

## Alaska Region Office of Science Applications



## News & Announcements January

Western Alaska LCC Region; Bering Land Bridge  
Photo credit: NPS

### **December Icon Challenge Results**

Congratulations to Ken Russel who was the first to correctly point out that the photo contains all three species of North Pacific albatross species (the ones that come to Alaska). These species are: Laysan, short-tailed, and black-footed. Photo contributor Greg Balogh also added "...some of those southern hemisphere blokes wander a bit north of the equator now and again, but never up to Alaska."

Per request, John Wenburg scores the imaginary bonus point this month for pointing out that 'somewhat unique' is oxymoronic.

Thank you Greg Balogh for the image and contest idea.

If you have a good idea for an icon contest, send it my way:

[brett\\_parks@fws.gov](mailto:brett_parks@fws.gov)

# Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

## Arctic LCC: Coastal Impressions

### *A Photographic Journey along Alaska's Arctic Coast*



Photos: Mandy Lindberg, NOAA Fisheries, Alaska ShoreZone Program

A photo exhibit of Alaska's Arctic coast will be featured at the Alaska Marine Science Symposium from January 20-25, 2014 in the Adventure Room at the Hotel Captain Cook. The exhibit will be featured in the Adventure Room at the Hotel Captain Cook as part of the Alaska Marine Science Symposium (AMSS) from January 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> and is a product of the ongoing efforts of the Alaska ShoreZone Program to image and habitat-map all of Alaska's coastline.

[Click here](#) for more information and complete [press release](#).

## Northwest Boreal LCC: Bridging Yesterday with Tomorrow

The complexity of adapting to the changes in the earth's climate require a new outlook on the knowledge systems we use for decision-making ([Barrett 2013](#)). Though there has been significant work in physical and biological systems in the arctic there has been little work to unlock the potential of using diverse world-views ([Dale 2011](#); [Wilkinson et al. 2007](#)) to implement sustainability.

Translating Indigenous Knowledge (IK) into definable actions for resource management has been largely an exercise in the collection of oral histories. Thus there exists a need to examine how the implementation of IK is a function of our willingness to stretch our world-view boundaries for complex problem solving.

The purpose of Bridging Yesterday with Tomorrow is to find a bridge between traditional management systems and western management systems. This information is intended to bring harmony between the world views of western trained managers and local stewards. Specifically, this research intends to stretch the boundaries of how that we apply diverse knowledge systems (epistemology and ontology) in the context of resource management. The project will provide insight and understanding into the culturally-based rules which guided management and relationships between people, landscapes, and food resources.



Bridging Yesterday with Tomorrow was one of the diverse projects selected by the Northwest Boreal LCC Steering Committee for 2013 funding. The project was conceived of and is being implemented by the Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments (CATG), a NWB LCC Steering Committee partner.

For further project information, contact Bryan Maracle: [bmaracle@catg.org](mailto:bmaracle@catg.org)

### **Western Alaska LCC: Project and Funding Updates**

In December the Steering Committee made funding decisions for three of the five topics included in RFPs last fall. We are currently working on agreements with partners at UAF, Univ. of Georgia, Bristol Bay Natural Heritage Land Trust, and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge for the 'Coastal project synthesis', the 'Invasive Plant App (2 partners involved)', and for the development of 'Freshwater Temperature Monitoring Implementation Plans' for the Bristol Bay and Kodiak Archipelago regions of the LCC geography.

In late January, the Steering Committee will be making decisions about projects in the remaining two topics: 'Development of baseline standards for water temperature data collection/management' and on projects to demonstrate the 'Impacts of changing water temperature on priority resources'.

### **Aleutian & Bering Sea Islands LCC: Funding Availability**

ABSI LCC announces a Notice of Funding Availability that opens Friday, January 24, 2014, and closes on Monday, February 24, 2014. Proposals may be submitted for either one of two topic areas.

**Topic 1:** A coarse filter vulnerability assessment for terrestrial habitats relative to invasive animal species (NTE \$100,000).

**Topic 2:** A coarse filter vulnerability assessment for key species and human communities relative to contaminants and pollutants (NTE \$100,000).

Visit <https://absilcc.org/science/SitePages/nofa.aspx> for further information.

### **North Pacific LCC: Climate Change Effects and Adaptation**

A report prepared by National Wildlife Federation, Climate Change Effects and Adaptation Approaches for Terrestrial Ecosystems, Habitats, and Species, is now available. Funded by the NPLCC in 2012, this report is the third and final report about climate change effects on marine and coastal, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems in the geographic extent of the NPLCC. The reports provide a compilation of the scientific literature for the NPLCC. A document with the combined executive summaries for the three reports is available [here](#). The full marine and coastal and the freshwater reports are available on the NPLCC website resources page.



Photo: Mandy Lindeberg, NOAA, NMFS

## **Upcoming Webinar**

Dr. Sarah Saalfeld, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, 'Predicting waterbird nest distributions on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta of Alaska'. Wednesday 2/19 at noon. Join us online or in person in the OSM Conference Room in the Regional Office. Details for connecting online will be announced on Western Alaska LCC's webpage in early February ([westernalaskalcc.org](http://westernalaskalcc.org)).

Background on the project can be found here: <https://westernalaskalcc.org/projects/SitePages/2012projects.aspx>, project #9.

# What's New in Alaska Region Science

## Publication

Decker, D. J., Forstchen, A. B., Organ, J. F., Smith, C. A., Riley, S. J., Jacobson, C. A., Batcheller, G. R. and Siemer, W. F. (2013), Impacts management: An approach to fulfilling public trust responsibilities of wildlife agencies. Wildlife Society Bulletin. doi: 10.1002/wsb.380

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wsb.380/pdf>

## New Data

The [Historic Sea Ice Atlas](#) is now available. The Atlas includes gridded digitized data from multiple sources spanning from the mid 1800s to present that is displayed on an interactive map and graphs. The Atlas covers all Alaska coastal waters to a distance of ~500 km (300 mi) from shore, with a spatial resolution of 25 km. The project was jointly funded by Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS), the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy (ACCAP), and the Scenarios Network for Alaska and Arctic Planning (SNAP)

The Atlas and more information can be found here:

<http://seaiceatlas.snap.uaf.edu/>

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