

WILD RESOURCE HARVEST AND USE BY COOK INLET COMMUNITIES

Project to update harvest and use information of wild resources for Cook Inlet communities

WHY CONDUCT THIS RESEARCH

The purpose of this project is to document the harvest and use of wild resources by residents of Cook Inlet. Since 1978, the Division of Subsistence, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, has been charged with quantifying wild resource harvests by conducting studies throughout Alaska. This involves collecting data about wild resource harvest and use, including basic information about who, what, when, where, how, and how much wild resources are being used in order to develop fishing and hunting opportunities for Alaska residents.

The Division of Subsistence has conducted systematic household surveys in 271 rural communities in Alaska, the results of which appear in the on-line Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). While at least one year of data is available for most communities in Southern Alaska, it has been 20 years since survey data has been updated in some of the proposed study communities and no survey has occurred in Nikiski.

This research is funded by the Alaska Liquid Natural Gas Project (Alaska LNG Project). It will allow the Division of Subsistence to fill in major gaps in our database by producing up-to-date harvest estimates for Cook Inlet communities. Additionally, this information may be used as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) required review of the proposed gas pipeline. The map demonstrates both years of this survey

effort. For Year 1, Tyonek was surveyed in January 2014. Year 2 studies will occur in the winter and spring of 2015 in the remaining Cook Inlet communities (Nanwalek, Port Graham, Seldovia, and Nikiski).

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to providing comprehensive wild resource harvest data, this project will include training of local researchers in each study community and developing partnerships with local governments and regional organizations to facilitate implementation and maintenance of the project. Communities will also have the opportunity to review and comment on the data collected before it becomes final.

HOW WE USE THIS DATA

The resulting information will assist state and federal managers in their management responsibilities of wild resources and it will be useful to local and regional advisory councils in making recommendations for regulatory changes. This information will assist the State of Alaska Boards of Fisheries and Game and the Federal Subsistence Board in the informed management of fish and wildlife in the region. Final results will be summarized in a technical report as well as included in the Division of Subsistence Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). Both are available online from the Division of Subsistence, ADF&G.

TIMELINE: YEAR II

November - December 2014

January – March 2015

November 2015

January – May 2016

June 2016

Community scoping meetings

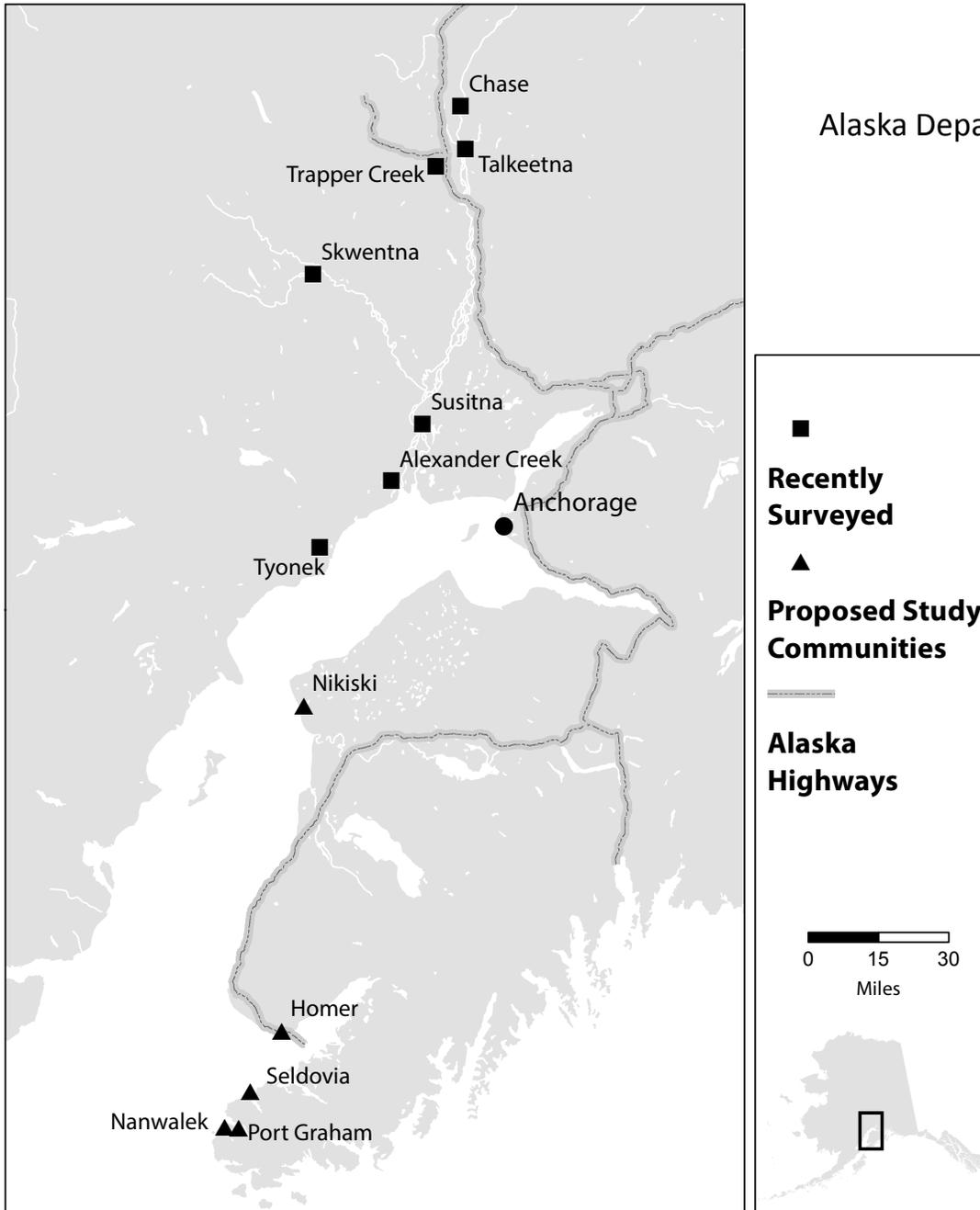
Household surveys and key respondent interviews

Community review of study findings

Draft report

Final report sent to communities

PROPOSED STUDY COMMUNITIES



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DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE

For a copy of our OEO statement, see www.adfg.alaska.gov