

# Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Alaska Marine Dependent Communities

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Marine Advisory Program

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# What We'll Discuss in this Portion

- Brief outline of MAP/CES/ACCAP adaptation planning project
- Walk through the Adaptation Planning Tool
- Outline available resources and request your input to identify more.

# Why Marine Dependent Communities?

1. That's where our expertise is and our network of regional agents.
2. Most Alaska communities are marine dependent.
3. Marine dependent communities are facing many dramatic impacts.

# Why is Marine Advisory doing this?

- We have the field agents and knowledge of the regions
- Members of marine communities are our traditional clientele and we work with them
- We perceived a gap in the flow of climate change related information

# Why individuals, families and communities?

- Individuals are resourceful and self-reliant  
Many of the best adaptations can only be made by individuals, families and communities.

Local people recognize problems before distant governments  
Traditional and local knowledge is very helpful

Initiative for adaptation needs to begin there.

Most of the published adaptation methodologies are aimed at planners and governments.

# What are “communities”?

Villages, towns and cities

Social and cultural groups (Native tribes)

Occupational groups (commercial fishermen)

Affinity groups (coastal property owners)

Individuals and families

# About our Adaptation Planning Tool

Two versions, both in draft form:

1. The condensed tool, 6 pages plus resources, which is intended for use in the field.

Will be in print with work sheets, on disc and on-line.

2. The full version, 50+ pages, used for “train the trainer” programs.

*We welcome comments, suggestions.*

# Step 1

Identify your **community** or **communities**.

List as many as you identify with.

If your community is a place write a line or two about the planning area you would include.



## Step 2

Write a short statement about your **motivations**.

Are you just curious?

concerned about property or infrastructure?

worried about subsistence?

deciding if there is a future for your business?

looking for new opportunities?

## Step 3

- Make a list of **environmental change** you have witnessed or heard about in Alaska already which could affect your community.
- Add to that changes that are projected.
- Include impacts both negative and positive.
- Note how those changes are affecting or would affect your community.

# Why our focus on the observable, not on climate models from experts?

- Public has difficulty understanding models.
- Many people distrust science.
- Political backlash against “global warming.”
- Uncertainties abound.
- Traditional knowledge is valid and valuable.

## Step 4 – Assessing Vulnerability

Vulnerability – “capacity to be harmed”

Vulnerability a function of exposure and risk.

**You can do** a simple *ordinal risk matrix*  
(sensitivity X probability)

**Factor in** your *adaptive capacity*

# Step 5

Determine what you **want to accomplish**

- **Goals** – general statements about long-term outcomes
- **Objectives** – specific statements about particular outcomes
- **SMART Objectives** – specific, measureable, achievable, results-oriented and time-bound

Jot down a few goals and objectives.

# Step 6 Measures that promote adaptation

*This is where you need to get creative.*

**Measures** can:

- Increase adaptive capacity
- Deliver adaptive actions

# Step 6 additional thoughts

Criteria for considering possible measures:

- Provide direct benefits?
- Are effective?
- How much do they cost, who will pay?
- Practical, technically feasible, equitable, and socially and culturally acceptable?

# Step 7

Write a brief **implementation plan**.

Consider:

- Partners and sources of technical assistance
- Costs, and sources of funding
- Sequence of steps, including time line.



## Step 8 – What Else?

- Do you have a plan for **evaluation**?
- Do you know **where to go** for organizational support, funding and technical expertise?
- Do you have ideas for **sharing** your experiences and knowledge with others?

Write notes on the above.

# Resources

See last three pages of your handout.

Please check for accuracy and completeness.

Please notify us of other resources. (This is just the start of a resources inventory, and your help is essential.)

# Supplementary Materials

- Directory of Resources (in development)
- Climate change impact fact sheets  
(developing in cooperation with partners,  
including ACCAP, CES, university authorities)
- Alaska Climate Change Adaption video  
(production this spring and summer)

# First fact sheet will be on Ocean Acidification

Technically not a climate issue but related.

Identified by UFA and many fishermen has high priority for additional information.

# Our Plans for Delivery

1. Identifying partners
2. Do some field trials  
Homer, Palmer, Metlakatla
3. Develop schedule based on our field agents in SE, W AK and partners in CES and other agencies.

*We are accepting invitations to conduct interactive workshops.*

# How can we help you?

- We can bring an adaptation planning workshop to communities you recommend.
- Help you locate sites or communities in need of assistance..
- Translate science into common language.
- What else?

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