

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – January 2026

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Brooke Taylor and the Information & Education Committee

Project number and name or topic: 3810 – Illustrated Prevention and Response System Outreach

1. **Description of agenda item:** The Board is being asked to accept the content developed through the project 3810 – Illustrated Prevention and Response System Outreach, by author and artist Tom Crestodina, so that staff may move forward with finalizing the materials for publication.

The content has been developed with extensive input from the Council's project team, as well as industry representatives from Alyeska/SERVS, Polar Tankers, and SWAPA. Input was also incorporated from International Bird Rescue (on the wildlife/deterrents content) and from Chugach Alaska Corporation (on GRS/cultural sites, which are significant to Alaska Native peoples).

Once this finalized content is accepted, staff will work to finish design and layouts for the outreach materials included under this project, then publish and/or print them. The main deliverable will be an illustrated book, providing an overview of what makes our prevention and response system one of the best in the world, and how we can keep it that way. Copies of the book will then be distributed to internal and external stakeholders, and to regional schools and libraries. The Council's Outreach Coordinator will also be provided materials for use at our booth, including posters of some of the vessel cutaway illustrations.

Tentative plans are underway for spring launch event(s). A budget modification was approved by the Board in December to add funds for the event(s), including possible travel expenses for Tom Crestodina to attend, venue rentals, and ordering additional paperback copies of the book for distribution at the event(s).

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Since the creation of the fishing vessel training outreach tour, the Council has had many conversations about how we can engage the public in ways similar to that project. This project has created artwork and text with author and artist Tom Crestodina for a book and other materials showcasing the oil spill prevention and response system in Prince William Sound.

This material is intended to be a tool to help get people interested/excited about prevention – showing how a day where nothing happens (no spills) is the result of extensive work, training, and technology. The deliverables from this project will help to educate new staff, volunteers, elected officials, and the public; pull people into our exhibitor booths; potentially expand youth involvement and lesson bank activities; and more.

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This project works to address elements of the Council's Strategic Plan by: promoting risk reduction measures, best available technologies, and best practices for oil spill prevention and response; maintaining and improving relationships and information sharing with key partners; engaging and educating the public, partners, and member entities; fostering public awareness, responsibility, and citizen participation in our work; and helping recruit and develop knowledgeable and committed volunteers and staff. It also addresses OPA 90 mandates to foster partnerships among industry, government, and local citizens; and to increase public awareness of Alyeska's oil spill prevention and response plans and capabilities, environmental protections capabilities, and the actual and potential environmental impacts of the terminal and tanker operations.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** None.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** None known.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** The Information and Education Committee will review the proposed content at its January 12 meeting and deliver its recommendation at the January Board meeting.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Work associated with this project was included in the FY2026 budget in the amount of \$35,720 and is being completed under contract 3810.24.01 in the amount of \$22,000.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Accept the content developed through the Illustrated Prevention and Response System Outreach Project, by author and illustrator Tom Crestodina, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract 3810.24.01, and for distribution to the public.
8. **Alternatives:** None.
9. **Attachments:** Draft content for the 3810 – Illustrated Prevention and Response System Outreach Project to be provided under separate cover.