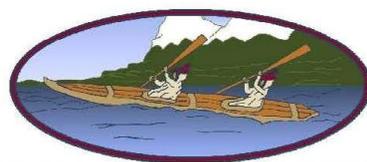
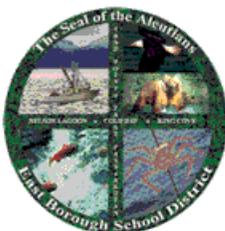
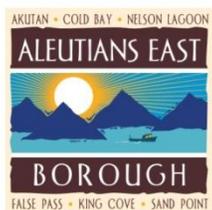


In the Loop



EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES
Working Together to Promote Healthy Communities

Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

Scoping Meetings for Proposed Land Exchange and Road Corridor in the Izembek Wildlife Refuge Begin This Week



This land is part of the 43,000 acres the State of Alaska is contributing towards the land exchange proposal.

This week, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service kicks off scoping meetings for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding a land swap of thousands of acres in exchange for a small gravel road corridor from King Cove to the Cold Bay Airport through the Izembek Wildlife Refuge. The first

meeting is planned for Anchorage at the Loussac Library from 5 - 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2010.

Last year, President Obama signed the Public Omnibus Public Land Management Act into law. Part of the Act would establish a process to increase the size of the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Wildlife Refuges by more than 61,000 acres (donated from the State of Alaska and the King Cove Corporation) in exchange for a small single-lane gravel road corridor (206 acres) leading from King Cove to an all-weather airport in Cold Bay, Alaska. In addition, 1,600 acres of refuge lands on Sitkinak Island would be transferred to the State of Alaska. As a condition of the exchange, the Secretary of the Interior must determine that the land exchange and the road corridor are in the public interest. Residents in King Cove say the road access would provide safe, reliable surface transportation to the Cold Bay Airport and a critical link to the outside world.

Scoping meetings will also take place in Washington, D.C., King Cove, Sand Point, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon and Cold Bay. For more information, visit the links below.

[Link: Anchorage Daily News article](#)

[Link: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - News Release](#)

Basketball Tournament in Sand Point Generates Excitement Throughout Region

By Rick Breske, AEBSD Activities Director

Athletes, family members and fans are gearing up for a big event later this month: the Boys' Region 1, District 5 Basketball Tournament, scheduled for March 3 - 5 in Sand Point. The Sand Point Eagles and the King Cove T-Jacks will be representing our district. The two other schools will be the Newhalen Malamutes and the St. Paul Parrots (the Southwest Region Champ and the Kodiak Island Rural School Champ). The City of Sand Point is very excited to be hosting this event. The last boys' regional in Sand Point was in the late 1990s. The games should be broadcast by KSDP Radio, with a play-by-play by Rob Lanham, pastor of the King Cove Bible Chapel and head of King Cove's Recreation Department. Come join the fun and cheer for your favorite team(s).

The King Cove Rookies (Girls' Team) will be representing AEBSD in Newhalen at the same time. Good Luck Ladies!!!

Super Cub Forced to Land

Near Izembek National Wildlife Refuge



A Piper Super Cub was forced to land on a gravel road near the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge after an engine failed. Photo courtesy: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

A Piper Super Cub conducting a photo mission for the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was recently forced to land on a gravel road between Lenard Harbor and the Izembek NWR after the plane's engine failed. On February, 11, 2010, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (F&WS) Refuge pilot Franz Muller and his passenger, Acting Refuge Manager Allen

Miller, were flying 800 feet above sea level taking photographs for the upcoming

Environmental Impact Statement involving a land exchange and proposed road construction from King Cove to the Cold Bay Airport.

When the engine failed, the pilot attempted to land the aircraft about two miles west of the current hovercraft site on the road between the existing hovercraft tent and the original, EIS-approved hovercraft shelter site in the northeast corner. During the rollout, the aircraft's left wheel went through deep potholes in the road which caused the plane to veer left into the ditch beside the road. Continuing down the ditch, the right main wheel struck a culvert, spinning the plane around 120 degrees, where it finally came to rest.



The hovercraft crew used an extend-o-boom tractor to pluck the airplane from the ditch. Photo courtesy: U.S. F&WS



The hovercraft assisted with the recovery of the Super Cub and then transported it back to Cold Bay. Photo by: Monty Martin.

The incident caused damage to the propeller, both wings, engine cowling and tail portion of the fuselage. Fortunately, no one was injured. When the engine failed, pilot Franz Muller was immediately in radio contact with FAA Flight Services in Cold Bay. Once on the ground, Muller was able to use a cell phone to make calls for further assistance.

During the next several days, the Borough's hovercraft crew assisted the investigation team in the recovery of the Super Cub.

Using the extend-o-boom tractor, the crew was able to pluck the airplane from the ditch and place it on the road. It was then transported back to the hovercraft tent, disassembled and packaged for shipment. Initially, it traveled via hovercraft to Cold Bay and eventually will be air cargo shipped to Anchorage for repairs.

The Izembek Refuge staff would like to thank Amberly Weiss, Seward Brandell, Ernie Newman, Sr., Ernie Newman, Jr., Monty Martin, Marlene Mack and others who went out of their way to help, both at the accident site and with the later recovery of the aircraft.

Tsunami Warning System Test Planned for March 24th

Just last weekend, the news media reported the devastating 8.8 magnitude earthquake in Chile, which caused widespread damage. The ripple effect traveled thousands of miles to the Last Frontier as many people monitored advisories of possible tsunami-like waves crashing into the shores of California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska. Fortunately, waves in Sitka, Kodiak and King Cove ended up measuring between one and two feet high. But natural disasters such as the earthquake in Chile underscore the fact that tsunamis remain an ever-present threat for Alaska residents. That's why emergency preparation is so critical.

The State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in cooperation with the West Coast Alaska Tsunami Warning Center, the National Weather Service and the Alaska Broadcasters Association, plans to conduct a test of the State's Tsunami Warning System on March 24, 2010. This test is done in conjunction with the 46th anniversary of the 1964 Alaska earthquake and Governor Parnell's declaration of the week March 22-26 as Tsunami Awareness Week. This week has also been designated as the national tsunami awareness week and the nation's tsunami warning system will conduct a communications exercise on this Wednesday as well.

Alaska will use the exercise to conduct a "real code" test of the State's emergency alert system. At approximately 09:45 Wednesday, March 24, 2010, the State's emergency broadcast system and the NOAA Weather Radio system will deliver a test tsunami warning message. While the message will be a "test" message, the codes used to activate the system will be the real codes used in an actual tsunami warning. This allows Alaska to verify the warning and alert system is programmed correctly for a tsunami emergency.

Officials want to make sure Alaskans are aware of this test and the excellent opportunity it provides for local jurisdictions to consider tsunami/earthquake preparedness activities including:

- ❖ Testing local warning / siren systems
- ❖ Conducting outreach and education on tsunamis and/or earthquakes
- ❖ Practicing "duck, cover and hold" drills and/or tsunami evacuations and sheltering
- ❖ Emergency operations drills or exercises (a dissemination exercise manual produced in cooperation with the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center is available upon request)
- ❖ Any emergency preparedness activities that enhance the awareness and readiness of citizens for tsunami and /or earthquake

While not every area of the state is at risk for a tsunami, many citizens travel to tsunami-hazard areas for recreation or business. Much of our state lies in an earthquake-hazard area, and this test recalls the 1964 disaster that touched all of Alaska.

If you choose to use the March test in some way for emergency preparedness or outreach, please let the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) know so staff members can share the ideas and lessons learned with others around the state.

DHS&EM is available to answer any questions in support of your local tsunami/earthquake preparedness efforts. DHS&EM has supplies of both earthquake and tsunami outreach materials available upon request.

For more information, contact:

Mark W. Roberts - Alaska State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Supervisor Alaska Tsunami and Earthquake Programs
Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
P.O. Box 5750
Fort Richardson, Alaska 99505-5750
Direct: (907) 428-7016
Fax: (907)428-7009
Toll Free: 800.478.2337
Email: mark.roberts@alaska.gov
Web: <http://www.ready.alaska.gov>

Community Meeting Scheduled in Akutan for March 9, 2010

Spring is just around the corner, and that means summer isn't far away. With that in mind, the City of Akutan has scheduled a community meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 to discuss several large-scale projects planned during the warmer months. The meeting will take place at the Tribal Conference Room. The discussion will include the Akutan Airport Project, the geothermal project, emergency warning siren system and the harbor construction project. Additionally, the City will be occupied with an electrical distribution program and a hydroelectric project this summer.

Because several projects are occurring at the same time, coordination and sharing of resources will be crucial. The community meeting will seek input from residents and businesses about the projects and how best to work together.

Renew your Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate Card

Are you ready for subsistence halibut fishing? Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificate (SHARC) Cards are a requirement for subsistence halibut fishermen in Alaska. Since the program began, many in the region have signed up, but some of those cards have expired and should be renewed. There are two kinds of SHARC Cards individuals can decide between: Individual Tribal and Rural Resident. Tribes can also choose to offer their members the service of submitting applications for the cards on their behalf, but the Tribe must contact the National Marine Fisheries Service to coordinate. Other subsistence halibut fishing permit opportunities include: Community, Educational and Ceremonial Permits. Those permits require special circumstances and applications, but allow larger catches than individual cards. For more information about these opportunities, including instructions for applying or renewing SHARC Cards or other permits, visit the link below.

[Link to SHARC Registration](#)

Lower Salmon Harvest Expected for 2010

Published in *Fish News* on Feb. 24, 2010



ADF&G projects an estimated sockeye harvest of 45.8 million salmon, an increase of 2.5 million from last year.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has released its statewide commercial salmon harvest forecast for 2010. The projected total is 138 million salmon -- a 15% decrease from 2009. Most of the decrease is expected to come from lower pink salmon catches. The estimated Chinook salmon harvest of 515,000 fish is a slight increase over last year. The sockeye catch is estimated to be 45.8 million salmon, an increase of 2.5 million

from the previous year. The Coho catch is forecast at 4.4 million. That's up slightly from 2009. The chum salmon forecast remains the same, at 18 million fish. For more information, visit the link below.

[Link: ADF&G Statewide Commercial Salmon Harvest Forecast for 2010](#)

Borough Resource Director Recommends Pre-Season Meeting with ADF&G

Published in *Fish News* on Feb. 24, 2010

AEB Resource Director Beth Stewart recommends that our Borough fishermen set up a pre-season meeting with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) to discuss strategies to avoid or significantly decrease the chum bycatch during the June fishery. Although the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) didn't impose a chum cap during its meeting earlier this month, Stewart said it's clear that Board Members were extremely concerned about last season's relatively high catch. She emphasized the importance of avoiding a repeat of last year's chum numbers.



AEB Resource Director Beth Stewart

"I have received calls from fishermen who are very concerned that this message might not be clear to other fishermen who were unable to attend the BOF meeting," said Stewart. "We need to include the processors in the meeting so that we can thoroughly discuss any needed improvements to the chum pool."

Update from the Latest NPFMC Meeting

By Sam Cotten, NPFMC Member and AEB Fisheries Consultant

Published in *Fish News* on Feb. 24, 2010

Sam recently took part in the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) meeting Feb. 10 - 16, 2010 in Portland, Oregon. The following information outlines Council actions taken and discussions that occurred.

Chum salmon by-catch: The Council reviewed area closures and analytical methods of determining the origins of chum salmon harvested during the Bering Sea pollock fishery. A new Genetic Stock Identification study was released to the Council at the meeting. This study was based on samples taken in 2005. Approx. 1,000 samples were taken from the approx. 700,000 chum salmon harvested by the pollock fishermen (their highest year in recent history). The study, conducted by NMFS/NOAA, showed the following distribution: upper/middle Yukon: 5 - 6%; western Alaska: 16%; BC/Washington: 16 - 17%; Japan/southern Russia: 28 - 29%; and Russia: 25 - 29%. The salmon were harvested throughout the year with heavy concentration in July, August and September. The peak occurred in mid August. The Council is expected to finalize the alternatives at the June meeting. This study and other previous studies are available to the public and contain a lot more detail than presented here. (Chum salmon harvest in Area M may or may not show the same distribution patterns. We expect to see the results of State of Alaska studies in 2011 or 2012.) For more information, visit the link below.



A new Genetic Stock Identification study was released at the recent NPFMC meeting in Portland, Oregon.

[Salmon bycatch patterns in the Bering Sea pollock fishery](#)

Sea Lions: We expect to see the draft biological opinion (Bi-Op) on March 1, 2010. This opinion will state the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) draft determination as to whether Steller Sea Lions (SSL) remain in jeopardy in spite of existing mitigation measures. We don't know yet what the opinion will say. There have been hints that the numbers are weak in the Western Aleutians. However in our area, the Western Gulf of Alaska, the SSL numbers are steadily increasing. The Council may have to place additional restrictions in areas of concern. The Council discussed the issue at length and has sent a letter to NMFS expressing its views as to how we should proceed. For more information, visit the link below:

[SSL Bi-Op NPFMC Letter to NMFS](#)



The Council will determine whether it should extend the Rockfish Pilot Program with modifications or allow management to return to the LLP-based plan.

Rockfish program: This program is important to fishermen, regardless of whether they participate in the Kodiak-based fishery. While NMFS has made it clear that we cannot award processor quota shares, there is an option to award harvest shares to processors. A little background on the program: Congress passed legislation setting up the Rockfish Pilot Program. Fishermen and processors were given harvest and processing quota shares. The program was originally a two-year deal and was later extended to five years. It expires after the 2011 season. The Council has to decide whether to extend it with modifications or let the management go back to the LLP - based

plan. There have been some benefits realized from the program: lower halibut by-catch and better timing for processing operations in Kodiak, to name two.

Crab: Community protection measures that were part of the Crab Rationalization Program are still being refined. One of the protection measures allows communities the right of first refusal (ROFR) should a company decide or be required to move some of its crab processing to another location. In King Cove, Aleutia is the organization that has been designated to exercise the ROFR. There are some contingencies which had not been considered when the program was started, that need some improvement.



Community protection measures, part of the Crab Rationalization Program, are still being refined.

Aleutia Marketing Consultant Karen Montoya made a presentation to the Council on the current situation Aleutia is facing as a result of purchasing the crab processing quota that Peter Pan Seafoods was required to divest. The contract was signed in 2008. However, the purchase has not worked out well for Aleutia. Karen did an excellent job on laying out the details of the problem Aleutia faces, and she proposed some changes that may help prevent future problems for others.

Halibut: Halibut is a prohibited species, which means any incidental catch must be thrown overboard, dead or alive. The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) determines the mortality rate (how many fish die when thrown back) and the Council sets the limit for how much can be wasted. The current limits are 2,000 tons for trawlers and 300 tons for hook-and-line fishermen. These limits cover the entire Gulf of Alaska, so what happens in Kodiak affects the western gulf and vice versa. Observer data is weak in the Gulf and must be improved before we can know how much halibut is actually taken. The Council has begun a process to reassess what the limits should be.

The Council is also reviewing new proposals for changes to the existing IFQ program. One of the major changes proposed was to end the ability to use a hired skipper on any new IFQ purchases. The council set Feb 12 as a control date, after which, any new purchases must be fished by the IFQ holder. (B, C & D quota shares only).

The Council recently posted its February newsletter. For more information, visit the link below.

[Read more: NPFMC February 2010 Newsletter](#)

Circus Artistry Comes to Cold Bay

*By Stephanie DeVault
Cold Bay School Teacher*



The students of Cold Bay School demonstrate displays of circus artistry after training with Anchorage circus artist Meghan Holtan. Photo courtesy: Stephanie DeVault, Audrey Bohl and Sandra Lopez.

Cold Bay residents were recently treated to an evening of amazing displays of circus artistry. The students of Cold Bay School had been training for two weeks under the guidance of Anchorage circus artist Meghan Holtan. Her residency was made possible through the Artist in Schools grant through the Alaska Council for the Arts, donations from PenAir, the City of Cold Bay, Cold Bay School, the Cold Bay EMS, and administrative help from the AEBSD.

Meghan did a spectacular job teaching age-appropriate skills to kids from ages 4 to 17. The youngest group was taught scarf juggling, clowning, and peacock feather balancing. Third graders were taught ball juggling, spinning poi, and slapstick comedy. High school students worked diligently to learn unicycling, plate spinning, juggling, and diabolo (also called Chinese Yo-Yo). Every afternoon the entire school worked together to learn tumbling tricks and balancing stunts.



Cold Bay high school students demonstrate their unicycling talents . Photo courtesy: Stephanie DeVault, Audrey Bohl and Sandra Lopez.

The final show was awe-inspiring. The youngest group, Matt and Zenny Lopez and James, Luke and Abby DeVault, dazzled the crowd immediately. They snuck onto the stage, replete with red clown noses and face paint, to perform their feather balancing and juggling machine act. The third graders, Chyna Delker and Rocky Kremer, elicited fits of laughter from the audience with their slapstick “Dead or Alive?” routine. Finally, the crowd was mesmerized as the high school students, Dale Spencer, Harley Kremer, and Robert Doerning performed a choreographed unicycle routine; juggled balls, clubs, and rings

and amazed everyone with a flawless diabolo routine.

The circus performance was a welcome diversion from this lackluster time of year. Everyone was sad to see Meghan’s residency come to an end, and many have requested that we do everything possible to bring her back next year. The Cold Bay School and the residents of Cold Bay would like to thank Meghan for an outstanding learning experience for the students and an exciting evening of entertainment for the community.

Kitchen Fire Prevention

By Jeanie Burtch, AEB Anchorage Office Manager



Fire safety experts tell us that about half of all house fires start in the kitchen. Some are electrical but many are cooking-related. Since stoves produce either flames or red hot burners, this makes sense. And yet many of these cooking-related kitchen fires are caused either by carelessness or by violating some basic safety principles. Cleanliness is an important factor in reducing the risk of kitchen fires. Pots and pans should be kept clean. For fire safety reasons, it’s especially important to give the outsides of pots and pans a good scrubbing. Left-over grease and food chunks can catch fire from the burner. For the same reason, it’s important to keep the burner itself and the area around it clean. Pots and pans don’t catch fire. However, what’s inside and on them, can and

sometimes does. Likewise, toasters and toaster ovens should be emptied of crumbs frequently, as these can build up inside and catch fire. Regular ovens and broilers also need regular attention to prevent buildup which can catch fire.

Breaking Bad Habits

Do not leave potholders, dish towels or other items on top of the stove when it's not being used. Someone may absent-mindedly turn a burner on while something like a dishtowel is on the stove, and start a kitchen fire. Do not leave the room while the stove is on. Do not leave small children in a kitchen by themselves. When cooking, keep children away from the stove. Should a fire ever start on the stovetop or in the oven and it involves grease or oil, DO NOT throw water on it. Water will only spread a grease fire. Instead, if it's safe to do so, cover it with a lid to smother the flames.

Smoke Detectors

Install working smoke detectors throughout the home. Replace the batteries in smoke detectors twice each year. A good way to remember to change the batteries is to do it when setting clocks forward or backward for daylight savings time. Test smoke detectors on a regular basis. Testing is very simple. Most smoke detectors have a button marked TEST: simply push it in. If the alarm sounds, it's fine. If it doesn't, replace that detector's battery immediately. Smoke detectors which are more than ten years old should be replaced, even if they are currently working. House fires occur nearly once every minute throughout the United States. Don't let your home be a fire victim.

PFD - Reminder: File Your PFD Application by March 31st Deadline

The deadline to file an application for your permanent fund dividend is March 31, 2010. You can apply on line by going to this link: <http://www.pfd.state.ak.us/>

Job Opportunities with the 2010 US Census

The US Census is recruiting now for temporary part-time and full-time jobs conducting the 2010 US Census. Field jobs pay \$25/hour plus 50 cents per mile.

Please call 1-866-861-2010 to schedule an employment test in your local area. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply. The tests are given in several languages. For more information, including a practice test, please go to www.census.gov/2010censusjobs.

Aleutian Financial Inc. Logo Contest

Aleutian Financial is conducting a LOGO design contest.

Entry date has been EXTENDED

***Logo Design entries must be at the Aleutian Financial office by
Monday, March 15, 2010.***

Entries can be emailed to afi.lcanady@gmail.com or mailed to

**Aleutian Financial Inc.
520 E. 32nd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska.**

1. The logo design is to be drawn within a 6 inch circle.
2. The design must include some form of the Aleut history, Aleutian Priblof Islands, art, fishing, hunting etc. and may include the AFI initials.
3. Remember when designing your logo that it will be used in different advertising formats (print, screen print, embroidery, and television).
4. All entries will become the property of Aleutian Financial Inc.
5. Aleutian Financial reserves the right to make any adaptations in color(s) or design change(s) for printing purposes.

6. Entry constitutes permission to publish the winner's name.
 7. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final.
 8. Designs are due on or before Monday, March 15, 2010.
 9. The winner will be notified by mid-March.
 10. The winner will receive a \$200 cash prize.
 11. For further questions, contact the Lori Canady at 907-664-6618 or toll free 800-478-5614.
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Got News?

If you have news you'd like to share, please email ltanis@aeboro.org or call AEB Communications Manager Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.



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