



## Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

420 L Street, Suite 310  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: 1-800-650-2248  
Fax: (907) 274-2249  
Web Site: www.nsedc.com

## NSEDCC Mission Statement

“NSEDCC will participate in and encourage the clean harvest of all Bering Sea fisheries to promote and provide economic development through education, employment, training and financial assistance to member communities and Western Alaska, while protecting subsistence resources.”

## NSEDCC Board Members & Member Communities

Walter Seetot • Brevig Mission  
Mary Menadelook • Diomedea  
Oscar Takak • Elim  
Gilbert Ungott • Gambell  
Dean Peterson • Golovin  
Danny Adams • Koyuk  
Donald Stiles • Nome  
Victor Joe • St. Michael  
Truman Kava • Savoonga  
Harvey Sookiyak • Shaktoolik  
Wilfred Katcheak • Stebbins  
Isaac Okleasik, Jr. • Teller  
Henry Ivanoff • Unalakleet  
Frank Oxereok, Jr. • Wales  
Dan Harrelson • White Mountain

## TEN YEAR CDQ PROGRAM ANNIVERSARY

On November 11th and 12th, 2002, five of the six Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups including Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDCC), Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA), Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association (YDFDA), Coastal Villages Regional Fund (CVRF) and Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC) gathered in Anchorage, Alaska at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel to celebrate the CDQ Program's 10 year existence and accomplishments. The celebration included a two-day symposium and a banquet.

The CDQ Symposium and Anniversary were coordinated by seven committees represented by four of the participating CDQ groups, which included the (1) Steering, (2) Welcoming, (3) Hospitality, (4) Housing, (5) Materials, (6) Finance, and (7) Human Resources Committees. The Steering Committee, Mr. Eugene Asicksik, NSEDCC President & CEO, and Mr. Larry Cotter, APICDA CEO, thought beyond the commemoration to also include a two-day symposium and invite keynote and panel speakers to present important management tactics and techniques to board members and staff. The keynote speakers included *Governor* Walter Hickel, Jeff Bush, *Deputy Commissioner (Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development)*, David Rosen, *North Pacific Universities Marine Mammal Research Consortium*, *Honorable Judge* Karen Hunt, and Clem Tillion, *former Chairman (NPFMC)*. Four panel sessions were held, in which twelve panel speakers gave presentations on the topics of Fisheries Management, CDQ Seafood Products, Role of Board Members, and Rural Alaska.

The symposium enabled each CDQ group to acknowledge the many people that were instrumental in developing the Western Alaska CDQ Program and passing it

through legislation. Twenty-three individuals were recognized throughout the symposium for their far-reaching efforts and each received a shadow-box consisting of the invitation, 10 - Year CDQ Program Anniversary logo, and an ivory carving. Those Honoraries were:

- *Senator Ted Stevens*
- *Senator Frank Murkowski*
- *Congressman Don Young*
- *Governor Walter Hickel*
- *the late Harold Sparck*
- *the late Joe Paniyak*
- *the late Louis Bunyan*
- *Rick Lauber*
- *Walter Pereyra*
- *Clem Tillion*
- *Donna Parker*
- *John Walsh*
- *Perfinia Pletnikoff*
- *Paul Fuhs*
- *Larry Cotter*
- *Jeff Bush*
- *Sally Bibb*
- *William Arterburn*
- *David Bill*
- *Henry Mitchell*
- *Molly McCammon*
- *Johne Binkley*
- *David Benton*

The late Harold Sparck was also recognized as the father of the CDQ Program in Alaska. Mrs. Lucy Sparck was able to attend the banquet and receive the award on his behalf.

This event also gave the CDQ groups the opportunity to recognize their board members, management, and industry partners and to share their development and successes since the inception of the CDQ Program in 1992. Numerous participants commented on the CDQ Symposium and Anniversary, complementing that it was beyond expectations and they would like to continue to meet as a group, not in ten years, but in three or five. Many representatives further commented that they realized the commonality among the groups and that the CDQ Program would be more effective if all groups worked together.

# Ten Year CDQ Program Anniversary *continued*



*NSEDC President & CEO, Eugene Asicksik and APICDA CEO, Larry Cotter wrap up the symposium with closing remarks*



*NSEDC President & CEO, Eugene Asicksik (right) introduces Fisheries Management panel presenters at the symposium (left to right), Karl Haflinger (Seastate), Doug DeMaster (NMFS), and John Bundy (Glacier Fish Company)*



*NSEDC staff and board members listen in on one of the panel sessions at the symposium*



*APICDA General Manager, John Moller presented successes of projects implemented in each of the seven villages that APICDA represents*



*Greg Cashen, State of Alaska, CDQ Manager; speaks on the topic of "State Oversight"*

*BBEDC Vice Chairman, Hazel Nelson: presentation on "BBEDC" & "Working Together"*



*"Steller Sea Lion" presentation by David Rosen, North Pacific Universities Marine Mammal Research Consortium*





## NSSC Grand Opening

By Dena Austin, *Community Development Specialist*

NSEDC held the NSSC Grand Opening in Nome during the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting on July 17, 2002. The grand opening was a success with more than 750 Nome residents attending this special event. Patty Anderson, Corrine Bowman, John Handeland and Ed & Marilee Murdock catered the barbecue consisting of salmon, halibut, shrimp, crab macaroni salads, crab cakes, hot dogs, rolls, assorted salads and desserts.

The grand opening also included tours of the NSSC, a fish pond for the children, and some of the NSEDC staff and board members handing out "2002 Youth Fishing Project" t-shirts and fishing rods & reels to the children in attendance. The door prizes were gift certificates from: 1) *Nome Outfitters* \$100, 2) *Hansons* \$100, 3) *Fagerstrom Fuel* \$100, 4) *Country Store* \$120, 5) *Bering Air* \$360, 6) *Arctic Trading Post* \$100, and 7) *A.C. Company* \$100. Ruth Emmons won the grand prize, which was a free round trip ticket on Alaska Airlines.

In 1999, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) began the planning and development of the Norton Sound Seafood Center (NSSC) in Nome. Norton Sound Seafood Products, a division of NSEDC that was established in 1995 to conduct NSEDC's commercial seafood activities in the greater Norton Sound region, manages the NSSC. The construction phase of NSSC was complete in May 2002 and the facility was operational by June 2002. The new facility provides local commercial fishermen with a state of the art plant with custom and value added processing.

The NSSC is located at the Nome Small Boat Harbor, for which NSEDC provided financial support of \$500,000 under the Nome Small Boat Harbor Improvements Project in 2001. The NSSC fills many needs of the local fishermen including space to repair gear, access to freshwater,

*Left to Right: Board Member, Don Stiles (Nome), Chairman, Henry Ivanoff (Unalakleet) and President & CEO, Eugene Asicksik cut the ribbons at the Grand Opening of the Norton Sound Seafood Center in Nome*



*The Norton Sound Seafood Center Grand Opening had a spectacular turnout with over 750 Nome residents participating in this special event*

a place to deliver and sell their crab and halibut, and a central location for local, regional and outside sales. Mr. Eugene Asicksik, *NSEDC President & CEO* says, "the NSSC gives the local fishermen the assurance that their catch will be sold, processed and marketed to the benefit of all and that the local fishermen are able to concentrate more on fishing the quota than worrying about the market."

The NSSC processes crab (live, fresh and frozen) and halibut (fresh and frozen) and it operates a seafood retail store. Other seafood products are available at the NSSC including shrimp, tuna, turbot, catfish, smoked salmon, clams, and more. Mr. Asicksik also says that the NSSC has exceeded expectations. "We have heard



*Seafood barbecue and special desserts were a popular hit at the Grand Opening*

many compliments on the NSSC from Nome residents and numerous people from around the Norton Sound region who frequently order seafood from the plant. The live crab tank is a big hit for the children and adults, and many are in awe when they get to hand pick their own crab."





## NSEDC Staff

Eugene Asicksik  
President & Chief Executive Officer

Chris Cook  
Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer

Hannah Jackson  
Office Manager

Janis Ivanoff  
Vice President & Community  
Benefits Director

Simon Kinneen  
Fisheries Biologist

Dena Austin  
Community Development Specialist

Kathy Wheelahan  
Special Administration Projects  
Assistant

Rosanna Dotomain  
Accountant

Herb Ivanoff  
Accountant

Virginia Nashalook  
Accountant Assistant

## NSEDC Staff - Unalakleet

Jerry Ivanoff  
Secretary & EET Coordinator

Janice Dickens  
Administrative Assistant

## NSSP Staff

Tom Magwire  
Operations Manager

Richard Ferry  
Plant Engineer

Marziano "Rocky" Piccini  
Production Manager

Josh Osborne  
NSSC Plant Manager

Howard Farley  
NSSC Retail Sales Manager

Orville Toolie  
Savoonga Plant Manager (seasonal)

Annabelle Cunningham  
Unalakleet, Accountant (seasonal)

Justina Noongwook  
Savoonga Halibut Operations  
Accountant (seasonal)

## Pacific Herring (*Clupea harengus pallasii*)

By Simon Kinneen, *Fisheries Biologist*

Herring (also known as Pacific Herring) are just one of close to 200 species found in the family Clupeidae. Herring have been important to Norton Sound residents off and on since the early 1900s. While in the earlier years of the fishery herring was primarily used for food by residents, towards the 1960s the effort shifted more to a commercially based sac roe fishery. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the effort by residents was high and herring fishing really became an important part of the local economy. The fishery became a limited entry fishery in 1988 in order to place an upper limit on participation.

Bering Sea herring are fairly long-lived, some reaching 16 years of age. They mature at 3-4 years, and spawn annually after that. Herring in the Norton Sound typically spawn from mid-to-late May into mid-to-late June, depending heavily on the ocean ice conditions. The fecundity of females is high, with average number of eggs around 20,000 per year. There is a high mortality associated with herring eggs, and after hatching the larvae drift in the ocean currents and are subjected to numerous predators as they grow.



Herring most commonly eat various species of zooplankton (e.g. copepods), but do not eat consistently throughout the year. Herring consume food when it is available, and rely on fat reserves during seasons of low productivity.

Herring is most commonly caught in the Norton Sound by use of gillnets. There is limited use of beach seines, and a small amount of pounding. Pounding, or the spawn-on-kelp fishery, involves importing *Macrocystis* kelp and "planting" it in the nearshore waters where herring may be expected to spawn. After spawning takes place, the pounds are "harvested" and sections that successfully attracted egg deposition are sold.

## NSEDC Scholarship Deadlines:

Fall 2002 Semester:  
June 30

Spring 2003 Semester:  
November 30

## NSEDC Seafood Processing Training:

2003

February 2-13

April 13-24

# NSEDC EET Highlights



## Article by Jerry Ivanoff, EET Coordinator

The NSEDC Scholarship Committee had its 3rd Quarter meeting on July 18th, 2002. Ninety-two Norton Sound residents received the NSEDC Scholarship for the fall semester of 2002. So far in 2002, the NSEDC Scholarship Committee has awarded a total of \$204,989.00 to our Norton Sound Students in post-secondary and vocational scholarships. Good luck to all as they strive to attain their education enabling them to take the jobs available in our respective communities!

Benjamin Eakon and John Katchatag of Unalakleet worked with Icicle Seafoods in the third quarter 2002 bringing home \$5,624.82 in wages. Working on the *F/V Pacific Glacier*, the *F/V Northern Glacier*, and the *F/V Norton Sound*, twenty-eight Norton Sound Seafood Processors brought home \$208,333.37 in crew share wages. This brings the

cumulative from Glacier Fish Company from 1992 to present to \$6,939,923.23 in crew share wages. Thanks to Renee Vargas and Glacier Fish Company Personnel for hiring our processors processing Pollock in the Bering Sea. From inception to date, our fish processors have brought home a total of \$7,299,243.01 in wages. Thanks to Mike Clutter and Icicle Seafood Personnel for employing our processors at their fish plants.

NSEDC worked with Mr. Maurice Ninham of Kawerak providing funding for the employment of four interns in their operation; Jamie Adams in the Child Care Division, Rhonda Hanebuth as the administrative assistant in Council, Loki Tobin in the Adult Basic Education Department, and Eda Keller in the Education, Employment, and Training Department.



*Sisters: Cecelia and Brenda Raymond of Stebbins fishing on board the F/V Northern Glacier and offloading at Dutch Harbor during the 2002 pollock A season*

An electronic navigation class, put on by Dennis Murphy of the Alaska Vocational Technical Center in Koyuk, was held in September with nineteen Koyuk residents learning how to use global positioning system units.

With jobs available at the end of their training, Sheldon Katchatag, Christopher Kalerak, and Bob Saccheus of Elim took an asbestos abatement certification training class on July 22-26, 2002.

## NSEDC Education Success Story

### Edna Apatiki of Gambell, Alaska

Breaking new ground in the St. Lawrence Legends and Lore, Edna Apatiki is in her second year as the Gambell Schools Assistant Principal, after teaching for the Bering Straits School District for sixteen years. Recently, she went for and received her Endorsed K-12 Licensed Principal for the State of Alaska.

Raised in Gambell since her birth, Edna was born to the late Homer and Selma Apatiki. She graduated from Dimond High School in 1970, then attended the Alaska Methodist University for four years. Edna worked as an instructor at the Gambell Schools in the fall of 1976 piloting the first high school in Gambell for the Bering Straits REAA Schools. Taking long distance courses through the University of Alaska Fairbanks, she received her secondary teacher certificate in 1986. Edna married George Anungazuk of Wales having one son, Eli, who is now eleven years old.



From her NSEDC Scholarship Application: "I am currently completing my Masters in Education Educational Leadership Program at UAA. I am committed to completing this program. My goal is to be a principal or assistant principal preferably in BSSD. I have been hired already to be an assistant principal at Gambell 2001-2002 School Year. I see a strong need in more area raised teachers and administrators serving their own people."

An excerpt from the NSEDC Scholarship Letter of Recommendation from Jennifer Campbell Apatiki of Gambell follows: "She is currently in her last classes for completion of a principalship program through UAA. She has sacrificed her summer vacations in order to be the first local Assistant Principal for Gambell

Schools, which she will be this coming year. With this experience and level of education, it is quite certain to lead to a position as Principal in the future years, another first for a local villager at Gambell Schools"

"In the past years, Ms. Apatiki was also the first local Certified Teacher. I was fortunate enough to be one of her students when she first came to teach in Gambell. She was an excellent teacher, among my favorites, and was very serious with her teaching methods. She did not let us "slide" through high school. She challenged us whenever she could and taught us to reach for our goals, not only through her methods, but also as a person herself. Now, with children of my own who attend Gambell Schools, I am comforted with the fact that she will be assisting in overlooking and running the school. I am certain she will do an excellent job and make us all even more proud of her than we already are."

"I would like to thank NSEDC for their support in pursuing my master's degree in educational leadership, which allowed me to pursue my education!"



## Savoonga, Alaska

Article by Joni Waghiyi,

NSEDC Community Outreach Liaison

Savoonga is located on the northern coast of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, which lies 164 miles west of Nome.

In the early 1900s a reindeer camp was established in Savoonga and five reindeer herders decided to move the reindeer herd to Savoonga. A U.S. Post Office was established in 1934. When ANCSA was passed in 1971, both Savoonga and Gambell opted not to participate in the act and the island is jointly owned by Savoonga and Gambell.

Savoonga's present population is approximately 750 and the culture is strong, the people live a traditional and subsistence lifestyle. St. Lawrence Island is surrounded by the Bering Sea and the people depend mainly on walrus and whale hunting, in which Savoonga is known as the "Walrus Capital of the World." Most of the residents are bilingual and are known for their quality ivory carvings.

*Photo taken by Merrill Annogiyuk, former NSEDC Liaison -- Spring 2002: Merrill's 10 year old daughter, Pearl, sitting in their 25 ft walrus skin boat, preparing to pull it by snowmachine and sled to "Puguugilleq" (South East Cape, approximately 45 miles south of Savoonga), for spring bowhead whaling*

## Truman Kava, NSEDC Board Member

Biography by Joni Waghiyi,

NSEDC Community Outreach Liaison

Truman Kava was born on January 30, 1946 to Bobby and Elsie Kava in Savoonga, Alaska. Truman has six Yupik names and he uses one of his Yupik names, "Uma," named after his great grandfather. Truman grew up in Savoonga in a subsistence lifestyle and he has six brothers and seven sisters.

Truman married Charlotte Tucker on February 29, 1976 on leap year. He has seven children with Charlotte and eight grandchildren.

Truman attended Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka, Alaska and received his general education diploma in the early



1980s. Truman currently works for Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority as a carpenter and he is a Board Member for Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. He enjoys subsistence hunting and fishing.



## Autobiography of Joni Waghiyi, NSEDC Community Outreach Liaison

Quyaakamsi! Welcome! My name is Aghanamtaggaq. I am from Savoonga, Alaska, which is located on St. Lawrence Island, 164 miles west of Nome, Alaska. My first language is St. Lawrence Island Yupik and second is English. I grew up in a subsistence lifestyle; whaling, fishing, bird hunting and gathering greens, blackberries and salmonberries.

My family consists of nine people. My parents are John and Arlene Waghiyi. My father is a retired Bilingual Instructor and my mother is a village agent for a local airline. I have an older sister, who

is a member and the secretary of a community organization in Savoonga. I also have two other sisters that are still attending school and two younger brothers. I have one beautiful niece who just turned two this past fall.

I am a high school graduate from Hogarth Kingeekuk Sr. Memorial High in Savoonga. I also attained my Certificate of Completion in Accounting Vocation at the Alaska Job Corps Center. My long term goal is to earn a degree in Accounting and own a small business, buying and selling St. Lawrence Island

Native arts and crafts. My interests are Native dancing, subsistence hunting and gathering, traveling and meeting new people and gaining experience and education in challenging fields.

I am currently the Multi-Purpose Building Project Coordinator for the Native Village of Savoonga. I am also honored and grateful to represent the community of Savoonga as the Community Outreach Liaison for NSEDC and I hope to meet the Board Members, liaisons, staff and personnel of NSEDC throughout Alaska.



## Little Diomed, Alaska

Article by Etta Menadelook,

NSEDC Community Outreach Liaison

Little Diomed is located in the Bering Strait and is approximately 27 miles from Alaska and 25 miles from mainland Russia/Chukotka Region; and only two and a half miles from Big Diomed Island, and finally just one mile from the International Date Line.

The village holds a City Council and Village Ira Council. Each organization provides employment for the community. Positions as City Clerk, Bingo Operator, Janitorial, Water Plant Operator, Postal Clerk, and other seasonal jobs; the Village IRA Council carries positions for ICWA Coordinator, Health Aides, Clinic Travel Clerk, Store Clerks, IEGAP and I.H.S. Coordinators, just to name a few.

The Bering Strait School District (BSSD) operates the elementary and high school, which currently has an enrollment of thirty-seven students. BSSD also offers employment and sponsors after school activities for the children and adults including the General Education Diploma Program. Bering Strait School District began its history on Little Diomed in 1984, a turn over from Bureau of Indian Affairs. Kawerak, Inc. also provides a Head Start Program for the village children.

One Church stands in the village, officiated by the Catholic Church and run



March 2002:  
Diomed homes  
located on the  
beach  
facing Siberia with  
polar bear skin  
hanging and  
walrus skin boat

on a voluntary basis by local residents for church services and catechism for the children.

In the late seventies housing was provided to the islanders. The one-room dwellings replaced the sod homes. Because of legal issues and limited land space, Little Diomed remains one of the few villages that waits to begin new housing projects under the states Housing Improvement Programs. Stove oil heating systems were also brought onto the island right about that time and before that the islanders heated their homes with seal oil lamps.

The Bering Strait provides its waters as the resident's front yard. All of the village activities come from the ocean. Sea mammals are the primary source of subsistence. Whales, seals, walrus and polar bears are the main staple for the islanders. In the winter over the sea ice

the folks hand line for blue crab and jig for bullhead and blue cod. In the summer months the men are out rod and reeling for salmon when they are fortunate to catch the run on calm clear days. High rigid cliffs provide habitat for thousand of ocean birds such as the auklets, least auklets, murrs, cormorants, puffin, sea hawks, and seagulls. The many birds offer another staple of diet for the village in the summer months.

For outside visitors this place is isolated. We encourage them to bring special hobbies or projects with them in the event that they are stranded due to the weather. One helicopter airline provides weekly mail service on a weather-permitting basis. The airfare is extremely expensive over four hundred dollars round trip during the summer months. In the winter when airplanes are able to land on the frozen airstrip the airfare is about two hundred eighty round trip.



Diomed resident Jerry Iyapana in his men's parky during the Community Outreach Meeting in March 2002

## Mary Menadelook, NSEDC Board Member

Article by Etta Menadelook, NSEDC Community Outreach Liaison

Mary Elizabeth Ahkvaluk was born to John and Lillian Ahkvaluk on August 15, 1938 in Little Diomed, Alaska. She is the second eldest of six children and her brothers are Alois, Peter and Stanley and her sisters are Mariane and Elizabeth. Mary married Thomas Menadelook in Little Diomed and together they had seven children.

Mary worked as a health aid for eleven years and she also was employed as the

bilingual aid for the Bering Strait School District for a number of years. Now, she serves as a Board Member for NSEDC. Mary has made it her life long effort to provide her family with the nutritious food that comes from the waters of the Bering Strait and she makes delicious Native foods. With her spare time, Mary does a lot of sewing and makes beautiful Eskimo dolls, baby booties and also parkas for her grand children. Mary also carves ivory bracelets, earrings, and



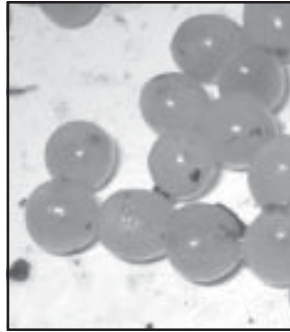
pendants. Mary is dedicated to her Catholic church in Little Diomed and she is a member of the St. Jude Parish Council.

# Salmon Rehabilitation Program



## Article by Simon Kinneen, *Fisheries Biologist*

The 2002 field season was a busy one for the NSEDC Salmon Rehabilitation program. New to this year's activities were several projects partially funded through a five million dollar grant appropriated by congress in response to the declaration of a fishery disaster in the Norton Sound due to low returns of salmon. These projects are all designed to help understand the life cycle of Norton Sound salmon- quite a daunting task. After compiling all known data for the Norton Sound salmon, it was quite obvious that there is still much to learn, and this is one of the goals of the steering committee tasked with allocating these funds.



*Salmon eggs incubated to the eyed stage at Hobson Creek*



*Salmon incubation facility located at Hobson Creek*

One of the projects being conducted this year is a study to determine the fecundity of salmon in the Norton Sound.

Fecundity is a measure of reproductive ability- essentially the number of eggs that the female salmon produce. Eggs were collected (through the Alaska Department of Fish and Game) from the Unalakleet Test Net fishery. Over 100 samples of both chum and coho females were retained, along with biological data from each fish. The egg skeins were preserved for analysis, and they, along with the biological information, were sent to Anchorage. The eggs are currently being examined and at least one hole in our knowledge of the Norton Sound salmon life cycle has begun to be filled. Fecundity will be an important tool in understanding future production of chum salmon, as it, combined with other data, can provide a value for the upper limit of adult production a brood year can produce.

Another project that began this past summer was an egg survival project using the incubation facility located at Hobson Creek, a tributary to the Nome River. Activities this summer included the capturing of chum salmon from the Nome River for the production of fertilized eggs for use in this survival study. Five females had their eggs stripped and fertilized. These eggs were transported to

the facility and seeded into egg baskets to be inserted into the incubators. Since the initial seeding, there have been several trips back to the facility to examine various factors such as percent fertilization, survival rates to various stages of development, and the number of Accumulated Temperature Units (ATUs) required for the salmon to reach certain stages of development. This initial year's study, as with most of these projects, has been approached as a pilot project to determine the feasibility of conducting full-blown versions of these studies as the conditions faced in the northern climates of the Norton Sound can be far more difficult than more mild climates in southern regions. The end result, if the project proves feasible, will be a wealth of information concerning physiological requirements of eggs, survival rates of eggs, and the key biological and physical factors that affect egg survival.

The largest of the projects conducted this summer was the juvenile chum salmon ecology project conducted in the Eldorado River/Safety Sound. The intent of this summer's work was to identify effective sites and methods for capturing juvenile chum salmon in estuaries and coastal nearshore waters, determine emigration times, analyze the diet of these juvenile salmon, sample for zooplankton (food for these juvenile salmon) in the

estuary and record other environmental data affecting salmon, and to examine and record biological conditions of juvenile chum salmon. The project proved to be very successful, while providing some unexpected initial results. The prevailing belief was that chum salmon did not spend much time in riverine systems and estuaries in the Norton Sound before emigrating to the nearshore marine environment. While the expected emigration dates were early June, a peak emigration was observed in mid to late July. These results may have rather major implications for survival rates of juvenile salmon who spend longer amounts of time in estuaries, which would allow them to adjust more slowly to a saline (salty) environment while allowing them to feed and grow before encountering predators found in the nearshore marine environment.

All of these pilot projects have been quite informational in their initial year, and will allow us to modify them to best provide data for use in management and restoration of our salmon stocks. It is the hope of NSEDC that we can provide some useful research to add to our knowledge of what is happening with our salmon, and that we can help preserve the way of life that the residents of the Norton Sound have used for generations.





## Norton Sound Trawl Survey

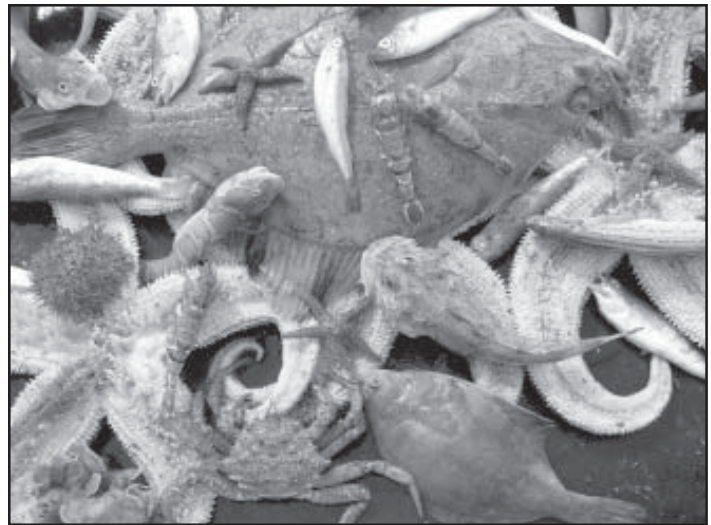
Article & Photo by Simon Kinneen, *Fisheries Biologist*

The triennial Norton Sound Trawl Survey (conducted by ADF&G), designed to assess the status of red king crab stocks in the Norton Sound District while also recording data on all other species caught, occurred in late July and early August of this year. The *F/V Peggy Jo* out of Kodiak, which incidentally is the same vessel used in the last trawl survey three years ago, was chartered to perform the survey. The *Peggy Jo* is a 99 foot catcher vessel outfitted with benthic trawl gear, and usually fishes in open-access fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska.

I was able to join the trawl survey crew mid-way through the study as they came to the port of Nome for an evening. Early August 1<sup>st</sup>, the first day of my officially assuming the responsibilities of the Fisheries Development Program, we began steaming for the survey grounds to see just what was crawling around on the ocean floor. Growing up in Nome, it seemed a bit odd to have lived proximate to the ocean my whole life and not really have a sense for what was down there. As a biologist and being newly in charge of a program that is designed to cultivate fisheries in the Norton Sound, I was full of excitement to see what kind of food fishes we might find. All of my questions were quickly answered as the first codend was emptied onto the deck. "Man," I thought to myself, "if we can find high paying markets for starfish, we have a veritable goldmine down here!" So if any of my friends and neighbors have wanted to know exactly what is down there, here you go: sea stars. We have Purple-Orange sea stars, Giant sea stars, Black Spined sea stars, Brittle Sea Stars, *Leptasterias spp.* Sea Stars, etc.

The trawl survey is set up like this: there are many "stations" spread evenly throughout the Norton Sound for sampling areas. The trawl vessel lowers the net to the ocean floor and hauls the gear at a given speed (e.g. 3 knots) for a given time (30 minutes) after which the net is brought back onto the boat and

*A variety of sea animals caught during the trawl survey in the Norton Sound including saffron cod, starry flounder, polar eelpout, yellowfin sole, box crab, sculpin, snake prickleback, green sea urchin, and giant and black spine sea stars*



weighed. Now the codend (a "bag" on the end of the trawl net) is opened and the entire catch is emptied onto the deck. The entire sample is whole-hauled for red king crab and halibut (meaning that the entire catch is searched for these species in order to fully and accurately account for them), which are individually measured and weighed. After this is done, the catch is basket-sampled for species composition data. Basket sampling is a method of accounting for all species caught without actually going through every single organism (which would take incredible amounts of time). A sample is randomly picked from the catch, put into a basket and weighed, and then sorted by species on a table. The weight and number of each species found in the basket sample is extrapolated to estimate the corresponding weight and number of each species in the entire haul. Each of the hauls are calculated as such and all of the combined hauls are extrapolated to account for the Norton Sound District.

Six days of fishing found quite a variety of species, not just sea stars. We caught many species of crab including helmet crab, lyre crab, opilio crab, fuzzy hermits, hairy hermits, Alaskan hermits, and red king crab. The most abundant fish was Saffron cod, with similar species being found such as Arctic cod, pollock, and Pacific cod. A wide variety of sculpins

(bullheads) were found, including Threaded, Antlered, Eyeshade, Plain, Belligerent, and many other *Gymnocanthus* and *Myoxocephalus spp.* Other fish to be caught were Polar and Wattled eelpouts, snake pricklebacks, tubenose and veteran poachers, wolffishes, snailfish, starry flounder, halibut, yellowfin sole, herring, rainbow smelt, Alaska plaice, and numerous others. Many types of invertebrates other than crab and sea stars were also caught, including urchins, jellyfish, several types of snails, anemones, sea potatoes, and shrimp! With fisheries development in mind on the survey, the seven different species of shrimp I saw were pretty exciting. Two of the species, humpy and coonstripe shrimp, are known commercially and present a good opportunity for an upcoming fisheries development project.

All in all, this survey was a great experience and a big eye-opener. There is a lot to learn about the resources we have at our fingertips, and a lot of opportunity waiting for us. I hope that we can someday have a small local shrimp fishery that pays off economically; and also (remember you heard it here first), if

# 2002 Youth Fishing Project

**By Dena Austin,**

*Community Development Specialist*

**Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC), Nome Outfitters, and Bering Air** sponsored the "2002 Youth Fishing Project" the Bering Straits School District, Nome Public Schools, Seventh Day Adventist School and home schooled children in Nome, with a total of 16 communities across the Seward Peninsula participating in this project. The communities that participated include all NSEDC member communities and Shishmaref.

NSEDC provided a *Zebco 404 Combos Rod & Reel* to each child who turned in one bag of trash during the community-wide spring clean-up in each of the communities. Bering Air in Nome contributed to this project by delivering the rods & reels to each community.

Nome Outfitters sponsored a regional Humpy Derby, in which each child who received a Zebco 404 Rod & Reel was eligible for participation. Ten communities participated in the regional Humpy Derby and six communities chose a different type of fish for their derby, either during summer 2002 or winter 2002-03 for ice-fishing.

Nome Outfitters gave out *one fully stocked tackle box valued at \$50* to one child in each community who caught the longest fish. For the regional prize, Nome Outfitters also gave *\$100 cash prize* to Asa Bergachi of White Mountain for catching the longest humpy in the entire Seward Peninsula.

NSEDC also provided "2002 Youth Fishing Project" t-shirts to all participants of the fishing derbies.

NSEDC would like to thank the liaisons, City governments and the many volunteers in each of the 16 communities for contributing to the success of this project.

**Stebbins** – by Atha Foxie, *Liaison*

We held our spring clean-up between June 7 – 11, 2002 and 52 children participated. Stebbins held a Qanarpaq (rock fish) Derby on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, but poor weather conditions prevented the children from catching fish, so we brought the children to the community hall and held a drawing for the tackle box. The winner of the drawing was six-year old, Mariah Washington, daughter of Gregory and Katherine Mike.

**St. Michael** – by Shirley Martin, *Liaison*

On May 13-14, 2002 the community of St. Michael had approximately 30 students take part in the two days of spring clean-up. Some students displayed exceptional volunteerism by going beyond the one bag limit and enthusiastically picked 1-2 extra bags. If your child has not yet received a rod and reel, they still may earn one by making the "Student of the Month" for grades K-6 and the "Honor Roll" for 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. St. Michael will have a tom cod ice-fishing derby sometime during winter 2003, possibly at the St. Michael canals.



*Cousins Gavin Martin and Chaise Aketachunak help pick up garbage in St. Michael during spring clean-up*

**Unalakleet** – by Janice Dickens, *Administrative Assistant*

We had a number of excited kids picking up trash in Unalakleet on May 24, 2002. There were seventy-seven fishing poles distributed. NSEDC Chairman, Henry Ivanoff, gave out the first Zebco 404 Rod & Reel to Eyrene Paula Ivanoff, daughter of Burkher and Helen (Huda) Ivanoff.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, William "Middy" Johnson held the Humpy Derby Contest sponsored by NSEDC using the fishing poles distributed at the spring clean-up. The derby contest winner was Austen Erickson, the winning humpy was 22.5 inches long. Congratulations Austen! In all there were approximately forty young people who participated in the derby contest.

*Alcinia Freytag of Unalakleet delivers her garbage bags to a designated site in her little white and pink jeep during the spring clean-up*



*Chairman, Henry Ivanoff hands Eyrene Paula Ivanoff a fishing rod & reel in Unalakleet during spring clean-up*



**Shaktoolik** – by Reuben Paniptchuk, *Liaison*

Our spring clean-up in Shaktoolik was held during the second week of June 2002. We had a total of 39 kids who each picked up at least one bag of trash. I distributed 36 rods and reels donated by NSEDC. The Humpy Derby was held on June 29<sup>th</sup> at the "First Bend", which is located three miles southeast of Shaktoolik. There was a total of about 20 children who participated in the derby.

# 2002 Youth Fishing Project *continued*



The longest humpy caught was 23 ¾ inches by Dorinda Sagoonick.

*Dorinda Sagoonick of Shaktoolik caught a humpy that was 23 ¾ inches long, the second longest humpy caught during the fishing derbies*



**Koyuk** – by Ruby Nassuk, *Liaison*

On a cool and kind of windy day in early June, a handful of kids who picked up trash during the spring clean-up gathered by the Pool Hall to receive their rod and reels donated by NSEDC. VPSO, Aaron Nassuk gave a short presentation on water safety. I held the Humpy Derby the week of July 8th and extended it for another week due to there being hardly any humpies up the beach at Nanitchiliq. Nine-year old, Matthew Hoogendorn landed the biggest and only humpy of the derby, measuring in at 21 inches in length.



*Elim children with their rods & reels they earned during spring clean-up*

**Elim** – by Colleen Saccheus, *Liaison*

Elim had their spring clean-up the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>. About 34 kids participated in this annual event. Elim held a humpy derby on July 10, 2002. About 20 kids participated in the derby, which was held at the mouth of Moses Point River. The winner of the derby was Cheryl Nagarak, 6 year-old daughter of Sheldon and Emily Nagarak, who reeled in a 21 inch humpy.

VPSO Joseph Murray Jr. gave the water and fishing safety lecture before the derby began. Fun was had by all and the kids are looking forward to another derby in 2003! The Elim kids would like to say thank you to NSEDC for the nice t-shirts and whistles and to Nome Outfitters for donating the fishing rods. Quianna!

**Golovin** – by Irene Sockpealuk, *former Liaison*

The City of Golovin held their spring clean-up on June 1, 2002. The Humpy Derby was held in July 2002 at Kitchavik, a camp that is approximately 6 miles from Golovin. The Derby was held in conjunction with the Wellness Camp that was sponsored by Chinik Eskimo Community. Ivan Larsen caught the longest humpy, which was 24.5 inches long.



*Seven year-old Asa Bergamaschi of White Mountain poses with Dan Harrelson, Vice-Chairman (right) and Davis Lincoln, Liaison (left). Asa won the \$100 cash prize from Nome Outfitters for catching the longest humpy in the entire Seward Peninsula, which was 24 ¾ inches long*

**White Mountain** – by Davis Lincoln, *Liaison*

The White Mountain spring clean-up took place the first week of June after the ground dried out from the winter snow. Forty-two children participated and they picked up 481 bags of trash. Travis Gray picked up the most bags, which was 33. The Humpy Derby took place on a cloudy and cool day on July 5, 2002 in front of White Mountain. Dan Harrelson, NSEDC Vice-Chairman, assisted in

measuring the humpies. Asa Bergamaschi caught the longest humpy at 24 ¾ inches long. Asa also caught the longest humpy in the entire Seward Peninsula and he is the winner of the \$100 cash prize provided by Nome Outfitters in Nome. Asa is a 7 year old 2<sup>nd</sup> grader and his parents are James and Kathy Bergamaschi. Congratulations Asa!

**Nome** – by Mark Johnson, *Nome Outfitters*

The Nome spring clean-up took place on May 25-27 and throughout the month of June. Overall, over 350 children participated in the clean-up project and received a free rod & reel. Due to a late sport-fishing season opening by Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the Humpy Derby was held on July 13 at the mouth of the Nome River. Over 90 children participated in the derby with their parents and friends adding moral support. Because of the late opening, not many fish were caught, but that did not wipe the smile off the face of the happy and lucky winner, Zachary Bourdon, age 9, with a the winning entry of a 21 ¾" long humpy!

**Teller** – by Mr. Warren Lake, *Liaison*

The spring clean-up in Teller on June 16th and 17th was a success. There was between 275 to 300 bags of trash picked up by students and adults. All forty-eight fishing rods were handed out which was equal to about 144 bags. An additional 131 to 156 bags of trash was picked up during and after the fishing rods were handed out. The ice fishing derby will be held in the near future when the Grantley Harbor bay freezes over well enough.

*Brevig Mission humpy derby winner, Marie Caroline Olanna stands with her 18 ½ inch long humpy*



## 2002 Youth Fishing Project *continued*

### **Brevig Mission** – by Matilda Olanna, *former Liaison*

The spring clean up and Humpy Derby went well. The Humpy Derby was held on July 13, 2002 on the beach below the village. The winner of the derby was 5<sup>th</sup> grader, Marie Caroline Olanna, daughter of Jacob and Jane Olanna. Marie caught a humpy 18 ½ inches long. Marie was also the only child who caught a humpy in Brevig Mission. A total of 61 children participated in the Humpy Derby.

### **Wales** – by Victor Ongtowasruk, *Liaison*

The village of Wales had a spring clean-up on June 25-26. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate with the Humpy Derby held by Toby Anungazuk, Jr., former NSEDC Liaison in Wales. Some children caught a few fish, but we plan to hold an ice-fishing derby this winter. Many children had happy faces when receiving their fishing rods and reels! Thank you NSEDC!

### **Diomedes** – by Etta Menadelook, *Liaison*

Diomedes had about 20 children that participated in the spring clean-up. The students and volunteers picked up about 80 bags of trash and the participants worked outside for at least 3 hours. Thanks NSEDC for providing the fishing rods and t-shirts and thanks to Nome Outfitters for the tackle box. We will hold an ice-fishing derby in winter 2003 and we will probably fish for bull-heads. The community of Diomedes would like to thank NSEDC for their efforts in helping us keep our environment clean and healthy.

### **Savoonga** – by Merrill Annogiyuk, *former Liaison*

We held our spring clean up on June 13, 2002 from 10am to 3pm and each child who turned in a trash bag in front of the City Office received a rod and reel. There was a total of 95 participants in the spring clean-up and it was great to see the children smiling when they received their

rods and reels. Joni Waghiyi, new NSEDC liaison for Savoonga, will coordinate an ice-fishing derby for the children in Savoonga during winter 2003.

### **Gambell** – by Shirley Antoghome, *Liaison*

We held our spring clean-up in June, with a total of 104 participants and many parents joined in with their little ones. This event was enjoyed by everyone and we would like to thank NSEDC, Nome Outfitter, and Bering Air for this special event. I think the joy of this was to see the little ones receive their rods and reels and to see our village looking clean and healthy. Our Chum Salmon Derby was held on July 18-19, 2002 right below the village, in which about 25 children participated. Michael Kulukhon, age 14 and son of Ellen and Jones Kulukhon, won the derby with a 20 ¾ inches long chum.



*Three Gambell Sisters: Mercedes, Jeannie and Chanelle Koonooka with their fishing rods & reels*

### **Shishmaref** – by Lori Hadley, *City Clerk*

Shishmaref would like to thank NSEDC and Nome Outfitters for inviting our community to participate in the “NSEDC 2002 Youth Fishing Project!” Thanks to Bering Air for delivering the fishing rods and reels. We held our spring clean-up in July and each child who turned in one garbage bag of trash earned a fishing rod and reel. Shishmaref held a Tom Cod Derby and the winner was 11 year old, Wesley Pootoogooluk, son of Diane Pootoogooluk. Wesley caught a 15” long tom cod and won the tackle box.



*Shishmaref children fish for tom-cods on the beach during their fishing derby*



*Asa Bergamachi of White Mountain receives \$100 cash for the grand prize of the Humpy Derby*



*Elim humpy derby winner, Cheryl Nagaruk with her 21 inch long humpy and tackle box*

## Special Thanks To:



Nome Outfitters

***Bering Air***



## “Camp Baked Fish”

Contributed by John, Jr. & Arlene Waghiyi of Savoonga, AK

**Measurement of Ingredients at the Cook’s Preference:** medium salmon, butter, salt, and pepper.

**Directions:** build a campfire; head and gut salmon (do not filet); cut 3-4 slanted slits on each side of the fish about 2 inches apart and 3-4 inches long; insert butter in slits; sprinkle fish with salt and pepper; wrap fish 3-4 times with aluminum foil; after the camp fire burns down, pile the red hot coals and set the fish inside; bake the fish for about 15-20 minutes, depending on the size of the fish; ENJOY!

Contributed by Ed & Karen Ongtowasruk of Wales, AK

**Measurement of Ingredients at the Cook’s Preference:** medium salmon, lemon juice, salt, and pepper.

**Directions:** dig a small pit and build a campfire right beside that pit; head, gut, and filet salmon; sprinkle fish with salt, pepper and lemon juice; wrap fish with aluminum foil; place fish in pit; surround the pit and cover the fish with thin flat rocks; after the fire is burning hot, push the fire over the flat rocks; slowly cook the fish for 3 hours, depending on the size of the fish; ENJOY!

## Norton Sound Seafood Products

### UNALAKLEET PLANT:

Office 1-800-385-3190  
Fax 1-907-624-3808  
Plant 1-907-624-3807  
Fax 1-907-624-5016

### Contacts:

Tom Magwire, *Operations Manager*  
Rocky Piccinich, *Production Manager*  
Rich Ferry, *Plant Engineer*  
Annabelle Cunningham, *Accountant*

### NOME PLANT:

Office 1-907-443-2304  
Fax 1-907-443-2457

### Contacts:

Josh Osborne, *Plant Manager*  
Howard Farley, *Retail Sales*

### SAVOONGA PLANT:

Office 1-907-984-6859  
Fax 1-907-984-6827

### Contacts:

Orville Toolie, *Plant Manager*  
Justina Noongwook, *Accountant*

## NSEDC Interns

During the summer of 2002, NSEDC sponsored thirty-seven internship positions at various organizations including: NSEDC, NSSP, GFC, BSSD, NSHC, Kawerak, Inc., ADF&G, Native Village of Unalakleet and Icicle Seafoods.

### Heather Dickens of Unalakleet, AK

My name is Heather Dickens from Unalakleet, Alaska, and I worked as an intern for Glacier Fish Company (GFC) in Seattle for the Human Resources Department (HR) from May 2002 to September 2002. I worked by the side of



Cyndy Brunell doing numerous (HR) tasks such as keeping files up-to-date, receiving applications, calling references on applicants, entering specific information on applicants into the computer for quick reference for the hiring personnel and did many clerical duties. I also put together an Emergency Response Handbook for the GFC office.

While working at GFC, I was able to attend a seminar covering fundamentals of HR. This seminar covered laws of employees and employers, hiring

procedures, proper identifications, correct paperwork for employers to keep on hand and many more HR related topics.

Overall, the internship was a great opportunity, great experience and I am very thankful that NSEDC made it possible. I learned about NSEDC, Glacier Fish Company, and Human Resources.

### Brandon Dewey of Koyuk, AK

Brandon Dewey from Koyuk worked with NSEDC this past summer (June and July) as a fisheries intern in the Salmon Rehabilitation program. Brandon worked on the chum ecology project conducted on the Eldorado River/Safety Sound. Brandon’s duties included the setup and operation of fyke nets, fish species identification, environmental condition sampling, specimen preservation, and boat operation and maintenance. As the project was conducted from a field camp, Brandon also was responsible for general camp duties as well.



### Leslie Richards of White Mountain, AK

Leslie Richards completed a four month Administrative Internship with NSEDC during the summer of 2002. The internship provided work experience in the area of

general clerical and administrative functions and furthered Leslie’s knowledge of NSEDC and the CDQ Program. Leslie’s main projects during her internship were aiding in the production of the NSEDC 2003-2005 Community Development Plan and assisting in the coordination of the grand opening of the Norton Sound Seafood Center.



Leslie is a 2002 graduate of White Mountain High School and a recipient of the NSEDC Scholarship. She is attending the University of Alaska Anchorage pursuing a degree in Mathematics and plans to return to White Mountain after college.

Leslie was a great addition to the NSEDC office and we appreciate Leslie’s intelligence and hard work. We wish Leslie the best of luck in her future endeavors.



# 2003 NSEDC CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN CONTEST

## *Calling All*

Kindergartners through 6<sup>th</sup> Graders,  
Home School or Public School!!

NSEDC needs your help. We need a Christmas card for 2003 and we would like to recruit a young artist from our region to design it.

The cards should be no larger than 5" x 7" and have a flat surface (no fabric or bells).

All entries must be submitted by: **May 16, 2003**

- **Grand Prize:** Winning design will be published on 2003 NSEDC Christmas card\*, a pizza party for your class (maximum of 35) and a local store gift certificate valued at \$75.00
- **Second Prize:** Local store gift certificate valued at \$50.00
- **Third Prize:** Local store gift certificate valued at \$50.00

You can either deliver your entry to the NSEDC liaison in your community or mail it to:

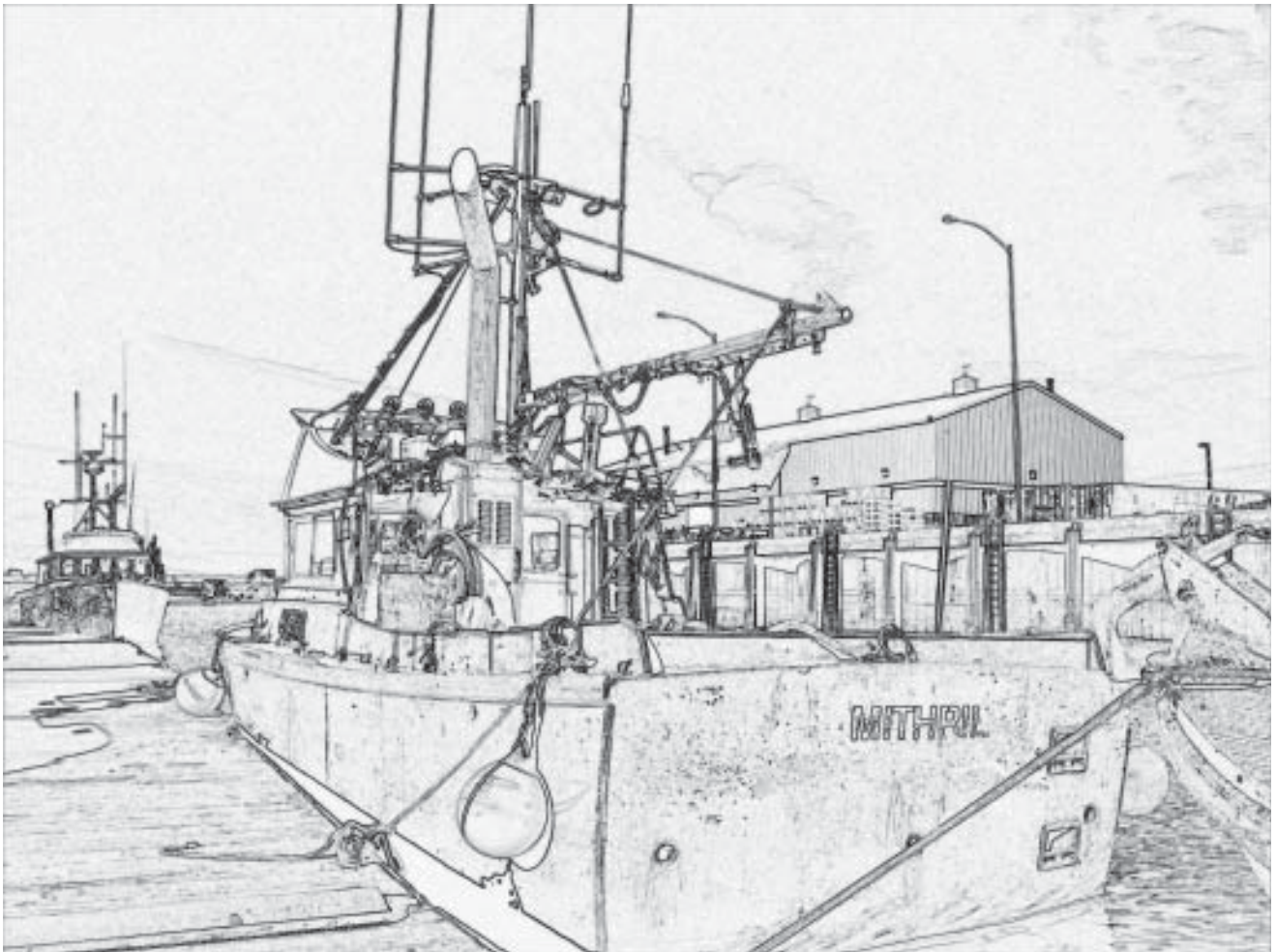
**NSEDC**  
**420 L Street Suite 310**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

If you have any questions please call Kathy Wheelehan at **1-800-650-2248**.

\*All entries will become the property of NSEDC and may be used by NSEDC or its subsidiaries for any purpose, including, but not limited to, reproduction, disclosure, transmission, publication, broadcast and posting.



# “Taghnughhaghni, Una Igaaqegaq Kalereteggu”



Frank McFarland's fishing vessel the "Mithril"

Siberian Yupik for: “*children,  
color this picture*”

**Executive Committee:**

- Henry Ivanoff, Chairman
- Dan Harrelson, Vice-Chairman
- Dean Peterson, Secretary
- Harvey Sookiayak, Treasurer
- Don Stiles, Sergeant-at-Arms

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- Wilfred Katcheak
- Danny Adams
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- Eugene Asicksik, NSEDC
- Tom Magwire, NSSP
- John Bundy, GFC
- Steve Ivanoff, At-Large
- Eric Osborne, At-Large

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**Scholarship Committee:**

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- Truman Kava
- Victor Joe
- Gilbert Ungott
- Wilfred Katcheak
- Paul Ivanoff III, At-Large
- Pete Larsen, At-Large

**Corporate Officers:**

- Eugene Asicksik, President
- Janis Ivanoff, Vice President
- Jerry Ivanoff, Secretary
- Chris Cook, Treasurer

**Norton Sound  
Economic Development  
Corporation (NSEDC)**

is a private nonprofit corporation representing 15 member communities and over 9,311 people in the Bering Straits Region of Northwestern Alaska. NSEDC is one of six Community Development Quota (CDQ) organizations in Alaska.

# Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

420 L Street, Suite 310  
Anchorage, AK 99501

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