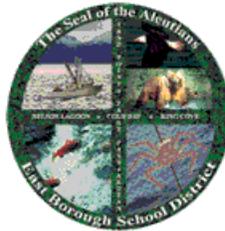
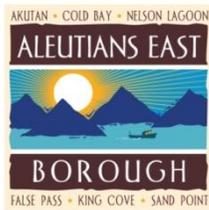


## In the Loop



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

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## Recent Storm Destroys Nelson Lagoon Breakwater



Nelson Lagoon's wooden breakwater was knocked over during the recent storm. Photo by Mark McNeley.

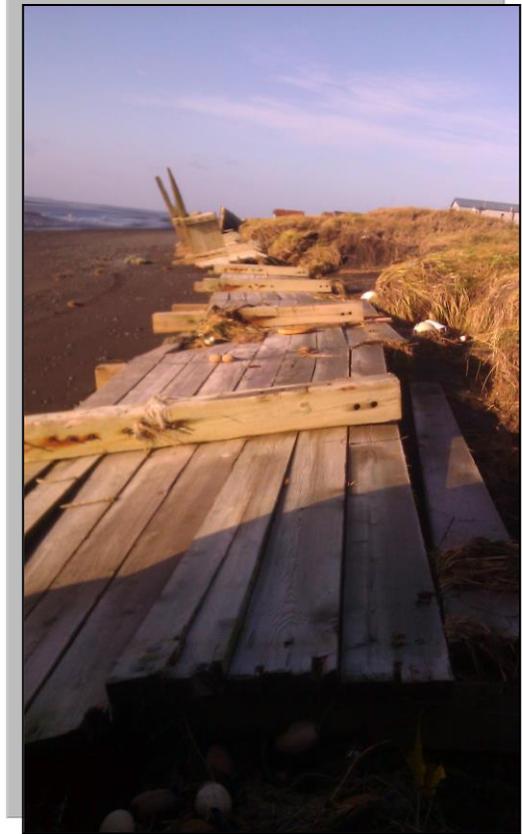
It's been well-documented that high tides, storm surges, wind and wave action are major contributors to Nelson Lagoon's erosion problem. The small village is located on the northern coast of the Alaska Peninsula, on a narrow sand spit that separates the lagoon from the Bering Sea. Erosion problems in Nelson Lagoon include coastline erosion on the

Bering Sea and Nelson Lagoon side of the spit, and river erosion from the Nelson and Sapsuk Rivers. To make matters worse, the village recently lost its only protection from Mother Nature's battering force. A storm in late October knocked the community's 800-foot-long breakwater over.

"It's has zero effectiveness right now," said Mark McNeley, Environmental Director with the Tribal Village of Nelson Lagoon. "It's lying flat on the ground. Some of it folded backwards. Some of it folded forward."



Nelson Lagoon resident Elvis Johnson took photos of the destruction to the wooden seawall during the storm in late October. Photo courtesy: Elvis Johnson.



"It has zero effectiveness right now," said Mark McNeley, Environmental Director with the Tribal Village of Nelson Lagoon. Photo by Elvis Johnson.

Living right next to the ocean may sound picturesque in most places. But for Elvis Johnson of Nelson Lagoon, it has been anything but ideal. He and a couple of neighbors live right on the bank, which is "literally ground zero," according to McNeley.

"It's kind of scary," Johnson said. "It's like a bulldozer hitting us. Waves smashed into the house. After the breakwater fell down, it started sucking the sand bank away and getting closer to the house. When it was over, there was seaweed sticking to the windows."

"That's pretty severe," McNeley added. "I think that paints a very vivid picture."

McNeley said with the community's terrain composition, there's basically just beach grass on top of sand dunes.

"So what's happening is the sand and the beach grass, which is holding everything together, is getting washed away, and there's absolutely no protection," he added. "It's already causing severe damage to the embankment."

The community is at a loss as to how to solve the problem.

“In the past, there seemed to be money for doing studies, but there’s no money for doing any repair or construction,” said McNeley. “We’ve approached the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State, USDA – everybody we can think of. The problem is, in order to go after funding, we need an updated survey or feasibility study. After that money is spent, there’s nothing left for any construction or repair. So it feels like we’re just spinning our wheels.”



During the storm, the wooden seawall collapsed. “It’s lying flat on the ground. Some of it folded backwards. Some of it folded forward,” McNeley said. Photo by Elvis Johnson.



In the past, the community installed gabions behind the seawall to absorb some of the wave energy.

installed gabions, which are wire mesh cages containing rocks used to absorb some of the wave energy. In addition, geotube containment structures were installed several years ago.

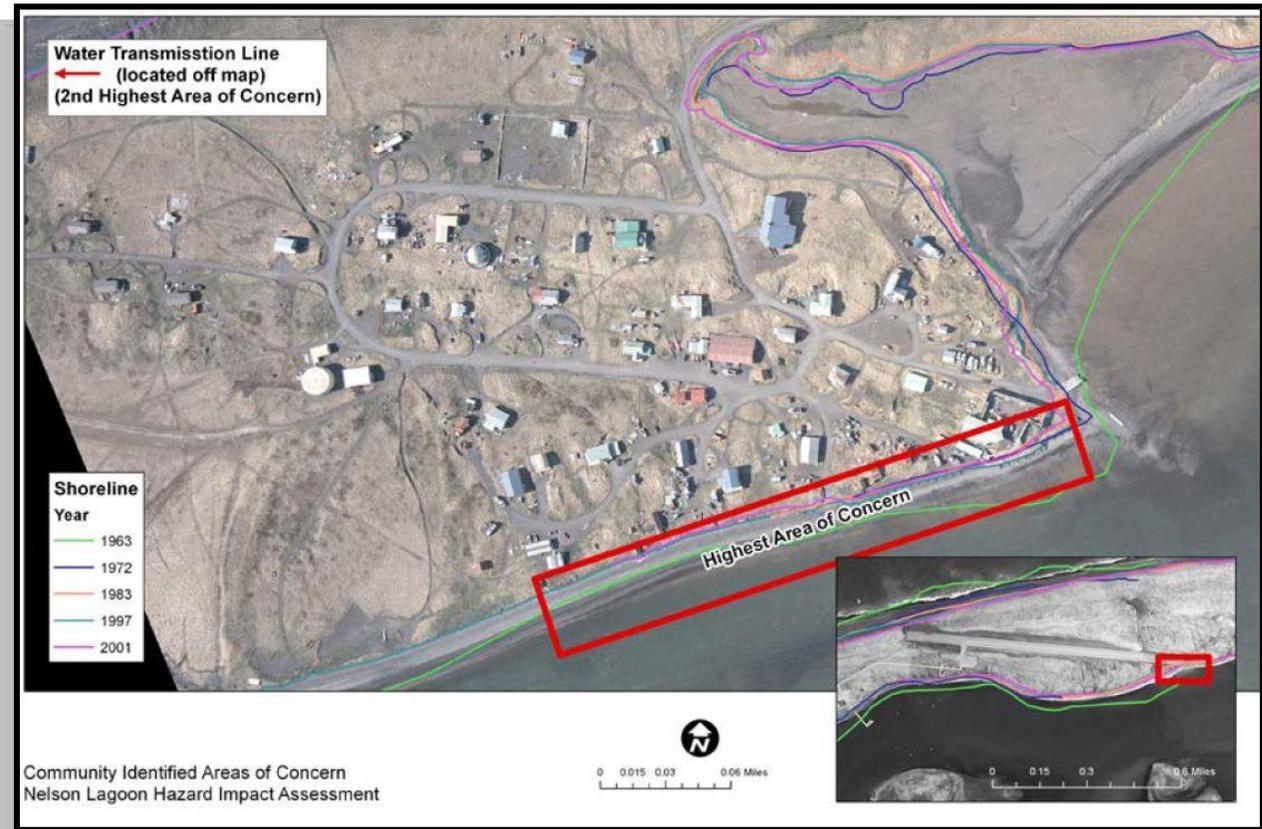
Nelson Lagoon has conducted a number of previous erosion control measures in the past, including the breakwater, also referred to as the wooden seawall. The community has also



Other erosion control measures included installing a geotube containment structure several years ago.

Two years ago, HDR Alaska, Inc., along with Shannon & Wilson, completed the Nelson Lagoon Hazard Impact Assessment (HIA). It was funded by a grant from the Alaska Department of

Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs. The assessment focused on natural hazards, particularly those related to climate change, such as erosion. The assessment also examined how Nelson Lagoon is at risk for other natural hazards, such as earthquakes, volcanos, tsunamis, and wildfires. But the report concluded that erosion is the primary natural hazard for the community. The HIA also provided several recommendations. One of those included conducting an erosion study to gather additional information to develop a comprehensive understanding about the underlying causes of erosion and to identify solutions to adequately address the issue.



Earlier this year, the Aleutians East Borough received grant funds from the Coastal Impact Assistance Program to conduct a coastal erosion study in Nelson Lagoon. Six months ago, the Borough entered into a contract with HDR to develop a Nelson Lagoon historical shoreline erosion map and analysis, perform a beach profile study of the Nelson Lagoon coastal section, perform a wave climate study and prepare a preliminary design of shoreline protection for the Nelson Lagoon shoreline. In July, the necessary aerial imagery was collected and the survey was completed. HDR is now in the process of finalizing that phase of the project. The next step will be to update the model process and the historic shoreline erosion mapping. The other portions of the project will be completed at a later date. The study is scheduled for completion on Dec. 31, 2015.

So where does the village go from here to deal with the erosion problem and the damaged breakwater? That seems to be the 64-million dollar question. However, it's clear that climate change appears to be playing an increasingly troublesome role as the years go by. According to the HIA, one of the major changes during the past two to four decades has been the severe reduction in the "ice bench" that historically formed during the winter on the north beach. During



Part of the collapsed breakwater is located in front of Elvis Johnson's house. Photo courtesy: Elvis Johnson.

the 1970s, there used to be large ice benches, sometimes as high as 15 feet tall. They were formed from the ocean spray freezing during the winter. These ice benches provided some protection to the sand dunes on the north side of the community.

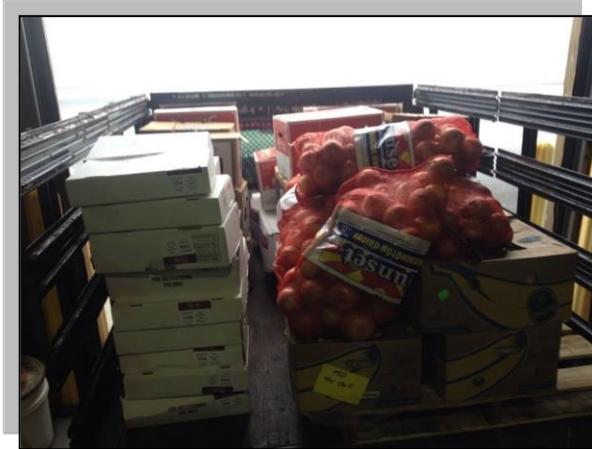
"That caused the bank to freeze up and less erosion occurred as a result," McNeley added. "But in recent years, it hasn't been cold enough to get that early protection."

Now, with the breakwater out of commission, McNeley and other residents worry what will happen in the near future.

"Generally, in years past, October and November brought some of our biggest tides," said McNeley. "But predictions suggest bigger tides are coming our way this month."

"Our house and our boats are right there," Johnson added. "It's not going to take too many more big tides before they're right up next to our house."

# Delta Airlines Thanks Cold Bay for Warm Welcome during Emergency Landing Visit



Delta Airlines sent food to Cold Bay for the community "thank you" barbecue. Photo by Hap Kremer.

Imagine hosting a barbecue and having the entire city show up. That's what happened in Cold Bay recently after Delta Airlines sent food out, cooked up some delicious fare and served it up at the Community Center. Delta wanted to thank Cold Bay for the warm hospitality the community provided when the airline's San Francisco-bound flight 208, originating from Tokyo, was forced to make an emergency landing following engine trouble on October

30<sup>th</sup>.

Cold Bay's population quadrupled in size for a day after the jet was diverted to the remote community. The 167 passengers and 11 crew members got a brief taste of what life is like out in the Aleutians. Some took pictures, despite the wind and the rain. Then they were split up into groups of three. One group was ferried to the Community Center. Another was transported to the Cold Bay School. The

third was taken to the Bearfoot Inn. A second Delta plane landed in Cold Bay later



Nearly everyone in Cold Bay showed up for the barbecue, hosted by Delta Airlines. Photo by Hap Kremer.

that afternoon to take the passengers to San Francisco. However, while they were there, the community made sure the passengers and crew members were comfortable.



Several grills were set up for the barbecue to cook up food for the community. Photo by Hap Kremer.

A couple weeks later, Delta went out of its way to make sure the airline expressed its appreciation to the community for its hospitality.

“It was completely unexpected,” said Cold Bay Airport Manager Jeff Doerning. “They sent out vegetables, fruit, pork chops, chicken breasts and chuck steaks to barbecue up for the community.”

On Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, Delta’s station manager in Anchorage, Jason Kempster, and two other employees from Atlanta, Gregg Scott and Bill Manion, visited Cold Bay to throw the community a “thank you” barbecue. Several grills were set up to cook up a mini feast for the town’s residents.

“They were thrilled,” said Doerning. “Everyone thought it was great. It was a nice gesture on Delta’s part.”

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## **Sand Point Seal & Temporary Alaska Sealife Center Resident Moves to New England Aquarium**

### **Videoconferencing allows Sand Point Students to Connect with Seal Before His Departure**



Chiidax, a northern fur seal pup found in Sand Point, now lives at the New England Aquarium in Boston. Photo courtesy: Alaska Sealife Center.

It isn’t every day that Sand Point students go to class with a seal... or at least it might have felt that way during a recent video teleconference with the Alaska Sealife Center in Seward last month. This wasn’t just any seal. Chiidax (pronounced *Chee-uh-docks*) has strong ties to Sand Point – and especially to the K – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Sand Point School.

On July 24<sup>th</sup>, the orphaned northern fur seal pup was found in a box on Fish and Game’s doorstep in Sand Point along with a note, stating that the mother must have died during childbirth. The 9.5-pound newborn was underweight and dehydrated. He was sent to the Alaska Sealife Center for

rehabilitation. He is the first northern fur seal the center has rehabilitated. His age was estimated to be one week old.

“He is adorable,” said Darin Trobaugh, Education Specialist at the Alaska Sealife Center.

It became clear to the Sealife Center early on that the seal pup would not do well if he were released back into the wild after rehabilitation.

“While we are successful at rehabilitating and releasing harbor seals at this age, fur seals have a longer period in which they are dependent on their mother,” said Carrie Goertz, Sealife Center Staff Veterinarian. “So we knew from the outset that chances were lower that he was releasable because it was going to be several months before we could wean him. It also became quickly evident that his medical and nutritional needs required fairly intensive care, which would only reinforce bonding with and becoming dependent on people, further lowering his chance of surviving on his own after release. Further complicating matters were the unusual circumstances of his stranding. He was found in an area not know for northern fur seals, and it was unknown where he was actually born. Fur seals have a fairly high site fidelity to their natal beaches. It would have been important in terms of his long-term success to identify the right location for release, which was not possible.”

As his health improved at the Sealife Center, interest in his well-being grew several hundred miles away in Sand Point where the seal was found. With the help of AEB Natural Resources Director Ernie Weiss, the Sealife Center set up a two-way videoconference with the Sand Point School during the first week in November.

“It was a wonderful connection,” Trobaugh added. “From what we saw, it was a good mix of younger and older students. As soon as we switched to showing the seal, the whole school just melted and erupted in ‘aws’.”

“They took us poolside, and the seal pup was right there. The kids were ooh-ing and aw-ing,” said Sand Point School Principal Ralph Lindquist. “It’s like you’re in the same room with the seal. They (the trainers) were giving commands to the seal at the Sealife Center. There was lots of noise on both ends of the communication. Then the kids were talking to the seal, and the seal would talk back. It was a great interactive session. I think the kids felt they were truly invested in what was going on because this was the seal’s home originally. It was a big deal for the elementary students.”

“They had lot of questions, such as, ‘What does he like to eat?’ and ‘Does he spend more time in or out of the water?’” Trobaugh added.

During that exciting experience, the Sealife Center assigned Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students a special task -- to come up with a name for the pup.

“They had some guidelines for picking the name,” said Lindquist. “It had to be no more than a few syllables, so the seal would be easier to train. They also wanted the pup to have a masculine name, since it’s a male. The K through sixth graders were 100 percent involved in the naming, and everybody had a vote. They came up with 11 or 12 names. Then they had an Assembly and voted on them.



The three finalists (names) were Chiidax, Dipper and Popov.”

**Sand Point School K – 6 students named the seal pup Chiidax, the Aleut word for baby animal. Photo courtesy: Alaska Sealife Center.**

The Sealife Center ultimately went with Chiidax, the Aleut word for baby animal.

“That was a good name,” said Lindquist. “That will always be a name that will identify him with his Aleutian roots.”

Now, marine animal lovers on the East Coast will have a chance to learn Chiidax’s story. Just this week, (Tuesday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>), the seal pup left his temporary home at the Alaska Sealife Center and moved to his new home at the New England Aquarium in Boston, accompanied by a veterinarian and an animal trainer.

“We all miss him here,” said Trobaugh.

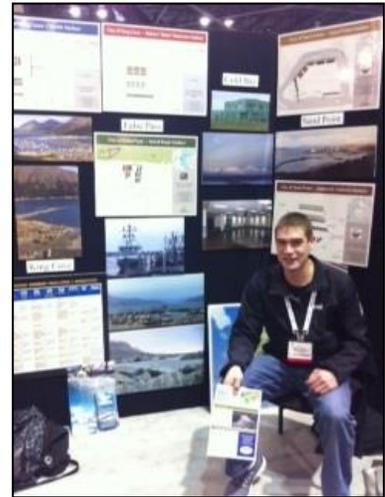
Chiidax arrived in Boston via a FedEx flight on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. The aquarium is home to the largest aquarium population of northern fur seals in North America, so now the seal will have plenty of friends and relatives to mingle with while enjoying his new digs.

“We’re inviting everybody to go to Boston to see the seal pup from Sand Point,” Lindquist said. “The students in Sand Point certainly identified with Chiidax. That’s their pup.”

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## Borough Promotes AEB Harbors, Infrastructure at Seattle's Pacific Marine Expo

The Borough took its show on the road, so to speak, and promoted its harbors and other infrastructure during Seattle's annual Pacific Marine Expo (held Nov. 20 – 22, 2013). AEB Mayor Stanley Mack, Assembly Members Paul Gronholdt, Justine Gundersen, and Alvin Osterback were among the local officials who assisted in manning the booth. Borough and community staff members included King Cove Harbormaster Charles Mack, King Cove Administrative Manager Bonnie Folz, Borough Finance Director Roxann Newman, AEB Natural Resources Director Ernie Weiss, Sand Point Administrator Paul Day, AEB Fisheries Consultant Sam



King Cove Harbormaster Charles Mack helped staff the Borough's booth at the Pacific Marine Expo in Seattle.



Giveaways included updated community flyers and the Borough's 2014 calendar.

Cotten and Borough Communications Manager Laura Tanis.

The latest photos of the community harbors and docks were on display to showcase what the Borough has to offer. Giveaways included updated flyers about each of the communities, the Borough's 2014 calendar and AEB pens.

"We definitely noticed an increased amount of traffic coming by our booth this year," said Bonnie Folz, King Cove's Administrative Manager. "There were also numerous queries about winter land storage in our communities," she said.

During the second day of Expo, the Borough's Natural Resources Department hosted a fishermen's meeting at the Silver Cloud Inn in Seattle. The featured presenters were Glenn Haight, the Executive Director for the Alaska Board of Fisheries, and David Witherell, Deputy Director for the



Borough fishermen attended the AEB Fishermen's Meeting at the Silver Cloud Inn in Seattle on Nov. 21, 2013.

North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Topics included the Board of Fish proposals and NPFMC agenda items.

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## City of Akutan Hires Mary Tesche as New Assistant Administrator

Akutan and the Aleutians East Borough are extending a warm welcome to the City's New Assistant Administrator Mary Tesche. She began her first day in the Anchorage office on November 11<sup>th</sup> after former Assistant Administrator Susan Lutz retired.

"Since then, I have attended a Newly Elected Officials training held by the Alaska Municipal League, became acquainted with the various individuals and agencies the City works with and familiarized myself with city operations and procedures," said Tesche.

Before taking the job, Tesche had already established a relationship with the City and residents of Akutan. She was the planning and logistics coordinator for RMA Consulting Group for 2 ½ years. RMA is the City's public works projects manager for several large projects, including the harbor, the airport and the geothermal development project.

"I had the opportunity to travel to Akutan several times to assist in project operations and logistics and work with City staff to monitor every project throughout each phase," she said.

Prior to working for RMA, Mary earned her bachelor's degree in design management with an emphasis in urban planning from Arizona State University in 2011.

"I'm excited to have the opportunity to participate in helping the community grow as it becomes a leader in alternative energy and transportation in Southwest Alaska," she said. "I am looking forward to watching how the completion of our many ongoing projects will benefit the community and region."



The City of Akutan has hired Mary Tesche as the new Assistant Administrator.

“Mary has a good background in all of the projects we’ve been working on,” said Lutz.

Lutz retired last month to spend more time with her family and elderly mother. She has three kids and four grandchildren spread out across the country from the East to the West Coast.

“One of the other reasons that the time was right for me to retire was that so many of Akutan’s projects that were on the horizon when I first started there five years ago, have now come to fruition,” Lutz said. “We built our harbor, finished our harbor local area plan, our airport local area plan and updated our community plan. We were also successful in our annexation petition. In addition, we updated our code for permit processing. So we have accomplished a lot in anticipation of development here in the future, and a lot of the groundwork has been laid. So I feel comfortable in leaving, knowing that Mary can follow in my footsteps and will be a quick study.”

The Tesche name is certainly no stranger to the City of Akutan and its residents. In 2008, Mary’s father, the late Allan Tesche, a former Anchorage Assemblyman, served as Acting Akutan City Administrator before Hermann “Tuna” Scanlan accepted the position. He was also the City’s attorney during the 80s. Lutz also worked with Allan Tesche for many years while he was serving on the Anchorage Assembly.

Now Mary Tesche is excited to continue her father’s tradition of public service as Akutan’s Assistant Administrator.

“I think it’s important for young Alaskans to become involved in making decisions that will affect the future of their communities and the State,” she said. “I’m looking forward to working more closely with state and federal agencies that will help Akutan reach its community development goals. I have many years of public service ahead of me, and I hope to create positive changes for Akutan and the State of Alaska.”

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## EAT Affordable Care Update

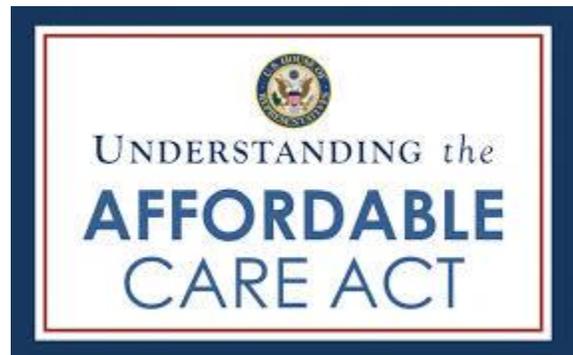


Continuing to move forward with the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc. has assisted with developing an ACA team which meets weekly to stay abreast of changes, challenges and successes in the implementation process. We have teamed up with ANTHC and APIA to bring the most current information to our beneficiaries and

clients in the region. We applied for and were awarded a grant from HRSA for the EAT region. With this grant, we were able to hire Brenda Wilson as the Outreach and Enrollment Coordinator who will serve the EAT Region. She is a Certified Application Counselor (CAC). Brenda shares information with all the EAT sites to ensure we are all receiving the same information.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services also offered designated organizations to become Certified Application Counselor Organizations. EAT was granted that designation and currently has (1) CAC, and we have twelve (12) more in the process of training to become CAC's. They will be ready to assist our community members with navigating the Marketplace and/or filing for an appropriate exemption.

ANTHC was designated as one of two organizations within the State of Alaska as a Navigator Organization. A Navigator Organization is certified to provide consumer assistance and does not receive compensation from insurance companies or from consumers. ANTHC will continue to be our resource as we move forward toward the March 31, 2014 deadline for enrollment without penalty.



Below are some brief highlights/updates in regards to what affects our communities:

- The Marketplace is currently available. Purchasing insurance can be done through the website [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) or by calling 1-800-318-2596.
- Two exemptions are available for Tribal Members and/or Indian Health Service Beneficiaries. Both applications will be available in early 2014 and can only be submitted via a paper application process. The exemptions are:
  - Indian Exemption (those that are enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe and/or an ANCSA shareholder)
  - Hardship exemption (those that are eligible to receive services at Indian Health Service Facilities but do not meet the requirements for "Alaska Native/Indian")



When the application becomes available our CAC's will be ready to assist community members in completing their applications. Exemptions have to be applied for by completing the paper application. They can also be applied for at the time that you file for their tax returns.

- We are encouraging everyone to begin gathering their supporting documents so that they are ready when the exemption applications become available. Those documents may require the

following:

1. Federally Recognized Tribal Enrollment Card-contact local Tribal Government
2. Bureau of Indian Affairs-Certificate of Indian Blood (1-800-645-8465)
3. Shareholder Identification Cards from the Aleut Corporation (1-800-232-4882 or via e-mail at [info@aleutcorp.com](mailto:info@aleutcorp.com)) or other ANCSA Corporation

Once the paper applications are available we will know exactly what supporting documentation will be required.

Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc. looks forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that this process is simple and effective for our community members. We have the following designated as Point of Contact:

Brenda Wilson 907-497-2311 or  
[brendaw@eatribes.net](mailto:brendaw@eatribes.net)



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## UAF's Interior-Aleutians Campus Appreciates Shawn Dickson's Years of Service



UAF's Interior-Aleutians Campus thanks Shawn Dickson for her many years of excellent service as the center coordinator for I-AC's Aleutian-Pribilof rural center.

After 16 years of helping students in the Aleutians Pribilof Islands, UAF's Interior-Aleutians Campus says thank you to Shawn Dickson for her many years of excellent service as center coordinator for I-AC's Aleutian-Pribilof rural center. UAF is now registering for the spring semester. Classes start January 16. While Shawn is no longer working at the center, the staff at I-AC are prepared to assist students in the region with advising, placement tests and registration needs. We can also help you apply for financial aid. For more information, call Cynthia at (888) 474-5207 that's (888) 474-5207.

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## PSP-Tainted Sand Lance Project

*By Bruce Wright, Principal Investigator, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc.*

The question being asked by the principal investigator, Bruce Wright; are PSP-tainted prey the cause of unexplained declines in sea lions, seals, sea otters and some marine birds and other predators in the North Pacific?

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) funded the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) to continue its research on paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) for another year, but with a slight shift in focus. The project will focus on informing residents in the Aleut region of an apparent threat to marine species, PSP-contaminated sand lance, and train people to assist the effort to determine the extent that PSP-tainted sand lance occur in the Aleutian Islands.

Documented Alaska PSP fatalities date back to 1799 when the crew of Alexander Baranof of the Russian American Trading Company ate contaminated blue mussels at the now notorious Poison Cove in Southeast Alaska. Since 1973, over 150 PSP outbreaks have been reported. In 1997-98, reported PSP illnesses occurred on Southeast Alaska, Kodiak Island, the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian Islands. In 1997, nine cases of illness occurred resulting in one death, and in 2010, PSP cases occurred from Southeast Alaska to the Aleutian Islands with two deaths, notably one was from eating PSP-tainted Dungeness crab. Wright reacted to this new twist in PSP toxicity by investigating PSP-tainted Dungeness crab; a paper entitled “Is there a life-threatening risk from PSP in Dungeness crab in Southeast Alaska?” (see <http://www.environmentalaska.us/psp-in-dungeness-crab.html>).

In 2012, Wright was informed that several Kittlitz's murrelets died in Kodiak, Alaska nesting sites from consuming PSP containing sand lance. Sand lance are a nearshore small forage fish that are consumed by many marine



**APIA will continue its research on PSP for another year. However, the focus will be on informing residents in the Aleut region of an apparent threat to marine species, PSP-contaminated sand lance.**

predators, including several that are species of concern; endangered Steller's sea lions, threatened fur seals, threatened sea otters (up to 12% of their diet can be sand lance), Pacific salmon and many other predators including Kittlitz's murrelets.

In 1978 in Massachusetts, over 70 Common Terns and other terns and gulls were killed by PSP. PSP toxin was detected at lethal levels in sand lance, the terns' principal food. Data from the Coastal Observation and Seabird Survey Team (COASST) project includes unexplained Pacific Ocean seabird mortality events, bird wrecks, that indicate the healthy-looking birds died from a marine toxin event. Elevated PSP levels have also been found in Alaska marine mammals. The full impact of PSP on marine predators is undetermined and consequences from chance encounters with schools of toxic sand lance should be investigated (Shumway et al 2003). Wright will seek to coordinate collection of suspiciously killed marine species (opportunistic sampling) to determine if they died from consuming PSP-tainted sand lance. Additionally, sand lance will be collected from locations currently monitored for PSP in bivalves to determine levels of PSP in the sand lance (directed sampling) and compare the PSP levels with adjacent bivalves (clams and/or mussels).

Sand lance are implicated in obtaining high levels of PSP likely from feeding on the organism that makes the PSP toxins, a marine dinoflagellate, *Alexandrium* sp. The transfer of the PSP toxin to marine predators may be common along the North Pacific coast and may be impacting marine predator populations. Some of the hypotheses to consider during this investigation are:

H1: Sand lance feed on the dinoflagellate that produces PSP, *Alexandrium* sp., to protect them from predation.

H2: Marine predator population numbers may fluctuate in response to consumption of PSP-tainted sand lance.

H3: PSP-tainted sand lance are widespread in the Aleutian Islands marine waters.

H4: PSP levels peak in sand lance in conjunction with the peak of PSP in the environment, in bivalves and *Alexandrium* sp. blooms.

H5: All vertebrate marine predators, including whales, salmon (Yukon River king salmon), seals, birds, sea otters, sea lions, etc. that feed on sand lance can die from consuming PSP-tainted fish.

H6: Region-wide PSP events follow winters with deep snow packs (record winter snow levels).

Sand lance will be collected during the training sessions using cast nets, beach seine and digging from the sand from locations currently monitored for PSP in bivalves to determine levels of PSP in the sand lance. This directed sampling will incorporate information from local residents, but Wright has already identified several locations in the Aleutian Islands and Southeast Alaska where sand lance can be collected and areas that usually have elevated PSP levels. For example,

the PI has been monitoring PSP levels in the Unalaska since 2006 and has located nearby sand lance refugia. A good place to collect sand lance for this study is near Little Priest Rock, Unalaska; the intertidal area is often used by bald eagles to feed on sand lance. Elevated PSP levels usually occur in late summer. We expect to do most of the directed sampling June-August, but the past PSP testing projects will provide insight of timing of PSP events.

Sand lance form dense schools that seek refuge in sand beaches by burying themselves. When feeding, they often swim in large groups and filter feed on phytoplankton from the water. PSP is produced by one of these phytoplankton, *Alexandrium*, and some evidence suggest *Alexandrium* is becoming more persuasive. When sand lance become toxic from PSP, they become sick and are easy prey for predators. Please report any sick-looking sand lance to Wright and collect and freeze samples for analysis.



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## Got News?

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





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