

Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC)

From: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 9:48 AM
To: Craig O'Connor (Craig.R.O'Connor@noaa.gov); Sullivan, Daniel S (LAW); Lloyd, Denby S (DFG); Jim Balsiger (jim.balsiger@noaa.gov); Joe Meade (jmeade@fs.fed.us); Kim Elton (kim_elton@ios.doi.gov); Hartig, Lawrence L (DEC); Tillery, Craig J (LAW); Pat Pourchot (Pat_Pourchot@ios.doi.gov); Steve Zemke (szemke@fs.fed.us); Brookover, Thomas E (DFG); Tillery, Craig J (LAW); Dawn Collinsworth (Dawn.Collinsworth@ogc.usda.gov.); Hsieh, Elise M (EVOSTC); Gina Belt (regina.belt@usdoj.gov); Schorr, Jennifer L (LAW); Schorr, Jennifer (EVOSTC); Michael Zevenbergen (Michael.Zevenbergen@usdoj.gov); Rich Myers (richard.myers@sol.doi.gov); Ronald McClain (Ronald.McClain@usda.gov); Jenifer Kohout (Jenifer_Kohout@fws.gov); Fries, Carol A (DNR); Dede Bohn (Dede_Bohn@usgs.gov); Carlson-Van Dort, Marit K (DEC); Peter Hagen (Peter.Hagen@Noaa.gov); Brookover, Thomas E (DFG)
Cc: Carol Schirmer (Carol.Schirmer@NOAA.gov); Fishwick, Claire (DEC); Lesia Monson (Lesia_Monson@ios.doi.gov); Schlosser, Mary A (DFG); Korting, Nancy A (LAW); Pat Kennedy ; Tauline Davis (Tauline_Davis@ios.doi.gov); Holba, Carrie A (EVOSTC); Carrie Holba (carrie@arlis.org); Boerner, Catherine W (EVOSTC); Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC); Kilbourne, Linda L (EVOSTC); Schlei, Michael S (EVOSTC); James, Renee L (EVOSTC)
Subject: FW: public comment

Public Comment from Ken Adams, Cordova, for today's (Feb 26) Trustee Council meeting. He will call in during public comment, but wanted a written copy at your disposal.

Cherri

From: kadams@gci.net [mailto:kadams@gci.net]
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 10:20 AM
To: Womac, Cherri G (EVOSTC)
Subject: public comment

February 26, 2010

Good Day members of the Trustee Council:

My name is Kenneth Adams. I'm a fisherman and resident of Cordova and I want to thank the Council for the opportunity to comment at the meeting of a Trustee Council representative and staff held in Cordova on the 18th of this month. The topic of the Trustee Council's future is of much importance to those of us who were impacted by EVOS and we take this matter seriously.

I'll refer to those comments this morning and also present them in hard copy format.

I'd like to call to the attention of the Council that I and partner Mr. Ross Mullins , along with our scientist collaborators, have had extensive experience with the Trustee Council. Beginning in 2002 and ending in 2006, we submitted a series of five consecutive proposals that were supported by the Council. Our intention was to utilize the results of the Sound Ecosystem Assessment (SEA) project, funded by the Council, and work to improve the status of the Prince William Sound (PWS) fisheries. You may recall in your 1994 Restoration Plan , the importance of restoration of the oil spill impacted fisheries was acknowledged.

I bring this to your attention to emphasize the fact that we are not new -comers and our more than five years experience has granted some insight into the Trustee Council process. I'll present a brief list of topics that I believe merit attention.

#1 Lingering oil: Despite on going lack of recovery of several species, the presence of oil remaining in beaches of PWS makes the strongest case for EVOS impact. The reopener claim submitted to Exxon is worthy of their funding. Exxon should bear this burden, not the Trustee Council's reserve. There are other topics of importance that should be addressed with the restoration reserve account.

#2 Trustee Council administration costs: This cost has reportedly been as high as two million dollars annually. I believe this is too expensive and other usages of the restoration reserve are more worthy.

#3 Perceived Trustee Council phase-out: I agree with this intention that we discussed at the Cordova meeting. The Trustee Council over the years has accomplished a variety of results; some good and some not so good. The Council has been inconsistent and at times, politically driven. A new entity needs to be created or adopted to manage the ongoing restoration needs.

#4 Long term monitoring: In various Council reports there have been references to the lack of an on-going ecosystem data base to distinguish between natural and anthropogenic causes of change. I believe a mini-GEM program should be undertaken to address this longed-for but not accomplished goal. I especially believe an on-going zooplankton monitoring program in PWS would be of value regarding improvement of our understanding of the ecosystem function and an aid to fisheries management and recovery, salmon and herring especially.

#5 Regional concerns: I believe PWS should be the main focus of future monitoring, research, and restoration activities. PWS and this region's stakeholders were most directly impacted of any region affected by EVOS. Every outgoing crude oil tanker continues the threat to PWS and potential additional oil spills

#6 Herring restoration: This topic is of much importance to the PWS ecosystem and of course, to fishermen and communities dependent upon harvests of this species. An on-going herring restoration program is worthy of funding but should not be the sole usage of restoration reserve revenues as mentioned above.

Thanks for the opportunity to present these comments.

Yours truly, Kenneth Adams