IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS TO ENHANCE MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS IN THE BERING STRAIT

Melissa Parks, The Pew Charitable Trusts
The Bering Strait
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Bering Strait Ecology
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(Cynthia Christman, NOAA)

(John Jansen, NOAA)

(Henry Huntington)

(Brad Benter, USFWS)
Bering Strait Communities

WALES

SAVOONGA

SHISHMAREF

GAMBELL
Increasing Vessel Traffic

Bering Strait Transits

- 2008 = 220
- 2009 = 280
- 2010 = 430
- 2011 = 410
- 2012 = 480
- 2013 = 440
- 2014 = 340
Risk Factors - Environment

- Sea Ice
- Rapidly changing weather
- Local waterway users & marine mammals
- Remote
Risk Factors – Limited Infrastructure

- Response resources
- Docks, ports, major airports, roads
- Nautical charts
- Communication coverage
Automatic Identification System (AIS)

- IMO requires AIS on vessels 300 GT+
- Map-based application
Enhanced AIS

- Three-way Communication: vessel to shore to vessels
- Mapped Hazards and Precautionary Areas
- Real Time
- Maritime Domain Management

(Figures from IMO Circ 290)
Next Steps

- Testing the system more broadly: US, Russia, Canada
- More complete communication coverage
- Messages by and for local users
THANK YOU