COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

"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."

Platforms in Gulf of Mexico, off Rutherford Beach, LA

Board of Directors Meeting
CIRCAC Annual Meeting

Friday, April 5, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association Building
40610 Kalifornsky Beach Road, Kenai, Alaska

COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

****AGENDA****

Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association Building
40610 Kalifornsky Beach Road, Kenai, Alaska

Friday, April 5, 2019

8:15 am **Continental Breakfast**

9:00 am **Cook Inlet RCAC Board Meeting**
Call to Order/Roll Call
Approval of Agenda *(Action Item)*
Safety Minute *(Information Item)*

Approval of Minutes – Nov. 29, 2018; Dec. 14, 2019 *(Action Item)*

Welcome & Introductions

Remarks

- Denise Koch, Director Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) - DEC

Agency Ex Officio Directors Remarks

CIRCAC Member or Public Comment
(3 minute limit per speaker)

Special Board Recognition Presentations

9:40 am **Presentations on Related Activities**

- Cook Inlet Pipeline Risk Assessment – Tim Robertson, Nuka Research
- Cross Inlet Pipeline/Drift River – Glen Faulkner, Hilcorp Alaska
- 2018 Environmental Field Research – Sue Saupe, CIRCAC

11:30 am **Staff Reports - Status of Programs & Projects** *(Information Items)*

12:00 noon **Lunch**

12:45 pm **Executive Committee Report**

- 2019 Budget & Statement of Financial Position – through 2/28/19 *(Information Item)*

1:15 pm **Executive Director's Report** *(Information Items)*

1:35 pm **Calendars & Miscellaneous** *(Information Item)*

Closing Comments

2:00 pm (est.) **Adjourn**

NOTE: CIRCAC's Annual Meeting will begin after a brief break.

Administration Report
Cook Inlet RCAC Board of Directors Meeting – April 5, 2019

Below you will find a brief update on the primary administrative tasks performed – or assistance provided – by your Administrative staff since the December 2018 Board of Directors meeting:

Board Elections/Appointments – Staff formally launched the 2019 election/appointment process the week of December 3 for the following terms set to expire: Recreation, Tourism, the Municipality of Anchorage and the City of Seldovia. The Credentials Committee has reviewed the process, the nominations and the election results, and have certified they have been pursued in accordance with CIRCAC Council Policies. In addition, the process for filling public member seats on PROPS and EMC have been undertaken in accordance with Policy. All are to be presented to the Board at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Recertification Application – a draft application has been completed and is undergoing staff review. Submission expected in late June, per the Coast Guard's request.

Personnel – Vaito'a Heaven accepted the offer of regular, full-time, permanent position of Accounting & Grants Manager, effective January 1, 2019. Maddie Jamora had previously accepted the offer of a Regular Employee (vs. Temporary) position.

Grants – CIRCAC renewed its System for Awards Management (SAM) registration, and has updated our 'roles' in the grant systems we are active in.

Budgets – 2019 Operating and program budgets were approved during a special meeting of the Board on December 14, 2018.

Scholarships – A media update was released on January 10, and an advertisement was placed in the Peninsula Clarion. Schools (instructors, counselors, administrators) were notified the week of February 11. Applications have been received. The committee will meet in mid-April to evaluate finalists and award scholarships.

Corporate Funding – All funding obligations to date for 2019 have been met.

Annual Financial Audit/Federal Tax – In October we issued an RFP for the audit and tax preparation to cover FYs 2018-2020. Two responses were received and presented to the Audit and Executive Committees for review and selection. The firm Lambe, Tuter & Wagner has been selected to perform financial audits and tax preparations through FY 2020.

By-Laws and Policies – As per Policy and Board direction, staff is engaged in an ongoing review of policies for necessary changes. Early 2019 saw a review of and draft amendments to Personnel Policy #8 – Retirement Benefit Options for review by legal counsel, financial advisors and the Executive Committee. We'll next devote attention to Personnel Policy #7 – Benefits.

Office Lease – We have renewed the lease for our current Kenai office for a 3 year period, beginning July 1, 2019. There were no changes to terms of the lease.

Staff Training – Vaito'a Heaven continues to expand her mastery of QuickBooks via online training modules. In addition, she completed a business writing class in February.

Organizational Support – Administrative staff participates with the Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee and Kenai Peninsula's Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) as an Alternate Member (supporting Vinnie Catalano in the Primary role).

Support – Administrative staff supported directors, public members, staff and guests in logistics for meetings and travel, including but not limited to the Kenai board meeting, PROPS, Protocol and EMC meetings, Clean Gulf Conference (New Orleans), Alaska Marine Science Symposium and Alaska Forum for the Environment (Anchorage), Kodiak ComFish (Kodiak), and the Clean Pacific Conference (Vancouver, BC).

Administration Report – 2018 Year in Review
Cook Inlet RCAC Board of Directors Meeting – November 30, 2018

Below you will find a brief update on the primary administrative tasks performed – or assistance provided – by your Administrative staff during calendar year 2018:

Board Elections/Appointments – The 2018 election and appointment process was successfully concluded at the 2018 Annual Meeting. Elected or appointed to serve 3 year terms were Paul Shadura (Commercial Fishing), John Williams (City of Kenai), Carla Stanley (City of Homer), Gary Fandrei (Aquaculture Associations) and Rob Lindsey (City of Kodiak). Staff is preparing now to formally launch the 2019 election/appointment process the week of December 3. The terms are set to expire for the following seats: Recreation, Tourism, the Municipality of Anchorage and the City of Seldovia. We are coordinating with the Public Outreach Director to initiate Community Outreach visits.

Ex Officio Directors – New appointments to our Ex Officio Board in 2018 were: Graham Wood (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation), Bob Whittier (Environmental Protection Agency); David Fitz-Enz (U.S. Forestry Service, and Kevin Reeve (Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness).

Recertification – CIRCAC received notice of approval for our 2018/2019 Recertification. This represents the 27th successive year of approval without findings, conditions or reservations. Our 2019 application will a full triennial review.

Personnel – Maritta Eledge delivered notice of her resignation in August. Vaito'a Heaven was promoted to full time Accounting & Grants Manager; Maddie Jamora has accepted the permanent position of part-time Administrative Assistant. Staff has been pursuing training to prepare for new roles within the company.

Scholarships – 2018 Scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors from Homer High School and Kenai Central High School. Plans are being developed to expand the scholarship offering in the area of maritime studies.

Annual Financial Audit/Federal Tax – Successful financial audit report was delivered in July. The Executive Committee has approved retention of Lambe, Tuter & Wagner for FYs 2018-2020.

EMC Activities – January 1st – April 5th, 2019
Staff Report: Susan Saupe

Chemical and Biological Monitoring Program

Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet Intertidal Habitats – Data Analyses and Report Writing

1. For the Lower Cook Inlet Habitat Study that we've been conducting with the National Park Service (NPS), NOAA, and UAF since 2015, we are finalizing all data entry, photo interpretation, and taxonomic identifications so that we can merge the various data sets and complete the data analyses for a draft report that will be due to BOEM in fall 2019. With EMC funds and contract funding we have from NPS, I am working with CIRCAC sub-contractors to merge our habitat data with the high resolution tidal height data obtained with Real-time Kinematic (RTK) measurements, as well as the high-resolution positional data obtained from both manned and un-manned aircraft.

   In the past several months, I've participated in hundreds of hours of teleconferences and in-person meetings to work through the many layers and types of data collected from intertidal and subtidal field surveys each summer from 2015-2018. I am also organizing a two-day in-person workgroup where each of us Principal Investigators will work with statisticians and GIS mappers to finalize our data analyses for the report. The draft report will be due to BOEM in the fall of 2019, with a final report due by the end of 2019.

2. In January, we worked with NPS personnel to submit an amendment for our Cooperative Agreement for CIRCAC to continue with a sub-contract for GIS support. This submission from the Anchorage NPS was delayed due to the federal furlough and they are still waiting for approval.

Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet Intertidal Habitats – 2019 Presentation

Comparing intertidal food web and community structure across two regions of lower Cook Inlet. Poster presentation by D. Siegert, K. Iken, S. Saupe, and M. Lindeberg, Alaska Marine Science Symposium, January 2019, Anchorage, AK.

Coastal Habitat Mapping Program

ShoreZone

1. Working with NOAA and Coastal and Ocean Resources, Inc. to identify dates for annual ShoreZone Workshop. We did not have one in the fall of 2018 and are trying to identify dates in May, June, or July where most participants would be available.
2. Continuing to work with contractors at ARCHI and with NOAA personnel to compile the Alaska Peninsula Shore Station data into a new database format for a revamped Shore Station Database and Visualization Tool on the NOAA ShoreZone website. We also will use these data to develop a new ShoreZone Shore Station data portal at AOOS. We are seeking additional partners to expand the effort to include all shore stations from Alaska.
3. All of the Alaska Peninsula pressed algal specimens collected during the CIRCAC-led ShoreZone shore station survey conducted in 2016 were scanned by Mandy Lindeberg of

NOAA using the high resolution large-bed digital scanner CIRCAC purchased. Using all of those specimens we collected and pressed in the field, Ms. Lindeberg and taxonomist Sandra Lindstrom compiled a collection catalog, taxonomic tree, and a complete species list from the entire study area. This was included in the final report submitted to BOEM and was recently published for the authors as a NOAA Tech Memo:

Lindeberg, M. R., and S. C. Lindstrom. 2019. *Assessment and catalog of benthic marine algae from the Alaska Peninsula, May 2016*. U.S. Dep. Commerce, NOAA Technical Memo. NMFS-AFSC-389, 22 p + Appendices.

It can be viewed and/or downloaded at https://www.afsc.noaa.gov/Publications/AFSC-TM/NOAA-TM-AFSC-389.pdf

Cook Inlet Response Tool (CIRT)

1. AOOS (via their database developers at AXIOM Data Science) recently migrated the Cook Inlet Response Tool (CIRT) to their Next Generation User Interface. CIRT was initially developed for EMC by AXIOM, but recently the PROPS committee has been sponsoring integration of a Geographic Resources Information Database (GRID) of into the on-line data access and visualization tool. On February 22nd, I attended a workshop sponsored by PROPS and led by Nuka Research and Planning to "beta-test" the GRID database and its access via CIRT [see more detail in PROPS staff report by Steve "Vinnie" Catalano].

Physical Oceanography and Oil Fate and Effects Programs

1. In January, we supported a winter-sampling component of the project *The Potential Role of Marine Oil Snow Formation and Oil-Suspended Mineral Particle Aggregation in the Fate of Spilled Oil in Cook Inlet, Alaska.* This is a Master of Science project conducted by Jesse Ross of the University of New Hampshire and supported by the Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC) and CIRCAC. EMC provided planning and funding for vessel logistics and travel for Jesse. Jerry Rombach of CIRCAC assisted in the field sampling that took place on January 24th. The goal of the sampling was to sample during a period when it is expected that the biological activity would be low, and thus the production and transport of marine snow is expected to be low. This will provide comparison to the 2018 and planned 2019 sampling.
2. I attended the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI) Oil Spill and Ecosystem Conference from 3-8 February 2019. During that week, I was able to meet with Dr. Nancy Kinner of CRRC and other scientists conducting research on Marine Oil Snow. During one of the meetings, we discussed a potential pilot project to conduct in the summer of 2019 to look at the potential deposition of marine snow in offshore areas in Cook Inlet and the Kodiak area. Specifically, we would continue supporting the work described in (1) above by expanding the sampling to include flux measurements at deeper depths and to extend sampling to include the spring phytoplankton bloom. In addition, we would conduct short-term sampling on Portlock or Albatross Bank offshore of Kodiak.

   As part of this research, we have Principal Investigators from numerous research institutions interested in working with us to conduct detailed background chemical analyses of sediments and marine snow, and potentially conduct mesocosm experiments in the Netherlands that would include benthic invertebrates. Since our initial meeting in February, we have had several teleconference planning meetings to tighten up the pilot-study methods and develop a

longer-term plan for approaching additional partnering organizations.

3. Jesse Ross presented the Kachemak Bay marine snow research in January:

   Ross, J., S. Saupe, K. Ziervogel, and N. Kinner. 2019. *Potential Role of Marine Snow in the Fate of Spilled Oil in Cook Inlet, Alaska*. Symposium Proceedings, Alaska Marine Science Symposium, 27 January-1February, 2019, Anchorage, AK.

Technical Review Program

1. On February 19th, ADEC issued a Notice of Proposed Issuance of an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) General Permit to Discharge to Waters of the United States - Oil and Gas Exploration, Development and Production in State Waters in Cook Inlet. We are reviewing the permit and associated fact sheet, mixing zone model results, and other associated documents. The review period ends May 22nd. CIRCAC comments will be presented to the Protocol Committee for review, revision, and approval following a workshop (date TBD in early May) where we will provide a summary of water quality standards, the APDES program, and other related issues to Protocol Committee and interested EMC members.

   According to ADEC, the Cook Inlet General Permit proposes to authorize certain discharges associated with oil and gas exploration, development, and production into specific areas of Cook Inlet. The Permit will cover state waters in Cook Inlet, including the coastal waters within the baseline north of the southern tip of Kalgin Island and landward of the 3 nautical mile demarcation of the territorial sea. The Permit replaces the expired 2007 general permit AKG315000 for discharges to state waters. Drilling fluids and drill cuttings associated with geotechnical surveys and horizontal directional drilling to support subsea pipeline construction are also covered under the Permit. The Permit would also authorize mixing zones for certain discharges. The Permit and Fact Sheet provide details regarding the pollutants of concern, mixing zones (where applicable), and specific monitoring requirements for each discharge.

   Public meetings will be held in Homer on March 26th, Kenai on March 27th, and Anchorage on March 28th. Permit documents and information about the location and time for each public meeting can be found at https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=193096.

2. An RCAC seat is provided on the Alaska Regional Response Team (RRT) Wildlife Protection Committee which is fulfilling requirements in Section 300.210(c)(4)(i) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) – to ensure that the ARRT's Area Contingency Plan includes "…coordinated, immediate and effective protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and minimization of risk of injury to…wildlife resources and habitat." As that representative, I'll attend a meeting on March 26th in Anchorage as the committee continues to review and update *Annex G: Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Alaska* of the Unified Plan, which serves as the Alaska RRT's Area Contingency Plan.

Additional 2018 Activities

1. EMC met (via teleconference) on March 18th to review our 2019 Workplan & Budget and to review/approve Public Member applications for submission the Board.

2. I attended the Alaska Marine Science Symposium and associated side meetings in Anchorage from January 27th – February 1st, 2019. One of the side meetings was an EMC-hosted half-day work session with NPS and UAF regarding our data analysis plans for the lower Cook Inlet Habitat study.
3. As a member of the Planning Committee for the Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) session "*30 Years Later: Oil Spill Policy and Response Changes since* Exxon Valdez," I participated in several teleconferences to finalize plans for the session on February 14th. Another responsibility was to provide a presentation during the session where I discussed OPA 90 and the formation of RCACs. Also attending this session was EMC member Bruce Magyar.
4. As a Board Member on the Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) Advisory Board, I attended the winter meeting on February 15, 2019 in Anchorage and will continue as a member of their Workplan Committee.
5. As a new board member of the Alaska Research Consortium (ARC), I've participated in ARC Board meetings (via teleconference) on January 14th and March 5th. I was asked to join this group to provide the perspective of marine research in the Kodiak region towards their mission of "Supporting sustainable fisheries and marine science in the north Pacific."
6. I've worked with Lynda Giguere on several public outreach activities including annual report writing and design, transferring thousands of photographic images for use in public outreach activities, and discussing future public outreach and education actions.
7. Since I work away from the CIRCAC main office in Kenai, I've spent several days there in February and March to ensure that activities associated with EMC and staff activities have been properly documented and associated paperwork and digital files provided to CIRCAC administrative staff.

EMC Committee

- **Chair - Molly McCammon**
- **Vice Chair – Dr. Eric Klein**

Directors:

- **Molly McCammon**
- **Carla Stanly**
- **Deric Marcorelle**
- **Michael Opheim**

Public Members:

- **Dan Urban**
- **Eric Klein**
- **Richard Prentki**
- **Rick Frederic**
- **Robert Reges**
- **Ginny Litchfield**
- **Bruce Magyar**

CIRCAC Staff: Susan Saupe, Director of Science & Research

EMC Activities 2018
Staff Report: Susan Saupe

Chemical and Biological Monitoring Program

Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet Intertidal Habitats – 2018 Field Planning and Activities

1. We continued our project *Evaluation of Nearshore Communities and Habitats: Ecological Processes in Lower Cook Inlet,* by sampling for the fourth year in the Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet study area in May 2018. This is a partnership project with the National Park Service (NPS), the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and NOAA (and funded by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, BOEM).
2. In January, we submitted an amendment for our Agreement with NPS to include budget for CIRCAC to conduct all logistics and be Chief Scientist onboard the vessel. In 2018, the Department of the Interior required that all significant (>100K) amendments to existing NPS Cooperative Agreements be approved at the Secretary of the Interior level. This delayed the approval of our budget for many months, but we received final approval in June.
3. For this project, I was responsible for field planning and logistics, which included negotiating vessel and helicopter schedules and contracts and developing the field sampling plan. The NPS continues to lead the overall project through their government-to-government contract with BOEM, but CIRCAC leads the field sampling efforts. We (CIRCAC) signed a contract with the R/V *Island C* for the separate subtidal and intertidal surveys; the teams conducted the intertidal survey from 12-20 May and the subtidal survey from 21-26 May.
4. I worked with Northwind Aviation to stage fuel on Augustine Island ahead of our June 13-17 helicopter surveys. Working with Maritime Helicopters, we successfully sampled the Douglas Reef system on the 13th and 14th of June, were weathered out on the 15th. On the 16th, we attempted to conduct our surveys but were weathered out once we got to Kamishak Bay. On the 17th, we made it to Augustine Island and were only able to sample one site on the east side of the island before the weather came down and we had to sneak out of there before we had to spend the night at our fuel cache. Our leftover fuel drums were pulled by Northwind Aviation in September 2018.
5. The NPS funded additional aerial surveys to collect Structure-from-Motion (SfM) data for the entire coast between Tuxedni Bay and the Kamishak Bay reefs. This data will provide us with a digital elevation model at roughly 10 -20 cm precision that will help us develop a habitat model for the entire study area based on data we've collected from specific sites. These surveys took place in June and July 2018.
6. The NPS also provided an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) to collect high resolution data for several of our specific lower Cook Inlet sites. The NPS drone operator participated on our vessel survey and was able to successfully obtain high resolution drone imagery from four of our sites. When combined with the Real-time Kinematic (RTK) data we've collected with our quadrat sampling, we will have digital elevational data at multiple scales that covers the entire lower Cook Inlet/Kamishak Bay coast.

Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet Intertidal Habitats – 2018 Presentations

1. *Unique Landscapes of Cook Inlet's West Side*. Oral presentation by S. Saupe at Kachemak Bay Community College, November 2018, Homer, AK.
2. *Mixed Perspectives: Nearshore Assessments of Lower Cook Inlet Rocky Reefs and Platforms.* Presentation by S. Saupe at Kachemak Bay Science Conference, March 2018, Homer, AK.
3. *Applied use of Structure from Motion and RTK technology to develop high resolution elevation information of intertidal biological communities.* Poster presentation by T. Jones, S. Venator, S.M. Saupe, and M. Lindeberg at Ocean Sciences, February 2018, Portland, OR.
4. *Nearshore food web structure in two contrasting regions of Cook Inlet*. Poster presentation by Danielle Siegert, Katrin Iken, Brenda Konar, Susan Saupe, and Mandy Lindeberg at Alaska Marine Science Symposium, January 2018, Anchorage, AK.

Kamishak Bay/Lower Cook Inlet Intertidal Habitats – Ongoing and Upcoming Activities

1. Interpretation of the quadrat photographs from 2015-2018 is almost complete through our contract with Archipelago Marine Research, Ltd. The data from nearly 1,500 photo quadrats will augment the more detailed point-count quadrat data. The two data collection methods differ in that (1) photo quadrats provide only information about the surface of the epifauna but can be quickly collected in the field and, thus, provide a higher number of samples, and (2) point-count quadrats provide data "through the layers" so you obtain understory as well as overstory species, but they take more time in the field and limit the number of samples collected on a site. Photo quadrats also require significant time after the field to interpret the photographs, whereas point-count data is ready for analyses as soon as the field data are entered into the database. So, in summary, by combining the two quadrat sampling methods, we combine detailed data collected in the field (but time-consuming on-site) with lower resolution data interpreted from photographs collected in the field (little time on-site but greater effort after).
2. As a component of the new four-year agreement with NPS (with BOEM funding), we received some support for the development of our EMC on-line contaminants database where we are compiling our hydrocarbon, persistent organic pollutants, and heavy metals data. I continue to work with our contractors to assemble data from our various historical projects and develop visualizations for serving the data on-line.
3. We'll be working with AOOS database developers and a CIRCAC contractor from Venator, LLC, to create a "Workspace" for shared data analyses of our four years of data after our 2018 field sampling (first year pilot project and three years under current BOEM funding). This will also allow us to assess our data in the context of larger regional studies (e.g. Gulf Watch Alaska) and conduct multi-variate analyses with regional oceanographic and climatological data.
4. I recently took a class in PRIMER-e software, which is a program that was originally developed for multi-variate analyses of marine multi-species data. We've used this software before for our projects but only via contractors. By purchasing our own software and receiving the training to effectively use the many tools associated with it, I'm hoping that we

can benefit through much lower contracting costs in the future for analyses of our multi-species, habitat, contaminant, oceanographic, and physical data.

Coastal Habitat Mapping Program

ShoreZone

1. I worked with our partners at Coastal and Ocean Resources, Inc. (CORI) and NOAA, and contractors at Archipelago Marine Research Inc. (ARCHI), to complete DRAFT and FINAL data reports for our May 2016 ShoreZone surveys along the Alaska Peninsula. We submitted the draft report on 29 June 2018 and received review comments from BOEM (the project funders) in late July. Their suggestions was to combine the two separate volumes we submitted for the ShoreZone habitat mapping and the Shore Station into one integrated volume. So we spent early August working on that and re-submitted the final report in late August and it was approved.
2. I am also working with our contractors at ARCHI and with NOAA personnel to compile the Alaska Peninsula Shore Station data into a new database format for a revamped Shore Station Database and Visualization Tool on the NOAA ShoreZone website. We also will use these data to develop a new ShoreZone Shore Station data portal at AOOS. We are seeking additional partners to expand the effort to include all shore stations from Alaska.
3. All of our pressed algal specimens have been scanned by Mandy Lindeberg of NOAA using the high resolution large-bed digital scanner CIRCAC purchased. Using all of the specimens we pressed in the field, Ms. Lindeberg and taxonomist Sandra Lindstrom have compiled a collection catalog, a taxonomic tree for the collected seaweeds, and a complete species list from the entire study area. This will be published as a NOAA Tech Memo, and was included as a separate volume to our final report submitted to BOEM in August.

Cook Inlet Response Tool (CIRT)

1. AOOS (via their database developers at AXIOM Data Science) recently released their Next Generation User Interface Released, which will have some impact on how our Cook Inlet Response Tool is accessed and visualized. We will continue to work with Axiom to ensure we update our data layers to match this new interface.
2. AOOS (via their database developers at AXIOM Data Science) and CIRCAC co-sponsored and taught a half-day workshop at the Kachemak Bay Science Conference titled Data Access for Coasts and Oceans: Public Portals, Analysis. Our description for the workshop:

   This free workshop will present on how to use the Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS) open data portals and their new analytical capabilities. Participants will walk through specific use cases in the Cook Inlet Response Tool and other regional portals to search, download, and access different types of data from many sources, including real-time conditions, coastal imagery, operational and research forecasts, satellite observations, and other biological, chemical and physical data. Participants will also learn to visualize and integrate data to create custom, shareable dashboards to spotlight environmental events or geographic locations. Participants will explore sophisticated charting abilities, including data comparisons, time binning, and climatology and anomaly charting, and then dig deeper into data analytics by learning about collaborative analyses using reproducible workflows in

Jupyter notebooks enabled for AOOS datasets. This workshop is suitable for researchers, educators, decision-makers, and other users of all skill abilities. Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop to the workshop.

3. We provided training on the use of CIRT and observed its use during the Andeavor Oil Spill Drill on November 15th. I solicited input from the Environmental Planning Unit for updates to the data layers to be included in our next revision.

Physical Oceanography and Oil Fate and Effects Programs

1. On June 19, 2018, a Kachemak Bay and Lower Cook Inlet Ocean Circulation Workgroup took place in Homer (see attached agenda). At that meeting, we discussed various operational circulation models for Cook Inlet, data and operational needs, and developed plans for evaluating the models against known circulation patterns and hydrographic regime in Cook Inlet. The PROPS committee has funding for ensuring that an accessible oil spill trajectory model is one of the final tools developed with a model. We will work closely with PROPS to help coordinate model testing and evaluation and work with partners to ensure development of an oil spill trajectory interface that will be available as a desk-top or on-line model that is accessible to any user.
2. We supported logistical costs associated with the project *The Potential Role of Marine Oil Snow Formation and Oil-Suspended Mineral Particle Aggregation in the Fate of Spilled Oil in Cook Inlet, Alaska,* a Master of Science project by Jesse Ross of the University of New Hampshire and supported by the Coastal Response Research Center (CRRC). He has organized a Cook Inlet Marine Snow Project Advisory Committee made up of agency representatives with interests in research that could characterize the potential role of marine snow and suspended abiotic matter in the fate of spilled oil in Cook Inlet. This group met on July 17th and November 20th to receive updates on Jesse's field activities in June and July and provide recommendations for any adjustments to his sampling and analyses plans.
3. I obtained Alaska North Slope crude oil so that Jesse's laboratory experiments could be conducted with an oil that is transported along coastal Alaska. We also provided Cook Inlet/Kachemak Bay sediment samples that will be used for his "roller tank" experiments that will create marine snow from biological materials, sediments, and ANS crude. The upper Cook Inlet sediments were fine silt and muds collected from the shoreline. The Kachemak Bay sediments were from our archived sediments collected during our 2008 Integrated Cook Inlet Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Project (ICIEMAP) from benthic habitats along an axis through the center of the bay. So these sediments were deep benthic sediments and not from the shorelines.
4. In July 2018, the EMC met at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory across from Homer for a tour and a presentation of Jesse Ross's Marine Oil Snow research that EMC is supporting. The committee also heard from Michael Opheim (CIRCAC Director representing Native Organizations) about the environmental monitoring and research work conducted by the Seldovia Village Tribe.
5. I attended the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI) Oil Spill and Ecosystem Conference from 5-9 February 2018. This meeting provides an opportunity to see the most recent research results related to oil fate and effects. Though much of the research is related to the Gulf of Mexico, and specifically the Deep Water Horizon oil spill, many of the studies

also include test conditions or information that applies to Arctic and sub-Arctic conditions. It's also an opportunity to have meetings related to our National Dispersants Workgroup and for me to meet with some of our contractors and partners on other projects. I also attended a workshop on the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 in regards to the Deepwater Horizon spill.

Technical Review Program

1. I provided comments towards CIRCAC's submission for the Protocol Committee to review regarding BOEM's 2019-2024 Draft Proposed National Oil and Gas Leasing Program. Our comments were approved and sent to BOEM. They focused on our concerns with the greatly expanded areas included in their five-year plan, given the too-tight timeline and lack of ecosystem data to conduct effective environmental reviews and oil spill risk analyses.
2. For the Port Williams, Shuyak Island fuel spill, I provided some summary data to a few resource agency personnel based on the habitat data we've collected in the area; also participated in several early resource agency teleconferences and receive some of the updates. In the past, we had conducted both aerial and on-the-ground ShoreZone surveys throughout Kodiak and our *Macrocystis* kelp study sites are just around the corner from the spill location so this information was provided to NOAA response personnel as some of the only shoreline habitat data available for the area.
3. We received an "Early notification of wastewater discharge permit for AK0053309 – Cook Inlet Energy, LLC, Osprey Platform." Through this notice, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) is notifying governmental and tribal entities that they are moving forward with plans to reissue Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) individual permit AK0053309 – Cook Inlet Energy, LLC, Osprey Platform (Permit). The Permit would regulate wastewater discharges from the Osprey Platform to Cook Inlet. When the public comment period opens, we will be submitting comments on this proposed permit as it would permit discharges from a platform that has previously been a "zero-discharge" platform for produced water and we have concerns that this status would change. We requested that when this permit comes up for review that they provide a 90-day review period, but I don't know what their final decision will be.
4. ADEC issued their 2018-2019 Permit Issuance Plan. In our area of concern, they have the proposed Osprey Platform "Individual Permit" scheduled this year (described above). They have also listed Permit AKG315200, the Cook Inlet Oil & Gas Development & Production "General Permit" as being on their 2018 schedule and sent out notification that it will be released for a 90 day public review beginning in November 2018. I have yet to receive notice that it has been released, but we will put significant effort towards reviewing this proposed permit, its associated mixing zone plan, and all other associated documents.
5. An RCAC seat is provided on the Alaska Regional Response Team (RRT) Wildlife Protection Committee which is fulfilling requirements in Section 300.210(c)(4)(i) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) – to ensure that the ARRT's Area Contingency Plan includes "…coordinated, immediate and effective protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of, and minimization of risk of injury to…wildlife resources and habitat." As that representative, I've attended four meetings (March 2, June 5, September 26, and November 19) where we continue to review and update *Annex G: Wildlife Protection Guidelines for Alaska* of the Unified Plan, which serves as the Alaska RRT's Area Contingency Plan.

6. I met with NMFS contractor Jen Dushane to receive an update on the NMFS Marine Mammal Disaster Response Guidelines. She compiled information for the Cook Inlet and Kodiak areas for NMFS on community resources that can be accessed in the event of an oil spill or other disaster with the potential to impact NMFS marine mammal resources. She and her co-author from NOAA released a draft version for "agency review" and later for public review. It is area-specific, but modeled after the Arctic Guidelines that were recently developed "pursuant to statutory obligations under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. They have incorporated plans specific for hazing beluga whales – the first such plans that they have been able to identify for anywhere in the world, and they used components of plans developed for orca whales.

Additional 2018 Activities

1. The Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) held a Workplan committee meeting on June 30th. At that meeting, we made recommendations for OSRI-funded oil-spill related research in FY2019 that the full OSRI Advisory Board approved on September 27, 2018. Our winter Board Meeting was held in Anchorage on February 22, 2018.
2. The PRIMER-e class that mentioned above was held in Plymouth, UK. While in the UK, I was also able to visit with the scientific staff from the Shetland Oil Terminal Environmental Advisory Group (SOTEAG), which is one component of the group that the RCACs were modelled after. While their area of concern includes the Shetland Islands and the risks associated with the Sullom Voe oil terminal, the lead scientist and staff are based at the Scottish Oceans Institute in St. Andrews, Scotlland. I provided a presentation about our work in Alaska and we talked about potential opportunities to better communicate among our organizations.
3. I attended the Pacific Marine Expo in Seattle from November 18-20. I also met with contractors and colleagues in Seattle related to some of our EMC projects. I also had several teleconferences those three days so spent a lot of time on the phone.
4. On April 4th, 2018, I attended the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Management, Research, and Partnership Opportunities meeting in Anchorage, hosted by National Marine Fisheries Service and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The purpose was to foster information sharing, collaboration, and improved partnership opportunities, as well as educating the public about recent efforts to recover the endangered Cook Inlet beluga whales. Board Director Paul Shadura also attended. Neither of us were able to attend the full day, but between the two of us, we were able to cover all presentations.

PROPS Staff Report

Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee

CIRCAC attended a November, HSC meeting held in conjunction with the annual pre-winter meeting by industry. The annual industry pre-winter meeting is an assembly of Cook Inlet marine operators and regulatory agencies in advance of winter conditions; to discuss lessons learned from previous winter operations, introduce any new industry personnel and/or operators to other area operators and regulators and to discuss the Cook Inlet specific operating limitations, procedures, and policies.

Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup

As the Harbor Safety Plan workgroup chair, staff worked to hold an in person meeting to address action items identified at the April Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meeting. The Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup meeting was hosted in Anchorage at the Alaska Chadux Corp. facility. During the meeting, the workgroup addressed items identified by the Harbor Safety Committee for inclusion in the Harbor Safety Plan.
Those items were:

- Add a section for Sub-sea Pipelines
- Add a section on NOAA's automated wreck and obstruction system
- Add a section on seasonal/general fishing activity in Cook Inlet
- Identify High risk areas for Cook Inlet
- Identify recommended anchorages for Cook Inlet
- Add greater detail to small/recreational vessel section
- Add a section on mooring policies and petroleum transfer in heavy weather
- Add a section on general for standard vessel transits/ vessel types in Cook Inlet
- Add a section on Ferries
- Add a section on Salvage and Marine Firefighting
- Add a re-arrival checklist for self-propelled vessels

Staff presented the Harbor Safety Plan edits to the Harbor Safety Committee, at its November meeting, for committee approval and recommendations and/or direction for additional improvements to the plan.

Marathon Marine Training

Staff attended a two-day training event hosted by Marathon/Andeavor at the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) in Seward. This is the second year Andeavor (now Marathon) has conducted this training event. Likewise, this is the second year that Marathon has donated to AVTEC; this year's donation was for $95,000. These generous donations have funded substantial improvements for AVTEC's world-class ship simulators. This year, as in last year's training, mariners that operate in Cook Inlet practiced emergency maneuvers in the simulators that also included tanker self-arrest as confirmed by CIRCAC's self-arrest study completed last year. One new scenario practiced was how shore-fast ice can affect a tanker moored at the KPL dock. This scenario allowed the tanker captain and the captain of the tug Bob Franco to practice coordinating their maneuvers to counter the effects of shore-fast ice on the tanker. An additional new scenario centered on an emergency departure for the tanker without the use of the assist tug. Every scenario and maneuver contains elements of risk to the tanker and tug when conducted in real life. However, maneuvers conducted in the simulator remove the risk to vessel and crew, allowing the ships' masters to practice without consequences, and thereby sharpening and improving their skills.

Alaska Inland and Arctic and Western Alaska Area Plan Committee Meeting

Staff attended the first Arctic and Western Alaska Area Plan Committee meeting hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Anchorage. This meeting was the first held in the transition from the previous Unified and Sub-area plan construct to the newly formed Regional and Area Plan construct. The new Arctic & Western Alaska (AWA) Area plan format was presented along with the Inland Area Plan at this one-day introduction for committee member orientation. U.S. Coast Guard and EPA personnel explained the new format, what types of information will be kept in the two documents, and why the change is being done. Staff will be attending all committee meetings to provide CIRCAC's expertise and voice to the development of the new document.

Additionally staff is a participant in the AWA Geographic Response Strategy workgroup, and the AWA external communications workgroup.

Alaska Regional Response Team Meeting

Due to the Federal shutdown, the normally scheduled meeting was postponed until March 5th. Staff attends this meeting of federal and state agencies to hear updates on agency activities over the past four months. This meeting was scheduled too close to the PROPS meeting for a written update to be provided as part of this staff report. Staff heard presentations on the November earthquake-Stat and Federal Response Lessons Learned; Earthquake and Tsunami Hazards and Risks; and the Shuyak Strait Response USCG After Action Report, along with the reports mentioned above.

Tesoro/Andeavor/Marathon Drill Planning

Staff participated in the drill planning for a two-part drill that took place three months apart. The drill planning process began in February 2018 with day one of the drill taking place in August 2018, which included a deployment of selected tactics and equipment. The scenario centered on a leak from the discharge system of a tanker transferring cargo at the Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants (POL) dock at the Port of Alaska (Anchorage). As the drill progressed, the estimated discharge amount had to be increased; the maximum amount initially estimated was not enough to drive the exercise over a long enough period to fulfill the requirements of the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP) and the requirements to test the State Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP).

Ice Monitoring Cameras

Staff has been working to update and expand the Ice Monitoring Camera Network (previously the Ice Forecasting Network). We have secured permission to add a camera on the Hilcorp owned Tyonek Platform. Doing so will increase our reoccurring expenses, however this particular site is in a critical position for monitoring ice as it moves from the Knik Arm and Turnagain Arm into the Inlet. Additionally, its location is advantageous to monitor ice concentrations for vessels in transit to Anchorage. Staff is working with our landline provider to keep the annual reoccurring costs to a minimum.

Staff is also working with Hilcorp to update the cameras on the Middle Ground Shoals (MGS) "A" platform and the Granite Point Platform. The MGS "A" platform has two cameras onboard, one of which has been having issues for two years. The second MGS "A" camera has just recently had some issues, prompting replacement of both cameras. The Granite Point platform camera has recently displayed corrosion issues that will require camera replacement as well. To address these issues staff is working with Peak Oilfield Services to reinstall all three cameras and correct the circumstances that have contributed to the cameras failing. Peak will also accomplish

the camera installation on the Tyonek platform. There were several reasons we chose Peak to accomplish the upgrades and expansion. The primary reason is that Peak is a Hilcorp approved contractor that provides electrical work (and other trades) on their facilities.

As we have discussed in the past, we have purchased new cameras from a different manufacturer that has a lower initial cost and that requires less electronic circuitry to operate. However, some additional technical support will be required initially to add these cameras to the system. Staff is working to select the best provider for those services and will work to bring them on line as soon as possible.

Geographic Resource Inventory Database (GRID)

The GRID project is moving forward nicely. We have completed Phase One of the project. In this phase, data was collected for many Cook Inlet Communities. The data consists of information about Doctors and Hospitals, Law Enforcement, Service Industries, Media Outlets, Boat Launches, Airports, Landing Strips, etc., everything needed during an emergency like an oil spill. This data was validated and entered into a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. In Phase Two, a pilot visualization tool was created to allow the visualized data to be introduced to a beta test group, to ensure the visualized data was ready for more vigorous testing in a workshop atmosphere. Potential GRID users were solicited from likely sources such as Federal, State, and Borough agencies, Oil Spill Recovery Organizations (OSORs), and area oil facility operators to participate in a one-day workshop. We focused on personnel whose duties include logistics, resources, and liaison duties.

The purpose of the workshop had a twofold benefit. One benefit was to allow staff and our primary contractor to get experience in training a group to use GRID. The second and most important benefit was to collect feedback from the participants about their practical experience using the GRID program. During the workshop participants got minimal training on how to use the tool. They exercised the software through scenarios designed specifically to tax the program and the users.

The workshop ended with a critique to capture input to refine the GRID. Once these tests and refinements have been accomplished we will seek to test the GRID in an actual industry sponsored Spill Exercise. The final portion of Phase Two will be to present the project results to the PROPS Committee and the Council. Upon acceptance by the Council, staff will work to seek partners to expand the dataset of Cook Inlet resources and to act as a steward of the GRID as it is moved into the on-line Cook Inlet Response Tool.

Additionally, staff visited U.S. Coast Guard Sector Anchorage to meet with several Coast Guard members that work with in the Planning and Resource sections of the Incident Command System (ICS) during spill response. Staff demonstrated the GRID and CIRT tool and held an open discussion about GRID, how it can be used by the Resource, Planning, Logistics, and Liasison sections and the attributes of GRID and CIRT. The group agreed this will be a valuable tool.

Drills/ Deployments

Tesoro/Andeavor/Marathon

Staff participated in the second part of this two-part drill that took place in mid-November, allowing the drill process to extend from August. The second part of the multi-day exercise was a tabletop exercise that allowed aspects of the response to be addressed that could not be executed in a one-day exercise. The drill followed the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) protocols to address the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP or PREP) requirements and the State of Alaska Oil Spill Response Exercise Guidance requirements. HSEEP is a national program that provides a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, as well as a common approach to exercise program management, design

and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. The State's guidance document also follows the HSEEP protocols as well as the state's requirements to test the Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP). The PREP was developed to provide a mechanism for compliance to the exercise requirements, while being economically feasible for the government and oil industry to adopt and sustain. The PREP is a unified federal effort and satisfies the exercise requirements of the Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), the Office of Pipeline Safety, and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)/ Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Completion of the PREP exercises satisfies all OPA 90 mandated federal oil pollution response exercise requirements.

Alaska CHADUX Equipment Deployment

Staff attended an Alaska Chadux Corp. skimmer demonstration. Alaska Chadux conducted an ASTM testing and training session using one of its oil recovery devices. Over several days, Chadux operated an oleophilic (oil loving) Aquagard Rotating Brush Skimmer (RBS) 35 in diesel fuel in order to quantify its efficiency and recovery capacities. After they completed their testing activities, Alaska Chadux hosted an open house for individuals unfamiliar with oil recovery devices to offer an opportunity to see them in operation. The open house sessions featured the RBS-35.

According to the manufacturer, "the RBS TRITON™ 35 oil skimming systems are versatile, ideal for use in calm water and industrial environments and are able to recover 38 m^3/h. The system offers extremely high oil recovery rates with up to 98% efficiency and is able to respond to most oil spill needs. Brush, disc, and drum recovery modules can be easily interchanged without tools in less than 5 minutes. The marine grade aluminum and stainless steel construction ensure durability and long lasting service. The skimmer front trough can be removed for operation in high wave and windy conditions."

ASTM testing will confirm the skimmer's efficiency and recovery capacities to aid the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) in assigning an efficiency and volume rating that Alaska C-Plan holders may use when calculating recovery rates and response equipment (in this case a brush, drum, disc skimmer) for various response strategies.

PROPS Staff Report – 2018 Year in Review

Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee (HSC)

CIRCAC staff attends all HSC meetings. At the April meeting staff presented the Cook Inlet Self-arrest Study and discussed the possibility of presenting the work as a "Best Practice" for marine operations within Cook Inlet. The November meeting was held in conjunction with the annual pre-winter meeting by industry. The meeting was well attended and Committee workgroups are making progress on their assigned projects. The annual industry pre-winter meeting is held just prior to the onset of winter conditions; the invitees are an assembly of Cook Inlet marine operators and regulatory agencies that meet to discuss lessons learned from previous winter operations, to introduce any new industry personnel and/or operators to other area operators and regulators, and to discuss the Cook Inlet specific operating limitations, procedures, and policies.

Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup

As the Harbor Safety Plan workgroup chair, staff worked to hold an in person meeting to address action items identified at the April Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) meeting. The Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup meeting was hosted in Anchorage at the Alaska Chadux Corp. facility. During the meeting the workgroup addressed items identified by the Harbor Safety Committee for inclusion in the Harbor Safety Plan.

Those items were:

- Add a section for Sub-sea Pipelines
- Add a section on NOAA's automated wreck and obstruction system
- Add a section on seasonal/general fishing activity in Cook Inlet
- Identify High risk areas for Cook Inlet
- Identify recommended anchorages for Cook Inlet
- Add greater detail to small/recreational vessel section
- Add a section on mooring polices and petroleum transfer in heavy weather
- Add a section on general for standard vessel transits/ vessel types in Cook Inlet
- Add a section on Ferries
- Add a section on Salvage and Marine Firefighting

Marathon Marine Training

Staff attended a two-day training event hosted by Marathon/Andeavor at the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) in Seward. This is the second year Andeavor (now Marathon) has conducted this training event. This year, as in last year's training, mariners that operate in Cook Inlet practiced emergency maneuvers in the simulators that also included tanker self-arrest as confirmed by CIRCAC's self-arrest study completed last year. One new scenario that was practiced, demonstrated how shore-fast ice can affect a tanker moored at the KPL dock. This scenario allowed the tanker captain and the captain of the tug Bob Franco to practice coordinating their maneuvers to counter the effects of shore-fast ice on the tanker. An additional new scenario centered on an emergency departure for the tanker without the use of the assist tug. Every scenario and maneuver contains elements of risk to the tanker and tug when conducted in real life. However, maneuvers conducted in the simulator remove the risk to vessel and crew, allowing the ships' masters to practice without consequences, and thereby sharpening and improving their skills.

Alaska Inland and Arctic and Western Alaska Area Plan Committee Meeting

Staff attended the first Arctic and Western Alaska Area Plan Committee meeting hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Anchorage. This meeting is the first held in the transition from the previous Unified and Sub-area plan construct to the newly formed Regional and Area Plan construct. The new Arctic & Western Alaska Area plan format was presented along with the Inland Area Plan at this one-day introduction for committee

member orientation. U.S. Coast Guard and EPA personnel explained the new format, what types of information will be kept in the two documents, and why the change is being done. Staff will be attending all committee meetings to provide CIRCAC's expertise and voice to the development of the new document.

Alaska Regional Response Team Meeting (ARRT)

Staff routinely attends ARRT meetings where Federal agencies and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) provide updates of their activities. Additionally, numerous topics of interest are presented. These topics have included:
The Dispersant Use Policy
Pre-authorization avoidance areas
Regional and Area Contingency planning
Assessing Risk to Subsistence Harvesting Areas from Marine Oil Spills
Introduction to Admiral Bell the new U.S. Coast Guard District Commander
The State-of-the-science for dispersants use in arctic waters
Harvest Alaska, presentation of the Cross Inlet Pipeline project

Coastal Mapping Summit

Staff attended the 2nd Alaska Coastal Mapping Summit in Anchorage, hosted by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (WG-OCM) with a portion sponsored by the Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS). The overarching goal of the meeting was to increase opportunities for collaboration on ocean and coastal mapping so that partners could more effectively leverage existing, limited mapping resources for the widest possible use. They were seeking broad participation from federal and state partners, regional/local authorities, academia, the private sector, non-governmental groups, and anyone interested in sharing data needs and partnering on coastal mapping data acquisitions.

Geographic Resource Inventory Database (GRID)

Data was collected for several Cook Inlet Communities. The data consists of information like Doctors and Hospitals, Law Enforcement, Service Industries, Media Outlets, Boat Launches, Airports, Landing Strips, etc. This data has been validated and entered into a Geographic Information System (GIS) database to be used in a visualization tool. This will allow the data to be viewed in a way that associates it with a point (or place) on a map or chart; in this case the Cook Inlet area.

The visualization tool is nearing completion; upon completion the database and visualized data will be introduced to a group that represents potential users at a one day workshop. The purpose of the workshop will be to gain experience in training a group to use GRID, allow them to exercise the software, and then have the group participate in a critique to help us identify areas for improvement. Invited workshop attendees will include Industry (including oil spill responders from CISPRI), State and Federal agencies, and Kenai Peninsula Borough personnel who are members of incident management teams.

PROPS Committee Tour of the Andeavor Refinery

Staff and Committee members toured the Andeavor Refinery in Nikiski. Committee members participated in a discussion of the Refinery's history and background, and refinery staff answered questions about the refinery and its capacity to refine crude oil. The committee learned about the refinery's development and progress to refine Cook Inlet Crude (CIC) and Alaska North Slope (ANS) crude oil and other crude oils that the refinery is able to process. They saw samples of the various Alaska crude oils and other crude oils that have been delivered to the refinery for processing. Committee members learned that the refinery was designed to refine 72,000 barrels of CIC oil per day, although refining quantities have decreased over the years due to reduced

crude oil production by Cook Inlet producers. To supplement refining stocks, ANS is transported by tanker from Valdez.

Following the presentation and discussion portion of the tour the committee was driven around the refinery to see the refinery's various processing stages; storage and process tanks, refinery equipment, pressure vessels, and towers used in each stage of refining that produces each refined product.

Ice Forecasting Network

Staff has been working with area facility operators to identify areas that a new camera may be installed. Staff is working with Hilcorp toward placement of a camera on the Tyonek platform and to schedule visits to the other camera locations to verify the physical condition of the equipment. Staff has sought and received consent by most of the hosting facilities to provide the South West Alaska Pilots Association (SWAPA) with access to the camera system as they transit Cook Inlet. Staff will set out details of access and use, in a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU), to ensure host facility is onboard with the change to the original agreement. Staff will begin the process to replace at least two of the older style cameras with new and more robust cameras that offer more features like built in field of view stops and a tougher pan/tilt mechanism.

Drill Planning

BlueCrest Drill

Staff participated in the planning process for the BlueCrest Energy drill scheduled in March and provided drill planners with "Truth" injects used to guide the Operations and Joint Information Center (JIC)/Public Information Officer (PIO) sections during the drill.

Hilcorp/ Harvest

Staff participated in drill planning for drill exercises for the Hilcorp Alaska owned and Harvest Alaska owned facilities that took place sequentially in June.

Tesoro/Andeavor/Marathon

Staff participated in drill planning for a two part drill that took place three months apart. The drill planning process began in February with day one of the drill taking place in August which included a deployment of selected tactics and equipment. The second half of the drill exercise was planned to take place in mid-November.

Drills/ Deployments

Andeavor/KPL Un-announced Drill

Staff attended a U.S. Coast Guard un-announced NPREP drill at the Kenai Pipeline (KPL) facility in late July. CIRCAC received notification shortly after the drill began and reported to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the KPL facility. During the opening hours of an emergency, the facility operator will convene an EOC to manage the initial response. During this phase of the response, stakeholder notifications are initiated and information is documented to be used in the initial briefing of the incident. Notifications were the main focus of the drill. However, response equipment was deployed by CISPRI in reaction to the drill. Response efforts were timely and adequate. Notifications were completed and timely.

Andeavor/Port of Anchorage

Staff participated in a drill exercise that took place at the Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants (POL) No.1 dock at the Port of Anchorage which centered on a cargo release from the loading/offloading system of the tanker that discharged approximately 2800 bbls of refined product to Cook Inlet (Knik Arm).

During the first day of the drill, staff participated as an observer in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) where the initial responders began to assume control of the incident and amass the information required to develop the ICS-201form. For the purpose of this drill, the EOC was a centralized location (Alaska Railroad Emergency Operations Center) in close proximity to the incident that allowed initial responders direct access to the command and control personnel in the first several hours of the incident.

During the field operations an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) was deployed to view and record response efforts. The UAS also allowed the Incident Commander and Operations Section personnel to evaluate the sea and weather conditions and effectiveness of the deployed assets. The drill closed out when the objective of completing the ICS 201 was met and the 201 Briefing (or incident briefing) was conducted in preparation for the November continuance of the drill exercise. As the drill progressed it was realized that the estimated discharge amount had to be increased; the maximum amount initially estimated was not enough to drive the exercise over a long enough period to fulfill the requirements of the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP) and the requirements to test the State Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP).

The second part of the drill took place in mid-November as a tabletop exercise. CIRCAC staff was invited to participate in the Unified Command as an observer, the Joint Information Center (JIC) in the Public Information Unit as a Public Information Officer (PIO), as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) in the Planning/ Environmental Unit, and as a Truth/ Control lead. The exercise plan followed the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) protocols to address the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NPREP or PREP) requirements and the State of Alaska Oil Spill Response Exercise Guidance requirements. HSEEP is a national program that provides a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, as well as a common approach to exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. The State's guidance document follows the HSEEP protocols and the state's requirement to test the Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP). Completion of PREP exercises satisfies all OPA 90 mandated federal oil pollution response exercise requirements.

Hilcorp/ Harvest

Staff participated in drill exercises for the Hilcorp Alaska owned and Harvest Alaska owned facilities that took place sequentially in June. Both scenarios centered on offshore spills to water from a ruptured pipe. One focused on testing new tactical protocols, exercising the Public Information Officer /Joint Information Center (PIO/JIC), test documentation procedures, exercise the Wildlife Branch protocols, exercise resource ordering and procurement, and develop a Demobilization Plan. The other drill exercise focused on groundtruthing the Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP or C-Plan), exercising the Wildlife Branch in conjunction with the Alaska Sealife Center, resource ordering and procurement, Development of a Demobilization Plan, Exercise the PIO/JIC, test the ATMOS/ATMOS WAVE leak detection system. Both drills are a Tier III annual exercise. Tier III Exercises are other Federal exercises focused on operational, tactical, or organization-specific objectives and not requiring broad interagency headquarters-level involvement to achieve their stated exercise or training objectives. Both exercises saw participation by other regulatory agencies like the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and NOAA as well as local emergency coordinators like the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Each exercise integrated unmanned aircraft systems (UASs) to determine how they may be used to benefit response activities during an oil spill incident. This effort was to inform the Hilcorp

and Harvest response teams and researchers about protocol requirements and applications of UAS in an oil spill response situation.

BlueCrest Drill

Staff participated in a drill exercise hosted at the BlueCrest offices in Anchorage. The drill exercise focused on day-one of an uncontrolled release (blowout) of a well during drilling operations at the Cosmopolitan facility located near Anchor Point. The scenario started at 2 am and followed the process and procedures to initiate a command post at the BlueCrest offices in Anchorage.

Drill exercise activities progressed well with good communications between Incident Command System (ICS) sections. Staff participated with the Joint Information Center /Public Information Officer (JIC/PIO) by providing advice and recommendations regarding issues of public safety, monitoring social media, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV/drones), and various points of contact. Staff provided recommendations to the Logistics section regarding transportation options available in the Kenai area. The exercise closed out by meeting all of the objectives identified at the beginning of the drill followed by a "Hot Wash" or critique of the drill exercise activities.

Glacier Oil and Gas / Cook Inlet Energy

Staff participated in a two day exercise consisting of a functional Incident Management Team (IMT) exercise (tabletop) followed by an equipment deployment one week later. The tabletop exercise was hosted at the CISPRI facility in Nikiski. These exercises were planned using the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) precepts and conform with the National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (NREP) guidelines. The exercise scenario focused on an eight-inch onshore crude oil pipeline that sustained a gun shot, causing the pipeline to fail. The ensuing leak presented a potential maximum discharge of 400 bbls of crude oil near a stream crossing. The oil was being carried by the creek toward a lake that had flow to the Cook Inlet. To control the source a temporary repair clamp was installed.

Due to flight delays, some agency staffing and some Incident Management Team (IMT) staff did not show up on time. However, the Glacier IMT on site recognized that there was enough personnel to begin the response exercise. This added a degree of realism not written into the drill planning.

By design, the Incident Command System (ICS) design structure allows the IMT to expand and contract as needed. The example often cited to begin a response is; all that is needed to begin is an Incident Commander and a Safety Officer, the IMT can expand as needed from there.

In this case there were enough personnel already in attendance to allow the IMT and the Unified Command to begin response operational support. Upon arrival agency and IMT personnel were briefed by their respective ICS units and began working to support and direct response operations. In a short order the IMT was fully staffed and performed well to meet the objectives set out at the beginning of the exercise.

One week later, CISPRI personnel and CIRCAC staff attempted to fly to the site to conduct the equipment deployment at the pipeline site described in the functional exercise. However, the deployment had to be postponed. Onsite weather prevented aircraft from landing with additional personnel and equipment. Onsite Glacier personnel did set up a dry DECON (decontamination) line, established a Command Post and conducted a drone survey of the scene.

In a real response if weather had prevented additional responders from traveling to the site, onsite personnel would continue to respond with the equipment on hand until additional personnel and equipment could travel to the scene.

Glacier has a spill trailer on hand with a skimmer and fast tank, pumps, containment boom and sorbent materials. They would continue operations without the additional personnel. All Glacier personnel have been trained to hazmat technician standards which also includes HAZWOPER training. They are qualified to attack the spill, not just to do site cleanup.

While the following tactics were not actually deployed the materials were available at the scene. Instead of a commercial underflow dam like CISPRI would provide; onsite personnel could improvise with sandbags and other materials to make one. Along with commercial containment boom and sorbent boom and pads on hand, tactics would be employed at the affected creek and lake to ensure any oil present would be recovered and prevented from migrating to the Inlet.

CHADUX Equipment Deployment

Staff attended an equipment deployment hosted by Alaska Chadux Corp. in Kachemak Bay. The deployment sought to demonstrate the use of the recently acquired NOFI Ocean Buster 8 in a tactic that uses contracted vessels of opportunity (fishing vessels) and a (Lamor) LAM 50 brush skimmer from the 146 foot Sea Strike response vessel. CIRCAC staff along with Coast Guard Sector Anchorage and MSD Homer representatives observed the response equipment being deployed, operated and retrieved. Alaska Chadux filmed the operation using a drone to capture the action. Staff has seen a very noticeable increase in the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS, UAV, Drones) in response operations. The deployment went well was well received by the Coast Guard.

Protocol Control Committee

In 2018 the Protocol Control Committee reviewed and submitted comments on the following:

Proposed Regulation/ Legislation:

- Proposed Changes to Title 18 Chapter 75 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with Oil and Other Hazardous Substances' Pollution Control
    - Overall the proposed changes dealt with housekeeping issues to clarify and correct various portions of the regulations. One selected change regarding Contingency Plans and Response Planning Standards sought to replace the word "Capacity" with "Volume". By replacing Capacity with Volume the entire section would be based on the same measurement identification, i.e. Volume.
      Our comments sought to confirm that by making the word change, Response Planning Standards for Cook Inlet Contingency plans would not be affected. Additionally, we recommend the definitions contained in 18 AAC 75.900 be changed to more closely reflect the conventionally accepted understanding of the words "Volume" and "Capacity" when used in the terms "Cargo Volume" and "Total Cargo Capacity", i.e. "Capacity" means the maximum amount or number that can be contained or accommodated and "Volume" means the amount of space occupied by a three dimensional object. To further clarify this rationale; "Capacity" would refer to the maximum amount a tank vessel could carry and "Volume" would refer to the amount of cargo actually carried.

- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program, Draft Proposed Program (DPP) for 2019-2024
    - Our comments point out that as part of the last outer continental shelf lease sale that included the Gulf of Alaska (including the Kodiak Planning Area) the President's Council on Environmental Quality found that "The Gulf of Alaska is more prone to frequent severe earthquakes, tsunamis, ice, and storms than in the Atlantic" adding that, "oil and gas development in these hostile conditions increases the risk of environmental damage." Concluding that "Of the areas studied, the Council concludes that because of its tremendous ecological value as a habitat for many rare, endangered, and important species, the longer physical residence time of oil, and its hostile environment, the Gulf of Alaska appears most vulnerable to major environmental damage from OCS oil and gas development." Based on the fact that no significant change in the potential hazards, environmental conditions, or resource and habitat sensitivities we called for the 2019-2024 five-year plan to exclude the Kodiak, Shumagin, and the Gulf of Alaska Planning Areas.
      Our comments go on to point out that the DPP does not allow enough time to conduct a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement.

- Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems- Revisions 1014-AA37
    - Our comments generally supported the proposed changes; however there were some specific areas that we did not agree with the proposed changes or where we requested clarification.
    - Areas we did not support the proposed rulemaking were:

        - Negligible cost savings as a justification for removal of third party certification requirements.
        - Incorporation of standards by reference; representing over 3800 pages of new or revised material requiring users and reviewers to purchase the standards in order to adequately assess the impacts of the proposed rulemaking.
    - Areas we sought clarification:
        - Our comments suggested clarification to terms relating to earthquakes and ice events.
- The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) proposed rulemaking for revision of Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf--Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control regulations.
    - In this proposed change, BSEE seeks to incorporate American Petroleum Institute (API) standards in order to ensure consistency in operations and equipment.
        - We offered our recommendations regarding other areas of the proposal to improve oversight, operational safety, and clarification for industry.

- The Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission sought comments on Proposed Changes on Bonding in the Regulations
    - We supported the proposed rule change, which serves the dual purpose of increasing the amount required for bonding (and surety, if required) from the amounts written in regulation almost 20 years ago. The proposed regulatory change will more appropriately scale the amount required based on the number of wells owned by a company. Previously a company drilling dozens of wells would not be required to provide a bond or surety in an amount any greater than a company drilling two wells.
        - While acknowledged that the new amounts may make it difficult for smaller companies to access the necessary bonds, we stated that we are concerned that a company unable to access a bond may also be one that is unable to properly manage the end-of-life of their wells and other infrastructure, which could negatively impact the lands and waters of the Cook Inlet area and have the same negative impact on the State's economy. We noted that the proposed regulations would allow for regulator discretion to reduce the required amounts if the operator could demonstrate that engineering or other circumstances significantly reduce the risk to the state.
- S.21, Pay Our Coast Guard Act, as cosponsored by Senators Sullivan and Murkowski, and H.R. 367, Pay Our Coast Guard Act Parity Act of 2019, as cosponsored by Congressman Young
    - We expressed our full support for the U.S. Coast Guard's members and our concern over the financial hardship they were subjected to during the government shutdown.
        - We acknowledged the Coast Guard's enormous responsibility and role they play protecting Alaska's maritime community, our environment and our nation.

- We requested our Congressional Delegation to do all they could to set us back on course and put an end to the distress confronting the exceptional servicemen and women of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Contingency Plans:

- Harvest Alaska, LLC; Cook Inlet Facilities Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan Revision 1, Cross-Inlet Pipeline; Major Amendment
  - Our comments:
    - Requested clarification for changes to terminology referring to contract vessels
    - Recommended a change to the scenario location and the inclusion of tidal currents to the spill trajectory model.
    - Requested clarification of increase in pipeline flow rate
    - Requested clarification of pipeline dimensions, repair clamp size and quantity, and a reduction in spill detection.
    - Suggested reconsideration of offshore spill location to a deep channel and strong current area

- Hilcorp Operations Alaska, LLC, Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan for Cook Inlet Exploration Program (Major Amendment)
  - Our review found this amendment in large part to be satisfactory with some exceptions. Those exceptions were:
    - Description of Blowout trajectory
    - Traffic control actions
    - Agency Notifications
    - Terminology and response equipment inventories
    - Clarification for lightering tactics
    - Inclusion of specific tactics for one scenario
    - Revision of Appendices

- Decommissioning of the Unified Plan and Sub-area plans and the transition to a Regional Plan and four Area Plans.
  - We reviewed the proposed changes to the boundaries and content of the current Alaska Unified Plan and Subarea Contingency Plans to be transferred to a Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) and Area Contingency Plans (ACP) format and offered these observations and requests:

    - Part of the purpose of this effort is to align Alaska with national guidelines that the Area Committees will function in accordance with the USCG's Job Aid on Area Planning, which makes clear the importance of involving federal, state, tribal, and local agencies as well as industry and non-governmental organizations residing in or representing potentially affected areas.
    - We requested clarification regarding how content in the RCP would be updated, particularly regarding what types of issues will be brought forth for public comment or trigger tribal consultation.

- The Lease Operations/Cook Inlet Seaview Pad, Well Drilling and Testing.
    - These comments were provided to Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas. They centered on the addition of the Hilcorp Seaview Pad to Hilcorp's exploration operations.
        - In these comments and in previous comments to the ADEC (amendment review of the ADEC required Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan to include this site) we pointed out that the location of the pad site is within a "Buffer Zone" set for the Anchor River in the 2017 Areawide Oil & Gas Lease. Part of the Areawide lease specifies mitigation measures; in this case, a half-mile "Buffer Zone" along the Anchor River was identified. We expressed our concern over the proximity to the Anchor River and asked the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and ADF&G to ensure this is the only practical site location within the lease, and requested a careful review of the mitigation measures cited in the application.
        - We repeated our concerns in comments regarding the Request For Additional Information by the ADEC.
            - In those second round of comments we request the State (through the Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan) to require the allocation of additional on-site resources to be available for immediate deployment to protect the Anchor River in the event of a blowout.

- BlueCrest Alaska Operating LLC Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan, Major Amendment
  This amendment addressed a reduction in the response planning standard (RPS) volume from 1,500 barrels of oil per day (bopd) to 1,000 bopd and reflected changes to the gas-to-oil ratio (GOR) from 300 standard cubic feet (scf) of gas/barrel of oil to 10,000 scf GOR.
    - The reduced RPS and the increase in gas capacity resulted in a different plume size anticipated for a well blowout as well as the associated potential environmental impacts
    - We requested changes to some of the added response strategies regarding anadromous and other fish as issues of public concern and clarification of some of the added tactics
        - We also requested ADEC to confirm that AOGCC has reviewed the blowout contingency plan to ensure it remains adequate

Dismantlement, Removal, and Restoration (D, R & R)

- Decommissioning and Removal of the Drift River Oil Terminal
    - Cook Inlet Pipeline (Hilcorp) had submitted an application to permanently discontinue use of and abandon the Drift River Oil Terminal , Christy Lee Platform,

and Drift River pipeline segment to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) in June of 2018

- We pointed out our long interest and investment into discontinuing the use of the Drift River Oil terminal and included the Council's 2012 position paper
- We requested the RCA to limit any further delay while processing the necessary permits and approvals to decommission the Drift River Oil Terminal

CIRCAC Strategic Plan Review:

- The Committee reviewed and discussed proposed updates to the Strategic Plan. Upon approval by the Committee the proposed deletions, changes, and/or amendments were forwarded to the Council for consideration to be adopted into the Council's Long Range Strategic Plan for 2014-2019.
  - Those proposed deletions and changes were located in the Program Goals section of the plan. The recommended deletions and changes were to delete the word Unified and replace it with *Regional*, to delete the words Sub-area and replace them with *Area* and to capitalize the *I* in industry.

Public Outreach Report to the Board –January to April 2019

Workshops

In February, I participated in a two-day workshop presented by SeaGrant. The goals were to set priorities for health, social and economic disruptions from spills in Alaska. The workshop's primary focus was the array of possible human effects of marine oil spills on vulnerable populations in Western Alaska. Panel discussions were on impacts to mixed subsistence economies, commercial fishing and tourism, evaluating current protocol and opportunities for health and social monitoring during an oil spill and response at a community level. Board Director Molly MacCammon presented information about the Alaska Ocean Observing System and data uses. Other participants included Native Elders from the region and representatives from Chadux, Prince William Sound RCAC, Alaska Departments of Health and Social Services and Fish and Game, the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Anchorage, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, National Institute for Health, and the University of Alaska Institute for Social and Economic Research.

Exhibits

For the first time, weather precluded the Public Outreach Director from participating with an exhibit at the Poster Session for the Alaska Marine Science Symposium (AMSS) in January.

In March, we again exhibited a booth at ComFish Expo and were, as always, very well received by the community and Kodiak Chamber of Commerce.

Special Projects

Completion of the 2018 Annual Report which highlights pipeline risk assessment and Cross Inlet pipeline construction

The Alaska Journal of Commerce has graciously agreed to run our story on AVTEC Training once it has received final approval.

We are also looking forward to announcing the new partnership with Marathon Petroleum to offer a scholarship at AVTEC's Marine Training Center.

Newsletters

March – Board meets in April, expert panel appointed for Pipeline Risk Assessment

February – New appointments at ADEC, CIRCAC supports US Coast Guard funding, Alaska Forum on the Environment, CIRCAC accepting applications to serve on Committees

Advertising

For the first time, CIRCAC has a display ad at the Kenai Airport terminal. We have also placed ads with the Peninsula Clarion for their edition: Economic Diversity "The Changing Face of the Kenai Peninsula Economy," and with the Kodiak Daily Mirror for ComFish (see below).

We are planning summer advertising to include another run of radio spots throughout the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak.

Public Outreach Report to the Board – November 29-30, 2018

CIRCAC seeks to heighten public awareness about who we are and what we do through positive stories and news, as well as through paid and social media. Since publicity is often gained through negative stories and events, such as oil spills, getting attention can be challenging. We are always exploring new ways to broaden our reach and increase brand recognition.

EARNED MEDIA

In today's highly competitive news cycle, earned media (free coverage) is valuable. Stories about our work in 2018 included recovering a drifter boat during field work on Mt. Augustine, cutting the ribbon celebrating the completion of the Harvest Alaska Cross Inlet Pipeline project and US Coast Guard Meritorious Service Award. By far, the majority of coverage revolved around our biggest initiative this year, the Pipeline Infrastructure Risk Assessment. These stories are generating a great deal of interest and showing us in a proactive and positive light.

Stories to date mentioning CIRCAC (2018)

- 10.29.18 – Risk assessment planned for Cook Inlet pipelines
- 10.25.18 – Hilcorp replaces tankers with Cross Inlet Pipeline, Alaska Journal of Commerce
- 07.13.18 – Little Boat on a Big Adventure, Columbia County Spotlight
- 05.13.18 – CIRCAC project assessing pipeline risk, Petroleum News
- 05.02.18 – After leaks, Cook Inlet's aging oil and gas pipelines get an unprecedented review, Anchorage Daily News
- 04.19.18 – CIRCAC announces scholarship awards (KSRM Radio Kenai)
- 01.10.18 – Citizens group studying Cook Inlet Pipelines, Alaska Public Media
- 01.03.18 – CIRCAC studying Cook Inlet Pipelines, Peninsula Clarion

CELEBRATING THE COMPLETION OF THE CROSS INLET PIPELINE. FROM LEFT, VINNIE AND ROBIN CATALANO,

SHARON AND JOHN WILLIAMS, MICHAEL MUNGER (STANDING) AND PAUL SHADURA. (PHOTO BY JERRY ROMBACH)

Special Events—In addition to cutting the ribbon celebrating the Cross Inlet Pipeline, CIRCAC also participated in the Marathon Petroleum-sponsored pilot simulator training at AVTEC in October. We are s working with the Peninsula Clarion and Alaska Journal of Commerce to get an article promoting this one-of-a-kind training event which was inspired by our Tanker Self-Arrest study in 2017.

Paid Media

Radio—the radio ad campaign is garnering positive notice and going a long way to promoting our brand. Our ads, which can be downloaded from our website (https://www.circac.org/media-kit/), revolve around our programs, projects and new initiatives. To freshen the campaign, we are working up new ads for next year to include progress to make Cook Inlet safer through initiatives such as the pipeline infrastructure risk assessment.

Print—we have also placed paid ads in each visitors guide, including Kodiak, Kenai, Soldotna and Homer, as well as the Pilothouse Guide and one ad in Alaska Business Monthly's June edition which focused on oil spill prevention and response. We are already in the process of buying advertising for 2019.

News Releases to date

- 10.25.18 – ADEC, CIRCAC seek experts for pipeline risk assessment panel
- 09.11.18 – CIRCAC Recognized with US Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award
- 08.08.18 – CIRCAC Recertified by U.S. Coast Guard
- 04.19.18 – CIRCAC Announces 2018 Scholarship Awards

Cook Inlet Navigator e-Newsletter

Having completed our profiles of our Board of Directors, we are interviewing our public committee members. Thus far, we have profiled Dick Prentki with EMC and Jim McHale with PROPS.

October – CIRCAC celebrates Cross-Inlet pipeline completion, meet Jim McHale of our PROPS Committee, CIRCAC and ADEC seek experts to serve on pipeline risk assessment panel

September – Update from the Field, CIRCAC supports graduate student's marine snow study

August – CIRCAC helps students learning about ocean currents, staff and directors travel to Beluga for Cross Inlet subsea pipeline update, News, and Upcoming Events.

June – ADEC makes changes to oil spill drills, Drift River Oil Terminal to be dismantled, meet Dick Prentki, PROPS Committee tours IBRC

May – Meet Robert Peterkin, II, CIRCAC applies for recertification, KPB Alert System, US Coast Guard Change of Command

April – Update from the Board, CIRCAC awards Scholarships, 2017 Annual Report, Board and Committees appointments

March (no newsletter this month)

February – Meet Kyle Crow, representing the Kodiak Island Borough; CIRCAC and PWSRCAC staff get a tour of Marine Exchange of Alaska in Juneau

January – CIRCAC releases tanker self-arrest study, Andeavor invests in simulator training, CIRCAC accepting scholarships

Social Media—Facebook posts increase brand recognition and promote our activities, including Board Meetings, upcoming events, scholarships, Harbor Safety and other committee news, and our newsletter.

Branding—We have a good supply of promotional material to publicize our mission, logo, contact information, or special projects and to distribute at events. This month, we joined Prince William Sound RCAC at the Pacific Marine Expo. This event is the largest of its kind in the Pacific Northwest and Canada, attracting thousands of attendees in the maritime and fishing industries as well as NGOs, state and federal agency representatives. The Alaska Room where our booth was located provided ample opportunities to network with Alaska-based organizations that share or are familiar with our mission and work.

Trade shows and exhibits—CIRCAC exhibits at numerous public events to promote our program work, Scholarship offerings, and brand throughout the year. We have designed a new "Who We Are" banner to reflect the addition of the Tourism stakeholder group and are designing a new outdoor exhibit booth for 2019.

To date, we have exhibited at:

- AMSS, Poster Sessions, Egan Center, Anchorage
- ComFish Expo, Kodiak
- Ninilchik Fair, Ninilchik
- Industry Appreciation Day, Kenai
- Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle

Drills and Exercises—This year, CIRCAC staff contributed their expertise, including design and development, to multiple drill exercises, including:

- March 21 BlueCrest Energy Exercise
- June 6 Hilcorp Cook Inlet Spill Exercise
- June 7 Harvest Midstream Spill Exercise
- August 14 Andeavor/Tesoro Anchorage Terminal Plan
- September 12 Glacier Oil IMT

- November 15 Andeavor/Tesoro Cook Inlet Vessel Plan

Within the Incident Command System, CIRCAC participates as an advisor to the Unified Command, within the Environmental Unit and Joint Information Center (JIC), and as a member of the drill facilitation Truth/Control Team, providing injects to the Operations Section. Among the Director of Public Outreach's observations, phone injects have added much needed realism to the exercises and more needs to be done to utilize social media.

CIRCAC Director of Operations, Vinnie Catalano, observes an exchange within the ICS during the November 15th Andeavor drill.

During the November 15th drill with Andeavor, information officers were provided advanced ICS training and the JIC was very well organized with each participant going into the drill with assigned roles. The JIC was also located in a separate room, with the Liaison Officers, which helped facilitate the flow of information throughout the event.

Scholarship Program—now in its fifth year, the Scholarship Program has created enumerable opportunities to heighten public awareness of CIRCAC's Mission and program work. At ComFish 2017, many people were familiar with our offerings; two local students who are well-known in the community have received CIRCAC scholarships and are doing well.

In addition to supporting the next generation of environmental stewards, the program is generating good will and a positive attitude toward our work. Under the direction of the lead staff, the Director of Administration, the scholarship program is exploring other opportunities to expand the program.

We continue to utilize every opportunity to promote the scholarships program through news releases and PSAs, at job fairs, in the newsletter, on the website, through social media, outreach to schools and libraries, and at our exhibits.

Directors Update—following each Board Meeting, we prepare a summary of the meeting proceedings. These are distributed to the Directors to share with their Stakeholder Groups and are routinely included in packets for Council and Assembly meetings. I am working to better synthesize these for everyone's convenience.

Website—during a recent staff meeting, we spoke about ways to ensure our work is well documented and archived. This prompted an ongoing review of how our information is presented and cross-referenced throughout the website. One way to document our progress is through our Goals and Accomplishments page, within our 25th Anniversary website.

Calendar—Please notify the Public Outreach Director of any events that are not posted which should be. We continue to utilize every means available to drive audiences to our web page for more in-depth information.

Other activities—the Director of Public Outreach is keen on opportunities to view CIRCAC's initiatives first hand. In addition to accompanying the Director of Science and Research for the study on marine snow's interaction with oil and dispersants in August, she also attended the AVTEC Pilot Simulator Training in Seward in October. These experiences help to more effectively promote CIRCAC's broad reach and many activities.

Looking Ahead to 2019

- The 2018 Annual Report will highlight the work we're doing on the pipeline infrastructure risk assessment among other CIRCAC initiatives.
- Promote 2019 CIRCAC Scholarships
- Outreach to Stakeholder Groups holding elections
- Drills and Exercises
- January--exhibit at the Alaska Marine Science Symposium
- February--CIRCAC has been asked to participate in a panel at the Alaska Forum on the Environment.
- March--ComFish 2019
- Summer 2019—Launch new Radio Ad Campaign, Exhibit at Ninilchik Fair and/or SalmonFest, Industry Day

COOK INLET REGIONAL CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING
****AGENDA****

Friday, April 5, 2019
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association Building
40610 Kalifornsky Beach Road, Kenai, AK

2:10 pm (est.) **Cook Inlet RCAC 2019 Annual Meeting**

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approve Agenda

<u>Seating of Members of the Board of Directors</u>

Directors – 3 year terms *(Action Item)*

- Re-election of Bob Flint – Recreation Group
- Re-election of Robert Peterkin, II – Tourism Group
- Re-appointment of Walt Sonen – City of Seldovia
- Appointment of _____ - Municipality of Anchorage [note – no appointment received as packets prepared]

Election of Officers *(Action Item)*

- President (1 year term)
- Vice-President (1 year term)
- Secretary/Treasurer (1 year term)

(For information purposes, the 2018 Officers were: President – John Williams; Vice-President – Robert Peterkin, II; and Secretary/Treasurer – Gary Fandrei)

Selection/Appointment: Committee Members

Executive Committee *(Action Item)*

- President (Serves as Chair) (1 year term)
- Vice-President (1 year term)
- Treasurer (1 year term)
- 2 Board members At-Large (1 year terms)

(For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: John Williams, Robert Peterkin, Gary Fandrei, Deric Marcorelle and Bob Flint)

Audit Committee *(Action Item)*

- Treasurer (Serves as Chair) (1 year term)
- 2 Board Members At-Large (1 year term)
- 1 Board Member Alternate (1 year term)

(For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: Gary Fandrei, Molly McCammon, Grace Merkes and Robert Peterkin as Alternate)

Credentials Committee *(Action Item)*

- Vice-President (serves as Chair) (1 year term)
- 2 Board Members At-Large (1 year term)
- 1 Board Member Alternate (1 year term)

(For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: Grace Merkes, Gary Fandrei, Robert Peterkin and Michael Opheim as Alternate)

Protocol Control Committee *(Action Item)*

- 5 Board Members (1 year term)
- 1 Board Member Alternate (1 year term)

(Committee elects Chair. For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: Robert Peterkin, Bob Flint, Deric Marcorelle, Paul Shadura, Rob Lindsey and Gary Fandrei as Alternate

Prevention, Response, Operations & Safety Committee *(Action Item)*

- 3 Board Members (1 year term)
- 3 Board Member Alternates (1 year term)

(Committee elects Chair. For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: Rob Lindsey, Deric Marcorelle, Bob Flint, Michael Opheim, Carla Stanley and Walt Sonen)

- 6-8 Public Members (3 public members nominated for approval)
  - Robert Reges (re-appointment – 3 yrs.)
  - Scott Hamann (re-appointment – 3 yrs.)
  - Ted Moore (re-appointment – 3 yrs.)

Environmental Monitoring Committee *(Action Item)*

- 3 Board Members (1 year term)
- 3 Board Member Alternates (1 year term)

(Committee elects Chair. For informational purposes, the 2018 Members were: Michael Opheim, Molly McCammon, Carla Stanley, Deric Marcorelle)

- 6-8 Public Members (4 public members nominated for approval):
  - Robert Reges (re-appointment – 3 yrs.)
  - Bruce Magyar (re-appointment – 3 yrs.)
  - Molly McCammon (appointment – 1 yr. to fill vacancy)

3:00 pm **(est.)** **Adjourn**