

Elfin Cove, Alaska: *Community Survey Report*



Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation

with the assistance of the Division of Community Advocacy



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	1
List of Tables	2
List of Figures.....	3
Executive Summary	4
Introduction.....	6
Community Profile	6
Study Methodology.....	8
Profile of Respondents.....	9
Quality of Life	12
Economic Development - <i>Economic Performance</i>	16
Economic Development - <i>Local Business Development</i>	18
Economic Development - <i>Economic Development</i>	20
Infrastructure Development.....	23
Tourism Development.....	25
Summary.....	27
Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Cover Letter.....	29
Appendix B: Frequency Distributions	43
Appendix C: Full-Time Resident Frequency Distributions.....	57
Appendix D: Part-Time/Seasonal Resident Frequency Distributions	71
Appendix E: Questionnaire Item #25, Qualitative Responses.....	85
Appendix F: Questionnaire Item #26, Qualitative Responses	92
Appendix G: Questionnaire Item #34, Qualitative Responses	98

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 - Community Membership.....	9
Table 2 - Local Business Sectors.....	11
Table 3 - Important Community Attributes.....	12
Table 4 - Importance of Community Improvements.....	13
Table 5 - Threats to Quality of Life.....	15
Table 6 - Future Importance of Business Sectors.....	17
Table 7 - Threats to Local Businesses.....	19
Table 8 - CECNPC and Economic Development.....	22
Table 9 - Importance of Infrastructure Projects.....	23
Table 10 - Tourism Activity Promotion.....	25
Table 11 - Tourism Development Activities.....	26

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 - Age of Respondents.....	9
Figure 2 - Residency Status.....	9
Figure 3 - Months per Year in Elfin Cove.....	10
Figure 4 - Tenure of Residency.....	10
Figure 5 - Current Employment Status.....	10
Figure 6 - Length of Primary Business Ownership.....	11
Figure 7 - Current Quality of Life.....	12
Figure 8 - Change in Quality of Life.....	12
Figure 9 - Level of Community Involvement.....	13
Figure 10 - Interest in Community Planning.....	14
Figure 11 - Desired Future for Elfin Cove.....	14
Figure 12 - Current Economy Condition.....	16
Figure 13 - Economy Change Over Past Ten Years.....	16
Figure 14 - Economy Change Over Next Ten Years.....	16
Figure 15 - CECNPC and Economic Development.....	17
Figure 16 - Current Business Opportunities.....	18
Figure 17 - Future of Local Businesses.....	18
Figure 18 - Greatest Challenge to Economic Development.....	21
Figure 19 - Most Important Activity to Support Economic Development.....	22
Figure 20 - Desired Change in Tourism Activity.....	25
Figure 21 - Future of Tourism Industry.....	25

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On behalf of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation (CECNPC), the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy (DCA) conducted a community survey of local residents, community members, business owners, and fishermen. The purpose of the survey was two-fold. The first was to gather community input regarding local quality of life, community development priorities, economic development opportunities, and areas of community concern. The second was for DCA to gain a better understanding of dynamics important in the development of Southeast communities. Elfin Cove's request for help on this project afforded the Division an opportunity to extend its base of knowledge and understanding at a regional level. The Division's involvement in the development of the survey instrument and analysis is a singular event. This type of survey project is not a routine function of DCA and no further surveys are planned.

The community survey was conducted during May and June of 2006. In total, 143 individuals were identified as Elfin Cove community stakeholders including CECNPC members, Alaska registered voters, Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) telephone directory entries, commercial fishing permit holders, Elfin Cove utility customers, and local business license holders. Eighty-one survey questionnaires were completed and returned yielding a 57% response rate. Of noteworthy importance, CECNPC adopted a broad and inclusive definition of community membership in order to capture the diversity of local interests and acknowledge the importance of non-local contributions to the local economy. Consequently, the community survey identified 143 community members while 2000 US Census figures report a local population of 32 residents.

In sum, Elfin Cove community members responding to the survey have a wide range of opinions regarding local quality of life, economic development, infrastructure development, and tourism development. Specific highlights of the results indicate:

- **Demographics:** The median age of respondents is 51 years of age, which is significantly higher than the statewide median age of 32. The majority of respondents (57%) are 45 to 64 years old. Respondent gender reflects a population of three males (60%) for every two females (40%).
- **Community Membership:** Seventy-two percent of respondents are Alaska residents, 66% are members of the CECNPC, 48% own property in or around Elfin Cove, and 89% report being a full-time, part-time, or seasonal community resident. Of the respondents that indicate being an Elfin Cove resident, 67% suggest they are part-time or seasonal residents while only 33% report being full-time residents. On average, residents (i.e., part-time, full-time, or seasonal) spend six months per year in Elfin Cove and have been a resident for 17 years. Forty-three percent of respondents own a business with commercial fishing the most common primary line of business (36%).
- **Quality of Life:** Eighty-nine percent of respondents indicate local quality of life is good or very good; however, respondents are equally divided when reporting how quality of life has

changed over time (e.g., improved, declined, or remained the same). A majority of respondents suggest building local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, and incinerator), encouraging environmental protection, and reducing cost of living are very important to preserving or improving local quality of life. A majority of respondents suggest inclusion into an organized borough government and high utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, and freight) severely threaten local quality of life. Almost three-quarters of respondents (72%) would like to see Elfin Cove remain a fishing community.

- **Economic Development:** Respondents generally believe the local economy is struggling with 68% rating the current condition of the economy as fair or weak. Interestingly, nearly three-quarters (74%) expect Elfin Cove's economy to grow moderately or significantly during the next ten years. Respondents also lack confidence in the local business climate as 68% indicate current business opportunities are either fair or poor; however, 60% believe the future for local businesses is either good or very good. Again, inclusion into an organized borough government is considered a severe threat to local businesses by a majority of respondents (55%). Three-quarters of respondents indicate the CECNPC should be involved with local economic development activities.
- **Infrastructure Development:** An overwhelming majority of respondents agree that a wide variety of physical infrastructure and core services are important to improving the community including marine facilities, select core services (i.e., trash, water/wastewater, and recycling), and developing an alternative energy source.
- **Tourism Development:** Approximately half of respondents (53%) would like to see Elfin Cove's tourism industry increase while the other half would like to see tourism remain at its current level (24%) or decrease (23%). Despite a split within the community, respondents generally recognize tourism will likely play a significant role in the community's economic future.

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation (CECNPC), the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy (DCA) conducted a community survey of local residents, community members, business owners, and fishermen. The purpose of the survey was to gather community input regarding local quality of life, community development priorities, economic development opportunities, and areas of community concern.

This report, *Elfin Cove, Alaska: Community Survey Report*, summarizes survey findings, provides supplemental discussion, and establishes a foundation for further community planning efforts. The report is organized into five substantive sections including:

- Respondent Profile
- Quality of Life
- Economic Development
- Infrastructure Development
- Tourism Development

Community survey results provide a framework for developing locally-appropriate strategies to enhance community quality of life, improve the local economy, and plan projects of local importance.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The southeast Alaska community of Elfin Cove lies on the northern shore of Chichagof Island, 70 miles west of Juneau and 33 miles west of Hoonah. The area encompasses approximately 10.7 square miles of land and 0.1 square miles of water. Thirty-two people currently reside within the community (2000 US Census). The community is only accessible by small seaplane or boat.

Historical accounts of the area suggest the natural, protected, and flask-shaped harbor was originally called "Gunkhole" by local fishermen seeking anchorage. Its safe anchorage and close proximity to Fairweather fishing grounds made this natural harbor an optimal location for fish buyers and supplies. During the 1920s, Ernie Swanson built a store, restaurant, and dock. His wife, Ruth, applied for a post office during 1935 and named it "Elfin Cove." John Lowell,



another fish buyer, arrived during the 1940s and built a second dock, warehouse, store, and restaurant. According to local accounts, the Tlingits would not over-winter in the natural harbor due to the “evil spirits” that frequented the area.

Elfin Cove’s historical roots as a fishing community exist today. Elfin Cove remains a fish-buying and supply center for local fishermen. Most residents participate in fish-related economic activities including commercial fishing, sport fishing, and fishing charter services. Elfin Cove’s economic base has grown to include small-scale visitor industry endeavors including tourist accommodations and tourist activities. Summer lodges, tourism businesses, and local retail businesses provide employment for a significant number of seasonal residents. With a significant seasonal population, the community’s population oscillates from as many as 100 summer residents to as few as 25 winter residents.

STUDY METHODOLOGY

The Elfin Cove community survey was conducted during May and June 2006. In contrast to traditional community surveys that utilize a random sample method to collect input from local residents, the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation (CECNPC) surveyed the entire community population including various community stakeholder groups. The community survey population frame includes CECNPC members, Alaska registered voters, the Alaska Communications Systems telephone directory (ACS phonebook entries), commercial fishing permit holders, Elfin Cove utility customers, local business license holders, and individuals identified as community members by local leaders.

In total, 143 adult individuals were identified as Elfin Cove community stakeholders and received survey questionnaires via United States Postal Service (see Appendix A). Eighty-one survey questionnaires were completed and returned yielding a 57% response rate. One household may have received multiple surveys dependent upon how many adult community members reside within the household. An additional two surveys were completed and returned by individuals not listed in the original population frame, but determined to be Elfin Cove community members.

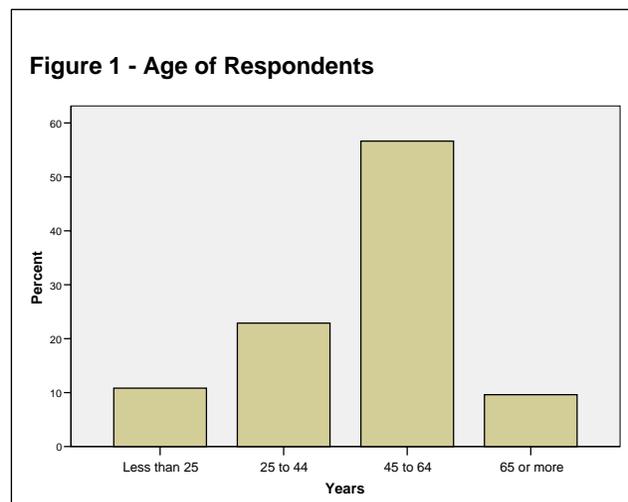
Due to the utilization of a non-random sample methodology, community survey findings represent the sentiments of 83 anonymous individuals and are not necessarily statistically generalizable to the true and complete population of the Elfin Cove community. It is at the discretion of community leaders to review the *Profile of Respondents* (pages 9-11) and determine whether results represent the majority of local community members. Notably, 57% of those identified as Elfin Cove stakeholders care enough about the community to participate in a lengthy community survey versus the 43% that are likely to have tangential or limited relationship with Elfin Cove. It is probable survey respondents comprise the core of the active Elfin Cove community. Despite study sampling limitations, the CECNPC is to be commended for adopting a comprehensive and inclusive method of developing a population frame that represents diverse local interests including local residents, local businesses, property owners, and fishermen.

This report summarizes community survey results. To effectively summarize information and make figures more concise, “don’t know,” “not applicable,” “other,” and missing responses are excluded from calculations and graphics, but can be found in Appendix B. To simplify the presentation, some response categories are collapsed into fewer categories than actually used in the survey. Examples of collapsed categories include: 1) “very good” and “good”; 2) “grow significantly” and “grow moderately”; and 3) “increase significantly” and “increase moderately”. As previously noted, comprehensive survey findings with the highest level of specificity are included in Appendix B.

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

The median age of survey respondents is 51 years of age (mean = 48), which is significantly above the statewide median age of 32.¹ This significant difference is not surprising considering the statewide median age includes children - a segment of the population that is currently nonexistent in Elfin Cove. The majority of respondents (57%) are 45 to 64 years old. All other respondents fall into one of three age categories including: 1) less than 25 years (11%); 2) 25 to 44 years (23%); and 3) 65 or more years (10%) (Figure 1). Respondent gender reflects a population of three males (60%) for every two females (40%) as opposed to a nearly equal split statewide.²

The survey utilizes a combination of Alaska residency, Elfin Cove residency, property-ownership, and CECNPC membership questionnaire items to specify type of community membership. Altogether, 72% of respondents are Alaska residents, 66% are members of the CECNPC, 48% own property in or around Elfin Cove, and 89% report being an Elfin Cove full-time, part-time, or seasonal resident (Table 1). Multiple respondents who indicate not living in Elfin Cove report themselves as living on nearby Inian Island and receiving many essential services from Elfin Cove.



Of the respondents that indicate being an Elfin Cove resident, the majority (67%) suggest they are part-time (23%) or seasonal residents (44%) while only one-third (33%) report being full-time residents (Figure 2). In general, seasonal residency is limited to summer and surrounding buffer months while part-time residency is spread throughout the calendar year.

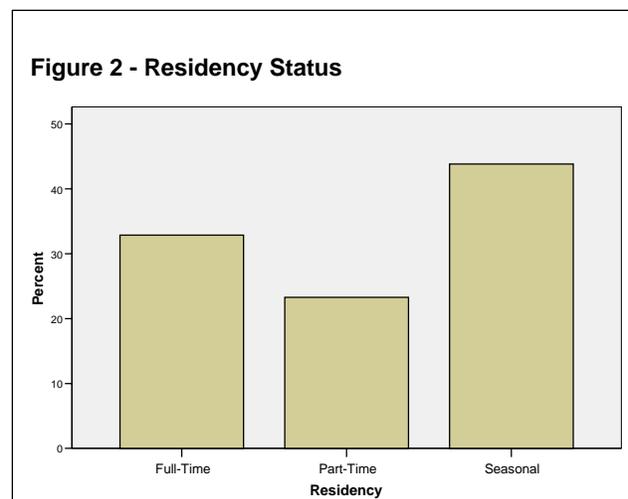


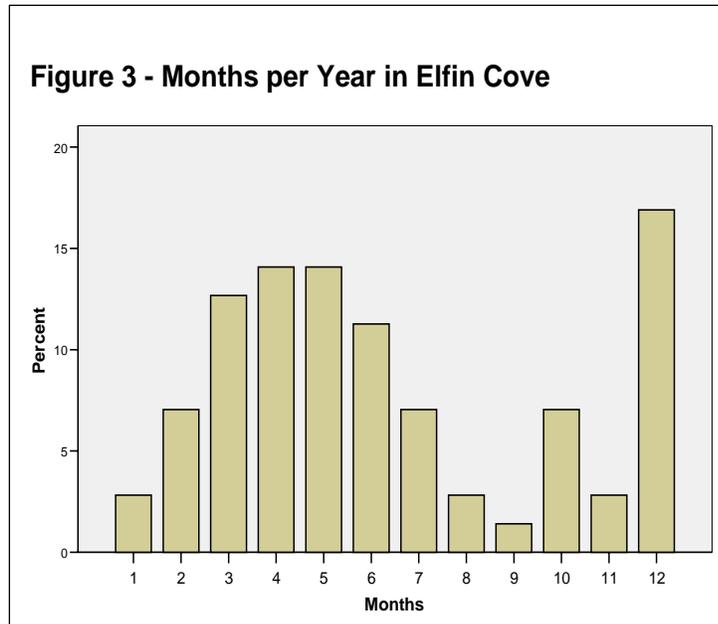
Table 1 - Community Membership

Type	Yes	No
Alaska Resident	72%	28%
CECNPC Member	66%	34%
Property Owner	48%	52%
Elfin Cove Resident	89%	11%

¹ Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census (<http://www.census.gov>)

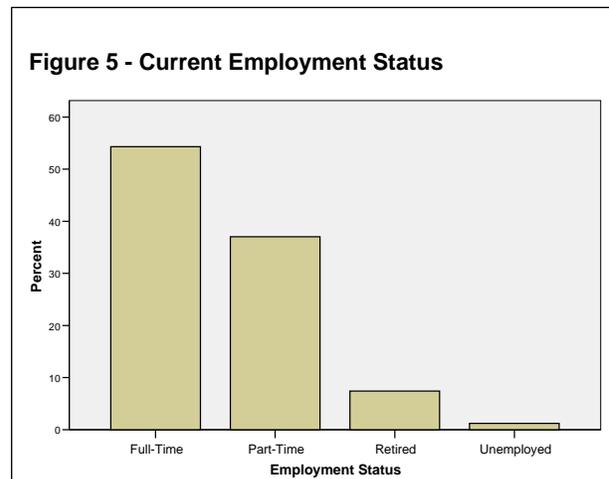
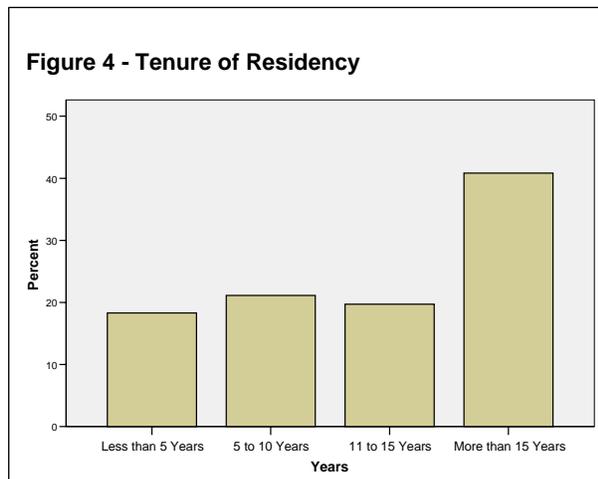
² Source: United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census (<http://www.census.gov>)

On average, residents (i.e., part-time, full-time, or seasonal) spend six months per year in Elfin Cove with 37% percent spending one to four months, 35% spending five to eight months, and 28% spending nine to 12 months per year (Figure 3).



Of noteworthy importance, residents (i.e., part-time, full-time, or seasonal) report long-term residency tenure with an average of 17 years. The majority (61%) report being an Elfin Cove resident for 11 or more years; 41% report more than 15 years of residency. Almost one-fifth (18%) are short-term residents with less than five years in the community (Figure 4).

The overwhelming majority of respondents (91%) are employed either on a full-time (54%) or part-time (37%) basis with only six respondents reporting they are retired (7%) and one respondent claiming to be unemployed (Figure 5).



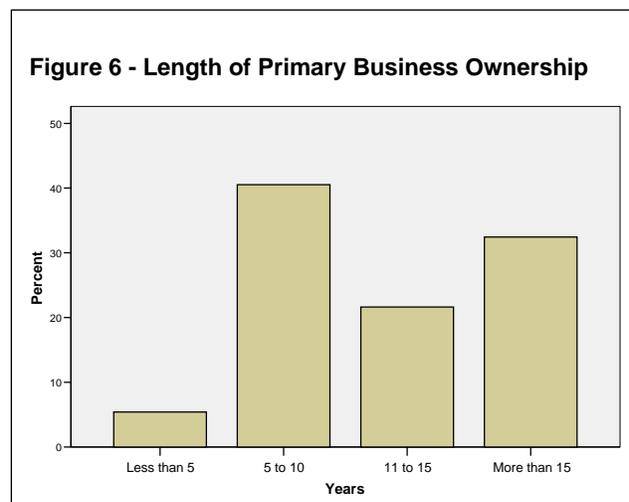
Elfin Cove’s entrepreneurial spirit is high considering 43% of respondents report owning businesses with commercial fishing (36%) and sport fishing or hunting charters (25%) being the most common primary lines of business (Table 2). Only a minority (9%) of respondents report owning a tourist-related enterprise (i.e., accommodations or activity) as a primary business venture; however, this statistic is likely conservative considering sport fishing and hunting charter service can also be considered tourist-related activities. No residents report primary business activities related to timber, mining, national interest, government, education, communications and utilities, health care, independent artist, or finance, insurance and real estate.

Table 2 - Local Business Sectors

Business Sector	Primary	Secondary
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	36%	17%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	25%	6%
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	-----	-----
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	-----	-----
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food service)	6%	35%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	3%	-----
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	-----	-----
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	5%	6%
Construction	3%	-----
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	-----	6%
Wholesale or retail trade	3%	12%
Education	-----	-----
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	11%	-----
Communications or utilities	-----	-----
Health care	-----	-----
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	8%	12%
Independent artist, writer, or craftsperson	-----	6%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	-----	-----

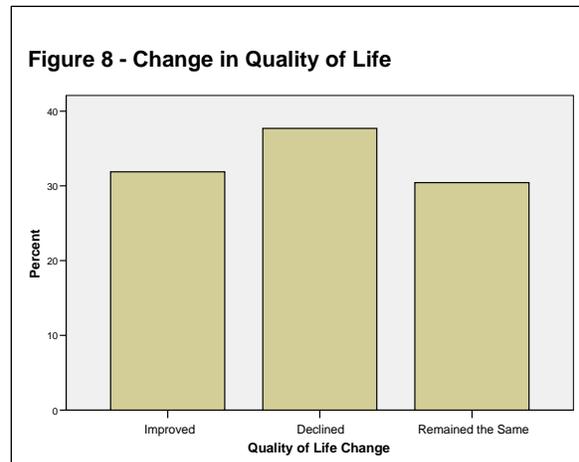
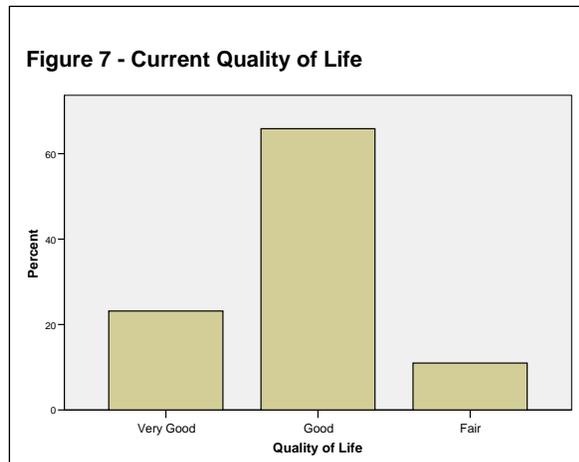
Of noteworthy importance, the majority of business owners (54%) have been operating their primary business for 11 or more years; 32% report owning their primary business for 15 or more years (mean = 16 years) (Figure 6).

Twenty-one percent of respondents report owning a secondary business enterprise with tourist accommodations being the most frequently noted business sector (35%) followed by commercial fisheries (17%), wholesale/retail trade (12%), and professional services (12%). On average, respondents with secondary business ventures have owned them for 12 years with the majority of respondents (60%) owning for 11 or more years.



QUALITY OF LIFE

Overall, 89% of respondents indicate local quality of life is either good (66%) or very good (23%); no respondents report current quality of life is poor (Figure 7). There is far less consensus regarding how quality of life has changed over the past ten years. Approximately one-third report quality of life has either improved (32%), declined (38%), or remained the same (30%) (Figure 8).



Survey results confirm many common beliefs regarding the type of individual that elects to live in rural Southeast Alaska. Elfin Cove community members appreciate Elfin Cove for a wide range of reasons ranging from environmental qualities, lack of government, and social characteristics. Although only selected by a minority, the most frequently cited community attributes considered most important include availability of natural resources (20%), scenic beauty (14%), and lack of an organized borough government (13%) (Table 3). When considering community attributes of secondary importance, scenic beauty (19%) and availability of natural resources (14%) are still the most frequently indicated response. Respondents report friendliness of people (17%), relaxed lifestyle (14%), and personal freedoms (13%) as the third most important community attribute.

Table 3 - Important Community Attributes

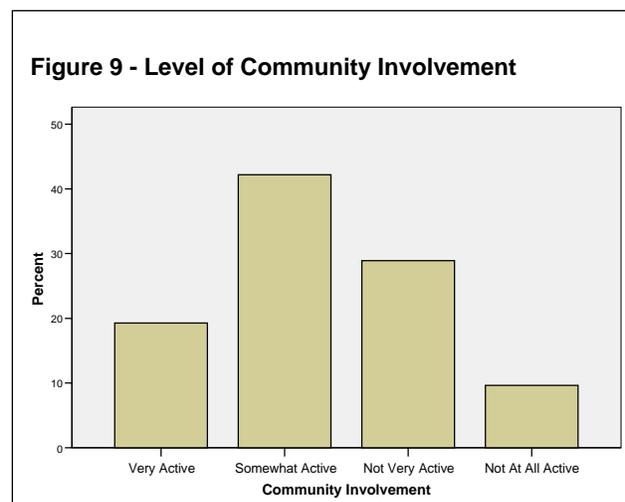
Community Attribute	Most Important	2nd Most Important	3rd Most Important
Friendliness of people	11%	6%	17%
Rural character	10%	10%	4%
Relaxed lifestyle	5%	10%	14%
Remote location	11%	7%	11%
Scenic beauty	14%	19%	11%
Outdoor recreational opportunity	3%	10%	6%
Availability of natural resources (e.g., fish and game)	20%	14%	7%
Safe community	3%	4%	1%
No city government	3%	11%	7%
No organized borough government	13%	4%	9%
Personal freedoms	7%	5%	13%

Community members assign varying levels of importance when considering which community improvement efforts are important to preserving or improving Elfin Cove’s quality of life. The overwhelming majority of respondents indicate building local utilities (92%), encouraging environmental protection (89%), reducing cost of living (87%), improving community appearance (82%), increasing freight delivery frequency (81%), and improving boardwalks (80%) are very or somewhat important to preserving or improving local quality of life (Table 4). Specifically, a majority suggest building local utilities (59%), reducing cost of living (55%), encouraging environmental protection (53%), and improving community appearance (51%) are very important to local quality of life. In contrast, a majority suggest increasing the local population (58%) and improving access to natural areas (55%) are not important.

Table 4 - Importance of Community Improvements

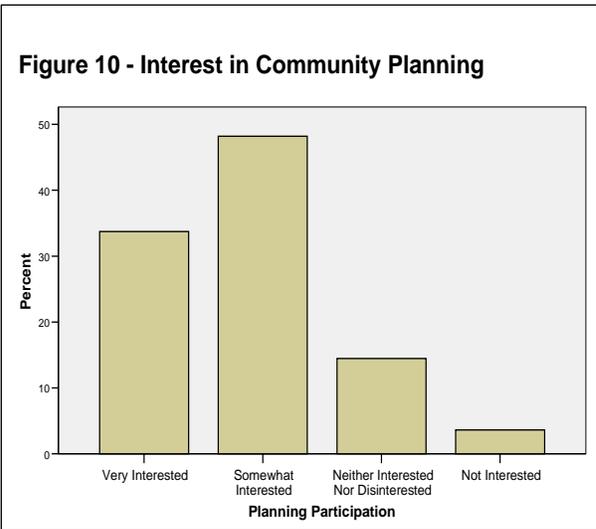
Community Improvement	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Local business development	44%	31%	25%
Promote tourism industry	31%	34%	35%
Diversify Elfin Cove’s economy	32%	47%	21%
Increase local job opportunities	35%	43%	22%
Build local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, incinerator)	59%	33%	8%
Increase frequency of freight deliveries	34%	47%	19%
Improve boardwalk	36%	44%	20%
Increase local population	17%	25%	58%
Promote cooperation with other communities	15%	45%	40%
Encourage environmental protection	53%	36%	11%
Strengthen the community association	30%	43%	27%
Improve access to natural areas	18%	27%	55%
Reduce cost of living (e.g., fuel, utilities, goods)	55%	32%	13%
Improve community appearance	51%	31%	18%
Increase affordable housing opportunities	34%	42%	24%
Keep Elfin Cove unchanged	26%	37%	37%

Level of involvement in local community activities is generally considered an indicator of local community ties, volunteerism, and commitment to community. In general, the majority (61%) of respondents suggest they are either very (19%) or somewhat (42%) active in Elfin Cove community activities (Figure 9). In contrast, only a minority (10%) indicate they are not at all active in local activities.

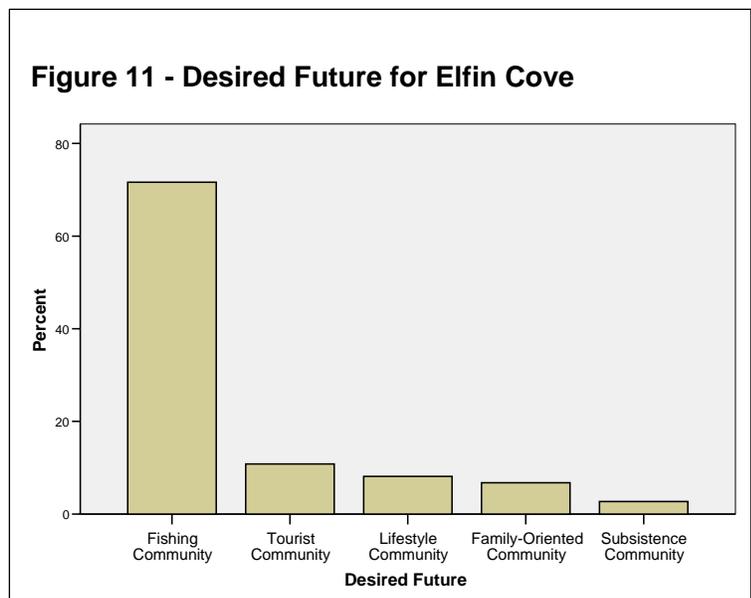


Willingness to participate in community planning efforts generally indicates concern for a community's future and appreciation for community planning. In the case of Elfin Cove, an overwhelming majority (82%) suggest they are either very (34%) or somewhat (48%) willing to participate in planning Elfin Cove's future (Figure 10). In contrast, only a minority (4%) report they are not interested in participating.

It is important to note this particular survey questionnaire item inquires about "interest" in participating in planning activities, which likely includes varying levels of participation. Some respondents may only want to provide indirect input while others may want to have extensive involvement.



The vast majority of respondents share a similar vision for Elfin Cove's future. Not surprisingly, 72% want Elfin Cove to remain a fishing community (e.g., commercial and sport fishing) (Figure 11). The remainder of responses are split between tourist community (11%), lifestyle community (8%), family-oriented community (7%), or subsistence community (3%). No respondents selected retirement or religious community as a desired future for Elfin Cove.



Community members assign varying levels of threat when considering whether certain current events, community conditions, or social dysfunction threaten Elfin Cove's future. Approximately three-quarters or more of respondents indicate high utility rates (86%), failure of community members to work together (79%), inclusion into an organized borough (74%), freight delivery frequency (71%), and lack of adequate health care (70%) severely or somewhat threatens Elfin Cove's future (Table 5). Specifically, a majority suggest high utility rates (54%) and inclusion into an organized

borough government (51%) are severe threats to the community. In contrast, three-quarters or more of respondents suggest not belonging to an organized borough government (82%), local business competition (77%), and people moving into Elfin Cove (76%) does not threaten Elfin Cove's future.

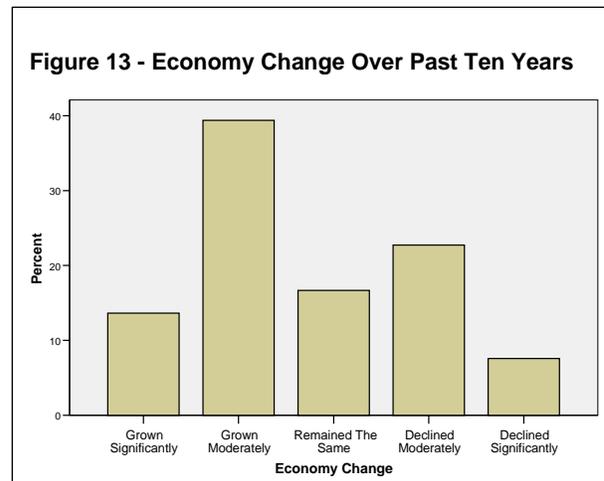
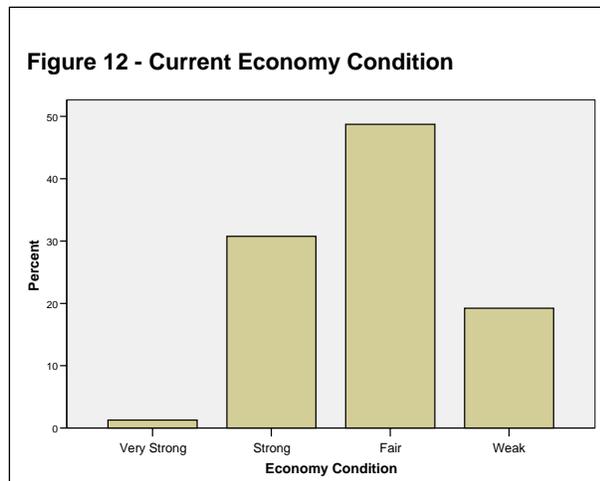
The list of potential threats to Elfin Cove's quality of life is not exhaustive, but rather is an accumulation of community concerns noted within Elfin Cove and across rural Southeast Alaska. Of noteworthy importance, only 12% of respondents provide an additional community threat not already included in the survey.

Table 5 - Threats to Quality of Life

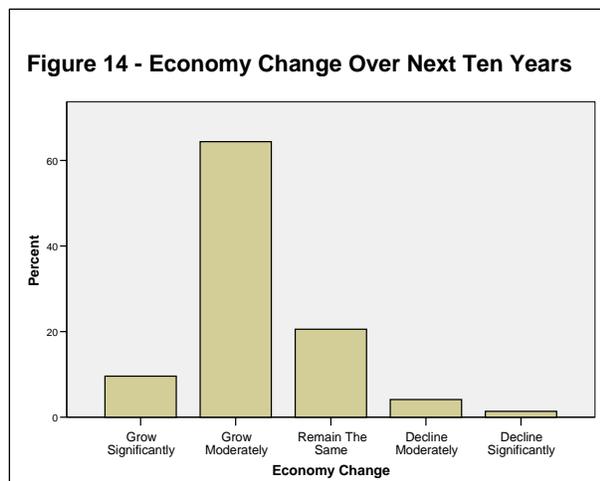
Community Threat	Severely Threatens	Somewhat Threatens	Does Not Threaten
People moving into Elfin Cove	5%	19%	76%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	25%	44%	31%
Lack of city government	5%	27%	68%
Establishment of city government	18%	39%	43%
Lack of an organized borough government	4%	14%	82%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	51%	23%	26%
Tourism industry	25%	21%	54%
Availability of local jobs	17%	33%	50%
Abuse of illegal substances	29%	29%	42%
Abuse of legal substances	26%	30%	44%
Lack of adequate dock	31%	37%	32%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System ferry service	22%	34%	44%
Frequency of regional air service	19%	43%	38%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	54%	32%	14%
Frequency of freight delivery	20%	51%	29%
Lack of adequate health care	19%	51%	30%
Local indifference about community	21%	48%	31%
Failure of community members to work together	41%	38%	21%
Lack of local volunteerism	17%	52%	31%
Real estate market	17%	40%	43%
Local business competition	0%	23%	77%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 ECONOMY PERFORMANCE

Respondents generally believe the local economy is struggling with 68% rating the economy's current condition as fair or weak. (Figure 12). Despite a general lack of confidence in the local economy, over half (53%) indicate the economy has grown moderately or significantly during the past decade while only 30% believe it has declined moderately or significantly (Figure 13).

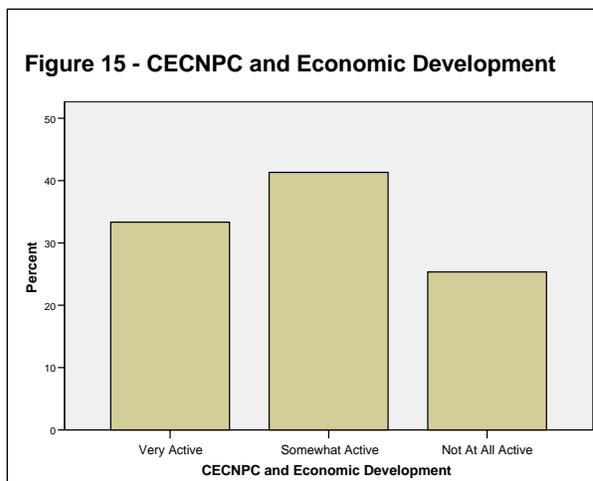


Survey respondents' cautious optimism carries over into expectations regarding future economy performance. In particular, nearly three-quarters (74%) of respondents expect Elfin Cove's economy to grow moderately or significantly during the next decade, while only five percent expect it will decline moderately or significantly (Figure 14).



Community associations typically serve as a focal point for community affairs and activities. They provide a structure for decision-making and planning that enables a community to move forward on projects of local importance. The specific roles, responsibilities, and authority of a community association are at the discretion of community members.

In Elfin Cove, there is significant debate regarding whether the CECNPC should be involved in local economic development activities. While 33% indicate the CECNPC should take a very active role, 25% of respondents do not want the CECNPC to participate in economic development activities (Figure 15). If the community determines the CECNPC should not be involved in economic development activities, an alternative local organization can be incorporated for the purpose of improving the local economy (e.g., visitor association or chamber of commerce).



Looking toward the future, the majority of survey respondents expect commercial fisheries (82%), sport fishing and hunting charter services (64%), communications and utilities (55%), and transportation services (52%) will play a very important role in the local economy. Industries anticipated to be of little or no importance include mining (95%), timber (85%), government (67%), professional services (66%), and construction (57%). In sum, respondents expect business sectors that are important to Elfin Cove's current economy to also play a significant role in the future.

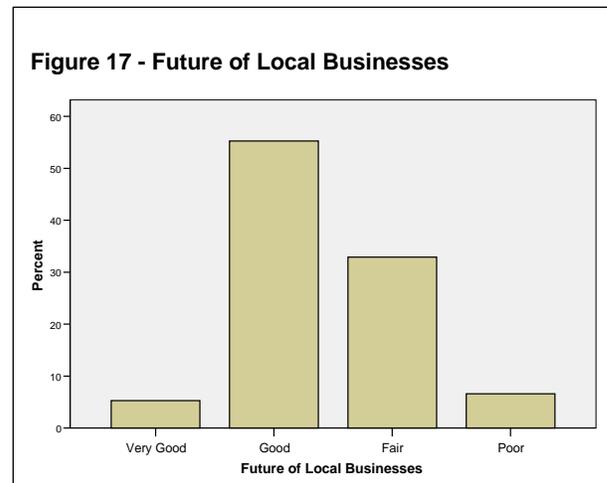
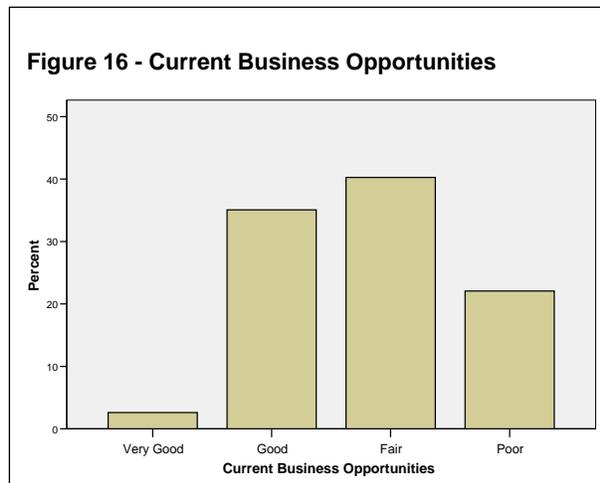
Table 6 - Future Importance of Business Sectors

Business Sector	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Little or No Importance
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	82%	16%	2%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	64%	23%	13%
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	1%	14%	85%
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	0%	5%	95%
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	45%	35%	20%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	44%	26%	30%
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	15%	38%	47%
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	21%	38%	41%
Construction	4%	39%	57%
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	5%	28%	67%
Wholesale or retail trade	28%	51%	21%
Education	30%	28%	42%
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	52%	34%	14%
Communications or utilities	55%	36%	9%
Health care	25%	44%	31%
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	12%	22%	66%
Independent writer, artist, or craftsman	21%	35%	44%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	3%	23%	74%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Survey respondents lack confidence in the local business climate as 62% indicate current business opportunities are either fair or poor. In contrast, only three percent suggest current business opportunities are very good (Figure 16).

Respondents' expectations are significantly more positive regarding the future of local businesses. Sixty percent of respondents suggest the future for Elfin Cove businesses is either good or very good. While 22% report current business opportunities are poor, only seven percent project future business conditions will continue to remain poor (Figure 17).



Survey respondents generally indicate few issues severely threaten the future of Elfin Cove's business community with the majority suggesting only high utility rates (59%) and inclusion into an organized borough government (55%) are significant threats. In contrast, the majority of respondents indicate lack of a borough government (80%), local business competition (79%), people moving into Elfin Cove (73%), lack of city government (65%), quality of labor force (56%), and availability of labor force (51%) do not threaten Elfin Cove's economic future. (Table 7)

Table 7 - Threats to Local Businesses

Community Threat	Severely Threatens	Somewhat Threatens	Does Not Threaten
People moving into Elfin Cove	3%	24%	73%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	27%	46%	27%
Lack of city government	4%	31%	65%
Establishment of city government	17%	43%	40%
Lack of an organized borough government	4%	16%	80%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	55%	22%	23%
Lack of local jobs	25%	49%	26%
Tourism industry	19%	22%	59%
Local business competition	0%	21%	79%
Quality of local labor force	9%	35%	56%
Availability of local labor force	11%	38%	51%
Lack of adequate dock	35%	31%	34%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System service	23%	41%	36%
Regional air service frequency	22%	48%	30%
Freight delivery frequency	26%	44%	30%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	59%	31%	10%
Real estate market	14%	41%	45%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Two of the three survey questionnaire items that compose this section of the report are qualitative in nature. Respondents were queried regarding challenges to local economic development and activities important to supporting economic development. For both open-ended survey questionnaire items, respondents were allowed to provide any qualitative written response. To quantitatively summarize responses, qualitative responses were categorized according to common content. Appendices C and D contain a complete list of verbatim qualitative responses. Lists of response categories are noted below and visually represented in Figures 18 and 19.

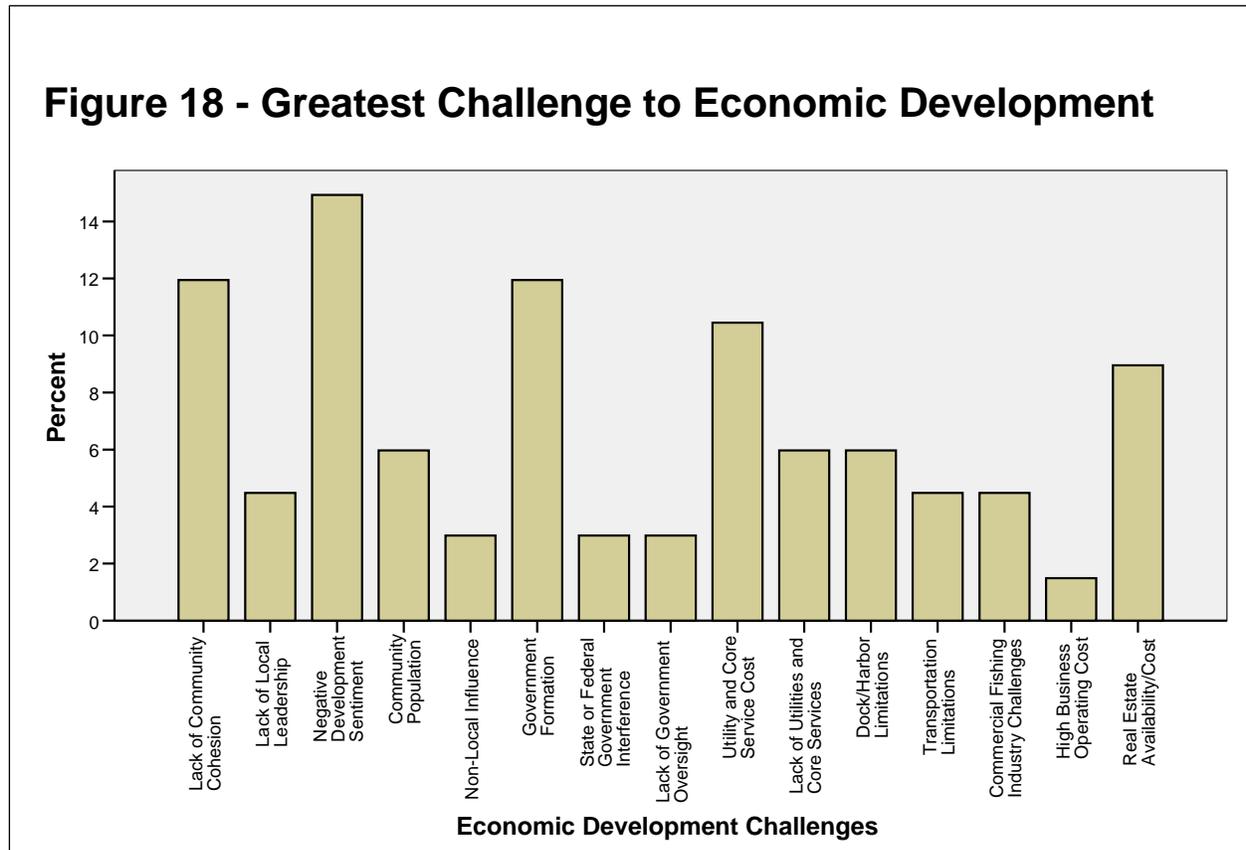
What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove?

- Lack of community cohesion
- Lack of local leadership
- Negative development sentiment
- Community population
- Non-local influence
- Government formation
- State or federal government interference
- Lack of government oversight
- Cost of utilities and core services
- Lack of utilities and core services
- Dock or harbor improvements
- Transportation limitations
- Commercial fishing industry challenges
- High business operating cost
- Real estate availability cost

What are the three most important activities CECNPC could do to support economic development?

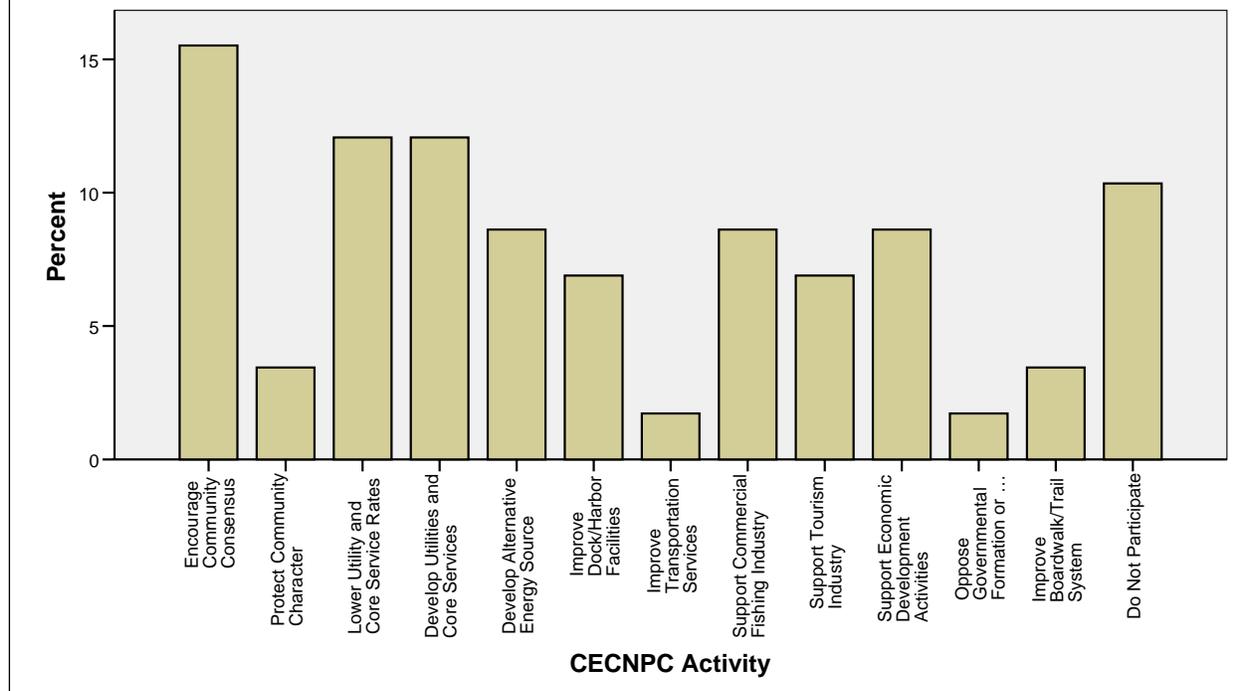
- Encourage community consensus
- Protect community character
- Restrict CECNPC membership
- Lower utility and core services rates
- Develop utilities and core services
- Develop an alternative energy source
- Improve dock and harbor facilities
- Improve transportation services
- Support the commercial fishing industry
- Support the tourism industry
- Support economic development activities
- Oppose government formation or influence
- Improve the boardwalk or trail system
- Do not participate

Respondents provide a wide range of responses regarding challenges to local economic development. Specifically, responses spanned 15 thematic categories with no single category noted by a majority of respondents. Respondents most frequently cite negativity toward development (15%), lack of community cohesion (12%), formation of borough and/or city government (12%), and cost of utilities and core services (10%) as the greatest obstacles to local economic development (Figure 18).



Survey respondents also have a wide variety of opinions regarding the most important activity the CECNPC could pursue to support local economic development. Altogether, responses were aggregated into 14 thematic response categories – none of which were noted by a majority of respondents. Although only noted by a minority, respondents most frequently mention encouraging community consensus (16%), lowering utility rates (12%), and developing utilities and core services (12%) as the most significant activities the CECNPC could pursue to support local economic development. Of noteworthy importance, 10% of respondents steadfastly suggest the CECNPC should not participate in local economic development efforts (Figure 19).

Figure 19 - Most Important Activity to Support Economic Development



Respondents were queried regarding whether the CECNPC should promote, restrict, or take no action in five specific business sectors including commercial fisheries, charter services, tourist accommodations, tourist activities, and wholesale/retail trade (Table 8). A majority of respondents favor the promotion of all business sectors except charter services (41%), with the promotion of commercial fisheries receiving the strongest support (68%). Notably, a significant percentage of respondents (32% to 41%) indicate the CECNPC should take no action in developing any of the listed business sectors.

Table 8 - CECNPC and Economic Development

Business Sector	Promote	Restrict	Take No Action
Commercial Fisheries	68%	0%	32%
Charter Services	41%	18%	41%
Tourist Accommodations	53%	13%	34%
Tourist Activities	54%	12%	34%
Wholesale/Retail Trade	57%	2%	41%

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Rural Southeast Alaska residents enjoy a lifestyle rich in natural resources, environmental beauty, and small village charm. In addition to positive aspects, there are also many challenges rural community residents face largely related to obtaining essential core services and building or maintaining critical physical infrastructure. Not surprisingly, Elfin Cove respondents echo concerns heard across rural Southeast Alaska: physical infrastructure and core services are often lacking and are critical to improving the community (Table 9).

Table 9 - Importance of Infrastructure Projects

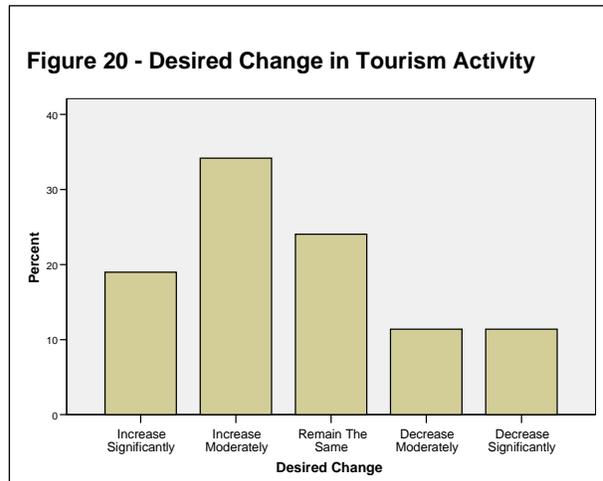
Infrastructure Project	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Improve dock for commercial uses	54%	30%	16%
Improve dock for residential/recreational uses	53%	30%	17%
Improve boat harbor	54%	30%	16%
Improve float plane docking facilities	42%	29%	29%
Improve boardwalks	43%	35%	22%
Improve trail system	22%	35%	43%
Develop water system	48%	35%	17%
Develop wastewater system	58%	26%	16%
Develop trash incinerator service	74%	15%	11%
Develop a recycling program	69%	24%	7%
Develop alternative energy generation	77%	18%	5%
Improve telephone system	28%	33%	39%
Improve internet connectivity	49%	31%	20%
Improve community building	25%	33%	42%
Recruit a village public safety officer	6%	20%	74%
Develop community fire safety office	24%	39%	37%
Develop a visitor center	24%	27%	49%
Develop a local health clinic	22%	46%	32%
Develop public restrooms	36%	40%	24%
Develop a public park	15%	35%	50%

In particular, physical infrastructure related to marine facilities is viewed as very or somewhat important with over three-quarters advocating for improving the boat harbor (84%), a dock for commercial uses (84%), a dock for residential/recreational uses (83%), and boardwalks (78%). An overwhelming majority also indicate developing select core services as very or somewhat important including a recycling program (93%), trash incinerator service (89%), a wastewater utility (84%), and a water utility (83%). Developing alternative energy sources (95%), improving internet connectivity (80%), and developing public restrooms (76%) are also viewed as very or somewhat important by a large majority of respondents.

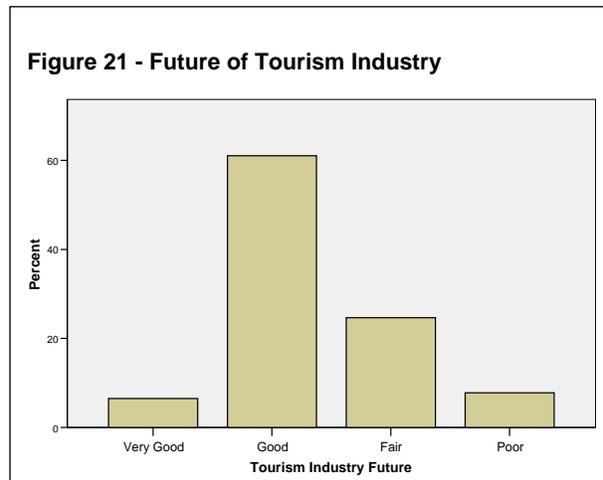
Of noteworthy importance, at least half of all respondents identify developing alternative energy sources (77%), developing a trash incinerator (74%), developing a recycling program (69%), developing a wastewater utility (58%), improving the boat harbor (54%), and improving the dock for commercial uses (54%) and residential/recreational uses (53%) as very important community projects. In contrast, a significant percentage of respondents indicate recruiting a village public safety officer (74%), developing a public park (50%), or developing a visitor center (49%) are not important community projects.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

A consensus is lacking within Elfin Cove regarding whether or not growth in tourism is desirable. Roughly half of survey respondents (53%) want Elfin Cove's tourism industry to increase while the other half (47%) want tourism to remain at its current level (24%) or decrease (23%) (Figure 20).



Despite a split within the community, respondents generally recognize tourism will likely play a significant role in the community's economic future. Over two-thirds of respondents (68%) speculate tourism's future is good, whereas only seven percent believe its future to be poor (Figure 21).



Survey results indicate respondents clearly support certain types of tourist activities more than others. Respondents are more likely to agree with the promotion of sustainable tourist activities, including outdoor recreation (69%) and eco-tourism (68%). Sport fishing charters (61%) are also considered agreeable by the majority. Most respondents disagree with the promotion of hunting charters (57%) in and around Elfin Cove. (Table 10).

Table 10 - Tourism Activity Promotion

Tourism Activity	Agree	Undecided	Disagree
Flightseeing tours	44%	23%	33%
Eco-tourism (e.g., historic, cultural, wildlife)	68%	14%	18%
Sport fishing charters	61%	12%	27%
Hunting charters	26%	17%	57%
Outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, kayaking, etc)	69%	14%	17%
Market Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	47%	16%	37%
Develop an Elfin Cove Visitors Association	45%	17%	38%

Perhaps reflective of Elfin Cove's conflicted relationship with tourism, respondents expect tourism to expand and play a major role in the local economy but do not feel significantly compelled to encourage its development. While considering priority levels for a variety of tourism-related development activities, approximately half (49%) of respondents designate improving the local boardwalk as a high priority project that benefits residents and tourists alike. Developing public facilities (e.g., restrooms and water) is also viewed as a high priority by a significant quantity (43%) of respondents.

Respondents indicate several projects are a low priority including development and promotion of campgrounds (76%), direct solicitation of major tour operators (65%), building a visitor center (59%), and organization of guided community tours (56%) (Table 11).

Table 11 - Tourism Development Activities

Development Effort	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Improve water and/or air access to Elfin Cove	39%	37%	24%
Improve cruise ship docking facilities	24%	31%	45%
Increase shopping opportunities	18%	31%	51%
Increase diversity and availability of food service	28%	37%	35%
Increase diversity and availability of accommodations	17%	39%	44%
Develop and promote campgrounds	10%	14%	76%
Increase diversity and availability of tourist activities	20%	36%	44%
Direct solicitation of major tour operators	12%	23%	65%
Direct solicitation of smaller tour operators	24%	36%	40%
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	22%	29%	49%
Organize guided community tours	16%	28%	56%
Develop Elfin Cove interpretive maps	27%	32%	41%
Improve signage to areas of interest	23%	24%	53%
Develop and promote historical points of interest	28%	30%	42%
Develop and promote cultural points of interest	25%	28%	47%
Develop and promote special community events	20%	27%	53%
Build a visitor center	24%	17%	59%
Improve trails	23%	24%	53%
Improve boardwalk	49%	29%	22%
Develop outdoor recreation facilities	19%	33%	48%
Improve public facilities (e.g., restrooms, water)	43%	38%	19%
Cultivate community character	39%	24%	37%

SUMMARY

On behalf of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation (CECNPC), the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy (DCA) conducted a community survey of local residents, community members, business owners, and fishermen. The purpose of the survey was to gather community input regarding local quality of life, community development priorities, economic development opportunities, and areas of community concern.

The community survey was conducted during May and June of 2006. In total, 143 individuals were identified as Elfin Cove community stakeholders including CECNPC members, Alaska registered voters, Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) telephone directory entries, commercial fishing permit holders, Elfin Cove utility customers, and local business license holders. Eighty-one survey questionnaires were completed and returned yielding a 57% response rate. Of noteworthy importance, CECNPC adopted a broad and inclusive definition of community membership to capture the diversity of local interests and recognize the importance of non-local contributions to the local economy. Consequently, the community survey identified 143 community members while 2000 US Census figures report a local population of 32 residents.

Demographic analysis suggests the median age of respondents is 51 years of age, which is significantly higher than the statewide median age of 32. The majority of respondents (57%) are 45 to 64 years old. Respondent gender reflects a population of three males (60%) for every two females (40%). Seventy-two percent of respondents are Alaska residents, 66% are members of the CECNPC, 48% own property in or around Elfin Cove, and 89% report being a full-time, part-time, or seasonal community resident. Of the respondents that indicate being an Elfin Cove resident, 67% suggest they are part-time or seasonal residents while only 33% report being full-time residents. On average, residents (i.e., part-time, full-time, or seasonal) spend six months per year in Elfin Cove and have been a resident for 17 years. Forty-three percent of respondents own a business with commercial fishing the most common primary line of business (36%).

Eighty-nine percent of respondents indicate local quality of life either is good or very good; however, respondents are almost equally divided when reporting how quality of life has changed over time (e.g., improved, declined, or remained the same). A majority of respondents suggest building local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, and incinerator), encouraging environmental protection, and reducing cost of living are very important to preserving or improving local quality of life. A majority of respondents suggest inclusion into an organized borough government and high utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, and freight) severely threaten local quality of life. Almost three-quarters of respondents (72%) would like to see Elfin Cove remain a fishing community.

An overwhelming majority of respondents agree developing or improving a wide variety of physical infrastructure and core services are important to improving the community including marine facilities, select core services (i.e., trash, water/wastewater, and recycling), and developing an alternative energy source. Alternatively, approximately half or more suggest recruiting a village

public safety officer, building a visitor center, or developing a public park are not important to the community.

In general, respondents are not in agreement regarding whether or not tourism industry growth is desired. Approximately half of respondents (53%) would like to see Elfin Cove's tourism industry increase while the other half would like to see tourism remain at its current level (24%) or decrease (23%). Despite a split within the community, respondents generally recognize tourism will likely play a significant role in the community's economic future. Survey results indicate the majority of respondents support outdoor recreation (69%), eco-tourism (68%), and sport fishing charters (61%). Alternatively, the majority do not support hunting charters in or around Elfin Cove.

Similar to other rural Southeast Alaska communities, Elfin Cove community members appreciate their community for a variety of reasons including environmental beauty, absence of government, and unique social characteristics. Respondents also recognize the importance and challenge of developing and maintaining critical physical infrastructure and core services to support rural lifestyles and local businesses. Respondents overwhelmingly recognize the significant role commercial fishing has played in the community's past, but are also trying to come to terms with the role the tourism industry will likely play in the community's economic future. Community survey results provide a framework for discussion and planning efforts related to enhancing quality of life, improving the local economy, and moving forward with community development projects of local importance. Most importantly, using a survey to gather community input can serve as a foundation for developing locally-appropriate strategies to improve local community socioeconomic conditions.

APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENT AND COVER LETTER

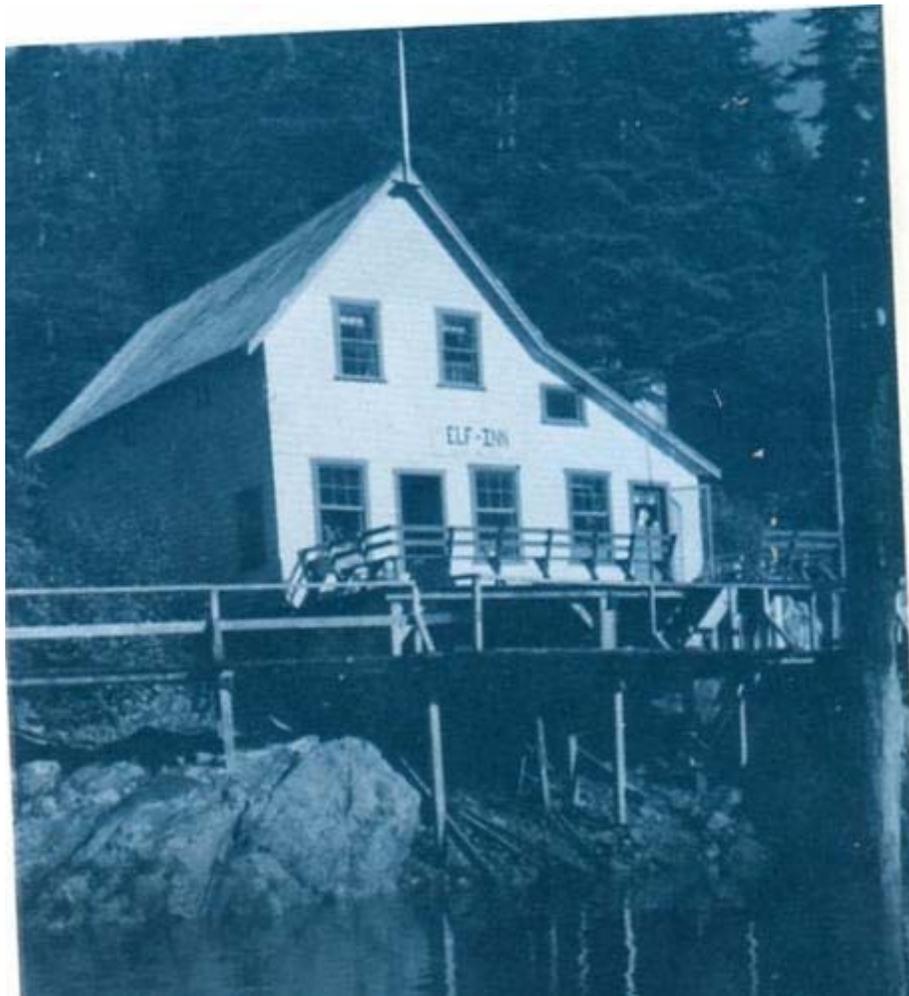


Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association



DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division of Community Advocacy

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor
William C. Noll, Commissioner
Michael Black, Director

May 12, 2006

Dear [Name],

On behalf of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation, the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy is conducting a community survey of local residents, community members, business owners, and fishermen. The purpose of the survey is to gather community input regarding local quality of life, community development priorities, economic development opportunities, and areas of community concern. As a community member, your input is important in evaluating local development opportunities and planning Elfin Cove's future.

The Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation Board would greatly appreciate having you take a few minutes to complete the enclosed survey. ***This community survey is completely confidential.*** Do not sign your name to the survey. The survey contains an identification number for mailing purposes only. The Division of Community Advocacy will analyze the data and report survey findings in aggregate only. Completed surveys will not be available to the general public or any other entity for review. If you would like to receive a summary of survey findings, please check "yes" to the last question on the questionnaire.

Surveys are due to the Alaska Division of Community Advocacy by **June 19, 2006**. Please mail the survey using the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope to Nicole Grewe at the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy, P.O. Box 110809, Juneau, AK, 99811-0809.

Please feel free to contact myself or Eric Caldwell, Research Analyst, directly with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have regarding the community survey. Your participation in this survey is important to planning Elfin Cove's future. Thank you for your time and effort.

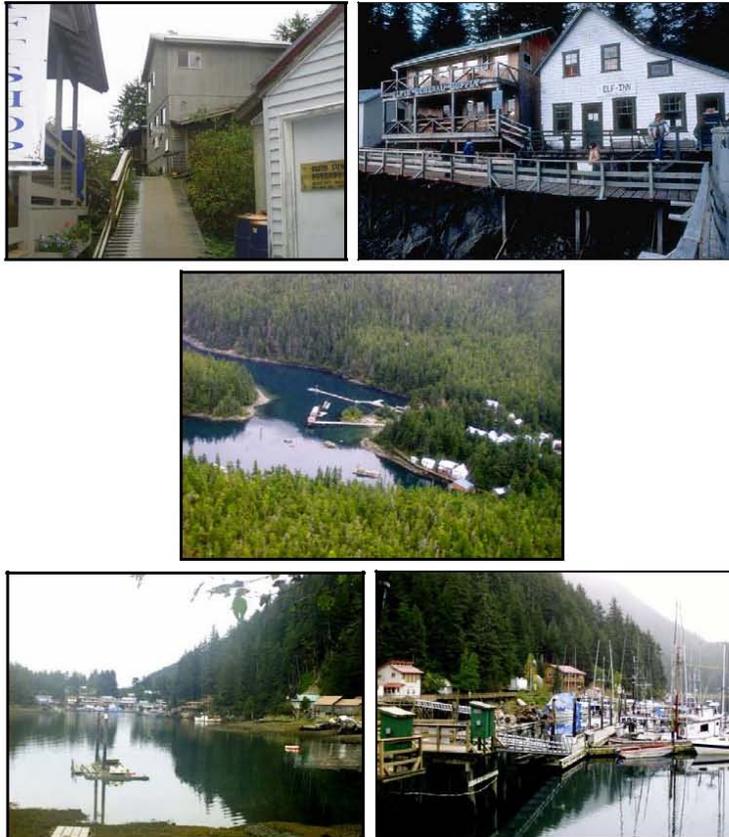
Sincerely,

Nicole Grewe, Ph.D.
Development Specialist
Phone: (907) 465-8249
Email: nicole_grewe@commerce.state.ak.us

Eric Caldwell
Research Analyst
Phone: (907) 465-3961
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P.O. Box 110809, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0809
Telephone: (907) 465-4750 Fax: (907) 465-5085 Text Telephone: (907) 465-5437
Website: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca>

Elfin Cove, Alaska: A Community Survey



Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation

with the assistance of the Division of Community Advocacy



Demographic Information

First, we need to ask a few questions about your background and past experiences. This information will be used for statistical analysis only and will remain strictly confidential.

1. How old are you? _____ years

2. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

3. Are you a resident of Alaska?

- Yes
- No

4. Are you a voting member of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation?

- Yes
- No

5. Do you own property in Elfin Cove?

- Yes
- No

6. What is your current employment status?

- Employed or self-employed on a **full-time** basis
- Employed or self-employed on a **part-time** basis
- Full-time homemaker
- Retired
- Student
- Unemployed
- Other: _____

7. Are you a resident of Elfin Cove (i.e., full time, part time, or seasonal)?

- Yes (go to question 7a) _____
- No (go to question 8)

7a. Which of the following best describes your Elfin Cove residency status?

- Full-time resident
- Part-time resident
- Seasonal resident (summer only)
- Mooring & supplies only (e.g., fisherman)
- Other: _____

7b. Approximately how many months per year do you spend in Elfin Cove?

_____ months

7c. How long have you been an Elfin Cove resident?

_____ years

8. Do you own a business in Elfin Cove?

- Yes (go to question 8a)
- No (go to question 9)



8a. Which industry sector best describes your business? If you currently own more than one business, please indicate whether you consider the business a primary or secondary venture by circling one industry sector in the appropriate primary or secondary business column.

Select only one per column

Industry Sector	Primary Business	Secondary Business
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	1	1
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	2	2
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	3	3
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	4	4
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food service)	5	5
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	6	6
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	7	7
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	8	8
Construction	9	9
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	10	10
Wholesale or retail trade	11	11
Education	12	12
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	13	13
Communications or utilities	14	14
Health care	15	15
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	16	16
Independent artist, writer, or craftsperson	17	17
Finance, insurance, or real estate	18	18
Other (please specify):	19	19

8b. How many years have you owned a business in Elfin Cove? If you currently own more than one business, please specify how many years each business has been in operation.

Primary business: _____ years

Secondary business: _____ years

Quality of Life

9. In general, how would you rate the overall quality of life in Elfin Cove?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

10. How has Elfin Cove's quality of life changed during the past ten years?

- Improved
- Declined
- Remained the same
- Don't know

11. People have different reasons for appreciating a community. Indicate what you like most about Elfin Cove by circling the three most important community attributes in their order of importance (i.e., most important, 2nd most important, 3rd most important attribute).

Select only one per column

<i>Community Attribute</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Friendliness of people	1	2	3
Rural character	1	2	3
Relaxed lifestyle	1	2	3
Remote location	1	2	3
Scenic beauty	1	2	3
Outdoor recreational opportunity	1	2	3
Availability of natural resources (e.g., fish and game)	1	2	3
Safe community	1	2	3
No city government	1	2	3
No organized borough government	1	2	3
Personal freedoms	1	2	3
Other (please specify):	1	2	3

12. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following community improvement efforts are very important, somewhat important, or not important to preserving or improving Elfin Cove's quality of life.

<i>Community Improvement</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
Local business development	1	2	3	4
Promote tourism industry	1	2	3	4
Diversify Elfin Cove's economy	1	2	3	4
Increase local job opportunities	1	2	3	4
Build local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, incinerator)	1	2	3	4
Increase frequency of freight deliveries	1	2	3	4
Improve boardwalk	1	2	3	4
Increase local population	1	2	3	4
Promote cooperation with other communities	1	2	3	4
Encourage environmental protection	1	2	3	4
Strengthen the community association	1	2	3	4
Improve access to natural areas	1	2	3	4
Reduce cost of living (e.g., fuel, utilities, goods)	1	2	3	4
Improve community appearance	1	2	3	4
Increase affordable housing opportunities	1	2	3	4
Keep Elfin Cove unchanged	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

13. In general, how would you describe your level of involvement in Elfin Cove community activities?

- Very active
- Somewhat active
- Not very active
- Not at all active

14. How interested are you in participating in planning Elfin Cove's future?

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Neither interested nor disinterested
- Not interested

15. Which of the following best represents your desired future for Elfin Cove (select only one)?

- Fishing community (e.g., commercial, sport)
- Tourist community (e.g., accommodations, activities)
- Retirement community
- Lifestyle community
- Family-oriented community
- Religious community
- Subsistence community
- Other (please specify): _____

16. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten Elfin Cove's future.

<i>Community Threat</i>	<i>Severely Threatens</i>	<i>Somewhat Threatens</i>	<i>Does Not Threaten</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
People moving into Elfin Cove	1	2	3	4
People moving out of Elfin Cove	1	2	3	4
Lack of city government	1	2	3	4
Establishment of city government	1	2	3	4
Lack of an organized borough government	1	2	3	4
Inclusion into an organized borough government	1	2	3	4
Tourism industry	1	2	3	4
Availability of local jobs	1	2	3	4
Abuse of illegal substances	1	2	3	4
Abuse of legal substances	1	2	3	4
Lack of adequate dock	1	2	3	4
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System ferry service	1	2	3	4
Frequency of regional air service	1	2	3	4
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	1	2	3	4
Frequency of freight delivery	1	2	3	4
Lack of adequate health care	1	2	3	4
Local indifference about community	1	2	3	4
Failure of community members to work together	1	2	3	4
Lack of local volunteerism	1	2	3	4
Real estate market	1	2	3	4
Local business competition	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

Economic Development

Part I: Economy Performance

17. How would you rate the current condition of Elfin Cove's economy?

- Very strong
- Strong
- Fair
- Weak
- Don't know

18. How has Elfin Cove's economy changed during the past ten years?

- Grown significantly
- Grown moderately
- Remained the same
- Declined moderately
- Declined significantly
- Don't know

19. How do you expect Elfin Cove's economy to change during the next ten years?

- Grow significantly
- Grow moderately
- Remain the same
- Decline moderately
- Decline significantly
- Don't know

20. How active should the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation be in local economic development activities?

- Very active
- Somewhat active
- Not at all active
- Don't know

21. Indicate how important the following business sectors are to Elfin Cove's future economy by circling the appropriate number.

Business Sector	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Little or no Importance	Don't Know
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	1	2	3	4
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	1	2	3	4
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	1	2	3	4
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	1	2	3	4
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	1	2	3	4
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	1	2	3	4
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	1	2	3	4
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	1	2	3	4
Construction	1	2	3	4
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	1	2	3	4
Wholesale or retail trade	1	2	3	4
Education	1	2	3	4
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	1	2	3	4
Communications or utilities	1	2	3	4
Health care	1	2	3	4
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	1	2	3	4
Independent writer, artist, or craftsman	1	2	3	4
Finance, insurance, or real estate	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

Part II: Local Business Development

22. How would you rate current business opportunities in Elfin Cove?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

23. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's local businesses?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

24. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten the future of Elfin Cove's business community.

<i>Community Threat</i>	<i>Severely Threatens</i>	<i>Somewhat Threatens</i>	<i>Does Not Threaten</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
People moving into Elfin Cove	1	2	3	4
People moving out of Elfin Cove	1	2	3	4
Lack of city government	1	2	3	4
Establishment of city government	1	2	3	4
Lack of an organized borough government	1	2	3	4
Inclusion into an organized borough government	1	2	3	4
Lack of local jobs	1	2	3	4
Tourism industry	1	2	3	4
Local business competition	1	2	3	4
Quality of local labor force	1	2	3	4
Availability of local labor force	1	2	3	4
Lack of adequate dock	1	2	3	4
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System service	1	2	3	4
Regional air service frequency	1	2	3	4
Freight delivery frequency	1	2	3	4
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	1	2	3	4
Real estate market	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

Part III: Economic Development

25. What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove? Please prioritize your responses.

Greatest challenge: _____

2nd greatest challenge: _____

3rd greatest challenge: _____

26. What are the three most important activities the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation could do to support economic development? Please prioritize your responses.

Most important: _____

2nd most important: _____

3rd most important: _____

27. Indicate whether the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation should promote, restrict, or take no action in developing the following business sectors by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Business Sector</i>	<i>Promote</i>	<i>Restrict</i>	<i>Take No Action</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	1	2	3	4
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	1	2	3	4
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	1	2	3	4
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	1	2	3	4
Wholesale or retail trade	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

Infrastructure Development

28. Indicate how important the following infrastructure projects are to Elfin Cove by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Infrastructure Project</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
Improve dock for commercial uses	1	2	3	4
Improve dock for residential/recreational uses	1	2	3	4
Improve boat harbor	1	2	3	4
Improve float plane docking facilities	1	2	3	4
Improve boardwalks	1	2	3	4
Improve trail system	1	2	3	4
Develop water system	1	2	3	4
Develop wastewater system	1	2	3	4
Develop trash incinerator service	1	2	3	4
Develop a recycling program	1	2	3	4
Develop alternative energy generation	1	2	3	4
Improve telephone system	1	2	3	4
Improve internet connectivity	1	2	3	4
Improve community building	1	2	3	4
Recruit a village public safety officer	1	2	3	4
Develop community fire safety office	1	2	3	4
Develop a visitor center	1	2	3	4
Develop a local health clinic	1	2	3	4
Develop public restrooms	1	2	3	4
Develop a public park	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

Tourism Development

29. Do you want Elfin Cove's tourism-related activity to increase, decrease, or remain the same?

- Increase significantly
- Increase moderately
- Remain the same
- Decrease moderately
- Decrease significantly
- Don't know

30. If Elfin Cove pursues development of the tourism industry, are the following development efforts a high, medium, or low priority?

<i>Development Effort</i>	<i>High Priority</i>	<i>Medium Priority</i>	<i>Low Priority</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
Improve water and/or air access to Elfin Cove	1	2	3	4
Improve cruise ship docking facilities	1	2	3	4
Increase shopping opportunities	1	2	3	4
Increase diversity and availability of food service	1	2	3	4
Increase diversity and availability of accommodations	1	2	3	4
Develop and promote campgrounds	1	2	3	4
Increase diversity and availability of tourist activities	1	2	3	4
Direct solicitation of major tour operators	1	2	3	4
Direct solicitation of smaller tour operators	1	2	3	4
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	1	2	3	4
Organize guided community tours	1	2	3	4
Develop Elfin Cove interpretive maps	1	2	3	4
Improve signage to areas of interest	1	2	3	4
Develop and promote historical points of interest	1	2	3	4
Develop and promote cultural points of interest	1	2	3	4
Develop and promote special community events	1	2	3	4
Build a visitor center	1	2	3	4
Improve trails	1	2	3	4
Improve boardwalk	1	2	3	4
Develop outdoor recreation facilities	1	2	3	4
Improve public facilities (e.g., restrooms, water)	1	2	3	4
Cultivate community character	1	2	3	4
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4

31. Do you agree or disagree with promoting the following tourism-related activities in Elfin Cove?

<i>Tourism Activity</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Undecided</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
Flightseeing tours	1	2	3	4	5
Eco-tourism (e.g., historic, cultural, wildlife)	1	2	3	4	5
Sport fishing charters	1	2	3	4	5
Hunting charters	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, kayaking, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Market Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	1	2	3	4	5
Develop an Elfin Cove Visitors Association	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please specify):	1	2	3	4	5

32. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's tourism industry?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

33. Would you like to receive a summary of survey results?

- Yes
- No

34. If you have additional comments regarding this survey or the future of Elfin Cove, please include them below or on an attached sheet.

This community survey is being conducted by the Alaska Department of Commerce, Division of Community Advocacy on behalf of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation. If you have any questions or comments regarding the survey, please contact:

Nicole Grewe, Ph.D., Development Specialist, (907) 465-8249, nicole_grewe@commerce.state.ak.us

Eric Caldwell, Research Analyst, (907) 465-3961, eric_caldwell@commerce.state.ak.us

APPENDIX B: FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS



Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

Demographic Information

1. **How old are you?** Mean = **48 years**, Median = **51 years**

2. **What is your gender?**

- 60%** Male
- 40%** Female

3. **Are you a resident of Alaska?**

- 72%** Yes
- 28%** No

4. **Are you a voting member of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation?**

- 64%** Yes
- 33%** No
- 3%** Missing

5. **Do you own property in Elfin Cove?**

- 48%** Yes
- 52%** No

6. **What is your current employment status?**

- 53%** Employed or self-employed on a **full-time** basis
- 36%** Employed or self-employed on a **part-time** basis
- 0%** Full-time homemaker
- 8%** Retired
- 0%** Student
- 1%** Unemployed
- 1%** Other
- 1%** Missing

7. **Are you a resident of Elfin Cove (i.e., full time, part time, or seasonal)?**

- 88%** Yes (go to question 7a)
- 11%** No (go to question 8)
- 1%** Missing

7a. **Which of the following best describes your Elfin Cove residency status?**

- 29%** Full-time resident
- 20%** Part-time resident
- 39%** Seasonal resident (summer only)
- 0%** Mooring & supplies only
- 1%** Other
- 11%** Missing

7b. **Approximately how many months per year do you spend in Elfin Cove?**

Mean = **6 months**, Median = **5 months**
Missing = **15%**

7c. **How long have you been an Elfin Cove resident?**

Mean = **17 years**, Median = **12 years**
Missing = **15%**

8. Do you own a business in Elfin Cove?

- 43%** Yes (go to question 8a) 
- 54%** No (go to question 9)
- 3%** Missing

8a. Which industry sector best describes your business? If you currently own more than one business, please indicate whether you consider the business a primary or secondary venture by circling one industry sector in the appropriate primary or secondary business column.

Industry Sector	Primary Business	Secondary Business
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	16%	3%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	11%	1%
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	----	----
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	----	----
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food service)	2%	7%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	1%	----
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	----	----
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	2%	1%
Construction	1%	----
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	----	1%
Wholesale or retail trade	1%	3%
Education	----	----
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	5%	----
Communications or utilities	----	----
Health care	----	----
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	4%	3%
Independent artist, writer, or craftsperson	----	1%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	----	----
Missing	57%	80%

8b. How many years have you owned a business in Elfin Cove? If you currently own more than one business, please specify how many years each business has been in operation.

Primary business: Mean = **16 years**, Median = **11 years**, Missing = **55%**
 Secondary business: Mean = **12 years**, Median = **12 years**, Missing = **76%**

Quality of Life

9. In general, how would you rate the overall quality of life in Elfin Cove?

- 23%** Very good
- 65%** Good
- 11%** Fair
- 0%** Poor
- 1%** Don't know

10. How has Elfin Cove's quality of life changed during the past ten years?

- 27%** Improved
- 31%** Declined
- 25%** Remained the same
- 16%** Don't know
- 1%** Missing

11. People have different reasons for appreciating a community. Indicate what you like most about Elfin Cove by circling the three most important community attributes in their order of importance (i.e., most important, 2nd most important, 3rd most important attribute).

<i>Community Attribute</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Friendliness of people	10%	5%	14%
Rural character	9%	8%	4%
Relaxed lifestyle	5%	8%	12%
Remote location	10%	6%	10%
Scenic beauty	12%	17%	10%
Outdoor recreational opportunity	2%	8%	5%
Availability of natural resources (e.g., fish and game)	17%	12%	6%
Safe community	2%	4%	1%
No city government	2%	10%	6%
No organized borough government	11%	4%	7%
Personal freedoms	6%	5%	11%
Other	2%	0%	1%
Missing	12%	13%	13%

12. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following community improvement efforts are very important, somewhat important, or not important to preserving or improving Elfin Cove's quality of life.

<i>Community Improvement</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Local business development	42%	29%	24%	3%	2%
Promote tourism industry	29%	33%	34%	2%	2%
Diversify Elfin Cove's economy	30%	45%	19%	4%	2%
Increase local job opportunities	34%	41%	21%	2%	2%
Build local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, incinerator)	56%	31%	7%	2%	4%
Increase frequency of freight deliveries	32%	46%	18%	0%	4%
Improve boardwalk	35%	42%	19%	1%	3%
Increase local population	16%	23%	54%	5%	2%
Promote cooperation with other communities	13%	41%	36%	6%	4%
Encourage environmental protection	52%	35%	11%	0%	2%
Strengthen the community association	27%	37%	24%	8%	4%
Improve access to natural areas	17%	24%	50%	7%	2%
Reduce cost of living (e.g., fuel, utilities, goods)	52%	30%	12%	4%	2%
Improve community appearance	50%	30%	18%	0%	2%
Increase affordable housing opportunities	33%	40%	23%	2%	2%
Keep Elfin Cove unchanged	24%	35%	35%	4%	2%
Other	15%	1%	0%	1%	83%

13. In general, how would you describe your level of involvement in Elfin Cove community activities?

- 19% Very active
- 42% Somewhat active
- 29% Not very active
- 10% Not at all active

14. How interested are you in participating in planning Elfin Cove's future?

- 34% Very interested
- 48% Somewhat interested
- 14% Neither interested nor disinterested
- 4% Not interested

15. Which of the following best represents your desired future for Elfin Cove (select only one)?

- 64%** Fishing community (e.g., commercial, sport)
- 10%** Tourist community (e.g., accommodations, activities)
- 0%** Retirement community
- 7%** Lifestyle community
- 6%** Family-oriented community
- 0%** Religious community
- 2%** Subsistence community
- 6%** Other
- 5%** Missing

16. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten Elfin Cove's future.

<i>Community Threat</i>	<i>Severely Threatens</i>	<i>Somewhat Threatens</i>	<i>Does Not Threaten</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
People moving into Elfin Cove	5%	17%	70%	6%	2%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	24%	41%	29%	4%	2%
Lack of city government	5%	24%	60%	7%	4%
Establishment of city government	16%	35%	39%	8%	2%
Lack of an organized borough government	3%	12%	70%	10%	5%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	45%	20%	23%	7%	5%
Tourism industry	24%	21%	52%	1%	2%
Availability of local jobs	16%	30%	46%	3%	5%
Abuse of illegal substances	25%	25%	36%	10%	4%
Abuse of legal substances	23%	26%	40%	7%	4%
Lack of adequate dock	29%	34%	29%	5%	3%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System ferry service	21%	32%	41%	4%	2%
Frequency of regional air service	18%	41%	36%	3%	2%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	52%	31%	13%	1%	3%
Frequency of freight delivery	19%	50%	28%	1%	2%
Lack of adequate health care	18%	48%	29%	3%	2%
Local indifference about community	19%	44%	29%	4%	4%
Failure of community members to work together	39%	35%	19%	5%	2%
Lack of local volunteerism	16%	49%	29%	4%	2%
Real estate market	13%	32%	35%	16%	4%
Local business competition	0%	22%	71%	5%	2%
Other	11%	1%	0%	1%	87%

Economic Development

Part I: Economy Performance

17. How would you rate the current condition of Elfin Cove's economy?

- 1% Very strong
- 29% Strong
- 46% Fair
- 18% Weak
- 6% Don't know

18. How has Elfin Cove's economy changed during the past ten years?

- 11% Grown significantly
- 31% Grown moderately
- 13% Remained the same
- 18% Declined moderately
- 6% Declined significantly
- 20% Don't know
- 1% Missing

19. How do you expect Elfin Cove's economy to change during the next ten years?

- 8% Grow significantly
- 57% Grow moderately
- 18% Remain the same
- 4% Decline moderately
- 1% Decline significantly
- 11% Don't know
- 1% Missing

20. How active should the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation be in local economic development activities?

- 30% Very active
- 37% Somewhat active
- 23% Not at all active
- 10% Don't know

21. Indicate how important the following business sectors are to Elfin Cove's future economy by circling the appropriate number.

Business Sector	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Little or No Importance	Don't Know	Missing
Commercial fisheries	81%	16%	2%	0%	1%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	63%	23%	13%	0%	1%
Timber	1%	14%	83%	1%	1%
Mining	0%	5%	93%	1%	1%
Tourist accommodations	45%	35%	19%	0%	1%
Tourist activities	44%	25%	29%	0%	2%
National interest	15%	36%	45%	2%	2%
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	19%	36%	39%	5%	1%
Construction	4%	36%	53%	5%	2%
Government	5%	25%	60%	7%	3%
Wholesale or retail trade	27%	49%	21%	2%	1%
Education	29%	27%	41%	2%	1%
Transportation	51%	34%	13%	1%	1%
Communications or utilities	54%	35%	9%	1%	1%
Health care	24%	44%	30%	1%	1%
Professional services	11%	21%	61%	6%	1%
Independent writer, artist, or craftsman	21%	34%	42%	2%	1%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	2%	22%	70%	5%	1%
Other	1%	0%	1%	0%	98%

Part II: Local Business Development

22. How would you rate current business opportunities in Elfin Cove?

- 2% Very good
- 33% Good
- 38% Fair
- 20% Poor
- 6% Don't know
- 1% Missing

23. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's local businesses?

- 5%** Very good
- 51%** Good
- 30%** Fair
- 6%** Poor
- 7%** Don't know
- 1%** Missing

24. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten the future of Elfin Cove's business community.

Community Threat	Severely Threatens	Somewhat Threatens	Does Not Threaten	Don't Know	Missing
People moving into Elfin Cove	2%	23%	70%	4%	1%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	27%	44%	27%	1%	1%
Lack of city government	4%	29%	61%	5%	1%
Establishment of city government	16%	40%	37%	6%	1%
Lack of an organized borough government	4%	14%	74%	6%	2%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	48%	19%	21%	7%	5%
Lack of local jobs	23%	46%	24%	5%	2%
Tourism industry	18%	22%	57%	2%	1%
Local business competition	0%	19%	75%	4%	2%
Quality of local labor force	8%	33%	53%	5%	1%
Availability of local labor force	11%	36%	48%	3%	2%
Lack of adequate dock	33%	29%	31%	6%	1%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System service	22%	38%	34%	5%	1%
Regional air service frequency	22%	47%	29%	0%	2%
Freight delivery frequency	25%	44%	30%	0%	1%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	57%	30%	10%	1%	2%
Real estate market	12%	35%	39%	12%	2%
Other	5%	0%	0%	0%	95%

Part III: Economic Development

25. What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove? Please prioritize your responses.

Challenge to Economic Development	Greatest Challenge	2nd Greatest Challenge	3rd Greatest Challenge
Lack of Community Cohesion	10%	8%	6%
Lack of Local Leadership	4%	2%	0%
Negative Development Sentiment	12%	5%	4%
Community Population	5%	5%	6%
Non-Local Influence	2%	2%	2%
Government Formation	10%	4%	2%
State or Federal Government Interference	2%	1%	2%
Lack of Government Oversight	2%	2%	1%
Utility and Core Service Cost	8%	5%	6%
Lack of Utilities and Core Services	5%	11%	4%
Dock/Harbor Limitations	5%	1%	4%
Transportation Limitations	4%	6%	10%
Commercial Fishing Industry Challenges	4%	6%	1%
High Business Operating Cost	1%	4%	0%
Real Estate Availability/Cost	7%	4%	2%
Other	8%	6%	4%
Missing	11%	28%	46%

26. What are the three most important activities the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation could do to support economic development? Please prioritize your responses.

<i>Economic Development Activity</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Encourage Community Consensus	11%	5%	0%
Protect Community Character	3%	4%	4%
Restrict CECNPC Membership	0%	1%	2%
Lower Utility and Core Service Rates	8%	5%	1%
Develop Utilities and Core Services	8%	4%	4%
Develop Alternative Energy Source	6%	0%	1%
Improve Dock/Harbor Facilities	5%	5%	3%
Improve Transportation Services	1%	8%	2%
Support Commercial Fishing Industry	6%	5%	1%
Support Tourism Industry	5%	1%	2%
Support Economic Development Activities	6%	7%	5%
Oppose Governmental Formation or Influence	1%	0%	1%
Improve Boardwalk/Trail System	3%	1%	0%
Do Not Participate	7%	2%	1%
Other	6%	6%	10%
Missing	24%	46%	63%

27. Indicate whether the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation should promote, restrict, or take no action in developing the following business sectors by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Business Sector</i>	<i>Promote</i>	<i>Restrict</i>	<i>Take No Action</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	65%	0%	31%	4%	0%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	39%	17%	39%	3%	2%
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	51%	12%	32%	4%	1%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	52%	12%	32%	4%	0%
Wholesale or retail trade	54%	2%	39%	4%	1%
Other	2%	2%	1%	0%	95%

Infrastructure Development

28. Indicate how important the following infrastructure projects are to Elfin Cove by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Infrastructure Project</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve dock for commercial uses	53%	29%	16%	2%	0%
Improve dock for residential/recreational uses	50%	29%	17%	4%	0%
Improve boat harbor	53%	29%	16%	2%	0%
Improve float plane docking facilities	41%	29%	29%	1%	0%
Improve boardwalks	42%	35%	22%	1%	0%
Improve trail system	22%	34%	42%	2%	0%
Develop water system	45%	33%	16%	3%	3%
Develop wastewater system	55%	26%	16%	2%	1%
Develop trash incinerator service	74%	15%	10%	1%	0%
Develop a recycling program	66%	23%	7%	1%	3%
Develop alternative energy generation	75%	18%	5%	2%	0%
Improve telephone system	27%	31%	37%	4%	1%
Improve internet connectivity	47%	30%	19%	3%	1%
Improve community building	23%	31%	40%	5%	1%
Recruit a village public safety officer	6%	19%	71%	4%	0%
Develop community fire safety office	23%	37%	35%	4%	1%
Develop a visitor center	23%	27%	47%	2%	1%
Develop a local health clinic	22%	46%	31%	1%	0%
Develop public restrooms	35%	40%	24%	1%	0%
Develop a public park	15%	35%	49%	1%	0%
Other	6%	1%	0%	0%	93%

Tourism Development

29. Do you want Elfin Cove's tourism-related activity to increase, decrease, or remain the same?

- 18%** Increase significantly
- 33%** Increase moderately
- 23%** Remain the same
- 11%** Decrease moderately
- 11%** Decrease significantly
- 3%** Don't know
- 1%** Missing

30. If Elfin Cove pursues development of the tourism industry, are the following development efforts a high, medium, or low priority?

<i>Development Effort</i>	<i>High Priority</i>	<i>Medium Priority</i>	<i>Low Priority</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve water and/or air access to Elfin Cove	36%	35%	23%	1%	5%
Improve cruise ship docking facilities	23%	29%	42%	2%	4%
Increase shopping opportunities	17%	30%	48%	1%	4%
Increase diversity and availability of food service	26%	35%	34%	1%	4%
Increase diversity and availability of accommodations	16%	37%	42%	1%	4%
Develop and promote campgrounds	10%	13%	73%	0%	4%
Increase diversity and availability of tourist activities	19%	34%	42%	0%	5%
Direct solicitation of major tour operators	11%	22%	60%	3%	4%
Direct solicitation of smaller tour operators	23%	34%	37%	2%	4%
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	20%	26%	46%	4%	4%
Organize guided community tours	16%	26%	54%	0%	4%
Develop Elfin Cove interpretive maps	25%	30%	39%	2%	4%
Improve signage to areas of interest	22%	22%	49%	3%	4%
Develop and promote historical points of interest	27%	29%	40%	1%	3%
Develop and promote cultural points of interest	24%	26%	45%	1%	4%
Develop and promote special community events	19%	25%	51%	1%	4%
Build a visitor center	23%	16%	55%	2%	4%
Improve trails	22%	23%	51%	1%	3%
Improve boardwalk	47%	28%	22%	0%	3%
Develop outdoor recreation facilities	18%	31%	46%	1%	4%
Improve public facilities (e.g., restrooms, water)	41%	36%	18%	1%	4%
Cultivate community character	36%	22%	34%	2%	6%
Other	4%	0%	1%	0%	95%

31. Do you agree or disagree with promoting the following tourism-related activities in Elfin Cove?

<i>Tourism Activity</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Undecided</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Flightseeing tours	18%	25%	23%	16%	17%	1%
Eco-tourism (e.g., historic, cultural, wildlife)	28%	39%	13%	14%	4%	2%
Sport fishing charters	33%	28%	12%	19%	7%	1%
Hunting charters	7%	19%	17%	36%	21%	0%
Outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, kayaking, etc)	30%	39%	14%	16%	1%	0%
Market Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	21%	26%	16%	24%	13%	0%
Develop an Elfin Cove Visitors Association	22%	23%	17%	24%	14%	0%
Other	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	98%

32. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's tourism industry?

- 6% Very good
- 57% Good
- 23% Fair
- 7% Poor
- 7% Don't know

33. Would you like to receive a summary of survey results?

- 82% Yes
- 18% No

34. If you have additional comments regarding this survey or the future of Elfin Cove, please include them below or on an attached sheet.

- 39% Additional Comments Attached
- 61% No Additional Comments

APPENDIX C: FULL-TIME RESIDENT FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS



Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

Demographic Information

1. **How old are you?** Mean = 55 years, Median = 54 years

2. **What is your gender?**

- 63% Male
- 37% Female

3. **Are you a resident of Alaska?**

- 100% Yes
- 0% No

4. **Are you a voting member of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation?**

- 92% Yes
- 4% No
- 4% Missing

5. **Do you own property in Elfin Cove?**

- 63% Yes
- 37% No

6. **What is your current employment status?**

- 50% Employed or self-employed on a **full-time** basis
- 33% Employed or self-employed on a **part-time** basis
- 0% Full-time homemaker
- 13% Retired
- 0% Student
- 4% Unemployed
- 0% Other

7. **Are you a resident of Elfin Cove (i.e., full time, part time, or seasonal)?**

- 100% Yes (go to question 7a)
- 0% No (go to question 8)

7a. **Which of the following best describes your Elfin Cove residency status?**

- 100% Full-time resident
- 0% Part-time resident
- 0% Seasonal resident (summer only)
- 0% Mooring & supplies only
- 0% Other

7b. **Approximately how many months per year do you spend in Elfin Cove?**

Mean = 11 months, Median = 12 months

7c. **How long have you been an Elfin Cove resident?**

Mean = 21 years, Median = 17 years

8. Do you own a business in Elfin Cove?

- 67%** Yes (go to question 8a) 
- 33%** No (go to question 9)

8a. Which industry sector *best describes* your business? If you currently own more than one business, please indicate whether you consider the business a primary or secondary venture by circling one industry sector in the appropriate primary or secondary business column.

Industry Sector	Primary Business	Secondary Business
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	21%	----
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	9%	----
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	----	----
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	----	----
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food service)	4%	17%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	4%	----
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	----	----
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	4%	4%
Construction	----	----
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	----	4%
Wholesale or retail trade	4%	4%
Education	----	----
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	17%	----
Communications or utilities	----	----
Health care	----	----
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	4%	9%
Independent artist, writer, or craftsperson	----	4%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	----	----
Missing	33%	58%

8b. How many years have you owned a business in Elfin Cove? If you currently own more than one business, please specify how many years each business has been in operation.

Primary business: Mean = **18 years**, Median = **12 years**, Missing = **33%**
 Secondary business: Mean = **14 years**, Median = **13 years**, Missing = **58%**

Quality of Life

9. In general, how would you rate the overall quality of life in Elfin Cove?

- 29%** Very good
- 71%** Good
- 0%** Fair
- 0%** Poor
- 0%** Don't know

10. How has Elfin Cove's quality of life changed during the past ten years?

- 33%** Improved
- 29%** Declined
- 21%** Remained the same
- 13%** Don't know
- 4%** Missing

11. People have different reasons for appreciating a community. Indicate what you like most about Elfin Cove by circling the three most important community attributes in their order of importance (i.e., most important, 2nd most important, 3rd most important attribute).

<i>Community Attribute</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Friendliness of people	0%	4%	25%
Rural character	13%	8%	0%
Relaxed lifestyle	4%	8%	4%
Remote location	17%	8%	8%
Scenic beauty	0%	4%	8%
Outdoor recreational opportunity	4%	8%	4%
Availability of natural resources (e.g., fish and game)	4%	17%	13%
Safe community	8%	0%	4%
No city government	4%	13%	4%
No organized borough government	21%	9%	4%
Personal freedoms	8%	4%	9%
Other	0%	0%	0%
Missing	17%	17%	17%

12. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following community improvement efforts are very important, somewhat important, or not important to preserving or improving Elfin Cove's quality of life.

<i>Community Improvement</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Local business development	50%	21%	21%	0%	8%
Promote tourism industry	29%	33%	29%	0%	9%
Diversify Elfin Cove's economy	29%	38%	21%	4%	8%
Increase local job opportunities	46%	29%	13%	4%	8%
Build local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, incinerator)	54%	29%	8%	0%	9%
Increase frequency of freight deliveries	33%	38%	21%	0%	8%
Improve boardwalk	38%	38%	16%	0%	8%
Increase local population	21%	21%	46%	4%	8%
Promote cooperation with other communities	13%	38%	33%	8%	8%
Encourage environmental protection	29%	42%	21%	0%	8%
Strengthen the community association	12%	50%	21%	4%	13%
Improve access to natural areas	8%	25%	59%	0%	8%
Reduce cost of living (e.g., fuel, utilities, goods)	50%	34%	8%	0%	8%
Improve community appearance	54%	21%	17%	0%	8%
Increase affordable housing opportunities	29%	38%	25%	0%	8%
Keep Elfin Cove unchanged	25%	25%	42%	0%	8%
Other	17%	0%	0%	0%	83%

13. In general, how would you describe your level of involvement in Elfin Cove community activities?

- 37% Very active
- 42% Somewhat active
- 17% Not very active
- 4% Not at all active

14. How interested are you in participating in planning Elfin Cove's future?

- 63% Very interested
- 33% Somewhat interested
- 4% Neither interested nor disinterested
- 0% Not interested

15. Which of the following best represents your desired future for Elfin Cove (select only one)?

- 59%** Fishing community (e.g., commercial, sport)
- 4%** Tourist community (e.g., accommodations, activities)
- 0%** Retirement community
- 8%** Lifestyle community
- 8%** Family-oriented community
- 0%** Religious community
- 4%** Subsistence community
- 13%** Other
- 4%** Missing

16. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten Elfin Cove's future.

<i>Community Threat</i>	<i>Severely Threatens</i>	<i>Somewhat Threatens</i>	<i>Does Not Threaten</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
People moving into Elfin Cove	4%	21%	67%	4%	4%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	33%	33%	29%	0%	5%
Lack of city government	12%	21%	63%	0%	4%
Establishment of city government	25%	29%	42%	0%	4%
Lack of an organized borough government	0%	8%	83%	0%	9%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	54%	25%	13%	0%	8%
Tourism industry	17%	29%	50%	0%	4%
Availability of local jobs	21%	38%	33%	4%	4%
Abuse of illegal substances	29%	21%	33%	13%	4%
Abuse of legal substances	21%	21%	42%	12%	4%
Lack of adequate dock	29%	29%	38%	0%	4%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System ferry service	25%	38%	33%	0%	4%
Frequency of regional air service	17%	50%	29%	0%	4%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	58%	21%	17%	0%	4%
Frequency of freight delivery	13%	58%	25%	0%	4%
Lack of adequate health care	12%	46%	38%	0%	4%
Local indifference about community	17%	37%	38%	4%	4%
Failure of community members to work together	46%	17%	29%	4%	4%
Lack of local volunteerism	12%	42%	42%	0%	4%
Real estate market	12%	42%	29%	13%	4%
Local business competition	0%	25%	67%	4%	4%
Other	17%	4%	0%	0%	79%

Economic Development

Part I: Economy Performance

17. How would you rate the current condition of Elfin Cove's economy?

- 4% Very strong
- 29% Strong
- 46% Fair
- 13% Weak
- 8% Don't know

18. How has Elfin Cove's economy changed during the past ten years?

- 17% Grown significantly
- 25% Grown moderately
- 25% Remained the same
- 17% Declined moderately
- 0% Declined significantly
- 16% Don't know

19. How do you expect Elfin Cove's economy to change during the next ten years?

- 8% Grow significantly
- 67% Grow moderately
- 13% Remain the same
- 4% Decline moderately
- 0% Decline significantly
- 4% Don't know
- 4% Missing

20. How active should the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation be in local economic development activities?

- 46% Very active
- 25% Somewhat active
- 25% Not at all active
- 4% Don't know

21. Indicate how important the following business sectors are to Elfin Cove's future economy by circling the appropriate number.

Business Sector	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Little or No Importance	Don't Know	Missing
Commercial fisheries	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	50%	42%	8%	0%	0%
Timber	4%	4%	92%	0%	0%
Mining	0%	4%	96%	0%	0%
Tourist accommodations	37%	46%	17%	0%	0%
Tourist activities	33%	21%	42%	0%	4%
National interest	8%	21%	71%	0%	0%
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	17%	50%	33%	0%	0%
Construction	0%	42%	50%	4%	4%
Government	4%	38%	50%	4%	4%
Wholesale or retail trade	29%	54%	17%	0%	0%
Education	21%	33%	46%	0%	0%
Transportation	63%	25%	12%	0%	0%
Communications or utilities	67%	25%	8%	0%	0%
Health care	21%	42%	37%	0%	0%
Professional services	21%	8%	71%	0%	0%
Independent writer, artist, or craftsman	21%	33%	46%	0%	0%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	0%	42%	58%	0%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Part II: Local Business Development

22. How would you rate current business opportunities in Elfin Cove?

- 0% Very good
- 42% Good
- 42% Fair
- 16% Poor
- 0% Don't know

23. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's local businesses?

- 4%** Very good
- 46%** Good
- 46%** Fair
- 4%** Poor
- 0%** Don't know

24. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten the future of Elfin Cove's business community.

Community Threat	Severely Threatens	Somewhat Threatens	Does Not Threaten	Don't Know	Missing
People moving into Elfin Cove	4%	17%	71%	8%	0%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	33%	42%	21%	4%	0%
Lack of city government	8%	29%	63%	0%	0%
Establishment of city government	25%	29%	46%	0%	0%
Lack of an organized borough government	0%	8%	92%	0%	0%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	67%	12%	17%	0%	4%
Lack of local jobs	38%	37%	17%	4%	4%
Tourism industry	13%	29%	58%	0%	0%
Local business competition	0%	25%	75%	0%	0%
Quality of local labor force	8%	25%	63%	4%	0%
Availability of local labor force	8%	38%	54%	0%	0%
Lack of adequate dock	38%	29%	29%	4%	0%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System service	21%	46%	33%	0%	0%
Regional air service frequency	17%	62%	21%	0%	0%
Freight delivery frequency	25%	42%	33%	0%	0%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	79%	8%	13%	0%	0%
Real estate market	21%	54%	21%	4%	0%
Other	12%	0%	0%	0%	88%

Part III: Economic Development

25. What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove? Please prioritize your responses.

Challenge to Economic Development	Greatest Challenge	2nd Greatest Challenge	3rd Greatest Challenge
Lack of Community Cohesion	8%	0%	4%
Lack of Local Leadership	0%	0%	0%
Negative Development Sentiment	17%	4%	4%
Community Population	0%	8%	8%
Non-Local Influence	0%	0%	0%
Government Formation	21%	8%	4%
State or Federal Government Interference	8%	4%	8%
Lack of Government Oversight	0%	0%	0%
Utility and Core Service Cost	8%	8%	4%
Lack of Utilities and Core Services	4%	13%	4%
Dock/Harbor Limitations	8%	4%	0%
Transportation Limitations	4%	0%	13%
Commercial Fishing Industry Challenges	0%	8%	0%
High Business Operating Cost	0%	4%	0%
Real Estate Availability/Cost	13%	0%	0%
Other	0%	4%	13%
Missing	9%	35%	38%

26. What are the three most important activities the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation could do to support economic development? Please prioritize your responses.

<i>Economic Development Activity</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Encourage Community Consensus	13%	4%	0%
Protect Community Character	4%	0%	0%
Restrict CECNPC Membership	0%	0%	4%
Lower Utility and Core Service Rates	13%	8%	4%
Develop Utilities and Core Services	4%	8%	8%
Develop Alternative Energy Source	13%	0%	0%
Improve Dock/Harbor Facilities	13%	8%	0%
Improve Transportation Services	4%	13%	4%
Support Commercial Fishing Industry	4%	4%	0%
Support Tourism Industry	4%	0%	0%
Support Economic Development Activities	4%	8%	13%
Oppose Governmental Formation or Influence	4%	0%	0%
Improve Boardwalk/Trail System	0%	0%	0%
Do Not Participate	0%	4%	4%
Other	4%	4%	8%
Missing	16%	39%	55%

27. Indicate whether the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation should promote, restrict, or take no action in developing the following business sectors by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Business Sector</i>	<i>Promote</i>	<i>Restrict</i>	<i>Take No Action</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	67%	0%	29%	4%	0%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	25%	17%	50%	0%	8%
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	42%	8%	42%	4%	4%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	29%	13%	54%	4%	0%
Wholesale or retail trade	54%	8%	38%	0%	0%
Other	8%	4%	0%	0%	88%

Infrastructure Development

28. Indicate how important the following infrastructure projects are to Elfin Cove by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Infrastructure Project</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve dock for commercial uses	50%	37%	13%	0%	0%
Improve dock for residential/recreational uses	46%	33%	21%	0%	0%
Improve boat harbor	58%	38%	4%	0%	0%
Improve float plane docking facilities	38%	37%	25%	0%	0%
Improve boardwalks	46%	42%	12%	0%	0%
Improve trail system	13%	25%	62%	0%	0%
Develop water system	33%	38%	25%	0%	4%
Develop wastewater system	38%	37%	25%	0%	0%
Develop trash incinerator service	75%	13%	12%	0%	0%
Develop a recycling program	55%	37%	4%	0%	4%
Develop alternative energy generation	83%	13%	4%	0%	0%
Improve telephone system	16%	42%	42%	0%	0%
Improve internet connectivity	33%	50%	17%	0%	0%
Improve community building	17%	50%	33%	0%	0%
Recruit a village public safety officer	4%	4%	92%	0%	0%
Develop community fire safety office	25%	37%	38%	0%	0%
Develop a visitor center	33%	29%	38%	0%	0%
Develop a local health clinic	21%	37%	42%	0%	0%
Develop public restrooms	33%	46%	21%	0%	0%
Develop a public park	12%	42%	46%	0%	0%
Other	4%	0%	0%	0%	96%

Tourism Development

29. Do you want Elfin Cove's tourism-related activity to increase, decrease, or remain the same?

- 17% Increase significantly
- 42% Increase moderately
- 25% Remain the same
- 12% Decrease moderately
- 4% Decrease significantly
- 0% Don't know

30. If Elfin Cove pursues development of the tourism industry, are the following development efforts a high, medium, or low priority?

<i>Development Effort</i>	<i>High Priority</i>	<i>Medium Priority</i>	<i>Low Priority</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve water and/or air access to Elfin Cove	37%	46%	13%	0%	4%
Improve cruise ship docking facilities	25%	33%	38%	0%	4%
Increase shopping opportunities	17%	42%	37%	0%	4%
Increase diversity and availability of food service	25%	33%	33%	4%	5%
Increase diversity and availability of accommodations	8%	42%	42%	4%	4%
Develop and promote campgrounds	4%	4%	88%	0%	4%
Increase diversity and availability of tourist activities	8%	59%	29%	0%	4%
Direct solicitation of major tour operators	8%	25%	59%	4%	4%
Direct solicitation of smaller tour operators	25%	38%	29%	4%	4%
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	17%	29%	50%	0%	4%
Organize guided community tours	33%	25%	38%	0%	4%
Develop Elfin Cove interpretive maps	42%	12%	42%	0%	4%
Improve signage to areas of interest	29%	8%	59%	0%	4%
Develop and promote historical points of interest	33%	21%	42%	0%	4%
Develop and promote cultural points of interest	25%	21%	50%	0%	4%
Develop and promote special community events	8%	38%	50%	0%	4%
Build a visitor center	29%	25%	42%	0%	4%
Improve trails	17%	12%	67%	0%	4%
Improve boardwalk	50%	29%	17%	0%	4%
Develop outdoor recreation facilities	8%	46%	42%	0%	4%
Improve public facilities (e.g., restrooms, water)	41%	33%	21%	1%	4%
Cultivate community character	29%	33%	29%	0%	9%
Other	4%	0%	0%	0%	96%

31. Do you agree or disagree with promoting the following tourism-related activities in Elfin Cove?

<i>Tourism Activity</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Undecided</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Flightseeing tours	12%	42%	12%	17%	17%	0%
Eco-tourism (e.g., historic, cultural, wildlife)	21%	50%	4%	21%	4%	0%
Sport fishing charters	25%	25%	25%	25%	0%	0%
Hunting charters	29%	0%	17%	46%	8%	0%
Outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, kayaking, etc)	17%	42%	12%	29%	0%	0%
Market Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	25%	21%	12%	29%	13%	0%
Develop an Elfin Cove Visitors Association	21%	38%	8%	21%	12%	0%
Other	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	96%

32. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's tourism industry?

- 4% Very good
- 59% Good
- 33% Fair
- 4% Poor
- 0% Don't know

33. Would you like to receive a summary of survey results?

- 88% Yes
- 12% No

34. If you have additional comments regarding this survey or the future of Elfin Cove, please include them below or on an attached sheet.

- 42% Additional Comments Attached
- 58% No Additional Comments

APPENDIX D: PART-TIME/SEASONAL RESIDENT FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTIONS

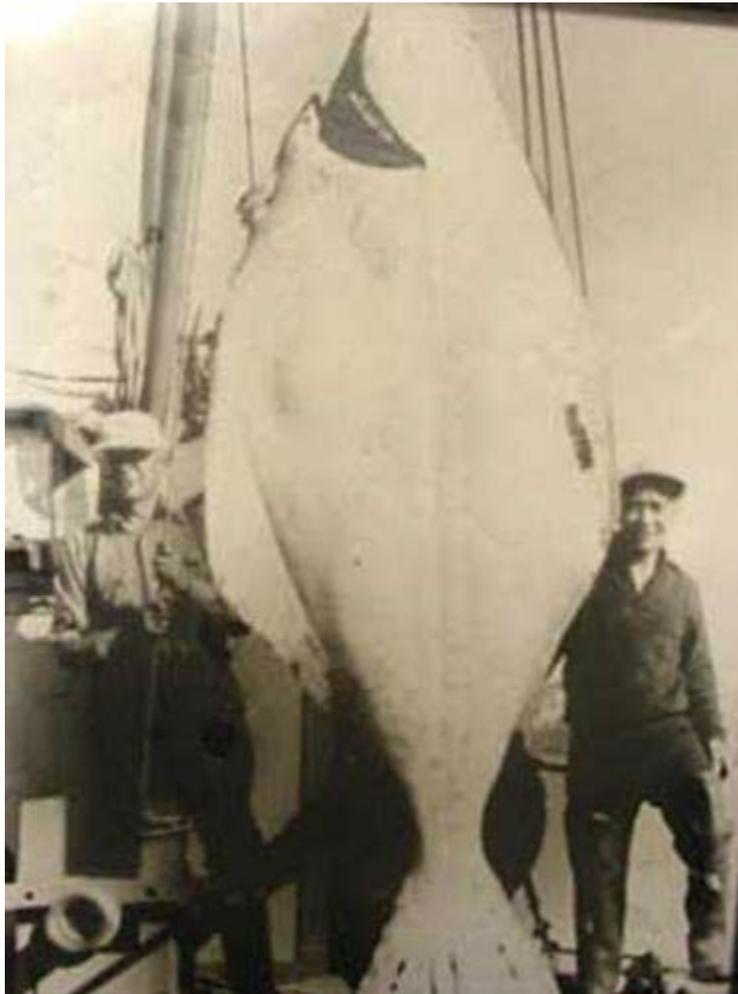


Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

Demographic Information

1. **How old are you?** Mean = **44 years**, Median = **48 years**

2. **What is your gender?**

- 59%** Male
- 41%** Female

3. **Are you a resident of Alaska?**

- 59%** Yes
- 41%** No

4. **Are you a voting member of the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation?**

- 57%** Yes
- 39%** No
- 4%** Missing

5. **Do you own property in Elfin Cove?**

- 47%** Yes
- 53%** No

6. **What is your current employment status?**

- 53%** Employed or self-employed on a **full-time** basis
- 39%** Employed or self-employed on a **part-time** basis
- 0%** Full-time homemaker
- 6%** Retired
- 0%** Student
- 0%** Unemployed
- 0%** Other
- 2%** Missing

7. **Are you a resident of Elfin Cove (i.e., full time, part time, or seasonal)?**

- 98%** Yes (go to question 7a)
- 0%** No (go to question 8)
- 2%** Missing

7a. Which of the following best describes your Elfin Cove residency status?

- 0%** Full-time resident
- 35%** Part-time resident
- 65%** Seasonal resident (summer only)
- 0%** Mooring & supplies only
- 0%** Other
- 0%** Missing

7b. Approximately how many months per year do you spend in Elfin Cove?

Mean = **4 months**, Median = **4 months**
Missing = **6%**

7c. How long have you been an Elfin Cove resident?

Mean = **14 years**, Median = **12 years**
Missing = **6%**

8. Do you own a business in Elfin Cove?

- 41%** Yes (go to question 8a) 
- 55%** No (go to question 9)
- 4%** Missing

8a. Which industry sector best describes your business? If you currently own more than one business, please indicate whether you consider the business a primary or secondary venture by circling one industry sector in the appropriate primary or secondary business column.

Industry Sector	Primary Business	Secondary Business
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	16%	6%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	14%	2%
Timber (e.g., logging, milling, lumber products)	----	----
Mining (e.g., gravel, quarry)	----	----
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food service)	2%	4%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	----	----
National interest (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Coast Guard)	----	----
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	2%	----
Construction	2%	----
Government (e.g., federal, state, local, tribal)	----	----
Wholesale or retail trade	----	2%
Education	----	----
Transportation (e.g., ground, water, air)	----	----
Communications or utilities	----	----
Health care	----	----
Professional services (e.g., engineering, consulting, child care)	4%	----
Independent artist, writer, or craftsman	----	----
Finance, insurance, or real estate	----	----
Missing	60%	86%

8b. How many years have you owned a business in Elfin Cove? If you currently own more than one business, please specify how many years each business has been in operation.

Primary business: Mean = **14 years**, Median = **10 years**, Missing = **57%**
 Secondary business: Mean = **10 years**, Median = **10 years**, Missing = **80%**

Quality of Life

9. In general, how would you rate the overall quality of life in Elfin Cove?

- 23%** Very good
- 61%** Good
- 16%** Fair
- 0%** Poor
- 0%** Don't know

10. How has Elfin Cove's quality of life changed during the past ten years?

- 25%** Improved
- 33%** Declined
- 26%** Remained the same
- 16%** Don't know

11. People have different reasons for appreciating a community. Indicate what you like most about Elfin Cove by circling the three most important community attributes in their order of importance (i.e., most important, 2nd most important, 3rd most important attribute).

<i>Community Attribute</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Friendliness of people	13%	4%	8%
Rural character	6%	6%	2%
Relaxed lifestyle	6%	6%	15%
Remote location	8%	4%	10%
Scenic beauty	13%	23%	10%
Outdoor recreational opportunity	2%	8%	6%
Availability of natural resources (e.g., fish and game)	22%	13%	4%
Safe community	0%	4%	0%
No city government	2%	10%	8%
No organized borough government	8%	2%	8%
Personal freedoms	4%	6%	13%
Other	4%	0%	2%
Missing	12%	14%	14%

12. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following community improvement efforts are very important, somewhat important, or not important to preserving or improving Elfin Cove's quality of life.

<i>Community Improvement</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Local business development	35%	35%	26%	4%	0%
Promote tourism industry	31%	31%	34%	4%	0%
Diversify Elfin Cove's economy	27%	53%	18%	2%	0%
Increase local job opportunities	29%	49%	22%	0%	0%
Build local utilities (e.g., water, sewer, incinerator)	59%	31%	6%	2%	2%
Increase frequency of freight deliveries	33%	45%	20%	0%	2%
Improve boardwalk	37%	37%	24%	2%	0%
Increase local population	12%	25%	61%	2%	0%
Promote cooperation with other communities	16%	37%	41%	4%	2%
Encourage environmental protection	59%	35%	6%	0%	0%
Strengthen the community association	35%	24%	29%	12%	0%
Improve access to natural areas	22%	23%	47%	8%	0%
Reduce cost of living (e.g., fuel, utilities, goods)	51%	31%	14%	4%	0%
Improve community appearance	47%	31%	22%	0%	0%
Increase affordable housing opportunities	35%	41%	20%	4%	0%
Keep Elfin Cove unchanged	20%	43%	35%	2%	0%
Other	14%	2%	0%	0%	84%

13. In general, how would you describe your level of involvement in Elfin Cove community activities?

- 12% Very active
- 49% Somewhat active
- 35% Not very active
- 4% Not at all active

14. How interested are you in participating in planning Elfin Cove's future?

- 25% Very interested
- 57% Somewhat interested
- 16% Neither interested nor disinterested
- 2% Not interested

15. Which of the following best represents your desired future for Elfin Cove (select only one)?

- 68%** Fishing community (e.g., commercial, sport)
- 12%** Tourist community (e.g., accommodations, activities)
- 0%** Retirement community
- 4%** Lifestyle community
- 4%** Family-oriented community
- 0%** Religious community
- 2%** Subsistence community
- 4%** Other
- 6%** Missing

16. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten Elfin Cove's future.

<i>Community Threat</i>	<i>Severely Threatens</i>	<i>Somewhat Threatens</i>	<i>Does Not Threaten</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
People moving into Elfin Cove	0%	14%	78%	6%	2%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	12%	47%	33%	6%	2%
Lack of city government	2%	19%	65%	10%	4%
Establishment of city government	12%	37%	41%	8%	2%
Lack of an organized borough government	4%	15%	65%	12%	4%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	37%	20%	29%	10%	4%
Tourism industry	27%	14%	55%	2%	2%
Availability of local jobs	10%	29%	51%	4%	6%
Abuse of illegal substances	24%	29%	39%	4%	4%
Abuse of legal substances	22%	27%	43%	4%	4%
Lack of adequate dock	31%	35%	26%	4%	4%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System ferry service	18%	29%	47%	4%	2%
Frequency of regional air service	20%	37%	37%	4%	2%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	51%	35%	10%	2%	2%
Frequency of freight delivery	20%	49%	27%	2%	2%
Lack of adequate health care	18%	53%	25%	2%	2%
Local indifference about community	16%	49%	29%	4%	2%
Failure of community members to work together	35%	43%	14%	6%	2%
Lack of local volunteerism	14%	49%	29%	6%	2%
Real estate market	12%	33%	35%	16%	4%
Local business competition	0%	25%	69%	4%	2%
Other	10%	0%	0%	0%	90%

Economic Development

Part I: Economy Performance

17. How would you rate the current condition of Elfin Cove's economy?

- 0%** Very strong
- 33%** Strong
- 43%** Fair
- 22%** Weak
- 2%** Don't know

18. How has Elfin Cove's economy changed during the past ten years?

- 10%** Grown significantly
- 31%** Grown moderately
- 10%** Remained the same
- 19%** Declined moderately
- 8%** Declined significantly
- 20%** Don't know
- 2%** Missing

19. How do you expect Elfin Cove's economy to change during the next ten years?

- 10%** Grow significantly
- 51%** Grow moderately
- 23%** Remain the same
- 4%** Decline moderately
- 0%** Decline significantly
- 12%** Don't know

20. How active should the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation be in local economic development activities?

- 20%** Very active
- 49%** Somewhat active
- 27%** Not at all active
- 4%** Don't know

21. Indicate how important the following business sectors are to Elfin Cove's future economy by circling the appropriate number.

Business Sector	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Little or No Importance	Don't Know	Missing
Commercial fisheries	76%	18%	4%	0%	2%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	66%	16%	16%	0%	2%
Timber	0%	20%	78%	0%	2%
Mining	0%	6%	92%	0%	2%
Tourist accommodations	47%	33%	18%	0%	2%
Tourist activities	47%	29%	22%	0%	2%
National interest	12%	45%	37%	2%	4%
Home-based manufacturing or cottage industry	18%	33%	43%	4%	2%
Construction	6%	35%	53%	4%	2%
Government	4%	19%	69%	6%	2%
Wholesale or retail trade	25%	51%	20%	2%	2%
Education	29%	24%	41%	4%	2%
Transportation	47%	37%	12%	2%	2%
Communications or utilities	45%	41%	10%	2%	2%
Health care	22%	43%	31%	2%	2%
Professional services	6%	29%	55%	8%	2%
Independent writer, artist, or craftsman	20%	31%	45%	2%	2%
Finance, insurance, or real estate	2%	14%	76%	6%	2%
Other	2%	0%	2%	0%	96%

Part II: Local Business Development

22. How would you rate current business opportunities in Elfin Cove?

- 4% Very good
- 31% Good
- 37% Fair
- 24% Poor
- 2% Don't know
- 2% Missing

23. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's local businesses?

- 6%** Very good
- 55%** Good
- 25%** Fair
- 6%** Poor
- 6%** Don't know
- 2%** Missing

24. Indicate by circling the appropriate number if you feel each of the following severely threatens, somewhat threatens, or does not threaten the future of Elfin Cove's business community.

Community Threat	Severely Threatens	Somewhat Threatens	Does Not Threaten	Don't Know	Missing
People moving into Elfin Cove	2%	18%	78%	0%	2%
People moving out of Elfin Cove	20%	43%	35%	0%	2%
Lack of city government	0%	27%	65%	6%	2%
Establishment of city government	14%	43%	33%	8%	2%
Lack of an organized borough government	4%	19%	65%	8%	4%
Inclusion into an organized borough government	35%	24%	27%	8%	6%
Lack of local jobs	14%	49%	29%	6%	2%
Tourism industry	18%	19%	57%	4%	2%
Local business competition	0%	18%	74%	4%	4%
Quality of local labor force	8%	33%	53%	4%	2%
Availability of local labor force	10%	33%	51%	2%	4%
Lack of adequate dock	33%	24%	35%	6%	2%
Lack of Alaska Marine Highway System service	24%	31%	37%	6%	2%
Regional air service frequency	27%	43%	26%	0%	4%
Freight delivery frequency	29%	40%	29%	0%	2%
High utility rates (e.g., electricity, fuel, freight)	47%	41%	8%	0%	4%
Real estate market	8%	29%	47%	12%	4%
Other	2%	0%	0%	0%	98%

Part III: Economic Development

25. What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove? Please prioritize your responses.

Challenge to Economic Development	Greatest Challenge	2nd Greatest Challenge	3rd Greatest Challenge
Lack of Community Cohesion	11%	12%	8%
Lack of Local Leadership	6%	4%	0%
Negative Development Sentiment	8%	6%	4%
Community Population	6%	2%	2%
Non-Local Influence	4%	2%	4%
Government Formation	6%	2%	2%
State or Federal Government Interference	0%	0%	0%
Lack of Government Oversight	2%	4%	2%
Utility and Core Service Cost	8%	4%	8%
Lack of Utilities and Core Services	6%	11%	2%
Dock/Harbor Limitations	4%	0%	6%
Transportation Limitations	2%	6%	6%
Commercial Fishing Industry Challenges	6%	6%	2%
High Business Operating Cost	2%	4%	0%
Real Estate Availability/Cost	6%	4%	2%
Other	11%	6%	0%
Missing	12%	27%	52%

26. What are the three most important activities the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation could do to support economic development? Please prioritize your responses.

<i>Economic Development Activity</i>	<i>Most Important</i>	<i>2nd Most Important</i>	<i>3rd Most Important</i>
Encourage Community Consensus	8%	6%	0%
Protect Community Character	2%	4%	6%
Restrict CECNPC Membership	0%	2%	2%
Lower Utility and Core Service Rates	6%	4%	0%
Develop Utilities and Core Services	10%	2%	0%
Develop Alternative Energy Source	2%	0%	2%
Improve Dock/Harbor Facilities	2%	4%	4%
Improve Transportation Services	0%	4%	2%
Support Commercial Fishing Industry	6%	6%	0%
Support Tourism Industry	6%	2%	2%
Support Economic Development Activities	6%	6%	2%
Oppose Governmental Formation or Influence	0%	0%	2%
Improve Boardwalk/Trail System	4%	2%	0%
Do Not Participate	12%	2%	0%
Other	8%	6%	12%
Missing	27%	49%	65%

27. Indicate whether the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation should promote, restrict, or take no action in developing the following business sectors by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Business Sector</i>	<i>Promote</i>	<i>Restrict</i>	<i>Take No Action</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Commercial fisheries (e.g., harvesting, processing)	61%	0%	37%	2%	0%
Sport fishing or hunting charter service	45%	14%	35%	6%	0%
Tourist accommodations (e.g., lodges, b & b's, inns, food svc.)	55%	10%	31%	4%	0%
Tourist activities (e.g., kayaking, flightseeing, whale watching)	59%	10%	27%	4%	0%
Wholesale or retail trade	59%	0%	35%	4%	2%
Other	0%	2%	2%	0%	96%

Infrastructure Development

28. Indicate how important the following infrastructure projects are to Elfin Cove by circling the appropriate number.

<i>Infrastructure Project</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not Important</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve dock for commercial uses	55%	27%	16%	2%	0%
Improve dock for residential/recreational uses	53%	27%	16%	4%	0%
Improve boat harbor	51%	25%	22%	2%	0%
Improve float plane docking facilities	43%	22%	33%	2%	0%
Improve boardwalks	43%	26%	29%	2%	0%
Improve trail system	31%	28%	39%	2%	0%
Develop water system	47%	31%	12%	6%	4%
Develop wastewater system	59%	21%	14%	4%	2%
Develop trash incinerator service	67%	19%	12%	2%	0%
Develop a recycling program	69%	19%	8%	2%	2%
Develop alternative energy generation	71%	21%	6%	2%	0%
Improve telephone system	35%	24%	33%	6%	2%
Improve internet connectivity	53%	23%	18%	4%	2%
Improve community building	27%	26%	41%	4%	2%
Recruit a village public safety officer	8%	29%	59%	4%	0%
Develop community fire safety office	20%	37%	37%	4%	2%
Develop a visitor center	18%	29%	47%	4%	2%
Develop a local health clinic	22%	45%	31%	2%	0%
Develop public restrooms	37%	35%	26%	2%	0%
Develop a public park	16%	29%	53%	2%	0%
Other	8%	2%	0%	0%	90%

Tourism Development

29. Do you want Elfin Cove's tourism-related activity to increase, decrease, or remain the same?

- 20%** Increase significantly
- 31%** Increase moderately
- 21%** Remain the same
- 12%** Decrease moderately
- 12%** Decrease significantly
- 2%** Don't know
- 2%** Missing

30. If Elfin Cove pursues development of the tourism industry, are the following development efforts a high, medium, or low priority?

<i>Development Effort</i>	<i>High Priority</i>	<i>Medium Priority</i>	<i>Low Priority</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Improve water and/or air access to Elfin Cove	35%	28%	31%	2%	4%
Improve cruise ship docking facilities	20%	29%	47%	2%	2%
Increase shopping opportunities	16%	31%	49%	2%	2%
Increase diversity and availability of food service	31%	28%	39%	0%	2%
Increase diversity and availability of accommodations	20%	33%	45%	0%	2%
Develop and promote campgrounds	14%	14%	70%	0%	2%
Increase diversity and availability of tourist activities	22%	25%	51%	0%	2%
Direct solicitation of major tour operators	12%	21%	61%	4%	2%
Direct solicitation of smaller tour operators	22%	31%	43%	2%	2%
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	22%	25%	47%	4%	2%
Organize guided community tours	8%	29%	61%	0%	2%
Develop Elfin Cove interpretive maps	16%	37%	41%	4%	2%
Improve signage to areas of interest	20%	25%	49%	4%	2%
Develop and promote historical points of interest	29%	28%	39%	2%	2%
Develop and promote cultural points of interest	27%	26%	43%	2%	2%
Develop and promote special community events	22%	21%	53%	2%	2%
Build a visitor center	21%	12%	61%	4%	2%
Improve trails	27%	24%	47%	0%	2%
Improve boardwalk	49%	22%	27%	0%	2%
Develop outdoor recreation facilities	25%	20%	51%	2%	2%
Improve public facilities (e.g., restrooms, water)	41%	39%	18%	0%	2%
Cultivate community character	35%	16%	41%	4%	4%
Other	4%	0%	2%	0%	94%

31. Do you agree or disagree with promoting the following tourism-related activities in Elfin Cove?

<i>Tourism Activity</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Undecided</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Missing</i>
Flightseeing tours	22%	21%	27%	14%	14%	2%
Eco-tourism (e.g., historic, cultural, wildlife)	33%	31%	20%	8%	4%	4%
Sport fishing charters	39%	27%	4%	20%	8%	2%
Hunting charters	12%	14%	20%	29%	25%	0%
Outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, kayaking, etc)	33%	41%	14%	10%	2%	0%
Market Elfin Cove as a tourist destination	20%	29%	17%	20%	14%	0%
Develop an Elfin Cove Visitors Association	23%	18%	16%	29%	14%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	98%

32. How would you rate the overall future of Elfin Cove's tourism industry?

- 8% Very good
- 57% Good
- 21% Fair
- 8% Poor
- 6% Don't know

33. Would you like to receive a summary of survey results?

- 82% Yes
- 18% No

34. If you have additional comments regarding this survey or the future of Elfin Cove, please include them below or on an attached sheet.

- 41% Additional Comments Attached
- 59% No Additional Comments

APPENDIX E: QUESTIONNAIRE ITEM #25, QUALITATIVE RESPONSES



Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

What are the three greatest challenges to economic development in Elfin Cove?

Verbatim Responses - Greatest Challenge
Rapid change
Not enough people
Monitor fishing activities before Cross Sound is fished out
Selling our commercial salmon at a good price
Forced inclusion in borough
Cost of electricity
Trash
Protecting Elfin Cove's commercial fishing (not lodges)
Adapting to fast growing tourism industry
Not growing so fast
Sewage discharge / back harbor poor
High cost of electricity
Trash
Cost of fuel, utilities, etc.
Sewer
Remote location
Have the citizens of Elfin Cove come to an agreement that economic development is important for a healthy future of Elfin Cove
The antitourism attitude and behavior of a few individuals
Our greatest challenge is not to be included in a borough with Hoonah
Government without representation is wrong. We should not be included in a borough government with Hoonah.
All year resident population
Finding people interested in pursuing economic development
Lack of local jobs and economic diversity
Too much state government
Lack of vacant real estate
Possible borough
No government
Fuel - utilities costs
Too small a number of people
High fuel prices
Getting the docks fixed
Get public loading zone back from Eagle Charters
Radical vocal anti tourist motions at CECNPC meetings
Borough taxes and regulations

Possible borough with ordinances and taxes
High property cost
Communication and cooperation between different factions in the community
People that do not support any development
No leader
No leadership
There is not very much land to build on here
Government control over our business
Remoteness of area
Lack of regular freight and air service
Space to grow
Local land base is completely used already
Fear and doubt
Negative attitude toward change and development of tourism
Negative attitude to development
Lack of area
Stay out of a borough!
Transportation costs - fuel - access to markets
Protecting land from resource development
Disagreement between community members
Development without ruining community
Lack of community togetherness
Cost of utilities
Keep lodges in business and decrease cruise ship influences
Lack of cooperation
Lack of State support for rural Alaska
Displacement of trollers by guided sportfishing
Transportation costs
Looking backward not forward
No permanent jobs
Lodges taking over our fishing community
Profitability factor of any business
People not wanting change
Proper / clean docks
Cleaner docks
Retaining its charm as a unique village
Community consensus on need for change

Community consensus on need for change
Garbage - People are not responsible
Keeping full-time residents here

Verbatim Responses - 2nd Greatest Challenge
High fuel rates
Marketing commercial salmon from Elfin Cove
Try to stop tourism and growth beyond what Elfin Cove is now
High cost of transportation to/from the Cove
Improve docks
Lodges overexploiting the fish resource
Lack of adequate state statute enforcement
Out of state resource extractors with no regard for limited resources
Utility costs
Lack of year round fish buyer
Sewer
Keeping a general store
Garbage
Cost of building
The cost of infrastructure improvements so that Elfin Cove can support an increase of temporary visiting people
Water / sewer utilities
Slow out of state cash flow
High cost of living
Lack of community involvement and cohesion
Too much federal government
Possible city
Bad feeling among residents
Transportation - freight and passenger
Cost of transportation
High electric bills
Doing something with our waste
More support for local fishing fleet
Hostility to small ship tourism
City taxes and regulations
Possible city government with ordinances and taxes
No new residents
We don't want development

People have to be brought in from other towns to do most work
Bring cost of doing business down
Litter and junk dumped around cove
Lack of strong government oversight
Remoteness - lack of air and sea service
Good ideas for new businesses
A balance of businesses
Maintain lifestyle
Electricity
Infighting among residents
Availability of freight options
No leadership
Availability of real estate
Book keeping
Lack of leadership
No families live here due to no school
Maintenance and development of fish buying facilities
No school
Not supporting one another's businesses
Small population
Overhead costs
No space for expansion
Disposal for garbage
Trash place
Embracing ecotourism
Multiple agendas by various individuals
Multiple agendas by various individuals
Antagonism toward tourism

Verbatim Responses - 3rd Greatest Challenge
High transportation costs
High cost of construction
Better trail to the head of the bay
Money leaving Elfin Cove via lodges owned by out of staters
Uncontrolled growth
Development with no state enforcement
Plane / barge / ferry service poor *MAIL AWFUL!!
Not enough young families
Docks
Harbor
Affordable transportation into and out of Elfin Cove
Reliable electricity
Waste disposal
Expensive transportation
Lack of frequent freight and passenger service necessary for import/export possibilities
Too many permits and regulations for rural area
High cost of fuel
Getting all to have a common goal
Threat of inclusion into organized borough
A few people dictating rather than community decisions
High freight charges
Getting more people
Organizing local government
Need more outdoor public space
High cost of living
High cost of fuel and utilities
The "no change" attitude of some people
Doing business without offending anyone else
Unsightly and dangerous docks
High fuel costs
Cost of land
Less government
Funding
Maintaining docks
Deal with the rise in fuel costs
Lack of vested in community

So too few people really live here to develop a real community
Success of Cross Sound Marketing Association
Lodges not putting back into community
Monthly utilities
Not a year round population
Being friendly to tourists - seeing the benefits
Undermining initiatives by the discontented individuals
Undermining initiatives by the discontented
Cost of delivery of goods

APPENDIX F: QUESTIONNAIRE ITEM #26, QUALITATIVE RESPONSES



Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

What are the three most important activities the Community of Elfin Cove Non-Profit Corporation could do to support economic development?

Verbatim Responses - Most Important
Keep us a village
Represent community, not just a few
Finding fish buyers
The community is doing just fine
Develop alternative energy - hydropower
Improve the docks
Supporting the Cross Sound Marketing Association
Not their job to do it
Maintain the character of Elfin Cove
Sewer system
Install hydro power
Organize and take care of trash, sewer, and docks
Cut fuel prices, utilities, etc.
Build a sewer system
Improve infrastructure ie., sewer, water, solid waste
Rein in the few antitourist people
Support commercial fishing
Lower the utility rates
Centralize community goals on economic development
Maybe hydro
Website / elfincove.org
Form business association
Pursue alternative energy sources
Involvement of members
Find a way to get cheaper fuel
Fix the docks
Make Eagle Charters get their own dock. All other lodges have.
Not allow radical anti-tourist people to drive agendas
Subsidize utility cost, including fuel
Subsidize fuel and utility costs
Invite commercial fish buyers
Cooperate

Apply for more grants
Quit butting in
Don't do anything
Advertise Elfin Cove as a tourist spot
Keep outside government out of our business
Encourage more community pride
Find less costly fuel if possible
Nothing
Hands off
Control the antitourist element
Support cruise ship tourism
Not act like a government
Create more jobs
Hydro power / electrical
Develop consistent transportation
Promote tourism
Learn to "agree to disagree"
Improve infrastructure - sewer, water, etc.
Make more property available
Bring down fuel cost
Keep services available for commercial fleet
Support diversity of businesses
Make lodges contribute
More people
Create more jobs
More efficient power supply
The docks
Boardwalk
Trails, campsites
Incinerator to keep area clean
Promote tourism and lodges

Verbatim Responses - 2nd Most Important
Involve community
Create a competitive fish buying market
Encourage ferry and barge service
Fish and Game actually enforcing laws
Reestablish the character of Elfin Cove
Utilities (Electric - TV - Phone)
Improve harbor, install electric meters
Work to improve water transportation to Elfin Cove via public or private ferry
Not be hostage to the antitourist people
Eliminate tourism
Establish a reliable freight/passenger service
Nothing
Form government out of property owners or long time residents
Encourage service by freight providers
Better use of available funds
Lower electric bills
Open up the dock inside harbor so people can get to the water
Work on year round jobs
Not act like a government agency - the corporation only controls what it owns
Have the ferries stop
Lobby for marine transportation
Promote jobs
Advertise Elfin Cove to commercial fishermen
Bring cost of utilities down
Organize regular clean-up of area
Clean up the cove and enforce needed regulations to prevent trash on beaches as well as derelict boats in harbor
Separate personal priorities from what is best for the development and sustainability of Elfin Cove
Stay out of businesses' way
Inform and educate our community
Incinerator
Sewer, water, electric, solid waste - all infrastructure
Protect fisheries
Agree to diversify
Form a business group

Form a business association
Pay attention to health of salmon runs
Don't let Elfin Cove become a big cruise ship stop
Support people working to develop tourism
Full time jobs
Lower utility costs
Boardwalk
Docks
Kayaking
Improve transportation costs

Verbatim Responses - 3rd Most Important
Winter services
Hydro power or ice facility
Encourage independent travel/ecotourism
Dock maintenance in the future as needed (not yet)
Support traditional lifestyles
Dock cleanup
Somehow bring down the cost of fuel
Work more efficiently as a population to invite new opportunities for diversified economic improvements
Go back to only legitimate residents voting - Now anyone who claims to receive mail here votes - contentious votes are always packed with obvious nonresidents, usually deckhands recruited by the same few antitourist people
Improve telecommunication service
Oppose (actively) borough take-over of Elfin Cove
Winter involvement
Improve mail and freight service
Work better with other government agencies and towns
Support local businesses and individuals doing business
Improve sewer, water, and garbage utilities
Promote affordable housing for new residents
Not disturb others
Help establish regular freight, mail, and supply deliveries
Access to community resources
Sanitation
Skills to develop viable business plans
Protect land from development
Get a more competent leader

Governing board of property owners and long time residents
Keep the wonderful and friendly people at the buying station, the store, the fuel dock, and Cohos happy
Support Cross Sound Marketing Association
Promote local hire
Sportfishing
Keep Elfin Cove as beautiful as it is now

APPENDIX G: QUESTIONNAIRE ITEM #34, QUALITATIVE RESPONSES



Photo appears courtesy of Cross Sound Marketing Association

Additional comments regarding the community survey or the future of Elfin Cove.
39% of respondents provided additional comments.
I think the future of Elfin Cove should be left in the hands of the people of Elfin Cove.
Elfin Cove needs help marketing commercially troll caught salmon. Cross Sound Marketing is working toward helping Elfin achieve that. We don't want more tourism. There are already too many sport fishing lodges. Life out here is beautiful and we want to be left the way things are.
Please do not force Elfin Cove into a borough. We have a nice community now. Taxation of a borough will force several residents to sell their homes. Elfin Cove is doing just fine.
Elfin Cove has been a historically commercial fishing village. In recent years more and more sport fishing lodges have moved in, owned by out of state people. These lodges buy all of their goods down south, hire only down south non-resident employees, and in essence are bleeding Elfin Cove of its cultural and economic heritage.
This survey seems skewed toward promoting development.
I feel this survey was with a pro-development slant. Tourism is developing so quickly it is not a good thing for Elfin Cove. Why does the state want more development when they have no enforcement on statutes out here? No presence of DNR, F&G, no protection for private property or privacy on private property.
Sewage system really needed. Water in winter not good. All utilities so expensive. Keep Joanna in local <illegible word> - she seems to care. Tanaku Lodge only community "friendly" lodge there. Thank you for this survey.
The economy is strong, but subject to a lot of uncertainty due to costs of running a boat or a business here; fuel and electric. Lack of families keeps the school closed. Young families can no longer afford property, a boat, fishing permits, and the cost of raising kids. Reducing costs of doing business will slowly help to rebuild the town and families. Local shipwright and craftsmen have brought people and business to the town.
We should stay about the same, about the same number of boats and people aboard. To have more per week would be too much for Elfin Cove.
I think the most important thing right now is water quality in the Cove. Somebody needs to get the ball rolling on a sewer system that is not direct marine outfall. Maybe through donations and state money it could happen, but we need a realistic plan and cost summary.
I appreciate this survey and hope that the information collected can be used to help Elfin Cove grow comfortably economically, yet keep its natural beauty and abundance of wildlife safe and intact.
The level of hate by a few individuals is degrading quality of life here dramatically. We need help getting some compromises from those who want a strictly commercial fishing / subsistence community.
As has happened in rural communities throughout the world, the advent of commercial tourism is destroying the resident local culture and heading us all for a homogenous society of cheap motels, and tourist junk shops. Tourism has done more to destroy the "Alaska Feel" than logging, mining, or commercial fishing could ever do.
This survey seems to be predicated on the notion that Elfin Cove should be a tourist town, and the community association should promote that. This notion shows either a lack of imagination or a bias on the part of the people who put together the survey. This is more appropriate for South Franklin Street.
I love Elfin Cove and will some things must change to adapt / change / thrive, there are some things that must not be forgotten / overlooked / run out to ensure its survival as what it is. Some of the draw to the place is also some of the barriers... It can be a love / hate thing. Some things will have to be sacrificed / compromised, both old and new, so care must be taken in weighing the pros and cons and stepping back to see the whole picture from as many angles as possible.
I think it's very sad to see one lodge take over the public loading zone. It's created a lot of unpleasantness for both locals and visitors alike. I'd like to see a harbormaster and city run dock.

<p>There is an anti-tourism sign - Tourist Pollution - that goes up whenever a ship anchors in front of the Cove. This sign discourages passengers from going ashore and is harming local businesses. This sort of activity will ruin the small cruise ships leg of the economy of Elfin Cove.</p>
<p>A major project but, the outside harbor and south pass: including ferry dock, tank farm, boardwalk connection, floating breakwater with a protected harbor and seaplane landing area.</p>
<p>I am not at all against some tourism here, however without promotion - the tourist related business grows and grows. Eventually merely walking down the boardwalk will be nearly impossible in the summer and I moved from Juneau (my home town) because, partly, of no wilderness trails were without too much company.</p>
<p>I think we are doing well balancing our old, traditional life with the new on a personal level. Lodge folks and fish folks talk now and listen. We do <u>not need any outside interference</u>. Our community teeters on anger, even hate, for our differences so we must move at our own pace and from our strong base of building friendships, not political alliances.</p>
<p>I think the only way for this community to keep going will be for all businesses to be promoted by the community. This would create jobs for local residents, however it is hard to buy any property here in Elfin Cove, so I don't know how there will be room for many future businesses, or homes for us younger residents who at this point are still living with family.</p>
<p>Tell them to stay home where ever that may be and leave us alone.</p>
<p>Elfin Cove cannot afford to permit derelict boats in the main harbor. Also, community members must not be permitted to use beaches to dump garbage and assorted junk.</p>
<p>Quality of life declined after school closed.</p>
<p>We could use consultation to develop a community development plan. Local businesses could use support in developing business plans. Many community members could use chemical health counseling and/or treatment.</p>
<p>Need to have people that own property and have been here a long time make the decisions, and not new people.</p>
<p>Elfin Cove is a little jewel of a place that is best stumbled onto or heard of by word of mouth - not promoted and turned into a Skagway or Ketchikan - prostituting itself to big tourism. Enough of the "only here in the summer" stuff.</p>
<p>Thanks for all your hard work at including members of the community and in figuring out a good way to make the future of Elfin Cove to be the best it can be.</p>
<p>The inner main deck is for public use to all!!! Charter boats (lodges) should have to respect the dock as all do. All other lodges pay <u>taxes</u> on their docks! People come to Elfin Cove to live. Please don't take that away!</p>
<p>I understand the meaning of this survey but I don't feel Elfin Cove needs to be exploited as a borough government. It can all be handled as an organized community, which we have been since day one!</p>
<p>People here should embrace tourism and see the economic opportunities to all in ecotourism. Families could stay in the cove if tourism and friendly attitude toward outsiders was expressed. The natural harbor should <u>never</u> be altered for larger vessels. It's perfect how nature made it.</p>
<p>The problem of disposing of garbage is a huge concern. Other states have banned burning of garbage from 45 years ago. What goes on at the burn pit of Elfin Cove is disgusting. People are burning bed pillows, rain gears, and aerosol cans (some with paint still in them). Nice! And where does this all go? One solution would be to have a barge come in every three weeks to pick up this crap especially during the summer months. Until this problem is solved there is no need for growth here.</p>