

FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL REPORT MARCH, 2012

The purpose of the Fisheries Development Committee is to advise and assist the Assembly in regards to all aspects of fishing activities in the City and Borough of Juneau.

The members of the committee are Brian Holst, Glenn Haight, Kyle Moselle, Thomas Fletcher, and Jim Becker, chair. We currently have two vacancies.

Steven Wright, a previous member of the committee, died suddenly last year. Steven was a member of the original committee and returned to work with us when we reformed the committee in 2008. Steven worked for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and was an active member of the Masons and was on the state board of the Alaska Public Employees Association. We will miss him for his good nature, sharp intellect, and his commitment to public service.

Our committee continues to work on many issues from our 2008-2009 survey. Some of these issues include road -side fishing and continuing working with the Docks and Harbor Board regarding development opportunities due to the removal of the city dock from under the bridge.

In 2011 the FDC led in the design and implementation of an update to a previous feasibility study for a public cold storage facility in Juneau. With the administrative help of the Juneau Economic Development Council and financial support of several local seafood businesses, Anchorage-based Northern Economic won the contract and produced the updated report. Based on its interviews and surveys with local seafood processors, retail grocers, wholesales, and other potential users, the report concluded there is not enough interest and need to support a competitive cold storage operation. The Committee was pleased with the work and while somewhat disheartened by the results, remains optimistic the information will assist the private sector in future evaluations. Further, in airing the subject in this public manner, the Committee, through the Assembly's support, allowed for greater dialogue that may lead local business to think more about greater processing activity over time.

We are pursuing maritime and fishing education opportunities in the Juneau School System. We are working with the local mariculture community to see how we can assist them.

And finally, some of us continue to cook at the Governor's Picnic and assist in the Maritime Festival.

Sincerely,  
Jim Becker