

August 5, 1996 Teleconference with the Community Involvement Facilitators On FY 97 Work Plan

Molly McCammon, Executive Director of the EVOS Restoration Office, Martha Vlasoff, Community Involvement Coordinator, and other staff met with the Community Involvement Facilitators hired in nine of the oil spill communities through 96052 to review recommendations on the Draft FY 97 Work Plan. The following comments were made during that discussion:

Hank Eaton, Kodiak, said that he thought the canneries should be involved in a hatchery related project because the pink salmon prices are so low and it is hurting the economy of the communities.

Virginia Aleck, Chignik Lake, said that their pink salmon are stripped for roe and ground up to be dumped at sea because they are only getting six cents a pound.

Monica Riedel, Cordova, said that she too felt that it was because of the oil spill that the pink salmon prices had fallen so low. The commercial fishermen that seine pinks presently have a very difficult time making a living because the price per pound is so low.

Walter Meganack, Port Graham, mentioned that they don't get herring in the Port Graham area since the oil spill. He said that it was important because harbor seals depend on herring and he had brought it up before. Monica Riedel said they have not received any herring from the people in Tatitlek for quite a few years. Molly said she would have Rita Miraglia from the ADF&G get back to Walter about the herring populations in Lower Cook Inlet. Virginia Aleck said that the sea lion numbers were down in her area and they depend on the herring as their main food source, too.

Hank Eaton mentioned that Kodiak had requested to be in the Harbor Seal project and Molly explained two communities on Kodiak and Valdez will be included in 97244.

Hank talked about a survey that he sent around to the villages on Kodiak in regard to ducks. From the observations of the villagers they figured that there was a 20% loss of Sea quails and 50% loss of Eider ducks since the spill. Virginia Aleck, Chignik Lake, asked about Eiders as well because they are not listed on the injured species list. They only have approximately 80 observed this last spring compared to the big flocks that they had before. She wants more information from the researchers who are studying the ducks to contact the villages in regard to this decline in duck populations.

Monica Riedel requested a project description for 97163, the Apex study. Molly said she would see if

Monica could go on the research vessel for the APEX Project if she was interested. Monica said she is going out on Kathy Frost's survey flights in Prince William Sound the week of September 12, 1996.

Walter Meganack asked if all the Archeological projects are for artifacts that were found on public land and Molly McCammon assured him that they are. The village of Eyak sent a letter to Molly in regard to their interest in and their efforts to fund an archeological repository in Cordova.

Monica Riedel asked why there is so much indirect for ADF&G on 97052, the Community Involvement Project. She was told this was based on a standard formula. She also wanted to express her concern about more direct involvement in the review process of the projects from the oil spill communities. Can the Community Involvement Facilitators be included in the Core Review process? Molly said that the core reviewers meet separately from all the other review groups which include agency, staff, legal, and Public Advisory Group review. In addition there has been an anthropologist added to the peer review group at the request of the village residents. Molly said if there are any recommendations concerning the increased involvement of Facilitators in the review process that we are not already doing she would be open to ideas.

Walter Meganack asked about the Port Graham Floating Skiff Dock and Educational Harvest Trips Projects and he was told that those projects are still going through legal review and that the two projects proposals have been taken by Rita Miraglia to DCRA for consideration of funding the projects through the EVOS criminal funds if the EVOS Trustee Council is not able to fund the projects. Project 97276, which was a letter from the Chignik Lake Tribal Council in regard to funding a road for better access to the clam beaches in Donor Bay, is still under legal review. That project has been given to John Gliva at DCRA for consideration of funding from the EVOS criminal money if the EVOS Trustee Council can not fund the project. Virginia Aleck explained that the access to this area was very important to address the villages subsistence needs.

Monica Riedel asked that the transcripts for the Conference on Subsistence and the Oil Spill which was held September of 1995 be sent to her from ADF&G Subsistence Division. She commented that the 20 minute video tape produced at that conference did not provide enough indepth discussion from the conference to be helpful with planning of the next conference to be held in 1997. She suggested that the planning project funded in FY97 have all the video, written transcripts and audio tapes from that last conference. Rita Miraglia said they would provide all the materials Monica had requested.

On Project 97352, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Patty Brown-Schwalenberg of Chugach Regional Resources Commission explained to the Community Facilitators about how the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) portion of 96052 will be set up as a separate project for FY 97 but will work in conjunction with 97052 as it has been revised in the latest Detailed Project Description. Patty explained that the Traditional Ecological Knowledge Project would hire a TEK specialist as a consultant to (1) compile a reference guide to existing TEK data on resources injured by the oil spill, (2) provide technical assistance to restoration project PIs who plan to use, or for whom it would be appropriate to use TEK, (3) serve as a contact point for spill area communities, the community facilitators and spill-area-wide coordinator hired under Project/052, and principle investigators on issues related to TEK, and (4) evaluate the feasibility of developing a comprehensive TEK database. The TEK Specialist will work under the guidance of an Advisory Group. Monica Riedel wanted to know who would be on the Advisory Group and wanted to make sure that the Community Involvement Facilitators and the tribal councils had representation on this group. Monica also stressed the importance of the AFN Guidelines for Research and the Protocols for Utilizing Traditional Knowledge that the Community Involvement Facilitators had worked on. We assured her both documents were a part of the detailed project description for /352. Virginia Aleck asked how they could get a Native person on the EVOS Trustee Council. Martha explained that we should continue to work on efforts that we do have the opportunity to change, like developing technically sound project proposals from the communities, rather than to waste our efforts on circumstances that we can not change at this point. Monica Riedel wanted to let us know that the communities are working towards doing their own research projects as is the case in the /245 Community-Based Harbor Seal Research.

Gary Kompkoff, Tatitlek, had a question in regard to the Tatitlek land negotiations and Molly said there are ongoing discussions with the Tatitlek Corporation on a possible package.