

# Establishing a Technical Assistance Network to Build Capacity in Southwest Alaska

DOE Office of Indian Energy Annual Program Review  
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Laura Vaught, Energy Coordinator  
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference



Old Harbor, Kodiak Island



# Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC)

We are a regional membership organization that

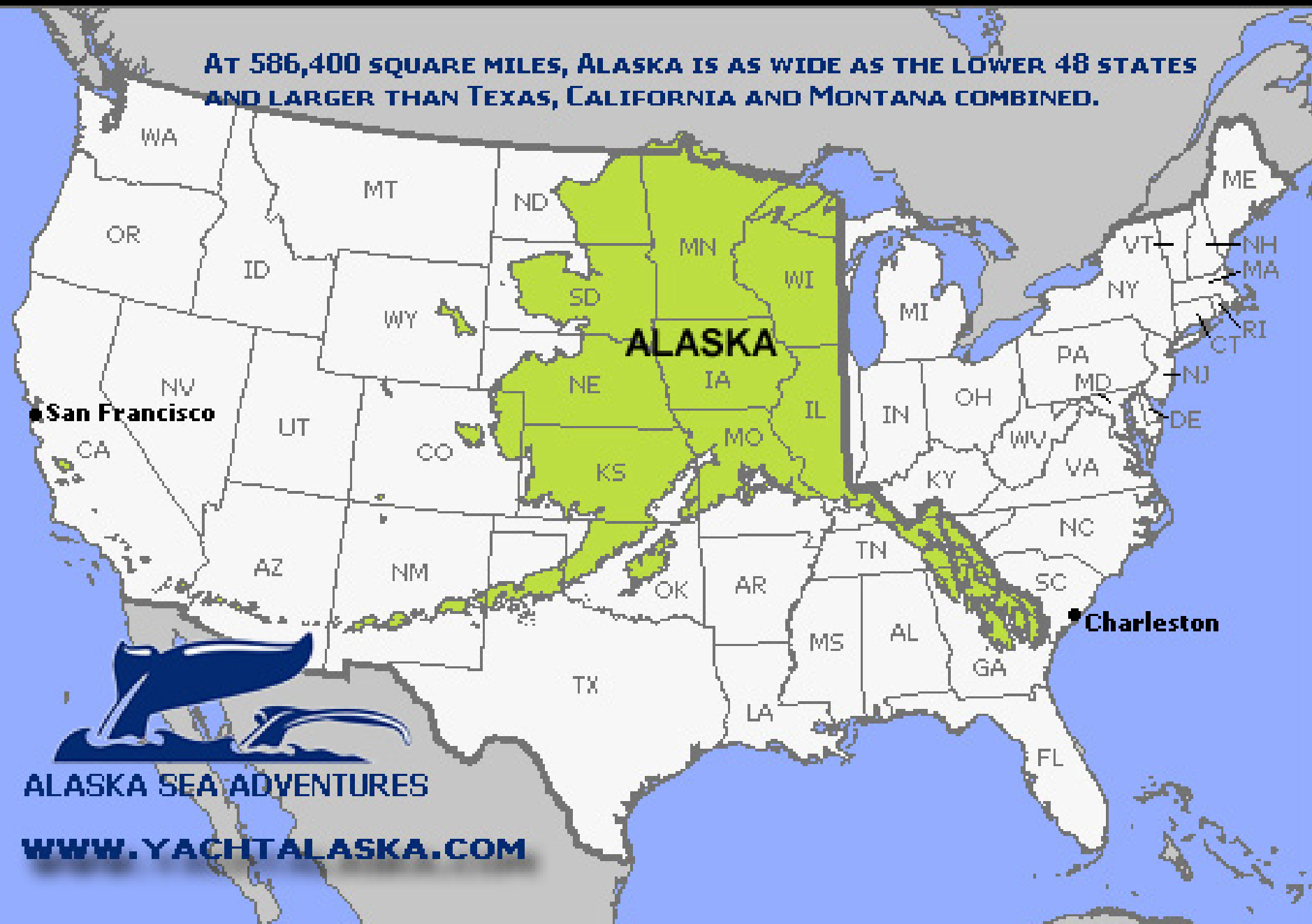
- Advances collective interests of Southwest Alaska people, businesses, and communities and
- Helps promote economic opportunities to improve quality of life and influence long-term responsible development.

# SWAMC Region



- 60,907 sq. miles
- 3 Alaska Native Regional Corporations: The Aleut Corporation, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, & Koniag Inc.
- 53 Alaska Native villages in the region

**At 586,400 square miles, Alaska is as wide as the lower 48 states and larger than Texas, California and Montana combined.**



• **San Francisco**

• **Charleston**

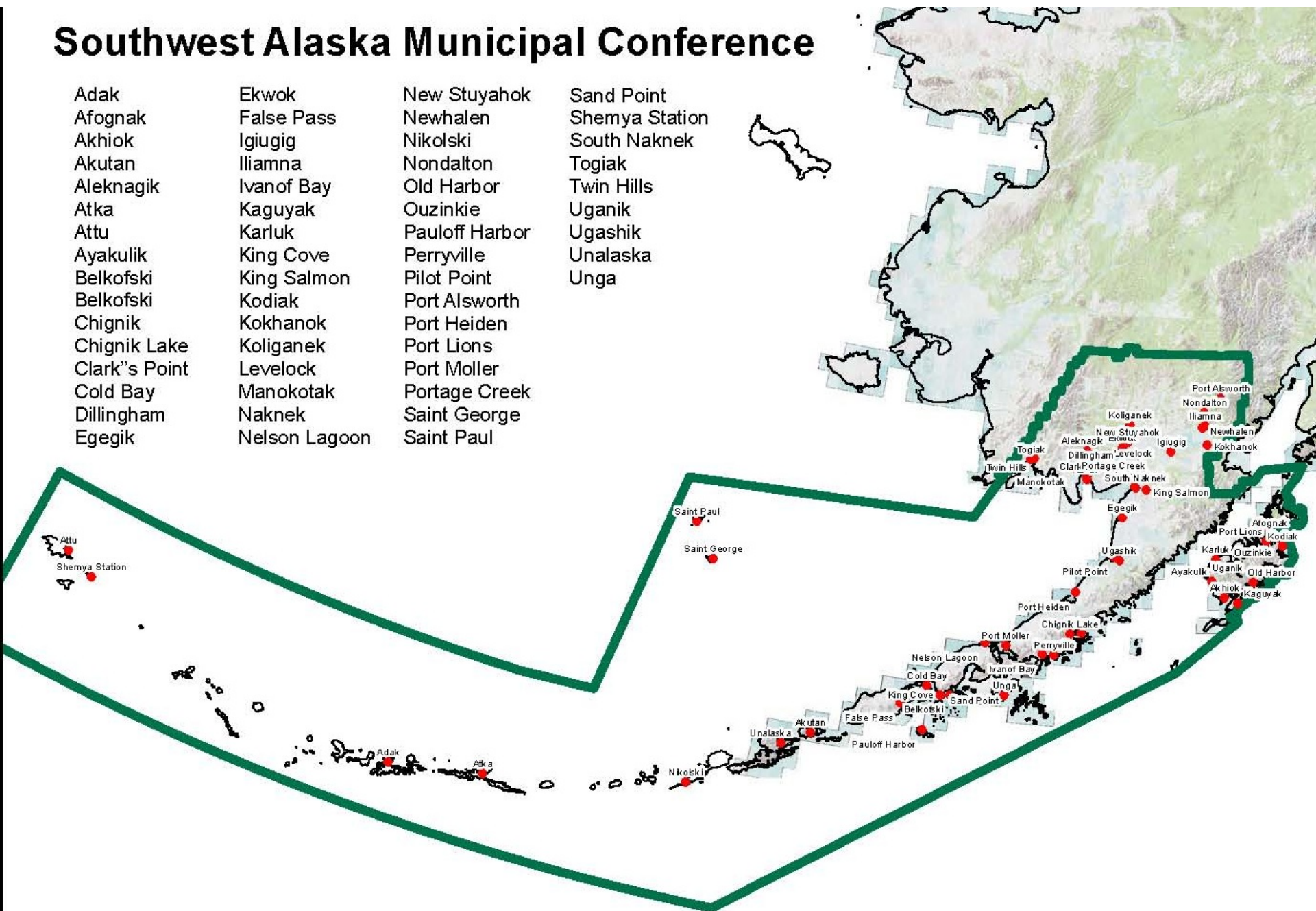
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# Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

|               |               |                |                |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Adak          | Ekwo          | New Stuyahok   | Sand Point     |
| Afognak       | False Pass    | Newhalen       | Shemya Station |
| Akhiok        | Igiugig       | Nikolski       | South Naknek   |
| Akutan        | Iliamna       | Nondalton      | Togiak         |
| Aleknagik     | Ivanof Bay    | Old Harbor     | Twin Hills     |
| Atka          | Kaguyak       | Ouzinkie       | Uganik         |
| Attu          | Karluk        | Pauloff Harbor | Ugashik        |
| Ayakulik      | King Cove     | Perryville     | Unalaska       |
| Belkofski     | King Salmon   | Pilot Point    | Unga           |
| Belkofski     | Kodiak        | Port Alsworth  |                |
| Chignik       | Kokhanok      | Port Heiden    |                |
| Chignik Lake  | Koliganek     | Port Lions     |                |
| Clark's Point | Levelock      | Port Moller    |                |
| Cold Bay      | Manokotak     | Portage Creek  |                |
| Dillingham    | Naknek        | Saint George   |                |
| Egegik        | Nelson Lagoon | Saint Paul     |                |



# Life in the SWAMC Region







## Aleutian and Pribilof Islands Region







## Bristol Bay Region







## Kodiak Region





# Project Goal

Develop efficient and financially sustainable structures for identifying and developing energy projects that enhance community resiliency and energy sustainability.



# Project Participants

## Project Management Team:

- **Laura Vaught**, Multi-Region Energy Coordinator and Project Manager, *SWAMC*
- **Doug Griffin**, Executive Director, *SWAMC*
- **Jamie Hansen**, Senior Consultant, *Information Insights*

# Project Participants

## Regional Energy Coordinators:

- **Bruce Wright**, Senior Scientist,  
*Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA)*
- **Stephanie Aikins**, Regional Energy Coordinator,  
*Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA)*
- **Tyler Kornelis**, Project Manager,  
*Kodiak Area Native Association (KANNA)*



# Project Participants

## Technical Assistance Panel:

- **Dr. Brian Hirsch**, President and Owner, *Deerstone Consulting, LLC*
- **Connie Fredenberg**, President and Owner, *Utility Management Assistance*
- **Jim Fowler, PE, CEM**, Founder and Principal, *Energy Audits of Alaska*
- **John Lyons**, General Manager & **Travis Hammond**, Electrical Engineering Lead, *TDX Power*
- **Peter Crimp**, Owner, *Crimp Energy Consulting*
- **Douglas Vaught, PE**, Consulting Engineer, *V3 Energy, LLC*

# Project Objectives

This project will establish energy coordinators and management structures in the regions to:

1. Build in-region technical and management capacity
2. Demonstrate improved capacity by identifying and developing energy efficiency, heating, and power supply projects that reduce community costs, improve energy systems, and utilize alternative sources of energy
3. Develop regional energy management structures that are financially sustainable



## Objective 1: Build in-region technical and management capacity

- Regional Energy Coordinators and Multi-Region Energy Coordinator
- Technical Assistance Panel
- Communication and Data Management Systems:
  - Energy Committees
  - Quarterly newsletter and survey
  - Moderated email listserves
  - Energy Project Tracking
- Training
  - Project Management Team Training
  - Regional Energy Coordinators Training
  - Community Energy Trainings

Objective 2: Demonstrate improved capacity by identifying and developing energy efficiency, heating, and power supply projects that reduce community costs, improve energy systems, and utilize alternative sources of energy

■ Energy Efficiency projects:

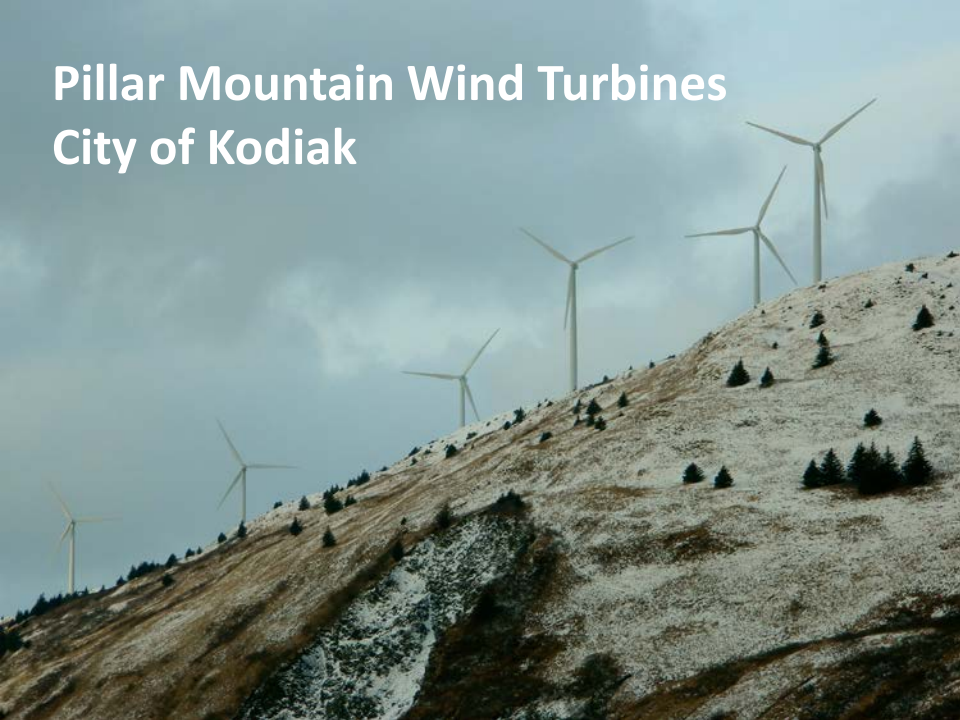
- Increase awareness
- Baseline data collection
- Analysis

■ Heating and Power Supply projects:

- Move communities to the application-ready stage, so they can pursue:
  - Reconnaissance
  - Feasibility
  - Concept & design
  - Construction



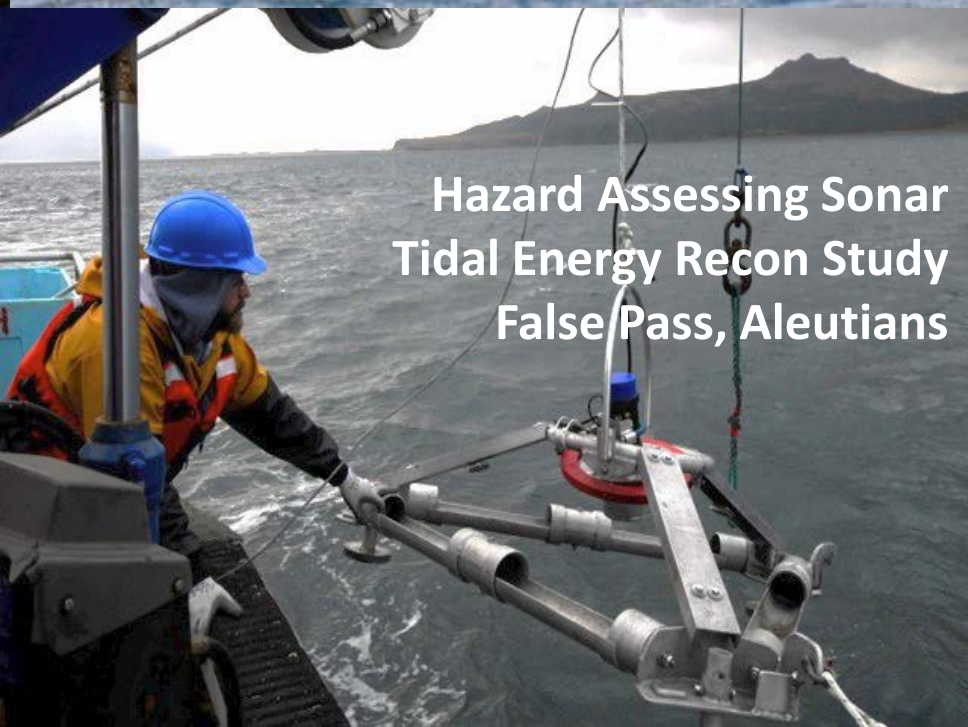
**Pillar Mountain Wind Turbines  
City of Kodiak**



**Prototype In-River Hydropower System  
Igiugig, Bristol Bay**



**Hydro Plant  
Chignik Lagoon  
Bristol Bay**



**Hazard Assessing Sonar  
Tidal Energy Recon Study  
False Pass, Aleutians**



## Objective 3: Develop regional energy management structures that are financially sustainable

- Secure long-term funding for energy positions and management structures
- Energy planning incorporated into project development region-wide
- Utility operator and manager training or regional roaming utility operators



# Previous Activities

## 3 years of outreach with AEA Regional Energy Planning:

- 3 Regional Energy Committees of tribal and city representatives from each community
- Aleutian and Pribilof Islands Phase I Report – Resource Inventory & Phase II Report – Stakeholder Engagement
- Bristol Bay Phase I Report – Resource Inventory & Phase II Report – Stakeholder Engagement
- Kodiak Phase I & II Reports – Vol I Resource Inventory and Outreach & Vol II Community Profiles

# Progress to date

- RECs staffed at APIA, BBNA, and KANA
- First regional newsletters sent November 7<sup>th</sup> providing project introduction and overview
- Setting up communication tools:
  - MailChimp for newsletters
  - BlueJeans for video conferencing
  - Google Forms for surveys
- Energy Workshop and Aleutian and Bristol Bay Committee Meetings scheduled in coordination with SWAMC Annual Conference
  - February 28, 2017



# Thank you!

## Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

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