UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Environmental Assessment for the Implementation of Exxon Valdez Trustee Council Project No. 11100836: Pilot Studies Of Bioremediation Of The Exxon Valdez Oil In Prince William Sound Beaches

LOCATION: Perry, Eleanor, Smith and LaTouche Islands, Prince William Sound, Alaska

SUMMARY: This is a bioremediation pilot-project to be conducted at four locations in Prince William Sound, Alaska, to determine if beaches that are still contaminated with subsurface lingering oil from the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill can be remediated by promoting bacterial activity. The approach involves injecting a solution of hydrogen peroxide, as carrier of oxygen, along with nutrients into the substrate and monitoring the fate of the oil. If successful the method may be extended to other areas in Prince William Sound where oil remains.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: James W. Balsiger, Ph.D. Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, 708 West 9th Street, PO Box 21668, Juneau Alaska 99801-1668
Phone: 206-586-7221

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting environmental assessment (EA) is enclosed for your information.

Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed EA/FONSI we will consider any comments submitted that would assist us in preparing future NEPA documents. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

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