About the Bristol Bay Regional Vision Statement

Commissioners for the Bristol Bay Regional Vision project prepared a region-wide vision statement after listening to the opinions and concerns of nearly 1,000 residents of the region. Meetings took place in 27 communities between September 2010 and January 2011.

This Vision Statement reflects the shared values of the people of the region based on what residents in every community said. In each community, residents responded to an identical set of questions using electronic voting keypads; they also engaged in conversations around key issues.

Across the region, there is strong agreement about the most important aspects of peoples’ lives and goals for the future. The electronic polling results and discussion notes for each community are posted on the project website. Compiled results for the region are also available. Please visit www.bristolbayvision.org.

The following themes emerged from the community meetings:

- Participants in all communities hold family, connection to the land and water, and subsistence activities as the most important parts of their lives today, and expect the same to be true 25 years from now.

- When asked about things they would like to change in their community, the most often cited issue was alcohol/drug abuse and/or fear of domestic violence.

- People said the goal of education is to prepare youth to graduate with skills needed for success in college or vocational schools.

- Respondents welcome sustainable economic development that is based largely on renewable resources. Overwhelmingly, people said large development must not threaten land and waters.

- People believe they can live healthy and productive lives here in the next 25 years.
Bristol Bay Regional Vision

Vision Statement

February 2011

The foundation of the Bristol Bay Region is committed families, connected to our land and waters.

We believe future generations can live healthy and productive lives here. Across our region, we share common values of community, culture, and subsistence.

We see a future of educated, creative people who are well prepared for life. This requires:

- Excellent schools
- Safe and healthy families
- Local jobs
- Understanding our cultural values and traditions

We assert the importance of local voices in managing our natural resources to continue our way of life.

We welcome sustainable economic development that advances the values of Bristol Bay people. Our future includes diverse economic opportunities in businesses and industries based largely on renewable resources. Large development based on renewable and non-renewable resources must not threaten our land, our waters, or our way of life.

We foster cooperation among local and regional entities to coordinate infrastructure planning for stronger, more affordable communities. Investments in energy, housing and transportation promote sustainable communities and spur economic development.

We recognize the need to locate new sources of capital to implement this vision with a goal of generating self-sustaining regional economies.

We are unified to secure a prosperous future.