

Trans-Alaska Pipeline Stakeholder Workshop

With the 20th anniversary of the devastating *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill quickly approaching, now is the time to come together to ensure future oil disasters are avoided. That is why the Copper River Watershed Project and Cascadia Wildlands Project are convening a workshop on March 10-11, 2009, to identify and document stakeholder concerns regarding the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). Based on informal discussions with a wide range of stakeholders, the convening partners anticipate discussions will focus on the development of a citizen oversight council for the pipeline. However, the workshop will be designed to ensure additional ideas and alternatives are considered for protecting Alaska's natural and cultural resources from a spill. This is partly an informational meeting, but mostly it is geared towards taking action to keep the oil in the pipe. The ultimate goal of this event is to ***reach stakeholder consensus on priorities for improved safety of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, and initiate a plan of action to make it happen.***

The following is a rough outline for the workshop that will take place in the Conference Room at the **Valdez Convention and Civic Center**. A final agenda will be available closer to the workshop. Check www.copperriver.org or <http://www.cascwild.org/blog.html> for updates and meeting materials.

Tuesday, March 10th, 2009 5:30-7:30pm **Community Forum on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline**

The purpose of this forum will be to gather the best, current understanding of TAPS issues. Special guests presentations include:

- Richard Fineberg, brief history of pipeline operations and maintenance concerns
- Gabe Scott, Cascadia Wildlands Project, to discuss Contingency Plans on the Copper River

There will also be an opportunity for public discussion to gather knowledge on concerns regarding the TAPS, so bring your thoughts and concerns!

Wednesday, March 11th, 2009 9am-4pm **Building a Foundation for Citizen Oversight**

Peter VanTuyn, attorney, will be on hand to review legal framework for potential citizens oversight efforts. Wednesday's workshop activities will also include:

- Identifying stakeholder concerns regarding TAPS;
- Identifying consensus actions to address specific concerns;
- Developing an action plan of next steps, including development of work groups for pushing forward certain tasks.



For more information on this workshop, please contact:
Gabe Scott, Cascadia Wildlands Project, 424-3535, gscott@cascwild.org
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Information on this workshop will be kept up to date on: www.copperriver.org

