

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

CIRCA C



MISSION

Representing citizens in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet.

Cover: Periwinkle snails (*Littorina sitkana*) basking in the sun on Augustine Island. Photo by M. Lindeberg.

This page: Interesting geomorphic feature on an otherwise flat and extensive rocky reef in lower Kamishak Bay. Photo by M. Lindeberg.

FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This year was a reminder of the importance of having a Regional Citizens Advisory Council in Cook Inlet, as CIRCAC monitors Alaska's oldest producing oil fields. Cook Inlet has been producing oil since it was first discovered in the Swanson River field in 1957. Although production peaked in the 1970s, the region still attracts new producers and exploration. But robust industrial activity combined with Cook Inlet's aging infrastructure require heightened oversight and monitoring. And we are being reminded of this with increasing frequency.

A series of spills—and marine incidents—were warnings that we cannot be complacent about Cook Inlet's risks and challenges. CIRCAC actively monitored these incidents, shared our resources and applied what we learned about mitigating risks from the Navigation Risk Assessment. We also advocated for more active regulatory oversight. Among our efforts, we:

- Heightened public awareness of the damaging effects of cutting staff at key facilities, and detrimental changes to Alaska's oil spill prevention and response program effectiveness.
- Provided extensive comments on proposed changes to the Cook Inlet Sub-Area Plan, which we believe will strengthen oil spill response and improve the plan as a working document for Federal and State On-scene Coordinators.
- Opposed proposed changes to the Unified Plan that sought to eliminate a key stakeholder communication mechanism.
- Submitted extensive comments on contingency plan amendments that we contend would have amplified risks.

At the same time, we pro-actively expanded our Ice Camera Network, initiated a vessel self-arrest study, helped develop Alaska's first Harbor Safety Plan, and gathered more data through field work and coastal habitat monitoring. Once again, we earned U.S. Coast Guard recertification without exception, marking 25 years of exceptional performance.

Safer operations, safer navigation, open communication and accountability are our highest priorities. Forming strong partnerships with industry, regulatory agencies and citizens, as Congress envisioned, will help us reach those goals. Because we are most effective when we work together and because—with more than 25 years of experience and knowledge in Cook Inlet—we have a lot to offer.

RESPONDING TO SPILLS

In spite of our best efforts, spills happen. This year incidents were unacceptably frequent for a number of reasons, including aging infrastructure. We actively monitored and provided expertise on the incidents within our areas of responsibility or concern and continued to communicate our priorities to improve safety and prevent future spills. Below is a summary of responses which warranted our particular attention.

Drift River Oil Terminal Spill

In July, Hilcorp Alaska reported a crude oil discharge associated with the piping system at the Drift River Oil Terminal tank farm. Crude oil had been discovered in a containment area. The investigation revealed there had been a valve misalignment during a previous pumping operation causing gasket failure. Four different sites required excavation, ground water recovery and site remediation due to oil contamination levels. The response continued until freezing temperatures forced the suspension of operations; it will be resumed.

Beaver Creek

In July, Hilcorp reported a small leak from a buried crude oil line at the facility. The Beaver Creek Production Facility is located near Kenai in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Staff learned that the leaking line had been isolated and approximately 25 gallons were spilled, 850 cubic yards of solids removed, five groundwater monitoring wells installed and over 30 confirmation samples collected. The case was transferred to ADEC's Contaminated Sites Program for cleanup monitoring and evaluation due to its possible impacts to groundwater.

Tyonek Platform Diesel Spill and Response

In November, Hilcorp Alaska reported an initial discharge of approximately 65,000 gallons of diesel into the Tyonek Platform's No. 1 leg. That discharge figure was later revised to 20,000 gallons. The discharge was caused by a leak in an out of service fuel line that passes through the leg. Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response Inc. (CISPRI) responded. Our primary concern with this incident was the lack of response from Alaska's lead regulatory agency, which called into question the State's ability to respond effectively to a significant spill in Cook Inlet. Communications about our concerns with State officials and recommendations for improvement are ongoing.

Nikiski KPL Dock

In December, a pipe ruptured at the KPL facility Tank 2400 waste water tank. The resulting discharge did not impact Cook Inlet nor were there any injuries. The ruptured pipe was isolated and contractors are conducting the clean-up. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation responded to the incident and investigated. The rupture was likely caused by freezing water in the pipe combined with pressure when put into service; 12.5 barrels of water and .6 barrels of hydrocarbons were recovered.

Blood star (Henricia sp.) being identified in Kamishak Bay. Photo by N. Chambers.



PREPARING THROUGH DRILLS & EXERCISES

Drills and exercises not only test the effectiveness of contingency plans, they are also an opportunity for key oil spill responders within agencies to become acquainted and work together to solve problems. As an active participant, we bring our expertise to bear within the Incident Command System including the Environmental Unit, Operations, and Joint Information Center. Drills are necessary to demonstrate an operator's ability to respond to a spill. They provide training and experience to response personnel. CIRCAC has also contracted with independent evaluators to assist in drill monitoring and assessment and to provide a written summary for each attended drill.

Glacier Oil/Cook Inlet Energy

This drill exercised a response to a well-blowout scenario which identified a drill operator encountering an unexpected gas pocket discharging approximately 1500 barrels of oil a day. The objectives were to exercise the spill response plan; make an initial assessment of the discharge and affected area to determine the most appropriate Geographic Response Strategies to be deployed; and maintain regular communications with the media, communities and public.

Harvest Unannounced Drill

CIRCAC has been critical of proposed amendments to the Drift River Oil Terminal's Contingency Plan to reduce staffing levels. To test Hilcorp/Harvest's ability to activate sufficient personnel to safely respond to an oil spill, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Coast Guard conducted an unannounced drill at the Drift River facility. The exercise prompted enforcement action requiring a tactical review, specific minimum staffing, and a Control Room visit by CIRCAC Board and public members. (See next page.)

“Success bred complacency; complacency bred neglect; neglect increased the risk until the right combination of errors led to disaster.”

(1990 Alaska Oil Spill Commission Report)

Hilcorp Control Room Visit and Tactical Review

In May, CIRCAC staff, Board and Public Committee members made a site visit to the Hilcorp/ Harvest control room for an overview of how remote area operations are monitored, controlled and managed from the Kalifornsky Beach Road location. In June, CIRCAC Staff attended a tactical review at the Hilcorp Control Room to identify a basis for Response Scenario 1 of the Harvest Alaska Drift River Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan and review the oil trajectory of the spill scenario.

BlueCrest Energy

Adequate office space is crucial to efficient response. In previous exercises, the BlueCrest Anchorage space and equipment were not efficient. This drill successfully addressed the situation by providing enough space to work the drill exercise problem. The critique, or “hot wash” at the end of the drill noted that space is important and a real incident would have moved to a larger venue such as the CISPRI command center.

In addition to drills and exercises, CIRCAC takes advantage of opportunities to visit facilities in our areas of responsibility. CIRCAC Executive Director Mike Munger, third from left, toured the ConocoPhillips LNG plant in Nikiski with, from left, Senator Peter Mucciche of Soldotna; Rear Admiral Michael McAllister, Commander, District 17; Captain Paul Albertson, Commander Sector Anchorage.

(Photo by USCG Commander Hector Cintron)



REVIEW

REGULATION DEVELOPMENT

CIRCAC delivers expert guidance by reviewing and evaluating permits, regulations, findings, proposed legislation, and oil discharge prevention and contingency plans. Through our active participation, we have directly contributed to improving oil spill prevention measures by focusing on staffing levels and operations at Cook Inlet facilities, promoting open communications between industry and citizens, and sharing our scientific knowledge of Cook Inlet's environment. This year, our critical reviews directly led to the upgrading of a proposed minor contingency plan amendment to a major amendment thus allowing for public comment. Our recommendations were heard, resulting in an unannounced drill, a tactical walk-through of facility operations and response actions to corroborate effective contingency plan content and adequate staffing levels. Beyond contingency plan review, this year we also provided review and comments for these proposed rule-making and regulatory changes:

- Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) for Safety of Hazardous Liquid Pipelines, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Proposal for Response Exercise Program Improvements
- Unified Plan, Annex B, Process for Community Outreach
- Cook Inlet Subarea Contingency Plan update
- Notice of Proposed Regulation Revisions to 18 AAC Chapter 75 – Oil and Other Hazardous Substances Pollution Control and 18 AAC Chapter 78- Underground Storage Tanks
- Notice of Public Scoping for Possible Updates to State of Alaska Regional Master Prevention and Contingency Plan Boundary Regulations
- Prepared comments on avoidance areas in preauthorization zones within Alaska's Dispersant Guidelines



REVIEW

OIL DISCHARGE PREVENTION & CONTINGENCY PLAN

- Furie Operating Alaska LLC, Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan, Cook Inlet Exploration
- Hilcorp Operations Alaska, LLC (HAK), Cook Inlet Exploration Program; Revision 5 Amendment
- Hilcorp Operations Alaska, LLC (HAK), Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan for Cook Inlet Production, Minor Amendment, Revision 3
- Hilcorp Operations Alaska, LLC (HAK), Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan for Cook Inlet Production, Minor Amendment, Revision 13
- Furie Operating Alaska LLC, Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan, Cook Inlet Exploration Program
- Cook Inlet Energy, Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan, Sabre Exploration Well Amendment
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Cook Inlet Planning Area Oil and Gas Lease Sale 244

Tide coming in over a just-sampled boulder beach on Augustine Island. Photo by S. Saupe.





SAFER NAVIGATION

Vessels losing power pose a high risk to navigation safety and CIRCAC routinely monitors vessel activity in the Inlet. This year three engine failures reinforced the importance of CIRCAC's self-arrest study (below). The M/V *Midnight Sun* container ship lost propulsion power on approach to Kennedy Entrance. The *Bob Franco* escorted the ship to anchor near Homer. While departing the Port of Anchorage, the T/V *Pyxis Theta*, carrying jet fuel, lost power. The crew implemented emergency anchoring procedures and successfully self-arrested, before anchoring south of Knik Arm. The T/V *Jurkaline* experienced a 20-minute engine malfunction before regaining power. The *Bob Franco* was on-scene after the restart. The Coast Guard Captain of the Port ordered the vessel to return to Homer to await inspection and make any required repairs before departure.

SELF-ARREST STUDY

CIRCAC has commissioned a Vessel Self-Arrest Study to examine the capabilities of laden and unladen tank vessels to self-arrest in Cook Inlet. Utilizing the vessel simulator at the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) in Seward, we engaged professional mariners with a wide range of experience to test multiple scenarios including self-arrest in ice conditions. In each scenario, a critical location for loss of propulsion was selected along the vessel's normal transit route to the Nikiski docks. We developed scenarios with local maritime subject matter experts and stakeholders. The simulated vessels represented tank vessels currently operating in Cook Inlet. Winds and currents were based on problematic Inlet conditions. We ran more than thirty simulations over two days using three different tank vessel models, two large and one small. Once finalized, the report will be made public on our website.

Background photo was taken of operators inside the simulator at AVTEC. Photo by V. Catalano.

MONITORING ICE FOR SAFER NAVIGATION & RESPONSE

CIRCAC found two new sites for Ice Forecasting Network cameras so as to relocate an existing camera and to broaden our area of coverage with a new camera. A stand-alone laptop to be used as a portable system console will allow the On-Scene Commander or an emergency responder access to the network during an oil spill or other marine emergency. We are also investigating providing Marine Pilots access to the camera images at their dispatch center to give them an overview of ice conditions prior to departing Homer and while in transit. The Ice Forecasting Network was made available to Hilcorp and the ADEC during the 8” gas pipeline leak between the “A” platform and the shoreline to supplement observation overflights (Winter 2017).

HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

CIRCAC was instrumental in establishing the Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee, a priority risk reduction option of the Cook Inlet Navigation Risk Assessment.

Since its inception, the Cook Inlet HSC has gathered 20 Committee Members, representing different maritime stakeholder groups; and eight Ex-officio members representing Federal and State regulatory agencies and administrations, the Nikiski Fire Department, the Alaska Marine Highway, and the Alaska Marine Exchange.

The HSC is a forum to discuss waterway safety and management and best practices and Standards of Care for safe operations in Cook Inlet. There are two standing workgroups - the Navigation Safety workgroup and the Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup.

The Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Plan enhances marine safety and environmental stewardship via risk based decision making. The plan was first published in 2016 and provides information, guidelines, and Standards of Care for marine operators in Cook Inlet.

Other HSC workgroups are Marine Firefighting and Salvage. CIRCAC holds one seat on the Managing Board and one on the Committee. (www.cookinletharborsafetycommittee.com)

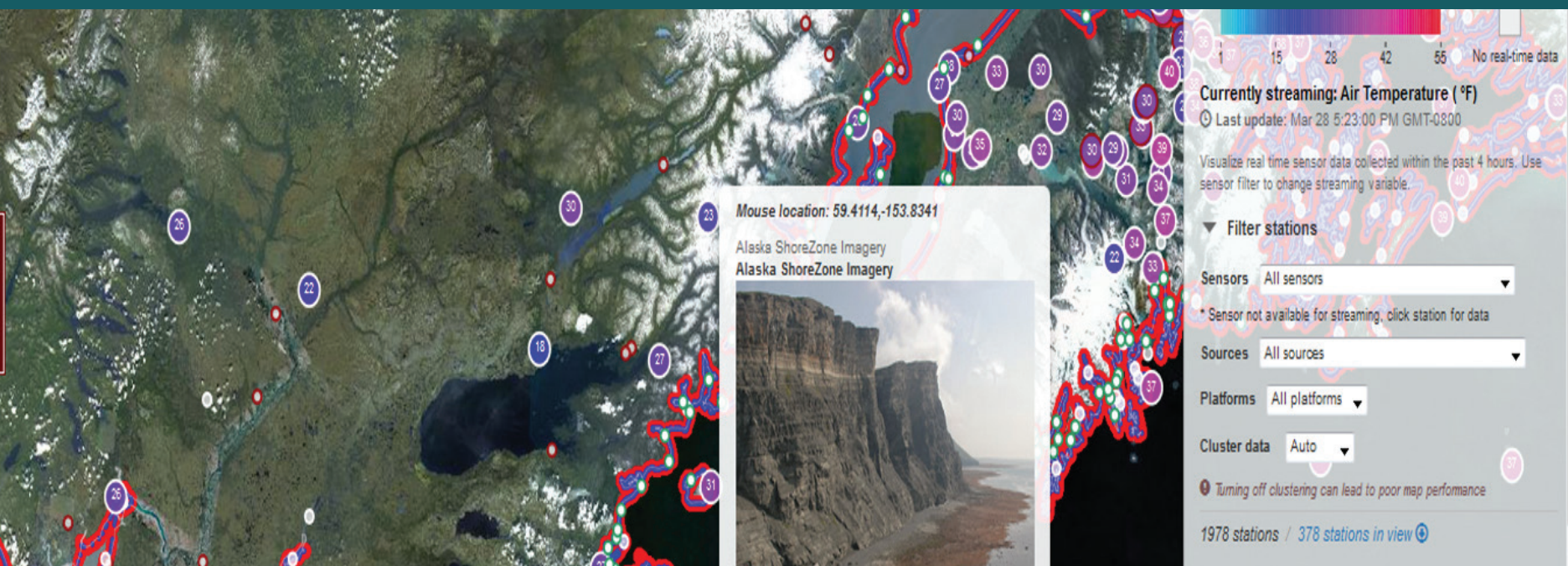
ACCESSING DATA

During the past 26 years, we've collected and assembled a great deal of data to help us understand our marine ecosystem and assist the oil spill prevention, planning, and response community. One of our challenges is making all of this material available to users who need it, and we've done this in a variety of ways—through reports, spreadsheets, databases, and more recently, web-based tools.

On-line access, though sometimes difficult to achieve, is one of the best ways to quickly get information to anyone, especially in emergency situations; and it has been extremely successful for some of our data. For example, our initial pilot project to serve ShoreZone habitat data and coastal photography led to the now state-wide ShoreZone data portal compiled and served by NOAA (<http://www.shorezone.org/use-shorezone>) and on numerous Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS) data portals (www.aos.org). This shoreline information has since proven useful for many oil spill planning and response scenarios.

This year, we've prioritized a goal of integrating our data with other information in meaningful ways. We are in the midst of compiling our contaminant, oceanography, and water/sediment quality data so that it can be queried, visualized, integrated, and downloaded by different users. We've also added data layers to the Cook Inlet Response Tool (CIRT), the data portal we developed in partnership with AOOS. We've also begun testing ways to use CIRT to search and view logistical, safety, and public outreach information relevant to oil spill response - data we are compiling in our Geographic Response Information Database (GRID).

These on-line tools are only useful if those who need the information are aware of them and comfortable using them. CIRCAC provides hands-on training for various user groups and in 2016 we provided hands-on training for using the on-line ShoreZone database and CIRT tool.



Screen grab from Cook Inlet Response Tool (CIRT) demonstration of how to toggle between various data layers. Source: AOOS

IN THE FIELD...

BARRENS ISLANDS SHOREZONE

In April, CIRCAC sponsored an aerial survey of the Barren Islands. The island group had been previously excluded from surveys due to its sensitivity as a haul-out for endangered sea lions in the western Gulf of Alaska. CIRCAC funded and participated in the aerial surveys through a contract with Coastal and Ocean Resources, Inc. (CORI) after the National Marine Fisheries Service approved the survey plan's distance and elevation limits near known (or discovered) seal and sea lion haul-outs. Prior to the survey, the survey team provided a community presentation and training in Homer. The imagery is posted online and can be accessed at www.shorezone.org.

A seat on the helicopter was also provided for a videographer from 360 North at KTOO, Juneau's public television station. Some of the imagery collected during the survey, as well as interviews of participants, were included in a short documentary about the Alaska ShoreZone program and examples of how it is being used in Southeast Alaska (www.360north.org/shorezone).

*Background: Mixed kelps from the lower intertidal zone, including Three-ribbed kelp (*Cymathoera triplicate*) and Ribbon kelp (*Alaria marginata*).
Photo by M. Lindeberg.*

ALASKA PENINSULA SHOREZONE

In May, several efforts took place along the Alaska Peninsula to describe shoreline geomorphology and biological assemblages as part of ongoing efforts to image and map habitats along all of Alaska's shorelines (www.shorezone.org). ShoreZone surveys were completed in May between Mitrofanina and Katmai bays, including Chirikof Island and the Semidis. This complex coastline along the south side of the Alaska Peninsula is a transition area between the Gulf of Alaska and the Aleutians/Bering Sea and has historically been poorly characterized.

We accomplished the aerial surveys through a partnership between CIRCAC and CORI with funding from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). This work is an important milestone for CIRCAC, since we will now have coastal imagery and habitat data from our entire area of concern and have now closed a 2,255 km gap in ShoreZone information for the Gulf of Alaska.

CIRCAC funded additional sampling at 28 shore stations along the same study area, and put scientists on the beaches to provide close-up observations of substrate, morphology, and biota to inform and calibrate the interpretation of biobands from aerial imagery. These surveys provide intertidal species lists for the area and allow taxonomists to recognize species out of place (e.g. new distribution records or introductions or invasives) and undescribed species (e.g. previously unknown species), which will be reported in the larger scientific literature. Our extensive pressed seaweed voucher collection will be cataloged, digitally scanned, and distributed to appropriate herbariums.

*Climbing up angular boulders on Chowiet Island in the Semidis. (Can you see all three?)
Photo by M. Lindeberg.*



NEARSHORE HABITATS IN LOWER COOK INLET

This was our project's second year describing rocky platform and reef habitats in Kamishak Bay and western Cook Inlet. These extremely low angle and wide habitats are unique to and ubiquitous in the study area and have limited historical data. The study area is downstream of current and potential oil industry activities, and provides important fish habitat, especially for spawning herring.



Exploring flat offshore rock reef in lower Kamishak Bay. Photo by M. Lindeberg.

The study assesses invertebrates and seaweeds in the entire tidal range and down to about 10 m (30 feet) depth. This multi-year study is being funded by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and conducted by a partnership of the National Park Service (NPS), University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and CIRCAC.

2016 data collections included:

- Revisiting sites sampled in 2015 and at additional sites including sampling via helicopter on an extensive reef system near the Douglas River that extends over 15 km along the coast and more than 5 km offshore.
- Sampling intertidal and dive quadrats to collect data on invertebrate and algal abundance, biomass, and/or percent cover.
- Collecting high resolution geospatial and tidal elevation data.



PUBLIC OUTREACH

The work of CIRCAC cannot take place without citizen participation. In fact, our founding legislation highlighted the importance of forming partnerships among citizens, industry, and agencies. Every year CIRCAC prioritizes public outreach as a component of all of our activities, and 2016 was no different. To increase our exposure and reach out to the public, we worked for earned media, continually refreshed our website to include current activities, and published regular newsletters which highlighted recent and interesting activities by CIRCAC or our partners. This year, we've also increased CIRCAC's brand recognition through social and traditional paid and earned media, and by participating in and exhibiting our booth at public events and conferences.

Alaska Tourism Industry Association

The Alaska Center (formerly Alaska Center for the Environment)

Koniag, Inc.

KANA (Kodiak Area Native Association)

Natives of Kodiak

Afognak Native Tribe and Leisnoi (informational packets)

Kodiak Chamber of Commerce

Discover Kodiak

Kodiak Island Borough

Soldotna Rotary Club



Kodiak resident Gretchen Saupe shows off her "mug" at ComFish.



Cook Inlet Navigator 2016 e-News

Since its launch, we have sent 8,829 newsletters with an average open rate of 20% and click through rate of 16%. Our contacts have grown 106%, by 418 subscribers. Become one of our subscribers today.

Public Events or with Exhibits

CIRCAC reaches its many stakeholders through presentations, exhibits, conferences and other educational opportunities for its Directors, Public Members and Staff. In addition to reports, newsletters, paid, earned and social media, we participated in the following activities as attendees, presenters or exhibits in 2016.

Exhibits and Presentations

Alaska Marine Science Symposium, Anchorage
ComFish Alaska Expo, Kodiak
Industry Appreciation Day, Kenai
Kodiak Island Scholarship Fair, Kodiak
UAA Alaska Native Scholarship Fair
Kenai Peninsula Jobs Fair

Participants

Cosmopolitan Project Public Meetings
Alaska Regional Response Team
Oil Surrogates Work Group

Attendees

ASTM Conference
Clean Pacific
National Harbor Safety Conference
Pacific Marine Expo

COOK INLET RCAC SCHOLARSHIPS

SUPPORTING

FUTURE
LEADERS

AS THE

ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDS OF
TOMORROW



Hunter Tillion, of Homer, 2016 Recipient of CIRCAC's Captain Barry Eldridge Memorial Scholarship for Maritime Studies (Photo provided by H. Tillion)



Kayla Haeg, of Soldotna, 2016 Recipient of CIRCAC's James Carter Memorial Scholarship for Environmental Sciences (Photo provided by K. Haeg)

OUR VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CIRCAC is fortunate to have Board and Committee members who have served consistently for many years. Such stability represents a long term commitment and deep knowledge of the Cook Inlet Region.

(Left to right) President of the Board John Williams recognizes Jan Hansen, 2016 Glen Glenzer Volunteer of the Year, Robert Peterkin, II for 15 years of service; and Gary Fandrei, Deric Marcorelle and Dan Urban (not pictured) for 10 years of service to the Board of Directors. Photos by L. Giguere.



Jan Hansen
2016 Glen Glenzer
Volunteer of the Year



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016



PRESIDENT JOHN WILLIAMS
CITY OF KENAI



V. PRESIDENT ROBERT PETERKIN, II
TOURISM



SECRETARY/TREASURER GARY FANDREI
AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATIONS



CARLA STANLEY
CITY OF HOMER



PAUL SHADURA
COMMERCIAL FISHING



BOB FLINT
RECREATION



DERIC MARCORELLE
ENVIRONMENTAL



MICHAEL OPHEIM
ALASKA NATIVES



WALT SONEN
CITY OF SELDOVIA



MOLLY MCCAMMON
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE



ROB LINDSEY
CITY OF KODIAK



GRACE MERKES
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH



SCOTT SMILEY
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH
(THROUGH 10/2016)



KYLE CROW
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH
(APPT. 12/2016)

EX OFFICIOS

Captain Paul Albertson – United States Coast Guard

Matt Carr – Environmental Protection Agency

Dr. Heather Crowley – United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Graham Wood – Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Jonathon Schick – Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Catherine Berg – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Colin Blair – Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Ginny Litchfield – Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Jason Walsh – State Pipeline Coordinator's Office

(Vacant) – United States Forest Service

STAFF

Michael Munger, Executive Director

Susan Saupe, Director of Science & Research

Steve “Vinnie” Catalano, Director of Operations

Lynda Giguere, Director of Public Outreach

Jerry Rombach, Director of Administration

Vaito’a Heaven, Administrative Assistant

Maritta Eledge, Accounting & Grants Manager

Cindy Sanguinetti, Transcriber

Charter Funding Companies

Tesoro Alaska Petroleum • Hilcorp Alaska LLC • ConocoPhillips • BlueCrest

Furie Operating Alaska • Glacier Oil & Gas (formerly Cook Inlet Energy)

COMMITTEES

Committees are led by staff directors. Our primary work is conducted through these committees which develop programs and projects for environmental monitoring, oil spill prevention and response, and contingency plan and regulatory review.

PREVENTION, RESPONSE, OPERATIONS & SAFETY (PROPS)

Bob Flint, Chair; Rob Lindsey, Michael Opheim, Carla Stanley, Walt Sonen, Deric Marcorelle

Public Members

James McHale, Vice Chair; Ted Moore, Scott Hamann, Jan Hansen, John Bauer, Steven Lufkin,
Robert Reges, Capt. Bob Pawlowski

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

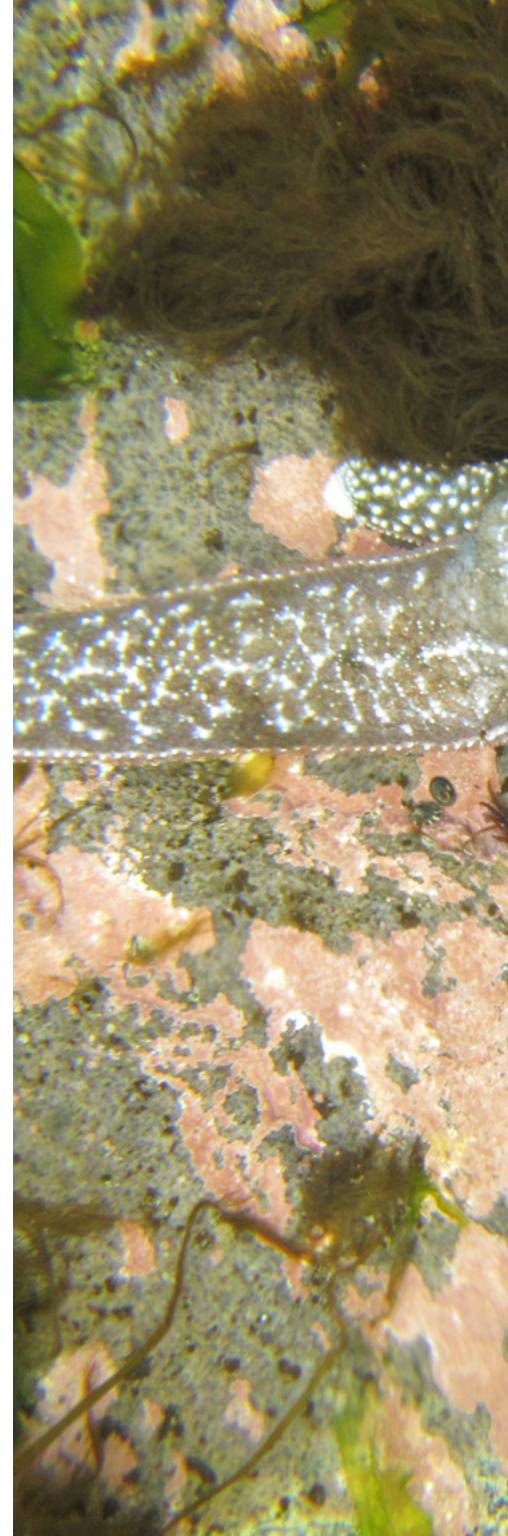
Molly McCammon, Chair; Michael Opheim, Carla Stanley, Deric Marcorelle, Bob Flint, Dr. Scott Smiley

Public Members

Dr. Eric Klein, Vice Chair; Richard Prentki, Dan Urban, Steve Hunt, Robert Reges, Maria Offer, Rick Frederic

PROTOCOL CONTROL

Robert Peterkin, II, Chair; Bob Flint, Rob Lindsey, Deric Marcorelle, Paul Shadura, Carla Stanley (Alternate)





ADMINISTRATIVE

EXECUTIVE

President John Williams, Chair

Vice President Robert Peterkin, II, Vice Chair

Secretary/Treasurer Gary Fandrei

Bob Flint

Deric Marcorelle

AUDIT

Gary Fandrei, Chair

Molly McCammon

Grace Merkes

Robert Peterkin, II

CREDENTIALS

Robert Peterkin, II, Chair

Gary Fandrei

Grace Merkes

Michael Opheim (Alternate)

Evasterias troschelii is a major predator in the intertidal zone. Though not detected during our surveys in Kamishak Bay where this specimen was found, a viral wasting disease has been decimating this seastar in other areas of the Pacific Ocean and has been detected in Kachemak Bay. Photo by B. Pister.

PARTICIPATING INTEREST GROUPS

ENVIRONMENTAL

Alaska Marine Conservation Council
Anchorage Waterways Council
Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies
Cook Inletkeeper
Great Land Trust
Kachemak Bay Conservation Society
Kenai Watershed Forum
Kodiak Audubon Society
National Parks Conservation Association
ReGroup
The Alaska Center

RECREATION

Alaska Charter Association
Alaska Sport Fishing Association
Kenai River Sports Fishing Association
Kenai River Professional Guide Association

TOURISM

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council

AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATIONS

Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association

COMMERCIAL FISHING

Alaska Groundfish Data Bank
Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association
Alaska Salmon Alliance
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
North Pacific Fisheries Association
Northern District Setnetters Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association

ALASKA NATIVES

Kenai Natives Association, Inc.
Kenaitze Indian Tribe
Ninilchik Natives Association, Inc.
Port Graham Village Council
Port Graham Corporation
Seldovia Village Tribe
Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Natives of Kodiak, Inc.
Nanwalek IRA Council
Seldovia Native Association
Native Village of Eklutna

U.S. COAST GUARD RECERTIFICATION

CIRCAC must earn U.S. Coast Guard recertification on an annual basis, and undergoes an exhaustive review of our programs, projects, initiatives, partnerships, and effectiveness in adhering to our Congressional mandates. Our highest priority is maintaining the public trust through this recognition. We're proud of our unbroken track record of consistently earning recertification without exception for 25 years.

CIRCAC welcomes new tourism stakeholder groups

In 2016, we amended our Bylaws to create a new Tourism Group as a required stakeholder interest group. Expanding our representation of the tourism industry recognizes this rapidly growing sector with varied and diverse interests in the Cook Inlet region. First to join the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce under our new Tourism Group banner is the Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council.

This page: The jack-up rig Randolph Yost, contracted by Furie Operating Alaska, before being moved to the upper Inlet. Photo by S. Saupe.

Back cover: Nina Chambers, NPS, reading a quadrat for lower Cook Inlet habitat study. Photo by M. Lindeberg.





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