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Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 5:42 PM
To: Riley Smith; Ekaterina Ratzlaff
Cc: Decker, Julie
Subject: COVID-19 update from AFDF - July 25
Attachments: NFI COVID Sitrep #73 18 - 21 July 2020: (126 KB)

To: AFDF Members

July 25th: Important recent COVID-19 information to help you navigate this pandemic.

ECONOMIC RELIEF

NOTE: the economic relief programs at the federal and state level continue to change (extensions, eligibility, total funds, etc). Please continue to review programs for more details if you previously did not qualify. Additionally, communities are starting to roll out their set of economic relief programs from the CARES Act funds distributed to communities. Fishermen and processors may qualify for some of those programs as well.

1. **NEW - Alaska communities begin economic relief programs:** The following communities have announced grant/loan programs of their own that some fishing industry businesses may be eligible for. However, this is not an exhaustive list. You should check with your local community for programs that may benefit you or your business.

JUNEAU - <https://www.jedc.org/> Juneau has both loans and grants available under phase 1 – phase 2 is under development but unsure what it looks like and if you would have had to participate in phase 1 or not. The grant requires a business license, I have asked but not received a response if a CFEC permit will work as per AK statute which does not require a commercial fishermen to have a business license in the State.

SITKA – **CARES ACT Funding Utility and Moorage Relief Program** applications are now available. You can find applications online at www.cityofsitka.org by clicking the link at the top of the page. Applications received after the deadline of 4:00 on **FRIDAY JULY 31st, 2020** will be considered late and will not be accepted. Utility subsidy inquiries or questions can be directed to the Accounting Clerk at 747-1859; Moorage subsidy inquiries or questions can be directed to the Harbor office at 747-3439.

WRANGELL - The City of Wrangell initiated a **Small Business Emergency Grant** which requires a business license and sales tax documentations, but for fishermen it allows them to submit copies of their 2020 CFEC card and a copy of a 2019 fish ticket. Deadline for applications is September 15, 2020 or until funds are used up. Also available is a program that gives a 50% reduction in the cost to haul a vessel for repairs in the Marine Service Center.

<https://www.wrangell.com/economicdevelopment/wrangell-cares-covid-19-relief-programs>

KETCHIKAN has four different grants – It appeared that two of the grants required a 40% decline in

revenue for the 2nd qtr of the year based on sales tax returns. <https://www.kgbak.us/940/CARES-ACT-Funding-COVID-19-Support-Progr>

2. **Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) announces \$35M in CARES funds for non-profits:** <https://alaskacf.org/cnrf/>
3. **Expansion of AK CARES Grant Program:** On July 14th, the Alaska House Labor & Commerce Committee held a hearing with the Dept. of Commerce and others. During which, Commissioner Anderson described that the court ruling regarding the injunction on this program was favorable to the state. The state reiterated that it will be expanding this grant program which makes grants of \$5,000 to \$100,000 to eligible businesses and non-profits. *Businesses and non-profits that received LESS THAN \$5,000 in PPP/EIDL funds will be eligible to apply, including CFEC permit holders.* Additionally, both 501(c)3 and 501(c)6 non-profits will be eligible to apply. Under the new guidelines, a business that has not secured funding or taken receipt of the funds will qualify. No double-dipping is allowed. The changes are anticipated to be in place soon, so keep [checking back to this website](#) for more information. Also, see these [FAQs](#). [Credit Union 1](#) will be processing the applications and distributing the funds.
4. **NEW – Webinar – How to apply for the Alaska CARES Grant** (sponsored by City and Borough of Wrangell) – note – this webinar has detailed information regarding eligible expenses for fishermen, which is not included in the current instructions at Credit Union 1. <https://www.wrangell.com/economicdevelopment/webinar-how-apply-alaska-cares-grant>
5. **PPP extended, now includes 1099-MISC payments – DEADLINE TO APPLY - AUGUST 8:** The US House and Senate passed legislation to extend the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) this week. Fishermen must apply through a bank for a PPP loan (which can be converted to a grant, if the requirements are met. It is highly recommended that you work with a bank with which you already have a financial relationship. Banks are still awaiting approval to start accepting applications again. PPP was changed so fishermen who report “Fishing Boat Proceeds” in Box 5 on Form 1099-MISC can now participate. Previously, fishermen were not able to include 1099 payments in their payroll calculations, making them eligible for loan amounts that are far lower than what their business may require to operate through the pandemic.
3. **SBA EIDL Loans/Advances Still:** This federal program for small businesses/non-profits still remains open for application. “To further meet the needs of U.S. small businesses and non-profits, the U.S. Small Business Administration reopened the [Economic Injury Disaster Loan \(EIDL\) and EIDL Advance Program portal](#) to all eligible applicants experiencing economic impacts due to COVID-19 today.” If your business or non-profit has not applied yet, you are likely qualified to receive an advance (which does not need to be repaid) of \$1,000 per employee, up to a total of \$10,000, in addition to other potential loan options.
4. **\$50 Million for Fishermen/Processors/Etc:** The state is still working on the eligibility criteria for distribution of the \$50 million that the state received for fishermen, processors, charter fishermen, and aquaculture businesses. An additional \$1 million was received for Alaska tribes. The following three links are the most current info to date:
ADFG: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/home/news/hottopics/pdfs/cares_act_guidance_6520.pdf

NOAA: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/commerce-secretary-announces-allocation-300-million-cares-act-funding>

ALFA: <http://www.alfafish.org/news-1/2020/5/15/noaa-fisheries-allocate-50-million-in-covid-19-disaster-relief-funds-to-divide-between-alaska-commercial-fishermen-charter-operators-and-processors>

5. **Alaska Chamber:** The [Alaska Chamber](#) has many resources related to the various economic programs available to businesses, including Q&A webinars.

HEALTH SAFETY

1. **FISHERMEN - Health Mandate 17:** Alaska’s Unified Command reported this week that Health Mandate 17 is expected to be updated and revised, given new information available to the state. However, these revisions are not completed yet.
2. **SEAFOOD PROCESSORS – Review of Protective Plans:** Alaska’s Unified Command reported this week that the desk-top review of the protective plans is completed, and the next stage of review with calling each processing company to discuss the results of the desk-top review. The state is also developing a “play book” with lessons learned and best practices known to date.
3. **SEAFOOD PROCESSORS – Recent Outbreaks & Community Spread:** Alaska’s Unified Command reported this week that Public Health is continuing to investigate and conduct contact tracing for four recent outbreaks (F/V American Triumph, Alaska Glacier Seafoods in Juneau, OBI in Seward, and Copper River Seafoods in Anchorage). Our understanding is that the AGS situation was traced back to initial infection of a local worker from the community, and the other two plants also have local workers. Community spread of the virus looks to be the industry’s current challenge.
4. **Helpful Industry Websites with COVID Info:**
 1. [United Fishermen of Alaska \(UFA\)](#)
 2. [Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association \(BBRSDA\)](#) – including a [Bristol Bay Fishermen’s Handbook](#)
 3. [Alaska Fishermen’s Network](#)
 4. [Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation \(AFDF\)](#)
5. **National Fisheries Institute (NFI) Sitrep #73** (see attached email)

ARTICLES

The Good News: Alaska fishing communities feared COVID-19 contagion from industry; it hasn’t shown up
https://www.alaskapublic.org/2020/07/22/alaska-fishing-communities-feared-covid-19-contagion-from-industry-it-hasnt-shown-up/?fbclid=IwAR3yqATHFI3mLyWXFWKYxdqiYggKuhDhzN_fclq811aZncCHmDLX2yynKq0

The Bad News: Seafood companies kept COVID-19 from infecting Alaskans, now they’re trying to keep the virus out of their plants

https://www.alaskapublic.org/2020/07/24/seafood-companies-kept-covid-19-from-infecting-alaskans-now-theyre-trying-to-keep-the-virus-out-of-their-plants/?fbclid=IwAR3di4II5nIRs5EskV_8zMm7sh2e7X0qkqGI7oYcMpM9i25nzSiMjuQbpU

Alaska's Chief Medical Officer - some seafood processors are consistently seeing large outbreaks
<https://www.intrafish.com/processing/alaskas-chief-medical-officer-some-seafood-processors-are-consistently-seeing-large-outbreaks/2-1-847906>

Coastal communities and the seafood industry are in this together, and working together is how we will keep everyone safe and keep businesses open.

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