



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

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For More Information, 907-283-7222

Citizens council announces new staff, recognition and appointment

The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council has hired [Lynda Giguere](#), Anchorage, as director of public outreach. Giguere brings more than 30-years' experience in public, media and government relations to the Council. As a public servant for the State of Alaska for more than 22 years, Lynda worked as an information officer for several departments, press office assistant for Gov. Tony Knowles and legislative and committee aide for four Alaska state legislators. In the private sector, Lynda was Alaska program director for a national strategic communications firm; led marketing and promotions for Perseverance Theatre, and worked in the tourism industry. A 37-year Alaska resident, Lynda assumed the duties of [Jerry Rombach](#), who was promoted to director of administration, in July.

In other Council-related news:

On June 15, the Council honored retiring Ex-officio member Dr. Richard Prentki for 20-years of service as a federal representative and active participant on the Environmental Monitoring Committee (EMC). With backgrounds in science, the EMC monitors for early detection of environmental effects in Cook Inlet from oil industry operations, provides the Board of Directors expert advice and recommendations, and promotes increased communication between participating state and federal agencies, interest groups and citizens.

Dr. Prentki served on the Council, while employed as a primary scientist for physical oceanography studies with the Minerals Management Service, now known as the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). His scientific contracts included studies on the fates and effects of oil.

"Dr. Prentki's scientific knowledge and expertise have been invaluable to the Council," said Executive Director Munger. "We are grateful for his years of dedicated service to the people and environment of the Cook Inlet region."

With Dr. Prentki's retirement from BOEM, the Council looks forward to working with the agency's new representative, Munger said.

The Kodiak Island Borough on June 22, appointed [Scott Smiley](#) to represent its interests on the Council. Dr. Smiley fills the seat vacated by Elizabeth Chilton whose career change necessitated her resignation. Dr. Smiley recently retired from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, where he was a professor and facility director for 23 years. He has a master's degree and PhD both focused on sea cucumber biology, from the University of Washington, Department of Zoology. More recently, Dr. Smiley collaborated on a variety of USDA-funded research projects covering seafood processing byproducts, seafood safety, alternative salmon products as well as seafood harvesting, processing and marketing.

The Council also welcomes Kathleen King, appointed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to serve as its Ex-officio member. Ms. King works for the department as a natural resource specialist. She has 20 years with the State, having also worked for the Department of

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Law and the Court System. Throughout her career, King has worked as a researcher, analyst and writer. She has earned a master’s degree in public administration and a bachelor’s degree in journalism, and currently serves as vice chair of the Alaska Public Offices Commission.

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The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council's mission is to represent citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet. In pursuing this mandate, the Council strives to help protect the environment, fisheries, economic vitality, and recreational interests of Cook Inlet.

Cook Inlet RCAC is the Federally-mandated citizens’ organization, formed under the Federal Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA90). Its Mission is to represent the citizens of Cook Inlet in promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in Cook Inlet. We engage in environmental research and monitoring, and oil spill prevention and contingency planning. For more information about this announcement, or the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council and its programs, contact:

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