Oil Spill Restoration Planning Office 437 "E" Street, Suite 301 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

MEMORANDUM

15 MARCH 1990

(FWG-

TO: Restoration Planning Work Group (see below)

FR: Stan Senner

RE: Draft of text for flier/response form for Public Scoping Meetings

Here is a rough draft of text for the informational brochure and response form to be handed out at the scoping meetings. This can also be mailed to interested constituent groups and sent to people who make telephone inquiries about restoration.

I would welcome your comments on this draft no later than Monday, 26 March. I will then work on revisions, run a version by the legal team, and circulate a final for your approval. Camera-ready copy must be to the printer no later than 4 April.

Thanks for your help!

[Draft copy for Flier/Response Form for Public Scoping Meetings]

Restoring the Environment

After the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill:

How You Can Help

Spring 1990



Published by the Oil Spill Restoration Planning Work Group:

State of Alaska

Department of Environmental Conservation

Department of Fish and Game

Department of Natural Resources

United States Government

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of the Interior

Environmental Protection Agency

## Introduction

The <u>Exxon Valdez</u> oil spill has received an enormous amount of attention since that fateful Good Friday, March 24, 1989. Most of the attention has concerned the fate and clean-up of the oil and its impacts on wildlife, the environment, and the people who live, work, and play in Prince William Sound and the western Gulf of Alaska. The stories about clean-up and damages are important and still unfolding, but there is a new subject that deserves attention--RESTORATION.

How can we work together to restore natural resources affected by the oil spill? The State of Alaska and the United States Government are cooperating to identify different needs, ways, and priorities for environmental restoration, and we need your help. The purpose of this brochure is to describe the restoration planning process and how you can participate. We hope to hear from you.

### Oil Spill Damages

In the weeks and months after the spilling of 11 million gallons of crude oil at Bligh Reef, the oil traveled south and west, leaving Prince William Sound, and reached \_\_\_\_\_\_ on the Alaska Peninsula. More than 1,000 miles of shoreline were oiled, and the oil spread over at least 3,000 square miles of ocean.

The oil left a disaster in its wake. Carcasses of about 36,000 birds were found; many more birds than that thought to have died. At least \_\_\_\_\_\_ sea otters were killed. Injury to coastal and marine habitats, fish and shellfish, birds, and mammals and loss of other natural resources are still being documented and quantified through scientific studies as part of a formal Natural Resources Damage Assessment.

Commercial herring and salmon fisheries were closed in major areas, disrupting the lives and livelihoods of thousands of Alaskans. Beach set-net fishing sites were made unusable by oil. Native Alaska who depend on subsistence resources, such as salmon

and clams, were afraid to eat what they caught and gathered.

The wilderness experience--so valued by recreational users, visitors, and arm-chair travelers around the world--has been deeply altered. Tour- and charter-boat operators have seen their businesses sharply decline. Cultural heritage information has been damaged or lost, both through direct oiling and the disturbance of archaeological sites. Communities and villages in Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula, and on Kodiak Island experienced high levels of stress. Uncertainty about the future remains at high levels.

All of these are real impacts on the environment and people during the first year following the spill. But the effects of the spill are not over--and may not be over for a long time--as people living in the affected communities know all to well.

# What Does the Law Say About Restoration?

Federal and State laws have established a framework for assessing damages to natural resources and submitting financial claims to potentially responsible parties. It is expected--and it is our goal--that there will be a significant sum of money available for restoration of the environment. Under Federal law, such funds are to be spent to restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent of injured natural resources.

Natural resources include lands, waters, vegetation, fish, and wildlife. Cultural resources, such as historical and archaeological sites, are also considered to be natural resources

for purposes of the restoration program. Human uses of the natural environment include recreation and subsistence activities. These services too are appropriate subjects for restoration activities.

Damages to commercial businesses may be pursued through other legal avenues, and are not appropriate for the environmental restoration program. Restoring the environment on which many businesses depend, however, is appropriate for the restoration program.

The Natural Resources Damage Assessment, including planning for the restoration of the areas affected by the oil spill, is being coordinated by a Trustee Council, consisting of the Secretaries of the Federal departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Interior and the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Although the process is still taking shape, it is our goal that decisions to allocate funds for specific restoration projects will be made jointly by Federal and State officials.

# What is Restoration?

Experience with environmental restoration following oil spills, especially in northern environments, is limited, but a broad array of activities may be appropriate to help correct the environmental damage caused by the oil spill. The following descriptions of the terms "restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent resources" illustrate some possibilities.

"<u>Restoration</u>" includes direct attempts to return an injured resource to its baseline condition or function. An example would be to rehabilitate an oiled marsh ecosystem by supplementing natural plant and animal populations after removal of the oil. Restoration in this sense is a direct, on-site activity.

"<u>Replacement</u>" includes substitution of a new resource for an injured resource. An example is to use hatchery/aquaculture techniques to establish an entirely new fishery stock in place of one that has been severely damaged. Replacement may or may not be limited to the specific site or area where damage occurred.

"Acquisition of equivalent resources" means to purchase or otherwise protect resources that are similar or related to the injured resources in terms of ecological value, functions, or uses. An example is to purchase or protect undamaged wildlife habitats as alternatives to direct restoration of injured habitats. Equivalent resources need not be confined to specific damaged sites or to the direct spill area.

As you can see, there are many different possibilities to environmental restoration. The Restoration Planning Process will help identify those alternatives that are scientifically and economically feasible.

# What is the Restoration Planning Process?

Representatives of Federal and State agencies are participating in a Restoration Planning Work Group for the purpose of identifying restoration alternatives and making

recommendations to the Trustee Council and the public. This process will involve consultations with the public and the scientific community.

Public participation in this process began with a public Restoration Symposium on March 26 and 27 in Anchorage. A series of public Scoping Meetings has been scheduled for some of the communities directly affected by the oil spill (see box). Several progress reports will be published to update the public on the results of the restoration planning.

The Restoration Planning Work Group wants to consider a wide range of restoration alternatives. To that end, the work group is committed to active public participation throughout the planning process. The public will be given the opportunity for formal review and comment on any final recommendations about restoration alternatives.

## How Can You Participate?

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You are invited to share your ideas and comments with the Restoration Planning Work Group. We encourage your participation in the public scoping meetings this spring and your submission of written comments. Please use the space below to present your comments and ideas or send additional comments by letter. We appreciate and value your assistance.

What Do You Think?

*•* 

What injured natural resources do you think need the most attention?

Do you have specific restoration or replacement projects in mind? At what localities? What has been your experience, if any, with this type of project?

Do you have ideas for the acquisition of equivalent resources?

What other suggestions, comments, or questions do you have?

May we contact you for additional information? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (if any)

Schedule of Scoping Meetings

Valdez (date, time & location)

Cordova....."

Whittier...."

Seward....."

Homer....."

Kenai....."

Kodiak....."

Notes

\*This will be a self mailer, some of which will go by bulk mail. Which agency should we list as return address. What about telephone numbers for agency contacts?

\*For soliciting public response, should we use multiple choice questions, "strongly agree...disagree", or some other quantifiable type questions? Or should we do as above, ask a few fairly specific questions but leave the answers open ended?

\*In terms of format, I suggest an 11x17 sheet, folded in the center to make two 8.5x11 sheets, folded again for mailing. Ideally, paper should be good quality and recycled.

\*We probably will want to print about 5,000. ADF&G will handle typesetting and cover the printing costs.

\*We need photos, maps, and perhaps highlighted quotes in boxes to jazz up text.

\*Flier to be handed out at scoping sessions and mailed to selected lists (e.g., damage assessment, fisherman, etc.)? Also available to mail to people who make inquiries about restoration process.

# Oil Spill Damages

In the weeks and months after the spilling of 11 million gallons of crude oil at Bligh Reef, the oil left Prince William Sound and traveled south and west, far down the Alaska Peninsula. More than 1,000 miles of shoreline were oiled, and the oil spread over at least 3,000 square miles of ocean.

The oil left a disaster in its wake. Carcasses of about 36,000 birds were found; many more birds are thought to have died. At least 1,000 sea otters were killed. Injury to coastal and marine habitats, fish and shellfish, birds, and mammals and loss of other natural resources are still being documented and quantified through scientific studies as

part of a formal Natural Resources Damage Assessment.

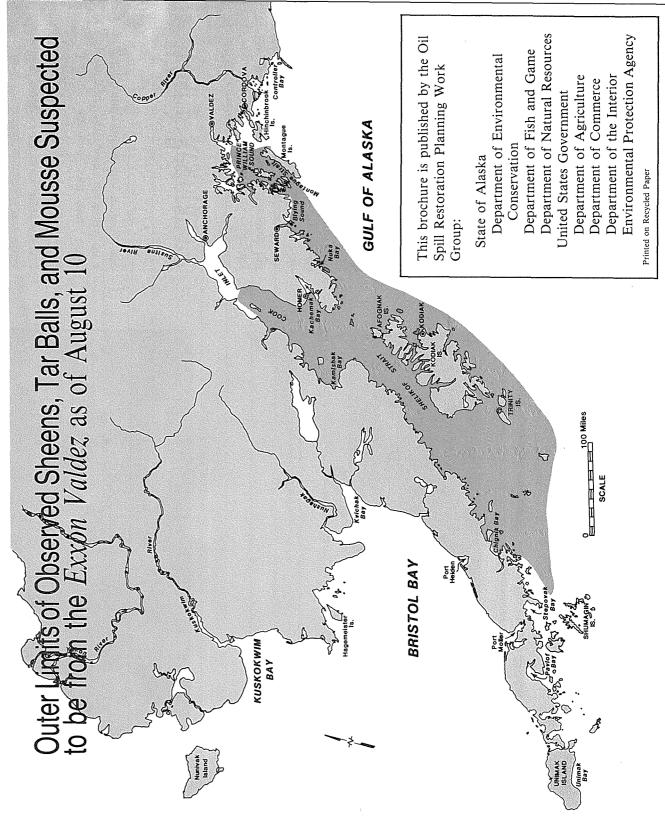
Commercial herring and salmon fisheries were closed in major areas, disrupting the lives and livelihoods of thousands of Alaskans. Beach set-net fishing sites were made unusable by oil. Native Alaskans who depend on subsistence resources, such as salmon and clams, were afraid to eat what they caught and gathered.

The wilderness experience—so valued by recreational users, visitors, and armchair travelers around the world—has been deeply altered. Tour- and charterboat operators have seen their businesses sharply decline. Cultural heritage infor-

mation has been damaged or lost, both through direct oiling and disturbance. Communities and villages in Prince William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula, and on Kodiak Island experienced high levels of stress. Uncertainty about the future remains at high levels.

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All of these are real impacts on the environment and people during the first year following the spill. But the effects of the spill are not over—and may not be over for a long time—as people living in the affected communities know all to well.



# The Law and Restoration

Federal and State laws have established a framework for assessing damages to natural resources and submitting financial claims to potentially responsible parties. It is expected—and it is our goal—that there will be a significant sum of money available for restoration of the environment. Funds recovered under Federal law, must be spent to restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent of injured natural resources.

Natural resources include land and water vegetation, fish, wildlife and other biota. Such cultural resources as historical and archaeological sites also may be considered for purposes of the restoration program. Human uses of the natural environment include recreation and subsistence activities, and these services too are appropriate subjects for restoration activities.

Fishing, tourism, and some other commercial enterprises are based on a healthy and esthetically pleasing en-

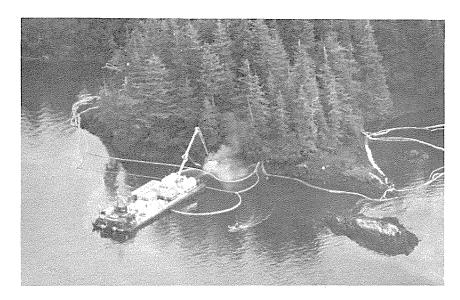
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"Restoration" includes direct attempts to return an injured resource to its pre-oil spill condition or function. An example would be to rehabilitate an oiled marsh ecosystem by supplementing natural plant and animal populations after removal of the oil. Restoration in this sense is a direct, on-site activity.

"Replacement" includes substitution of a new resource for an injured resource. An example is to use hatchery/aquaculture techniques to establish an entirely new fishery stock in place of one that has been severely damaged. Replacement may or may not be limited to the specific site or area where damage vironment. Restoring the natural resources on which businesses depend is appropriate for the restoration program. However, direct damages to commercial businesses, such as losses of income, are not appropriately compensated under the environmental restoration program.

The Natural Resources Damage Assessment, including planning for the restoration of the areas affected by the oil spill, is being coordinated by the natural-resource Trustees, which at this time consist of the Secretaries of the Federal departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Interior and the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Although the process is still taking shape, it is our goal that decisions to allocate funds for specific restoration projects will be made jointly by Federal and State officials, with guidance from the public.





occurred.

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As you can see, there are many different possibilities to environmental restoration. The Restoration Planning Process will help identify those alternatives that are scientifically and economically feasible.

# What is the Restoration Planning Process?

Representatives of Federal and State agencies are participating in a Restoration Planning Work Group for the purpose of identifying restoration alternatives and making recommendations to the Trustees and the public. This process will involve consultations with the public and the scientific community.

Public participation in this process

began with a public Restoration Symposium on March 26 and 27 in Anchorage. A series of public Scoping Meetings has been scheduled for some of the communities directly affected by the oil spill. Several progress reports will be published to update the public on the results of the restoration planning and to invite additional comments.

The Restoration Planning Work Group wants to consider a wide range of restoration alternatives. To that end, the work group is committed to active public participation throughout the process. The public will be given the opportunity for formal review and comment on any final recommendations about restoration alternatives.

# How Can You Participate?

You are invited to share your ideas and comments with the Restoration Planning Work Group. Please use the space below to present your comments and ideas or send additional comments by letter. We appreciate and value your assistance. You may mail your response to: Oil Spill Restroation Planning Office, 437 "E" Street, Suite 301, Anchorage, AK 99501, (907) 271-2461.

What natural resources need the most attention? Do you have suggestions for restoration, replacement, or acquisition projects?

May we contact you for additional information? Yes	No
Name	
Organization (if any)	
Mailing Address	
Mailing Address	
City State Zip	·









Restoring the Environment After the Oil Spill Oil Spill

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Oil Spill Impact Assessment & Restoration 333 Raspberry Road Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1599

Restoring the Environment After the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

Spring 1990

The *Exxon Valdez* oil spill has received an enormous amount of attention since that fateful Good Friday, March 24, 1989. Most of the attention has concerned the fate and clean-up of the oil and its impacts on wildlife, the environment, and the people who live, work, and play in Prince William Sound and the western Gulf of Alaska. The stories about clean-up and damages are important and still unfolding, but there is a new subject that deserves attention—RESTORATION.

How can we work together to restore natural resources affected by the oil spill? The State of Alaska and the United States Government are cooperating to identify different needs, alternatives, and priorities for environmental restoration, and we need your help. The purpose of this brochure is to describe the restoration planning process and how you can participate.

# How You Can Help

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[Draft copy for Flier/Response Form for Public Scoping Meetings]

Restoring the Environment

After the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill:

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P.2/8

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What injured natural resources do you think need the most attention?

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Do you have specific restoration or replacement projects in mind? At what localities? What has been your experience, if any, with this type of project?

Do you have ideas for the acquisition of equivalent resources?

How we we encourage further public involvement?

What other suggestions, comments, or questions do you have?

May we contact you for additional information? Yes\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_

Name

Organization (if any)

Schedule of Scoping Meetings

Valdez (date, time & location) Cordova,....." Whittier....." Seward....." Homer....." Kenai......" Kodiak....."

NHITTIER

31 MAY 1990

Address Name Whittier, AK. 99693 Begich Towers Apt 608 Por Por 625 Whittier, AK. 99693 P.O. Box 625 Whittier, AK. 99693 N.O. Box 613 Whittier, P.A. 99693 Clyde Mel Wooten Clepte m, Woolen Hons V. Bender 472- 3.353 But Fr Kaberts Peter K. Daile Lynde Hye P.O BOX 608 Lehellen AK 99683 POB 652, Whittier, AH 99693 Gerry Sanger P.O. 763 Whattier 996 37 Colden Stitel P.O. Box 613 Whittien 99693 Whittigh Community Response GROUP. P.O. Box 692 White 19693 P.O. 665 White Place Freis MCaballero 5. Bradley Ven 

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applegate Suit - the why kayahan don't camp (2) - Culron porrage - gently reduced use in '89 Plyran cove - primary concern about oil removal at recreation artes ( including subsurface oil) - live trees were viled in some cases - DEC program distrit allow gilling to the mouther of weeks - question about whether monitoring in part of restarding ? - felt that it meaded to be because sterm will continuely deposit oil about - Writter will benefit from me of local puple & reserven to be involved in restantion proven - have long - teen local descurbadge - builds toust arrow local folks w/ 5 grade educations aren't retarded - question about broremediation ? Pubert Brown - Sugar. 561 - 3666 Anchorage Chuzon School Diatust 5) charter boat bisinene 1) retired federal work 7) deck hand 6) returel fisherman 7) OEC winter program ceverdi. 3) cook 4) derk hande (Pres. Derh Norder Asia) 8) DEC " " employee derhhand - louren

0 Whitties 31 May 1990 7 Depende initially; on 8th shared mid way through - bent bear - need seaweed in writer typing. - howh - on feasibility mointaining - will communities be able to participente to purlingente doubt that Exxon will put up money to buy timber rights - whither brincally a fishing community -have can we restore ? comment that hering oppened in Whatting barbon for last year for first time what in chome to use the for partertion ? require restantion plan to along w/ dean up plan what if key rece sates are viled? - will additional or removal be periodele? ----- nations in some cases objected to Treatment because of collevel sites prustation don't lak of area to mentific data real concern about dottom frach - ylonton hand by synthe? - glained till - oil address to till particles on mente - look of police and then harmed - look of police and then harmed - of high value recreation ister identified by the , ~ 80%. - mygestel to make sure that Chenega, its people are directly consulted Userney Committee Bob Brown, principal of Cheney school system

Whittier Public Scoping Meeting - (2= Fry)

5-31-90 @ Begick Tower 6:00 pm

Antro - Buan Kestoration Definition & adeas to dato - Stan

Q-Does law provide for ongoing claims for restoration. work? (Stans answer-even if not, possible to, setting up an endowment ....) What thing of year studies are we doing now? ("Fucus + Okland status projects) > Could planest dean seawed before winter & put it out in aclas where dell would feld along shoeline in wenter. - Whittier mostly a fishing community. This is workt year most fottom fishing. What can be done to beg rextore long-lived species like halibut? Grey cod? Hack cod? Last summer - saw million of givenile herring in harbor never saw them here again. Also - sea lion in close Q- can reating in memory. Q- can reating be used for enhancing prevention measures? - Can shipper, ets., be regis to have a rest n plan as well as or aspart of a contingency plans? Like miners needing reclamation plans. - Whithey concerned about recreation - want to see oil removed from impit rec. sites no matter what the cost (if cost-effect was reason they are proposed on no treatment). - Call for public access to NRDA data , I that local communities could have local expertise/experience Ther would help explain Things ( like bottom-

5 -31-90 2 ~ Whitter Point - lack of public access to data could cause additional damage, if local people and to do anything in portuals (like fishing zones, 24) Need to get to native villages -Neld to get to name only Chenega corp. - School district - Mr. Bob Brown - offin Anchorage Efter-3666 Q-is monitoring a restri activity. Community needs to be involved in Alstoration afforts. Helps community through local him ets, the lps water effort because of local knowledge. - Consider Heck Hand, Thelpers, ets even for feasibility studies, etc. Locals know more Talk to Russ Willing - Fallo Bay private Gondowner. + Floyd Hill - Perry Art. Junit level owner. Nati outdoor leadership school.

 $\left( \right)$ Whitter 31 hay 90 · New will Restoration finds de allace ted -will all & de spart or will some type of fund or enderwant de astablished? " Comment on "Rook weed" - harvest & Geed Clean "Rook weed" in Spring for the Grazers bears, sages · Will Communities be involved in "hands on" feasibility Tudies? Monitoring? Carcen that write up of 89 activities Alferent from "real world" - Community would direct · Whitter basically fishing Community and this has been the wheest year for baston fishing - Whats being done for the black Cad-Walibert? · Is Nestoration going to include both economic and Ceological Compansation? -· Committy so not seeing functile having 5 What are the possible of han restoration of for summary response reasons - Whitter \$ fws Still & mide for future spills

(2)· Ensure that Heyes he submit Restrating Plan" Dimiler to a "Reclam time plan" for Amface triming activities - Spece White subinities they of recreational areas
 is find terraining - same have been previously cleaned - bunch of areas - In them cases
 Int owners abjected to cleaning treasmining
 In Culturel etc. Lease and threse areas
 Were not cleaned or subjected to Ð Biorendiation heasures · PWS too Commutics don't want to proceed to Restantion until they are assemed 6 as much clean as possible -Whitter submitted coridence of "Treated arcas" w/ cil remainings o Winthe wants NRDA data make available o fishum thick planted were damaged o han and oil sorbed on glacier plan and sank - ingact batter fish - PARA ② Great Careen about talking w/ Rative Communities to get better idea of Lohat's happening Suggest gaing the Pative Dehool Clistands

ء ذ 3) r Sm · Wigh recreation use areas not being used viger verentime use areas that Deny Used
Need Continuone Monitory Decause of Contract Conditions - Devilence of Context delaise, etc.
Whittee Wards the local people involved as provide "base line" Lata, experience - Also etting the Committy - Jeeling of two to the Source of the Sour · Scientific researching ghand listen to locals

. ...

Whittien Scoping into 5/31/90 DR 4 55 Chain - intro Retormen provide Retired (black puper?) Harvest sea weed to feed deer bird food for damaged food resources Community hands on feasability 10 ? effort ? Monitoring ? Observer Fishing you nound tourists in Sammen ever Replace black cor) halibert. (h-bat 18 yrs to harvestable) Financial restoration alternative industries ( cannot use find's directly baninde.) No herring Carvae in harber this y Enhance protective measures. Bhould be satisfied w/ plans, legis, etc. Can enclowment be used?

WHITTER 5/31 Reg companies to automit restoration plan in addition to response a da plan (as loggers & miners much) Reclaimation plant - planting grading etc. Recreation areas - NTR - they want oil removed - Remote camping / Kayaking experience - Restore releation exp by c/n. NTR- high human use not cost effective for openactic viling? land owners? Resource difically Analveto in TAG (if Chover Restoration begins) " Doesn't want to goto Rest. phase until dean is satisfied by local definition DA data al table - what can They do Plankton damage + effects on Slakien sealinent on top of 120 Colum - At sink in large sheets

- 3-5/31 WHITTER shellfish impact ( botton fish fase) Divers have gone deep & come np w/ farballa it something is not being alone because DA info not being released - This should not occur -fisheries nemt - Paperwork reduction - Plant trees Go to Chenego, Tatitlik få Scopping meto (Bob Brown - super Change) Achoolo in Auch go then their process Remention Corporations Sabruface il NTR Solos, big driftuoro Oiles hees, foliage, hear removed cub siles Monitor for continues damage /vilos different oils

Monitor - for Recolonigation Rep Hot water beacher - Community benefit form using 16cal people. Restoration etc. could alse benefit from local knowledge @ least Goal observered to tring good to de sauthul info to ab to commity, Use local provleage. Aci teams should use. - Refirea from fea Service - Deckhana Cook - Pros deckhanals and Alyecka Comby Resp. kan / Concerned Citizena Cita - Charter Goat - sightseere / Karyaking - Retirea fisherman (35 yrs) - DEC with Program Coordinate + Secretary

# Summary of Comments from the Public Scoping Meeting Held in Valdez, Alaska on April 18, 1990

Gary Ahlstrand, National Parks Service, and Judi Maxwell, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, conducted the meeting which was held at the Valdez City Council Chambers from 7 to 9:30pm. Six people attended including two tour boat operators, a proponent of aquaculture from the state of Washington, a reporter from the local radio station, and members of the Prince William Sound Conservation Alliance.

Summary of comments and suggestions made by participants on the subject of restoration of damages from the Exxon Valdez oil spill:

- In order for the community to be able to educate themselves regarding restoration, it was suggested that the Literature Review be made available to local libraries and that the most relevant publications be noted for possible acquisition.
- Expand the oil spill curriculum being developed by Belle Mickelson (Cordova) to include information on restoration and, in particular, to explain the need to prevent other hazards and spills as well.
- A number of participants at the meeting spoke of the gradual decline in environmental quality in the Sound and observed declines in wildlife numbers which they thought were directly attributable to marine pollution (i.e. dumping of oil, diesel fuel and garbage from boats) and due to boats disturbing wildlife.
- Clean-up garbage on beaches from sources other than the oil spill.
- Under the new Marine Pollution Act it will be illegal for boats to dump garbage and other wastes at sea - however, local governments do not have the resources to collect and recycle this garbage and will have to charge boat captains to pay for this service which will probably result in disposing garbage at sea inspite of the law. It was recommended that restoration funds be used to:
  - a) Educate skippers about the importance of not dumping refuse at sea and that trash compactors could be used to eliminate bulk (aluminum can compactors cost \$15).
  - b) Provide tenders to collect garbage directly from

### DRAFT

boats at sea.

- c) Fund towns to initiate recycling programs particularly waste oil products.
- d) Set up small, local response teams to deal with small spills. There were 190 small spills recorded in Valdez in 1989 resulting in contamination of the Valdez Duck Flats. Alyeska currently does not have enough booms to protect this area from spills.
- e) A feasibility project which would handle/recycle oil and other marine garbage might be so successful that the state legislature may be willing to fund similar projects in the rest of Alaska.
- f) Also, communities need financial assistance to build wastewater and storm runoff treatment plants.
- g) The PWS Conservation Alliance will open an exhibit "Oil in the Marine Environment" next week and is seeking additional support to publish a brochure which could be distributed to boaters to educate them on the need to protect the environment and to eliminate these sources of waste.

The impetus for the above recommendations was the belief of several participants that restoration has little hope for success if the chronic and seemingly trivial sources of pollution in the Sound are not regulated. The group felt that a key component of restoration should be prevention of further damage so that the natural healing capacity of local ecosystems would be enhanced. In this regard, several participants also thought that it was important to curtail, at least in the short-run, human use impacts on the Sound. This would include changes in fish and game regulations, as well as, research.

- Study effects of boat distance from seal haulout/pupping areas, from eagles, etc. then educate the public about these effects.
- Provide "talking guides" for captains to explain to passengers why it is important to view wildlife at a distance. In addition, supply captains with flyers to distribute to passengers explaining their responsibilities. This should reduce pressure on captains to get a little closer or to toot their horns in order to get action shots of seals jumping into the water.

The two tour boat operators said that the pressure on captains to take their boats in close proximity to wildlife areas was tremendous. Both have observed a 40 percent decline in the number of harbor seals prior to the spill while Dall porpoises and harbor dolphins have been completely absent from the Sound since the spill. They felt that the tour boat business would not decline if all boats were restricted from disturbing wildlife areas and sea bird colonies.

 A marine report similar to the "Aviation Air Report" could also be used to educate the public on boater/passenger etiquette and responsibilities.

The need to change fish and game regulations was also discussed as was the desire to enhance the value of wildlife. In particular, it was recommended that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game stop referring to wildlife in consumptive use/harvest terminology and that the hunting and fishing seasons in the Sound be completely shut down for at least two to three years. One participant reported that a bush pilot operation from Anchorage had taken over 80 mountain goats in the nearby Port Fodagle area last year. It was also suggested that the river otter/mink trapping season be closed. Several participants favored designation of the Sound as a National Monument but thought this would not be politically feasible.

A number of attendees were concerned about the future of the Valdez Duck Flats. Certain parts of the Flats are owned by the local government and there has been discussion of developing this area including an extension of the public docks. It was recommended that ADF&G use AS Section 16.20 to declare this area to have "critical habitat status" - once classified, a permit would be needed before the area could be developed.

The Flats are the farthest most winter range for the Canada goose and also host a large population of sandpipers. In fact, there are more birds at the Flats in the winter than in the summer. Protection of this area should be considered before acquisitions are done outside of the region. Given the preference for more development activities in Valdez, several participants recommended that a brochure be developed that would explain the importance of the Duck Flats to the public. One participant suggested that it might be appropriate to invite the National Duck Woodcarvers convention to come to Valdez as a way to enhance the value of the Flats in the eyes of the public.

Several other "acquisition" opportunities were suggested. These included:

- a) Protection of humpback and orca "rubbing" beaches (Perry Island, South end of Knight Island)
- b) Protection and acquisition of otter and mink denning areas which requires more than stream side habitat.
- c) Protect and acquire nesting and roosting habitat for lesser and greater yellowlegs, great blue herons, marbled murrelets and yellow billed loons. Research

# may be needed to determine how best to protect these species.

There was also support for funding research on whales, Dall's and harbor porpoises, and on the impacts of hatchery fish on wild stocks. Several attendees were opposed to hatchery projects which would not enhance wild stocks.

There was also concern that restoration could lead to a number of undesirable changes in the Sound. Several participants suggested that physical restoration be avoided - that it was better to leave the area alone. In particular, they did not want to see any permanent research stations established nor permanent boat moorings which would only increase public use and encourage boaters to go out without adequate equipment. One person mentioned a U.S. Forest Service study which shows the adverse effects of intensive human use. It was felt that it was better to sacrifice some areas to heavy use so that other areas could be preserved.

Overall, most of the attendees expressed a desire to limit additional commercial development in the Sound citing that the Sound was already overused. However, these same people expressed concern over how to accomplish this while finding some way to provide more economic opportunities to the native communities.

One participant also suggested a need to find more efficient ways to use energy and supported the use of restoration funds to pay for research on alternative fuels.

On the subject of public involvement, one participant suggested that if people are chosen to serve on a public advisory board that they be chosen according to their interests (commercial fishing, subsistence use, recreation, etc.) instead of by geographic location. She suggested that these interest groups be asked to supply a list of those that they would recommend as participants. These should be checked carefully by seeking references. This method was used to select a public group to work on the state Forest Practice Act with excellent results.

Finally, the group recommended that a booklet be published entitled, "50 Sample Things You Can do to Save the Sound."

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Summary of Comments from the Public Scoping Meeting Held in Cordova, Alaska on April 17, 1990

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Gary Ahlstand, National Park Service, and Judi Maxwell, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, conducted the meeting which was held in the cafeteria of the Mt. Eccles Elementary School from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. Nine people attended including a reporter from the local radio station, a logger, an oyster farmer, a local businessman, a former Kodiak fisherman who is writing an article for <u>Smithsonian</u> magazine on the effects of the oil spill on the fishing industry, three employees from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and one representative from Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Summaries of comments, questions, and suggestions made by participants:

- Concerns were raised that planning for restoration was premature given the dearth of data from the damage assessment studies. Dr. John Teal's comment "that the best thing we can do to restore coastal habitats is to do nothing " was raised with a concern that people may not be able to accept the "do nothing" option.
- Some proportion of restoration funds should be spent on long term monitoring and research. Several participants complained that there has been little money available to do this type of research even though the need has been recognized.
- Concern was raised over the hatchery programs in the Sound. One participant noted that we knew little about the interaction of hatchery stock with wild stock and that this information was important, not only from the biological standpoint, but also to determine how to maximize the economic investment in these hatcheries.
- Several attendees reported on the status of talks between local environmental groups and the major timber owners in the Sound regarding acquisition of timber rights. Their opinion is that agreement could be reached but that the lack of funds was a concern. They wanted to know if it would be possible to purchase certain tracts particularly those that will go on the cutting block this year - before a settlement is reached with Exxon. There was concern that by the time the court case is settled all of the important tracts, from the standpoint of environmental quality, would have been logged.
- One respondent noted that the cleanup activities introduced many to the beauty of the Sound and that this may serve to attract more people which may ultimately have a more significant impact in the Sound than the oil

### spill.

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- Concern was raised over the loss of passive recreation sites - boat moorings - due to oiling. Since the same has occurred for many coastal areas favored by wildlife, it is likely that recreationists and marine mammals will compete for the few clean areas. One attendee said that the major source of degradation was people and poor management of same. He expressed the opinion that wildlife will re-establish itself and stabilize if people leave well enough alone.
- Recommendations on acquisitions included haulout/rookery areas for sea lions and seals and the buy back of gill net permits to both enhance fisheries and to protect marine mammals.
- Several attendees emphasized the need for comprehensive planning due to the potential to spend a lot of money on restoration while producing nothing to show for it. Restoration and replacement activities, in particular, are likely to be a waste of money if oil spill contamination and other sources of contamination were not removed. Therefore, it is likely that more will be achieved via acquisition.
- Regarding non-oil sources of contamination, one attendee recommended the removal of mine tailings and other mining and logging debris in and around the waters of the Sound, including old sheds which still contain dynamite. These are causing heavy metals to be released into the water column.
- One attendee also noted that since plastics cannot be recycled more than once that these should be eliminated altogether.
- Concern was also raised regarding peoples' livelihoods. Would restoration seek to return the Sound to some earlier state of biological diversity which may mean that fishermen could not expect to receive their traditional catch quotas...would it be possible to give special consideration to commercial species in the restoration program?

Other questions and concerns raised:

- Do the government agencies have enough money to do adequate damage assessment?
- What is the quality of Exxon's damage assessment? Shouldn't their field activities be monitored?
- Does the U.S. Department of Justice have the right to

divert monies received in private suits against Exxon to the U.S. Treasury? How will settlement money be spent who will decide how it is allocated? If new resources are acquired which agency will manage them?

- The field officers of the trustee agencies expressed the desire to be more informed on restoration planning before the public is brought on board. They also suggested that the flyer be mailed to all area residents a general mailing to all postal boxes.
- How can the new legislature mandate to open the Sound to mariculture development be accommodated given the damage from the spill?
- Several attendees recommended that the trust fund be managed so that funds will be available 20-50 years from now to undertake restoration and replacement projects when coastal habitats are healthy enough to support these activities.

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Summary of comments from the Public Scoping Meeting Held in Homer, Alaska April 18, 1990

Of Fish and Game and Natural Resources, a member of the Cook Inlet Seiners Association, 10cal fishermen, a 10cal artist, a representative of the USF&WS Maritime Refuge, a 10cal shop owner and a member of a 10cal subsistence fisheries citizens Protection Agency conducted the meeting which was held at the Homer Senior Center from 7:00 pm to 9:10 pm. Fourteen people attended Sandy Rabinowich, rd, Environmental Senior Center from 7:00 pm to 9:10 pm. Fourteen people attend including representatives from the State of Alaska Department's Stan Senner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Sand US Fish and Wildlife Service and Kirsten Ballard, group.

by made suggestions and comments, questions of participants: Summaries

-The need for in-the-field research/monitoring vessels was expressed. It was suggested that this type of vessel could combine research, recovery and restoration and at the same time take measures to prevent impact of a future oil spill.

(in for This educationa1 funds should be allocated centers -It was suggested that funds should be allocated oceanographic research by enhancing existing facilities. could be combined with enhancing or creating educat institutions and public ocean information centers conjunction with oil spill response centers). -Long Term Ecological Research should be supported. A system to guarantee funding for assessing the damage oil pollution imposes on the environment. With the increase in tanker traffic, further research into cleanup techniques was discussed as applicable to inevitable future spills.

-A satellite communications system for research vessels was proposed. If such a system were in place, research/response vessels could be directed ASAP to remote spills.

-Expanding public education regarding oil spills. This could be accomplished by hiring a contractor to go to local schools for education or by supporting museum exhibits throughout state and nation. These could be combined with another state and nation. These could be combined with another educational program to give people a sense of responsibility about energy.

-Concern was raised regarding the areas which were impacted by oil, then cleanup efforts and now possibly further cleanup. Further disturbances of isolated areas should not be encouraged. This may need to be combined with management options to reduce impacts. It was suggested that baseline data should be gathered now before projected increases the spill areas will receive as a result of the spill. This data could be used regarding recreation so good management

decisions could be made to help ensure good visitor experience. Ways to minimize of further impact should be explored-e.g. expansion of existing facilities rather than construction of new facilities or creation of further bureaucracy.

-The acquisition of timber rights was discussed at length. Ideas included:

-Buy up a 300+ foot buffer zone around streams and areas visible from the coast, etc. in areas which are selected for logging to reduce environmental and visual impact

-Support tree planting efforts (construction of a nursery, labor, etc.) in areas which have already been logged or which will be logged for restoration.

-Buy up in-holdings or timber rights which are within the State and National Parks.

-Buy up Net Operating Losses (NOL) timber rights

-Support a change in the law to prevent further sale of NOL's to protect areas

-Several ideas regarding the enhancement of fishery resources impacted areas were expressed. This included the in construction of new salmon hatcheries. It was also suggested that rather than impacting the wilderness further, support for the expansion of existing hatcheries was a better way to enhance the fisherv resource while minimizing recreational/aesthetic impact). In areas where wild stocks have been impacted, it was suggested that rather than changing the stock in those streams, available enhancement techniques for stream enhancement should be used to expand/restore wild stocks without replacing with hatchery stocks.

-Support/implement studies 9 &10 from NRDA which have been cancelled or discontinued.

-Support special cleanups in especially pristine areas was suggested as a restoration project. These cleanups would use techniques which have been demonstrated to minimize the impact on the beaches and enhance natural or enhanced restoration.

-Acquisition of new lands came under favorable discussion. Among the ideas presented:

-To restore the wilderness experience, new, unspoiled areas must be acquired.

-Acquire seabird colonies currently in private holdings.

-Protect timbered slopes to protect marbled murrelet

nesting areas.

-Acquire habitat for migratory birds along the pacific flyway, such as wetlands in California, and possibly monies to work out an international effort to protect habitat in south american countries. The idea of spending dollars outside of Alaska was met with objection until it was discussed that if the birds that we spend millions of dollars to restore do not have a place to winter over, then the dollars here would be spent in vain. The participants then concurred that this would be a viable project.

-Support further studies to expand knowledge of other migratory birds to provide information regarding other wetlands/habitat for protection/acquisition.

-Review all sea lion and seabird colonies with respect to land status, the ultimate goal being acquisition or protection of these areas.

-Consolidate Middleton Island for acquisition.

-The concern regarding future and long term studies was recurrent. The need for long term studies of the effects of EVOS has been determined. After "the thrill is gone" from this spill, the participants expressed concern that necessary studies would no longer be funded. The idea to establish a trust fund and manage it so that monies are perpetually available for funding restoration, recovery, acquisition and enhancement projects was met with enthusiasm by the participants.

-Cleanup as it relates to restoration was discussed at length. It was suggested that cleanups should be studied on an experimental basis, money for local research on cleanup and restoration techniques, and support for the development of an informational repository for cleanup technologies developed during this and other spills to avoid the "re-invention of the wheel". It was pointed out that such projects must be related to the restoration process.

-Plastics problem is synergistic with the oil, especially in low energy areas. The plastics remain a persistent problem and tend to collect oil. It was suggested that areas could be restored by cleaning up plastics (nets, line, floats and other assorted flotsam). This could be combined with the support of solid waste options to cut down/eliminate debris at sea.

-The recent placement of sea lions on the threatened species list brought several under discussion. Fisheries and tour boat cperations will be feeling an impact. It was suggested that restoration funds should support studies to establish the amount of impact fishing and oil has had on sea lions. Funds cculd also be used to support research to identify the cause (s) of the sea lion's decline before establishing restoration procedures.

-The concept of removing introduced predators at bird rookeries to enhance recovery of these colonies (replacement). This has been documented as a successful operation (literature available) was met with a favorable response and supported by participants.

-It was suggested that previously logged/deforested areas could be reforested or replaced (planting) or new areas acquired/protected (Afognak Island).

-The participants seemed unanimous in their frustration regarding the inaccessibility of NRDA results. Concern that potential restoration projects or needs could possibly be overlooked was expressed. Participants felt they could not evaluate all subjects (cleanup, damage assessment and restoration) without the whole picture available.

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Summary of Comments from the Public Scoping Meeting Held in Whittier Alaska on April 19, 1990

Stan Serner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Kirsten Ballard, Environmental Protection Agency conducted the meeting in the Kittiwake room of the Begich Tower. The meeting lasted from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Despite efforts at posting notices of the public meeting, and the effort made to hold the meeting in the building where almost everyone in Whittier lives, no one attended. Therefore there are no comments to summarize.

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.J:J°	Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc. 1808 - 136th Place, NE Bellevue, WA 98005 206/641-3982 206/641-3147 Fax	
VIA:	Mail Fax Kirsten Ballard	Overnight Courier
TO:	Kirsten Ballard	DATE: 4/26/90
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KPWG-Nome Address - Plase leave if you would like to have further contact/mailings/notices of the restoration planning groups activities 3DR. Skuprt McGee, Jr. NOAA/55C/USCG-Servard P.O. Box 2449, Seward, AK 99664 Jean Kasischka BX 254 Second, AK 99664

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# Memorandum

Subject: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Operations meeting, 5/17/90

To: Brian Ross AOO/A

From: Kirsten

Kirsten Ballard AOO/

Items discussed at the Operations meeting are as follows:

USCG

-RADM Ciancaglini asked if anyone from the state was present, no one responded. He mentioned that the state had been invited to re-join the meetings.

-169 miles of beach has been reported as unsurveyed. This was explained as being the difference of portions of segment lengths being unsurveyed. The total amount surveyed as it relates to the data base creates the difference (10 or 15 feet along the beaches here and there has added up). It has not been determined whether or not the data base will be adjusted or if these portions will be re-done.

TWG-

-71 segments remain to be assessed. Most of these are in Kodiak.

-Type of oiling present as of May 13 is as follows:

SUBDIVISIONS:

-2 have subsurface oil only.
-349 have surface and subsurface oiling.
-479 have surface oil only.
-188 have no oil.

Of these subdivisions, 408 have No Treatment Recommended. 540 have treatment requested. This includes any type of treatment (tarmat removal, bioremediation, etc.)

-In PWS, approximately 30+ segments have been completed (work order completed, subject to re-assessment. Also see below). These segments have been primarily completed by tarmat removal/manual removal.

-The Don Bollinger is being outfitted in Seward for bioremediation. First application on KM-124 is expected on 5/18/90 in the am.

-The subject of semantics, and how "completed" will be interpreted by the public in reference to beach cleanup was discussed at length. The USCG considers a segment "completed" when the work order has been met. A completed segment is subject to re-assessment, beginning August 15 (ideally). It was decided that a caveat would be added to the public handouts to explain that a beach is subject to re-assessment and is not necessarily finished when the work order is fulfilled and the segment is designated as "completed".

-The work schedule, as published (for the purpose of land manager oversite, etc.), is about 4-5 days accurate. Updates can be available twice daily.

-4 vessels are in PWS, 3 in Kenai district, 1 bioremediation vessel is in training "today" (5/17).

#### Dept. of Interior

-4 segments have time constraints for work order completion in Kodiak zone. These may be done by helicopter.

-It was suggested that since there are only 3 segments/shorelines to be completed in the Seward zone, that Nat. Park Service could provide the monitoring for "everyone" there.

-Resolution on 10 segments (regarding cultural resources) and the associated addendum's continues to be worked on.

-Permit application requirements are being mandated down to BIA, NPS, etc.

-OAS certification requirement for Exxon leased planes has been waived for DOI employees.

## <u>NOAA</u>

-Is looking into maintaining weather stations over this next winter in PWS and elsewhere. This may be the only source of winter storm information that will be available for some areas.

-Net environmental benefit analysis (NBEA) team is trying to get out to PWS today. Yesterday (5/16) weather was bad.

-Samples of oil from north and south Knight Island were obtained (when was not stated) and are undergoing NBEA and toxicity evaluation currently.

-Chapter 6 of volume 5 regarding the bioassay study of Corexit 9580 has been received by RADM Ciancaglini. NOAA promised to have the review of this completed by the end of today. Use of Corexit will still have to go through the RRT, who is meeting Monday, May 21.

#### <u>OSHA</u>

-Went to Seward with state Dept. of Labor to inspect vessels for worker safety. Apparently, the state just "milled around".

-The state has now requested beach monitors, similar to those DEC has on site. This request has been denied - 311k funds are not appropriate for DOL beach monitors. DOL has/will be requested to work something out within the state departments.

-Use of respirators during the application of Inipol has been deemed optional. Health sampling last year indicated that the highest amount of butoxy ethanol measured was 3 ppm. OSHA allowable limit is 25 ppm.

### <u>USFS</u>

-Chief was out in the sound this last week.

-Green Island looks much improved.

-USFS is waiting for BIA approval on some of its lands.

-A guidance document as to how to amend work plans on the spot as it relates to cultural resources is expected to be to the RADM by the end of the week.

In General:

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-Since the Ops Steering Committee meeting does not seem to be drawing the public it was intended to (see memo RE: Steering Ops mtg of 5/8/90), RADM Ciancaglini suggested that if the turnout is similar on 5/22/90, that the meeting time be changed to 1600, 1700 or 1800 hours.

-Possibly the last ISCC meeting was this last 5/15. This will be discussed further.

-NTSB's final report regarding EVOS should be out this next week.

-Captain. Hazelwood's trail begins in Long Beach, CA next Monday, 5/21/90.

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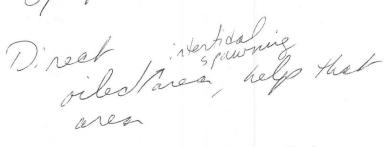
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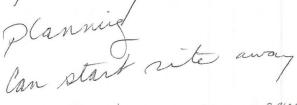
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Derry Heisen)

RAJE 5-17-90 anch. Restri Public Scoping Meeting P. 2 - a re: role of prevention actions for use of rexthe money. B. re: reintroduction of seabirds to Damen Del. Parker? - I'd timber as the rising on nature lands in SC. At., but around '& liaming Refuge' - slow disposed of recreational parcels for Nature Cong. cash flow, - Ban on Hydro devel @ Nollie Juan an - Est top Ubi auto. to ortuit access of unsafe version -in mode of prevention - Deer winter fueding hab. - either old growth forestares on intertided areas. 30 protection of old-glait theleful to been too. der, two. - Competitive bids needed for arguisition proposals (te. get sivate people to bid on how much they want for their land ... (but need to privitize which land) - Consider tax code changes giving incentives to PRPs to have write -offs in exchange for conservation work (as phantable contribution - (like transfering net operating loss)] - RPWG encouraged to searching for alt. Perta funds in near term, eg 20t-up à revolving fand to be repair by any claim resolution.

Date Prepared By Wo-k Paper No. 2 5-17-90 Reviewed By 7:00 pm Rextocation Public Scoping Meeting, Anchorage. Antis - Buan Kestoration Opportunities - Stan 10 11 7:15 - 18 public + 5 R Piilo (1 public = reporter) 12 Bandy Taple recorder Note that def. of rest n abould inclo accellerating recovery. Comment re: Trade off between intrusive cleanup tecks veranx topicity w/ Inisof that leaves some chronic oil beking. Need for monitoring! Nabilat (mot huger habites) 19 20 Encomaged to look at alginisition - because skepting that very many direct projects will be flaxible on necessary. 2 24 don't acc, high value privately-owned habitat that isn't threatened acquire what faced by Theat 25 26 27 Auch as timber - beyond sew 66 buffer look outerte of affected area to where there's a merge of high qual. Intrincir value ? create what ANILCA Scouldn't meliaming refuge 'Fin verl pop's in world hund not being when a high subjections 28 29 36 largest sackey uns, 10% of bears, + high subscribes PRINT value. Create coop of conservation area (acquire non-desposed) conservation laxements ontrif the villag boundaries 37 that have timber on meneral concerna to complicate it." 38 Claims rec'n These creater 1 job / 32 rec'n visite, Kenai B. conidor which creater 1 job / 1000 visite 39

Tom Lochich, Whitties fucherman -- acquisition of resources, but not eq. ones. due compensation to percons w/ interests in recours lap- larger restrictions on fishing zones, resting og placer mining rites, gurched of limited entry permits + restriction of finking seasons to allow recovery in also first of Port wells sching traitly that kill the rest of the by-catch. Feelsthis is particulary important since oil is likely to have ended up in benthis areas also advocates wasternates cleanup actions for Whittie, To cleanup from long-standing problems left over by military. Expects similer sewage + tople worts leathing in other wanted communities. - Debus pick , up to increase use values - "active hands-off" should be one approach (beyond just, say, wilderness status - no human us for a period of time) - Careful of impacts of allowing new receation area, which bray simply opread to human effects. Pilo Nagge- CAC - concerned & apparent emphasis on species correct things like wastewate management. L'en Vening, N. Pac. Rim - Suggest going to Chenega Villag -Villages were consuming 330-550 lbs/yr wild resources before spil. Doit forget "Subsistery wel in resta planning of in measuring releavery. And re: looking into econ devel apportunities to decrease their dependence on the resources that would be hit by another spill in the future.