

Council Briefs

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council

www.circac.org

First Quarter 2004

'Glen' Glenzer Retires From Board

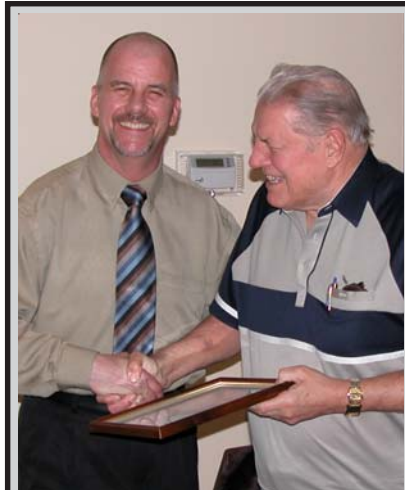
Cook Inlet RCAC President and representative for the Municipality of Anchorage H. "Glen" Glenzer retired from the Council after 13 years of service. Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich recently appointed Molly McCammon to fill Mr. Glenzer's seat on the Council.

Mr. Glenzer began serving on the Council at its second-ever meeting. During his tenure, Mr. Glenzer worked on all of the committees within CIRCAC and has been the president of the board of directors since 1998. He stressed the importance of diversity and active participation among board members

At times, Mr. Glenzer has played the lead role in garnering support for specific projects or operating expenses. He has helped negotiate resources for CIRCAC to address its OPA90 mandate through projects like the Cook Inlet Oil Spill Trajectory Model and others.

Over the years, Mr. Glenzer has contributed to the continued success of the RCAC, to the safe transportation of oil in the waters of Cook Inlet and to the protection of the environment through preventative measures that the RCAC has adopted.

Governor Frank Murkowski commended Mr. Glenzer for his service in a letter presented during a reception in his honor.



A WARM SENDOFF
Executive Director Michael Munger (left) presents an award to H. "Glen" Glenzer for his years of service on the Cook Inlet RCAC Board of Directors.

"You have been a cornerstone of the Council since its earliest history, helping establish its charter, traveling to Sullom Voe in the Shetland Islands to gain insight, and guiding it through those lean and formative early years," wrote Governor Murkowski.

"You have demonstrated your dedication to the Council for over 13 years serving as both Vice President and President of the Board of Directors for six

years each, respectively. I am proud to recognize your extraordinary contribution to its success as a representative of the Municipality of Anchorage."

CIRCAC Attends Leak Detection

Director of Operations Terrance Bryant traveled to the Drift River facility with two ADEC monitors to watch employees work a new leak detection system there.

Operators inserted a blank (a solid piece of metal that prevents liquid from flowing through the pipeline) into the pig (mechanical devices inserted into pipelines to conduct various integrity tests) extraction point.

Each blank had a predrilled hole. The smallest one tested was drilled at 1/8 inch. Within five minutes, the test detected the leak on the 1/8 inch hole. The detection alarm tripped identifying the problem at 0.29 percent of daily average throughput, well below the state's requirement of 1.0 percent.

Marine Firefighting Update

The Marine Firefighting Manual Project Workgroup met in February and April to discuss sections of the latest draft.

Representatives from the Seldovia, Nikiski, Anchorage, and Tesoro fire departments and other participants considered a contingency plan for identifying the means and methods necessary to make resources available and created a Cook Inlet checklist designed for first responders to evaluate an incident scene. A revised draft of the manual is available now online at: www.imcnw.com/%7Ecookinletmff

Events

April 23-24:	Kenai Sport & Rec Show; Soldotna
May 3:	Permit CD-ROM Mtg; Anchorage
May 6:	PWS Places of Refuge Mtg.; Anchorage
May 21:	CIRCAC Quarterly Mtg.; Kenai
May 27-28:	BAT Conference; Anchorage
May 31:	Memorial Day (Office Closed)

Kodiak Turns Out for Shorezone Presentation and Joint Reception

Director of Science and Research Susan Saupe joined Dr. John Harper of Coastal and Oceans, Inc. recently to make presentations in Kodiak on the Shorezone Mapping Project.



TALKING SHOREZONE

EMC member Elizabeth Chilton chats with Bill Driskell, biologist and Cook Inlet RCAC contractor, during a Shorezone Mapping reception in Kodiak. Kodiak resident Bob Brodie is visible in the background.

The outreach effort on March 15 showcased their work and the various ways others may use the tools that have

been developed.

In an afternoon, data-intensive session, research and agency scientists who may use Shorezone Mapping tools in their respective fields spent the day discovering what the project had to offer. Ms. Saupe and Dr. Harper spoke about the project's origins, protocols, the extensive database, and the tools and methods for using the information.

The evening session also included a well-attended reception, co-hosted by Prince William Sound RCAC, for approximately 60 local leaders and other interested parties.

Ms. Saupe also designed a second session to meet the needs of the casual Kodiak user. She and Dr. Harper focused on the tools one uses to view images and navigate the web-based information from a home or office computer. Visitors to the prototype web site (www.coastalaska.net) can select sections of the coastline and see aerial video segments that various Shorezone teams have collected in recent summers.

Workers Assist w/ Salmon Run

Drift River Terminal employees are offering to help deliver stranded salmon up stream. The initiative began after workers noticed that salmon were not making it to spawning grounds as they had in the past. The last major Mt. Redoubt eruption diverted Cannery Creek from its established channel. Typically that might not be a problem for fish, but in this case it created a series of waterfalls that prevent them from reaching spawning grounds.

To help solve the problem, employees have teamed with Cook Inlet Aquaculture and the parties are now considering four different plans: spawning surveys, a temporary fish ladder, an airlift, and an egg incubation/fry stocking plan.

Drift River has offered use of a helicopter for most of this work and employees provide off-hour labor for dipnetting and reintroduction of Coho above the falls and initial ground and aerial surveys.

More Cook Inlet RCAC news -

Buoys Assist Scientists

Cook Inlet RCAC continues to fund satellite-tracked drifter buoy deployments as part of a larger project to develop a numerical model for Cook Inlet. Among other uses, the model data collected from the buoys will improve responders' ability to predict the path of an oil spill.

The buoys are outfitted with GPS units that transmit location every hour as they float with the prevailing currents. Dr. Mark Johnson of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks has been tracking the buoys since last summer, plotting their paths to learn more about surface and subsurface currents in the region.

Several buoys became stranded over time along the west side of the inlet and were retrieved by various vessels including the *Heritage Service*. In addition, several buoys were picked up

and transported to shore by boaters.

XTO Performs Ice Drill

ADEC invited Cook Inlet RCAC to be a part of the unannounced drill called on XTO Energy recently. The drill involved on-water broken ice maneuvers and Cook Inlet RCAC sent two observers to the monitor the event.

Executive Director Michael Munger observed the recovery efforts onboard the *Seabulk Montana* where responders deployed an eight rope foxtail skimmer and maneuvered around the ice for collection. Responders also used a water cannon to disperse the ice to demonstrate the ability to recover product in heavy ice.

Director of Operations Terrance Bryant monitored aboard a smaller vessel, *Totem*, which was used in conjunction with the *Bad Betty*. The *Bad Betty* towed 300' of T-Com boom in a J forma-

tion while the *Totem* deployed a four rope fox tail skimming system. Both efforts gave provided visual evidence that CISPRI was able to maneuver and collect oil from waters where ice is present.

Commissioner's Speech to CIRCAC Available Online

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Ernesta Ballard spoke to the Cook Inlet RCAC at the most recent quarterly meeting in February.

Her speech is available on our web site as a PDF document. You'll find the link on our home page at www.circac.org.

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