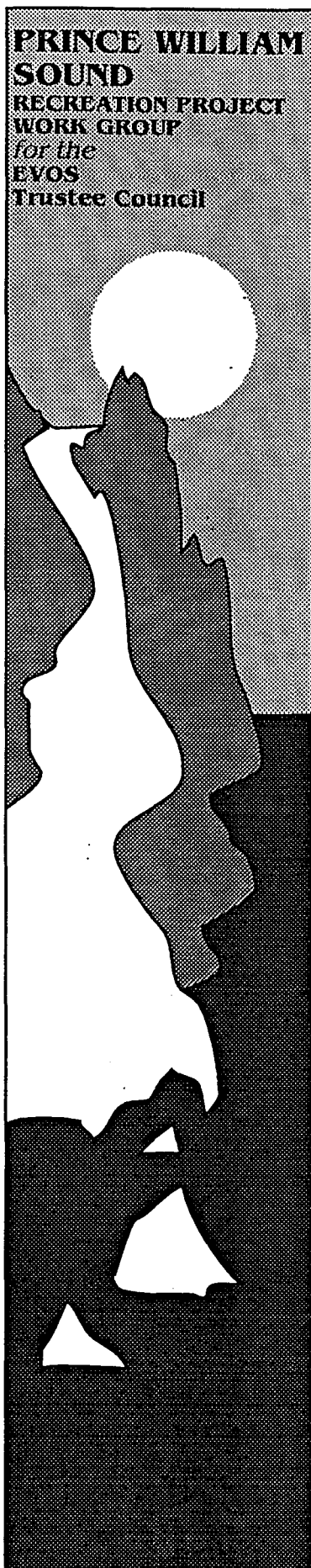


16.13.02



November 17, 1993

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

As part of the Prince William Sound Recreation Project Work Group's (93065 & 94217) responsibilities to identify acceptable recreation restoration projects, a two day public participation workshop was held in early November. Representatives of over 20 recreation groups, interests and managers concerned with PWS recreation participated in the workshop. Recreation injury, goals of recreation restoration, and potential projects were discussed. The workshop participants ranked 30 project proposals against evaluation criteria. The resulting scoring prioritized projects in their effectiveness to restore injured recreation. Attached is the complete list of all 30 projects, in ranked order, and a short project description of each.

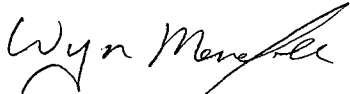
From the workshop results, detailed project descriptions for the top four projects have been included in the Draft 1994 Work Plan. More detailed descriptions along with other workshop materials are available upon request. While not every interest participated in the workshop, a broad cross section of recreation interests from Prince William Sound was represented. The attached priority list is the most current information on what people feel is most important to restore the recreation resource in the Sound.

At this time, no detailed analysis has been done of the evaluation scores. The ranking is a purely mathematical result. Additionally, during the submission of project proposals by proponents, no effort was made by the PWS Recreation Project work group to determine if a project was appropriate for restoration or within the terms of the civil settlement. However, several elements of the evaluation criteria were directly related to rating a project as to its appropriateness and effectiveness to restoration and terms of settlement. As a result, the ratings generally reflect the public perception of which projects are most appropriate. It should be noted that the projects were rated "as written" by the proponent, and do not necessarily reflect support or non-support for the concept of some of the projects, such as land acquisition and endowments.

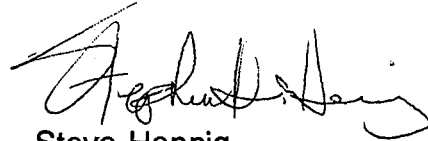
The PWS Recreation Project Work Group is the only effort looking specifically at recreation restoration. As part of this project, we have

conducted extensive public involvement throughout the Sound. Our final project report is not due until April, 1994, however we would be available to meet with you to verbally summarize the information we have collected from the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wyn Menefee".

Wyn Menefee
PWS Recreation Project Co-Leader

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Hennig".

Steve Hennig
PWS Recreation Project Co-Leader

Attachment

Prioritized Recreation Projects Resulting from a Public Participation Workshop.

The following is a list and short descriptions of the proposed projects in priority order. More detailed write-ups are available.

- 1. Remove Evidence of Clean-up Activities.** The purpose is to remove rebar, paint on rocks, flagging, oil booms and other trash remaining from the oil spill clean-up activities. This will improve recreation experiences by helping return beaches to their original state. This task will be included in some other project such as 94266 "Shoreline Assessment and Oil Removal".
- 2. Leave No Trace Educational Program.** Using an established education program, this project seeks to reduce impact on recovering resources and those resources receiving additional impact from changes in the traditional recreation patterns and locations caused by the spill. Spanning two years, this three phase project includes literature distribution, short field course training programs, and videos. The three proposed phases of the Leave No Trace program on Prince William Sound all serve to minimize the impacts caused by kayakers, tour groups, hunters, and other recreationists.
- 3. Shoreline Trash Clean-up for PWS.** Using mostly a volunteer effort, shoreline trash would be removed from many beaches used for recreation in PWS. The removal of the shoreline trash would be one step toward improving recreation experiences. The organization of the effort will be done by a non-profit group under contract.
- 4. PWS Recreation Education Information Center at Portage Railroad Station.** Through the purchase and upgrade of an existing building, this information center would seek to re-educate the public on the current post spill conditions and available recreation opportunities available in PWS. This project seeks to reduce false perceptions of recreation opportunities in the Sound.
- 5. Restore Smitty's Cove Boat Access Point.** Whittier's alternative boat launch ramp that was destroyed by the spill clean-up landing craft will be replaced. The project includes a new 24 foot by 60 foot launch ramp and the replacement of adjacent rip-rap and fill.
- 6. Remove Persisting Oil from Beaches.** This primarily focussed on the beaches that receive recreation or human use and which still have persisting oil present. This project was suggested to be combined with 94266 "Shoreline Assessment and Oil Removal". The project emphasizes the need for cleaning all the oil off recreation beaches where there won't be more harm done in the process.

7. **Chenega Bay Marine Service Facility.** In addition to the money from the Alyeska Settlement, Chenega is asking for civil settlement funding of bulk fuel storage relocation and upgrade, power plant relocation and upgrade, bulkhead dock development and other upland development. The project seeks to improve personal recreation quality that has been impacted by the spill and enhance recovery of the Sound by providing for a central use area that will help reduce pressures on recovering species.
8. **Fleming Spit Recreation Area Enhancements.** This is a two phase project that will enhance the existing sport fishery and provide more recreation facilities at the site. This multi year project seeks to address the increased sport fishing pressures experienced in Cordova since the spill and address some health and safety issues. This city based recreation opportunity would seek to reduce the pressure on more remote sport fishing locations.
9. **Research on Recreation Impacts in PWS: Displacement of Users and Disturbance of Recreation Areas.** This three phase project addresses recreational user impact and identify ecosystem processes potentially affected by this disturbance. In addition, it assists in providing valuable information to users and management professionals on low impact backcountry techniques. This will be accomplished through a contract with a non-profit group.
10. **Comprehensive Public Recreation Information Brochure for PWS.** This was submitted by an entity representing the land managers of PWS. The project funds the creation and distribution of a brochure that addresses different land ownerships, management practices, and regulations, and recreation amenities in the Sound.
11. **"Mor-Pac Hill" Campground Improvements.** Because of the influx of clean up workers in Cordova this camp area was created as an emergency solution to a lack of camp areas. Use in this area has greatly increased since the spill. The area has just been closed by the new owners. This project seeks to purchase this land and improve the camping area.
12. **Economic Study of Recreation in PWS.** This is an economic analysis of direct and indirect economic benefits to spill impacted communities from recreational use of PWS. This will provide a better understanding of the economic importance of recreation and tourism to the PWS region. This in turn will help the Trustees make informed decisions regarding the expenditure of restoration funds for projects designed to help the recovery of the recreation service.
13. **Acquisition of Important Recreation Lands in PWS.** This project sets up a separate process similar to the Habitat Protection WG to acquire recreation parcels or easements from private ownership. It deals only with recreation related parcels.

- 14. Solomon Gulch Hatchery Raceways.** The project rebuilds a damaged fish raceway. Rebuilding the raceway at the hatchery increases the rearing space available to further enhance a significantly reduced sport fishery in Port Valdez.
- 15. Odiak Camper Park Expansion.** This project expands and enhances the current public R.V. facilities in Cordova. Since the spill there has been a marked increase in this sort of use that was almost non-existent pre-spill. This project addresses this changed use patterns.
- 16. Valdez Duck Flats Crucial Habitat Area Trails.** This project constructs a three part interpretive trail system. This trail system allows bird viewing near a community. The purpose is to restore the reduced opportunities for wildlife viewing as the result of the spill.
- 17. Whittier Trails Access Project.** This project creates a small trail system adjacent to Whittier utilizing Chugach National Forest lands. This provides access to areas that were not injured by the spill. This trail system provides additional recreation opportunities to the past and new users of the Sound.
- 18. Cordova Historical Marine Park.** This project proposes to build an outdoor museum displaying the historical fishing boats of Cordova. These are the boats that are virtually unused now because of the post-spill economic effects on the fishing community. There would be six types of vessels displayed for the public.
- 19. Mt. Eyak Ski Area Improvements.** This project incorporates three proposals to put in an intermediate ski tow, put in a small day lodge, and to clear some new runs. This is to replace lost opportunities during the closure of the ski area in 1989 as a result of the spill.
- 20. PWS Public Use Cabins.** This includes the placement of six public use cabins on federal, state and private lands. This project is intended to enhance recreation opportunities to restore damaged perceptions, displaced use, and cancellations of trips in PWS.
- 21. Science of the Sound Education Program.** Using an assortment of educational programs within the communities of the Sound, this project seeks to improve the understanding of the EVOS and ongoing restoration efforts.
- 22. Backcountry Access Trail Development (Valdez - Shoup Bay & Whittier - Decision Point).** This creates two trails from communities reaching out into the Sound. This is an enhancement of recreation opportunities to restore other lost opportunities as the result of the spill. The trails will cross state, federal, and municipal lands.

23. Cordova's Mini-Imaginarium. This project creates a hands on educational facility much like the Anchorage Imaginarium but dealing mostly with the oil spill, restoration efforts, and marine ecosystem. This project will be created using existing facilities. It is geared toward use by all ages.

24. Alaska Oil Spill Curriculum Rewrite. This is a curriculum that has already been used in some PWS schools. There is a need for further revisions and teacher training workshops. This curriculum seeks to educate K-12 grades on the impacts and ongoing activities concerning the spill.

25. PWS Campsite Enhancements. This project places tent platforms, hardened campsites, toilet facilities, covered camp shelters, and food shelters at specific locations in PWS. This project seeks to restore lost or diminished services in certain areas and to stop further resource degradation caused by increased or displaced recreation use.

26. PWS Mooring Buoys. Mooring buoys would be placed at 12 locations that currently have poor anchoring qualities. These would increase the recreation opportunities currently available.

27. Shotgun Cove Recreation Area. This project seeks to restore and enhance recreational experience for a broad cross section of the public by providing necessary public access and infrastructure. A road to Shotgun Cove from Whittier, a breakwater and public and private boat harbors would be built. This would open the area to further recreation developments.

28. Endowment for Outdoor Recreation Management in PWS. An endowment or a general recreation fee would be set up to fund the future management of increased or changed recreation and any programs or facilities that are created through the restoration process. This project addresses the current and future state of recreation as much as the past changes resulting from the spill.

29. Backcountry Access Trail Development (Surprise Cove and Esther Island systems) Trails will be created to provide backcountry access from two popular destination points within the Sound. This is an enhancement of recreation opportunities to restore other lost opportunities as the result of the spill. The trails will cross state and federal lands.

30. Culross Passage Administrative Site. This facility will be for the distribution of information, housing of staff, and an emergency contact point as needed. The purpose is to reduce impact of recreationists by more active management and public education.