



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

WEEK OF MAY 22, 2007

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.

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

(1) (Forwarded from CDFU in Cordova)

COURT STANDS BY EXXON VALDEZ DAMAGE / *By Adam Tanner May 23, 2007 SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters)* -

A U.S. appeals court declined on Wednesday to reconsider its decision to make Exxon Mobil Corp. pay \$2.5 billion in punitive damages for the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill.....The punitive damages ruling against Exxon -- originally \$5 billion in 1994 -- has been the subject of a long legal battle between the oil company and 32,000 fishermen, Alaska natives and property owners who were awarded the damages. SEE FULL STORY AT <http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN2324027820070523>

(2) Contraceptives May Decimate Fisheries

<http://www.pacificfishing.com/news/news1.html>

(3) International – U.S Prepares to Host the International Whaling Commission

The United States will host the 2007 annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in Anchorage, AK, on May 28-31, 2007. As current Chair of the

IWC, NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Dr. William T. Hogarth is preparing for intense discussions at this year's meeting. A critical focus of this year's meeting will be review of the U.S. subsistence hunting quotas of the Western Arctic bowhead whale and gray whale. Ten Alaska Native villages in the far north conduct subsistence bowhead whale hunts overseen by the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission and NOAA Fisheries. Also under consideration this year are aboriginal whaling quotas for the eastern population of the North Pacific gray whale by the Makah Indian Tribe.....The United States government supports aboriginal subsistence whaling, and believes the quotas should be favorably reviewed. In addition, the United States will strongly support the establishment of whale sanctuaries in the South Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The design of these sanctuaries would include the banning commercial whaling within their boundaries, should commercial whaling resume.....Annual meetings of the IWC are usually attended by about 400-600 people, including government delegates from over 70 countries, observers from non-member governments, other intergovernmental organizations, and non-government organizations, as well as news media representatives.....Following the meeting, additional information on the outcome of negotiations will be available online at www.iwcoffice.org.

(4) 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.

II NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL -

A. AGENDA FOR JUNE 2007, SITKA, ALASKA

Now available at the Council web site <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/>

III MSA – Magnuson-Stevens Fishery and Conservation Management Act of 2006

The MSA or “Mag Act” was reauthorized December 2006 in the 110th Congress. This Act is the basis for fishery management in federal waters within the EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) around the United States coast line. It is THE most significant piece of federal fisheries legislation.

A. NOAA Fisheries MSA web site: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/msa2005/>



- B. **“Enrolled” version of the 12-06 revisions:**
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/msa2007/2007reauth_notsigned.pdf

IV 2007 FISHING SEASON (Check with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game / Division of Commercial Fisheries - <http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/> - on a regular basis for in-season information on fisheries within State waters (0-3 miles) and with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries, and the International Pacific Halibut Commission for federal waters.)

A HARVESTING

[Run Forecasts and Harvest Projections for 2007 Alaska Salmon Fisheries and Review of the 2006 Season](http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidpdfs/sp07-01.pdf) <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/FedAidpdfs/sp07-01.pdf>

B. MARKETING

- a. **Convenience a key ingredient in new seafood products** **Lesley Rogers**
Published - May 24, 2007 www.intrafish.no/global/news/article135388.ece
- b. **U.K. Guidelines say heart attack patients should take fish oil**
<http://www.intrafish.no/global/news/article135364.ece?service=print>
- c. **Honey-smoked salmon a big hit at food show – but uses farmed salmon**
<http://www.intrafish.no/global/news/article135336.ece?service=print>
- d. **Public alarm about food safety is at its highest levels in nearly 20 years, reports FMI.** A recent report discussed at the FMI convention found that 38% of all consumers stopped purchasing a product out of fear within the past year, either temporarily or permanently. Further, overall confidence in food safety fell from 82% to 66% last year, even before the latest melamine issues were discovered. The seafood industry is truly on a high wire without a net. (Seafood.com May 21, 2007)
- e. In a stunning endorsement for the benefits of fish oil, health experts are urging that fish oil supplements be required for pupils throughout Britain to improve their intelligence and behavior. (Seafood.com 3-30-07)

C PROCESSING:

- a. Laine Welch cites Chris McDowell’s prediction that this years pink salmon harvest could reach 130 million to 140 million fish. Large canned pink carryovers are a thing of the past as more pinks are now going into higher value frozen products.

IV 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/>

IV 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

V 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...



VI 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.

VII 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/>



VIII 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
- **Russians Worry Over King Crab Parasite**
<http://www.pacificfishing.com/news/news3.html>
- 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

IX MARINE AQUACULTURE ISSUES:

FISH FARMING

Following through on a campaign promise to environmentalists, the party in control of the BC legislature has issued a recommendation that would end salmon farming in BC. Although the recommendation seems to suggest a move to closed containment, the industry points out this is not successful with salmon anywhere in the world, and that they would be forced to move out of BC should the recommendations become law. BC legislators should recognize that most salmon in BC is produced by companies that already have large farms in Norway and Chile – so if they are driven from BC, they will simply expand production elsewhere. (Seafood.com, May 17, 2007)

X 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>

3. Drowning sea lions is not a 'tragedy'. We have a few articles today highlighting the growing predator pressure unrestrained populations of sea lions are having on the West Coast. First, Creative Salmon –pilloried by environmentalists after discovering 51 drowned sea lions that had eaten through protective barriers—is in an area where the sea lion population has increased from a handful to 1500 animals within 18 months. Secondly, in Glacier Bay, off limits to fishing for a decade, exploding populations of sea lions are attacking seal pups – causing the seal population to plummet. Is the humane society going to just sit by and let sea lions devastate these poor pups, or will they send movie stars to demonstrate against the sea lions? Finally, we have written in the past about the extreme measures the government is taking to protect endangered Chinook salmon from Sea Lions at the Bonneville dam. (Seafood.com 4-23-07)

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/](http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/)
- (3) NPFMC: [/www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/](http://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) TIDEPOOL: <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

"GOAC3 Corkline" submitted by:

Freddie Christiansen, Chairman, and Gale K. Vick, Executive Director
Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition (GOAC3)
P.O. Box 201236, Anchorage, AK 99520
PH: 907-561-7633
EMAIL: goaccc@alaska.net
WEB: www.goac3.org

