



"The mission of the Council is to represent the citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet."

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Susan Saupe at (907) 398-6214 or saupe@circac.org

CIRCAC sponsors original art exhibit inspired by Alaska ShoreZone *Coastal and Arctic Impressions: Artists Paint Alaska's "ShoreZone" on display Jan. 25-29*

January 21, 2016--Anchorage, Alaska—The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC) is hosting the first exhibit of original art based on photographs taken of Alaska's stunning coastline through the Alaska ShoreZone partnership.

ShoreZone is a coastal habitat mapping method that uses high resolution digital imagery to help classify coastal features into useable and searchable data. The imagery and habitat data are accessed by a wide range of users throughout Alaska. Sixteen photographs were selected and artists Janet C. Hickok, Terisia Chleborad, and Ness Nouveau were challenged to respond in an abstract, impressionistic, or realistic manner—depending on color, pattern, texture, space, coastal area, and atmosphere. The result of this collaborative project is a body of work showing how each of these artists translated what they saw in these photographs to their canvases.

"We spend a lot of time in the field and are committed to sharing what we've learned from our scientific studies. At the same time, we are constantly awestruck by our magnificent surroundings and this show is an opportunity to share that with others," said CIRCAC's Director of Science and Research Susan Saupe, a ShoreZone team member and organizer of the exhibit. "These three talented artists are also giving us a deeper understanding of how we each see and feel our natural environment differently."

The paintings, and the Alaska ShoreZone photographs on which they are based, taken by ShoreZone photographers Mandy Lindeberg and Mary Morris, will be on display at the Alaska Marine Science Symposium in Anchorage, January 25-29, in the Adventure Room of the Hotel Captain Cook. The public is also invited to **Meet the Artists** on Thursday, January 28, from 5pm to 8pm.

CIRCAC is a federally mandated citizens' organization, formed under the Federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA90). Its mission is to represent the citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet. In pursuing this mandate, the Council strives to help protect the environment, fisheries, economic vitality, cultural resources and recreational interests of Cook Inlet.

For more information, and to download Artist Statements, visit www.circac.org.

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