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New Web Portal Brings Together Alaska Climate Change Resources

November 13, 2015 JUNEAU—The Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) is proud to announce the launch of a portal that will serve as a one-stop shop for Alaska climate change-related information. The Alaska climate change portal includes an abundance of information from a variety of sources, compiled to assist people interested in exploring the topic of climate change. The portal also includes information about a number of governmental and non-governmental initiatives that are attempting to address these challenges.

"Climate change is having a wide range of impacts in Alaska – warmer, record-breaking temperatures have resulted in thawing permafrost, thinning sea ice, increasing wildfires, a reduction of subsistence harvests, increase in flooding and erosion, and damage to buildings, roads and airports," said Katherine Eldemar, director of DCRA, "And in some cases, these changes are prompting the need for the relocation of entire communities."

The portal can be accessed at: commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/ClimateChange. It will be continuously refined to reflect new learning on the topic. Users can submit comments, insights, or firsthand evidence to DCRAResearchAndAnalysis@alaska.gov .

As mandated in Article 10, Section 14 of the Alaska Constitution, the Division of Community and Regional Affairs advises and assists local governments. DCRA is one of six divisions and seven corporate agencies within the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development tasked with promoting a healthy economy, supporting strong communities, and protecting consumers in Alaska. DCRA is on the forefront of serving communities across Alaska and as a result, the division witnesses first-hand evidence of the effects of climate change in Alaskan communities. For additional information about the division, visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra. For additional information about DCCED divisions and corporate agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.