

## Restoration Panel Remarks

Kohout

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### I. Introduction

Panel will set the context, think about where NRDA effort is headed

JK: birds, mm

Erika: mm, fish, human services

Steve: habitat

Then invite you to share your ideas about restoration in the Arctic

### II. NRDA

Gordon: "NRDA = Process" ... Point of Process = Restoration

OPA requires that spiller make the public whole

- restore injured resources/services to baseline = primary
- compensate for losses that occur until baseline = compensatory

How does this play out?

primary restoration = natural recovery w monitoring recovery end points

compensatory restoration = think more creatively

- many may be familiar w EVOS (there consent agreement limited restoration to spill area), OPA allows for broader look for appropriate restoration, eg. Bird wintering grounds

fundamental requirements:

- Rational relationship to the injuries
- Good Likelihood of Success (technically feasible)
- Project scale consistent w extent of injury

### III. Moving on to birds...

If we had a spill in the Arctic and I was looking to identify potential restoration projects, I'd go to species experts and begin asking questions:

Limiting factors: prey base, predation, habitat limited; other sources of mortality... contamination, disturbance, hunting.

As an aside, recovery plans, coastal mgmt plans

Restoration possibilities:

- Large-scale invasive predator removal – STEI project based in Barrow that has shown fox removal helps productivity of waterfowl and shorebirds
- Bury powerlines that kill birds in fog
- Investigate clean up options for existing contaminated sites along coast which will become even more of a concern with climate change
- Habitat protection (acquisition, easements) – via wetlands mitigation banks on N. Slope

### IV. Marine mammals...

Less experience ...

as ice retreats, PB & walrus more time on land

one potential project, work w coastal villages and others to reduce PB/human interactions and investigate ways to minimize disturbance of walruses