



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

## News Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2012

Kenai, Alaska

## Cook Inlet RCAC Sponsors Gallery Exhibit of ShoreZone Images at Alaska Marine Science Symposium

For more information: Sue Saupe, Director of Science & Research, 907-398-6214

The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC) is sponsoring *Coastal Impressions: A Photographic Journey Along Alaska's Gulf Coast*, an exhibit of vivid, large-format prints and narratives from Gulf of Alaska shorelines. The exhibit, a featured component of the Alaska Marine Science Symposium in Anchorage, Alaska, will be on display at the Hotel Captain Cook in the Adventure Room, and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Monday, January 16 through Thursday, January 19.

Sue Saupe, Director of Science and Research for Cook Inlet RCAC, says *Coastal Impressions* will present a small selection of the tens of thousands of photographs collected by the ShoreZone Alaska Partnership during surveys along the Gulf of Alaska coast. "Visitors will witness stunning images, from the extensive salt marshes and wave-cut platforms of lower Cook Inlet, to recently uncovered bedrock from glacial retreat in Southeast Alaska; from quiescent habitats inside Prince William Sound to wave-exposed rocky headlands on Kodiak Island; from coastal lagoons to coastal spits to massive river deltas. The images were chosen to reflect the diverse and dynamic and often rugged and remote margins where land meets sea. The collection will leave you with new impressions of the complexity and beauty of our wild coast."

The images are one component of the Alaska ShoreZone coastal habitat mapping project, which includes web-based and GIS datasets for marine scientists, GIS specialists, coastal managers, oil spill response organizations and other users. The project and this exhibit were developed in partnership with NOAA Fisheries' AFSC Auke Bay Laboratories and Alaska ShoreZone.

Cook Inlet RCAC is the Federally-mandated citizens' organization formed under the Oil Pollution Act 1990 (OPA90). Its Mission is to represent the citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet. We engage in environmental research and monitoring, oil spill prevention and contingency planning.

For more information about this announcement, or the Regional Citizens Advisory Council and its programs, contact:

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