



News Release – September 14, 2022

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Prince William Sound RCAC board to meet in Seward, September 22-23

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council will hold a board meeting in Seward on Thursday and Friday, September 22-23, 2022.

The meeting will be located in the Seward Gateway Hotel, at 1115 4th Ave. Those interested in attending the board meeting can do so in person, by teleconference (1-888-788-0099, Meeting ID: 832 5214 5159) or videoconference (<https://pwsrcac.zoom.us/j/83252145159>). 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 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Friday, the meeting is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public, except for executive sessions. Public comments are scheduled to be taken on Thursday starting at 8:55 a.m. Those wishing to speak during public comments are highly encouraged to sign up ahead of time by emailing Jennifer Fleming: fleming@pwsrcac.org.

The council will be conducting regular business during the meeting, including 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 review of new designs for the replacement of the floor, and a system to limit corrosion within the floor, for one of the crude oil storage tanks at the Valdez Marine Terminal.
- An update from council staff and contractors and Alyeska staff on the monitoring of repairs and next steps resulting from snow and ice damage to tank vents at the Valdez Marine Terminal in February and March 2022.
- Introduction and remarks from Interim Alyeska President Betsy Haines.
- A video based on field trials for a recent council study on passing messenger lines to disabled vessels, the first crucial step in setting up a tow line between a rescue tug and a tanker in distress.
- Discussion to potentially update the council's 2006 position on use of dispersants in our region during an oil spill.
- A report on the availability of out-of-region equipment that would be needed in the event of a major oil spill in our region.

- A review and assessment of the council's Peer Listener Training Program and similar programs nationwide that promote peer-to-peer community support, specifically after disasters such as an oil spill.
- A report on plankton sampling done throughout Port Valdez in 2021, to understand how these populations varied to improve the monitoring of invasive species.
- A presentation on marine bird surveys conducted in Prince William Sound in March of 2022.

Face mask requirements and other COVID-19 mitigation measures will be in place and posted at the board meeting. Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should attend virtually.

The meeting agenda provided 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.

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 the oil tankers that use it. The council's work is guided by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and its contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. The council's 18 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.
