

To Whom it May Concern-

Thank you again for taking the time to travel to Seward to listen to comments of local businesses, researchers, city administration, and citizens.

On behalf of the Seward Harbor, I would like to emphasize my support for narrowing and refining the scope of the EVOS Trustees Council's efforts. Specifically I support Harbor Protection and Marine Restoration Projects. As the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation gained NPDES primacy in the past year, a heightened focus will turn to storm water projects and the impact of these pollutants on coastal resources. The City of Seward has worked with the ADEC to obtain an NPDES permit for its vessel storage yard at the Seward Marine Industrial Center. The City has taken considerable steps to mitigate (maritime-related) storm water run off, but capital improvement projects for storm water management have proven costly for our small community. This is unfortunate because although Seward is small, its maritime identity and coastal impact is large. The Seward Harbor has slips for over 670 vessels, and additional (transient) vessels utilize the City owned Marine Travelifts to transport vessels to upland storage and maintenance yards. In 2009 the harbor completed 436 vessel lifts, but has no mechanism for addressing storm water run off from hull maintenance and repair areas.

In 2007 the City of Seward proposed two projects addressing storm water discharges in EVOS-impacted waters. The vessel wash-down pads (one for each Travelift area, to accommodate vessels of different size) would include a reinforced concrete pad, including high-pressure water, water collection, and filtration systems. Pressure washing the hull of a boat removes marine material and hazardous paint particles. The wash-down pad would prevent these pollutants from entering the storm water runoff which drains into the nearby harbor and Resurrection Bay basin. The water filtration and treatment system would be designed to remove these contaminants from the water, below levels that could be safely discharged into the City sewer system. The proposed system would include a rain diverter, sump basin, oil/water separator, recycle system and heavy metals/ paint encapsulation system.

The City of Seward is hopeful that the Trustees will open solicitation for projects addressing harbor-related storm water management projects. The Alaska DEC, Division of Water would seem to be an appropriate state entity to evaluate proposals or partner with the EVOS Trustee Council in this process.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime for further information.

Sincerely-

*Kari Anderson*

Seward Harbormaster

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