



State of Alaska
 Governor's Climate Change Sub-Cabinet

 Adaptation Advisory Group Meeting
 Meeting #7

 Economic Activities TWG

 June 19, 2009
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Mission Statement for the EA TWG

- Address economic development and sustainability issues that may be affected by a changing climate. Focus on non-biological aspects of the economy (e.g., mining and oil and gas production rather than fisheries).

Scope

- The EA TWG discussed the following activities:
 - Oil and gas
 - Mining
 - Tourism and recreation
 - Ocean transportation
 - Rural and non-road transportation
 - Energy supply and demand
 - Boundaries and ownership
 - Sustainable jobs and economic development
 - Information collection and dissemination

Goals Underlying Options

- Ensure sustainability of the Alaskan economy as changes in jobs occur in existing sectors and new sectors that evolve as a result of climate changes
- Make available improved data to better facilitate decision-making on aspects of the Alaskan economy

Options

1. Evaluate Capability Needs for Potential Expansion of Arctic Economic Activities
2. Develop and Evaluate Future Scenarios for the Alaska Economy
3. Improve Availability of Mapping, Surveying, Charting, and Imagery Data

Option 1: Evaluate Capability Needs for Potential Expansion of Arctic Economic Activities

- **Overview:** Less ice in the Arctic may mean increased economic development with more ports, ship traffic, resource activities, infrastructure, etc. This development will require increased attention to ensure environmental and health/safety protection. These activities may also lead to new jobs.

Option 1: Evaluate Capability Needs for Potential Expansion of Arctic Economic Activities

- **Recommendation:** Allocate funding for a project to examine environmental, health, and safety needs to promote the economy and in response to potential economic development in the Arctic
 - Funding (amount dependent on scope and breadth) will support a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to identify needed services and protections
 - The CIP will identify and analyze needed services and capabilities, and opportunities to share costs, facilities, equipment, and responsibilities and recommend actions

Option 2: Develop and Evaluate Future Scenarios for the Alaska Economy

- **Overview:** Sectors of the Alaskan economy are likely to vary in their responses to climate change and these responses are difficult to predict at this time. An assessment of current and potential future economic strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats is needed to better understand actions and support decisions to help ensure a healthy Alaskan economy

Option 2: Develop and Evaluate Future Scenarios for the Alaska Economy

- **Recommendation:** Allocate funding to conduct a project that develops and evaluates economic scenarios for Alaska based on potential effects of climate change - addressing both existing and new economic sectors
 - Use available climate change projections to establish a range of assumptions
 - Identify status of and expected trends in the Alaska economy - jobs by sector, rates of change, contributions to the state economy, etc.
 - Identify factors other than climate that affect the economy - migration, demographics, education, etc.
 - Develop scenarios that define a range of futures for Alaska
 - Outline needed actions to prepare for the possible futures

Option 3: Improve Availability of Mapping, Surveying, Charting, and Imagery Data

- **Overview:** Improved knowledge about the physical environment is needed to support decisions related to the economy of Alaska. Better data on elevation, sea level, ownership boundaries, coastal conditions, etc. are needed to support this knowledge and actions related to economic development.

Option 3: Improve Availability of Mapping, Surveying, Charting, and Imagery Data

- **Recommendation:** Provide funding for an accurate and high-resolution statewide digital base map focused on coastal areas and floodplains that includes a digital elevation model and acquisition of digital imagery and will be accessible to a multitude of users.
 - An existing Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative (SDMI), led by DNR, with DOT, Military and Veterans Affairs, U of A, USGS, and BLM, provides an implementation approach
 - Multiple entities have roles and are likely willing to commit resources (federal, state, and private)
 - Two initial major components include: a more accurate digital elevation model (DEM) and real-time accurate imagery

Thank you!

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