expressing my concerns and recommending that at least 80% of the remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1060

I'm a Boston resident who recently spent three weeks sea kayaking in northern Prince William Sound. I lived intimately with the coastal environment and did what I could not to disturb it. I saw many seals, sea otters, river otters, eagles, marbled murrelets, starfish - the list goes on - especially in remote areas unaffected by the oil spill of the *Exxon Valdez*. I know that at this time you're in the process of deciding how to spend the settlement money. I'd like to see as much as possible go into habitat protection and acquisition. Although the marine environment is a fragile one that's been severely marred by the spill, nature has immense power to restore itself and I think the best thing we can do is use the money to set aside land as wilderness areas that will not be developed in any way.

US, Outside Alaska# 1055

You have a very important decision to make. In your possession you have the fines from the Exxon Valdez oil spill. You can either feed that money toward more development of the pristine wilderness and government bureaucracy or you can invest it in the wildness of Alaska, which by the way it was collected to counteract a violation against that wildness. Please I urge you to spend the restoration funds for what they were meant for, to purchase and protect fish and wildlife habitats.

US, Outside Alaska# 1052

I was very concerned to learn that, to date, none of the \$900 million settlement has been used for substantive habitat restoration. I would urge you to spend at least 80% of the remaining funds to restore wildlife habitat in and around Prince William Sound.

US, Outside Alaska# 1046

I am concerned and strongly recommend that at least 80% of remaining funds be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1040

The feature article in July-August issue of National Wildlife Enviro Action is about the '89 Alaska oil spill. I'm very sad and concerned about this and I would recommend that at least 80% of the funds which, this coming fall, you will be giving to Alaska as a restoration fund, this amount to be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1039

I am deeply concerned about the consequences of the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and the remaining unspent monies from the settlement. I ask that you adopt the alternative recommended by a coalition of conservation groups, that is, that 80% of remaining should be used for habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 1030

I just spent a month sea kayaking in many areas directly affected by the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, including Knight Island passage, Chenega, Elrington, and Bainbridge Islands. It was distressing to discern signs of oil four years after the spill. At the same time, I was filled with awe and joy at the magnificence of the Sound. The natural wonders and wildlife I encountered allowed me a unique sense of the power our wild lands have to renew and enrich our lives. My experience has convinced me of the importance of maintaining and increasing those areas of pristine wilderness. I strongly recommend the use of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration money for habitat preservation and acquisition.

US, Outside Alaska# 1029

I have just returned from a kayaking trip that took me from Whittier, past Culross, Chenega and Bainbridge Islands, and down as far as Elrington Island. During my trip I was awed and humbled by the dramatic beauty of the Sound, and thankful that, as devastating as it was, the spill let the Sound pristine character basically intact. I recognize, however, that much of the natural destruction is not visible to my untrained eye, and that many people, animals, and plants suffered grave losses. My opinion is that those losses can best redressed by protecting the land from further abuses and thus allowing it to recover through nature's own healing process. In order to achieve this goal, I strongly recommend that the remaining funds be spent almost entirely on habitat protection and land acquisition. Particularly on the purchase of timber rights on Chenega Land. I understand that such a course of action will not help to make the Sound more financially lucrative, but it will help to preserve it for posterity, which is in mind a far nobler goal. Wild places like Prince William Sound will be precious not only to ours, but to future generations as well.

US, Outside Alaska# 1011

I would also like money spent buying habitat and preserving it in a pristine condition so that we can visit the sound and see a world relatively untouched by humans. It seems as if much of the attention and desire to develop the Sound stems from the oil spill and the focus the media put on the area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1007

The Sound can never be "fixed." All the damage has been done and there is nothing to do but wait. However, another portion of the money could be used to preserve some of the areas affected by the spill, as well as others still vulnerable, from further exploitations. If we can't return the Sound to the way it was, let's at least protect it from mutating any further. Sanctuaries should be set up to stem the onslaught of development and logging in the Sound. I believe you have the power to do these things, to moderate, if not curtail Forest Service plans, to satiate the Chenega Indian and their land rights and to give the Sound time to heal. Thank you for giving me time to express myself and I hope you have taken my words to heart as I have taken the Sound to my heart. Good luck with a tough decision.

US, Outside Alaska# 1005

As a citizen of the United States of America, a registered and an active voter, I would like my opinion concerning the funds awarded in the civil settlement with the Exxon Corp. considered. For the past thirty days, I have been traveling in the Prince William Sound by sea kayak. I have visited many areas heavily affected by the 1989 oil spill and I have seen some areas untouched. During my travels I have had the opportunity to speak with other kayakers and fishermen concerning the

condition of the Sound before the spill, and the apparent effect of the spill on the Sound. After careful consideration of the many groups involved, I have decided that the interest of no group is more important than the preservation of the Prince William Sound. Logging must be strictly controlled, and no clear cutting should take place. The fishing industry must balance its impact on the food chain in the Sound. Access to the Sound must not be improved. People traveling in the Sound must be educated, on how to pass through this environment with out impact. The monies awarded should be used to achieve these ends. Further, funding should be secured to ensure protection of the Sound in the future. As citizens people assume that they have a right to use the Sound as they wish. Access and use of the Prince William Sound is not a right; it is a privilege granted to us by nature. If abuse of this wonderful privilege continues, then it will be our right to wallow in the wasteland which we have created.

US, Outside Alaska# 1003

A minimal amount should be spent testing more animals. however the majority, I believe would be most useful in preventing further logging or development. This is a very special place and these-- as a registered voter and college student have stated my recommendation.

US, Outside Alaska# 1002

I feel the money should be used partly to support the natives (Chenega Island), some should be used for continued research and the rest put into an account for future use.

US, Outside Alaska# 795

Three (3) major categories should be assigned for these funds and the bulk of the money assigned should be prioritized as follows: 1) Land Acquisition in Alaska - first in the affected area and then elsewhere within Alaska. 2) Well-defined research and monitoring to understand changes in ecosystems of the affected areas over time. Overhead money for research should be kept to a minimum. 3) Strategic Educational Materials that use results of #2 should be developed for the express purpose of informing the general public on a routine basis, so as to establish improved risk-management perceptions for the general public. This act will invest knowledge and possibly minimize the money volume of claims in future spills because of minimizing degrees of uncertainty regarding resource sensitivity and status. Finally, using spill money to support all but the most central Administration activities for the spill should cease. Overhead steals from intended use and project results if not carefully monitored.

US, Outside Alaska# 793

"Restoration" sounds good but experience indicates this feature is done most efficiently by forces of nature. Purchase of private lands that are in old growth timber and placed under federal ownership will provide the best wildlife habitat protection.

US, Outside Alaska# 766

Maximum amount of settlement possible should be used to acquire habitat for natural resources. Minimize supporting bureaucratic structure.

US, Outside Alaska# 759

Maximum amount possible of money should be used to protect/acquire habitat. 100% of remaining funds. No or minimal amounts for bureaucratic structure or research or "restoration". Quality of

many studies to date is questionable. Cut losses and allocate remaining funds to acquisition of habitat.

US, Outside Alaska# 650

Something GOOD must come out of all of this. Habitat acquisition is the only tangible thing that can. The nation shocked into realizing how fragile and precious this area is has already been learned. Twenty years from now will it be any different than it was the day before the spill? The answer is NO, not unless inholdings, timberlands, rivers and islands are acquired and protected. (People only learn from mistakes. This was a big mistake. Something has to be learned. Habitat acquisition is the only lasting thing to be learned.)

US, Outside Alaska# 626

At least 80% of the funds should be used for habitat acquisition to prevent further damage to natural resources and to compensate for lost resources.

US, Outside Alaska# 451

I have just spent the last three weeks sea kayaking Prince William Sound. There I have enjoyed the natural resources that it has to offer. Although I am not an Alaskan resident, I would like to see this beautiful, life-inspiring resource to be preserved indefinitely. For all U.S. citizens, Prince William Sound offers a host of natural wonders that need protection. The Valdez oil spill of 1989 jeopardized this valuable area. Many wildlife gave their life up for human error. This must not happen again! The price to be paid is much too high. Can you imagine the last sea lion or marbled murrelet that can't breed because their populations are so low? By protecting habitat, this need not be a reality for Prince William Sound! I believe that plan 4 offers the best protection and restoration for Prince William Sound.

US, Outside Alaska# 438

The restoration plan should focus on two key goals: 1) Critical habitat acquisition and protection. 2) Basic research and data collection to gain a baseline understanding of the present ecosystem, its health and how it is changing. The only way to protect wild systems is to protect large solid undeveloped and unfragmented blocks of critical habitat. Therefore, such blocks should be put together now. Buy land to "round out" management areas and keep that land undeveloped and natural. Research will need to be completed to locate the most critical habitat lands which, in the end, should be purchased with an eye on putting together blocks that are large enough to help the ecosystem remain healthy. The best management is with a "light hand" research will need to be sustained to monitor and design any management plans. Critical lands: purchase native or other private lands on Montague Island and other islands in Prince William Sound. Alas buy Native lands in Kenai Fjords National Park.

US, Outside Alaska# 246

Acquisition of all uncut timber lands within and adjacent to the oil spill area is urgent, particularly on the big island, before these critical wildlife habitat areas are exploited to the long term detriment of a quality natural environment.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 1774 City of Cordova

At the August 4, 1993 regular City Council meeting, the City Council of Cordova rescinded Resolution 91-92 requesting that habitat acquisition be given highest priority and substituted for the position of the City of Cordova the following motion: "Motion by Novak, seconded by Fisher to rescind Resolution 91-92 and direct Administration to communicate to the Trustees Council and to the Eyak Board of Directors support for the fisheries research and rehabilitation and the possibility of an endowment fund and debt retirement for hatcheries; and any habitat buy-back be limited to the Power Creek, Eyak River and Eyak Lake watershed areas. Voice vote-motion carried. (Council members Andersen and Bird not voting due to conflict of interest.)"

Cordova # 1497

Tourism will provide more long term employment than short-term unsustainable logging. Tourist don't want to see stumps.

Cordova # 1410

The best and most correct use of the settlement money is wildlife habitat acquisition. Eastern Prince William Sound is being devastated by logging companies using outdated, destructive logging practices. Without old growth forests; wildlife, tourism, and commercial fishing cease to exist. These logging companies have no economic history in Prince William Sound and will soon cut themselves out of work, and probably move on. The people of Prince William Sound and all the literally millions of tourists will be left with empty clearcuts, eroding precious topsoil into salmon streams. These clearcuts grow back as thickets of even aged scrub trees that can't support wildlife. The enclosed snapshot was taken in april of 1993 in Two Moon Bay, east Prince William Sound. The nest at that time was occupied and contained young birds. The parent birds were feeding on herring and would have fed on salmon later in the summer. Unfortunately the tree is now on its way to Japan. The only economic benefit to the state of Alaska was the wages the logger received for the twenty minutes it took to cut it down. It will take many generations of trees, about 400 years, before eagles will nest here again in the old growth forest they require.

Cordova # 1191

I am writing to support the use of *Exxon Valdez* Settlement funds to purchase habitat. Protection of habitat is the goal we should aim at in our restoration of Prince William Sound. Prince William Sound is the area I am most familiar with. The biggest threat to this region seems to be the large scale logging underway on the mainland. I strongly urge the protection of salmon, both brown and black bear, mountain goats, and to Valdez and Cordova tourism. The Exxon Settlement funds are the best chance of acquiring habitat in these areas, and in other areas of coastal Alaska. This would be money well spent. Entire watersheds should be acquired whenever possible. Using these lands for logging provides short period economic gain, followed by years of inactivity. Leaving the land as wilderness allows continued use of the land for commercial fishing, adventure tourism, hunting and guiding, and all the related activities, year after year indefinitely into the future.

Cordova # 798 Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance

Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance (PWSCA) has been closely following the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill remediation and restoration projects since the earliest days of the spill. We coordinated a

successful volunteer beach clean-up effort and have provided a clearing house for spill-related and environmental information. We ask that you consider our enclosed comments on the Draft EVOS Restoration Plan. Habitat acquisition and protection deserve the highest priority for immediate funding. In some cases, only a brief window of opportunity remains before critical habitats are logged and lost for the foreseeable future.

Cordova # 695

Please buy as much timber in PWS (and other oil affected areas as soon as possible) right away! That's the best way to protect our fisheries resources! Our fisheries resources were really damaged by the spill. And the timber buyback is the best thing we can do with the money. This is the northernmost reach of the temperate rain forest. The trees don't grow very well here - in comparison - i.e., they grow slowly. And with our steep slopes, thin soil, and heavy rains - the soil rapidly washes away - silting salmon streams and making regrowth very difficult. Plus - I sure haven't been impressed by the way they're logging around Cordova - leaving slash so high that regrowth is very difficult! And untouched timber is very important for tourism, to. Thanks for your efforts!

Cordova # 688

With the limited number of "willing sellers" of habitat in the spill area, it seems to me enough \$ is there to buy conservation easements on almost all the lands "available". Half of the 1st imminently threatened "top 10" are already clearcut. Move on to parcels still intact and available!

Cordova # 671

I would like to see habitat protection and acquisition in these same areas, with special attention to critical spawning areas.

Cordova # 668

Any land slated for clear cutting! This is not an ecological or sustainable practice in the forests of PWS.

Cordova # 269

Habitat for those critters who live most of their lives on the surface of the water, forest, nesting and breeding areas. SPECIFICALLY

Valdez # 1576

Would like 50% or more of the money to be for protecting habitat.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

AWRTA supports habitat and viewshed acquisition for recreation areas. Covenants should contain specific language that these areas must be managed for habitat and viewshed restoration. Since these lands would be acquired to help restore lost fisheries, backcountry recreation and tourism services, it is important that they are not subsequently converted to other, incompatible uses. Facilities for developed recreation such as cabins, etc. would have an adverse effect on the habitat, wildlife, fisheries, and existing backcountry recreation and tourism uses. AWRTA supports restoration of lost resources and services; we do not support converting an area from one type of service to another. AWRTA supports placing stipulations in the covenants so that future administrators will not make alterations to the land that are incompatible with restoration. We would like to see the Restoration

Plan include an administrative alternative that allowed a non-profit agency, such as the Nature Conservancy, to manage conservation areas for either private or government landholders.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

1. AWRTA strongly supports the acquisition of habitat and viewsheds to help damaged species and dependent fisheries and tourism services recover. Considerable oil remains in the spill impacted area and has an adverse effect on recreation and tourism use. The decision has been made not to remove oil for aesthetic purposes unless there is also a biological gain. Some shore-based backcountry users of the spill afflicted area would prefer to have the oil removed, but most are willing to settle for the acquisition of viewsheds as compensation for their continuing damages. AWRTA supports the majority of remaining Restoration funds should go the habitat acquisition. AWRTA prefers to wait until reviewing the EIS and Draft Plan before indicating a more precise figure. AWRTA does not support acquiring only buffer strips around anadromous streams unless the buffer strips are sufficiently wide (perhaps 1000 ft) and protect the stream and all its tributaries from tidelands to timberline. Under the State's draft regulations buffer strips only protect parts of a stream where anadromous fish occur. This is inadequate to protect water quality and habitat.

Valdez # 1017 Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance

We would like to take this opportunity to make three main recommendations regarding the *Exxon Valdez* Restoration Plan. We may have other comments before the August deadline, but we encourage you to include these suggestions in the Draft Plan. 1. We urge you to allocate a bulk of restoration monies to preserving, protecting and enhancing wildlife and fisheries habitats in Prince William Sound. We are unanimous in supporting the acquisition of forests, wetlands, and timber rights to this end. This must be done soon, before logging, mining and recreation developments interfere with the integrity of the ecosystem as a whole.

REGION: Unknown

Unknown # 1518

We strongly support habitat protection as the best way of using the money given by Exxon to the Trustees to fix the damage that oil has caused to our environment. As a family who has always appreciated the special beauty of the Prince William Sound area we would hate to see it all clearcut while the Exxon money was being used to study it. The only way to avoid such bitter irony is to use most of the money to protect the forests and the creatures that live within in them and to use the little bit that is left over for scientific studies. Thank you for acquiring Seal Bay. That is the kind of action that needs to continue. We recommend buying large areas in places where protected areas are made into swiss cheese by pockets of private ownership.

Unknown # 1279

I agree with conservation groups who are calling for a 6th alternative plan that would provide habitat protection thru the use of 80% of the remaining funds. We should have learned by now the value of protecting and preserving over trying to restore what is ruined.

Unknown # 748

Obviously, riparian zones and key winter ranges are logical candidates for habitat acquisition. This approach to restoration should not be used to bail out Native corporations or appease the special

interest with the highest volume. It should be used purely to acquire habitats whose protection would benefit resources or species injured during the spill and in need of restorative measures. One example of an area requiring immediate attention (it might be too late already) is Fish Bay in Port Fidalgo. A very productive riparian area threatened with development with only the State of AK Forest Practices Act and DNR for protection and supervision.

Unknown # 119

Monies should be spent to acquire lands for future recreational use. Look at the San Juan Islands in Washington State, they were once in State Parks. These lands were sold off and now are in private hands. The shellfish beds are contaminated and there are no adequate anchorages for boats. When I started boating there in the mid 50's you would go and anywhere and on any beach. That is not the case and will happen in Alaska if there is not vast areas set aside for recreation use.

Unknown # 118

I would like the emphasis and nest money to be for habitat acquisition. I would also like to warn the T.C. to beware of all the fish stocking projects. In the NW hardly ever has it worked to RESTORE populations. Habitat will assist in restoration of fish pops and fishing regs (commercial) will assist too. But lets not lose the wild stock to follow the hype of commercial catchers. Fish pops do naturally fluctuate (especially multi. year runs) and so long as trend does not maintain downward spiral, then not much oil spill damage has occurred - plus (the damage is) hard to decipher from fishing activities. Recommend reading: Preserving the genetic diversity of salmon stocks: A call for federal regulation of hatchery programs. By Richard L. Geedman, Environmental Law Vol 20: 83 Pg 111-166. DO NOT support State hatcheries that are ready to close w/oil spill money. Some projects seem to be to keep facilities open as much as to enhance fisheries.

ISSUE: 2.1 CON ; Oppose Habitat Protection and Acquisition

REGION: Alaska Peninsula

Chignik Lagoon # 5230

They want to buy all that land, with all the funding cuts that are coming?

Chignik Lagoon # 5221

I'm sure if you went around to all the villages you would hear that, we don't want to buy habitat.

Chignik Lagoon # 5220

It doesn't make any sense to me to buy habitat. I wrote to Hickel, and Zharoff and Jacko and those guys, it doesn't make sense to buy habitat if you're going to cut back the Department of Fish and Game so you can't monitor it. What's the sense to have a big bunch of land if you're not going to be able to manage it. If they want habitat and stuff like that, let the tree huggers buy it.

Chignik Lagoon # 5206

I think the money should be given to the communities that need it and they can use it as they see fit to restore things. I don't see any sense to buying land.

Chignik Lagoon # 5205

This doesn't make any sense to me to buy the land, that's just a waste of money. That's not really restoring. Most of the land you'd be buying you can't hardly get to any of it to do anything with it anyway.

Chignik Lagoon # 5204

As regards habitat protection, who is buying all this land, and what for?

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 572

I do not agree with purchasing land.

Fairbanks # 431

Purchase of private land should be kept to a minimum as so much of the state is already tied up in parks, reserves, etc. Lease of private lands for 5-10 years to reduce human impact would allow for continued private ownership.

Juneau # 5508

I'd like to say I am not against the willing buyer/seller process. This has to be viewed very carefully and have a credible explanation. The existing land does a good job at protecting public resources. To the extent that the long-term damage or harm has some identifiable economic impact to the region, I would like to increase timber harvesting which would have positive effects to the regional economy.

Juneau # 603 Klukwan Forest Products, Inc.

As a matter of fact I object to the acquisition of privately owned lands for any type of public ownership. First, Alaska is unique because the state, federal and local governments virtually own the whole state, and these public lands have not successfully supported any industry, except perhaps Prudhoe Bay. Alaska desperately needs to diversify its economy to encourage natural resource industry development in the state to obtain the benefits of jobs, revenue, and a healthy economy. The acquisition of what little private land there is for public ownership will further restrict Alaska's economy. Second, the premise of habitat acquisition assumes this needs to be done to prevent development of some natural resource. This assumes that development will create a loss of habitat, or damage to publicly owned resources such as fish, that is without foundation considering new laws that afford these resources ample protection. Examples of these laws are the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and regulations, and the Clean Water Act.

Juneau # 256

I cannot comprehend the acquisition of private lands for the purpose of habitat protection by purchase and then returning these lands to Federal ownership.

Other Alaska # 622 Bethel Native Corporation

Alaska needs to have access to its resources, e.g., timber, in order to have a viable economy. Private lands with resources should not be placed into public ownership. If it is necessary to acquire private lands containing critical habitat, then an equivalent amount of land, with equivalent

resources, should be taken out of public ownership through exchanges or some other means. With 90% of Alaska in public ownership and a high percentage of that in conservation units, Alaska needs productive lands. This spill is being used as an excuse to lock up more of Alaska and that is not right.

Southeast Alaska # 741

I think the settlement money should be used to counter the effects of the spill. I do not think it should be diluted so that everybody who can think of any way to claim a link to an injured resource can get some of it, to the detriment of the resources that actually need restoration. I also don't think the money should be used to pursue an agenda unrelated to spill-caused environmental damage. State purchase of land to stop logging on it has nothing to do with either the spill or restoration of its damaged resources. In other words, if the oil hadn't spilled and Exxon hadn't had to pay the \$900 million, would these actions have been taken? If so, the state should fund them outside the settlement. If not, they shouldn't be taken now. In still other words, let's not squander the money or spend it just because it's there. \$900 million ain't what it used to be. Spend it to make the spill area what it would have been if the *Exxon Valdez* had missed the reef.

Southeast Alaska # 576

I do not support habitat acquisition. The Govt. does not need to acquire any more land in the state of Alaska. There is already enough habitat protected in existing state and federal parks, forests, monuments, refuges, etc. Private land is a rarity and needs protection from the govt.

Southeast Alaska # 575

I am strongly opposed to habitat acquisition. The state already has enough land in protected status, i.e., parks, monuments, national forests, etc. The government does not need to acquire any more land.

Southeast Alaska # 200

I am strongly against the acquisition of upland areas. Most areas in the Sound are in the Chugach National Forest and already managed for recreation and wildlife. The private land should remain private and be available for potential resource development (mineral, timber, recreation, etc.) which the people to Alaska need to survive.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5069

Whatever comments we make here tonight, you will go back to the Council and tell them? This is me on what should be done. The government should not own no more land and shouldn't buy any more land. The one exception is Kachemak Bay. The government owns too much land already.

Anchorage # 5054

You could spend all the money buying off Native land. It's insane what is going on.

Anchorage # 5051

I can't figure out why we are going to buy land. What is the government doing buying more land when they own 97% of the state of Alaska. Why buy more land now? Who is doing this? Who owns the land?

Why are you letting them buy more land. It should have been a \$15 billion settlement. You have got less than a billion to work with and you are buying land. Buying land doesn't make sense.

Anchorage # 744

Too much emphasis on land/habitat ecosystem. Timber harvest is a use or service of the spill area's natural resources just as commercial and subsistence fishing. While not injured by the spill, the Trustee Council should not injure this service to domestic and foreign consumers by taking actions that will reduce the amount of harvestable timber, found in the spill area.

Anchorage # 743

Totally against any government acquisition of private land.

Anchorage # 623

Am not familiar enough with Prince William Sound to offer personal suggestions. However, I do not believe that private lands should be acquired. They represent a base on which a visitor or other commerce may be developed.

Anchorage # 502

Am afraid more government acquisition of lands will translate into a "hands-off" policy except for tourism, under "state administration". Leave as much land as possible private.

Anchorage # 502

Am afraid more government acquisition of lands will translate into a "hands-off" policy except for tourism, under "state administration." Leave as much land as possible private.

Anchorage # 465

The use of oil spill money for the enhancement of public facilities or subsistence users or creation of wilderness area or acquisition of lands, timbered or otherwise is inappropriate. The money was originally acquired as a penalty, the penalty funds should not be used to set up a "bureau" for preservationists. There may be a scientific question whether beach cleaning is in fact a practical matter. It appears that a scientific study of the effects -- long-term -- of the oil spill is practical and should be funded so that methodology and effects will be available in the event of another catastrophe.

Anchorage # 444

DO NOT BUY LAND! We do not need more federal land in Alaska. And since there is no link to buying land and restoring injured species all that can be accomplished is to hurt the economy by stopping logging or other development in an area that has already been hurt by the spill. Use the money to benefit the resources and services injured by the spill--not to stop logging to appease the envious.

Anchorage # 397

The most important consideration should be restoration and then future protection of the Sound. Limited funds should not be spent in acquisition of private property within the Sound. Particularly by the oil spill. These private property holdings are providing residents with employment, and the local government with a tax base. Encouraging this human activity within the spill area assists in promoting the economic recover or the area without state or federal subsidy. No expenditures should

be made in relation to scenic values of the Sound unless its directly related to injuries to those values such as beaches, estuaries, etc..

Anchorage # 300

Don't waste monies buying Native-owned lands.

Anchorage # 182

I am afraid that habitat protection and acquisition will result in "preservation" and overregulation, causing heavy use in small particular areas accessible to the many and causing more destruction such as the Kenai River. And again, only the wealthy, or young, health will be able to take advantage of special protected areas.

REGION: Kenai

Kenai # 202

NO! LAND BUYING. NO! NO! NO!

Port Graham # 5786

I have a real problem buying land that was not impacted by the oil. I would prefer restoration of the habitat rather than purchase of land. It would affect those that are probably not even aware of the impact along the coastline.

Seldovia # 5856

We have a good biology station out here that could be increased. That is money well spent as compared to buying large chunks of land.

Seldovia # 214

The word acquisition keeps popping up! I don't believe that any of the settlement money should be used to by land, especially in Kachemak State Park. You can't show me a tree that was destroyed by the spill or any tree that is endangered by another spill! The Seldova Native Association has sold the trees to timber trading co. If you have to get your fingers into the settlement money buy the trees only back from Timber Trading Co.. Or take the 24,000 acres inholding that the SNA owns out of the park and let Timber Trading Co. cut the trees. Then the SNA land will be worth about 2 cents and acre just about what the U.S. paid Russia (per acre) for Alaska. When the settlement money is all gone, I suppose you will want to get your hooks into the Permanent Fund. If this land buy back goes through it will open the gate, for others to demand that the State buy their land. When the settlement money is all gone you guys will be out of work.

Seldovia # 168

Restoration implies that you are to return something, to as close as possible, to its original state. If these are intended to restore the effects of the 89 oil spill, then I see no connection between using these funds to enhance public use, or purchase of areas not directly affected by the spill.

Seward # 6109

On habitat acquisition and protection, I am vehemently opposed to any transfer using these funds from private ownership to the National Park Service or any status of wilderness protection. The Park

Service is just a tourist industry like any other. The numbers of people attracted to justify their existence is a big negative impact on the area. I would not like to see these funds used to take private land wherever and put them under Park Service or to upgrade from a refuge status or multiple-use status into a wilderness status. It is unnecessary.

Seward # 5961

It seems to make sense that you are concerned about the impact of the fish and then you turn around and put a hurting on the timber industry. The oil affected the waters and that's what we should be concerned with. I think you will find out that all except for the Native lands, everyone else has to abide. Most people support that. Whatever the federal government says, we should abide by those regulations. The timber industry still can survive.

Seward # 5960

I have been waiting for someone from the forest industry to show up and say something. I noticed you talked to Konkord, and I am surprised there is no comment from our local mill, which has just gone back into operation. Is part of the study the impact or the availability of land that was originally planned for the mill that Chugach developed? I know one portion of the land was for the university. Is someone looking at that too?

Seward # 5949

I think what we are concerned with is effects of the oil spill. What difference does it make who owns the land; they still have to follow the same laws.

Seward # 5947

In looking at the map and the amount of private ownership, I wonder why they need one acre more for any kind of habitat protection. They already have an overwhelming amount already owned by the National Forest, Bureau of Land Management and the state. Why not put this into research and prevention? We have millions of acres already protected. I don't see how they need more to protect. Buying more is not going to do it.

Seward # 5901

How many trees were damaged in the spill?

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 5557

I had one of the first special use permits in Seal Bay for a hunting lodge. It was to provide for the harvesting of sea otter, beaver and fox. We spent a number of years out there in Seal Bay during the course of that time under the management of Chugach National Forest. During that time, preservation was the word. We absolutely weren't allowed to take certain types of animals. Then in 1972 came the Alaska Native land claims settlement act, and to my knowledge there has never been any additional special use permits issued. The Natives have not been issued any or anyone in any other place. In 1970 when they were talking about selecting that portion of Afognak Island it was for timber harvest. It was common knowledge that they were going to harvest and the only issues were they going to strip log or clear cut. It wasn't any of these 'poor little Paul Lake' they were talking about. These people were getting something that they were entitled to, that the federal

government felt was a fair shake. They wanted to give every village 50,000 acres. If you walk through this timber it needs to be cut. The shoreline is just as viable for wildlife with the timber down as with it up. Go over to Portage or go to Danger Bay, it is just as viable. There was a whole lot more money made from the oil spill than is going to be made from the preservation of this land. Let's use this money to restore something that was destroyed. The trees were not destroyed, it was the shoreline. If you take the approach that we're going to take this money and put it someplace else and allow those people to do what they want to do with that timber, it is their timber, it is not a group of individuals that say "oh don't do this, oh these poor trees. Nobody said "That's great, we're going to have something." We wanted to build a sawmill in Kodiak, but they said no we don't want a sawmill. So they built it in Seward. Lets put this money in research and let those people cut the timber and let them plan new vegetation there.

Kodiak # 5552

Seems like everything I've read in the papers and heard from government officials is let's buy more land. I don't see anything going into prevention. I suggest the trustees spend at least one third of the settlement money to have equipment ready to prevent another oil spill. I think habitat acquisition and land buying is a waste of money.

Kodiak # 578

NO MORE LAND PURCHASE!! The *Exxon Valdez* oil spill restoration team habitat protection work group and ADF&G lied to you and misled you as to the amount of damage done by logging, the area impacted, species impacted and benefit. You have already wasted \$58 million on habitat acquisition in Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay. You only interviewed environmental groups and government employees as to the benefit of land purchase. These people have no stake in a growing economy. You did not include input from economists, business leaders or Native leaders in your land purchase study. We cannot all be fishermen, tour bus drivers and government employees to produce a thriving economy. Do not buy any more of the small amount of private land left in Alaska. You already have millions of acres that you do nothing with.

Kodiak # 198

There should be no more acquisition of private property. If private property is needed for habitat protection and it has no economic value, a parcel of at least equal and similar value should be traded or released for private ownership.

Kodiak # 179

No timber purchase! The Federal government and State should not be held hostage to native interest groups.

Larsen Bay # 5585

I could see buying the land in Seal Bay that was affected by the oil spill, but I don't think they should do it in locations where it's not affected.

Larsen Bay # 5583

Regarding habitat protection: Who buys the land? Out of this money we're talking about now? No, I don't agree with that.

Ouzinkie # 5724

When it gets down to the village the question is always which choice do you want. I can't see where a duck or a clam cares who owns the land. Here you've got habitat protection or habitat acquisition. I would much rather see a duck rearing proposition.

Ouzinkie # 5709

I keep seeing these priorities listed in the paper. The Trustee Council has priorities on what they're going to do with the money. I see what's happening with Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay. The interest groups are getting in there and influencing the outcomes. What does 10,000 acres of trees have to do with the oil spill? The Trustee Council is trying to justify the expenditure of these funds and we're neglecting what actually happened. In my opinion, that's where the money should be directed: more research into what was affected by the oil spill. We need reports. They've been sampling for years over there but we don't get results. That's where I think the money should be spent, is rebuilding things we're losing, not by acquiring timbered lands.

Port Lions # 5812

Why should land acquisition be funded? What you need to do is restore something. That's why we have the attorneys called in there. This money was set aside to put things back to pre-spill condition.

Port Lions # 5810

I don't see that land acquisition makes sense.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Chenega Bay # 339

I keep reading about acquisition and protection. I think just about the same idea was told to most American native nations for 150 years, they wound up locked out and locked up. It sounds like a State or/and Federal tie up of PWS. Who are you going to protect the land from? Mostly only native hunters use this area and that's for subsistence. We've already seen what the State of AK thinks of subsistence. Thanks but no thanks our land is all we have left and we'll keep it thank you.

Cordova # 1395 Reclaimers of Alaska

We are writing to you as a group of concerned citizens regarding the *Exxon Valdez* settlement funds expenditure. We are apprehensive about the bulk timber buy-back disguised as habitat acquisition and the near total lack of funding for fisheries research and management in comparison. The *Exxon Valdez* released 11+ million gallons of crude oil into the waters of Prince William Sound, possibly resulting in damages to the fishing industry. The 1993 herring return was significantly smaller, larger in biomass, and suffering from lesions. A vast portion of the salmon fry this year had to be destroyed due to the infestation of a contagious disease in the hatcheries. This will devastate the salmon return in four years. It is quite apparent that immediate and long term development needs to be secured as a first priority for our fisheries in Prince William Sound.

Cordova # 317

Our land was sold once and it took to long for us to get it back again.

Valdez # 235

It has taken years to get the land out of the governments, lets not put it back in government's hands. Developing natural resources is what makes this country great.

ISSUE: 2.1 PUB ; Management of public land

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Juneau # 481

Olsen Bay - good long-term study site, should be protected vs. development

Juneau # 479

Olsen Bay watershed protection - highly favor

Juneau # 256

Some of the worse land management for wildlife in the U.S.A can be viewed on public lands (Forest Service, BLM, etc...) How would federal ownership increase protection? Unless these lands are placed in wilderness classification, which they may not qualify as such.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 5089

I was wondering if you have in your bag of tricks, land management policy lobbying. I would suggest Ms. Sturgulewski contact her allies. A greater part of PWS was designated a wilderness area. If these lands were removed from commercial exploitation, it would allow the species to reproduce at a faster rate than would be otherwise allowable. Has the restoration committee decided to use any funding for manipulation of land management policies to see that these species are protected to allow for restoration?

Anchorage # 5049

You should create a moratorium for the use of affected lands.

Anchorage # 605

While there is plenty of talk here about acquiring land there is nothing about funding for management of these lands once they are acquired from private sources or even who will manage them. If funding goes into acquiring land, then funding need to go to manage them. 20% of funds left to spend should be set aside for management. Additional funds for an endowment is also a good plan.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 6095

Does "research natural area" mean hiring people?

Homer # 5438

I heard that for land acquired under restoration, the State might consider selling it. I would like

to see it locked up under some type of sanctuary status. Any land acquired is creating opportunities for human use which is not the case under private ownership. Human use would be a low priority because it would be taken care of anyway.

Homer # 5406

Are any of the agencies pursuing sanctuaries?

Homer # 196

At the same time, I do not want to see areas "locked up" by increased regulations affected hiking, boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking (where appropriate).

Seldovia # 5872

You don't want to make parks because you could overimpact.

Seward # 6109

On habitat acquisition and protection, I am vehemently opposed to any transfer using these funds from private ownership to the National Park Service or any status of wilderness protection. The Park Service is just a tourist industry like any other. The numbers of people attracted to justify their existence is a big negative impact on the area. I would not like to see these funds used to take private land wherever and put them under Park Service or to upgrade from a refuge status or multiple-use status into a wilderness status. It is unnecessary.

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 198

The government already has too much property, managed as "wilderness". If any land is purchased for recreational use, the users should pay for it.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1065

I feel that if we limit the amount of human recreation, camping, fishing, tour, etc. I also feel that commercial use in these areas should be reduced.

US, Outside Alaska# 1007

The Sound can never be "fixed." All the damage has been done and there is nothing to do but wait. However, another portion of the money could be used to preserve some of the areas affected by the spill, as well as others still vulnerable, from further exploitations. If we can't return the Sound to the way it was, let's at least protect it from mutating any further. Sanctuaries should be set up to stem the onslaught of development and logging in the Sound. I believe you have the power to do these things, to moderate, if not curtail Forest Service plans, to satiate the Chenega Indian and their land rights and to give the Sound time to heal. Thank you for giving me time to express myself and I hope you have taken my words to heart as I have taken the Sound to my heart. Good luck with a tough decision.

REGION: Prince William Sound

Cordova # 288

The Trustee Council might facilitate the transfer of the property included in the Main Bay Hatchery from the federal government to the state. This would remove the hatchery from the USFU wilderness study area.

Valdez # 1018 Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Assoc.

3. State lands on Naked Island: These lands provide habitat for species whose populations declined, receive considerable on-shore use from recreation and tourism, and considerable off-shore scenic-use by cruise ships, tour boats and the State ferry. The lands should receive some type of special use classification that protects their habitat and both on-and off-shore scenic viewsheds.

ISSUE: 2.1 MUL ; Multiple recommendations for habitat purchases (the "Citizens Vision")

REGION: Alaska, Outside the Spill

Fairbanks # 1185

I am writing to urge that money obtained through the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement be used to acquire habitat in Prince William Sound, specifically to prevent clearcutting of timber in Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, the Knight Island Passage, the Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. As a resident of the Interior, I seldom have the opportunity to visit Alaska's coastal regions. Whenever I do, I am awestruck by the beauty of the area and by abundance of plants, trees, and wildlife that inhabit the shore. Spending more money on interminable, conflicting studies or on capital development projects far from the affected area will do little to restore the area to the majesty it once had before the spill.

Fairbanks # 1053

Please support the use of settlement funds for habitat purchases because: 1) the 7 areas of the "citizens' vision" plan should be protected due to their unique and overwhelming value in wildlife, fish and timber protection and 2) the vast majority of the remaining funds should be used to protect the land and wildlife from further devastation.

Fairbanks # 736

Use money for threatened habitat--watershed approach. Specifically prioritize the seven "citizen vision" area. (Port Fidalgo, etc..)

Juneau # 1608

I write today to urge you to use the money from the *Exxon Valdez* settlement to increase and enhance our wildlife habitat protection in Prince William Sound. Recovery for the area will be very slow, but with protection from other human management and utilization, i.e. logging, mining, etc., the Prince William Sound will have a much better chance of recovery to pre-oil spill conditions. I urge you to use the settlement funds to buy wildlife habitat. Habitat is an absolute necessity for successful wildlife recovery. Our research shows that the best system protection for wildlife is full ecosystem protection. Please use the settlement funds to purchase entire watersheds, or expand the boundaries

of existing protected habitat, such as refuges, to include entire watersheds. Please move quickly before some of the proposed purchased areas are harvested for timber or mining begins. Please move quickly on the Eyak corporation lands in and near Cordova. Other areas of prime wildlife habitat include Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, expansion of Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and expansion of Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Please act quickly to use the settlement funds for protection of wildlife and preservation for human enjoyment and use by purchasing lands for wildlife.

Juneau # 1526

You will soon be making very important decisions regarding use of the oil spill funds. Your decisions will affect generations yet to come. It is hoped that Alaskans and you members of the council have learned lessons from the long history in America of misuse, abuse and exploitation of our great resources. You have a great opportunity to reverse that trend. I urge you to use the oil spill funds to buy back habitat. This is the best way to protect our wildlife from further destruction and to reduce the damage of the spill. There are some areas of top priority, namely: (1) Kodiak Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (2) Kenai Fjords National Park (3) Port Chatham (4) Shuyak Straits (5) Port Gravina - Orca Bay (6) Knight Island Passage (7) Port Fidalgo. You will be pressured by many groups, many of which are well-meaning. But acquiring the land is top priority for Alaska's long-term welfare.

Juneau # 1155

Perhaps some good can still be done in the aftermath of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. The Seal Bay and Katchemak purchases were a good beginning. Now I hope that you will wisely use the remainder of the settlement resources to purchase those beautiful and sensitive areas so in need of protection. Everything that can be done to protect the precious ecosystems of Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak Island should be done now. Buying wildlife habitat areas should be the primary emphasis in the Restoration Plan. Although I have not yet been to the western part of the Gulf of Alaska, I hope that when I do come I will find that forests within Kenai Fjords National Park and Kodiak Island National Wildlife Refuge, at Port Gravina and Port Fidalgo have been protected from logging due to purchase with settlement monies. I hope the wildlife of Knight Island, Port Chatham and Shuyak Straits are safe from further devastation. Here is a great opportunity for you for the sake of all Alaskans today and tomorrow.

Juneau # 1097

I'm writing to express my support for use of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement funds to purchase threatened habitat in the Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska areas. As an Alaska citizen who has followed the news of various proposals to spend the money very closely, I am convinced that habitat purchase is the highest and best use of these funds. I have been appalled at various proposals I've heard about, to build highways, a fish hatchery on an Anchorage area military base, even a visitor's center about marine mammals. I think the vast majority of the funds should be used to purchase large tracts of land currently being threatened by destructive developments. I support protections through purchase of the seven areas identified by various spill affected citizens groups, including Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, inholdings in Kenai Fjords NP, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and inholdings in the Kodiak NWR. As public trustees, I urge you to do the best to ensure long-term health of the spill area: BUY HABITAT.

Juneau # 1081

The money received from Exxon in the settlement of the oil spill disaster are monies that should go directly back to protecting Alaska's wildlife habitat. Please listen to this letter representing the views of an Alaskan since statehood - protect Alaska's wildlife and their habitat. Areas I personally would like to see purchased and protected are: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park - the private lands within the park please don't allow logging, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for listening to me.

Juneau # 1078

At this point, the most appropriate application of this hierarchy is to direct the vast majority of remaining settlement funds at the protection of wildlife habitat from further adverse impacts and to do so by buying and protecting large areas encompassing entire watersheds. To this end, I encourage the purchase of the following seven areas: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay - The old-growth forest of eastern Prince William Sound near Cordova provide exceptional habitat for spill-injured species; 2) Port Fidalgo - Ongoing logging activities here threaten the densely forested habitat along sheltered bays near Tatitlek and Valdez; 3) Knight Island Passage - Rugged mountainous islands with intimate bays provide habitat for spill-impacted species such as killer whales, harbor seals, bald eagles, and salmon; 4) Kenai Fjords National Park - Important habitat along this rugged coast is subject to degradation from logging and development on private lands within the park; 5) Port Chatham - This is an important stretch of intact forest habitat along the tip of the outer Kenai Peninsula Coast; 6) Shuyak Straits - The Sitka spruce forest on northern Afognak is home to marbled murrelets, salmon, brown bear, elk, and deer. The Shuyak Straits are a highly productive aquatic environment. 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge - Although logging is not a threat here, other development activities would jeopardize prime brown bear habitat. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the challenging process you are undertaking.

Juneau # 1076

I am writing to express my support for the use of Settlement funds for the purchase of wildlife habitat in areas impacted by the oil spill. I believe that habitat purchase is the very best use of the Settlement monies and the remaining funds should be used for this purpose. I request that you purchase and protect large areas and entire watersheds so that wildlife has a large undisturbed ecosystem to thrive in. There can be no better gift that we can leave the children of Alaska than large, unbroken areas of wildlands. I urge you to spend the money wisely and efficiently. Specific areas I would like to see purchased and protected are: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Each of these areas, and many more in the spill affected areas, have high wildlife values and offer the most protection of our ecosystem for the money. I thank you for your efforts to ensure the Settlement monies are well spent protecting Alaska's wildlands for future generations.

Mat-Su Borough # 1665

I am not as personally familiar with the other areas identified by community residents from the spill-impacted regions, but I certainly trust their judgment on other priority areas for habitat acquisition. The other areas are Port Gravina/Orca Bay, near Cordova, Port Fidalgo, near Valdez and Tatitlek, Knight Island Passage, and Port Chatham on the Kenai Peninsula. Everyone benefits from the

use of EVOS settlement monies for habitat purchases. Please keep negotiating for them.

Mat-Su Borough # 1586

I am extremely concerned about the ongoing process of restoration to the areas of our dear state which were affected by the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill. As you prepare to decide about how best to use the settlement funds, I write to you today to implore you to take any and all actions you can which will protect habitat for the animals and birds which were devastated by that horrible disaster. Some personal experiences from my summer of 1989 inspire my request to you today: I watched dead otters being dragged away from the Valdez Otter Rescue Center (they died before they could be washed). Later I painfully experienced the shivering harlequin ducks trying to reacclimate themselves to the cold water in the pools at the bird house so that they could prove themselves ready to be released (they didn't make it). Later still I heard of the death of Seward otter #25 after his release into a not-quite-so-pristine bay on the Gulf coast. I had watched the slow recovery of his fur condition since May, and upon his release in August we thought him to be a symbol of victory of the rescue efforts. Then came the first restoration conference, when the idea came forth that acquisition of habitat for species damaged by the spill might one day be a reality, and things seemed better. Buying habitat is the very best way you can invest the Oil Spill Settlement dollars; protecting the forests -- indeed the watersheds-- which support the healthy life cycles of the environment which our salmon, bald eagles, harlequin ducks, and even marine mammals depend on, can make recovery from the spill a true reality for all of us. The threat to many areas of important wildlife habitat within the spill region is now not from oil, but from logging. I urge you to include on your list of priority habitat acquisitions the following: Orca Bay near Cordova, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Your consideration of my deep concerns and your action towards purchase and protection of these areas will make your historic decision something I and all Alaskans will long cherish. Each of these areas, when protected, will continue to contribute to the healthy habitat which these animals depend upon, which I recreate in and love, and which are an important part of the beauty which makes Alaska my home.

Mat-Su Borough # 1584

I'm writing to urge you to use the remaining Settlement money to purchase threatened habitat in the spill impacted area. I believe there are many of us who need to see concrete measures taken that directly benefit these areas that were so badly damaged. The Seal Bay purchase on Afognak was a great start but much more can be done. I'd like to see you move more quickly to purchase the seven areas identified by the "citizen's vision" plan. I believe there is no more effective way to spend what money remains.

Mat-Su Borough # 1581

I am very much in favor of using Exxon Settlement funds for the acquisition of wildlife habitat and areas for wilderness recreation. Buying wildlife habitat is the most effective way to ensure recovery of the areas impacted by the oil spill and to protect these areas from further devastation. Habitat should be purchased over broad areas, including entire watersheds, as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak Island. I concur with the suggestions of "Citizen's Vision for Habitat Acquisition", and encourage the Council to purchase the seven areas designated. We must protect the treasure we have in Alaska's wild beauty by spending most, if not all, of the \$900 million on land acquisition of the areas for habitat preservation and/or wilderness recreation. We must protect fragile ecosystems by not allowing logging of other types of development in critical

habitat areas. Once again, I strongly support using the Exxon Settlement funds to acquire and protect habitat for wildlife.

Mat-Su Borough # 1085

I am writing you to let you know that I would like you to use the Settlement funds for habitat purchases. I believe that buying wildlife habitat purchases is the very best way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. You need to use the vast majority of remaining funds to protect this habitat from further devastation from forestry and development. There are seven areas of prime concern that I would like protected: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay - old growth forests exceptional habitat for spill-injured species and support high value wilderness recreation and tourism, 2) Port Fidalgo - logging activities have threatened the habitat it needs protection, 3) Kenai Fjords National Park - one of Alaska crown jewels, the heart is threatened by logging and development on private lands within the park, 4) Port Chatham - this is the last stretch of intact forest habitat along the tip of the outer Kenai Peninsula coast, 5) Shuyak Straits - the spruce forest on northern Afognak is home to numerous mammals and the Straits are a highly productive aquatic environment, 6) Knight Island Passage - these islands support growing wilderness recreation/tourism use and provide habitat for spill impacted species, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge - proposed development activities would jeopardize prime brown bear habitat and other wildlife values. Using the EVOS settlement for habitat purchases offers a rare opportunity where everyone wins. The private owners get paid for their property and our great grandchildren will hopefully be able to enjoy wilderness. And most important the wildlife keeps their habitat.

Other Alaska # 1182

Please act ASAP to buy the seven areas identified as part of the "citizens vision" namely: 1. Port Gravina/Orca Bay; 2. Port Fidalgo; 3. Knight Island Passage; 4. Kenai Fjords National Park; 5. Port Chatham; 6. Shuyak Straits; 7. Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you very much.

Other Alaska # 1073

I would like to urge you to use the remaining Settlement funds for habitat purchases and restoration in and around Prince William Sound, Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak. Areas such as Orca Bay and Port Gravina, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, and Kenai Fjords National Park and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge are essential habitat for wildlife affected by the spill. These land purchases are the best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. Please do it for the marbled murrelet.

Southeast Alaska # 1461

Without delay, please utilize available funding to purchase lands that will benefit our wildlife resources for the future. The acquisition of entire areas and complete watersheds makes greatest sense for protection of these lands and waters. Old growth forest near Cordova are now in statewide news over ongoing logging scheduled to impact the area. Please move on action to save these forests. Kenai Fjords and Afognak Island sites should be high priority acquisitions with proximity to nearby population bases a major factor in need for their protection now.

Southeast Alaska # 1122

I am writing to encourage you to spend most of the remaining settlement money to purchase privately held land parcels in and around Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula, and Kodiak Island. I am .

particularly concerned that some of the money be spent to buy inholdings in Kenai Fjords National Park. I believe that protecting wildlife habitat will be the best way to counter long-term effects of the spill and to help animal populations rebound. Thank you for considering my views.

Southeast Alaska # 1093

Please seriously consider spending the remaining Exxon oil spill settlement funds on habitat preservation. Land purchased in Price William Sound, Kenai Fjords National Park, Afognak Island and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge would be a legacy to future generations. Traditional lifestyle and other forest users could continue to coexist with habitat that would surely be threatened by clearcutting. As a citizen of Alaska, I implore you to think of our state's proud past and our future.

Southeast Alaska # 1086

As a citizen of Alaska I urge you to use the majority of remaining oil spill settlement funds to protect the pristine wildlife habitat of Alaska. Once forests are destroyed there is no way to restore them to their full splendor. The Valdez oil spill was a lesson on the harm human incompetence can have on the environment. Since the oil spill had the biggest impact on wildlife, the only appropriate way to use the \$600 million in fines is to see to the future protection of wilderness lands. No one has the right to destroy any animals habitat, that is why the remaining funds should be used to acquire as much land for protection against further devastation, accidental or intentional. Seven of the areas that should be included in plans for restoration include: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Protection of these and other areas should be top priority.

REGION: Anchorage

Anchorage # 1751

The following are comments on the draft Restoration Plan the Council is preparing to guide how the *Exxon Valdez* settlement moneys will be spent. I am writing to support the Citizens' Vision for Habitat Acquisition. Habitat acquisition is the best use for the settlement funds, as it is the best way to help the recovery of species harmed by the spill. Of particular importance to the species recovery is acquisition, whenever possible, of areas encompassing entire ecosystems. While all seven areas proposed for acquisition in the Citizens' Vision are eminently worth of your consideration, I would like to make a special plea for land in the Kenai Fjords National Park and on Kodiak Island. Kenai Fjords, a highly popular destination for both tourists and Alaskans, is threatened by logging activities; Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge is threatened by proposed development activities. Not only are these areas two of my favorite spots in Alaska, but they are also areas of unique opportunity for tourists and Alaskans alike to view spectacular wildlife ecosystems. The opportunities in both spots are unique because of their abundance of wildlife and their accessibility to visitors. I hope you give the Citizens' Vision for Habitat Acquisition your close attention, and that you decide to direct the *Exxon Valdez* settlement fund to acquisition of habitat harmed by the spill or threatened by future activities. This is the best possible way to use a past environmental disaster to prevent future environmental damage.

Anchorage # 1669

We implore you to spend the vast majority of settlement dollars on habitat acquisition. Please encourage the sale of large areas to include, where possible, entire watersheds. Please work first on the following priority areas but do not consider the list exclusive: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. We trust you will weigh our concerns in your decisions, and recognize how strongly we feel on this issue. Thank you again for the great work you have already done with Kachemak and Seal Bay.

Anchorage # 1645

I support the buying as the most important use of oil spill settlement dollars. Specifically I support purchasing tracts of 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I've lived in Alaska 19 years. I work in the oil fields and road construction industry. I don't believe in "locking up" Alaska. I do believe the most efficient way to protect particular areas however is to simply to buy it outright. I don't believe in paying lawyers to study and argue about everything until there is no money left. I don't trust the whims of politicians with vested interests dubious ethics and short term goals. Just buy what you can of that which you don't want to take a chance on regulations to protect.

Anchorage # 1640

I am writing you to use the remainder of the Exxon settlement to purchase wildlife habitat in spill areas. Buying wildlife habitat from willing land owners is a form of investing in the future, just as funding schools is a method of investing in the future. Wildlife and children make sound investments. Habitat selections should be broad, encompassing entire watersheds, to ensure protection. A disturbance in a watershed has the potential to effect adversely all forms of vegetation and wildlife within that watershed. Smaller parcels of "protected habitat" are far more vulnerable than larger ones. I support the selection of the seven areas to be purchased as part of the "citizen vision" for restoration. The Alaska Center for the Environment considers these seven areas as Priority Habitat Acquisitions in the Western Gulf. I suggest that you make habitat acquisition the cornerstone of the Restoration Plan. The seven areas are located near: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. These areas provide vital habitat for many spill impacted species. Support habitat acquisition. Make recovery from the spill a reality. Thank you for taking my views into consideration.

Anchorage # 1634 Sierra Club

2) Habitat Protection: The Sierra Club believes that the best use of oil spill restoration funds is habitat protection. We are on record as favoring expenditure of 80% of the original \$900 million for this purpose. Unfortunately, this appears to be no longer possible, due to the amount of money that has been spent or committed for other purposes. We recognize that there are other legitimate needs for some of the remaining funds. For example, there is a great deal of popular support for studies of damaged fisheries, and this is an appropriate use of some funds. However, habitat protection is the most effective use of funds. It is legal, it is highly effective, it protects the entire ecosystem, it is harmless, and it provides very long term benefits. Large scale protection could be implemented over the next two years, and paid for over the full eight years of Exxon's payments.

Numerous privately owned areas provide high value habitat for damaged resources and opportunities for services. These areas are threatened with degradation which must be prevented through acquisition of land and/or development rights. The Trustees should pursue large areas for acquisition, not just logging permits or buffer strips. Priority areas should include the following (in geographical order, from east to west): Port Gravina/Orca Bay, including Sheep Bay, Simpson Bay, the Rude River drainage, and Hawkins Island (Eyak Corporation); Port Fidalgo (Tatitlek); Knight Island Passage, including Eshamy Bay, Jackpot Bay, and Knight Island (Chenega); Kenai Fjords National Park (Port Graham and English Bay); Port Chatham (English Bay); Shuyak Straits from Red Peaks to Seal Bay (Afognak Joint Venture); Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Akhiok-Kaguyak, Old Harbor, Koniag).

Anchorage # 1632

I am writing to voice my opinion on the use of settlement funds from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. I support the use of these funds for the acquisition and protection of wildlife habitat. Acquisition of habitat is probably the best way to protect wildlife. In fact, purchase and protection of entire watersheds would be ideal. Specific areas which should be a high priority for purchase include those in the Citizen's Vision Plan and listed below. Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on your plans for use of the settlement funds. Keep up the good work.

Anchorage # 1627 Wilderness Birding Adventures

Bob Dittrick and I own Wilderness Birding Adventures, a small Alaskan guiding business specializing in birding and wildlife viewing trips in remote wilderness areas. We travel in small groups (nine people or less, including guides) and practice "minimum impact" camping techniques. Our business is resource dependent, but in a non-consumptive manner. The resource we rely on is a healthy and pristine wilderness environment. We conduct sea kayaking trips in Prince William Sound. Bob is a member of the Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association board of directors. Our recommendation to you is to utilize the remaining *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill settlement monies to purchase habitat that is presently or potentially at risk of being logged or otherwise developed. You have an unprecedented opportunity to preserve intact entire watersheds which will be of vital long-term importance not only to tourism and non-commercial recreation, but also to the fisheries. Everyday we hear of environmental problems (with major economic ramifications) that can be traced to the destruction or dissection of habitat. Please take this unique opportunity to preserve our intricately balanced natural ecosystems along the coastline of southcentral Alaska. I support the purchase of the seven areas identified in the "citizen's vision" plan, as well as any critical nesting or spawning habitat.

Anchorage # 1625 Alaska Wildlife Alliance

The Alaska Wildlife Alliance represents over 1900 members within and outside of Alaska. Our members are aware of the damage caused by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and are acutely aware of the need to spend the *Exxon Valdez* settlement money where it will do the most to protect the areas affected by the spill from additional damage. We strongly believe that the very best way to spend these settlement monies is for the acquisition of habitat within Prince William Sound and adjacent area's affected by the spill. Clearly, the overwhelming majority of impacts from the spill were to wildlife and wildlife habitat. It is only logical then that the best way to mitigate such damage is to protect wildlife and habitat from further disruption and degradation. Much of the premier wildlife habitat in these areas is slated for large-scale logging which would amount to a kind of second

human-induced disaster to the areas birds, mammals, and fish. It is within your power to prevent this from happening. Please do not squander the money received for mitigation of damages on ill-conceived and wasteful construction projects. If such projects are warranted, money should be allocated for them by the state's duly elected officials after appropriate public review. This money is perhaps the only positive result to come from a mammoth environmental catastrophe. We urge you to review the work that went into the "citizen's vision" for restoration, and to protect at least the seven areas identified for protection as a result of their work. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the spending priorities of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustees Council. We look forward to hearing of the results of your work.

Anchorage # 1619 The Wilderness Society, Alaska Region

Our priorities for acquisition are broad areas, including entire watersheds, in these areas: Shuyak Straits - Afognak Island (Afognak Joint Venture holdings) old-growth forest habitat located along the north part of the island adjacent to and east of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge unit on this island. Kenai Fjords National Park - All English Bay and Port Graham inholdings. Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge inholdings on Kodiak Island. Port Gravina/Orca Bay - Eyak Corporation inholdings in Chugach National Forest, including Orca Narrows/Nelson Bay, Sheep, Simpson Lagoon. Port Fidalgo ongoing logging threatens densely forested habitat along sheltered bays near Valdez and Tatitlek. Knight Island Passage - Chenega Corporation inholdings in Chugach National Forest, including Knight Island and Jackpot/Eshamy. Port Chatham - This last stretch of intact forest habitat along the tip of the outer Kenai Peninsula coast, and adjacent to Kenai Fjords National Park, is threatened by logging.

Anchorage # 1617

Please support the use of Settlement funds for habitat purchases. This is the best way to spend the money and most of the money should be used in this manner. You should be sure that the purchases are large areas because patchwork protection cannot work. Specifically, I would like to see protection of Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge inholdings, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, Kenai Fjords National Park Inholdings, Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, and Orca Bay. Buying habitat is a win-win situation and I look forward to your taking steps toward achieving such positive action.

Anchorage # 1612 Anchorage Audubon Society, Inc.

Anchorage Audubon Society (AAS) is a locally-based all-volunteer organization affiliated with the National Audubon Society. Our membership of 1500 is concerned with Southcentral Alaska environmental issues, with a focus on protection of wildlife populations and wildlife habitat as well as environmental education. We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Draft *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Restoration Plan. We consider restoration of the spill-impacted areas a highest priority concern. As noted in the draft restoration plan, the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill (EVOS) is believed by most Americans surveyed to be the largest environmental accident caused by humans anywhere in the world. Mitigating the impacts of the EVOS merits unprecedented and decisive action. Anchorage Audubon strongly favors habitat acquisition as the primary means of restoring the area. Potential logging and development in important habitat areas threaten to weaken already injured populations, including those identified in the plan and sought by avid Audubon birders and wildlife seekers, such as black oystercatcher, common murre, harbor seal, harlequin duck, marbled murrelet, pigeon guillemot, sea otter, bald eagle, killer whale, and river otter. AAS is also concerned with other injured species important to the ecosystem and to the recreational opportunities of the spill

impacted area, including cutthroat trout, Dolly Varden, sockeye salmon, rockfish, Pacific herring, Pink salmon, and intertidal and subtidal organisms. In addition, the effects of long-term sub-lethal impacts of the spill may result in injury to populations not identified by the draft plan. Other damaged resources of high concern are designated wilderness areas and contaminated air, water and sediments. To effectively restore and protect these injured resources of the spill zone, and particularly to allow recovery of such as whole watershed purchases. AAS supports acquisition of the seven areas identified as part of the "citizen's vision" for restoration. These are: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Port Chatham, Kenai Fjords National Park, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Several of these have been destinations for AAS field trips because of their wildlife populations. All are considered high priority acquisitions. Although other restoration alternatives could be beneficial, AAS believes that habitat acquisition will provide the greatest benefit in the face of numerous resource development proposals in the region. Because some land owners are already engaging in resource development activities such as logging at Orca Bay near Cordova, AAS urges the Trustee Council to act quickly to acquire these seven important areas in the spill impacted region. In addition to habitat acquisition, AAS supports protection of public lands through changes in management practices. These low cost or no cost actions should be part of any restoration plan. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Draft EVOS Restoration Plan.

Anchorage # 1611

Please consider the following my comments on the draft restoration plan: I would like to see the settlement funds spent on habitat protection. Please work diligently to purchase and prevent logging on the following holdings: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Acquisition of the above listed areas would be an excellent use of the money. Please also consider using the funds for habitat acquisition in other places, as the opportunity arises.

Anchorage # 1606 Rep. David Finkelstein

This letter is in response to your recent solicitation for recommendations on the Restoration Plan. I believe the focus of you council should be on purchasing wildlife habitat. While we can't undo the damage caused by the oil spill, we can expand the public ownership of key coastal habitats in the affected areas. Within Prince William Sound, the Knight Island Passage and Jackpot Bay area is particularly critical. This region provides a wealth of natural beauty and wildlife habitat that should be preserved for future generations. The lands owned by Chenega Corporation include many tracts that need to be in public ownership. All of the Native corporation lands in Prince William Sound are worth considering in you acquisition plans, but the Knight Island area is especially important. If public lands can be acquired in the area, it will provide a continuous public coastline from Whittier to Seward. I have boated this coastline and am convinced it is a top priority. Other critical areas for habitat acquisition include private lands in the Kenai Fjords National Park, the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and the Shuyak Straits area. In all of these areas we have a unique opportunity to purchase wildlife habitat on a willing-seller basis. Purchasing these and other key habitats in areas affected by the spill will give Alaska's wildlife a chance to fully recover from the effects of the spill. It would also enable these populations to continue to thrive in a protected environment. Making this type of commitment would put us on the road to successful resource management. Please consider the maximum level of habitat acquisition when putting the final plan together. Thanks for considering my views.

Anchorage # 1600

I would like to stress that settlement money from the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill should go to acquire habitat. At the very least, the seven areas identified in the citizen's vision should be purchased and protected from any further damage. The *Exxon Valdez* spill will haunt Alaska and indeed the world for many years to come. It is imperative that the spill areas be, in a sense, reimbursed. The only way I can see for that to happen, is for us to protect the habitat and the wildlife from any further disaster. Logging in the area would be devastating to the wildlife. Just as the oil fouled the habitat, and destroyed birds and wildlife, so would logging. Again, please use the settlement dollars for habitat purchase. Thank you for allowing my voice to be heard.

Anchorage # 1587

I have three comments re: the draft restoration plan being prepared to guide how the Settlement of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill monies will be spent. 1) Habitat acquisition and acquisition of areas important for wilderness recreation and tourism are the best ways to invest the Settlement Funds. Please carry out the "Citizen's Vision for Habitat Acquisition". 2) All \$900,000,000 needs to be spent on purchasing these wild lands- Stop the wasteful frittering away of these settlement monies and get going with obtaining the lands - you have delayed and dragged your feet long enough.

Anchorage # 1565

I am writing to urge you to use the funds received from the oil spill (\$600 million in fines) to purchase land and timber rights to protect habitat. The funds should be used for this purpose, rather than for studies or other restoration efforts, because nature does best when left alone. Setting aside habitat will allow species a place to live and flourish, and heal the wounds inflicted by the spill (such as population depletion). Setting aside habitat is also a valuable investment as tourism is a VERY LARGE part of Alaska's economy. Therefore, I believe that the majority, most if not all, of the funds remaining should be used to purchase wildlife habitat. The most logical way to invest in wildlife habitat would be to purchase large tracts of land, including watersheds. I am not sure if I need to mention that these lands need to also be protected but, I will. These lands need to be protected from ANY KIND OF DEVELOPMENT OR "MANAGEMENT". I believe this is what the majority of Alaskans want. The following seven areas should be first on the "purchase list": 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay 2) Port Fidalgo 3) Knight Island Passage (Important area damaged by spill) 4) Kenai Fjords National Park 5) Port Chatham 6) Shuyak Straits 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Additionally, I would like to see old growth coastal rain forests given special attention due to their extreme habitat value. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Anchorage # 1563

Please support the use of settlement funds for habitat purchases. This is the best way to spend the money and most of the money should be used in this manner. You should be sure that the purchases are large areas because patchwork protection of Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge inholdings, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, Kenai Fjords National Park inholdings, Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, and Orca Bay. Buying habitat is a win-win situation and I look forward to your taking steps toward achieving such positive action.

Anchorage # 1559

As you develop the Restoration Plan which will determine how the *Exxon Valdez* Settlement monies are spent, I strongly urge you to purchase natural habitat including watersheds and forests so that the

wildlife devastated by the oil spill will not face the threat that clear-cut logging would represent. It is important that large areas of land be bought and protected. It is crucial that you use the Settlement money to buy the seven areas identified in the "citizen's vision" plan including: Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. These areas are natural treasures which should be protected and preserved. Please use this opportunity to do so.

Anchorage # 1517

I must admit that I have not been following this process very carefully. I do care a lot about the environment, however, and would like to tell you my views on how to spend the Exxon money. I think that the money should, for the most part, be spent to keep forested areas from being clearcut. Exxon money should be used to buy land because cutting down the trees hurts the animals that were already hurt by the oil. Protecting the trees helps to protect the animals and gives them a chance to recover. Like most people I did not know which areas were in danger. Fortunately, I belong to some environmental groups and they have informed me that certain areas must be protected above all others. I agree with their recommendation and I am passing it along to you. Please buy habitat in Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I will be following things more closely in the future and I hope to see you take action to protect the areas that I have mentioned. Thank you for taking the time to read my letters as I am sure that you are very busy.

Anchorage # 1512

I am a 25 year resident of Alaska who has slowly watched the beauty and wilderness of Alaska disappear. I am writing to you today, to ask for your support in buying habitat with the oil spill settlement money. I strongly urge you to use this money to purchase wildlife habitat to help protect Alaska's coastal rain forest from logging. Port Gravina, Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge should be purchased to protect these areas from further destruction. Please use the settlement money to protect Alaska's coast.

Anchorage # 1496

Please spend money from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement on habitat acquisition. Please consider the following areas priorities as you begin this process: Port Fidalgo, Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Chatham, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

Anchorage # 1490

I would urge you to use the Exxon Settlement monies toward something permanent, something that can't be used up or wasted; wildlife habitat is the best possible use for the money. There are many sites to consider, and the seven I most highly recommend are: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With dubious results from the cleanup efforts to restore damaged habitat and ecosystems, it's being realized that nature itself is doing a better job on its own. We need to do all we can to aid this process by protecting these areas from any other forces of destruction, such as logging and other human developments.

Anchorage # 1475

Top priority for the EVOS money should be for the acquisition of wildlife habitat. It is the most effective way to protect ecosystems. We urge you to use this money to purchase the seven areas identified as part of the "citizens' vision"--Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The protection is critical for these areas to ensure recovery and prevent future devastation. It's habitat that was damaged; it's habitat we are now losing (such as Orca Narrows logging); and IT IS HABITAT THAT NEEDS PROTECTING.

Anchorage # 1467 Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners

As the President of the Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners I hosted a conference in June of this year here in Anchorage. We had over 250 attendees. I was particularly pleased by the substantial number of conferees who have expressed their great pleasure at having had the opportunity to come visit our vast and beautiful state. A number have already begun to make plans to return next year to further their travels. One theme is clear - They were attracted and will return because we have substantial areas of unspoiled wilderness. It seems clear that for us to continue to attract significant conventions and visitors we must continue to offer what makes us a great destination - wilderness and wildlife. As a Trustee, you can help with this investment in our future by making wildlife habitat acquisition a top priority. I would encourage you to target Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, and Shuyak Straits for wildlife habitat acquisition. Your efforts in this regard are greatly appreciated.

Anchorage # 1464 Knik Canoers and Kayakers, Inc.

Our Club (Knik Canoers and Kayakers) believe acquisition of habitat within the spill area offers the best opportunity for recovery after the spill. We would like to see a very high priority given to protection of this unique marine environment. We urge you to select a variety of habitat areas across the length of the area impacted by the spill. When possible, habitat acquisitions should strive to create large, contiguous areas of habitat rather than small, isolated units. Areas we support for acquiring habitat protection include: Port Gravina/Orca Bay near Cordova, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

Anchorage # 1455

I urge you to use Settlement Funds for these habitat purchases: Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, Kenai Fjords National Park, Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, Port Gravina/ Orca Bay. The vast majority of remaining settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Please protect the remaining forests and wildlife from clearcut logging and other destruction.

Anchorage # 1411

I must admit that I have not been following this process very carefully. I do care a lot about the environment, however, and would like to tell you my views on how to expend the Exxon money. I think that the money should, for the most part, be spent to keep forested areas from being clearcut. Exxon money should be used to buy land because cutting down trees hurts the animals that were already hurt by the oil. Protecting the trees helps protect the animals and gives them a chance to recover. We did not know which areas were in danger. Fortunately, I belong to some environmental groups and

the have informed me that certain areas must be protected above all others. I agree with their recommendations and I am passing it along to you. Please buy habitat in the Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I will be following things more closely in the future and I hope to see you take action to protect the areas that I have mentioned.

Anchorage # 1407

I would like to see the settlement funds spent on habitat protection. Please work diligently to purchase and prevent logging on the following holdings: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Acquisition of the above listed areas would be an excellent use of money. Please also consider using the funds for habitat acquisition in other places, as opportunity arises.

Anchorage # 1400

I am writing to urge you to use the settlement funds to purchase threatened wildlife habitat in Alaska. Having studied biology and environmental science extensively, I am keenly aware of the need to protect entire ecosystems and wildlife habitat in order to ensure effective recovery. This habitat needs to be broad in area, not fragments here and there. But it doesn't really require a degree to understand that--just common sense. You must move quickly to purchase areas identified as part of the "citizens' vision"--Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park(private lands), Port Chatham, Shuyak Strait, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and any other areas that may be available. The wildlife and wilderness of Alaska are spectacular and unique. We must take steps to preserve them now and not sacrifice something so precious to us all for the short-term gain of a few. Thank you for your conscientious work on behalf of all of us who love Alaska and want to preserve it for future generations.

Anchorage # 1360

I am both shocked and alarmed at the possibilities of extensive clearcutting in the same areas damaged by the oil spill. We must do everything possible to improve and protect these areas and Habitat protection is the best means for achieving that goal. Please use the vast majority of the available settlement money to purchase the lands that are home to the various critters hurt by the terrible tragedy of 1989. Among the areas most important to me are the Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Port Gavina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Knight Island Passage, Shuyak Straits. These spectacular areas are the source of not only habitat but recreation and we cannot afford to see any of them degraded by short sighted logging. Thank you very much for your time and I am sure that you will do the right thing.

Anchorage # 1354

Please be aware of my strong support for Habitat Acquisition as the number one priority for expenditure of *Exxon Valdez* settlement moneys. While I am aware of the importance of scientific studies, I believe that buying habitat is the best way to protect and preserve a multitude of species as well as continuing to provide pristine areas for recreation and tourism. As such, habitat acquisition should receive the bulk of the funds which have been place in your trust. In an ideal world I would like to see every threatened area in all of Alaska bought and preserved with Exxon money. It would be wonderful to stop all of that destruction without having to reach into the pockets of taxpayers. Unfortunately, I am well aware that the funds are limited and have been

further depleted by what I consider to be excessive administrative costs, as well as unnecessary or inappropriate projects. Rather than continuing this depressing trend by spending millions of dollars on projects like aquariums and private hatcheries you should wisely use the money to acquire threatened land in the following areas: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay; 2) Port Fidalgo -- by this I mean the bays near Valdez and Tatitlek; 3) Knight Island Passage; 4) Kenai Fjords National Park; 5) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge -- there is no excuse for allowing logging in our National Parks and Refuges; 6) Northern Afognak Island -- many, many animals which were damaged by the oil spill call this area home. 7) Port Chatham -- I mean, of course, the forest along the coast. Thank you and good luck.

Anchorage # 1344

I am writing with regard to the Exxon Spill Settlement. I would like to see this money used to buy habitat. Using the majority of the remaining settlement dollars to protect habitat will help prevent future devastation in this area. I would like to see large areas purchased and protected, to include entire watersheds, as I have heard was the case with the purchase of Seal Bay on Afognak. In particular, I would like to see the following areas considered priority acquisitions: Kenai Fjords National Park, Knight Island Passage, Shuyak Straits, Port Fidalgo, Port Gravina and Orca Bay, Port Chatham, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for your time.

Anchorage # 1342

We would like to introduce ourselves as members of the community who take pride in the beautiful coastal rain forests and wildlife around Prince William Sound, which are now threatened by clear-cut logging. We are writing this letter to urge you to support use of the settlement funds for habitat purchases. We sincerely believe that buying habitat is the BEST WAY to invest oil spill settlement dollars, and that a vast majority of the settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat. The purchase and protection of large areas, including entire watersheds, are required and essential if our future generations are to enjoy and benefit from the continued existence of the myriad wildlife and vegetation that co-exist in Prince William Sound. Accordingly, WE URGE the council members to BUY and PROTECT AT LEAST the following seven areas: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

Anchorage # 1341

Although I am very concerned that the slow pace of restoration spending might cause us to lose precious opportunities, I wanted to say nevertheless that I appreciate your decision to at least purchase habitat at Kachemak and Seal Bays. I urge you however, to more quickly use the vast majority of restoration monies to purchase additional valuable habitat. I support the seven priority habitat acquisitions identified in the "citizens' vision." My personal experience makes me feel especially strongly about Knight Island Passage and Kenai Fjords National Park. To me, these and others are "priceless" areas--but hopefully we can in fact arrive at a price for them and preserve them for future generations of Alaskans and visitors. I'm not one who believes very often that natural resource management can offer win-win solutions for people with fundamentally different values. However, providing cash to willing sellers who can invest and make use of that wealth far better than they can make use of timber, and at the same time preserving habitat for subsistence and other purposes, is to me without any question one of those situations. Finally, I have been very disturbed by decisions by the state administration, and others, to cynically use restoration funding

to further development schemes. Please don't fall prey to the warped logic behind these decisions (for example, how spending millions of dollars to build a road to whittier "restores" the Sound is beyond me).

Anchorage # 1336

Can I add my concerns to those of others and the media? The \$900 million that Exxon has paid in restitution for the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill should be spent NOW to buy as much endangered wildlife habitat acreage as possible. Today's picture in the paper about the Eyak clearcutting certainly shows that further delays by the Trustees will result in irreparable losses of wildlife habitat and wilderness. I don't know how far you can stretch the \$900 million (less, of course, what has been frittered away already on studies and administration), but this Alaskan would be grateful for land purchases in the Kenai Fjords area, Knight Island Passage, Port Chatham and Shuyak Straits. Hope to see some positive results from your August 6 meeting!

Anchorage # 1322

In addition to the Eyak lands (which I visited earlier this summer in Sheep Bay and Port Gravina) I especially would like to see all the land purchased on Knight Island and have it turned into a National Park. Knight Island is a world-class treasure that must be protected. I would also like to see the timber lands on the outside coast of Kenai Fjords National Park protected, as well as Port Chatham (especially since so much of the adjoining land has been cut).

Anchorage # 1311

Thank you for spending settlement monies to protect timber land in Kachemak Bay and at Seal Bay on Afognak Island. I support spending the vast majority of the remaining funds to add more habitat to that list. Prince William Sound has suffered enough damage without subjecting it to clearcut logging in the best forest habitat in the region. I am especially interested in seeing the Eyak lands at Port Gravina/Sheep Bay/Orca Inlet and around Cordova protected as well as what is left of the Tatitlek lands in Port Fidalgo. I would like to see a priority placed on the outside coast of the Kenai Peninsula in both the National Park and Port Chatham. Using settlement monies to buy timber scheduled for logging is a unique win-win situation for which future generations will thank you profusely for seeing the wisdom in pursuing with vigor. Spending the funds on endowing University chairs or more research simply will not protect the wildlife and fish that will suffer if these beautiful and productive forest lands are allowed to be cut and exported to the orient.

Anchorage # 1248

I applaud your earlier habitat purchases in Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay on Afognak Island. It was a major step towards restoring the areas affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill and protecting them from future harm. However, it was only a first step towards habitat acquisition. In order to protect Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska from further degradation caused by logging and development, more prime wildlife habitat needs to be purchased. I support the "Citizen's Vision for Restoration" which recommends using the \$900 million Exxon Settlement money to purchase additional threatened habitat in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. There are several areas of vital importance for the recovery of animal, plant and fish species affected by the spill. These are 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The areas purchased should be large enough to include entire watersheds and ecosystems such as the 42,000 acre purchase at Seal .

Bay. I encourage the Trustees to make these purchases as soon as possible from willing landowners. It is definitely a win-win opportunity for both the private landowners and the public interest in protecting these most valuable lands.

Anchorage # 1213

I urge you to use the Exxon Settlement funds to purchase threatened wildlife habitat, specifically in the following areas: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Purchasing these habitats would be the best way to guarantee recovery of the areas affected by the spill and would protect them from further injury. It would also preserve valuable tourist attractions and, most important, our unique and priceless Alaskan heritage. Buying wildlife habitat should in fact be the central focus of the restoration plan and should cover broad areas, including entire watersheds. Alaska is one of the most beautiful states in the Union--Kenai Fjords National Park, for example, is positively breathtaking. Please preserve our state's beauty by using the Settlement to buy wildlife habitat.

Anchorage # 1187

The very best way to invest the Oil Spill Settlement dollars would be to buy wildlife habitat. It is obvious that the money relinquished by Exxon should be used to help protect for the future the habitat it threatened in the past. Therefore, I feel that the vast majority of remaining Settlement fund should be used to safeguard wildlife habitats in South Central Alaska from further destruction. I have been across Prince William Sound many times this past summer and have seen the destruction logging has caused on the coast between Valdez and Cordova. I have also seen the beauty and magnificence of the land yet untouched by human influence. It is imperative that the settlement money be spent acquiring these large areas of land including entire watersheds. Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straights, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I appreciate what a hard decision this council must be facing, but I am positive that you will see that the best hope for ensuring the future health of the Oil Spill area lies in acquiring specific habitats in the Western Gulf of Alaska.

Anchorage # 1186 Global Citizens United

We citizens of Alaska feel strongly that Exxon Settlement funds should be used for habitat purchases over broad areas that include whole watersheds like the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak. In particular, we support the seven areas identified in the "citizen's plan" that would pay private inholders for lands that would be logged or otherwise developed in a way that would diminish their wilderness values. These areas include Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and bear habitat in Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Habitat protection is the best way to protect spill injured species from further losses and will preserve the pristine quality of these areas that is so priceless to each of us.
[Signed by 6 people.]

Anchorage # 1163

After studying the alternatives set forth for use of the \$600 million remaining restoration money, I am writing to support using the funds to purchase as much critical habitat and timber rights as possible in the Western Gulf. In particular, the seven areas identified in the "citizens' vision" put together by residents of the spill impacted areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island

Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

Anchorage # 1160

I strongly encourage you to invest the majority of the remaining *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement funds for habitat purchases. I live in Alaska because I love its wilderness areas and wildlife, and I believe the best use of the settlement funds will be to purchase land and timber rights and protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I urge you to protect large areas of land, including the following areas identified by citizens who have created a "citizens' vision" for restoration: Port Fidalgo, Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for doing your best to provide for the protection of what "Alaska" really is.

Anchorage # 1102

My comments on the draft Restoration Plan are as follows: 1> The best use of the settlement funds is to protect habitat, recreation, and tourism areas. 2> We can prevent further damage by removing areas from logging and other development activity. 3> I support the Citizen's Vision of Habitat Acquisition.

Anchorage # 1090

I am writing in support of using the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement monies to purchase private lands in areas of the Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjords National Park, Afognak Island and the Kodiak National Wildlife refuge. You made a great start by the purchases at Kachemak and Seal Bays, but the seven other areas identified by citizens of the area deserve serious consideration. I know that you are under great pressure to spend the Settlement monies on other projects. However, one of the reasons that the Exxon Spill did not have as drastic an impact as it might have had was the fact that there was so much undeveloped habitat in the impact area for animals to utilize. If large areas had been developed, or clearcut logged, then the animals would have been concentrated into smaller areas and the potential for impact would have been much greater. Purchasing such areas will protect them, providing large, continuous tracts of undeveloped wildlife habitat as a buffer against potential future disasters.

Anchorage # 1089

The other (major area in which settlement money should be spent) is acquisition of open private lands for future use by people. I have followed proposed acquisition issues carefully and believe the attached proposal by the Sierra Club Alaska Chapter is a sound one. I urge you to seek acquisition of these lands. Thank you for your service to Alaska.

Anchorage # 1087

I am writing to tell you what I feel will be the best use of the \$600 million settlement monies received as a result of the oil spill. I hope you will consider my letter as you develop your "Restoration Plan." Wildlife habitat is what has suffered from the spill, therefore wildlife habitat is what should benefit from the settlement funds. The best use is to buy land and timber rights and to protect habitat as you have already begun to do in Kachemak Bay and on Afognak Island. Other areas where I hope you will purchase private land include 1) Knight Island Passage where my family and I have gone with our boat and enjoyed the island wilderness, 2) Kenai Fjords National Park where I take out-of-state guests and where they never fail to be impressed with our state's beauty and

wildlife, 3) Port Gravina/Orca Bay where the old growth forests provide high-quality wilderness habitat, and 4) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge where proposed development threatens prime brown bear areas. Thank you for your attention and good luck as you proceed with your challenging assignment.

Anchorage # 1083 National Audubon Society

On behalf of the National Audubon Society including its 2,700 Alaska members, I'm writing to urge that you strongly support committing most of the remaining \$600 million in *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement monies to acquisition of key fish and wildlife habitats along the track of the spill.

These high priority habitats include the following: 1) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, 2) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 3) Port Fidalgo, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Knight Island Passage, 6) Port Chatham, 7) Shuyak Straits.

Anchorage # 1082

Please make purchasing wildlife habitat in Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjords, Afognak, and Kodiak a cornerstone of the Restoration Plan.

Anchorage # 1077

The most effective way to ensure recovery of the spill-impacted area and to protect these ecosystems from further devastation is buying wildlife habitat. Please move quickly to purchase seven areas namely: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Since private owners are paid for the value of the holdings of land the public interest is protected, as well, and everybody wins.

Anchorage # 1075

Please use the remaining \$600 million in Exxon fines wisely! Thank you for finally saving the beautiful natural habitat in Kachemak Bay. In the same way please buy and protect at least the seven areas identified as part of the "citizens' vision": 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park area, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge area. We need to set aside entire watersheds to protect the beautiful and abundant wildlife and environment and help it to recover from the impact of the oil spill. Thank you!

Anchorage # 1072

We want you to know that we believe settlement money should be used to buy more wildlife habitat. The following areas should be your priority and other areas should be added and acquired in rapid succession: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. As the world becomes more and more populated and Alaska becomes less remote...our chance to save areas will become more and more difficult. This needs to be done now. Thank you for your work on this project.

Anchorage # 1059

I strongly urge you to use the Settlement funds to acquire threatened habitat for wildlife. I believe that this is one way that land will be saved from further development in areas that are vital for wildlife. So many of our tourists come up here "to see the animals" as to find pristine wilderness that no longer exists in so many places. I encourage you to buy habitat in large parcels, including watersheds. I support the Alaska Center for the Environment's "Priority Habitat

Acquisitions" in the Western Gulf and encourage you to move quickly to purchase them. They are also identified as part of the "citizen's vision." You can truly make a difference and I encourage you to do so.

Anchorage # 1048

Buying wildlife habitat is the very best way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. I believe the vast majority of remaining settlement funds from the Exxon oil spill should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas including entire watersheds should be bought and protected with this money, as with the recent 4200 acre purchase at Seal Bay. The trustees should buy and protect at least the 7 areas identified as part of the citizens' vision that were outlined in the map provided by the Sierra Club. Some of these areas include: Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island, Kenai Fjords and Kodiak Island. I feel strongly about the protection of Alaskan lands for the future of Alaska and generations of Alaskans to come, and wish for the State to aggressively purchase land in preservation and perpetuity for ever.

Anchorage # 1042

We very strongly support using the Exxon Settlement fund for habitat purchases! Please move quickly to purchase the seven areas identified as part of the "citizen's vision" (i.e. Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. We feel that buying wildlife habitat is the most sensible thing to do. Please help ensure that these diverse biological treasures are protected!

Anchorage # 1035

Let's buy some land with the \$600,000,000.00 for our future and the coming generations. 1) Kenai Fjords National Park 2) Shuyak Straits 3) Kodiak National Wildlife refuge 4) Port Gravina/Orca Bay 5) Knight Island Passage 6) Port Chatham 7) Port Fidalgo. Let's do it.

Anchorage # 1034

We believe there are 7 key areas that should be considered for habitat purchase as a very minimum. There may be others, but these 7 would make an excellent start: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. We would be most grateful for your strong consideration concerning the points we have raised in our letter. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Anchorage # 1028

There are several areas that I feel are prime candidates for habitat purchases. These areas are: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay in Prince William Sound, 2) Port Fidalgo in Prince William Sound, 3) Knight Island Passage in Prince William Sound, 4) Southern Montague Island in Prince William Sound, 5) Shuyak Straits on northern Afognak Island and 6) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I urge you to move quickly to purchase the areas that I have recommended. Buying habitat is the most effective way to ensure recovery of the spill impacted area and to protect these ecosystems from further devastation. Please give this request your highest consideration.

Anchorage # 1001

First, thanks for your recent positive actions toward the land purchases at Seal Bay. Good work. I strongly encourage you to continue along the same lines and use the remaining settlement monies to

purchase other habitat that is threatened by logging and development. Although some may complain that the habitat to be purchased was not the habitat directly damaged by the oil spill, buying and providing long-term protection to wildlife is the most effective way to ensure recovery of the spill-impacted areas and protect them from further damage. I greatly fear that if habitat is not purchased the remaining money will be "lost", bit by bit, to funding for various agencies and studies. The oil spill settlement monies are not the appropriate source for such funding and, unless you are careful, you may soon look back and wonder where all the money went and what you got for it. I have recently returned from a trip to Shuyak Island and know first-hand the value of Shuyak Straits. Preservation of that area would also help offset the extensive logging underway on Afognak. Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords, Port Chatham, and Kodiak Refuge also include high value lands that should be obtained. Thank you for your continued efforts and your consideration of the importance of purchasing broad areas of habitat with remaining oil spill settlement monies.

Anchorage # 696

The priority habitat acquisitions must be: 1. Port Gravina/Orca Bay 2. Port Fidalgo 3. Knight Island Passage 4. Kenai Fjords National Park 5. Kodiak Island National Wildlife Refuge 6. Shuyak Straits 7. Port Chatham

Anchorage # 672

Acquisition of habitat is the absolute most important way to recover from the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. Purchase of Kachemak Bay and Afognak Island lands by the Trustee Council should lead the way to other similar acquisitions. Prince William Sound should be a priority acquisition area for the EVOS Trustees, since that region was significantly altered by the spill. Areas around Cordova, Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, and Knight Island deserve immediate attention. Willing sellers and imminent threat of logging should be critical to which lands are chosen by the Trustees. The Gulf Coast of the Kenai Peninsula was heavily oiled and should also be a main priority for habitat.

Anchorage # 620

The money should be spent now when the threats from logging are very high. Particular areas that I want to see in the priority acquisition list include: 1) Port Gravina & Orca Bay, 2) Kenai Fjords National Park, 3) Knight Island Passage. My second priority list includes: 4) Port Chatham, 5) Shuyak Straits, 6) Port Fidalgo, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I would also like to see the other Eyak Corp Lands in and around Cordova saved.

REGION: Kenai

Homer # 1557

I would like to share with you my opinion of how to best use the \$600 million in Settlement funds from Exxon. First I'd like to say that my position comes from my interest in, and volunteer work with the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, and related land conservation in general. I've recently been made aware of a "citizens' vision" identifying priority habitat acquisitions in the western Gulf of Alaska. I agree that this list of seven areas does include lands containing very valuable wildlife habitat which should be protected by the EVOS settlement funds. These seven areas are: the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham, Kenai Fjords National Park, Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, and Port Gravina/Orca Bay. These lands should be protected keeping the tracts ,

as large as possible to ensure the integrity of the stewardship in perpetuity. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you for using a portion of the Settlement funds to purchase land and timber rights inside Kachemak Bay State Park, and for Seal Bay. Your foresight in these purchases and in the use of the remaining funds will be long applauded!

Homer # 1036 Silver Eagle Charters

I am writing to strongly encourage you to utilize the Exxon settlement funds to buy and preserve wildlife habitat in Prince William Sound and coastal areas on the Gulf of Alaska. I not only operate my own small charter business out of Homer, I am also the Relief Master on the state ferry Tustumena. As such, I get the opportunity to sail by many of the areas which concern myself and many others. Our concern is that logging, tourism and other threats will cause serious, if not irrevocable harm to areas which are now pristine, or nearly so, and vital to the ecological health of all of SW Alaska. Specifically, the Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and Knight Island Passage need to be preserved for the benefit of our wildlife and the delicate balance between creatures of the sea and ashore, as well as for future generations of Alaskans and Americans.

Homer # 683

I received a flier in the mail from the Alaska Center for the Environment in Anchorage. It presented 4 priority habitat acquisitions for the Western Gulf of Alaska, and 3 for Prince William Sound. These look good to me. I've enclosed a copy, though you probably already have one. I would hope that you would be able to acquire other habitat as well. In making acquisitions or arranging for conservation easements, I suggest that wherever possible large areas be protected. Saving a part of an interdependent ecosystem such as a watershed is not as effective as protecting the whole unit.

Homer # 482 Kachemak Bay Conservation Society (KBCS)

Habitat acquisition priorities: Kenai Fjords National Park lands, Shuyak Island lands, Kodiak Island parcels. We basically support these lands as the #1 purchases.

Homer # 297

Acquire lands: 1) Inholdings in Kenai Fjords National Park. 2) Kachemak Bay State Park. 3) Afognak Island. 4) Private land in Homer spit. 5) Old growth forrest in PWS. 6) Private land along Anchor River.

Kenai # 1037

I am writing today regarding usage of the Exxon Settlement. I believe that buying wildlife habitat should be the cornerstone of the restoration plan. This should include large tracts of land which include entire watershed areas (such as the Seal Bay purchase on Afognak). A reasonable plan would be to purchase as much of the "citizens' vision" proposed areas as possible including Port Gravina, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords, Port Chatam, Shuyak Straits and on Kodiak Island. This will ensure recreation opportunities and wildlife protection for us and future generations. Thank you.

Other Kenai Borough# 1138

I am writing you to inform you and try to persuade you as to utilization of Exxon settlement funds. I believe that such funds should be used to purchase habitat. Any restoration plan should, in my opinion be based upon wildlife habitat, as a way of ensuring recovery. An added benefit will be to

protect these ecosystems from further devastation. Habitat purchase should be diverse covering broad areas, and including entire watersheds. Such purchases should include Orca Bay, Knight Island passage, Port Fidalgo, Kenai Fjords National Park borders, Port Chatham, Shuyuk Straits and areas near Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. I hope you will seriously consider my specific suggestions purchase of entire ecosystems for wildlife habitat is the best use for the Exxon settlement funds.

Other Kenai Borough# 513

I'm writing concerning the spending of Exxon Settlement funds. In particular I favor wildlife habitat acquisition. I think that this is the most sure way to help the damaged wildlife and marine ecosystem. Damaged areas that I'm familiar with, that I think need particularly quick action are the Knight Island area, and the southern end of the Kenai Peninsula (the Kenai Fjords National Park, and the Port Chatham, Port Dick areas.)

REGION: Kodiak

Kodiak # 1249 Kodiak Audubon Society

On behalf of the Kodiak Audubon Society, we commend the Trustee Council for the purchase of Kachemak

Bay and Seal Bay lands. These acquisitions of threatened wildlife habitat are the most effective method of restoration to protect these ecosystems from logging and other development. We strongly support committing most of the remaining EVOS settlement moneys to purchase threatened fish and wildlife habitat. These priority habitat acquisitions along the spill impacted tract include the following: 1) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, 2) Shuyak Straits/Northern Afognak 3) Port Gravina/Orca Bay 4) Port Fidalgo 5) Knight Island Passage 6) Kenai Fjords National Park 7) Port Chatham.

Kodiak # 737

Buy habitat for: common murre, marbled murrelets, harlequins, oystercatchers. Majority of money for the threatened habitat and for injured resources. Protect: Shuyak Straits, Port Gravina, Port Fidalgo, Kodiak Refuge, esp. Karluk Lake area and sport/recreation opportunities.

REGION: Outside Alaska

US, Outside Alaska# 1792

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1791

I would just like to stress that buying natural habitat is by far the best use of 'Oil Spill Settlement' dollars. The vast majority of the remaining funds should be used to purchase and preserve crucial forests and watersheds to ensure that these endangered ecosystems remain relatively healthy. Seven notable areas stand out as deserving of this protection. They include: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park (Private Holdings within park), Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Private Holdings Within Park). This money was made available because of the environmental damage caused by the 'Spill', and as such shouldn't southeastern coastal Alaska's environment be the major beneficiary. Wildlife and fishing interests would benefit greatly from the protection of this land. Please make the most logical choice and recommend purchasing this crucial habitat. Thank you for your time.....

US, Outside Alaska# 1790

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1788

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1787

Please use the *Exxon Valdez* settlement funds for habitat acquisition including: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay; 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park; 5) Port Chatham; 6) Shuyak Straits; 7) Kodiak Island Wildlife Refuge. Thank you for considering my comments.

US, Outside Alaska# 1786

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should

be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1785

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1783

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US, Outside Alaska# 1782

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US, Outside Alaska# 1781

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to

invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1780

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1779

I am writing to ask you to use the Oil Spill Settlement funds for purchase of wildlife habitat: the seven areas identified as the "Citizens' Vision" areas. I have visited Alaska, and hope to visit your state again. Seeing your unspoiled, magnificent wilderness is an unforgettable experience which cannot be obtained anywhere else. I am convinced that the best thing you can possibly do for the benefit of future Alaskans is to ensure that as much of your wilderness is preserved as is possible. You have such an unbelievably rich and valuable heritage. Please do as much as you can to preserve it. It is priceless in terms of spiritual inspiration and in maintaining a high quality of life for your citizens.

US, Outside Alaska# 1776

I'm writing to you for two reasons. First, to say thank you for wisely choosing to use Settlement funds to save Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay. Second, to urge you to use remaining settlement funds for habitat purchases, specifically Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Each area has its unique value which I'm sure you are very well aware of, so I won't dwell on each one, but together they are the essential areas that need to be protected from clear-cut logging and other destructive developments. Using the settlement funds to protect wildlife habitat is the very best way to restore the areas damaged by the Exxon Spill. To quote Anne Weiland, "Use of the EVOS Settlement for habitat purchase offers a rare 'Win-Win' opportunity: Private owners get paid for the value of their land holdings and the public interest is protected as well. These purchases offer our best hope for ensuring the long-term health of the spill area." So I urge, no beg you, to buy and protect at least the seven areas I have identified with the remaining \$600 million in Exxon fines. Your country will be eternally grateful.

US, Outside Alaska# 1772

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1771

I support your decision to use settlement funds to save Kachemak Bay on the Kenai and Seal Bay on Afognak Island. Using the settlement to protect wildlife habitat is the very best way to restore their damaged populations. I urge you to spend the majority of remaining settlement funds to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Priority habitat acquisitions as proposed by the "citizens vision" are: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The decisions you make affect the fate of much of Alaska's magnificent coastal rain forest. I hope you will take a stand to buy and protect large areas, including entire watersheds. Vote to preserve a most precious and needed natural habitat for our survival today - and our future generations.

US, Outside Alaska# 1769

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1766

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1765

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1761

It is important to put the oil spill settlement dollars to the best possible use. Buying habitat is the best way to do that. Large areas should be bought and protected, including: 1) Port Gravina and Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Alaska may be far from where I live but is close to my heart. Please support wilderness.

US, Outside Alaska# 1755

I am writing to request that the remaining \$600 million in settlement monies be used to purchase critical habitat for the species which were affected by the spill. In my judgement the purchase of habitat to prevent the destructive activities of man is one of the most constructive ways to preserve the natural world. Consequently, I have supported land trusts and conservancy efforts in several areas of the United States over the years. I urge you to give priority to the seven habitats proposed by the local citizens groups in Alaska. Although I have travelled to Alaska to visit this region, in general, I have found that those outdoors people who live in an area know what is most valuable to save.

US, Outside Alaska# 1752 Washington Wilderness Coalition

The Washington Wilderness Coalition (WWC) is writing to urge you to support the use of the Exxon Valdez Settlement funds for habitat purchases in Alaska. We feel that buying habitat would be the best possible way to invest the oil spill settlement dollars. The vast majority of the remaining settlement funds should be spent to buy habitat, which would in turn protect the Alaskan wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected (as with the recent purchase at Seal Bay). Also, the Trustees should buy and protect at least these following habitats: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay; 2) Port Fidalgo; 3) Knight Island Passage; 4) Kenai Fjords National Park; 5) Port Graham; 6) Shuyak Straits; and 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Salmon, Bald Eagles, and Marbled Murrelets are among some of the creatures which were devastated by the oil spill and now depend on the forest habitat. The large-scale logging threat in the oil spill area constitutes what could become a second disaster for these animals. We at the WWC are convinced that using the settlement dollars to protect the wildlife habitat is the best way to restore their damaged populations. The Washington Wilderness Coalition is composed of over 40 member organizations and 1,000 individuals, both grass-roots and state-wide, fighting to save wilderness, wild rivers and wildlife in the United States. Please consider the above-mentioned proposals; we feel they are the only way to ensure the long-term protection of the oil spill area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1750

I am writing in regards to the allocation of the oil spill settlement dollars. I feel the wisest use of these monies is to purchase ancient forest habitat. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to insure protection for wildlife, salmon spawning grounds, and the entire ecosystem. You should buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords NP, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straights, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1748

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1746

This is a request to the Trustees to support the use of the settlement funds for habitat purposes - using the settlement to protect wildlife habitat is the very best way to restore their damaged populations. Thank you so much for this opportunity. With such at stake - how can one do otherwise! 1) Buying habitat is the VERY BEST WAY to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. 2) The VAST MAJORITY OF REMAINING SETTLEMENT FUNDS should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation; 3) LARGE AREAS including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak); 4) The Trustees should buy and protect AT LEAST THE SEVEN AREAS identified as part of the "citizens' vision" (see map); and 5) SUPPORT ANY OTHER AREAS you want to see protected. You know what/where they are.

US, Outside Alaska# 1744

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1743

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least

the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1742

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1741

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1740

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1738

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1736

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover

without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1732

Please use the \$600 million on acquisition of those prime areas such as inholdings in Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham. Your wisdom in this matter will be felt for centuries to come.

US, Outside Alaska# 1731

I am writing to urge you use the oil spill settlement dollars to purchase lands and bays for future protection... especially the Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, and Kenai Fjords. I understand that Kachemak and Seal Bay have already been protected. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1730

Please use the oil spill settlement dollars to buy wildlife habitat, thus protecting species from further devastation. Also please purchase at least seven areas identified as part of the "citizens vision". Thank you buying the 42,000 acres at Seal Bay on Afognak. Please continue to buy habitat for wild creatures. Thank you.

US, Outside Alaska# 1718

Surely you have an awesome responsibility in the allocation of the \$600 million Valdez money. In view of why you now hold the money, surely justice - and life on earth - call out for the protection of every possible area for long term protection from the careless accidents of development - at the very least, the seven areas suggested by the Kachemak Bay Coalition - and every additional area possible. Please inspire the world by proving that humans can protect as well as destroy.

US, Outside Alaska# 1716

This is to inform you that I would like you to support the use of settlement funds for habitat purposes. Buying habitat is the best way to use settlement funds. The vast majority of remaining settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak. The Trustees should buy and protect at least the 7 acres identified as part of the Citizens Vision.

US, Outside Alaska# 1694

I wish to express my concern over your upcoming decision on the use of Oil Spill Settlement Funds. I believe that absolutely the best way to invest these funds is by buying habitat, thereby protecting wildlife habitat and entire watersheds from further man-made accidents. By purchasing at least those seven areas identified as part of the "citizen's vision", you will have made a decision that will protect a variety of plant and animal species and their habitats from the further ravages of man. I urge you to invest Oil Spill Settlement monies in the purchase of large areas of habitat and entire watersheds.

US, Outside Alaska# 1693

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US, Outside Alaska# 1690

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US, Outside Alaska# 1689

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US, Outside Alaska# 1688

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part

of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1687

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1686

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US, Outside Alaska# 1685

Concerning the remaining \$600,000,000 in Exxon fines for the Prince William Sound catastrophe, I believe investing in wildlife habitat is the best way to settle. There are many areas needing protection from clear cutting, etc., but these are some of the most critical: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. As our roadless areas in the lower 48 keep shrinking and preserving wilderness is more and more difficult, I think we need to acquire all we can.

US, Outside Alaska# 1681

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1680

As you consider the plans for spending the rest of the \$600 million Exxon fines as part of the "Restoration Plan," I feel it is vitally important that such funds are used for the best extent possible to purchase, protect, and preserve habitat throughout the Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound Areas. Habitat in terms of native species and wildlife need to be protected from further human and ecological degradation, and, that is only possible if steps are taken now to purchase habitat that it can and should be protected. Specifically, I urge you to use funds to purchase habitat in Port Gravina/Orca Bay areas; forest areas in the Port Fidalgo region; habitat in the Knight Island Passage area; protection of the integrity of all lands near and within the Kenai Fjords National Park; forest habitat near Port Chatham; forest and aquatic habitat in the Shuyak Straits area; and bear habitat in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. These are areas that continue to be threatened by development and other potential disasters. By purchasing and buying large tracts of land with funds, these lands can be protected from further logging, or environmental dismantling of precious and beautiful Alaskan ecosystems. I urge you to take seriously where such a large pool of funds can be best used and employed not only for the betterment of the people of Alaska and the United States, but also for the wildlife and habitat of these areas.

US, Outside Alaska# 1679

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1678

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US, Outside Alaska# 1671

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife

habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1668

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1666

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1664

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1663

As an informed citizen, I am writing concerning the allocation of Exxon fine funds. It is important to allocate monies in a pragmatic way, one that will outlast the oil spill itself and its immediate

cleanup. The best way to accomplish this is to purchase and preserve wildlife habitat. This in itself is the best way to restore populations injured by the oil spill. Recent efforts to secure Seal Bay of Afognak Island and Kachemak Bay on the Kenai are excellent first steps. This effort must be continued, with a significant majority of remaining settlement funds being used to purchase and protect wildlife habitat from further intrusion. Seven areas have been identified as prime candidates for purchase: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2) Port Fidalgo, 3) Knight Island Passage, 4) Kenai Fjords National Park, 5) Port Chatham, 6) Shuyak Straits, 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Preservation of these areas, including watersheds, is critical to protection and restoration of wildlife habitat. Development and timber cutting in these areas should be precluded forever. By using settlement monies for land purchase, landowners will receive fair payment for their contribution to lasting habitat preservation.

US, Outside Alaska# 1661

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1660

My husband and I are students of Geology and Oceanography and we ask you to support the use of the settlement funds for habitat purposes. 1) Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. 2) The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. 3) Large areas including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). 4) The Trustees should buy and protect at least those areas identified as part of the "citizens vision." 5) Support 1- Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 2-Port Fidalgo, 3-Knight Island Passage, 4-Kenai Fjords National Park, 5- Port Chatham, 6-Shuyak Straits, 7-Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Please remember that what happens in Alaska effects the waters, the ecology of the rest of the world.

US, Outside Alaska# 1657

It is my understanding that the Trustee Council is about to decide the use of the funds from the *Exxon Valdez* fines. I urge the Council to use the remaining funds for purchasing private lands threatened with development in the following areas: Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Afognak Island and Shuyak Straits, Port Chatham region on the Kenai Peninsula, Kenai Fjord National Park, Knight Island Passage area, Port Fidalgo (Prince William Sound), Port Gravina & Orca Bay (Prince William Sound). Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

US, Outside Alaska# 1656

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while

giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1653

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1651

I would like to ask for your support for spending the greatest part of the remaining Settlement funds for the purchase and protection of wildlife habitat. Please consider purchase of land and timber rights in these critical areas: Kenai Fjords National Park inholdings, Knight Island Passage, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge proposed adjacent developments, Port Chatham, Port Fidalgo, Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Shuyak Straits. I appreciate your previous decisions to use funds for Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay, and I trust that you will have the wisdom and good judgment to do similar good with the remaining funds. Thank you for your consideration.

US, Outside Alaska# 1647

I am writing to ask that you support the use of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill settlement monies for habitat purchases in the affected area (Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska). As a former eleven year Alaskan resident before, during and after the oil spill, I looked with horror at the damage that this disaster did to the pristine marine areas in Prince William Sound and the areas west of the Sound in the Gulf of Alaska. I urge you to spend the vast majority (if not all) of the remaining settlement funds on habitat purchases at Port Gravina/Orca Bay area, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Many of these areas are threatened by private development within their borders (Kenai Fjords and Kodiak), are areas covered for development and logging or are areas that provide critical habitat for spill impacted species. Large areas, such as complete watersheds, should be purchased and protected to provide efficient use of the settlement money the best use of this money is to purchase the habitat that wildlife and fish depend on for their survival. I hope that the Trustees will consider the long- term future of this impacted area and use the resources at their disposal to assist the long term recovery process and protect the natural heritage of this part of Alaska. Habitat is the key to wildlife!

US, Outside Alaska# 1646

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1644

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be apent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds and the needs clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it. This is extremely important!

US, Outside Alaska# 1642

This letter is to urge you to follow the "citizen vision" for the acquisition of priority habitat in Prince William Sound and the Western Gulf of Alaska. Such action is the only appropriate course to follow since the funding is the result of the legal action taken to restore the damage to the ecosystem as a result of the spill. The purchase of these pristine and sensitive natural areas will help protect these entire ecosystems from future destructive development such as clear cutting. Be a good steward for these lands and waters and the generations of the future will applaud your name.

US, Outside Alaska# 1641

I have written to you at this time to express my concerns over the fate of much of Alaska's magnificent coastal rain forest and to make suggestions for its protection. As you are well aware, the most beautiful areas of Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjords National Park, Afognak Island and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge contain vast tracts of private land. This area--more than 850,000 acres of pristine wildlife habitat--is threatened by clear-cut logging and other destructive developments. Salmon, bald eagles, harlequin ducks, marbled murrelets, and other wildlife devastated by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill depend on forest habitat. Large-scale logging in the oil spill area would bring a second disaster to these creatures. As members of the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council, you control the fate of the remaining \$600 million in Exxon fines and thus control the fate of the wildlife and their habitats in the areas mentioned above, as well as all others affected by the spill. Using the settlement funds to protect wildlife habitat is the very best way to restore their damaged populations. Therefore, when making your decision, I urge you to keep the following points in mind: 1) Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars; 2) The

vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation; 3) Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak); 4) You should buy and protect, as a minimum: a) Port Gravina/Orca Bay; b) Port Fidalgo; c) Knight Island Passage; d) Kenai Fjords National Park; e) Port Chatham; f) Shuyak Straits; and g) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. As I stated upon filling out my recommendations on the 1994 Potential Project Titles list on May 19th of this year--let's keep our priorities in proper perspective. Wildlife and habitat first.

US, Outside Alaska# 1639

I am writing this letter to ask you to support the use of the *Exxon Valdez* settlement funds for habitat purchases. Buying habitat is the best way to invest settlement dollars; the vast majority of remaining settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation; and large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected. Please buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Please do not succumb to the pressure to use the settlement funds on projects of little value to restoring the fish and wildlife hurt in the spill -- rather, use the funds to buy land and timber rights to protect their habitat. Thank you for your consideration.

US, Outside Alaska# 1637

Your oil spill settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest oil spill settlement dollars. The majority of remaining settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1636

I support using settlement funds for protecting wildlife habitat and buying and protecting entire watersheds to protect them from logging; and the seven areas identified as a part of the "citizens vision" should be purchased and protected from clear-cut logging and other destructive developments...

US, Outside Alaska# 1622

Secondly, I would like to commend you on your actions earlier this year to save Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay from further habitat destruction through logging. I followed this issue closely in the legislature and I was pleasantly surprised at the outcome. As I am sure you can conclude, I am strongly in favor of using the remaining settlement funds for further habitat purchases. I hope protecting the spill affected areas from further devastation will continue to be a priority for the Trustee Council. The *Exxon Valdez* oil spill of 1989 reminded us of how fragile our surroundings really are and how great the risks are even when you think you have taken the necessary precautions. The citizens in the spill affected areas have joined together to create a "citizen's vision" that identifies seven critical areas whose habitat should be protected. The areas include: Port Garvina,

Fidalgo & Chatham, Orca Bay, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjord National Park, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, and Shuyak Straits. These areas have been chosen because of their value to local residents and all Alaskans in their present state. These habitats will be protected only if settlement funds are used to buy these lands and the associated timber rights. Please consider using the remaining funds to purchase these habitat areas and help Alaska make spill recovery a reality. Again, thank you for allowing me to comment in this forum.

US, Outside Alaska# 1621

Please support use of the settlement funds for the purchase of habitats. Large areas should be bought, especially the seven areas which are part of the "citizen's vision". Thanks

US, Outside Alaska# 1615 American Rivers

American Rivers is the nation's principal river conservation organization, with more than 15,000 members nationwide. In its twenty-year history, American Rivers has worked intensively to protect rivers under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and has actively assisted states and local groups with their river conservation efforts. American Rivers has also worked closely with federal agencies in numerous programs designed to protect and restore the nation's rivers. American Rivers is a member of the Alaska Rain Forest Campaign, and, along with the other national and regional conservation groups within the campaign, is dedicated to the protection of Alaska's temperate rain forest, from Ketchikan to Kodiak. We strongly support utilization of the vast majority of the remaining Oil Spill Settlement funds to buy land and conservation easements on lands throughout the spill area. We believe strongly that purchase of habitat important to wildlife and fisheries should be the highest priority of Settlement fund expenditures. Further, the long-term protection of wildlife and fisheries resources will be enhanced by purchasing large areas of land, not isolated tracts. Where possible, entire watersheds should be purchased. The Trustees deserve great credit for the purchase of large areas around Seal Bay on Afognak Island and Kachemak Bay near Homer. These purchases should serve as a model for future fund expenditures. American Rivers supports the objectives of the "Citizens' Vision," and urges purchase of lands and easements in the following seven critical areas: 1) Kenai Fjord National Park 2) Knight Island Passage, 3) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, 4) Port Chatham, 5) Port Fidalgo, 6) Port Gravina/Orca Bay, 7) Shuyak Straits. We request in particular that the Trustees move quickly to prevent the destruction of habitat values at Port Gravina/Orca Bay, the most threatened area that needs to be acquired. We also urge the Trustees to consider carefully the important fisheries and wildlife values, especially brown bear, present in the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Acquisition of critical inholdings will ensure the long-term protection and integrity of many streams important to salmon and wildlife. If you have any questions concerning the matters set forth above, please do not hesitate to communicate with me.

US, Outside Alaska# 1613

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000-acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak

National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1610

As a concerned U.S. citizen and environmentalist I would like to express my views concerning the use of the remaining dollars from Exxon's fines for the Prince William disaster. The remaining \$600 million in fines would be put to best use thru the purchase of wildlife habitat to prevent further degradation of Alaskan coastal rain forest. Any large areas including entire watersheds should be bought and at the very least the seven (7) areas identified by the citizens council should be protected. Due to the vast damage which was inflicted upon wildlife and habitat areas from the Valdez oil spill, I urge the council members to help heal the Alaskan environment thru habitat purchase.

US, Outside Alaska# 1609

Please support use of the Settlement funds for habitat purchases. It is the best way to restore their damaged populations and to protect them for the future. As a flight attendant I am in the Alaska area frequently and I have a great love for the unique beauty and wildlife in the area. The travelers I speak with feel the same. This is your opportunity to do something truly meaningful for the "long run" of habitat protection. Private owners will be paid for the value of their land and the public interest is saved as well. Please support habitat acquisitions in the following areas: Port Garvina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1605

I am concerned about the environment of our world and am especially concerned about our nation's last unspoiled wilderness, Alaska. I am a tourist of Alaska and have several relatives in the area. I enjoy vacationing in places which have not yet been touched by the disfiguring hand of modern human society. The oil spill in Valdez, Alaska--caused by Exxon--has been one of the greatest environmental catastrophes in recent memory. Right now, little can be done to reduce the damage that the spill has caused. The least that the EVOS Trustees can do is draft a Restoration Plan respectful to the Alaskan environment that Exxon has irrevocably ruined. Buying wildlife habitat should be the cornerstone of the plan. It is the most effective way to ensure recovery of the spill-impacted area and also serves to protect these areas from possible devastation in the future. The habitat should be purchased over broad areas, including entire watersheds. The recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak is a good example for the kind of purchase I have in mind. I recommend that the Trustees move quickly to purchase the areas of Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Please rush to protect these as well as any other areas that the Council or other Alaskans feel need protection. In this way, the settlement funds can be used for what they should be used for--present and future protection of the Alaskan environment. It is really a small price of retribution for such a grotesque environmental disaster. Thank You.

US, Outside Alaska# 1604

As a U.S. citizen and former resident of Alaska. I urge you to support the use of Oil Spill settlement funds to buy large areas of wildlife habitat. This is the absolute best way to invest settlement dollars; the majority (if not all) of remaining funds should be spent to protect wildlife,

wild lands, and entire watersheds from further devastation. I lived 5 years in the beautiful Prince William Sound area. My daughter was born there. I know first hand that an incredible irreplaceable region this is, full of beauty and life that can be found no where else on earth. I urge the Council to buy outright several priority habitat areas: 1) Port Fidalgo--logging activities threaten this densely forested habitat so close to my former home of Valdez--a shipping corridor for cruise ships from around the work. Incredible scenic wildlife and tourism value. 2) Port Gravina/Orca Bay--these old growth forests provide necessary habitat for spill-injured species. Exceptional wilderness recreation and tourism values also. 3) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge--proposed development schemes would jeopardize prime bear and other wildlife habitat. A world-class destination for wildlife lovers. We cannot allow Kodiak to become compromised or degraded. 4) Knight Island Passage--prime habitat for spill-impacted species: whales, seals, bald eagles, salmon, sea birds, otters. Excellent wilderness recreation activities. 5) Port Chatham--the very last intact forest habitat along the tip of the outer Kenai Peninsula coast; it must be saved. 6) Kenai Fjords National Park--one of the crown jewels of all Alaska, its coastline is threatened by logging and development on private lands inside the park boundaries. 7) Shuyak Straits--rich habitat for aquatic wildlife, including salmon, highly productive: the Sitka spruce forest on Afognak Island is home to many species: brown bear, elk, deer, marbles murrelets, eagles. 8) Port Valdez--incomparable scenic beauty; rich salmon habitat; cruise ships' destination; beautiful timbered coastlines. Six men will decide the fate of much of Alaska's irreplaceable rain forest. School children all over America are saying "Save the Rain Forest! " Thinking all that needs to be saved is in South America. Here in North America our own rain forests are in as great a peril of over cutting and exploitation. I ask you to think of future generations on this earth as you make this crucial decision. What legacy will we leave them? The legacy we SHOULD leave them is an earth rich in biological diversity and abundant in wildlife and lands. Alaska is one of the last places on earth where this is even possible. Don't let large-scale logging and other development in the spill area create a second disaster for these creatures. Do all you can to purchase and protect these now private wildlands for all Americans. My family and I urge you to do so. The recent 42,000 acre acquisition at Seal Bay was an excellent beginning. Using the remaining \$600 million in funds to further preserve wildlife habitat is the absolute best way to restore these damaged populations.

US, Outside Alaska# 1603

As a former Alaska resident, and today a frequent visitor to the state, I would like to encourage you to spend the vast majority of the remaining settlement funds to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Please buy and protect AT LEAST the seven areas identified as part of the "citizen's vision". I want to congratulate you for saving Kachemak Bay and Seal Bay. Please let Seal Bay be a model as far as protecting entire watersheds. Please don't spend this very important money on projects of little value to restoring the fish and wildlife hurt in the spill. Large-scale logging in the oil spill area would bring a second disaster to the wildlife of the area.

US, Outside Alaska# 1599

Recently, I had the opportunity to enjoy the incredible beauty and tranquility of Tutka and Kachamek Bays. After enjoying these areas I was dismayed to learn how close they came to being logged. This issue suddenly became very personal. I am writing to urge the EVOS Trustees to spend the money wisely. By that I mean spend it on habitat acquisition. Buying wildlife habitat is the best way to allow ecosystems recover from the oil spill. A recovery that will only happen slowly, and over considerable time. When you protect habitat you also preserve the natural beauty of the area for

everyone to enjoy. This produces long-term benefits not temporary resource extraction. I understand that the following seven areas are considered priorities for acquisition, by Alaska citizens: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Habitat acquisition should take priority over all other components of the Restoration plan. I urge the EVOS Trustees to act in Alaska's best interest and move quickly to acquire the areas mentioned above, and other priority areas.

US, Outside Alaska# 1594

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US, Outside Alaska# 1593

Your oil spill settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1592

Please support, vote to approve, and work to implement the "citizen's vision" for spending most remaining Oil Spill Settlement funds to acquire private land and timber rights in at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Salmon, bald eagles, harlequin ducks, marbled murrelets, and many other species severely harmed by the oil spill depend upon forest habitats. Many of these forest habitats are jeopardized by large-scale logging, including clearcutting. The settlement funds cannot bring back the wildlife killed in the spill, nor remove spill-associated toxins from the marine ecosystem. But these settlement funds can and should be used to acquire private forest lands and timber rights so that important habitats will receive necessary protection. Indeed, this is the best and most appropriate use for most of the remaining settlement funds. In this regard, I support and applaud the use of some settlement funds to protect Kachemak Bay on the Kenai and Seal Bay on Afognak Island. Please continue these acquisitions to protect entire watersheds, whenever possible.

US, Outside Alaska# 1591

I would like to recommend that using the Settlement funds to protect wildlife habitat is the very best way to restore the areas damaged by the Exxon spill. Large areas should be bought. Protection wildlife habitat from further devastation. Please buy and protect the following crucial areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; the Knight Island Passage watershed; Port Chatham; the Shuyak Straits watershed and aquatic environment; and inholdings in Kenai Fjords National Park and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. The buying of land and timber rights on these parcels will protect these fragile habitats and all prevent destructive development and clear-cut logging.

US, Outside Alaska# 1588

I am writing regarding the Exxon Settlement funds. As a frequent tourist in beautiful Alaska (the most beautiful of our states) I feel strongly that: A. buying habitat is the best way to spend these funds; B. All that remains should be spent in Habitat, especially large areas including whole watersheds; and C. I would like to see the seven areas (Citizen's Vision) bought up.

US, Outside Alaska# 1583

I am writing to ask you, as Trustees, to support the Settlement funds for habitat purchases. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The vast majority of the remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect our valuable wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected. As a member of the Sierra Club, I'm supporting "citizen's vision for restoration", identifying the seven critical areas to be protected. Please protect what rightfully belongs to all of us, ensuring the long-term health of such a majestic land.

US, Outside Alaska# 1580

I urge that the purchase of fish and wildlife habitat be fully approved so as to save and restore Alaska's coastal area and to fully protect Alaska's unique and fragile wildlife and fish habitats with large areas to be purchased, including entire watersheds. And with purchase of Alaska's coastal region, the following specific areas must be acquired at this time: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge to preserve Prince William Sound, Kenai Fjord National Park, Afognak Island, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, are all areas of certain national significance. And to buy at least 1,100,000 acres of Alaska's coastal rain forest with provisions to eliminate all logging in this area so as to save the coastal area for all Alaskans.

US, Outside Alaska# 1553

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlements Funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1552

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US, Outside Alaska# 1549

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US, Outside Alaska# 1544

My husband and I had the wonderful opportunity to visit your beautiful state in June. We were reminded frequently that Alaska could be divided into two states, and then Texas would be the third largest state. However, what they failed to tell us was that Alaska was so far ahead of all of the "lower 48" in beauty and natural wonders, there is no question of first place. We were also told that tourism is the third largest source of income for the state. We did observe several areas where the forests have been clear-cut. Unfortunately, there has been a great deal of this done in other states and the results have been a loss of habitat for wildlife, soil erosion, and adverse effects on fishing industries, not to mention the destruction of the beauty of the forests. You are in a position to buy the land and timber rights and to protect the forests and wildlife of Alaska. I urge you to include the seven critical areas that the citizens of Kachemak Bay have identified in your restoration plan which will use the settlement monies from the Valdez oil spill. Protection of the wildlife affects not only Alaska, but the entire western hemisphere. We were delighted to see migratory birds on our trip that we have seen in Texas, but we had never before seen in their summer plumage. Habitat must be maintained, and it can only be done by preserving the forests. By protecting the natural beauty and resources of Alaska, you will be supporting tourism as a prime source of income.

US, Outside Alaska# 1543

I feel that the best long-term economic benefit for Alaska lies in tourism and that the wildlife and natural environment is the most powerful draw. The use of oil spill settlement money to purchase wildlife habitat will have lasting value. Large areas will protect animals that range. The "citizens' vision" proposal has merit and should be given serious consideration. I am looking forward to another trip to Alaska - a real standout in the world of travel destinations. It is an American treasure. Let's protect it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1542

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlements Funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be

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US, Outside Alaska# 1540

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US, Outside Alaska# 1538

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US, Outside Alaska# 1537

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlements Funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1536

I am writing this letter as indication of my support for the following statements, and the actions they envisage. 1. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars; 2. The vast majority of the remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from

further devastation; 3. Large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected (as with the 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak); 4. The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay - Port Fidalgo - Knight Island Passage - Kenai Fjords National Park - Port Chatham - Shuyak Straits - Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge

US, Outside Alaska# 1535

We are writing to urge you to use the Oil Spill settlement money, exclusively, to buy and preserve additional natural habitat. We believe that additional reserved natural habitat will in the long-run be the most beneficial use of the available funds to both animals and people. The following areas are particularly important to preserve: Knight Island Passage, Port Fidalgo, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Kenai Fjords Nat'l Park, Port Chatham, Port Gravina/Orca Bay. Our daughter is a Wildlife Officer, employed by the Alaska Division of Fish and Game. In visiting her in Alaska we have had an opportunity to see several of the areas mentioned. We have been greatly concerned by the inroads already being made into some of these areas by lumbering of virgin timber. The effects on the streams from uninhibited run-off of cut areas are evident in many places. We hope you will take action to use the settlement money to preserve these areas. We believe that action will have the most lasting and broadest beneficial result.

US, Outside Alaska# 1534

I support the purchase of habitat from willing private landowners as the ideal way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. Habitat acquisition will allow oil impacted ecosystems time to recover without further stresses. If sellers are willing, large areas, including entire watersheds, should be bought and protected to ensure that effects can be controlled, rather than leaving parts that can effect the whole in other ownership. The vast majority of remaining Settlement funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. I encourage you to buy and protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge.

US, Outside Alaska# 1532

I am writing to urge you to invest the remaining *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Settlement monies in purchasing wildlife habitat from willing private landowners. Protecting natural habitat is the most important step towards preserving the local ecosystem, and it's crucial that large areas, including entire watersheds, be bought and protected. In particular, please protect at least the following seven areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay, Port Fidalgo, Knight Island Passage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Port Chatham, Shuyak Straits, and Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Thank you very much!

US, Outside Alaska# 1531

Your Oil Spill Settlement monies offer a rare opportunity to save timber lands for future use and enjoyment by buying land and timber rights from willing sellers without using taxpayer dollars, while giving oil-impacted ecosystems a chance at restoration. Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement dollars. The majority of remaining Settlements Funds should be spent to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large areas, including entire watersheds should be bought and protected (as with the recent 42,000 acre purchase at Seal Bay on Afognak). The Trustees should buy and protect at least the following areas: Port Gravina/Orca Bay; Port Fidalgo; Knight Island Passage; Kenai Fjords National Park; Port Chatham; Shuyak Straits; and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. With the funds available and the need clear, this is your chance to make a

difference that can be an important part of your legacy to mankind. Please take it.

US, Outside Alaska# 1530

We support using the settlement funds for habitat purchases: Buying habitat is the very best way to invest Oil Spill Settlement funds. The remaining settlement funds should be allocated to protect wildlife habitat from further devastation. Large area, like entire watersheds, should be bought and protected. (ie the 42,000-acres Seal Bay purchase on Afognak). You should buy and protect AT LEAST the following areas: 1) Port Gravina/Orca Bay (These old growth forests of eastern Prince William Sound near Cordova provide excellent wildlife habitat and support high value wilderness recreation and tourism supporting the local economies. 2) Port Fidalgo (This area is being destroyed by current logging activities threatening this densely forested habitat along the sheltered bays of Valdez and Tatitlek.) 3) Knight Island Passage (Rugged mountain islands with intimate bays supporting valuable wilderness recreation and tourism benefiting the local economies. It also provides habitat for spill impacted species such as whales, seals salmon and eagles). 4) Kenai Fjords National Park (The heart of this rugged coastline is threatened by logging and private land development adjacent to the park.) 5) Port Chatham is the last stretch of intact forest habitat along the tip of the Outer Kenai Peninsula coast. 6) Shuyak Straits (the Sitka spruce forest on northern Afognak is home to marbled murrelets, salmon, near (bear?), elk, and deer. The Shutyk Straits are a high productive aquatic environment, a virtual maritime highway for marine life. 7) Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (Proposed development activities would jeopardize prime bear habitat and other wildlife habitats).

US, Outside Alaska# 1529

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US, Outside Alaska# 1525

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