... PROTECTING THE COOK INLET WATERSHED & THE LIFE IT SUSTAINS

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Inletkeeper Celebrates 15 Years Protecting Cook Inlet Watershed

Advocacy, Law, Science & Citizen Support Keys to Success

It started in 1994, when a small group of Alaska Natives, scientists, fishermen and activists came together over their shared and growing concern for the rapid ecological changes unfolding in Cook Inlet. The 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill was still painfully fresh, and Cook Inlet residents had grown tired of industry's indiscriminate dumping and the government's refusal to

act. Rather than sit on the sidelines and hope for the best, these Alaskans decided to act. They looked around, and decided the Waterkeeper model – started on the Hudson River in the 1970's - would be the best fit for an area that needed hard-nosed advocacy, smart science and hefty legal muscle. They formed Cook Inletkeeper, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Alaska's Cook Inlet watershed and the



cated to protecting Alaska's Waterkeeper Alliance President Bobby Cook Inlet watershed and the Kennedy rallies the crowd at Inletkeeper's vessel christening event in 1998.

life it sustains. Soon after, in 1995, Inletkeeper received settlement proceeds from a Clean Water Act lawsuit against Cook Inlet oil and gas operators which allowed Inletkeeper to hire permanent staff.

Fifteen years later, Cook Inletkeeper has a long list of achievements under its belt, and it continues to lead the way in a smart and effec-

tive movement to change business as usual throughout the Cook Inlet watershed. By tying a holistic watershed approach to corporate and government accountability, personal responsibility and sustainable economic arguments, Inletkeeper emphasizes the inherent value of our lands, rivers, and ocean, and works to ensure our development today does not undermine our childrens' needs tomorrow.

(Continued on page 10)

Governor Parnell Hears Clear Message About Chuitna Coal Mine: There Oughta Be a Law Against Mining Through a Salmon Stream

Delaware based PacRim Coal LLC continues to press forward with its plans to develop the Chuitna coal strip mine on the western

shore of Cook Inlet near the communities of Tyonek and Beluga. If developed the Chuitna coal strip mine would be the largest coal mine in Alaska producing 12 million annually for years or more for export to Asian coal fired power plants.

PacRim's mining plan establishes a dangerous precedent by directly mining through and completely removing 11 miles of important salmon spawning and rearing habitat of Middle Creek, one of

Dennis Gann, and Chuitna Citizens Coalition's Judy Heilman and Bobbi Burnett give Governor Parnell a petition opposing the Chuitna coal strip mine signed by over 1500 Alaskans.

the primary tributaries of the Chuitna River. The Chuitna has been described as the "Kenai of the West Side" due to its prolific king salmon and other fisheries. In public comments, Governor Parnell has stated he would never "trade one resource for another," yet the PacRim proposal will trade sustainable salmon (Continued on page 3)

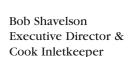
Letter From YOUR Cook Inletkeeper

Then I accepted the job as your Cook Inletkeeper in 1995, I never dreamed I would be writing to you from an overnight in China, surveying Waterkeeper programs and the monumental pollution battles they're waging. Through international trade agreements and global commerce. China has assumed the role as the world's manufacturing hub. That's because China's lax environmental rules and low wage labor make it the perfect location to produce low priced products that maximize corporate profits and make consumer items more available at places like Walmart. But the costs to human health and the environment are staggering. Today I toured villages where children played in toxic slag heaps; I saw rivers running yellow, green and orange with pollution; and air pollution blocked out the sun in every major city. And while China's labor and environmental conditions may seem deplorable by Western standards, they're simply emulating the very economic and development models the U.S. relied upon to rise to prosperity. But these models ignore some vital realities. For example, how can we have perpetual growth - a Wall Street and World Bank necessity - when we operate on a finite natural resource base? In 1800, the planet supported roughly 1 billion people; today, we're approaching 7 billion. And like the Chinese worker toiling in the toxic factory, most of these people aspire to the highly consumptive lifestyle found in the U.S. So, we have more and more people,



consuming more and more resources. Yet the natural resources fueling our economies – oil, gas, coal, ore - are finite and continue to decline. It's not difficult to see something has to give. The Board and staff at Cook Inletkeeper have been working for the past 15 years to ensure the things that matter most – our families, our communities, clean air and clean water, and healthy fisheries – have a strong foothold in the battle for our planet. With your support, we'll continue to fight to protect our right to a world we can be proud to pass on to our kids.

Yours for Cook Inlet,





Inletkeeper 15th Anniversary Time Capsule Project

When a group of committed Alaskans started Cook Inletkeeper in 1995, broad-based concerns about climate change were in their infancy. Today, we know the challenges posed by climate change are some of the most pressing on the planet. As we proceed into the 21st century, we'll continue to experience rapid change, and it's important to remember the past so we don't repeat our ecological, political and economic mistakes. To commemorate Cook Inletkeeper's 15th anniversary – and to help preserve some of the most important stories, trends and lessons for future generations – we're

collecting items for a time capsule. The time capsule is specially designed to withstand moisture, mold and related environmental conditions. Inletkeeper staff and Board will bury the capsule on the property of the Kachemak Bay Conservation Center, with instructions to open it in 2025. We're collecting news stories, reports, opinion pieces and any other memorabilia related to Inletkeeper, clean water, energy, climate change, population or development. To take part in the time capsule project, contact Joan at 907.235.4068 x21 or joan@inletkeeper.org.





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ENERGY/ADVOCACY

Governor Parnell Hears Clear Message About Chuitna Coal Mine (cont. from page 1)

runs for the short term extraction of dirty coal. The State of Alaska has yet to allow a mining project to dig up a salmon stream but there is no law that prevents state agencies from permitting the removal of salmon streams. Even though the Alaska Department of Fish and Game identifies Middle Creek as 'important to salmon' this project continues to press forward.

As a coal strip mine project, PacRim will not just be operating on the surface but intends to dig down 350 feet, completely removing the streambed from bank-to-bank, completely removing the underlying soil and rock. This process will destroy the underlying hydrologic system without the possibility of ever restoring the ecological function. It is the intact, complex, underground hydrology that provides a year-round upwelling of water keeping the streambeds from freezing, critical for salmon eggs to survive the winter. If the state permits this irresponsible mining proposal then PacRim's Chuitna coal strip mine will destroy Middle Creek, its salmon runs, additionally impacting all downstream reaches of the Chuitna Watershed and even spilling into Cook Inlet. Scientific reports released last year prove it will be virtually impossible to restore the Chuitna watershed to its premining ecological functions and values.

Cook Inlet sport and commercial fisheries provide a billion dollars annually in economic activity, a significant portion of this directly from salmon, yet Alaska does not have a law that clearly bans mining though salmon steams. The authority to protect salmon streams from mining impacts is discretionary, putting at risk one of the pillars of our state's economy.

To support the health of our salmon fisheries and our local economies go to www.obviouslaw.org and sign the petition because 'There Oughta Be A Law Against Mining Through A Salmon Steam.' To learn more, go to www.chuitna.org and www.alaskacoal.org, or contact Dennis Gann, Inletkeeper Coal Organizer, at dennis@inletkeeper.org or 907.929.9371.



Editorial: Gulf Tragedy Highlights Irony in Cook Inlet Drilling Incentives

Law Would Give Oil Industry up to 100% Rebate on Drilling Costs

n April 20, the "state-of-the-art" semisubmersible drilling rig Horizon burst into flames after blow-out prevention devices failed to function. On Earth Day, April 22, the rig sank. 11 workers died, and as of this writing, the well is spewing anywhere from a quarter million to a million gallons a day of crude oil into important fisheries habitats. The primary operator - British Petroleum - has a long string of regulatory violations in Alaska, and it allegedly fought rules to enhance blow-out safeguards in the Gulf. Now, for Alaskans, we're watching the horror of Massive subsidies for offshore drilling in Cook Inlet come in the wake

ecosystems and communities. This tragedy comes on the heels of the Obama Administration's recent announcement to expand offshore oil and gas drilling off the Lower 48, and to press forward with additional exploration in Cook Inlet and the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas.

In Alaska, Governor Parnell is poised to sign SB 309, which would dole out up to a 100% subsidy - at a value up to \$25 million - to the first oil company that drills a well in Cook Inlet waters. Lesser rebates would be available for subsequent wells. The bill passed the Alaska legislature with only two dissenting votes. At a time when Tea Party activists are condemning government spending, and when free market principles are frequently heralded as the savior of our economic woes, it's especially ironic for the State of Alaska to be distorting our markets with massive subsidies to well-heeled oil corporations in the wake of the Horizon tragedy.

Clearly, the geology, technology and other conditions are very different in Cook Inlet compared to the Gulf. And while little oil has spilled in the three recorded well blow outs in Cook Inlet, the



another Exxon Valdez unleashed on Gulf of the horrendous Horizon drill rig tragedy in the Gulf of Mexico.

reserves with unknown formation pressures. To make matters worse, Cook Inlet is woefully unprepared for a blow-out. Regulatory reforms after the Exxon Valdez required industry to prove the ability to stop a blow-out. But starting around 2002, state regulators under pressure from industry began to rollback requirements for relief wells in the event blow-out prevention failed. Relief wells

potential for blow-out related

spills remains in Cook Inlet, espe-

cially if drillers target new, deeper

function by intersecting the blow-out well, and injecting cements and other heavy materials to quell the blow-out. The three previous blow-outs in Cook Inlet mobilized relief well capacities, and industry is scrambling right now in the Gulf to do the same.

But in Cook Inlet, there is no requirement for industry to drill a relief well, and if a corporation opts to pursue the incentives offered by SB 309, it will only bring one new jack-up drilling rig to Cook Inlet - not a second one to drill a relief well if needed.

The Exxon Valdez brought about some much needed reforms, and the Horizon tragedy will presumably do the same. But as time passes and complacency sets back in, relentless pressure from industry to maximize profits invariably erodes the safeguards common sense and experience show we need. Since its inception, Cook Inletkeeper has worked to halt the regulatory backsliding that creates dangerous conditions for workers and undue threats to our fisheries. Our hearts go out to the people and the communities in the Gulf, in the wake of the Horizon tragedy, we will continue our work with renewed vigor.

COOK INLETKEEPER PAGE 3

Inletkeeper Knows the Only Constant is Change

A Fresh Brand, Technology Upgrade and a New Strategic Plan

This year, Cook Inletkeeper celebrates 15 years of working for clean water and healthy communities. Behind the scenes, a dedicated team pours heart and soul into fulfilling its mission to protect Alaska's Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains. A lot has changed in 15 years. In this modern age we find much of the work we do is heavily supported by technology. Science Director Sue Mauger compiles over 1.2 million data points each field season for the Salmon Stream Monitoring Program. Development Director Mike Allen manages more than 40 grants and contracts, 1000 members and many more prospective members. Rachel Lord, Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator, manages more than 30 volunteers for the Citizen Environmental Monitoring Program and Beach Monitoring program. The Inletkeeper servers hold countless files and those files represent an irreplaceable history.

In 2010 Inletkeeper is updating its approach to the use of technology by rolling out a new website and upgrading the hardware and software used to support the work we do. The upgrade of our technology infrastructure will put us in an even stronger position to serve our mission.

In recognition of 15 years of excellence, Cook Inletkeeper has given Sedna - the mythological mermaid depicted in our logo - a makeover. The new logo pays homage to our roots while respecting our heritage. You will notice her debut on the pages of this newsletter.

Every five years, Cook Inletkeeper board and staff gather for a strategic planning session to assess performance over the previous five years and to layout the next five years. As we learn more about climate change and emerging problems like ocean acidification, the importance of our mission becomes even more evident. This spring we kick off a new five-year strategic planning session with the board meeting on Memorial Day weekend. The six-month process concludes in December.

Join Us in Celebrating Cook Inletkeeper's 15th Anniversary!

Cook Inletkeeper will celebrate its 15th year anniversary while hosting a Beach Benefit Bash on the Homer Spit Sunday, May 30th from 4 to 9 PM. Kachemak Shellfish Growers Association has generously donated the deck of its new oyster building across from the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon for the festivities.

Businesses around Kachemak Bay are rallying to show their appreciation of Inletkeeper's 15 years of service and the Beach Benefit promises to be the place to be on Memorial Day weekend. There will be live bands, hot seafood chowder, cold beer, apple cyser and oysters galore! Bring your family for hot dogs on the grill, free

face painting and popcorn and while you're there see who can last the longest on the always popular bucking salmon! Don't forget to bring an item to be considered for inclusion in the Inletkeeper time capsule and help kick off the next 15 years of clean water and good living on Cook Inlet.

Inletkeeper Helps Expose the Dick Bass - Snowbird - Chuitna Coal Connection

Dick Bass is best known as the first Mountaineer to climb the 7 summits, the highest point on each of the continents. He's also the sole owner of Snowbird Ski resort in Utah; a resort claiming a commitment to environmental stewardship and the recipient of numerous environmental awards.

The Ski and Snow sports industry recognizes global warming as a serious threat to the global environmental landscape and their economic well being. That's why they've launched efforts to support climate change legislation and reduce their industry's carbon emissions through renewable energy, energy efficiency, and building retrofits.

However, Dick Bass' plans here in Alaska will undo all of his Ski Industry peers efforts in reducing carbon emissions. Bass is half owner of PacRim Coal, the Delaware Corporation seeking permits to develop the Chuitna coal strip mine. When burned, the coal from PacRim's Chuitna coal strip mine will create 54 billion pounds of CO2 per year – the equivalent annual CO2 emissions of 4.5 million cars.

Cook Inletkeeper has joined with Sierra Club, Earthworks, Protect Our Winters, Chuitna Citizens Coalition, and the Ski Areas Citizens' Coalition in launching a new campaign and website, found at www.nobasscoal.org. NOBASSCOAL was created to show the link between coal in Alaska and global climate change, and the impact on the ski industry. It's time for Dick Bass to divest of his interest in the coal business and show the same sustainable vision for the Chuitna watershed as he does for Snowbird.

In January 2010, Inletkeeper's Coal Organizer Dennis Gann visited Snowsports Industry tradeshows in Salt Lake City and Denver to raise awareness of the irony of Dick Bass promoting an Alaska coal strip mining project while his Ski Industry peers are working to lower their carbon footprints. Dennis was joined by Inletkeeper's Communications Director Michael Sharp for the Denver show.

Dennis will be conducting a workshop on Coal Mining Threats on Our Nation's Waterways at River Network's National River Rally at Snowbird Ski Resort in May. This offers a unique opportunity to highlight PacRim's Chuitna coal strip mine impacts upon the Chuitna Watershed before individuals from across the country in the watershed protection movement. For more information, go to www.nobasscoal.org or contact Dennis Gann at dennis@inletkeeper.org or 907.929.9371.

Mt. Spurr Geothermal Project Moving Forward

World Class Renewable Energy Resources in Our Backyard

ook Inletkeeper views climate change as the most pressing socio-economic issue facing the planet today, and we know we have to move rapidly to a low carbon energy future before we push things too far. While Cook Inlet contains sizable coal, oil and gas reserves, it also boasts a worldclass concentration of clean, renewable energy resources, including wind, tidal, hydropower and geothermal sources. In November 2009, Inletkeeper met with Ormat Technologies, Inc. to discuss its plans to explore leases on Mt. Spurr, an active volcano on the west side of Cook Ormat's Mt. Spurr geothermal project could add 60 megawatts of Inlet, for a potential geothermal energy renewable power for Southcentral Alaska customers. project. Ormat secured roughly 35,000



acres for geothermal exploration at Mt. Spurr in a 2008 state lease sale. Inletkeeper was impressed with Ormat's proven technology and their commitment to minimizing impacts to water quality and fish habitat, and as a result, Inletkeeper supports Ormat's efforts to explore its Mt. Spurr leases for geothermal energy pro-

duction. In April, the Alaska Legislature passed SB 243, which if signed by the Governor as expected - will lower royalty rates and allow better consumer access to geothermal power. Projects such as Ormat's not only avoid the greenhouse gas emissions associated with coal, oil and gas combustion, but they also save money because the cost of energy to consumers remains constant over the 25-50 year life of the project. The Inletkeeper Board will receive a presentation from Ormat at its board meeting in Homer in May

2010, and we'll continue to search for ways to help put renewable energy into the Railbelt energy grid's power portfolio. For more information about Ormat and the Mt. Spurr Project, go to www.ormat.com.

2010 Tidebooks Available Now

Every year Cook Inletkeeper publishes its unique tide book containing an insert that promotes stewardship among boaters and beach walkers. In addition to the daily occurrence of low and high tide events in Southcentral Alaska, the tide book contains helpful tips on how to practice clean boating and avoid marine pollution. It also includes tips on how to prevent and remove marine debris, a guide to practicing beach etiquette, information about the Cook Inlet beluga whale, and information about the Alaska Clean Harbors Initiative. Several area businesses support Cook Inletkeeper's tide book, serving as distribution centers for the publication. If you would like to support the tidebook next year, or receive a 2010 tidebook, contact Mike at 907-235-4068, x27 or michael@inletkeeper.org.

Inletkeeper and AYEA Develop First Youth Summit on Coal in Alaska

ook Inletkeeper recently worked with Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) to develop the first-ever Youth Summit on Coal in Alaska. We brought together 20 young

Alaskans - from 8th graders to seniors in high school - from across Alaska including the Native Villages of Point Lay, Noatak, and Tyonek, and the communities of Seward and Homer - to Hatcher's Pass for a weekend learning experience.

The Summit strived to educate and mobilize these future leaders by enhancing their understanding of coal in Alaska, and to provide them handson learning tools to recognize the implications of developing our vast coal resources. Workshops, speakers, and demonstration projects helped

round-out the Summit agenda. These ambitious students enjoyed the opportunity to hear from environmental leaders about the connection between coal development in Alaska and the subse-

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) inspires and trains youth leaders to become our leaders of tomorrow.

quent impacts to climate change, fish and game habitat, water quality, and human health. Additionally, State Agency personnel covered the role of regulators on permitting and oversight, and resource development spokespersons offered their view of the benefits of resource extraction. All in all, the AYEA students received a well-rounded perspective on coal in Alaska, and we're confident they'll take these lessons with them as they embark on promising futures. For more information on AYEA, see www.ayea.org.

WATERSHED WATCH

Overwhelming Citizen Support for Additional Beluga Whale Protections

Governor Cites "War" on Alaska from Feds; Inletkeeper Assigned to Whale Recovery Team

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) opened a public comment period in December 2009, and followed it up with public hearings around Cook Inlet in February 2010, to gauge public perspectives on a newly proposed critical habitat area rule for the endangered Cook Inlet beluga whale. Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), NMFS must define critical habitat for endangered species, and all federally permitted or funded projects must undergo NMFS consultations if a project may harm the whale or its habitat. Hearings in Soldotna, Homer, Wasilla and Anchorage resulted in strong public support for enhanced beluga whale protections, and Inletkeeper and its allies managed to drive over 110,000 pro-critical habitat comments to NMFS before the close of the public comment period.

Predictably, oil, gas and other corporate interests howled at the prospect of additional beluga safeguards, arguing to maintain the status quo, despite NMFS surveys showing the beluga whale population declined from 375 whales in 2007 and 2008, to 321 individuals in 2009. Governor Parnell has also taken up the corporate cause, decrying in his 2010 State of the State address the

ESA "war" waged by the federal government on Alaskan interests. The Alaska Legislature also got into the game, passing an anti-beluga joint resolution in the waning days of the last session. But under public pressure, the Legislature backed away from a proposal to spend \$1.5 million in public dollars on a slick public relations campaign designed to soften public support for beluga, polar bear and similar endangered species protections.

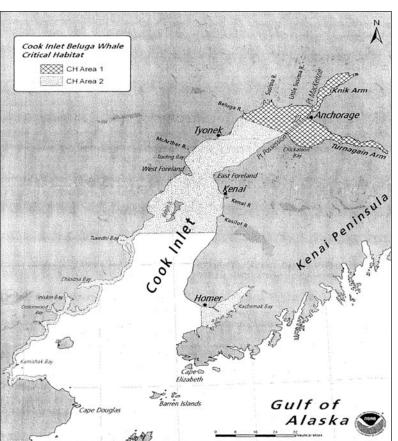
Despite rhetoric from whale protection opponents, ESA listings do not hamper responsible development. In fact, statistics compiled since the enactment of the ESA all establish that the federal agency consultation process does very little to block responsible projects. In 1992, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) reported that only twenty-three of 18,211

projects would jeopardize a listed species and had no reasonable alternative. Other reports have posted similar findings. Between 1987 and 1995, only an estimated 600 jeopardy or adverse modification findings were made in consultations on 186,000 projects. This is less than one-half a percent. Though only anecdotal data, the Fish & Wildlife Service stated that in fiscal year 1999, 12,000 informal consultations took place. Of the eighty-three formal consultations conducted in that year, only one resulted in an opinion that a species would be in jeopardy. More recently, the Fish & Wildlife Service reported that from 1998 to 2000, only 420 projects resulted in a "jeopardy" opinion out of more than 300,000 consultations.

Thus, the vast majority of projects entering the consultation process are resolved informally with a determination that no listed species will be impacted, and responsible development can occur in conjunction with a listing decision. Furthermore, even in the extremely rare instances when a project as proposed is terminated, nothing in the ESA prevents project proponents from re-configuring their projects so as to ameliorate ESA prob-

lems and then reapplying for relevant permits.

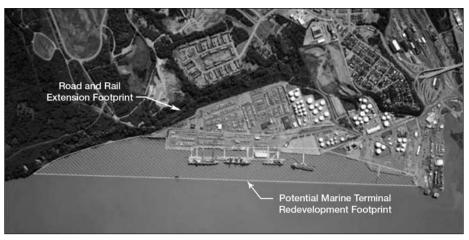
NMFS will hopefully issue a final critical habitat rule sometime later this year. In the meantime, NMFS has established a recovery team to help it develop a recovery plan designed to bolster the Beluga whale population. NMFS chose Inletkeeper to serve on the citizen advisory panel of the recovery team, and we selected long-time Inletkeeper member, author and beluga whale expert Nancy Lord to represent us in the proceedings. Cook Inletkeeper recognizes the Cook Inlet beluga whale as a vital strand in the ecological fabric that makes up the Cook Inlet ecosystem, and this ecosystem supports the economic and natural vitality of Southcentral Alaska. For more information, contact Bob at 907.235.4068 x22 or bob@inletkeeper.org.



Proposed critical habitat areas for the Cook Inlet beluga whale.

Port of Anchorage Expansion: Throwing Good Money After Bad

Cince 2004, Inletkeep-Oer has been working to ensure the proposed expansion at the Port of Anchorage makes good environmental and economic sense. No one argues the Port plays a vital role in regional and statewide commerce. But since the proposed expansion arose, Inletkeeper has posed two basic, fundamental questions: 1) What's the demonstrated need for an expansion this large? and



The Port of Anchorage expansion will fill 135 acres of beluga whale and salmon habitat.

2) How will it be paid for? Despite numerous letters, meeting and articles, Port Director Bill Sheffield - and the politicians who support him - have refused to respond to these most basic inquiries. The original expansion proposal was to cost around \$350 million; today, that figure is closer to \$1 billion. While the fiscal anomalies of this project continue to astound us, it was the project's environmental impacts that initially drew our attention. The project will fill 135 acres of beluga whale and salmon habitat, despite the fact viable alternatives exist to mitigate these impacts.

Now, we are learning that some of Inletkeeper's early concerns are coming to bear. For example, we've received recent reports that the massive sheet pile walls used to create the new

dock face are already failing, adding significant costs to construction and raising serious questions about the dock's seismic stability when loaded with cranes and freight. Furthermore - and perhaps more concerning - siltation continues to accelerate, with new shoals forming which will require tens of mil-

lions of dollars annual-

ly to dredge. As temperatures continue to warm, and as glacial recession creates larger sediment loads in Upper Cook inlet, concerns over dredging costs at the Port of Anchorage and Point Mackenzie across Kink Arm will only continue to grow. This session, the Alaska Legislature committed another \$20 million to the ill-fated Port of Anchorage expansion. So, next time you see your elected Senators or representatives, ask them why can the Port expansion destroy valuable salmon and whale habitat when viable alternatives exist, what's the need for an expansion this large, and how are we - the taxpayers - going to pay for it? For more information, contact Bob Shavelson at 907.235.4068 x22 or bob@inletkeeper.org.

Inletkeeper Joins Efforts to Reduce Fishing Impacts

Kenai & Kasilof Rivers Seeing Heavy Use During Dip Net Openings

ver the past several years, Inletkeeper has received an increasing number of reports of habitat and water quality problems associated with the personal use dip net fisheries on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers. These popular fisheries attract tens of thousands of users from across the state, and with such heavy use in a relatively small area over a short timeframe, it's not uncommon to see problems with trash and litter, trampled dune grass and other habitat areas, and human and animal wastes. In response, Inletkeeper contacted the Kenai Watershed Forum to discuss possible solutions, and soon KWF organized a small group - which became a much larger group - of stakeholders to start finding answers. In addition to KWF and Inletkeeper, the group now includes personal use, commercial and sport fishing interests; local governments; the Kasilof Historical Society and others. In March, the group sent a letter to Governor Parnell, asking for dedicated state staff and funding to address a variety of issues, including signage to keep users off sensitive dune and wetland habitats, and restrooms to prevent water pollution. This effort is in its infancy, but it's heartening to see groups which often do not

see eye-to-eye working on the things that bring them together: healthy salmon, clean water and sustainable habitat. For more information or to get involved, contact Bob Shavelson at 907.235.4068 x22 or bob@inletkeeper.org.



The popular dip net fisheries on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers are creating heavy user pressure. (photo: David and JoAnn Wichers)

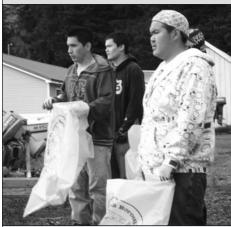
Inletkeeper Presses Forward With Work on Clean Harbor Certification

ver the winter, Inletkeeper's Rachel Lord has been working Collaboratively with harbors around the state to develop Alaska's first Clean Harbors program. Alaska's harbors are the gateway to our state's magnificent marine resources; but they are also vulnerable to a variety of pollution streams, from spilled fuel and discarded batteries to toxic bottom paints and sewage. Clean harbors programs are common in coastal and Great Lake states in the Lower 48, and the Alaska Clean Harbors program will provide harbor staff with free assistance to implement best management practices aimed at reducing pollution from routine boating and harbor activities. Alaska Clean Harbors can assist harbors in developing or improving recycling and hazardous waste collection capabilities, implementing education and outreach campaigns with harbor users to reduce oil and fuel spills, and working with everyone in the harbor to raise awareness of pollution issues. As a certified 'Clean Harbor', harbors have an opportunity to reduce clean-up and disposal costs, come into compliance with new and existing regulations, and market themselves as environmentallyresponsible businesses. A Clean Harbor Workgroup began this

work in Alaska in 2007; Alaska SeaGrant is currently publishing the Alaska Clean Harbor Guidebook that was created through that effort. Using the Guidebook and models from other successful programs, Inletkeeper is working with harbor stakeholders to develop a Clean Harbors program that will become an invaluable statewide resource to reduce pollutants in our marine environment. For feedback and to learn more about the needs of our harbors, Rachel traveled this winter to the annual Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators meeting in Kodiak, as well as to the southeast communities of Cordova, Juneau, and Sitka, to meet with harbormasters and port directors. Alaska Clean Harbors is moving forward with pilot projects this spring in Kachemak Bay with the Homer and Seldovia Harbors. The Homer Harbor has been involved in the Clean Harbors effort since the beginning. Next time you're out there check out the new recycling station, located between the harbormaster's office and the Salty Dawg! For more information, contact Rachel Lord at 907.235.4068 x29 or rachel@inletkeeper.org.

Upcoming Kachemak Bay Clean Harbors Day

Join Cook Inletkeeper this summer for the 2nd Annual Kachemak Bay Clean Harbors Day! Communities around Kachemak Bay will come together to clean up marine debris in their harbors and popular recreational areas. Last year we had over 40 volunteers from 4 communities helping out. Jay Greene of Nanwalek won the grand prize - a roundtrip ticket from Homer Air! If you live in Homer, Seldovia, Port Graham, or Nanwalek come and help out - enjoy some snacks, win a prize, and help reduce locally-produced marine debris in our Kachemak Bay!



Teens from Port Graham doing a beach clean-up.

Inletkeeper Member In Memoriam Columnist, UAA Professor John Strohmeyer

John Strohmeyer, who chronicled the demise of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania's turbulent steel industry and won a Pulitzer Prize for editorials dissipating racial tensions in that city, passed away this past March in Crystal River, Fla., where he spent his winters with his wife, Sylvia Broady.

Strohmeyer came to Alaska in 1987 as a nationally known journalist to fill the Atwood Chair of

Journalism at the University of Alaska Anchorage for two years, and stayed on as a writer-in-residence at the university and to fish the Kenai whenever possible. His latest book, "Fish, Politics and Avarice," is currently in production and chronicles the state of commercial and sport fishing in America. He wrote numerous columns and Compass pieces for the Anchorage Daily News. He also wrote two critically acclaimed books: "Crisis in Bethlehem: Big Steel's Struggle to Survive," on the decline of the steel industry, and "Extreme Conditions: Big Oil and the Transformation



of Alaska," as well as a history of Anchorage.

It was a 1970 bar fight that marked his career when Bethlehem police beat Puerto Rican and African-American teenagers and arrested the director of a local youth center after an unrelated brawl among white men erupted at a nearby tavern and spilled onto the street. As the editor of the Bethlehem Globe-Times, Strohmeyer

crafted a series of editorials that would later earn him the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing. He defended the youth center director, who had been charged with conspiracy, lambasted the city police – especially the chief for personally participating in the beatings – and chided the city for refusing to investigate the incident.

John Strohmeyer was an avid supporter of Cook Inletkeeper and as one of our many member heroes, he will be sorely missed.



Navy plans expanded test bombing in Gulf of Alaska fisheries

National security is vital to Alaskan and U.S. interests. But how far should we go before national security trumps the health and sustainability of our vibrant and valuable fisheries? The U.S. Navy is planning to expand military training exercises across 42,000 square miles of the Gulf of Alaska, which would involve a massive armada with live fire munitions, hazardous waste dumping and underwater sonar known to harm fish and marine mammals. Now, the Navy wants permission from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act to "take" over 425,000 marine mammals each year for five years.

The U.S. Navy released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in late 2009 covering various alternatives for continuing to use the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and its rich fisheries as a military bombing range and training area. The Navy plans to introduce – for the first time – extensive sonar training in the GOA; its preferred alternative would use many different sources of active sonar, totaling over 1,160 hours of sonar use every year. The Navy also plans to abandon at least 352,000 pounds of spent material (both hazardous and non hazardous) in the GOA every year; over 10,300 pounds of this expended material is hazardous waste. These proposed sonar training activities would pose significant risk to whales, fish, and other wildlife that depend on sound for breeding, feeding, navigating, and avoiding predators—in short, for their survival. The GOA training activities would also affect fisheries and essential fish habitat by releasing large amounts of hazardous and expended materials into the waters.

Inletkeeper submitted comments on this proposal and will continue to inform its members and the public as it moves forward. For more information, contact Bob Shavelson at 907.235.4068 x22 or bob@inletkeeper.org and see http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/permits/goa_loa_application.pdf.

RESEARCH AND MONITORING

Are Stream Temperatures Warmer Now Than in the Recent Past?

Inletkeeper Continues Ground-Breaking Work on Salmon & Climate Change

Temperature is perhaps the most important variable for salmon health. Yet our ability to understand how Alaska's salmon streams respond to climate change is greatly hampered by our lack of data. We have very limited historical water temperature data to determine if temperatures are warmer now than in the last century. However, as we collect more present-day water and air temperature data through Cook Inletkeeper's Stream Temperature Monitoring Network, we are gaining valuable information to help deduce water temperatures years ago in our important salmon streams.

For example, on the lower Anchor River - where we have been collecting water temperature data since 2002 - we can develop a relationship between air temperature data from the Homer Airport. NOAA's National Data Center has information available from this site starting in

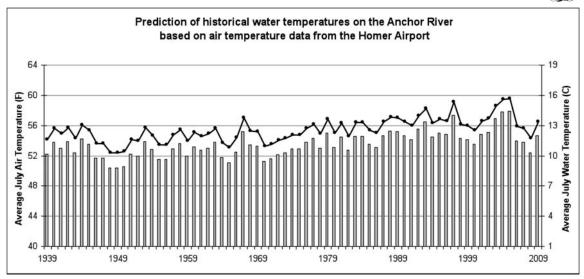
the 1930s. Based on the airwater relationship from 2002-2009, we can come up with a likely prediction of what water temperatures have been in the Anchor River for the last 70 years using the historical air temperature record.

The graph below shows the likely average water temperature (C) in July in the lower Anchor River, based on average air temperature data in July from the Homer Airport. From these data, we can see stream temperatures

have only recently been consistently above 13 degrees Celsius. In fact during the last 30 years, 70% of average July water temperatures were likely above 13 degrees, while only 8% of the previous 40 years were likely above 13 degrees.

Is 13 degrees relevant for the health of salmon? 13 degrees Celsius is Alaska's upper thermal limit set to protect spawning areas, egg and fry incubation. So, when temperatures get above 13, salmon become stressed, and stressed salmon can become more vulnerable to pollution, predation and disease.

As we continue to collect temperature data in salmon streams across the Cook Inlet watershed in 2010, we are gaining the information necessary to understand which streams have been affected the fastest by climate change so far and can then prioritize where to focus our efforts for stream restoration and protection in the future.



COOK INLETKEEPER PAGE 9

Inletkeeper Celebrates 15 Years Protecting Cook Inlet Watershed (cont. from page 1)



Inletkeeper's skiff provides an effective on-the-water presence.

1994: A group of fishermen, artists, Alaska Natives, scientists and activists met in Homer to conduct workshops and to brainstorm the formation of a new group.



While it's impossible

to list everything Cook

Inletkeeper has achieved

over the past 15 years,

some of the more notable

accomplishments include:

Nanwalek Dancers.



Inletkeeper played a leading role curtailing coalbed methane development in the MatSu Valley.

1995: Cook Inletkeeper officially recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Inletkeeper receives settlement proceeds from Clean Water Act citizen lawsuit alleging over 4200 violations by Unocal, Shell & Marathon.

1996: Inletkeeper hired first paid staff; organized more than 500 people to meet with Alaska's Governor, and reduced a pro-



Science Director Sue Mauger leads Inletkeeper's groundbreaking salmon and climate change research.

posed 2 million acre offshore oil and gas lease sale to actual leasing of just over 2,000 acres. Today only a few federal leases – all drilled from onshore near Anchor Point – are in play.

1997: Inletkeeper established Alaska's first agency-approved citizen-based water quality monitoring program. Using stringent protocols, Inletkeeper and its



Inletkeeper helps hundreds of citizens speak out against offshore oil development.

ment decisions.

partner organiza-

tions have trained

over 500 citizens to

collect scientifically

defensible data to

guide better resource manage-

1998: Inletkeeper teamed with Tribal plaintiffs to force the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct the first-ever studies on toxic pollutants in traditional Native subsistence foods in Cook Inlet. The studies showed the same types of toxics in fish and shellfish as those found in industry discharges.

1999: Inletkeeper prevailed in litigation which deleted over

600,000 acres of sensitive beluga whale habitat from the State's annual 4.2 million acre areawide oil and gas lease sale. This was the first effort to define and protect critical beluga whale habitat.



Inletkeeper's hybrid vehicle and solar panel are important for forging a sustainable future.



Inletkeeper has worked with Alaska Natives around Cook Inlet to protect subsistence foods.

2000: Inletkeeper organized a monumental grassroots effort to restrict jetskis in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area – an important Native subsistence area and now the world's largest jetskifree zone.



Inletkeeper worked with AMCC and others to get boats and mariners to form an urgent message about ocean acidification.

2001: Released the first-ever technical critique of Cook Inlet pipeline safety, leading to new rules and oversight policies that have reduced spills and leaks over 90%.

2002: Inletkeeper set a vital precedent by litigating to stop the operator of the newest offshore oil platform in Cook Inlet from discharging toxic oil wastes during exploration work into important fisheries and Native subsistence resources.

2003: Inletkeeper established the first scientific research project in the world designed to gather long range data on climate change impacts to salmon streams. Today this project monitors over 45 sites throughout the Cook inlet basin.



Inletkeeper's novel water quality laboratory links citizens and scientists to protect Cook Inlet.



Inletkeeper's broad base of support helps define its success. 1998 vessel christening event, Homer.

2004: Inletkeeper organized Native Tribes, fishing groups and others to oppose a 2.5 million acre offshore oil and gas lease sale, leading to no industry bids and a cancelled sale.

2005: Inletkeeper co-led the fight to drive coalbed methane development from Southcentral Alaska, and helped push companies to relinquish over 300,000 acres of coalbed methane leases in the state's most populated areas.

2006: Inletkeeper created a new, broad-based coalition to protect the dwindling Cook Inlet beluga whale population, and organized citizens to stop the proposed Chuitna coal strip mine, the largest industrial project ever proposed for Cook Inlet.



Inletkeeper's watchdog role on oil and gas issues has led to marked improvements. Bob Shavelson "pigging" a pipeline on an oil platform.

2007: Inletkeeper organized over 25 groups and tribes under the auspices of the Alaska Coal Working Group to elevate coal as a primary issue in Alaska's energy dialogue.

2008: Inletkeeper and its partners secured an Endangered Species Act listing for the Cook Inlet beluga whale.



Inletkeeper's organizing work plays an important role motivating citizens to act.

2010: Inletkeeper is spearheading Alaska's first Clean Harbors initiative, designed to provide municipalities and users with the tools they need to reduce boatbased pollution around the state.



Citizens put art into action by highlighting connection between coal, climate and salmon. Homer, 2009.

2009: Inletkeeper and its partners successfully persuaded the Homer Electric Association to pull out of the short-sighted Healy Coal plant and to explore renewable energy options instead.



Our volunteer monitors are the heart & soul of our water quality monitoring program. Anne Wieland.



Inletkeeper is playing a lead role to keep Alaska's coal in the ground. Chuitna coal mine press conference, Anchorage, 2007.

COOK INLETKEEPER

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Update

ver the winter, Inletkeeper's Outreach and Monitoring Coordinator Rachel Lord spent some quality time with our Environmental Citizens' Monitoring Program (CEMP) database - over 2,900 site visits at 122 sites around the Kachemak Bay and Anchor River watersheds. Working with Inletkeeper Science Director Sue Mauger, they revisited past efforts to refine Inletkeeper's stated CEMP goals: to inventory baseline water quality, track trends and changes over time, and raise awareness of water quality issues through hands-on involvement. Using the 2003 CEMP Effectiveness Report as a guideline, Inletkeeper has developed an exciting 5-year strategic plan that refines and strengthens our monitoring program. Check out the April 2010 edition of the Monitor News on our website for a site-bysite breakdown for the next 5 years!





CEMP Partnership Gathers at Annual Meeting

Inletkeeper Serves as "Hub" for Watershed-Wide Monitoring Efforts

The Citizens' Environmental Monitoring **■** Project (CEMP) Partnership Southcentral Alaska met in February at the University of Alaska Anchorage for our annual meeting, training, and recertification. Every year Inletkeeper brings together its partners to recertify CEMP coordinators in consistent sampling protocols, train new coordinators, and discuss Partnership business. This year the Partners in attendance were: Cook Resurrection Inletkeeper, Conservation Alliance, Anchorage Waterways Council, Mat-Su Borough Lake Monitoring Program, Wasilla Soil and Water

Conservation District, and the UAA Environment and Natural Resources



CEMP Coordinators get recertified at UAA in Anchorage.

and recertification facilitated by Dan Bogan, Aquatic Ecologist at UAA. The Partnership has developed regional continuity in data collection protocols and data management since 1997 in the Cook Inlet watershed, making it the most established and credible program in Alaska. For 2010, we are working together toward identifying funding opportunities for regional citizen-based water quality monitoring and to develop CEMP environmental education programs. For more information, contact Rachel Lord at 907.235.4068 x29 or Rachel@inletkeeper.org.

Institute. We met for 2 days, with training



Researchers Discuss Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation

In February, Inletkeeper's Science Director took part in a panel discussion and workshop: "Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation", hosted by the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve's Coastal Training Program and the Alaska Marine Conservation Council. The purpose of this event was to provide the public and decision-makers an opportunity to hear about the impacts of climate change to the Kenai Peninsula from experts in the field of climate science, adaptation, policy, and economics. One of the highlights of the workshop was Steve Colt's Five Economic Ideas for Adapting to Climate Change. The audience was fully engaged as Colt, with the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), discussed various ideas, including: "The cost of doing nothing is almost surely not zero" and "We must put a price on greenhouse gas emissions to change our behavior". To see the presentations by ISER's Steve Colt and Inletkeeper's Sue Mauger, please go to:http://www.habitat.adfg.state.ak.us/index.cfm/FA/educationCoastal.news.

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INLETKEEPER

Help Make Us Better, Smarter, Stronger!!! Cook Inletkeeper 15th Anniversary Survey

Cook Inletkeeper is a member-supported and member-driven nonprofit organization. That's why we need to hear from you to help us focus on the most important issues in Cook Inlet, and to carry out our work in the most smart, efficient and effective way possible. Please take 10 minutes to answer the questions below. Then, just fold the questionnaire in thirds, and tape/staple and stamp to return to our office (we will also offer this survey online if you are on Inletkeeper's e-mail list or visit www.inletkeeper.org).

Confidentiality: The information provided here is for internal Inletkeeper business only; we will never sell, trade or otherwise give out any information provided in response to this questionnaire.

, ,	•
Background Information:	
• Gender: O Female O Ma	
• Age (Years): O Under 25 O 26-35	
	25 or more O 15-24 O 7-14 O Less than 7
• Residence (City/Locale):	
• Income range (\$): O 0-20k O 21k-3	
• Political affiliation: O Dem O Rep	O Green O Indep O Unaffiliated O Other
How often do you vote (circle one)?	
Local elections: 0% 25% 509	
State elections: 0% 25% 509	
National elections: 0% 25% 509	% 75% 100%
How many years have you been a member	of Cook Inletkeeper?
O 0-2 O 3-5 O 6-9	O Over 10
What is the most important reason you su	pport Cook Inletkeeper (select only one)?
O I believe in clean water & healthy salmon	pport door memory (controlly one).
O Cook Inletkeeper is effective	
O Cook Inletkeeper's staff & Board are compe	etent
O I like Cook Inletkeeper's blend of science,	
O Cook Inletkeeper stands up to powerful int	
O Other:	
What are the three most important things	Cook Inletkeeper does?
O Salmon Stream/Climate Change Monitoring	
O Clean Energy Advocacy (No Coal, Oil, Gas &	
O Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Program	
O Safe Drinking Water Project	O Toll-Free Pollution Hotline
O Bi-Annual Newsletters	O Action Alerts on Pressing Issues
O Annual Electronics Recycling Event	
What are the three most pressing environ	mental issues facing Cook Inlet?
O Cook Inlet beluga whale protection	O Oil & gas pollution
O Sewage discharges	O Urban (nonpoint) polluted runoff
O Coal mining & export	O Pebble mine export facility
O Climate change/ocean acidification	O Salmon stream protection
O Marine debris and solid waste/landfills	O Other:
	K Inletkeeper can do – that we are not already doing - to be more effective at
protecting fish and game habitat and prev	
protecting non-una game magnat and pre-	enting water politicals
Y	- 1
How many nonprofit organizations do you O 1-3 O 4-6 O 7-10 O More than 10	i donate to each year?
0 1-3 0 4-6 0 /-10 0 More than 10	
Of the nonprofits you support each year, I	now many focus on the environment?
O 1-3 O 4-6 O 7-10 O More than 10	
Do you use any of the following (check all	that apply)?
O Email O Facebook O My Spa	
• •	• • • •
If you checked "blogs" or "online newspapers," v	which ones do you regularly read?:

Have you gone to Cook Inletkeeper's webpage in the last (circle one): Year? Month? Week? Never?							
Do you receive Cook Inletkeeper email action alerts (circle one)? Yes No							
f yes, have you taken action in response to one in the past year? Yes No							
Please provide any additional comments – including comments on this survey:							
Fold Here							

Place Stamp Here

COOK INLETKEEPER P.O. BOX 3269 HOMER,AK 99603

Volunteer Spotlight

For our 15th Anniversary, Cook Inletkeeper wants to take this opportunity to thank ALL of our volunteers who have helped us through the years! 329 of you, all here in the Homer area, have been certified as Citizen Monitors for our Citizens' Environmental Monitoring Project (CEMP) (and through our CEMP Partners, we have helped train over 500 more volunteers throughout the Cook Inlet watershed!). You have spent nearly 6,000 hours in the field collecting water quality data on our streams. Currently there are 21 CEMP Monitors who have been monitoring for:

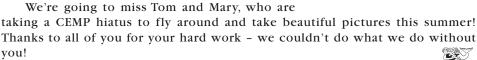
1-2 years: Jim Brown, Lee Dewees, Bob Burns & Judi Nestor, Marcus York, Carla Milburn, Sara Thompson, Holly Aderhold, and Adrien Knowles & Brad Phelps.

3-4 Years: Diana Carbonell, Will Schlein, and Todd Gustafson.

5 Years: Karen West, Frank Vondersaar.

8-10 Years: Jim Levine, Scott Miller, Kyra & Neil Wagner, Tom Collopy & Mary Frische.

13 years: Anne Wieland.





Recertification in the lab, 2007.



New volunteers Adrien Knowles and Brad Phelps during a rainy training in April.

Inletkeeper Welcomes New Intern

In June, Marcella Dent joins Inletkeeper's monitoring staff for a summer of water quality sampling, temperature monitoring, macro-invertebrate assessments, marine debris clean ups and opportunities to spread the word about the importance of clean water. Marcella, our 2010 Alaska Conservation Foundation (ACF) intern, was born and raised in Alaska and is the University of Alaska Anchorage's first undergraduate with a major in Environment &

Society. We look forward to providing Marcella with an exciting and interesting field season out on Kenai Peninsula's beaches and streams.

Welcome Marcella!



Marcella Dent

BEACH Monitoring Update

Inletkeeper Working to Ensure Safe Bacteria Levels at Area Beaches

nletkeeper began BEACH monitoring in **▲**2007 to ensure local beaches are safe for anyone coming into contact with our marine waters - from tidepoolers to kite boarders and kayakers. This nationwide program strives to protect public health at our recreational beaches. Beginning in April and continuing throughout the summer, Cook Inletkeeper staff and volunteers head out to Homer's beaches to collect weekly water samples which are analyzed in an Anchorage lab for potentially harmful bacteria. We currently sample at Land's End and Mariner Park, and beginning in July, we will also be sampling at Bishop's Beach. Inletkeeper has an agreement with the City of Homer to put out a public advisory, warning people of potential health risks, in the event of high bacteria levels. Contact Rachel Lord at 907.235.4068 x29 or Rachel@inletkeeper.org if you'd like to help out with this easy, fun and important monitoring effort!



Inletkeeper Continues Novel Well-Water Testing Project Safe drinking Water a Concern for Many Alaskan Households

▼n 2008, Inletkeeper lis-Ltened to member concerns, and established a wellwater outreach and testing program for residents on the Lower Kenai Peninsula. While many Alaskans living in urban areas get their drinking water from municipal treatment facilities, many others rely on private wells and springs for their household water supplies. In 2009 Inletkeeper's Safe Drinking Water program provided over 30 families on the Lower Kenai Peninsula with drinking water test kits and resources to learn more about potential contaminants in their private drinking water. Common health concerns in this area include high arsenic levels, bacteria, and nitrate contamination. Well owners

should be aware that some areas of bedrock under the Kenai Peninsula are known to contain arsenic, which is a known human carcinogen. Other concerns include bacteria and nitrate contamination that can come from failing septic systems or animal wastes. Due to the popularity of

this project, Inletkeeper is considering expanding it to other regions around Cook Inlet. For more information about this important project, contact Rachel Lord at 907.235.4068 x29 or rachel@inletkeeper.org.





Inletkeeper's drinking water testing program is attracting a growing number of concerned Alaskans.

EVENTS

Inletkeeper Visits Chinese Waterkeepers, Tours Industrial Sites

In April, Inletkeeper Bob Shavelson headed to China to collaborate with two Chinese Waterkeeper programs, review a possible new Chinese Waterkeeper program, and tour industrial sites to gain a better understanding of China's monumental pollution issues. "I



Scientific studies show that coal burned in China produces mercury that ends up in Alaska fish.

expected to find conditions crowded dirty," said Shavelson. "But I was not prepared for the ecological and human health sacrifices I witnessed." (See Letter from Your Cook Inletkeeper, page 2). Scientific studies increasingly confirm that pollution in China can have global implications. For example, a

recent U.S Geological Survey study showed how mercury from coal-fired power plants in China can reach Alaska fisheries through oceanic transport and atmospheric drift. China's booming economy is consuming vast amounts of coal, and as Alaskan regulators

consider permits for the Chuitna coal strip mine in Cook Inlet – which will export coal to China and other Asian countries – Cook Inletkeeper will continue to work with its colleagues in China to ensure our collective environment gets the protections we deserve.



Bob Shavelson presents China's most renown environmentalist, Ma Jun, with a copy of Jeff Goodell's book, "Big Coal."



2010 Electronic Recycling

The 2010 electronics recycling day on April 24 was a tremendous success by all measures. Lower Kenai Peninsula residents and businesses gathered on a Saturday to off-load, condense and palletize an entire semi-truck load of old electronics to ship to Total Reclaim in Anchorage for recycling. A dozen dedicated volunteers emptied vehicles, tallied weight sheets and stood in awe of the parade of outdated computers, clunky TVs, cell phones and broken photocopy machines that found their way to Spenard Builders parking lot for a new life. The sunny day was more than welcome after years of April snow showers for this popular event, and a record 21,182 lbs of "e-waste" has now been diverted from our landfill and from contaminating our precious waterways.

Worldwide estimates show that only 13 to 16% of all electronic waste is recycled. Over 4 years, Homer has recycled 54,135 pounds of electronic waste. Using the 13-16% figures, that means between 284,208 to 362,288 pounds of electronic waste has not been recycled within the community. Who knows what has been done with it.

Likely some is being reused, some is still sitting in garages and closets, and probably lots has gone into our landfill where it can leach toxic chemicals and heavy metals into our groundwater. Cook Inletkeeper's Electronics Recycling Project is making a difference.

This year, Gary Smith of Total Reclaim in Anchorage, who was here at the event with his wife Mel, estimated that we probably collected roughly 24 pallets, nearly filling that entire TOTE trailer sitting behind Spenards. This year's collection surpassed the previous four years' events. This is great news, but unfortunately, it's a sad commentary on all the waste that we have to deal with because of planned obsolescence.

The City of Homer brought in roughly 4,197 pounds, earning this year's top ewaste recycler distinction. HEA was second. This year 20 businesses and 107 households participated.

Many thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who spent their day working the event. This event is underwritten by Cook Inletkeeper, Total Reclaim, Spenard Builders Supply, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Eleven major sponsors and seven additional sponsors provided the necessary financial and donated support that helped make this event happen. Special thanks to Nina Faust for her fabulous work coordinating this important event!

2010	# Household:	s # Businesses/ Non-Profits		Total Weight (Lbs.) Collected
2006	61	11		12039
2007	69	11		10193
2008	83	16		12887
2009	109	22		19016
2010	107	20	Total	21182 75317

Come visit Cook Inletkeeper at these upcoming events:

Cook Inletkeeper 15th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, May 30th From 4pm to 9pm

On the Homer Spit at the Kachemak Shellfish Mariculture Association building

Kenai River Festival

Saturday, June 12 from 11am to 8pm Sunday, June 13 from 11am to 4pm Soldotna Creek Park in downtown Soldotna

Homer Council on the Arts Street Faire

Saturday, July 17th Homer Library

13th Annual Volunteer and Member Splash Bash

Wednesday July 28th from 6pm to 8pm Bishop's Beach in Homer

Alaska Renewable Energy Fair in Anchorage

Saturday, August 7, 2010 Denali Park Strip in Anchorage

The 2009 Cook Inletkeeper **Muckrakers Ball**

n December 5, 2009, over a hundred Alaskans joined Cook Inletkeeper in downtown Anchorage to crown "The Mudflats" blogger Jeanne Devon as the 2009 Muckraker of the

Each year, Cook Inletkeeper identifies a special Alaskan who reflects Inletkeeper's ideals of fairness, equity and accountability, and who personifies the spirit of "muckraking" - someone who speaks truth to power and works to hold our governments and corporations accountable - and bestows upon them "Muckraker of the Year Award."

For 2009, the Inletkeeper Board and staff needed little time to decide on a winner; they recognized Jeanne Devon for her outstanding public service "tiptoeing through the muck of Alaska politics" on her award-winning blog "The Mudflats," and for being a truly inspirational "citizen who is paying attention." Thanks for doing what you do, Jeanne! Visit The Mudflats at

www.themudflats.net.





Inletkeeper Bob Shavelson presents Muckraker of the Year Award to Jeanne Devon.

15 Ways to Help Cook Inletkeeper **During its 15th Anniversary!**

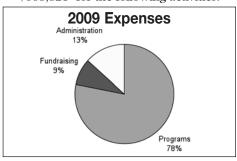
- 1. Attend our 15th Anniversary Party Celebration on Sunday, May 30, from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Kachemak Shellfish Mariculture Association building on the Homer Spit.
- 2. If you are contributing at the \$100 level, consider an anniversary contribution of \$150 for the Save Our Salmon challenge. The Endurance Fund will match 100% of any member contribution at that level or higher during our 15th Anniversary.
- 3. Ask 15 friends to join you in supporting Cook Inletkeeper.
- 4. Upgrade your membership by \$15.
- 5. Spend \$15 on a Cook Inletkeeper hat.
- 6. Take 15 minutes to write a letter to a decision maker or newspaper about an issue affecting the Cook Inlet watershed.
- 7. Volunteer to monitor a stream or a beach.
- 8. Take 15 minutes to learn why we need a law to stop mining through salmon streams and sign the petition at www.obviouslaw.org.
- 9. Spend 15 days a year in the field assisting Cook Inletkeeper's Science Director.
- 10. Wear a "No Chuitna Coal" button after learning how coal strip mining will destroy the Chuitna River in Cook Inlet.
- 11. Visit Cook Inletkeeper at an upcoming fair or event.
- 12. Take 15 minutes to report a water pollution problem to Cook Inletkeeper.
- 13. Make a special contribution to Cook Inletkeeper this year through a gift of appreciated stock.
- 14. Ask your financial advisor about planned giving to Cook Inletkeeper.
- 15. Tell 15 kids why it's important to protect Alaska's Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains!

A Snapshot of Cook **Inletkeeper's 2009 Finances**

In 2009 Cook Inletkeeper raised \$612,375* from the following sources:



In 2009 Cook Inletkeeper's expenses were \$668,821* for the following activities:



*Based on Cook Inletkeeper's un-audited 2009 revenue and expense figures

COOK INLETKEEPER PAGE 15

Thank You for Your Generous Business Contributions During the Past Year!

Ageya Homerstead Properties, LLC; Alaska Community Share; Alaska Conservation Solutions; Alaska Northern Lights; Alaska Personal Journeys; Alaska Retreat; Alaska Wildland Adventures Inc.; Alaskan Flower Essence Project; Already Read; Bay Excursions LLC; Best Western Bidarka; Black Water Bend; Blue Moon Marine; Boardwalk Fish & Chips; Boatyard Café; Brant General Contracting; Carpet World of Alaska, Inc.; Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies; Country Liquor; Deep Creek Charter Boat Association; Doctors Longevity Formula; F/V Kelsey; Fellows Fisheries, Inc.; Fishward Bound Adventures; Friends of Mat-Su; Good Karma Inn; Gwartney Rentals; Haas & Spigelmyer, Inc.; Homer Air; Homer Boat Yard; Homer Jeans; Homer Theatre; Homer Veterinary Clinic; Inlet Charters Across Alaska Adventures; K Bay Caffe Roasting Co.; Kachemak Bay Shellfish Growers; Kachemak Bay Wilderness Lodge; Kenai Watershed Forum; Kennedy Associates; Kirk Johnson, D.D.S., PC; K-N-S Marine; Loopy Lupine Distribution, LLC; Mako's Water Taxi; Marine Services of Alaska; Morning Wind Pottery; NEMA, Inc.; Nomar; North Country Charters; North Gulf Oceanic Society; Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC; Pioneer Alaskan Fisheries; Renewable Energy Alaska Project; Ring of Fire Meadery; Sadie Cove Lodge; Seaside Adventures; Seater & Company; Silver Fox Charters, The Lodge at Homer; Summer Song Honey Co.; The Brew Shop; The Grog Shop; The Peterson Bay Company, Inc.; Tom Hughes Graphic Design; Ulmer's Drug & Hardware; United Cook Inlet Drift Association.

Thank You Members for Your Awesome Support During 2009!

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Pick.Click.Give Campaign and 15th Anniversary Fundraising

This year the Permanent Fund Dividend's Pick.Click.Give program is offering a second chance to donate that lasts through May 31st. Cook Inletkeeper has had a record number of donors, and you will again have the opportunity to give to Cook Inletkeeper. In 2010, Cook Inletkeeper is celebrating its 15th Anniversary. As part of a fundraising match challenge from the Endurance Fund, Cook Inletkeeper is requesting those members who support the mission and can afford it, to give \$150 or more as part of the 15th Anniversary Membership Fundraising Drive. This drive officially began on November 1, 2009 and will continue through December 31, 2010. We believe we can easily meet the match challenge if 150 members each give \$150 between now and the end of our 15th Anniversary Year in December 2010.

Now with Pick.Click.Give donating is safe, secure, fun, easy, and it's available to all Alaskans who file on-line. When you go on-line to sign up for your dividend, you will see the option called PFD Charitable Contributions Program (Pick.Click.Give). Click and follow the instructions to make a donation. You can also provide your name and address, and if you do, we will thank you personally. You may give all or part of your dividend, whatever is appropriate for you and your family. More information is available at http://www.pickclickgive.org. Contact Inletkeeper's Development Director Mike Allen at michael@inletkeeper.org or 907.235.4068 x27 if you have any questions.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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YES! I want Cook Inletkeeper to continue its important work to protect the Cook Inlet watershed and the life it sustains! Please accept my tax deductible contribution in the amount of:

and the life it sustains! Ple	ease accept my tax deductible contribution in the	e amount of:
☐ \$ 25 Student/Senior ☐ \$ 50 Indiv	ridual ☐ \$ 75 Family ☐ \$ 100 Patron	☐ \$ 250 Founder
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	I would like to volunteer for:	
☐ Events/Booths	☐ Graphics/Photography ☐ Mai	lings/Flyers
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Please contact me about:	Gifts of stock	ok Inletkeeper in my will
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Home Phone ()Work	Faxe-mail	
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