

Dear Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council,

As a citizen of Cordova, Alaska I am fully supportive of the five defined restoration categories that the Council proposes as the future focus: herring, lingering oil, long-term monitoring of marine conditions, harbor protection and marine restoration, and habitat acquisition and protection.

My only substantive comment is that the future distribution of EVOS funds must be done in a competitive manner. Competition spurs excellence among researchers and a variety of organizations. Without competition there is a very real danger that research and actions on the five restoration categories will become stagnant. This, I believe, would occur if a single organization were simply given a portion of the remaining EVOS funding or an endowment. I suggest that EVOS research funds should be distributed to an organization such as NPRB, which has a successful and well-respected record of administering research funding. In this manner, it is much more likely that future research will be of a high caliber.

Sincerely,
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