



WEEK OF MAY 10, 2007

“GOAC3 CORKLINE: FISH NEWS FOR ALASKA'S COASTAL COMMUNITIES”

Welcome to "*The GOAC3 CORKLINE*" – a weekly offering of major “fish news” for Alaska’s fisheries-dependent communities, specifically in the Gulf of Alaska.

The “fish news” and links presented here are general information only. This is not inclusive of all news. Some links we will repeat a few times, if applicable. We highly recommend that you subscribe to various news services for much more in-depth coverage. These include United Fishermen of Alaska, Intrafish, Seafood.com, NOAA Fish News, National Fisherman, Pacific Fishing, and many others. Additionally, you should be checking the following web sites on a regular basis: (a) North Pacific Fishery Management Council, (b) National Marine Fisheries Service (Alaska Region), (c) The Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Please see links at the bottom of this document. If the hyperlinks do not work, cut and paste to your URL bar.

The GOAC3 - Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition - is a non-profit organization concerned about the dwindling economic and socio-economic health of our Gulf of Alaska fishing communities. There are many complicated issues impacting our fishing communities and it is important to stay as informed as we can.

The GOAC3 is not responsible for any of the material or links except our own. If you would like to join us or suggest any additions to the "*CORKLINE*", please contact us. Please check our web site for important calendar items. www.goac3.org. *The GOAC3 CORKLINE* will be archived at our web site.

GENERAL NEWS OF THE WEEK FOR ALASKA'S FISHING COMMUNITIES:

- (1) **National - NOAA Fisheries' Outreach Plan Available Online:** The National Outreach Plan for NOAA Fisheries was developed to help in the execution of a strategy identified in NOAA's Strategic Plan. Specifically, the strategy is to "develop coordinated regional and national outreach and education efforts to improve public understanding and involvement in stewardship of coastal and marine ecosystems." ... In support of this strategy, NOAA Fisheries is currently conducting outreach at the national and regional levels at six regional offices and science centers as well as at their headquarters. The primary purpose of the plan is to create a more unified and strategic approach to outreach for the agency. As such, the plan was recently entered into the Policy Directive System to help guide the agency's policy on external communication.... The [National Outreach Plan](#) is designed for the agency's outreach professionals and their managers. Specific national goals, objectives, strategies and action items are clearly identified in the plan. The plan notes that activities related to the identified strategies will be tied to available resources and not all the strategies will be implemented each year. In addition, the plan is considered a "living document" that will be reviewed and updated annually. For more

information, contact Christopher.M.Moore@noaa.gov or call the Partnerships and Communications Division within the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, at (301) 713-2379.

- (2) **Governor Palin hires \$80,000 fish adviser**
<http://community.adn.com/?q=adn/node/107364>

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – AGENDA FOR JUNE 2007, SITKA, ALASKA Now available at the Council web site - <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/>

2007 SALMON SEASON

I **MARKETING**

ASMI "I Heart Salmon" - Opening of Alaska's Wild Salmon Harvest Season

The Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) is pleased to announce the return of fresh, wild and always sustainable Alaska salmon to the market in May. This highly anticipated record salmon season is revered globally as chefs, retailers and consumers count down the days to its debut. "This is an exciting time of year for Alaska as we anticipate the first salmon run of the summer. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is projecting the seventh strongest run on record this year. This is a real testament to Alaska's successful sustainable fisheries management," states Ray Riutta, Executive Director of ASMI... <http://www.alaskaseafood.org/about/pressreleases/IHeartSalmon.htm>

II **PROCESSING:**

- (1) **Processors ready for salmon, with notable exceptions** ADN Highliner Blog Posted: April 26, 2007 - 9:08 pm The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today released its annual salmon processor capacity survey, and the news is mostly upbeat. The major processors say they generally can handle forecasted runs of sockeye, pink and other species of salmon due in from the ocean this summer to spawn.
<http://community.adn.com/?q=adn/node/107048>
- (2) AK Journal of Commerce: Salmon processing should keep pace
http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/050607/hom_20070506083.shtml
- (3) ADFG Processor Capacity Survey online:
<http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/geninfo/pubs/capacity/07capacity.pdf>
- (4) **Federal fishery council leaves review of major merger to other agencies** Federal fisheries regulators have opted to let other federal agencies determine whether the merger of two Japanese firms would create various forms of economic distress in Alaska fisheries. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council was asked April 2 in Anchorage to analyze impacts on several communities, pricing and ownership caps on various privatized fisheries that could come as a result of the forthcoming merger of Maruha Group and Nichiro Corp. The council decided that some analysis to be done by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission would be sufficient, said Earl Krygier, an alternate on the council for Fish and Game Commissioner Denby Lloyd... http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/041507/hom_20070415092.shtml
- (5) **Icicle Seafoods poised to start fish farming in Chile** In March, Icicle Seafoods Inc. made an announcement that shocked some people: It was jumping into the farmed

salmon and trout business in Chile."Boycott Icicle!" one guy wrote on an industry blog. "A major slap in the face," wrote another, identifying himself as a former Alaska commercial fisherman. Don Giles, Icicle's longtime president, expected some flak. But he also believes a less vocal majority understands why one of the largest processors of Alaska's wild salmon had to get into fish farming...

<http://www.adn.com/money/story/8838831p-8739485c.html>

- (6) Bristol Bay buys into fish processor** Bristol Bay Economic Development Corp. will buy a 50 percent share of Seattle-based fish processor Ocean Beauty Seafoods Inc., the companies just announced. Neither company plans major management changes, they said. Ocean Beauty will remain in its current headquarters in Seattle, and all seven of its Alaska processing plants will continue to operate as normal, the company said. "We have found the ideal company to invest in," said Robin Samuelson, Bristol Bay's chief executive. "Ocean Beauty's management group is strong, and they bring processing expertise and training that will allow us to expand opportunities for our residents..."
<http://www.adn.com/money/industries/fishing/story/8800603p-8701852c.html>

III HARVESTING: THE COPPER RIVER:

- (1) CDFU (Cordova District Fishermen United) UPDATE 04/20/07 Copper River salmon is Certified Sustainable. MSC Certification for the Copper River and Prince William Sound. The MSC VISUAL program is simple, and allows easy access to the information about our sustainable salmon fishery, and the challenges to maintaining our certification for sustainability over time. Direct Link to MSC VISUAL program:
<http://www.stateofthesalmon.org/collaborate/msc/index.html> You will download a map with links to salmon management areas, select Alaska, click on the Copper River area for the Copper, and PWS for the sound fisheries. The project was accomplished through a partnership between Ecotrust Fisheries and the Wild Salmon Center, both headquartered in Portland, Oregon..
- (2) Efforts by State of the Salmon to help better understand trends in wild salmon populations throughout the Pacific, follow link here:
<http://www.stateofthesalmon.org/index.php>
- (3) Ecotrust Copper River program, check out the Copper River Knowledge System at:
http://www.ecotrust.org/copperriver/crks_cd/welcome.htm
- (4) Copper River Salmon workshop series reports go to:
<http://www.ecotrust.org/copperriver/workshop/>

SALMON SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

MSC Alaska Salmon Recertified as 16 Units- comment By May 11

Advisory Notice:

http://www.msc.org/assets/docs/Alaska_Salmon/DraftRpt_notice_2007.pdf

Full Report – includes individual Alaska fisheries.

http://www.msc.org/assets/docs/Alaska_Salmon/DraftRpt_2007.pdf

Alaska Salmon Fishery MSC Re-Certification on Track Alaska Salmon Fishery MSC Re-Certification on Track. Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Skip navigation. ...
www.adfg.state.ak.us/news/2006/12-1-06_nr.ph

COE NEWS: The COE (Community Quota Entity) program for the community purchase of halibut and sablefish IFQs was passed into law June 2004. Since that time, COEs have been forming at a very slow pace because of lack of capital and the high cost of administration. However, behind the scenes several groups, including the GOAC3, have been working diligently to improve this situation.

- (1) COE general information and requirements
 - a. State of Alaska <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/investments/cqe.cfml>
 - b. National Marine Fisheries Service / NMFS
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/ram/cqp.htm>
 - c. www.goac3.org
- (2) GOAC3 visits Seldovia May 8, 2007 <http://www.seldoviagazette.com/>

RECREATIONAL FISHING / TOURISM / CHARTER

- (1) **Proposed Regulations NMFS** <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/ram/ifqcharters.htm>
 - a. **News Release:** Proposed regulations for guided sport halibut fishing in SE Alaska
 - b. **72 FR 17071, April 6, 2007.** Proposed rule to restrict the harvest of halibut by persons fishing on a guided sport charter vessel in IPHC Regulatory Area 2C. Comment period through April 23, 2007.
 - c. **Draft EA/RIR/IRFA for the Regulatory Amendment to Modify the Halibut Bag Limit In the Halibut Charter Fisheries In IPHC Regulatory Area 2C, March 23, 2007**

(2) Comment deadline May 25 on NMFS & USCG authority to inspect sport logs, etc.
The Department of Fish and Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with sport fishing services and sport fishing guide services, license requirements, regulations of activities, and reporting requirements including the following: 5 AAC 75.075(c) is proposed to be changed to include law enforcement representatives of the National Marine Fisheries Service and representatives of United States Coast Guard as authorities to inspect required logbooks, identifications, licenses, permits, tags, stamps, and harvest records of sport fishing guides and their clients...comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. May 25, 2007...

<http://notes5.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf/cc52605f7c156e7a8925672a0060a91b/f6ec2c4841db355d892572c3007b3b5b?OpenDocument>

(3) National - Operations Team Formed to Work on Recreational Data Issues: NOAA Fisheries, in coordination with representatives from the Fishery Management Councils, states, and the three interstate commissions, has established an Operations Team to continue efforts to upgrade the recreational fisheries data program. The Operations Team will begin reviewing and prioritizing recommendations from last year's National Research Council review of the recreational data program, national management framework workshop, and the recently reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act. The Operations Team will report on their

work at the upcoming constituent data review (Silver Spring, MD on May 15) and Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee meeting (Washington, DC on June 4-6). All interested members of the public are invited to attend. More information is available at NOAA web site

CURRENT GROUND FISH ISSUES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA:

- (1) **NMFS Reminds Fishing Vessel Owners and Operators of Federal Fisheries Permit Requirements** The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reminds owners and operators of federal requirements for groundfish federal fishing permits under 50 CFR Part 679.4(b). If your vessel is used to fish in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Alaska or the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area and is required to retain any groundfish caught in the EEZ, your vessel must have a federal fishing permit. If your vessel catches and retains any groundfish in the EEZ, you are fishing for groundfish and also must obtain a federal fisheries permit...
<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/index/infobulletins/bulletin.asp?BulletinID=3571>

CURRENT CRAB ISSUES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA

Kodiak based Crewman's Association asks for share of crab quota

The Crewman's Association, based in Kodiak, is asking the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to reallocate to crewmen a percentage of individual fishing quotas for crab. Shawn Dochtermann, a veteran commercial fisherman and secretary of the Crewmen's Association, made the proposal to the council April 2, at the conclusion of the council's April meeting. The council took no action on the proposal, but Dochtermann said he intends to pursue the matter with state and federal fisheries officials and others...
http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/041507/hom_20070414095.shtml

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH LINKS FOR FISHING COMMUNITIES: Each week we will spotlight different socio-economic research important to Alaska's fisheries-dependent communities. This week:

Alaska's fishing communities conferences: The Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program, the GOAC3, National Marine Fisheries Service, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and many other groups have collaborated in the last three years to conduct several conferences focused on the problems of Alaska's fishing communities and future generations trying to get into fishing. These have brought communities, agencies and industry together to focus on specific problems and potential solutions facing fishing communities. The proceedings of these conferences offer many valuable papers and insights and can be accessed via the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program at <http://seagrant.uaf.edu/conferences/index.html>. The GOAC3 continues to participate on the steering committee that is organizing future conferences.

TECHNOLOGICAL FISHERIES RESEARCH

Test finds trawl net upgrades reduce halibut bycatch Recent testing of a halibut excluder device on trawl nets fishing for Pacific cod in the Gulf of Alaska points to a significant reduction

of halibut bycatch. Halibut excluders are a panel of slots in a trawl net designed to let halibut swim out. The test fishery was coordinated by the cooperative research program of the Marine Conservation Alliance Foundation (MCAF). Dr. Craig Rose of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Alaska Fishery Science Center and Kodiak-area trawl fishermen participated in the project...<http://www.kodiakdailymirror.com/?pid=19&id=4677>

GENERAL MARINE RESEARCH: Each week we will spotlight marine research issues and facilities. Some will be duplicated, depending on the issue, but most will be single-issue comments. Spotlight this week on: The University of Alaska Fairbanks: School of Fisheries and Oceans Science (SFOS) <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/divisions/>

- The Institute of Marine Science (IMS). The Institute of Marine Science is the oldest and the largest unit of the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Institute is active in research and graduate training at the master's and doctoral levels.
- Fishery Industrial Technology Center <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/fitc/> Kodiak, Alaska. FITC has two major academic programs, Sustainable Harvesting and Seafood Processing. There are approximately ten graduate students currently studying at FITC.
- Fisheries Division: <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/fishdiv/> (Juneau and Fairbanks campuses)
- Alaska Sea Grant <http://seagrant.uaf.edu/>
- The Marine Advisory Program <http://seagrant.uaf.edu/map/> Provides community education and excellent publications for fishermen and fishing communities. Highly recommended that this site is visited often.
- The Global Undersea Research Unit (GURU) provides access to undersea technologies through management of the Kasitsna Bay Lab. <http://www.guru.uaf.edu/>
- The Seward Marine Center is the primary coastal facility for SFOS. <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/smc/>

RED KING CRAB ENHANCEMENT FOR THE GULF OF ALASKA: The scientific exploration of enhancement of depleted wild red king crab stocks in the Gulf of Alaska has recently under extensive renewed interest. This has really important economic implications for Alaska. The GOAC3 was very instrumental in encouraging this new effort, a collaboration of marine science, agencies, industry and communities. A complementary research project for blue king crab is occurring in the Bering Sea.

- **Red king crab eggs hatch in Alaska research program** Larvae to help scientists studying hatcheries as a way to rebuild Kodiak stocks 3/8/2007 Contacts Celeste Leroux, Alaska Sea Grant graduate student, University of Alaska Fairbanks, office: 907-224-4310; hatchery: 907-224-5181; cell: 415-306-2457; celeste.leroux@uaf.edu

- **Hatcheries examined as key to Alaska crab recovery** 28 February 2006 Contact: Brian Allee, Director, Alaska Sea Grant College Program, University of Alaska Fairbanks, 907-474-7949, allee@sfos.uaf.edu. NR: SG-2006/NR229
- Check out the GOAC3 web site (www.goac3.org) for further links and the text of the article in the December 2006 “*Alaska Business Monthly*” regarding the news story behind this effort, “**Red King/Blue King: Why Crab Enhancement is so Important to Alaska**” Dec 2006, copyright by Gale K. Vick

MARINE AQUACULTURE ISSUES:

- (1) **Commerce Secretary Gutierrez Applauds Congressman Rahall's Commitment to Aquaculture (EEZ Aquaculture bill introduced)** PIE, W.VA. – U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez applauded the announcement today by Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee Nick J. Rahall, II (D-WV) that he would introduce a bill, at the request of the Administration to help establish an offshore aquaculture industry. The announcement came during a tour of the Mingo County Fish Hatchery in Pie, West Virginia, where the two discussed the Bush Administration’s efforts to expand the \$1 billion U.S. industry into federal waters under the National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2007. <http://ocsenergy.anl.gov/> NOAA Aquaculture home page: <http://www.lib.noaa.gov/docaqua/frontpage.htm>
- (2) **EU / Scotsman: How buyers of 'wild' fish were sold red herrings** One in ten fish on sale in shops, including Sainsbury's, was incorrectly labelled as "wild" according to tests by the Food Standards Agency (FSA).The survey also found 15 per cent of retailers provided shoppers with no information - or incorrect details - about the origin of their fish.<http://news.scotsman.com/uk.cfm?id=689982007>
- (3) See also: www.goac3.org web link to articles (1) “**Alaska Reacts to Proposed Federal Aquaculture Plan**”, copyright by Gale K. Vick, December 2005, *The Alaska Business Monthly* (2) “Alaska salmon: to farm or not to farm; the risk of disease, parasites and escapement are just a few of the reasons many say not to salmon fish farming” ... An article from: *Alaska Business Monthly* copyright by Gale K. Vick (April 2003)

PROTECTED RESOURCES:

- (1) **Steller sea lions (SSL)** : Steller sea lions continue to be at the forefront of threatened or endangered marine mammals and birds that will continue to create precautionary measures affecting Alaska’s fishing communities and fleets. For detailed information check out:
 - a. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council
 - b. Marine Mammal Research Consortium: <http://www.marinemammal.org/> MMRC Steller Life in the Fasting Lane - Is age and season the secret to surviving lean times? Periodic fasting is a way of life for Steller sea lions. But when prey is

- scarce, a prolonged fast can be disastrous. Are sea lions better able to tolerate fasting at certain ages and specific times of year? A new study asks these questions and more. <http://www.marinemammal.org/2007/rea.php>
- c. NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center (SSL research center) http://161.55.120.152/sslprojects/ssl_entrance.htm
 - d. NMFS-AK region web links <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/maps/>
 - o Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures Maps and Additional Restricted Groundfish Areas (Small Entity Compliance Guide) Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures maps and additional restricted groundfish areas: Critical Habitat maps and Rookery No-Entry Zones
 - o The Alaska SeaLife Center (Seward, Alaska) <http://www.alaskasealife.org/>

(2) Cook Inlet Beluga ESA Threatened listing - Deadline June 19 for comments

Based on the findings from the status review and consideration of the factors affecting this species, we have concluded the Cook Inlet beluga whale constitutes a distinct population segment (DPS) that is in danger of extinction throughout its range. Accordingly, we are now issuing a proposed rule to list the Cook Inlet beluga whale DPS as an endangered species. We are soliciting information on issues relevant to the listing of the Cook Inlet beluga whale DPS under the ESA. Although we are not proposing to designate critical habitat at this time, we are also soliciting information on essential physical and biological features of Cook Inlet beluga whale habitat...Comments on this proposed rule must be received by close of business on June 19, 2007. Requests for public hearings must be made in writing by June 4, 2007. <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/E7-7577.htm>

FISH CALENDAR (CHECK OUR WEB SITE @ www.goac3.org

IMPORTANT LINKS: The GOAC3 does not sponsor nor is responsible for any of the material in the following links except our own. Some of the links below are subscription news services that require payment.

- (1) GOAC3: www.goac3.org
- (2) NMFS/AK : www.fakr.noaa.gov/
- (3) NPFMC: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/
- (4) NOAA Fish News: To subscribe or search the FishNews archives, [FishNews website](#).
- (5) AK CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION:
www.state.ak.us/local/CongressDelegation.shtml
- (6) U.S. CONGRESSIONAL LINKS:
<http://thomas.loc.gov/>
- (7) AK LEGISLATURE:
w3.legis.state.ak.us/home.htm
- (8) ALASKA / BOARD OF FISHEIRES - AK BOF: www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/
- (9) ADF&G: www.adfg.state.ak.us/
- (10) ALASKA COMMUNITIES:
www.state.ak.us/local/communit.shtml
- (11) Laine Welch's Fish Factor at <http://www.kinyradio.com/fishfactor.html>
- (12) UFA: www.ufa-fish.org

- (13) SEAFA: <http://www.seafa.org>
- (14) ASMI: <http://www.alaskaseafood.org/>
- (15) SEAGRANT FISHLINES:
<http://seagrant.uaf.edu/news/fishlines/2007/april.html>
- (16) INTRAFISH <http://www.intrafish.no/global/subscribe/>
- (17) SEAFOOD.COM
<http://www.intrafish.no/global/news/>
- (18) "LAWS FOR THE SEA" : written and published by Bob Tkacz at Juneau, Alaska. All rights reserved. 416 Harris Street, Suite 203, Juneau, AK 99801; by telephone to 907-463-5455.
- (19) PACIFIC FISHING
www.pacificfishing.com/
- (20) NATIONAL FISHERMAN: info@nationalfisherman.com
- (21) TIDEPPOOL: <http://www.tidepool.org/subscribe.cfm>
- (22) IPHC – International Pacific Halibut Commission
<http://www.iphc.washington.edu/halcom/default.htm>
- (23) NFI http://www.aboutseafood.com/media/press_release_detail~id~87.cfv

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