



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

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## News Release

January 21, 2021

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### Prince William Sound RCAC board meeting will be virtual, January 28-29

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council will hold a virtual board meeting, via video and teleconference, on Thursday and Friday, January 28-29, 2021.

Those interested in attending can do so by teleconference (1-888-788-0099, meeting ID: 960 8414 8317) or videoconference (<https://pwsrcac.zoom.us/j/96084148317>). Visual presentations given during the meeting can be streamed live through the Zoom link or accessed by [download on the council's website](#).

The tentative schedule for the Thursday session is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Friday, the meeting is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. The meeting is open to the public through the video/teleconference system, 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](mailto: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, as well as an update on the allision earlier this month between the tanker Polar Endeavor and SERVS Tug Courageous at the Valdez Marine Terminal.
- Comments from Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Jason Brune on the division's proposed FY2022 budget.
- A report on results of the 2020 forage fish surveys conducted in Prince William Sound to identify species along the shoreline, such as herring, sandlance and capelin.
- A presentation on maritime English use between ship crews and native English speakers in examining human factors that may contribute to accidents.

- An update and presentation on current council projects working to review maintenance of crude oil storage Tank 8 and cathodic protection systems at the Valdez Marine Terminal.
- A presentation on the current status of identifying and mitigating the Barry Arm landslide risk in Prince William Sound.
- A report of the council's monitoring of drills and exercises in 2020.
- A summary by council staff of incidents (e.g., oil spills, fires, malfunctions causing shutdowns, navigational closures, tanker/escort incidents) at the terminal or on the associated tankers that occurred in 2020.

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](http://www.pwsrcac.org).

Both council offices (Anchorage and Valdez) are currently closed as a safety precaution due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The health and safety of council staff and volunteers are our top priority and will drive decisions as the situation evolves and more information becomes available. Updates on COVID-19 impacts to council activities and other information related to this situation can be found on the council's website. For the most current information, please visit [www.pwsrcac.org/covid-19-updates/](http://www.pwsrcac.org/covid-19-updates/).

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The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, with offices in Anchorage and Valdez, is an independent non-profit 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, Native, recreation and tourism groups.

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