

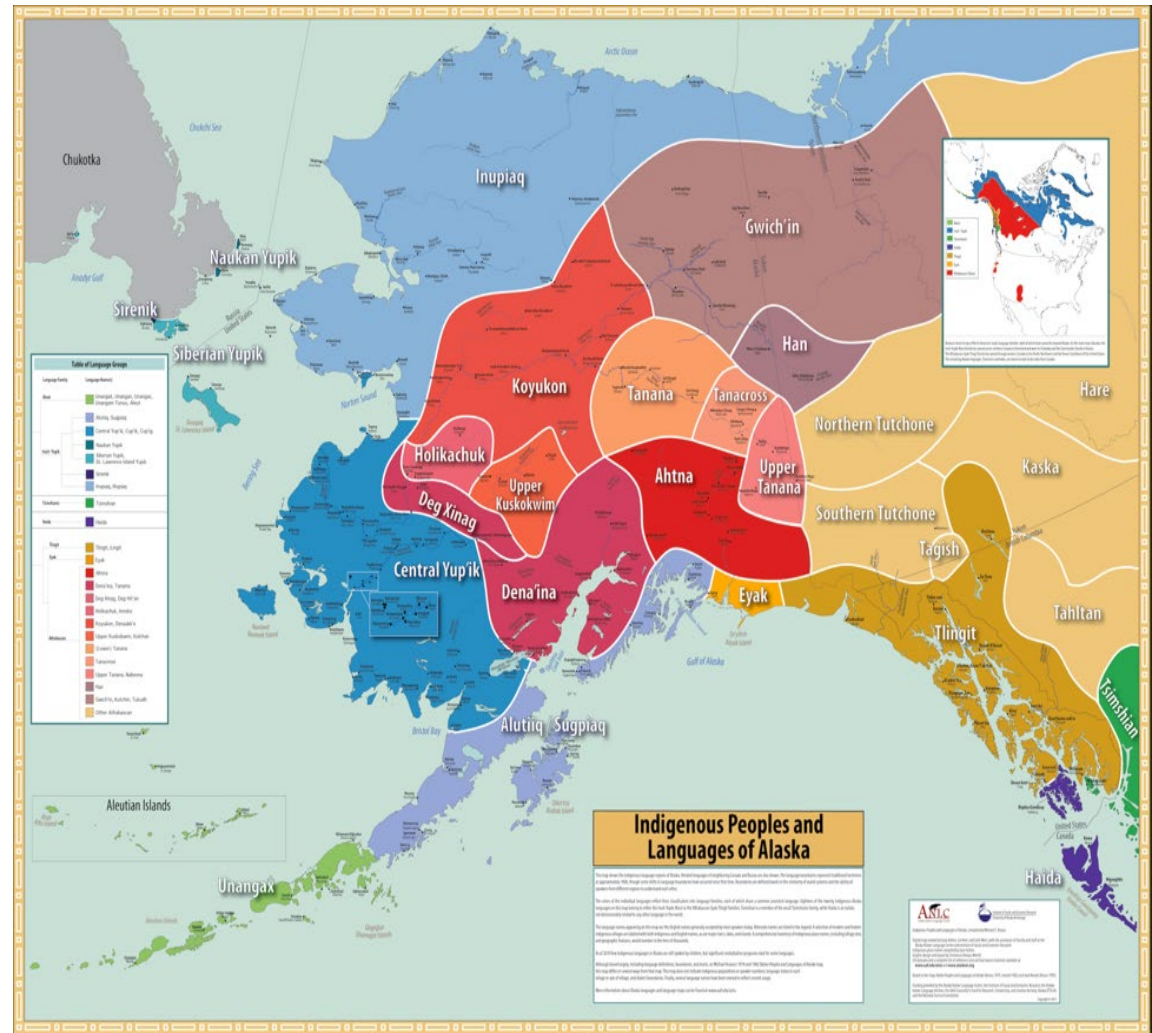
UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES: CURRENT WORK IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

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OCTOBER 21, 2021



THE ALASKA CONTEXT

- Alaska is home to 229 Federally recognized Tribes and many rural communities
- Most Tribal and rural communities are remote and disconnected from the road system
- High-level of commercial and subsistence fishery use or participation for food security and cultural practices



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE



- Formed by the Council in June 2018
 - *(formerly the Rural Outreach Committee, 2009-2011)*
- **Purpose:** Identify and recommend strategies for the Council to provide effective community engagement with rural and Alaska Native communities
- **Membership:** Individuals with state-wide representation of rural and Alaska Native villages



RELATED COUNCIL ACTION – FEBRUARY 2021

- Provide cultural awareness training for Council members and Council staff
 - *Council staff training scheduled for November 4 and 5, 2021*
- Executive Director shall assign responsibilities of a Rural Fisheries Community/Tribal Liaison position to staff (Dr. Kate Haapala)
- Continue and re-constitute the Community Engagement Committee
 - *Call for nominations issued in Spring 2021*
- Explore ways to improve public comment including remote testimony
- Allow members of the public to waive questions by the Council during public testimony
- Support for holding Council meetings in rural, Alaska Native villages that meet Council SOPP and IT requirements
- Work with NMFS to receive and understand results of Tribal Consultation as early in the process as possible, preferably prior to Council final action
- Continue current outreach practices
- Support for the Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce



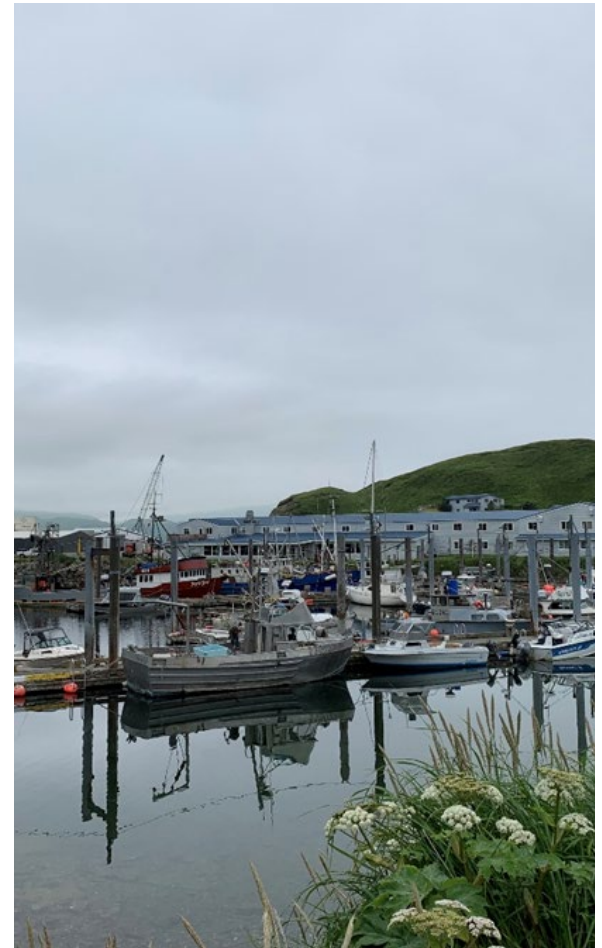
COUNCIL STAFF RURAL FISHERIES COMMUNITY AND TRIBAL LIAISON COUNCIL STAFF

Primary duties:

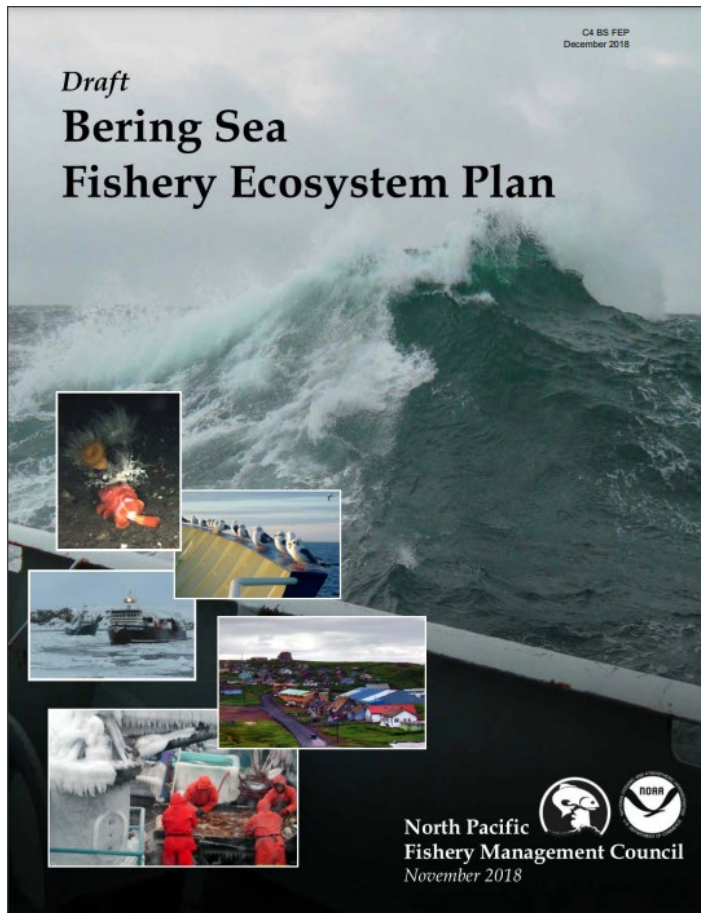
- First point of contact in the Council office for rural communities and Tribes
- Provide outreach on Council actions
- Facilitate presentations from rural and Alaska Native communities or Tribes to the Council
- Account for and measure the impact of engagement over time

Dr. Kate Haapala (NPFMC staff)

kate.haapala@noaa.gov



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE, TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, AND SUBSISTENCE TASKFORCE



- Local Knowledge (LK), Traditional Knowledge (TK), and Subsistence Taskforce is an action-informing body formed under the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan
- Formed in October 2019 its membership includes Indigenous and non-Indigenous issue experts
- Primary purpose is to create processes and protocols for the Council to identify, analyze, and include LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information into the decision-making process



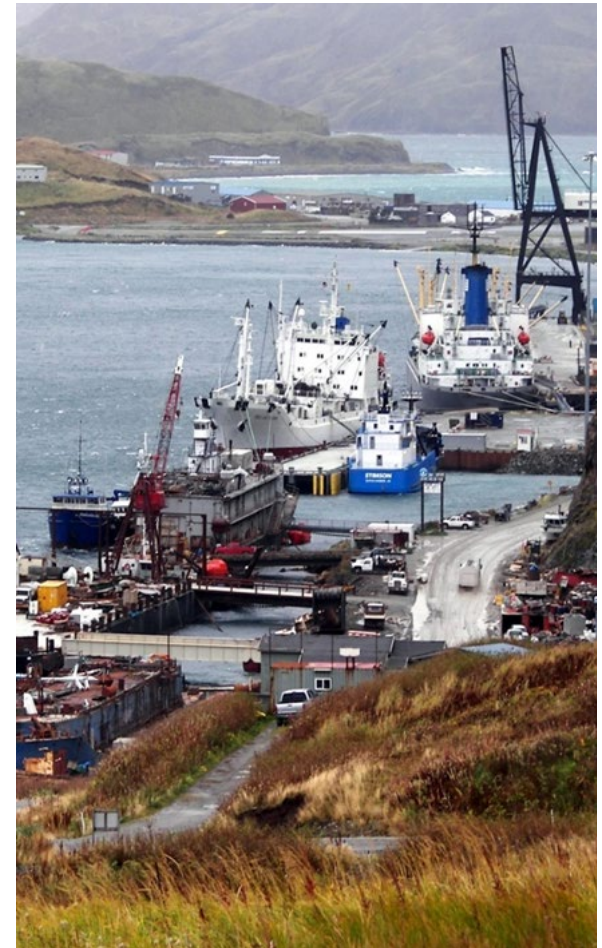
TASKFORCE PROGRESS

Meetings:

- Three meetings in 2020 and one so far in 2021
- **Next virtual meeting is November 8 and 10, 2021**

Progress Highlights:

- Consensus on workplan and glossary for key terminology
- Consensus on protocol guidelines
 - Co-creating content at November 2021 meeting
- Identifying sources of LK, TK, and subsistence information for use in analytical documents



CONCLUDING POINTS

The Community Engagement Committee, Liaison responsibilities, and LKTKS Taskforce have different purposes, but together they:

1. Create opportunities for two-way dialogue between the Council and rural and Alaska Native communities
2. Increased opportunities for two-way learning and understanding
3. Diversify the types of knowledge (e.g., TK) used to inform decision-making
4. Increase rural and Alaska Native community member representation on Council advisory bodies



QUESTIONS?

