

Tide, Cathy. 2007. "Preliminary Examination of Commercial Crewmember License Data." CFEC Report 07-7N.

Abstract:

The licensing system utilized by Alaska Department of Fish and Game for issuing commercial crewmember licenses is pragmatic; it enables participants in the commercial fisheries of Alaska to obtain licenses easily and across the state, including in remote locations. The licenses are issued annually with no information linking a license holder from one year to licenses held in other years. Despite this, the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission is interested in tracking individual crew license holders through time and matching license holders to Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permitting information when possible. Because commercial crewmember license data were not intended for use in this way, the data were evaluated to determine if it might be possible. This report summarizes the commercial crewmember license data for 1988 through 2006 and provides a brief summary on the quality of the data. The focus of this paper is on data fields which could be used to identify unique individuals or to define the residency of the license holder.