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## Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit

The Aleutians East Borough Natural Resources Department (NRD) intends to sponsor two local young fishers to attend the eighth Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit, in Juneau on January 21 - 23, 2020. Applicants aged 18 to 35 will be selected for AEB funded travel based on documented involvement in the fishing industry and a one-page letter of interest to attend the Summit. As part of the AEB funded trip to the AYFS, the Borough would provide round-trip travel from the home Borough community to Juneau, lodging in Juneau during the AYFS, and AYFS registration.

To apply for an AEB funded scholarship to attend AYFS 2020, interested young fishers should submit a letter of interest and a summary of fishing industry experience to the Borough Clerk Tina Anderson by 4PM, Monday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Application materials can be submitted in person at the Borough office in Sand Point, by FAX to 907-383-3496, or by email to [tanderson@aeboro.org](mailto:tanderson@aeboro.org). Additional information on the AYFS can be found at <https://alaskaseagrant.org/event/2020-alaska-young-fishermens-summit/>. AYFS registration opens September 25th.

The Aleutians East Borough NRD is planning to fundraise for the 2020 AYFS scholarship by holding a raffle for prizes including cases of locally processed seafood. Raffle tickets will be available beginning in October for \$10 each at AEB offices in Sand Point, King Cove and Anchorage. Drawings for the cases of seafood and other prizes will be held in December.



## Southwest Businesses Awarded Grant Funding for Energy Efficiency Upgrades

*By Laura Vaught, SWAMC Energy Coordinator*

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced on Aug. 19 that it is investing \$9.3 million through the Rural Energy for America (REAP) program for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects across the nation. USDA's REAP program is an annual competitive grant program. Click HERE for the list of awarded businesses.

Five of the grants awarded are to fishing vessel owners of the Bristol Bay fleet who are planning to use the funds to upgrade their vessels with Refrigerated Seawater (RSW) chilling systems and other energy efficiency equipment. These five business owners were able to access the USDA grant funds after participating in SWAMC's Commercial Building Energy Audit program, which covers 75% of the cost of an energy audit for businesses (including buildings and commercial fishing vessels) in the SWAMC region. After receiving their energy audit, the vessel owners were eligible to apply to the REAP grant for funding to cover 25% of the cost of the energy efficiency upgrades identified in the audit.

SWAMC is still offering reduced cost energy audits for eligible businesses! Visit our energy website [www.southwestAKenergy.org](http://www.southwestAKenergy.org) to learn more and register for an audit. Building owners seeking to reduce operating costs and commercial fishing vessel owners seeking to upgrade from slush ice to an RSW system should consider applying.

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