



PO Box 1368, Cordova, Alaska 99574
Phone: 907/424-5701
www.pwsoundkeeper.org
emailpwsk@pwsoundkeeper.org
Tax id # 45-0538213

JUNE 2015

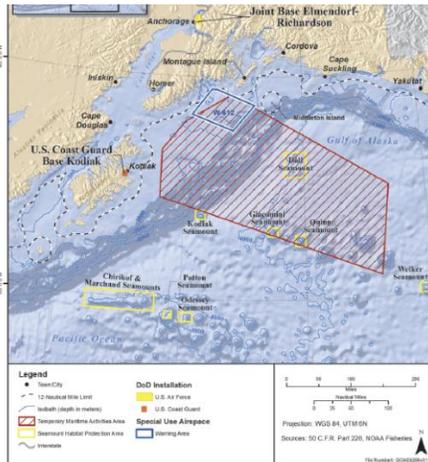
CITIZEN ADVOCACY = CLEAN WATER = STRONG COMMUNITIES

Our Mission

Grass roots advocacy for preserving water quality in Prince William Sound, Alaska for all users

Hello Keepers!

Prince William Soundkeeper is taking on two top priority issues this year that have national implications. Your support is needed to help spread the word on the environmental injustice that is occurring in and around Prince William Sound!



The US Navy - Operation Northern Edge training activities are set to begin this month outside Prince William Sound in the Gulf of AK. These “games” have been held in the Gulf of AK in the past, but never during the summer, and never at the three fold level of activity that their plans allow them to do. The potential harm to developing fish stocks, migrating salmon, marine mammals, and the ecosystem as a whole, are enormous.

The Navy was planning on holding similar activities off the coast of Hawaii and California. A lawsuit filed by the Council of Hawaiians and environmental groups won an injunction in federal court earlier this March. The US District Court, District of Hawaii, found that the National Marine Fisheries Service violated multiple requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act

when they unilaterally approved of the Navy’s plans. There seems to be little difference in the planned activities in the Gulf of Alaska.

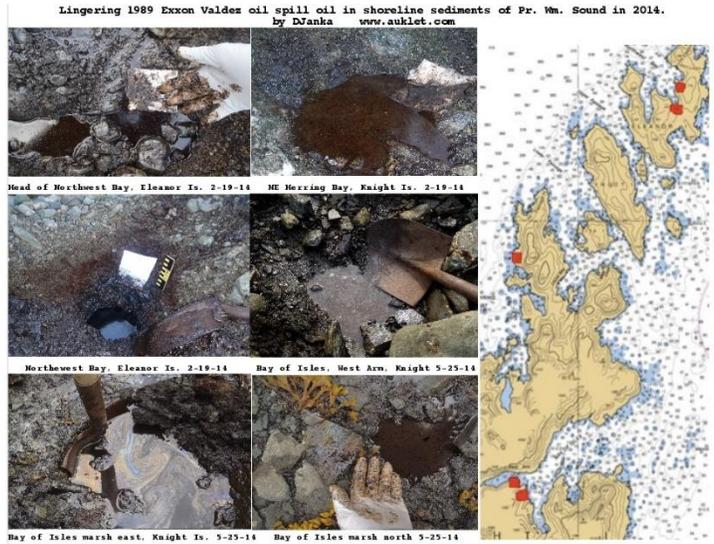
Because the Navy will not be collecting debris or data, or reporting on the harm that they will be inflicting upon the marine environment, it is up to us, the resource users and stewards of Prince William Sound to take note. Please report any naval activities and impacts you might observe.

For more information and the Navy’s Environmental Impact Statement, which is up for renewal soon, and how to comment on these plans: <http://goaeis.com/Home.aspx>. Please join PWSK, and our collaborating partner Eyak Preservation Council, in our efforts to stop the Navy from bombing our northern waters at their peak of productivity. For more facts and info on how to participate:

<http://www.eyakpreservationcouncil.org/navy-training-facts/>

EVOS Re-Opener Clause Citizen Advocacy and Action Campaign

The 1991 *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill settlement agreement included a provision entitled Re-Opener for Unknown Injury that allowed the state and federal governments to submit a claim for up to \$100 million for damages not foreseen at the time of settlement. The US government stood neutral, and after a sustained effort to prod the state by fishermen, community members and advocacy groups including Prince William Soundkeeper, the State applied for the provision in 2006. The State Attorney General under Gov. Murkowski found that “After extensive review, it is clear that populations and habitat within the spill area have suffered substantial and unanticipated injuries that are attributable to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill”, and the State presented jointly with the US Government to ExxonMobil a demand for payment of \$92,240,982.



ExxonMobil has ignored the request and the Palin and Parnell Administrations chose not to pursue the issue. Resolutions to the Alaska State Legislature were submitted in 2014 and 2015, urging the State to compel ExxonMobil to pay what they legally owe the State and the Nation. The State of Alaska has declined to come to any decision at this time, stating they will make a decision this September. The statute of limitations on this ruling runs out in June of 2016. This summer will be the primary time to bring this issue to the forefront of nation’s attention, and to convince the State and Federal government that it is in all of our best interest’s to enforce this ruling.

If the State and Federal government refuse to carry out their legal obligation ExxonMobil walks away. Again. The ExxonMobil v State of AK case is the longest running case in the history of the US. If ExxonMobil is allowed to get away with not paying the court ordered restitution it owes to the State and Nation, it will set a horrible precedent. Not only will it deny funding for the still much needed oil spill restoration and long-term impact work, but more importantly, the ramifications will affect the current legal cases involving the Deep Water Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, the Dan River, Ohio Duke Energy Coal Ash contamination, as well as future litigation on future spills. Considering the current attitude of the Alaska Legislature, PWSK has small hope that they will act on the citizen's behalf unless pressured.

PWSK will be launching a Citizen Advocacy and Action Campaign to address this issue and compel the Government to do its duty. Your support in this endeavor is needed. Please join us.

Thank you.

Kate McLaughlin, President and Executive Director
PO Box 1368, Cordova, Alaska 99574
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