



News Release

August 19, 2009

Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Meetings in Unalaska, September 1st

The Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Advisory Panel is coming to Unalaska the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of September. The Advisory Panel was formed to guide the Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Project, which is being funded by a court settlement resulting from the grounding of the *Selendang Ayu* in 2004. The project is focused on reducing marine vessel accidents in the waters surrounding the Aleutian Islands. The goal of the project is to determine whether risk reduction measures are necessary and to recommend the implementation of effective and efficient measures to reduce risk of marine accidents.

The Advisory Panel is coming to Unalaska to introduce the project to the community and to seek the community's perspectives on issues related to the risk assessment. Two meetings on September 1st are planned to focus community involvement.

A daytime meeting will be held at the World War II Museum from 10 AM until 4 PM. This meeting will include a presentation on the project and discussions on marine traffic, rescue capabilities, salvage operations, and perspectives from the fishing industry and natural resource managers. Public testimony will be taken from anyone wishing to speak.

An evening meeting will be held at the Museum of the Aleutians from 7 until 9 PM. This informal meeting will begin with a short presentation on the project, followed by the opportunity for community members to meet the Advisory Panel and share your thoughts on reducing the risks of marine accidents in the Aleutians.

A complete schedule of meetings may be found at the project website:

www.AleutiansRiskAssessment.com

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For additional information or to arrange an interview, please contact the Advisory Panel Facilitator, Leslie Pearson at (907) 947-2316 or email at pearson.consultingllc@gmail.com.