

# CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF ALUTIIQ PRIDE

CHUGACH REGIONAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

2024

## The Next Forty Years: Resilient Peoples and Places in the Chugach

I'd like to tell a cultural story. In Port Graham, as kids when we woke up, we would eat breakfast, and then Mom kicked us out of the house, and we just went crazy—climbing trees and throwing rocks on the beach. There came a point where our parents would say, "You go help that elder, she flew this morning, and you can help her take her boxes home, or you can go pack water or pack wood." The elder would really be proud of us kids for helping carry her boxes, and she'd give us a hard candy or a biscuit. As kids we saw that as "Well, if we help, often we'd receive something," which wasn't the point of our parents asking us to help. The elders watched the kids to observe how the children progressed in terms of helping others. In my experience of doing that, the candy or the biscuit became secondary to the feeling of helping others; it became the cultural value. That's the way. It felt so good that you just wanted to do more, and the elders would share and were close enough and noticed that and watched us kids. When kids became between twelve and thirteen years old, the elders would say, **Llangarlluni** "He's becoming like a real person". "He's becoming aware of more than himself". "He's becoming aware of responsibilities." As a whole, **Llangarlluni** comes down to loving everyone.

From a young age, I was targeted by elders to lead my village and focus on protecting and preserving the natural environment, which is what led me to the Chugach Regional Resources Commission. I had finally realized the end result of an elder's responsibility—when they say you're ready. And I was ready because I remembered what they taught me.

The Chugach Regional Resources Commission's Board of Directors has set forth guiding values to transition into the next forty years. We're proud of these values, and I am proud of the Board of Directors in recognizing that these values must be reflected in the organization and in our projects, constituents, partners, and staff.



PATRICK NORMAN

The success of the Chugach Regional Resources Commission and the benefits that we are able to see through our programs is a reflection of strong leadership and the understanding that the Board of Directors is not only representing their community but representing the Chugach as a whole. That's our main purpose. We are aware of more than ourselves. We are aware of our responsibilities. And we thank everyone who has supported the Chugach Regional Resources Commission along the way.

I have immense respect and honor just to be able to sit here today and to be a part of this organization that has done so much for the Chugach region.

Here's to the next forty years,

*Patrick Norman*

Patrick "Ratii" Norman,  
Chairman of the Board of the Chugach  
Regional Resources Commission  
and Chief of the Port Graham Village Council



PATRICK NORMAN AND JEFF HETRICK CLAM DIGGING IN PORT GRAHAM



## Tai ggut itra - Tsiin - Dunilggux - Awa'ahdah aanda'lAxsha'a'ch'L - Welcome

It has been an honor to be a part of the Chugach Regional Resources Commission family from a young age when I accompanied my father, Jeff Hetrick, Director of the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute (then Shellfish Hatchery), on multiple work trips to each community in the Chugach region.

With the wisdom, guidance, and patience of the Board, my goal is to make this organization everything the Board, both past and present, ever dreamed of and to take it places they can only imagine. Along the way, a high priority is to make Chugach Regional Resources Commission an organization where people want to work and a place that employs residents of each of the Chugach communities. I'm so proud of where we are. I'm proud and inspired by the Board's leadership every single day. I'm proud of our team and inspired by the kind, hard-working staff that make the Board's dreams a reality. We have hired a lot of very experienced and devoted people, and we've had great success.

As we move forward, we will acknowledge the struggles and pains of the past. We will acknowledge the environmental trauma that continues to weave into the current work that we do for the Chugach People. We will hold steadfast to the values set by the Board and maintain high expectations for staff and our partners. We invite everyone to be a part of our journey and our story—because it always has been and always will be a story worth telling.

With gratitude,



Willow 'Limtuyaq' Hetrick-Price  
Executive Director



Meet our Talented Team  
of Professionals at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/our-team/>

Chugach Regional Resources Commission is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors composed of one Tribally elected representative from each community. Board members are chosen by their Tribal Councils because of their interest and knowledge in natural resources, environment, and economic/community development projects.

### Executive Committee

**Patrick Norman** • Port Graham • Chairman  
**Priscilla Evans** • Nanwalek • Vice Chairwoman  
**Darrel Olsen** • Eyak • Secretary  
**Sheila Jordan** • Valdez • Treasurer

### Members

**Boyd Selanoff** • Chenega • Member  
**Timmy Selanoff** • Chenega • Alternate Member  
**Pamela Smith** • Eyak • Alternate Member  
**Sebastian Demas** • Nanwalek • Alternate Member  
**Ari Schablein** • Qutekcak • Member  
**Melody Wallace** • Qutekcak • Alternate Member  
**Nanci Lee Robart** • Tatitlek • Member



Get to Know the Board at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/board-of-directors/>

# Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute Reflects on Forty Years of Mariculture, Marine Research, and Environmental Monitoring

We've come a long way since our meager beginnings when we leased a small space in the Seward Marine Center to support the Chugach Tribes' goals of recovery of subsistence shellfish species immediately after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. Little did we know that a few short years after those first successful attempts to raise oysters, little neck clams, and cockles in captivity that we would be the lessee and sole operator of the State of Alaska's Mariculture Technical Center and Mariculture Research Center—the former Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery now Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute. The Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute is the cultural and historical expert in mariculture and aquaculture industries in Alaska.

Indeed, Chugach Regional Resources Commission has been managing the Mariculture Technical Center and Mariculture Research Center facility for thirty-two years. We are proud of this accomplishment and acknowledge that there has been hardship along the way, but we are a small blip in the history of Indigenous aquaculture practices that have sustained Southcentral Alaska for at least four thousand years.

This stewardship is the reason we are here today, and it provides a beacon of light to follow during the long, hard days.

Through time, the original partners and supporters, such as the universities and state and federal agencies, have forgotten about their Mariculture Technical Center and Mariculture Research Center. Chalk it up to retirements, restructuring, or an inward-looking philosophy. Whatever the reasons, resilience and perseverance kept us here, and it will keep us here for the next forty years. Working closely with the City of Seward, we have a negotiated purchase and sale agreement for the facility and waterfront property. With generous support from the First Nations Development Institute and the NDN Collective, by the time this is published, we will own the facility. With perpetual funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, we will forever be a part of the history of Tribes in Alaska.

It's been an honor to serve alongside my peers and friends during this journey. The trust the Chugach communities have graced the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute with during my nearly forty years at Chugach Regional Resources Commission will be a part of my personal and professional legacy to the Chugach People. From shellfish enhancement projects in Port Graham, Nanwalek, Tatitlek, Chenega, Seward, Valdez, and Eyak to oyster farming operations in Chenega and Tatitlek, my time has been nothing short of memorable. I couldn't attempt to list and thank all the friends that have participated in projects over the years. Whenever I visit the communities, I share a warm smile, hug, or handshake with everyone, binding us to a common cause. Every community had go-to people to arrange travel, lodging, organize crews or whatever was needed. Notably, Larry and Gail Evanoff, Pete Kompkoff, Gary Kompkoff, David Totemoff, Buddy Janson, Mark King, and Patrick and Fran Norman. I would also be remiss to not include my mentor David Daisy, dear friend Rodger Painter, and of course Patty Brown-Schwalenberg and Willow Hetrick-Price for their leadership. Your vision and unwavering support have made this facility what it is today.

With Alutiiq Pride,

Jeff Hetrick  
Director, Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute



ALUTIIQ  
PRIDE  
MARINE  
INSTITUTE



# INDIGENOUS AQUACULTURE

## BROODSTOCK TANKS



## WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



LITTENCK CLAMS

Our focus remains with projects that enhance economic and subsistence opportunities for local communities, Tribal or otherwise. As such, Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute has expanded its focus areas to include a diverse range of mariculture development opportunities. As a production facility, the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute raises subsistence and commercial species while using the facility to expand research and development to several new species for potential mainstream mariculture applications.



BASKET COCKERLE



BIDARKI



BLUE KING CRAB



BULL KELP



BUTTER CLAM



CALIFORNIA SEA CUCUMBER



GEODUCK CLAMS



HALIBUT



HERRING



LITTENCK CLAM



PACIFIC OYSTER



PACIFIC RAZOR CLAM



PINK SALMON



PINTO ABALONE



PURPLE HINGE ROCK SCALLOP



RED KING CRAB



RIBBON KELP



SOFT-SHELL CLAMS



SUGAR KELP



THREE-RIBBED KELP

The Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute refined shellfish enhancement tools early on by using the sanctuary gardening concept in a minimally invasive and disruptive way. The purpose is twofold: provide clam resources for subsistence harvest and attempt to identify the bottleneck for population recovery. In the thirty-five years since the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute has established native shellfish sanctuaries throughout intertidal habitats near our Tribal communities.

# Chugach Regional Ocean Monitoring Program



The Chugach Regional Ocean Monitoring Program aims to fill gaps in understanding of nearshore ocean health in our communities through examining ocean chemistry, harmful algae, and shellfish biotoxin levels. The program relies on citizen science from our partners in Tribal communities throughout the region. With regional Tribal capacity, we can further support safe and sustainable harvest opportunities for both local communities and the shellfish industry in Southcentral Alaska.

Ocean acidification is also a topic of concern in coastal Alaskan waters and has been shown to interfere with the normal biological activity of many organisms. Little is known about the chemistry in the nearshore environments of our communities. The Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute has established an Ocean Acidification Research Lab that monitors ocean chemistry statewide. This lab is also working on developing nutrient-testing capabilities to include other possible factors that contribute to harmful algal blooms and biological productivity in the region.

In recent years, researchers have detected toxins associated with harmful algal blooms in a range of culturally critical species, from clams and herring to seals and whales. Despite these exposure risks, limited data exist on the impacts of harmful algal blooms to subsistence harvest practices and community well-being. Currently, the State of Alaska does not monitor harmful algal bloom biotoxin for subsistence users, and it shows no sign of equitable treatment among shellfish user groups. This is where the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute comes in. We are the first line of defense for subsistence consumers in Southcentral Alaska.

In the last five years, we have spent a lot of time, money, and effort to bring our programs at the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute to Western standards of acceptance, although our work has been culturally relevant for decades. We now have the capability to conduct a suite of seawater chemistry analyses, genomics, eDNA, transcriptomics, toxicology, immunology, and endocrinology analyses in-house.



Learn more about Our  
Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute at  
<https://www.alutiiqprideak.org/>



## Wetland Mapping

The Chugach Regional Resources Commission's wetland program aims to gain a better understanding of wetland extents and update decades' old wetland data in the Chugach region. Its results will help member Tribes plan for any projects they could conceptualize for their communities. The first step was developing a wetland program plan for the Chugach region to identify needs and develop ways to address them. The plan reflects the local environmental history of the region and aims to assess wetland inventory needs identified with guidance from Tribal community members; it is a starting point for long-term wetland inventory, monitoring, and management across the Chugach region.

Most, if not all, of the subsistence resources in the community are dependent on waterbodies and wetlands. Transportation, recreation, and even some of the identities of the community members are directly tied to the integrity and health of watersheds. Wetlands provide habitat for subsistence resources, such as waterfowl, salmon, beavers, otters, deer, mink, muskrat, crab, shrimp, berries, and other plants and animals. Wetlands also attenuate floodwaters from heavy rains, recharge groundwater, and cycle nutrients to the coastal environment. While wetlands are mapped for the Chugach region, this mapping was performed at a coarse scale and interpreted from 1970s-era aerial photography. For these reasons, the types and boundaries of wetlands are inaccurate and outdated, which complicates proposed development and the stewardship of natural resources.

An accurate wetland map provides a powerful tool for our Tribes.



Learn more about Our  
Wetlands Mapping Project at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/wetlands/>



# CRTCD

Chugach Region Tribal Conservation District

**We are stronger together.** Beginning in 2018, there was much discussion between Chugach native villages, corporations, and nonprofits about forming a Tribal Conservation District that would serve the region. In October 2019, it was decided that Chugach Regional Resources Commission would take the responsibility of managing the Chugach Region Tribal Conservation District (big job!), which was the Chugach Region Tribal Conservation District was formally established in 2021. The goal of the Chugach Region Tribal Conservation District is to set local priorities for conservation and ensure sustainable use of natural resources for subsistence, economic opportunity, resource development, and cultural preservation. Working closely with the US Department of Agriculture and the Natural Resource Conservation Service will make it possible for the Chugach Regional Resources Commission to accomplish common regional goals and at the same time make progress toward food sovereignty and security.



Learn more about the Chugach Region  
Tribal Conservation District at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/chugach-region-tribal-conservation-district/>



# IGAP = Capacity.

## INDIAN GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

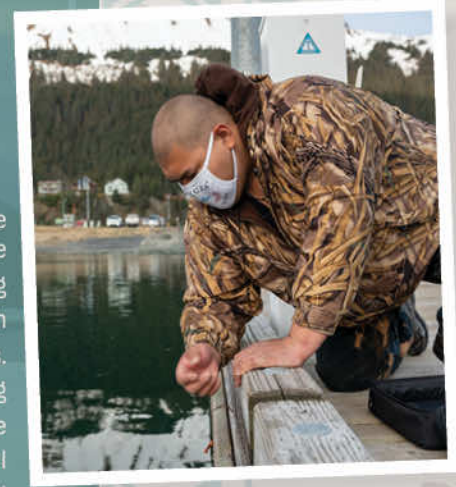
CRRC's IGAP program helps connect and provides opportunities for collaboration across the region.

Capacity is what Chugach Regional Resources Commission has brought, in close cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency, to the Chugach region since reinitiating the organization's Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) in 2018. Working within the core focus areas set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency, Chugach Regional Resources Commission's IGAP has experienced major accomplishments. Chugach Regional Resources Commission serves as the regional catalyst connecting the Chugach Tribes with IGAPs to collectively address environmental issues that are common outside of traditional Tribal territories. A case in point is the Chugach Regional Ocean Monitoring Program and its efforts to monitor Chugach waters for harmful algal blooms and ocean acidification. Community samplers, often funded by Tribal environmental programs, participate in water and shellfish sample collection, and they convene on an annual basis to further their knowledge exchange and skill building. We're proud of this—never speaking for a Tribe but amplifying the good work they all do to leverage and stretch federal dollars as far as possible. Within the Chugach Regional Resource Commission, we've been able to build capacity in geographic information system database and geospatial analysis, respond to funding requests, connect with other environmental organizations, understand complex environmental regulations, and respond to consultations, environmental regulatory changes, and other issues impacting the Chugach. And we won't stop there. Working closely with our program officer at the Environmental Protection Agency, we're making strides, along with other IGAPs in the Chugach, Southcentral Alaska, and statewide, to protect the environment.

We extend a heartfelt **THANK-YOU** to the IGAP Tribes of the Chugach for your collaboration, support, enthusiasm, and unwavering dedication.



Learn more about IGAP at <https://crrcalaska.org/indian-general-assistance-program/>



# TRIBAL FISH & WILDLIFE

## Building a Shared Future for all Life

Since inception, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission has continually made efforts to strengthen Tribal sovereignty and inform hunting and fishing management. Our continued goal is to achieve informed inclusion with state and federal authorities over co-management of subsistence resources.

Tribal Fish and Wildlife staff work on individual species-related projects and region-wide community-based projects, provide updated information to Tribes regarding fish and wildlife management issues, and act as a liaison between Tribes and state and federal management entities.

The Tribal Fish and Wildlife Department has four subprograms: fisheries, wildlife, subsistence, and marine mammals. All have the common goal of providing for subsistence availability for future generations.

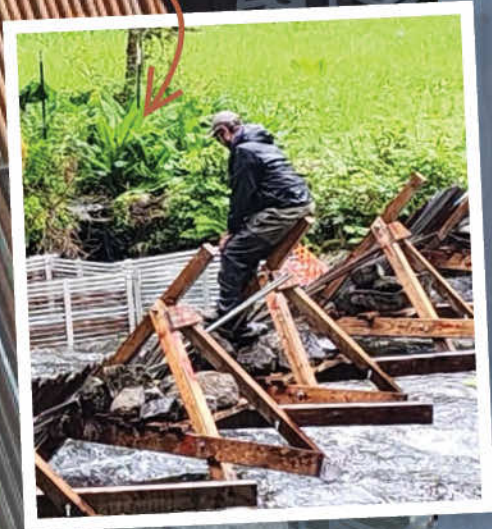
### Fisheries Program

The Fisheries Program has a long history of supporting Tribal-led monitoring of salmon for sustained subsistence harvest in the Chugach region. Our longest program, which began officially in 1999, has been a partnership with the Nanwalek IRA Council maintaining a sockeye salmon weir monitoring effort in the English Bay River system. As the Fisheries Program grows, it will continue to strengthen current community-led programs, while pursuing collaborative research opportunities with agencies and universities and exploring ecological questions that sustain the relationship between salmon and people. In partnership with the Native Village of Eyak, a new sockeye salmon weir at Eshamy Lake is now under Tribal management.



Learn more about Our Fisheries Program Projects at

<https://crrcalaska.org/nanwalek-salmon-enhancement-project/>



CRR TRIBAL FISH & WILDLIFE TEAM



### Wildlife Program

The Wildlife Program works to address concerns expressed by Chugach Tribal Members regarding the health, environmental changes, and resource competition of species while incorporating the Tribes' Indigenous knowledge to create research projects to address these concerns.

### Subsistence Program

The Subsistence Program provides a platform for the Chugach region's Tribal Members to convene and discuss federal hunting and fishing issues. This program is guided by representatives from the CRRC's seven communities that we call the Alliance. The Alliance was created for Tribal Members to speak and act in a unified voice on regional subsistence topics. By actively, intelligently, and collectively advocating for subsistence rights, we can protect the well-being of the Chugach people. It starts with building capacity to inform the fish and wildlife regulatory processes.



Learn more about Our Subsistence Program at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/subsistence/>

### Marine Mammals Program

We have made significant progress in developing a region-specific marine mammal co-management strategy that takes a holistic, ecosystem-wide approach toward understanding marine mammal health and managing subsistence harvest of marine mammals.

We continue to work with other Alaska Native organizations to support a new marine mammal harvest and management strategy that addresses concerns with descendant harvest eligibility and management prior to the depletion of marine mammal stocks.



Learn more about Our  
Marine Mammals Program at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/marine-mammal-program/>



# Suumacirpet Asirpiartuq

- Our Way of Living Is the Best

WE BUILD A RESILIENT FUTURE FOR OUR PEOPLE.

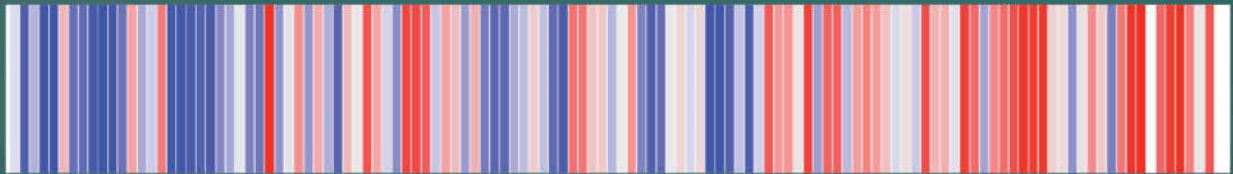
# Climate Change

After a simple but powerful resolution approved by the Board of Directors in 2013, the organization's climate change program began. People from all around the Chugach region described some sort of ecosystem shift that became noticeable in the last decade, with a lot of observations of unusual natural phenomenon, sick or starving animals, and changes to ecosystem patterns that seemed outside the scope of normal variability people have observed throughout their lifetime. What the Board wanted to accomplish with a climate change coordinator is an understanding of the breadth and ways to potentially mitigate impacts on traditional lives and livelihoods in the Chugach region.

Since then, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission has supported a full-time climate change coordinator tasked solely with working for the program and implemented several programs to monitor and protect natural resources in the region, while simultaneously launching a vulnerability assessment to better understand the impacts on traditional foods. The Chugach Regional Resources Commission is developing an adaptation plan to identify priority actions we can take at the regional level to mitigate climate impacts and support the communities we serve in their local efforts to protect human and environmental health.

The Board's vision became a reality in 2021 when the organization was asked to develop a chapter for the US Forest Service Chugach National Forest Vulnerability Assessment that explored climate impacts on selected traditional foods and resources in the region to look deeply into how climate change could impact subsistence resources now and in the future.

## Chugach Region Climate Stripes, 1900-2022



No words. No numbers. No graphs. Just a series of colored bars.

These "climate stripes" are visual representations of temperatures in the Chugach since 1900. Each band represents the average temperature for a single year, relative to the average temperature from 1900 to 2022. The shade corresponds to the rank of each year from coldest—dark blue—to warmest—bright red. The warming trend in the Chugach is remarkable. The numerous and consistently bright red stripes on the right show the undeniable warming trend in the Chugach region over the past three decades. At the Chugach Regional Resources Commission, we are working to understand the changing climate and make a difference for the future of Chugach region Alaska Natives.

*DATA SOURCE: ANALYZED AND PROVIDED BY RICK THOMAS FROM THE ALASKA CENTER FOR CLIMATE ASSESSMENT AND POLICY*



Learn more about Climate Change at  
<https://crrcalaska.org/climate-change/>

# Weaving Traditional Knowledge and Scientific Perspectives

## EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Natural sciences are important to Chugach Regional Resources Commission's mission, but Western science is often highly technical and not always meaningfully designed to address community concerns. In acknowledgment of this disparity, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission recently developed an education and outreach department to ensure that our internal science outreach is relevant, co-created, and culturally responsive to our seven Tribal. Through a valued partnership with

five renowned regional organizations as part of the Community Organized Restoration and Learning (CORaL) Network, Chugach Regional Resources Commission's team also works in partnership to create and maintain an ongoing education framework that ensures that resources derived from the Exxon Valdez oil spill Trustee Council's thirty-five years of restoration projects are culturally responsive to those impacted by the spill the most-underserved, rural communities in the spill area.



Learn more about CORaL Network at <https://crrcalaska.org/CORaL-network/>



COLLECTIVE ALASKA  
NATIVE PERSPECTIVES  
Quliyanguarpet - Our Story

As part of the CORaL network, Chugach Regional Resources Commission has developed and provides a series of courses designed for the scientific community to build an understanding of Alaska Native history, legal complexities, diverse cultural practices, and the way of life from the perspective of Alaska Native People. This training is called the

Collective Alaska Native Perspectives Training. What we're most proud of is that participants are provided the opportunity explore and learn from other cultures and share experiences through panel participation with Alaska Native elders and an all-Native mentor panel.



Learn more about Collective Alaska Native Perspectives at <https://crrcalaska.org/coral-network/#CANP>



Iqsak is a Sugt'stun word that translates to "hook," or more specifically, "halibut hook," and was chosen as the theme for Chugach Regional Resources Commission's science curriculum as the goal is to hook Alaska Native students early on to motivate them to pursue post-secondary degrees and careers in the sciences and natural resource management. We truly believe that learning is enhanced when subject matter is linked to local communities in interesting and relevant ways. The curriculum, which

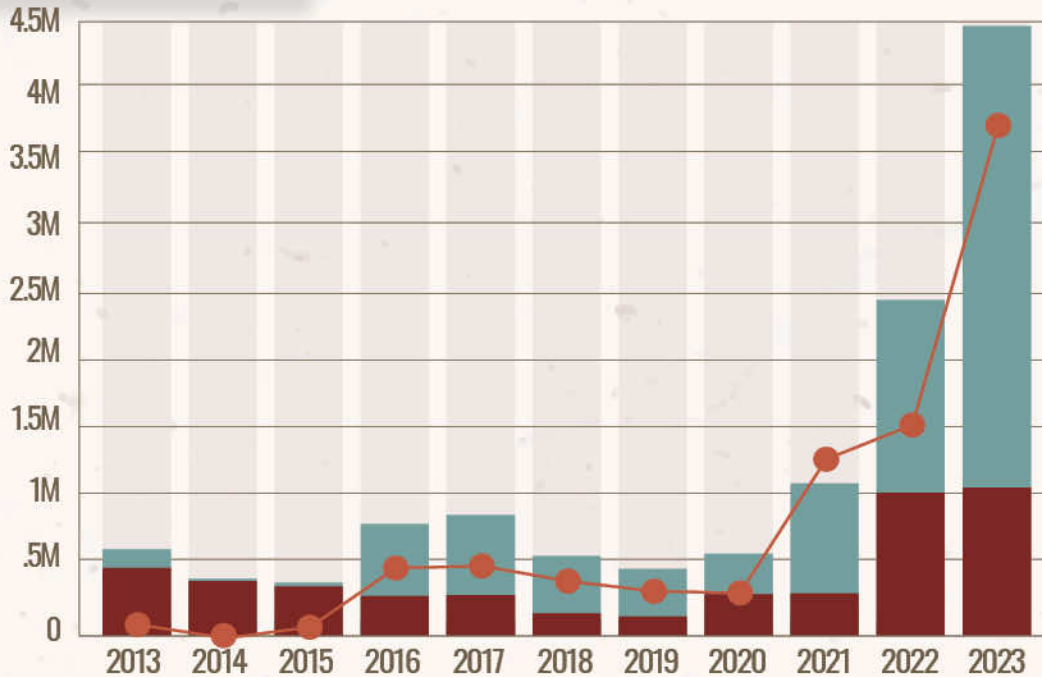
is continually being updated and expanded, explores culturally based natural resource science curriculum while exploring Sugpiaq and scientific perspectives and the connections between the two.



Learn more about Iqsak at <https://crrcalaska.org/iqsak/>

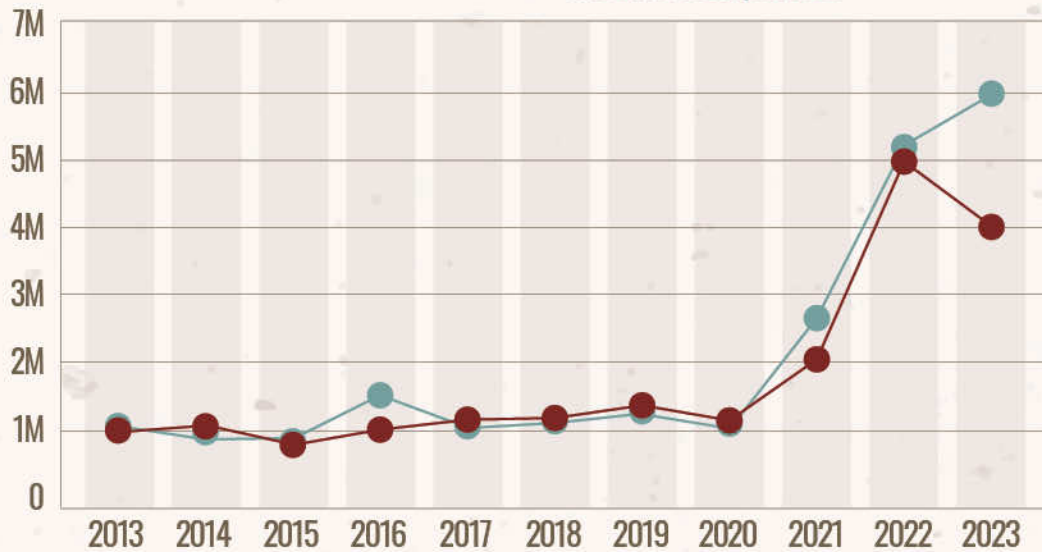


## Balance Sheet Assets & Liabilities



2013	TOTAL ASSETS	\$524,967
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$451,013
	NET ASSETS	\$73,954
2014	TOTAL ASSETS	\$391,322
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$391,224
	NET ASSETS	\$98
2015	TOTAL ASSETS	\$337,090
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$311,593
	NET ASSETS	\$25,497
2016	TOTAL ASSETS	\$757,117
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$262,120
	NET ASSETS	\$494,997
2017	TOTAL ASSETS	\$817,009
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$386,230
	NET ASSETS	\$430,779
2018	TOTAL ASSETS	\$502,634
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$116,607
	NET ASSETS	\$386,027
2019	TOTAL ASSETS	\$438,764
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$107,319
	NET ASSETS	\$331,445
2020	TOTAL ASSETS	\$554,082
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$279,200
	NET ASSETS	\$274,882
2021	TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,658,075
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$380,577
	NET ASSETS	\$1,277,498
2022	UNAUDITED	
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,494,799
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$948,943
	NET ASSETS	\$1,545,856
2023	UNAUDITED	
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,426,725
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,053,814
	NET ASSETS	\$3,378,038

## Profit & Loss Income & Expenses

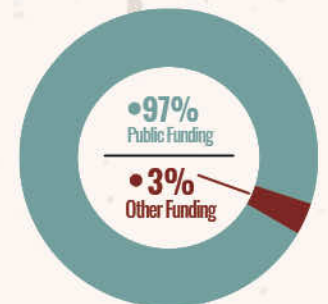


2013	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,226,678
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,228,849
2014	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,095,771
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,169,627
2015	TOTAL INCOME	\$978,005
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$952,606
2016	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,516,702
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,047,202
2017	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,054,447
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,118,655
2018	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,151,951
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,196,703
2019	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,229,218
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,283,800
2020	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,140,787
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,197,350
2021	TOTAL INCOME	\$2,798,670
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,015,384
2022	UNAUDITED	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$5,361,872
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,093,514
2023	UNAUDITED	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$6,123,603
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,462,900

The Board of Directors and management are working tirelessly to ensure a sound financial footing and diversification of revenue streams.

**What do these numbers mean? Growth. Low overhead. High impact.**

Chugach Regional Resources Commission strives to keep our overhead costs low so that more services can be directly provided to the collective issues informed by the Board of Directors.



# Thank You to All of Our Funding Partners

AWA'AHDAH - QUWANAKCUK - QUYANA - GUNALCHÉESH

Your support for our Native communities helps them thrive.

## FUNDERS & DONORS



Did we miss you? Please forgive us, putting together forty years of history from hard files is challenging.  
 Notify us at [admin@crccalaska.org](mailto:admin@crccalaska.org)



# Annual Subsistence Memorial Gathering

Since 1999, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission has hosted the Annual Subsistence Memorial Gathering. The event is held near the anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill each year not to celebrate that tragic day or the turmoil that ensued, but to honor our resilience and adaptation in the wake of the terrible disaster that drastically changed the Chugach region and its people. Each year, centered around an overarching theme, the event provides an opportunity to share traditional knowledge, build relationships, and celebrate our lands, habitat, fish and wildlife, and people, while allowing us to heal from the spill that has continued to impact our lives.



Learn more and see past Gatherings at <https://crrcalaska.org/annual-subsistence-memorial-gathering-2>



## Mission

Promote Tribal sovereignty and the protection of our subsistence lifestyle through the development and implementation of Tribal natural resource management programs to assure the conservation, sound economic development, and stewardship of the natural resources in the traditional use areas of the Chugach region.

## Values

**Accept What Life Brings** Understand that often occurrences are outside of your control, and we must address adversity and adapt to unforeseen circumstances.

**Have Patience** Seek to understand the perspectives of others and respect the time it takes for things to happen.

**Honor Your Elders** Advocate for the perspectives of community elders so that they are included in the discussion and decision making.

**Know Who You Are** Bring your unique perspective to discussions and decisions.

**Live Carefully** Know that your actions have both positive and negative irreparable effects on others.

**Pray for Guidance** Trust intuition and generational knowledge when making decisions that affect the community.

**See Connections** Take time to consider all perspectives and ways in which the work being pursued might impact other objectives and work already occurring in the organization and the region.

**Share What You Have** Offer your skills and expertise to support your community and actively contribute the concerns and priorities of your community at meetings.

**Show Respect to Others** Allow each person to speak without interruption and honor the information being shared.

**Take Care of Others** Success is a direct correlation of the success of others and only when we take care of ourselves and take care of others can we succeed.

**Youth** Young people are a great treasure and our future leaders. We encourage youth involvement and participation to foster future potential leaders.

# Building Resilient Indigenous Peoples and Places in the Chugach For the Next Forty Years

The Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute in Seward, Alaska, is the only Tribally managed Alaskan institution dedicated to preserving shellfish, which are imperative to a traditional subsistence lifestyle. It is managed by the Chugach Regional Resources Commission, which was formed to ensure that Chugach Natives are involved in environmental decision-making. With the support of allies like you, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission is purchasing the property—a move that will cement Tribal sovereignty over this invaluable resource and make it possible for Chugach Regional Resources Commission to expand the facility and create a comprehensive coastal resiliency plan.



Chugach Regional Resources Commission  
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**WE SHARE EVERYTHING WE MAKE, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK US FIRST.**





## A Message from the Board of Directors

What our generation has been able to accomplish is the protection of the environment to the best of our ability. We've been able to reinvigorate the idea of Indigenous knowledge and co-management of natural resources that are rightfully ours. In 1867, the United States of America bought a territory known as Alaska from Russia. It was a transaction between two colonial powers. Russia offered what it did not own, and the United States bought it. Since then, there has been turmoil, theft, exploitation, and devastation—for example, in the form of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. But there has also been joy, accomplishment, success, and pride. We are in a unique fish and wildlife management structure that is riddled with complexity that our state and federal governments continue to complicate. This has forced us to band together and create the Chugach Regional Resources Commission to promote Tribal sovereignty and protect our subsistence lifestyle through the development and implementation of Tribal natural resource management programs to assure the conservation, economic development, and stewardship of the natural resources in the traditional use areas of the Chugach region.

To the next forty years and the next generation — our wish for our People is that our culture is integrated into our work, forever and always. Be proud of who you are and what you stand for. It is amazing to see what we are capable of, and we hope that future generations heed that calling to do better, help the environment, and maintain a subsistence lifestyle because that is why we're here today. Be grounded in identity as future leaders. Learn where you came from, where you are, and where you're going. Be happy. Be grounded in your knowledge that your ancestors lived here, and you belong here, that this is who you are. Be proud of that. We are working for your dreams to come true, and one day you are going to be fulfilling the work that we have continued from our elders as you expand this organization into something that we could never imagine.

**AWA'AHDAH • QUWANAKCUK • QUYANA  
GUNAŁCHÉESH • THANK YOU**

From the Chugach Regional Resources Commission  
Board of Directors



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