

Pub  
II

**RESTORATION TEAM AND THE NATURE CONSERVANCY  
HANDBOOK REVIEW MEETING  
JANUARY 28, 1992**

**Attendees:**

Dennis Donald	The Nature Conservancy	(303) 444-1060
Tim Steele	NOAA	(907) 278-8012
Dave Gibbons	Interim Admin Dir. RT	(907) 278-8012
Susan Ruddy	The Nature Conservancy	(907) 276-3133
Mark Brodersen	ADEC	(907) 465-5323
Art Weiner	ADNR	(907) 278-8012
Jeff Hartman	ADF&G	(907) 465-4160
Stan Senner	ADF&G	(907) 278-8012
John A. Hermening	USFS	(907) 586-7871
Al Meiners	ADNR	(907) 762-2616
Jim Frechione	ADNR	(907) 762-2680
Sandy Rabinowitch	DOI	(907) 257-2653
Marty Rutherford	ADNR	(907) 762-2483
Maria Lisowski	DOA	(907) 586-8826
Ben Brown	The Nature Conservancy	(303) 541-0350
Steve Planchon	The Nature Conservancy	(907) 276-3133
Philip Tabas	The Nature Conservancy	(617) 542-1908
Ken Rice	USFS	(907) 278-8012
Cordell Roy	NPS	(907) 257-2527
Mark Kuwada	ADF&G	(907) 267-2277
Paul Gertler	USFWS	(907) 786-3579
Carol Gorbics	USFWS	(907) 786-3494
Steven Phillips	ADNR	(907) 762-2510

**The following items were distributed:**

Agenda

Options for Identifying and Protecting Strategic Fish and Wild  
Life Habitats and Recreation Sites  
Criteria for EVOS Land Protection  
Analysis of Threats  
Accelerated Project Selection Process  
Memo Regarding Private Lands

**Introduction**

Dave Gibbons - there are 6 members of the Trustee Council; all meetings will now be done in the public arena; the Restoration Team has to be prepared for the public and the Trustee Council; the Restoration Team is made up of six trustees; an interim administrative director was created who is charged with bringing an organization together; there are three pots of money; restitution of 100 million was divided between state and federal governments; these funds are dealt with independently but are to be used in restoration; the payment schedule is divided over ten years; the first payment was received December 1991; there is

about \$35 to \$36.5 million in a joint fund for restoration this year; petition has to be made to the court for funds through the Trustee Council; the next payment is December 1992 for \$150 million, less restoration cost; payments are on a yearly schedule after that; the timeline is basically playing catch up; the oil year runs from March 1 to the end of February; we have been requested to prepare a 92 and 93 proposal at the same time

Mark - an allocation for the state fiscal year has been submitted; the legislature will be asked for an allocation to allow us to receive funds

Dave - OMB has stepped in

Mark - he doesn't think Congress will have to approve the funds on the federal side but the state legislature will have approval for funds to state agencies

Ken - the feds have to notify Congress 30 days before spending any money

Mark - if the state decides not to accept money, it goes back to the Trustee Council, which allows them some oversight

Dave - we are trying to get work done in 1992; a couple of timelines have been prepared; a mechanism for meaningful public comment is needed; we are shooting for getting the framework to the Trustee Council in mid-February; it will contain such things as a summary of injury and criteria for evaluation; legal counsels have been asked if this has to be a NEPA process, which will affect the timeline; within the proposals are categories of proposed work, closeout and final reports; some damage assessment needs to be continued for a year or two; in restoration, there are science studies and other categories such as management of fisheries and species; there are some implementation projects such as fertilization; also, there are some technical and feasibility studies

Art - management prerogatives and habitat protection options are being examined and their applicability to Alaska

Dave - we are proposing to go out in March for comments on the restoration plan

Maria - we are looking into how to comply with NEPA and whether there is a way to ease damage assessment regs; ways to resolve NEPA issues are being examined;

Dave - the 1993 proposals will be going out to the public in May 1992 for 60 days; this will turn the process around and get things into sync; he has been directed by the Trustee Council to get together a habitat subgroup; this meeting is the first step



in that process; expertise needs to be identified; requests are being received from the public for immediate action on things such as the Eyak Corporation issue; other proposals have been received for acquisition; he would like to review these concerns or issues; the restoration team reviewed the threat analysis regarding immediate logging proposals; the question is how do we deal with this in an orderly fashion; processes need to be identified for short and long term acquisition

Susan - the history of the handbook addresses some concerns the team is facing; the expertise of lots of people in the Nature Conservancy offices throughout the country was drawn on; this offers the opportunity to meet with people who have a greater depth of experience; we would like to walk through the charts showing identification and protection processes

Dennis - the process entails setting conservation objectives, identification and ranking, protection planning and implementation and long term management; this has been a learning experience; initially they were focused on species of concern and would identify sites that needed to be protected and that would be the end of their business; there was very little interaction with the public; they evolved into looking at much larger sites; the second strategy is to look at larger systems to integrate people and places; they are in a whole different arena dealing with constituents and are looking at cooperative management approaches; this is called the bio-reserve initiative; in this we are looking at partnership, which is a wise use approach; science and protection have new requirements to look at new ecological systems and it is a different kind of science; we are looking at making decisions quickly but which are methodical and well thought out; this makes it awkward to meet both objectives; on the protection side, we are looking at land use planning; it is important to talk about criteria for making decisions in the short term, imminent concern; this presentation will be more of a dialogue; recreation will not be discussed, as it was subcontracted to another agency; science and identification procedures will be discussed and a couple of case studies, such as property rights, will be reviewed; some other topics for discussion will be conservation and management practices, Native American and cultural issues and long term management practices

Ben - The Nature Conservancy evolved out of scientific discipline; after about 20 years of project activity, the organization went through a self-examination of what they should be doing and went back to their roots of preserving biological diversity; this resulted in Bob Jenkins and some others coming up with cataloging natural diversity - which were best and protectable - giving guidance to people in the protection business; heritage programs exist in just about every state; we have gotten into eco-system conservation; a chart of landscape-scale identification and ranking for strategic habitats and recreation sites was reviewed

(Figure 2-1)

a summary of strengths and limitations of selected habitat identification tools was also reviewed (Table 2-1); a lot of modeling is being done such as HSI and gradient analysis; integrated identification and heritage programs were also discussed; none of these can be applied in a cookbook fashion; the quickest way to get information is from secondary sources; a panel of experts were pulled together who came up with a laundry list of everyone's favorites; this can be a pretty efficient system; one strength of The Nature Conservancy is they are very pragmatic

Mark - regarding the heritage ranking system, how many changes have to be made to apply it to various regions?

Ben - the criteria are absolutely the same but vary from element to element; forms are completed for occurrences and applied throughout the system so that information from state to state is consistent; we are trying to put together score cards for rare elements to make more intelligent decisions

Sandy - what is meant by "they won't work in a cookbook fashion"?

Ben - there are several needs:

- address areas where threats are pretty high (rapid ecological assessment)
- plan systematically how to get the most for your buck  
convene a panel of experts and come up with a systematic way to evaluate threats and objectively make decisions where efforts will be focused in FY92

the heritage program will not be the answer to all problems and will take some thoughtful planning

Mark - TNC - is that an imminent threat?

Ben - it has made some people nervous; an attempt is made to keep information confidential when necessary; one piece of information gathered is who owns the land and what their attitude is, if they are anti-protection

Art - has rapid ecological assessment been followed up?

Ben - we have never quit at a level which did not satisfy; the only problem has been logistical; so far people have been pleased with the level achieved; a lot of ground truthing is being done

Stan - the rapid process is all relative

Steve - what is the relationship of heritage programs to TNC?



Ben - the cost to hire people and maintain them was calculated; it was decided to operate them in conjunction with an agency of state government; many heritage programs get most of their money from federal government; task forces were created in each of four regions to exchange information and find viable ways to fund programs; the long term goal is to exist as units of state government

Comment - how do you deal with human use values?

Ben - human use value is not dealt with in setting biological or ecological processes; it is mostly in the protection phase

Ken - is a nationwide ranking system discussed in the manual?

Ben - annually, through an inversion program the score card takes into consideration the rarity of the species; if sites are on federal land, the federal agencies may take care of the problem; with state agencies, they sometimes agree to acquire sites; ranks used are current status or intended status as to what level of protection is needed; imminent threat may change the kinds of activities done; the sample site tracking report (Figure 2-3) and the sample natural diversity scorecard (Figure 2-4) were discussed; this rates things from the rarest to the most common

Cordell - what are resources that can be considered?

Ben - this discusses things in terms of element occurrences because animals can be quite mobile; management area databases are used for national parks and forests

Dave - there were some more questions which came up during the break

Susan - is there a heritage program in Alaska was one question asked; there is one at the University of Alaska and is called ENRI (Environmental Natural Resources Institute)

Ben - tract information databases and the stewardship databases (management or long term management) are used

Phil - this translates information into the protection phase; new ways are being explored based on scientific constraints to accomplish protection objectives such as loaning money to municipality to build a sewage treatment plant; the biological objectives need to be clear; some elements need certain kinds of management; in other words, you use a scheme for the genes; land owners should be contacted to work out an arrangement; a biological bottom line should be set in this first phase; the next step is to try to understand as much as possible about the landowner, such what his needs are and potential uses of the land; this allows interests to be matched

Some things to analyze are:

- regulatory controls
- potential threats
- available techniques to address threat or buy some time

the initial level is land owner contact, which helps manage their land better and gives enough time to arrange a more permanent level of protection; it is also possible to buy the right of first refusal; another technique might be to convert easements into a more permanent arrangement; current status is the condition of property now; intended status is what our objective would be in a protected status; a summary of strengths, limitations and requirements of protection tools were discussed (Table 3-1); these are the starting point with a potential landowner; what you are trying to accomplish needs to be addressed to decide if public ownership is the best option; several case studies were discussed, i.e. Diamond/Occidental Sale (5-32); a conservation easement was negotiated which embodied best management policies; the owner is in bankruptcy so the outcome is uncertain; another example of conservation easement is a project in New York where property was bought and traded to a timber company where the public had recreational use but the company could continue timber production; this allowed multiple use on the property; the Preservation 2000 program (5-56) involves a process for setting criteria for the land the state wants to acquire; TNC has helped to get the program passed and also in acquiring land

Art - sellers often prefer to deal with TNC rather than the government

Stan - this process appears attractive to meet short term needs; given that proposals can be submitted by anyone, what prevents having a hodge podge of things that can be accepted?

Phil - first the threat is examined, even though the complete process may not have been thought through

Art - identification of a rarity often initiates the process

Sandy - objectives are set out and the program runs on anyone who comes forward, which then prompts government to evaluate if it fits the criteria

Mark - is there protection strategy?

Phil - scientist tell us what is needed to protect a site; then the biological requirements and landowners objectives are examined; it is an interim process where you talk with the landowner and go back and talk with the scientist; dialogue with the landowner is very important; the time from notification of interest to the protection stage is about three years; some



criteria and understanding of objectives are necessary before soliciting proposals

Ben - two ways to make public lands are buying land and holding for agencies and the conservation process

Steve - in the landowner contact program, someone maintains a routine contact with landowners which opens the door to working with them

Comment - are there discussions with Native landowners?

Dennis - one of the most important ecological sites along the inland portion of the Pacific Flyway, the Truckee and Carson rivers, flows out of the High Sierra into the Great Basin Desert of Nevada, where they dissipate into two great wetland complexes, containing two species of fish; this posed threats to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Indian; TNC worked with government, farmers and Native Americans to develop a concept of looking at taking out marginal lands and transporting surplus water to wetlands; 20,000 acre feet have been put back into both systems

Steve - we are in the process of establishing a cooperative management agreement with some tribal lands which can accomplish biological objectives

Ben - conservation trust funds (5-81) were discussed; a separate non-profit trust to manage acquired land could be established which allows compatible recreational use; the trustees become land managers; under the stewardship endowments, the policy is that 25 cent of every dollar goes into funding additional management activities

Sandy - government doesn't like dedicated funds; are there any examples where government has swallowed this?

Phil - TNC went out and helped raise additional funds for endowment of a project in New York, which met their objectives and government's; there are creative ways around those kinds of problems; a question often asked is what happens to property after government owns it; creating a separate trust under the supervision of the court might be possible

Tim - the case studies and creativity shown were good examples to protect various rights and interests; this will be a very helpful tool

Dave - there will be some animosity toward acquiring lands and holding onto it

John - Natives have a psychological problem with selling their heritage

Sandy - they may see cash as desirable for endowing their corporations

Comment - Natives may not want to let go of specific land bases

Tim - the exchange idea could be used

Sandy - exchanges have been tried but much of the good exchange land is gone

Comment - the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 states that Natives will still have entitlement if they make irrevocable selection prior to settlement

Steve - the number of shareholders and the tax situation of a corporation needs to be examined before going into negotiations

Dave - we need to understand the issues

Dennis - strategies for the identification process need to be mapped out; some issues are what are the constituencies and the objectives and implications for setting up criteria; this step could be skipped for assessment of criteria and then coming up with the preferred strategy for land acquisition

Steve - this could be a cooperative management agreement

Stan - we need to discuss criteria for selecting those lands for a protection strategy

Marty - what have you examined to bring you to this point?

Steve - FY90 Federal Register Notice

Susan - a list of criteria was prepared from listening to the Trustee Council

Steve - it is not our attempt to just throw out something but this gives you an opportunity to say what works and what does not

Dennis - the criteria for EVOS land protection was discussed; this list contained the positive and negative factors

Dave - if you had a chunk of lands which are intimately linked, is there some point where that land falls?

Comment - this might fit under G - multiple conservation or recreation objectives

Stan - this is a real good starting point with something useful

Comment - why are near-term benefits being focused on?



Dennis - that is a point well taken

Tim - speed is an important factor

Stan - protection of an area may prevent further injury; the time element is covered under C

Dennis - we may want to refine the criteria and apply it to specific examples

Mark - it all depends on interpretation of the settlement

Stan - all restoration spending needs to be linked to injured species; another element needed is a policy question of whether actions are limited to the oil spill area; a recommendation was made setting a specific amount of time for discussing each point

Lunch break - 11:45

Meeting reconvened - 1:00

Dave - discussions regarding criteria have been long; the TNC should discuss what they have in mind for each criteria

Dennis - will the framework plan get into these issues?

Stan - there will be criteria for what constitutes an injured resource but not necessarily land criteria

Sandy - is there anything more than local sense being used for criteria?

Dennis - a lot of information is gained through meetings and public input

Phil - this represents exercises in judgement

Stan - what is the importance of doing the rating as opposed to giving factors used to arrive at recommendations

Dennis - you need to be as explicit as possible with the people making the proposals; the cost effectiveness of the action and trying to think of some way to do a benefit/cost ratio are also important; this should be weighted according to the dollar investment

Stan - it makes sense to list things and then have people make recommendations

Dennis - how do you deal with an immediate request for a project? if you don't know how realistic a threat is, you could throw out some subjective judgements and weigh them

Stan - letter A should be a threshold question

Dennis - opportunity cost was not added; these criteria may be modified but the weighting aspect should be examined

Carol - were there other criteria that were discarded?

Dennis - the only one was whether or not it was in the oil spill area

Comment - are there examples of the criteria working for large scale decisions?

Phil - the point system has been used in a program in Vermont; there is a ranking system that generates a priority list

Dave - we will move on to applying these in examples

Steve - a hypothetical situation should be established

Dennis - we should compare two situations; one would be Eyak and a moratorium on cutting and the other would be Gullrock; everyone should score Eyak and Gullrock on their individual lists and then compare notes

**Eyak**

=59/\$3,750=15.73

#### **Positive Factors**

a.	link to injured resources(s)	2
b.	long-term coordinated management	5
c.	immediacy of threat(s)	9
d.	near-term opportunity	10
e.	benefits enhancement/recovery	5
f.	size/viability	6
g.	conservation/recreation objectives	8
h.	secondary economic benefits	7
i.	public support	8
j.	ease of implementation	7

---

#### **Negative Factors**

k.	already adequate protection	-5
l.	economic, social or environmental cost	-3



**Positive Factors**

a.	link to injured resources(s)	9
b.	long-term coordinated management	9
c.	immediacy of threat(s)	1
d.	near-term opportunity	4
e.	benefits enhancement/recovery	4
f.	size/viability	10
g.	conservation/recreation objectives	5
h.	secondary economic benefits	2
i.	public support	5
j.	ease of implementation	10

**Negative Factors**

k.	already adequate protection	-10
l.	economic, social or environmental cost	0

Tim - you might have to rank all like projects together

Dennis - a cost-effective quotient is needed in there somewhere;  
a moratorium just buys some time

Tim - you could use all your money on options and not have anything

Carol - this whole exercise by the TNC has shown that the decisions will be subjective

Dennis - some of these are much more suitable for quantification

Meeting break 2:40

Phil - forms were provided for analysis of threats as part of the bio-reserve planning process in understanding the nature and severity of threats

Art - impact is derived from a threat; how do you determine if this is a real threat?

Phil - some reality checking must be done

Dennis - in order to determine the level of protection, the analysis of threat must be gone through; you sit down with a group to determine what are the threats;

Phil - this procedure just helps to form a better protection strategy; the accelerated project selection process is a process

for looking at protection projects in the short term:

1. Project proposals from agencies, landowners, and others submitted to Trustees
2. Ranking criteria applied/necessary level of protection determined by Trustees
3. Requests for proposals from landowners on preliminarily approved projects
4. Landowners submit offers to Trustees
5. All project offers received subjected to final cost effectiveness screening
6. Final selection and acceptance of offers by Trustees

Steve - this process puts the burden on the owners to come up with a proposal

Mark - how do you prevent a price from going up on a parcel you want

Phil - if there were enough possible projects, the landowner would not have the upper hand; the net should be drawn as wide as possible

Susan - so that there is not competition, you just determine if something meets the criteria and add it to the list

Maria - a proposal will have to be made to the court; the public will know this; the negotiations will be of a more confidential nature

Tim - it has to be public that something has met the criteria; in terms of the evaluation of the parcels, this is probably not a public process

Maria - the Council will want to talk about this in the public meetings; negotiating the price with landowners will be confidential

Stan - we have identified a need for the Trustee Council to make a decision on criteria; agencies are limited to paying fair market value for lands

Tim - the definition of fair market value is what a landowner and a buyer can agree on

Ben - broadening the geographic scopes may lower the value

Stan - the public has to buy into what the objectives are

Tim - if you can broadly enough define them so that you can get competition going, this opens opportunities for creativity and some land value precedence can be set



John - if you can create the illusion of competitiveness, companies are quite competitive among themselves

Dave - The Trustee Council identified the following as an objective statement:

to identify and protect strategic wildlife and fisheries habitats and recreation sites and to prevent further potential environmental damages to resources injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill

Mark - you want the best management action

Steve - does every project have to go through public approval?

Art - yes

Phil - the public is involved in the preliminary process, then once Trustees are about ready to accept a proposal, the public will be notified

Mark - the first time the public is giving their input generically and the second time specifically

Stan - if you were able to go to the public with a list based on the agencies opinions by March 1, and you had 30 days comment on that, you could come back with a revised list based on public interest; isn't part of the process to send landowners signals?

Carol - we need to be more formal with solicitation of proposals from the public

Dave - he has already refused putting a public proposal on the agenda and if we accept one and not others, we would open ourselves to legal action

Stan - interim habitat protection proposals would be solicited by the Trustee Council

Tim - creativity should be encouraged and tied to acquisition protection

Steve - a practical question is how do you factor this into what money is available?

Stan - there needs to be a plausible explanation; we need to think through how much of a bite we are taking with the science proposals

Dennis - some public comment might be identifying habitat that needs protection

Mark - we can't commit the legislature to ways of spending the money

Dennis - proposals will come in with a mix of moratorium and value

Mark - regarding the criminal restitution, the attempt is to spark interest; hopefully the legislature will become more comfortable with the process

Dennis - money should be spent slowly at the beginning and go broader by 1996; opportunities should be looked at to keep cost down and values up

Dave - the land acquisition group will probably be long term

Tim - this group requires creative and tactful people

Steve - a reality specialist is needed; in his experience, the deals that fell down were because someone was not invited to the process; community outreach is a critical component; if you develop a trusting relationship, things will go a lot smoother and send a positive signal; a point person should be designated to keep lines of communication open

Carol - do we run risks of alienating people if we have not coordinated with them?

Steve - that is a very good point; there should be full disclosure

Art - the process should be announced to the public

Steve - he was told by a high ranking Native official that no one has come and talked with him

Mark - we have been in the open process for a little over a month

Steve - a point person should make contact

Art - in terms of technical input, what kind of expertise is needed?

Ben - someone well-networked with a lot of contacts to get information in a hurry is needed; their networking ability would far exceed the need for their scientific ability

Steve - there will be a changing of players down the road as what you need to accomplish changes

Dennis - you might want someone with community outreach capabilities now, but this may be short term duration



Mark - you need a core group to make it go

Sandy - there seems to be things that are missing

Dennis - the core people are more generalist

Carol - what are the staffing requirements?

Steve - there is the side of creating the process and the side for transactions

Phil - are there existing resources to be used?

John - there is some expertise

Carol - there are no people to throw at these tasks

John - problems may occur in marrying the state and federal regulations

Dave - regarding a subgroup, initially we need someone to develop the process to bring along other people so they are aware of what we are doing; a small maintenance group can handle this

Tim - we need a front person to massage contacts

Dave - there is a little concern about the information specialist discussing lands and what kind of knowledge this person has

Phil - this person should be someone who is non-threatening but is capable enough to know what the limits are

Dave - what was the response regarding biologists?

Ben - the specific level of expertise is less important than the networking ability

Mark - the core group needs basic expertise and knowledge of who to call for specific questions; four worker bees are needed to make the process run

Phil - TNC has trained people who have scientific backgrounds in real estate

Carol - we need to hire someone with a land acquisition background

Stan - someone might be hired on a consulting basis

Steve - some other fields of expertise needed are risk management and hazardous waste; a consultant must have a thorough understanding of state and federal regulations

Dennis - you need someone with sensitivity to issues and good interpersonal communication skills

Dave - what is involved in risk management?

Mark - that person handles liability and insurance issues

Stan - access issues will be dealt with by the state trustees

Dave - evaluation criteria are sound but need some prioritizing work done on them; a couple of people could take them and do some wordsmithing; it is evident that we will not be able to deal with Eyak in two weeks; there is a long list of generalists and specialists to get a core group going; the core group needs to be discussed with the Trustee Council; should we present mid-term and long-term objectives? the critical crunch is near term

Stan - we could make a generic presentation

Mark - we should pick projects in the near term that have likelihood of doing good in the long term; the criteria should be such that whatever you do has a chance of success

Stan - this is a short term exercise of buying time for areas that we believe fit into the long term benefit

Mark - we have to portray this as getting value for the money

Stan - he has roughed out a timeline from now to the end of June; what kind of opportunity is there to lean on TNC for help and what is fair?

Dennis - TNC hopes it would be considered for any expertise help needed

Stan - they also need to maintain their independence

Mark - an arm's length arrangement needs to be worked out

Dennis - federal agencies are viewed as partners in our work

Phil - a letter of understanding may be needed

Dave - a lot of ground has been covered; TNC provided a good base for dealing with land acquisition issues

Sandy - the document was excellent

Art - RPWG started this process and appreciates the quality of the project

Steve - he has enjoyed working with the Restoration Team



Susan - this has been an interesting opportunity to learn a lot

Meeting adjourned at 4:45

HANDBOOK REVIEW MEETING:

RESTORATION TEAM

&

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

JANUARY 28, 1992

PROPOSED AGENDA

8:30 A.M.	INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF MEETING	
9:00 A.M.	RESTORATION TEAM REVIEW OF CONCERNS/ISSUES (E.G. THREAT ANALYSIS, VALUATION, SHORT TERM IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION MECHANISMS)	
9:30 A.M.	HANDBOOK REVIEW	
10:30 A.M.	FORMULATING RESTORATION PRIORITIES RE: PRIVATE LANDS	
	- DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES RELATING TO PRIVATE LANDS IN THE RESTORATION PROCESS	
	- DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES	
	- DISCUSSION OF APPLICABLE STRATEGIES	
	- IDENTIFICATION OF NECESSARY SUB-GROUP EXPERTISE	
4:00 P.M.	NEXT STEPS: RECOMMENDATIONS TO TRUSTEES	



## Criteria for EVOS Land Protection

### Positive factors:

a.	Habitat directly linked to injured resources	10
b.	Prospects for long-term public or coordinated management	10
c.	Immediacy of threat	10
d.	Addresses near-term opportunity	10
e.	Likely near-term benefit to species, with premium being given for protection of rare species	10
f.	Size/viability of habitat	10
g.	Addresses multiple conservation or recreation objectives.	10
h.	Addresses secondary economic benefits	10
i.	Political acceptability	10
j.	Ease of implementation	10

### Negative factors:

k.	Existing laws, regulations or institutions adequately protect resources	-20
l.	Possible economic, social or environmental cost	-10

Maximum possible score	100
------------------------	-----

Cost effectiveness rating = Score divided by dollar cost per acre of proposed action

## ANALYSIS OF THREATS

1. Threat
2. Ecological Elements Impacted
3. Impacts
4. Severity
5. Probability of Impacts
6. Urgency
7. Do-ability
8. Overall Priority Rank
9. Action/Research Required to Address Threat



## ACCELERATED PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

1. Project proposals from agencies, landowners and others submitted to Trustees
2. Ranking criteria applied/necessary level of protection determined by Trustees
3. Requests for proposals from landowners on preliminarily approved projects
4. Landowners submits offers to Trustees
5. All project offers received subjected to final cost effectiveness screening
6. Final selection and acceptance of offers by Trustees

TO: Attorney General Charles Cole  
CC: Trustee Council Members, RRCG Members  
FROM: Susan Ruddy, Director, The Nature Conservancy of Alaska  
DATE: January 10, 1992  
SUBJ: Restoration Planning re: Private Lands

ISSUE: The opportunity to use some privately-owned uplands for restoration efforts may be lost unless steps are taken quickly to put currently planned development activities on hold.

NEED: Procedures and criteria must be developed to address private land issues, and information must be organized in such a manner as to assist the Trustees in prioritizing actions relating to private lands.

RECOMMENDATION: The Trustees could immediately establish a subgroup (e.g., Habitat, Land Use, Private Lands Subgroup...) comprised of appropriate staff (e.g., appraiser, attorney, biologist, realty specialist, resource economist...) whose charge might include:

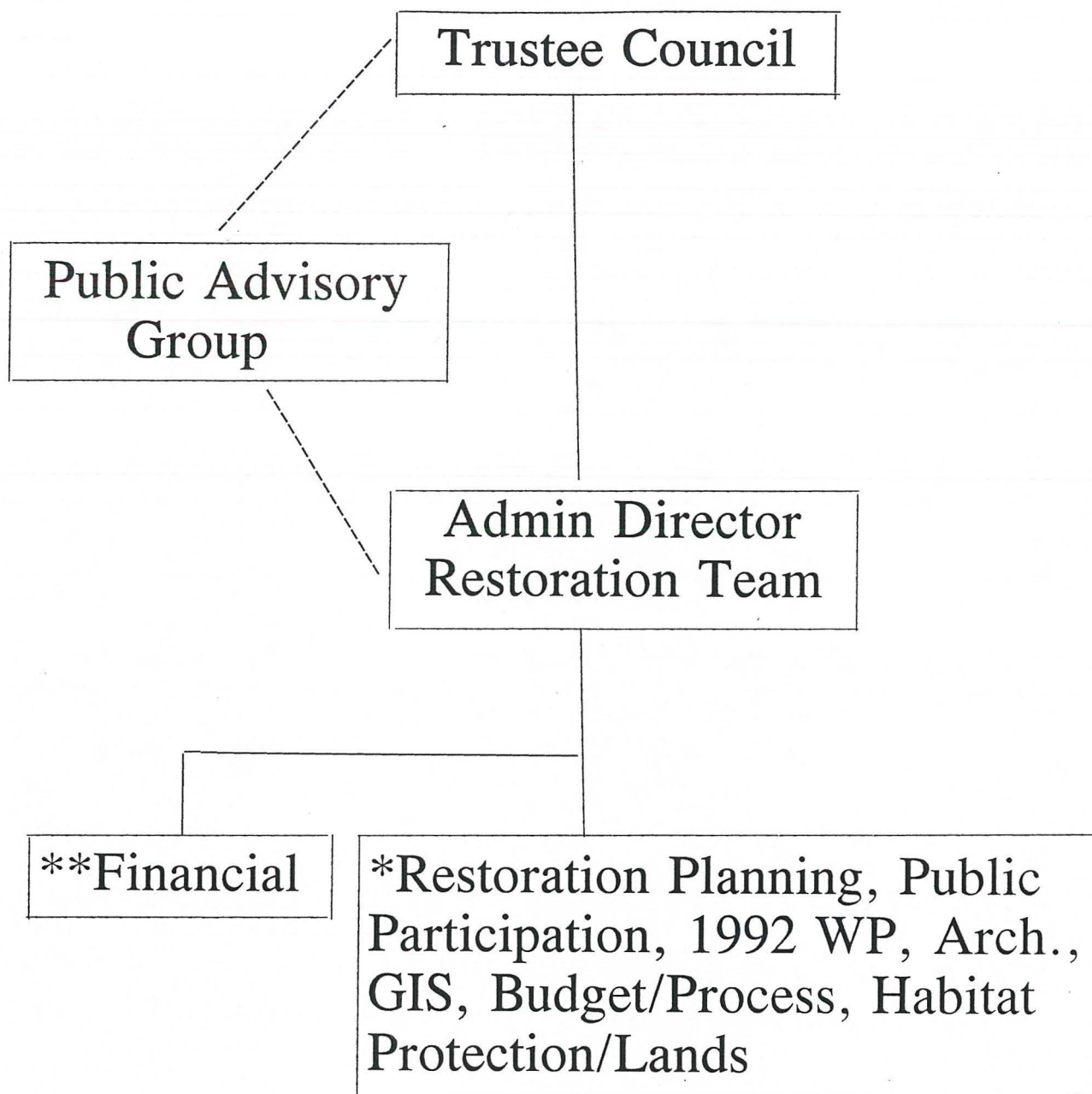
- \* immediate development of a framework for procedures to buy time on those private lands deemed potentially critical to restoration efforts, with special attention to criteria and valuation issues;
- \* establishment of procedures, criteria and prerequisites for determining appropriate approaches (e.g., short term or perpetual protection, partial or fee interest, etc.) to the use of private lands for restoration efforts; and
- \* determination of the types of information necessary for making both short and long term decisions, and the methods which may be used to gather and organize that information.

BENEFITS: There are numerous benefits to such an action, including:

- \* providing a rational framework within which to address the increasing pressures to act in regard to use of private lands to benefit restoration efforts, thereby avoiding the risk of failing the "red face test" several years down the line;
- \* providing private landowners and the public with direct access to the restoration process;
- \* assuring appropriate recognition of the potential value of private lands in the context of the draft restoration framework and the 1992 restoration plan; and
- \* providing the legislature with additional information to use when considering appropriate roles of private lands in the restoration effort.



1Pw6  
JZ



\* Groups will be formed and disband as appropriate

\*\*Does not include audit function. RT will develop a proposal for combined state/federal audit