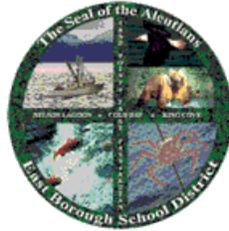
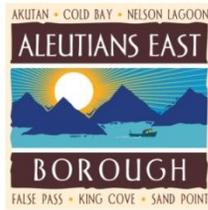


# In the Loop



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

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## **Sand Point Police Investigate School Burglary, Vandalism**



Police are investigating a break-in and vandalism at the Sand Point School that resulted in thousands of dollars worth of damage. Officials believe it happened sometime last weekend. On Monday, Feb. 18, 2008, employees discovered 17 broken windows and



damage to a couple of doors.

The school safe room was also broken into and approximately \$2,000 was stolen. A reward of \$500 has been posted for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible. If you have any information, please call the Sand Point Police Department at (907) 383-3700.

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## **Stevens Introduces Bill Suspending New Discharge Permit Requirements Pending Review by Coast Guard**

Sen. Ted Stevens (R) Alaska has introduced legislation (S. 2645) that would suspend any new discharge permit requirements pending a two-year review by the United States Coast Guard. The Vessel Discharge Evaluation and Review Act, if enacted, would continue the exceptions currently allowed for discharges (gray water, bilge water, ballast water and deck runoff) incidental to the normal operation of vessels, until the evaluation is completed. Once the evaluation is completed and vetted, the bill would direct the Coast Guard to establish uniform national discharge standards for most commercial vessels operating in US waters. Stevens' bill would also include an exemption for vessels that are less than 79 feet in length.

S. 2645 comes on the heels of the Environmental Protection Act's (EPA) permit requirement for discharges that are incidental to normal vessel operations, including fishing boats. The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court is currently considering an appeal of the EPA's requirement.

[Read More](#)

[Link to more information](#)

[Link to EPA press release](#)

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## **Three Companies Bid on the Sand Point Harbor Wharf Project**



### **Apparent Low Bidder is Western Marine Construction**

On Feb. 14, 2008, three construction firms entered bids for the Sand Point harbor wharf project. The Borough has no plans to award the contract until after the Economic Development

Administration has approved the process used for bidding, but notes Western Marine Construction is the apparent low bidder. Western Marine's bid came in at \$2,975,000. The engineer's estimate for the project is approximately \$3,035,000. The Borough hopes to begin construction this spring.

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## **NPFMC to Consider Cod Sector Split; LLPs; Changes to Crab Rationalization**

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) is scheduled to take up several big issues in the weeks and months to come, including the Pacific cod sector split, a proposal to eliminate LLPs in the Gulf of Alaska that have been unused for several years, and crab rationalization. The following is a summary of those issues from NPFMC member Sam Cotten.

**Cod Sector Split:** Dividing or allocating Pacific cod among the different sectors (trawl, hook and line, pot and jig) will affect all cod fishermen in the Gulf of Alaska. This issue is scheduled to come up for initial review at the June council meeting in Kodiak. In general, the split would be based on each sector's harvest history. Some of the challenges will be to decide which years to assign or how to achieve a split that will be fair to all gear types. Other issues associated with locking in sectors include halibut by catch (106 metric tons taken and discarded by the hook and line sector and 60.4 tons by the trawl sector in the western gulf in 2006).



**Trawl LLP Recency:** See the North Pacific Fishery Management Council "News and Notes" newsletter @ [www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc).

**Gulf of Alaska Fixed Gear LLP Recency:** Also scheduled for the June Kodiak meeting is another cod issue that may affect fishermen in the Gulf of Alaska: the proposal to eliminate LLPs that have not been used for several years. In order to have received an LLP in the first place, you needed to have had at least one landing from Jan. 1, 1992 to June 17, 1995. This proposal considers removing the LLP unless it landed fish from 2000 to 2005 and possibly 2006. Different alternatives suggest different levels of participation from 1 landing to 5 landings and from 5 metric tons to 100 metric tons. Exemptions are being considered for jig vessels.

**Crab Rationalization:** The council is taking a close look at the crab program and is considering changes to the 90/10 split, crew shares issues and community issues. The next crab committee meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. on March 2, 2008 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel.

For more information, go to the link below or call Sam Cotten at (907) 242-1197.

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[Read More](#)

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## Aleutians East Borough Officials, Employees Visit Shell Oil Platform in the Gulf of Mexico



Elected officials and staff members from the Aleutians East Borough (AEB) got a first-hand look at what

offshore gas and oil development could mean for our

region by touring one of Shell Oil's largest producing platforms in the Gulf of Mexico. Those



taking part in the tour on February 9, 2008, included AEB Mayor Stanley Mack, AEB Administrator Bob Juettner, AEB Community Development Director Sharon Boyette, AEB Assembly Member Justine Gundersen, Nelson Lagoon resident Arlene Nelson, AEB Borough Clerk/Planner Tina Anderson, AEB Public Information Officer Laura Tanis and Bristol Bay Native Corporation Land & Resource Manager Tiel Smith. Everyone agreed that the tour was an eye-opening

experience.

"I think this trip was very beneficial," said Borough Mayor Stanley Mack. "The safeguards that Shell has in place on the platforms and in Houston are impressive. It's obvious the company goes one step further that what is required."

"It's always impressive to see this or any industry first hand and how they approach their commitment to integrity," said Borough Assembly Member and Nelson Lagoon resident Justine Gundersen. "I believe that the Shell staff has very high standards and is committed to



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regulating themselves as well as being regulated. The redundancy in safety is very apparent.”



The tour began with a one-hour helicopter ride to the Mars Tension Leg Platform (TLP), located about 130 miles southeast of New Orleans. The platform was heavily damaged during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. One month before the hurricane hit, Mars was producing 104,000 barrels of oil and



121 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. After the hurricane, it returned to production ahead of schedule in May 2006 and was producing 190,000 barrels (gross) of oil equivalent per day, 20 percent above its pre-Katrina rates in July 2006.

“To see a platform that survived Hurricane Katrina and is still producing is amazing,” said Mayor Mack. [Read More](#)

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## **Aleutians East Borough Showcases Potential Assets at 2008 NAPE Trade Show**

Several Aleutians East Borough (AEB) employees and the mayor were busy spreading the word about the Borough’s rich gas and oil resources at the NAPE (North American Prospect Expo)



Trade Show in Houston, Texas. The trade show, scheduled for Feb. 7 – 8, 2007 at the George R. Brown Convention Center, featured more than 900 booths, including several international organizations. Those attending on behalf of the Borough included Mayor Stanley Mack, AEB Administrator Bob Juettner, Community Development Director Sharon Boyette, AEB Assembly Member Justine Gundersen, Nelson Lagoon resident

Arlene Nelson, Borough Clerk/Planner Tina Anderson and AEB Public Information Officer Laura Tanis.

The Borough provided informational handouts about available onshore gas & oil leases. The handout also contained information about the geology of the area. Nelson Lagoon black sand and several magnets were also on display. Geologists and other attendees stopped by to examine the sand's magnetism ask questions and gather information about the region. Other organizations from Alaska that participated in the show included the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, the Alaska Division of Oil & Gas, Doyon Limited and the U.S. Department of Interior's Minerals Management Services.



[Read More](#)

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## **Record Bids Result in Oil, Gas Leases in Chukchi Sea**

Oil companies bid nearly \$2.7 billion for drilling rights in the Chukchi Sea, a record amount for an Alaska oil and gas lease sale. Out of the seven companies bidding, Shell Oil came out on top with \$2.1 billion in winning bids, followed by Conoco Phillips, with more than \$506 million. Other bidders included the Spanish company Repsol, the Italian firm Eni and Statoil Hydro of Norway.

[Read More](#)

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## **Shell Oil Decides Against Any Critical Oil Drilling in the Beaufort Sea This Year**

Shell Oil has decided not to do any "critical" drilling in 2008, but will go forward with shallow wells, as long as the 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. Court of Appeals approves. Curtis Smith, the company's spokesman

in Alaska, says Shell’s decision was based on “the availability of drilling assets” and “repeated requests that we take a measured approach to exploring the Alaska offshore.”

Shell had hoped to use its Kulluk floating drilling platform to drill three of these wells at Sivulliq. However, Smith says the Frontier Discoverer, the drill ship that Shell had contracted for Beaufort Sea drilling, will remain in Australia during 2008.

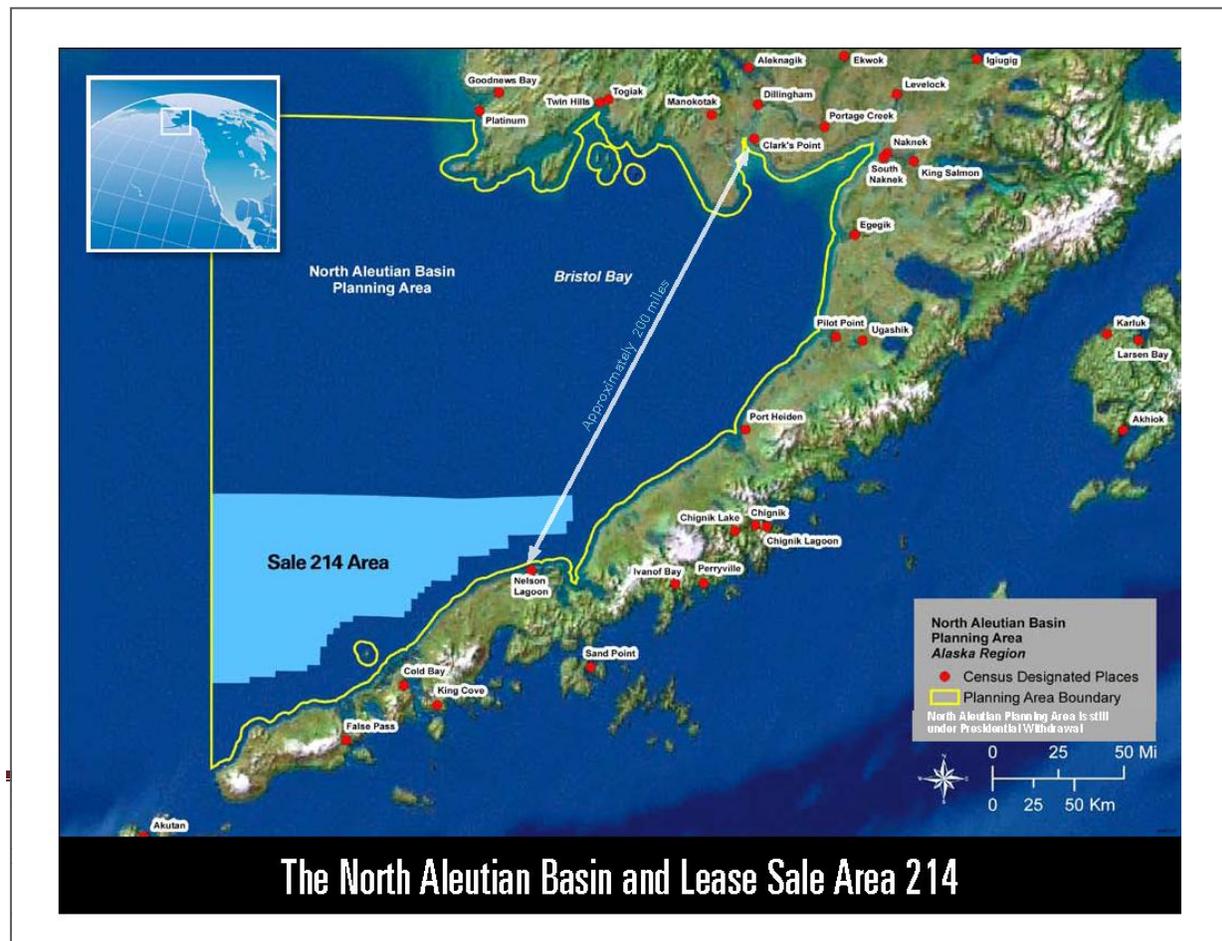
Shell’s Alaska operations manager Susan Moore says the oil company has been discussing plans with regulators to drill some shallow wells, called “top-hole wells”. Those wells would not go deep enough to penetrate hydrocarbon reservoirs.

“Basically, it’s preparatory work that would take place at the Sivulliq prospect,” Smith said.

[Read More](#)

## Dialogue Sought on Oil and Gas Development in the North Aleutian Basin

Anchorage, Alaska – Jan. 23, 2008 – Fishermen, community leaders, Alaska Natives, scientists, government officials, environmental groups, and representatives from energy companies will



meet in Anchorage to discuss what's needed to safely develop oil and gas in the North Aleutian Basin, a sprawling region that includes part of salmon-rich Bristol Bay.

The [North Aleutians Basin Energy-Fisheries Workshop](#), scheduled for March 18–19 at the Anchorage Marriot Downtown Hotel, is aimed at continuing a dialogue that began last October, when key stakeholders outlined their positions on development and organized the agenda for the March 2008 meeting.

The meeting seeks insights into the economic, social, and environmental questions that must be addressed to make energy development environmentally safe as well as socially and economically beneficial for the region's residents. It also offers a chance for the energy and fisheries industries to learn about each other's operations.

[Read More](#)

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## **Alaska Marine Highway System's New Schedule Cuts Service from Washington to Alaska in Half**

### **Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian Chain Communities will also Be Affected**

The Alaska Marine Highway System's (AMHS) new ferry schedule has many communities worried about how the change will affect tourism and trip planning for residents. Last month, ferry managers stuck by their decision to end the weekly summer run of the Ferry Malaspina between Alaska and Bellingham, Washington. Critics say it could cost Inside Passage communities travelers and tourism dollars.

In addition to eliminating one vessel from the Bellingham run, the schedule reduces Gulf of Alaska crossings. Summer ferry service to Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Chain communities will also be reduced from two visits a month, down to one.



Aleutians East Borough Mayor Stanley Mack, Borough Clerk/Planner Tina Anderson, Borough Maintenance Director Jim Brown and Akutan Mayor Joe Bereskin testified at a public hearing conducted by the Department of Transportation Marine Highway System. Despite opposition from residents, ferry officials decided to

move forward with the changes as originally planned.

[Read More](#)

[Link to Southwest and Aleutian Chain ferry schedule](#)

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## Young Says Alaska Needs a “Water Policy”

Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska is encouraging Gov. Sarah Palin and the Legislature to include a “water policy” in the state's transportation budget. He pointed out that Alaska has more coastline than any other state in the country and has more resources. Young suggested that the state should look at the positive side of global warming.

“It is going to take a unity with all the communities and with the state,” he said. “What we should be thinking about is an infrastructure of water usage, for the people of Alaska and the benefit to Alaskans.”

[Read More](#)

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## King Cove Successfully Harnesses Mother Nature’s Power

Living in Alaska’s Bush communities has many rewards. But one of the challenges includes the high cost of living. Take energy bills for example. Those living in large cities can hardly imagine paying an \$800 monthly heating bill. But that’s reality for many village residents. However, that’s not the case for King Cove residents who pay only pay 24 cents per kilowatt-hour for their power, thanks to a decision that was made 14 years ago. In 1994, city officials built a hydroelectric facility when the cost of diesel was only 75 cents per gallon. That move is paying off in a big way today, considering that the cost of diesel has tripled since then.

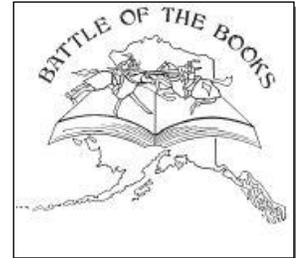
[Read More](#)

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## AEBSD Places 9<sup>th</sup> in the State Battle of the Books

The Aleutians East Borough School District 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade team participating in the state's Battle of the Books competition landed in 9<sup>th</sup> place out of the 41 state school districts participating.

The winning 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade group is from Sand Point School. The team members are Christian Anderson-Nutt, Jewel Jackson, and Pearl Jackson, with Alex Gilbert as the alternate member.



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## News from the False Pass School



The False Pass School opened the 2007-2008 year with six students. The school has one first grader, two third graders and three seventh graders. We started off the year by emphasizing the school affirmations: I Am Smart; I Am Here to Learn; and We Are Here to Help Each Other. We also stressed the guidelines for success: Be Kind; Look, Listen, and Do; Always Try; Do My Best; Follow Directions the First Time; and Be Honest.

This year, our students had a welcoming party for three new members to the community. They were a third grader, Spencer Salsman; our newborn to the Murphy Family, little John Terry; and our new Isanotski Company Head, Mr. John Cox. Nikkita Shellikoff was selected as our top academic student for the month of September.



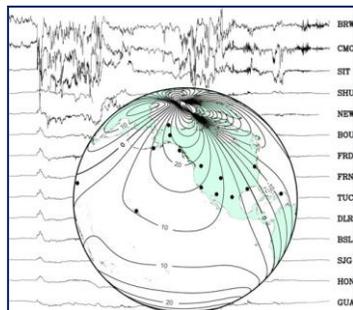
During the first month of school, several people made presentations to our students, including Melanie Hoblet, our city clerk. She explained to the students how city government works. She

also described the responsibilities of the employees and identified all the roads and buildings in False Pass.

[Read More](#)

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## Three AEB Schools Explore Geomagnetism



Students at three of our schools had a wonderful opportunity to listen to two researchers, Carol Finn of the USGS Geomagnetism Group and Bill Worthington of College Magnetic Observatory in Fairbanks, present information on geomagnetism and the Shumagin Magnetic Observatory located near Sand Point. The presentation was made on Feb. 12, 2008. Using the two-way video system, students in Nelson Lagoon and King Cove joined Sand Point students electronically to listen to the presentation and to ask questions of the speakers. We

want to thank Tina Anderson for coordinating the program. If you are interested in this subject you can Google in <http://geomag.usgs.gov/>.

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## News from the Cold Bay School

Students at the Cold Bay School are not only on target to finish their curriculum by the end of the 2007-2008 schoolyear, it appears they will finish early. In math, the students will need additional material or next year's book to fill their time. In addition, this year's class will write more papers and learn more grammar than the curriculum requires. Cold Bay's secondary students will have read eight novels and completed the corresponding material assigned to each book. Science, social studies, health, physical education and electives will also be completed.

The students and parents of Cold Bay have worked hard to achieve this milestone, and it is powerful to watch. Fortunately, there are no accidents or discipline problems to report. Too often in education, reports are made only for special events like a class project recreating a dinosaur. Other times, the reports focus only on problems such as students breaking the rules. Here in Cold Bay, slow and steady is winning the race. Our kids and parents deserve applause for their hard work and support.

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## State Testing Dates

### High School Graduation Qualifying Examinations - (HSGQE)/ STANDARDS BASED ASSESSMENTS – (SBA's)

SBA Testing - April 1-3, 2008 - Grades 3-10

HSGQE Testing - April 1-3, 2008



#### Tips for Testing Day:

- Help your student do his or her best!
- Make sure your child gets plenty of rest the night before the test.
- Make sure your child attends school on testing days and get him/her there on time. Avoid scheduling other appointments that day.
- Feed your student a good breakfast the day of the test, and be positive when he/she leaves for school.
- Encourage your child. Let your child know you think he/she will do well on the test. Remind him/her to relax and focus on the test.
- If you have any questions regarding the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam or the Standards Based Assessments, please contact your school principal or the [District Test Coordinator](#).

Or

For information regarding the Grade 10 SBA/HSGQE, please go to:  
<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessment/sba.html>

**AEBSD Web Page – [www.aebd.org](http://www.aebd.org)**

Come and visit our home on the Web. The Aleutians East Borough School District has updated their Web page to help communicate with parents, students, staff and communities. During your visit, we hope you will enjoy what we have put together, and learn more about our district.

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## Aleutia Seeks a Tender for the 2008 Salmon Season



Aleutia is looking for a tender for the 2008 salmon season, based out of Sand Point. Knowledge of the surrounding area required. Interested parties should contact Tiffany Jackson at the Aleutia office at (907) 383-5909 or email: [Aleutia\\_tiffany@arctic.net](mailto:Aleutia_tiffany@arctic.net):



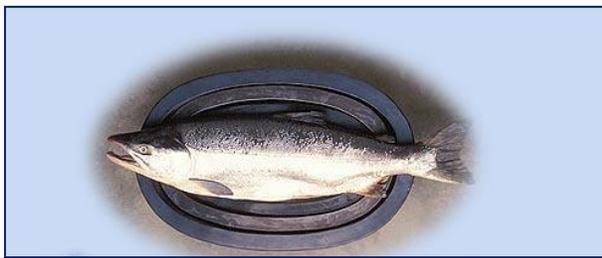
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## Aleutia Begins Selling Commercial Crewmember/Sports Fishing Licences

The Aleutia office now sells commercial fishing crewmember licenses and sports fishing licenses. Those in need of a license can stop by the Sand Point office and see Tiffany Jackson, Aleutia Operations Manager, to purchase one. Tiffany can be reached at (907) 383-5909 or email: [Aleutia\\_tiffany@arctic.net](mailto:Aleutia_tiffany@arctic.net).

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## Become an Aleutia Member: 2008 Aleutia Memberships Available



Join the Aleutia fishery in one of Alaska's most beautiful, wild and dramatic regions. Capture the flavor of this treasured resource – Aleutia sockeye salmon.

2007 Aleutia memberships have expired. All permit holders can re-apply for 2008 memberships. Membership forms are available at the office in Sand Point or visit the link below.

[Aleutia Membership Application Form](#)

[Aleutia Web site link](#)

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## **Find One-of-a-Kind Aleutia Products on Zazzle.com**

Looking for a special gift for someone that reflects the fishing tradition of our region? Aleutia has several unique products with the Aleutia logo for sale on Zazzle.com. You can find an Aleutia mouse pad, coffee mug, magnet, keychain, bumper sticker and more. Check out the link below for Aleutia one-of-a-kind products.

[Link to Zazzle.com](#)

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## **Family and Friends Can Now Order Aleutia Salmon from Well-Known Chef's Web Site**

Tom Douglas is one of the Pacific Northwest's most widely recognized chefs, and is well-known for his restaurants, catering service, cookbooks, and specialty food lines. Now he's adding Aleutia salmon to his Web site for anyone who wishes to purchase this delectable, flavorful fish. For more information, go to the link below.



[Order Aleutia Salmon from Tom Douglas' Web site](#)

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## Fill Your Freezer with Delicious Aleutia Sockeye Salmon



Craving premium-quality, all-natural Aleutia sockeye salmon? If you're freezer is empty, and your mouth is watering for the full-flavored, rich taste of sockeye salmon, Aleutia still has some fillets left. Get 'em while supplies last. It costs \$141.63 for a 25- pound box.

Call the Aleutia office at (907) 383-5909

or email Tiffany Jackson at [Aleutia\\_Tiffany@arctic.net](mailto:Aleutia_Tiffany@arctic.net).

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### Got News?



If you have news you'd like to share, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) and [ccorbridge@aeboro.org](mailto:ccorbridge@aeboro.org).

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*Thank you for reading In the Loop. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org).*