

LET'S TALK CLAIMS



Dick Harvin,
Claims Manager

Q. How many claims have been paid to those impacted economically by the oil spill?

A. Over 11,500 claims and \$214 million have been paid to businesses and individuals. More than half of this was paid to fishermen.

Q. Who have been the beneficiaries?

A. Virtually all of the claims were related to individual and business loss of income, with the vast majority of claims coming from the fishing and seafood processing industries. This includes hatcheries, canneries, tender boats, and many individual fishermen, crewmen and cannery workers.

Q. Why did Exxon initiate a claims program?

A. We are concerned about individuals directly impacted by the spill. A key objective of our voluntary claims settlement program is to promptly and fairly compensate those with economic losses as a direct result of the spill. Soon after the spill Exxon voluntarily established claims offices in Valdez, Homer, Cordova, Seward, Anchorage, Kenai, Kodiak and Seattle to assure rapid response to the financial needs of affected people.

Q. Have any other payments been made to fishermen?

A. Yes, in many cases fishermen who were paid claims for lost fishing also received payments for chartering their boats to Exxon for the cleanup. These charter payments added over \$225 million to these fishermen's income.

Q. When will Exxon stop paying claims?

A. We are continuing to pay claims for economic losses directly resulting from the Valdez accident. In fact, we recently increased compensation to Kodiak and Chignik fishermen because the Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced that actual salmon runs were greater than forecast. However, with the majority of oil gone from the Sound and Gulf of Alaska, and in light of the successful start of the fishing seasons this year, claims activity has dropped significantly over the past few months. At this time, we are processing claims in our Kodiak and Anchorage offices.

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