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## [U.S. Supreme Court to view West Seattle photographer's work](#)

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Hard to believe that the Exxon Valdez oil-spill case is not over yet, 19 years after the tanker catastrophe that soiled Alaska's Prince William Sound and ravaged its wildlife. But [today, U.S. Supreme Court justices hear oral arguments in one ongoing case](#) — Exxon is arguing that it should not have to pay punitive damages to more than 30,000 people affected by the spill — and a West Seattle photojournalist's work will be part of the plaintiffs' exhibit. [Natalie Fobes](#) (*shown left while on assignment in Siberia*) was [one of the first photojournalists on the scene](#); she got there the day after the spill. She says she "hitch-hiked her way around (Prince William) Sound on fishing boats and mail planes while many photographers and journalists were stuck in Valdez waiting for a plane or helicopter charter," spending the next few months documenting the devastation as she lived with fishermen, Native Alaskan families, and cleanup workers. Fobes testified in person at some of the earlier trials. You can see some of her photos [at Fobes' website here](#). She says, "I got into photojournalism to make a difference. To have my photographs included in one of the largest environmental cases ever argued before the Supreme Court is amazing."

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1. Actually, this isn't the only part of that case that is still open. In 2006 University of Washington Law professor and environmental law pioneer Bill Rodgers filed suit in the 9th Circuit Court for a \$100