



Fish News

Sept. 27, 2010

NPFMC Meets October 6 - 12, 2010 in Anchorage

One of the most important agenda items that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will take up when they meet in Anchorage, October 6 - 12, 2010, is the new Observer Program. Under the proposed program, all federally-licensed vessels will pay an observer fee and may be required to carry an observer, including vessels that are less than 60 feet in length. It would be a good idea for anyone participating in the groundfish, halibut or Bering Sea crab fisheries to start paying close attention to this agenda item.

Other issues the Council will discuss include:

- BSAI Crab ACLs/snow crab rebuilding
- GOA Tanner Crab Bycatch
- Arrowtooth Flounder MRA
- Research Priorities



For details, visit the agenda link below:

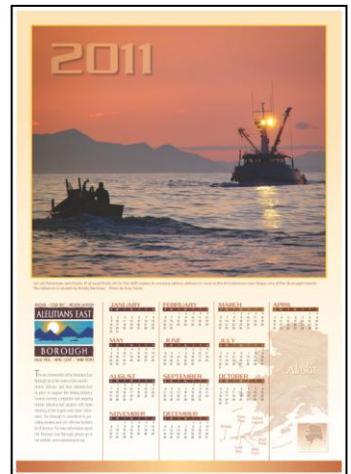
[**NPFMC October 2010 Agenda**](#)

Fishermen's Meeting in Seattle Scheduled for Nov. 18, 2010



The AEB Fishermen's Meeting in Seattle is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Nov. 18, 2010 at the Silver Cloud Inn.

The Borough is gearing up for a fishermen's meeting at the Silver Cloud Inn in Seattle, scheduled for 10 a.m. on Nov. 18, 2010. The hotel is located across the street from the Qwest Field Event Center. Topics at the fishermen's meeting are expected to include a recap of the fishing season, the new observer program, additional sampling in the SEDM, the SSL BiOp and cooperative research projects.



The Borough will have a booth exhibit at the Qwest Field Event Center Nov. 18 - 20, 2010 (Booth 503). The AEB plans to exhibit photos and layouts of community harbors and other infrastructure. In addition, the Borough will hand out flyers and AEB's 2011 calendars. The calendar (shown on the right) features a beautiful photo, taken by Amy Foster of Sand Point. The photo shows a silhouette of Jack Foster III in his skiff delivering fish to the M/V Advancer at sunset near Nagai. Be sure to stop by the Borough's booth so you can take a calendar home with you!

Teleconference Planned for Sept. 30, 2010 To Provide Update on Fisheries Community Profiles

NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) is inviting fishing communities to take part in a conference call to help update the North Pacific Fisheries Community Profiles. The profiles will include new U.S. Census data from 2010 and input gathered from the communities and industry.

Recently, AFSC held several regional meetings to engage fishing community leaders and

the public to provide meaningful information so the profiles are more representative of the communities.

So far, the AFSC teams met in Anchorage, Unalaska, Bethel, Nome and Petersburg. Some of the themes that framed the discussion included sharing local stories that best illustrate the way in which fishing shapes the fabric of communities. The last regional meeting is scheduled for today (September 27, 2010) in Kodiak.

The conference call will occur three days later at 10 a.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Thursday, September 30th. The number to call is (907) 789-6622, and is considered a toll-free number. (There is no code needed to access the call.) During the call, AFSC will provide a brief presentation that summarizes the recent meetings and will then take questions and comments. Community members will also have another opportunity during this conference call to provide advice on how best to update the community profiles.

Anyone with questions can email afsc.community.profiles@noaa.gov or call (206) 526-4221.

For more information, visit the link below:

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Socioeconomics/Projects/CPU.php>

New Commercial Fishing Engine Efficiency Loan Program Up and Running

According to a recent newsletter from Rep. Bryce Edgmon's office, an expanded program for low-interest loans to swap old, inefficient boat engines for new, fuel-saving models is now taking applications at the Alaska Division of Investments.



NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center is gathering information from coastal communities to update the North Pacific Fisheries Community Profiles. A teleconference is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sept. 30, 2010 to summarize the

Repowering your boat with a new engine that takes advantage of the latest technologies can make a huge difference in your operating costs. Rep. Bryce Edgmon encourages fishermen across District 37 to look into it.

The program has been made possible through the passage of Edgmon's House Bill 20. The program no longer requires that applicants first be refused a loan by a commercial bank. In addition, a loan made under Section A of the Commercial Fishing Revolving Loan Fund can be for up to \$300,000, as opposed to the \$100,000 limit under the more restrictive Section B program.

General eligibility requirements include:

- At least two years as an Alaska resident.
- For any two of the past five years, you must have had a crewmember license and have participated in an Alaskan commercial fishery.

Loan terms are 2% below the prime lending rate, with a "floor" of 3 % when the prime rate is at 5% or less. Loans can be made for both propulsion engines and generator sets. Loan amounts can include installation costs.



Rep. Bryce Edgmon encourages fishermen across District 37 to look into the new commercial fishing engine efficiency loan program.

For more information, go to the Division of Investments pages at the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development Web site:

<http://www.dced.state.ak.us/investments/efeu.cfml>

or call the Division of Investments at (907) 465-2510.

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