Economic Opportunities & Impacts in a Changing Arctic
Trillion Dollar Arctic Issues

- Ownership, sovereignty
- Climate change mitigation/adaptation
- Resources (fish, O&G, minerals)
- Global trade: trans-Arctic shipping
- Shared values – culture & conservation
SMOKIN' POLE
THE QUEST FOR
ARCTIC RICHES
Two views from USCG Healy at 80°N (156W)

9/6/07  9/12/12
Drilling sites

Shell Oil’s exploration plans center on locations in the Chukchi Sea’s Burger field and two others in the Beaufort Sea. Drilling will take place from July to October.
...oil spills in ice-covered waters...
• ICCOPR
• R&T plan
• NAS study
• USARCC report
Alaska Feeds the Nation

Largest private sector employer in Alaska

US Domestic Commercial Fisheries

Year


Weight of catch (million metric tons)

Rest of US Alaska

Dr. Mike F. Sigler, NMFS, 6/29/09 talk Ice-Diminished Arctic
2004

Summer Traffic: ~ 5475 Ships

- Destinational & Regional
- Trans-Arctic
- Trans-Arctic with Transshipment
- Intra-Arctic

107 Voyages
5 NWP Transits
27 Cruise Ships (53 ~ 2005)
(150 ~ 2006)
(200+ ~ 2007)

High Intensity Fishing

Red Dog Mine ~ 23

0 NSR Transits
165 Voyages
52 Ships
Noril'sk Complex

Hundreds of Transits

Arctic Ocean Marine Routes
Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment of the Arctic Council (2005-2008)
Northern Sea Route
Northwest Passage
Key Marine Routes
Notable Icebreaker Voyages:
Arktika, August 1977
Sovetskiy Soyuz, August 1991
Polar Sea and Louis S. St-Laurent, July and August 1994
Sea Ice, 16 September 2002

Sea Ice, 16 September 2002

Sea Ice, 16 September 2002