

Adak's Monthly Newsletter featuring Local News and Events

Island News

Essential Air Services: The US DOT announced they had received several proposals for Essential Air Services to Adak. ERA, Northern Air Cargo, Evert's Air Cargo, and Alaska Airlines had all submitted proposals by the extended deadline of July 24th. While the proposals from the Cargo lines and ERA would require that they work in conjunction with each other, the Alaska Airlines proposal is for both passenger and cargo service. Alaska Airlines requested a continuance of their current proposal for one year at the same subsidy rate of \$1,675,703. Alaska Airlines had previously refused to submit a proposal for Essential Air Services for economic reasons. Alaska Airlines cited lower fuel prices and lobbying by the city for the reversal of their decision.

Hydro Energy in Adak's Future ?: The City of Adak is working with the U.S. Economic Development Administration to get an engineering analysis for hydro energy production utilizing one of two dams: Lake De Marie and Lake Bonnie Rose. The City has budgeted \$40,000 as a contribution towards the analysis, along with the \$120,000 grant awarded the City of Adak from the Economic Development Administration, for a total cost of \$160,000. In the event the engineering analysis is favorable, the city will apply for project construction grant funding. Hydro electricity is green energy; produced using natural resources.

Adak Visited: Adak's social calendar is blooming. Visitors include Senator Murkowski escorted by the USCG, a representative from The Rasmussen Foundation, and Shell Oil, who chartered the delay of regularly scheduled Alaska Air flight for Thursday August 23rd. Since Shell Oil was going to be viewing buildings for possible operations, Alaska Airlines decided to have a meet and greet with the residents of Adak. Thank you Alaska Airlines for all you have done our community and congratulations to Helene Sparks for winning the two round trip tickets to Hawaii (sponsored by Alaska Airlines). Next, The Arctic Imperative Summit will be touring Adak on August 30-31.

Oil Companies look to Adak: The Aleut Corporation has signed an agreement with Offshore Systems Inc to market Adak as a possible staging location for Arctic drilling oil companies like Shell and Conoco Philips.

Research Projects: The University of Alaska is in Adak until mid-September. Antennas are being installed with the help of West Construction so students can monitor Aurora Borealis activity in the Western Aleutians. The monitoring will be done with a Doppler Radar system that is directed to the Ionosphere to measure plasma motion caused by electromagnetic activity (ie. Solar flares). Doppler Radar also monitors weather activity in the atmosphere. The effort is a collaborative effort of several professors who met while attending the John Hopkins University of Applied Physics. Dr. Bill Bristow of UAF is in charge of the antenna installation on Adak, with help from Dr. Simon Shephard of Dartmouth College and representatives from Virginia Tech and John Hopkins University of Applied Physics. The antennas are being placed around the 50 degree geomagnetic latitude line, with sets of antennas already located in Oregon, Kansas, and Virginia. A set of antennas will be put up in the Azores last. Dr. Shephard said there are several other monitoring antennas at the 80, 70, and 60 degree geomagnetic latitudes as well.

TDX denied request for Line Shack Building by City Council: TDX recently requested permission to lease a portion of the EMS building aka, the "line shack". After discussion with Sabrina Wilbur, Director of Utility Operations and Bill Brister, Utility Operations Manager, City Council denied the TDX request. The council cited the close proximity to the school, the airport, and residential areas as major concerns. The Council also felt there were other buildings on Adak that were more suitable to the needs of TDX.

City of Adak, Public Works: The City Manager, Layton Lockett and Public Works Director, Francis Borts traveled to purchase new pieces of equipment. They were able to purchase a 2007 Volvo G390 Motor Grader with snow blade attachment (yeah!) and a 2005 Volvo Wheel Loader. Expect great things this winter from your Public Works crew.

APIA Regional Wellness & Governance Conference: Adak will be represented by many local residents; City Council members, the City Manager, Joe Galaktionoff, Esther Bennett, Elaine Smiloff and Alicia Bennett (scholarship recipient, congratulations!) will all be attending via a charter flight to Dutch Harbor. A community support donation of \$3,000 from ACDC is helping to defray the costs of travel and registration.

The Adak Smack

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PORT OF ADAK: The Harbor master, Elaine Smiloff, reports that there have been 24 boats in port so far this month, with the USCG Cutter Munroe in on the 22nd. The USCG Cutter Sycamore scheduled to arrive on the 24th, has been diverted for another mission.

ADAK – Media Darling: Can you believe our City Manager was interviewed by two media representatives in the same week. **Makiei Kawauchi**, a resident of Fairbanks, picked Lockett's knowledge base for a Japanese newspaper. Kawauchi was writing a human interest piece for Japanese newspaper on the history of Japanese sailors who landed in the Aleutians over 200 years ago. Mr. Kawauchi was very happy with his visit and plans to return in the winter.

Alexandra Gutierrez with radio station KUCB in Dutch Harbor came to Adak to do a number of stories for Alaska public radio. KUCB primarily covers Unalaska but Gutierrez also covers the Aleutians and the Probilofs. Why Adak you ask; according to Gutierrez, "you guys are media darlings right now". Yes, it seems as if Adak has found a second wind blowing with another fifteen minutes of fame.

Gutierrez cited the recent economic momentum as a relevant story for public radio listeners. The re-opening of the fish processing plant by Icicle Seafoods, Inc. and the current interest in Adak as a staging area for oil companies drilling in the Arctic will be primary subjects on her broadcast. She also plans to do a human interest piece on Adak's caribou herd.

Gutierrez graduated from Harvard University in Cambridge Massachusetts with a degree in Social Studies. She heard about the Unalaska job through a friend who was already living in the area. Alaska Public Radio flew her to Unalaska for the interview, insisting she see the remote area before being hired. Public Radio broadcasting is just one of her skills though; she also writes a column for "Pacific Fishing" magazine, with quite a following.

Gutierrez was presented with an opportunity to visit Adak after an invitation via e-mail from a listener, Larry Hodge, who recently purchased a vacation home here in the Kuluk housing area. Gutierrez also wanted local residents to be able to recognize her – put a face to her name and voice on KUCB. She enjoyed her visit and would like to return to Adak for recreational activity. Hiking and kayaking with a visit to Loran Station and the hot springs are activities on her list. Gutierrez found the local residents very friendly. She was treated by one local to Dino fries and a lo-cal Mountain Raspberry shake at the "no waiting line" drive through. We Wish!

You can listen to Gutierrez reporting daily at 12:00 and 5:00pm on KUCB 89.7fm. No reception – listen live via streaming on the internet, or read her stories at <http://www.kucb.org>.

Adak Teen selected to participate in the Lead On program: Alicia Bennett was selected to represent the Western Aleutians in the Lead On program. The program is sponsored by the Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska(YAHA). The group's main focus is to help prevent domestic violence, peer bullying, and suicide attempts which have risen dramatically among Native Alaskan teenagers. The group will hold a conference in November for teens from around the State of Alaska to educate the teen representatives and gather information from the participants to help bring an end to teen violence and suicide. Ms. Bennett has been awarded a scholarship for attendance at the conference and will be chaperoned by local resident Nicole Gordon. Ms. Bennett has lived in the community for six years and has participated in a lot of community activities. Ms. Bennett has also been invited to visit Alexandra Gutierrez a reporter with KUCB in Dutch Harbor to learn about news broadcasting. If you would like more information on the Lead On program you may contact Ms. Bennett at 907-572-9210.

Teen Scene with Alicia ~

A lot of interesting things have happened in the past month for the so called "Teen World". Some of the happenings include music, movies, games and more, but I'm going to start with something a little bit closer to home – the teen/kids of Adak. One big thing is Selena Gomez came to visit and in the process helper her father, local resident George Lopez, with the Grand Opening of their business, The Cold Rock Café, otherwise known as the bakery. Now to get on with the music scene:

The Top Ten Pop Songs are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| #10. Blow ME (One last Kiss) – PINK | #5. Titanium – David Guetta Feat Sia |
| #9. Lets Go, by Calvin Harris feat – Ne-YO | #4. Where Have You Benn – Riahna |
| #8. Give your Heart a Break – Demi Lavato | #3. Payphone – Maroon 5 |
| #7. Scream – Usher | #2. Lights – Ellie Goulding |
| #6. Call Me Maybe – Carly Re Jepsen | #1. Wide Awake – Katy Perry |

School....School is going to start again soon. So far it seems we are getting a new teacher, Ivan Hodes, for the older kid's class and will have Miss Molly for the younger kids again. Our new teacher assistant will be Marie Christensen of Denmark. It also seems like we will be having two new female students ages 14 and 15. The teen world is a crazy place, but I guess we'll just keep on living in it.

Until Next time – Have a nice Day ~ Alicia Bennett

2 | Quote: "Your mind can be either your prison or your palace. What you make it is yours to decide"
Bernard Kelvin Clive, "Your Dreams will not Die"

CITY OF ADAK ANNOUNCES: Open Gym Tuesdays and Thursdays 6–8pm; weight room available upstairs.

EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES MEDICAL CLINIC – NEWS

CHAP “Shining Star”

Congratulations are due to our own Senta Lockett, CHP. Senta was selected by the Association of Alaska Community Health Aide Program Directors as an Annual Community Health Aide/Practitioner “Shining Star” for Outstanding Accomplishments in 2012.

EAT CHAP Director Susan Shoemaker, CHP said "Senta is an energetic, dynamic health aide, an EMS instructor and a mentor of newer health aides. She has been involved in trauma and rescue response, in medical emergencies, and in every kind of drama with all kinds of conditions. She has handled it all with grace, courage, and a sense of humor. Senta fully meets the criteria of being Outstanding year after year with an insightful, can do attitude. She is a real asset to the health aide community and we are proud to award her this highest honor."

And, she has a great son, too! Welcome back to Adak, Senta!

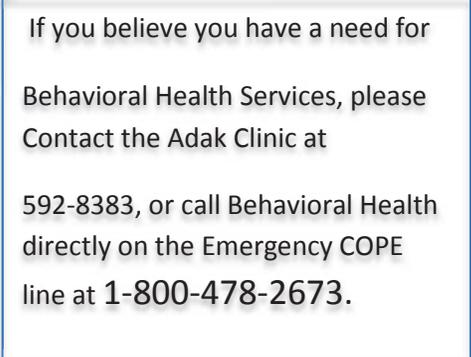
(That would be Layton Lockett, City Manager)



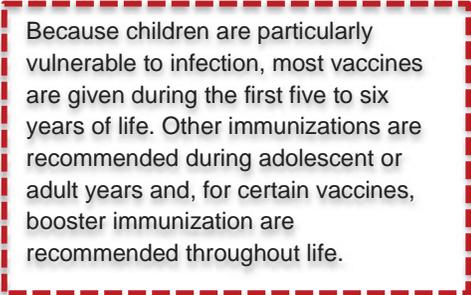
Please contact the Adak
Community Health Center
at 592-8383 to make an
appointment.



EAT Behavioral Health Services



If you believe you have a need for Behavioral Health Services, please Contact the Adak Clinic at 592-8383, or call Behavioral Health directly on the Emergency COPE line at 1-800-478-2673.



Because children are particularly vulnerable to infection, most vaccines are given during the first five to six years of life. Other immunizations are recommended during adolescent or adult years and, for certain vaccines, booster immunization are recommended throughout life.

REGISTER FOR DENALI KIDCARE OR MEDICAID SERVICES TODAY THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2012. ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN AN iPad 3! CONTACT YOUR CLINIC FOR MORE INFORMATION!!

If you are a Veteran, a Veteran’s dependent, the surviving spouse, child or parent of a deceased Veteran, a uniformed Service Member, or a present or former reservist or National Guard member, you may be eligible for VA benefits. In order to be eligible to receive VA care through EAT; veterans need to be enrolled with the Veterans Health Administration. A link is available on the EAT webpage, at <http://www.eatribes.org>. Please contact your local EAT Clinic or Community Health Center if you have any questions.



What is a DHAT? - a Dental Therapist who can perform fillings, simple extractions, above the gumline cleanings, sealants, and fluoride application.

Erik Linduska, DHAT, will visit Adak September 20-27. Please call the Clinic today for your appointment. **592-8383**

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ALASKA SPORT LICENSES AVAILABLE AT COA

<u>Commercial Crewmember</u>		<u>Sport Hunting/Fishing</u>	
Resident Class 30	\$60	Resident Class 1 (Sport Fishing)	\$24
Non- Resident Class 31	\$200	Resident Class 2 (Sport Hunting)	\$25
Resident Child Class 34 (10 and under)	\$5	Resident Class 4 (Sport Fishing/Hunting)	\$48
Non-Resident Child Class 35	\$145	Resident Class 5 (Hunt/Trap/Sport Fishing)	\$62
Resident 7 day Class 36	\$30	Non-Resident Class 6A (Sport Fishing 14 day)	\$80
Non-Resident 7 day Class 37	\$30	Non Resident Class 8 (Hunting)	\$85
Duplicate License Class 32	\$5	Non-Resident Class 8A (Small Game)	\$20

*Licenses also available for low income, disabled and military. Details at the city office. Caribou Tags - Free to residents non-resident Caribou Tags for non-resident \$325, non-resident aliens - \$425

NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

WHEN: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012

WHERE: COMMUNITY ROOM BOB REEVES HIGH SCHOOL

**WHAT: ADAK CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS SEAT 2A, SEAT 2B
REAA ARSD SCHOOL BOARD**

POLLS OPEN: 8:00 AM

POLLS CLOSE: 8:01 PM

PRECINCT ADAK, ALASKA AS DEFINED IN ALASKA STATUTES TITLE 15.10.070

THIS IS A GENERAL ELECTION. ALL VOTERS WITHIN THE PRECINCT THAT HAVE REGISTERED TO VOTE AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

*Applications for candidacy will be accepted starting September 2, 2012 at 8:00 am until September 24, 2012 at 8:30 am. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk.

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PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY and STATE ELECTIONS

TUESDAY AUGUST 28, 2012

BOB REEVES HIGH SCHOOL – Community Center

POLLS OPEN 7am – 8:01pm

ACDC BOARD ELECTIONS

WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012. PLEASE CONTACT MARY NELSON AT 592-2335 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CANDIDACY APPLICATIONS.

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September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 *Church Community Center 9am	3 School Holiday	4 SCHOOL STARTS Council Workshop Open Gym 6-8pm	5 City Council 5pm	6 Open Gym 6-8pm	7	8
9 *Church Community Center 9am Happy Birthday Mike Sharrah	10	11 Open Gym 6-8pm	12	13 Open Gym 6-8pm	14 Happy Birthday Esther Bennett	15
16 *Church Community Center 9am	17	18 Council Workshop Open Gym 6-8pm	19 City Council 5pm	20 October Articles Due Open Gym 6-8pm	21	22
23 *Church Community Center 9am	24	25 Open Gym 6-8pm	26	27 Open Gym 6-8pm	28	29
30 *Church Community Center 9am						

*The Adak Community Church invites you to Orthodox Services starting at 9am.

Non-denominational services start at approx. 10 am.

Get your event on the calendar - birthdays too! e-mail information to dsharrah@adak-ak.gov

COMMUNITY RECIPE BOARD

MACARONI AND CHEESE

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

- 1 LB MACARONI BOILED AL DENTE, RINSED
- 3 MED CLOVES GARLIC MINCED
- 2 TEASPOONS SALT
- ½ TEASPOON BLACK PEPPER
- 2-3 CUPS SHREDDED CHEESE (use your favorites)
- ¾ STICK BUTTER
- 1/3 CUP FLOUR
- 1 TEASPOON ONION POWDER
- 4 1/2 CUPS MILK (1 mix evaporated and 2%)

Grease 9x13 pan generously with butter. Add ¼ cup Italian bread crumbs and tilt pan until bread crumbs have covered bottom and sides of pan, set aside until ready to use. Melt butter in 2-3 quart saucepan on stove with minced garlic. Remove from heat and add flour - mix thoroughly. Add salt, onion powder, pepper and milk mixing thoroughly. Return to heat. Cook over medium heat stirring often until boiling and sauce thickens. Boil for two minutes. Lower heat and add cheese - stir until melted. Ladle a little cheese sauce into bottom of pan just until all crumbs are covered. Add rinsed macaroni to pan. Pour rest of cheese sauce over macaroni. Cover with foil and bake for 25 minutes, pull from oven, take off foil and add your favorite toppings (I use French's Fried Onions) and return to oven for 10 minutes.

Variations: add bacon pieces, roasted red peppers, jalapenos etc.

BAKED SALMON

Preheat Oven to 350 degrees

- Salmon Filets
- Minced garlic
- Brown Sugar
- Mustard
- Black pepper

Rub filets with your favorite mustard and minced garlic. Sprinkle pepper on top, then top with brown sugar, patting down into mustard. Set salmon skin down in baking dish. May be baked or broiled to your liking.

LEFTOVER PICKLE BRINE

Don't throw away that leftover brine. Simply add vegetables from your refrigerator - Carrots, celery, broccoli, cucumbers, onion, zucchini, garlic etc, to the brine. Let vegetables marinate at least one week. Add jalapenos if you like spicier vegetables.

Recipe submissions requested. Please e-mail to dsharrah@adak-ak.gov

Q H M W Z C L L I H G N I R E B C B X C	MTMOFFETT
R N S H A G A D M G V E X H H X L C I A	OTTER
L S E I U T T Q J K L W K O V N G Q R I	WHITEALICE
A J N T L M R A F L E U F L Y Z P N P V	LORANSTATION
K R I E K U U S W E E P E R C O V E Y Y	ANDREWLAKE
E W L A N N O I T A T S N A R O L M H C	FUELFARM
B Z R L T D X Q K J N A I Q J Z C N L L	SEAL
O Q I I T B L S A L M O N I R Y I A A E	BERINGHILL
N S A C E Y Q Q E M E K X C Z K M E C K	HALIBUT
N N A E F P M A W J L X U L T L S U G I	USNAVY
I I K O F E D I R E T T O I A G M Y W E	KULUKBAY
E V S Y O K E Y F U D G S G R W V I E J	SALMON
R B A S M A M A B O V T O F L A Q X V B	CLAMLAGOON
O F L X T L A B N M A O D C N I M U O R	ALASKAAIRLINES
S Y A Z M W R R M E N X M S A J R F C M	SANDYCOVE
E X V I T E I E R K D H U J J K D I Y E	DEMARIEDAM
A K T E K R E G U B L J U Q R C U S D N	GREATSITKIN
K O G A P D D N U M Y A B K U L U K N L	FINGERBAY
T W F F Y N A I D X T E W T U B I L A H	SWEEPERCOVE
J A R R H A M F J N J U O B C E H S S I	LAKEBONNIEROSE

Using 20 out of 23 words from the list.

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WINDY CITY CELLULAR

VISIT OUR RETAIL STORE IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER CALL 572-9769 FOR ASSISTANCE

ADAK GENERAL STORE – 592-8403

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM -6PM

OPEN WEEKENDS - 9AM-3PM

ASBAG - ALEUTIAN SPORTS BAR AND GRILL - 592-2222

OPEN DAILY AT 6PM

FOOD SERVED THURSDAY - SUNDAY 6-9PM

BAY 5 - 592-8240

OPEN 7am - 1pm, & 5pm - 8pm

BRFAKFAST LUNCH AND DINNER

THE COLD ROCK CAFÉ – 572-9811

OPEN MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SUNDAY

6AM -1PM

END OF THE CHAIN BOAT SUPPLY – 592-0161

CALL FOR HOURS AND STOCK

EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES CLINIC

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:30AM - 4:30 PM - 592-8383

SERVING YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE – 592-8113

OPEN EVERYDAY 11AM - 1PM (EXCEPT TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS)

ICICLE SEAFOODS - 592-3474

APPLY FOR A JOB ONLINE AT WWW.ICICLESEAFOODS.COM

LITTLE MICHAEL LODGES - 592-2154

PROVIDING COMFORTABLE ACCOMMODATIONS ON ADAK SINCE 2008

HIDDEN BAY RENTALS

DVDS TO ATVS
OPEN DAILY 5PM – 8PM
242 AMCHITKA CIRCLE
572-9910

ADAK ISLAND INN OPEN YEAR ROUND

907-592-2325
Helene Sparks, Manager

GET YOUR AD PLACED HERE.

592-4500

dsharrah@adak-ak.gov



We want to hear from you! Let us know what you think. All comments are appreciated.

Make sure to follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofadak

*City of Adak, Alaska
P.O. Box 2011
Adak, Alaska 99546*





FROM THE WILDSIDE

A Busy Summer on Adak

The field season is coming to a close, far-flung field camps returning from months of monitoring seabirds on isolated islands, the M/V *Tiglox* preparing to head back east. Several exciting projects occurred in our own backyard this summer:

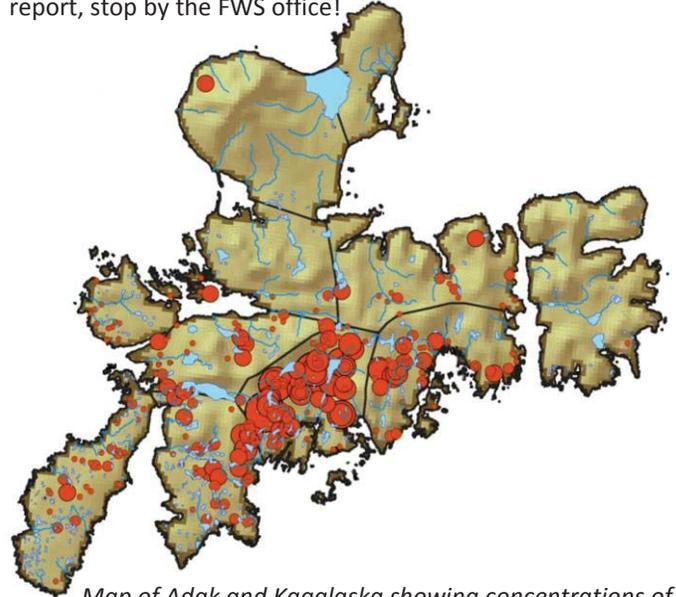
- Robb Kaler and Leah Kenney continued their study of Kittlitz's murrelets, one of the rarest breeding seabirds in the North Pacific. This year they located nine active nests in the mountains just south of town. This is pretty astounding, when you consider that up until about ten years ago only 17 nests had ever been found in all the world! Robb and Leah will be back on Adak in September to check the final status of nests and give a presentation--be sure to come!



Kittlitz's murrelet chick in its nest overlooking Expedition Harbor
(photo by Isaac Helmericks)

- UAA continued their archaeological work at the upland sites near Three Arm Bay and held a field school at the same time--check out their Facebook page (Central Aleutians Upland Archaeological Project) for lots of photos and details. Diane Hanson gave a talk about her work at the Community Center in May that was very well attended --thanks to all who came!
- Mitsuru Okuno and his colleagues looked at volcanic ash layers (tephra) from Shagak Bay, Haven Lake and Mt. Adagdak to try to decipher their origin, piece together an eruptive history, and interpolate how their deposition may have affected the early people of the central Aleutian Islands.
- Alaska Volcano Observatory had a helicopter here for a few weeks as they visited some of the neighboring islands to maintain seismic equipment. They also installed an infrasound sensor on Adak, behind the old FWS headquarters building--if you notice a big alien spider looking thing out there, don't disturb it!

- While the AVO helicopter was here we were able to borrow it often enough to complete an aerial caribou survey--the first since 2005. About 2,700 caribou were counted in both years. Mark Ricca is putting together a pamphlet with highlights from his caribou work on Adak the last few seasons--we should have copies soon. If you'd like a copy of the 2012 survey report, stop by the FWS office!



Map of Adak and Kagalaska showing concentrations of caribou during aerial surveys in 2012. The bigger the dot, the more bou! Note dot on southwest Kagalaska--YIKES!
(adapted from Ricca et al.'s 2012 survey report)

- John Piatt's USGS crew discovered our little tufted puffin colony on Gannet Rocks (just off Kuluk Beach) has essentially disappeared--they could find only one active burrow where there used to be hundreds. They collected a sample of food being delivered to the chick and discovered a strange fish no one recognized--perhaps a new species for Alaska! We'll know more when they get back to the lab.



Tufted puffins (photo by Ian L. Jones)

- Jim Estes and Tim Tinker's research group continued their investigation of the causes of the decline of the endangered Southwest Alaskan population of the Northern sea otter. They captured 24 otters in Clam Lagoon and collected samples to assess age, health, body condition, genetic markers of immunological stress, diet and range. Each otter was fitted with flipper tags--if you see an otter with tags, note the color (left and right flippers) and report to Lisa (592-2406).



Researchers retrieve an otter from the net
(photo by Suzann Speckman)

If you would like to learn more about any of these projects or about work going on further afield, stop by the FWS office! You might also like to check out the Refuge's brand new Facebook page (search for Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge; there are several pretender sites, but if you pick the one with the most "likes" you'll find it).



Fall Is Just Around the Corner

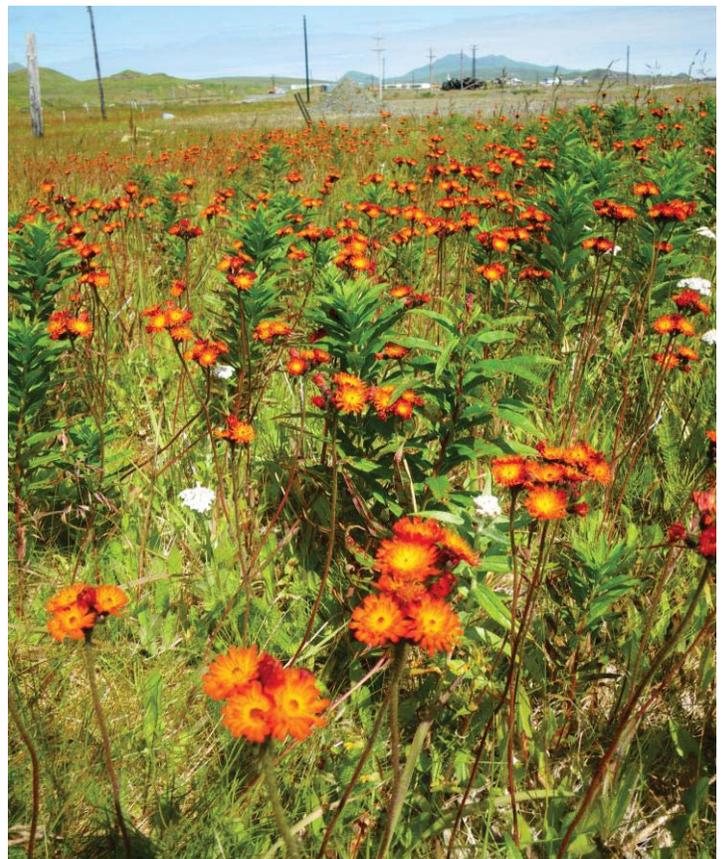
- Fireweed and Monkshood are in bloom, marking the end of our wildflower season. Once the chocolate lilies have lost their flowers and their leaves turn yellow, the bulbs are ready for harvest. They're supposed to be a wonderful thickener for stews, but we always seem to eat them all before we get home.
- Mossberries (also known as crowberries) are ripe for picking. Less plentiful blueberries taste sweeter after the first frost, if you can wait that long.
- Lapland longspurs, our cheerful summer visitors, are getting ready to head south, and fall migrants are beginning to move through--if you go birding after a strong westerly, you have a chance of seeing rare Eurasian vagrants, blown off course and into our laps!
- Now is a great time to photograph eagles feeding on dead salmon along the creeks (instead of at the dump!).
- Caribou hunters are arriving in greater numbers, but the caribou aren't anywhere near town yet. The unfortunate result is that Adak's tundra is becoming increasingly damaged by ATVs. Please help us spread the word that ATVs are not allowed on Refuge lands. Stop by the FWS office if you have questions about where the Refuge boundaries are--we have a great new pamphlet, including maps, which hopefully simplifies things.

Aleutian Invaders!

Over the years many non-native species have been introduced to Adak. The animals--caribou, rats, foxes, now an increasing number of feral cats--get most of the attention, but around town you will see many odd plants and shrubs imported by people to beautify their yards. Most of the plants introduced to Adak have not spread beyond disturbed areas, but one has been ominously creeping ever further: Orange Hawkweed.

This European plant is highly invasive--it aggressively spreads via roots and rhizomes (small fragments of which can generate new plants) and wind-dispersed seeds (which remain viable for up to seven years). Once established, Orange Hawkweed forms dense mats which nearly eliminate all other vegetation in wetlands and grass/herb communities (a description which fits most of the lower elevation lands on Adak), resulting in drastic changes to the ecosystem. It is extremely difficult to remove once it invades; mowing, cutting, and digging-up won't work. Herbicides are the only option, and because the seeds can persist so long without sprouting, the program must continue for years after the last plant is observed. Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past ten years trying to control the spread of Orange Hawkweed; they have no hope of eradicating the plant.

Please help stop this weed from spreading on Adak! The bright reddish orange flowers are beautiful and tempting to pick, but each flower you transport to a new area of Adak has the potential to form dozens of new plants. If you walk or drive through areas already infested with Orange Hawkweed, the seeds will hitch a ride to wherever you go next. The flowers are impossible to confuse for anything else on Adak: when you see them, think DANGER DANGER: KEEP AWAY!



Orange Hawkweed infestation between Mitt Lake and the Small Boat Harbor (photo by Carley Schacter)