



PO Box 1368 Cordova, Alaska 99574
Phone: 1-907-424-5701
www.pwsoundkeeper.org
emailpwsk@pwsoundkeeper.org
Tax id # 45-0538213

June 2013

Dear WaterKeepers,

**Board of
Directors**

Kate McLaughlin
President
Chenega Bay

Dean Rand
Vice-President
Whittier

Liz Senear
Treasurer
Cordova

Vince Kelly
Secretary
Valdez

Joe Banta
Member
Anchorage

At last summer is upon us! And that means more opportunities to get out on the water and enjoy Prince William Sound. One of my favorite pastimes is to beach comb; you never know what treasures the sea might expose. But it seems that the only things I am finding are plastic's and other debris floating in from who knows how far or how close; packing straps, beer cans, plastic water bottles and chip bags. I regularly carry a trash bag on my walks and more often than not I come home with more trash than treasures.

Marine debris comes in many forms and sources. We need to be aware of our own personal point sources of plastic pollution, but we also have the added challenge of Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris with its specific hazards still coming ashore. Recently an alert was sent out for beach walkers to be careful if they find aluminum containers that resemble water bottles. These are pesticide containers containing volatile chemicals that should not be opened. (See the PWSK web site for safety advisory.)

PWSK and the Chugach Working Group are still watching what is going on with the Chugach National Forest Revision Plan and the long neglected subject of addressing the Wilderness Study Area in western PWS. Information and history on the Forest Revision Plan and the Wilderness Study Area can be found on the PWSK web site. The USDA Forest Service posted information online about the 2013 public forums including meeting minutes which can be accessed here: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/chugach/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5410264>

WHERE exactly is the PWSK office? The organization's home base is Cordova with our office located in the Cordova District Fisherman's Union Building (CDFU) in the CDFU office itself. At this time PWSK does not have a full time staff. I do most of our administrative work from my home in Chenega Bay on the western side of the Sound, visiting Cordova as often as possible. Our Treasurer, Cordova resident Liz Senear, keeps an eye on our desk, checks mail, watches the accounts and helps to keep paperwork sorted out. The Cordova Clean Harbor outreach coordinator and volunteers will be using our desk in the CDFU office as a home base for their work in the harbor this summer.

Have a safe and happy summer working and playing in Prince William Sound!

Kate McLaughlin, President/Executive Director