

Greetings

BASIS (Bering-Aleutian Salmon International Survey) evolved out of a shared goal: to learn more about the complex Bering Sea ecosystem and how changing conditions, caused in part by climate change, are impacting salmon and inter-related species. NPAFC scientists were interested in migration patterns, feeding patterns, juvenile survival and growth, and many other areas of research. Since no one nation had sufficient resources to do all of the data accumulation and analysis that was needed, and since salmon move over vast areas beyond any one nation's boundaries, the idea of sharing research efforts evolved. This could not have happened without the mutual respect and trust of the researchers

from the member nations that grew over time.

A great deal has been accomplished through BASIS, in spite of meager funding. I am proud that I was able to play a small role in helping to get it launched, and I am glad that it continues today.

I have two hopes for the future: 1) that BASIS will obtain some additional funding to continue data collection and help analyze, publish and disseminate the results of the research that is done on the Bering Sea. 2) that BASIS will be used as an example of international, collaborative research for other regions of the world.



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