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October 2014

Membership Renewal Month!

CITIZEN ADVOCACY - CLEAN WATER - STRONG COMMUNITIES

Our Mission

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

What is a WaterKeeper? Waterkeepers are citizen stewards who work to promote and protect the water quality of a chosen body of water. Prince William Soundkeeper works to strengthen the ability of the Prince William Sound community to respond to water quality issues in a timely and effective way.

Without substantial financial support from memberships, donations, and foundations, Prince William Soundkeeper doesn't exist. Our fundraising goal is \$25,000 by January 1 to make our bare bones budget for 2015. Please show your support by making a tax deductible donation today and become a WaterKeeper!

Summer Prince William Sound News

An application to operate a commercial float lodge on Montague Island in western PWS was only approved to be at their lodge in Eshamy Bay. The request to operate in other locations around Montague Island was denied. DNR received 74 comments this activity request, 2 advisory and 72 against the permit. Thank you everyone who commented. Without proper oversight, regulation and limits, floating lodges have the potential to create many negative environmental and public safety impacts. The owners and operators of the Eshamy Float Lodge now have the opportunity, and the responsibility, to prove that they can be good stewards and operate successfully without negatively impacting Prince William Sound's water quality.

Public review on the renewal of the Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan began August 6, 2014. The comment period has been extended to November 21, 2014. PWSK supports the recommendation being made to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation by the PWS Regional Citizen's Advisory Council.

Alaskan icon and long-time Prince William Sound environmental advocate, *Walt Parker* died this June at the age of 88. Walt's legacy and reputation leaves a lot for us to live up to. He was active and engaged until the very end as illustrated by his recent service on the boards of the Prince William Sound Science Center, Oil Spill Recovery Institute, Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, Pacific Environment, and North Pacific Research Board. The seat on the PWSRCAC board was filled by Bob Shavelson Executive Director of Cook Inlet Keeper, with myself, chosen to serve as the alternate. This particular seat is elected by the members of the Oil Spill Region Environmental Coalition.

I also serve on your behalf on the *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's Public Advisory Committee*. A one day meeting will be held by the EVOSTC, including the PAC member's, Oct. 16 in Anchorage. This will be the first meeting held with PAC members in almost 2 years due to the federal sequestration.

Meet Your Board Representative



Board Secretary and Founding Member Vince Kelly retired last year from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation where he worked as an Environmental Specialist. Previously he was an Industrial Safety and Oil Spill Response Management Instructor at Prince William Sound Community College. Vince spent the last seven years prior to retiring inspecting oil tankers for the State of Alaska and evaluating oil spill contingency plans in Valdez. He and his family recently purchased the 80' schooner *Aurelia* and plans to charter the vessel on the Northern Gulf of Alaska with a focus on Prince William Sound. Vince has over 30 years of experience in Prince William Sound working with the State of Alaska and the Oil & Gas Industry. His knowledge and expertise are great assets to accomplishing our goals and furthering our mission as citizen advocates to protect Prince William Sound water quality.

With your support we can continue to advocate on your behalf to safeguard Prince William Sound. Donations can be made through Paypal on our website: <http://www.pwsoundkeeper.org> or by mail at the address below.

Thank you,

Kate McLaughlin, President and Executive Director
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