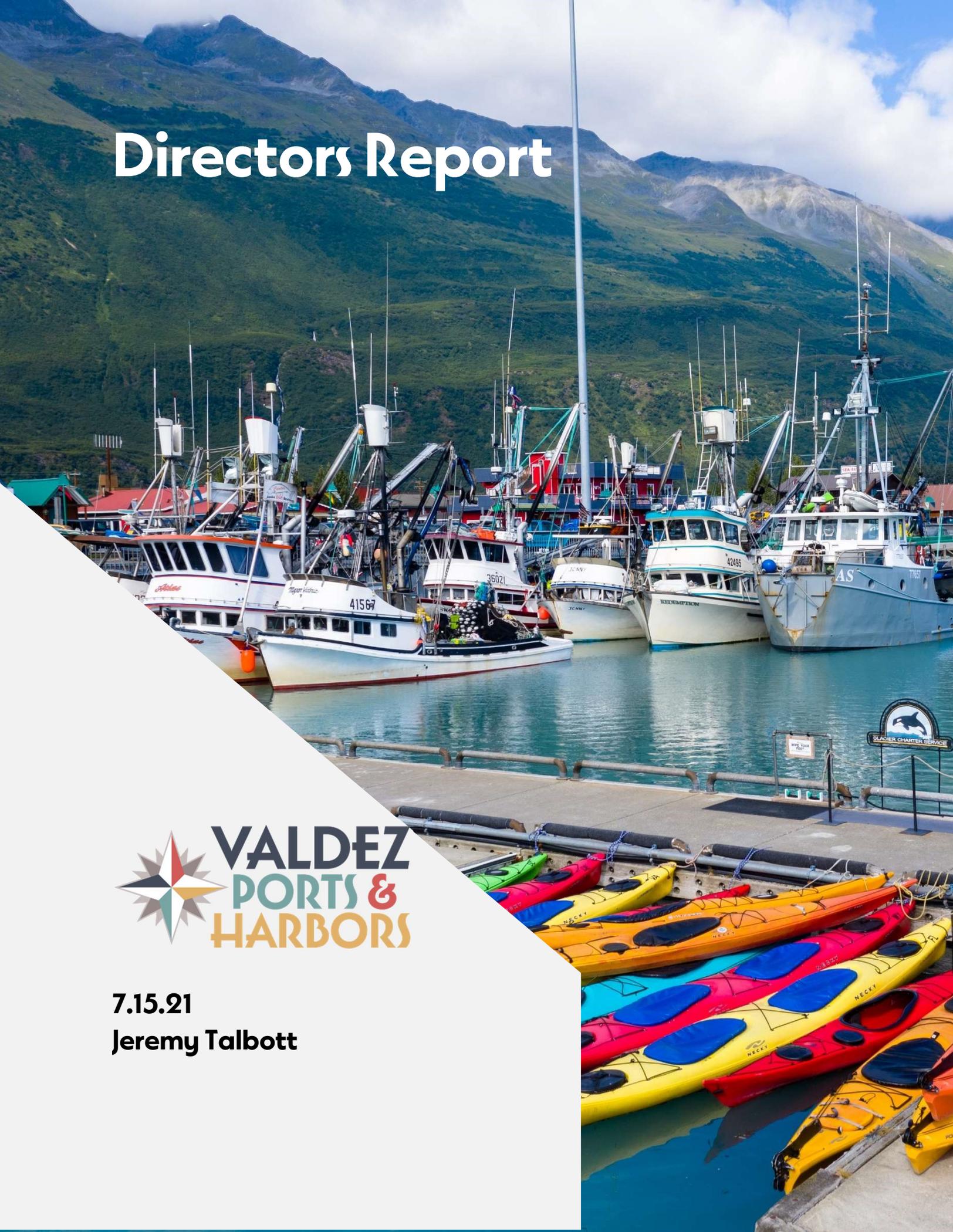


Directors Report



7.15.21
Jeremy Talbott



Schedule Announcements

Halibut Derby	May 26 th – Sept. 5 th
Andrew Doherty First Day	July 6 th
Silver Salmon Derby	July 24 th 2021
Kids Pink Salmon Derby	July 24 th 2021
Gold Rush	August 4 th -8 th
Women’s Silver Salmon Derby	August 14 th
Richardson Highway Rendezvous	August 21 st
City of Valdez Employee Picnic	August 27 th 4-7pm

June & July have been very busy for the Ports & Harbors Team. Fishing is red hot for our commercial and charter fleets! There are a lot of freezers filling in town and out as the Sport Season begins follow the trend!

We are still short two full time positions, the Port Operations Manager and Port Maintenance Manager. Additionally, we still have a few openings on our seasonal staff as well. However, our team is very happy to welcome our new Security Maintenance Technician, Andrew Doherty.

The **Commercial Fishing Taskforce (COVID Light)** has been active in pre-season preparation and support. Now that the season is underway the taskforce is “on-call” as issues surface or coordination is needed.

- All the Commercial Fish Processing work force is on site, and past their initial 14 day quarantine window.
- The Commercial fish processors are still taking the Pandemic very seriously and are do everything they can to keep COVID out of their plants.
- Additional staffing in the Ports & Harbor Facilities will provide active sanitization and cleanings.



Business Development

City Manager Mark Detter, Port Director Jeremy Talbott, and Economic Development Director Martha Barberio have been working to increase the Cities footprint in Alaska's Mariculture Industry.

Jeremy and Martha participated in the last [Governors Mariculture Taskforce](#) meeting on June 25th 2021 and City Manager Mark Detter had placed an application into the new [Alaska Mariculture Alliance](#)(AMA). AMA is the "next step" now that the Governors Taskforce has finished its objectives and come to the end of their initial purpose.

Martha and Jeremy had a strategic planning meeting on 7.9.21 and will be reaching out to key stake holders and coordinating with City Administration on a plan forward. Plans include work sessions for the Ports & Harbors and Economic Development Commission.

The Port Director, and other community representatives are working with [Spawn Alaska](#) on the Community Branding Project. The task given to staff and community stakeholders as part of the COVID Economic Recovery. This project is currently in Phase two of the project and working their way to a final concept, before moving into the final Phase 3.

The Airport is at 100% occupancy with a waitlist of three commercial vendors waiting for space to open up including some existing tenants that wish to increase their existing footprint.

RAVN Air has increased flight services into Valdez by adding a morning and evening flight!



Landing Lights (Bar) has also re-opened and increased hours to meet both of RAVN's planes. Things are starting to look like they are getting back to normal at the Valdez Airport.



Green/Environmental Front



Harbormaster, Sarah VonBargen is still looking for a name for our pump-out vessel that should arrive any day. No pressure Commissioner Swanson. We are also happy to report that the hand pump-out cart has been automated and is self-propelled with a battery operated electric motor. The crew decided that the appropriate name for the New Modified Cart should be R2DPoo

AJ Keeton has been working very hard with Assistant City Manager Nathan Duval, the Sewer Department, ADEC, Vendors and engineers to bring the bilge treatment plant online. Currently we are processing bilge water on-site and taking actual bilge water

from our customers.

The Capital Facilities team has just completed the Airport lighting project that replaced our existing lights with new bright LED lights, thank you!



Operations

The Port & Harbor Administrative Team

Ports & Harbors Director and Nathan Duval continue to meet with North Star Stevedores and work towards an agreement on their Exclusive Use Extension. Additional support has appreciated from the City Finance, Public Works, Planning and Legal Teams.

Director Talbott is coordinating with the military for the fall ammo move and we are looking at a small Port closure in September just after the fishing season, (not during hunting season) and just before the Transfer Span Repair Project kicks off to accommodate the bi-annual mission.

The Office team is busy billing, checking-in boaters, scheduling lifts, training new team members, and organizing the details like every year. In addition, they organized the entire departments Key system, started on the 2022 budget, and have brought the token machines online. Now customers can swipe their credit cards for tokens and use the showers and laundry after hours!



Port Operations

Director Talbott, has taken over the Port Security responsibilities as the Facility Security Officer (FSO) and is looking forward to working with the rest of the staff to keep the Port safe and secure.

The Valdez Container Terminal has been busy, and the yard is filling up with containers. Empty containers are being filled at a record pace and challenges have been made to Plant managers with liquid rewards if records are set! If any of the commissioners or



community members would like to visit and have a tour please reach out and we will set it up.

The Kelsey Dock has been active with commercial fishing vessels, we are looking forward to the return of the cruise ship operations in the summer of 2022.

The 4th of July Community Event was a smashing success, we have a lot of additional events planned for the rest of the summer if and when summer arrives. Gold Rush will be one of the planned events, moving to the Kelsey Dock from their normal location.

Harbor Operations

Staff has been very busy in the Harbor keeping up with the vessel lifts, as the salmon tease anglers and our commercial fleet by jumping in the harbor.

Maintenance & Project Updates

On 7/14/21 the Ports Scales were certified by the state and our maintenance contractor noted a large amount of wear and corrosion below the surface during the inspection. We are gathering information on the overall condition of the scale and will have some recommendations for repairs and a timeline for full replacement in the near future.



H-K/Tour Dock

[PND Engineers](#), Inc. from Anchorage, Alaska have been awarded the contract for design on the project and will be in town the third week of July to meet with the Capital Facilities Team.

VCT Causeway

Build Alaska has completed the repairs on the causeway and Project Manager Tom Sandborn is working with the engineers to get final completion on the project.

Director Talbott is working to close out the Pink Salmon Disaster Grant moneys awarded to this project.

VCT Cameras

This project is complete and we are seeing additional cameras coming online in other areas rapidly. The cameras are getting used and are being monitored, Office manager Karisa Friend witnessed a mouse that was visiting under the laundry room doors and his days are numbered if he continues to visit.

Events

The 4th of July event was a smashing success and the Kelsey Dock was full of visitors and Valdizians enjoying their holiday! Photo Courtesy of Lisa Taylor



Photo Courtesy of Halibut Grove Charters