



"Citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers."

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Swanson resigns as head of citizens' council

Mark Swanson has resigned as executive director of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council. His resignation was unanimously accepted by the council board November 24 during a telephonic meeting.

While the board works to seek a permanent replacement, Donna Schantz, the organization's director of programs, will serve as acting executive director.

"On behalf of the council, I'd like to thank Mark for his service to the organization," said board President Amanda Bauer. "We wish him the very best in the future."

Swanson had been the council's executive director since April 2010, and was commander of the Coast Guard's Valdez Marine Safety Office from 2002 until he retired from the agency in 2005.

"Fortunately, after a number of careers and a lifetime of work, I have reached a point where I have the opportunity to stop working" Swanson said via email. "I look forward to enjoying the spectacular place I've brought my family to, and that we call home."

Schantz, who has worked for the council since 1999, is a Valdez resident.

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, with offices in Anchorage and Valdez, is an independent non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and the oil tankers that use it. The council's work is guided by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and its contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. The council's 18 member organizations are communities in the region affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, as well as aquaculture, commercial fishing, environmental, Native, recreation, and tourism groups.◇