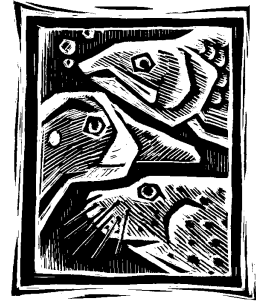


Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council

4230 University Dr., Ste. 220 ○ Anchorage, AK 99508-4626 ○ 907 278 8012 ○ (f) 907 276 7178



2022 Annual Financial Report on the EVOSTC Fiscal Year 2021

Rev. 8.17.23

Since its inception in 1991, the *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill Trustee Council (Council or EVOSTC) has worked in three major areas: Restoration, Habitat, and Administration. The following is a general guide to the activities included under these headings.

Restoration, Research, and Monitoring

Restoration forms the core mission of the Council. The Restoration umbrella includes restoration projects as well as scientific research and monitoring. The Council's investment in this area has supported scientific research projects and led to the production of reports and data that address a broad variety of subject areas and that are used nationally and internationally by the public, government entities, NGOs, media, researchers, and students. Surveys and other monitoring of fish and wildlife in the spill region provide information to determine population trends, productivity, and ecosystem health. Research increases knowledge of the biological needs of individual species and how each contributes to the Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska ecosystems. The Council's support has led to the development of modeling, surveys, and mapping of lingering oil and provided new information and better tools for effective management of fish and wildlife. General restoration also supports diverse physical and technical projects in the spill area, such as a vessel washdown in Seward, hazardous waste disposal facilities, and ongoing support for the Alaska SeaLife Center and the Prince William Sound Science Center.

Public outreach is an integral part of Restoration and may include public meetings, exhibits, reports, films, lectures, scientific symposiums, publications, and outreach by individual principal investigators and through Council office activities.

Restoration expenses include and overlap with Scientific Management, Public Information, and Administration for management of Restoration efforts, including support for scientific publications, internal database portal management; the archiving of Official Record documents; scientific meetings, oversight, and management; project planning and development; public outreach efforts; website maintenance; and staff support.

Habitat Enhancement and Protection

The EVOSTC Habitat Program includes the funding and implementation of both habitat enhancement and protection projects. Habitat Enhancement work protects and enhances spill

Federal Trustees

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

State Trustees

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Alaska Department of Law

area ecosystems that support EVOS-affected resources and services through active restoration activities. Together with strategic habitat protection, as described further below, these active restoration initiatives address habitat fragmentation and degradation. Examples of habitat-enhancing activities include expanding and improving important fish spawning and rearing habitat and migratory waterfowl habitats. Enhancing natural resources yields benefits to EVOS-affected services such as recreation, subsistence, and commercial fishing. Current habitat enhancement projects include initiatives in which multiple state and federal agencies and private landowners collaborate on multi-year projects with efficient leveraging of existing agency and third-party resources. These projects often add value to previous Council investments by improving habitats associated with parcels protected earlier for their habitat value. Council funding also stimulates additional funding from other sources. Habitat enhancement and restoration work in FY2021 includes projects such as the Kenai Peninsula stream bank restoration project, which enhances fish passage in coordination with ongoing road improvements, and watershed-scale culvert and debris removal projects in the Copper River Delta and on Kodiak Island to open up miles of previously blocked fish stream habitat. Improvements for public recreational use are often associated with these enhancement projects.

The Council has made a lasting contribution through its permanent protection of priority habitat that supports the species and ecosystems injured by the spill. Habitat protection is a restoration activity used in natural resource programs across the country. In the EVOS spill area, these efforts include protection of both small and large parcels to prevent additional injury to species due to loss or degradation of habitat, and most projects also allow public access for subsistence and recreation activities. The Council accomplishes this by providing funds to government agencies to acquire title or conservation easements on land that has been determined to be high-value habitat and prioritized as important for the restoration of resources affected by the spill. This program also funds due diligence costs, NEPA compliance, habitat purchase negotiation support, staff support, and legal review. Ongoing habitat protection projects include the Bookey parcel acquisition, which will protect bluff property along the Kenai River while simultaneously establishing additional recreational features as well as the Killey River project, an acquisition that will permanently protect important wetlands and salmon habitat in the Kenai and Killey River watersheds.

Administration, Science Management, and Public Information

This component includes annual budget development, implementation and management of the Council's habitat and science programs. It also includes scientific oversight of research, monitoring and restoration projects, project planning and management, data management, scientific meetings, and symposiums.

Administrative spending includes infrastructure costs, agency coordination, and other contractual and administrative costs, Council office staff, and designated trust agency staff. It also includes the cost of public meetings, publications and other means of public outreach, and the support and administration of the Council’s Public Advisory Committee. Administrative funds support the Council’s Science Panel, which advises the Council on the effectiveness of specific restoration efforts in meeting the mission and goals of the Trustee Council. The Science Panel also participates in peer review of research proposals. Administrative funds have also supported the construction of the Cordova Center, which houses space for EVOS- and Council-related meetings and a library, museum exhibits and displays. It also supports the digitization, indexing, and archiving of EVOSTC-related items and documents and the creation and maintenance of a website and database that can serve as an ongoing resource for the public and others as the Council progresses to its end-stage.

2022 Annual Report: How the Settlement Has Been Used for EVOSTC FY2021

The following accounts for settlement funds that have been released (in millions) for the EVOSTC Fiscal Year 2021 ending **January 31, 2022**:

Total Revenue	\$1,204.4
Exxon Payments	\$900.8
Settlement Fund Interest/Earnings (Minus Fees & Losses / Plus Earnings) ¹	\$303.6

Reimbursements for Damage Assessments & Response	\$216.4
Governments (includes Litigation & Clean-up)	\$176.5
Exxon (Clean-up during 1991 and 1992)	\$39.9

Restoration, Research, and Monitoring (FY92 – FY21)	\$256.3
FY92 – FY20 Work Plans – Restoration Program Projects	\$250.0
FY21 Work Plan – Restoration Program Projects	\$6.3

Habitat Enhancement and Protection (FY92 – FY21)	\$478.9
FY03 – FY14 Koniag Conservation Easement	\$6.1
FY92 – FY20 Parcel Acquisitions	\$412.9
FY21 Parcel Acquisitions ²	\$0.0
FY12 – FY20 Habitat Enhancement Projects	\$29.4
FY21 Habitat Enhancement Projects ³	\$0.0
FY92 – FY20 Due Diligence & Trust Agency Habitat Support Activities	\$29.9
FY21 Due Diligence & Trust Agency Habitat Support Activities	\$0.5

Administration, Science Management, & Public Information (FY92 – FY21)	\$95.8
FY92 – FY20 Annual Budget ⁴	\$94.4
FY21 Annual Budget	\$1.4

Investment Trust Fund Balance (as of January 31, 2022)	\$192.5
Research Investment Sub-Account	\$100.5
Habitat Investment Sub-Account	\$92.0

¹ This value is the cumulative sum of interest (earnings and losses) and recoveries, minus fund management fees and adjustments, from the inception of the Investment Fund to January 31, 2022. Because sometimes investments incur losses, this value may be lower than the cumulative sum reported in the previous year.

² The Trustee Council authorized purchase of the Bookey Parcel (KEN 4018), but funding was not released in FY21.

³ The Trustee Council reauthorized project Habitat Enhancement Project 20180119 Outreach and Education (\$49,050 actual amount).

⁴ In FY92-15, the Annual Budget was titled "Annual Program Development and Implementation (APDI)"

Previously allocated, lapsed, unencumbered funds and any interest earnings on the joint trust funds are reallocated by the Council. This practice ensures the funds are spent efficiently, but also contributes somewhat to the ambiguity regarding spending totals, as it is difficult to track reallocations by line item within state and federal agency budget records. In the over 30 years of Council work, to date the Council has reallocated approximately \$50.4M.