



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

November 16, 2011

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Benjamin Jackinsky, 907.252.3661

Wayne Jenkins, 907.235.4068 x30

Bob Shavelson, 907.235.4068 x22

### **COOK INLETKEEPER ANNOUNCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Organizational restructuring will result in more effective, efficient operations*

**HOMER, AK** – The community-based nonprofit organization Cook Inletkeeper today announced a new Executive Director to lead the group through a restructuring effort that will make it more effective and efficient at protecting water quality and wild salmon throughout the Cook Inlet watershed. After an extensive nation-wide search, the Cook Inletkeeper Board of Directors selected Wayne Jenkins, most recently the Executive Director at Georgia Forest Watch, to lead the organization. Former Cook Inletkeeper Executive Director Bob Shavelson will take a lateral step, leading the organization's advocacy efforts and sharing a management role with Jenkins.

"This re-organization will provide us with new, experienced leadership in Wayne," said Board President Benjamin Jackinsky, "and allow Bob to focus on the growing advocacy issues in Cook Inlet that threaten water quality and salmon habitat. We have a great team in place and this restructuring will put us on stronger footing moving forward."

Jenkins comes to Cook Inletkeeper with a strong background in nonprofit fundraising and management.

"This organization has a great history and an exciting future," said Jenkins. "I'm looking forward to getting my feet wet, and helping take the organization to the next level."

As the organizational leader on advocacy issues, Shavelson will assume the title "Inletkeeper." Cook Inletkeeper is one of over 200 similar Waterkeeper programs nationwide, each with a designated "Waterkeeper" to serve as the lead advocate on water protection issues.

For additional information on Cook Inletkeeper's organizational restructuring, see [www.inletkeeper.org](http://www.inletkeeper.org)