

This pdf contains public comments submitted for EVOSTC Draft Resolution 20-A.

Please check the website for details on this draft resolution:

<https://evostc.state.ak.us/publications/trustee-council-2020-draft-resolutions-for-public-comment/>



Office of the Mayor and City Council

710 Mill Bay Road, Room 110, Kodiak, Alaska 99615

December 16, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Re: Comment on DRAFT Resolutions

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members:

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The comment period closes at 11:59 pm on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

The City of Kodiak understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation by eliminating the public meetings requirement; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

The City of Kodiak is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. It is the spill impacted communities – including the people who live, subsist, fish, and work there – among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our

communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of all options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Pat Branson". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Pat Branson, Mayor

Koniag

See attached letter.

December 14, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

RE: RESOLUTION 20-A OF THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL TO AMEND THE RESTORATION PLAN TO ELIMINATE THE ANNUAL TRUSTEE COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING AND FUNDING PROCESS AND CHANGE REPORTING SCHEDULES

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members:

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the “New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill” proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens. With this as background, Koniag submits the following comments on **Resolution 20-A**.

Koniag opposes Resolution 20-A. In our opinion, access to the Trustee Council by the public is fundamental to the process set out in the consent decree. Eliminating an annual Trustee Council annual meeting and annual public input into the funding process weakens the ability of the council to hear directly from those with local knowledge about any continued spill impacts in their respective community or region. Further, removing the public process leaves the public with the impression that its input is not welcome or valuable and creates an environment of mistrust. Rather than taking this approach, Koniag encourages the Trustee Council to enhance and increase its opportunities for public participation in the council’s activities.

Koniag understands that the four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council.

Koniag disagrees with this approach. Instead, Koniag supports the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Koniag region communities, commercial and subsistence fishermen and resources were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources and continued reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. Residents still discuss the trauma of the oil spill in ways very similar to the devastation of the 1964 earthquake and tsunami. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the four resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

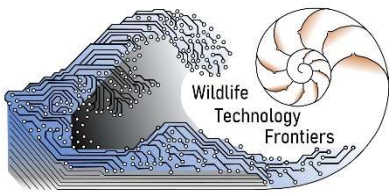
Sincerely,



Shauna Hegna
President

Wildlife Technology Frontiers

Please see attached document



To the EVOS Trustee Council,

December 15, 2020

I am providing this public comment on the Trustee Council 2020 Draft Resolutions as an Alaska resident marine scientist that has conducted research on marine mammals in Alaska since 1998, specifically on harbor seals, Steller sea lions and sea otters, and more recently also on sharks. This research in Alaska was conducted through my previous positions as Research Scientist at Texas A&M University, Associate Professor at Oregon State University, and as Science Director and later Senior Research Scientist at the Alaska SeaLife Center. It is now continuing through my current position of Director of the Alaska Marine Science Association, LLC, *dba Wildlife Technology Frontiers*, in Seward, AK. The research has been funded by competitively awarded funds/grants from NOAA, NFWF, NSF, NPRB and others, but not EVOSTC. My comments are structured around the following components: (1) general comments pertaining to proposed resolutions and to considerations of alternative structures for EVOSTC, (2) specific comments on Draft Resolutions 20-A through –D.

(1) General comments that pertain to the proposed resolutions and the possible consideration of alternative structures for the future of EVOSTC:

It appears that the comparably restrictive nature of spending criteria provides for challenges in effectively spending remaining trust funds. Yet, rather than attempting to find broader paths towards more rapidly spending down the remaining funds, this should be seen as an opportunity to create a stable and effective mechanism for funding EVOS-related research and restoration in perpetuity. Such stable, perpetual funding will ultimately result in a far greater cumulative impact on restoration and enhancement of damaged resources and services, and thus greater compensation of natural resources injuries and losses resulting from the spill.

Research and restoration activities in the oil spill affected areas are notoriously difficult to fund through traditional research sponsor organizations and mechanisms such as the NSF, NOAA, or other Federal agencies or programs. This is because traditional academic research would often be better conducted in more accessible, controlled, or cost-effective settings, and it may be difficult to argue for studies on affected species and in effective areas outside of restoration-specific funding. This would suggest that research and restoration in the spill affected area would greatly benefit from the continued, long-term availability of stable funds. With advances in research over the decades since the spill, research has shifted towards more integrative, multi-disciplinary ecosystem-focused investigations that frequently require broader collaborative participation, greater regional/geographic reach (including for comparative purposes), and research that is often longer lasting, uses advanced technologies and is ultimately much more costly than traditional research conducted decades ago. This shift in focus and cost has not been matched by funding opportunities. Furthermore, criticism has been levied against EVOSTC with respect to high administrative and indirect costs, at the TC and through participant cost.

This suggests the following path forward as an optimal solution:

Combine remaining funds into one single endowed program that is efficiently managed in perpetuity, with the purpose of funding competitively awarded projects or programs that are selected through an established and effective competitive vetting process.

Specifically: (a) a single endowment should be set up to support research and restoration in perpetuity – which dictates that only interest income be disbursed, and none of the investment corpus; (b) endowment output (and thus scope of the program) should not be diminished by reducing the corpus by providing base- or their own endowment support to multiple extant organizations; (c) multi-year, high cost projects should be considered for funding – which will require a single large endowment; (d) the competitive selection/vetting process should be based on an independent, external peer review process that appropriately manages conflicts of interest in funding decisions and removes agency bias; (e) cost-efficiency should be considered in funding decisions. Specifically, this means levels of indirect and administrative cost should be considered, and small entities or organization with low overhead should be especially encouraged and supported. (f) because disbursement of research and restoration funds may also contribute to economic restoration through support of local entities, preference should be given to projects being led by regional entities, small local businesses and projects that include collaborations with affected industries and participation by native organizations.

A successful example of such a program that the proposed solution could be patterned after is the North Pacific Research Program. This program has been successful, is competitively reviewed with inclusion of external peer review, and is set up for long-term stability. The one disadvantage of the NPRB is the limitation in terms of cost ceiling for individual projects. Of the publicized extant proposal for restructuring EVOSTC, the Restoration Foundation proposal by Rick Steiner comes closer to the above suggestions than the New Vision for EVOS of the Citizens Think Tank.

(2) specific comments on Draft Resolutions 20-A through –D.

Re.: Draft Resolution 20-A and 20-B: I support the elimination of the annual funding process and Trustee Council (TC) public meetings, and a move to multi-year funding of multi-year projects (20-A), and I support the elimination of the annual re-approval process for multi-year projects (20-B). These measures should increase cost-effectiveness and should also simplify the planning and implementation of multi-year projects and restoration efforts. It is also appropriate for the Council to maintain oversight of projects and expenditures unless other dispositions of funds are envisioned and deemed desirable. However, I do not consider an intent of spending down remaining funds a valid motive or objective for pursuing these changes – see my general comments on future use of funds.

Re.: Draft Resolution 20-C: In principle, I support the combination of habitat and research sub-accounts for these reasons: this will increase flexibility and should allow the support of larger/longer lasting, and more expensive projects. Of the two possible paths indicated, I would support Path1 (merge sub-accounts within EVOS or other future structure as per general comments above), but not Path 2 (transfer into Dol's NRDAR), which would be a poor choice for these reasons: Path2 would likely result in a diminished return on investment, and it would likely increase agency bias, rather than reducing it (see general comments).

Re.: Draft Resolution 20-D: I support the introduction of an ecosystem-based approach to the oil spill boundary, and would also encourage the consideration of projects outside of the boundary, if they can be justified from a comparative perspective.

Sincerely,
/s/ Dr. Markus Horning
Director, Wildlife Technology Frontiers

Chugach Alaska Corporation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on behalf of Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach). Chugach opposes Resolution 20-A because eliminating the annual Trustee Council public meeting, funding process, and making changes to reporting schedules will only serve to further reduce or eliminate public participation and to advance the EVOS Trustee Council's agenda to spend down remaining funds and eventually dissolve the EVOS Trust. Resolution 20-A should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-affected area.

The Chugach region encompasses a large portion of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Affected Area (including Port Graham, Nanwalek, Seward, Cordova, Tatitlek, Chenega, and Valdez), and has been adversely impacted by the EVOS Trustee Council's failure to effectively manage its funds to "restore" spill-affected areas.

In the 1994 Restoration Plan developed by the EVOS Trustee Council, "Restoration means any action... that endeavors to restore to their pre-spill condition any natural resource injured, lost, or destroyed as a result of the Oil Spill." Based on this definition, and the oil still found today throughout Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska region, continued restoration is clearly needed. In addition, the current structure for administering EVOS is expensive, inconsistent, bureaucratic and lacks transparency.

Based on our commitment to the Chugach region, the people who live there, and the marine habitat, we believe we must shift our goal from consuming to preserving finite financial resources to ensure funding exists to support restoration for current and future generations, as well as to assure public engagement of the people and communities that were adversely impacted by the spill.

Chugach believes EVOS needs reform to: Increase efficiency and improve administration of funds, which will mean less costs for administration and more resources to heal the spill-impacted region; Increased transparency and simplicity in the grant application process for stakeholders and qualifying projects; and to establish perpetual endowments that will continue supporting the work being done to restore the region's natural resources.

We hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that the Trustee Council provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-affected areas.

Rick Steiner

As someone who has closely followed the EVOS Restoration process since its inception, I oppose Resolution A.

My perspective is that: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Having annual meetings is essential to continue adaptive management and meaningful public participation in the Restoration process.

The 1994 Restoration Plan, approved by the governments to guide the Restoration program, requires an Adaptive Management approach to Restoration, with annual or multi-year work plans. This is essential in order to integrate and apply results of the EVOS research program in restorative actions to assist in the recovery of the injured environment. Resolution A would essentially end this approach.

In addition, Resolution A would make it considerably more difficult for the public to remain actively engaged in the Restoration program. The 1991 MOA and Consent Decree approved by the court require "meaningful public participation" in all aspects of the Restoration program, and thus Resolution A would violate the 1991 MOA and Consent Decree.

Additionally, eliminating the annual meeting and work plan process, as proposed in Resolution A, would drastically limit decisions of future Trustees.

It is not overly burdensome for Trustee agencies to meet annually to consider and decide annual work plans, or review and refine multi-year projects.

The injured environment has yet to fully recover. EVOS Restoration is an important government responsibility, and must continue to be such.

Thus I respectfully urge the Council to decline Resolution A.

William Pegau

I think it is important to maintain annual reports filed at the end of each year of research with a final report at the end of each project. Annual reports provide the information needed to help coordination and oversight of projects.

The current practice of an annual proposal with an annual report six months later is cumbersome. If something is to be eliminated it should be the annual proposal because it should not be necessary and it needs to be submitted halfway through the work year so may not reflect the progress that will be made.

I suggest that there be a more open discussion between the EVOSTC Science Panel members and researchers in the review of annual reports. There doesn't need to be a long written record of comments and replies and the disconnect between the EVOSTC Science Panel and the researchers leads sometime leads to confusion that could be easily resolved. Once proposals are selected for funding there should not be a conflict of interest in having your Science Panel talk directly with the researchers you fund.

Skye Steritz

Dear Trustees,

I disapprove of Resolution A. EVOSTC's annual public meetings and public funding processes are essential.

Please decline Resolution A in order to maintain fairness, transparency, and inclusivity of all stakeholders impacted by the spill. All organizations, individuals, and institutions in the spill zone deserve to have a fair chance at EVOSTC funds and deserve to have opportunities to participate in the public processes regarding funding distribution.

Thank you,
Skye Steritz, resident of Cordova, AK

Ian Dutton

None of these proposals are likely to sustain the recovery of impacted ecological communities over the long term. They are also framed in a highly bureaucratic way that makes public input very difficult.

Let's start again by putting the remaining funds in an endowment at the Alaska Community Foundation and use the funds to support the research and ecosystem recovery priorities of the key research institutions located in the spill area (PWSSC, ASLC, etc). This will generate and sustain the most high impact outcomes for the affected communities over the long term.

Douglas Grann

I strongly support the Trustee Council using an ecosystem approach to future restoration and support including the entire

Copper River Delta in habitat protection decisions by the Council. I have fished the Copper River Delta and have seen its beauty and wonder. Including the entirety of the Copper River Delta in the spill area boundary will help the conservation of both Prince William Sound and the Copper River Delta. I support adoption of Resolution 20-D



ALASKA EARTH SCIENCES, INC.

December 2, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

Alaska Earth Sciences, Inc. (AES) is a geologic consulting company based in Anchorage with many years of experience in mineral and energy exploration and in construction applications within the Prince William Sound area. We were a young company when the Exxon Valdez hit Bligh Reef. I was a young man when the first human landed on the moon and at that time my family and I were anchored up in Eshamy Bay. Since its inception AES has worked with both regional and village Native Alaska Corporations. Our appreciation for the Prince William Sound environment and the residents that live there has therefore been deep and rewarding.

AES understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
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3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

AES is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

11401 Olive Lane, Anchorage, Alaska 99515
Phone: (907) 522-4664 Fax: (907) 349-3557

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Retherford", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert M. Retherford, President

December 3, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

I understand that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

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3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

The spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that

they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely,

Linda Leary

The views expressed are my own and do not represent the State of Alaska.

I oppose Draft Resolution A.

Having annual meetings is essential to provide the public access to the restoration process.

The 1994 Restoration Plan, requires an adaptive management approach to restoration, with annual or multi-year work plans. This is needed to use the results of the EVOS research program to assist in the recovery of the injured environment. Resolution A would not allow the public to remain engaged in the restoration program. The 1991 MOA and Consent Decree approved by the court require "meaningful public participation" in the restoration program. Resolution A is not consistent with the 1991 MOA and Consent Decree.

Will Frost, Habitat Biologist
ADF&F, Habitat Section (ret.)

Violet Yeaton

I do not think that EVOS should continue to spend down this funding. I strongly feel that the impacted communities have not benefited from other direction of the EVOS Committee. STOP THE SPENDING! Thank you. Violet Yeaton

Peter Mjos

Too restrictive and lacks transparency. No.

Peter Mjos

Too restrictive and lacks transparency. No.

Thetus Smith

Because Draft Resolution 20-A is unnecessary in many respects, especially the exclusion of public participation, I oppose 20-A.

Francesca Gagliano

I am a soon-to-be 36 year old white woman with ancestral roots in Ireland & Italy. All sides of my family work or worked with the land and its life as farmers ♦ whether they raised cattle, pig, or tended to olive and lemon groves ♦ or were cobblers who sewed shoes in pastures beneath Oaks ♦ my ancestors ♦ as much as yours ♦ know the Earth and its way more than we do today ♦ as White people.

I was raised in the Midwest predominately in Oshkosh, Wisconsin where Native culture is still celebrated & where cities ♦ like Oshkosh ♦ are named after Chiefs and tribal nations to honor the land, its people, and its history. I grew up on the waterways of Lake Winnebago and Lake Butte Des Morts connected by the Fox River and my art teacher, Cori Conrad, took me to Milwaukee to experience the celebration of Native culture at Indian Summer Fest. I was raised as a white child surrounded by indigenous names and stories and I moved to Illinois and now, Michigan, where I continue to learn of the sacredness & sanctity of Native life and the protection of land ♦ of water.

Forgiveness is THE great healer.

What happened in Alaska in 1989 was poisonous...a great loss...yet forgiveness has allowed the Earth to heal her water and her fish and her people. We, as white people ♦ as Italians or Irish ♦ or wherever your great grandparents, grandparents, or parents came from ♦ must forgive ourselves. We must forgive our reliance on oil. We must forgive ourselves for the atrocities committed by ancestors we may not have known to Nations we personally did not know and we must forgive ourselves for the atrocities our people and we ourselves have done to our Earth.

When we find this forgiveness in ourselves we may seek forgiveness from others and we may ask How can I help? HOW CAN WE HELP?

This water. These fish. These trees. These animals...now depend on the forgiveness and grace of humans to survive & as white people we must learn to honor and appreciate all Native & Indigenous people who work as stewards of the Earth protecting it.

We must respect.

We as white people ♦ me growing up in an Italian-Irish household learned about Respect ♦ we must respect our elders. We must restore the virtues of Respect & Forgiveness in our world. This is what God teaches us. This is our purpose. Respect & Forgive. Work. Learn.

We must continue protecting Alaskan waterways because we have been doing it out of these virtues and we have been shown the promise of living these virtues ♦ -the oil has been cleaned & the Earth is continuing to heal...to be restored.

Earlier this week I underwent abdominal surgery. I endured something that less than 2% of women experience and yet my body is healing. Please see yourself and your

body♦or your loved one & their body♦-please acknowledge the pain & trauma in your own life and body♦I invite you to acknowledge the time it took to heal & to question if healing is linear. My body is physically still healing...but after the skin comes back together and my blood flows freely again...my mind, my emotions♦my spirit will still need consistent restoration.

To restore does not mean it is finished.

I live one mile from the Detroit border. There are thousands of historical homes in need of restoration. People want to tear them down♦and they do♦because it takes too much time, too much money, too much upkeep. But doesn't building something new take just the same?

When you witness a fully restored historical home♦you feel awe, wonder, & appreciation. But most of all you feel Respect for the ability to honor history & help it heal.

When you go to a beach on the North Shore of Chicago it appears beautiful♦but then you receive state messages about the toxicity levels warning you not to swim.

We have the power to work with the land, to honor & respect it.

We have the ability to learn from Native & Indigenous people and to respect their ability to commune with and understand Nature.

We must continue to protect and restore Alaskan waterways and Land. We must do this to reveal the virtues we have been born into. We must honor Respect & Forgiveness and work together as One Nation. We must Respect and Forgive ourselves by honoring our promises.

I invite you to sit at the edge of land and water and to listen with every part of yourself. I invite you to see your body and your health as that water, as that shoreline♦as that Salmon we use as a metaphor for going upstream against all odds. I invite you to acknowledge your inner wisdom and strength♦and to see the strength in the water, the land, & in these Stewards who teach us so much.

December 10, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

My name is Peter Andersen and I am a lifelong Alaskan born and raised in Cordova, Alaska and a shareholder of Chugach Alaska Corporation and Eyak Corporation. I currently work and live in Anchorage Alaska along with my wife and two daughters. I had the unfortunate experience of living through the Exxon Valdez oil spill and its devastating aftermath.

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It is my understanding that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

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I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Andersen". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "P" and "A".

Peter Andersen

5342 Cape Seville Drive

Anchorage, Alaska 99516

(907) 433-9331

Heather Flynn

I reject all proposals A, B, C and D. Unless these funds are placed in an endowment, I feel they will be frittered away by selfish, political or other unqualified interests. Please be responsible.

Robert Martin

Resolutions A, B and C would limit public engagement, scientific review and habitat protection, I recommend they be declined.

Nancy Nelson

I oppose the resolutions and ask that you please consider The Think Tank suggestions.

Audrey Barron

I remember the Exxon oil spill over 30 years ago and how absolutely devastating it was not only to the people living on that land but for all of us. The ecosystem and wildlife and still to this day recovering from that spill. Each species that becomes endangered or extinct from that type of negligence effects everything through ripple effect. Everything is connected. We need to continue protecting this land that provides salmon and so much more. We need an extension of the oil spill restoration boundary to include both The Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound ecosystems.

Karen Ruud

Decline!

December 9, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

The Native Village of Port Lions understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

The Native Village of Port Lions is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Nelson, President

The Tatitlek Corporation

Comments on attached pdf file

December 15, 2020

Dear Trustees and Board Members,

The Tatitlek Corporation (“Tatitlek”), an Alaska Native Village Corporation, duly formed and in good standing with the State of Alaska, objects to each of the Trustees’ four proposed resolutions. Each resolution alters the way the Trust would be administered in ways that are inconsistent with the purpose of the Trust. Each resolution is not in the best interest of the people and resources the Trust was created to benefit – and does not fit the comprehensive interdisciplinary recovery and rehabilitation objectives.

The resolutions appear to work together to adopt a spend-down approach to administering the Trust with reduced oversight, but in a way that does not connect expending funds towards the purposes for which the Trust was created—to mitigate the effects of EVOS for the benefit of those affected by it. If the Trustee Council is looking for alternatives to the status quo, then it should consider the proposal from the EVOS Trust Think Tank of Citizens dated June 5, 2020, among others. The Think Tank’s proposal would be consistent with the use of the Trust for the benefit of those affected by the spill, which affects are still ongoing, whereas the proposed resolutions do not.

Background

The Tatitlek Corporation owns and manages over 100,000 acres of land in and around the Exxon Valdez oil spill site, including the islands around Bligh Reef where the ship ran aground. Populations of fish, marine mammals, seabirds and shellfish were devastated due to inadequate preparation and slow clean up response time. People and economies in the Prince William Sound communities suffered in the months and years following the spill. The Tatitlek communities were especially affected. Commercial fishing and subsistence activities such as hunting and fishing, were severely impacted due to contamination and extremely low wildlife/fish populations. The fisheries, canneries, and commercial fishing businesses all suffered and many went bankrupt. As a result, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Settlement Fund was established to benefit those affected by the spill. However, to this day the area communities, ecosystems and even beaches still show the effects of the spill. Herring, kelp and clam beds still have not returned to pre-EVOS days.

Draft Resolution 20-a

The Tatitlek Corporation objects to this resolution. While efficiency in administration is a worthy goal, it cannot come at the cost of the full participation of the Trust's beneficiaries. "It is well established . . . that it is the duty of a trustee to administer the trust solely in the interest of the beneficiaries." *State v. Univ. of Alaska*, 624 P.2d 807, 813 (Alaska, 1981).

As beneficiaries of the Trust, shareholders of The Tatitlek Corporation and the Corporation itself should have a voice in the process. This proposed resolution erodes the beneficiaries' ability to inform the Trustees of what is in the beneficiaries' best interest.

The resolution does more than cut away at Tatitlek's ability to weigh in on the Trustees' decisions. In 2000, the U.S. Government published a [guide](#) to address issues specific to the Environmental Protection Agency's lack of meaningful consultation and collaboration with Native Americans and Alaska Natives. In that document the EPA region 10 (serving Alaska and other areas of the Pacific Northwest) outlined its policies *designed to encourage regular participation* by Tribes and Alaska Natives in decisions affecting tribal members and resources. Despite these policies, this issue persists today. This proposed resolution is a step in the wrong direction—we should be looking for increased opportunities to collaborate and council together, not less.

Despite the above-referenced clear policy goal of the government in regards to environmental issues that affect Alaska Natives, this draft resolution is designed to reduce public participation and will limit the input Alaska Natives may provide to the Trustees' decisions.

Because it is not in Tatitlek's and other beneficiaries' best interests, and because it goes against public policy, the Trustees should not adopt this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-b

The Tatitlek Corporation objects to this draft resolution. While the resolution states that the Trustees will continue to oversee multi-year projects, removing the oversight mechanism of annual approval of each year's funds for multi-year projects can only reduce oversight on such projects.

The large amount of funds involved in these kinds of large-scale, multi-year projects require a higher level of scrutiny. The Trustees should not adopt this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-c

The Tatitlek Corporation objects to this proposed resolution. Combining the separate habitat and research funds will act to streamline the process of spending down the corpus of the Trust, but that approach is at odds with Tatitlek's best interests.

As the Trustees know perhaps better than just about anyone, environmental problems like those created by EVOS can take many decades to correct. In consideration of this, Tatitlek and others provided conservation easements *in perpetuity* as part of the negotiated agreement with the state and federal governments that were designed to help implement the government's settlement with Exxon and facilitate recovery efforts. This turn towards a quick spend-down of the Trust is not consistent with these earlier efforts to take a longer view. It also threatens the benefit of Tatitlek's bargain from those earlier transactions.

Instead of looking for ways to streamline the spend-down of the Trust, Tatitlek hopes to continue to see the Trust administered in a way that will continue to remediate the oil spill's effects, which are still ongoing. Because it would likely lead to a quick spend-down of the Trust, the Trustees should not adopt this resolution

Draft Resolution 20-d

The Tatitlek Corporation objects to this proposed resolution. On its face, this resolution is not consistent with the Trust's objectives, and is completely unnecessary.

The language this resolution seeks to remove are exceptions to limits on restoration actions, which must be performed in the area identified as most affected by the spill unless:

when the most effective restoration actions for an injured population are in a part of its range outside the spill area, or

when the information acquired from research and monitoring activities outside the spill area will be significant for restoration or understanding injuries within the spill area.

By seeking to remove the first part, the Trustees admit that the actions they seek to perform, but cannot under this limitation, are not "the most effective restoration actions" that could be attempted. If the restoration actions the Trustees hope to pay for outside of the currently established spill area are the actions that are the "most effective" to restore the area, then there is no need to remove this language. The only reason to remove it is to enable the Trustees to take action that is less effective. If the ecological approach is, in fact, the best and most effective approach as the draft resolution suggests, then this language should remain unchanged. The

Trustees are still permitted to do what is most effective, even with this limitation, if the most effective thing to do is to perform restoration actions outside the spill area.

By seeking to remove the second part, the Trustees admit that the research and monitoring activities they seek to perform, but cannot under this limitation, will not be significant for restoration or understanding injuries in the spill area. The only reason to remove it is to enable the Trustees to take action that will not be significant in terms of restoration or understanding injuries caused by the spill. If the ecological approach is, in fact, the best approach to continue the Trustees' restoration efforts, then this language should remain unchanged. The Trustees are still permitted to do what will significantly restore or lead to understanding injuries caused by the spill, even with this limitation, if those actions happen to occur outside the spill area.

In combination with the other draft resolutions, this resolution would enable the Trustees to spend down the Trust anywhere in Alaska and for almost any reason. The limitations currently in place between habitat and research, each with its own separate account, would be gone; the geographical restrictions would be lifted; the opportunity for public comment would be substantially reduced; and large, multi-year projects would be evergreen until the money is gone, rather than requiring regular oversight and approval over the course of performance. Taken together, these changes could act to rapidly spend down the trust—but not necessarily for the benefit of the Trust's beneficiaries.

This approach is not consistent with Tatitlek's best interests. For these reasons, the Trustees should not adopt these resolutions

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these draft resolutions.

Sincerely,



Roy Totemoff
CEO

Karen Button

I do not support passage of Resolution A; annual meetings help keep the public and scientific community engaged in the process of ongoing recovery and healing. I do not support the Think Tank idea, as it replaces a public process for a private one, and will diminish transparency in the use of these public funds. That's not acceptable.

Thank you,
~Karen Button

Sandy Harper

Please don't lose this opportunity for finally a just settlement for those who are still casualties of this terrible event. It is crucial to have the resources to preserve , conserve and protect the people and marine and wildlife of Prince William Sound. Equally important is have the resources to prevent future disasters in perpetuity as stewards of the waters and lands of Alaska.

Respectfully submitted to the trustees to be visionary actors by doing the right thing for our children and grandchildren,

Thank you,

Sandy Harper

Teresa Storch

I do not want to have the public input reduced. I 'survived' the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill but our family's fishing business and my long term marriage, did not. My children were devastated by all of the fallout associated with the oilspill's impact on our family, but thankfully we got some financial compensation to ease some of the pain. People in the future will deserve compensation if (God forbid!) another oil spill happens!

Committees:

House Finance Committee

•
Legislative Budget &
Audit•
Finance Subcommittee
Chair of:Alaska Court System
Department of Law
University of Alaska**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**

*Serving Midtown,
University, and
East Anchorage
neighborhoods*

REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650
SUBJECT: Comments on EVOSTC Proposed Resolutions

Submitted electronically

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today to provide my comments on the four resolutions proposed by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC, Council). I have long been a strong advocate for the post-oil spill work of restoration in Prince William Sound and generally support the EVOSTC in their important mission of overseeing the restoration of this injured ecosystem.

I have serious concerns with Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, and 20-C, which all appear to actively reduce public participation in the decision making and management processes used by the Council. The rationale given for why these three resolutions are needed is to provide the EVOSTC with more flexibility. Unfortunately, no explanation is provided as to what makes current administrative parameters too restrictive or unworkable. These resolutions all raise concerns with transparency and accountability. The supporting information provided with these resolutions is scant and does not provide enough context for the public to form a real understanding of how EVOS Restoration plan processes will change if these resolutions pass. Due to a lack of formal justification, it is not at all evident why proposed changes are necessary or beneficial.

Resolution 20-A, which proposes elimination of the EVOSTC annual public meeting causes the most concern. This yearly opportunity for public discourse and involvement is essential to ensuring nimble and responsive management plans. A shift from annual planning to a ten-year cycle would hinder scientific review and public response for on-going projects, giving the Council less flexibility in adapting projects as needed. While I can understand EVOSTC's desire to reduce administrative costs, this should not be done at the expense of public participation. In my view, holding an annual meeting is not an unreasonable administrative burden for the Council but rather a way to foster the "meaningful public participation" required of EVOSTC to adhere to the 1991 Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree between the United States and the State of Alaska.

Resolution 20-B aims at allowing the Council to approve multi-year projects without a requirement for an annual review. Many of the concerns I cited relating to Resolution 20-A apply to this resolution as well. Eliminating the annual review process has the potential to stymie public involvement and adversely impact the ability of the Council to integrate research findings into projects. The 1994 Restoration Plan, approved by the governments to guide the Restoration Program, requires an Adaptive Management approach to restoration, with annual or multi-year work plans. It is reasonable for the public to question the impacts that eliminating annual project reports and annual multi-year budget approvals

January-April: State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 465-4939 • (800) 465-4939

May-December: 1500 W Benson Blvd, Room 403, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 • (907) 269-0265

Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov

might have on project management, efficient and productive use of EVOSTC funds, and public confidence in the process.

I believe that Resolution 20-C, which seeks to combine habitat and research subaccounts, though intended as a streamlining measure, is unnecessary and could have unintended consequences. If these accounts are combined spending could end up being biased toward supporting more science centric projects at the expense of habitat restoration efforts. Though restoration efforts have been impressive to date and the EVOSTC has made great strides, the environment of the spill region has still not fully rebounded ecologically. A need remains to ensure the continued protection of impacted ecosystems and I would support the pursuit of additional large parcel habitat protection agreements. It is also worth noting that adoption of this resolution would lead to a need to overcome additional legal hurdles (either through getting Congress to modify the 1999 law that set restrictions on these accounts or by transferring funds to Department of Interior's Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund and likely weakening investment returns). If Resolution 20-C is successful, I strongly urge the Council to pursue a legal fix in Congress, allowing the Alaska Department of Revenue (DOR) to continue managing this fund. DOR's ability to be proactive in achieving return on investments would help assure the future sustainability of this fund, which in this time of economic uncertainty for Alaska is more important than ever.

I have a much more favorable opinion with respect to Resolution 20-D. I believe that there is a strong case for adopting an ecosystem approach when discussing the designated spill boundary and support this resolution. The current boundary used is somewhat arbitrary, especially when one considers the interconnected nature of watersheds and the broad migratory ranges of certain wildlife species (the anadromous life cycle of salmon being a prime example). Wildlife and weather patterns do not adhere to the artificial geographic boundaries we establish and taking a more holistic approach to restoration efforts and research has the potential to be very beneficial to populations most adversely impacted by the spill.

On the whole, I want to encourage the Council to provide the public with significantly more detail as to why these resolutions are being proposed and how they would be implemented. I strongly favor transparent and inclusive public processes and encourage the EVOSTC to extend the public comment period on these resolutions and provide more background information and justification. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Representative Andy Josephson

Matt McDaniel

December 16, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

As a matter of introduction and background, my name is Matt McDaniel. I was born and raised in Alaska. Most of my family and related community resides in Cordova Alaska which is in the heart of the Prince William Sound. Our community experienced the devastation of the Exxon oil spill firsthand. Families that intergenerationally survived on income from the fishing industry were completely wiped out. Our communities have perpetually dealt with the emotional and financial impacts of this disaster. I have spent over 20 years serving communities in the Prince William Sound as a former elected official on the Eyak Corporation Board of Directors and currently as Vice Chairman of Chugach Alaska Corporation. I find fulfillment in my service because our mission directly supports the health and prosperity of the Prince William Sound communities through educational support, employment opportunities, elder benefits and dividends. Additionally, I am slightly concerned and confused as to why the Trustee Council would consider resolutions that would erode their rights to represent their impacted communities through their involvement and the continued reference of public participation. I would plead that you maintain your authority to direct program funds and scope in the name of the community that you represent. In that vein, I humbly plead with the Trustee Council Members to consider supporting a Think Tank of Citizens who represent your impacted community members. Please also consider the following feedback regarding the proposed resolutions and "Spend down plan":

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

I, understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is my hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. I ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, I believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew McDaniel
Mcdaniel10@outlook.com
(907) 382-0056

Tanya Komakhuk

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment on Resolution 20-A. It's my understanding that Resolution 20-A would eliminate the annual meeting Trustee Council public meeting, various processes and reporting – because of this – I oppose.

Public understanding of the what the Trustee Council is doing is imperative to working together with outside stakeholders with immediate interest, especially for the communities and people that reside within the spill-impacted areas. Lastly, the time period that the four resolutions were released is not ideal.

The world is going through the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States just had a tense Presidential election and these resolutions were put out for public comment during the holidays – I believe that at the least - these resolutions should be postponed until more meaningful conversations can be had and there is more understanding of lasting impacts that these resolutions could have for the communities and people most impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Landa Bailly

I support this resolution.

Melina Meyer

Please do not make any decisions on reporting schedules during a pandemic. The people affected by the oil spill need to review at s as later date.

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a Koniag shareholder. I am an Alaska Native from the spill-impacted region and worked on the oil spill cleanup.

We need to keep the funds in the communities that were affected. The funds should be used to continue clean up and education in those areas. I currently live in Anchorage.

I am a shareholder of Akhiok-Kaguyak, Inc and the area most affected is where our petroglyphs are. The area is also the first hit with the outer ocean.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I support education for the area and so others can see how the spill impacted the area. Study the long-term effects of the environment and the people who live there.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust

was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

The funds should be kept in the areas that were affected, only.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Eluska

Cheryl.eluska@aki-kodiak.com

907-444-3555

Dawn Button

I think this is a bad idea and do not support Resolution A.

David Wight

I believe the current process is too expensive for overhead therefore limiting the actual funded outcomes. The process needs to be change to an endowment with low overhead

Stanely (Jeep) Rice

This resolution has two different components, and they should be split. Support for reducing some of the reporting may be appropriate, as it is onerous at times, given the overlap with reports, proposals, data reporting requirements, and getting peer reviewed publications out. I can see the annual work plan being reduced to "are you deviating from the plan, and why? Seems to me there needs to be an annual report of some sort, as a check on progress and productivity, and as the base for a communication to both the trustees and to the public. Transparency is an important issue, particularly with outside interests wanting to take over the control of the money flow and change things dramatically. This lack of a formal trustee meeting would seem counter to the PAC needs- they need to receive information, progress, and they need a vehicle to express their wishes and needs for the future.

Stephen Lewis

I urge you to reject draft resolution A. I served on the Trustees Public Advisory Committee in 2002 and believe that public exposure and input is essential to the mission of the Council. Eliminating the annual meeting would guarantee the end of such benefits.
Please decline resolution A.

Jeremy Robida

It has been a long day so I'll just make this brief: I do not support Draft Resolution 20-A. Public meetings and the ability to provide public comment at these meetings is essential. Thank you.

Michelle Oliver

Having lived and worked in Alaska for over 38 years including having worked the Exxon Valdez oil spill project from April of 1989 through early October of 1989, these meetings should ALWAYS remain open to public and allow for some transparency.

Ann Rothe

Please see attached letter which includes comments on all four draft resolutions.



Ann Rothe
 11828 Broadwater Drive
 Eagle River, Alaska 99577 907.694.9068(o) 907.227.8544(c)
annrothe.halcyon@gmail.com
 Alaska Business License #941206

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
 4230 University Drive, Suite 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

RE: Draft Resolutions for Management of the EVOS Trust

Council Members:

This is in response to your call for public comments on the Council's draft resolutions regarding management of the EVOS Trust that were presented at your October 14, 2020 meeting. At the same meeting, you were presented with a plan, "New Vision for EVOS", to create an endowment with the remaining EVOS Trust funds that would provide continuing long-term support for research and habitat protection in the EVOS impact area. I think the creation of an endowment to continue the purpose and mission of the EVOS Trust should be pursued before you take further action on the draft resolutions. The intent of the draft resolutions seems to be to spend the balance of the Trust funds as expeditiously as possible without considering how best to extend the benefits of the Trust.

Together, the draft resolutions appear to limit public participation, project reporting, fiscal management accountability and overall transparency while at the same time expanding the scope of restoration activities to promote research and habitat acquisition outside the spill impact area. There's very little information provided within each of the resolutions or within the supplemental materials to explain why these resolutions are being proposed or justified.

The primary reason being offered for Draft Resolutions A, B and C is to provide the Council with more flexibility, but there is no reason being offered to explain why the current procedures are too confining or the proposed changes are necessary. As such, the resolutions are not in keeping with the purposes of the Restoration Plan, which provides for public participation, timely access to restoration information for the public and scientific community, and annual status reports on the condition of injured resources and services. Moreover, the resolutions are not in keeping with the intent of the 1991 Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree between the United States and State of Alaska.

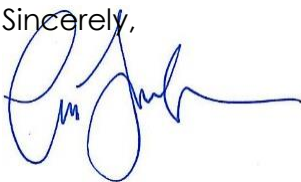
Draft Resolution A is particularly troubling. It significantly reduces the opportunity for the public to participate in the restoration process, and it reduces transparency and accountability. It doesn't meet the mandate of the Memorandum and Consent Decree which requires meaningful participation in the restoration process. And eliminating the Council's annual meeting contravenes Council members' public trust responsibilities

I don't understand why Resolution D is necessary. The supplemental information for Resolution D is neither clear nor compelling. The current language in the Restoration Plan regarding location of restoration actions appears to already provide for an ecosystem approach to decisions regarding restoration activities. It offers enough flexibility to approve restoration and monitoring activities outside of the spill impact area while at the same setting stringent guidelines for how decisions regarding these activities should be made. Even though more than thirty years have passed since the oil spill, there are still fish, wildlife and habitats—and the human activities they sustain—that have not recovered within the area directly impacted by the spill. The existing guidelines in the Restoration Plan regarding location of restoration actions ensure that restoration and monitoring activities remain focused primarily on the spill impact area.

I don't believe the proposed resolutions advance the purpose of the EVOS Trust nor are they in keeping with the intent of the Memorandum and Consent Decree. However, I think the creation of an endowment for the remaining Trust funds would serve the purpose and intent of the Trust. I recommend that the Council postpone any further action on the draft resolutions and re-examine the concept of endowing the balance of the Trust funds as proposed in the "New Vision for EVOS".

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Ann Rothe

Sue Christiansen

Do not eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process. It is vital that the process remains transparent and that the people and places affected by the oil spill have a voice in how these funds are used.

Do not lose transparency!

David Irons

Dear EVOSTC,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your 2020 Draft Resolutions. I have worked in Prince William Sound (PWS) since 1983 as a biologist. I have studied many aspects of seabirds and sea otters. I was part of the huge team to investigate the effects of the EVOS, I also have a long-term project investigating seabirds and the causes of population change including climate change.

When the EVOS happened I was devastated, along with most the people in Alaska. Now, 31 years later I see how the EVOSTC was able to help recover and to learn an incredible amount about so many species and aspects of the PWS ecosystem. I fully support the work of the EVOSTC.

Option A

I support removing the requirement for an annual meeting to approve long-term projects and I support reducing reporting requirements to every three years for long-term projects.

Option B

I agree that it is not necessary for the Trustee Council to re-approve funding annually for such multi-year projects and that eliminating the annual review and approval procedure for multi-year projects will reduce administrative burdens on the Council.

Option C

I support the continuation of The Council's decision in the March 1, 1999 Resolution to allocate and manage the remaining joint trust funds in two sub-accounts as follows: (1) \$55 million of the remaining funds on October 1, 2002 to be managed as a long-term funding source for small parcel habitat protection, including habitat acquisitions; and (2) the remaining balance of funds on October 1, 2002 to be managed to fund annual work plans that include a combination of research, monitoring, and general restoration.

I do not support the Trustees transferring the joint trust funds from the Alaska Department of Revenue, Division of Treasury to the NRDAR Fund.

Option D

I do not support Option D of the Draft Resolution until all species and habitat are 100% recovered in the spill area as previously defined by the EVOSTC.

Sincerely,

David Irons, PhD.

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am from Seward and lived there during the oil spill.

I do not “support long-term impacts”, but I support mitigation of the long-term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region, etc because: Seward. I trained for cleaning oiled birds but was barred as a nursing mother. My daughter was born 2 days before the spill when PWS was pristine. Six years later, I accompanied my son's sixth grade class on an extensive field trip by boat from Seward to PWS. We discovered oil on every beach we visited, just below the surface. The ecosystem still has not recovered.

I disagree with any options offered that will spend down the remaining assets, and any reduction in the public process. The options are very limited and do not provide an opportunity to support a perpetual endowment model and New Vision for EVOS as part of the public comment. Why not?

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent.

I only read about the decision to give the ASLC a large sum after the fact in the newspaper. How are these meetings and requests for public input advertised? Before eliminating the public opportunities, consider increasing public education and the notification process.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region.

The summary refers to multi-year projects, but the supporting statements refer only to the annual meeting and annual review of the process. This is confusing. The important annual meeting should continue and yes, multi-year projects should be eligible for approval and subject to annual review. It would be more informative to describe the change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate

to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle.

I am very confused by Resolution 20-C. It's all about combining habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. But the justification given says it's important to keep these two accounts separate. Very contradictory! I object on the grounds that this resolution is invalid and support separate accounts for habitat and research.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating" the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region.

I support an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

I agree with the well-written ADN Opinion piece by Sheri Burette and Sauna Hegna.

<https://www.adn.com/opinions/2020/11/26/the-people-should-decide-the-future-of-the-exxon-valdez-spill-trust/>

The affected communities and ecosystems have not recovered or have been restored. Rather than spend down the remaining assets, ensure that the fund will continue to monitor and mitigate the negative impacts of oil on the spill impacted areas. Involve the public as we have valuable insight and expertise to share; advertise the meetings more widely and more often.

I support the perpetual endowment model, "A New Vision for EVOS". Transfer the funds to the Alaska Community Foundation that would more efficiently manage and transfer funds.

We know we all want the same thing for Alaskans: to unite around the common goal of restoring the spill-impacted region and supporting scientific research, habitat restoration, cultural preservation and the health of every community affected by the spill. It is in this spirit of collaboration and common effort that we strive to ensure the EVOS Trust works for the benefit of future generations.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

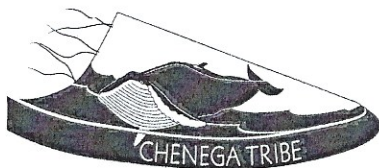
Carol Griswold

Seward, AK

C_griz@yahoo.com

Dune Lankard

No.



Chenega IRA Council⁶⁵

3000 C Street, Suite 200 South Wing
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-3975

Contact: Buell Russell, General Manager
Phone (907) 230-3036
Fax (907) 569-6939
Email brussell@chenegaira.com

December 2, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

The Native Village of Chenega understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

The Native Village of Chenega is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Larry Evanoff
President
Chenega IRA Council

Ouzinkie Native Corporation

Please see the attachment in regards to all draft resolutions. Thank you.



December 11, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

Ouzinkie Native Corporation understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

Ouzinkie Native Corporation is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. Alaska Native coastal communities were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any



advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darren Muller Sr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darren Muller Sr.
ONC Chair

Seward Chamber of Commerce

The Seward Chamber of Commerce opposes this resolution.



December 14, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council

RE: Draft Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, and 20-D

The Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG) is writing to express our support for Draft Resolution 20-D and our opposition to Draft Resolutions 20-A and 20-B as proposed by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council.

AKPIRG, established in 1974, advocates on behalf of public and consumer interests. To our knowledge, we are the only non-governmental organization focused on addressing Alaska-specific consumer interest issues.

The long-term vitality of interconnected ecosystems like the Copper and Bering River cannot be overstated in importance for Alaska's long-term economic future. Ensuring the region has a better chance to recover from the Exxon Valdez oil spill will ultimately contribute to healthier communities and long-term economic prospects with regard to responsible ecological harvesting.

While AKPIRG fully supports the approval of Draft Resolution 20-D to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, we are wholeheartedly against the adoption of Draft Resolution 20-A and Draft Resolution 20-B, both of which disregard an integral component of an ecosystem approach: the public.

The Trustee Council's ability to make well-informed decisions is impeded by the elimination of annual public meetings, changes to its reporting schedules, and the changes to procedures regarding multi-year projects, especially with the adoption of Draft Resolution 20-D, which extends restoration boundaries.

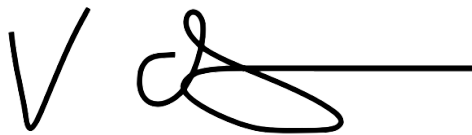
The 1991 Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree between the United States & the State of Alaska, approved by the US District Court, requires "meaningful public participation" in all aspects of the Restoration program.

Resolution 20-A would make it considerably more difficult for the public to remain actively engaged in the Restoration program. Eliminating annual review of multi-year projects, as proposed in Resolution 20-B, would make it considerably more difficult for the public to remain actively engaged in the Restoration program.

At a time when more people, wildlife, and habitats are impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's restoration efforts, a healthy and robust ecosystem approach requires more opportunities for meaningful public involvement and the public's interests in its schedules of annual meetings and reporting – not less.

AKPIRG believes it is in the public's best interest that Draft Resolution 20-D be adopted by the Trustee Council, and for Draft Resolutions 20-A and 20-B to be tabled.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'V' followed by a stylized, cursive flourish that ends in a horizontal line.

Veri di Suvero
Executive Director
Alaska Public Interest Research Group

PO Box 201416 ♦ Anchorage, Alaska 99520-1416 ♦ email: info@akpirg.org
The Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AKPIRG) is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Donations to AKPIRG are tax-deductible. EIN: 92-00047627



Regional Citizens' Advisory Council / "Citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers."

In Anchorage: 3709 Spenard Road / Suite 100 / Anchorage, Alaska 99503 / (907) 277-7222 / FAX (907) 277-4523
In Valdez: P.O. Box 3089 / 130 South Meals / Suite 202 / Valdez, Alaska 99686 / (907) 834-5000 / FAX (907) 835-5926

MEMBERS

December 14, 2020

Alaska State
Chamber of Commerce

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Submitted electronically

Chugach Alaska
Corporation

SUBJECT: Comments on EVOSTC Proposed Resolutions

City of Cordova

To Whom It May Concern:

City of Homer

City of Kodiak

City of Seldovia

City of Seward

City of Valdez

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) is an independent, non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote the environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated tankers. Our work is guided by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and our contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. PWSRCAC's 18-member organizations consist of communities in the region affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, commercial fishing, aquaculture, Alaska Native, recreation, tourism, and environmental groups, and the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce.

City of Whittier

Opposition to Resolution 20-A

Community of
Chenega

The PWSRCAC expresses its opposition to Resolution 20-A because, on its face, it appears to significantly reduce the ability for the public to participate in the restoration process and lower the standards for transparency, reporting and accountability. Although these comments are applicable to Resolutions 20-B and 20-C as well, Resolution 20-A causes the most immediate concern.

Community of
Tatitlek

Cordova District
Fishermen United

General Comments on Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, and 20-C

Kenai Peninsula
Borough

PWSRCAC has concerns that Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, and 20-C collectively, indicate an apparent reduction in public participation, access to information, project reporting, general transparency, and fiscal and project management accountability. There is not much information provided within any of the resolutions themselves or the background/supplemental materials regarding why these changes are justified or being proposed. The information provided is vague and lacking in detail.

Kodiak Island
Borough

Kodiak Village Mayors
Association

Oil Spill Region
Environmental
Coalition

The primary reason given for the resolutions is to provide the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) with more flexibility without explaining why the current sidebars are too confining. While PWSRCAC can certainly appreciate the EVOSTC's desire to reduce administrative costs, this should not be done at the expense of public participation and transparency through annual reporting. It is fairly standard practice to approve multi-year proposals subject to annual funding with an annual reporting requirement.

Port Graham
Corporation

Prince William Sound
Aquaculture
Corporation

The lack of detail in all of the resolutions and in the background and supporting information provided on your website seriously hinders the public's ability to provide meaningful input regarding these proposed changes. For example, it would be helpful to know how the EVOSTC proposes to continue to adhere to the Restoration Plan. That plan encourages public participation, timely access to restoration information for the public and scientific community, and annual status reports on the condition of injured resources and services. It would be beneficial for the public to understand the details of how the EVOSTC proposes to satisfy the 1991 Memorandum of Agreement and Consent Decree entered into between the United States and the State of Alaska. Among other things, this memorandum requires meaningful public participation in the restoration process. It is reasonable for the public to question the impacts that eliminating annual project reports and annual multi-year budget approvals might have on project management, efficient and productive use of EVOSTC funds, and public confidence in the process. The details matter on why these resolutions are being proposed and how they would be implemented.

Our organization has long been an advocate for transparent and inclusive public processes and has serious concerns about how these resolutions could hinder or significantly reduce those values for the EVOSTC. PWSRCAC strongly recommends that the EVOSTC extend the public comment period on these resolutions and provide more background information and justification. As an alternative, if the resolutions move forward, the EVOSTC should provide the details on how the Executive Director will implement these resolutions into the Restoration, Budget, and Operations Plans. If this option is chosen there should be another public comment period. At a minimum, the public should be provided with more information regarding what the EVOSTC proposes to do to facilitate meaningful public participation, transparency, and accountability throughout the year if these resolutions pass.

The EVOSTC is an organization founded in citizen engagement. As has been seen in opinion pieces and other information released to the public, there is concern from many EVOS-region stakeholders regarding the intent and implications that may result from Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, and 20-C being passed. PWSRCAC believes the EVOSTC should providing more information to the public and allow for additional public comments, once that information is released, before action is taken to approve any version of these draft resolutions.

Sincerely,


Donna Schantz
Executive Director

Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation

Trustee Council:

The Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation appreciates this opportunity to comment on these Draft Resolutions.

Established in 2017, PWSSF is the only nonprofit organization solely focused on ground-level conservation work within Prince William Sound, primarily in western PWS which is ground zero for the most serious immediate and continuing oil spill impacts. Our all-volunteer board of directors consists of water taxi and tour company owners, land management professionals, educators, and others from the Prince William Sound region. We work closely with the agencies charged with caring for the Sound – including the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska State Parks, NOAA, and others – and with businesses, nonprofits, and volunteers to create a coordinated approach to conservation work in the Sound. Our projects include removing marine debris from beaches, treating invasive species, site restoration, maintaining public trails, providing public education, and other work that directly benefits spill-area resources, including the Wilderness Study Area injured resource.

We oppose Draft Resolution A, the elimination of annual Trustee Council public meetings. We value public participation and government transparency, both of which would be considerably reduced with Resolution A. Until the injured environment has fully recovered, Restoration is an important government responsibility. The 1994 Restoration Plan, which requires an adaptive management approach to Restoration, indicates that annual or multi-year work plans are necessary to respond to new information on restorative actions. As well, the annual Trustee Council meetings are essential to the "meaningful public participation" required by the 1991 MOA and Consent Decree approved by the court.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on these important Resolutions which will have long-lasting effects on Prince William Sound and the greater oil spill region. We appreciate your consideration.

Heather Thamm
Chair, Board of Directors
Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation
<https://www.princewilliamsound.org/>

December 9, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

The Native Village of Port Lions understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

The Native Village of Port Lions is writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Nelson, President



KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO RURAL REGIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM

A PROJECT OF THE KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Post Office Box 8103

Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Office: 907-299-6185

December 15, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

The Kodiak Archipelago Rural Regional Leadership Forum (the Forum) is a consortium of about 45 Municipal, Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation leaders from the communities of Akhiok, Kodiak, Larsen Bay, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie and Port Lions. Since 2004, the Forum has met regularly to address issues of regional concern to our communities. Unfortunately, the Archipelago was part of the Exxon Valdez spill zone. This well-documented, human-caused disaster severely impacted our communities in multiple ways, including damage of critical habitat and long-lasting negative economic impacts on our small, coastal communities. The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trust was established to make reparations for this human-caused disaster. The stated mission of the EVOS Trustee Council is to *“efficiently restore the environment injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill to a healthy, productive, world-renowned ecosystem, while taking into account the importance of quality of life and the need for viable opportunities to establish and sustain a reasonable standard of living.”* Given this, the Forum views the EVOS Trustee Council as having a fiduciary responsibility to faithfully administer the trust funds in support of restoration of both habitat and communities in the spill zone. While at the same time maintaining transparency and providing for meaningful public participation as part of its decision making processes.

At the October 14, 2020 meeting of the EVOS Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the “New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill” proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

At the December 9, 2020 meeting of the Forum, community leadership reviewed the following four draft resolutions. Forum leadership understands that these draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and

EVOS Trustee Council

December 15, 2020

Page 2 of 2

4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

After review and further discussion, there was a unified sense that these draft resolutions that are currently out for public comment are premature, that they represent action that may not be in keeping with the Council's mission statement and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area. In addition, the Forum strongly supports the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission.

We ask that the EVOS Trustee Council provide further opportunities for discussion of these contemplated actions in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency in order to better serve communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Roberta J. Townsend Vennel
Forum Facilitator



300 Alimaq Drive
 Kodiak, Alaska 99615
 Office: (907) 486-6014
 Fax: (907) 486-2514

December 15, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
 4230 University Drive, Ste 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Subject: Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, 20-C, 20-D Approved for Public Comment at the October 14, 2020, meeting of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members:

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens. With this as background, Afognak Native Corporation submits the following comments on Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, 20-C, and 20-D.

Afognak Native Corporation is not in support of Resolution 20-A. Access to the Trustee Council by the public is fundamental to the process set out in the consent decree. Eliminating an annual Trustee Council annual meeting and annual public input into the funding process weakens the ability of the Council to hear directly from those with local knowledge about any continued spill impacts in their respective community or region. Further, removing the public process leaves the public with the impression that its input is not welcome or valuable and fosters an environment of mistrust. Rather than taking this approach, Afognak Native Corporation encourages the Trustee Council to enhance and increase its opportunities for public participation in the Council's activities.

Afognak Native Corporation is not in support of Resolution 20-B. The review and approval of the annual funding in a public meeting requires the project administrators to request adjustments and provides the public with opportunity to monitor progress on projects of interest. In addition, an annual review and approval process allows the Trustee Council to continuously evaluate the ongoing validity and benefit of projects.

Afognak Native Corporation is not in support of Resolution 20-C. There are still opportunities for utilization of both the Research and Habitat accounts. Although over thirty years have passed since the oil spill, there are still species that have not fully recovered and ongoing research on the recovery of these species and research on all aspects of the ecosystem in the spill impacted area are and will continue to be relevant. In addition, the human services impacted by the oil spill have not yet recovered. There are critical projects and services that can help commercial fisheries, tourism, and subsistence recovery within the spill impacted region that could benefit from EVOS funding. There are also more than 250,000 Alutiiq artifacts being held at the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, most of which were negatively impacted by the oil spill, that will need continued care and preservation.

Afognak Native Corporation is not in support of Resolution 20-D. This resolution would remove the limiting conditions that must exist for the Trustee Council to approve restoration activities outside the boundaries of the defined spill area. While Afognak Native Corporation recognizes that many marine and terrestrial species move from the spill impacted area to areas not impacted, we believe that funding of activities and projects be constrained to the defined spill area. Furthermore, any funding of activities outside the boundary of the defined spill area should be very limited, have clearly delineated requirements and be subject to public input. The oil spill devastated many communities and species in the defined spill area while at the same time, the oil spill stimulated the economy of communities outside the defined spill area by providing jobs and revenue in the clean-up effort. The trauma from the oil spill is still felt in the defined spill area, and the focus of funding activities and projects needs to remain in that area.

Afognak Native Corporation understands that the four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council. Afognak Native Corporation disagrees with this approach. Instead, Afognak Native Corporation supports the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. Afognak, Port Lions, and other communities in the Koniag region, along with commercial and subsistence fishermen and resources were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources and continued reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. Residents still discuss the trauma of the oil spill in ways very similar to the devastation of the 1964 earthquake and tsunami. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the four resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Malia Villegas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Malia" and last name "Villegas" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Malia Villegas
Vice President of Community Investments
Afognak Native Corporation

Tangirnaq Native Village (Woody Island Tribe)

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

Tangirnaq Native Village (aka Woody Island) understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current "spend down" efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

As President of the Woody Island Tribal Council, I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Koniag Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.



December 15, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4300 University Dr., Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

RE: Letter of Opposition to Draft Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, 20-C, and 20-D

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the “New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill” proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

Tangirnaq Native Village (aka Woody Island) understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

As President of the Woody Island Tribal Council, I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Koniag Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

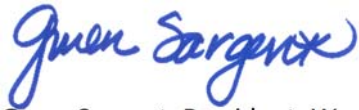
Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gwen Sargent, President, Woody Island Tribal Council
Tangirnaq Native Village (aka Woody Island)



EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

December 16, 2020

Re: Comment on Draft Resolutions

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (KRAA) is the regional non-profit salmon enhancement entity operating in the Kodiak Archipelago in support of the Kodiak salmon fishery—the whole of which occurs in the spill area. KRAA generates revenue through Salmon Enhancement Tax revenues paid by Kodiak salmon fishermen and through implementation of cost recovery fisheries. We operate two hatcheries, produce all 5 species of Pacific salmon, and have numerous, ongoing salmon research, monitoring, and enhancement projects throughout the Archipelago. Protection of the marine environment is critical to our success.

We appreciate the EVOS Trustee Council’s solicitation of public comment on four draft resolutions to be considered by the Council. After review of these resolutions, KRAA opposes all four. KRAA believes the EVOS Trustee Council should be restructured along the lines of the “New Vision of EVOS” as proposed at your October meeting. We believe the remaining EVOS Trustee Council funds should be used to create an endowment and assure the funds are spent within the spill-affected regions. KRAA is disturbed by the administrative “pass through” costs extracted from the fund by both the State and Federal governments. It’s time to reduce administrative costs to the 7.5% envisioned by the proponents on the “New Vision” plan and provide a transparent public process for annual distribution of EVOS Trustee Council endowment grants.

Draft Resolution 20-A (Eliminate Annual Meeting etc.) First, this would only make sense if the fund were extinguished. As long as there is money to allocate and an administration to oversee there is need for an annual Trustee Council meeting. The EVOS fund is too large, and the needs for restoration and habitat in the spill area are too great, to put the whole operation on auto pilot. Moreover, it is KRAA’s view that such a decision would violate the “public trust” that was implied by the State of Alaska when it settled with Exxon. All residents in the spill area understood that part of the settlement was for State and Federal Trustees to directly and carefully manage the EVOS fund. Eliminating public meetings is not careful management or, really, management at all.

Draft Resolution 20-B (Funding Multi-Year Projects) It is KRAA’s understanding that funding multi-year projects has long been part of the EVOS Trustee Council’s operational practice. However, long term projects and their continued funding are reviewed on an annual basis. Once again KRAA’s vision for the

future of the Trustee Council is for the Council to have oversight of spending and maintain project accountability. Consequently, long term funding should only occur in the context of annual review and assessment. Once again, KRAA believes passing this resolution is a step in the wrong direction.

Draft Resolution 20-C (Combine habitat and research sub-accounts) KRAA is particularly concerned about the proposed combination of specific sub-accounts. It's our view that the EVOS fund and Trustee Council was created to be prepared for unknown and/or unexpected contingencies--contingencies that may create spending needs in either habitat or research spheres. If the two sub-funds are combined, especially in the context of a spend-down, it's possible that money needed for one set of issues, like habitat, will not be available given parallel research needs. KRAA does not see combining the sub-accounts as an acceptable risk.

Draft Resolution 20-D (Expand boundaries incorporating an eco-system approach) It would be interesting to see the geographical boundaries envisioned by those supporting the eco-system funding approach resolution. KRAA's understanding of the resolution is that it would be an expansion of EVOS spending throughout an area that could reach from California to Russia and, perhaps, as far east as Japan. For example, some portion of chum salmon returning to Prince William Sound migrate through the Bering Sea. Salmon nutrition in the Bering Sea depends, in part, on water temperatures. Water temperature is directly related to the polar ice cap. Consequently, an eco-system approach for Prince William Sound chum salmon could justify EVOS research spending to assess the Bering Sea Ice edge. While interesting and needed, researching Bering Sea ice is NOT what was envisioned--neither by those that settled the State and Federal claims with Exxon, nor is it supported by stakeholders in the spill area, including Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association.

When the EVOS Trustee Council meets in January to review these four resolutions, Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association requests that you reject all four resolutions. We believe the EVOS Trustee Council should take a step back and envision a new path forward. Remaining EVOS funds can provide research and habitat restoration within the spill area in perpetuity. The endowment approach seems the best tool to accomplish this goal. KRAA's view is that an endowment would be a WIN for all involved.

Thank you for your consideration of Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association's comments.

Very truly yours,



Tina Fairbanks
Executive Director

Cook Inletkeeper
3734 Ben Walters Lane
Homer, Alaska 99603



p. 907.235.4068
f. 907.235.4069
www.inletkeeper.org

SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL
(elise.hsieh@alaska.gov)

December 16, 2020

Elise Hsieh, Executive Director
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
4230 University Drive
Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

RE: COMMENTS OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS 20-A-D

Dear Ms. Hsieh:

Cook Inletkeeper is a community-based organization formed by Alaskans in the wake of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, and dedicated to protecting the Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains. Please accept these brief comments on behalf of Inletkeeper and its more than 8500 members and supporters throughout southcentral Alaska.

As a threshold matter, the proposed resolutions – especially Resolutions A-C – lack the detail, background and rationale needed for Alaskans to understand the issues implicated and to comment meaningfully on them.

Accordingly, we strongly oppose proposed Resolutions 20-A, 20-B and 20-C because they appear to undermine public engagement and involvement as required by federal law and court-approved documents.

Inletkeeper strongly supports Resolution 20-D to allow the Council to move beyond the artificial boundaries of the spill-affected area and to take an ecosystem approach to its important work.

Thank for considering these comments and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours for Cook Inlet,


Bob Shavelson
Inletkeeper

Native Village of Eyak
110 Nicholoff Way
P.O. Box 1388
Cordova, Alaska 99574-1388
P (907) 424-7738 * F (907) 424-7739
www.eyak-nsn.gov



10,000 years in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the Gulf of Alaska

December 16, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear EVOS Trustee Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft resolutions the Trustee Council is considering. The Native Village of Eyak, like all of the inhabitants of the Spill effected areas, has been struggling this year with the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic. Our attention has been on basic needs of our community during this stressful time. Our citizens are reliant on our lands and waters for subsistence, and for our livelihoods. We still very much feel the effects of the Spill and understand the importance of the on-going restoration.

However, this year, we have not had the ability to hold the appropriate meetings and gatherings to hear from our citizens regarding these vast changes in the proposed resolutions before you. We would urge the Trustee Council to slow this process down, and allow more thoughtful, and meaningful engagement with the effected peoples, especially here in PWS.

We do not, at this time, have the ability to endorse any of the proposed changes to EVOS operating procedures and policies. We would hope that you do not adopt the changes without further discussion on a grass roots level, with the communities and Tribes effected.

On behalf of the Tribal Council of the Native Village of Eyak,


Mark Hoover, Chairman



Chugach Regional Resources Commission

Chenega

Eyak

Nanwalek

Port Graham

Qutekcak
Native Tribe

Tatitlek

Valdez Native
Tribe

December 16, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020.

The Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC) understands that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would: continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding, allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas, reduce opportunity for public participation, and further dissolve the Trustee Council

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules.
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects.
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

CRRC is writing to ask that the EVOS Trustee Council slow this important process down and deliberate the potential impacts of spending down the fund. The EVOS Trustee Council is forcing this decision while residents of the spill region are distracted and scared of a global pandemic and have been unable to participate in the process because real public meetings are not occurring. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region and People are still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil, and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to maintain the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, Tribes, and residents.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider obtaining substantial and meaningful public input from spill affected communities only. Additionally, the “New Vision for EVOS” recently rejected by the EVOS Trustee Council is not in the best interest of our Tribes and Peoples. Whereas the concept is sound, organizations like the Prince William Sound Science Center and the Alaska Sea Life Center were not even in existence when the spill occurred and do very little to serve those most affected; the Alaska Native population in the spill impacted area. Whereas our Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery which has been conducting restoration activities since 1990 goes unrecognized. More thoughtful engagement with all user groups and stakeholders is needed. We ask that the EVOS Trustee Council provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area and can be offered the opportunity to testify in person

A hasty spend down of EVOS funds will unleash untold changes on the Chugach region and its subsistence lifestyle at a once-in-a-generation moment when a global pandemic is preventing people from participating in the process. In light of the significant impacts a change in the current structure of the EVOS Trustee Council is projected to have, CRRC does not support the resolutions at this time. Furthermore, CRRC firmly believes the ideas were developed in a silo, without meaningful in-person participation from affected stakeholders. That does not mean that a spend down plan can never be approved; it just means that the EVOS Trustee Council needs to slow this process down long enough to allow stakeholders to find more ways to reduce the impacts to Eyak, Valdez, Qutekcak, Tatitlek, Chenega, Port Graham, and Nanwalek.

CRRC therefore urges the EVOS Trustee Council to deny the resolutions at this time. In the meantime, the EVOS Trustee Council, CRRC, and other Alaska Native organizations can work together to mitigate and offset the impacts to subsistence users in the spill area. The EVOS Trustee Council is forcing these spend down changes over the opposition of, it seems, every single entity and person in the spill impacted region who has spoken up so far. Surely Alaska Native residents in the oil spill region’s well-being and subsistence lifestyle is worth that much.

CRRC thanks you for your time and looks forward to discussing these issues further.

Sincerely,

Willow Hetrick-Price

Willow Hetrick-Price | Executive Director | Chugach Regional Resources Commission
1840 Bragaw Street, Suite 150, Anchorage, Alaska, 99508
907-330-9085 (Cell)
willow@crccalaska.org
www.crrcalaska.org



December 16, 2020

David E Schmid
Regional Forester, Alaska Region
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
161 East 1st Avenue, Door 8
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dr. Jim Balsiger, Director
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Alaska Region
U.S. Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Gregg Renkes
Chief of Staff
U.S. Department of Interior
4230 University Drive, #300
Anchorage, AK 99508

Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Jason Brune
Commissioner
Alaska Department of
Environmental Conservation
P.O. Box 111808
Juneau, AK 99801-1795

Clyde Sniffen, Jr
Acting Attorney General
Alaska Department of Law
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811-0300

Subject: Resolutions 20-A, 20-B, 20-C, 20-D

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) represents and advocates on behalf of over 900 commercial fishermen and their families who harvest the sustainable wild resources of Alaska's Area E waters, which includes Prince William Sound, the Copper River flats and the northern-central Gulf of Alaska. It is our mission to preserve, promote and perpetuate the commercial fishing industry in Area E and to further promote safety at sea, conservation, management, and general welfare for the mutual benefit of all of our members. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the following resolutions under consideration by the Trustee Council.

Resolution 20-A: CDFU takes great interest in ensuring that public processes remain fair and open to stakeholders within the region. We are concerned that if the EVOSTC were to adopt Resolution 20-A, that stakeholders would have fewer opportunities to engage with the Trustee Council on matters that concern the recovery and restoration of the EVOS region. Regular meetings ensure that citizens remain engaged with the Trustee Council and that the public process remains transparent and open.

Resolution 20-B: No comment.



Resolution 20-C: CDFU takes interest in both research and restoration, particularly concerning fisheries within the Copper River, Prince William Sound, and Northern Gulf of Alaska, all of which were impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. It is important to consider that both research and restoration are necessary to the more complete recovery of the oil spill region, and that projects in both arenas continue to be funded for the benefit of the EVOS region. Maintaining these accounts separately provides the most transparency possible for the use of the designated funds and ensures that projects in both research and restoration work continue to be funding.

Resolution 20-D: CDFU has long supported research and restoration work in the Copper River and Bering River region, as these areas play a vital role in our community's economic engine. This region is home to some of the world's richest waters, and as a large portion of economic stakeholders within this region, we see firsthand the connection between the entire ecosystem of Prince William Sound, extending to the Bering River. Healthy salmon fisheries cannot happen without a healthy and intact ecosystem, both in the watershed and ocean environments. With that in mind, we are supportive of this resolution and incorporating the ecosystem approach to extend the boundary of the EVOS area.

Pristine habitat and an intact watershed are both absolutely critical to the future of our sustainable salmon runs. Our community, as regional stakeholders, bore the economic burden of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill over 30 years ago, and several of our then-existing fisheries have not recovered. As a result, we are more intent than ever to help protect the natural resources of the region, and request that you do all that can reasonably be done to ensure that the habitat on which fish and wildlife depend in Prince William Sound, the Copper River watershed, and the Gulf of Alaska is protected and restored.

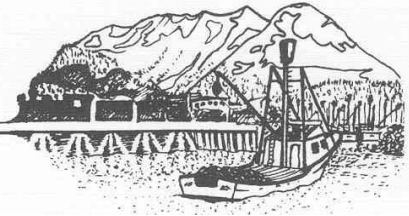
Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to CDFU if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jerry McCune
President

Chelsea Haisman
Executive Director

CITY OF CORDOVA



December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (council)

RE: City of Cordova Comments Regarding Council Draft Resolutions A, B, C, and D

To the Council:

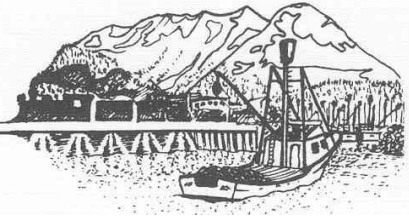
The City of Cordova strongly opposes the Council's consideration of Draft Proposals A, B, C, and D at this time. The City of Cordova is one of the most spill-impacted communities in the spill-impacted region. In the context of the current pandemic, the budget cycles of communities are under heavy deliberation as they attempt to balance them, and with the holiday season imminent, it is a terrible time to solicit stakeholder engagement from within the region. The pandemic restrictions in place prevent access and dialogue to deliberate the disposition of approximately \$180,000,000 in assets intended to restore the region, and this merits an open and accessible public process.

The City Council of the City of Cordova, by direction to me the Mayor of Cordova, strongly urges you to table the significant alterations of the fund through these draft proposals until public comment on the process is more feasible. The City further strongly encourages you to host a meeting in Cordova to facilitate this stakeholder dialogue. Consideration of these draft proposals at this time supports recent criticism that the Council is circumventing public process and operating without transparency or access.

Respectfully,

Clay Koplin
Mayor of Cordova, Alaska

CITY OF CORDOVA



December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (council)

RE: City of Cordova Comments Regarding Council Draft Resolutions A, B, C, and D

To the Council:

The City of Cordova strongly opposes the Council's consideration of Draft Proposals A, B, C, and D at this time. The City of Cordova is one of the most spill-impacted communities in the spill-impacted region. In the context of the current pandemic, the budget cycles of communities are under heavy deliberation as they attempt to balance them, and with the holiday season imminent, it is a terrible time to solicit stakeholder engagement from within the region. The pandemic restrictions in place prevent access and dialogue to deliberate the disposition of approximately \$180,000,000 in assets intended to restore the region, and this merits an open and accessible public process.

The City Council of the City of Cordova, by direction to me the Mayor of Cordova, strongly urges you to table the significant alterations of the fund through these draft proposals until public comment on the process is more feasible. The City further strongly encourages you to host a meeting in Cordova to facilitate this stakeholder dialogue. Consideration of these draft proposals at this time supports recent criticism that the Council is circumventing public process and operating without transparency or access.

Respectfully,

Clay Koplin
Mayor of Cordova, Alaska

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am an Alaska Native stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a Koniag shareholder. I currently live in Kodiak. As a result of the oil spill, we couldn't get subsistence food we rely on for the winters. We still see the affects in our food and if you dig deep enough, you can still find tar balls.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating" the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Linda Amodo
l.amodo59@gmail.com
(907) 942-5708

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I currently live in Anchorage and I'm an Alaskan. I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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I oppose resolutions A, B, C, and D. This money should be put into endowments for the benefit of communities in the spill zone in perpetuity.

Sincerely,
Jeff Baird
jcbaird@hotmail.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region, a subsistence user, I fish sport and commercial fisheries, and lived in the region during the oil spill. I currently live in Kodiak and Old Harbor. I am a Koniag and Old Harbor Native Corporation shareholder.

The oil spill suppressed commercial fishing industry and severely damaged subsistence resources in the region. I am from a commercial fishing and subsistence reliant family. We are still feeling the long-term negative impacts from the spill, both directly and indirectly. It's important to continue supporting EVOS communities until they can become resilient again

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.
Sincerely,

Melissa Berns

melissa.berns1@gmail.com

(907) 202-1139

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. We represent businesses and non-profits that are impacted by EVOS. I currently live in Seward. I used to live in Port Graham.

The EVOS trust has great potential to help in our community with research, recovery. For us in Seward, our economy revolves around the health of the ocean. Kenai Fjords National Park, Fishing Industries (both sport and commercial), mariculture, wildlife (the Alaska Sea Life Center). These funds could be used to continue to help support the recovery of the environment - which helps our people and economy.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Each of the communities in the impacted region know what they need best.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

The Seward Chamber of Commerce fully supports the *New Vision for EVOS* proposal.

Sincerely,

Jason Bickling
director@seward.com
(907) 769-1387

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

As an Alaskan, we all saw the devastation – especially to the ecosystem and sea life habitat. Certain species still have not returned to the spill area.

I currently live in Anchorage, Alaska. I lived in Alaska at the time of the spill.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. This fund was set up to compensate and assist recovery from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. Before the spill, there were many more fisheries, canneries, regional fishing boats, service industry and fish in the Prince William Sound Region. We can do so much more to help these businesses come back - and to help re-populate the herring, salmon, halibut, shrimp, clam beds, kelp and other losses to the region. The funds need to stay in this region to help those impacted. And frankly the approval process for funding has been made so difficult and cumbersome that it prevents many from seeking it. If you want to make a change that will help those impacted, then add simple funding mechanisms for things like business grants, environmental programs, clean-up programs, ecosystem improvement, etc.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Robert Bridges
Tyr88@gmail.com
817-658-1411

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I think it is vitally important that EVOS funding continue and that the public continue to have a voice in its application and the management and research/recovery efforts of Prince William Sound. I am a stakeholder; a native, a Cordovan, a CIRI shareholder and member of the Native Village of Eyak. I am a retired Land Specialist with the USFS and literally the founder of the Prince William Sound Framework Planning document created by the USFS years ago before my retirement. And I was a member of the team that built it. I am a hunter, a sports fisherman, subsistence gatherer of fish and eggs, trapper and overall lover of Prince William Sound. I have tons of experience there as a boater and user of the resources. I love the sound for its wildness, resources, and special experiences that are uniquely Alaskan. The resources are still injured and in recovery... and today those resources are even more impacted as we learn the effects of global warming. We must continue to work together in the management of Prince William Sound and its resources.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Bruce Campbell
Cordova, AK
captsoup@hotmail.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a subsistence user from the region and currently live in Cordova. I am an employee of a regional nonprofit representing the economic development interests of Prince William Sound communities. The community of Cordova lost fishing revenue for at least a decade because of depressed wild salmon prices. This is lost income that families were not able to invest in their fishing businesses, their kids' education, gaining equity in their homes, or saving for retirement. It also represents lost income to municipalities in the form of reduced revenues from raw fish tax.

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Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Using an ecosystem-based approach to consider funding for research and habitat restoration or conservation is so much more logical, and science-based, than being bound by arbitrary lines drawn on a map. As the EVOS TC. noted in its own materials with regard to this resolution, fish, birds and ocean currents move resources across hundreds of miles, and research and restoration/conservation decisions need to take these movements into account.

Sincerely,
Kristin Carpenter
kristinwithak73@gmail.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the spill, commercial fished from 1963 - 2002, and worked on the spill clean up.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Save the remaining money for the future needs of Prince William Sound.

Sincerely,

Tom Copeland
delhiwind@gmail.com | (360) 592-5734

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
 Attention: Chair Jason Brune
 Grace Hall Building
 4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I live in Ellamar and Delta Junction.

I expect the EVOS Trust to continue its job of research and repair to damages created by the spill. To me the canary in the coalmine is the absence of herring and consequently life that depends on them. A weakness or break in the chain affects the load it can carry. Beginning in 1990, I boated, fished and explored the waters and coasts of Prince William Sound. Since 1993, I have lived in our family-built home at Ellamar, Alaska.

Prince William Sound is a composition of an intricate and delicate web of plants and animals, both land and water based-all of which must be nurtured and protected. Any disruption in the web unravels the small and the large that make the Sound most valuable for subsistence, sport, culture, and commerce. Degradation of the resources can be swift--returning them has proved to be painfully slow. I cannot count the number of times I've heard, "Before the Spill, we had..."

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust

was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

There is no debate that the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill continues to affect multiple environments. These conditions do not “self-sunset”. Consequently, the need to continue care is mandatory. Shifting this responsibility to the Alaska Community Foundation makes practical and fiscal sense. It will guarantee longevity promoting a healthier marine environment and balance interests of stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Mary Corcoran
marycorc@gmail.com
(907) 505-9053

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am also a scientist and have experience in the region via research. I currently live on Esther Island in Prince William Sound. You can still see oil slicks on the water. The research that this fund supports is pivotal to the sound as recovery is certainly not finished.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Benton Croop
benton.croop@pwsac.com | (585) 507-2198

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
 Attention: Chair Jason Brune
 Grace Hall Building
 4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I live in Indian, Alaska. I grew up in Montana and environmental disasters shaped my upbringing; Berkeley Pit in Butte.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I am in favor of supporting an endowment with the remaining \$150 million for a community regional foundation to support economic development.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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In full disclosure, I have not followed the spend of the \$900 million EVOS Trust. Knowing there is funding in excess of \$150 million and the trustee council is hastily attempting to spend down in a hasty and non-transparent process, I fully support creating an endowment. Let money work in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Judith Crotty
crottyja@gmail.com
(907) 748-7601

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and currently live in Anchorage. I am a direct descendant of an original shareholder for Chugach Alaska Corporation. I have family from both the communities of Chenega and Tatitlek.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. The public that "Live, Work, and Play" within the spill-impacted region currently, and who were there during the spill, have direct knowledge of the devastation. It is extremely important to include public participation so that real meaningful solutions can be devised and implemented. The composition and staffing of the Governmental agencies assigned to the EVOS trustee council are always changing. By including the public in important policy decisions, the best most informed decisions can be made.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Resolution A: The elimination of public participation is the elimination of oversight, organizational agility, and goes against the original intent of the settlement agreement.

Resolution B: There must be oversight of the projects that are funded on an annual basis. If there is no review and oversight how does the council know it is getting what it paid for and how does the research benefit the public? Funding for multi-year projects should be contingent on the project's success over the previous year and not a blanket approval. This will also prevent potential 20-year projects that spend money and do nothing meaningful.

Resolution C: Combining accounts into one large account eliminates balance in the use of funds. This resolution essentially creates a large "miscellaneous" fund that will lead to mismanagement and inappropriate use of funds.

Resolution D: These funds are intended to repair the damage that was done to the spill-impacted area. Full restoration of the spill area has not occurred therefore it is extremely inappropriate to fund projects outside of the area. The EVOSTC stated in the early years after the spill that once the resources, species, and land have been restored then the people will have been restored. Over 30 years later, all of the species, resources and land have yet to be restored. The people are still hurting and waiting for the time that they will be made whole again.

Sincerely,

Ben Cutrell
Benjamin_cutrell@live.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the spill and am a sport fisherman.

I am a Real Estate Appraiser & Owner at Derry & Associates, Inc. We did numerous appraisals for EVOS as part of your real estate acquisitions. We appraised numerous properties on the Kenai Peninsula both impacted by the oil spill and for EVOS.

I currently live in Kenai, Homer, and Halibut Cove. At the time of the spill we lived in Homer. Since then we acquired property in Halibut Cove, and are seasonal residents there. As detailed earlier, both my wife & I are real estate appraisers with extensive experience/knowledge of the Kenai Peninsula real estate market. And the properties acquired by EVOS on the Kenai Peninsula.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Continued action to further remediate the effect of the spill must continue, plus maintaining awareness of current petroleum activity and spill prevention.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating" the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

David Derry
Covedave5@gmail.com
(907) 953-8434

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I currently live in Anchorage. The spill occurred the year I finished college. As a lifelong Alaskan it was devastating to see the impact on Prince William sound communities and our fishing industry.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. The communities impacted by this event deserve a voice and participation in how the EVOS trust is managed, and to continue fund management that is intended to support the stakeholders.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Kelly Droop

Kelly.droop@worley.com

(907) 529-9310

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I grew up in the region and still have many friends and connections there. I currently live in Anchorage. My family moved to Cordova following the Oil Spill specifically because Fish and Game was hiring new employees, and my dad, a Fisheries Technician, was one of people brought in.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Forrest Dunbar
forrest.dunbar@gmail.com
(907) 570-2554

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and sport fisherman. I currently live in Anchorage. I am an avid fisherman and recreation user of Prince William Sound and my heritage and family are from the area.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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This program was set up in order to help out the region that was most effected, I do not see this from the current language and would like to voice my concerns.

Sincerely,

Matthew Ellis

Ellismattak@gmail.com

(907) 301-1315

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region and a commercial fisherman.

I was impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. My community and work was devastated by the destruction to the wildlife and the waters. I could smell and taste it in the waters as far away as Kodiak that summer of 1989. Coastline, mammals, birds, crustaceans were all harmed if not killed outright. It broke my Alaskan heart.

I currently live in Anchorage. I've lived, traveled and worked in Kodiak, Seward, Kenai, Cordova in the fishing industry and for the government. Everywhere was affected negatively to say the least. For many years.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Put the money into an ongoing endowment. Spending down the fund just to spend it is irresponsible. Restoration of the habitat, the health of all the inhabitants of the region should be the guiding value; mammals, fish, crustaceans, water and land birds. The region should continue to be under research by scientists documenting the long-term effects of such a massive disruption to the environment. EVOS has done a great job the past three decades. I'd like to see it continue as a trust or endowment that makes funding available in perpetuity for the benefit of the affected areas. That's miles of coastline already. I'm not in favor of giving money to regions outside the spill impact.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To

maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Thank you for all that has been accomplished to restore the habitat, the creatures and our hearts. Please keep the scientific and restoration projects going in the affected region.

Sincerely,

J Pennelope Goforth
seacat@cybrrcat.com
907-227-7837

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am an Alaskan and currently live in Anchorage. I came to Alaska one week after the spill. My 30+ years' experience with Alaska and its communities drive me to focus the EVOS trust's work on the human side of the spill-impacted areas.

I believe that the EVOS trust needs to start focusing on the human impacts the spill had rather than the scientific study of the effects of the spill. The focus on human impacts should begin to assist the communities with alternative means of self-support since fishing was changed, perhaps irreparably.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I believe that the endowment model fits this particular situation: 1) a large "principal" balance which can be directed to strategic spending initiatives; 2) a low-cost management of the principal (and the earnings from it) for the benefit of the communities the EVOS Trust represents; 3) that the spending hasn't always been reflective of or allowed the participation of the people in the region; 4) the current management structure is too cumbersome and political; 5) the earnings from the "principal" can be targeted help for these communities; 6) it utilizes the concept of the Permanent Fund and the PFD which has shown success in managing money for the benefit of Alaska.

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I support the "New Vision for EVOS" concept outlined by the Think Tank.

Sincerely,

Kevin Gray
[Kevin L Gray@hotmail.com](mailto:Kevin_L_Gray@hotmail.com)
(907) 242-8093

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I live in Valdez and am a subsistence user and sport fisherman in the region. I served on the spill response crew. Everyone in the Prince Williams Sound is still suffering the environmental impact that the spill had on fish and wildlife populations. Some fisheries were devastated and have never recovered like the herring and cod. And lower numbers of wildlife still impact tourism.

I have lots of friends and neighbors whose health was impacted, and lives were shortened. Because citizen oversight will ensure that the fund is managed in a way that benefits those communities and aspects of environment that are suffering.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Sunny Hamilton

ascendalaska@gmail.com

(907) 835-8198

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
 Attention: Chair Jason Brune
 Grace Hall Building
 4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I live in southcentral Alaska. Just being a citizen should be enough, but I am very aware of the tragedy and impacts of the spill and was involved with a play THE BIG ONE. A CHRONICLE OF THE VALDEZ OIL SPILL written by Dick Reichman who lived in Valdez at the time and had first-hand knowledge of the people and experience.

This is an opportunity for a just settlement for those who are still casualties of the terrible event of the spill. It is crucial to have the resources to preserve, conserve and protect the people, marine life ,wildlife in perpetuity. It is also important to have the resources to prevent future disasters and most importantly be visionary long-term stewards. of the land and waters of Alaska for our children and grandchildren.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.
Sincerely,

Sandy Harper
cyrano@ak.net
(907) 222-1566

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am the Director of the Regional Housing Authority for the Chugach Region which covers much of the impacted area. All NPRHA communities were significantly impacted by the spill and cleanup and still experience social and economic impacts from the spill.

I currently live in Eagle River. I have worked with communities impacted by the spill for over 20 years providing affordable housing and infrastructure in the impacted communities.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. There are still significant impacts on the communities and residents and the remaining funding should be managed to provide long term benefits for those communities. The people who are most impacted need to be heavily involved in how those benefits are determined.

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rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Olen Harris
olen@nprha.com
907-802-2939

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a Chugach Alaska Native shareholder.

My mother went from receiving over \$1100 checks went to zero dollars for years. This disaster impacted our tribe drastically when it occurred, still impacts our tribe today and without better management of these funds will impact it for my kids and grandkids also.

This has affected my tribe, my mother, myself and my children and grandchildren based on financial losses. They will continue to do this without good management of this money. The environment needs lifetimes of care and not having a better management plan that will have lifetimes of money and restoration will continue to affect my tribe which affects me and my family and tribe.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I totally support long term impacts for the benefit because this will take generations to restore and improve this still impacted region. The funding needs to be discussed in an open process and participation so you can see that this money can be better managed to last for the generations it needs to heal. This has so far impacted 2 generations of my family and will impact more. Us living now will be long gone when this finally is restored and we need to make sure the funding is still there when we aren't. There are better plans to consider that will ensure the regional lifetime support that is needed. The better planning and management need to happen now with the remaining money.

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We need to keep yearly meetings with transparency and public input. Just because this spill happened in 1989 doesn't mean everything is fixed, it's a generational process. We need to keep the money meant for the still impacted regions and injured people in focus, the regions are still impacted as well as the people.

Sincerely,

Catherine Havens
curbjumper95@msn.com
(360) 280-2124

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. My background in the region is as an Alaska Native from the region, a subsistence user, and resident in the region during the oil spill.

I am a shareholder at Chugach Alaska. I currently live in Anchorage.

I am from Moose Pass and was living in Seward at the time of the spill, so I saw the impacts firsthand in our community. Me and my family were subsistence users, and some of my family also made a living from fisheries. The spill devastated our small communities. The trust was established for restoration and rehabilitation of the spill impacted area, and while much good work has been done there is still much yet to accomplish. Some resources have not recovered, and the EVOS Trust has not adequately addressed the human impacts, in particular related to the local economies. It's important to assure the remaining funds are used in a sustainable way to provide benefits to the region and the people.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Public participation is essential to assure that the EVOSTC plans align with the needs of the region, and to assure that benefits flow to local people and communities. Sadly, very little of EVOS funding to date has directly helped the small communities in the spill impacted area.

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The four draft resolutions are inappropriate in that they seek to limit public participation, to make it easier for EVOSTC to spend the remaining funds without an open and transparent process and expand the spill boundary. The spill boundary as initially established 31 years ago should not be expanded as there are still many important ways to use the funds for the intended purpose in the original spill boundary. The EVOSTC should work with key stakeholders in the region to identify a better way forward that provides more long term and sustainable benefits to the communities in the spill area.

Sincerely,

Josie Hickel
Hickel.josie@gmail.com
907-258-0638

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am an Alaska Native from the region, subsistence user, and commercial fisherman.

I am a Koniag shareholder and Secretary of the Leisnoi Tangirnaq Tribal Council. I currently live in Kodiak. My family has relied on the fishing industry since the 30's, we experienced setbacks in our ability to harvest any salmon and other coastal species. I'm in support of the New Vision EVOS trust, better fiscal management and having the fund set up for use in perpetuity for the affected regions is in the best interest for all involved.

Commercial fishing and subsistence lifestyles were impacted. I was a Kodiak resident at the time of the spill. I don't feel the initial impact and devastation of the Exxon spill were immediately known. It hasn't been until recent years that the impact of such a massive environmental disaster have been fully acknowledged. Continued monitoring of habitat, education and preservation of culture and lifestyle will hopefully bring the affected regions back to a semblance of what it once was. Perpetuity of the remaining funds ensures generations to come can continue to live, work and, prosper in Cook Inlet, PWS and Kodiak region.

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I do not believe spending down the remaining funds are in the best interest of Alaska’s people, it seems the government is tired of this trust and would like it to go away. Therefore, it should be turned over and let a private entity better manage the remaining monies. Continued funds equals continued recovery. Very little, other than land conservation has been accomplished in 25+ years.

Sincerely,

Chrislyn Hoen
chrislyn.hoen@yahoo.com
(907) 539-3021

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am City Manager for Whittier, Alaska.

The spill resulted in massive environmental and economic impacts to Whittier. I was tied to the spill through my residence and experiences in Whittier and Seward. I currently live in Whittier.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I propose more meetings than one or none as proposed. The money should not be spent down.

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Sincerely,

James Hunt
Whittier, Alaska
citymanager@whittieralaska.gov
(907) 202-2442

December 17, 2020

EVOS Trustee Council
4230 University Drive, Ste 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear EVOS Trustee Council Members,

I wish to comment on the deliberations of this EVOS Trustee Council to the way and means it plans expending its remaining monies. First, I was Chairman of the Board for Chugach Alaska Corporation (CAC) during the onset of the Exxon-Valdez Oil Spill in March of 1989. More on that experience later. Second, I was the President of the Port Graham Corporation, an ANCSA village Corporation within the Chugach Region between 1975 and 1978. At Port Graham I began the land selection process that has resulted in selecting over 100,000 acres of land on the eastern shores of the Kenai Peninsula. Over 200 miles of the village corporation's coast lands have remained heavily oiled, 31 years later. Yet the village of Port Graham and the Port Graham Corporation have received little if any restoration monies to repair the damages to our area. I believe if the Council reviews my comment will see that it is true. On the day of the oil-spill we chartered an aircraft to view the grounding. As we circled the stricken tanker we saw very little seepage and the weather was calm. We contacted Alyeska Pipeline Company and were told they had everything under control, that oil spill materials would arrive shortly. They didn't say those materials were frozen under many feet of ice and snow! It would be days before they were able to respond to the most catastrophic spill in North America at the time. By then it would be the weather that cemented the oil industries incompetence. However, to add insult to injury, EVOS dangled millions of dollars in front of shareholders faces up and down the spill way as its solution to mitigate damages to coastal lands. In 1989 most of those village shareholders lived near or at the poverty level. As the CAC chairman I wrote letters to Chenega and Tatitlek shareholders, imploring them not to sell. In the end only Port Graham chose not to sell. I believe EVOS HAS CONTINUED TO PENALIZE PORT GRAHAM FOR ITS UNWILLINGNESS TO SELL. It's reflected in your records. Moreover, the remaining EVOS monies need to stay within the Chugach Region, using a form of financial sustainability, to address the unmet restoration needs around the coastal lands of Chenega, Eyak, Tatitlek, English Bay (Nanwalek) and Port Graham. The notion of handing ITS RESPONSIBILITY over to a third party, say the Alaska Communities Foundation, is an abdication and repugnant. An organization such as the Alaska Community Foundation would further remove an understanding of the intimate needs that still exists within the region.

At the October 14, 2020 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council Meeting, the Trustees approved four draft resolutions for public comment. The 60-day public comment period began on October 16, 2020 and closes December 16, 2020. Trustees also opposed a motion to support the "New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" proposal submitted by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens.

I understand that the following four draft resolutions, if approved, would continue current “spend down” efforts for the remaining EVOS funding; allow funding to be spent outside of the spill-impacted areas; reduce opportunity for public participation; and further dissolve the Trustee Council:

1. Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules;
2. Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects;
3. Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts; and
4. Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary.

I am writing in support of the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this letter, were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

It is our hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, we believe that the above resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[SIGNATURE BLOCK]

DocuSigned by:
James W LaBelle
16CA63BC309A40D...

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a Alaska Native stakeholder from the spill-impacted region, a subsistence user, a commercial fisherman, and sport fisherman. I am an original Chugach Alaska Corporation and Eyak Corporation shareholder. I currently live in Anchorage. My ancestors are from the PWS and have lived off the land and the sea for thousands of years.

I am an Alaska Native who grew up in Cordova and on the Prince William Sound (Sound) subsisting, and crewing on my dad's commercial purse seine and gillnet business in my younger days. I consumed an abundance of fish, wildlife, and harvested fresh vegetation from the Sound. I am an original shareholder of Chugach Alaska Corporation (Chugach) and Eyak Corporation, that owns subsurface and surface land throughout the PWS. The abundance of growth within the fishing industry and the uptick of growth Chugach and Eyak came to a screeching halt due to the EVOS devastation. Chugach had a fish processing company based out of Cordova that went bankrupt because there were no fish to process the fishing fleet was busy cleaning up the toxic oil waste rolling throughout the PWS caused by EVOS.

I was an Eyak Corporation board member, while the EVOS litigation took place in the 90's. We had the role of reviewing legal and land documentation spending sleepless nights making sure we were making the right decision to bring the question to the shareholder, should we sell our land for fee-simple title, and conservation easement. The sale of the land was a way to provide hope for our people, our land and sea tainted from a single act of an intoxicated Exxon Mobile captain, who clearly did not take his role seriously negatively impacted our shareholders. The EVOS Trust was meant to help the communities, and the people impacted by the EVOS spill, meaning the spill boundary. I also think the Trustees got their wires crossed, if they think the sales of our land was a settlement, they are clueless. The impact of the EVOS oil spill effects is still noticeable.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Millie J. Johnson
pwsfishing@yahoo.com
(907) 441-2461



KALLANDER & ASSOCIATES

RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT. SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I was born and raised in a commercial fishing family in Cordova. It's a community where commercial fishing is king, and the residents take great satisfaction in their trade. My family owned a small fishing business, and the *F/V Miss Emily* was my first classroom. It was on the back deck of that boat where I learned the value of hard work, honesty, and community.

That philosophy and our very way of life was put to the test in 1989 when the *Exxon Valdez* tanker ran aground just miles from Cordova. The accident was the largest and most devastating human-made environmental disaster ever to occur in the United States at that time. The magnitude of the spill caught the oil industry flatfooted, and no one had a plan. A 980-foot tanker was grounded in a remote and diverse marine habitat, accessible only by helicopter, plane, or boat. Millions of gallons of oil gushed uncontrollably out of the side of the tanker.

After days of frustrating inaction, a grassroots response effort began that was nothing short of heroic. Hundreds of Cordovans said goodbye to their children, boarded their boats, and began cleaning up the oil in any way they could. Out of desperation, the fishermen developed makeshift gear for oil-skimming operations using simple five-gallon buckets and absorbent pads. They even took to the beaches and began scrubbing boulders by hand. Piles of animal carcasses were washing ashore with every tide.

The people in my community were fighting for their livelihoods, but sadly, it was already too late. Roughly 11,000 square miles of ocean and 1,300 miles of coastline were tragically covered in oil. Americans will never forget the images of oil-drenched seabirds, dying otters, and black beaches splashed across television screens in the spring of 1989. But what America did not see, and what most people

don't fully comprehend, is the magnitude of human devastation that followed. My parents joined over 30,000 other plaintiffs to file suit against Exxon. It was a source of anxiety, leaving my community to question whether our fisheries and economy could survive.

The resolutions up for debate at EVOS next month are inappropriate. Not only has EVOS failed to engage in comprehensive community outreach or broad public comment period in at least two years, but these resolutions would significantly alter the future trajectory of EVOS and public participation opportunities. I am opposed to Resolution A, B, C, and D.

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After forty years living, fishing, and serving the community of Cordova, my father passed away in 2014. I never went fishing for halibut with my father in the winter months. He considered it too risky to have us on board for the groundfish season. Much of that time, my father fished in the dark since there are only four hours of sunlight a day. The fishermen use floodlights to drop their hooks. When my father returned from one of these trips, he was exhausted, quiet, sore, and grateful to be back safely with his family. I think about that summer day in 2008 when the Supreme Court handed down the decision to compensate my father with \$15,000 when his losses were in excess of \$1.5 million, and I know the system failed that proud, very hard working man.

Please consider the ramifications of these resolutions. Delay action, extend public comment, engage the communities in a meaningful way to explore the long-term future of EVOS and how we might, together, adopt the *New Vision for EVOS* proposal so that EVOS can benefit future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Kallander', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

RACHEL KALLANDER

KALLANDER & ASSOCIATES, MANAGING PARTNER

ARCTIC ENCOUNTER, FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RACHEL@KALLANDERASSOCIATES.COM | 206.334.4618 (P)

KALLANDERASSOCIATES.COM

ARCTICENCOUNTER.COM

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the oil spill, worked on the clean-up crew, and have been commercial fishing and living in Cordova for over 40 years. Cordova is my home.

I was actively involved in numerous fisheries in Prince William Sound in 1989, including the herring fisheries. The Exxon Valdez had a huge long-term impact on the financial values my limited entry herring permit. I personally experienced long term emotional impact from the spill and the effects it had on my community. I lost faith in the judicial process after the supreme court's decision to allow Exxon to get away with it. It took many years to build the family fishing business up after losing the herring fisheries, but we did persevere, despite Exxon.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

The EVOS Trust, its staff, and Council does not have a track record of truly engaging with communities. I cannot understand how after 31 years, we still feel in the dark. Please engage communities in a meaningful way.

I feel strongly that NO funding that remains should be used in any area of Alaska outside the impacted area. This would set a new precedent to expand the boundaries and would be a slippery slope towards a money grab.

As someone who has served in volunteer roles to support my community through trauma, I ask that the EVOS staff and leadership reading this letter please pause to consider the trauma that took place in 1989 and continued on long after the clean-up. Allow that real lived experience to guide your decision making. Please reconsider this approach and think about the communities and region in the long-term. Let that be your legacy as Trustees. Please consider the New Vision for EVOS proposal as a solid legacy for what remains in the Trust; a legacy that could leave positive impacts behind in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Patricia Kallander
patriciakallander26@gmail.com
(907) 424-7603

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
 Attention: Chair Jason Brune
 Grace Hall Building
 4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
 Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the spill and worked on the oil spill clean-up. I currently live in Seward.

Living in Seward during the spill and collecting oiled birds & sea otters I saw first-hand the damage done to the wildlife, their habitat and to Kenai Fjords National park coastline. I worked collecting oiled birds & sea otters during the spill.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Local historical knowledge is extremely valuable.

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I believe that the EVOS funding should be used for research and for habitat. These are both important needs. Public input is necessary. Local knowledge is important. A sustainable revenue source would allow for research and restoration to continue. Spending all of the funds defeats the purpose of ongoing research and rehabilitation. There are lingering effects of the spill to this day. Sometimes ecosystems extend beyond simple boundaries. Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

Mark Kansteiner
buddy@ak.net

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. My family is from this region and we are shareholders of Chugach Alaska. I currently live in Anchorage. My experience with the oil spill was primarily in Seward. I am connected to this through my work and a commitment to long-term vitality of the region Native communities.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. The region still experiences impacts from the spill. The community restoration is not complete. EVOS has not achieved its legal responsibility to restore the communities. Permanent endowments would allow for necessary continuing restoration and research.

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Sincerely,

Diane Kaplan
dkaplan@rasmuson.org
(907) 297-2700

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I currently live in Anchorage. As a boat owner, I spent every weekend and summer enjoying PWS. I saw the direct impact of the spill had on the communities, environment and the people. The philanthropic community with an interest in seeing the funds set aside be invested far into the future to support the health of the PWS area and the people that live there.

I believe that setting up endowments that will serve the region long into the future to make lasting change on the environment, the economic livelihood of the people living there and the stewardship of the area.

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Sincerely,

Nina Kemppel
nkemppel@alaskacf.org
(907) 274-6702

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a subsistence user and commercial fisherman. I currently live in Cordova. It is vital that people in the areas affected by the spill have a say in the allocation of funds and policies that concern their area.

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Sincerely,

Erik Kokborg
westwind257@gmail.com
(907) 253-3535

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and lived in the region during the oil spill. I am a shareholder at Chugach Alaska Corporation. I currently live in Anchorage.

My family is from Tatitlek, and EVOS took place miles from where my family and our ancestors have lived for thousands of years. Its immediate aftermath took away our ability to subsist, and a generation of Alaska Natives lost their connection to the lands and waters that had been enjoyed for time immemorial. For some, this disconnect is not permanent. For others, it's still impaired by the damage that has been done and that is still ongoing. It's not going away, but the money to restore the environment is? How does that make sense? Please consider this statement an endorsement for the Think Tank proposal.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. According to information posted on the EVOS Trustee Council's website, oil and its affects still linger in the spill-affected area. This oil and its affects will still be there long after the spend down happens. What then? I would rather see the remaining funds placed in a vehicle, like the Think Tank has proposed, that lasts for generations. I also think the funds would be better managed and go further in the private sector as opposed to how they are currently managed by state and federal government.

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I am 100% against the spend down, and I have the utmost confidence in the collective wisdom of the Think Tank members and the proposal they have put forth which will benefit the communities of the spill-affected areas into perpetuity. To me it comes down to spending all the money, which I'm against, or creating a lasting legacy of protection and restoration.

Sincerely,

Michael Levshakoff
levshakoff@gmail.com
(907) 382-2226

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I currently live in Homer. Key parts of our economy such as commercial and sport fishing as well as tourism were negatively impacted. I have ties to the oil spill through Homer, Seldovia, Port Graham, Nanwalek.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. This region will see impacts forever. An endowed fund is the best way to create a sustainable fund.

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(representing the southern Kenai Peninsula) and Alaska Community Foundation (representing the remainder of the impacted areas.)

Sincerely,

Mike Miller

mikemiller@homerfoundation.org

(907) 235-0551

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the oil spill and am both a pilot and a minister. I currently live in Halibut Cove.

The impacts of the oil spill were depleted clam, shrimp, and crab stocks. Divided communities - some hired, some no. For fishermen, livelihood adversely affected. Exxon treated spill as a PR problem rather than as an environmental disaster and measured "success" in terms of dollars spent rather than actual cleanup and due compensation to resident commercial fishermen whose economic possibilities through commercial fishing were severely devastated. Divided communities affected.

The people affected should have a strong voice in resolving any unmet needs of affected communities and in determining appropriate compensation to those whose livelihoods were in any way affected by the spill from the remaining funds set aside.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and]

rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Measure this spill event not in terms of dollars spent and as a PR effort by Exxon and an attempt to constrain the Trustees. Measure in terms of the environment and the affected communities restored and made whole.

Sincerely,

Wallace Mills
wmills@mindspring.com
(208) 720-2775

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and lived in the region at the time of the spill. I am a shareholder at Chugach Alaska and the Eyak Corporation.

Prince William Sound and the Islands of Kodiak have long term damage and devastation from the oil spill. Our land our fisheries have been harmed beyond words for generations. I was a commercial fisherman and had to leave the industry because of the damage done to the resources.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. It is my hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. We ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust

was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Please focus on the current spill area with projects that will directly benefit those. Please listen to the voices of the peoples in the current spill region. Thanks

Sincerely,

Vincent Mulcahy
mulcahy_vince@hotmail.com
(425) 773-5562

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a scientist and have experience in the region via research. I currently live in Anchorage.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. The region would be substantially better off in the long run if the funds were invested in an endowment that would support scientific research, habitat protection, and ecosystem restoration in perpetuity. Investing the remaining EVOS funds, rather than spending everything down to zero over the next few years, could support activities for the foreseeable future. Since restoration and recovery efforts are likely to be incomplete, it makes sense to extend the life of the remaining assets so they can provide funding for years to come. Ideally, the fund's remaining money could continue to grow over time and invest in the region in perpetuity.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

The revised structure proposed by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens is a sensible option that will ensure that restoration and recovery efforts are not halted prematurely and create a sustainable revenue source that will allow these efforts to continue. If there were ever a time for Alaskans to consider a sustainable path forward in the spill impacted region and the mechanics of providing support for future generations, that time is now.

Sincerely,

James Murphy
jjmurphy2@gmail.com
(907) 903-4413

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a commercial fisherman, sport fisherman, and I was a member of the Alaska State Legislator from 1985-1996.

I was a member of the Legislature and also worked as a commercial fisherman (deckhand) from 1987-90. I currently live in Kenai and was Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough from 1996-99 and 2011-2017. I believe the remaining funds should be used to endow funding in the spill-impacted communities in perpetuity, the *New Vision for EVOS*.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Mike Navarre
miken@zaninc.net
(907) 394-2300

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the oil spill and worked on the oil spill clean-up.

I currently live in Kodiak. I was impacted. It altered my entire life. I lived alone on Shuyak Island during the spill. The oil came in daily waves, and I used the power of the press to call attention to the devastating effects of the continual hits of oil all summer long. We got it cleaned but some areas were forever impacted. Awareness, skills training and scientific follow-up are mitigation for the future.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating" the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Debra Nielsen | weatheredwoman@msn.com | (907) 539-8996

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region, a resident, subsistence user, worked on the spill clean-up, and lived in the region during the oil spill.

I am a shareholder at Chugach Alaska and Port Graham Corporation. I currently live in Port Graham. I've lived in Port Graham all my life - my family lives on subsistence foods and my husband was a commercial fisherman when the oil spill decimated the fishery and the prices .

Our fishing industry crashed during that time for all our commercial fisherman, I did not trust the subsistence foods, THE EVOS does not care of about the impacted areas and only funds those special interest groups and are basically using the funds that do not benefit all the villages that were impacted.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I do not believe the oil has been totally cleaned up for our region. I do not feel that the EVOS Trustee Council listens to the impacted areas and is only interested in funding and benefiting the EVOS Trustee special interest groups.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Francis Norman
fran@portgraham.org
(907) 284-2227

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. My background as a stakeholder comes as a community resident in spill impacted region, Alaska Native from the region, subsistence user in/from the region, resident in the region during the oil spill, commercial fisherman, and I also worked on the spill cleanup.

I am a shareholder of Chugach Alaska and Port Graham Village Corporation. The spilled oil impacted our traditional subsistence areas which were selected by our village corporation. I currently live in Port Graham.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Moneys should only be used inside the oil spill boundary area.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and]

rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Patrick Norman
pnormanvc@hotmail.com
(907) 284-3023

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and a resident. I am a shareholder of Chugach Alaska. I currently live in Cordova.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of "restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating" the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Timothy Olsen
tolsen367@gmail.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am an Alaskan and live in Anchorage. I work at a philanthropic organization and believe that investing in the non-profits that have been directly impacted should receive support to continue their work. I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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This should be put into endowments that would benefits non-profits so that it will serve a lasting impact in the community.

Sincerely,

Kristopher Palmatier
kapalmatier@gmail.com
(907) 229-7997

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a scientist with research experience in the region and have also been a commercial fisherman in the region. I currently live in Cordova and Anchorage.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Public process is integral to maintain public trust. The leadership at EVOS should consider the short public comment period that was provided for these resolutions and engage the communities that are impacted directly and personally.

Sincerely,
Casey Pape
seepape@gmail.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a sport fisherman and manage lands in the impacted zone. I have family in Cordova and currently live in Anchorage.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Regarding Resolution A: The Trustees are a collection of public agencies. There should be absolute transparency in any actions taken. Public participation is one way to ensure that transparency. Many of the people in the villages and communities affected by the spill and resulting studies have long term witness and expertise that may assist in more efficiency and effectiveness of future projects.

Resolution D: Strongly object to expanding the spill zone boundaries. This will allow funds to be directed to non-impacted, or marginally impacted, areas and not directed where it is needed most.

There needs to be a focus on the people and communities most impacted by the spill. Very little, if any funds have been directed to overcoming the negative social and community specific impacts. The Council needs to work with the regions impacted for recovery the residents need.

Sincerely,

David Phillips
dphillips@chugach.com
(907) 261-0345

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I lived in the region during the oil spill, worked on the oil spill clean-up, and am a commercial fisherman and subsistence user.

I currently live in Kodiak. I am a landowner affected by the spill. I fish commercially in Bristol Bay and live in Kodiak. The EVOS trust provided Kodiak with the Shuyak Fund which the borough uses to repair and maintain borough owned facilities. My husband & I lived on the beach in Kodiak which was impacted by the spill. We also fished herring, halibut, and salmon in Kodiak during the summer/fall of 1989.

I just want transparency in all the EVOS board decisions. I oppose the four resolutions that are out for public comment.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Judith Phillips
judgejudyp@gmail.com
(907) 487-1967

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I currently live in Whittier, Alaska. I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. My community relies on the pristine nature of the environment for subsistence and commercial ventures.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Annie Reeves
Anniea912@yahoo.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I currently live in Wasilla, Alaska. I am watching fisheries and bird habitat decline, which connects me to this issue. I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I oppose resolutions A, B, C, and D. This money should be put into endowments for the benefit of communities in the spill zone in perpetuity.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Ripley | eripley907@gmail.com | (907) 373-2595

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am an Alaska Native from the region, I lived in the region during the spill, and I am a sport fisherman and subsistence user.

I am a Chugach Alaska, Tatitlek Corporation, and Chenega Corporation shareholder. I currently live in Tatitlek. I was seven years old at the time of the spill. At 38, the effects and changes that our community has had to make are still apparent to this day. I have a 19-year-old son who has not had the privilege of learning to hunt the way my own dad did. It's just not available to him anymore. The required skills for traditional subsistence practices have been lost because our parents and grandparents' way of hunting has had to change so much due to oil spill damage.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Nanci Robart

nanci.tatitlekira@gmail.com

(907) 325-2311

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I currently live in Anchorage. I'm connected to the community of nonprofits, as well as friends in the commercial fishing industry in this region. I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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I oppose resolutions A, B, C, and D. This money should be for the benefit of communities in the spill zone in perpetuity.

Sincerely,
Allison Ruoff | aruoff@rasmuson.org

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and subsistence user. I am a shareholder of Chugach Alaska. I currently live in Anchorage.

My entire family worked on the clean-up. We rely on subsistence. It impacted our way of life, our food, and our historical sites. My family originates from the Prince William Sound. My grandfather was born and raised in Cordova. He was a lifelong fisherman.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region simply because the spill has never been fully cleaned up. Dig a little on our beaches... the oil is still very present. Our ancestors come from this land and we should have a seat at the table. "When the tide is out, the dinner table is set." After the spill, our food was poisoned. Our communities took such a huge blow during the spill. My family is from Cordova. My husband's family is from Chenega. He and his family have worked in oil spill response since EVOS because it means protecting our waterways and Native way of life. The social and economic impacts of this horrific event still haunts us today.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Our people have been here for tens of thousands of years. We respect the land we live on that provides for our families - that allows for our communities to thrive. We will continue to stand up for our land, our people, and for our younger generation who might not have seen it first-hand, but still feels the ripple effect today. How can eliminating public input and expanding the oil spill boundary so you can spend the money elsewhere be helpful for our region? This is common sense folks. Do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Jayme Selanoff

jayme.johnson907@hotmail.com

(907) 229-6893

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am stakeholder for two significant reasons. One I work for the people of the Chugach Region and a significant part of my job is working on cultural, educational, and economic projects to support those from the impacted region. I also have spent many summer days over the past 20 years in Prince William Sound (PWS) with my family appreciating the beauty that remains. From conversations with Chugach Elders, I understand that although PWS is beautiful today, it was more stunning before the oil spill. It is not the same today as it was.

The Exxon Valdez oil spill impacts those I work with daily. I have seen those who lost so much still struggle to recover all these years later. The gift of working for Chugach Alaska Corporation and the gift to be able to spend some of my summer days with my family fishing and enjoying Prince William Sound.

Those impacted must have open access and participation in the process. There are people willing to do the work, but they are not being heard and they are being shut down. It is important to let them participate. The four proposed resolutions stop their involvement completely. The restoration is NOT complete and passing the proposed resolutions is extremely premature.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts. Draft Resolution C would authorize the Council to combine the habitat and research sub-accounts into a single multipurpose account. To maintain alignment with the 1991 Consent Decree, it is important that the two accounts remain separate to ensure funding is directed to both habitat and research. The proposals, projects, and demands for habitat and research are different and therefore, the funding streams should not commingle. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

At the time of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) I was a teenager living in Montana, but I still have vivid memories of the scenes unfolding on television and in print media of this horrific disaster. I was devastated. In 1999, I was blessed to start working for and with Alaska Natives of the Chugach Region. I would listen to their stories of this disaster first-hand. I was devastated. I heard stories of those impacted being dismissed or overlooked by the EVOS Trustee Council (the Council). It seemed as if no one wanted to hear their voice. I was devastated.

As I review the four draft resolutions put forth by the EVOS Trustee Council, I am once again devastated. I do not support any of these resolutions because they will result in yet another devastation to the communities impacted by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. There are impacted citizens who are able and willing to utilize these funds as they were intended, yet these resolutions disenfranchise those same citizens. These resolutions lead me to believe the Council is tired of working with the people who were impacted by the spill, the Trustees have other intentions, and they want an easy button that can be made easier by excluding the public. There are incredibly talented people putting forward proposals to make the money last longer and continue to support the recovery of the land, animals, and communities. The EVOS Think Tank of Citizens brought forward a solid proposal for a “New Vision for EVOS: A Roadmap to Reshape the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill”, but the Council opposed the motion.

Below is why I passionately oppose each of the resolutions brought by the Council.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to eliminate the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules:
The Council states in this resolution that they can make this change if “the plan is no longer responsive to the restoration needs”. The plan is responsive, it is the Council that is unresponsive. The Council is rejecting solid proposals and attempting to take away the public’s ability to provide input. This is the Trustees choosing to be unresponsive. This does not justify such a change. This change would allow the Council to stop having annual meetings that involve the public. The only meetings available to the public would be when the Council believes it is necessary, not when the public believes it is necessary. One of the benefits stated for this resolution is that it would reduce the administrative burden and expense. The proposal by the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens would reduce the administrative burden and expense for the Council indefinitely, without disenfranchising those impacted. There does not seem to be adequate justification for such an Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan.

Draft Resolution 20-B: Change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects:
This resolution tells me that the Council does not want to put in the annual effort to review the projects that these dollars are going towards. For the people in the spill-affected areas this money is precious. They are still living with the impact of the spill. There are citizens who have a plan and are willing to put in the resources to follow through with the recovery. They need to be heard.

Draft Resolution 20-C: Combining habitat and research sub-accounts:
This resolution changes the plan for the mission of the funds without any other reason than allowing

flexibility. There is still more work to be done within the region as those impacted can share with Council if the Council is willing to consider their input. It is premature to make this change without public involvement.

Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment of the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary:

This resolution begins the process to move these funds outside of the spill-impacted region while those in the region are still recovering from the spill. Not only is there more work to do within the region, but there are also citizens with plans and the ability to support the plans. There is no reason for these funds to be used outside of the impacted areas, especially without hearing the public feedback first. I cannot support a resolution that causes further damage to the impacted areas. This resolution would be the Council rubbing salt in wounds that are still open.

There are communities still living with the impact of the oil spill. They deserve to NOT have the plans changed before the work is finished. The communities need the opportunity to be heard and to be part of the process. The process needs to be inclusive and transparent. Many of those impacted did not live long enough to see any of the settlement, so it is vital to ensure the current and future generations are included in the recovery.

Sincerely,

Tori Schilke
tschilke@chugach.com
(907) 223-6807

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I have not personally been impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. However, protecting and supporting Indigenous and rural communities affected by this disaster and others such as climate change is important to me. The EVOS Trust should be placed in endowments for the direct benefit of the communities impacted by the oil spill.

I currently live in Anchorage. I completed my undergraduate and graduate studies at Alaska Pacific University when it was transitioning under the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium umbrella. This has given me the opportunity to listen and learn from Indigenous leaders from across Alaska. The communities in the Chugach, Koniag, and Kodiak Island Borough regions are still negatively impacted by the oil spill 34 years later due to habitat loss directly attributable to the oil spill. Leaders from each of these regions in addition to industry leaders recommend placing the EVOS Trust into an endowment for the benefit of these communities in perpetuity. I support the recommendations of this diverse group of leaders.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Many of the people who live in the communities affected by the Exxon Valdez Oil spill have done so in a stewardship relationship with the land and sea for thousands of years. Had the oil spill not happened, the people living in these communities would still maintain this relationship and be able to feed their families and benefit from the surpluses generated by the rich fishery of Prince William Sound. The oil spill was a single event with a long-term detrimental impact to the ecosystem that has sustained these communities for millennia. Placing the EVOS Trust into an endowment for the benefit of these communities in perpetuity allows the people who live in these communities to thrive and to support long-term habitat revitalization necessary to create a sustainable fishery. The recommendation of the New Vision is to place the EVOS Trust under the management of the Alaska Community Foundation which has the capacity and expertise to cost effectively and transparently manage this trust to directly benefit the people the trust is intended to serve. In perpetuity is an essential component of this proposal because frankly we don't know how long it will take or if this ecosystem will ever fully recover to its pre-oil spill state.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

Draft Resolution 20-B: A change to procedures for approval of multi-year projects. The EVOS Trust currently holds roughly \$188 million. That funding is meant to be of benefit to the region and its communities, people, and environment. Not only is an annual meeting by the Trustee Council not overly burdensome, it is an imperative to maintain any sense of public process, opportunity, or transparency. Annual review of proposals, ongoing projects and research is important to maintaining EVOS as an important entity for the long-term benefit of the region. I object to this resolution.

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I oppose resolutions A, B, C, and D. This money should be put into endowments for the benefit of communities in the spill zone in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Joseph Sonnier
sonnier.joe@gmail.com
(907) 229-5590

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and lived in the region during the oil spill. I sit on the Koniag Board of Directors. I am a Koniag and Leisnoi Inc. Village Corporation shareholder.

Native artifacts were endangered, damaged or stolen due to oil spill. The EVOS Trust fund made it possible to protect our artifacts through the construction of our Alutiiq Museum and Archeological Repository. Seeing our Alutiiq artifacts being damaged, destroyed and stolen was tragic and a loss of our heritage. Our Alutiiq identity was at stake and finally protected through the establishment of the Alutiiq Museum.

In the past the Trustee Council actively listened to the people representing the impacted communities. I do not see that occurring now as there is no opportunity to continue this dialogue. Inclusiveness and transparency are vital as we learned in the past.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust

was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Kodiak was devastated by the oil spill. Recovery has not been completed. The proposed resolutions are premature. They should be postponed until the public has had an opportunity to testify. It is so important to support our communities and ecosystems towards restoration of natural resources and to insure the future of healthy communities and people.

Sincerely,

Rita Stevens
ritstev@gci.net
(907) 360-6385

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I currently live in Seward. Family and Friends lost fishing jobs impacting the whole community. Seward, Alaska has been greatly impacted by the creation of the Alaska Sea-life Center. I believe that the grants should go to projects within the impacted communities only.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Sincerely,

Vitali Sturdy
svitili23@gmail.com
(520) 248-7791

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. It is incomprehensible that the fund would be permitted to operate less transparently. The public should have more, not less, control over the fund.

Draft Resolution 20-A: Eliminates the annual Trustee Council public meeting and funding process and change reporting schedules. Since EVOS was established in 1991, numerous opportunities to provide public input and consider funding priorities are scheduled to take place each year. The most critical meeting for public input and consideration is the Trustee Council meeting. Since its inception, a demonstrable decrease in the number of annual Trustee and PAC meetings has become apparent. I object to this resolution.

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Draft Resolution 20-D: Amendment to the 1994 Restoration Plan to incorporate an ecosystem approach to the oil spill boundary, which would allow funding outside of the spill impacted area. The EVOS Trust was originally established with \$900 million for the purposes of “restoring, replacing, enhancing, [and] rehabilitating” the spill impacted region, according to the 1991 Consent Decree. This resolution confuses the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

Sincerely,

Dominic Suarez
dominic.suares@sprinklr.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am a subsistence user from the region and worked on the oil spill clean-up. I am a resident of Valdez, a retired career Coast Guard officer and former Captain of the port for Prince William Sound and served for Six years as the executive directly of the PWS regional Citizens advisory council. My wife and I fish and shrimp and berry pick for subsistence purposes in the EVOS region each and every year. My son is a student and commercial fisherman.

I have worked in post EVOS spill response community for the Coast Guard, the Oil industry, and representing EVOS region citizens for over 25 years. I live in Valdez and spend as much time out in PWS as possible cruising on my sailboat.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I have seen first-hand the EVOS oil that lingers just below the surface rock and sands in the coves on knight island and other protected beaches in the EVOS path. I have a son and many friends that commercial fish and wonder at the longer-term environmental aspects of fish and species populations. The remedies provided by EVOS Trust funding should aim for a perpetuity similar to the spill impacts.

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EVOS Trust funding has done an extraordinary amount of good since the spill. In particular EVOS land conservation set asides and improvements to public access help foster public exposure and engagement and hopefully future stewardship with the natural environment of the EVOS impacted region.

Sincerely,

Mark Swanson
emmiekswanson@gmail.com
(907) 255-1984

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region as well as a resident. I currently live in Nanwalek. I am a shareholder at Chugach Alaska. Dogfish Bay was where my parents went to help with the cleaning up of the oil.

I remember hearing we could not subsist our foods because of the oil spill. I remember my parents working in DogFish Bay helping clean up the mess that destroyed our lands and foods. At that time not knowing or understanding what was going in, all I knew was it was bad, and things will change forever. I remember hearing people say how bad this was and still is to this day still seeing it found years later in the lands. This is still hurting areas who were hugely impacted as well as those who did get hit and had to help revive the lands we still live on today.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region because the effects are still occurring. Our lands are still deteriorating because the oil has sunk all the way through and just because you cannot see it doesn't mean it is there. One payout doesn't equal to a lifetime of the loss of the lands and foods that were taken that year. While those live-in riches, those who CLEANED UP THE MESS suffered and are still suffering to this day.

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Think of the lives that are lost that could have had severe health issues with cleaning up the mess that happened. The hardships of not being able to subsist for a few years because we didn't know if it was safe. Would you live like that or allow your family to suffer? We have put up with so much and we still are dealing with the aftermath YEARS LATER AND ALWAYS WILL.

Sincerely,

Kilann Tanape
kilann97@yahoo.com
(907) 281-2237

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region and a shareholder at Chugach Alaska. I currently live in Anchorage. The Chugach Region communities, including those represented by this were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

I grew up in the Copper River Basin and am tied to the Chugach Region and communities as not only a shareholder but through those I know living, working and subsisting directly in communities such as Cordova, Valdez and Tatitlek who were most heavily impacted and, in this way, I have grown up familiar with the impacts of the spill and continued to understand those impacts through working at my regional corporation. My brother also worked in Valdez in the spill response field.

I support the EVOS Think Tank of Citizens concept that identifies a path towards long-term endowments and research funding, while further serving spill-impacted communities in perpetuity. The Chugach Region communities were among those most devastated by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Our spill-impacted region is still healing from unrecovered resources, the effects of lingering oil and continuing reverberations from the human and economic impacts of the spill. We owe it to our communities and important ecosystems to support the continued path towards restoration of natural resources and supporting the future of healthy communities, tribes and peoples.

I hope that the EVOS Trustee Council will seriously consider the Think Tank concept and alternatives that would provide continued funding in alignment with its important mission. I ask that they provide further opportunities for discussion in the interest of inclusiveness and transparency while serving communities and future generations within the spill-impacted areas.

Specifically, I believe that the resolutions out for public comment are premature, and that any advancement of the agenda that these resolutions represent towards a spend down plan should be postponed until meaningful public participation and review of other options can be considered by community members in the spill-impacted area.

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Sincerely,

Lindsay Townsend
lindsay.townsend@chugach.com
(907) 302-7100

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a stakeholder from the spill-impacted region. I am an Alaska Native from the region. I am a shareholder and member of the Tatitlek Corporation, as such, I am also a land owner in Two Moon Bay.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. Those directly impacted should and deserve to know what is or is not being done. It is as simple as that! So much has happened as a direct result of the spill that can never be repaired or replaced. Shutting those impacted out, is adding insult to injury.

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It has been 31 years, I see no reason to expand the area NOW other than to pave the way for some other agenda. More adding insult to injury.

Sincerely,

Patricia Van Kirk

patricia.vankirk@yahoo.com

December 16, 2020

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Attention: Chair Jason Brune
Grace Hall Building
4230 University Drive, Ste. 220
Anchorage, AK 99508-4650

Dear Members of the Trustee Council:

I am a shareholder at ASRC, UIC, and KIC. I live in Fairbanks.

It is an injustice that was done on the land that has taken so long to rectify. I was personally impacted by the inequity and the horror of the spill, it taught me how big business and capitalism work, and I am glad that Alaska is finally getting some justice in this issue.

I support long term impacts for the benefit of the spill-impacted region and open processes and participation by and for the people of the region. I go to Valdez for work, sometimes once a year for the Playwright Festival. I have performed there several times. The impact of the spill is still prevalent and strong in the community. An endowment for the communities needs to be created in perpetuity. Arts, public health, and also some funding to prevent further abuses on the land.

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the original intent and scope of the moneys held within the Trust and would effectively decrease the injured peoples access to funding allocated beyond the spill impacted region. I object to this resolution.

I oppose resolutions A, B, C, and D. This money should be put into endowments for the benefit of communities in the spill zone in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Allison Warden
allisonwarden@gmail.com
907-242-4663