



**News Release – April 25, 2023**

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**Prince William Sound RCAC board meeting, reception, and boat tour  
in Valdez, May 3-5**

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council will hold several events in Valdez, May 3-5, 2023. They will include the council's annual board meeting and a cruise event to observe and learn about the on-water Ship Escort Response Vessel System, or SERVS, fishing fleet annual training run by Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. These events are free and open to the public.

**Observation Cruise of Fishing Vessel Training for Oil Spills:  
Wednesday, May 3**

This 2.5-hour cruise event will allow participants to observe and learn about the on-water oil spill response training of Alyeska's SERVS contracted fishing fleet. These local vessels and crews are the backbone of Alyeska's oil spill response system. Staff from the council and Alyeska will be on board to describe spill prevention and response readiness in our region, as well as answer questions. The charter boat, Stan Stephens' Glacier Spirit, will depart at 12:30 p.m. and return around 3 p.m. Each passenger will need to reserve their seat by filling out this quick registration form: [www.tinyurl.com/FVtour23](http://www.tinyurl.com/FVtour23)

**Public reception: Wednesday, May 3**

In conjunction with the board meeting, the board of directors for the Alaska Tanker Company, Hilcorp and the council will be co-sponsoring a public reception on Wednesday, May 3. The reception will be held outdoors from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Kelsey Municipal Plaza, at 412 Ferry Way.

**Board meeting: Thursday and Friday, May 4-5**

The meeting will be located in the Valdez Civic Center, at 110 Clifton Drive. Those interested in attending the board meeting can do so in person, by teleconference (1-888-788-0099, meeting ID: 893 7326 1330) or videoconference (<https://pwsrca.zoom.us/j/89373261330>). Visual presentations given during the meeting can be streamed live through the Zoom link or accessed by download on the council's website when available.

The tentative schedule for the Thursday session is from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Friday, the meeting is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The meeting is open to the public, except for executive sessions. Public comments are scheduled to be taken on Thursday starting at 8:40 a.m. Those wishing to speak during public comments are highly encouraged to sign up ahead of time by emailing Jennifer Fleming: [fleming@pwsrca.org](mailto:fleming@pwsrca.org).

The council will be conducting regular business during the meeting, including seating of established directors and committee members, election of new board officers, and updates from council ex-officio members, staff and committees. Other topics included on the agenda are:

- An activity report by Alyeska Pipeline Service Company on the Valdez Marine Terminal and Ship Escort/Response Vessel System operations.
- A summary by council staff of changes to Article 4 of 18 AAC 75 oil discharge prevention and contingency plan regulations implemented by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation on February 5, 2023.
- A report on research conducted to understand the environmental impacts of the oil spill that occurred at the Valdez Marine Terminal on April 12, 2020.
- An overview of council-commissioned review on the evolution of regulatory requirements affecting the transition of ocean shipping, and tankers in particular, to a sustainable model.
- A report on an analysis of Alaska North Slope oil and how the oil properties could influence the effectiveness of oil spill response measures.
- A summary of the council's monitoring of drills and exercises in 2022.
- An update on community outreach activities done by the council over the past year.
- A report from the council's legislative monitors and staff on political developments and prospects coming out of Washington, D.C., and Juneau.

Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, flu or cold should attend virtually.

The meeting agenda is subject to change before or during the meeting. Council board meetings are routinely recorded and may be disseminated to the public by the council or by the news media. For more information, visit [www.pwsrcac.org](http://www.pwsrcac.org).

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The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, with offices in Anchorage and Valdez, is an independent nonprofit corporation whose mission is to promote environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated oil tankers. The council's work is guided by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and its contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. The council's member organizations are communities in the region affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, as well as aquaculture, commercial fishing, environmental, Alaska Native, recreation and tourism groups.

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