

# Alaska Troller

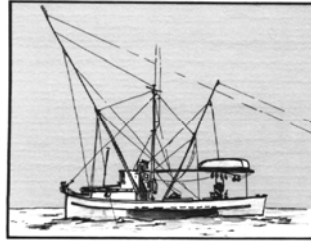
SUMMER 2008

## Inside This Issue

### Murkowski & Stevens Secure Moratorium on EPA Discharge Permits

Opinion 3

Sen. Lisa Murkowski and co-sponsor Sen. Ted Stevens recently got approval for a bill that provides commercial fishermen and other small commercial operators a two-year moratorium from Clean Water Act discharge permits. The legislation covers boats 79 feet or less and is a companion bill to the Clean Boating Act, which provides a permanent exemption to recreational vessels. Under court order, by Oct. 1 all US vessel owners would have been required to get a discharge permit for ballast, bilge, grey water, and deckwash. Over 970 commercial fishing vessels in Alaska would have been impacted, with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placing the national estimate at nearly 16 million new sport and commercial permits.



The EPA must now conduct a study to determine the types, volumes and effects of discharges from commercial vessels of different sizes and categories. The EPA is to provide a report to Congress within 15 months for use in determining if permanent exemptions are warranted.

Said Sen. Murkowski, "It is my hope that the commercial vessel study will provide the data to justify a similar exemption for the commercial sector." Senator Stevens' noted, "The compromise was hard fought. Senator Boxer's bill only exempted recreational boaters." He said that if this moratorium had not been secured, "The owner of a yacht would have qualified for the exemption, but gillnetters on a 35-foot boat would've had to commit their time and resources to getting an additional federal permit."

Discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels have been exempt from the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits under the Clean Water Act since 1973. In 2006, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California ruled that the EPA exceeded its authority under the Clean Water Act by exempting the discharges and issued an order revoking the exemption and requiring the agency to permit these discharges. The EPA appealed the decision, and in the meantime has proposed to permit recreational and commercial vessels under two separate general use permits.

Spring Board Update 4

Do you need a TWIC? 5

Calendar 6

Welcome New Members 7

### A Few Great Members...

Membership chairman **Bob 'Fuzzy' Fredrickson** put together a crackerjack team of folks to swarm the docks in Sitka to spread ATA's message. The result? Some immediate recruits, with sustained incoming through the summer. Whether you help with the membership drive, or heed the call, many, many thanks!

The following folks deserve a hand and some help, and/or competition, whatever floats your motivation boat. If a name was missed, please accept our apologies. With more energy like this, in all the ports, our numbers will soar. Strength in numbers!

**Martin Gowdy**

**Tele Aadsen**

**Lisa Fredrickson**

**Ben Peters**

**Bert Bergman**

**Joann Fredrickson**

**Steve Spleen**

**Linda Danner**

**Eric Jordan**

**John Murray**

**Mark Roberts**

**Carter Hughes**

**Ken Ash**

**Mark Moats**

## Celebrity Chef Alton Brown Talks Up Sustainable Seafood in Web Video

Check out [www.alaskaseafood.org](http://www.alaskaseafood.org) to see ASMI's newest video production. During the film shoot, Chef Alton Brown, visited Sitka, toured SPC, jumped on a troll boat, and grilled salmon, as part of ASMI's total immersion short-course on sustainable seafood. Tune in, you might enjoy what you see. Bon Appétit!

### USCG Safety Alert: Counterfeit EEBDs

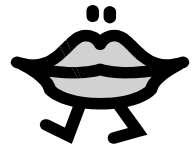
The US Coast Guard recently announced that counterfeit Unitor model UNISCAPE 15h emergency escape breathing devices (EEBDs) have been found on the market and onboard commercial vessels. As explained in the Safety Alert, there are physical differences between the authentic and the counterfeit devices. If in doubt regarding your EEBD, contact the manufacturer. What's an EEBD? It's small, lightweight compressed oxygen and mouthpiece device that allows breathing for a short time during escapes.

### Find a tricky way to save fuel this season?

A new Sea Grant/UFA online survey is attempting to document the impact of increased fuel costs and capture cost saving ideas to share with fishermen. To take the survey, go to: [www.surveymonkey.com/seagrantfuel](http://www.surveymonkey.com/seagrantfuel)

### Grilled McPalin a Favorite in the Lion's Den

The owner of the Lion's Den restaurant has taken campaign silliness in stride by creating the ultimate food turned fashion statement. The McPalin Grilled Sandwich has taken the town of Anchorage by storm with it's savory melding of grilled pork tenderloin, caramelized apples, red onions, melted cheddar, and bacon. It's served up with a side of fries - and lipstick.



### From the Director's Desk...

Board of Fisheries here we come! Yep, February 17th is going to be here before you know it and preparations have already begun for the Southeast finfish meeting in Sitka. The big question to ask yourself is this: Will YOU be there?

The ATA Board and staff will be out in force, with a wide range of activities we hope will draw your participation. The ATA Board will meet and there will be a troll port meeting one of the first evenings. Space will be provided during the BOF meeting for trollers to share ideas, work on testimony, and spent some quality time recapping the season. The raffle event will help to take the edge off.

This year the stakes are higher than they've been in quite some time. It will be important to show the Board a united front on some well-reasoned positions. Playing nice with your neighbors will be essential to securing regulations that best serve the region.

A lot of unnecessary acrimony has developed on the fishing grounds in recent years, but we can all provide leadership in our home ports to help bring people together. A good first start is participation at Advisory Committee meetings, which occur through the fall and winter in most Southeast communities. The AC's are essential to a functional Board of Fish process and allow anyone with an interest to get information, clarify concerns, and make a case for their management ideas. How cool is that?

I hope you will get involved in the Board of Fish this year in any, or all, of the above ways. If you just can't make the meeting itself, plan to submit comments anyway. Need help? Call me or one of our board members. It's always good to send a copy of your comments to ATA so we can share them around. You will find the proposals here: [www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishinfo/meetinfo/fprop.php](http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/fishinfo/meetinfo/fprop.php)

Remember, all that stuff above takes a healthy association, so consider sending your dues and an extra contribution for the Board of Fish kitty.

Rock On! dk ☆

**TOM POPE SA**  
**MARINE SURVEYOR**

*Serving the Fishing Fleet*  
*Since 1967*

**360-452-3455**

Email: [popesurvey@aol.com](mailto:popesurvey@aol.com)

Schedule Spring surveys now for  
no travel expenses. (SE & BB)

Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors

## Opinion

**Tony Guggenbickler, F/V Toni Marie**

**At Large Board Member**

I want to share a couple of thoughts with you concerning allocation. We have all heard various charter operators testify before BOF or NPFMC and describe the commercial sector as, "those greedy commercial fishermen who are getting way too much of the pie!" They claim to need more fish to maintain their industry and seem to believe that commercial fishermen can and should absorb the loss. Well, I suggest that next time we hear such things, we enlighten everyone concerned that the fish we catch are not for us.

We catch those fish for those who really own them. The People. And they use this product - the fish we produce for them - to feed their families. The seafood product we produce in Alaska is as good as any, and better than most. Many of the ingredients found in seafood are not available in any other food and are necessary to nourish, to build strong bodies and minds, to maintain good health.

The majority of the consumers we produce for have neither the ability, or the inclination, to gather seafood themselves. Unfortunately, they also don't have any idea what constraints are being placed on their food supply due to allocation issues. This is not to say that sportsmen don't have a place in the harvesting of these fish, because they do. I am a sports fisher and I think most of you are too. However, I believe the allocation between sport and commercial should reflect the reality of the situation. And the reality is that the commercial fishing industry fishes to provide meals for 200 plus million people each year. The sports industry? It represents a more narrow interest group.

So, the next time any of us hear our industry being attacked, at the Board, the Council, or in the newspaper, we should enlighten everyone concerned who's fish these really are - The People's!

---

---

## Heads Up!

### **First VMS, now NOAD and AIS Requirements Being Considered for Smaller Vessels**

The US Coast Guard is preparing a proposed rule that would, if adopted, expand the Notice of Arrival and Departure (NOAD) and Automatic Identification System (AIS) requirements to smaller vessels.

USCG is considering an amendment to NOAD regulations to require compliance for vessels that now fall below the current 300 gross ton limit. This could potentially mean that a notice of departure would have to be filed by commercial fishermen. USCG may also require electronic submission of NOAD notifications. The AIS portion of the rulemaking would also expand existing requirements to a larger number of vessels.

It is unclear at this time when the proposal will be published for public comment, but it could be within the next three or four months as the draft is currently under review by the Office of Management and Budget.



**Special  
Thanks**

**Seafood Producers Cooperative**

**Sitka Sound Seafoods**

**Triad Fisheries**

**The Boat Company**

Your exceptional support helps ATA stay on the job.

## New Homeland Security Identification Program Could Impact Mariners

The Maritime Transportation Security Act requires that by 2009 some workers carry a Transportation Worker Identification Credential, or TWIC. Whether or not you and your crew must have cards will depend on the nature of your work, your need to access various port facilities, and your individual USCG licensing status.

Here's a snapshot of the basics of the new program, direct from the TSA website, but given some confusing conversations with their folks in the know, we strongly encourage you to call or visit the TWIC webpage and local processing center to find out if you need a card. Pre-registration is available online through the link below.

### What is TWIC?

TWIC is a common identification credential for all personnel requiring unescorted access to secure areas of regulated facilities and vessels, and all mariners holding Coast Guard-issued credentials. Individuals who must carry a TWIC will be issued a tamper-resistant card containing the worker's biometric (fingerprint).

### How will the TWIC be used?

TWIC will be used for visual identity checks. The Coast Guard will conduct vessel and facility inspections and use hand-held readers during spot checks to ensure credentials are valid and identity is verified. A second rulemaking will establish access control requirements, including the use of electronic readers by certain vessel and facility owners and operators.

### Who must get a TWIC?

Coast Guard-credentialed merchant mariners, port facility employees, long shore workers, truck drivers, and others requiring unescorted access to secure areas of maritime facilities and vessels regulated by MTSA .

### Where do I go for 'official' TWIC enrollment information and services?

- **Online:** [www.tsa.gov/twic](http://www.tsa.gov/twic)
- **Call TWIC Help Desk:** 1-866-347-8942
- **Southeast TWIC Center:** Juneau
- **Mobile TWIC Units:** Ketchikan, Petersburg, Craig, Sitka, Wrangell, Skagway, Haines

### How will people be notified to get a TWIC?

Facility and vessel owners/operators are required to notify employees.

### How long is the TWIC card valid? 5 years.

**If I need one, when will I be required to have a TWIC?** Southeast Alaska = February 2009

**Will these rules affect all Merchant Mariners?** Yes.



### Tulsequah Chief Mine Update

-- Alaska permitting process still suspended

-- Redcorp has cost and feasibility problems with the amphitrac - unclear if construction was ever begun.

Hoverbarge testing in Scotland: <http://secretscotland.wordpress.com/2008/02/06/hoverbarge-on-the-clyde/>

-- Redcorp appears to have put the amphitrac on hold while looking at other options for tow vehicles. One of

them can be seen at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=Zzc-kCGHuWw> Word is they submitted a new plan, using different equipment, to the BC government for review.

-- State of Alaska has received no formal notice from Redcorp about any changes to the hoverbarge plan.

-- Redcorp announced its plans to use four companies, including SE Stevadoring, to run 400 tons of earth moving equipment and supplies from Prince Rupert to the mine site this year. Five barges and shallow draft tugs were scheduled to be used on a daily basis June-October. A larger tug and barge anchored in Taku Inlet will provide support and transfers to smaller river barges. A pilot boat will precede the river tugs to help ensure safety and inform other river users.

## Spring Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The ATA Board met in Juneau last spring and along with discussing area concerns and ATA finances, they visited with local members and ADFG staff to review a large range of issues.

**General Business:** Board of Directors deadline for nominations changed to May 1 - begins in 2009.

**Endorsement Policy:** Clarified with new wording: In order for ATA to endorse political candidates, more than a majority of the board must vote (7 or more), and of those, it takes a 2/3 majority vote (5 or more) to endorse.

**Membership:** New region-wide membership drive section added to board's membership work plan.

**Pacific Salmon Treaty:** Board met with Treaty Commissioners Dave Bedford and Jim Bacon, state attorney Mike Stanley, ATA's attorney, troll reps and ADFG staff on status of negotiations. Fine tuned position for next Treaty meeting and discussed with troll reps, who were asked to carry to the state. Voted to support Dale Kelley for seat on Transboundary River Panel soon to be vacated by Rich Davis.

**Commercial/Sport Allocation:** Discussed various conflicts erupting as charter fleet expands its fishing area and moves farther offshore.

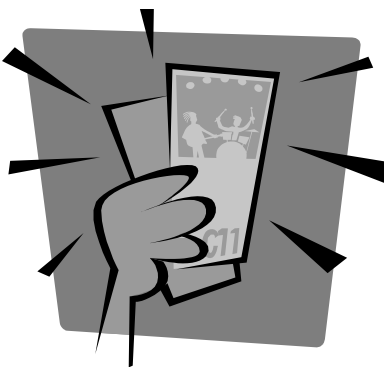
**Board of Fisheries (BOF):** Approved 10 proposal concepts for submission to the Board of Fish, four that deal with the sport fishery. Met with troll manager Brian Lynch on BOF issues and upcoming season. Endorsed John Jensen, Mel Morris, and Paul Shadura for BOF appointment.

**NPFMC and Appointments:** Board approved sending representatives to upcoming Council meetings for halibut, VMS, and salmon bycatch. Endorsed Eric Olson for NPFMC and Bob Alverson for PFMC,

**Direct Marketing:** Met with fishermen on a request they've made to the legislature, to allow them to buy fish and process them onboard another vessel. No action. Board will be kept informed.

**Annette Island Reserve:** Discussed a recent proposal by to allow maritime boundary expansion of the Reserve and voted to oppose based on concerns that conflicts would increase on the fishing grounds.

18th Annual Raffle  
\$2500 Grand Prize



**Tickets?**

**Fish Farming:** Reviewed current events and legislation; reaffirmed support for a number of policies relative to federal legislation on offshore aquaculture.

**Alaska Legislature:** Board took positions on nine new pieces of legislation and one governor's executive order, then toured the capitol to meet with legislators.

**EPA Discharge:** Discussed Sen. Stevens new bill to correct bad court ruling. ATA supports a fix.

**High Seas Interception:** There appears to be a growing presence of net marked fish. Board will encourage the fleet to send information and pictures to the office, ADFG, and port samplers. Kelley and Lynch have been sharing such information with Congressional delegation for several years.

**Healthcare:** Board voted to support federal bill S. 2630 Commercial Fishing Industry Healthcare Coverage Act.

### Priority List

**Treaty/ESA**

**Offshore Aquaculture**

**Sportfish Issues**

**Board of Fisheries**

**EPA / DEC Regulations**

**USCG Safety Regs**

**ATA/Fleet Communications**

## 2008 Events Calendar

### September

9-10	OSU and Oregon Sea Grant Aquaculture Conference	Newport, OR
24-26	UFA Board Meeting	Anchorage
29-30	NPFMC Advisory Panel	Anchorage

### October

1 - 7	NPFMC	Anchorage
8-10	Board of Fisheries Work Session	Fairbanks
20	Nominations close for SSRAA Board - PT and HT seat	(907) 225-9605
22	Sea Grant Direct Marketing Course Begins - FREE <a href="http://seagrants.uaf.edu/map/staff/haight.html">http://seagrants.uaf.edu/map/staff/haight.html</a>	Glenn Haight (907)796-6046

### November

TBD	ATA Board Meeting	
20-22	FISH EXPO / ATA Port Meeting	Seattle

### December

15	Comment Due USCG Safety Regulations	
----	-------------------------------------	--

**ATA is grateful for the support of our Associate Members  
and encourages your patronage of these fine establishments...**

Anderes Oil, Ketchikan	Murray Pacific, Sitka	Sitka Sound Seafoods
Bellingham Cold Storage	Nerka Sea Frozen Salmon	Taku Oil, Juneau
City of Port Alexander	Norquest Seafoods	Taku Smokeries, Juneau
Craig Bar & Liquor, Craig	Ocean Beauty XIP	The Boat Company, WA, D.C.
E.C. Phillips & Son, Ketchikan	Petro Alaska, Ketchikan	The Office Bar, Hoonah
First Bank, Ketchikan	Petro Marine, Seward	Timber & Marine Supply, Ketchikan
Hammer& Wikan, Petersburg	Port Townsend Shipwright	Tongass Trading, Ketchikan
Hoonah Cold Storage	Precision Boatworks, Sitka	Trading Union, Petersburg
House of Liquors, Sitka	Seafood Producers Cooperative	Triad Fisheries
Lisianski Inlet Café, Pelican	Sea Mart, Sitka	US Seven Oceans, Mukilteo
Madison Lumber, Ketchikan	Seattle Marine, Seattle	Wells Fargo Bank, Juneau
Marine Surveyors of SE Alaska, Wrangell	Seaview Boatyard, Seattle	Wrangell Oil, Wrangell
LFS, Bellingham	Service Auto Parts, Ketchikan	Yakutat Seafoods, Yakutat
Murray Pacific, Ketchikan	Shoreline, Pelican	
	Sitka Boat Watch	

**Welcome New Members** (as of 9/1/08)

	Boat	Home Port	Type
Tele Aadsen	Nerka	Anacortes	CW
Adrienne Wilber	Alexa K	Sitka	CW
Austin Roberts	Cape Cross	Petersburg	CW
Donald Randall	Naomi Marie	Sitka	HT
William Stewart	Stormy Sea	Pelican	HT/S
Dylan Haley	Willa May	Sitka	PT
Charley Haley	Faithful	Sitka	PT
James Doggett	Midnight Blue	Sitka	PT
Howard Buckbee	Mohap	Sitka	PT
Tyler Eels	Invictus	Sitka	PT
David Calder	Carolyn L	Sitka	PT
Dan Brigham	Cami Jo	Sitka	PT
Patrick Crenna	Nor/wester	Sitka	PT
Pat Parrish	Chancy	Sitka	PT
Chris Flynn	Patience	Allyn	PT
Ted Beese	Scooter	Westport	PT
Joshue Fidiam	Pirate	Capitola	PT
Mark Short	Jessie L	Sitka	PT
Michael Mackowiak	Island Girl	Haines	PT
Keith Greinier	Louis Jean	Sitka	PT
Ray Douville		Craig	PT
Caven Pfeiffer	Sword	Petersburg	PT
Paul Blankenship	Janis M	Sitka	PT/G
Christopher Brown	Lucky Strike	Elfin Cove	PT
Stephen Strasburger	Dorinda Lee	Wrangell	PT
Robert Riggs	Staci Jo	Sitka	PT
LFS		Bellingham	B

**Upgrades**

Clay Frick		Pt. Alexander	PT/P
Cal Robinson		Sitka	PT/P
Martin Gowdy	Charity	Seattle	PT/G
Jason Gjertsen	Katie J	Sitka	PT/G
Dwight Reiderer	Falcon	Seattle	PT/G
Eric Wyatt	Das Boot	Craig	PT/G

**Board of Directors****President**

Dave Otte

*Sarah E, Ketchikan***Vice President**

Bob Fredrickson

*New Day, Lower 48***Secretary**

Joel Kawahara

*Karolee, Lower 48***Treasurer**

Jeff Longridge

*Saami, Sitka*

Ken McGee

*Northstar, Juneau***Keith Brady***Iiona B, Southern Rural*

John Murray

*Loran, Sitka*

Mark Roberts

*Cape Cross, Petersburg*

Carter Hughes

*Radio, Northern Rural*

Dan Doak

*Kodiak, Wrangell*

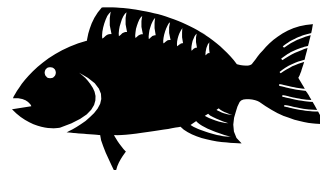
Tony Guggenbickler

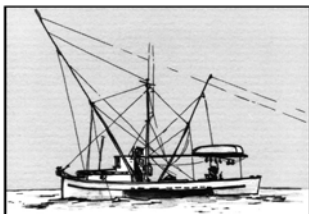
*Toni Marie, At Large*

Jim Dybdahl

*Coronation, At Large*

Ken Ash

*Jennison, Handtroll***Staff**Dale Kelley, Executive Director  
ata@gci.net**Treaty Team**Howard Pendell, *Rosa Lee*Dennis Longstreth, *Shearwater*Rich Davis, *Sundie Lynn*



Alaska Trollers Association  
 130 Seward #205  
 Juneau, AK 99801  
 (907)586-9400 ph / 4473 fx  
 ata@gci.net

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit #155



## Join Today!

Renewal  New Member

Category	Power	Hand	Crew	Processor	Other Business	For Your Convenience...
Basic	300	200	75	500	250	You may include payments to these groups along with your ATA dues: <input type="checkbox"/> <b>United Fishermen of Alaska</b> (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Commercial Fishermen of America</b> (\$50)
Silver	350	250	110	1000	500	
Gold	400	300	160	2500	1000	
Platinum	500	400	300	5000	2500	
LIFE	3000	2000				

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ F/V: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Size:  Ice Boat:  Freezer Boat:  Direct Seafood Marketer:  Processor:  SPC:  UFA:

Other Fisheries: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to volunteer some time and/or expertise to ATA? Yes  No  Call-In Program? Yes  No

DONATION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please use my extra donation for: Legal  General Purposes  Publicity

T-SHIRTS Lt. Blue, Indigo, Forest Green, Maroon (L, XL, XXL)

	Qty.	Size (s)	Color(s)
Long-sleeve \$25	_____	_____	_____
Short-sleeve \$25	_____	_____	_____

HATS: navy oilskin / khaki & black denim

	Qty.	Color(s)
Hat: \$25	_____	_____
Raffle Ticket: \$20	_____	_____

Method of Payment: Check  Mastercard  Visa  Need a Receipt? Yes  No

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ 