

**Meeting of the Kodiak Subarea GRS Workgroup**

March 2, 2006  
Kodiak Island Borough Conference Room  
710 Mill Bay Road  
Kodiak, Alaska

**Attendees:**

Joe Banta, PWSRCAC	Steve Howell, CIRCAC
Wayne Biessel, AK State Parks	Tim Robertson, Nuka Research
Micheal Caldwell, USCG, MSD Kodiak	On Teleconference:
Marla Carter, ADF&G	Mark Janes, Nuka Research
Dale Gardner, ADEC co-chair	Catherine Berg, USFWS
Vinnie Catalano, CIRCAC	Bud Rice, NPS
John Kwietniak, Tesoro Alaska co-chair	Sharon Kim, NPS
Mary Ogle, Kodiak Island Borough	Doug Mutter, DOI
Mary Jacobs, CIRCAC	

John Kwietniak of Tesoro Alaska opened the workgroup meeting. He noted that project is nearing completion and that the intent of the meeting was to review the comments received on the plans. He reported that the Tactics Committee had sent teams to design the plans during site surveys and then refined them with additional input from other committee members. He noted the high quality of the products.

Tim Robertson reviewed the workgroup process used in developing the GRS. He reported that the completed plans were posted on the workgroup website over three weeks ago and the entire workgroup was notified at that time. Since that time no comments were received, but that comments on the plans could now be taken during the meeting if there were no objections.

The meeting was opened for comments.

Catherine Berg noted that language needed to be included regarding the presence of endangered species at specific sites, notably waterfowl wintering areas. The group agreed to include additions of this information as well as language in the introduction noting that the ESA is to be considered in deploying the GRS and DOI needs to be consulted regarding activities in the areas that will be identified. She complimented the Tactics Committee on its efforts to protect some very difficult areas.

Doug Mutter agreed to coordinate the ESA language with the FWS and submit it for inclusion in the final document.

## *Kodiak Subarea Geographic Response Strategies Workgroup*

Wayne Beissel noted that he had some minor adjustments to maps in the State Park Areas and additions he would like included in the Site Selection Matrix.

John Kwietniak moved that the Geographic Response Strategies for the North and Western Zone of the Kodiak Subarea be approved by the Workgroup with the discussed changes. The workgroup approved the motion with the changes to the GRS document noted above.

The group then discussed the inclusion of the GRS in the Subarea Contingency Plan (SCP). Dale Gardner said that an update is scheduled to be completed in 2007 and that they would be included at that time with other changes to the SCP.

Joe Banta reported that the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council has budgeted \$30,000.00 to continue to extend GRS to other Zones in the Kodiak Subarea. The group discussed funding issues and expense of operating in the area. The amount offered is considerably less than needed to run a similar project to the one just completed and more funds have to be identified. The group agreed that additional funding would be sought and that a teleconference would be held March 13 to further explore funding options.

The zone to be addressed would influence the funding needed so the group reviewed past discussions and agreed that the Mainland Zone should be the focus of the next phase of development. This area will include considerable amounts of NPS land and they will explore the use of the Parks Service vessel SERAC during the survey. The FWS vessel URSA MAJOR II may also be available during the upcoming summer. Both vessel's schedules will be looked at prior to the teleconference to assist in estimating a budget.

### Action Items:

- Changes will be submitted by Doug Mutter regarding the ESA and language to be included in the introductory section of the document. Catherine Berg will submit to him the areas that need to be designated as containing species covered by the ESA.
- Wayne Beissel will submit minor changes for inclusion in the GRS and SSM.
- The workgroup will have a teleconference at 10 am on March 13 to discuss funding for additional GRS in the Subarea.
- The entire Site Selection Matrix will be posted on the website for review and consideration in the nomination of additional sites.
- Bud Rice will review existing NPS aerial photography of the Mainland to assist with reducing costs.