



THE
ALASKA
SEA OTTER AND
STELLER SEA LION
COMMISSION

FAX

*A Statewide Tribal
Consortium Representing
Tribes From:*

KODIAK ISLAND
CHUGACH/PRINCE
WILLIAM SOUND
SOUTHEAST ALASKA
COOK INLET
ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
ALASKA PENINSULA
BRISTOL BAY

Date: June 10, 2009

To: Alaska Tribal Governments

From: Lianna Jack

Re: Draft Economic Analysis for the Proposed SW AK Sea Otter Critical
Habitat and Hearing

As required as part of the critical habitat designation process, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has prepared a draft Economic Analysis (EA) on the potential economic impacts from critical habitat designation for the SW sea otter.

The Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register June 9, 2009. As part of that, they have extended the comment period on the proposed critical habitat to coincide with the comment period on the Draft EA.

Comments will be accepted on the Draft EA and the draft critical habitat proposal on or before July 9, 2009. They can be submitted at the federal rule making portal at <http://www.regulations.gov/> (search for sea otter critical habitat).

They can also be submitted by hand or by mail to:

Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R7_ES-2008-0105, Division of
Policy and Directives Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401
N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222, Arlington, VA 22203.

There will be one public hearing; it will be held June 18, 2009 in Anchorage at the Z.J. Loussac Library. There will be an informational Q&A session from 7-7:30 PM, and the public hearing will be from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. There will be telephonic access for the hearing.

Telephone Number: 1-888-810-9648

Passcode: 13417

Please note: this is different from the number that we were given and included in our notice dated June 1.

They have also set up a 24-hour hotline access number by which people can call and leave their comments. That number is: 1-877-577-6930.

For more information on the proposed rule, see the USFWS website at: <http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/mmm/seaotters/criticalhabitat.htm>. All the related documents are posted on the site, as well as information on the hearing and hotline number. They are also posted on our website: www.seaotter-sealion.org

Please give us a call at 1-800-474-4362 if you have any questions.

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Preserving the balance for Alaska Native peoples and marine mammals