

Tribal Natural Resource Management Textbook Project

*A Joint Project of the
Chugach Regional Resources Commission
and the
Native American Fish & Wildlife Society*

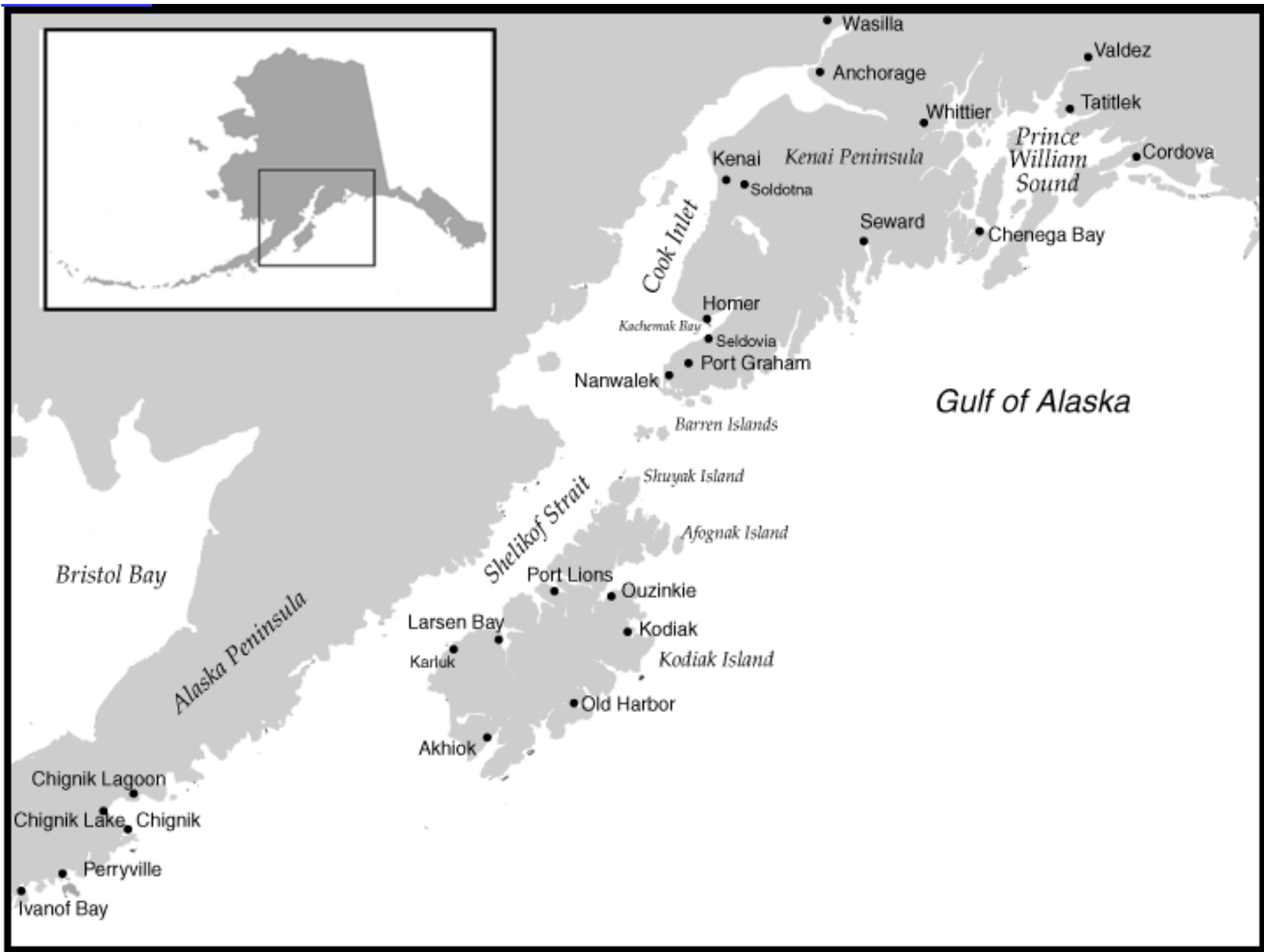
Chugach Regional Resources Commission

- The **Chugach Regional Resources Commission (CRRC)** is a Tribal nonprofit 501©(3) public charitable organization comprised of the Tribes located within the Chugach Region in Southcentral Alaska.
- CRRC was formed in 1984 by the Tribes to collectively address mutual concerns and issues regarding stewardship of their natural resources, subsistence, the environment, and to develop culturally appropriate economic projects that promote the sustainable development of their natural resources.



The Chugach Region

- The Chugach region covers a large and diverse area of the state which has seven Tribes located in Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet.
- These Tribes are: Chenega Bay, Nanwalek, Eyak, Port Graham, Qutekcak Native Tribe, Tatitlek, and the Valdez Native Tribe.



Project Accomplishments

- Fifteen students have participated in the program and have earned a total of as many as 15 college credits each through the UAF Interior Aleutians Campus
- Courses include: Introduction to Tribal Government, Introduction to Tribal Natural Resources Management, Cross Connections: Adapting and Integrating Principles of Management and Conservation
- A traditional ecology course is currently under development with the goal of getting the course designated as a science course

Textbook Project History

- There is currently no reading material specific to Tribal natural resource management, written for Tribes, by Tribes
- CRRC brought together Tribal professionals from across the country to comprise the Tribal Natural Resource Textbook Working Group
- 2 meetings have been held thus far; 3rd meeting scheduled for November 6-7, 2008.

Working Group Members

- John Antonio, Laguna Pueblo, Degree in Forestry
- Jim Garrett, PhD, Cheyenne River Lakota
- Kristopher Hohag, Masters Student in Education, Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Tom Hrabik, PhD in Fisheries, LdF Ojibwe
- Orville Huntington, Wildlife Biologist, Huslia
- Norm Jojola, BIA, Isleta Pueblo
- Herman Moonin, Jr., Native Elder, Port Graham
- Nick Tanape, Native Elder, Nanwalek
- Dewey Schwalenberg, Nat. Res. Director, Stevens Village
- Dan Wildcat, Haskell Indian Nations University
- Sally Carufel-Williams, Santee and Ojibwe
- Wanbli Williams, Graduate Student, Santee and Ojibwe

Staff/Technical Support

- Patty Brown-Schwalenberg, CRRC Exec. Dir., LdF Ojibwe
- Ida Hildebrand, CRRC Tribal Nat. Res. Prog. Dir., Athabaskan-Doyon Region
- Henry Huntington, PhD, Anchorage
- Glenn Seaman, NOAA, Homer, AK
- Diane Mann-Klager, BIA Plains Region
- Patrick Durham, USFWS Native American Liaison

■ Committees

- ◆ Fundraising and Public Relations
- ◆ Publishing
- ◆ Development of Initial 2 Chapters
(Introduction and Philosophy of Our Relationship to the Natural World), Forward and an outline of the text Units and Chapters.
- ◆ Development of Outline for Remaining Chapters
- ◆ Editorial Board

Goals and Considerations

- Develop a Textbook that will be used in conjunction with western science and serve as a bridge between the two ideologies
- Incorporate into the textbook the importance of our spirituality, world view, how TEK is an integral part of the management of our lands and resources, and emphasize that TEK is context specific and geographically relevant
- On the ground observations and traditional lore are backed up by western science
- Target Audience: Tribal Colleges and high schools, universities, Tribal Natural Resource Management Programs, Federal and State Agencies, and Industry

Partnership with the NAFWS

The NAFWS Board of Directors passed action to support the project and begin work on an MOA with CRRC to jointly develop a university level textbook on Tribal Natural Resource Management

First draft of the MOA is currently under review

As part of the outreach process, we are attending each regional conference this year to share information on the project, encourage participation in its development, and solicit contributions to the textbook

Chapter Outline in Development

- UNIT I. INTRO/FORWARD
- UNIT II. LANGUAGE AND THE POWER OF WORDS
- UNIT III. FOOD SECURITY: Healthy Lifestyles and Indigenous Food Relationships to the Natural World

Chapter Outline in Development

- UNIT IV. CHANGES IN THE NATURAL WORLD AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO TRIBAL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
 - ◆ Climate Change
 - ◆ Environmental Changes and Impacts to the Local Community
 - ◆ Cultural Change and Adaptive Management Strategies
 - ◆ Relevance of Change

Chapter Outline in Development

- UNIT V. TRIBAL MGMT.
TECHNIQUES
- UNIT VI. TRIBAL ETHICS AND
PROTOCOLS
 - ◆ Codes and Ordinances/Enforcement
 - ◆ Cycles and Seasons/Migrations
 - ◆ TNRMPs
 - ◆ Leadership

Chapter Outline in Development

- UNIT VII. TRIBAL AUTHORITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND GOVERNANCE
 - ◆ Background/History and Indian Law
 - ◆ Tribal Justice/Courts
 - ◆ Relationships with State and Federal Management Entities
 - ◆ Co-Management
 - ◆ International Relationships

Benefits

- Students will have the culturally appropriate and traditionally based reading material necessary to complement their education in the natural resource disciplines
- The validity of Tribal programs, projects, and management philosophies will be nationally recognized

Benefits (continued)

- Tribal traditional stewardship strategies and techniques will be highlighted in a nationally available textbook
- We will have published the first university level textbook for Tribes, by Tribes, based on Tribal traditional values, philosophies, and ethics

SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT

- CRRC and NAFWS are currently reviewing a draft MOA for these organizations to seek funding for this project.
- CRRC and the Textbook Working Group are reviewing a draft submissions policy to accept draft chapters from various authors.
- CRRC and NAFWS are also soliciting resolutions from tribes in support of this project, to be used in seeking funding for the development of the textbook.
- Tribes can offer support through submission of a Tribal Resolution of support, or
- Tribes can contribute case studies and/or traditional stories to be incorporated into the textbook.

Contact Information

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“Our job isn’t done until we’ve taught our children not only what our parents and grandparents taught us, but also what we’ve managed to learn along the way. The world is always changing. Sometimes our culture even changes with it. But our values, our basic traditional values, will always remain the same. Always.”

- Gary P. Kompkoff, Village Chief, Native Village of Tatitlek