



CHUGACH REGIONAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

THE NEXT FORTY YEARS

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR RESILIENT PEOPLES AND PLACES IN THE CHUGACH 2025–2030





TRIBAL AND CULTURALLY GROUNDED

For more than 10,000 years, the Chugach people have lived in harmony with surrounding lands and waters that continue to hold profound cultural, spiritual, and economic significance. Guided by the wisdom of the Elders and the strength rooted in tradition, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRR) integrates traditional ecological knowledge with contemporary science to address the complex environmental challenges of today and tomorrow.

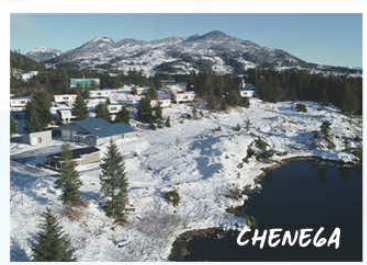
Through collaboration with Chugach Tribes, CRR brings Tribal voices to the forefront of natural resource management, ensuring that cultural heritage and traditional practices are preserved and promoted. CRR is committed to fostering community resilience, self-determination, and sustainable resource management. We strive to build a resilient future for the Chugach people by supporting food sovereignty, protecting lands and waters within traditional use areas, fostering sound economic opportunities within the communities, and ensuring the survival and prosperity of the Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) and dAXunhyuu (Eyak) cultures for generations to come.

ALASKA

WHERE WE WORK



CRRC PROUDLY SERVES THE SUGPIAQ (ALUTIIQ) AND DAXUNHYUU (EYAK) PEOPLES OF SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA. THE CHUGACH REGION SPANS AN AREA FROM THE LOWER COOK INLET EAST THROUGH PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND TO THE LOWER COPPER RIVER. CRRC'S STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDE RESIDENTS OF THE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES OF CHENEGA, EYAK, NANWALEK, PORT GRAHAM, QUTEKCAK, TATTILEK, AND VALDEZ.



MISSION & VISION

MISSION

To protect, rebuild, and conserve the Chugach environment and natural resources while promoting Tribal sovereignty and the protection of a subsistence lifestyle. We strive to assure bio-cultural restoration and conservation, sound economic development, and stewardship of the natural resources in the traditional use areas of the Chugach region while bringing Tribal voices to the forefront of natural resource management processes.



VISION

We envision a resilient future for the Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) and dAXunhyuu (Eyak) peoples, where the Chugach region leads in Tribal sovereignty, bio-cultural stewardship, and regenerative economic development. The future we envision is one in which:

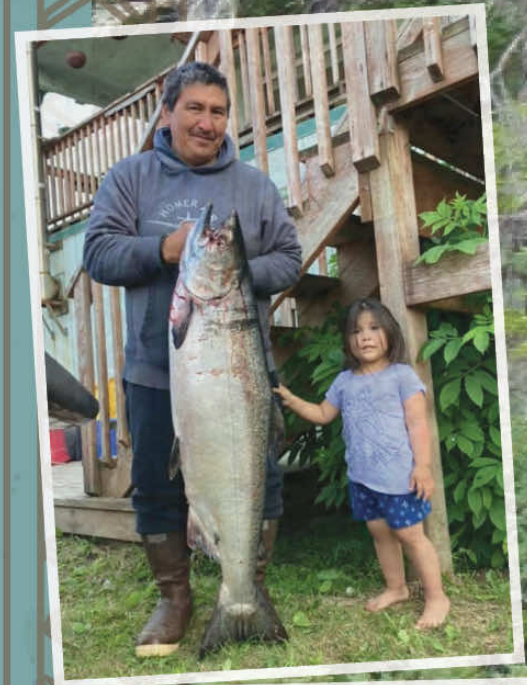
- ▶ Chugach communities **THRIVE** through the integration of traditional ecological knowledge and contemporary science.
- ▶ Chugach communities **REACH** food security and sovereignty.
- ▶ Chugach communities **ADAPT** to impacts of climate change, build resiliency, and capitalize on opportunities.
- ▶ Chugach lands and waters remain **VIBRANT**, ensuring the survival and prosperity of the people for generations to come.

VALUES

VALUES

The Chugach Regional Resources Commission's Board of Directors has set forth guiding values to transition into the next forty years. These values must be reflected in the organization and within the projects, constituents, partners, and staff.

- 1. ACCEPT WHAT LIFE BRINGS** - Understand that often occurrences are outside of your control, and we must address adversity and adapt to unforeseen circumstances.
- 2. HAVE PATIENCE** - Seek to understand the perspectives of others and respect the time it takes for things to happen.
- 3. HONOR YOUR ELDERS** - Advocate for the perspectives of community Elders so that they are included in the discussion and decision making.
- 4. KNOW WHO YOU ARE** - Bring your unique perspective to discussions and decisions.
- 5. LIVE CAREFULLY** - Know that your actions have both positive and negative irreparable effects on others.
- 6. PRAY FOR GUIDANCE** - Trust intuition and generational knowledge when making decisions that affect the community.
- 7. 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.
- 8. SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE** - Offer your skills and expertise to support your community and actively contribute to the concerns and priorities of your community at meetings.
- 9. SHOW RESPECT TO OTHERS** - Allow each person to speak without interruption and honor the information being shared.
- 10. 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.
- 11. YOUTH** - Young people are a great treasure and our future leaders. We encourage youth involvement and participation to foster future potential leaders.



WHAT WE DO



STRATEGIC ANCHORS

The following strategic anchors weave through all programs and serve as crosscutting themes in every decision within the organization.

- 1. TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION:** Strengthening Tribal governance and community resilience through active participation in natural resource management and policymaking.
- 2. REGENERATIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:** Promoting conservation and regenerative use of natural resources, ensuring long-term environmental and economic health.
- 3. CLIMATE RESILIENCE:** Conducting climate change research and implementing adaptation strategies to protect lands, waters, and way of life.
- 4. FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND SECURITY:** Encouraging and developing innovative and thriving food systems based on those that have nourished Native communities since time immemorial. Supporting mariculture, policymaking, and subsistence practices to ensure food sovereignty and security for Chugach Tribal communities.
- 5. CONTINUITY OF SUBSISTENCE OR SUBSISTENCE STEWARDSHIP:** Ensuring sustainable and healthy populations of natural resources through collaborative research and management while supporting the continuity of a subsistence lifestyle.
- 6. COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Fostering economic opportunities through innovative resource management programs, mariculture, and community-based projects.
- 7. EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING:** Integrating traditional ecological knowledge with contemporary science and promoting educational initiatives to empower Tribal members and future leaders.
- 8. CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION:** Ensuring the survival and flourishing of Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) and dAXunhyuu (Eyak) bio-cultural practices through cultural programs, education, and community engagement.



ALUTIIQ PRIDE MARINE INSTITUTE

CRRC PROGRAMS

MARICULTURE: The focus remains with projects that enhance economic and subsistence opportunities for local communities, Tribal or otherwise, and diversifying mariculture development opportunities in the Chugach. The Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute is tasked with raising 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



LITTENECK CLAM



PACIFIC OYSTER



PACIFIC RAZOR CLAM



PINK SALMON



PINTO ABALONE



PURPLE HINGE ROCK SCALLOP



RED KING CRAB



REBBDN KELP



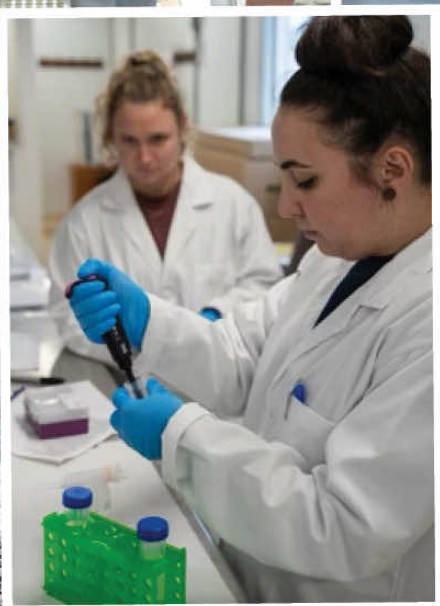
SOFT-SHELL CLAMS



SUGAR KELP



THREE-RIBBED KELP



CHUGACH REGIONAL OCEAN MONITORING PROGRAM

The focus remains to fill in gaps in understanding of nearshore ocean health in Chugach 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, CRRC can further support safe and sustainable harvest opportunities for both local communities and the shellfish industry in Southcentral Alaska.

CRRC PROGRAMS



TRIBAL FISH AND WILDLIFE

The focus remains to strengthen Tribal sovereignty and inform hunting and fishing management. This is accomplished through informed inclusion with state and federal authorities over co-management of subsistence resources. CRRC works on individual species-related projects and region-wide community-based projects, provides updated information to Tribes regarding fish and wildlife management issues, and acts as a liaison between Tribes and state and federal management entities.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The focus remains to highlight and protect the importance of addressing the environmental, and natural resource needs of Tribal members through the Chugach Region Tribal Conservation District, habitat mapping and protection, CRRC's Climate Change Program, and the Indian General Assistance Program. Through this program, CRRC builds Tribal capacity and promotes food sovereignty, traditional food use, and traditional food consumption.



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The focus remains to sustain knowledge about the Chugach environment and the application of that knowledge to daily life, cultural practices, language, scientific research, and natural resource management. This is accomplished by facilitating open relationships, diversity, and communities in the ecological and cultural environment of the Chugach region, while exploring Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) and dAXunhyuu (Eyak) scientific perspectives and the connections between the two.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

FOUNDATIONAL PRIORITIES

- 1. INDIGENOUS-LED INITIATIVES:** Promoting leadership in research, policy, and community projects through collaborative research and management while protecting a subsistence way of life.
- 2. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT:** Strengthening the capacity of CRRC villages and tribal members through employment, engagement, and development.
- 3. ADVOCACY AND POLICY INFLUENCE:** Enhancing CRRC's role in shaping policies that affect Indigenous communities.
- 4. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:** Ensuring regenerative and sustainable management and conservation of natural resources.

CRITERIA FOR OUR WORK

- 1. REGENERATIVE PRACTICES:** Is there commitment to regenerative management of natural resources for the benefit of future generations?
- 2. CULTURAL HERITAGE:** Do initiatives and/or projects consider the preservation and promotion of bio-cultural restoration by honoring more than 10,000 years of Chugach history?
- 3. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT:** Will Tribal communities be empowered through engagement, development, and support, and by doing so, will self-determination and resilience be fostered?
- 4. COLLABORATION:** Is CRRC an invited partner? Will partnerships and collaborative efforts achieve common goals while bringing Tribal voices to the natural resource management process?
- 5. INNOVATION:** Is there an innovative approach(es) to resource management, mariculture, and economic development with a focus on community resilience?
- 6. INTEGRITY:** Will the highest standards of honesty, transparency, and accountability be upheld in all activities and business transactions?
- 7. RESPECT FOR ANCESTRAL LANDS:** Is there appropriate acknowledgment and honor of ancestral lands and waters of the Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) and dAXunhyuu (Eyak) peoples, recognizing their ongoing importance to identity and survival?



STRATEGIC GOALS

SHORT: 1-2 YEARS • MID: 2-3 YEAR • LONG: 3-5 YEARS

1 INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP & RESEARCH		
	STRATEGY	GOALS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS
A	Spearhead Indigenous-Led Natural Resource Research	<p>SHORT Conduct targeted research and studies to focus on healthy fish and wildlife populations.</p> <p>SHORT Increase the number of CRRC-led research projects.</p> <p>MID Engage tribal members in research and monitoring.</p> <p>MID Promote equitable pay for knowledge holders.</p> <p>LONG Foster co-management and co-stewardship agreements.</p>
B	Promote Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)	<p>SHORT Achieve equitable pay for all knowledge holders contributing to research.</p> <p>MID Expand educational tools and public relations activities to highlight Indigenous perspectives.</p> <p>LONG Ensure meaningful engagement with TEK in all management strategies.</p>
C	Enhance Data Sovereignty	<p>SHORT Prioritize data sovereignty and cultural sensitivity in research protocols.</p> <p>LONG Ensure protective archiving and data management of collected research.</p>
D	Integrate a Two-Eyed Seeing Approach in Management	<p>SHORT Provide Indigenous knowledge to influence in management systems.</p> <p>SHORT Provide cultural perspectives to agencies.</p> <p>MID Blend knowledge translations with research methods.</p> <p>LONG Enhance co-stewardship of resources.</p>

2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT		
	STRATEGY	GOALS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS
A	Strengthen Community Relationships	<p>SHORT Conduct community visits to build personal communication and share information.</p> <p>MID Document participation and maintain strong relationships through consistent communication.</p> <p>LONG Identify, apply for, and secure grant funding to establish dedicated community liaisons who are employed by CRRC in each village.</p>
B	Conduct Thorough Needs Assessments	<p>SHORT Identify specific natural resource—related needs for CRRC villages.</p> <p>MID Utilize needs assessments to inform resource allocation and priority projects.</p>
C	Expand Infrastructure Investment at the APMI Campus	<p>SHORT Identify a design committee to drive current and future needs assessment.</p> <p>MID Diversify funding sources to encompass all aspects of completed assessment.</p> <p>LONG Integrate green infrastructure in CRRC facilities to enhance energy efficiency and sustainability.</p> <p>LONG Complete construction.</p>
D	Foster Economic Development	<p>SHORT Identify economic opportunities for the region.</p> <p>MID Conduct feasibility study on select economic opportunities.</p> <p>LONG Promote sustainable natural resource—based activities.</p> <p>LONG Support innovative projects that enhance economic stability in CRRC villages.</p>

3 ADVOCACY & POLICY DEVELOPMENT		
	STRATEGY	GOALS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS
A	Develop Co-produced Policies and Plans	<p>SHORT Engage community members in policymaking processes at state and regional levels.</p> <p>MID Develop a Research Policy pertinent to the Chugach region.</p> <p>MID Create mutual, cooperative agreements with various stakeholders.</p> <p>LONG Ensure policies reflect the integration of Indigenous knowledge and Western science.</p>
B	Boost Public Relations Efforts	<p>SHORT Increase the number of social media posts, engagements, research papers, journals, and news articles produced.</p> <p>MID Highlight successful initiatives and achievements through strategic public relations campaigns.</p> <p>LONG Advocate for Indigenous knowledge integration in environmental and educational policies.</p>
C	Enhance Engagement and Advocacy	<p>SHORT Engage community members in state and regional boards and councils.</p> <p>SHORT Communicate CRRC's advocacy efforts to the Board, staff, and communities.</p> <p>MID Facilitate community participation in consultations and public comment processes.</p> <p>LONG Provide technical assistance for meaningful consultations with the federal government.</p>

4 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP		
	STRATEGY	GOALS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS
A	Enhance Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity	<p>SHORT Enhance staff and partner knowledge of bio-cultural restorative practices in the Chugach region.</p> <p>MID Implement comprehensive ecosystem monitoring to assess and respond to environmental changes and threats.</p> <p>MID Partner with Tribes to identify environmental champions to sample parameters.</p> <p>LONG Launch targeted habitat restoration projects focused on native species, wildlife habitats, and water systems, involving site assessments, collaborative planning, and securing necessary funding.</p>
B	Strengthen Resilience to Environmental Changes	<p>SHORT Highlight Chugach climate change vulnerability assessment and prioritize the implementation of adaptation strategies to mitigate risks associated with climate change.</p> <p>MID Build capacity for climate change adaptation through community-based planning and infrastructure improvements.</p> <p>LONG Engage in formal partnerships to leverage resources and knowledge for greater impact in resilience building.</p> <p>LONG Ensure food security through mariculture and/or agricultural innovation(s).</p>



JOIN THE **CHUGACH REGIONAL RESOURCES COMMISSION'S** MISSION TO HONOR, PROTECT, AND SUSTAIN THE **LANDS AND WATERS OF THE CHUGACH.** **TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A RESILIENT AND THRIVING FUTURE** FOR THE CHUGACH REGION.

AWA'AHDAH • QUWANAKCUK • QUYANA • GUNALCHÉESH • THANK YOU



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