

# BECOME A CERTIFIED MEMBER OF COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our members help us achieve our goals of being a leader in improving our understanding and protection of Cook Inlet. Among our top priorities is making Cook Inlet data and information accessible and collecting and integrating biological and chemical environmental data in a sustained manner. Current projects include conducting a comprehensive risk assessment for oil facilities and infrastructure and ensuring detailed habitat data for all Cook Inlet area shorelines are available and integrated within the Incident Command during oil spill prevention planning and response. Our stakeholders and partners help us educate the public to enhance long-term stewardship of Cook Inlet.

## As a certified member group represented on our Board of Directors, your organization will:

- Participate in elections to the Board of Directors.
- Have a greater understanding of the challenges facing Cook Inlet and how we can address them.
- Heightened visibility as a progressive organization concerned with helping protect the health of Cook Inlet.
- Greater public outreach through our website, annual reports, e-newsletter, media coverage, exhibits, and program work.
- Benefit from our thorough review of oil discharge prevention and contingency plans which are considered with our stakeholders' priorities in mind, as well as our knowledge and expertise.
- Be part of the solution to protecting Cook Inlet's valuable natural and cultural resources for future generations.
- Have access to real time updates during oil spill responses in your areas of concern.



*Alaska ShoreZone (CIRCAC)*

## To become certified, your organization must have:

- activities which take place in the vicinity of Cook Inlet or Kodiak Island
- headquarters or affiliate offices located in the vicinity of Cook Inlet
- a majority of members residing in the vicinity of Cook Inlet (local chapters, if part of a national organization)
- 20 members or more
- membership meetings at least on an annual basis
- been incorporated or otherwise recognized by the State of Alaska, or be affiliated with a national organization.

To download an application form: <http://www.circac.org/wp-content/uploads/Membership-Application-Stakeholder-Groups.pdf>

## About us

In the aftermath of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, Congress passed the comprehensive Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990, which created two regional citizen advisory councils, Cook Inlet RCAC and Prince William Sound RCAC, to involve citizen participation in oil transportation and production. To ensure broad representation, Congress drew up the guidelines for selecting voting members. The CIRCAC Board of Directors is comprised of 13 members, each representing a specific interest or community. The cities of Anchorage, Kenai, Homer, Seldovia, and Kodiak each have a seat on the Council, as do the Kodiak Island Borough and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Interest groups represented include Alaska Native organizations, tourism, environmental groups, recreational groups, commercial fishing groups, and aquaculture associations. Through OPA 90, we are mandated to conduct programs in biological and chemical monitoring, oil spill prevention and response, oil behavior, risk assessments, coastal habitats, physical oceanography, technical review and public outreach.

# Stakeholders

## Certified Participating Groups

As prescribed by OPA 90, certified stakeholder groups are those which have chosen to support our efforts on behalf of their organization, are open to offering members to serve on the Council, and want to be in a position of being represented, kept informed, and consulted. On a three-year, rotating basis, these groups nominate and elect a representative and an alternate.

We encourage interested groups to participate in the leadership of the Council through the one-time certification process.

## Recreation Interests

- Alaska Charter Association
- Alaska Sport Fishing Association
- Deep Creek Charter Boat Association
- Kenai River Sports Fishing Association
- Kenai River Professional Guide Association

## Commercial Fishing

- Alaska Groundfish Data Bank
- 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 Native 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

## Aquaculture Associations

- Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
- Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association

## Environmental Interests

- 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 Wildlife Federation
- National Parks Conservation Association
- ReGroup
- The Alaska Center

## Tourism Interests

- Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
- Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council
- Kodiak Chamber of Commerce (pending)



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