

# Pollution pact will fund Cook Inlet monitor

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A hefty settlement with oil companies caught polluting Cook Inlet will fund staff and activities of a citizen program to monitor pollution from all sources in the region.

Following investigation of documents routinely filed with the federal Environmental Protection

Agency, environmental groups sued oil companies operating offshore platforms in Cook Inlet, charging them with as many as 4,000 violations of the Clean Water Act.

The companies were Unocal, Marathon, Shell and Phillips. All decided to forego a trial and settle the case. Phillips, which only operates one platform, elected to pay civil fines rather than contribute to

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