

Nikolski (*nih-COAL-skee*)



People and Place

*Location*¹

Nikolski is located on Nikolski Bay, on the southwest end of Umnak Island, one of the Fox Islands group in the Aleutian Chain. Nikolski is located 300 air miles southwest of False Pass (the western tip of the Alaska Peninsula), 116 air miles west of Unalaska, and 900 air miles from Anchorage. Nikolski is located in the Aleutian Islands Recording District and Aleutians West Census Area.

*Demographic Profile*²

In 2010, there were 18 inhabitants in Nikolski, making it the 329th largest of 352 total Alaskan communities with recorded populations that year. Nikolski is considered by some to be the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in the world, with archaeological evidence within the Village of Nikolski dating to 4,000 years ago, and additional archaeological sites on Umnak Island dating back 8,500 years. Nikolski first appeared in the U.S. Census in 1880, with 127 individuals reported to be living in the community.³ There has been a downward population trend since that time. Between 1990 and 2010, the population declined by almost 50%. According to Alaska Department of Labor estimates, between 2000 and 2009, the population of permanent residents decreased by 15.4%, with an average annual growth rate of -3.23%. These high percentages are in part reflective of the low population size in Nikolski; small variations in population number account for a larger percentage of the population than in larger communities.

In a survey conducted by NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) in 2011, community leaders estimated that anywhere from 5 to 12 seasonal workers are present in Nikolski each year between July and November to work in seasonal hunting and fishing tourism positions. They also indicated that Nikolski's population is at its yearly peak during this period, which coincides with hunting season, and that local population fluctuations are only slightly driven by employment in fishing sectors.

In 2010, a majority of Nikolski residents identified themselves as American Indian and Alaska Native (94.4%) and the remaining 5.6% identified themselves as White. That year, no Nikolski residents identified themselves as Hispanic. Compared to 2000, individuals identifying as American Indian and Alaska Native made up 25.2% more of the population in 2010, while those identifying as White made up 25.2% less of the population. The change in population from 1990 to 2010 is provided in Table 1 below, and changes in racial and ethnic composition from 2000 to 2010 are shown in Figure 1.

¹ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

² U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

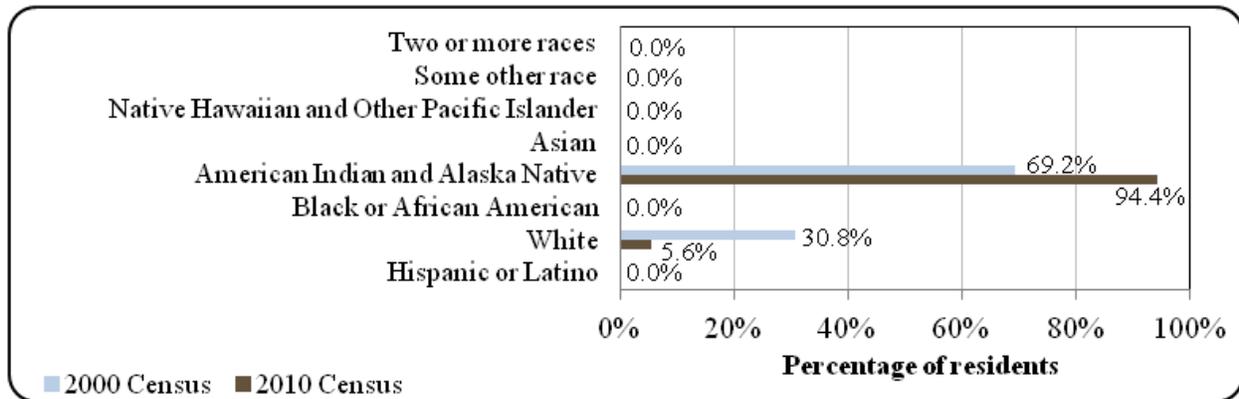
³ See footnote 1.

Table 1. Population in Nikolski from 1990 to 2010 by Source.

Year	U.S. Decennial Census ¹	Alaska Dept. of Labor Estimate of Permanent Residents ²
1990	35	-
2000	39	-
2001	-	32
2002	-	34
2003	-	41
2004	-	36
2005	-	31
2006	-	31
2007	-	33
2008	-	27
2009	-	33
2010	18	-

¹ (1) U.S. Census Bureau (1990). *CP-1: General Population Characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/1990.html>. (2) U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.
² Alaska Department of Labor. (2011). *Current population estimates for Alaskan Communities*. Retrieved April 15, 2011, from <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/pop/popest.htm>.

Figure 1. Racial and Ethnic Composition, Nikolski: 2000-2010 (U.S. Census).



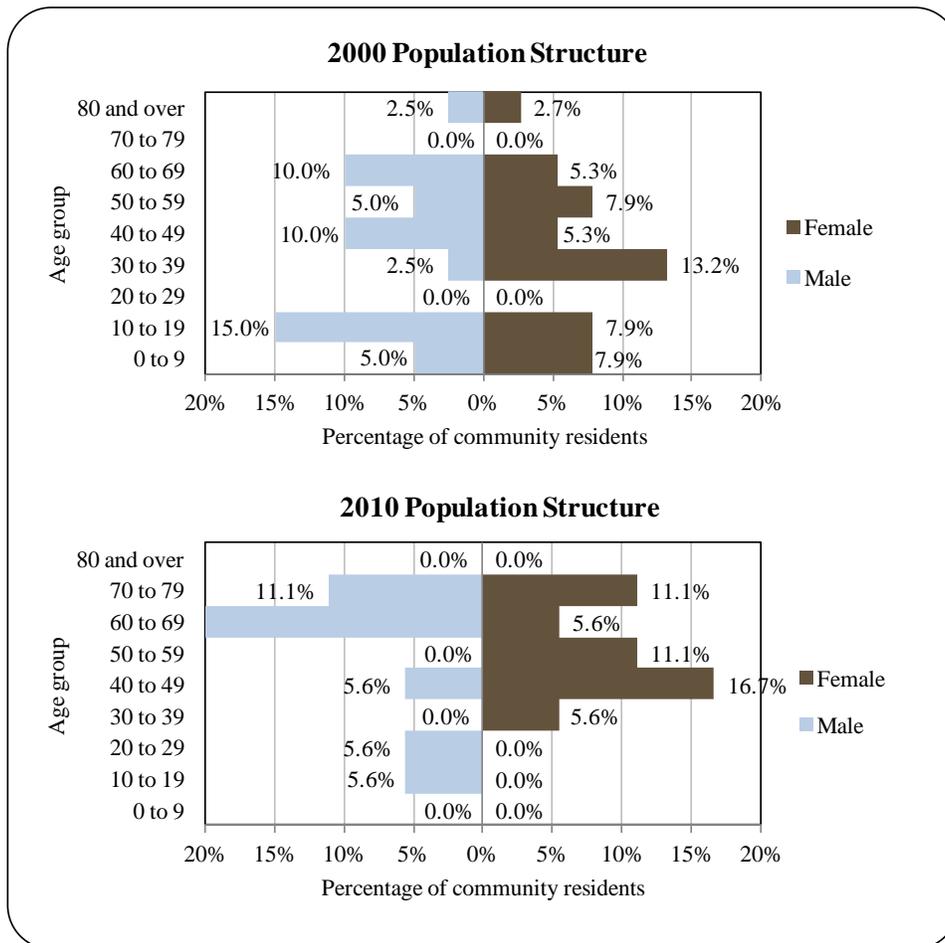
Household size in Nikolski increased between 1990 and 2000, from 1.8 to 2.6, and then decreased again to 1.38 persons per household in 2010. The number of households in Nikolski also decreased over time, with 19 occupied housing units in 1990, 15 in 2000, and 13 occupied housing units in 2010. Of the 23 total housing units surveyed for the 2010 U.S. Census, 47.8% were owner-occupied, 8.7% were rented, and 43.5% were vacant or used only seasonally. From 1990 to 2010, no residents of Nikolski lived in group quarters.

In 2010, there were an equal number of males and females living in Nikolski, compared to the state population as a whole, which had more males than females (52% male and 48% female). The median age of Nikolski residents was 63.5 years, significantly older than the

national average of 36.8 years and the median age for Alaska, 33.8 years. In 2010, half of Nikolski’s population was between 60 and 80 years of age, and there were no children between the ages of 0 and 9 residing in the community. There were also no females aged 10 to 29, and no males aged 30 to 39 or 50 to 59. The overall population structure of Nikolski in 2000 and 2010 is shown in Figure 2.

In terms of educational attainment, according to the 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS),⁴ 100% of Nikolski residents aged 25 and over were estimated to hold a high school diploma or higher degree in 2010, compared to 90.7% of Alaskan residents overall. Of these, 69.2% were estimated to have a high school diploma and no further education, compared to 27.4% of Alaskan residents overall; 30.8% were estimated to have some college but no degree, compared to 28.3% of Alaskan residents overall; and 0% were estimated to hold an Associate’s degree, Bachelor’s degree, or graduate or professional degree, compared to 8%, 17.4% and 9.6%, respectively, of Alaska residents overall.

Figure 2. Population Age Structure in Nikolski Based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.



⁴ While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

History, Traditional Knowledge, and Culture

Nikolski is thought by some to be the oldest continuously-occupied community in the world. The Chaluka archaeological site, in the village of Nikolski, shows evidence of 4,000 years of virtually continuous occupation. People were living in Nikolski before the pyramids were built, the Mayan calendar was invented, or the Chinese language was written.⁵ Archeological evidence found at the Anangula Blade site indicates that the region's earlier residents lived 9,000 years ago on Anangula Island. Anangula Island lies several miles offshore but probably was connected to Umnak Island in ancient times.⁶

Upon the arrival of the Russians in 1759, there were estimated to be approximately 2,000 – 2,500 Unangans living on Umnak Island in 20 villages. Interaction with the Russians greatly diminished the island's population, and by 1840 there were only two villages remaining. One of these was Nikolski (*Nikol'skoe*), which was used as a sea otter hunting site. Nikolski was formerly recorded by the Russians as "Recheshnoe," which means "river." In 1920, a boom in fox farming occurred on the island. The Unangan became affluent enough to purchase a relatively large boat, the "Umnak Native", which was wrecked in 1933. A sheep ranch was established in 1926 as part of the Aleutian Livestock Company. Today Nikolski is the only community on Umnak Island.^{7,8}

In June 1942, when the Japanese attacked Unalaska and seized Attu and Kiska, residents were evacuated to the Ketchikan area.⁹ The people of Nikolski were deposited at Ward Cove, a recreation facility near Ketchikan constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The villagers quartered in the Ward Cove camp suffered the highest mortality rate of all the interned Unangans. Of the 72 Nikolski villagers who were evacuated in June of 1942, 19 perished due to inadequate housing, poor sanitation, and lack of medical care. Upon returning to their homes in 1945, villagers found that the U.S. military had continuously occupied their residences. There was extensive pilfering and looting of their property, and homes were destroyed or in need of massive repairs.¹⁰ The village was restored, but the traditional lifestyle and community attitudes were changed. Locals were allowed to return in 1944, but the exposure to the outside world brought about many changes in the traditional lifestyle and community attitudes. In the 1950s, the Air Force constructed a White Alice Communications System on the island, which provided some jobs. However, it was abandoned in late 1977.¹¹

Today, the residents that remain are largely of Unangan descent, and Aleut is spoken in three-quarters of all homes. Subsistence activities, sheep and raising cattle, and fishing-related employment sustain the community.¹²

⁵ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁶ Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area (2006). *Resource Inventory and Analysis*. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/Explore/AWCRSA_04_07/nikolski.html.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ See footnote 5.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ See footnote 6.

¹¹ See footnote 5.

¹² Ibid.

Natural Resources and Environment

Nikolski lies in a maritime climate zone. Temperatures range from 11 to 65 °F. Annual snowfall averages 41 inches, and total precipitation averages 21 inches. Strong winds are frequent during the winter and fog occurs during the summer, which limits accessibility.¹³ The topography where the community is located is a gently rolling plain with elevations reaching 500 feet north of the village. Vegetation in the vicinity of the village is primarily Arctic/alpine tundra and grasses that are typical of the Aleutian Islands Chain.¹⁴

The Aleutian Islands provide habitat for marine mammals, including the Steller sea lion, northern sea otter, and harbor seal. Most of the land mammals, including foxes, reindeer, and caribou, have been introduced by humans.¹⁵ No native land mammals inhabit most of the Aleutian Islands. Some islands close to the mainland along the Alaska Peninsula can be reached occasionally by strong swimmers such as bears and river otters.¹⁶ The principal marine fish are Pacific halibut, Pacific cod, rockfish, sablefish, yellowfin sole, pollock, sand lance, herring, and salmon. The Aleutian Islands are best known for its birds. More than 10 million nest on the islands each summer. Puffins, auklets, gulls, storm petrels, cormorants, terns, kittiwakes, murrelets, and murrelets are among the most abundant species.¹⁷

Parts of Umnak Island are included in the 1,300,000-acre Aleutian Islands Wilderness, which was included as part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).¹⁸ The 3.4-acre NWR was established in 1980 to conserve marine mammals, seabirds and other migratory birds, and the marine resources upon which they depend.¹⁹ The Alaska Maritime NWR covers a great diversity of ecosystems beyond the immediate area of Nikolski, as it spans four time zones,²⁰ stretching from the Aleutian Islands to the Southeast Alaska Panhandle. The Alaska Maritime NWR was created in part to promote a program of scientific research on marine ecosystems. The Alaska Maritime NWR “protects breeding habitat for seabirds, marine mammals, and other wildlife on more than 2,500 islands, spires, rocks, and coastal headlands.”²¹

The community of Nikolski is interested in emergency response training to be better prepared for natural disasters including earthquakes, flooding, and volcanic eruptions.²² The Alaska-Aleutian arc, also known as the “Pacific Ring of Fire,” is one of the world’s most active

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ See footnote 6.

¹⁵ Wilderness.net (n.d.). *Aleutian Islands Wilderness*. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from <http://www.wilderness.net/index.cfm?fuse=NWPS&sec=wildView&WID=5>.

¹⁶ USFWS (n.d.). *Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge*. Retrieved January 4, 2012 from <http://alaskamaritime.fws.gov/>.

¹⁷ See footnote 15.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ See footnote 16.

²⁰ “Technically, the Alaska Maritime Refuge spans four time zones (Pacific, Yukon, Alaska, and Bering). In 1983 almost all the state was consolidated under Alaska Time (standard and daylight) - one hour behind Pacific Time of the West Coast. Only the central and western Aleutian Islands observe Hawaii-Aleutian Time, 2 hours behind Pacific Time.” Quote retrieved June 11, 2012 from <http://alaskamaritime.fws.gov/howbig.htm>.

²¹ See footnote 16.

²² Information Insights, Inc. (2006). *Nikolski Community and Economic Development Plan*. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/plans/Nikolski-EDP-2006.pdf>.

earthquake areas in the world.²³ Some of these earthquakes are associated with explosive volcanic eruptions.²⁴ Umnak Island consists of two volcanic peaks and old lava flows and ash falls. Because Nikolski is located along the west-to-east storm tracks of the North Pacific, the community is also vulnerable to strong storms and accompanying winds.²⁵

According to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), there are no notable active environmental cleanup sites located in Nikolski as of May 2012.²⁶

Current Economy²⁷

Nikolski has a mixed subsistence and cash economy, although few cash employment opportunities are available within the community. Most residents support themselves by working outside the village for some portion of the year at crab canneries and on processing ships. The lack of a harbor and dock in Nikolski limits fisheries-related activities. The village is interested in developing a small value-added fish processing plant and a sportfishing lodge to provide employment and attract former residents who left Nikolski for economic reasons.²⁸

The top employers in Nikolski in 2010 were the local Village Council and a sportfishing lodge called Ugludax Lodge.²⁹ The Lodge is operated by a partnership between the Native village corporation, Chaluka Corporation, and the regional Community Development Quota (CDQ) group, the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA).³⁰ In addition, the APICDA purchased a sportfishing charter boat for Nikolski. Sheep, cattle, and horses graze over much of the island, and wage income is supplemented by subsistence activities, which provide a substantial part of the villagers' diets. Salmon, halibut, seals, and ducks are of particular importance for subsistence purposes.³¹

Based on household surveys conducted for the 2006-2010 ACS,³² in 2010, the per capita income in Nikolski was estimated to be \$13,410 and the median household income was estimated to be \$16,500. This represents a decrease from the per capita and median household incomes reported in the year 2000 (\$14,083 and \$38,750, respectively). The decrease is even

²³ Sykes, L. R., J. B. Kisslinger, L. House, J. N. Davies and K. H. Jacob (1980). Rupture zones and repeat times of great earthquakes along the Alaska-Aleutian arc, 1784-1980. *Science* 19 December 1980, Vol. 210, no. 4476 pp 1343-1345.

²⁴ U.S. Geological Survey (1998). Can Another Great Volcanic Eruption Happen in Alaska? Retrieved December 5, 2011 from <http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/about/publications/factsheets.php>.

²⁵ Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area (2006). *Resource Inventory and Analysis*. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/Explore/AWCRSA_04_07/nikolski.html.

²⁶ Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (n.d.). *List of Contaminated Sites by Region*. Retrieved April 17, 2012 from <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/list.htm>.

²⁷ Unless otherwise noted, all monetary data are reported in nominal values.

²⁸ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

²⁹ Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (n.d.). *Alaska Local and Regional Information Database*. Retrieved April 23, 2012 from <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/alari/>.

³⁰ Nikolski Adventures (n.d.). *Welcome to Nikolski Adventures at Ugludax Lodge*. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from <http://www.nikolskiadventures.com/about.html>.

³¹ See footnote 28.

³² U.S. Census Bureau (n.d.). *Profile of selected social, economic and housing characteristics of all places within Alaska*. Datasets utilized include the 2000 (SF1 100% and SF3 sample data) and 2010 (Demographic Profile SF) Decennial Census and the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved November 1, 2011 from <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.

greater if inflation is taken into account by converting the 2000 values to 2010 dollars,³³ revealing a real per capita income in 2000 of \$18,519 and a real median household income of \$50,956. In 2010, Nikolski ranked 221st of 305 Alaskan communities with per capita income data, and 288th in median household income, out of 299 Alaskan communities with household income data that year.

Although Nikolski's small population size may have prevented the ACS from accurately portraying economic conditions,³⁴ additional evidence for a decrease in per capita income is provided by economic data compiled by the Alaska Local and Regional Information (ALARI) database maintained by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD). If total wages reported in the ALARI database for 2010 are divided by the 2010 population reported by the U.S. Census, the resulting per capita income estimate for Nikolski in 2010 is \$14,148.³⁵ This decline is reflected in the fact that the community was recognized as "distressed" by the Denali Commission, indicating that over 70% of residents aged 16 and older earned less than \$16,120 in 2010.³⁶ It is important to note that both ACS and DOLWD data are based on wage earnings, and do not take into account the value of subsistence within the local economy.

Based on the 2006-2010 ACS, in 2010, a significantly smaller percentage of Nikolski residents was estimated to be in the civilian labor force (31.3%) compared to the civilian labor force statewide (68.8%). In the same year, no residents were estimated to be living below the poverty line, compared to 9.5% of Alaska residents overall, and the unemployment rate was estimated to be 12.5%, compared to a statewide unemployment rate of 5.9%. An alternative estimate of unemployment is based on the ALARI database, which indicates that the 2010 unemployment rate in Nikolski was 14.3%, compared to a statewide unemployment rate estimate of 11.5%.³⁷

Also based on the 2006-2010 ACS, 100% of the Nikolski workforce was estimated to be employed in the public sector in 2010. The civilian labor force was estimated to consist of two individuals aged 16 and over. Compared to 2000, this represents a dramatic decline in the workforce, from 39 to 2. In addition, it is important to note that many fewer industries and occupations were represented in 2010 than in 2000. In 2010, both individuals in the civilian labor force were estimated to work in educational services, health care, and social assistance industries / service occupations. While the concentration of the workforce in fewer industries and occupations may be due to a real population decline in Nikolski, it is also important to note that the sampling methods utilized by the U.S. Census Bureau were altered between 2000 and 2010. The shift in sampling methods may also account for some of the differences observed in employment estimates.³⁸ It is also important to note that, while none of the civilian labor force was estimated to be working in agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining in 2010, the

³³ Inflation was calculated using the Anchorage Consumer Price Index for 2010 (retrieved January 5, 2012 from the Alaska Department of Labor, <http://labor.alaska.gov/research/cpi/inflationcalc.htm>).

³⁴ While American Community Survey (ACS) estimates can provide a good snapshot estimate for larger populations, smaller populations can be misrepresented by ACS estimates if demographic information is not collected from a representative sample of the population. This is especially problematic for Alaskan communities with small populations that have a low probability of being adequately sampled.

³⁵ See footnotes 29 and 32.

³⁶ Denali Commission (2011). *Distressed Community Criteria 2011 Update*. Retrieved April 16, 2012 from www.denali.gov.

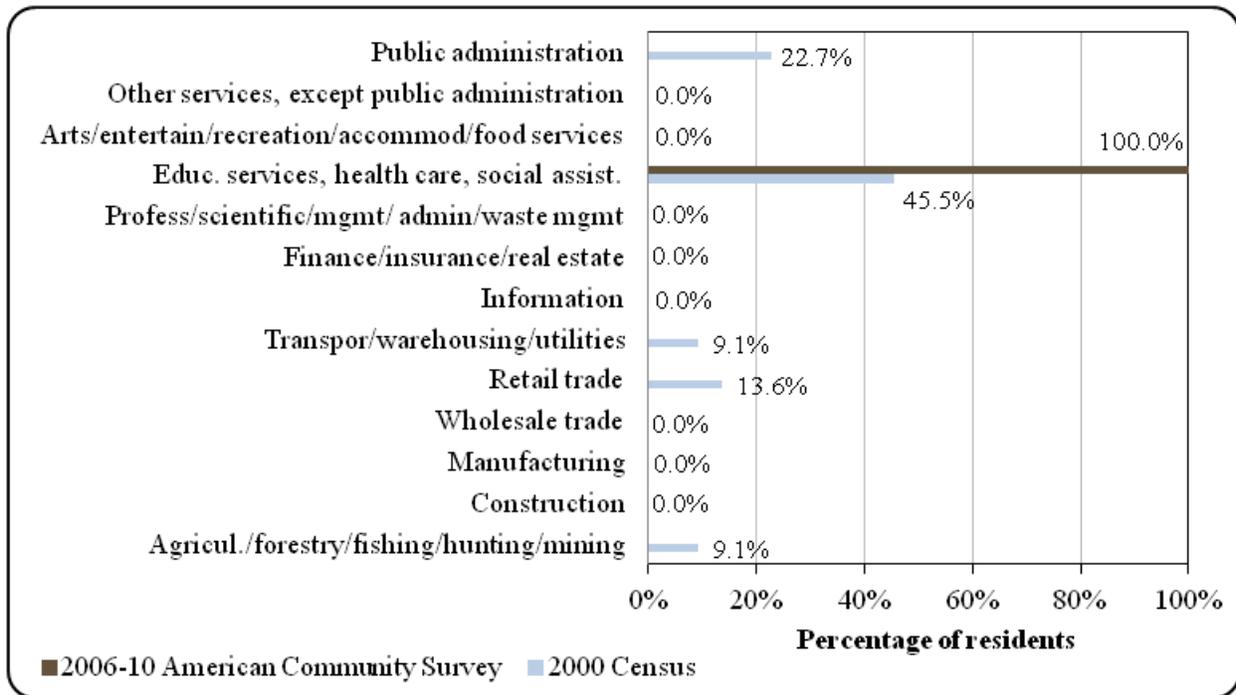
³⁷ See footnote 29.

³⁸ See footnote 34.

number of individuals employed by fishing may be underestimated in census statistics. Fishermen may hold another job and characterize their employment accordingly. Information about employment by industry is presented in Figure 3, and employment is broken down by occupation in Figure 4.

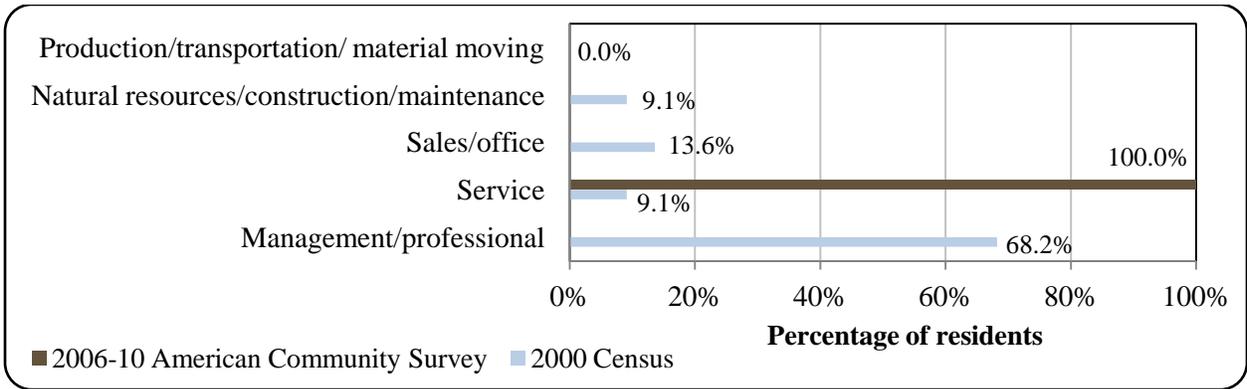
An alternative estimate of employment is provided by economic data compiled in the ALARI database, which indicate that there were 14 employed residents in Nikolski in 2010, of which 50% were employed in local government, 14.3% in education and health services, 14.3% in leisure and hospitality, 7.1% in natural resources and mining, 7.1% in manufacturing, and 7.1% in information.³⁹ As with income statistics, it should also be noted that ACS and DOLWD employment statistics do not reflect residents’ activity in the subsistence economy.

Figure 3. Local Employment by Industry in 2000-2010, Nikolski (U.S. Census).



³⁹ Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (n.d.). *Alaska Local and Regional Information Database*. Retrieved April 23, 2012 from <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/alari/>.

Figure 4. Local Employment by Occupation in 2000-2010, Nikolski (U.S. Census).



Governance

Nikolski is an unincorporated community, and is not located in an organized borough. No municipal revenue was reported and no taxes were administered by the town between 2000 and 2010. In addition, no State or Community Revenue Sharing contributions or fisheries-related grants were reportedly received by Nikolski during this period (Table 2).

Table 2. Selected Municipal, State, or Federal Revenue Streams for the Community of Nikolski from 2000 to 2010.

Year	Total Municipal Revenue ¹	Sales Tax Revenue ²	State/Community Revenue Sharing ^{3,4}	Fisheries-Related Grants (State and Federal) ⁵
2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

¹ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm.

² Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Econ. Dev. (n.d.). *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm.

³ Alaska Dept. of Rev. (n.d.). *(2000-2009) Taxes and Fees Annual Report*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from <https://www.tax.state.ak.us>.

⁴ The State Revenue Sharing program ceased in 2003 and was replaced by the Community Revenue Sharing program starting in 2009.

⁵ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.). *Community Funding Database*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_Grants.htm.

Nikolski was included under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), and is federally recognized as a Native village. The authorized traditional entity, recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is the Native Village of Nikolski. The local village Native corporation is the Chaluka Corporation, which manages 77,188 acres of land.⁴⁰ Nikolski belongs to the Aleut Corporation, the regional Native corporation of the western Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands.⁴¹

Nikolski is also a member of the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc., (APIAI), one of the 12 regional Alaska Native 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that were identified under ANCSA and charged with naming incorporators to create regional for-profit corporations. Today, these regional Native Associations receive federal funding to administer a broad range of

⁴⁰ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁴¹ Aleut Corporation website (2008). *Corporation*. Retrieved February 9, 2012 from <http://www.aleutcorp.com>.

services to villages in their regions.⁴² APIAI provides services including cultural heritage, health, education, social, psychological, employment, vocational training, environment, natural resources, and public safety services.⁴³

The closest regional offices of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) are in Sand Point and Port Moller. The Port Moller office is seasonal, operating between May and September. The nearest National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services offices are located in Dutch Harbor, while Dillingham has the closest office of the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, and Kodiak has the nearest office of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). However, the Anchorage offices of these agencies may be more accessible to Nikolski residents.

Infrastructure

Connectivity and Transportation

Nikolski is primarily accessible by air. A 3,512 feet long by 135 feet wide unlighted gravel runway is present in the village that provides passenger, mail, and cargo service. The airstrip used to be owned by the U.S. Air Force.⁴⁴ Peninsula Airways operates one roundtrip air taxi flight between Nikolski and Unalaska twice weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays.⁴⁵ The price of a roundtrip ticket between Nikolski and Unalaska in early June of 2012 was \$296, and a roundtrip ticket between Unalaska and Anchorage was \$964.⁴⁶ Nikolski currently has no landing or port facilities for ships. Barges deliver cargo once or twice a year. Goods and passengers are lightered 3 miles to the beach.⁴⁷

Facilities

Water in Nikolski is derived from a community well and surface water source and is chlorinated. The Nikolski Village Council operates a piped water system. All occupied homes are fully plumbed and connected to the pipe system. Homes have individual septic tanks, and the Village Council provides septic pumping services. There is no landfill or refuse collection service in Nikolski. Umnak Power Company's diesel generator is operated by the Village Council to provide electricity to the community. Police services are provided by state troopers stationed in Unalaska. Fire and rescue services are provided by the Nikolski Volunteer Fire Department. Visitor accommodations are available in town, including a trailer/hotel run by the Chaluka Corporation.⁴⁸ APICDA Joint Ventures also operates a hunting and fishing lodge just outside of Nikolski, in partnership with the Chaluka Corporation. The "Ugludax Lodge" is the westernmost fishing lodge in North America.⁴⁹

⁴² U.S. Government Accountability Office (2005). *Alaska Native Villages: Report to Congressional Addressees and the Alaska Federation of Natives*. Retrieved February 7, 2012 from <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05719.pdf>.

⁴³ Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (n.d.) Retrieved January 3, 2012 from <http://www.apiai.com/>.

⁴⁴ See footnote 40.

⁴⁵ Peninsula Airways (2011). *Homepage*. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from <http://www.penair.com/>.

⁴⁶ This price were calculated on November 21, 2011 using kayak.com.

⁴⁷ See footnote 40.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Nikolski Adventures (n.d.). *Welcome to Nikolski Adventures at Ugludax Lodge*. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from <http://www.nikolskiadventures.com/about.html>.

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Nikolski has a water storage tank and a community center. They also indicated that development of an alternative energy source has been completed, and improvements are in process. In July, 2007, a wind turbine was installed in Nikolski to be integrated with the existing diesel power plant.⁵⁰ As of 2011, further funding was being sought to complete the final phase of the wind-diesel project.⁵¹

Regarding fisheries-related infrastructure, no docking facilities are present in Nikolski. According to the 2011 AFSC survey, the only fisheries-related service reported by community leaders was a fishing lodge. Community leaders also noted that residents of Nikolski most frequently travel to Unalaska and Atka to access fisheries-related businesses and services not available locally.

Medical Services

Local health care is provided by the Nikolski Health Clinic, which is owned by the Village and operated by the APIAI. The Nikolski clinic is a Community Health Aide Program site. Emergency Services have coastal and helicopter access. Emergency service is provided by volunteers.⁵² The nearest hospitals are located in Dillingham and on Kodiak Island.

Educational Opportunities

One school building is present in Nikolski. However, as of the year 2011 there was no current student enrollment, and no teachers were working at the school.⁵³ The school was closed in the fall of 2009 after fewer than 10 students were present during the annual statewide student counting period.⁵⁴

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

History and Evolution of Fisheries

Subsistence harvest has been important to people living in the Nikolski area for thousands of years. The ancestors of the modern Unangan relied heavily on harvests of marine mammals, along with harvest of birds, waterfowl, fish, and other marine life living on the extensive reefs surrounding the Aleutian Islands.⁵⁵ Today subsistence remains a fundamental

⁵⁰ Fredenberg, C. (2008). Nikolski Wind-Diesel Project. *Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. Newsletter* Volume 25. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from http://www.apiai.com/apia_newsltr_april08_web.pdf.

⁵¹ Native Village of Nikolski (2011). *Nikolski Renewable Energy Wind Project: Renewable Energy Fund Round V Grant Application*. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from <ftp://ftp.aidea.org/>.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. (2012). *Statistics and Reports*. Retrieved April 24, 2012 from <http://eed.alaska.gov/stats/>.

⁵⁴ Yardley, W. (2009). Alaska Rural Schools Fight Off Extinction. *The New York Times*, printed November 25, 2009. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/26/us/26alaska.html>.

⁵⁵ Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area (2006). *Resource Inventory and Analysis*. Retrieved February 24, 2012 from http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/Explore/AWCRSA_04_07/nikolski.html.

element of the Nikolski economy. Commercial and recreational fishing have both found an important place as well.⁵⁶

Between 2006 and 2008, one Nikolski resident was involved in commercial fisheries for halibut and groundfish (Table 4). Commercial exploitation of halibut and groundfish first extended out along the Aleutian Islands chain in the 1920s after development of diesel engines, which allowed fishing vessels to undertake longer trips.⁵⁷ Today, major groundfish fisheries in the region include a jig fishery for black rockfish out of Unalaska and a Pacific cod fishery in state waters, (0-3 nautical miles (nmi) from the coast), in addition to a statewide lingcod fishery, and a sablefish fishery in state waters for non-federal sablefish quota share holders. Groundfish fisheries in state waters are managed the ADF&G and groundfish fisheries beyond 3 nmi are managed by NMFS.⁵⁸ The International Pacific Halibut Commission sets yearly harvest limits for the Pacific halibut fishery in Alaskan waters in areas 4A, 4B, and the combined Area 4CDE.⁵⁹

Nikolski is located in Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulatory Area 4A, the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Federal Statistical and Reporting Area 518, and the Bering Sea Sablefish Regulatory Area. To the south of Umnak Island, the marine area is encompassed by Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Federal and Statistical Reporting Area 610 and the Western GOA Sablefish Regulatory Area. It is also important to note that the state coastal waters surrounding Umnak Island have been designated by the coastal district as a ‘subsistence use area’.^{60,61}

Nikolski is a member of the APICDA, a CDQ group that works to develop stable local economies in member communities through scholarships, vocational education activities, substance abuse programs, school grants, and infrastructure development, including matching funds for the construction of docks and harbors.⁶² Nikolski is not eligible to participate in the Community Quota Entity (CQE) program.

According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders reported that Nikolski is not directly involved in fisheries management processes in Alaska.

⁵⁶ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁵⁷ Thompson, W. F. and N. L. Freeman (1930). *History of the Pacific Halibut Fishery*. Report of the International Fisheries Commission. Number 5. Retrieved June 1, 2012 from <http://www.iphc.int/publications/scirep/Report0005.pdf>.

⁵⁸ Woodby, D, D. Carlile, S. Siddeek, F. Funk, J. H. Clark, and L. Hulbert (2005). *Commercial Fisheries of Alaska*. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 05-09. Retrieved December 29, 2011 from <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/sp05-09.pdf>.

⁵⁹ International Pacific Halibut Commission website (n.d.). Retrieved March 26, 2012 from <http://www.iphc.int/>.

⁶⁰ Aleutians West Coastal Resource Service Area and LaRoche & Associates (2006 revision). *Coastal Management Plan - Volume III. Final Draft Plan Amendment*. Retrieved March 26, 2012 from http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/Explore/AWCRSA_04_07/pdf/pdf%20from%20word/volume%20III/vol3aug06.pdf.

⁶¹ “Subsistence Use Areas are coastal habitat areas, used traditionally or occasionally in response to seasonal or cyclic resource abundance, where subsistence harvests of fish, wildlife, and other biological resources are conducted.” (Source: see footnote 60.)

⁶² Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (2008). *About APICDA*. Retrieved January 2, 2012 from http://www.apicda.com/about_apicda.html.

Processing Plants

ADF&G's 2010 Intent to Operate list does not list a registered processing plant in Nikolski, although the Village is interested in developing a small value-added fish processing plant.⁶³ According to a survey of processing plants conducted by the AFSC in 2011, the closest and most diversified processing port is Dutch Harbor/Unalaska. Other Aleutian Islands ports offering processing facilities are Atka and Akutan. More information about these processing facilities can be found in the profiles for each of these communities.

Fisheries-Related Revenue

The only information about fishing-related revenue received by Nikolski came from community leaders in a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011. Community leaders reported that, in 2010, \$62,000 in funding or grants were received from APICDA. No other data were reported about fisheries-related revenue received by Nikolski between 2000 and 2010 (Table 3).

Commercial Fishing

Between 2000 and 2010, several Nikolski residents participated in commercial fisheries as permit holders, crew members, and vessel owners. One Nikolski resident held Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permits from 2006 to 2008. A halibut permit was held in all three of these years in the statewide longline fishery using vessels under 60 feet in length and was actively fished in all 3 years. In addition, a resident held a groundfish CFEC permit in 2007 and 2008. In 2007, the groundfish permit was held for the statewide mechanical jig fishery, while in 2008, the permit was held for the statewide longline fishery using vessels under 60 feet. These groundfish permits were not actively fished in either 2007 or 2008. Between 2000 and 2010, no Nikolski residents held either Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP) or federal License Limitation Program permits (LLP). Likewise, no Nikolski residents held quota share accounts in federal catch share fisheries for halibut, sablefish, or crab between 2000 and 2010. Information about CFEC, FFP, and LLP permits is presented in Table 4, and information about federal catch share participation is presented in Tables 6 through 8.

The number of crew license holders in Nikolski varied between zero and two during the 2000-2010 period. Between 2002 and 2004, one resident was the primary owner of a fishing vessel, and one fishing vessel was homeported in Nikolski. No fish buyers or shore-side processors were present in the community between 2000 and 2010. This information about the commercial fishing sector in Nikolski is presented in Table 5. According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders indicated that the number of fishing vessels coming to Nikolski has increased slightly over the past five years. They explained that fishing vessels have increasingly been used to bring cargo and fuel to the community, as air service has been reduced in recent years and fishing captains are more able to enter Nikolski Bay than fuel barges. No landings or ex-vessel revenue were recorded in Nikolski between 2000 and 2010 (Table 9), given the lack of fish buyers in the community (Table 5). Information about landings and ex-vessel revenue generated between 2002 and 2004 by the Nikolski-owned vessel is considered confidential (Table 10).

⁶³ See footnote 56.

Table 3. Known Fisheries-Related Revenue (in U.S. Dollars) Received by the Community of Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Revenue source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Raw fish tax ¹	n/a										
Shared Fisheries Business Tax ¹	n/a										
Fisheries Resource Landing Tax ¹	n/a										
Fuel transfer tax ²	n/a										
Extraterritorial fish tax ²	n/a										
Bulk fuel transfers ¹	n/a										
Boat hauls ²	n/a										
Harbor usage ²	n/a										
Port/dock usage ²	n/a										
Fishing gear storage on public land ³	n/a										
Marine fuel sales tax ³	n/a										
<i>Total fisheries-related revenue⁴</i>	<i>n/a</i>										
<i>Total municipal revenue⁵</i>	<i>n/a</i>										

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

¹ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Econ. Dev. (n.d.) *Alaska Taxable (2000-2010)*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/osa/osa_summary.cfm.

² Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.) *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 at http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm.

³ Reported by community leaders in a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011.

⁴ Total fisheries related revenue represents a sum of all known revenue sources in the previous rows.

⁵ Total municipal revenue represents the total revenue that the city reports each year in its municipal budget. Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs. (n.d.) *Financial Documents Delivery System*. Retrieved April 15, 2011 at http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dcra/commfin/CF_FinRec.cfm.

Table 4. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Groundfish (LLP) ¹	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Active permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (LLP) ¹	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Active permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fisheries Permits ¹	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crab (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other shellfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	100%	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Herring (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 4 cont'd. Permits and Permit Holders by Species, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Species		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sablefish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Groundfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	0%	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Other Finfish (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon (CFEC) ²	Total permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fished permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	% of permits fished	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total permit holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total CFEC Permits²</i>	<i>Permits</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0
	<i>Fished permits</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
	<i>% of permits fished</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	50%	50%	-	-
	<i>Permit holders</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

¹National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Data on License Limitation Program, Alaska Federal Processor Permits (FPP), Federal Fisheries Permits (FFP), and Permit holders. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

²Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska commercial fishing permits, permit holders, and vessel licenses, 2000 – 2010. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 5. Characteristics of the Commercial Fishing Sector in Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Crew License Holders ¹	Count Of All Fish Buyers ²	Count Of Shore-Side Processing Facilities ³	Vessels Primarily Owned By Residents ⁴	Vessels Homeported ⁴	Vessels Landing Catch In Nikolski ²	Total Net Pounds Landed In Nikolski ^{2,5}	Total Ex-Vessel Value Of Landings In Nikolski ^{2,5}
2000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2001	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2002	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	\$0
2003	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	\$0
2004	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	\$0
2005	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2006	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2009	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0
2010	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0

¹ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish and crew license holders, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

² Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

³ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. (2011). Data on Alaska fish processors. ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

⁴ Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska commercial fishing permits, permit holders, and vessel licenses, 2000 – 2010. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

⁵ Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Table 6. Halibut Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Halibut Quota Share Account Holders	Halibut Quota Shares Held	Halibut IFQ Allotment (pounds)
2000	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 7. Sablefish Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Sablefish Quota Share Account Holders	Sablefish Quota Shares Held	Sablefish IFQ Allotment (pounds)
2000	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 8. Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Crab Catch Share Program Participation by Residents of Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Number of Crab Quota Share Account Holders	Crab Quota Shares Held	Crab IFQ Allotment (pounds)
2005	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

Source: National Marine Fisheries Service. 2011. Alaska Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) permit data. NMFS Alaska Regional Office. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

Table 9. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, in Nikolski: 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Pounds¹</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Groundfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Shellfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Cod	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pollock	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sablefish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total²</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Finfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Halibut	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Herring	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Groundfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Shellfish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pacific Cod	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pollock	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sablefish	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Salmon	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Total²</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

¹ Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Table 10. Landed Pounds and Ex-vessel Revenue, by Species, by Nikolski Residents: 2000-2010.

	<i>Total Net Pounds¹</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finfish	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herring	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Groundfish	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Shellfish	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Cod	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pollock	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sablefish	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmon	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total²</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Ex-vessel Value (nominal U.S. dollars)</i>										
	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>
Crab	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Finfish	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Halibut	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Herring	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Groundfish	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Shellfish	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pacific Cod	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pollock	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sablefish	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Salmon	\$0	\$0	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Total²</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>

Note: Cells showing – indicate that the data are considered confidential.

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. 2011. Alaska fish ticket data. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

¹ Net pounds refers to the landed weight recorded in fish tickets.

² Totals only represent non-confidential data.

Recreational Fishing

The Village of Nikolski has been working to increase sportfishing infrastructure in the community. With the help of the APICDA a charter boat was purchased, and there is interest in developing a sportfishing lodge.⁶⁴ Aleutian Adventures, based in Anchorage, currently runs a fishing lodge located just outside the Village.⁶⁵ According to a survey conducted by the AFSC in 2011, community leaders indicated the Nikolski economy relies heavily on sport hunting and fishing. They reported that the species targeted by sport fishermen in the Nikolski area include sablefish, Pacific halibut, and coho and pink salmon. They also indicated that all recreational fishing activity takes place using charter vessels, and neither local residents nor visitors use private vessels for sport purposes.

Sportfishing data reported by ADF&G suggests that, during the 2000-2010 period, one active sport fish guide businesses was only registered in Nikolski in 2004 and 2005. However, licensed sport fish guides were present in the community from 2000 to 2008. The number of Nikolski residents that purchased sportfishing licenses during the 2000-2010 period (irrespective of point of sale) varied between zero and five per year, and no sportfishing licenses were sold in Nikolski.

Nikolski is located within Alaska Sport Fishing Survey Area R – Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Islands. Information is only available for saltwater and freshwater sportfishing activity at this regional scale. Between 2000 and 2010, sportfishing activity varied considerably. For saltwater sportfishing, non-Alaska resident angler days fished varied between 1,603 and 4,126 days per year during this period, while Alaska resident angler days fished varied between 3,261 and 12,721 days per year. Alaska resident anglers fished consistently more saltwater days than non-Alaska resident anglers during this period. In contrast, non-Alaska resident anglers fished more angler days in freshwater in the Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Islands region on average (18,462 per year on average) than Alaska resident anglers (15,290 per year on average). This information about the sportfishing sector in and near Nelson Lagoon is also displayed in Table 11.

The Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey,⁶⁶ conducted by ADF&G between 2000 and 2010, did not include information about species targeted by private anglers in Nikolski, and no kept/release log book data were reported for fishing charters out of Nikolski in 2010.

⁶⁴ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁶⁵ Nikolski Adventures (n.d.). *Welcome to Nikolski Adventures at Ugludax Lodge*. Retrieved February 23, 2012 from <http://www.nikolskiadventures.com/about.html>.

⁶⁶ Alaska Department of Fish and Game (2011). *Alaska Sport Fishing Survey results, 2000 – 2010*. ADF&G Division of Sport Fish, Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey project. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/> (Accessed September 2011).

Table 11. Sport Fishing Trends, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Active Sport Fish Guide Businesses ¹	Sport Fish Guide Licenses ¹	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold to Residents ²	Sport Fishing Licenses Sold in Nikolski ²
2000	0	1	3	0
2001	0	2	2	0
2002	0	3	4	0
2003	0	3	5	0
2004	1	2	4	0
2005	1	3	3	0
2006	0	2	2	0
2007	0	2	1	0
2008	0	3	2	0
2009	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	2	0

Year	Saltwater		Freshwater	
	Angler Days Fished – Non-residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Non-residents ³	Angler Days Fished – Alaska Residents ³
2000	1,664	8,870	17,749	27,227
2001	1,760	3,939	16,840	14,350
2002	4,126	5,210	15,865	18,417
2003	1,603	4,333	16,557	11,878
2004	1,948	12,721	18,813	19,360
2005	3,585	5,129	14,130	12,038
2006	2,809	4,392	22,323	8,830
2007	2,588	9,356	20,371	15,870
2008	3,436	4,298	21,797	10,207
2009	3,488	3,815	18,996	16,020
2010	2,036	3,261	19,643	13,992

¹ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish guide licenses and businesses, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

² Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska sport fish and crew license holders, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Administrative Services. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. [URL not publicly available as some information is confidential.]

³ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Alaska Sport Fishing Survey results, 2000 – 2010. ADF&G Division of Sport Fish, Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey project. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/sportfishingsurvey/> (Accessed September 2011).

Subsistence Fishing

Historically, the primary focus of Unangan subsistence activity was harvest of marine mammals, including seal, sea lion, and sea otter. Sea otters were harvested primarily for their pelts and to provide materials for clothing and jewelry. The traditional subsistence diet was supplemented by harvest of birds, waterfowl, fish, roots, berries, and marine life living on reefs in the region. Today, subsistence remains an important supplement to the income of Nikolski residents. Salmon, halibut, seals, and ducks are currently important subsistence resources.⁶⁷

No information is available from ADF&G between 2000 and 2010 regarding per capita subsistence harvest, the percentage of households utilizing salmon, halibut, marine mammals, marine invertebrates, or non-salmon fish (not including halibut) for subsistence purposes (Table 12). Some data were reported regarding subsistence salmon permits. At least one Nikolski household was issued a subsistence salmon permit each year from 2000 to 2002, and again from 2006 to 2008. Relatively few salmon were reported harvested overall. Sockeye was the most heavily harvested salmon species by Nikolski households. This information is presented in Table 13.

No information is available regarding harvests of marine invertebrates and non-salmon fish from 2000 to 2010 (Table 13). An earlier ADF&G subsistence survey was conducted in Nikolski in 1990. Results of that survey provide some details regarding subsistence harvest patterns of marine invertebrate, marine mammal, and non-salmon fish species. According to the survey, species of marine invertebrates harvested by Nikolski residents in 1990 included butter, horse, Pacific littleneck, and razor clams; blue mussels; cockles; limpets; snails; red and unknown chitons; scallops; sea urchin; sea cucumber; Dungeness, hair, king, and Tanner crab; octopus; and shrimp. Of these species, the highest percentage of households harvested unknown chitons (36%), octopus (36%), limpets (14%), and blue mussels (7%). A greater percentage of households reported using several of these species than reported engaging in harvest, suggesting that sharing networks are present in Nikolski to distribute these resources among households. Species of non-salmon fish harvested by Nikolski residents in 1990 included Dolly Varden, rainbow trout, grayling, mackerel, Pacific cod, sablefish, Pacific tomcod, black and unknown rockfish, walleye pollock, Irish lord, bullhead and unknown sculpin, flounder, sole, smelt, greenling, and herring. The survey also noted harvest of greenling roe and herring roe. The greatest percentage of households reported harvesting Dolly Varden (71%), greenling (57%), Pacific cod (50%), and bullhead sculpin (14%). As in the case of marine invertebrates, in many cases a greater percentage of households reported using non-salmon fish species than were engaged in harvest, again suggesting the presence of sharing networks. In addition, Nikolski residents harvested the following species of marine mammal in 1990: blue whales, gray whales, humpback whales, minke whales, sei whales, an unknown species of whale, fur seals, and Steller sea lions.⁶⁸

Between 2003 and 2009, data were reported by ADF&G regarding Subsistence Halibut Registration Certificates (SHARC). From 2003 to 2007, the number of SHARC cards issued to Nikolski residents varied between 16 and 18, declining to 2 recorded SHARC cards issued per

⁶⁷ Alaska Dept. of Comm. and Rural Affairs (n.d.). *Community Database Online*. Retrieved October 17, 2011 from http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CF_BLOCK.htm.

⁶⁸ Alaska Department of Fish and Game (2011). *Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS)*. ADF&G Division of Subsistence. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/> (Accessed February 2011).

year in 2008 and 2009. The number of SHARC cards reported to be actively fished was highest in 2006. That year, 18 cards were fished and 2,250 pounds of halibut were harvested. The highest subsistence halibut harvest was reported in 2005. That year, 3,984 pounds of halibut were harvested with 15 active SHARC cards. This information about the subsistence halibut fishery is presented in Table 14.

Some information about marine mammal harvest was also reported by management agencies during the 2000-2010 period. Subsistence harvest of marine mammals was high in Nikolski relative to the community’s population. As noted above, community leaders reported in the AFSC survey in 2011 that harbor seals are a primary subsistence resource for residents of Nikolski. Based on data reported by ADF&G, the number of harbor seals harvested varied from 2 to 17 per year, and several Steller sea lions were also harvested in most years during the period. No information was reported by management agencies regarding beluga whale, sea otter, walrus, polar bear, or spotted seal harvest between 2000 and 2010. This information about subsistence harvest of marine mammals by Nikolski residents is presented in Table 15.

Table 12. Subsistence Participation by Household and Species, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	% Households Participating in Salmon Subsistence	% Households Participating in Halibut Subsistence	% Households Participating in Marine Mammal Subsistence	% Households Participating in Marine Invertebrate Subsistence	% Households Participating in Non-Salmon Fish Subsistence	Per Capita Subsistence Harvest (pounds)
2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

Source: Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). ADF&G Division of Subsistence. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/> (Accessed February 2011).

Table 13. Subsistence Fishing Participation for Salmon, Marine Invertebrates, and Non-Salmon Fish, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	Subsistence Salmon Permits Issued ¹	Salmon Permits Returned ¹	Chinook Salmon Harvested ¹	Chum Salmon Harvested ¹	Coho Salmon Harvested ¹	Pink Salmon Harvested ¹	Sockeye Salmon Harvested ¹	Lbs of Marine Inverts ²	Lbs of Non-Salmon Fish ²
2000	1	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	24	n/a	n/a
2001	1	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	14	n/a	n/a
2002	1	1	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	177	n/a	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006	1	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	13	n/a	n/a
2007	4	3	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	n/a	n/a
2008	2	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	41	n/a	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

¹ Fall, J.A., C. Brown, N. Braem, J.J. Simon, W.E. Simeone, D.L. Holen, L. Naves, L. Hutchinson-Scarborough, T. Lemons, and T.M. Krieg. 2011, revised. Alaska subsistence salmon fisheries 2008 annual report. Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 359, Anchorage. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

² Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2011. Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS). ADF&G Division of Subsistence. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sb/CSIS/> (Accessed February 2011).

Table 14. Subsistence Halibut Fishing Participation, Nikolski: 2003-2010.

Year	SHARC Issued	SHARC Cards Fished	SHARC Halibut Lbs Harvested
2003	16	7	1,852
2004	18	8	2,490
2005	18	15	3,984
2006	18	18	2,250
2007	16	5	1,418
2008	2	n/a	n/a
2009	2	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

Source: Fall, J.A. and D. Koster. 2011. Subsistence harvests of Pacific halibut in Alaska, 2009. Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 357, Anchorage. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

Table 15. Subsistence Harvests of Marine Mammal Resources, Nikolski: 2000-2010.

Year	# of Beluga Whales ¹	# of Sea Otters ²	# of Walrus ²	# of Polar Bears ²	# of Steller Sea Lions ³	# of Harbor Seals ³	# of Spotted Seals ³
2000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	2	n/a
2001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	5	n/a
2002	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	3	n/a
2003	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	n/a
2004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	6	n/a
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	6	n/a
2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	17	n/a
2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	6	n/a
2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	n/a
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a indicates that no data were reported for that year.

¹ Frost, K.J., and R.S. Suydam. 2010. Subsistence harvest of beluga or white whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*) in northern and western Alaska, 1987–2006. *J. Cetacean Res. Manage.* 11(3): 293–299. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

² U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. Marking, Tagging and Reporting Program data bases for northern sea otter, Pacific walrus and polar bear. Office of Marine Mammals Management. Anchorage, Alaska. Data compiled by Alaska Fisheries Information Network for Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle.

³ Wolfe, R.J., Fall, J.A. and M. Riedel. 2009. The subsistence harvest of harbor seals and sea lions by Alaska Natives in 2008. Alaska Native Harbor Seal Commission and Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Subsistence, Technical Paper No. 347, Anchorage.