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## **Pacific Seabird Group**



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DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

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**Craig S. Harrison**  
Vice Chair for Conservation  
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February 10, 1994

**James Ayers, Executive Director**  
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council  
645 G Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

**Re: Priorities for Seabird Restoration**

Dear Mr. Ayers:

This letter summarizes the Pacific Seabird Group's (PSG) priorities for seabird restoration. We understand that there are new staffers at the EVOS Trustee Council, and wish to briefly reiterate our ideas concerning the draft restoration plan that we have advanced during the past two years.

1. The best means to restore Alaska's seabird populations would be to remove rats, foxes and other alien creatures from colonies and former colonies. We enclose a list of islands where these efforts should be directed (Enclosure 1).
2. PSG supports the acquisition of seabird colonies. We enclose a list of islands that the Trustee Council should attempt to purchase (Enclosure 2).
3. PSG supports the endowment of chairs in marine ornithology at the University of Alaska.

Sincerely,

*Craig S. Harrison*

Enclosures

# ENCLOSURE 1. PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP, RECOMMENDED ISLANDS FOR FOX ERADICATION

Table 7. *Planned eradication of foxes<sup>a</sup> on islands in the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge in order of priority.*

Island	Area (hectares)	Kilometers of shoreline	Fox species
Gareloi	6,868	31.2	arctic
Herbert	5,583	30.6	arctic
Segula	3,317	25.6	arctic
Semisopochnoi	22,677	64.4	arctic
Kagamil	4,187	28.0	arctic
Little Koniuji	5,690	66.0	arctic
Inikla	32	3.2	arctic
Elma	290	9.7	arctic
Simeonof	4,050	38.6	arctic
Little Sitkin	6,357	35.0	arctic
Seguam	21,576	66.0	arctic
Yunaska	17,619	62.1	arctic
Great Sitkin	15,878	69.9	arctic
Kagalaska	11,885	100.0	arctic
Chernabura	3,012	29.0	arctic
Chuginadak	17,108	74.4	red
Kanaga	37,132	184.5	arctic
Tanaga	51,822	210.2	arctic
Ukolnoi	4,664	32.2	red

<sup>a</sup> Arctic foxes (*Alopex lagopus*) and red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*).

Table 8. *Islands with introduced foxes for which no eradication is planned because of lack of complete land ownership by a national wildlife refuge.*

Adak	Long
Amlia	Marmot <sup>a</sup>
Atka	Nuka
Attu	Rabbit
Avatanak	Rootok
Chirikof	Samalga
Clifford	Sanak
Deer <sup>a</sup>	Shemya
Dolgoi <sup>a</sup>	Ugak <sup>a</sup>
East Chugach	Unalga
Elizabeth	Wanda
Finneys	Wingham (reintroduced) <sup>a</sup>
Geese <sup>a</sup>	Wosnesenski
Inner Iliasik <sup>a</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Red foxes present; all other islands have arctic foxes.

Source: Edgar P. Bailey, Introduction of Foxes to Alaskan Islands — History, Effects on Avifauna, and Eradication. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Resource Publication 193 (1993).

**ENCLOSURE 2. PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP,  
RECOMMENDED SEABIRD COLONIES TO PURCHASE**

**Alaska Peninsula (South Side)**

High  
Sutwik  
Ugaiushak  
Fox  
Hydra  
Central  
2 Unnamed islands (Nakalilok Bay)  
Unnamed Islands between Unavikshak  
and Kumlik  
Spitz  
Brothers  
Cherni  
Sanak

**Fox Islands (Eastern Aleutians)**

Tanginak (Akun)  
Kaligagan (incl. 7 islets on north side)  
Derbin (Tigalda)  
Poa (Tigalda)  
Tangik (Tidgaldal)  
Unnamed islet (Trident Bay)  
Unnamed islet (Akun Strait)  
Puffin  
Ogangan (Unalaska)  
Emerald (Unalaska)  
Ship Rock (Umnak Pass)  
Kigul (Umnak Pass)  
Ogchul (Umnak)  
Vesvidof (Umnak)  
Adugak (Umnak)  
Ananuliak (Umnak)

**Kodiak Island Vicinity**

Flat  
Tugidak  
Triplets  
Cathedral  
Ladder  
Sheep  
Cub  
Amea  
Nut  
Puffin  
John  
Chinak Island and Rocks  
Utesistol  
Suitlak  
Middle  
Kekur

**Bering Sea**

King  
Fairway Rock  
Egg (Norton Sound)

**Gulf of Alaska**

Sand  
Gull  
Middleton