News:

* Abhijit Chatterjee has joined the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center as a post-doctoral fellow. He is working with Brennan Smith and Alex Oliveira on extending the shelf life of pollock fishmeal samples using natural antioxidants. The project is funded by the Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center (PCCRC). Here is a little more about Abhijit. You can reach him at achatterjee@alaska.edu

“I was born and raised in Kolkata, one of the busiest metropolitan cities of India where typical summer temperature goes up +40°C. I came to Alaska as a PhD student at Civil & Environmental Engineering, UAF in 2007. I remember my friends in Kolkata became suspicious about my survival strategy at -40°C in Alaska when I told them that it is a mere change in sign (plus to minus) for me! Before coming to the United States, I completed a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in Food Technology & Biochemical Engineering from Jadavpur University. In addition, I have a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from Calcutta University. My PhD dissertation was focused on an unconventional method of wastewater treatment that utilizes a natural waste material as a sorbent. I am highly excited about being in Kodiak and my post-doc project and I am also teaching a class at UAF via videoconference.”

* Kodiak Marine Advisory agent Julie Matweyou completed the second half of National Sea Grant’s 2013 Sea Grant Academy, a leadership training program for new Sea Grant extension agents.

Coming Up:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 10-12</td>
<td>Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit, Anchorage</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 27-28</td>
<td>AMSEA Drill Conductor course, Kodiak, contact Julie Matweyou</td>
<td>Kodiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 15-17</td>
<td>HACCP, Kodiak</td>
<td>Kodiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 3-7</td>
<td>Better Process Control School and HACCP, Anchorage</td>
<td>Anchorage/Boston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 10-18</td>
<td>Alaska Seafood Processing Leadership Institute, session 2 Anchorage/Boston</td>
<td>Anchorage/Boston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22-26</td>
<td>Kodiak Area Marine Science Symposium, Kodiak</td>
<td>Kodiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13-16</td>
<td>Fisheries Bycatch: Global Issues and Creative Solutions, 29th Wakefield Fisheries Symposium, Anchorage</td>
<td>Anchorage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teaching

The fourth Alaska Seafood Processing Leadership Institute (ASPLI) was held in Kodiak this month. Fifteen mid-career processors from eight Alaska communities (and 2 outside of Alaska nominated by their ten companies and) spent 8 days in Kodiak learning about seafood marketing, quality and safety, processing techniques, plant management and OSHA occupational safety procedures.

Kodiak Marine Advisory faculty Quentin Fong, Alex Oliveira, and Brian Himelbloom, and Kodiak processor Chris Sannito, organized the event and taught the classes. One highlight of ASPLI was a morning long session with Chef Joel Chenet, who gave the seafood processors a look at creativity can turn quality Alaska seafood into eating delicacies. The ASPLI participants will spend the winter working on a project with a professional mentor and then will reconvene in Anchorage in March for leadership, lean manufacturing and marketing training followed by a trip to the International Boston Seafood Show.

Research

Marine Mammal research
Kate Wynne, MAP marine mammal specialist, conducted a full day Steller sea lion scat collection effort, collecting 183 samples from three Kodiak area haulouts for use in monitoring prey use and dietary trends over time. She also began forming the Industry Working Group (IWG) with Bree
Witteveen and Sunny Rice for a project examining the use of pingers to avoid whale entanglement in Alaska salmon fisheries.

MAP marine mammal specialist Bree Witteveen assisted with the humpback whale long-term monitoring component of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Gulf Watch project, in Prince William Sound. The project documents seasonal humpbacks, and prey choice and predation on overwintering herring.


**PSP research**

Julie Matweyou coordinated shellfish sampling, for the Kodiak School District–Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation PSP beach monitoring project. Julie downloaded data from the HOBO data logger (temperature, light) in Anton Larson Bay on Kodiak Island, a site where tunicate plates are deployed.

*Current research and ongoing projects are summarized on the KSMSC website; see [http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/ksmsc/research/](http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/ksmsc/research/)*

**Service**

Quentin Fong and Alex Oliveira assisted the Kodiak Dive Fishery Association with product development and placement.

Brennan Smith worked with a chocolate maker in Anchorage to solve mildew problems, and analyzed fishmeal samples.

Terry Johnson, Marine Advisory tourism and recreation specialist, and Mike Gaffney, Alaris Group, presented a community workshop in Kodiak on fishing vessel energy audits; nine people attended. For more information about this project, go to [http://seagrant.uaf.edu/map/recreation/fuel-efficiency/index.html](http://seagrant.uaf.edu/map/recreation/fuel-efficiency/index.html)

Kate Wynne responded to two stranded marine mammals. She observed, sampled, received reports, and/or submitted Level A data to NMFS’ national Marine Mammal Stranding Network for a) a dead adult Steller sea lion that washed ashore in Uyak Bay (10 Oct) and b) a dead juvenile gray whale that washed ashore in Ugak Bay following killer whale attack (20 Oct).

Bree Witteveen presented “Gulf Apex Predator Prey Whale Research: Where we’ve been and where we’re going” at the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, Alaska as a part of their fall lecture series.
Updates on the GAPP research program can be found at
http://seagrant.uaf.edu/map/gap/index.php

Bree Witteveen gave a talk on Kodiak area whale research at the Prince William Sound Science Center in Cordova (photo), hosted by Torie Baker. About 24 people attended. Bree also presented “Gulf Apex Predator Prey Whale Research” at the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak as a part of their fall lecture series, to three attendees.

Kate Wynne provided information to video game editor Louis Garcia about the “authenticity” of three recently released Pokemon “species” that were modeled after marine mammals.