## JAHNA LINDEMUTH ATTORNEY GENERAL

JENNIFER L. SCHORR Assistant Attorney General State of Alaska Department of Law 1031 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1994 Telephone: (907) 269-5274 Facsimile: (907) 278-7022 Email: jennifer.schorr@alaska.gov

Attorneys for the State of Alaska

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF ALASKA

STATE OF ALASKA,)Plaintiff,)v.)sixtry-FIFTHJOINT NOTICE OFEXXON CORPORATION, and EXXONSHIPPING COMPANY,Defendants.

The United States and the State of Alaska ("the Governments") jointly provide this notice ("Notice") of their expenditure of \$5,486,000 from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Investment Fund ("Investment Fund"). This expenditure is entirely from the Habitat Sub-Account of the Investment Fund. The Governments' natural resource trustee agencies will use these funds for purposes consistent with the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered by this Court in *United States v. State of Alaska*, No. A91-081 CIV (D. Alaska), on

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August 28, 1991 ("MOA").

On September 25, 1991, the United States and the State of Alaska settled their claims against the Exxon Corporation, Exxon Shipping Company, Exxon Pipeline Company, and the T/V *Exxon Valdez* arising from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill ("EVOS"). All funds resulting from these settlements were subsequently ordered by this Court to be placed in an interest-bearing account in the Court Registry Investment System ("CRIS") administered through the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

On June 7, 2000, this Court entered its Third Amended Order for Deposit and Transfer of Settlement Proceeds ("Third Amended Order"). The Third Amended Order allows the Governments the option of investing the money in an account outside the United States Treasury. On September 29, 2000, upon application by the Governments, the Court entered an Order Re: Transfer of Funds from the Exxon Valdez Liquidity Account and the Reserve Fund to an Investment Fund within the Alaska Department of Revenue, Division of Treasury, authorizing transfer of settlement proceeds to an account within the State. On October 5, 2000, all funds and securities were transferred from the CRIS to the Investment Fund. The Third Amended Order further allows the Governments to establish separate sub-accounts within the primary account "as the Trustee Council determines appropriate." On October 1, 2002, three sub-accounts were created in the Investment Fund: the Research Investment Sub-Account, the Habitat Investment Sub-Account, and the Koniag Investment Sub-Account. These subaccounts were established to carry out the Trustee Council's decision in its Resolution of March 1, 1999 to manage separately the remaining assets of the Joint Trust Funds for the specific purposes of funding a long term research and monitoring program, the acquisition of

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lands along the Karluk River, and the establishment of a fund to purchase small parcels of land that may become available in the future.<sup>1</sup>

Paragraph 27 of the Third Amended Order provides that "funds in an Investment Fund shall remain on deposit in that Fund until such time as the EVOS Trustees unanimously resolve to expend all or part of the funds." The funds may then be expended, for purposes consistent with the MOA, upon the joint notification of the Governments to the Investment Fund and the Court. The notification is to inform the Court of the proposed uses of the funds in the same manner and to the same extent as was the Governments' practice when the funds were in the registry of the Court.<sup>2</sup>

The Governments provide Notice of this sixty-fifth expenditure in the amount of \$5,486,000 from the Habitat Sub-Account, authorizing funding for purchase of the Termination Point Parcel, KAP 3003, on Kodiak Island.<sup>3</sup> The entire amount that is the subject of this Notice will be provided to the State of Alaska.

<sup>2</sup> A copy of the notice provided to the Investment Fund pursuant to paragraph 27 of the Third Amended Order for Deposit and Transfer of Settlement Proceeds is appended to this Notice as Attachment A, pp. 1-2.

<sup>3</sup> The Trustee Council unanimously authorized the purchase of this parcel at its November 12, 2015 meeting in Resolution 15-03. *Sixtieth Joint Notice of Expenditures from the Investment Fund*, Attachment B pp. 1-4 at Dkt. No. 468-2. A description of the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Koniag Sub-Account funds, which had been set aside for the protection, and potential purchase, of certain lands on Kodiak Island held by Koniag, Inc. (Koniag), were transferred to the Habitat Sub-Account on March 14, 2014 after the final payment due Koniag (after its termination of the Master Agreement for Protection of Certain Lands and Resources Between Koniag, Inc., the United States of America, and the State of Alaska and associated easements) was made, and the Koniag Investment Sub-Account was terminated. The payment was the subject of the Governments' Fifty-Fifth Joint Notice of Expenditures from the Investment Fund.

The Trustee Council has not met since the Governments' filing on January 26, 2017 of their Sixty-Fourth Joint Notice of Expenditures. The Governments will submit the meeting notes for the Trustee Council's last meeting on January 11, 2017 once they have been approved by the Trustee Council.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 13th day of March, 2017 at Anchorage, Alaska.

## FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

## JAHNA LINDEMUTH ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: <u>/s/ JENNIFER L. SCHORR</u> Assistant Attorney General State of Alaska Department of Law 1031 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1994 Telephone: (907) 269-5274 Facsimile: (907) 278-7022 Email: jennifer.schorr@alaska.gov Alaska Bar #0811082

## FOR THE UNITED STATES

<u>/s/ ERIKA M. WELLS</u> (consent) Trial Attorney Environmental Enforcement Section Environment & Natural Resources Division United States Department of Justice

Termination Point Parcel is included at Attachment A, pp. 3-7.

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c/o NOAA/Damage Assessment 7600 Sand Point Way, NE Seattle, Washington 98115 Telephone: (206) 526-6608 Facsimile: (907) 526-6665 Email: Erika.Zimmerman@usdoj.gov

DEPARTMENT OF LAW OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANCHORAGE BRANCH 1031 W. FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 200 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501 PHONE: (907) 269-5100

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 13th day of March, 2017, a copy of the foregoing SIXTY-FIFTH JOINT NOTICE OF EXPENDITURES FROM THE INVESTMENT FUND, together with attachments A and B thereto, was served by U.S. mail, first class, postage paid, on the following:

James F. Neal Neal & Harwell 2000 One Nashville Place 150 Fourth Avenue North Nashville, TN 37219	Douglas J. Serdahely Patton Boggs LLP 601 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 700 Anchorage, AK 99501	Patrick Lynch O'Melveny & Meyers 400 South Hope Street Los Angeles, CA 90071
Jennifer Reierson AK Dept. of Fish & Game PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526	John F. Clough III Clough & Associates PO Box 211187 Auke Bay, AK 99821- 1187	Cherri Womac AK Dept. of Fish & Game Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Office 4230 University Drive, Ste. 220 Anchorage, AK 99508- 4650
Erika M. Wells U.S. Department of Justice c/o NOAA/Damage Assessment 7600 Sand Point Way NE Seattle, WA 98115		· · · · · · ·

/s/Londa Wright

DEPARTMENT OF LAW OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANCHORAGE BRANCH 1031 W. FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 200 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501 PHONE: (907) 269-5100

> Sixty-Fifth Joint Notice Of Expenditures From Investment Fund (Case 3:91-CV-0083 (HRH))

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**Department of Law** 

**CIVIL DIVISION** 

1031 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sulte 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Main: 907-269-5100 Fax: 907-276-3697

March 9, 2017

Mr. Bob Mitchell State Investment Officer Treasury Division, Dept. of Revenue P.O. Box 110405 Juneau, AK 99811-0405

Re: Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Investment Fund

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

The Exxon Valdez Trustee Council has unanimously determined to expend \$5,486,000 in joint trust funds for restoration purposes consistent with the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered by the federal district court in United States v. State of Alaska, No. A91-081 CIV (D. Alaska). This expenditure is entirely from the Habitat Sub-Account of the Investment Fund.

Under the terms of the Reimbursable Services Agreement between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Department of Revenue, please transfer the following amounts from cash held in the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Investment Fund to the accounts described below:

## State of Alaska

Amount: \$5,486,000 from the Habitat Sub-Account

Beneficiary:State of AlaskaAccount:GeFONSI 33070, Account 22177, ADF&G IRIS Fund 3291Name:Exxon Valdez Settlement Account

Bob Mitchell Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Investment Fund

Page 2 March 9, 2017

This transfer should take place when most financially advantageous, preferably on or before March 20, 2017. If you have any questions, please email Elise Hsich at elise.hsieh@alaska.gov.

Constell Thomas -

Jennifer L. Schorr Assistant Attorney General Environmental Section State of Alaska Department of Law

Sincerely,

2 a Nells

Erika M. Wells Trial Attorney Environmental Enforcement Section Environment & Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice United States of America

 cc: Jennifer Reierson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, via email Michelle Kaelke, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, via email Carol Petraborg, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, via email Bronze Ickes, Alaska Department of Revenue, via email Bruce Nesslage, Department of the Interior, via email Cherri Womac, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Restoration Office, via email Linda Kilbourne, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council Restoration Office, via email

## Termination Point Parcel KAP3003

Property Name:	Termination Point
Owner:	Leisnoi, Inc.
Agency Sponsor:	State of Alaska or Kodiak Island Borough
Appraised Value:	\$5,451,000
Funding Request	\$5,486,000 (including \$35,000 closing costs)

#### Overview

The Great Land Trust seeks \$5,451,000, as determined by an appraisal, plus closing costs, to fund the conservation of approximately 1,060 acres. This 1,060-acre parcel, known as Termination Point, is owned by Leisnoi, Inc. and is located on the northeastern end of Kodiak Island, within the Kodiak Island Borough and situated in the Gulf of Alaska.

MacSwain and Associates completed an appraisal report on this property. The appraisal is consistent with EVOSTC, USPAP, and UASFLA appraisal standards and reviewed by Johnson Appraisal Company. The timber value on the property has been appraised by Forest & Land Management, Inc. Leisnoi, Inc. would retain certain rights, such as the ability to install appropriate signage, maintain certain rights to archaeological sites and artifacts, engage in subsistence activities, and maintain ownership of any potential carbon credit value. The land would be conserved with a conservation easement held by the State of Alaska or the Kodiak Island Borough with additional enforcement rights held by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In both scenarios the property will be managed for conservation and public use. Koniag, Inc. owns the subsurface estate below this property. Negotiations with Koniag, Inc. regarding acquisition of the subsurface estate are ongoing.

The Protection of this Kodiak Archipelago parcel would contribute to EVOSTC area-wide goals of species recovery and habitat protection. Species in the Kodiak Archipelago affected by EVOS are dependent on the coastal, wetland, and upland habitats provided by the Termination Point parcel.

#### **Property Description and Habitat**

The Termination Point parcel is approximately 4 air miles north of the city of Kodiak and is located between Monashka Bay and Narrow Strait, and east of Monashka Mountain, along the northeast coast of Kodiak Island. The parcel is undeveloped and accessible via the road system. The Termination Point parcel contains approximately 4.6 miles of convoluted shoreline that is characterized by rocky cliffs and protected beaches. The coastline has numerous nearshore rocks and extensive kelp beds. The parcel consists of rolling wooded uplands to an elevation of 500 feet. The uplands of the parcel are covered with Sitka spruce and have an understory of shrubs and grasses. Termination Point serves coastal wildlife communities such as sea otters and birds identified by the EVOSTC as Injured Species.

Termination Point is located within the Audubon Society-recognized Marmot Bay Colonies Important Bird Area (IBA), which is an area of global importance for the Tufted Puffin. The IBA contains 8 known seabird colonies, and collectively these colonies contain 12 seabird species. The Termination Point parcel is known to provide coastal forage areas, colony and nesting habitat for several of the sea and shore bird species, including Pelagic Cormorants and Tufted Puffin. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory approximates 56.8 acres of wetland habitat within the parcel, described as freshwater forested/shrub wetlands, freshwater emergent wetlands, estuarine and marine wetlands, and freshwater pond.

#### **Restoration Benefits**

The productive intertidal area and the adjacent Narrow Strait are important feeding areas for Marbled Murrelets and Pigeon Guillemots, as well as other marine birds. The mature Sitka spruce forest of Termination Point offers prime nesting habitat for Marbled Murrelets, a species for which recovery has been difficult to determine. A number of other Injured Species would benefit from acquisition of the Termination Point parcel, including sea otters, Pelagic Cormorants, Kittlitz's Murrlets, and Pigeon Guillemots. Conservation of the Termination Point parcel would provide permanent habitat protection for these species and assist the EVOSTC in reaching and maintaining its recovery objectives in the Kodiak Archipelago.

The Termination Point parcel also contains important wetlands, including Fish and Wildlife Service-identified nationally declining freshwater forest/shrub, freshwater emergent, estuarine and marine wetlands. Estuarine wetlands provide habitat for Intertidal Communities and other Injured Species. Marine wetlands provide habitat for Subtidal Communities. Acquisition of this parcel would assure high function of these wetlands, which would benefit Injured Species.

Continuous kelp beds occur along the coast of the Termination Point parcel, which provides important juvenile fish habitat that could bolster injured commercial, sport and subsistence fisheries, particularly salmon fisheries.

The Termination Point parcel is approximately 4 air miles or 12 road miles from the city of Kodiak, which is the third largest fishing port in the United States. The parcel would add another 1,060 acres to lands open to the public in the Kodiak area and contribute to recreation and tourism, which were identified by the EVOSTC as an Injured Service. The parcel possesses high recreational qualities for the residents of Kodiak because of its proximity to town and road access. The area is used by the public on a regular basis for both beach and existing trail use and is popular with local hikers and bird viewing groups. The parcel is unique because it could provide for a variety of road-accessible year-round recreational opportunities.

The Termination Point parcel also provides subsistence resources for the village residents of Ouzinkie. Three cultural resource sites containing middens and barabara depressions (remnant house pits) have been documented on the parcel. The purchase of this parcel would contribute to the perpetual health of the local native peoples and benefit subsistence harvest levels, which is identified as an Injured Human Service.

#### **Potential Threats**

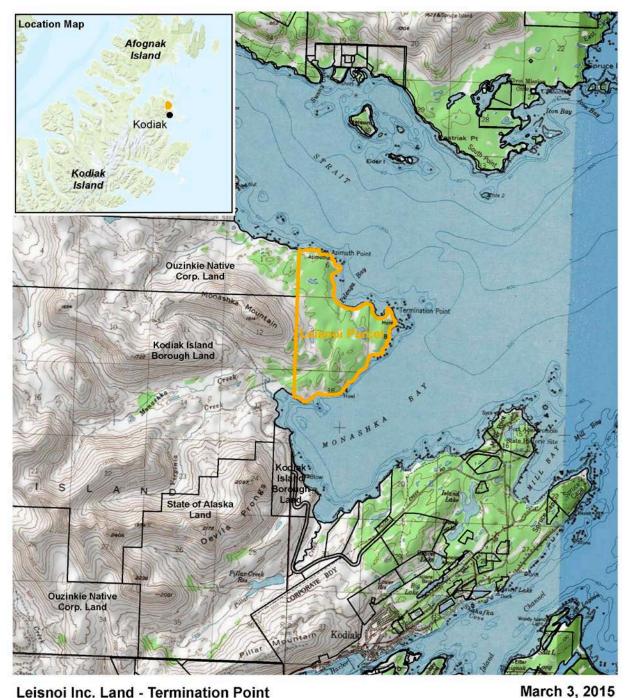
The Termination Point parcel is a privately-owned oceanfront property that is easily accessible to the town of Kodiak. The property is at risk of being logged or subdivided, or both. Protection of this parcel conserve habitat preventing habitat loss and fragmentation and would ensure

that residents of and visitors to Kodiak would have access to a popular recreational area. It is located within the Marmot Bay Colonies IBA, which is threatened by habitat fragmentation, nutrient pollution, and water pollution.

#### **Proposed Management**

The property would be managed by the State of Alaska or the Kodiak Island Borough.

Funding Request \$5,486,000



### Leisnoi Inc. Land - Termination Point

Leisnoi Inc. Surface Owner, Koniag Corp. Subsurface Owner

#### Approximate Legal Description & Acreage:

Tract C of T27S, R19W, Seward Meridian, and located in the Kodiak Island Borough, Kodiak Recording District, Alaska, containing 1,060 acres, more or less.



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0.75



Photo: Termination Point coast

Photo: Trail and coastal forest habitat



Photo: Termination Point and coastal wetlands



Photo: Coastal forest and wetland habitat