

CHAPTER 5: SWAMC ACTION PLAN

Focus Area	What - Action Item and Steps	Why	Estimated Impact	Who (Potential Partners)	FTE Jobs Creation
<i>Workforce Development</i>	<p>Support Youth Mentorship and Skills-Gap Training Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop workshops that support soft skills, including resume writing, interviewing and career planning • Develop workshops with Kodiak College, UAF-Interior Aleutians Campus, UAF-Bristol Bay Campus, and School Districts utilizing Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) for job-preparedness in coordination with local businesses • Maintain calendar of activity to match needs and providers • Host STEM events, like Science Night to highlight local careers • Represent Southwest Alaska interests in statewide Industry-University driven Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan objectives to increase skilled maritime occupations 	SWAMC membership identifies abundant local STEM opportunities and concerns in workforce readiness skills	\$75,000	Industry partners; Foundations (Alaska Community Foundation); Kodiak College, UAF-Interior Aleutians Campus, UAF Bristol Bay Campus; School Districts;	2
<i>Manufacturing</i>	<p>Strengthen and Diversify Alaskan Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Manufacturing Alaska Extension (MAKE) • Develop partnerships for National Institute of Standards and Technology requirements of Manufacturing Extension Partnership Grant to support manufacturing businesses • Partner with Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation to investigate feasibility of mariculture and kelp farming as a manufacturing industry in Alaska 	Alaska is only US State without an active MEP; MAKE can help build Alaska's manufacturer base	\$400,000	Marine Advisory Program, Southeast Conference, Industry Partners; SWAMC Membership; Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation; UA Center for Economic Development, Anchorage Economic Development Corp	8
<i>Business Retention and Expansion</i>	<p>Understand Operating Environment and Resource Needs of Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Southwest Alaska Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) Program • Develop local partnerships to conduct outreach • Coordinate business Interviews in communities, with a target of 50 interviews for Southwest Alaska annually • Match 20% of businesses interviewed with funding, training, or other support, using empirical data to advocate resources to address business needs 	Regional Businesses support a diversified and dynamic economy, strengthen the quality of life and career opportunities	\$75,000	Business; Communities; SWAMC Membership; State of Alaska, Department of Commerce	2

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<i>Infrastructure Support</i>	<p>Promote Energy Planning and Infrastructure Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host three Regional Energy Committees in the Aleutians, Bristol Bay and Kodiak to outline energy priorities and outlining a roadmap of tasks to complete projects • Advocate for priority infrastructure in the Southwest Alaska Transportation Improvement Plan critical to minimizing cost to communities • Advocate infrastructure that maximizes the value of marine and coastal resources abundant in the region • Advocate for communication technology that are a necessity for modern business and communities 	Expensive energy and transportation increase the cost of living and create barriers to expanding business, including the fisheries cluster	\$150,000	Communities, Alaska Energy Authority, Alaska Department of Transportation	3
<i>Southwest Alaska Economic Geography</i>	<p>Maintain a data library and publish economic trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow baseline data library and publish printed and digital material to highlight economic trends • Grow awareness for key trends and analyze how those trends affect business and communities • Advocate the Statewide and National positive economic impact of Southwest Alaska • Market the intrinsic value of Southwest Alaska as a tourist destination, including available unique experiences 	Good data drives good decision making, particularly the importance of Southwest Alaska to the overall wellbeing of the State	\$50,000	Public data providers, Alaska Legislature, Communities, Businesses, Northern Economics	1
<i>Economic Summit and Membership Meeting</i>	<p>Host SWAMC Economic Summit and Membership Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve 5% growth in attendance by highlighting the importance of Southwest Alaska and SWAMC service • Conduct workshops to incorporate attendee feedback into strategic operations and draw focus to active projects • Improve feedback and networking opportunity 	Meeting regional representatives is important, and the annual conference is the largest gathering of Southwest Alaskans, and best opportunity to network	\$200,000	SWAMC Supporters & Members	4
Total Estimated Impact			\$950,000		20