



# Sea Change

## Ocean of Riches: The Battle to Protect Bristol Bay Continues

**B**ristol Bay and the southeast Bering Sea encompass some of the richest, most productive waters anywhere in the world. Consider the following:

- The bountiful fisheries harvest from the region accounts for nearly half of the nation's seafood catch and is valued at over \$2 billion dollars annually. Bristol Bay serves as one of the last global strongholds on Earth for wild Pacific salmon, with its watersheds nurturing the largest sockeye salmon runs on the planet.
- Coastal and marine habitats in the southeast Bering Sea support globally important



PHOTO: THOMAS VAN PELT

concentrations of seabirds and waterfowl including the endangered Steller's eider and short-tail albatross. A diverse marine mammal population, including the most endangered whale on Earth – the North Pacific right whale – use the rich waters and nearshore areas in the region as prime habitat.

- Coastal communities in Bristol Bay and throughout the

Bering Sea, most of which are predominantly Alaska Native, continue to rely on subsistence harvest of species as they have for thousands of years. The livelihoods of fishermen and fishing families across Alaska and the Pacific Northwest depend on the harvest of renewable fisheries resources that abound in the region.

But the future of Bristol Bay, its sustainable, living marine resources and the ways of life it supports hangs in the balance. An offshore oil and gas lease sale is scheduled for 2011 at the heart of vital habitat for the locally, nationally, and globally important populations of fish, marine mammals, and seabirds.

The Alaska Marine Conservation Council – through its *Friends of Bristol Bay* program and with diverse partners – is working to restore the region's protection from offshore oil and gas drilling.

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# Salmon Bycatch in Bering Sea Pollock Fishery

After years of experimentation and commitments to do better, the Bering Sea pollock fleet caught 122,000 king salmon as bycatch in 2007, an all-time high record.

How could this have happened?

In 1998, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) adopted a 28,000 king salmon bycatch cap. However, it applied only to a "Chinook salmon savings area." After the fleets moved out of the savings area, they continued to catch salmon in increasingly higher numbers each year. The cap did not control the total amount of Chinook bycatch because more and more king salmon were caught in different locations.

The fleet was then authorized to test its own voluntary methods for moving its vessels away from salmon bycatch hotspots that were identified as the fishery took place. This method had limited success.

Industry representatives have argued that steadily increasing bycatch is a sign that the Chinook population must be growing. Returns to the Yukon River, however, do not reflect increasing abundance. Subsistence harvests, in fact, have been put on limits due to low returns. The U.S. State Department is concerned that Chinook returns to Canada are not achieving the levels set in the Yukon River international agreement.

The NPFMC is now considering new measures. Many groups are supporting a "hard cap," which means the pollock fishery would shut down if the cap is reached.

This approach raises a number of considerations: What number of Chinook is the appropriate cap? How would the cap be allocated? Can the cap be traded between vessels?

The council will review a draft environmental impact statement on the different alternatives at its June meeting in Kodiak. The following is an excerpt from testimony given at the April council meeting by Becca Robbins Gisclair, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association:

"Western Alaska salmon stocks simply cannot bear the impacts from another year of bycatch at the levels we have seen over the past three years. In-river users are faced with absolute restrictions on catch, and once the set harvest has been reached, no further fishing is allowed. The pollock fishery must be held to this same standard through a hard [bycatch] cap, and not be allowed to merely make a good faith effort to reduce bycatch with no limit imposed."

## MISSION OF THE ALASKA MARINE CONSERVATION COUNCIL:

*People throughout Alaska working to protect the health and diversity of our marine ecosystem*

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- A healthy and diverse marine ecosystem has intrinsic value.
- People are a part of and depend upon a healthy and diverse marine ecosystem and have responsibility for maintaining it.
- Marine resource management must be comprehensive and incorporate indigenous, scientific, and experiential knowledge.
- The utilization of resources in the marine ecosystem must be managed to prevent over-exploitation, destruction, and neglect of these resources and associated habitats.
- Coastal residents have a valuable and unique perspective on the marine ecosystem and have the right to meaningful and influential participation in decisions.

# Don't let greed rule over common sense

*Editor's Note – The following editorial is reprinted with permission from the Alaska Journal of Commerce. It was published on March 30, 2008.*

Bristol Bay is a rare gem. The region contains one of the few sustainable salmon fisheries left on the planet. It is among the most biodiverse areas in the world.

Given the riches of this area and the vital interests, both from a cultural and an economical standpoint, it is sure to be a robust conversation that surrounds two significant proposals currently gaining steam.

The Pebble Mine project is well onto the radar, but another upcoming proposal may be every bit as controversial: The offshore lease sale for oil and gas in Bristol Bay.

Multiple interests converged at the ComFish conference held earlier this month in Kodiak. Folks from a variety of fields, including fishing groups, local chefs and international corporate suits, gathered there. Everyone engaged had a stake, some whose livelihoods hang in the balance of the decisions that will be made in the next few years.

Currently Alaska has it all. It has resource development in the form of oil, gas, mining, timber and salmon. The fact that the debate is beginning to gain momentum should not be surprising. What surprises is when those who represent the business interests – specifically the heavy industry interests of oil, gas and mining – seem to be offended by the idea that the opposition even exists and is raising legitimate questions.

To be blunt, people have decimated this planet; from an environmental standpoint we have all but destroyed it either through reckless development or toxic pollution. Most of the major fisheries in the world are either extinct or greatly diminished. Look at the West Coast: In an unprecedented move, federal officials closed

commercial fishing along the coast for the first time ever.

The devastation man has wrought upon the environment is indisputable. So why is it, then, when business interests implore the people to “trust them,” they seem offended if anyone chooses not to fall unblinkingly in step?

The global track record when it comes to conservation is deplorable. Greed has led the world down a polluted path in the name of profit.

Now, as a business industry, we are all about profit. But when business entities rubber-stamp everything in terms of development they fail to realize they are marginalized when it comes to the public.

Listen to the comments from some of those in the resource industry and a blatant lack of thought quickly becomes evident. Their comments often aren't thoughtful, don't take into account the valid concerns of others and are rarely helpful, especially when ignoring past abuse and misstep.

These discussions are of epic proportion for the people of Alaska. To dismiss out of hand any rational or scientific argument because it doesn't support your motive smacks of arrogance.

The state has it all now, but could lose it all if the right decisions aren't made. If we leave it to the monied industry interests or the radical who wants to stop all development, the entire state will pay a heavy price.

We are not suggesting that Alaskans should continue to develop their resources on a magnanimous scale. But if we choose to, it should be decision for all of us and one that should be measured, thoughtful, researched and not done for the wrong reasons.

We cannot allow greed to negate common sense, as it has in the past. What is at stake simply is this: The world's largest salmon fishery and the state's future. *✍*

# CATCH of the SEASON Delivers Tanner Crab from Kodiak

Midnight was approaching when Charlie Peterson and his crew aboard the F/V *Patricia Sue* delivered thousands of pounds of live Tanner crab to the processing plant in Kodiak. The sorting process early the next morning revealed that over 95 percent of the crabs caught were “Number 1’s,” rated for premium quality.



The Peterson family on their boat, Patricia Sue, in Kodiak.

The beautiful crab were specially handled and custom processed so that each CATCH of the SEASON subscriber would receive the finest and freshest crab legs available – not precooked as is typically done, but frozen raw to capture the full flavor of this Alaska delicacy.

CATCH of the SEASON subscriber and long-time AMCC member Mary Sue Rose said the following about her special delivery:

*“What a feast we had last night! Our crab was actually served in three courses: the best crab cakes I have ever eaten followed by a yummy crab pasta, and last, but in no way least, crab legs. None of us has ever experienced such delicious crab! ‘Aunt Patty’ who owns and operates Sweetish Hill Bakery, said that no restaurant on either coast could serve fresher, more delicious crab...no matter how many stars they have earned.*

*Well, as you can see, I am now a star! What an absolutely super evening. I’m sure that dinner will remain a family high point in our memories.*

*Thank you so much for making this possible. Thanks to the brave fishermen who brought the catch in and to those who processed, packaged, and got it in perfect condition to an appreciative Texas family!*

*What an exciting way to support the work done by the Alaska Marine Conservation Council!”*

To receive your own CATCH of the SEASON you can sign up online at [akmarine.org](http://akmarine.org) and be sure to let your friends know about this unique opportunity to support (and savor) marine conservation. 🌊



## Local action supports recycling on the docks in Kodiak

Marty Owen, City of Kodiak harbormaster, has been troubled for many years by the huge volume of cardboard and other recyclables that boaters toss in the harbor dumpsters. Thousands of tons are hauled away annually with other mixed garbage to the island’s overwhelmed landfill.

About 10 years ago, the Kodiak harbors had two MARPOL (Marine Pollution) collection sites, available for the disposal of metal, fishing gear and lines. Unfortunately, the collection sites became mini garbage dumps that were a headache for the harbor staff and expensive to maintain.

Owen closed them after observing that the carefully segregated contents of the bins was dumped into the same garbage truck and hauled to the landfill. A serious recycling effort on Kodiak Island did not exist at that time.

Private efforts, however, have recently revived the practice.

Threshold Services, a not-for-profit organization, managed by Rick Pillans, recycles cardboard, plastics and more. Threshold employs people with disabilities who sort and prepare recyclables for shipment off island.

The Native Village of Afognak offered to let the harbormaster borrow a 7 x 20 building built for collecting recyclables. The harbor department has added six dumpsters to its recycling facilities. These dumpsters will be placed near the garbage dumpsters so cardboard and plastics can be easily separated for recycling.

Owen is optimistic that a renewed recycling effort at the harbors will be successful. He hopes boat owners and crewmen will reduce the waste stream by 50 percent. If there’s a commitment from the community and the fishing industry, that ambitious goal could be met. 🌊

# Community and conservation issues on the agenda for the NPFMC meeting in Kodiak

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council will meet in Kodiak the week of June 2-10. Gulf of Alaska community and conservation issues that will be on the agenda include:

- **Gulf of Alaska Crab and Salmon Bycatch** – Fishery managers will review a discussion paper looking at the amounts of bycatch in each fishery and discuss whether or not to develop measures that reduce bycatch. Originally part of the Gulf of Alaska groundfish rationalization discussions, the council will consider this issue independently in June and may decide to initiate analysis. In 2005, 160 Kodiak Island fishermen signed a petition requesting greater protection for Tanner crab. Tanner crab is a small but important fishery for local families who rely on access to an array of diverse fisheries to support their livelihood. The crab population is fragile so bycatch in other fisheries could be detrimental. Scientific research shows a no trawl zone around Kodiak contains more intact habitat features (such as sea whips) and 30 percent more crab than an adjacent area that is heavily trawled. The crab bycatch and habitat issue has been a slow cooker – taking a long time to get action – but persistence pays.

- **Latent Groundfish Licenses** – The council is considering retiring a to-be-determined number of groundfish licenses. The proposed action would extinguish Gulf of Alaska fixed gear licenses that do not meet minimum groundfish landings thresholds during a specific qualifying period. The proposal has raised many questions: Are there too many people fishing? What is the right number of licenses? Will that number be accurate in the future? On what basis would “latent” licenses be select? If a license-

holder catches a lot of groundfish would that secure the license? If a fisherman entered the fishery only a year ago, would his/her license be at risk? How will the value of the remaining licenses be affected? What would this proposal do to the cost of entry for new fishermen? (The original licenses were free, but the next generation must pay to enter.) Should a number of unused licenses be given to coastal communities, which would then issue them to local fishermen?

- **Cod Allocation Split between Gear Sectors** – The council is considering dividing the Gulf of Alaska cod quota between trawl and fixed gear (pot, longline, and jig). As proposed, sector allocations would be based on historical catch, determined by potential quali-

fying years. Questions the council will consider are: Will this decision freeze cod gear in place such that fishermen are prevented from transitioning to cleaner gear? Could a bottom trawler, for example, still switch to pots if he finds advantages in doing so without increasing pressure on the fixed gear allocation? Or, will vessels be locked into the current profile of the fishery?

Residents of coastal Alaska have a unique and valuable perspective on the potential impacts of regulatory changes on their resource dependent communities. Kodiak residents should take advantage of the opportunity to attend, participate, and present testimony at the council meeting, all without leaving the island! The council needs to hear from a variety of people, all affected by its decisions. Please share your voice!

For more information, visit the North Pacific Fishery Management Council website [www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc).

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View of Kodiak Harbor.

# *Ocean of Riches: The Battle to Protect Bristol Bay Continues* Continued from page 1

## **NORTH ALEUTIAN BASIN ENERGY-FISHERIES INITIATIVE PROMPTS LOCALS, CONSERVATIONISTS, AND FISHERMEN TO SPEAK OUT**

The Bristol Bay offshore drilling issue heated up in March as AMCC joined local Bristol Bay organizations and other conservation interests in calling on the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) and Alaska Sea Grant to take corrective measures with regard to a workshop focused on the controversial topic.

The North Aleutian Basin Energy-Fisheries workshop held March 18-19, 2008 in Anchorage was the first in what is intended to be a series of meetings to examine “what’s needed to safely develop oil and gas in the North Aleutian Basin,” according to a Sea Grant news release.

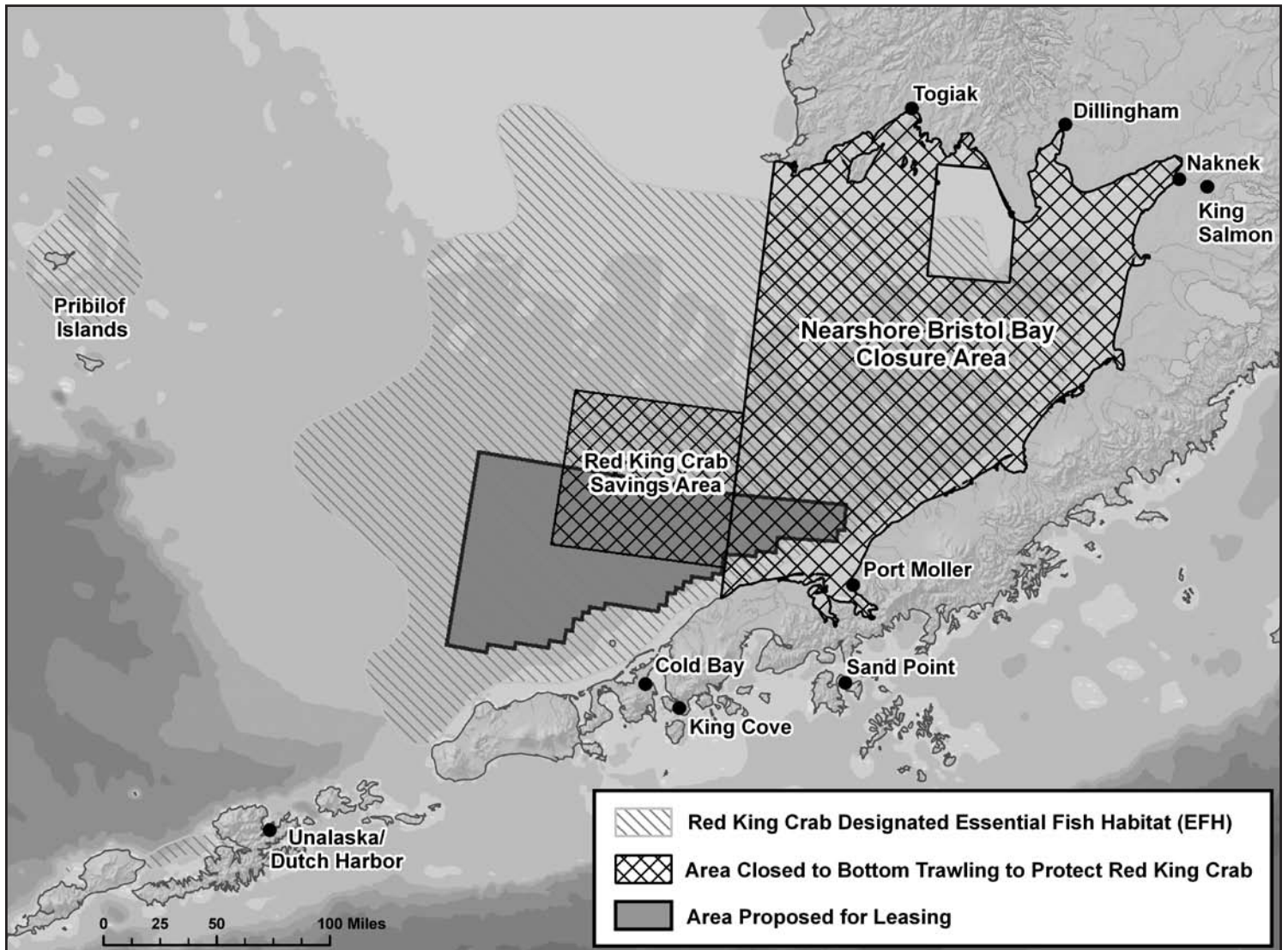
Statements such as this, which treated the proposed lease sale as a foregone conclusion, along with other issues such as Shell Oil’s intimate involvement in workshop planning and the lack of local input for the agenda and topics, prompted a diverse coalition to publicly speak out against the workshop’s bias.

An open letter was sent to UAF, Sea Grant and elected officials citing serious problems with the event. The letter was signed by AMCC, Nunamta Aulukestai (an association of eight Native village corporations from Bristol Bay), the Bristol Bay Partnership, Pacific Environment, Cook Inlet Keeper and University of Alaska professor and conservation specialist Rick Steiner. A well-attended press conference was also held during the first day of the Anchorage meeting.

The letter and press conference highlighted the undue influence by the proponents of offshore drilling and the exclusion of local Bristol Bay representatives and conservationists who support protecting the region’s economically, ecologically and culturally important renewable resources from the risks of offshore drilling.

The letter stated: “UAF and Sea Grant...have failed to take the steps necessary for creating a neutral, objective, and participatory dialogue on the issue of offshore oil and gas leasing in Bristol Bay. The North Aleutian Basin Energy-Fisheries Initiative is highly

*continued on page 7*



*The area proposed for oil and gas leasing falls in the heart of designated essential fish habitat (EFH) for all life stages of Bristol Bay red king crab and also overlaps areas closed to trawling to protect crab nursery habitat. The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Bristol Bay lease sale in the 1980s predicted “major” impacts for both the red king crab population and the crab fishery.*

biased towards the interests most supportive of offshore oil and gas development in the region and has minimized the opportunity for participation by others, especially by those who live in the Bristol Bay region.”

While leaders from Bristol Bay were denied balanced participation on the steering committee, a Shell contractor served as the event organizer.

The open letter made a number of requests to UAF and Sea Grant including asking the University of Alaska to refuse to accept any direct funds from Shell Oil in the future for any activities or research related to offshore drilling in Bristol Bay.

AMCC and others will continue to encourage UAF and Sea Grant to address the problems with this initiative and to not engage in a larger partnership with Shell.

While Shell is working through UAF to promote its offshore drilling future in Bristol Bay, Anglo American and the Pebble Partnership have launched similar mediated events to promote the Pebble mine development. It's hard to be opposed to a dialogue but the problem is both are assuming that drilling offshore in salmon habitat and a massive mining operation at the headwaters are a foregone conclusion. Many of us do not share that assumption. But often if you sit at the table, the compromised agenda does not include more fundamental questions – to drill or not to drill? Or equally important, how can we generate added value from our fisheries for local economies and reduce our dependence on expensive petroleum-based sources of energy?

To read the open letter and to see news articles related to this issue, please go to our website [www.akmarine.org](http://www.akmarine.org).

## BOOKEND THREATS: CONNECTING PEBBLE MINE AND OFFSHORE DRILLING

Another massive industrial development project has been proposed that threatens the future health of Bristol Bay's rich waters. The Pebble Mine, which has the potential to be the largest open pit gold and copper mine in the world, would be located at the headwaters of the region's rich, salmon-filled rivers and streams. AMCC's Board of Directors took a position in the fall of 2007 opposing the Pebble Mine and the Bristol Bay mining district. Since that time, AMCC has been collaborating with the groups working to stop the mine and will assist them in demonstrating how the value of healthy Bristol Bay wild salmon stocks far outweighs short-term benefits from the mine.

## ***BREAKING NEWS!*** **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKES IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS BRISTOL BAY LEASE SALE – YOUR COMMENTS NEEDED!**

The federal government took a major step towards selling off Bristol Bay's rich waters for oil and gas leasing on April 8, 2008.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) was released, which begins scoping for the Bristol Bay sale (known as North Aleutian Basin Sale 214). Scoping is the first step in a multi-year process required as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and provides members of the public the opportunity to express support or opposition to the lease sale and also to comment on what types of information and impacts should be considered in preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the sale.

Public meetings will be held in locations throughout Alaska. Concerned individuals should attend these meetings. Written comments will also be accepted. **The deadline for comments is currently slated for September 2008.**

Go to AMCC's website at <http://www.akmarine.org/our-work/protect-bristol-bay> or join the Bristol Bay listserv (see left) for more information on the lease sale scoping, instructions for submitting comments, and updates on public meetings.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT BRISTOL BAY:

**Call, write or e-mail Senator Lisa Murkowski and Governor Palin.** Ask them to tell the Secretary of the Interior not to proceed any further towards offshore oil and gas leasing in Bristol Bay. Tell them you support restoring protection for the region's waters.

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Check website for email link: <http://murkowski.senate.gov>

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907-465-3500, fax 202-465-3532  
Email: [governor@alaska.gov](mailto:governor@alaska.gov)

**Join the Bristol Bay offshore drilling listserv**  
to receive news and updates. E-mail [Kelly@akmarine.org](mailto:Kelly@akmarine.org)  
to sign up and keep active on the issue.



# Travelogue

## Bering Sea Northern Boundary

AMCC staff has remained busy meeting with rural communities in western Alaska and working with the Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group on the northern bottom trawl boundary.

### January

- Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group meeting, hosted by Nunakauyak Traditional Council in Toksook Bay.

### February

- Hooper Bay
- Nunapitchuk and Atmautluak
- Arthur Lake and Muriel Morse traveled to San Francisco to participate in the World Wildlife Fund's international "Climate Camp"

### March/April

- Kwigillingok
- Kawerak Elders Advisory Committee
- Kawerak Board of Directors, Natural Resources Committee

### May

- Shaktoolik
- Koyuk
- Elim

## Alaska Forum on the Environment

At this year's annual conference, AMCC hosted an informational booth as well as a panel session showcasing climate change and marine issues through the participation of scientists, agency decision-makers, and members of non-profit organizations working to protect the marine ecosystem. Besides highlighting the latest in scientific knowledge, the workshop created discussion among the various panelists and the audience as we all struggle to discover how to manage and protect Alaska's marine ecosystem and the economically significant fisheries it produces. Staff also presented on community responses to climate change

## Kodiak Wild & Scenic Film Festival

After a successful showing in Anchorage, AMCC proudly brought the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival on tour to Kodiak. Featuring new films exploring the natural world and our role in its delicate balance, the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival celebrates people who are making a difference on behalf of the environment. An exciting addition to the Kodiak event was a children's film festival featuring films to educate and inspire youth to play a positive role in the environment. The kids produced a "sustainable Kodiak woman," made entirely from recyclable



*Liz Peterson posing with the "Sustainable Kodiak Woman," made from recycled materials.*

goods, who will continue to advocate for community action and awareness in her trashy wear. A raffle drawing occurred during the intermission which featured work from local artists and goods donated from Patagonia. Welcome to our new members and thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets in support of AMCC!

## ComFish, Kodiak

AMCC hosted a booth at Alaska's largest fishery trade show and sponsored a forum on climate change to share how Alaskan communities are meeting the challenges of and advancing solutions to climate change. Thank you to our panelists and co-sponsors for your time and dedication.

## February Trip to Washington, D.C.

With only three years remaining until the scheduled Bristol Bay offshore lease sale in 2011, the time to lay the groundwork for restoring permanent protection within Congress and for reinstatement of the Presidential withdrawal under a new administration is **now**. In February, AMCC sponsored a group of fishing, Native and local representatives to travel to our nation's capitol to continue to build momentum in Congress. Pictured from left to right are Tom Tilden of Dillingham, Rep. Don Young, AMCC board member Terry Hoeffler of Dillingham, and Bristol Bay campaign coordinator Kelly Harrell. *EH*



# Board News

# Staff News

## Welcome



**Dave Beebe**

Welcome to our newest board member from Petersburg! Dave has been an Alaskan resident and commercial fisherman for the past 25 years, pursuing Dungeness crab, halibut, herring roe on kelp, abalone and sea cucumber. He brings unique experience and perspective to the board, having lived in a variety of places ranging from Newfoundland

to Italy, where he could see first hand the consequences of failed fisheries and degraded marine ecosystems.



**Chris Donich**

A resident of Homer and former commercial and charter fishermen of many years, Chris brings much experience and enthusiasm to her position on the board. She currently runs a charter operation with her husband, and in their free time they can be found out fishing with their two sons. A warm welcome, Chris!

## Farewell



**George Pletnikoff**

George leaves the AMCC board after serving since 2003. We will miss the experience, perspective, and passion he brought to the board through his past of living in Unalaska and the Pribilof Islands, being a teacher, a fisherman, a hunter and a priest. We wish you luck in your future endeavors! *AMCC*

## Welcome



**Sara Friberg**

We're happy to welcome Sara Friberg as our summer Conservation Intern. A New Mexico resident, with a background in biology and environmental sciences, Sara will bring her communication skills and research experience to further AMCC's efforts on climate change. Sara will be organizing a coastal community climate summit for the fall, as well as assisting

with other climate change projects.

## Farewell



**Diana DeFazio**

Diana's last day as AMCC's communications coordinator left a big empty hole in our organization. Diana came to AMCC six years ago as our membership assistant. She later took on membership coordination and then created her role as communication director. Everyone who likes the quality of AMCC's publications and website can thank Diana for

the continuous improvements she made and the technical challenges she overcame to make information access so easy for the rest of us. Now, we wish her well on a new journey. We remember Diana as inquisitive and committed to not just promoting the marine conservation cause, but also for living her vision of real community sustainability, which included eating locally and reducing consumption. We thank Diana for thinking big and putting ideals into practice. Best wishes to Diana from the board and staff.



**Martha Levensaler**

Martha bid farewell to AMCC this spring. Serving as AMCC's first climate change project director, Martha played an important role in getting the program off the ground and on a successful path. Along with AMCC outreach staff and science advisers, Martha conducted climate change educational events and community forums in many coastal

communities in Alaska, helping to start the conversation of how to advance community solutions to climate change. We'll miss her dedication and enthusiasm, but wish her well as she pursues her conservation work. *AMCC*

# Communities Addressing Climate Change

In order to raise awareness in Alaska coastal communities about the direct impacts of climate change, AMCC climate change director Martha Levensaler and outreach coordinator Alan Parks set out to Petersburg, Sitka, Haines and Homer to hold a series of community events during the first part of the year.

In Petersburg, Levensaler and Parks were joined by past *Pacific Fishing* magazine editor Brad Warren. AMCC science advisor Dr. Richard Feely joined the two in Homer and fellow science advisor Dr. Jeff Short in Sitka and Haines.

The advisors gave presentations on the causes and effects of global climate change, ocean acidification and the impacts on fisheries that are important to coastal residents and marine environment biodiversity.

Ocean acidification can be considered the evil twin of global warming. Since the beginning of the industrial revolution, approximately 50 percent of the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted into the atmosphere – primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels – has ended up in the ocean causing dynamic changes to the marine environment's chemical balance, with lasting adverse effects.

The AMCC team also held community roundtable discussions that proved to be a positive way to share and exchange ideas and technology between communities about solutions. Some of those ideas were renewable energy generation, buying locally made food and products, waste reduction, transportation, land use, building design, energy management and conservation.

Communities are taking the initiative in the following ways:

- Homer's Climate Action Plan has a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12 percent by 2012 and 20 percent by 2020, based on 2000 emission levels.
- Haines has a Peak Oil report that makes recommendations on how the community can move away from dependence on oil.
- Sitka has a Global Warming Group that is working on community solutions and involvement.
- Petersburg is in the process of designing a new city hall built to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards.
- Kodiak is planning a green house gas emission inventory this summer.
- Homer, Kodiak and Sitka have formed grass roots groups to promote sustainability.
- The City of Homer, the City and Borough of Kodiak, the City and Borough of Juneau and the Sitka Borough Assembly have all joined Local Governments for Sustainability, a membership association of local governments committed to advancing climate protection and sustainable development.

Coastal communities have many threads of commonality and no other issue is making a tighter weave than the magnitude of global climate change.

In its work on this issue, AMCC has found that the power of networking, the urgency and desire to act, and the ability to join together to demand aggressive policy changes are the most powerful actions we can take on behalf of future generations and in protecting a culture whose way of life and economy depend on a healthy ocean.

If you want to learn more or share with us what you and your community are doing to combat climate change contact Alan Parks at the AMCC office in Homer, 907-235-3826, or email [alan@akmarine.org](mailto:alan@akmarine.org). 🌿

## Many Thanks to:

**Natalie** and **Eric Sattler** and **Gordon Blue** for hosting AMCC staff in Sitka; **Grant** and **Lila Trask** for their hospitality in Petersburg; and **Kyra** and **Neil Wagner** for hosting AMCC staff in Homer.

**Leigh Thomet** for the use of her vehicle and for acting as the "Kodiak welcome wagon" during ComFish in Kodiak. Thanks also to **Oliver** and **Eva Holm** and **Stosh** and **Claudia Anderson** for hosting AMCC staff while in Kodiak.

Everyone who helped make the first annual Patagonia Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Fest a success, especially: **Dave Kubiak**, Master of Ceremonies; **Peggy Holm**, technical support; **Kodiak College Community Engagement Committee**; **Mack's Sport Shop**; and **Jane Eisemann** and the **Kodiak chapter of the Future Farmers of America** for providing child supervision during the children's film festival.

**Susan Payne** for all her support in coordinating community events in Kodiak.

**Chris Sannito** for going above and beyond in his help with the latest Catch of the Season shipment of Tanner crab.

The rural communities of **Kwigillingok**, **Kipnuk**, **Atmautluak**, **Nunapitchuk**, **Hooper Bay**, **Toksook Bay**, **Bethel** and **Norton Sound region**. Many more thanks to the **Staff of the Tribal councils** in those communities along with heaps of gratitude to **Karla Dutton** of Defenders of Wildlife, **HP**, and **WWF** for Climate Camp in San Francisco. Most of all much appreciation for the tireless and volunteer assistance with the Bering Sea project from **Arthur Lake**, **Fred Phillip** and **David Bill**, without whom this project cannot happen, and for their real Yupik hospitality, knowledge and generosity. As David O. David of Kwigillingok has said "We use Elders knowledge to hunt, fish, and survive. We use western knowledge to protect our subsistence way of life." 🌿

## WHAT'S ON DECK

June 2-10 • Kodiak

North Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting

• • •

June 7 • Anchorage

Alaska Oceans Festival

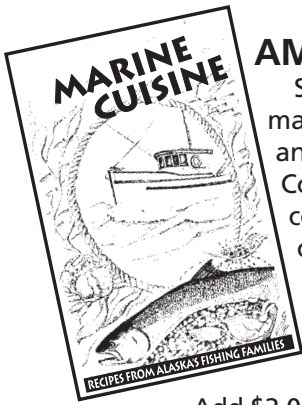
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September 1 • Kodiak

1st Annual Island Harvester Community Picnic hosted by Sustainable Kodiak and the Local Food Group. Bring a dish of locally grown or harvested food to share. Time and location TBA.

# Merchandise For Sale

Consider giving a gift to your family or friends that is also a gift towards marine conservation. All proceeds benefit AMCC's work to protect habitat, prevent overfishing, and reduce bycatch.



## AMCC Cookbook

Share the bounty of Alaska's rich marine resources with your friends and neighbors with Alaska Marine Conservation Council's *Marine Cuisine* cookbook. This publication features over 65 recipes from Alaska's fishing families. The book also features profiles on Alaska's fishing communities, AMCC members, and marine species. \$12.95 plus shipping.

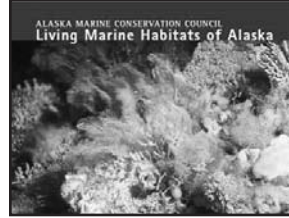
Add \$2.00 for shipping for first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy. Special bulk rate of \$6.50 each plus shipping for orders of 10 or more.

## Tote Bag

These all purpose carry-alls are always in demand. Artist Terry Josey's illustration of the intricate web of sealife makes a great coloring project for kids, too. Value priced and well-made of durable cotton canvas and teal colored handle. \$7.50 plus \$1.50 shipping.



## Living Marine Habitats of Alaska



From coastal waters to mysterious offshore environments, *Living Marine Habitats of Alaska* provides a glimpse into the wide diversity of the North Pacific and Bering Sea habitats and ecosystems.

With color photographs and informative text, this 16 page book explores some of the important habitats that make up the North Pacific and Bering Sea ecosystems. Published by Alaska Marine Conservation Council and Alaska Sea Grant.

First copy FREE; additional copies \$5.00 each. Price includes shipping.

## Ocean Home

Explore the values, traditions, thoughts and actions of Alaskans whose lives are sustained by the sea in this documentary publication. *Ocean Home* features black and white photographs by Homer fine arts photographer Alan J. Parks, and an essay by poet Wendy Erd. \$10 each copy, includes shipping.



# Make Marine Conservation Your Lasting Legacy

You can help safeguard the future health of Alaska's marine environment and the people who depend on it by making a permanent, long-lasting gift to AMCC's endowment. Your gift can also provide you with significant tax and financial benefits.

Gifts to AMCC's endowment continue to earn money long after you've written the check. An endowment is like a very small Permanent Fund: contributions go in and annual investment earnings come out or are reinvested. Earnings provide a source of steady, reliable income to AMCC, which can be reinvested in years of abundance and drawn upon in times of need.

Please make endowment donations to The Homer Foundation with "AMCC Fund" written on the memo line, and mail to the AMCC office. For more information about the endowment and ways to include AMCC in your financial planning, please contact the office (277-5357). Although AMCC does not give tax or legal advice, we can provide referrals to financial planning agents to help you maximize your financial benefits.

## WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO AMCC'S ENDOWMENT:

- **Give cash** – this is simple! Cash gifts can include recognition of and memorials to friends and family members who themselves have valued and benefited from Alaska's marine heritage.
- **Add AMCC as a beneficiary** of your life insurance policy.
- **Give by bequest.** Put AMCC in your will.
- **Establish a charitable remainder trust.** This allows you to receive lifetime income while providing AMCC with a future gift.
- **Give appreciated property** (real estate, stocks, boats).

# Want to Join?

## Membership

*I want to help sustain and restore our marine resources.*

*Please sign me up!*

\$25 Individual

\$35 Family

\$50 Supporter

\$100 Contributor

\$250 Sustainer

\$500 Benefactor

Other

## Sign Me Up!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**ALASKA MARINE CONSERVATION COUNCIL**

PO Box 101145 Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1145

Phone 907-277-5357(Kelp) • Fax 907-277-5975

## CATCH of the SEASON

*Yes! I want to subscribe to CATCH of the SEASON and support AMCC's work to conserve Alaska's wild fisheries while also promoting community-based opportunities for fishing families.*

Please indicate the level of your support:

\$700 (one seasonal shipment)

\$1,400 (two seasonal shipments)

\$2,100 (three seasonal shipments)

\$2,400 (four seasonal shipments)



Please note: the tax deductible portion of your gift is \$400 per seasonal shipment.

## Is It Time For You To Renew?

The address label on this newsletter includes your membership expiration date. Please check it and make sure your membership is current. The AMCC Anchorage office sends out renewal reminders, but it saves the organization money and resources if you renew early. Thank you.

Please make checks payable to the Alaska Marine Conservation Council. Your contributions are tax deductible.



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