

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council






Board of Directors Meeting May 2-3, 2024

Zoom link for meeting audio and presentations <https://pwsrccac.zoom.us/j/81186696249>

Or participate via teleconference: 1-888-788-0099 Meeting ID: 811 8669 6249



Final Agenda

Thursday, May 2, 2024

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 8:15 | A | Call to Order & Roll Call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome – President Robert Archibald • Introductions/Director reports on activities since the last meeting |
| 8:25 | B | 1-0 Approve Agenda |
| 8:30 | C | 4-1 PWSRCAC Director Appointments – Donna Schantz |
| 8:35 | D | 1-1 Approve Minutes of January 25-26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting 1-2 Approve Minutes of March 27, 2024, Special Board Meeting |
| 8:40 | E | Public Comment Period, limit five minutes per person |
| 9:00 | F | <u>Internal Opening Comments</u> <i>(Please limit to general information not contained in Agenda)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Committee Updates (TOEM, OSPR, POVTS, SAC, & IEC) • PWSRCAC Board Sub Committee Updates (Legislative, Governance, & Finance) |
| 9:45 |  | BREAK |
| 9:55 | G | <u>External Opening Comments</u> <i>(Please limit to general information not contained in Agenda)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWSRCAC Ex Officio Members • Trans Alaska Pipeline System Shippers, Owner Companies, and Pilots |
| 10:55 |  | BREAK |
| 11:05 | H | Alyeska / SERVS Activity Report |
| 12:00 |  | BREAK –lunch provided for those at the meeting |
| 1:00 | I | Alyeska / SERVS Activity Report, continued. |
| 1:15 | J | PWSRCAC Volunteer Recognition – Robert Archibald & Donna Schantz |
| 1:25 | K | Approval of FY2025 Budget – Ashlee Hamilton |
| 1:55 | L | <u>Consent Agenda</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-1 Approval of Resolution Designating PWSRCAC Check Signers 3-2 Approval of FY2025 Contingency Plan Contractor Pool 3-3 FY2025 LTEMP Contract Authorization 3-4 Marine Bird Fall and Early Winter Surveys Contract Authorization 3-5 Approval of PWSRCAC/Alyeska Contract Compliance Verification Report 3-6 Approval of Anchorage Office Lease Extension 3-7 Approval of FY2024 Budget Modifications |
| 2:00 | M | Presentation on the Pikka Project as it will relate to the Valdez Marine Terminal – Joe Balash and Tony Parkin of Santos |
| 2:25 |  | BREAK |
| 2:40 | N | Nomination of Officers & Executive Committee Members-at-Large |
| 2:50 | O | 4-2 Report Acceptance: 2023 Drill Monitoring Annual Report – Roy Robertson |
| 3:20 | P | 4-3 Update on Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force – Jeremy Robida |
| 3:50 | Q | 4-4 Approval of Council's One Page Strategic Plan – Donna Schantz |
| 4:20 | R | Executive Session to Discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-5 Technical Committee Member Appointment |
| 4:45 |  | RECESS |

Shaded Items Require Board Action

Friday, May 3, 2024

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 8:30 | A | Call to Order & Roll Call |
| 8:35 | B | Report on Executive Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-5 Technical Committee Member Appointment – Joe Lally |
| 8:40 | C | Election of Officers & Executive Committee Members-at-Large <i>(results to be announced after the morning break)</i> |
| 8:50 | D | 4-6 Federal & State Government Affairs Update – Joe Lally with Gene Therriault, Roy Jones, and Genevieve Cowan |
| 9:35 | E | 4-7 Community Outreach Annual Report – Maia Draper Reich |
| 10:05 |  | BREAK |
| 10:20 | F | 4-8 Resolution Requesting a Voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction by TAPS Tankers – Rick Steiner, Oasis Earth |
| 10:45 | G | 4-9 Annual Board Committee Appointments – Donna Schantz |
| 10:55 | H | Director of Finance's Report to the Board |
| 11:05 | I | Executive Director's Report to the Board |
| 11:20 | J | President's Report to the Board |
| 11:30 | K | Consideration of Consent Agenda Items |
| 11:40 | L | Closing Comments |
| 12:00 |  | ADJOURN -lunch provided for those at the meeting |

Shaded Items Require Board Action

Additional items provided for information only:

- PWSRCAC Name Roster *(Board Members only)*
- PWSRCAC Expense Reimbursement Form
- 2-1 List of Commonly Used Acronyms
- 2-2 Budget Status Report
- 2-3 Director Attendance Record
- 2-4 Committee Member Attendance Record
- 2-5 List of Board Committee Members
- 2-6 PWSRCAC One-Page Strategic Plan
- 2-7 List of Board and Executive Committee Actions
- 2-8 PWSRCAC Organizational Chart
- 5-1 May 2024 Program/Project Status Report

**PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 25 and 26, 2024
Anchorage, Alaska**

Members Present

| | |
|--|---|
| Robert Archibald | City of Homer |
| Amanda Bauer <i>(via videoconference)</i> | City of Valdez |
| Robert Beedle | Cordova District Fishermen United |
| Mike Bender | City of Whittier |
| Mike Brittain | City of Seward |
| Nick Crump | Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation |
| Ben Cutrell | Chugach Alaska Corporation |
| Wayne Donaldson | City of Kodiak |
| Mako Haggerty | Kenai Peninsula Borough |
| Luke Hasenbank | Alaska State Chamber of Commerce |
| Jim Herbert | Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition |
| Elijah Jackson <i>(1/25/24 only via videoconference)</i> | Kodiak Village Mayors Association |
| David Janka | City of Cordova |
| Melvin Malchoff | Port Graham Corporation |
| Dorothy Moore | City of Valdez |
| Bob Shavelson | Oil Spill Region Environmental Coalition |
| Angela Totemoff <i>(1/26/24 only)</i> | Tatitlek Corporation & Tatitlek Village IRA Council |
| Michael Vigil | Chenega Corporation & Chenega IRA Council |
| Aimee Williams | Kodiak Island Borough |
| Kirk Zinck | City of Seldovia |

Members Absent

(None)

Committee Members Present

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Steve Lewis <i>(via videoconference)</i> | POVTS Committee |
| Davin Holen | SA Committee |
| John Kennish <i>(via videoconference)</i> | SA Committee |
| Savannah Lewis <i>(via videoconference)</i> | IE Committee |
| Cathy Hart | IE Committee |
| Ruthie Knight | IE Committee |
| Matt Melton | OSPR Committee |

Staff Members Present

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Donna Schantz | Executive Director |
| Joe Lally | Director of Programs |
| Brooke Taylor | Director of Communications |

KJ Crawford
 Ashlee Hamilton
 Jennifer Fleming
 Danielle Verna
 Roy Robertson
 Linda Swiss
 Jeremy Robida
 Alan Sorum
 Amanda Johnson
 Sadie Blancaflor
 Maia Draper-Reich
 Nelli Vanderburg
 Hans Odegard
 Jaina Willahan

Director of Administration
 Director of Finance
 Executive Assistant
 Project Manager
 Project Manager
 Project Manager
 Project Manager
 Project Manager
 Project Manager
 Outreach Coordinator
 Project Manager Assistant
 IT Coordinator
 Office Coordinator

Ex Officio Members Present

Kara Kusche
 Lisa Fox *(via videoconference)*
 CDR Sarah Rousseau *(via videoconference)*
 Liza Sanden
 Tony Strupulis *(via videoconference)*
 Scott Pegau *(via videoconference)*
 Paul Degner *(via videoconference)*

Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 USCG MSU Valdez
 NOAA
 Bureau of Land Management
 Oil Spill Recovery Institute
 Bureau of Land Management

Others Present

Andres Morales
 Klint VanWingerden
 Weston Branshaw *(via videoconference)*
 Suzanne Cunningham *(via videoconference)*
 Mike Day
 Alyssa Sweet
 Diana Bouchard *(via videoconference)*
 Emma Pokon
 Ytamar Rodriguez
 Anna Carey *(via videoconference)*
 Graham Wood
 Teresa Melville
 Mollie Dunkin *(via videoconference)*
 Sonja Mishmash *(via videoconference)*
 Melissa Woodgate *(via videoconference)*
 Mo Radotich *(via videoconference)*
 CDR Chris Spencer *(via videoconference)*
 Steve Weeks *(via videoconference)*
 Chris Merten *(via videoconference)*
 Andrea West

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
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 Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
 USCG Sector Anchorage
 Bureau of Land Management
 Alaska Tanker Company
 Polar Tankers

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| Chris Peterson | Crowley Alaska Tankers |
| Mark Curtis | Crowley Alaska Tanker |
| Rob Kinnear <i>(via videoconference)</i> | Hilcorp |
| Marshall Blankenship | Hilcorp |
| Marc Bayer <i>(via videoconference)</i> | Marathon Petroleum |
| Joe Levesque <i>(via videoconference)</i> | Levesque Law Group |
| Billie Pirner Garde | Clifford & Garde, LLP |
| Charla Hughes | Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation |
| William Melton | Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation |
| Dennis Staley | U.S. Geological Survey |
| Haley Griffin <i>(via videoconference)</i> | Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC |
| Sierra Fletcher <i>(via videoconference)</i> | Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC |
| Brooke Mallory | Native Village of Eyak |
| Mead Treadwell | Treadwell Development |
| Bert Adams | Native Village of Eyak |
| Gene Therriault | PWSRCAC Legislative Monitor (State) |

Thursday, January 25, 2024

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council was held January 25 and 26, 2024, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska. President Robert Archibald called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. on January 25, 2024.

A roll call was taken. The following 17 Directors were present at the time of the roll call, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Archibald, Bauer (via teleconference), Beedle, Bender, Brittain, Cutrell, Donaldson, Haggerty, Hasenbank, Herbert, Jackson (via teleconference), Janka, Malchoff, Moore, Vigil, Williams, and Zinck. Nick Crump and Bob Shavelson joined the meeting in person at 8:40 a.m. and 9:10 a.m. respectively.

Introductions and Directors' reports followed.

1-0 AGENDA

President Archibald presented the agenda (green-colored sheet) for approval.

Michael Vigil **moved to approve the agenda** (green-colored sheet). Jim Herbert **seconded** and **the agenda was approved as presented.**

1-1 MINUTES

Ben Cutrell **moved to approve the minutes** of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of September 21 and 22, 2023, with a correction to the spelling of *Davin* Holen's name on the top of page 5, first paragraph of the SAC report. Robert Beedle **seconded** and the **minutes were approved with the correction.**

1-2 MINUTES

Jim Herbert moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of November 21, 2023. Robert Beedle seconded and the minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dennis Staley of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) informed the Council of a new USGS report on landslide hazards in Prince William Sound. The report identifies 43 new, slow moving landslides, 11 of which have the potential to enter the waters of the Sound. One such landslide is on Maynard Mountain in Whittier and another in Yale Arm in College Fjord (which is expected to be twice the size of the Barry Arm slide area). He said USGS's main concern is the tsunamigenic hazards that could be created by the slides that have the potential to reach the water. He will provide staff with the link to the report as well as the contact information of those USGS personnel who will be able to answer specific questions. He went on briefly to answer general landslide questions from the Board.

INTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS – PWSRCAC TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE (IEC)

Cathy Hart reported that the IEC had three regular meetings and one project team meeting since the Board met in September.

- **Youth Involvement.** IEC accepted four final reports from the following contractors as complete and meeting all deliverables: Prince William Sound Science Center, Copper River Watershed Project, Alaska Geographic, and Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies.

There are contracts underway with Alaska Marine Conservation Council, University of Alaska Anchorage, and Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. All four contracts are on track to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

The most recent Youth Involvement RFP received nine project proposals. A project team met and implemented the committee's updated scoring rubric to evaluate the proposals and come up with a recommendation for how to distribute the remaining fiscal year 2024 Youth Involvement funds. Based on the project team's recommendation, the committee voted to fund seven of the proposed projects.

- **Illustrated Prevention and Response System Outreach.** The contract with author and illustrator Tom Crestodina has been signed. A project team made up of Savannah Lewis, Ruthie Knight, and Kate Morse from IEC; Matt Melton and Robert Beedle from OSPR; Amanda Bauer from POVTS; and multiple staff members was formed to help with review and feedback on content and materials.
- **Community Outreach.** In November, POVTS member Max Mitchell, OSPR member Matt Melton, and Outreach Coordinator Maia Draper-Reich, took the Council's booth to Seattle for Pacific Marine Expo where they had the opportunity to share the Council's

mission and work with over 250 people. Staff have coordinated and participated in many additional outreach events, including presentations, office visits, guest lessons, and student interviews, which will all be covered during the Community Outreach Annual Report at the May Board meeting.

IEC is excited to continue supporting outreach efforts during a busy spring season, which will include upcoming events such as the Alaska Forum on the Environment, the Alaska Ocean Sciences Tsunami Bowl, ComFish, the International Oil Spill Conference, and the Prince William Sound Natural History Symposium.

- **Conferences.** Both IEC and the Executive Committee voted to approve travel for Cathy Hart and Kate Morse to attend the 2024 Nonprofit Technology Conference happening in March. Savannah Lewis will be attending the conference virtually. This conference teaches essential nonprofit technology best practices and helps establish connections with other like-minded non-profit organizations. Sessions have been informative and useful in previous years, and the committee is looking forward to the valuable takeaways from this year's event.
- **Web Presence BAT.** The Council's web contractor has been working with Project Manager Amanda Johnson to prepare the Council's websites for major technical updates and ensure a smooth transition with the new host.

TERMINAL OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING COMMITTEE (TOEM)

Chair Amanda Bauer reported on the TOEM Committee's updates since the last Board meeting.

- TOEM put out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a contractor to perform a review of the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) Title V Air Quality Permit renewal. It is unknown when the permit will be released for renewal and public comment, but the committee deemed it best to select a contractor who could be ready to start work as soon as the permit renewal is released. Two contractors responded to the RFQ and were evaluated by the TOEM Committee members. A contractor was selected following that process.
- At the September 2023 Board Meeting, the Council's Alyeska liaison, Andres Morales, committed to providing a schedule of responses to outstanding requests for information and responses to recommendations. On November 2, 2023, Alyeska transmitted their internal timeline for providing the Council with the information requests. All outstanding information to complete reports for Tank 94, Tank 7, and Tank 2 has been received.
- The committee received a presentation from Bill Mott of Taku Engineering on the "Review of the Ballast Water Tank 94 and Crude Storage Tank 7 Out-of-Service Inspection Reports" final report at the January 5, 2024 TOEM meeting. This report has been sent to Alyeska for their review and input, which Alyeska has indicated they intend to provide. The committee, with the support of Taku Engineering, will review and

address Alyeska's input once received. The final report will be presented at a future meeting of the Board for acceptance.

- The committee discussed Alyeska's proposal, as submitted to ADEC on September 27, 2023, to utilize the non-destructive testing method geoelectric leak location (GELL) to evaluate the integrity of the secondary containment liner at the VMT. The committee voted to recommend Board approval of additional funding to bring contractor Dr. Craig Benson to the Valdez Marine Terminal to observe the pilot testing and calibration of GELL this summer on the secondary containment liner installed at the West Tank Farm. On January 11, 2024, Executive Director Donna Schantz received verbal permission from Alyeska's Klint VanWingerden to allow Dr. Benson to observe the pilot testing/calibration.
- The Council transmitted Taku Engineering's Snow Vent Damage Report to Alyeska in October 2023, and received a response from Alyeska on October 25, 2023, requesting additional information on Taku Engineering's mass balance calculations and reasoning behind the lack of gaseous mixing in the headspace. The Council prepared and transmitted a letter in response on November 3, 2023, offering a meeting with Taku to present their calculations and reiterating the Council's ongoing requests for additional information to compare Taku Engineering's results with those of Alyeska's engineers and further refine the model. Taku Engineering is currently tasked with preparing for this presentation.
- The committee was provided updates on the snow removal efforts this winter to avoid excessive accumulation on the tank tops.

OIL SPILL PREVENTION & RESPONSE COMMITTEE (OSPR)

Chair Jim Herbert reported on the OSPR Committee's activities since the last Board meeting.

- The committee received updates on area and regional planning efforts for the Alaska Regional Contingency Plan, and the Prince William Sound, Arctic and Western Alaska, and Inland Alaska c-plans and area committees. These included:
 - Prince William Sound Shippers' major amendment replacing the Mineral Creek barge with OSRB-5 and changes to align the plan with planning regulations updated in 2023.
 - VMT Plan five-year renewal. This renewal also incorporates regulation changes. PWSRCAC comments were submitted in December. The Council's priority concern with this renewal is the integrity of the secondary containment liner. This issue will be addressed later during this Board meeting.
- The committee was updated on the status of the VMT secondary containment liner. Alyeska selected geoelectric leak location (GELL) as the method to evaluate the integrity of the buried secondary containment liner that will be used in Alyeska's pilot study. The pilot study will take place this summer in the West Tank Farm.

- The committee was kept apprised of staff participation in an ARRT-initiated Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force. The group is working to construct a job aid for liaison officers helping manage the RSC process and for RSC members themselves.
- The committee reviewed and accepted various drill reports.
- The committee was updated on various weather-related projects, including repair and maintenance on the Port Valdez weather buoys. Most recently, the weather buoy located off of Jackson Point broke free from its anchoring system and with the help of SERVS and Thane Miller, the buoy was retrieved, and the committee is contemplating what to do next. The committee was also updated on the non-operational Seal Rocks weather buoy, which stopped working, then broke free from its anchoring system and grounded on the outside of Montague Island. Staff wrote to the National Data Buoy Center and the response was that the buoy would not be repaired or replaced until at least spring of 2024.

Those interested in additional information on all of OSPR's projects were directed to Section 5 of the Board's meeting notebook.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

Chair Davin Holen thanked the staff and committee members for their efforts, with a particular acknowledgment to Dr. Danielle Verna for her valuable contributions to the committee's work. He went on to report on SAC's activities since the last Board meeting.

- **Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program (LTEMP)**. 2023 was an "expanded" LTEMP sampling year, where environmental samples were collected from Port Valdez as well as additional monitoring stations in Prince William Sound. Analytical results from the samples were received from various laboratories in the fall. Dr. Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants interpreted the data and drafted a summary report and technical supplement for SAC's review and comment. The final report will be presented to the Board at this meeting and SAC recommends its acceptance.
- **Marine Bird Survey**. The fourth year of winter marine bird surveys is scheduled to take place in March 2024. Staff from the Prince William Sound Science Center will conduct the survey on the same transects as last year, in and around the tanker escort lanes and Port Valdez. The goal of the study is to document variability of marine birds and mammals during the non-breeding season and perform a hot spot analysis of seasonal marine bird observations.
- **Marine Invasive Species**. The field work components of the broadscale invasive species survey in Prince William Sound last year went off without a hitch. Thanks to Board member Mike Bender and Lazy Otter Charters for their help transporting scientists and gear from Whittier to Cordova during the September gear retrieval. Results of the survey are expected later this year.

Staff will be recruiting invasive species monitoring interns in Valdez, Cordova, and Kodiak this spring. Anyone aware of an interested high school student was encouraged to contact Danielle Verna.

- **Science Night.** A successful Science Night took place on November 30, with four engaging speakers sharing updates on 30 years of LTEMP, forage fish in Prince William Sound, landslide hazards, and wildlife identification during spill events. All recordings are now available on PWSRCAC's website and YouTube page.
- **Herring Toxicity.** Dr. John Incardona recently joined a SAC meeting to share an update on several years of research on the toxic effects of oil on herring embryos. This project was financially supported by the Council through a multi-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Northwest Fisheries Science Center. Dr. Incardona's group recently published a paper on this topic and several more are in preparation.
- **Upcoming Conferences.** SAC member Roger Green will be attending the International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species in May 2024 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

SAC Chair Davin Holen and staff member Danielle Verna will be attending the International Oil Spill Conference to present a paper titled "Building Collaborative Social Science Research Models to Understand the Social, Cultural, and Economic Impacts of Spills" in May 2024, in New Orleans, LA.

PORT OPERATIONS AND VESSEL TRAFFIC SYSTEMS COMMITTEE (POVTS)

Chair Steve Lewis reported that the POVTS Committee consisted of five members at that time and would consider more volunteers to join them. He went on to report on the efforts of the committee since the last Board meeting:

- The committee continues to stay informed about the weather-based projects led by the OSPR Committee and on matters pertaining to the Port Valdez weather buoys.
- Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts (8520). The committee received the initial draft report for this project on December 30, 2023. The committee plans to meet in February to discuss the report and anticipates the Board will hear a presentation on this project/report at its May meeting.
- Vessel Operator Tsunami Hazards Guidance Workshop (8025). Staff and committee members are working with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, on this project, as well as a steering committee that includes representatives from the City of Valdez, Ground Truth Alaska, the Alaska Division of Natural Resources, and Alaska Pacific University. The workshop is scheduled to take place on June 3-4, 2024. A tentative agenda has been drafted and potential workshop presenters and participants have been identified.

Lewis commented that the new information from the USGS on potential landslide risks in Prince William Sound was disturbing. He encouraged people to attend the workshop to learn more on the topic.

Lewis stated that the breakaway NDBC weather buoys were a major concern to the POVTS Committee and they needed to get the Seal Rocks Buoy back in place, but he encouraged the Council to seriously consider options or alternatives to the obsolete technology of the current buoy, such as remote sensing and other new technologies which may provide better or more accurate information.

Lewis spoke of the danger of possible major disruptions to the world's oil supply and PWSRCAC's financial stability because of recent attacks on tankers in the Red Sea and the Ukraine/Russian oil supply infrastructure and other world events.

(This concluded the Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Technical Committees.)

INTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS – PWSRCAC BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES

BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (BGC)

Chair Luke Hasenbank reported on the activities of the Board Governance Committee (BGC) since the last Board meeting.

- The committee met twice since the September Board meeting. The full Board was invited to both BGC meetings to keep everyone informed on the progress being made to fill a recreation seat on the Council's Board.
 - At the September 2023 Board meeting, the Board supported the concept of a coalition of recreation entities to potentially fill a Class I Recreation seat on the PWSRCAC Board of Directors. The Board also granted authority for staff to engage PWSRCAC legal counsel in review of the draft Memorandum of Agreement, as presented by the newly formed Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition.
 - In November, BGC met to discuss the formal submission packet provided by the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition. BGC also reviewed supplemental documents requested by the BGC Project Team.
 - At the conclusion of the November meeting, BGC moved to recommend seating the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition as a Class I member. The issue was then passed to the Executive Committee for consideration and will be presented for full Board discussion during the Executive Session later in this agenda.
 - Should the recreation coalition be seated as a Class I member, BGC has identified the required bylaw modifications to facilitate this change. This information will also be presented during Executive Session.

Hasenbank thanked the committee, the BGC project team, and staff for their involvement throughout this ongoing process.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (LAC)

Chair Dorothy Moore reported 100% committee attendance at several meetings. She went on to report on committee activities since the last Board meeting and those going forward into 2024.

Activities Since the Last Board Meeting:

State:

- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Budget Deficit. The Council has been concerned with the long-term sustainability of the SPAR budget, which will go into deficit in FY2029, based on the latest Prevention Account projection. SB 137, introduced by Senator Giessel, which would have increased the refined fuels surcharge to 1.5 cents per gallon, failed to advance in the previous legislative session and has carried forward into the current session. As the 2024 session opened, HB 244, which also proposes to increase the refined fuels surcharge, was introduced by Representative Josephson. PWSRCAC and LAC continue to strongly support this legislation.

The Council is also concerned with the increasing level of personnel attrition from ADEC/SPAR and its potential impact on the agency's ability to conduct adequate regulatory oversight. The loss of institutional knowledge, technical experience, and expertise associated with personnel turnover is also a significant concern to LAC and the Council. PWSRCAC's State Legislative Monitor is working with the Council to identify the cause of increased attrition and determine how best to highlight the matter with the Legislature.

- PFAS Use, Regulation, and Testing (SB 67) – Senator Kiehl. This bill would have allowed the State Fire Marshal to determine an alternative safe and effective firefighting substance and adopt regulations requiring use of alternative non-PFAS-containing substances. As the 2023 legislative session neared its conclusion, the contents of SB 67 were inserted into another bill which passed the Legislature. Unfortunately, this legislation was vetoed by the Governor. Senator Kiehl's original bill is still "alive" in the legislative system, and he has initiated a dialogue with the Administration to determine if acceptable modifications are needed to avoid a future veto.

Federal:

- A major item of discussion was the recommendations from the PWSRCAC report "Assessment of Risks and Safety Culture at Alyeska's Valdez Marine Terminal" by Ms. Billie Garde, one of which was a request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) determine the adequacy of federal and state regulatory oversight of the Valdez Marine Terminal. The Council encouraged the Alaska Delegation to make this request to the GAO and the request was granted. The Council's Legislative Monitor

in Washington, D.C., has encouraged the Council to do some outreach to GAO to make sure the audit moves forward and to offer our assistance.

- The Council's Legislative Monitor in Washington, D.C., has also done some outreach with the Alaska Delegation staff regarding the Seal Rocks weather buoy, which stopped working in October and has since broken free from its mooring and grounded on Montague Island. The Council has done outreach to the U.S. Coast Guard, the Response Planning Group, and Alyeska/SERVS to support a request to the National Data Buoy Center to expedite the replacement of this weather buoy before spring 2024.

LAC Priorities Going Forward:

- The committee's top state legislative priority continues to be the sustainability of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Spill Prevention and Response Division's budget. The Council, through LAC and its state legislative monitor, watch the deliberations on the Governor's proposed status quo budget and will support legislation to increase the refined fuels surcharge that will provide a stable funding source for the SPAR Division in the future.
- LAC's top federal legislative priority continues to be following up and supporting the Alaska Congressional Delegation on their request to the GAO to determine the adequacy of federal and state regulatory oversight of the Valdez Marine Terminal.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (FC)

Treasurer Wayne Donaldson reported that the Finance Committee had met twice since the last full Board meeting in September. The draft FY2023 Audit Review and Audit Wrap Up Report were presented at the committee's meeting in November. The recent audit has concluded with an unqualified opinion, indicating a clean bill of financial health. The audit, conducted by BDO, thoroughly examined the organization's financial statements and internal controls. The positive outcome reflects the effectiveness of PWSRCAC's financial management practices and adherence to regulatory requirements. The Board approved the audit report at the Special Board meeting in November. It was confirmed that BDO will be filing our IRS Form 990 and, once filed, that will conclude PWSRCAC's relationship with BDO.

The committee continues to search for a new auditor and is hoping to finalize its selection at its next Finance Committee meeting in February. The November meeting also covered alternatives to holding the fall Board meeting in member communities.

The committee met again in January to discuss the proposed budget modifications that Director of Finance Ashlee Hamilton will speak to later in the agenda. The committee also discussed the potential of the Anchorage office move and will continue to have discussions at upcoming meetings. The staff is currently working with a broker to look at optional office space.

(This concluded the Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Board Subcommittees.)

Break: 9:43 a.m.-- 9:58 a.m.

EXTERNAL OPENING COMMENTS-- EX OFFICIOS

ALASKA DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (ADEC)

Kara Kusche reported for ADEC and outlined some recent personnel changes since the September Board meeting. In the Preparedness, Prevention & Response Division (PPR), Ytamar Rodriguez has been hired to replace Allison Natcher. ADEC's Central Region is fully staffed and five of those positions are located in the Valdez office. The PPR Division has been approved three new positions that will be senior level staff members, one of which will be assigned to the Central Region.

She reported no notable spills for the Central Region. However, there were other notable spills throughout the state.

Kusche went on to report on the following ADEC activities:

- Prince William Sound C-plan updates: The Prince William Sound Area C-plan is being moved into the new Area C-Plan architecture. Kuche thanked PWSRCAC for its continued support in this regard.
- A review of major amendments to Prince William Sound tanker plans is underway to incorporate the new lightering barge OSRB-5 into the Prince William Sound tanker c-plans, and staff are continuing to complete tanker inspections for tankers that call at the VMT.
- The SPAR Division launched online spill reporting in 2023 which allows users to report oil and other hazardous substance releases via their smart phone, tablet, or computer. No login is required and the process can be started offline and then completed and submitted once the user is on wi-fi or the internet. Reports of spills that meet ADEC's immediate reporting thresholds still need to be called in directly to ADEC's Regional Response Teams, but the app will prompt a user to do that if needed. When online spill reports are received by ADEC, they are verified by staff and automatically migrated into ADEC's spills database.
- Two regulation updates:
 - Regulated facilities in Alaska are required to have the financial ability to respond to an oil spill of the response planning standard volume. The adoption of the updated financial responsibility regulations became effective on October 1, 2023. The dollar amounts of proof of financial responsibility were adjusted in accordance with changes in the CPI for Anchorage. The update also removed some requirements for how certain documents must be signed, allowing for electronic submissions.

- Adoption of the repeal of Class II above-ground storage tank registration requirements. (These are facilities that store non-crude oil in above-ground storage tanks and have storage capacity of over 1,000 gals but less than 420,000 gals.) The repeal became effective October 18, 2023.
- The SPAR Division held an open house in October to inform the public as to the SPAR Division's role and work.
- In November, staff conducted a web IAP training, internally, which included approximately 60 SPAR employees. Staff is now better equipped to use that software in the event of a spill.
- Upcoming events:
 - A Prince William Sound Area Plan tabletop drill is scheduled for March 13, focusing on a vessel that overturns in Jack Bay with over 1,000 gallons of oil and hazardous materials onboard.
 - The Valdez team is planning to participate in the Valdez portion of Alaska X which will simulate a 9.2 earthquake in Southcentral Alaska.
 - The Valdez team is coordinating a VMT exercise with Alyeska on May 8.

In response to questions from Jim Herbert about how the department was filling engineering positions, Kusche reported that the Integrity & Engineering unit currently contains three positions (a supervisor and two staff). One of the engineers recently retired and another moved out of state. Recruitment has been opened statewide.

She will find out and report back to the Board on whether ADEC Valdez personnel will be invited to observe the secondary containment liner pilot testing in the VMT West Tank Farm this summer.

Bob Shavelson asked how ADEC's change in emphasis in its oversight role from compliance to compliance assistance will work. Kuche explained that compliance is still the agency's primary goal but compliance assistance is the term used internally when the agency is exercising its base level of being helpful. She emphasized that the agency is not doing less enforcement; rather, personnel are encouraged to be extra thoughtful and conscientious to provide that compliance assistance, as that is the easiest and quickest way to achieve compliance.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)

CDR Sarah Rousseau (via videoconference) reported on USCG activities since the September Board meeting. She spoke of the great cooperation among various units and port partners and entities in Port Valdez over the previous months. First, was the buoy that broke loose at the VMT. She received the call from PWSRCAC and that immediately set in motion retrieval activities. She gave kudos to the fishing vessel King Fisher (Thane Miller) for assistance with the retrieval. She also thanked everyone for the assistance on the Seal Rocks buoy, in getting

information passed up the line and the coordination with various agencies so NOAA so can advocate for that buoy.

She spoke of the new Coast Guard Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance Work Instruction (CVC WI-032) requiring additional inspection requirements on vessels of opportunity and oil spill response vessels. The new instruction differentiates between vessels of opportunity and oil spill response vessels, and it does disproportionately affect the Prince William Sound area, especially with SERVS and all the vessels of opportunity that are in the c-plans. Rousseau reported that MSU Valdez is well aware of those impacts and is working with District 17 and Sector Anchorage, and they in turn are working with USCG Headquarters and Congressional Affairs offices to determine the full impact, and how they can implement or not implement WI-032. Rousseau reported that District 17's instruction at this time is not to implement until they receive further guidance. District 17 has already looked at three potential options:

1. Implement WI-032 without any changes. It would decimate shallow water recovery options, etc.
2. Implement WI-032 as written, but grandfather in those vessels already signed on as vessels of opportunity or oil spill response vessels.
3. Develop a work group to figure out how to implement and how long it would take to implement.

Rousseau reported that District 17 has contacted USCG Headquarters about the potential effects of WI-032, and the unintended consequences of it to Prince William Sound. District 17 is still waiting to hear back from USCG Headquarters.

CDR Rousseau then took miscellaneous questions from the Board:

Jim Herbert asked if USCG mandates the Edison Chouest vessels to go out to look at the weather situation at Seal Rocks now that the buoy is not operating. Rousseau responded that USCG can ask them to go out but does not have the authority to mandate them to do so, and as the Captain of the Port her concern is for life and safety, and she would not want to put another mariner's team in jeopardy by going out to look at that. She also stated that she would make decisions *[about vessel transits at Hinchinbrook Entrance]* based on policies and procedures USCG already has that have served them well in the past and continue to serve them now with the equipment and information that they have. She stated that they do ask SERVS to go out as a voluntary measure and SERVS has the ability to comply or decline, and she trusts the professionalism of those SERVS credentialed mariners if they say it is too dangerous or unsafe to go out. She also added that MSU Valdez would go directly to NOAA for information at Seal Rocks and get spot reports. NOAA is able to give USCG good information from sources other than the Seal Rocks buoy and USCG is able to monitor their own sources and cameras as well.

Herbert also asked CDR Rousseau whether she thought a suggested OSPR project, looking retrospectively at whether the Windy data [available online or through an app] corresponded well with the numbers that were being produced before the loss of the Seal Rocks buoy, would

be a worthy project. CDR Rousseau stated that anything that adds more information and provides additional context is a good idea.

Lewis specifically asked CDR Rousseau if the captain of the standby escort tug based at Port Etches were to report that conditions were too dangerous to go out, would she close the Entrance. CDR Rousseau stated that her/USCG's decision would not be based on someone else's information. There are policies and procedures that USCG uses to make that decision regardless of the users in the waterway. It may be something she/USCG would take into consideration for context, but it is not something on which she would base the decision by itself. Lewis said his concern is that there could be a scenario where an inbound laden tanker is attempting to come in and the Port Etches vessel refuses to do the escort based on the captain's assessment of inclement conditions.

Alyeska's Andres Morales clarified that there is not a scenario where a tanker gets underway and an escort vessel opts out of the escort duties, emphasizing that escorts and attending tugs do not opt out of the escort process because they are concerned about weather. It is not feasible.

Dave Janka asked about the inspection process for foreign flagged vessels (FFVs) coming into the VMT. CDR Rousseau explained that all vessels inbound to the Valdez Captain of the Port (COTP) zone are required to file a notice of arrival prior to arriving and have their current certificate of inspection. FFVs get exams annually; they are not considered inspections. They are just as stringent, but because they are foreign flagged and are overseen by the flag state where they come from the USCG is a backup to make sure they are in compliance with the flag state from whence they came. There are no foreign flag inspectors in Alaska, but all FFVs coming into Alaska COTP zones have been examined by another port in the US and signed off. If Valdez has a concern, the COTP can still go on board and make sure that all the documentation and certificates are in order, but that is all part of the notice of arrival process (i.e., checking to see that their documents are uploaded into their system) and they check them before the vessel arrives.

Nick Crump raised the issue of some unintended consequences under WI-032 for his uninspected commercial fishing vessel in Valdez that is in the Tier I fishing vessel response fleet with SERVS. He had heard that in order to become an inspected vessel he may be required to replace the stainless steel fuel line piping to copper, as well as other issues. CDR Rousseau emphasized that that is precisely the kind of information USCG needs to hear to communicate with District 17 and Headquarters about the difficulties the new regulations could potentially present to the fishing vessel response fleet to come into compliance, as well as other unintended consequences or difficulties.

Bob Shavelson raised an issue regarding two vessels in Cook Inlet that had sought safe haven from weather in the Inlet but did not have pilots on board. CDR Rousseau explained that pilotage requirements are state law requirements. There are no federal laws regarding pilotage and USCG has no authority to enforce them. Rousseau also pointed out the *force majeure*,

freedom of navigation, and other laws of the sea that apply worldwide to vessels seeking safe haven could come into play.

In response to a question from Wayne Donaldson about risks encountered between tankers and fishing vessels in the transit lanes and whether MSU Valdez has enough resources to ensure safe passage of tankers, CDR Rousseau stated that there was an issue that came up during the summer months and USCG applied additional measures and resources. They noticed that things went more smoothly when there was a greater USCG presence during fishing openers, etc., and USCG is trying to crack down on people not using their radios, which is a violation, and they need to make sure they are aware of the surroundings, etc.

Mike Bender asked if USCG would consider contracting with someone in Cordova to retrieve the Seal Rocks buoy which broke loose and went adrift on December 22, 2023, and was last tracked to Montague Island (unless it was recently recovered). CDR Rousseau stated that USCG would work with someone if the buoy was a danger to navigation, but it is a NOAA buoy and is the responsibility of NOAA.

In response to a question from Robert Archibald as to whether other areas of the country were having the same concerns as Alaska to the WI-032 requirements for vessels of opportunity and whether they were speaking up as forcefully as Alaskans, CDR Rousseau stated that she did not think they have the same issues. She also suggested that when the Work Instruction was written they did not understand the full impact it would have, particularly on Alaska. Other Coast Guard Districts have far more capabilities, and they do not have to deal with the difficulties of distance, fewer people, and fewer resources covering a much larger area, and they do not have the same concerns impacting them in the same way.

ALASKA DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ADNR)

Tony Strupulis, State Pipeline Coordinator for the ADNR Division of Oil & Gas, reported (via videoconference) that they had a couple of key vacancies in their division (i.e., an engineer and an operations manager). (Their operations manager who came from ADEC originally had gone back to ADEC.) He had no other updates to share but would be available for answer questions during the meeting.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

Paul Degner reported that Dave Mushovic had been selected as the permanent Authorized Officer for the agency.

Following the early heavy snowfall and recent wind events in Valdez, BLM personnel had been working to jointly monitor snow removal activities from the tank farms with ADEC to ensure that the updated snow removal plan is being implemented.

BLM personnel attended the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique training and the equipment deployment at the VMT in October, and then in December they did their annual review of the c-plan updates. BLM personnel continue to participate in exercise planning meetings and the VMT Coordination Workgroup, as well as reviewing quarterly exercise packages.

Degner reported on Alyeska's Alaska Native hire compliance in the absence of Eileen Oliver and reported that for the last quarter of 2023 there were three contractors who were on corrective plans, however the overall compliance for Alyeska's contractors as a whole is 25.5% Alaska Native hire which meets the goal of 20%. Alyeska is reporting 26% for a combined TAPS workforce of 23.3%. Oliver has been working with Alyeska and their contractors on their implementation plans and they have been submitted to Alyeska. BLM expects Alyeska to share those plans by the end of January.

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

Liza Sanden explained her position in the Office of Response & Restoration of NOAA. The Office of Response & Restoration supports two divisions: the Emergency Response Division and the Disaster Preparedness Division. They are currently tracking the same incidents that ADEC is tracking and in particular is looking at the dangers of lithium ion batteries when they fail.

NOAA is also looking at updating the Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps of Alaska. Some of the maps go back to the 1980s, and NOAA is also looking at its capabilities for remote sensing data.

Sanden also explained that she is the NOAA point of contact for USCG for pollution responses for any scientific and technical support for all hazards. The services her office provides is often the fate and trajectory of oil on water, atmospheric plume modeling, chemical hazard assessments, coordinating with the National Weather Service for their spot forecasts, and coordinating with the Ocean Predicting Center, etc.

Sanden explained some of the dangers of failed lithium-ion batteries.

ALASKA DEPT. OF FISH AND GAME (ADF&G)

(No report)

OIL SPILL RECOVERY INSTITUTE (OSRI)

(No report.)

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

(No report.)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (DOI)

(No report.)

ALASKA DEPT. OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (ADHSEM)

(No report.)

U.S. FOREST SERVICE (USFS)

(No report.)

(This concluded the External Opening Comments of PWSRCAC's Ex Officio Members)

EXTERNAL COMMENTS – TAPS SHIPPERS, OWNER COMPANIES, AND PILOTS

POLAR TANKERS

Andrea West reported Polar Tankers successfully completed 99 loads in 2023 with 73.5 million barrels shipped without incident. The Polar Discovery completed its regulatory drydock in December and it was also the last Polar tanker to get its ballast water treatment system installed.

Polar is planning an officers' conference in March 2024, in Houston, and its bridge resource management course in the fall.

The Polar Enterprise and the Polar Adventure will be going out for their regular shipyard maintenance in 2024.

West gave an overview of some of the upgrades and enhancements Polar has made, including onboard improvements to its vessels to attract and retain its shipboard personnel, such as adding updated gyms with all new equipment, new entertainment systems to their lounges, improved wi-fi connections, completely rewritten its steward's manuals to improve the quality of food on board using chefs, and being proactive in recruiting from trade schools.

Steve Lewis asked how Polar is dealing with attrition of senior officers and generally whether Polar's individual pay rates are competitive. West stated that attrition in the senior officers was less of a problem than the lower level positions. As to the pay scale, she noted that Polar has two in-house unions, one for officers and one for unlicensed crews, and Polar renegotiates their contracts and has a good working relationship with both unions.

HILCORP

Rob Kinnear (via videoconference) recapped Hilcorp's 2023 activities and gave a look forward to 2024.

He reported 56.3 million barrels loaded with no incidents in 2023. There were no spot charters in 2023.

Looking forward to 2024, there are a couple of contractual changes that will affect Hilcorp's marine activity in Valdez. Some commercial contracts have expired and as a result the amount of volume that Hilcorp will be moving through Valdez is going to decline as much as 15-20%. As a result, Hilcorp has restructured its long-term charter fleet from three ships to two going forward. Hilcorp will still have the Alaskan Navigator and the Alaskan Legend on long-term charter through Alaska Tanker Company (ATC), but the Alaskan Explorer is now off-hire from Hilcorp. Kinnear said that Hilcorp expects that the vast majority of their volume will continue to move to the West Coast of the U.S. through the time charter activity with potentially one to three foreign flagged spot charters coming up throughout the year, depending on needs of the business.

Mike Brittain asked if Kinnear/Hilcorp had any projections in the increase in shipping when the Willow Project comes online. Kinnear pointed out that most of the larger projects are outside Hilcorp production area. Hilcorp does have a new pad going in at Milne Point at the Raven Pad which is expected to increase production and throughput by approximately 10,000 barrels/day, so within Hilcorp's portfolio they are continuing to sustain and grow production incrementally through things like the Raven Pad.

CROWLEY ALASKA TANKERS (CAT)

Mark Curtis and Chris Peterson reported on the activities of Crowley Alaska Tankers (CAT) since the last Board meeting.

Mark Curtis addressed the absence of Angelina Fuschetto, who joined Alyeska/SERVS since the Board's last meeting in September. Curtis stated that he is filling in some of the responsibilities of Fuschetto while they find a replacement. Her position at CAT has been advertised.

Curtis reported that the tankers California and Washington transported 27,489,000 barrels safely and without incident in 2023. Both ships are due for their drydocks in 2024 and it was anticipated they would go to Singapore for that work.

Chris Peterson reported that both ships are operating well and crew staffing for senior officers is good. It is a union shop – they have eight unions companywide – two of which are on the California and the Washington. Senior officer positions are sought after because it is a Quality Ship, the steadiness of the run, and the amenities on board the vessel. CAT sees the same issues as the other shippers in the junior officer ranks and it has also taken a number of steps to address pay, schedules, and life-on-board amenities.

On other news generally, Peterson reported that CAT is involved in offshore wind development and will soon take delivery of an LNG bunker barge.

Peterson reported that the joint venture with Seabulk Tankers (to be known as Fairwater) is undergoing regulatory review and the transition will take time. Meanwhile, the two entities will continue to operate as separate entities and there should be no implications to Alaska's operations and trade.

ALASKA TANKER COMPANY (ATC)

Chris Merten (via videoconference) reported that 2023 was a very good year for ATC. They performed 56 loads spread across the Explorer, the Navigator, and the Legend, totaling 56.2 million barrels, and no lost time injuries, zero spills to sea, and zero losses of containment, all while carrying out two large shipyards.

For 2024, the fleet profile for the Alaska trade has changed, with the Navigator and the Legend staying on charter with Hilcorp, and the Explorer trading on the East Coast.

Merten reported that ATC was not seeing too many issues with staffing. ATC has good pay scales, but they do see some issues in the junior and the unlicensed ranks, etc. ATC has upgraded its vessels and made improvements on board and is working with the academies to help with recruitment.

Steve Lewis asked Merten about an issue raised by Sam Norton of OSG (*ATC's parent company*) about using licensed foreign merchant mariners to sail U.S. flagged vessels. Merten said it was his understanding of Norton's comment that the intention was not to have foreign licensed mariners sailing U.S. flagged vessels, but rather to have a targeted immigration program where those with maritime backgrounds, skills, and/or licenses could get a path to a green card and then become licensed in the U.S. He emphasized that if one does the math regarding the future merchant marine workforce there will be a shortage even if every person currently in U.S. training programs were eventually to become licensed and stay in the industry.

MARATHON PETROLEUM

Marc Bayer reported via videoconference that Marathon Petroleum was currently operating seven ships bringing crude oil into Kenai, loading in Valdez. Four of them are Marathon ships (the Ohio, the West Virginia, the Louisiana, and the Texas,), then the American Endurance operated by Crowley Alaska Tankers on a time charter, and the Oregon and the Washington make occasional trips in as well.

He reported that Marathon had been operating 12 years in Cook Inlet with zero spills to water and had moved over 300 million barrels companywide this year with zero spills to water.

He echoed similar comments from the other Shipper representatives about improvements and upgrades to life-on-board systems for the crew. Marathon is also seeing a deficit of people coming into the workforce and is working with the academies to encourage people to come into the fleet. Marathon is also working to encourage a more diverse workforce, such as sponsoring a women's leadership conference. They also offer internships and cadet shipping on their ships.

On October 26, 2023, Marathon held its pre-winter meeting in Seward with ice training at AVTEC.

The only big project Marathon has going on with its ships at the present time is working on meeting the California Resources Board rules for electrification in California.

(This concluded the External Opening Comments of TAPS Shippers, Owner Companies, and Pilots.)

ALYESKA/SERVS ACTIVITY REPORT

Andres Morales, Alyeska's Emergency Preparedness and Response Director gave Alyeska/SERVS' activity report for the 2023 calendar year.

VMT Operations:

- Operations: *(As of 12/31/2023)*

| | <u>2023</u> |
|--------------------|-------------|
| ○ Tankers Loaded | 216 |
| ○ Tankers Escorted | 219 |
| ○ Barrels Loaded | 164,365,514 |

| | <u>Since start up</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ○ Tankers Loaded | 23,502 |
| ○ Tankers Escorted | 17,824** |
| ○ Barrels Loaded | 17,952,122,363 |

** Verbally corrected by Morales from the slide in his Power Point presentation

- Safety: *(As of 12/31/2023)*

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| ○ Days away from work cases | 0 |
| ○ TAPS Combined Recordable Rate % | 0.24 |

- Environment (Valdez): *(As of 12/31/2023)*

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| ○ Spill Volume (Gallons) | 258.3 |
| ○ Number of Spills | 12 |

Fishing Vessel Availability by Port (end of 4Q 2023):

| <u>Port</u> | <u>Tier 1</u> | <u>Tier 2</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Valdez | 24 | 11 |
| Cordova | 26 (8 Rapid Resp.) | 99 |
| Whittier | 7 | 16 |
| Seward | | 26 |
| Homer | | 45 |
| Kodiak | | 40 |
| Totals | 65 | 237 |

2023 4th Quarter Contingency Plan Activities:

- Support Shippers on PWS C-Plan Amendment RFAI response.
- VMT C-Plan renewal submitted on 10/20/2023.
 - Anticipated RFAI's Mid-March.

2023 4th Quarter Training & Exercises Completed

- 10/3 SCAT Training.
- 10/4 Unannounced IMT Notification Exercise.
- 10/4 VMT Functional Exercise.
- 10/6 Emergency Tow and Tether Exercise.
- 10/9 IWR Wildlife Training.
- 10/27 VMT On Land Tactics.
- 11/16 Valdez Rapid Response Vessel Exercise.

- 12/13 Unannounced Personnel Decon Exercise.
- 12/28 Unannounced Q1 Notification Exercise (After Hours).

2024 Valdez Major Maintenance:

- 2024 BWT Triennial Inspection & Repair A Header & Berth 5.
- Berth 5 Foam System Transition.
- VMT Excavation and Direct Inspection of VMT Relief Line.
- ILL of A & B Header.
- External Coating of Tank 54-TK-3 and 54-TK-4 (VMT-Crude).
- 500-2 Refurbishment.

OSRB-5 and Allison Creek Replacement

- Coming into the system in 2024.

President Archibald thanked Alyeska/SERVS for their assistance in retrieving the Council's weather buoy located off of Jackson Point in the vicinity of the VMT and asked Morales to pass on those thanks to the SERVS crews.

Alyeska's Klint VanWingerden gave an update of other VMT issues: the Process Safety Management (PSM) Audit, the Billie Garde report, status of snow removal, current status of Tank 8, and the tank bottom fire.

- PSM audit: It has been finalized and the final report has been received by Alyeska with recommendations, and Alyeska is actioning those recommendations. VanWingerden gave a brief overview of those recommendations and Alyeska's actions taken or being taken.
- Billie Garde report: The items that Alyeska could take action on immediately have been completed and he outlined those items briefly. Other things are long term and will be incorporated into Alyeska's Maintenance Action Plan (MAP).
- Snow removal: Alyeska has actioned the snow removal plan on the snowfall of the previous month. It worked well.
- Status of Tank 8: It has been cleaned and isolated from Alyeska's process, and it is safe to stay in that state until a decision is made whether it will be returned to service or remain permanently out of service.
- Tank Bottom Processing Fire: Since his report at the September Board meeting the investigation of the tank bottom fire has been finalized and the lessons learned have been shared with leadership.

With regard to the upcoming geoelectric leak location testing and the involvement of PWSRCAC's contractor, Dr. Benson, VanWingerden stated that Alyeska welcomes Dr. Benson's

observation, pilot calibration, and the testing, and wants there to be confidence in the technology to be used. He noted that Alyeska is on track to get it done this year.

Billie Garde asked VanWingerden if Alyeska had done all 14 elements of the PSM audit or only five and were there any repeat findings. VanWingerden responded that Alyeska followed the OSHA practice for PSM standards and evaluated all 14. He stated that the documentation side has been a headwind for Alyeska for a while and it continues to be something they battle. VanWingerden also clarified that some of the cultural attributes are now incorporated into the new mindsets.

In response to a follow-up from Garde about the timing of another open work environment assessment, VanWingerden stated that a recent survey had been sent out by Alyeska's president John Kurz looking for feedback, but VanWingerden did not know when another open work environment survey would be conducted.

Lunch Break: 12:23 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PRESENTATION BY ALASKA TANKER COMPANY ON UPGRADES/CHANGES TO ITS ALASKA FLEET

Chris Merten, gave a presentation on Alaska Tanker Company's upgrades and changes to its Alaska TAPS fleet.

(This was an information-only item. No action was requested of the Board.)

4-1 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: 2022-2023 LONG TERM ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM (LTEMP)

PWSRCAC Project Manager Dr. Danielle Verna introduced two reports for Board acceptance on the Council's LTEMP program by contractor Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc. The first report titled "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022-2023 Summary Report" was accompanied by a technical supplement report, both provided data and results from the 2022 and 2023 sampling excursions in Port Valdez and Prince William Sound for the Council's LTEMP program, now in its 30th year.

Dr. Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resources, the principal researcher, presented her summary of the data and results of the sampling analyses by a pre-recorded video which was played for the Council.

A briefing sheet and the report were included in the meeting notebook under Item 4-1.

Mako Haggerty **moved to accept** the reports titled "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Summary Report" and "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Technical Supplement" by Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc., both dated December 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 951.24.04, and for distribution to the public. Mike Bender **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

4-2 APPROVAL OF FY2024 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Director of Finance Ashlee Hamilton introduced the FY2024 budget modifications for Board approval. The budget figures were included on a sheet provided as an attachment to Item 4-2 in the meeting notebook.

Robert Beedle **moved to approve** the FY2024 budget modifications as listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$111,654. Jim Herbert **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

CONSENT AGENDA

3-1, 3-2

There were two items on the consent agenda (3-2 and 3-3):

Mako Haggerty **moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.** Dave Janka **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

- **3-1 CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR AIR QUALITY MONITORING AT THE VMT**
Authorization of a contract with Ron Sahu, Ph.D., in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to conduct work related to VMT Title V air quality permit review and associated air quality issues under project 5570 - Valdez Air Quality.
- **3-2 APPROVAL OF FY2024 CONTRACT WITH TAKU ENGINEERING FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT**
Authorization of a contract increase with Taku Engineering in the amount of \$21,720, for a new not-to-exceed total of \$46,720, to provide engineering support related to Alyeska's request for information on the oxygen content of the head spaces of the VMT crude oil storage tanks.

4-3 2023 VMT C-PLAN RENEWAL & APPROVAL OF C-PLAN CONTRACT INCREASE

Project Manager Linda Swiss briefed the Board on the renewal of Alyeska's Valdez Marine Terminal C-Plan (VMT C-Plan) and presented a request for additional funding for contingency planning. The VMT C-Plan was approved in November 2019, for a period of five years, and will expire in November 2024.

As reported by Swiss, Alyeska submitted the VMT C-Plan renewal to ADEC for a sufficiency review on October 20, 2023, followed by a 45-day public review. PWSRCAC's comments were submitted to ADEC on December 15, 2023. Highlights of those comments were included in the 4-3 briefing sheet in this meeting's notebook. PWSRCAC's submittal contained 47 comments and requests for additional information (RFAs). PWSRCAC's areas of concern are secondary containment and prevention credits, crude oil storage tank inspections, prevention training, and documents incorporated by reference.

- **Secondary Containment.** Based on documented damage to the catalytically blown asphalt (CBA) secondary containment liner by Alyeska contractors, PWSRCAC questions whether Alyeska should receive a 60% prevention credit they currently receive for this prevention measure. Visual inspection of the liner conducted between 2014-2017 demonstrated significant existing damage, thus rendering the liner ineligible for the full 60% prevention credit. Additional testing of the liner needs to be conducted to verify its integrity and whether the liner meets the “sufficiently impermeable” regulatory requirement.
- The significance of the 60% prevention credit is that Alyeska is able to plan and commit resources (including personnel and equipment) for a significantly smaller spill than they would if the credit was not given. Having adequate resources is critical in the event of a spill.
- **Crude Oil Storage Tank Inspections.** Due to the questionable integrity of the secondary containment liner, the age of crude oil storage tanks, and sensitivity of the local environment, PWSRCAC advocates that ADEC use its discretion to impose a maximum of 10 years between internal inspections on tanks.
- **Prevention Training.** The VMT C-Plan lacks details to verify compliance with state regulations.
- **Documents Incorporated by Reference.** The VMT C-Plan incorporates more than 70 documents by reference. Information from these documents that may not be available to the public for review is used to satisfy state and federal requirements.

A general discussion followed the presentation.

Bob Shavelson commented that from a public policy standpoint it makes no sense to give a credit to someone (Alyeska) for something (“sufficiently impermeable liner”) they are already legally required to do, and he urged the Board to think about whether it wanted to push for some change to that part of the regulation because it is basically rewarding Alyeska for something they are required to do anyway. He said that the CBA liner at the VMT is fraught with problems.

Mike Brittain said the tank farm scares him and pointed out that there appears to be more attention paid to the tankers and the VMT than the tanks and the tank farm at the VMT, and the tanks are currently the biggest liability. In his opinion, there should be more frequent inspections of the tanks, not less.

Jim Herbert pointed out that this is the first time the VMT C-Plan is being reviewed and evaluated under the new regulations that came into being under the 2023 Article 4 revisions.

Jim Herbert **moved** to delegate authority to the Executive Director to negotiate contract increases with selected contingency plan review contractors at a cost not to exceed \$90,000 for

Project 6510: State Contingency Plan Reviews for FY2024. Dave Janka **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

Break: 2:33 p.m. - 2:47 p.m.

PRESENTATION ON THE HOPE SPOT DESIGNATION FOR PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Jim Herbert introduced Dr. Charla Hughes of the Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation who made a presentation on the Hope Spot designation nomination for Prince William Sound.

Hope Spots areas are special places that are scientifically identified as critical to the health of the ocean, such as:

- A special abundance or diversity of species, unusual or representative species, habitats or ecosystems.
- Particular populations of rare, threatened or endemic species.
- A site with potential to reverse damage from negative human impacts.
- The presence of natural processes such as major migration corridors or spawning grounds.
- Significant historical, cultural or spiritual values,
- Particular economic importance to the community.

Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

(This was an information-only item. No action was requested of the Board.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was noticed on the agenda to discuss the following:

- 4-4 Consideration of Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition as Class I Member.
- 4-7 Federal Government Affairs Monitor Contract Approval.
- Annual Review: Executive Director job description and performance goals.

Dorothy Moore **moved to go into executive session** to discuss the items noted. Ben Cutrell **seconded** and the **motion passed** by unanimous consent.

The following were asked to join the Board in executive session: Legal counsel Joe Levesque, Executive Director Donna Schantz, Director of Programs Joe Lally, Director of Communications Brooke Taylor, Director of Administration KJ Crawford, Director of Finance Ashlee Hamilton, Executive Assistant Jennifer Fleming, and IT Coordinator/Project Manager Assistant Hans Odegard.

Recess: The open meeting recessed at 2:22 p.m. to reconvene the following day.

Friday, January 26, 2024

CALL BACK TO ORDER

President Archibald called the meeting back to order at 8:15 a.m. on January 26, 2024. A roll call was taken. There were 19 Directors present at the time of the call back to order: Archibald, Bauer (via videoconference), Beedle, Bender, Brittain, Crump, Cutrell, Donaldson, Haggerty, Hasenbank, Herbert, Janka, Malchoff, Moore, Shavelson, Totemoff, Vigil, Williams, Zinck.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Archibald reported that the Board had discussed the items in executive session as noticed on the agenda. Archibald reported that as to the annual review of the Executive Director's job description and performance goals, the Board discussed but made no changes. As to the remaining items discussed in executive session, the Board was ready to take action:

- **4-4 CONSIDERATION OF THE OIL SPILL REGION RECREATIONAL COALITION AS CLASS I MEMBER.**

Robert Archibald passed the gavel to Vice President Bauer while the Board dealt with potential conflicts of interest with this agenda item.

As outlined in the briefing sheet (4-4) the proposed coalition to become the Class I Recreation seat on the Council (to be known as the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition), consists of the Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation (PWSSF), the Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park (FKBSP), and the Valdez Adventure Alliance (VAA). Those Board members who had connections to the proposed members of the coalition asked for a ruling from the Chair as to any potential conflict of interest that may preclude their participation in this agenda item.

Robert Archibald stated that he held a Board position with PWSSF. Vice President Bauer stated that as a volunteer with the PWSSF and PWSRCAC, he gained no financial interest from his involvement in either organization; therefore, there was no conflict of interest with the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition. Hearing no objection, she returned the gavel to Archibald to chair the remainder of the meeting.

Jim Herbert declared a potential conflict as a member of PWSSF and also currently in the Temporary Recreation Seat on PWSRCAC. President Archibald stated that, after discussing this issue with legal counsel, it was determined that Herbert gained no financial benefit from his connection to PWSSF or his Recreation seat on PWSRCAC, and therefore Herbert had no conflict of interest with the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition.

Mako Haggerty declared that he was on the Board of the Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park. Archibald ruled that Haggerty had no conflict of interest with the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition by virtue of his connection to FKBSP.

This concluded the declared conflicts of interest. The Board moved on to the action requested which was to approve the bylaw amendment to remove the Temporary Recreation Seat and add the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition to the list of PWSRCAC Class I members.

Dorothy Moore **moved to approve the proposed amendment to Section 2.2.1 of the PWSRCAC Bylaws** to remove the Temporary Recreation Seat and add the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition to the list of Class I members. Robert Beedle **seconded**. A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Archibald | Yes. |
| Bauer | Yes. |
| Beedle | Yes. |
| Bender | Yes. |
| Brittain | Yes. |
| Crump | Yes. |
| Cutrell | Yes. |
| Donaldson | Yes. |
| Haggerty | Yes. |
| Hasenbank | Yes. |
| Herbert | Yes. |
| Janka | Yes. |
| Malchoff | Yes. |
| Moore | Yes. |
| Shavelson | Yes. |
| Totemoff | Yes. |
| Vigil | Yes. |
| Williams | Yes. |
| Zinck | Yes. |

The **motion passed** unanimously 19 in favor, none opposed (**2/3rds vote**).

The Board next took up the issue of whether to add a definition of “recreation” as an amendment to the Bylaws as outlined in the 4-7 briefing sheet.

Dave Janka **moved to approve the proposed amendment to the Bylaws** to include listing the definition of recreation as developed by the Board Governance Committee in the footnotes on page 2 of Attachment A. Michael Vigil **seconded**. A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Archibald | Yes. |
| Bauer | No. |
| Beedle | Yes. |
| Bender | Yes. |
| Brittain | Yes. |

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Crump | Yes. |
| Cutrell | Yes. |
| Donaldson | Yes. |
| Haggerty | Yes. |
| Hasenbank | Yes. |
| Herbert | Yes. |
| Janka | Yes. |
| Malchoff | Yes. |
| Moore | Yes. |
| Shavelson | Yes. |
| Totemoff | Yes. |
| Vigil | Yes. |
| Williams | Yes. |
| Zinck | Yes. |

The **motion passed** 18 in favor, one opposed (**2/3rds vote**).

- **4-5 PWSRCAC DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT FOR THE OIL SPILL REGION RECREATIONAL COALITION**

The last action requested of the Board related to the creation of the Class I Recreation seat was to appoint/seat a representative of the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition to the PWSRCAC Board.

Robert Beedle **moved to appoint** Jim Herbert as the representative of the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition with a term set to expire at the May 2025 annual meeting. Mike Bender **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

- **4-7 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MONITOR CONTRACT APPROVAL**

The last action to be taken by the Board from the executive session discussion was the Federal Legislative Monitor contract.

Robert Beedle **moved to approve** a contract with Blank Rome to work with PWSRCAC's Federal Legislative Monitor Roy Jones and the Legislative Affairs Committee, under project 4440 Federal Governmental Affairs, in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for FY2024. Mako Haggerty **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

(This concluded the executive session report and related actions taken.)

INTRODUCTION & DISCUSSION WITH ADEC COMMISSIONER-DESIGNEE EMMA POKON

ADEC Commissioner-designee Emma Pokon introduced herself to the Council and gave a brief overview of her background and experience.

She outlined some recent department staff changes: Kristina Carpenter is now Deputy Commissioner; Teresa Melville is Acting Director of the SPAR Division, replacing Director Tiffany

Larson; and Graham Wood had returned to the SPAR Prevention, Preparedness & Response (PPR) Division.

Pokon addressed the Council's ongoing concerns about adequate staffing at ADEC to do its work and specifically in the SPAR PPR Division. She stated she is comfortable with the resources the program has right now. She believes there has been a commitment that if and when the department needs additional resources, they will be brought forward. There are currently plans to add three additional positions into the PPR Division and they are in process at the present time.

She stated SPAR will continue its focus on training and will continue to ensure that there is at least 37.5 hours of training/person/year. They are actively managing turnover as best they can. ADEC has put a focus on filling vacancies as promptly as possible and getting new staff trained as soon as possible.

Following her opening remarks, Commissioner Pokon listened to comments and answered questions from the Board.

President Archibald commented that PWSRCAC and ADEC are "partners" in the common goal of safe transportation of oil from the VMT, but PWSRCAC is also a "squeaky wheel" because PWSRCAC recognizes that a weak ADEC cannot do its job. He emphasized that PWSRCAC will not hesitate to go to legislators to advocate for ADEC and SPAR on issues the Council sees as important. Pokon said the department appreciates that support.

Bob Shavelson asked if Pokon considered it is sound public policy to have prevention credits under state law for something that is already required under federal law. Pokon responded that those prevention credits are already in statute and current regulations, but if staff brought forward recommendations to seek changes, she would consider that in full balance of the pros and cons. If citizens brought forward that recommendation, she would also need to hear from her team as well. Shavelson said he hoped that PWSRCAC could have that conversation with ADEC because if one looks at the public policy surrounding those prevention credits, it does not make sense that if one is required to do something by statute one then gets rewarded for fulfilling that requirement.

Jim Herbert asked Pokon to elaborate on diversification of SPAR funding and her position on the refined fuels surcharge which PWSRCAC has been advocating for as a way to stabilize the funding of SPAR into the future.

As to the department's funding stability, Pokon stated that she likes the combination of funding from the UGF as well as from the SPAR 470 Fund and is not concerned about continued funding from UGF funds in the future. In response to a follow-up from Herbert, Pokon stated that \$1.78 million in funding is coming into SPAR from the UGF and she did not see the proposed increase in the refined fuel surcharge as necessary for SPAR at that time and did not support proposals to do so. Also, in response to a direct question from Herbert about whether ADEC would actively oppose such proposals, Pokon stated that Gov. Dunleavy is focused on affordability for

all Alaskans and that increase would affect everybody at a time when there is deep concern about inflationary pressures and the affordability of living in Alaska. Herbert stated that he hoped as the current legislative session progressed that the will of the Legislature would nudge Pokon to a more positive direction on this.

Dorothy Moore said she favored having dedicated funding sources, such as a savings account that the SPAR Division could rely on into the future, noting that in the next budget cycle UGF could simply be taken away.

Michael Vigil asked if ADEC would be the agency doing any remediation of the lingering oil in Prince William Sound from the EVOS. Pokon stated that while lingering oil is known to be present in the soils and sediments, science seems to suggest that trying to remove it could do more harm than good, so there are no current plans to do any more remediation/cleanup of EVOS oil. Vigil listed several other contaminated sites leaching manmade pollutants in Prince William Sound that need cleanup attention. Pokon said she would pass the information along to ADEC's contaminated sites team. Vigil offered to provide his assistance or additional information ADEC may need to address the sites he mentioned.

Wayne Donaldson emphasized to Pokon that the City of Kodiak/Kodiak Island's economy is strongly reliant on commercial fishing. The value of the commercial fishery averages \$1 billion/year and employs 15,000+ seafood workers. The EVOS disaster impacted commercial fishing for years in Kodiak. He emphasized that commercial fishing is a high dollar value to Alaska, just like oil, and PWSRCAC is trying to protect that, as well as sport fishing and other pursuits, with the information and comments it provides to ADEC.

Herbert asked what ADEC is doing to attract and retain more engineers. She said the governor has focused on more accommodations for state employees, such as childcare and telecommuting accommodations. She said she appreciated Herbert raising the issue as to the engineering staff and she would look into that. Herbert echoed Robert Archibald's comment earlier about PWSRCAC and ADEC pushing for the same goal, and that PWSRCAC has paid for many studies and particularly engineering studies that ADEC can roll into its own information and work. Pokon thanked the Council for the work that it does and for providing good information to ADEC.

Bob Shavelson asked Pokon if she would continue to advocate for UGF funds for SPAR going forward, emphasizing that in the Council's view a financially stable SPAR Division is vital to ADEC's statutory obligations. Pokon said she would advocate for continuation of UGF funding for SPAR, even though the 470 Fund would still be solvent for a few years without the UGF, but she recognized that without it ADEC would be back to making some hard budgeting decisions.

Dave Janka said he was pleased to see ADEC's report on lingering oil in Prince William Sound. He commented that there is still a lot of it out there, and until that report came out most agencies and industry had ignored the evidence. He hoped ADEC would have open communication with the communities nearby who are still seeing the effects of lingering oil on their communities and their way of life. Pokon added that on more positive news ADEC has

made it a priority to press the federal government to address contaminated sites that were transferred to Alaska Native corporations as part of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and has filed suit against the federal government to address the issue. She reported that ADEC has received court determination that those sites were not fully remediated by the federal government prior to transfer. Sen. Lisa Murkowski's office is assisting with these issues, the result of which is that some federal resources were forthcoming, but not nearly enough to cover the problem, but there is potentially more money on the horizon to deal with it.

Department of the Interior (DOI)'s Lisa Fox stated that DOI takes the lead on the federal coordination on those contaminated sites programs and she can provide additional information for those who request it. It is an all-federal effort and there will be a DOI report issued in February to the Alaska Statement of Cooperation Group on the ANCSA federal contaminated sites issue and the federal government's progress during the past year.

President Archibald spoke of the importance of ADEC preserving the institutional knowledge of its employees by having new or younger employees overlapping and working with seasoned/long-term employees. As the infrastructure gets older and people retire from the agency, important institutional knowledge or historical context will be lost, and while ADEC's emergency response activities have been quiet for some time, the agency needs to be able to pick up and run with it in an instant if an incident such as an oil spill should occur.

Archibald thanked Ms. Pokon for coming to the Council and being willing to engage with the Board.

(This was an information-only item. No action was requested of the Board.)

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK PRESENTATION ON SHEPARD POINT MARINE TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION OIL SPILL & MARINE CASUALTY RESPONSE FACILITY

Mead Treadwell of Treadwell Development and a consultant to the Native Village of Eyak (NVE) introduced Brook Mallory, Chair of the NVE Council, and Bert Adams, Project Manager for the NVE who presented the Board with an overview of the Shepard Point Marine Tribal Transportation Oil Spill & Marine Casualty Response Facility to expand marine response capabilities in Alaska.

The request to PWSRCAC at this time was for the Council to keep an open mind to the advantages of the Shepard Point Facility and its capability to add to the current SERVS model currently operating in Prince William Sound, by enhancing and improving safety, improving coverage outside the Sound, at Shepard Point, Kodiak, Aleutians, etc., and containing costs.

(This was an information-only item. No action was requested of the Board.)

Break: 10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

4-6 APPROVAL OF PWSRCAC LONG RANGE PLAN FOR 2025-2029

Director of Administration KJ Crawford introduced the Council's 2025-2029 Long Range Plan (LRP) for approval. An LRP workshop was held the previous day (January 24, 2024) at which time the draft plan was discussed and a recommendation was developed for Board approval.

Dorothy Moore **moved to approve** the Five-Year Long Range Plan for Fiscal Years 2025–2029, as developed and finalized for consideration by the Board at the January 24, 2024 Long Range Plan work session. Michael Vigil **seconded** and the **motion passed** without objection.

EVOS/PWSRCAC LEGACY PROJECT

Director Bob Shavelson spoke of the importance and uniqueness of the Council, and as it approaches its 35th anniversary he said he felt an obligation to honor and commemorate its legacy in some way so that it is not lost in the future. He thanked staff for trying to put together his original concept of bringing together the founders for a roundtable discussion on the formation and success of this unique organization based on citizen involvement that has yet to be duplicated anywhere in the country, but logistical challenges and timing did not make it possible at this time. He would like to see the idea of a series of roundtable discussions of citizen involvement in resource protection into the future explored further as part of the Council's public outreach. He said his goal in bringing this up was to plant the seed that the Council start looking forward rather than always looking backward.

A general discussion followed on citizen responsibilities, rights and advocacy, and how citizens can engage for protection of their public resources, and how to preserve the Council's files and historical information after the shutdown of TAPS and the sunsetting of PWSRCAC as a citizens' oversight organization.

(This was an information-only item. No action was requested of the Board.)

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Director of Finance Ashlee Hamilton reported the following issues:

- Issues with the new payroll system have been resolved.
- The search for a new financial audit firm continues and the Finance Committee is in the process of evaluating three proposals. It is hoped that a decision will be made by the Board's May meeting.
- The IRS Form 990 has gone through the final review stage with accountants BDO and a draft is ready for staff review. A final detailed review is likely to take place at the February Finance Committee meeting with a recommendation of acceptance at the May meeting.
- Sage Intacct is working exceptionally well as the organization's accounting platform. The 1099 process was smooth and all documents were filed/mailed to the intended recipients.

- She is actively working on the FY2025 budget. While there may be some format changes, all information will remain consistent and presented in a refreshed way.
- In light of the upcoming expiration of the Anchorage office lease, staff is actively exploring new lease space for the Anchorage office.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD.

A written Executive Director's Report by Donna Schantz was previously distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting as well as a lay-down at the table. Schantz thanked the Board for its attention to those items and for its continued support of staff and the items it brings forward to the Board. She highlighted a few of the items in her report that were of particular importance:

- Alyeska is making significant progress on PWSRCAC's outstanding requests for information. She recognized Alyeska's Alyssa Sweet who had been helping with this task. Schantz commented that the progress seemed to reflect a change in focus in Alyeska's leadership under President John Kurz and there seemed to be a positive step in the right direction.
- She noted the following upcoming significant dates in the Council's history: February 8, 2024, will mark 34 years since signing of the contract with Alyeska creating the Council and citizen involvement; March 24, 2024, will mark 35 years since the EVOS; and August 18, 2024, will mark 34 years since the passage of OPA 90. She also pointed out that the people she talks to about the Council are surprised that the Council's contract with Alyeska predated the passage of OPA 90, and in all likelihood led to the inclusion of the provision in the Act of "an alternative voluntary advisory group in lieu of council" (which is the provision under which PWSRCAC falls) because PWSRCAC already existed in contract prior to passage of OPA 90.
- There has been 35 years without a major oil spill from the VMT or tankers in PWSRCAC's region, 34 years of citizen involvement, and the Council. Both presently involved and those who served in the past should be proud of all the improvements that have been made over the years since the EVOS.
- She commented on the importance of recognizing the regulatory agencies and industry when progress is made. There are good people in the regulatory agencies and industry working to keep oil in the pipe. There are no limits to what PWSRCAC can ask for, whereas agency personnel are limited to what they can do under the regulations of their agency and what they are directed to do by their leadership. She emphasized that one can never reduce risk to zero, but that is why PWSRCAC always asks for the maximum risk reduction and is always striving for improvements to the system.
- Staff changes: Project Manager Alan Sorum had resigned after nearly 13 years with the organization. He has agreed to continue on in a part-time capacity until his position can be filled. At the request of staff and starting with this meeting, she will report staff

longevity major milestones: Director of Programs Joe Lally (5 years), Project Manager Assistant Nelli Vanderburg (10 years), Public Communications Project Manager Amanda Johnson (15 years), Contingency Plan Project Manager Linda Swiss (20 years), and this summer would see her 25th year with the Council. She noted the great team of staff that carries out the Council's work, and she thanked all the Board and committee volunteers who support the Council's mission and staff.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

President Archibald spoke of his experience in 1989, as he learned of a tanker (Exxon Valdez) that had gone aground on Bligh Reef and the lack of preparedness of any of the communities or response organizations to deal with the emergency as the enormity of it became apparent; and how he and a small crew worked to stop the oil that was coming down the outer coast towards Kachemak Bay by building a log boom commandeered from a lumber ship bound for Japan that was sitting in Kachemak Bay. He noted that the log boom worked and that sometimes the ingenuity of people can help solve a problem.

He noted that disasters can happen at any time, like the recent fire on board a ship carrying lithium batteries near Dutch Harbor which, while serious, could have been far worse. He agreed with CDR Rousseau's earlier comment that there is nothing truly safe in the marine industry because Mother Nature will throw out a curve ball when one least expects it, especially if one is unprepared.

He thanked Jim Herbert, the BGC Committee members, and staff who worked hard to resolve the recreation seat issue.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(None.)

CLOSING COMMENTS

Directors were given the opportunity to make closing comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, and hearing no objections, **the meeting was adjourned** at 11:46 a.m.

Secretary

**Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council
Special Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2024**

Members Present: Robert Archibald, Amanda Bauer, Robert Beedle, Mike Bender, Nick Crump, Ben Cutrell, Wayne Donaldson, Mako Haggerty, Jim Herbert, Dave Janka, Dorothy Moore, Bob Shavelson, Angela Totemoff, Michael Vigil, Aimee Williams, Kirk Zinck

Members Absent: Mike Brittain, Luke Hasenbank, Elijah Jackson, Melvin Malchoff

Staff Present: Jennifer Fleming, Donna Schantz, Joe Lally, Ashlee Hamilton, Brooke Taylor, Nelli Vanderburg

Others Present: Lisa Fox (DOI)

Call to Order

President Archibald called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A roll call was taken. The following 15 directors were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Archibald, Bauer, Beedle, Bender, Crump, Cutrell, Donaldson, Haggerty, Herbert, Janka, Moore, Shavelson, Totemoff, Vigil, and Zinck.

Approve Agenda

Herbert moved to approve the agenda as presented. Moore seconded. Archibald asked for amendments/objections; hearing none, the agenda was approved as presented.

Public & Opening Comments

Archibald asked for opening comments; there were none.

Approval of Out-of-State Travel to Washington, DC for Legislative Visits

Lally explained that the Board is asked to approve out-of-state travel for Directors [Dorothy Moore](#) and [Robert Beedle](#) to travel to Washington, D.C., to participate in the 2024 legislative visits. If approved, staff members Donna Schantz and Joe Lally will also be attending. The Legislative Affairs Committee discussed this upcoming trip at its March 14, 2024 meeting, and endorse sending this group of four. Funding for this travel is in the approved FY2024 budget.

Vigil moved to approve out-of-state travel for Directors Dorothy Moore and Robert Beedle to conduct annual legislative outreach visits in Washington, D.C., May 6-10, 2024, in the approximate amount of \$5,114, per traveler. Zinck seconded. Archibald asked for discussion/objection; hearing none, the travel was approved.

Approval of In-State Travel to Valdez for Tsunami Workshop

Lally explained that staff is seeking Board approval of in-state travel to Valdez for Directors [Robert Archibald](#), [Jim Herbert](#), and [Dave Janka](#), along with POVTS member [Max Mitchell](#) to attend the upcoming Tsunami Workshop being held June 3-4, 2024. Council travel policies state that Board members may undertake and be reimbursed for in-state travel for conventions and symposiums offered to all Board members. While this opportunity was offered to all volunteers, it was not budgeted for in the approved FY2024 budget. Therefore, staff is seeking Board approval of this travel and corresponding budget transfer in the amount of \$9,300.

Moore moved to approve in-state travel for Robert Archibald, Jim Herbert, Dave Janka, and Max Mitchell to attend the Tsunami Workshop in Valdez, June 3-4, 2024, in an approximate amount of \$2,325 per traveler; and approve a budget modification adding \$9,300 to project 8025 from the contingency fund for this travel. Bender seconded. Archibald asked for discussion/objection; hearing none, the travel was approved.

White Paper Acceptance – Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts

Lally explained that staff and the POVTS Committee are seeking Board acceptance of the draft white paper titled "[Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts](#)" by Dr. Nicole Ziegler of Sky Island Language Research, LLC. This white paper, a literature review on the topic, is the first phase of the project deliverable as outlined in contract 8520. It establishes the causes and contributing factors of maritime miscommunication by reviewing and synthesizing previous research. Its findings demonstrate that despite various actions to improve instruction and reduce miscommunication accidents due to miscommunication are increasing, underscoring the need for further research.

Lally explained that it is important to note that, if accepted, this literature review will not immediately be placed on PWSRCAC website as Dr. Ziegler will seek publication in an industry journal. Dr. Ziegler expressed concern with this preliminary work being reproduced by one of her competitors. Cutrell asked if it was standard practice to hold off on sharing our report publicly and if we do wait, how long until we can share the information. Lally responded that Dr. Ziegler will get the work completed as quickly as possible on the publication. He added that while not common, it is not the first time we have held off on making a report immediately available to the public.

Beedle stated that it was hard to read for a communication report. Is she working on the final report? When will it be available? Lally stated she is working on Phase 2, but it will not be ready for the May 2024 Board meeting deadline.

Totemoff asked who the target audience for this report would be. Lally anticipates that once phase two is completed, the Council will share it with SWAPA, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Response Planning Group, and the regulatory agencies that are involved in decision making for foreign flagged tankers transiting in our region.

Aimee Williams joined the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Beedle moved to accept the white paper titled "Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts" by Dr. Nicole Ziegler as meeting phase one of contract 8520.23.01 and allow Dr. Ziegler to seek professional publication of the paper. Herbert seconded. Archibald asked for objection; hearing none, the white paper is approved.

Approval of IRS Form 990

Hamilton explained that staff and the Finance Committee are seeking Board acceptance of the [draft IRS Form 990 for the 2023 fiscal year](#). Because of its tax-exempt status, PWSRCAC is required to submit a Form 990 annually, which provides financial and other information to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Once submitted, the Form 990 becomes public information. Failure to file the form in a timely and accurate manner may result in the loss of PWSRCAC's tax-exempt status. The Finance Committee reviewed the draft IRS Form 990 for FY2023 in detail at its February 7, 2024 meeting and recommends Board approval.

Herbert moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign the Form 990 on behalf of PWSRCAC and submit it to the IRS on or before May 15, 2024. Haggerty seconded. Archibald asked for discussion or objection; hearing none, the IRS Form 990 was accepted.

Information item - Draft One-Page Strategic Plan Update

Schantz explained that the purpose of this information item was to update the Board on the progress made to the draft one-page strategic plan before it's brought to the Board for approval in May. Schantz reminded the group that at the January 2024 Strategic Planning Workshop, contractor Agnew::Beck presented and reviewed the proposed revisions to the Council's one-page strategic plan. In response to those changes, the Board recommended standing up a Strategic Planning Committee to review the changes and bring a final version of the plan to the Board for approval. The Strategic Planning Committee and staff have met and drafted a [streamlined one-page strategic plan](#), which includes components from the original one-page strategic plan as well as revisions from Agnew::Beck. Schantz added that staff and the Strategic Planning Committee are comfortable with the revisions made so far, and wanted to bring this updated draft version before the Board to update them on the progress. She noted additional refinements may be made to the plan before it is brought to the Board for approval in May. Schantz added that this is an opportunity for Board members not on the Strategic Planning Committee to weigh in on the plan and the amendments made thus far, or to volunteer to join the committee to help refine this further.

Herbert, a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, explained that from his perspective, the product that was delivered from Agnew::Beck at the January Board meeting was incomplete. He felt their one-page plan included some new ideas as a result of the workshop in September, but his personal perspective was to blend the new ideas with the foundation we already had. He believes this new product achieves that.

Archibald asked if anyone had any other thoughts or comments on the streamlined one-page strategic plan. Hearing none, staff will continue working with the committee to refine the plan and bring it to the Board in May for approval.

Executive Session to deliver Executive Director annual evaluation

Cutrell moved to go into executive session to discuss and deliver the Executive Director's annual evaluation. Moore seconded.

The Board entered into executive session at 11:05 a.m. The executive session ended at 12:15 p.m.

Report on Executive Session

Archibald reported that the results of the Executive Director's evaluation survey were reviewed and discussed, and that Schantz received a very favorable evaluation.

Totemoff moved to extend the Executive Director's contract for one year and authorized a one-time bonus of \$2,500. Williams seconded. Archibald asked for discussion.

Totemoff thanked Schantz for her leadership for the Council adding she sets the bar very high moving the mission of the Council forward.

Archibald asked for objection; hearing none, the action was approved.

Closing Comments

Archibald asked for closing comments. There were none.

Adjourn

Cutrell moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.



PWSRCAC Acronym List Updated December, 2023

| | |
|------------------|--|
| AAC | Alaska Administrative Code |
| ABS | American Bureau of Shipping |
| ACMP | Alaska Coastal Management Program |
| ACS | Alaska Clean Seas |
| ADEC | Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation |
| ADF&G | Alaska Department of Fish and Game |
| ADNR | Alaska Department of Natural Resources |
| AIMS | Alaska Incident Management System |
| AKOSH | Alaska Occupational Safety and Health |
| AMOP | Arctic & Marine Oil Spill Program (Technical Seminar) |
| ANS | Alaska North Slope or Aquatic Nuisance Species |
| ANSTF | Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force |
| ANWR | Arctic National Wildlife Reserve |
| AOOS | Alaska Ocean Observing System |
| API | American Petroleum Institute |
| APSC | Alyeska Pipeline Service Company |
| ARRT | Alaska Regional Response Team |
| AS | Alaska Statute |
| ATC | Alaska Tanker Company |
| ATOM | Alyeska Tactical Oil Spill Model |
| AVTEC | Alaska Institute of Technology (formerly Alaska Vocational Technical Center) |
| BAT | Best Available Technology |
| BBL | Barrel (42 Gallons = 1 bbl) |
| BGC | Board Governance Committee (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| BTEX | Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene |
| BLM | U.S. Bureau of Land Management |
| BOO | Barge of Opportunity |
| BMPP | Best Management Practices Plan |
| BP | British Petroleum or bollard pull |
| BTT | Biological Treatment Tanks |
| BWT(F) | Ballast Water Treatment (Facility), Alyeska |
| C-Plan | Contingency Plan |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| CAA | Clean Air Act |
| CAOS | Coastal Alaska Observing System |
| CDFU | Cordova District Fishermen United |
| CERCLA | Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| CIP | Community Impacts Planning |
| CIRCAC | Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council |
| CISPRI | Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response, Incorporated |
| CMT | Crisis Management Team |
| COA | Condition of Approval |
| COSRS | Community Oil Spill Response System |
| COTP | Captain of the Port (USCG) |
| CWA | Clean Water Act |
| DAF | Dissolved Air Flotation |
| DEIS | Draft Environmental Impact Statement |
| DES | Division of Emergency Services |
| DMR | Discharge Monitoring Report |
| DNV | Det Norske Veritas – Norwegian Quality Assurance consultant |
| DOI | U.S. Department of the Interior |
| DOT | U.S. Department of Transportation |
| DPS | Dynamic Positioning System |
| DR&R | Dismantling, Removal and Restoration |
| DTTS | Disabled Tanker Towing Study |
| DWT | Deadweight ton |
| ECO | Edison Chouest Offshore |
| ECP | Employee Concern Program |
| EIA | Environment Impact Assessment |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Statement |
| EOC | Emergency Operations Center |
| EPA | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| EPPR | Emergency Prevention Preparedness and Response |
| ERB | Emergency Response Building |
| ERP | Emergency Response Plan |
| ERV | Emergency Response Vessel |
| ETA Tool | Ecological Tradeoff Assessment Tool |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| ETT | Enhanced Tractor Tug |
| EVOS | Exxon Valdez Oil Spill |
| EVOSTC | Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustees Council |
| FBU | Fairbanks Business Unit, Alyeska |
| FLIR | Forward-looking infrared |
| FOIA | Freedom of Information Act |
| FOSC | Federal On-Scene Coordinator |
| FV | Fishing Vessel |
| FWPca | Federal Water Pollution Prevention and Control Act |
| GAO | U.S. Government Accountability Office aka General Accounting Office |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GOA | Gulf of Alaska |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| GRS | Geographical Response Strategies |
| HAPs | Hazardous Air Pollutants |
| HAZWOPER | Hazardous Waste Operation and Emergency Response |
| HERO | Hinchinbrook Entrance Response Options |
| HIRD | Harassment, Intimidation, Retaliation, Discrimination |
| HOPs | Hydrocarbon Oxidation Products |
| IAP | Incident Action Plan |
| IAP2 | International Association of Public Participation |
| ICCOPR | Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research |
| IC | Incident Command |
| ICS | Incident Command System |
| IEC | Information & Education Committee (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| IMO | International Maritime Organization |
| IMT | Incident Management Team |
| IOSC | International Oil Spill Conference |
| IPL | Independent Protection Layers |
| IRIC | Initial Response Incident Commander |
| ISAC | Invasive Species Advisory Committee |
| IWWS | Industrial Waste Water System |
| JIC | Joint Information Center |
| JPO | Joint Pipeline Office |
| KPIs | Key Performance Indicators |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| KYP | Keeping you Posted (Alyeska Internal Communication) |
| LEPC | Local Emergency Planning Committee |
| LAC | Legislative Affairs Committee (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| LDAR | Leak Detection and Repair |
| LIO | Legislative Information Office |
| LOSC | Local On-Scene Coordinator |
| LRP | Long Range Plan |
| LTEMP | Long Term Environmental Monitoring Project |
| MAC | Multi-stakeholder Agency Committee |
| MEPC | Marine Environmental Protection Committee (IMO) |
| MIS | Marine Invasive Species |
| MMS | U.S. Minerals Management Service |
| MOA | Memorandum of Agreement |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MSO | Marine Safety Office |
| MSDS | Material Safety Data Sheets |
| MSU | Marine Safety Unit |
| NDBC | National Data Buoy Center |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NESHAP-OLD | National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants – Organic Liquid Distribution |
| NIIMS | National Interagency Incident Management System |
| NIS | Non-Indigenous Species |
| NISA | National Invasive Species Act |
| NOAA | National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration |
| NOBOB | No Ballast on Board |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| NPREP | National Preparedness & Response Exercise Program |
| NRDA | Natural Resource Damage Assessment |
| NSF | National Science Foundation |
| NTSB | U.S. National Transportation Safety Board |
| NWS | National Weather Service |
| OCC | Operations Control Center |
| OHMSETT | Oil and Hazardous Materials Simulate Environmental Test Tank |
| OMS | Oil Movements and Storage |
| OPA 90 | Oil Pollution Act of 1990 |

| | |
|----------------|---|
| OSC | On-Scene Coordinator |
| OSHA | U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration |
| OSLTF | Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund |
| OSRB | Oil Spill Response Barge |
| OSPR | Oil Spill Prevention and Response Committee (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| OSREC | Oil Spill Region Environmental Coalition |
| OSRI | Oil Spill Recovery Institute |
| OSRL | Oil Spill Response Limited |
| OSRO | Oil Spill Response Organization(s) |
| OSRV | Oil Spill Response Vessel |
| OWE | Open Work Environment |
| PAH | Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon |
| PHA | Process Hazard Analyses |
| PHMSA | U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration |
| PM | Preventative Maintenance |
| PMCR | Preventative Maintenance Change Request |
| POD | Physical Oceanography Data |
| POVTS | Port Operations and Vessel Traffic System (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| PPE | Personal Protective Equipment |
| PRAC | Primary Response Action Contractor |
| PRT | Prevention and Response Tug |
| PS | Pump Station |
| PSM | Process Safety Management |
| PV | Power Vapor |
| PWS | Prince William Sound |
| PWSAC | Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation |
| PWSC | Prince William Sound College |
| PWSEDD | Prince William Sound Economic Development District |
| PWSRAS | Prince William Sound Risk Assessment Study |
| PWSRCAC | Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council |
| PWSSC | Prince William Sound Science Center |
| PWSTA | Prince William Sound Tanker Association |
| RC | Response Center or Response Coordinator (SERVS) |
| RCAC | Regional Citizens' Advisory Council |
| RCM | Reliability Centered Maintenance |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| RFAI | Request for Additional Information |
| RFI | Request for Information |
| RFP | Request for Proposal |
| RFQ | Request for Qualifications |
| RMROL | Realistic Maximum Response Operating Limitations |
| RPG | Response Planning Group |
| RP | Responsible Party |
| RPOSC | Responsible Party's On-Scene Coordinator |
| RPS | Response Planning Standard |
| RRT | Regional Response Team |
| RSC | Regional Stakeholders Committee |
| SAC | Scientific Advisory Committee (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| SCAT | Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Team |
| SERC | State Emergency Response Commission (or) Smithsonian Environmental Research Center |
| SERVS | Ship Escort Response Vessel System |
| SETAC | Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry |
| SMS | Safety Management Systems |
| SOS | Seldovia Oil Spill Response |
| SOSC | State On-Scene Coordinator |
| SPAR | Spill Prevention and Response (A division within ADEC) |
| SPO | State Pipeline Coordinator's Office |
| SRP | Scientific Response Plan |
| SWAPA | Southwest Alaska Pilots Association |
| TAG | Technical Advisory Group |
| TAPS | Trans Alaska Pipeline System |
| TF | Task Force |
| TOEM | Terminal Operations & Environmental Monitoring (PWSRCAC Committee) |
| TOO | Tanker of Opportunity |
| TROG | Total Recoverable Oil and Grease |
| TVCS | Tanker Vapor Control System |
| UC | Unified Command |
| UP | Unified Plan |
| USCG | United States Coast Guard |
| USF&WS | United States Fish & Wildlife Service |
| VBU | Valdez Business Unit, Alyeska |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| VERP | Prince William Sound Vessel Escort & Response Plan |
| VEOC | Valdez Emergency Operations Center |
| VIDA | Vessel Incidental Discharge Act |
| VMT | Valdez Marine Terminal |
| VOCs | Volatile Organic Compounds |
| VOO | Vessel of Opportunity |
| VTC | Vessel Traffic Center |
| VTs | Vessel Traffic System |
| XCOM | PWSRCAC Executive Committee |

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council
Budget Status Report
As of March 27, 2024

| | Original Budget | Budget Modifications | Summary | Actual | Commitments | Total | Remaining Amount | Percentage Remaining |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Revenue | | | | | | | | |
| Alyeska Pipeline Service Co Contract | 4,214,495.00 | - | 4,214,495.00 | 4,214,494.92 | - | 4,214,494.92 | 0.08 | - |
| Funds | | | | | | | | |
| Interest Income | 50,000.00 | - | 50,000.00 | 66,030.76 | - | 66,030.76 | (16,030.76) | (32.06) % |
| Miscellaneous Income | - | - | - | 6,038.06 | - | 6,038.06 | (6,038.06) | - |
| Total Revenue | 4,264,495.00 | - | 4,264,495.00 | 4,286,563.74 | - | 4,286,563.74 | (22,068.74) | (0.52) % |
| Functional Area | | | | | | | | |
| Programs & Projects | | | | | | | | |
| 3100 - Public Information Program | 7,390.00 | - | 7,390.00 | 2,235.45 | - | 2,235.45 | 5,154.55 | 69.75 % |
| 3110 - Oral History | - | 10,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 9,077.50 | - | 9,077.50 | 922.50 | 9.23 % |
| 3200 - Observer Newsletter | 7,500.00 | - | 7,500.00 | 6,755.75 | - | 6,755.75 | 744.25 | 9.92 % |
| 3300 - Annual Report | 8,000.00 | (2,037.60) | 5,962.40 | 4,312.40 | 1,250.00 | 5,562.40 | 400.00 | 6.71 % |
| 3410 - Fishing Vessel Program Comm Outreach | 19,000.00 | (19,000.00) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3500 - Community Outreach | 65,635.00 | - | 65,635.00 | 28,052.08 | - | 28,052.08 | 37,582.92 | 57.26 % |
| 3530 - Youth Involvement | 61,164.00 | - | 61,164.00 | 20,052.00 | 40,000.00 | 60,052.00 | 1,112.00 | 1.82 % |
| 3562 - Then and Now | - | 6,715.00 | 6,715.00 | 6,710.00 | - | 6,710.00 | 5.00 | 0.07 % |
| 3600 - Public Communications Program | 4,149.00 | 1,382.50 | 5,531.50 | 3,031.50 | - | 3,031.50 | 2,500.00 | 45.20 % |
| 3610 - Web Presence Best Available Technology | 5,440.00 | - | 5,440.00 | 2,718.75 | 2,721.25 | 5,440.00 | - | - |
| 3810 - Illustrated Prevention & Response System | 20,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 22,000.00 | 6,363.66 | 15,000.00 | 21,363.66 | 636.34 | 2.89 % |
| 4000 - Program & Project Support | 1,800,070.00 | 10,000.00 | 1,810,070.00 | 1,171,038.52 | - | 1,171,038.52 | 639,031.48 | 35.30 % |
| 4010 - Digital Collections Program | 5,000.00 | (3,000.00) | 2,000.00 | 125.00 | - | 125.00 | 1,875.00 | 93.75 % |
| 4400 - Federal Government Affairs | 64,100.00 | 22,500.00 | 86,600.00 | 9,000.00 | 65,100.00 | 74,100.00 | 12,500.00 | 14.43 % |
| 4410 - State Government Affairs | 35,800.00 | 6,000.00 | 41,800.00 | 27,700.00 | 4,000.00 | 31,700.00 | 10,100.00 | 24.16 % |
| 5000 - Terminal Operations Program | 13,640.00 | 36,000.00 | 49,640.00 | 21,513.45 | 27,137.00 | 48,650.45 | 989.55 | 1.99 % |
| 5051 - Water Quality Permit Review | - | 30,000.00 | 30,000.00 | - | - | - | 30,000.00 | 100.00 % |
| 5053 - VMT System Integrity and Safety Culture | - | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 15,000.00 | - | 15,000.00 | - | - |
| 5057 - Air Quality Review | - | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 | - | 30,000.00 | 30,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 40.00 % |
| 5081 - Storage Tank Maintenance Review | 52,268.00 | - | 52,268.00 | 21,800.00 | 30,468.00 | 52,268.00 | - | - |
| 5570 - Air Quality | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5591 - Crude Oil Piping Maintenance Review | 51,744.00 | (51,744.00) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 6000 - Spill Response Program | 4,000.00 | - | 4,000.00 | - | - | - | 4,000.00 | 100.00 % |
| 6510 - State Contingency Plan Reviews | 80,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 90,000.00 | 46,553.75 | 11,231.25 | 57,785.00 | 32,215.00 | 35.79 % |
| 6512 - Secondary Containment - Adj Hearing | 16,312.00 | 38,000.00 | 54,312.00 | 1,382.50 | 11,929.50 | 13,312.00 | 41,000.00 | 75.49 % |
| 6530 - Weather/Sea Currents | 16,400.00 | - | 16,400.00 | 10,360.86 | 256.09 | 10,616.95 | 5,783.05 | 35.26 % |
| 6531 - Port Valdez Weather Buoys | 51,200.00 | 5,000.00 | 56,200.00 | 41,625.51 | 1,953.93 | 43,579.44 | 12,620.56 | 22.46 % |
| 6536 - Analysis of Port Valdez Weather Buoys | 21,292.00 | - | 21,292.00 | 2,931.00 | 14,515.00 | 17,446.00 | 3,846.00 | 18.06 % |
| 6537 - Copper River Delta Weather Station | - | - | - | 1,391.15 | - | 1,391.15 | (1,391.15) | - |
| 6560 - Peer Listener Training | 7,440.00 | - | 7,440.00 | 7,440.00 | - | 7,440.00 | - | - |
| 7000 - Spill Response Operations Program | 4,250.00 | - | 4,250.00 | 1,997.90 | - | 1,997.90 | 2,252.10 | 52.99 % |
| 7035 - Virtual Meeting w/ Response Vessel Reps | 1,000.00 | - | 1,000.00 | 891.00 | - | 891.00 | 109.00 | 10.90 % |
| 7520 - Preparedness Monitoring | 28,500.00 | - | 28,500.00 | 7,777.15 | - | 7,777.15 | 20,722.85 | 72.71 % |
| 8000 - Maritime Operations Program | 11,160.00 | - | 11,160.00 | 7,434.64 | - | 7,434.64 | 3,725.36 | 33.38 % |

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council
Budget Status Report
As of March 27, 2024

| | Original Budget | Budget Modifications | Summary | Actual | Commitments | Total | Remaining Amount | Percentage Remaining |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 8018 - State of Industry: Advances in Escort | 45,000.00 | (45,000.00) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 8025 - Vessel Operator Tsunami Hazards Workshop | 30,000.00 | 9,300.00 | 39,300.00 | 2,000.00 | 17,300.00 | 19,300.00 | 20,000.00 | 50.89 % |
| 8520 - Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts | 55,000.00 | - | 55,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 35,000.00 | 55,000.00 | - | - |
| 9000 - Environmental Monitoring Program | 17,000.00 | (2,156.00) | 14,844.00 | 15,668.07 | - | 15,668.07 | (824.07) | (5.55) % |
| 9110 - PWS Marine Bird Winter Survey | 71,738.00 | - | 71,738.00 | 6,600.00 | 65,138.00 | 71,738.00 | - | - |
| 9510 - Long-Term Environmental Monitoring | 173,636.79 | (32,522.10) | 141,114.69 | 129,794.85 | (15.78) | 129,779.07 | 11,335.62 | 8.03 % |
| 9512 - Composition of Oxygenated Hydrocarbons | 17,000.00 | - | 17,000.00 | 17,000.00 | - | 17,000.00 | - | - |
| 9520 - Marine Invasive Species | 186,629.00 | - | 186,629.00 | 30,000.00 | 156,629.00 | 186,629.00 | - | - |
| 9521 - Marine Invasive Species Internship | 6,500.00 | (2,135.10) | 4,364.90 | 2,564.90 | 800.00 | 3,364.90 | 1,000.00 | 22.91 % |
| Total Programs & Projects | 3,064,957.79 | 94,302.70 | 3,159,260.49 | 1,708,899.34 | 530,413.24 | 2,239,312.58 | 919,947.91 | 29.12 % |
| Board of Directors | | | | | | | | |
| 2100 - Board Administration | 141,038.00 | - | 141,038.00 | 86,451.12 | - | 86,451.12 | 54,586.88 | 38.70 % |
| 2150 - Board of Director Meetings | 201,500.00 | 2,000.00 | 203,500.00 | 129,707.63 | - | 129,707.63 | 73,792.37 | 36.26 % |
| 2200 - Executive Committee | 3,000.00 | - | 3,000.00 | - | - | - | 3,000.00 | 100.00 % |
| 2222 - Finance Committee | 3,000.00 | - | 3,000.00 | - | - | - | 3,000.00 | 100.00 % |
| 2700 - Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC) | 18,675.00 | - | 18,675.00 | - | - | - | 18,675.00 | 100.00 % |
| Total Board of Directors | 367,213.00 | 2,000.00 | 369,213.00 | 216,158.75 | - | 216,158.75 | 153,054.25 | 41.45 % |
| Committees & Committee Support | | | | | | | | |
| 2250 - Committee Support | 211,067.00 | (11,514.76) | 199,552.24 | 137,481.19 | - | 137,481.19 | 62,071.05 | 31.11 % |
| 2300 - Oil Spill Prevention & Response (OSPR) | 11,000.00 | - | 11,000.00 | 8,508.20 | - | 8,508.20 | 2,491.80 | 22.65 % |
| 2400 - Port Ops & Vessel Traffic System (POVTS) | 4,000.00 | - | 4,000.00 | 1,851.72 | - | 1,851.72 | 2,148.28 | 53.71 % |
| 2500 - Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) | 12,000.00 | (3,500.00) | 8,500.00 | 3,258.58 | 1,500.00 | 4,758.58 | 3,741.42 | 44.02 % |
| 2600 - Terminal Ops & Envrn Monitoring (TOEM) | 4,000.00 | - | 4,000.00 | 81.08 | - | 81.08 | 3,918.92 | 97.97 % |
| 2800 - Information & Education Committee (IEC) | 10,000.00 | - | 10,000.00 | 5,046.92 | - | 5,046.92 | 4,953.08 | 49.53 % |
| Total Committees & Committee Support | 252,067.00 | (15,014.76) | 237,052.24 | 156,227.69 | 1,500.00 | 157,727.69 | 79,324.55 | 33.46 % |
| General & Administrative | | | | | | | | |
| 1000 - General & Administrative | 518,310.00 | - | 518,310.00 | 315,021.90 | 45.85 | 315,067.75 | 203,242.25 | 39.21 % |
| 1050 - General & Administrative - Anchorage | 169,356.00 | 65,000.00 | 234,356.00 | 102,487.81 | - | 102,487.81 | 131,868.19 | 56.27 % |
| 1100 - General & Administrative - Valdez | 177,236.00 | - | 177,236.00 | 109,663.94 | - | 109,663.94 | 67,572.06 | 38.13 % |
| 1300 - Information Technology | 109,588.00 | 22,094.00 | 131,682.00 | 77,420.30 | 34.98 | 77,455.28 | 54,226.72 | 41.18 % |
| Total General & Administrative | 974,490.00 | 87,094.00 | 1,061,584.00 | 604,593.95 | 80.83 | 604,674.78 | 456,909.22 | 43.04 % |
| Total Expenses | 4,658,727.79 | 168,381.94 | 4,827,109.73 | 2,685,879.73 | 531,994.07 | 3,217,873.80 | 1,609,235.93 | 33.34 % |
| Contingency | 75,706.00 | 45,648.00 | 121,354.00 | - | - | - | 121,354.00 | 100.00 % |

PWSRCAC Director Attendance Record

May 2024

(Attendance recorded through March 27, 2024 Special Board Meeting)

| Board Member <i>(date appointed)</i> | Overall Attendance <i># attended / # missed</i> | Last 3 Mtgs.* <i># attended / # missed</i> | Term Expires |
|--|---|--|---------------------|
| Archibald, Robert <i>(May 2015)</i> | 50/1 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Bauer, Amanda <i>(May 2012)</i> | 65/1 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Beedle, Robert <i>(May 2013)</i> | 58/4 | 3/0 | 5/26 |
| Bender, Mike <i>(Sept. 2015)</i> | 41/9 | 2/1 | 5/26 |
| Brittain, Mike <i>(May. 2023)</i> | 3/2 | 1/2 | 5/25 |
| Crump, Nick <i>(May. 2021)</i> | 13/6 | 2/1 | 5/25 |
| Cutrell, Ben <i>(Jan. 2020)</i> | 25/1 | 2/1 | 5/26 |
| Donaldson, Wayne <i>(Jan. 2015)</i> | 50/2 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Haggarty, Mako <i>(May 2015)</i> | 40/9 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Hasenbank, Luke <i>(May 2016)</i> | 35/12 | 1/2 | 5/26 |
| Herbert, Jim <i>(January 2023)</i> | 8/0 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Jackson, Elijah <i>(May 2021)</i> | 9/9 | 2/1 | 5/25 |
| Janka, David <i>(January 2023)</i> | 8/0 | 3/0 | 5/26 |
| Malchoff, Melvin <i>(Sept. 2016)</i> | 29/15 | 1/2 | 5/26 |
| Moore, Dorothy <i>(Jan. 2007)</i> | 90/2 | 2/1 | 5/26 |
| Shavelson, Bob <i>(Sept. 2014)</i> | 55/9 | 3/0 | 5/26 |
| Totemoff, Angela <i>(May 2021)</i> | 15/4 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Vigil, Michael <i>(Sept. 2015)</i> | 41/9 | 3/0 | 5/26 |
| Williams, Aimie <i>(May 2022)</i> | 12/3 | 3/0 | 5/26 |
| Kirk Zinck <i>(May 2019)</i> | 28/3 | 3/0 | 5/25 |

* PWSRCAC policy states that member groups will be notified in writing if their appointed Board member misses three consecutive Board meetings.

Note: Overall attendance includes all voting meetings (regular and special Board meetings), but does not include non-voting meetings (e.g. LRP, budget workshops or Board retreats).



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

PWSRCAC Committee Member Attendance Record

As of March 16, 2024

| Port Operations and Vessel Traffic Systems (POVTS) | | | |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Committee Member | Overall | Last 3 mtgs | Term Expires |
| Robert Archibald (Director) | 25/0 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Amanda Bauer (Director) (Vice Chair) | 37/6 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Steve Lewis (Chair) | 21/0 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Max Mitchell | 5/0 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Gordon Terpening | 15/1 | 3/0 | 5/25 |

| Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) | | | |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Committee Member | Overall | Last 3 mtgs | Term Expires |
| Robert Beedle (Director) | 41/16 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Mike Bender (Director) | 31/15 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Dave Goldstein | 81/21 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Jim Herbert (Chair) (Director) | 59/0 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Matt Melton | 5/1 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Tim Robertson | 3/0 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Gordon Scott | 70/79 | 0/3 | 5/25 |

| Terminal Operations & Environmental Monitoring (TOEM) | | | |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Committee Member | Overall | Last 3 mtgs | Term Expires |
| Amanda Bauer (Director) (Chair) | 60/10 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Harold Blehm | 55/12 | 1/2 | 5/25 |
| Matt Cullin | 21/12 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Mikkel Foltmar | 38/14 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Steve Goudreau | 35/16 | 2/1 | 5/25 |
| Tom Kuckertz | 42/10 | 2/1 | 5/25 |
| George Skladal (Vice Chair) | 140/11 | 3/0 | 5/24 |

Ratios are # meetings present/ # of absences

Attendance Record is from 2003 to present.

210.103.240502.2-4CmtAttend

| Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Committee Member | Overall P/A | Last 3 mtgs P/A | Term Expires |
| Sarah Allan | 92/10 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Wei Cheng | 63/6 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Wayne Donaldson (Director) | 78/9 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Roger Green | 157/23 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Davin Holen (Chair) | 70/8 | 1/2 | 5/24 |
| John Kennish | 151/14 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Dorothy Moore (Director) | 135/14 | 3/0 | 5/25 |

| Information & Education Committee (IEC) | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Committee Member | Overall P/A | Last 3 mtgs P/A | Term Expires |
| Trent Dodson (Chair) | 36/28 | 1/2 | 5/25 |
| Jane Eisemann | 86/13 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Cathy Hart (Vice Chair) | 79/22 | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Andrea Korbe | 34/28 | 1/2 | 5/25 |
| Ruth E. Knight | 82/10 | 3/0 | 5/24 |
| Savannah Lewis *since recommittal date | 51/0* | 3/0 | 5/25 |
| Kate Morse | 60/31 | 2/1 | 5/24 |
| Aimee Williams | 9/6 | 1/2 | 5/24 |

Ratios are # meetings present/ # of absences

Current List of Board Committee Members

As of May 2023

Executive Committee

- Robert Archibald, President
- Amanda Bauer, Vice President
- Wayne Donaldson, Treasurer
- Bob Shavelson, Secretary
- Robert Beedle, Member-at-Large
- Ben Cutrell, Member-at-Large
- Angela Totemoff, Member-at-Large

Long Range Planning Committee

- Robert Archibald
- Jim Herbert
- Angela Totemoff
- Davin Holen (SAC Chair)
- Amanda Bauer (TOEM Chair)
- Jim Herbert (OSPR Chair)
- Steve Lewis (POVTS Chair)
- Trent Dodson(IEC Chair)
- Cathy Hart

Board Governance Committee

- Luke Hasenbank (Chair)
- Dorothy Moore
- Robert Beedle
- Mike Bender

Legislative Affairs Committee

- Robert Archibald
- Robert Beedle
- Mako Haggerty
- Elijah Jackson
- Dorothy Moore
- Kirk Zinck

Finance Committee

- Wayne Donaldson (Treasurer)
- Robert Archibald
- Mako Haggerty
- Jim Herbert
- Angela Totemoff

**Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council
One-Page Strategic Plan**

Mission Statement: Citizens promoting the environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers

[Link to full FY2023-FY2027 Long Range Plan](#)

Core Purpose: Citizen oversight to prevent oil spills, minimize environmental impacts, and promote response readiness

Core Values

- Represent the interests of our stakeholders by providing an effective voice for citizens
- The foundation of PWSRCAC is volunteerism
- Promote vigilance and combat complacency
- Organizational transparency and integrity through truth and objectivity
- Foster environmental stewardship

Overarching Goals and Objectives

- Compliance with OPA90 and Alyeska contractual requirements.
 - ☐ (1) Annual re-certification and funding
 - ☐ (2) Maintain regional balance
 - ☐ (3) Link projects and programs to OPA90 and Alyeska contract
- Continue to improve environmental safety of oil transportation in our region.
 - ☐ (4) Monitor and review development of, and compliance with, laws and regulations
 - ☐ (5) Pursue risk-reduction measures and promote best available technologies and best practices
 - ☐ (6) Monitor operations and promote a safe and clean marine terminal
 - ☐ (7) Monitor and review the condition of the tanker fleet/maritime operations
 - ☐ (8) Monitor and promote the safe operation of all Alyeska/SERVS-related on-water assets
 - ☐ (9) Monitor and review environmental indicators
 - ☐ (10) Promote and facilitate effective research for scientific, operational and technical excellence
- Develop and maintain excellent external and internal communication.
 - ☐ (11) Advocate for government and industry measures to improve the environmental safety of oil transportation
 - ☐ (12) Maintain and improve relationships with government, industry and communities
 - ☐ (13) Be the model for citizen oversight and provide support for other citizens' advisory groups
 - ☐ (14) Ensure availability of PWSRCAC information
 - ☐ (15) Work to improve availability of information to PWSRCAC from industry sources
- Achieve organizational excellence.
 - ☐ (16) Effective short and long term planning, with clear and measurable goals for projects
 - ☐ (17) Fiscally responsible, efficient, and easily understood financial procedures and reporting
 - ☐ (18) Committed to continuous improvement
 - ☐ (19) Recognize people as the most important asset of the organization
 - ☐ (20) Recruit and develop knowledgeable and committed Board members, volunteers, and staff
 - ☐ (21) Strong volunteer structure and support for volunteers

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|-----------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Board | 3/27/2024 | Approval of Out-of-State Travel to Washington, DC for Legislative Visits: The Board approved out-of-state travel for Directors Dorothy Moore and Robert Beedle to conduct annual legislative outreach visits in Washington, DC, May 5-11, 2023 in the approximate amount of \$5,114, per traveler. Has the travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Pending |
| Board | 3/27/2024 | Approval of In-State Travel to Valdez for Tsunami Workshop: The Board approved in-state travel for Robert Archibald, Jim Herbert, Dave Janka, and Max Mitchell to attend the Tsunami Workshop in Valdez, June 3 -4, 2024 in an approximate amount of \$2,325 per traveler; and approve a budget modification adding \$9,300 to project 8025 from the contingency fund for this travel. | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Pending |
| Board | 3/27/2024 | White Paper Acceptance – Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts: The Board accepted the white paper titled “Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts” by Dr. Nicole Ziegler as meeting phase one of contract 8520.23.01 and allow Dr. Ziegler to seek professional publication of the paper. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 852.431.231331.MisComsLitSearch | Responsible Sorum/Lally | Disposition Done |
| Board | 3/27/2024 | Approval of IRS Form 990: The Board authorized the Executive Director to sign the Form 990 on behalf of PWSRCAC and submit it to the IRS on or before May 15, 2024. has the IRS Form 990 been transmitted to the IRS? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 3/27/2024 | Annual Evaluation of the Executive Director: The Board approved extending the Executive Director’s contract for one year and authorized a one-time bonus of \$2,500. Have these actions taken place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | REPORT ACCEPTANCE: 2022-2023 LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING: The Board accepted the reports titled “Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Summary Report” and “Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Technical Supplement” by Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc., both dated December 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 951.24.04, and for distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 951.431.231201OwlRidgeTech | Responsible Verna | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | BUDGET MODIFICATIONS: The Board approved the FY2024 budget modifications as listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$111,654. Are these modifications in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|-----------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Board | 1/25/2024 | CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR AIR QUALITY MONITORING AT THE VMT: The Board authorized a contract with Ron Sahu, PhD, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to conduct work related to VMT Title V air quality permit review and associated air quality issues under project 5570 - Valdez Air Quality. Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Blancaflor | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | APPROVAL OF FY24 CONTRACT WITH TAKU ENGINEERING FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT: The Board authorized a contract increase with Taku Engineering in the amount of \$21,720, for a new not to exceed total of \$46,720, to provide engineering support related to Alyeska's request for information on the oxygen content of the head spaces of the VMT crude oil storage tanks. Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Blancaflor | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | 2023 VMT C-PLAN RENEWAL & APPROVAL OF C-PLAN CONTRACT INCREASE: The Board delegated authority to the Executive Director to negotiate contract increases with selected contingency plan review contractors at a cost not to exceed \$90,000 for project 6510: State Contingency Plan Reviews for FY2024. Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Swiss | Disposition Pending |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | BYLAW AMENDMENT – SECTION 2.2.1 ADDING A RECREATION SEAT AS A CLASS I MEMBER: The Board approved of the proposed amendment to section 2.2.1 of the PWSRCAC Bylaws to remove the Temporary Recreation Seat and add the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition to the list of Class I members; and, the proposed amendment to the Bylaws to include listing the definition of recreation as developed by BGC in the footnotes on page 2 of Attachment A. Are these amendments in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT FOR OIL SPILL REGION RECREATIONAL COALITION: The Board confirmed the appointment of Jim Herbert as representing the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition with a term set to expire at the May 2025 annual meeting. Is this appointment in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | CONTRACT APPROVAL - FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MONITOR: The Board approved a contract with Blank Rome to work with PWSRCAC's Federal Legislative Monitor Roy Jones, and the Legislative Affairs Committee, under project 4400 Federal Governmental Affairs in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for Fiscal Year 2024. Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Lally | Disposition Done |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | PWSRCAC FY2025-FY2029 LONG RANGE PLAN APPROVAL: The Board approved the Five-Year Long Range Plan for Fiscal Years 2025–2029, as developed and finalized for consideration by the Board at the January 24, 2024 Long Range Plan work session. | File Code (if any) | Responsible Vanderburg | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| XCOM | 1/18/2024 | Out-of-State Travel Request to International Oil Spill Conference: The Executive Committee approved out-of-state travel for Director Kirk Zinck and OSPR Committee member Matt Melton to attend the International Oil Spill Conference May 13-16, 2024 in New Orleans, LA in the approximate amounts of \$4,779 and \$3,881, respectively. Has the travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Pending; Zink |
| XCOM | 1/18/2024 | Agenda for Upcoming PWSRCAC Board Meeting: The Executive Committee approved the agenda for the PWSRCAC Board meeting, January 25-26, 2024 as amended. | File Code (if any) | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 12/13/2023 | Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition: The Executive Committee recommend seating the Oil Spill Region Recreational Coalition as a Class 1 member of the PWSRCAC Board of Directors to represent recreation interests. Has the Board been made aware of this recommendation? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Crawford | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 12/13/2023 | Travel for January 24, 2024 Long Range Planning Workshop: The Executive Committee authorized staff and volunteers residing outside of Anchorage city limits, for winter safety reasons, to drive to Anchorage for the January 24, 2024 Long Range Planning Workshop on January 23, 2024. Has this travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 12/13/2023 | Approval of International Travel to the Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species (ICAIS) Conference: The Executive Committee approved international (within Canada) travel for SAC member, Dr. Roger Green, to attend the 2024 International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species, May 12-16, 2024 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada with travel in an approximate amount of \$3,057. Has this travel take place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Odegard | Disposition Done |
| Board | 11/21/2023 | Approval of FY2023 Audit: The Board approved the FY2023 audit by BDO. Is this audit in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 11/21/2023 | Appointment of Tim Robertson to OSPR Committee: The Board approved Tim Robertson to the OSPR Committee with a term set to expire at the May 2024 annual Board meeting. Is this appointment in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Vanderburg | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|------------|---|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Board | 11/21/2023 | Executive Director 2023 Evaluation: The Board awarded and 8.1% increase to Schantz' pay, retroactive to the first pay period of FY2024. Is this increase in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 11/21/2023 | Approval of FY2024 Budget Modifications: The Board approved the FY2024 budget modifications listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$181,607. Are these modifications in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 11/21/2023 | Approval of Travel for K. Morse and C. Hart to NTEN: The Board approved travel for IEC members Kate Morse and Cathy Hart to attend the NTEN Conference, March 13-15, 2024 in Portland, Oregon, with travel costs in an approximate amount of \$3,272 and \$2,963, respectively. Has the travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Willahan | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | APPROVAL OF ANNUAL SAGE INTACCT LICENSING FEE: The Board approved a FY2024 budget modification in the amount of \$17,094 from the contingency fund into budget 1300 Information Technology for the annual Sage Intacct licensing fee; and the FY2024 licensing fee with Sage Intacct in the amount of \$17,094 for continued support of the Council's accounting system. Are these steps in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | APPROVE DEFERRAL OF PROJECT 5591: CRUDE OIL PIPING INSPECTION REVIEW: The Board approved the deferral of TOEM project 5591: Crude Oil Piping Inspection Review transferring \$51,744 of the funds into the FY2024 contingency fund. Is this deferral in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Blancaflor | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | REPORT ACCEPTANCE: PORT VALDEZ WEATHER BUOY DATA ANALYSIS 2019-2022: The Board accepted the Port Valdez Weather Buoy Data Analysis 2019-2022 by Robert W. Campbell, Ph.D., and the Prince William Sound Science Center, as meeting the terms and conditions of the Contract 6536.23.01, and for distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 653.431.230901.PtVdzWxBuoyData Responsible Robertson | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COAST GUARD CUTTER HOMEPORTING: The Board adopted Resolution 23-01 "Urging the United States Coast Guard to Homeport a Sentinel-Class Cutter, Also Known as the Fast Response Cutter, in Port Valdez." Is this resolution in place? | File Code (if any) | 210.106.230921.USCCutter Responsible Sorum | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|-----------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Board | 9/21/2023 | PWSRCAC EFFORTS TO ADDRESS VMT SYSTEM INTEGRITY & SAFETY CULTURE ISSUES: The Board authorized a FY2024 budget modification moving \$15,000 from the contingency fund to project 5053 and authorized a professional services agreement with Billie Garde in the amount of \$15,000 to assist staff in following up on the recommendations contained in the report titled "Assessment of Risks and Safety Culture at Alyeska's Valdez Marine Terminal." Are these steps in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Blancaflor | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | Class I Recreation Seat: The Board voted in favor of supporting the efforts to form a coalition of recreation entities to potentially fill a Class I Recreation seat on the PWSRCAC Board of Directors, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to engage PWSRCAC legal counsel to review the draft Memorandum of Agreement provided by the groups currently proposing the Recreation Coalition. Are these steps in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Crawford | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | REPORT ACCEPTANCE: OXYGENATED HYDROCARBONS: The Board accepted the report titled "Examining the Effectiveness of Ballast Water Treatment Processes: Insights into Hydrocarbon Oxidation Product Formation and Environmental Implications" by Maxwell Harsha and Dr. David Podgorski from the University of New Orleans dated August 1, 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 9512.22.01, and ready for distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 951.431.230921.NOLAOxyHydro | Responsible Verna | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | REPORT ACCEPTANCE: PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND MARINE BIRD WINTER SURVEYS: The Board accepted the report titled "Marine Bird Winter Surveys in Prince William Sound" by the Prince William Sound Science Center dated June 26, 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 9110.23.01, and for distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 900.431.230626.WinterBrdSvy | Responsible Verna | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | REPORT ACCEPTANCE: PEER LISTENER TRAINING MANUAL: The Board accepted the "Peer Listener Training Manual" by Agnew::Beck Consulting, Inc., dated August 1, 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of Contract 6560.23.01, and for distribution to the public. Is the report in place? | File Code (if any) | 656.431.230921.CopeTechDstrs | Responsible Verna | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | PWSRCAC LONG RANGE PLANNING: The Board approved the protected project list for the upcoming Long Range Planning process as presented in Attachment A to the briefing sheet under Item 4-7 in the meeting notebook. Is the project list in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Crawford | Disposition Done |
| Board | 9/21/2023 | CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION: MARINE BIRD WINTER SURVEYS: The Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a sole source contract with the Prince William Sound Science Center to conduct project 9110 Marine Bird Winter Surveys in 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$65,138. Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Verna | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | Deferral of Project 8018 - State of the Industry: Advances in Escort Tugboat Technology and Regulatory Frameworks: The Executive Committee approved the transfer of \$45,000 from project 8018 – State of the Industry: Advances in Escort Tugboat and Regulatory Frameworks to the FY2024 contingency. Is this transfer in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Sorum | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | Acceptance of Report Titled "Crude Oil Storage Tank Vent Snow Damage," by Taku Engineering, LLC.: The Executive Committee accepted the technical memorandum titled, "Crude Oil Storage Tank Vent Snow Damage," by Taku Engineering, dated July 2023, with direction for staff to forward the memo to Alyeska and state and federal regulators accompanied by a cover letter summarizing findings and recommendations with requests for appropriate action and a complete response. Has the report been transmitted? | File Code (if any) 500.431.230601.TankVentSnowDmg | Responsible Blancaflor | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | FY2024 budget modification to update "Then & Now," not to exceed \$6,000: The Executive Committee approved an FY2024 budget modification in the amount of \$6,200 from the contingency fund into budget 3562 Then & Now for the update and reprinting of this document ahead of the 35th anniversary of EVOS. Is this budget modification in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Taylor | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | PWSRCAC's State Legislative Monitor Contract Increase: The Executive Committee approved Gene Theriault's requested contract increase from \$25,700 to \$31,700 to continue as a legislative monitor for FY24. Approve a budget modification from the contingency fund to Project 4410 State Government Affairs in the amount of \$6,000 to increase PWSRCAC's Legislative Monitor contract amount to \$31,700. Is the revised contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Lally | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | Out-of-State Travel to Pacific Marine Expo: The Executive Committee approved out-of-state travel for Max Mitchell and Matt Melton to attend the Pacific Marine Expo, November 8-10, 2023 in Seattle, Washington with total travel costs in an approximate amount of \$2,116 for Mitchell (based in Homer) and \$1,456 for Melton (based in Anchorage). Has the travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible Draper-Reich | Disposition |
| XCOM | 9/14/2023 | Agenda for Upcoming PWSRCAC Board Meeting: The Executive Committee approved the agenda for the PWSRCAC Board meeting, September 21-22, 2023 in Homer as presented with the changes. Is the agenda in place? | File Code (if any) 210.001.230921.SeptAgenda | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 7/13/2023 | Acceptance of Sustainable Shipping: Regulatory Mandate Review Report: The Executive Committee accepted the Nuka Research and Planning Group report titled "Sustainable Shipping: Regulatory Mandate Review", dated June 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 8300.23.01 and allow for its distribution to the public. | File Code (if any) 800.431.060123.NukaSustainShip | Responsible Sorum | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|-----------|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| XCOM | 7/13/2023 | Acceptance of POVTS Tanker Speed Reduction Operational Review Internal Memo: The Executive Committee accepted the POVTS Committee memo titled "TAPS Tanker Speed Reduction Operational Review", dated April 5, 2023 and allow for its distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | 240.109.230405.TAPSSpeedReduce | Responsible Sorum | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 7/13/2023 | OSPR Committee Member Appointment: The Executive Committee appointed Nick Crump to the OSPR Committee with a term set to expire at the May 2024 annual Board meeting. Is this appointment in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Vanderburg | Disposition Done |
| XCOM | 7/13/2023 | Approval of In-State Travel: The Executive Committee approved in-state travel for Robert Archibald to attend the USCG Sector Anchorage Change of Command ceremony in Anchorage, Alaska on July 14, 2023 in an approximate amount of \$500. Has the travel taken place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 4-1 DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS: The Board approved the two-year terms of the selected representatives for the following: R. Archibald (Homer); W. Donaldson (City of Kodiak); K. Zinck (City of Seldovia); M. Brittain (City of Seward); A. Bauer (City of Valdez); M. Haggerty (Kenai Peninsula Borough); E. Jackson (Kodiak Village Mayors' Association); N. Crump (PWSAC); and A. Totemoff (Tatitlek Corp. & Tatitlek IRA Council). Are these appointments in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | FY2024 BUDGET APPROVAL: The Board approved the adoption of the 2024 budget as presented during the budget workshop on April 29, 2023, and as described in the Draft Budget 2024 dated April 25, 2023. Total income is assumed to be \$4,264,106, total expenses are \$4,745,278, contingency of \$75,000, capital budget of \$15,000 for a total of \$571,172 net assets used. Is the budget in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 3-1 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PWSRCAC CHECK SIGNERS: The Board adopted the resolutions provided by First National Bank Alaska to update the list of authorized individuals to sign checks and conduct financial transactions on PWSRCAC's account. Are these resolutions in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Hamilton | Disposition Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 3-2 APPROVAL OF FY2024 LTEMP CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION: The Board approved the following: a) Authorization of individual contracts with Alpha Analytical and Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc. with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2024 LTEMP budget (Project #9510) for contract expenses, and b) Authorization of contract work to commence prior to the start of the 2024 fiscal year to accommodate timing considerations and purchasing needs. It is estimated that up to \$15,000 of the above contract work may be performed before June 30, 2023. Are these steps in place? | File Code (if any) | | Responsible Verna/Love | Disposition Done |

PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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| Board | 5/4/2023 | 3-3 FY2024 MARINE INVASIVE SPECIES SURVEY ANALYSIS CONTRACT INCREASE: Authorization of a contract increase of \$156,629 to contract #9520.23.01 - Marine Invasive Species Broadscale Survey in Prince William Sound - with the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center for a new cumulative contract total of \$216,883. (Note: \$60,254 of the proposed contract was approved in FY2023. This action is contingent upon approval of the FY2024 budget adding new funding of \$156,629 for a cumulative contract total of \$216,883.) Is this contract in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | | Verna | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 3-4 ANNUAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENTS: The Board made the following two-year technical committee appointments: Cheng, Kennish, moore, Green and Donaldson to SAC; Blehm, Foltmar, Coudreau, and Kuckertz to TOEM; Scott, Steritz, and Melton to OSPR; Terpening, Mitchell, and Lewis to POVTS, and Dodson, Eisemann, Hart, Korbe and Sav. Lewis to IEC. Are these appointments in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | | Vanderburg/O | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 3-5 APPROVAL OF FY2023 CONTINGENCY PLAN CONTRACTOR POOL: The Board Authorized individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning, LLC, and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for Project 651 Contingency Plan Review in the final FY2024 budget, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. Are these contracts in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | | Swiss | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | APPROVAL OF PWSRCAC/ALYESKA CONTRACT COMPLIANCE VERIFICATION REPORT: The Board accepted the PWSRCAC/Alyeska Annual Contract Compliance Verification Report. Is the report in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | 100.109.230331.ContrComplRpt | Schantz/Hamil | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 4-3 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: LTEMP TRANSCRIPTOMICS: The Board accepted the reports titled "Executive Summary: Transcriptomic responses to an Alaskan oil spill over time reveal a dynamic multisystem involvement in exposed mussels" and "Transcriptomic responses to an Alaskan oil spill over time reveal a dynamic multisystem involvement in exposed mussels (Mytilus trossulus)" by Lizabeth Bowen, William B. Driskell, Brenda Ballachey, James R. Payne, Shannon Waters, Eric Litman, and Austin Love as meeting the terms and conditions of research contribution number 951.22.07, and for distribution to the public. Are these reports in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | 951.431.230301.TrnScriptomcFull | Love | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 4-4 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: 2019 ALASKA NORTH SLOPE CRUDE OIL PROPERTIES: The Board accepted the report titled "Review of the 2019 Alaska North Slope Oil Properties Relevant to Environmental Assessment and Prediction" by Dr. Merv Fingas as meeting the terms and conditions of contract #5640.23.01, and for distribution to the public. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | 500.431.230301.MFrwANSprops | Love | Done |
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 4-7 REPORT ACCEPTANCE: 2022 DRILL MONITORING ANNUAL REPORT: The Board accepted the 2022 Annual Drill Monitoring Report for distribution. Is this report in place? | File Code (if any) | Responsible | Disposition |
| | | | 752.431.230101.DrillMon2022 | Robertson | Done |

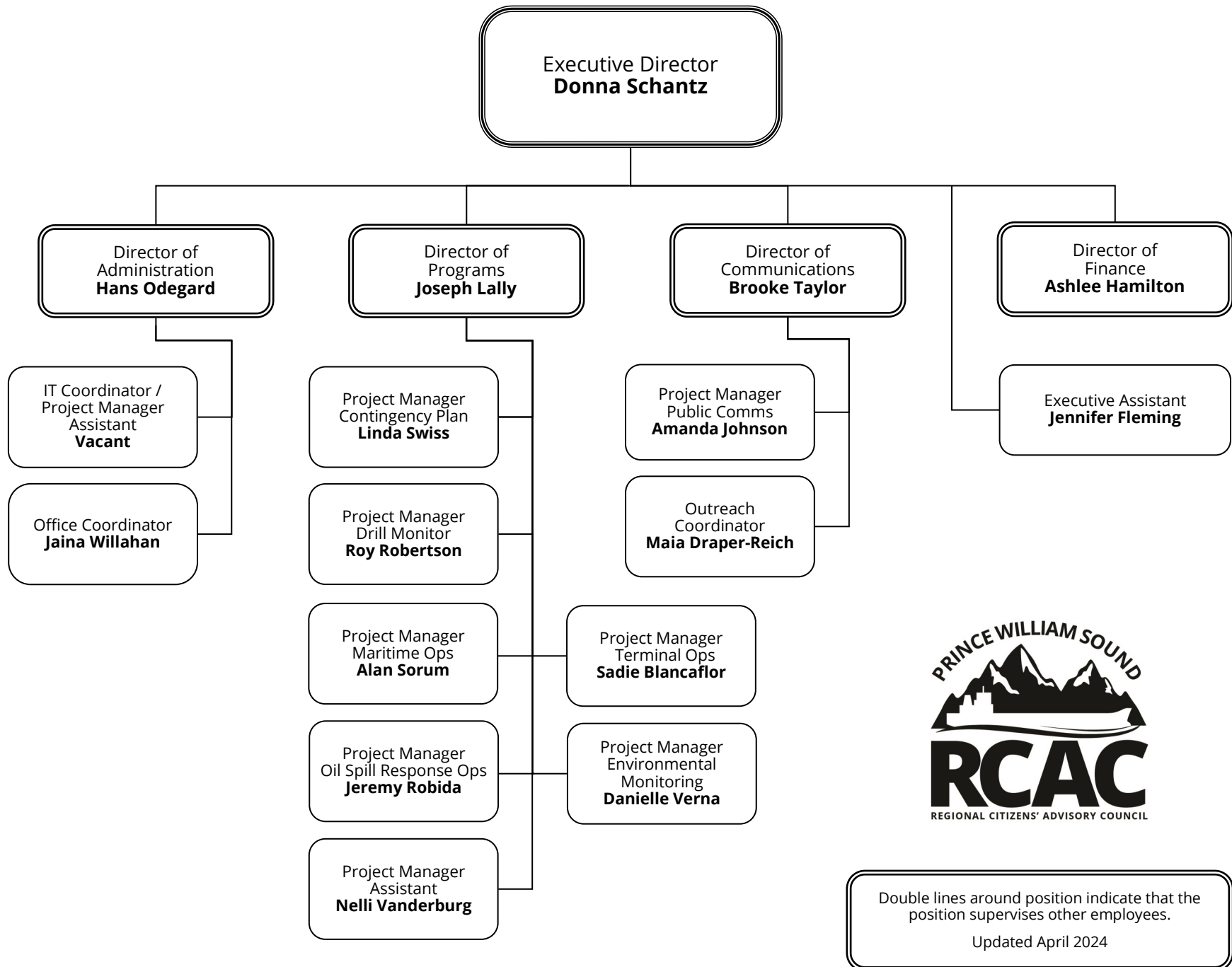
PWSRCAC BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Meeting Date Action Item



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

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|-------|----------|--|---|----------------------------|
| Board | 5/4/2023 | 4-9 ANNUAL BOARD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: The Board made the following committee appointments: FINANCE - Treasurer Wayne Donaldson (chair), Robert Archibald, Mako Haggerty Angela Totemoff, Jim Herbert; LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE - The chairs of all the technical committees, Robert Archibald, Jim Herbert, Angela Totemoff, and Cathy Hart from the IE Committee; BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE -Luke Hasenbank, Dorothy Moore, Robert Beedle, Mike Bender; LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Robert Beedle, Robert Archibald, Mako Haggerty, Kirk Zinck, Dorothy Moore, Elijah Jackson. Are these appointments in place? | File Code <small>(if any)</small> | |
| | | | Responsible Fleming | Disposition Done |



Consent Item Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Ashlee Hamilton, Director of Finance
Project number and name or topic: 100 - General Administration Financial Management

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff is requesting that the Board of Directors adopt resolutions updating the persons authorized to sign checks and transact other business on the organization's account at First National Bank Alaska (FNBA). Staff is requesting that the Board of Directors pass bank-provided resolutions to update PWSRCAC's signature cards with FNBA. Those authorized to sign checks on behalf of PWSRCAC will include the Board Officers (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer), the Executive Director (Donna Schantz), the Director of Administration (Hans Odegard), the Director of Programs (Joe Lally), and one to two other Board members who reside in the Anchorage area. Having Board members who reside in the Anchorage area authorized to sign checks is helpful in order to obtain signatures in a timely manner and to save costs, as this reduces the need to mail checks outside of the Anchorage area to obtain signatures. The resolution will also provide for the Director of Finance to receive bank information, but not approve any transactions.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Bank authorizations need to reflect current Board members and staff. To maintain adequate internal controls, we require that checks written on the main checking account have two signatures and if the amount of the check is \$15,000 or more, one of those signers must be a Board member.
3. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Adopt the resolutions provided by First National Bank Alaska to update the list of authorized individuals to sign checks and conduct financial transactions on PWSRCAC's account.
4. **Alternatives:** None proposed.
5. **Attachments:** None.

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Linda Swiss and the Oil Spill
Prevention and Response Committee
Project number and name or topic: 6510 – Contingency Plan Review

1. **Description of agenda item:** In January 2010, the Board approved a process where contractors are selected to provide technical advice on contingency plan reviews every five years. The method involves a full competitive bid process through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). An evaluation team made up of staff and volunteers review and rank submittals to the RFQ, and contractors are selected to provide expert advice. Each contractor selected verifies on an annual basis their availability to provide expert advice to the PWSRCAC.

Since FY1998, work on projects related to oil discharge prevention and contingency plans (c-plans) has been managed using pre-qualified contractors. The primary project manager administers the contracts, and the c-plan project team discusses specific activities and makes recommendations for action to be taken. Pre-identifying technical experts/contractors for use in PWSRCAC's review of c-plans and various issues associated with the plans is a timesaving and cost-effective process.

Pre-qualified contractors for Project 6510 - Oil Spill Prevention and Response Planning were selected and approved in 2023 to provide services for five years. These contractors include:

- (1) Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC.
- (2) Attorney Breck Tostevin

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The tanker and terminal c-plan approval process includes important actions that could potentially impact every member organization, as c-plans outline response and prevention activities that a spiller will be required to undertake to protect our region's shorelines, resources, and communities in the event of a spill. Review of c-plans is a major task for PWSRCAC as outlined in both the PWSRCAC/Alyeska contract and OPA 90. Having adequate expertise readily available to perform c-plan reviews and tasks related to the plans, a process that is often driven by external deadlines, is key to PWSRCAC fulfilling its c-plan review mission objectives. It is important to be prepared and to have the expertise and resources readily available to address issues as they arise.

The Prince William Sound Tanker Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (Tanker C-Plan) was renewed in February 2022 and expires in 2027. The Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (VMT C-Plan) was renewed in November 2019, and expires in November 2024.

Approval of FY2025 Contingency Plan Contractor Pool 3-2

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| Board | May 2017 | Approved individual contracts with Brendan Environmental, E-Tech Environmental, Harvey Consulting, Nuka Research and Planning, Pegasus Environmental for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2018 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | Sept 2017 | Approved individual contracts with Sharry Miller and 152 Degrees West Environmental Services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2018 budget. |
| Board | May 2018 | Approved individual contracts with Harvey Consulting, Integrity Environmental, Nuka Research and Planning, and Shannon & Wilson for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2019 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | May 2019 | Approved individual contracts with Harvey Consulting, Integrity Environmental, Nuka Research and Planning, and Shannon & Wilson for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2020 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | May 2020 | Approved individual contracts with, Integrity Environmental, Nuka Research and Planning, Polaris Applied Sciences, Shannon & Wilson, and 152 Degrees West Environmental Services for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2021 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. XCOM July 2020 Approved Attorney Breck Tostevin to the selected contingency plan contractor list, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the pre-approved selected consultants with the aggregate total not to exceed \$80,000. |
| Board | May 2021 | Approved individual contracts with Attorney Breck Tostevin, Nuka Research and Planning, Polaris Applied Sciences, and Shannon & Wilson for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2023 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | May 2022 | Approved individual contracts with Attorney Breck Tostevin, Nuka Research and Planning, and Polaris Applied Sciences for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2023 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | May 2023 | Approved individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning, LLC, and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for Project 651 Contingency Plan Review in the final FY2024 budget, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. |
| Board | January 2024 | Delegation of authority to the Executive Director to negotiate contract increases with selected contingency plan review contractors at a cost not to exceed \$90,000 for project 6510: State Contingency Plan Reviews for FY2024. |

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Over the years, Board members have expressed some concern regarding PWSRCAC's use of pre-qualified experts/consultants. The OSPR Committee addressed this process in an effort to improve it

Approval of FY2025 Contingency Plan Contractor Pool 3-2

and made the following recommendation, which was approved by the Board at the January 2010 meeting:

Process for Contingency Plan Contractor Selection: Advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for contingency plan contractor technical support every five (5) years. Selected contractors will be included on a list of qualified contingency plan contractors and will be valid for a five-year term. Interested contractors are welcome to submit qualifications at any time to be considered for inclusion on the list of qualified contractors. The list of qualified contingency plan contractors will be submitted to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting following OSPR Committee recommendation. An annual letter will be submitted to contractors on the list to confirm availability and any other changes.

The Board has recognized that the current RFQ method appears to be the most time efficient, cost-saving process so far identified for managing the c-plan review process and related tasks.

5. **Committee Recommendation:** The OSPR Committee recommended the list of preselected contractors for FY2024 for Board approval.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 6510 – State Contingency Plan Reviews is in the approved FY2025 annual work plan. The proposed FY2025 budget for project 6510 is \$80,000. Please refer to the approved FY2025 budget for the most up-to-date amount.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Authorize individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC. and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services in FY2025 with the aggregate total not to exceed \$80,000.

Note: This action is contingent upon approval of full funding of this project in the FY2025 budget.

8. **Alternatives:** None recommended.
9. **Attachments:** None.

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024**ACTION ITEM**

Sponsor: Danielle Verna and the Scientific Advisory Committee

Project number and name or topic: 9510 – Long-Term Environmental Monitoring

1. **Description of agenda item:** This agenda item requests Board authorization of Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Project (LTEMP) contracts for summer 2024 field sampling and laboratory work that falls within the FY2025 budget. Contracts for the Board's consideration include:

- Authorize individual contracts with Alpha Analytical and Fjord & Fish Sciences with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2025 LTEMP budget (Project 9510) for contract expenses, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the aforementioned consultants.

This contract authorization is contingent upon Board approval of the FY2025 budget, including funding for this project within the budget, at the May 2024 Board meeting.

Alpha Analytical will provide the Council with analytical chemistry laboratory services for mussel and marine sediment samples. Fjord & Fish Sciences will report and interpret the analytical results of the 2024 LTEMP samples and may participate in 2024 field work. It is important to note that the Council previously worked with Dr. Morgan Bender at Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, who was selected through the Council's competitive requests for proposals process in 2021. Dr. Bender recently notified us that she will be leaving Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants and would like to continue working with the Council and will be completing the 2024 scope of work under her own business license, Fjord & Fish Sciences.

Some of the work under these contracts needs to begin in May 2024, prior to the start of FY2025, because of supply prerequisites and sampling timing. That early work may require a modification of the FY2024 budget.

Additional LTEMP costs, not described in this briefing, include other analytical lab costs, vessel and floatplane charters for field work, sample shipping costs, and minor equipment and supplies costs.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 directs PWSRCAC to "devise and manage a comprehensive program of monitoring the environmental impacts of the operations of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers while operating in Prince William Sound" – LTEMP is designed to address this directive. LTEMP results are used to assess the environmental impacts of the Valdez Marine Terminal and

REVISED BRIEFING

FY2025 LTEMP Contract Authorization 3-3

the crude oil tankers operating in Prince William Sound, including the long-term impacts of the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** The Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Project has been conducted by PWSRCAC since 1993 and many actions have been taken by the Board on this item since that time. In the interest of providing currently pertinent information regarding actions items taken by the Board on this item, only the last five years of actions are presented below. However, all historic actions pertaining to LTEMP are available for review upon request (please [contact Danielle Verna](#) for that information).

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| Board | 5/7/20 | Accepted the report titled "Long-Term Environmental Program: 2019 Sampling Results and Interpretations," by Dr. James Payne and William B. Driskell, dated March 2020, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 951.20.04, and for distribution to the public. |
| Board | 5/21/20 | Approved the following: Authorizing a contract negotiation with Payne Environmental Consultants Inc., for work to be performed under LTEMP, at an amount not to exceed \$115,064. Authorizing a contract negotiation with Newfields Environmental Forensics Practice, for work to be performed under LTEMP, at an amount not to exceed \$95,807. Authorizing a contract negotiation with the United States Geological Survey, for work to be performed under LTEMP, at an amount not to exceed \$65,371. Authorizing a contract negotiation with Oregon State University, for work to be performed under LTEMP, at an amount not to exceed \$22,030. Authorizing a contract work to commence prior to the start of FY2021, as approximately \$33,000 of these funds will need to be expended in May and June 2020. |
| Board | 5/6/21 | Accepted the reports titled "Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program: 2020 Sampling Results & Interpretations," by Dr. James R. Payne and William Driskell, dated March 2021 as meeting the terms and conditions of contract 951.21.04, and for distribution to the public. |
| Board | 5/21/21 | Authorized individual contracts with NewFields Environmental Forensics Practice, Oregon State University, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2022 LTEMP budget (project #9510) for contract expenses, and delegated authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the aforementioned consultants; and authorized that the contract work to commence prior to the start of FY2022 as approximately \$30,000 of these funds will need to be expended in May and June 2021. |
| Board | 1/27/22 | Authorized a budget modification, adding \$53,880 to Project 9510-Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program; and authorized a contract negotiation with Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, to complete the LTEMP scope of work in RFP 951.21.06, and with Payne Environmental Consultants, to support Owl Ridge's work, at a total aggregate cost not to exceed \$77,000. |
| Board | 5/5/22 | Authorized individual contracts with NewFields Environmental Forensics Practice and Oregon State University, with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2023 LTEMP budget (Project #9510) for contract expenses, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the aforementioned consultants and, authorized contract work to commence prior to the start of FY2023, as approximately \$10,000 of these funds will need to be expended in May and June 2022. |
| XCOM | 9/15/22 | Accepted the reports titled "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program: 2021 Summary Report" and "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program: 2021 Technical Supplement" by Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, dated May 2022, as meeting the terms of contract #951.22.06 and for public distribution. |

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FY2025 LTEMP Contract Authorization 3-3

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|-------|-----------|--|
| Board | 5/4/23 | Approved the following: a) Authorization of individual contracts with Alpha Analytical and Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc. with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2024 LTEMP budget (Project #9510) for contract expenses, and b) Authorization of contract work to commence prior to the start of the 2024 fiscal year to accommodate timing considerations and purchasing needs. It is estimated that up to \$15,000 of the above contract work may be performed before June 30, 2023. |
| Board | 1/25/2024 | Acceptance of the reports titled "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Summary Report" and "Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Program 2022–2023 Technical Supplement" by Morgan Bender of Owl Ridge Natural Resource Consultants, Inc., both dated December 2023, as meeting the terms and conditions of contract number 951.24.04, and for distribution to the public. |

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** None.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** The Scientific Advisory Committee supports this project. Additionally, the Scientific Advisory Committee supports contracting with Dr. Morgan Bender through her new venture, Fjord & Fish Sciences.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 9510 – Long-Term Environmental Monitoring is in the approved FY2025 annual work plan. The proposed FY2025 budget for project 9510 is \$150,460
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:**
 - Authorize individual contracts with Alpha Analytical and Fjord & Fish Sciences with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved in the final FY2025 LTEMP budget (Project 9510) for contract expenses, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the aforementioned consultants.
 - Authorize contract work to commence prior to the start of FY2025, as approximately \$20,000 of these funds will need to be expended in May and June 2024.

Note: This action is contingent upon approval of full funding of this project in the FY2025 budget.

8. **Alternatives:** None recommended.
9. **Attachments:** None.

Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024**ACTION ITEM**

Sponsor: Danielle Verna and the Scientific Advisory Committee

Project number and name or topic: 9110 - Prince William Sound Marine Bird and Mammal Fall and Early Winter Surveys

1. **Description of agenda item:** The Board is being asked to authorize a sole source contract with the Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) in an amount not to exceed \$78,928 for project 9110. The contract will be to conduct marine bird and mammal surveys in Prince William Sound during fall and early winter months (September and November 2024), falling within the FY2025 budget. Prior Council-sponsored surveys in late winter (March) have identified areas that may warrant additional protection in the event of a spill during that time period. It is important to note that the marine bird community varies throughout the non-breeding season and community composition is distinct between fall, early winter, and late winter. This project will document density, species composition, and distribution of marine birds and mammals and identify high use areas in and around the tanker escort lane.

This contract authorization is contingent upon Board approval of the FY2025 budget, including funding for this project within the budget, at the May 2024 Board meeting.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** This project will monitor habitat and densities of marine bird species that were impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill and would be impacted again in the event of another spill. The project identifies nearshore habitat important to marine bird survival that may warrant additional protection and can inform spill responders. These surveys take place in fall and early winter months, which have been identified as gaps in the available survey data for marine birds in Prince William Sound, particularly in and around the tanker escort lanes. The survey areas include Port Valdez, the Valdez Arm, Tatitlek Narrows, Port Fidalgo, Storey, Peak, and Naked Islands, Rocky Bay, Port Etches, Zaikof Bay, and mid-Sound west of Port Gravina. Data will be made publicly available via the Alaska Ocean Observing System Gulf of Alaska data portal and NOAA's Environmental Response Management Application.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|-------------|---|
| Board | 5/2/19 | Board adopted the FY2020 budget as presented. This project was approved as part of the FY2020 budget and was presented as a sole source contract with the Prince William Sound Science Center. However, the project did not take place in FY2020. |
| Board | 5/21/20 | Board adopted the FY2021 budget as presented. This project was approved as a part of the FY2021 budget. |

Marine Bird Fall and Early Winter Surveys Contract Authorization 3-4

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| Board | 9/17/20 | Board authorized a contract negotiation with the Prince William Sound Science Center to conduct the scope of work for project 9110 Marine Winter Bird Survey at an amount not to exceed \$39,000. |
| Board | 9/16/21 | Board accepted the report titled "Marine Winter Bird Surveys in Prince William Sound" by Anne Schaefer and Dr. Mary Anne Bishop of the Prince William Sound Science Center. |
| Board | 5/4/23 | Board adopted the FY2024 budget as presented which included funding for project 9110 PWS Marine Winter Bird Survey. |

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Not applicable.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** The Scientific Advisory Committee supports this project.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 9110 – PWS Marine Bird and Mammal Winter Survey is in the approved FY2025 annual work plan. The proposed FY2025 budget for project 9110 is \$78,928. This action is contingent upon approval of the FY2025 budget, including this project.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a sole source contract with the Prince William Sound Science Center to conduct project 9110 – PWS Marine Bird and Mammal Winter Surveys in 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$78,928.

Note: This action is contingent upon approval of full funding of this project in the FY2025 budget.
8. **Alternatives:** None recommended.
9. **Attachments:** None.

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| Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024 |
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ACTION ITEM

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| <u>Sponsor:</u> | Donna Schantz & Ashlee Hamilton |
| <u>Project number and name or topic:</u> | 100 – Annual Alyeska Contract Compliance Verification Report |

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff is seeking approval of the annual contract compliance verification report required by the FY2010 audit settlement between Alyeska and PWSRCAC.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The 2010 Audit Settlement Agreement between PWSRCAC and Alyeska states that PWSRCAC will have its Executive Director and Financial Manager annually review the organization's compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract with Alyeska and will report the results of this review to the PWSRCAC Board.
3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** A version of the Contract Compliance Verification report has been completed annually and approved by the Board since May 2013.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** None noted.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** The Finance Committee will review the Annual Alyeska Contract Compliance Verification report at its upcoming meeting and deliver a recommendation during its committee update.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** None.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Accept the PWSRCAC/Alyeska Annual Contract Compliance Verification Report.
8. **Attachments:** Annual Contract Compliance Verification Report to be provided under separate cover. *(Board members only.)*

Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Hans Odegard, Director of Administration

Project number and name or topic: Anchorage Lease Extension

1. **Description of agenda item:** The lease for the Anchorage office at 3709 Spenard Road, Suite 100, will expire on June 30, 2024. The purpose of this agenda item is to request the extension of the current lease for one year, starting on July 1, 2024. The rate for this lease extension remains the same as currently specified (\$5,950.95 per month). A second remaining one-year lease extension option, as per our original lease agreement, is available to PWSRCAC if we do not find a new location within 90-days before the expiration of this lease extension. A notice of lease termination or the decision to exercise the second one-year lease extension must be given by March 31, 2025. The lease extension for the Anchorage office encompasses several maintenance and upgrade provisions, including furnace replacement and air duct cleaning to enhance the efficiency of the heating and ventilation systems, air quality testing, as well as upgrades to the security of the building.

Furthermore, PWSRCAC staff have been working with a commercial real estate broker to examine alternative office options and assess the current landlord's offer, considering current market rates for comparable spaces. Staff recently toured two offices but decided against moving due to storage space limitations, financial considerations, as well as other concerns. To prepare for potential future relocation, PWSRCAC's staff has reached out to various vendors to estimate the costs of moving the office, including furniture, records, telephone systems, and computer equipment. Staff will continue to search for alternative office options in the coming year ahead of the expiration of the lease extension.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** In order to operate efficiently, it is necessary for PWSRCAC to have adequate and cost-effective office space. It is also important that the space be safe and secure for staff and visitors and that it be located in a part of Anchorage that is easily accessible.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** The Anchorage office lease is renewed every five years. The lease was last renewed on July 1, 2019, and the previous renewal occurred five years earlier on July 1, 2014. Currently, there are two available one-year extension options from the lease signed on July 1, 2019.

4. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Authorize the Executive Director to sign a one-year lease extension for the Anchorage office located at 3709 Spenard Road. The monthly rent is \$5,950.95, totaling \$71,411.40 over the one-year term.

5. **Alternatives:** None recommended.

6. **Attachments:** None

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| Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024 |
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ACTION ITEM**Sponsor:** Ashlee Hamilton, Director of Finance**Project number and name or topic:** FY2024 Budget Modifications

1. **Description of agenda item:** The Board is asked to approve modifications to the FY2024 budget as outlined on the attached list. These modifications were identified during a mid-year budget review with project managers and management staff. The Finance Committee was notified of these proposed modifications and has recommended approval. If the changes proposed in this briefing sheet are approved, the FY2024 contingency will be \$204,629.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** PWSRCAC's annual budget provides the organizations' spending plan and authorities. While some of the listed modifications are within the authorities of the Executive Director and the Executive Committee, others are not. The entire list is therefore presented to the Board to simplify the approval process.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| Board | 5/4/23 | Approved the FY2024 budget as presented during the budget workshop on April 29, 2023, and as described in the Draft Budget 2024 dated April 25, 2023. Total income is assumed to be \$4,264,106, total expenses are \$4,745,278, contingency of \$75,000, capital budget of \$15,000 for a total of \$571,172 net assets used. |
| Board | 11/21/23 | Approved the FY2024 budget modifications as listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$181,607. |
| Board | 1/25/24 | Approved the FY2024 budget modifications as listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$111,654. |

4. **Committee Recommendation:** The Finance Committee was made aware of the proposed FY2024 modifications at the last Finance Committee meeting on April 22, 2024 and recommends Board approval.

5. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Approve the FY2024 budget modifications as listed on the provided sheet, with a total revised contingency in the amount of \$204,629.

6. **Alternatives:** None recommended.

7. **Attachments:** The list of proposed FY2024 budget modifications.

Proposed FY2024 Budget Modifications
May 2023

| | Task | Name | Explanation | From Contingency | To Contingency |
|----|------|--|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 1000 | General & Administrative | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 10,000 |
| 2 | 2100 | Board Administration | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 5,000 |
| 3 | 2150 | Board of Directors | Advertising over budget for FY2024 | | \$ 4,000 |
| 4 | 2200 | Executive Committee | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 3,000 |
| 5 | 2600 | Scientific Advisory Committee | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 2,000 |
| 6 | 3100 | Public Information Program | Conference fees no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 740 |
| 7 | 3300 | Annual Report | Contract fees no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 400 |
| 8 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Dues and subscriptions no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 53 |
| 9 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Advertising no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 250 |
| 10 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Conference fees no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 4,000 |
| 11 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Misc. items no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 500 |
| 12 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 6,000 |
| 13 | 3500 | Community Outreach | Meeting expenses no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 2,000 |
| 14 | 3600 | Public Communications Program | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 2,000 |
| 15 | 3810 | Illustrated Prevention & Response System Outreach | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 600 |
| 16 | 4000 | Programs & Projects | Travel no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 6,000 |
| 17 | 6536 | Valdez Weather Buoy Data Analysis | Contract fees no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 3,846 |
| 18 | 7035 | Virtual Meeting with Contracted Response Vessel Reps | Misc. items no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 109 |
| 19 | 7520 | Drill Monitoring Program | Equipment purchases no longer needed in FY2024 | | \$ 1,000 |

Proposed FY2024 Budget Modifications
May 2023

| | | | | | |
|-------|------|---|---|------------|------------|
| 20 | 9510 | LTEMP | Professional Services no longer needed in FY2024 | | \$ 7,559 |
| 21 | 9110 | PWS Marine Bird & Mammal Winter Survey | Contract fees no longer needed for FY2024 | | \$ 25,718 |
| 22 | 3200 | Observer Newsletter | Printing budget needed that was not originally budgeted | \$ (1,500) | |
| | | | Total | \$ (1,500) | \$ 83,275 |
| | | | Previous Contingency | | \$ 121,354 |
| | | | New Contingency | | \$ 204,629 |
| | | | *This item had been previously included in the contingency but wasn't brought to the Board. | | |
| Note: | 3410 | Fishing Vessel Program Community Outreach | Due to the lack of options for vessels, the fishing vessel retreat will not happen for FY2024 | | \$ 19,000 |

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| Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024 |
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ACTION ITEM**Sponsor:** Board of Directors**Project number and name or topic:** Board of Directors' 2024 Appointments

1. **Description of agenda item:** Several Directors' terms expire in May 2024. This briefing sheet outlines the nominations received from PWSRCAC member organizations.

| Member Organization | Director with Term Expiring in 2024 | Director Nominated by Member Organization |
|---|--|--|
| Alaska State Chamber of Commerce | Luke Hasenbank | Luke Hasenbank |
| Chenega IRA Council / Chenega Corporation | Michael Vigil | Michael Vigil |
| Chugach Alaska Corporation | Ben Cutrell | Ben Cutrell |
| City of Cordova | David Janka | David Janka |
| City of Valdez | Dorothy Moore | Dorothy Moore |
| City of Whittier | Mike Bender | Mike Bender |
| Cordova District Fishermen United | Robert Beedle | Robert Beedle |
| Kodiak Island Borough | Aimee Williams | Aimee Williams |
| Oil Spill Region Environmental Coalition | Bob Shavelson | Bob Shavelson |
| Port Graham Corporation | Melvin Malchoff | Melvin Malchoff |

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Two-year terms and regular confirmations of individuals on the Board of Directors are mandated by the PWSRCAC Bylaws.
3. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Confirm the two-year terms of the selected representatives for each of the member entities listed above.
4. **Attachments:** None.

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| Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024 |
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ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Roy Robertson and the OSPR Committee

Project number and name or topic: 7520 –Annual Drill Monitoring Report

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff will provide a briefing on the 2023 Annual Drill Monitoring Report that summarizes the drills and exercises that were attended by PWSRCAC staff in 2023. Staff and the OSPR Committee are requesting Board acceptance of this annual report.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** PWSRCAC staff monitors drills and exercises as much as possible. OPA 90 and the PWSRCAC/Alyeska Contract address the requirements for drill monitoring activities by PWSRCAC. These reports are important for tracking the history of spill preparedness and response by Alyeska/SERVS/PWS Shippers and tracking lessons learned to avoid the reoccurrence of the same problems in the oil spill prevention and response systems in place. These reports have proven to be valuable tools in improving the prevention and response system, assisting contingency plan workgroups and in planning large drills and exercises.
3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** The Board accepts the annual drill monitoring reports while the OSPR Committee accepts the individual reports throughout the year. This is an ongoing program specifically identified in OPA 90 and the Alyeska contract with PWSRCAC.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** See above.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** The OSPR Committee reviewed this report at its March 13, 2024 meeting and recommends acceptance of the 2023 Annual Drill Monitoring Report.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 7520 – Preparedness Monitoring is in the approved FY2024 budget and annual work plan.

7520 - Preparedness Monitoring

As of March 27, 2024

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Original Budget | \$28,500.00 |
| Revised Budget | \$28,500.00 |
| Actual & Commitments | \$7,777.15 |
| Amount Remaining | \$20,722.85 |

7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Accept the 2023 Annual Drill Monitoring Report for distribution to the public.
8. **Alternatives:** None recommended.
9. **Attachments:** Draft 2023 Annual Drill Monitoring Report.



Prince William Sound RCAC Annual Drill Monitoring Report 2023

**Prepared by: Roy Robertson
Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council**

2023 Exercise Report Index

| Date | Report Number | Description |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 2/10/23 | 752.431.230210.OSRB3deployVdz.pdf | OSRB-3 Deployment in Port Valdez |
| 3/6/23 | 752.431.230306.VdzStarDeploy.pdf | Valdez Star Deployment in Port Valdez |
| 3/22/23 | 752.431.230322.D58ContainEx.pdf | Drainage 58 Oil Containment Exercise |
| 4/17/23 | 752.431.230417.NonMecExercise.pdf | Whittier Non-Mechanical Response Exercise |
| 4/19/23 | 752.431.230419.OSRBOrcaBay.pdf | OSRB-3 Readiness Exercise in Orca Bay |
| 4/19/23 | 752.431.230419.NSOpsCdvEx.pdf | Nearshore Readiness Exercise in Nelson Bay |
| 4/20/23 | 752.431.220420.NelsonBayWL.pdf | VMT Wildlife Exercise in Nelson Bay |
| 5/16-18/23 | 752.431.230516.HAKshipperExEx.pdf | Hilcorp and ATC Shippers Exercise |
| 5/23/23 | 752.431.230523.OSRB5LightDemo.pdf | OSRB-5 Lightering Deployment |
| 5/24/23 | 752.431.230523.OSRBMBoffloadEx.pdf | OSRB-5 Mini-Barge Offloading Demonstration |
| 6/6/23 | 752.431.230606.DispACTour.pdf | MSRC Dispersant 737 Aircraft Tour Notes |
| 6/9/23 | 752.431.230609.ChallengerUJex.pdf | Tug Challenger U/J Exercise in Port Valdez |
| 6/15/23 | 752.431.230615.CommanderDispEx.pdf | Tug Commander Dispersant Exercise in Port Valdez |
| 6/24/23 | 752.431.230624.SGhatchDeploy.pdf | Solomon Gulch Hatchery Deployment and Training |
| 6/28/23 | 752.431.230628.SGhatchDeploy.pdf | Solomon Gulch Hatchery Deployment and Training |
| 7/02/23 | 752.431.230702.EmergencyTowEx.pdf | Emergency Towing Exercise with CAT Washington |
| 7/13/23 | 752.431.230713.OSRB2TCC.pdf | OSRB-2 Open Water Deployment in Port Valdez with TCC Crew |
| 8/13/23 | 752.431.230813.OSRBnoNoticeRR.pdf | No Notice OSRB-2 and Rapid Response Vessels Open |

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | Water Deployment in Port Valdez |
| 8/23/23 | 752.431.230823.VdzStarDeploy.pdf | Valdez Star Deployment in Port Valdez |
| 9/14/23 | 752.431.230914.D58skimEx.pdf | VMT Drainage 58 OSRB-2 Skimmer Deployment |
| 9/29/23 | 752.431.230929.OSRB1deployNI.pdf | OSRB-1 Deployment at Naked Island |
| 10/4/23 | 752.431.23104.VMTIMTfieldEx.pdf | VMT IMT & Field Exercise |
| 10/27/23 | 752.431.231011.VMTolTactics.pdf | VMT On-Land Tactics Demonstration |
| 12/13/23 | 752.431.221011.VMTnnDeconEx.pdf | VMT No Notice Decontamination Exercise |
| Multiple | 752.431.230614.FVrespTrainings.pdf | Notes on Fishing Vessel Response Training – Multiple Dates in 2023 |

2023 Exercise Summary

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) staff observed and wrote twenty-five exercise and training reports in 2023. This is up from fifteen reports from 2022.

Tanker Towing Exercises

PWSRCAC staff observed one tanker emergency towing exercise in 2023. The Prince William Sound Shippers and SERVS conduct at least one emergency towing exercise per quarter each year. The emergency towing exercise that PWSRCAC observed was with Crowley Alaska Tankers vessel *Washington*. The exercise went well with no issues observed.

Open-Water Response Exercises

Eight open-water oil recovery exercises reports were attended by staff in 2023. The Valdez Star skimmer conducted two of the deployments in Port Valdez and the Oil Spill Recovery Barges (OSRB) conducted deployments throughout Prince William Sound. The number of this type of exercise has increased over the last few years as SERVS trained barge and fishing vessel program crews.

Nearshore Response and Sensitive Area Protection Exercises

Nearshore and sensitive area protections exercises were greatly reduced in 2020 and 2021 because of the number of vessel crew interactions required for these types of deployments and Covid-19 precautions. During the annual fishing vessel trainings in the spring and fall of 2022 and 2023, SERVS began conducting operational readiness exercises (ORE) again that focused on nearshore response tactics. Staff wrote one report on these nearshore OREs, in addition to open water and non-mechanical OREs. SERVS also conducted training and deployments for the Valdez Duck Flats and the Solomon Gulch Hatchery. These are two of the key sensitive area protection (SAP) sites in Port Valdez for the Valdez Marine Terminal's oil discharge contingency plan. Staff attended two of these training deployments at Solomon Gulch Hatchery. SERVS also conducted six geographic response strategy (GRS) site deployments in the Orca Bay area in September 2023, but staff was unable to attend because the dates conflicted with the PWSRCAC Board of Directors meeting in Homer.

Valdez Marine Terminal Drills

The Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) conducted five exercises specific to the terminal in 2023 which were observed by staff. There were three equipment deployment exercises that focused on the drainage 58 at the VMT. This is the area identified at the VMT as the route that a worst-case spill from the tank farm would likely take to get to the waters of Port Valdez. Alyeska also conducted an on-land tactic exercise and a no-notice safety exercise in 2023. In October, Alyeska conducted their annual incident management team exercise, which included an equipment deployment at the VMT.

Annual Prince William Sound Shipper's Exercise

The annual Prince William Sound Shipper's exercise was conducted by Hilcorp and Alaska Tanker Company (ATC) in May of 2023. This was a hybrid exercise with both a physical (SERVS Valdez Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)) and virtual command post using the Teams platform. The command post also moved from Valdez on the first day of the exercise to Anchorage for days 2 and 3. The SERVS Valdez Emergency Operation Center (VEOC) became a forward base primarily for operations.

SERVS Annual Fishing Vessel Training

PWSRCAC staff attend in- and out-of-region annual fishing vessel trainings. Normally, 400+ contracted fishing vessels participate in SERVS' program and trainings in Kodiak, Homer, Seward, Whittier, Cordova, and Valdez. These trainings were changed during the pandemic with more online components and a reduced number of on-water exercises. In 2022, the trainings increased to two on-water days but still no hands-on equipment training or other activities requiring vessel crews to physically interact with each other. In 2023, Alyeska recognized the value of the hands-on stations that allow all the vessel crews to see and be instructed on how to run the various spill response equipment at different stations prior to going out on the water, and brought the hands-on stations and instruction back into the program.

Other exercises and trainings

PWSRCAC staff also attended a lightering barge exercise in May with the new OSRB-5. The OSRB-5 is a purpose-built barge for lightering and nearshore support. This barge is very similar to the other OSRBs but with the fendering and other equipment for lightering and the inclusion of offloading stations for supporting nearshore task forces.

There were three non-mechanical exercises reported on by staff. These included a weather-hindered non-mechanical exercise in Whittier, the escort tug *Commander* vessel dispersant demonstration in Port Valdez, and a tour of the new MSRC 737 dispersant aircraft in Anchorage.

Alyeska conducted a VMT-associated oiled wildlife exercise in Nelson Bay near Cordova. SERVS also held its oiled wildlife training in Kodiak in 2023. SERVS rotates this training

yearly between Kodiak, the Kenai Peninsula communities of Homer and Seward, and the Prince William Sound communities of Cordova and Valdez. The oiled wildlife training includes hazing, the capture of oiled birds and sea otters, and the process of stabilizing them and transporting to care facilities.

Suggestions for Future Exercises

The list of exercises and other suggestions below is not meant to be an exhaustive list of all areas that need further focus and attention, but PWSRCAC would suggest it is a good place to begin. It should be noted that many of the concerns and exercise issues that PWSRCAC have noted through the years have remained consistent over time.

Barge Allison Creek and Valdez Star

Alyeska has been replacing older barges that have reached their life since the marine services transition in 2018. As mentioned above, in 2023 the lightering barge *Mineral Creek* was replaced with the new OSRB-5. In 2024, the *Allison Creek* barge is being replaced by a new barge with the same name. This barge's primary function is to provide secondary storage for oil recovered by the *Valdez Star*. When the new *Allison Creek* arrives in Port Valdez, exercises will need to be conducted to ensure fluids can be easily transferred between the *Valdez Star* and the barge and determine the maneuverability of the *Valdez Star* when hipped up to the new barge. The *Valdez Star* needed a workboat to help turn the old *Allison Creek* barge during certain maneuvers and conditions.

Operating in Darkness and Dense Fog

Operating in darkness and foggy situations has been included in this list for many years because much of the winter in Alaska is darkness, and long periods of fog or reduced visibility due to weather is not uncommon for the Prince William Sound area in either summer or winter.

Recognizing that darkness and limited visibility are a reality, PWSRCAC suggests that more training and exercise activity take place in darkness or periods of limited visibility and include more fishing vessels and their respective crews so proficiency with working in the dark is improved. In addition, the ECO tug fleet has specific capabilities (FLIR cameras and Rutter Radar spill processing) that allow them to better see oil in limited visibility. More exercises using this improved technology should be conducted with the use of targets on the water for the tugs to practice tracking and positioning the barges effectively.

The PWS Tanker Plan calls for nearshore recovery operations to occur for twelve hours a day even during winter when there are only six hours of daylight. In the past there have been a few exercises to work on tactics for oil recovery in the nearshore environment.

Operating in reduced visibility presents risks to vessels, crews and equipment that must be addressed to safely perform recovery operations during these times. Specific tactics for operating in these low visibility conditions are not included in the current response plan. Structured exercises should be conducted to determine what tactics can and should be used to safely recover oil during darkness or fog.

Tanker Towing / Tanker Arrest Exercises

SERVS and the Prince William Sound Shippers have committed to quarterly emergency towing exercises throughout the year. This practice is much better than the previous process of performing the towing exercises primarily during the summer because of the variable conditions that happen seasonally. These exercises provide valuable training that is required for the tug crews and is beneficial to the tanker crews.

An improvement to the quarterly schedule would be to rotate shipping companies and their vessels through these exercises. It appears that Polar Tankers volunteers for these exercises much more often than the other shipping companies. The exercises do require extra time on the transit out but each of the tanker crews should participate in these exercises for the training benefit. There are at least four exercises per year and four tanker companies. There would be a training benefit to having each shipping company participate in one towing exercise each year. Having the tug crews working with the different ships would be an improvement to their training.

Large and Small Vessel Decontamination

SERVS demonstrated their small vessel decontamination process during the Crowley Alaska Tankers drill in May 2022 for the first time since the contractor services were transferred to TCC, approximately five years ago. While the basic function of getting oil off the boat was demonstrated, the process used would have resulted in releasing some oil into the water and eventually out of containment. The process used by SERVS needs to be refined and practiced in additional exercises. It has been many years since large vessel decontamination has been demonstrated and that was with a past contractor that is no longer in business.

Fishing Vessels

The SERVS Fishing Vessel Program is the backbone of the oil spill response system in Prince William Sound. In 2023, Alyeska changed its fishing vessel training from the covid years to include both a day of hands-on station training and an on-water day in addition to the online Hazwoper class training. This modification was an improvement from the previous year because it provided all the vessel crews the opportunity to learn the specifics of the equipment and systems that they might be expected to use during a spill response.

Often during the SERVS spring and fall annual fishing vessel program training, the weather will hinder the participating vessels from going out and exercising with the response equipment. When this situation occurs, SERVS conducts radio exercises in the harbor where they are conducting the training. The radio exercises model the activities that would have occurred that day over the radio. This includes simulating the loading of the equipment from the barge to the vessel and the first day of a response. PWSRCAC thinks the time and training during the radio exercises can be better spent, if instead of simulating the first day of operations including the load out of equipment, the response is moved forward a few days. This would allow vessel crews to simulate response actions and management of task forces for periods of the response that most of the vessel crews do not get to see or think about during a one-day exercise. This type of simulation could offer out-of-region vessels a way of becoming more familiar with the areas within Prince William Sound and the vessel crews to exercise resupply and waste management procedures for their vessels, the process of gross decontamination of their vessels, familiarization of geographic response strategies around Prince William Sound, and the identification of equipment needs for operations based on a list of equipment given to them as a inject. Many other areas could also be put into play as part of this type of training. SERVS has now modified their exercise process for the days when the weather conditions do not allow the vessels to go out and deploy the equipment. PWSRCAC is interested in seeing how these new modifications to the exercises work.

Dispersant/ISB related

Alyeska and the PWS Shippers have switched contractors for aerial dispersant applications when they are needed and approved. The new contractor is MSRC, based out of Washington State, and they replaced the Anchorage-based Lynden. There are still some questions about the ability of the MSRC planes and how this new system should be exercised. The new MSRC 737 dispersant aircraft was brought to Anchorage in June 2023 and PWSRCAC staff were provided a tour of the aircraft. MSRC has three 737s and they are the first jet aircraft to be approved for dispersant applications.

Dispersant, SMART monitoring, and ISB-related exercises usually are practiced as individual components, and this separation of components may not reflect how these tactics would be employed in a real event. For example, it's possible that both aircraft and tug-based spray dispersant spray systems would be in play at the same time, and both these efforts would need SMART monitoring from a vessel on the water as well as spotter aircraft.

- The MSRC dispersant system should be exercised to verify the overall system including the spotter plane, aircraft and spray system, and dispersant monitoring capabilities.

- Council suggests that, during an exercise or training, more of the various components of dispersant application be run simultaneously and managed as they could occur in a real event, versus as separate components.

Open-Water Response

The SERVS open-water oil recovery task forces consist of four Oil Spill Response Barges (OSRB) and the skimming vessel *Valdez Star*.

The four open-water Oil Spill Response Barges (OSRB), despite minor differences, are now all essentially standardized. This consistency across platforms allows crews to transfer between barges easier, makes training back-up personnel easier, and simplifies working with the contracted FV fleet.

Specific open-water-related suggestions:

- Over the last few years, the open-water response barges and *Valdez Star* have been primarily exercised during the day and generally for short durations of only a few hours. During the winter months there are more hours of darkness than daylight and the fishing vessel crews working with these skimming platforms need to practice working in hours of darkness to become proficient.

Valdez Marine Terminal

In a broad sense, PWSRCAC would suggest that all tactics in the VMT technical manual be exercised in a 5-year plan cycle and that exercises take place over a variety of seasons and conditions.

Specific VMT-related suggestions include:

- In 2022, Alyeska put a lot of effort into planning and preparing for the secondary containment exercise for the total loss of a tank. This was a valuable effort and allowed Alyeska to think through how such a response could be conducted. However, that exercise was a tabletop presentation. Components of that response should be tested in the field to confirm those proposed actions could work if needed.
- Continue with the multi-day Duck Flats training and conduct a similar intensive training for the Solomon Gulch Hatchery. The current training for the deployment of the Duck Flats by Alyeska is excellent and should continue. Much attention has been given to the Duck Flats deployment over the past several years, and Council staff have observed the general proficiency level of responder increase. The connection of boom ends under tension in particular has been a responder safety concern, and SERVS has done a good job addressing this topic. Continue this work

on the Duck Flats, but also conduct a similar training for the Solomon Gulch Hatchery.

- Over the last several years, PWSRCAC has pointed out the failure of the boom ends at the Drainage 58 containment site at the Fluor dock and jetty by the settlement pond outflow. Alyeska installed a stout tidal slider for connecting the boom to the Fluor dock. This is a great improvement to the system. The other side of the containment strategy can still be improved by the addition of intertidal boom and evaluating the best boom placement for that beach.

Sensitive Area Protection & Nearshore Response

There is a difference between nearshore response and sensitive area protection components in spill response. The missions of these two elements are not the same, though response equipment, vessels, asset management, and training are very similar and overlap. Nearshore response systems should be designed to intercept and recover oil, as that oil gets close to shore, by working the leading edge of the spill. The mission of the sensitive area protection function is to get out ahead of the spill and boom sensitive areas prior to oil reaching or threatening those areas. The management and logistical support for both of these operations can be challenging and complex, but it's important to realize that they have different goals despite similar and/or shared resources and management.

Sensitive Area Protection

- The testing for the various GRS sites throughout Prince William Sound has been excellent and these exercises should continue.

Nearshore Response

Nearshore response exercises will always be high on the Council's priority list simply because of the sheer volume of fishing vessels associated with this response area. The crews of all these vessels need to be proficient with the equipment, and equipment does continue to change over time.

- The nearshore response will likely be one of the main areas of focus during a major oil spill response. Over the last few years, PWSRCAC staff have noticed the number of turnovers in the response crews for SERVS, TCC, and in the fishing vessel captains and crews. As new crews begin participating in the spill response program and the older more experienced and many times original program participants leave the program, more focused and functional area training will be needed to maintain operational proficiency. The newer people need more exercises to learn and become proficient with the response tactics and response equipment.

- The PWS Tanker Contingency Plan notes that nearshore response teams will perform recovery operations for twelve hours a day, which means it's inevitable that many of those hours will require operating in reduced visibility during winter months, or foggy days in summer. As nearshore operations generally do not take place during these situations, we do not have very good benchmarks regarding what operations can safely be conducted, or how to adjust tactics accordingly. More exercises are needed to refine these limited visibility nearshore parameters.

Unannounced Exercises

Unannounced drills provide the only real measure of a plan holder's ability to respond at a point in time and at a moment's notice. These drills have the ability to test areas of a response that cannot easily be tested otherwise, such as personnel readiness and resupply capabilities. There could even be unannounced aspects to a known event, such as verifying responders have proper PPE once they arrive on scene or discussing what an elevated and unsafe air read would mean for responders and given process, etc.

- No-notice exercises are valuable and should be continued periodically to help ensure readiness. SERVS uses these types of exercises to good effect to monitor their rapid response fleet. ADEC used to require unannounced exercises more frequently for both the Prince William Sound Tanker and the VMT oil spill contingency plans. In fact, it was not uncommon to have three-day unannounced exercises that focused on certain response elements. These exercised frequently identified areas or procedures within the response system that were forgotten or just fail to be effective. As mentioned above, turnover of personnel within of all the organizations involved in the Prince William Sound response system has only increased the likelihood of failures with the processes that have rarely (if ever) been exercised in the past ten years.

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

INFORMATION ITEM

Sponsor: Jeremy Robida and the OSPR Committee

Project number and name or topic: Regional Stakeholder Committee Task Force Update

1. **Description of agenda item:** This is an informational update for the Board on the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force established by the Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) in August 2022. Staff updated the Board in January of 2023, as the Task Force process was starting up, and sharing concerns about proposed language. Now that the work of the RSC Task Force is close to completion, an update to the Board seems timely.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The Council has witnessed through tanker plan exercises how useful, valuable, and important the RSC engagement process can be and has long been a proponent and advocate for the use of the RSC process through different project initiatives. The Council developed comments on proposed amendments in 2016 to the RSC language the Alaska Unified Plan that included a considerable community outreach and education component. The Council also sponsored community workshops between 2013-2017, explaining how responses are managed and the RSC concept, and built a series of RSC tools for both industry and regulatory agency liaisons and RSC members that can be found on our website: <https://www.pwsrcac.org/rsc/>. Staff have also devoted a considerable amount of time to the RSC Task Force process since it was initiated in August 2022.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| XCOM | 12/18/12 | Authorized Executive Director to negotiate a contract with Nuka Research and Planning Group, up to \$27,000 in FY13, to facilitate project 7901 Incident Management for Regional Stakeholders. |
| XCOM | 11/1/13 | Approved a draft letter dated November 1, 2013 titled "Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) Proposed Draft Amendment to the Alaska Unified Plan to Eliminate the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC)" for distribution. |
| Board | 01/23/14 | Approved the report titled "ICS and Response Plan Basics for Regional Stakeholders RFP Number 7091.13.01" by Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC, for distribution. |
| Board | 05/01/14 | Approved FY2015 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities. |
| Board | 05/07/15 | Approved FY2016 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities. |
| Board | 05/05/16 | Approved FY2017 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities. |
| Board | 05/02/19 | Approved FY2020 budget which included funding for project 7901 Resources for the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) and Affected Communities. |

Update on Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force 4-3

| | | |
|-------|----------|--|
| Board | 05/20/20 | Approved FY2021 budget which included funding for project 7901 Resources for the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC). |
| Board | 05/06/21 | Board accepts Web-Based Regional Stakeholder Committee Resources project, led by contractor Nuka Research and Planning Group, as having met the contractual terms set forth in the contract. |

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Although there were considerable concerns over initially suggested edits as the Tasks Force first began, now that the process nears completion, PWSRCAC staff is satisfied and supportive of the developed work products. Developed job aids are now generally in agreement with the current PWS area plan and the RSC process PWSRCAC has practiced in large scale exercises. It is important for there to be consistency in how this potential tool will be applied, and this material will be incorporated across all four regions/area plans throughout the state that include: 1) Arctic and Western Alaska; 2) Prince William Sound; 3) Alaska Inland; and 4) Southeast Alaska. The near finished work products (job aids) have also been expanded from what had previously been included in the Prince William Sound and Arctic and Western Alaska specific area plans.

5. **Committee Recommendation:** The OSPR Committee has been receiving updates on the RSC Task Force process. OSPR is satisfied with the progress of the RSC Task Force and products being developed.

It is anticipated that finalized RSC Task Force work products (RSC explanation language to be inserted into the different Area Plans, a job aid for Liaison Officers, and a job aid for RSC members) will be finished by early summer of 2024. These products will go to the ARRT Tri-Chairs for their review, to be written into all of the Alaska area plans, and moved onto the ADEC tools and references website where a variety of job aid resources already exist. The OSPR Committee will continue to receive updates as this process moves toward completion.

6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Monitoring the RSC Task Force falls under the Council's 7000 - Oil Spill Prevention & Response Operations Program, which is in the approved FY2024 budget and annual work plan.

7000 - Spill Response Operations Program

As of March 27, 2024

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Original Budget | \$4,250.00 |
| Revised Budget | \$4,250.00 |
| Actual & Commitments | \$1,997.90 |
| Amount Remaining | \$2,252.10 |

7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** None, item is for information only.

8. **Attachments:** None.

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Donna Schantz and the Strategic Planning Committee

Project number and name or topic: 2150 – Board of Directors

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff and the Strategic Planning Committee are seeking Board approval of the revised one-page strategic plan, as developed by contractor Agnew::Beck, and revised by staff and the Strategic Planning Committee.

Agnew::Beck presented their revisions to the Council's one-page strategic plan at the January 24, 2024 Long Range Planning workshop. These revisions were generated in response to surveys and interviews with the Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and staff, as well as discussions at the September 2023 Strategic Planning Workshop held in conjunction with the Board meeting in Homer. At the January 2024 meeting, some members of the Board felt the product delivered from Agnew::Beck was incomplete. Therefore, an ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee was stood up to further develop and update the one-page plan. The current Strategic Planning Committee consists of Directors Jim Herbert, Robert Archibald, Mako Haggerty, and Amanda Bauer, and IEC member Cathy Hart, current chair of the Long Range Planning Committee.

The Strategic Planning Committee met multiple times since the January 2024 workshop to further develop the plan, using elements of the Council's currently approved plan and the proposed plan from Agnew::Beck. A close-to-final version was presented to the Board at its March 27, 2024 special meeting as an information item, to give an update on the progress thus far and to seek input from the Board before a final version is brought to the Board for approval. At that meeting, there were no recommended changes or input provided regarding the progress made to date.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Having a clearly defined strategic plan to provide guidance and organizational direction is helpful to supplement the overall vision, purpose, and values of the organization.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u> |
|----------------|-------------|---|
| Board | 1/2012 | Adopted the one-page strategic plan. <i>Note: The one-page strategic plan is reviewed annually and has been refined over the years. The most current version is included in each annual five-year Long Range Planning document.</i> |

4. **Committee Recommendation:** The Strategic Planning Committee recommends Board approval of the revised one-page strategic plan.

5. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** This effort was included in the FY2024 budget under project 2150 Board Administration and through contract 2150.24.01 with Agnew::Beck in the amount of \$18,977 for Phase 1 of this work.
6. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Approve the one-page strategic plan as developed by the Strategic Planning Committee.
7. **Alternatives:** None recommended.
8. **Attachments:** Draft updated one-page strategic plan.

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Strategic Plan

This Plan is intended to summarize the Board's priorities for organizational goals and direction. Board, staff, and committee members are to refer to this Plan to help guide decision-making and project development.

Vision

Establish PWSRCAC as a premier advisory group, such that governments and industries solicit and value citizen input at all levels and stages of oil transportation decisions that potentially impact the environment

Mission

Citizens promoting the environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers

Core Values

Advocacy: Provide a voice for citizens in the region impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Stewardship: Promote and protect the people, environment, and communities of our region

Partnership: Collaborate with partners, volunteers, and stakeholders; facilitate open communications; and respectfully invite diverse perspectives

Accountability: To seek and verify information, promote scientific integrity, and encourage transparency

People: Recognize volunteers and staff as the most important assets of our organization

Excellence: Demonstrate organizational excellence and commit to continuous improvement

Core Functions, Goals, and Strategies

Maintain Compliance with OPA 90 and Alyeska Contractual Requirements

- ☐ (1) Obtain annual recertification and funding
- ☐ (2) Maintain regional balance
- ☐ (3) Link projects and programs to OPA 90 and Alyeska contract

Prevent Oil Spills, Reduce Risks, Promote Response Readiness, and Facilitate Research

- ☐ (4) Combat complacency and reduce risk by means of observing, monitoring, informing, and advising
- ☐ (5) Monitor and advise on the condition and operation of the terminal, tankers, and spill prevention and response system
- ☐ (6) Monitor and advise on environmental indicators and reportable incidents
- ☐ (7) Monitor and advise on the development of, and compliance with, applicable laws and regulations
- ☐ (8) Advocate for funding and staffing of regulatory agencies to provide comprehensive oversight
- ☐ (9) Advocate for interagency coordination, and public transparency and participation within the regulatory framework
- ☐ (10) Advocate for continuous improvement to the environmental safety of marine terminal operations and oil transportation
- ☐ (11) Promote and facilitate effective research for scientific, operational, and technical excellence
- ☐ (12) Promote risk reduction measures, best available technologies, and best practices for oil spill prevention and response.

Develop and Maintain Effective External and Internal Communication

- ☐ (13) Maintain and improve relationships and information sharing with key partners
- ☐ (14) Engage and educate the public, partners, and member entities
- ☐ (15) Advocate for timely and responsive information from Alyeska
- ☐ (16) Ensure availability of PWSRCAC information
- ☐ (17) Foster public awareness, responsibility, and citizen participation in our work

Achieve Organizational Excellence

- ☐ (18) Recruit and develop knowledgeable and committed volunteers and staff
- ☐ (19) Improve efficiency of internal processes, including introducing new technology
- ☐ (20) Improve systems that preserve documentation and institutional knowledge
- ☐ (21) Be a model for citizen oversight
- ☐ (22) Assess and improve the Long Range Planning process
- ☐ (23) Demonstrate fiscal responsibility

Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024**ACTION ITEM**

Sponsor: Joe Lally, Director of Programs
Project number and name or topic: Committee Member Appointments

1. **Description of agenda item:** This agenda item is to request that the Board support the volunteer membership of the committees by the appointment of applicants to a two-year term to the committees listed below. This item is being placed on the consent agenda, as there are no new appointees.

Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Sarah Allan | Renewal |
|-------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Davin Holen | Renewal |
|-------------|---------|

Note: The committee consists of seven members including renewals.

Directors on SAC: Dorothy Moore, Wayne Donaldson

Terminal Operations and Environmental Monitoring Committee (TOEM)

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Amanda Bauer | Renewal |
|--------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Matt Cullin | Renewal |
|-------------|---------|

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| George Skladal | Renewal |
|----------------|---------|

Note: The committee consists of seven members including renewals.

Directors on TOEM: Amanda Bauer

Oil Spill Prevention and Response Committee (OSPR)

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Mike Bender | Renewal |
|-------------|---------|

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Dave Goldstein | Renewal |
|----------------|---------|

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Tim Robertson | Renewal |
|---------------|---------|

Note: The committee consists of seven members including renewals and new members.

Directors on OSPR: Robert Beedle, Mike Bender, Jim Herbert

Port Operations and Vessel Traffic Systems (POVTS)

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Amanda Bauer | Renewal |
|--------------|---------|

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Robert Archibald | Renewal |
|------------------|---------|

Note: The committee consists of five members including renewals.

Directors on POVTS: Amanda Bauer, Robert Archibald

Information and Education Committee (IEC)

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Ruthie Knight | Renewal |
|---------------|---------|

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Kate Morse | Renewal |
|------------|---------|

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Aimee Williams | Renewal |
|----------------|---------|

Note: The committee consists of eight members including renewals.

Directors on IEC: Aimee Williams

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Maintaining a strong committee membership has been a high priority for PWSRCAC. The committees are an integral component of PWSRCAC's work and require strong volunteer membership.
3. **Summary of policy, issues, support or opposition:** Selection criteria for committee members per Board policy 507 includes: 1) experience or background in a technical field; 2) having a stake in safe oil transportation and/or terminal operations; 3) residents of the EVOS region given preference; 4) objectivity; and 5) special skills or expertise. Additionally, at least one Board member shall serve on each PWSRCAC standing committee.
4. **Committee Recommendation:** The committee chairs and staff will discuss the seating of these members at the meeting during the executive session.
5. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Committee expenses tend to increase with the size of the committee but have always been an important part of the PWSRCAC budget. In the past, the Board supported limiting committee members to eight plus Board members.
6. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Elect committee members to two-year terms on their respective committees.
7. **Alternatives:** None proposed.
8. **Attachments:** The meeting attendance for the last three years for all committee members is in section 2-4 of the meeting packet. Applications for new members are provided to Board members only [upon request](#).

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024**INFORMATION ITEM**

Sponsor: Joe Lally and the Legislative Affairs Committee

Project number and name or topic : 4400 and 4410 – Federal and State Government Affairs Update

1. **Description of agenda item:** Staff and the Council's legislative monitors Gene Theriault, and Roy Jones, along with Genevieve Cowan from BlankRome Government Relations will report on developments and prospects in Washington, D.C., and Juneau related to PWSRCAC legislative priorities.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Many issues of vital importance to the Council and its mission are debated and decided in Juneau and Washington, D.C. The Legislative Affairs Committee works to advance legislative priorities that are consistent with our mission, OPA 90, and our contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.
3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** LAC was created by the Board in 1991, and has operated ever since.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Not applicable.
5. **Committee Recommendation:** Not applicable.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Program 4400 - Federal Governmental Affairs, 4410 – State Government Affairs, and 2700 - Legislative Affairs Committee are all in the approved FY2024 budget with a combined budget total of \$147,075.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** None, item is for information only.
8. **Attachments:** None.

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

INFORMATION ITEM**Sponsor:** Maia Draper-Reich & IEC**Project number and name or topic:** 3500 - Community Outreach Program

1. **Description of agenda item:** This is an information item to provide the Board an update on PWSRCAC outreach events, as well as work accomplished by the Fishing Vessel Program Community Outreach (3410) and Youth Involvement (3530) projects during FY2024.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The Community Outreach program and projects help achieve the Council's mission through increasing public awareness and sharing the Council's work with a variety of audiences. The different types of programs and events also increase communications with member entities and individuals in the Exxon Valdez oil spill region. This work helps maintain regional balance and foster partnerships. This is an update about community outreach activities provided by the Council over the past year.
3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** None.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** According to OPA 90 and the Council's contract with Alyeska, community outreach fulfills the following requirements:

OPA 90:

- Provides regional balance, broadly representative of communities and interests in the region.
- Provides advice to regulators on the federal and state levels.
- Provides advice and recommendations on policies, permits, and site-specific regulations relating to the operation and maintenance of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers.
- Provides advice and recommendations on port operations, policies, and practices.
- Fosters partnerships among industry, government, and local citizens.

Alyeska Contract:

- Provides local and regional input, review, and monitoring of Alyeska's oil spill response and prevention plans and capabilities, environmental protections capabilities, and the actual and potential environmental impacts of the terminal and tanker operations.
- Increases public awareness of subjects listed above.
- Provide local and regional input into the design of appropriate mitigation measures for potential consequences likely to occur as a result of oil or environmental related accidents or impacts of terminal and tanker operations.

5. **Committee Recommendation:** IEC reviews updates on Community Outreach efforts and projects at each committee meeting. This is an informational item to the Board only; no action is recommended by the committee at this time.
6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 3500 - Community Outreach, Project 3410 - Fishing Vessel Program Community Outreach, and Project 3530 - Youth Involvement are in the approved FY2024 budget with a combined budget total of \$126,799.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** None. This item is for information only.
8. **Attachments:** None.

REVISED BRIEFING

Resolution Requesting a Voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction by Tankers 4-8

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Rick Steiner, Oasis Earth
Project number and name or topic: Resolution Requesting a Voluntary Speed Reduction by Tankers in Prince William Sound

1. **Description of agenda item:** The Board is being asked to adopt a resolution requesting all Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) tanker owners voluntarily adopt a vessel speed reduction to 10 knots or less in the Prince William Sound traffic separation scheme. The purpose of the vessel speed reduction is to reduce the environmental footprint of the TAPS fleet, including reducing risk of vessel whale-strikes, underwater noise, and carbon emission from the burning of fossil fuels.
2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** This resolution was drafted and requested by local citizen Rick Steiner of Oasis Earth in Anchorage, Alaska. Steiner has requested to address the Board at the May 2024 meeting about this topic. Steiner previously provided public comment to the Board on January 26, 2023, on the issue of TAPS tanker whale-strike mitigation in Prince William Sound. This item is important to PWSRCAC as it relates to the potential for environmental impacts in the Exxon Valdez oil spill area by terminal and tanker operations.
3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:** None.
4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** In a letter dated November 14, 2023, NOAA responded to a request for rulemaking to adopt a whale-strike risk reduction protocol in Prince William Sound, to include vessel speed reduction by all large vessels, in particular oil tankers. In the letter, NOAA denied the request for rulemaking on the grounds of the number and location of humpback whales in PWS; existing federal regulations to avoid approaching humpback whales; and existing speed restrictions for laden tankers. NOAA reaffirmed its position in a letter issued February 20, 2024, in response to a complaint submitted following NOAA's original letter. NOAA correspondence is available upon request.

At the May 2023 PWSRCAC Board meeting, POVTS Chair Steve Lewis presented on an internal memorandum titled "TAPS Tanker Speed Reduction Operational Overview," dated April 5, 2023, that was prepared by the POVTS Committee. While the POVTS Committee is in unanimous agreement that vessel/whale interaction in PWS and GOA is an area of concern and that speed reduction can be a significant mitigating factor, the Committee also expressed reservations about the specific action requested by Mr. Steiner.

REVISED BRIEFING

Resolution Requesting a Voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction by Tankers 4-8

5. **Committee Recommendation:** Both the POVTS and Scientific Advisory Committees have previously discussed the issue of a voluntary vessel speed reduction for tankers at the request of Mr. Steiner. At that time, the committees recommended deferring to NOAA to make a determination on the risk of tanker whale strikes in Prince William Sound. Following NOAA's determination issued in the letters described above, POVTS and SAC held a joint project team meeting on April 4, 2024, to again discuss the topic of tanker whale strikes in Prince William Sound and the draft resolution presented by Rick Steiner. The committees provided feedback on the proposed resolution, which was later revised by Mr. Steiner. POVTS then held a follow up meeting to discuss the revised resolution; a memo describing the outcome of that meeting is attached to this briefing sheet.

If the Board approves the proposed resolution, the POVTS Committee recommends adding "when it is operationally safe to do so" to the title of the draft resolution. This redline is depicted in Attachment A, version A1.

6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** None.

7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Adopt a resolution, drafted by Rick Steiner of Oasis Earth, requesting all Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a vessel speed reduction in the Prince William Sound traffic separation scheme for the purpose of reducing the environmental footprint of the TAPS fleet.

8. **Alternatives:** The Board could choose to not adopt the resolution drafted by Rick Steiner of Oasis Earth.

9. **Attachments:**

- (1) Draft resolution authored and promoted by Rick Steiner, Oasis Earth.
- (2) Memo from the POVTS Committee, dated April 14, 2024, sharing their review and findings related to the draft resolution proposed by Rick Steiner.

Rick Steiner Version A1
DRAFT: Resolution 24-XX PWSRCAC

A1 -- simplified version, in response to POVTS and SAC concerns, presented for full Board consideration at May 2-3, 2024 meeting)

Requesting all Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less **when it is operationally safe to do so* while transiting the PWS Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), in order to reduce the overall environmental footprint of the TAPS fleet, including reducing risk of vessel whale-strikes, underwater noise, and fossil fuel use/carbon emissions.**

WHEREAS, waters of Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska (PWS/GOA) outside of Hinchinbrook Entrance are important habitat for many cetacean populations, including Humpback whales, Killer whales, Gray whales, Blue whales, Sperm whales, Fin whales, Sei whales, Minke whales, and several species of Beaked whales;

WHEREAS, all of these whales are known to occur periodically within the TSS transited by TAPS oil tankers and escort vessels;

WHEREAS, ship-strikes are a well-documented source of injury and death for cetaceans;

WHEREAS, there is overwhelming scientific consensus that a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less substantially reduces the risk and impact of ship-strikes on whales, underwater noise generated by the vessels, and fossil fuel use/carbon emissions from the vessels;

NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, the PWSRCAC Board of Directors requests TAPS tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less while transiting inbound and outbound in the TSS to/from its offshore limit outside Hinchinbrook Entrance, subject to safe navigation constraints, while abiding all other lower speed limits currently required in the TSS.

Rick Steiner Version A2
DRAFT: Resolution 24-XX PWSRCAC

A2 – longer, more detailed/complex version that POVTS and SAC Committees declined to support at their joint meeting April 4:

Requesting all Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less in daylight, 8 knots or less in dark, and post a bow-watch, while transiting the PWS Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS), in order to reduce the overall environmental footprint of the TAPS fleet, including reducing risk of vessel whale-strikes, underwater noise, and fossil fuel use/carbon emissions; and for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to expand its cetacean monitoring in the region.

WHEREAS, waters of Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska (PWS/GOA) outside of Hinchinbrook Entrance are important habitat for many cetacean populations, including Humpback whales, Killer whales, Gray whales, Blue whales, Sperm whales, Fin whales, Sei whales, Minke whales, and several species of Beaked whales;

WHEREAS, several of these species are currently listed as Endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), including Humpback whales, Blue whales, Sperm whales, Fin whales, and Sei whales;

WHEREAS, PWS/GOA is designated as ESA Critical Habitat for both the Mexico and Western North Pacific Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of Humpback whales;

WHEREAS, Humpback whale sightings in PWS have declined substantially, by as much as 90%, over the past decade;

WHEREAS, studies have documented Killer whale super-pod aggregations, with more than 150 individuals from several pods, seasonally in Hinchinbrook Entrance;

WHEREAS, the genetically distinct AT1 Killer whale pod, that was severely impacted by the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill losing 15 of its 22 members in the two years after the spill, and now with only 7 individuals and no reproductive females is at risk of becoming extinct, is listed as “Depleted” under the MMPA, and is known to frequent Hinchinbrook Entrance;

WHEREAS, Gray whales, that transit across the TSS outside Hinchinbrook Entrance, have recently suffered an “Unusual Mortality Event” in which their population declined from an estimated 20,500 individuals in 2019 to 14,526 in 2023, and are expected to decline further as their benthic prey resource in the Northern Bering Sea and Chukchi Sea continues to decline due to impacts of climate change/sea ice loss;

WHEREAS, studies have documented the presence of Fin whales, Blue whales, and Beaked whales in coastal waters of the GOA throughout the year, the presence of Humpback whales in fall and winter months, and Sperm whales across the continental slope;

WHEREAS, all of these whales are known to occur periodically within the TSS transited by TAPS oil tankers and escort vessels;

WHEREAS, ship-strikes are a well-documented source of injury and death for cetaceans;

WHEREAS, due to limited data and observational effort, it remains impossible to know how many whales have been struck by the more than 47,000 transits of TAPS tankers to/from the Valdez Marine Terminal since startup in 1977;

WHEREAS, due to data limitations regarding cetacean distribution in PWS/GOA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is unable to provide a quantitative assessment of risk of ship-strikes on whales in the region, and thus has declined a request to adopt a rule requiring a Vessel Speed Reduction for large vessels transiting the region;

WHEREAS, there is overwhelming scientific consensus that a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less substantially reduces the risk and impact of ship-strikes on whales, underwater noise generated by the vessels, and fossil fuel use/carbon emissions from the vessels;

WHEREAS, the voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots in southern California waters has reportedly resulted in a 50% reduction in vessel whale strikes/year, a 5 decibel/transit (~50%) reduction in underwater noise, and reduction of 650 tons of smog forming NO_x and over 22,000 tons of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions/year;

WHEREAS, some TAPS tankers already comply with a voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction to reduce the risk of whale strikes in other waters they transit, such as off California;

WHEREAS, it is in the clear interest of the public, PWS tourism industry, oil industry, and government to adopt precautionary Vessel Speed Reduction for the TAPS fleet to reduce the risk of vessel strikes to individual whales in PWS/GOA waters, to reduce underwater noise in the marine environment, and reduce fossil fuel use/carbon emissions;

WHEREAS, the central mission of the PWSRCAC is to promote: *“environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers;”*

NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, the PWSRCAC Board of Directors requests TAPS tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less in daylight, 8 knots or less in dark, while transiting inbound and outbound in the TSS to/from its offshore limit outside Hinchinbrook Entrance, subject to safe navigation constraints, while abiding all other lower speed limits currently required in the TSS; to post a bow-watch while transiting the TSS to detect whales and alert the bridge

crew; to agree to a standard bridge response procedure to avoid striking whales detected in the TSS; and to explore additional measures to detect and avoid whales along their route;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PWSRCAC Board of Directors requests NOAA to expand distribution surveys for all cetaceans in PWS/GOA in the vicinity of the TSS, and explore additional technologies to detect and/or deter cetaceans from oncoming ship strike hazards, including deployment of seafloor High-frequency Acoustic Recording Packages (HARPs) to monitor cetacean calls/presence along the TSS, and the potential use of acoustic sensors to provide real-time whale distribution information to ships in transit in the TSS.

April 14, 2024

FROM: POVTS Committee; S. K. Lewis, Chair

TO: PWSRCAC Board of Directors
Donna Schantz, PWSRCAC Executive Director

RE: A resolution to requests TAPS tanker owners to voluntarily adopt a Vessel Speed Reduction to 10 knots or less while transiting inbound and outbound in the Prince William Sound Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) to/from its offshore limit outside Hinchinbrook Entrance, subject to safe navigation constraints, while abiding all other lower speed limits currently required in the TSS.

Actions: During March and April of 2024, the POVTS committee was again asked to review the operational implications to the TAPS fleet of a Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) to 10 knots or less while transiting inbound and outbound in the Valdez TSS from its offshore limit to the Valdez Marine Terminal. In conjunction with this evaluation the committee also reviewed available information on the efficacy of VSR as a mitigation technique in ship-strikes on whales, underwater noise reduction and vessel stack emissions.

Findings:

1. No obvious adverse safety or operational impact to TAPS fleet maritime operation while limited to 10 knots within the TSS was identified.
2. Some vessel specific mechanical concerns when operating at 10 knots are possible but due to data unavailability issues these are beyond the capability of this review.
3. In areas having scientifically validated study results, VSR to 10 knots has been shown to reduce ship-strikes on whales, reduce ship generated underwater noise and reduce vessel stack emissions of atmospheric pollutants.
4. There is insufficient scientific data within Prince William Sound and the TSS to quantify the potential reductions to ship-strikes, ship generated underwater noise, or vessel stack emissions.

Conclusions:

The POVTS committee by consensus has reached the following conclusions:

1. POVTS finds no maritime operational considerations which would preclude requesting a voluntary VSR for the TAPS tankers within the TSS as detailed in the attached draft Resolution 24-XX.
2. POVTS finds that there is strong evidence that a beneficial, but presently unquantified, reduction in ship-strikes on whales, underwater noise, and stack emissions would result if the TAPS tankers were to observe a voluntary VSR within the TSS as detailed in the attached draft Resolution 24-XX.

Stephen K. Lewis
Chair, Port Operations and Vessel Transit Systems Committee

Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024

ACTION ITEM

Sponsor: Donna Schantz and the Board of Directors

Project number and name or topic: 210 – Board Committee Appointments

1. **Description of agenda item:** Appointments are made annually to four of the standing Board and ad hoc committees; the Finance Committee, the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC), Board Governance Committee (BGC), and Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC). The purpose of this agenda item is to solicit interest and appoint members to the following committees:

Finance Committee: By resolution, the Finance Committee must be seated at the time the operating budget is adopted. The committee will be comprised of the newly elected Treasurer, who shall chair the committee, and at least three members of the Board of Directors. The most recent Finance Committee was comprised of Wayne Donaldson (Treasurer), Robert Archibald, Mako Haggerty, Angela Totemoff, and Jim Herbert. Once appointed, the Finance Committee will be charged with: reviewing interim financial reports and proposed budgets; meeting with the independent auditor at least annually to review the scope of each year's annual audit and the findings of such audit; meeting with PWSRCAC's management and financial staff to review internal controls and to develop additional interim reporting methods to assist the Board; and assisting staff and/or auditors with the drafting of the annual financial statements and notes. Estimated time commitment is 4-5 meetings per year.

Long Range Planning Committee: The Board approves the annual process for Long Range Planning and budgeting. The process begins with the appointment of Board members to the LRPC each year in May. At least three members of the Board of Directors are desired to serve on the committee, as well as the chairs of all five technical committees. The most recent LRPC was comprised of Directors Robert Archibald, Amanda Bauer, Elijah Jackson, Angela Totemoff, and Jim Herbert; Cathy Hart from the IE Committee; and the five technical committee chairs. Estimated time commitment is 5-6 meetings per year, including the December and January in-person workshops. The Long Range Planning Committee is an ad hoc Committee and as such, is not included as a Standing Committee in PWSRCAC Bylaws.

Board Governance Committee: BGC is responsible for the organizational health and effectiveness of the Board. Its responsibilities include Board development, which includes training new Board members, as well as ongoing development of Board job descriptions. The BGC is also responsible for annually reviewing the Council's bylaws and practices, and recommending any changes it deems appropriate related to Board structure or operations. By way of example, the BGC should periodically

review the manner in which meetings are conducted, the responsibilities of the Board officers, and the use of both standing and ad hoc committees. The BGC shall assist the President of the Board by recommending action in appropriate circumstances on issues regarding individual Board members, including their participation, or lack thereof with regard to Council's activities. Per its Charter, the BGC shall consist of at least three Board members. The most recent BGC was comprised of Dorothy Moore, Mike Bender, Luke Hasenbank, and Robert Beedle. Estimated time commitment is 3-5 meetings per year, as needed.

Legislative Affairs Committee: The LAC monitors developments in the Alaska State Legislature and on a federal level, recommends action to be taken to the full PWSRCAC Board of Directors, and, as directed by the Board, communicates PWSRCAC positions and concerns to lawmakers. The Committee's work is supported by outside contractors to monitor pertinent state and federal matters. LAC should consist of at least three Board members. The most recent Legislative Affairs Committee was comprised of Dorothy Moore, Robert Archibald, Mako Haggerty, Robert Beedle, Kirk Zinck, and Elijah Jackson. Estimated time commitment is one meeting every other week throughout the legislative season. In addition, two Board members are budgeted to travel to Juneau and Washington, D.C., for legislative outreach visits.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** Members of the Board of Directors have a responsibility to oversee various tasks of the Council. It is important that each of these committees be staffed with Board member appointees annually to ensure sufficient Board participation and direction.
3. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Appoint Board members to the following committees:
 - Finance Committee (Treasurer and at least three Board members).
 - Long Range Planning Committee (at least three Board members), the five technical committee chairs, and consideration of approving volunteer Cathy Hart.
 - Board Governance Committee (at least three Board members).
 - Legislative Affairs Committee (at least three Board members).
4. **Alternatives:** None proposed.
5. **Attachments:**
 - A. Excerpts from PWSRCAC Bylaws on Standing Committees
 - B. Resolution 03-03 Creating the Finance Committee
 - C. Board Governance Committee Charter

Excerpts from PWSRCAC Bylaws Regarding Standing Committees

3.18.1 Creation of Committees. The Board may designate and appoint one or more standing or temporary committees, including an Executive Committee, from its own number and invest such committees with such powers as it may see fit, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the Board, these Bylaws and applicable law. The designation and appointment of any such committee and the delegation of authority thereto shall not relieve the Board or any individual Director of any responsibility imposed by law. The Board may also designate and appoint one or more standing or temporary committees that may include persons other than Directors, but it shall not delegate to any such committee any authority or responsibility imposed on the Board by law, the articles of incorporation or these Bylaws. Members may be appointed to the standing committees, other than the Executive Committee, by the Executive Committee or by Board poll. Such appointments shall be ratified at the next meeting of the full Board.

3.18.2 Authority Standing of Committees.

3.18.2.1 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the corporation other than the Executive Director and a member at large and may include two additional members at large from the board of directors. Subject to limitations on authority imposed by the Board, the Executive Committee shall have and may exercise all of the authority of the Board, except that no such committee shall have the authority to (1) amend the Articles of Incorporation, (2) adopt a plan of merger or consolidation with another corporation, (3) authorize the sale, lease, exchange or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the corporation, (4) authorize the voluntary dissolution of the corporation or revoke proceedings therefore, (5) adopt a plan for the distribution of the assets of the corporation, (6) amend these Bylaws, or (7) approve or substantially modify the corporation's budget and/or contractual commitments.

3.18.2.2 Board Governance Committee. The Board Governance Committee is responsible for the organizational health and effectiveness of the Board. Its responsibilities include Board development, which includes training new Board members, as well as ongoing development of Board position job descriptions. The Board Governance Committee also is responsible for annually reviewing the Council's Bylaws and practices and recommending any changes it deems appropriate related to Board structure or operations. By way of example, the Board Governance Committee should periodically review the manner in which meetings are conducted, the responsibilities of the Board officers, and the use of both standing and ad hoc committees. The Board Governance Committee shall adopt and abide by a Charter approved by the Board. The Board Governance Committee shall assist the President of the Board and chairs of the Council's committees, recommending action in appropriate circumstances, in issues regarding individual Board Members, including their participation or lack thereof with regard to council's activities.

3.18.2.3 Finance Committee. The responsibility of the Finance Committee is to assist the Board in carrying out its fiduciary responsibility to oversee the financial affairs of the organization and the annual independent audit of the Council's finances. The duties of the Finance Committee may include review and / or recommendation to the Board regarding acceptance or amendment of interim financial reports and proposed budgets. The Finance Committee will meet with the independent auditor at least annually to review the scope of the annual audits and audit findings, review internal controls, annual financial statements, the IRS Form 990, and review and provide guidance on risk management, insurance policies, property management, procurement, contracting policies, insurance, fiscal ethics and compliance programs, and overall fiscal governance. The Finance Committee shall be appointed to one-year terms by the Board at the May Board meeting or at the time the budget is adopted. The Committee shall be comprised of the Treasurer, who shall chair the Committee and at least three members of the Board of Directors. (Resolution 03-03).

3.18.2.4 Legislative Affairs Committee. The responsibility of the Legislative Affairs Committee is to advise the Board on state and federal legislative matters directly related to the PWSRCAC mission and its duties as set forth in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) and the contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. The responsibilities of the Legislative Affairs Committee may include advising the Board on legislative priorities, relevant legislation and regulations, administrative actions, and department budgets. The Committee may produce informational materials on legislative priorities that educate and inform, make recommendation to the staff on administrative actions that advance legislative priorities, and participate in legislative visits to Juneau and Washington D.C. Committee members shall serve one-year terms and shall be appointed by the Board at the May Board meeting. The Committee shall be comprised of at least four Board members.

##



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

In Anchorage: 3709 Spenard Road / Anchorage, Alaska 99503 / (907) 277-7222 / FAX (907) 277-4523

In Valdez: P.O. Box 3089 / 339 Hazelet Avenue / Valdez, Alaska 99686 / (907) 835-5957 / FAX (907) 835-5926

RESOLUTION 03-03

MEMBERS

Alaska State
Chamber of
Commerce

Alaska Wilderness
Recreation & Tourism
Association

Chugach Alaska
Corporation

City of Cordova

City of Homer

City of Kodiak

City of Seldovia

City of Seward

City of Valdez

City of Whittier

Community of
Chenega Bay

Community of
Tahitiak

Cordova District
Fishermen United

Kenai Peninsula
Borough

Kodiak Island
Borough

Kodiak Village Mayors
Association

Oil Spill Region
Environmental
Coalition

Prince William Sound
Aquaculture
Corporation

WHEREAS, Article 3.18.1 of the Bylaws of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council provides for the creation of committees by resolution of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that the creation of a Finance Committee will assist them in their fiduciary responsibility of overseeing the financial affairs of the organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a Finance Committee shall be created;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee shall be comprised of the of the Treasurer who shall chair the committee and at least three members of the Board of Directors;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Finance Committee shall be appointed to one-year terms by the Board of Directors at the May board meeting or the time the budget is adopted;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee shall be charged with:

- (a) Reviewing interim financial reports and proposed budgets and making recommendations to the Board for acceptance or changes to the reports and budgets;
- (b) Meeting with the independent auditor at least annually to review the scope of each year's annual audit and the findings of such audits;
- (c) Meeting with PWSRCAC's management and financial staff to review internal controls and develop additional interim reporting methods to assist the Board;
- (d) Assisting staff and/or auditors with the drafting of the annual financial statements and notes.

President

Date: 9/25/03

Secretary

Board Governance Committee Charter

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council

Purpose. The Board Governance Committee is responsible for the organizational health and effectiveness of the Board.

Responsibilities. The Board Governance Committee has the following responsibilities, as established by the Council Board:

- Adopt and abide by a Charter approved by the Board.
- Annually review the Council's Bylaws and practices, and recommend any changes it deems appropriate related to Board structure or operations. By way of example, the Board Governance Committee should periodically review the manner in which meetings are conducted, the responsibilities of the Board officers, and the use of both board-only standing and ad hoc committees.
- Board development recommendations, which includes training for new Board members, as well as ongoing development of Board position job descriptions.
- Assist the President of the Board and chairs of the Council's committees, recommending action in appropriate circumstances, in issues regarding individual Board Members, including their participation or lack thereof with regard to council's activities.

Membership, Quorum, and Terms of Service. The Governance Committee consists of at least three Board members appointed in accordance with Sec. 3.18.1 of the Council Bylaws.

Committee members are appointed annually. The Committee selects its own Chair annually from among the members of the Committee. A quorum consists of three members.

Accountability. The Governance Committee is accountable to the Board of Directors.

Responsible Staff Person. The Executive Director, or his or her designee, is responsible for the administration of the work of the Governance Committee.





PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

**May 2024
Status Report**
As of March 21, 2024

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill – 35th Anniversary

Project Manager Amanda Johnson, Outreach Coordinator Maia Draper-Reich, and Director of Communications Brooke Taylor coordinated efforts (online, in print, and in-person) to honor the 35th anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. No official project was funded; however, staff used the opportunity to showcase the Council's mission in a variety of ways. A summary of these activities was shared at a recent IEC meeting, and is available online here: <https://tinyurl.com/EVOSupdate35th>. Note that list was current as of late February. Please contact Amanda Johnson for a final list.

3100 – Public Information Program

Objectives: Inform members of the general public, member entities, and agency and industry partners of PWSRCAC projects. Support legal requirements for ongoing updates to the public.

Accomplishments since last report: Staff continues to inform the general public and others about PWSRCAC's projects and mission through publications and online presence. Director of Communications Brooke Taylor traveled to Valdez in February with author/illustrator Tom Crestodina to view vessels and equipment for Project 3810. Taylor also traveled to Portland, OR, in April to attend the 2024 Science Talk conference, done by the Association of Science Communicators, as professional development training.

3110 – Oral History

Objectives: To update the PWSRCAC logo and other small corrections in The Spill book and place an order of 1,000 print copies for outreach uses.

Accomplishments since last report: Staff has been working on a new order of 1,000 copies of the Spill book, which was produced under this project in 2008/2009. The order includes small updates to the book including our new logo. We are also in the process of creating an eBook version. Print books are expected to arrive in June 2024.

We consistently provide these books to partners, educators, and the public at no cost and prior to this order had less than ~150 copies left from our previous order in 2016.

3200 – The Observer

The Observer: The Council's newsletter, "The Observer," is produced three times per year in both print and email format. Individual articles are posted to the Council's website. The article archive is available here: www.tinyurl.com/ObserverArchive.

The March special edition highlighted the changes in the spill prevention and response system in Prince William Sound since 1989, including improvements and remaining concerns:

<https://tinyurl.com/EVOS-35YearsLater>.

3300 – Annual Report

Objectives: Prepare and publish PWSRCAC's Annual Report each year to:

1. Inform the general public, member entities, and agency and industry partners of PWSRCAC projects and activities; and
2. Support legal requirements for ongoing updates to the public.

Accomplishments since last report: The 2022-2023 report was completed and distributed in late 2023. The last contract with the graphic designer closed in November 2023, and a new contract is being drafted ahead of work starting on the 2023-2024 report, tentative in May/June.

3410 – Fishing Vessel Program Community Outreach

Objectives: For bringing the realities of oil spill response tactics, equipment, and planning to life for citizens within the Exxon Valdez oil spill region communities, the fishing vessel community outreach program is a perfect venue. Each fall and spring SERVS holds its contracted fishing vessel program training in the following communities: Cordova, Valdez, Whittier, Seward, Homer, and Kodiak. The on-water portion of the training, viewed by the public during this outreach tour in partnership with Alyeska/SERVS, shows real-time capabilities of oil spill prevention and response equipment and tactics. This project contracts a local tour boat that will allow interested students, members of the public, and media to observe and learn about oil spill prevention and response.

Accomplishments since last report: Based on the spring SERVS training dates, scheduling logistics, and where the tour has been held previously, the Information and Education Committee considered different scenarios and voted not to hold the FVPCO tour in spring 2024. Instead, we are moving ahead with planning the FY2025 tour for September 2024 in Whittier.

Additionally during FY2025, staff and IEC will work to develop an alternative format for this outreach in Kodiak as there is not an appropriate passenger vessel option to host the tour in the typical way in that community.

3500 – Community Outreach Program

Objectives: Increase awareness of PWSRCAC and increase communications with member organizations and communities in the Exxon Valdez oil spill region.

Accomplishments since last report:

- **February 5-9** - Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE), Anchorage, AK
 - Maia Draper-Reich presented for PWSRCAC on a shared session titled "30 Years Since the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill: Community Projects and Engagement." The other speakers were Shiway Wang, Executive Director of the EVOS Trustee Council, and Shaylon Cochran, Director of Communications and Public Outreach of Cook Inlet RCAC. ~130 people attended the session between in person and online.
 - PWSRCAC and CIRCAC shared an exhibitor booth for the whole event, connecting with 249 of attendees. Maia, Shaylon, PWSRCAC staff member Jaina Willahan, and CIRCAC

staff member Cassandra Johnson disseminated information about both RCACs and their missions and handed out PWSRCAC and CIRCAC giveaway items and publications.

- **February 20-23** – Homer Community Visit, Homer, AK
 - Maia accomplished the following outreach programs and meetings during this trip:
 - Guest lesson on EVOS history and PWSRCAC history and accomplishments for Alaska History class at Homer High School
 - Guest Oil Spill in a Pan lesson for biology class at Homer Flex High School
 - Guest Oil Spill in a Pan lesson for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies' Science and Action Club afterschool program
 - Four guest Oil Spill in a Pan lessons for 8th grade science students at Homer Middle School
 - Three guest Oil Spill in a Pan lessons for 3rd-6th grade students at Fireweed Academy Charter School
 - Volunteer gathering
 - Partner meet ups with NOAA, USFWS, and KBNERR
 - She shared different PWSRCAC publications with Homer educators as well.
 - She connected with 154 students and 25 adults through the listed programs.
- **March 22-24** – Alaska Tsunami Ocean Sciences Bowl, Seward, AK
 - Maia and Jim Herbert served as competition officials for the annual quiz bowl event hosting high school teams from around the state including several from the EVOS region.
- **April 11-13** – ComFish Alaska, Kodiak, AK
 - Danielle Verna hosted the Council's booth at this expo event.
 - She accomplished some work for the Council's Kodiak-based Aquatic Invasive Species Intern.

Maia also attended the Alaska Natural Resources and Outdoor Education Symposium on March 1st in Anchorage to hear talks and network with other environmental educators in the region.

3530 – Youth Involvement

Objectives: Select proposals for youth activities, in collaboration with partner agencies and organizations throughout the Exxon Valdez oil spill region. Coordinate activities to facilitate hands-on learning about topics related to the Council's mission. Where appropriate and feasible, participate in mission-relevant youth activities.

Accomplishments since last report: The Information and Education committee accepted seven proposals on the latest RFP for Summer 2024 programs, utilizing the remainder of the FY2024 Youth Involvement contracting funds. These projects are in the contracting process with work beginning in March and concluding in September 2024.

Four are underway for the 2023/2024 School Year are currently underway and will close by June 30, 2024:

- Alaska Marine Conservation Council/Kodiak Ocean Science Discovery Program – *Science and Engineering Club* for \$5,000
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council/Kodiak Ocean Science Discovery Program – *Chemistry Introduction: Oil, Climate Change, and Ocean Acidification* for \$5,000

- University of Alaska Anchorage, Prince William Sound College - *Environmental Undergraduate Research Experience* for \$4,955
- Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies – *Afterschool Action to Lifelong Learners* for \$5,000

3600 – Public Communications Program

Objectives: This program disseminates information and increases awareness through the Observer newsletter and the Council's online presence. This program helps publicize information generated from the Council's technical committee projects. Project results and information are disseminated in a format that is easily understood by the general public.

Accomplishments since last report: The booklet "Stories of a Citizens' Council" was redesigned and reprinted in November.

Project Manager Amanda Johnson attended the Nonprofit Technology Network Conference in March. Session topics included best practices for website, email, and other digital communications; ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence; creation and management of accessible content; data visualization; and management of technology projects and programs; and other topics. The conference agenda is available here: <https://www.nten.org/gather/ntc/program/agenda>.

3610 – Web Best Available Technology

Objectives: This project helps ensure the Council's websites and web presence using the best and most up-to-date technology available by funding new features, repairs, and upgrades to the Council's websites. This includes regular maintenance and technical upgrades as well as upgrades to such aspects as user experience and branding.

Website data: Website usage for www.pwsrcc.org is tracked through Google Analytics for information such as numbers of visitors, location of visitors, how visitors found the site, which pages are visited most often, how much time is spent on particular pages, whether visitors were engaged enough to visit more than one page and much more. Contact project manager Amanda Johnson for access to data reports.

3810 – Illustrated Prevention & Response System Outreach

Objectives: Work with artist and author Tom Crestodina to develop artwork for a book and other materials showcasing the oil spill prevention and response system in Prince William Sound.

1. Educate stakeholders and the general public about the importance of spill prevention and response, why the PWS prevention/response system is one of the best in the world, and how it can be kept that way.
2. Create new work partnerships with industry and regulators, similar to how groups collaborate during the fishing vessel training community outreach tours.

Accomplishments since last report: Crestodina visited Valdez in February to view vessels and equipment. Prior to his visit, the Council project team and industry representative provided input on a staff developed outline, meant to provide guidance to Crestodina on the book's content. During the Valdez visit, Crestodina and Director of Communications Brooke Taylor toured SERVS assets, the tanker Polar Adventure, and SWAPA pilot boats. Industry personnel (Alyeska/SERVS, Polar Tankers, SWAPA) were welcoming, accommodating, and extremely helpful in answering Crestodina's questions. Everyone

interacted with seemed enthusiastic about the project and eager to help. Crestodina has now begun development of sketches and a storyboard for the book.

5000 - Terminal Operations Program

Objectives: The goal of the Terminal Operations and Environmental Monitoring (TOEM) Program is to prevent hazardous liquid spills and minimize the actual and potential environmental impacts associated with the operation and maintenance of the Valdez Marine Terminal.

Accomplishments since last report:

- **VMT Projects and Maintenance Monitoring:**

On February 7, 2024, Council Staff Joe Lally and Sadie Blancaflor received a tour of the VMT on snow removal this winter. Alyeska has been proactive about maintaining suitable staff for snow clearing on the crude oil storage tank tops and removing snow from the vent side.

- **Outstanding Requests for Information and Responses to Recommendations:**

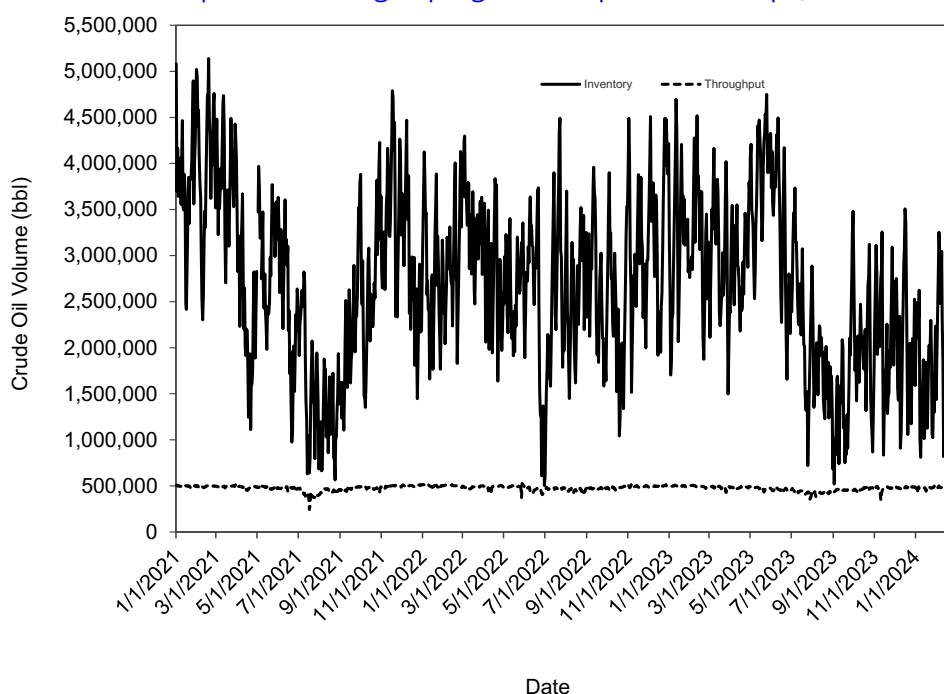
As of March 12, 2024, all outstanding requests for information as “high” priority have been fulfilled by Alyeska. Council staff continue to maintain a track record of all information requests made from 2021 to present.

The Council also transmitted a letter to Alyeska dated February 29, 2024, requesting the tank bottom processing fire investigation report and additional information related to the decision to move this process from West Bench to inside active East Tank Farm dike cells.

Attachments: Graphs depicting a variety of data related to the operation and environmental impacts of the Valdez Marine Terminal.

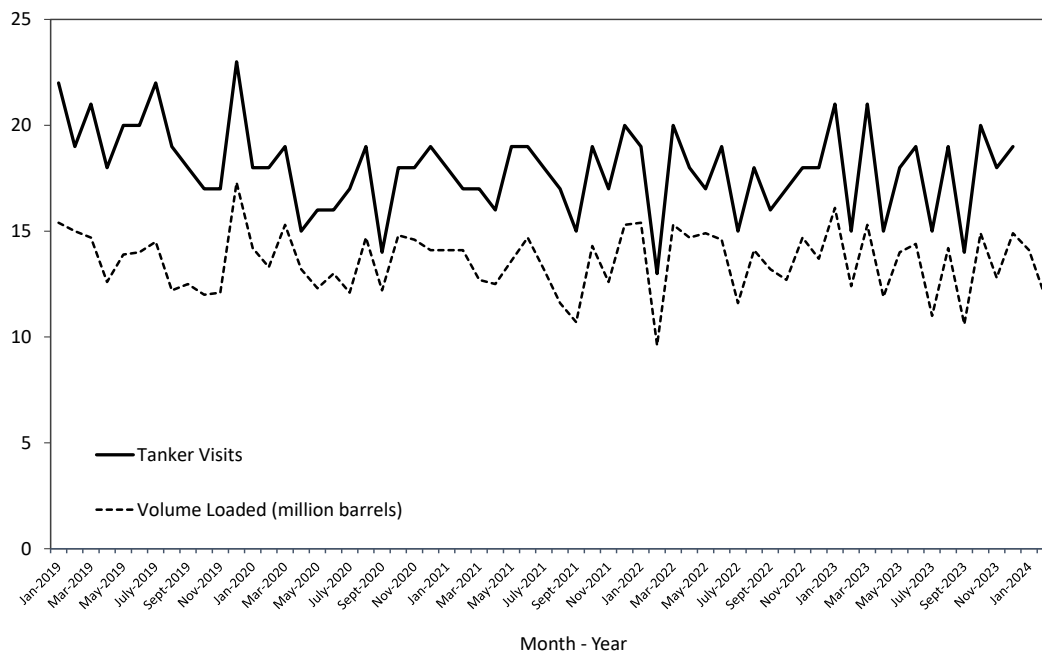
Daily Oil Inventory at the Valdez Marine Terminal and Trans-Alaska Pipeline Throughput

(Source: Alaska Department of Revenue - Tax Division,
<http://tax.alaska.gov/programs/oil/production.aspx>)

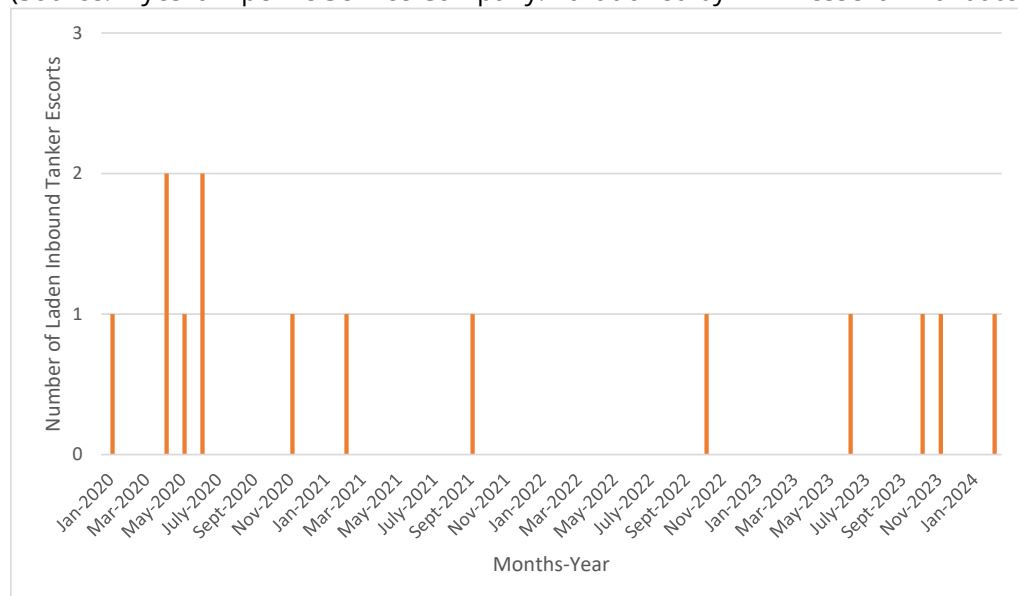


Number of tanker visits and crude oil volume loaded onto ships from VMT

(Source: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Partitioned by VMT vessel arrival date.)

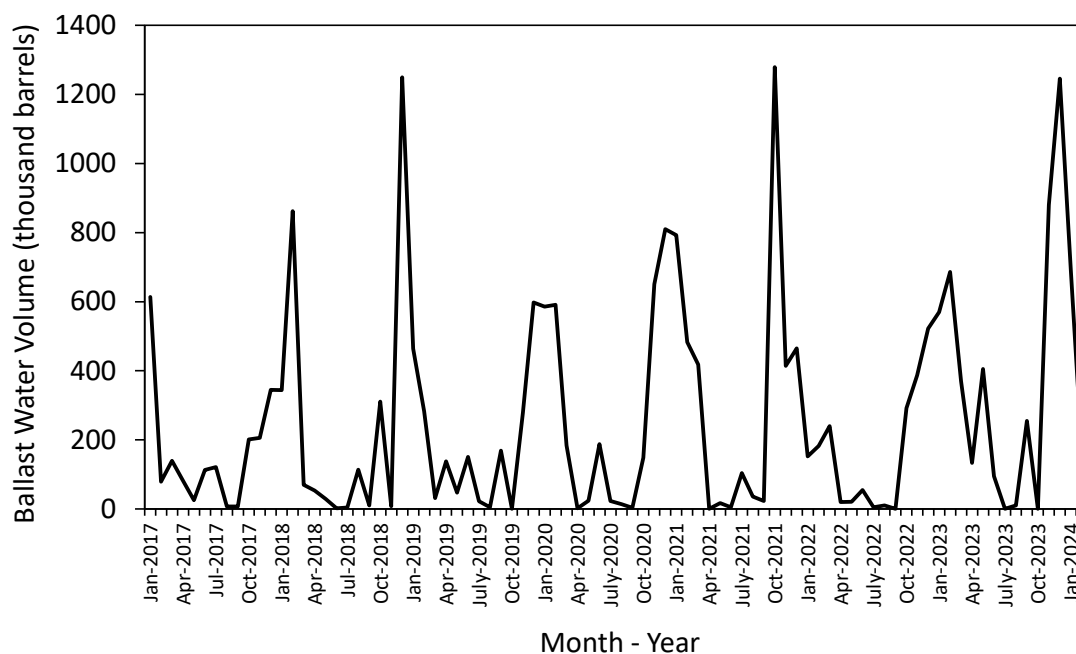
**Inbound laden tanker escorts to VMT**

(Source: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Partitioned by VMT vessel arrival date.)



Monthly ballast water deliveries to Ballast Water Treatment Facility from tanker ships

(Source: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Partitioned by VMT vessel arrival date.)



5051 – Water Quality Review of VMT

Objectives: This project entails a review of 2018-2023 water quality data. The goal of this project is to ensure the terms of the Valdez Marine Terminal's water quality permit minimize the environmental impact of wastewater effluent discharged from the facility.

Accomplishments since last report: An RFQ has been released for limited bid, with proposals being reviewed beginning March 15, 2024.

5057 – Air Quality Review of VMT

Objectives: This project ensures that Alyeska is mitigating and reducing sources of air pollution at the VMT which may pose adverse environmental and health impacts on residents of Valdez. The goal of this project is to provide actionable, clear, and specific recommendations to advance efforts to reduce sources of air pollution at the VMT.

Accomplishments since last report: In February 2024, the Council contracted with Ron Sahu, PhD. A public records request for information related to the VMT Title V permit has been submitted to ADEC. Dr. Sahu is currently tasked with reviewing documentation related to the tank vent damage incident to determine whether an emissions estimate from the event can be calculated.

5081 – Crude Oil Tanks 7 and 2, and Ballast Water Tank 94 Maintenance Review

Objectives: This project would entail performing a technical review of the maintenance of crude oil storage Tank 7 and ballast water storage Tank 94 at the Valdez Marine Terminal. Both Tank 7 and Tank 94 underwent comprehensive internal inspections in 2021. The last time Tank 7 underwent a similar

internal inspection was in 2008, and Tank 94's last internal inspection occurred in 2012. The 2021 internal inspections of both tanks will result in a large amount of new information pertaining to the past, current, and future maintenance of each storage tank. Additionally, since their last internal inspections were completed back in 2008 and 2012, Alyeska has gathered and maintained other information, such as cathodic protection system testing records and external inspection results pertinent to the maintenance of Tanks 7 and 94. The new information generated from the 2021 internal inspections and the other, older information must all be considered to continue to safely maintain each of these tanks. This project is necessary to ensure that Alyeska is using industry best practices and considering all the pertinent information in the decisions they make to safely maintain both tanks, now and in the future.

Accomplishments since last report: Both draft reports for Tank 2 and Tanks 7 & 94 have been completed. Alyeska provided feedback and additional documentation for the Tank 7 & 94 draft report in February 2024, and Taku Engineering is currently tasked with reviewing Alyeska's response.

5591 – Crude Oil Piping Maintenance Review

Objectives: This project involves a technical review of the internal inspections of crude oil piping that occurred at the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) from 2016 through 2018, and a follow-on inspection of the buried crude oil relief piping that occurred in 2022. The goal of this project is to ensure that the crude oil piping at the VMT is maintained using industry best practices, such that the risks of a spill are minimized.

Accomplishments since last report: This funding has been returned to contingency as Alyeska noted that the requested information for the completion of this project would be unavailable until FY25.

6000 – Oil Spill Response Program

Objectives: Through this program, PWSRCAC develops positions and recommendations on oil spill response technologies; reviews state and federal contingency plans (c-plans) and plan-related issues; promotes compliance, enforcement, and funding of existing environmental regulations; and promotes the incorporation of local knowledge of sensitive areas into contingency planning.

Accomplishments since the last report:

Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT): General information on the ARRT can be found [HERE](#), and meeting summaries and presentations can be found [HERE](#). The ARRT met in March 2024 in Anchorage and discussed the following:

- Cultural Resources Job Aid
- Support from State of Alaska Dept. of Health, Environmental Public Health Program
- Available support from NOAA
- Support from U.S. Dept. of Transportation Formation of a Tribal Engagement Task Force

Prince William Sound Area Contingency Plan (PWS ACP): The PWS Area Committee met on March 7, 2024 and discussed the following:

- Roles and responsibilities of ADEC, USCG, EPA
- ADEC use of drones in responses
- Regional Stakeholder Task Force update
- Updates on Geographic Response Strategies (GRS) project

6510 – Contingency Plan Review

Objectives: The purpose of this project is to monitor, review, and comment on state and federal contingency plans (c-plans) for the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) and the Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) tankers that transit Prince William Sound. Reviewing c-plans is a major task for PWSRCAC as outlined in both the PWSRCAC/Alyeska contract and OPA 90.

The Prince William Sound Tanker Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (PWS Tanker C-Plan) and associated vessel response plans for Alaska Tanker Company, Andeavor (subsidiary of Marathon Petroleum), Crowley Alaska Tankers, Hilcorp North Slope, and Polar Tankers, was renewed on January 31, 2022, and will expire in 2027. Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (Alyeska) Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (VMT C-Plan) was renewed on November 15, 2019, and will expire in 2024.

Accomplishments since last report:

PWS Tanker C-Plan:

The Prince William Sound shippers submitted a major amendment to the PWS Tanker C-Plan and associated vessel response plans in September 2023. The amendment is proposing to update the plan to conform to the contingency planning regulatory changes in 18 AAC 75 in early 2023 as follows:

- Replacement of Mineral Creek barge with OSRB-5 and associated reduced volume for storage
- Changes to the plan to align with new regulations
- Administrative edits
- Whether the required information is provided to establish that an operator has “primary operational control” of vessels in the plan

ADEC issued requests for additional information (RAI) in December 2023, and the shippers responded in January 2024. Staff awaits an additional 10-day public review of the information provided. As ADEC issued a RAI, this step is necessary before ADEC can approve, approve with conditions, or deny a major amendment.

VMT C-Plan:

The public review for the 5-year renewal of the VMT C-Plan began in November 2023. PWSRCAC submitted comments in December 2023. Staff awaits ADEC’s RAIs on the VMT C-Plan.

Secondary containment: As part of the renewal of the VMT C-Plan in 2019, and to address conditions of approval on secondary containment, Alyeska was required to identify a method to evaluate integrity of the catalytically blown asphalt (CBA) liner/secondary containment in the East Tank Farm by October 2023. Alyeska plans to use Geoelectric Leak Location (GELL) as a method to evaluate portions of CBA liner in the East Tank Farm. GELL can be used to characterize the liner by locating and identifying any defects or perforations that may be present in a survey area only on the CBA liner. Alyeska proposes to do a pilot study in the West Tank Farm (which is out of service) to calibrate the GELL method prior to implementation in East Tank Farm. There are four out-of-service crude oil storage tanks in the West Tank Farm and 14 in-service crude oil storage tanks in the East Tank Farm. The pilot study is slated for the summer of 2024.

6512 – Maintaining the Secondary Containment Systems at the VMT

Objectives: This project entails promoting methods Alyeska could use to verify the integrity of the secondary containment systems at the Valdez Marine Terminal’s (VMT) East Tank Farm, otherwise known as the catalytically blown asphalt (CBA) liner. The goal of this project is to ensure that the buried

CBA liner at the VMT will hold spilled oil long enough to be cleaned up prior to ground or surface water contamination.

Accomplishments since last report: In January 2024, the Council received an update from Dr. Craig Benson that he will be retiring from fieldwork; one of his associates will be conducting the in-person site visit this summer and will be subcontracted under Dr. Benson who plans to remain involved in this project through completion. PWSRCAC will work with Alyeska to identify and provide contact information for the subcontractor who will be conducting this work.

6530 – Weather Data / Sea Currents Project

Objectives: This project studies wind, water current, and other environmental factors near the Valdez Marine Terminal, in Prince William Sound, and in the Gulf of Alaska. Weather conditions affect the safe navigation of vessels and aids the ability to prevent, respond to, contain, and clean up an oil spill. Accurate weather data for the region supports research and decision making in areas like oil spill response, traffic management, vessel performance specification, and contingency planning.

Accomplishments since last report: The weather station at Cape St Elias is showing its age. Replacement components have been ordered and are on-site in Cordova. A purchase order has been issued for the PWSSC to assemble the weather station.

Our two weather stations at Cape St Elias and Nuchek are operating normally.

The weather station at Kokinhenik Bar on the Copper River Delta has been installed. There will be a site visit to the station sometime in the spring to tighten anchor bolts, readjust guy wires, and troubleshoot the power system.

The camera at Nuchek is working correctly.

6531 – Port Valdez Weather Buoys

Objectives: This project originally assembled and deployed, and continues to maintain, two buoys which measure ocean currents and common weather parameters in Port Valdez. The first buoy is installed near Jackson Point [61.0910°N 146.3811°W] in the vicinity of the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT). The second buoy is installed at the Valdez Duck Flats [61.1201°N | 146.2914°W]. The Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) partners with the Council to facilitate this project.

The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 requires the Council to study wind and water currents and other environmental factors in the vicinity of the terminal facilities which may affect the ability to prevent, respond to, contain, and clean up an oil spill.

The Council's Board of Directors has long advocated that robust weather monitoring systems be installed in the vicinity of the VMT. This includes proposals to install ultrasonic anemometers at the loading berths and a weather station at the VMT. On January 22, 2016, the Council's Board passed a resolution expressly requesting a weather station be employed at the terminal.

Weather is a significant factor in the management of safe crude oil transportation through Prince William Sound. Some of these concerns include marine safety, tanker escort operations, oil spill contingency planning, containment boom design, and safe loading of oil tankers.

Accomplishments since last report: The Duck Flats buoy is operating normally. The VMT buoy is currently moored in the Valdez Harbor. Purchase and installation of a new anchoring system is on hold, awaiting approval of the Board and Alyeska to continue the project into the next fiscal year.

6536 – Port Valdez Weather Buoy Data Analysis

Objectives: In 2019, PWSRCAC was able to install two weather buoys in Port Valdez, one in the vicinity of the Valdez Marine Terminal and the other near the Valdez Duck Flats. The buoys are expected to collect weather data for at least five years. This series of projects will take the data collected in each of the five years and perform an analysis to determine any weather trends throughout the year and seasonally. The analysis includes current and wind direction and speed information, wave direction and heights, and other pertinent information that can be obtained from the weather data.

Accomplishments since last report: The project team for this project agreed that a sole source contract with Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) to continue doing the Port Valdez Weather Buoy Data Analysis for the year 2023 is the best approach to build on the previous reports. Staff has a contract with the PWSSC to complete this project. The project team met with Dr. Rob Campbell of the PWSSC on February 29, 2024 to get this project underway.

6560 – Peer Listener Training

Objectives: Update the Council's Peer Listener program, which was created and implemented shortly after the Exxon Valdez oil spill to promote community resiliency through a peer-to-peer support network. The update will include assessing the current program, reviewing similar programs nationwide, and revising the Peer Listener Training manual and delivery methods according to contemporary best practices.

Accomplishments since last report: The Coping with Technological Disasters Guidebook and Peer Listener Manual were shared with the Trinidad and Tobago Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management following an oil spill in their waters in February 2024.

7000 – Oil Spill Response Operations Program

Objective: This program encompasses monitoring and reporting on the activities related to the operational readiness of the oil spill response personnel, equipment, and organization of the TAPS shipping industry. The program also encompasses monitoring actual oil spill incidents within our region and evaluation of overall response readiness. Additionally, the program includes the planning and implementation of PWSRCAC's Incident Response Plan.

Accomplishments since last report: Staff continues to participate in the ARRT-initiated **Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force**. The group has mostly completed the two job aids; one for the Liaison officer and one for RSC participants. Remaining additions, copy editing and final formatting, and final review are anticipated to occur at the April 16th meeting. Once finished, work products will pass to the ARRT Tri-Chairs for their review, and eventually this material will be written into all of the Alaska Area plans and moved onto the ADEC tools and references website, where a variety of job aids resources already exist. Robida will further address the RSC Task Force progress and work products before the Board.

Staff continues to track the effort to convert Geographic Response Strategies (**GRS**) to a **GIS-based** system. All PDF information for the original GRS's has been vetted for accuracy and ported over into the GIS system, and boom lines were drawn into the GIS system to show where boom would be positioned. The drawing of boom seems simple enough, but was apparently a big technological hurdle. GRS site visits are anticipated by the USCG and other key project members to happen this summer, for the purpose of testing and refining the phone app so that GRS updates can be suggested and logged right in the field. The Arctic and Western Alaska Area committee is driving this process.

The **Allison Creek barge** went out of service on February 14, 2022. The new replacement barge will arrive into PWS in early April. Specific dates and details are not known yet, but training and further mobilization will be needed before the barge and crews are "response ready," and several exercises to test and show of barge capabilities are expected. It's likely that this work will occur prior to the May Board meeting.

7035 - Virtual Meeting with Contracted Response Vessel Representatives

Objectives: This project funds a virtual meeting with fleet representatives from each of the ports where vessels are on contract with Alyeska/SERVS for oil spill response. PWSRCAC has conducted similar group meetings face-to-face in the past and they have proved to be a productive way to interact with program participants, assess the overall health of the contracted response vessel program, and inform Alyeska/SERVS of any concerns or potential recommended improvements from the perspective of program participants. Considering both the VMT and PWS Shipper plans rely on these contracted vessels to execute respective contingency plans, it's important that the program remains healthy, that training and exercise activity is engaging and effective, and that there are enough vessels under contract to satisfy contingency plan requirements.

Accomplishments since last report: Project Manager Robida and other staff met with representatives from the SERVS contracted vessel response fleet on March 16 via Zoom. Representatives from each of the six ports where vessels hold contracts participated, along with a few Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) Committee members and Board members who also hold contracts with SERVS, for a total of 12 participants (not including staff).

Discussion focused on three questions: 1) the general health of the program, 2) if there were any port specific issues that the group should be aware of, and 3) feedback on exercises and trainings. Staff also very briefly touched on the updated contingency plan regulations that took effect prior to the most recent VMT and Shipper's plan renewal.

Fleet representatives indicated the program is healthy and there is considerable interest in acquiring these contracts, but they also spoke to some of the challenges such as crewing for extended durations in the event of a lengthy response, and also suggested some training and exercise improvements.

Robida is in the process of following up with fleet representatives and drafting a summary report. Overall, the meeting went well, and was appreciated by fleet representatives.

7520 - Preparedness Monitoring

Objectives: PWSRCAC's Drill Monitoring Program falls under a broader program called Oil Spill Response Operations. Objectives for the Drill Monitoring Program are to promote oil spill response operational readiness within the EVOS region by observing, monitoring, and reporting on oil spill

prevention and response drills, exercises, and training; to provide citizens, regulatory agencies, and responders (Alyeska and the shippers) with independent observations and recommendations to improve preparedness; and provide citizen oversight. Tasks to be completed include:

- Monitor and report on regular oil spill drills and training exercises at the VMT and throughout the Exxon Valdez oil spill region to citizens, the Board, industry, and regulatory agencies
- Provide quarterly recommendations to the PWSRCAC Board of Directors
- Keep PWSRCAC's standing committees (OSPR, TOEM, POVTS, IEC, and SAC) informed
- Produce an annual report on effectiveness and progress of the regularly monitored drills and exercises
- Continue developing and implementing staff training for drill monitoring

Recent Exercises

Polar Adventure Emergency Towing Exercise – February 27, 2024

SERVS and Polar Tankers conducted an emergency towing exercise in Prince William Sound south of the precautionary area with tanker Polar Adventure and the tugs Contender and Challenger on February 27.

Upcoming Drills and Exercises

Alyeska Annual IMT and Deployment Exercise – May 8, 2024

Marathon Annual Shipper's Exercise – October 15-17, 2024

8000 – Maritime Operations Program

Objectives: This program reviews port organization, operations, incidents, and the adequacy and maintenance of the Coast Guard Vessel Traffic System, and coordinates with the Port Operations and Vessel Traffic Systems (POVTS) Committee. Major program components include participation with the Valdez Marine Safety Committee (VMSC), monitoring changes to the tanker escort system, reviewing Best Available Technology documents for the tanker escort system and the Vessel Emergency Response Plan (VERP), participating in monthly SERVSPWSRCAC and ADEC/PWSRCAC communication meetings, and supporting maintenance for the NOAA weather stations.

Accomplishments since last report: The Project Manager has joined a discussion group of scientists, community members, emergency managers and others interested in mitigating the hazards presented by landslides, especially those that generate tsunamis.

Staff have been working with the POVTS and Scientific Advisory Committee to evaluate whale strike reduction strategies.

Working with AOOS, we were able to apply extra funds from the CTD sensor grant to help fund the weather station on the Copper River Delta and the grant has been closed out. The Project Manager works with the OSPR Committee on weather-related projects.

8018 – State of the Industry: Advances in Escort Tugboat Technology and Regulatory Framework

Objectives: This project proposes to review current global advances being used in the design of capable escort tugboats and regulations requiring the use of these vessels.

Accomplishments since last report: This project was deferred due to a lack of responses from the RFP.

8025 – Vessel Operator Tsunami Hazards Guidance Workshop

Objectives: The goal of this project is to convene a 2-day workshop, with participants representing a diversity of vessel operators, emergency management, and the scientific study of tsunami impacts. Work products generated by the event will include preliminary guidance for vessel operators facing the threat of a tsunami and a list of research topics that could improve future guidance. The proposed guidance will be designed to be applicable in Prince William Sound and similar areas that have complex steep shorelines, and which face the potential of landslide-generated tsunamis.

Accomplishments since last report: The Tsunami Workshop has been set for June 3-4, 2024 in Valdez and will be held in conjunction with the AlaskEX24 Statewide Tsunami Exercise the week prior. Working with the steering committee and contractor Nuka Research & Planning group, a draft agenda has been prepared.

8520 – Miscommunication in Maritime Contexts

Objectives: Seeking to identify and address various causes of miscommunication, the proposed project will provide a comprehensive perspective by collecting information on the linguistic, cultural, and pragmatic needs and practices of native and non-native English-speaking mariners in Prince William Sound. The proposed project would entail the first two of four phases.

Accomplishments since last report: A comprehensive literature search for empirical and synthetic articles in applied linguistics and maritime communication, as part of Phase 1 of this project, was approved by the Board at a special Board meeting in March 2024.

9000 – Environmental Monitoring Program

Objectives: Coordinate projects developed and overseen by the Scientific Advisory Committee and obtain scientific knowledge and technical information about issues related to the actual and potential environmental impacts of the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated crude oil tankers. The notable tasks to be accomplished under this program are as follows:

- Project manager to attend at least one technical scientific conference
- Plan and complete budgeted environmental monitoring and scientific research projects
- Conduct PWSRCAC Science Night

Accomplishments since last report: Projects managed under this program continue to be planned and executed successfully. PM Danielle Verna will be attending the International Oil Spill Conference in New Orleans, LA, in May and presenting a paper with SAC Chair Davin Holen titled *Building Collaborative Social Science Research Models to Understand the Social, Cultural, and Economic Impacts of Spills*.

9110 – Monitoring Spatial Variability of Marine Birds During Winter in PWS Tanker Escort Zone

Objectives: Provide up to date information on winter marine bird density and distribution throughout the Prince William Sound tanker transit zone, including under-surveyed areas such as the open waters and adjacent bays in and around Port Valdez, Valdez Arm, Tatitlek Narrows, Port Fidalgo, and Port Etches. The notable tasks to be accomplished under this project are as follows:

- Perform winter bird surveys in Prince William Sound for three consecutive years
- Analyze data obtained during winter bird surveys and report the results of the analysis
- Make winter bird survey maps readily available for use by spill response managers

Accomplishments since last report: A contract was executed with the Prince William Sound Science Center for surveys to take place in winter (March) 2024 and for the contractor to perform a hot spot analysis using available data from bird surveys in and around the tanker lanes.

9510 – Long-Term Environmental Monitoring Project

Objectives: Comprehensively monitor the actual and potential environmental impacts related to the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated crude oil tankers and provide the Council with information about the presence and effects of hydrocarbons generated by the terminal facility and associated tankers. Here are the notable tasks to be accomplished under this project:

- Obtain environmental samples in Port Valdez: marine sediments, mussels, and passive sampling devices
- Analyze environmental samples
- Interpret and report results of sample analysis
- Present analytical findings to the PWSRCAC Board of Directors
- Maintain Environmental Monitoring Project plan

Accomplishments since last report: Planning is currently underway to execute sampling during the 2024 field season followed by data analysis and data interpretation. Sampling will occur at the typical sites in Port Valdez (adjacent to the Valdez Marine Terminal, Gold Creek, and Valdez small boat harbor) as well as sites on the northern Gulf of Alaska coast (Aialik Bay, Windy Bay, and Shuyak Harbor). Blue mussels will be collected at all sampling sites, while sediments and passive sampling devices will be collected in Port Valdez. Contractors for vessel charters, data analysis, and data interpretation are anticipated to remain the same as in 2023. The Board will be asked to authorize contracts at this meeting.

9512 – Determining Concentration and Composition of Oxygenated Hydrocarbons from the VMT

Objectives: Determine the types and amount of oxygenated hydrocarbons that are released from the Ballast Water Treatment Facility at the Valdez Marine Terminal. The notable tasks to be accomplished under this project are as follows:

- Collect water samples from the VMT Ballast Water Treatment Facility following discharge of oily ballast water by tankers
- Analyze the samples to determine the chemical composition and concentration of oxygenated hydrocarbons
- Interpret and report findings of the analysis and prepare the report for publication in a peer-reviewed journal
- Produce recommendations on future research to understand the fate, transport, and toxicity of oxygenated hydrocarbons in the marine environment

Accomplishments since last report: The final report was presented to the Board at its September meeting. The contractors shared follow-up information with SAC during a virtual meeting in February. The contractor is preparing a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

9520 – Marine Invasive Species

Objectives: Understand and minimize the environmental impacts of invasive species potentially arriving in the PWSRCAC region from tanker ballast water and hull fouling. Here are the notable tasks to be accomplished under this project:

- Obtain plankton samples in Port Valdez at three sites: the small boat harbor, Valdez Container Terminal, and Valdez Marine Terminal
- Perform metagenetic analysis on plankton samples to identify variability in the plankton community between locations and through time, and identify any nonindigenous species
- Interpret and report results of plankton metagenetic analysis
- Conduct monitoring of invasive crab and tunicate species in Valdez, Cordova, and Kodiak

Accomplishments since last report: Data analysis and interpretation are currently underway by contractors at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. A complete analysis and draft report are expected in early summer 2024 and will be reviewed by SAC.

9521 – Marine Invasive Species Internship

Objectives: Support local students to monitor for invasive species potentially arriving in the PWSRCAC region from tanker ballast water and biofouling. Target species include European green crab and tunicates in the communities of Valdez, Cordova, and Kodiak.

Accomplishments since last report: PM Danielle Verna submitted an abstract for intern Noah Schrof from Kodiak to present his project at the Kodiak Area Marine Science Symposium in April. Intern Joshua Duong from Valdez is scheduled to present his project at the Prince William Sound College in April.