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Currents of Change Waves of Opportunity

**SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE
Annual Economic Summit & Membership Meeting**

**March 4 - 6, 2026
Hotel Captain Cook | Anchorage, Alaska**



**ATTENDEE
REGISTRATION**



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Working Agenda

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

**HAZARD MITIGATION & EMERGENCY
RESOURCES**

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

ECONOMIC TRANSITIONS

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

FISH FRIDAY & PUBLIC OFFICE FORUM

Moderator / Facilitator: Wanetta Ayers

Call or Order and Welcoming Remarks

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Intended Outcomes: Community and tribal leaders and staff learn about / are updated on hazard mitigation, resilience, and emergency response resources to address evolving hazards such as shore erosion, slope failures, meteorological events, and more. Community

KEYNOTE: Rural Economies in Transition

(8:45)

introduction by:

Mark Haggerty, Senior Fellow – Center for American Progress

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: (8:15)

The State of Alaska's Fisheries & SEAFOOD INDUSTRY (8:30)



Privacy - Terms

hazards are workshopped or "speed dated" with agencies in a fishbowl format.

PANEL: Hazard Mitigation Planning – Resource Agencies

PANEL: Emergency Response – Resource Agencies

WORKSHOPPING: Community Examples – a focused look at three or four community challenges

Speed Dating with Agencies – 15-minute table sessions with small groups to discuss questions, challenges, and possible approaches to resolving those challenges.

Community Conversation – Moderated Roundtable

- Mark Haggerty, Senior Fellow – Center for American Progress – confirmed
- Patrick Baker, Aleut Tribe of St. Paul – invited
- Gary Hennigh or Mayor, City of King Cove – confirmed
- Darren Muller, Spruce Island Development Corporation – invited

Aerospace (10:30)

Intended Outcome: Understand the intended development of the Pacific Test Range and how communities can prepare for and engage in aerospace development, dual use infrastructure, and service opportunities. Workforce development opportunities.

Moderator: TBD

PANEL:

Defense & Homeland Security (12:45)

Intended Outcome: how the revised National Security Strategy and DOD plans may impact communities, how can Southwest Alaska communities enhance coordination, infrastructure alignment, workforce readiness, environmental stewardship, and unified advocacy – turning strategic interest into community benefit.

Moderator: TBD –

Panel

Arctic Development (2:15)

Intended Outcome: how SW communities and tribes should engage in Arctic policy making, understand potential community opportunities, and how to advance the region's role as an Arctic gateway.

PANEL

Tourism & Outdoor Recreation (3:30–5:00)

Intended Outcome: illustrate how the SWAMC region can add value to tourism development

Intended outcome: hear from regulatory management agencies and trade associations on the state of the fisheries and seafood industry.

Kenote: The State of Alaska's Seafood Industry,

Sponsored by Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute

Moderator: TBD

Panel Discussion: Regulation and Management of Southwest Alaska Fisheries (8:45)

Panel Discussion: Harvesting, Processing and Marketing Alaska's Seafood (9:20)

Building Direct Marketing Capacity (10:00)

Intended Outcome: understand how small boat harvesters are moving into direct marketing, how communities can support development of direct marketers, and where other agencies and resources are available to support the sector.

Moderator: TBD

PANEL:

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: TBD (11:30)

Break (11:45)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: (12:00)

Moderator: all board members present on stage

Annual Business Meeting, Board Election: Resolutions, Staff Reports, Economic Geography Study – Melissa Errend – North Economics, Other Reports

SPECIAL PRESENTATION & GUESTS

Legislative Update and Dialogue (1:15)

Senator Gary Stevens – confirmed
Representative Louise Stutes – confirmed

through regional identity, new approaches to public lands, and cooperative marketing.

Senator Lyman Hoffman – invited
Representative Bryce Edgmon – invited

Mark Haggery, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress

Moderator: Carlin Enlow

Break (2:30)

Alaska Congressional Delegation – WASHINGTON DC UPDATE – REPORT (2:45)

PANEL

Senator Lisa Murkowski -invited

5:30 PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION & SILENT AUCTION

Two Drink Tickets

Candidate Forums

Appetizers

Gubernatorial candidates – all invited to attend (3:15)

Top four candidates only on stage based on APOC filing, polls, board in February

All Candidates for statewide offices invited

Congressional candidates – invited (4:00)

Senate candidates – invited (4:30)

TBD Adjournment

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

POST-CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING

The SWAMC Economic Summit & Membership Meeting is made possible through the generosity of our sponsors:

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Hands:**

