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exemption (TME) under section 5(h)(1) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and 40 CFR 720.38. EPA designated the original test marketing application as TME-89-26. The test marketing conditions are described below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 9, 1990.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrea Pfahles-Hutchens, New Chemical Branch, Chemical Control Division (TS-794), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-611, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 382-2255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 5(h)(1) of TSCA authorizes EPA to exempt persons from premanufacture notification (PMN) requirements and permit them to manufacture or import new chemical substances for test marketing purposes if the Agency finds that the manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use and disposal of the substances for test marketing purposes will not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. EPA may impose restrictions on test marketing activities and may modify or revoke a test marketing exemption upon receipt of new information which casts significant doubt on its finding that the test marketing activity will not present an unreasonable risk of injury.

EPA hereby approves the modification of the test marketing period for TME-89-26. EPA has determined that test marketing of the new chemical substance described below, under the conditions set out in the TME application, and for the modified time period specified in the modification request, will not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Production volume, use, and the number of customers must not exceed that specified in the application. All other conditions and restrictions described in the original notice of approval of test marketing application remain the same.

T-89-26

Notice of Approval of Original Application: October 10, 1989 (54 FR 42840).

Modified Test Marketing Period: Confidential.

Commencing on: Confidential.

The Agency reserves the right to rescind approval or modify the conditions and restrictions of an exemption should any new information come to its attention which casts significant doubt on its finding that the test marketing activities will not present

an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment.

Dated: October 9, 1990.

John W. Melone,
Director, Chemical Control Division, Office of Toxic Substances.

[FR Doc 90-27203 Filed 11-16-90; 8:45 am]

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[WH-FRL-3861-4]

Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska; Restoration Work Plan and Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency and Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a draft restoration work plan and to propose a 1991 restoration program.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on behalf of the Federal trustees (the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), on behalf of the State Trustee, are announcing the intent of the Federal and State governments to prepare a draft restoration work plan for the Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska, and to propose a restoration program for the 1991 field season.

DATES: The Federal and State of Alaska governments intend to jointly publish a draft restoration work plan and a restoration program for the 1991 field season in the Federal Register on or about December 28, 1990, and will accept comments on the draft plan and proposed 1991 projects for 30 days after the publication of that notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan MacMullin—EPA, Washington, DC (202/483-7166) or Stanley Senner—ADF&G, Anchorage, AK (907/271-2461).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The March 24, 1989, grounding of the tanker *Exxon Valdez* in Alaska's Prince William Sound caused the largest oilspill in U.S. history. A slick containing about 11 million gallons of North Slope crude oil covered the western portion of the Sound and moved to Cook Inlet and along the Gulf of Alaska. More than 1,000 miles of shoreline were affected, including State and national forests, wildlife refuges, and parks. The spill damaged areas extremely rich in natural resources. It injured fish, birds, mammals, intertidal and subtidal plants and animals, and their associated habitats. The area's important historical

and archaeological resources also were injured as a result of oiling and cleanup activities. The oil also adversely affected intrinsic values.

Soon after the spill occurred, President Bush and Alaska Governor Cowper expressed the desire that the environment and economy of Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska be fully restored. Responsibility for full restoration of these natural resources and the services they provide rests with Federal and State agencies.

Both Federal and State law provide authority for response, damage assessment, and restoration actions undertaken following the *Exxon Valdez* oilspill. Under Federal law, section 107(f) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and section 311(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act) provide for Federal and State officials to act as trustees on behalf of the injured, lost and destroyed natural resources and to pursue recovery of damages for injury, loss or destruction of these resources. Federal law authorizes the State and Federal governments to present claims to the responsible parties for damages for injury, loss or destruction of natural resources and their uses. The funds received from these claims must be used to restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of the natural resources and services injured, lost or destroyed by the spill.

CERCLA applies to releases of hazardous substances other than oil, while the Clean Water Act applies to oilspills. Both laws are supplemented by the National Contingency Plan (40 CFR part 300) and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) regulations (43 CFR part 11) which set out a process, which is not mandatory, for determining proper compensation to the public for injury, loss or destruction of natural resources. In this case, the natural resource trustees have not made a final decision on whether to follow the NRDA regulations. In combination, these laws and regulations provide the structure for the Federal/State response, damage assessment, and restoration activities following the *Exxon Valdez* oilspill.

Restoration (including actions to restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of resources) is one component of this process. Combined with response, cleanup and the damage assessment process, these efforts seek to minimize adverse impacts and compensate the public for natural resource injury, loss, or destruction and

lost use and intrinsic values, by restoring the resources and the services they provide.

Response activities include the initial emergency measures to contain the spilled oil and minimize adverse impacts, as well as the subsequent efforts to clean up oil from the spill area. The magnitude of and circumstances surrounding the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill resulted in relatively little of the spilled oil being contained. Consequently, cleanup activity has focused primarily on removing oil from the shoreline areas affected by the spill. Cleanup activities continued through the summer of 1990 and are expected to resume next year.

In 1989, State and Federal natural resource trustee agencies initiated scientific studies after the oil spill to assess the amount of damage. Most of these studies were continued into 1990, with a number of new studies being initiated as well. This damage assessment process, which is comprised of data collection and analysis components, will continue in 1991. It is designed to identify and quantify the specific resource injury, loss, or destruction and to determine corresponding monetary values. These monetary values include restoration costs, as well as lost-use and intrinsic values. Claims for those damages will be presented to the responsible parties, and under Federal law, the monies received must be used for restoration, replacement or acquisition of equivalent resources.

Restoration builds upon the spill response and damage assessment process by planning for, and then implementing, activities to restore the injured, lost or damaged environment.

The NRDA regulations define "restoration" or "rehabilitation" as . . . "actions undertaken to return an injured resource to its baseline condition as measured in terms of the injured resource's physical, chemical, or biological properties or the services it previously provided . . ." The preceding definition of restoration from the NRDA regulations is provided in this notice for informational purposes. As mentioned earlier, the NRDA regulations are not mandatory.

Generally, the concept of "restoration" includes direct restoration, replacement and the acquisition of equivalent resources:

- Direct restoration refers to measures, in addition to response actions, taken, usually on-site, to directly rehabilitate an injured, lost or destroyed resource.
- Replacement refers to substituting one resource for an injured, lost or

destroyed resource of the same or similar type.

- Acquisition of equivalent resources includes the purchase or protection of resources to enhance the recovery, productivity, and survival of the ecosystems affected by the oil spill.

The goal of the restoration planning effort is to identify appropriate measures that can be taken to restore natural resources affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. Specific objectives include:

- Identify or develop technically feasible restoration options for natural resources and services potentially affected by the oil spill.
- Determine the nature and pace of natural recovery of injured resources, and identify where direct restoration measures may be appropriate.
- Incorporate an approach to restoration that, where appropriate, focuses on recovery of ecosystems, rather than on the individual components of those systems.
- Identify the costs associated with implementing restoration measures, in support of the overall natural resource damage assessment process.
- Encourage, provide for and be responsive to public participation and review during the restoration planning process.

Among the documents now available on the restoration program are several compiled by the Restoration Planning Work Group (RPWG), which is composed of representatives from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Interior, NOAA, EPA and the Alaska Departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, and Natural Resources. The RPWG is responsible for planning for the restoration of the areas affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. To that end, the RPWG has undertaken to gather and develop information on all aspects of restoration related to oil spills.

During the past 18 months, EPA conducted a computerized literature search to identify restoration approaches that have potential for success, as well as actions to avoid. The databases searched were: Aquatic Science Abstracts (1978-1988), BIOSIS Previews (1970-1990) Environmental Bibliography (1968-1989), ENVIROLINE (1970-1989), Pollution Abstracts (1970-1990), and NTIS (1964-1990). The search yield approximately 450 publications. EPA then reviewed the titles and abstracts and identified the most relevant publications for acquisition and detailed review. Articles were selected according to the following criteria:

- Techniques potentially applicable to sub-arctic conditions;

- Restoration of the same resources as those that may have been damaged by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill;

- Creation of new aquatic habitats (by dredge-and-fill techniques, construction of artificial reefs, etc);

- success of organisms grown in or transplanted to oil-contaminated substrates;

- Approaches and techniques for long-term monitoring studies.

This selective bibliography (approximately 200 citations) is found in appendix A to this notice. The full bibliography of about 450 citations (Item 1, appendix B) is available as noted in appendix B.

The RPWG has developed two reports which are publicly available. One documents the proceedings of an oil spill restoration symposium held on March 26-27, 1990, in Anchorage, Alaska (Item 2, appendix B). The symposium began with introductory statements by Dennis Kelso, Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and Tom Dunne, Acting Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These opening remarks described the restoration planning process and its objectives. Three keynote speakers addressed the symposium on legal issues related to the damage assessment and restoration process, experiences with restoration of nonmarine ecosystems and public participation in the planning process. A final keynote speaker provided an overview of restoration concepts.

Panel discussions comprised the remainder of the symposium. Sessions addressed direct and indirect restoration of six categories of resources or their uses: Coastal habitats, fisheries, marine and terrestrial mammals, birds, cultural resources and recreation uses. Panelists included experts on restoration in each of these six categories, as well as representatives from various resource user groups, Alaska Native corporations, public land managers, environmental interest groups and the timber and tourism industries. All panel sessions included opportunities for questions and comments from the public, and an extended public comment session took place at the end of the symposium.

Restoration concepts and ideas discussed at the symposium can be grouped into three categories. Broad restoration approaches and philosophies; recommendations for public participation during the restoration planning process; and addressing restoration of specific

resources (e.g., fisheries, mammals, cultural resources).

The second report is the August 1990 progress report, "Restoration Planning Following the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" (Item 3, appendix B), which summarizes the RPWG activities to date. Its chapters present discussions on public participation programs, a technical workshop, the literature review, and restoration feasibility studies. The report also organizes a possible restoration program in a series of matrices for birds, mammals, fish and shellfish, coastal habitats, recreational uses, cultural resources and multiple resources and values. Within each matrix, categories of potentially injured, lost or destroyed resources are cross-referenced to potential restoration approaches.

The report also offers a discussion of future restoration planning activities, including the evaluation and selection of restoration options and development of a final restoration plan.

The RPWG has undertaken a series of restoration studies designed to assess the potential of direct restoration techniques for some of the resources injured by the oil spill. The study titles are as follows:

Restoration Feasibility Study No. 1.	Re-establishment of <i>Fucus</i> in Rocky Intertidal Ecosystems.
Restoration Feasibility Study No. 2.	Re-establishment of Critical Fauna in Rocky Intertidal Ecosystems.
Restoration Feasibility Study No. 3.	Identification of Potential Sites for Stabilization and Restoration of Beach Wild Rye.
Restoration Feasibility Study No. 4.	Identification of Upland Habitats used by Wildlife Affected by the Exxon Valdez oil spill.
Restoration Feasibility Study No. 5.	Land Status, Uses, and Management Plans in Relation to Natural Resources and Service.

These Restoration Technical Support Projects are also being carried out in 1990. The first project will support development of detailed plans for potential restoration studies in 1991, including, but not limited to:

- "Natural recovery" monitoring;
- Pink salmon stock identification;
- Herring stock identification/spawning site inventory;

- Artificial habitat construction for fish and shellfish;
- Alternative recreation site/facility identification;
- Historic site/artifact restoration; and,
- Forage fish availability.

A second Restoration Technical Support Project will develop and implement a scientific peer review process for the feasibility studies and potential restoration projects.

The third Restoration Technical Support Project will assess and summarize existing beach segment survey data to identify sites for future restoration projects.

These studies are summarized in the document "The 1990 State/Federal Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Plans for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (Item 4, appendix B). Included in this document are responses to public comments received concerning the 1989 damage assessment report (Item 5, appendix B). Commenters responded to a general section that briefly discussed restoration planning as a goal for the upcoming year.

II. Notice of Intent to Publish a Draft Restoration Work Plan and a Proposed Restoration Program for the 1991 Field Season

EPA, on behalf of the Federal trustee agencies, and ADF&G, on behalf of the State Trustee, are announcing the intent of the Federal and State of Alaska governments to jointly publish in the Federal Register on or about December 28, 1990 the following:

- A draft restoration work plan that addresses appropriate steps for long-range restoration or Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska.
- A proposed restoration program for the 1991 field season.

The draft restoration work plan is expected to provide the public with information about the restoration plans of the Federal and State trustees and identify a proposed program, including restoration projects, that may be implemented in 1991. Development of this work plan is not required by the NRDA regulations. The Federal and State governments expect the parties responsible for the oil spill to pay for these projects.

The State and Federal governments will request public comment on restoration priorities and methods upon the publication of the draft restoration work plan in the Federal Register. The restoration work plan will not be the final restoration plan, but an opportunity for further public participation in the restoration planning process.

Dated: October 24, 1990.

Lajuana S. Wilcher,
Assistant Administrator, Office of Water,
Environmental Protection Agency.

Dated: October 30, 1990.

Gregg K. Erickson,
Director, Division of Oil Spill Impact
Assessment and Restoration, Alaska
Department of Fish and Game.

Appendix A

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Appendix B

- Item 1: "Ecological Restoration of PWS and the COA: An Annotated Bibliography of Relevant Literature." RPWG and EPA-ORD, March 1990.
- Item 2: "Restoration Following the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: Proceedings of the Public Symposium." Prepared by the RPWG, July 1990.

Item 3: "Restoration Following the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: August 1990 Progress Report." Prepared by the RPWG, August 1990.

Item 4: "State/Federal Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill—Sept. 1990." Trustee Council.

Item 5: "State/Federal Natural Resource Damage Assessment Plan for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill—Aug. 1989." Trustee Council.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Central Bancshares of the South, Inc., et al.; Acquisitions of Companies Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The organizations listed in this notice have applied under § 225.23 (a)(2) or (f) of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.23 (a)(2) or (f)) for the Board's approval under section 4(c)(8) of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. § 1843(c)(8)) and § 225.21(a) of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.21(a)) to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company engaged in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y as closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, such activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each application is available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the application has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices." Any request for a hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications