

# **North Slope Science Initiative**

**Interim Report**  
**Ken Taylor, Executive Director**  
**February 27, 2006**

## **Major Activities**

The Science Technical Group was established by the Secretary of the Interior during this period which involved considerable administrative work. A budget for NSSI was prepared for Oversight Group consideration at their February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. At the request of the Oversight Group at their December meeting, a questionnaire was distributed to the Oversight Group, asking them to describe their priorities for the NSSI during 2006.

Pat Galvin, former Director of the Office of Governmental Coordination and currently the Petroleum Lands Manager for the Oil and Gas Division of the Department of Natural Resources was selected by the department as their primary staff to the NSSI.

Principal activities during this period focused on continued web site development and updating information on the site, working with the North Pacific Research Board to utilize the software they developed for creating a user friendly North Slope project database, and working with the University of Alaska, Fairbanks to develop the NSSI information management system. A meeting between UAF staff and several GIS data management personnel from some of the NSSI agencies is scheduled for March 7 and 8, 2006 in Fairbanks.

## **Conferences**

Alaska Water Resources Conference, NSSI presentation and panel discussion, Anchorage  
Coastal Erosion Conference, UAA, Anchorage  
Marine Sciences Symposium, Arctic research, Anchorage  
Pacific Seabird Working Group, Girdwood  
Metadata Workshop, USGS course sponsored by North Pacific Research Board

## **Meetings**

Two meetings with North Pacific Research Board to discuss project database structure and development  
ASRC Lynx Enterprises to discuss potential research by Shell Oil in Beaufort/Chukchi Seas.  
U.S. Arctic Council and representative of Office of the Governor on Arctic issues.  
Alaska Industrial Alliance, "Meet Alaska".  
USGS work in NPR-A.

## **Issues for Oversight Group Discussion**

Budget shortfalls and annual agency contributions.  
Development of NSSI work plan for 2006 calendar year.  
Development of NSSI Five year work plan.  
Potential workshop in Spring 2006 with Science Technical Group to introduce them to the NSSI and priority issues.  
Agency staff commitment for NSSI project database.  
Agency staff commitment for NSSI data management system.