

Maglaqui, Joy P (EVOSTC sponsored)

From: Richard Steiner <richard.g.steiner@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2022 4:17 PM
To: Wang, Shiway W (EVOSTC sponsored); Maglaqui, Joy P (EVOSTC sponsored)
Subject: Fwd: EVOS Trustee Council 8-22-22 letter to PAC re: combining the research and habitat sub-accounts
Attachments: 10-evos-trustee-council-letter-to-the-pac-82222.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please forward to all PAC members....Thanks.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Richard Steiner** <richard.g.steiner@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 3:47 PM
Subject: EVOS Trustee Council 8-22-22 letter to PAC re: combining the research and habitat sub-accounts
To: Rick Spinrad - NOAA Federal <rick.spinrad@noaa.gov>, <secretary@ios.doi.gov>, OS, OIEA <oiea@ios.doi.gov>, <thomas.vilsack@usda.gov>, <secretary@usda.gov>
Cc: Jon Kurland - NOAA Federal <jon.kurland@noaa.gov>, Thiele, Raina D <Raina_Thiele@ios.doi.gov>, <Sara_Taylor@ios.doi.gov>, Schmid, David - FS <dschmid@fs.fed.us>

Dear Federal Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustees and Representatives,

I would like to register my strong opposition to the proposal put forth in your 08-22-22 letter to the PAC (attached), re: combining the residual funds in the research and habitat subaccounts. You will recall that this idea was thoroughly opposed by much of the public in 2020 (Res. 20-C), and we thought the issue was dead. But now this? As we've noted before, bad ideas in Alaska have a way of never dying. This is an outrageously bad idea. The remaining \$82 million in the habitat account must be used as intended -- for habitat protection.

In your Oct. 2021 meeting, many of us feel you betrayed the very purpose of Restoration by capitulating to State of Alaska desires to fund politically popular projects with minimal (or no) connection to environmental recovery. I have written to you all before about this. But this proposed action would make a bad situation even worse. Many of us were extremely disappointed that the Biden Trustees failed to stand up to the State of Alaska at that meeting, and press for a deal to protect the Bering River area east of the Copper River Delta.

We know the current State of Alaska administration is opposed to any additional habitat protection in the Restoration process, as they simply oppose environmental protection philosophically. So be it, they are on the wrong side of history with this. You need to be on the right side. I respectfully urge you to vote against this idea.

I would enjoy the opportunity to discuss this proposal with any of you, at your convenience.

Regards,

Rick Steiner, Professor
University of Alaska ret.
Oasis Earth
Anchorage, Alaska
www.oasis-earth.com

