

Alaska Sea Grant Regional Highlights Research, Education, and Extension for Coastal Alaska www.alaskaseagrant.org



Prince William Sound

Agents and specialists of the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program (MAP) are based in 10 coastal communities across the state, where they conduct a broad program of research, education, and extension activities. In Prince William Sound, MAP agents and specialists from Cordova and Anchorage work with fishermen, tourism-related businesses, shellfish farmers, and the general public in the areas of community economic development and capacity building, fisheries business training, shellfish aquaculture, and marine safety.



Recent activities of Alaska Sea Grant and the Marine Advisory Program

Enhancing Coastal Economic Opportunity

MAP provided Chenega residents with technical assistance aimed at increasing local fishing skills and assisting them in qualifying for fisheries quotas.

A MAP project to test the effectiveness of seabird deterrents, such as streamer lines on small boat longline vessels, has reduced incidental seabird catches and helped Prince William Sound fishermen avoid additional federal regulation.

MAP is assisting scientific studies in Seward and Kodiak aimed at understanding how to raise large numbers of wild red and blue king crab, with the goal of rebuilding populations in parts of the state to benefit commercial and subsistence fisheries.



Training Alaska's Workforce

In Cordova and Valdez, MAP conducted U.S. Coast Guard-sanctioned marine safety training in cooperation with the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association.

In Cordova, Homer, Valdez, and Anchorage, MAP fisheries business workshops improved the business skills of commercial fishermen.

MAP-taught workshops on sanitation and seafood handling have improved the quality and safety of Alaska-caught seafood.



Building Community Capacity

Through sponsorship of a statewide Community Quota Entity (CQE) summit, MAP is helping coastal communities gain access to Alaska groundfish quota shares.



Inspiring Science Education

MAP cosponsored community science lectures to connect local and visiting researchers with Cordova and Valdez audiences. More than 1,000 adults and high school students attend this lecture series each year.

MAP created modern teaching tools for educators, such as the new Alaska Seas and Rivers curriculum. This K-8 curriculum provides high-quality teaching units on marine and aquatic science for use by teachers and homeschoolers, while addressing state science standards.

Encouraging Marine Stewardship

Statewide MAP workshops on voluntary standards for responsible marine wildlife viewing are helping Alaskans and others better enjoy the state's abundant wildlife.

MAP worked with harbormasters, boaters, and fishermen to reduce the number of invasive rats in Alaska's ports. Alaska Sea Grant authored and published the only manual on controlling rats along coastal waterfronts.

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The Alaska Sea Grant College Program is a partnership between NOAA and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Alaska Sea Grant supports research, education, and extension activities that enhance the ability of Alaskans to understand, conserve, and sustainably use Alaska's diverse marine and coastal resources.

The Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program (MAP) is the University of Alaska's statewide marine extension program, providing community training and workforce development opportunities in shellfish aquaculture; seafood harvesting, processing, and marketing; tourism development; business management; marine safety; and public policy participation.