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Coastal Impact Assistance Program Approved Printer Friendly

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Coastal Impact Assistance Program Approved

October 15, 2008 - Anchorage, Alaska – On September 30, 2008, the federal Minerals Management Service (MMS) approved Alaska's Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) State Plan, making Alaska eligible to receive federal funds under the CIAP initiative. Randall Luthi, director of MMS, along with state Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Tom Irwin, will commemorate this milestone with an event on Thursday, October 16, at 1 p.m. at the Kincaid Park Chalet in Anchorage.

CIAP was established through the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The program is designed to promote coastal restoration by sharing with states and local communities a portion of revenues generated from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) resources by providing \$250 million annually in the years 2007 through 2010 to the six oil and gas producing states. Alaska's portion should increase in 2009 and 2010 due to the revenues generated from MMS's 2008 Chukchi Sea Sale 193.

Governor Palin supports responsible oil and gas development in the OCS and praised the federal government and MMS for sharing the revenues with the states that accept the risk of the offshore development.

"The development of oil and gas resources in the federal waters off the shores of Alaska can contribute greatly to the energy supplies of this nation," Governor Palin said. "I am pleased that a state like Alaska, rich with oil and gas resources and willing to accept the risk of OCS development, is offered and awarded a portion of the federal revenue generated from the OCS. The CIAP funding will provide for important projects benefiting the environment."

Based on estimates provided by MMS, Alaska's portion of CIAP will increase from \$2.5 million in 2007 and 2008 to more than \$29 million annually in 2009 and 2010. Through the direction of the Governor's Ocean Policy Cabinet, and implemented through the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Coastal and Ocean Management, the state will soon solicit additional projects from the public to be added to the CIAP plan.

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Photo archive: Governor Sarah Palin, daughter, Piper, and Lt. Governor Sean Parnell present Palmer residents Brad and Pam Lewis with the Farm Family of the Year Award at the Alaska State Fair. [Enlarge >](#)

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