



Kodiak Island Borough

Office of the Borough Mayor

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Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Phone (907) 486-9310 Fax (907) 486-9391

March 31, 2010

Laurel Jennings
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
441 West 5th Avenue, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99501

via email @dfg.evos.nepacomments@alaska.gov

Dear Ms Jennings:

Re: EVOS Trustee Council – Restoration Fund Recommendations

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and present a number of suggestions about how to spend remaining restoration funds on important projects on Kodiak Island. Our comments will focus on two defined restoration categories:

1. Long-Term monitoring of marine conditions; and
2. Habitat Acquisition and Protection.

LONG-TERM MONITORING OF MARINE RESOURCES

Kodiak and lands on the Alaska Peninsula were heavily oiled during the March 24, 1989, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. Species from invertebrates to birds to marine mammals were drastically impacted by the spill. Though it has been 20 years since the spill, many species have not recovered to their pre-spill populations. The investigation and data collected over these years on these species must continue as we determine the long term affect on these resources. The creation of an endowment fund to NOAA and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that identifies money for future monitoring is recommended.

PARCEL ACQUISITION – Habitat Acquisition and Protection

Our recommendations include the acquisition of at least two parcels in Kodiak. It is felt that the following two candidate parcels clearly meet the category of habitat acquisition and protection, but other parcels should also be considered. These two parcels include:

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- Termination Point

This parcel has been identified in the past and remains one of the highest priority parcels in Kodiak region. It is undeveloped parcel of land, owned by the Leisnoi Native Corporation and is approximately 1026 acres in size. It is known to harbor species injured by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill such as the Marbled Murrelet. Equally important is the fact that this parcel is close to town and provides a rare opportunity where habitat protection and future monitoring of impacted species can occur on the road system.

- Long Island

This parcel is off shore from the City of Kodiak. Located on the north end of the island is a large sea lion rookery. But Long Island provides critical habitat for upland species as well as other species found in the Gulf of Alaska marine ecosystem. At least the northern portion if not the whole island should be seriously considered for acquisition and monitoring.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer examples where funding from the Trustee Council will benefit the spill region.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome M. Selby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jerome M. Selby, Mayor

cc: Rick Gifford, Borough Manager
Borough Assembly Members