

AFS Annual Gathering Starts Today

Monday, 22 October 2012

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

The annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society, Alaska Chapter, gets underway today (Monday), here in Kodiak, with continuing education classes and tours for participants. The keynote address is Wednesday morning, which begins three days of presentations on about 20 different topics from professionals in their fields. The theme this year is "Ecosystem, Fishery and Food Sustainability in a Changing World."

Mark Wipfli, a professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, is the incoming president of the Alaska Chapter of the AFS. He said he chose Kodiak for this year's meeting because of the importance of commercial fishing for the community, and therefore, it is also being made largely accessible to the public:

Because the conference is all about education and sharing research Wipfli said students will be especially welcome

The three continuing education classes include training with fish-counting sonar, scientific sampling and scientific writing, and aircraft survival training at the pool on-base. Tours on Tuesday include the Pillar Mountain wind farm, the Pillar Creek hatchery, and Air Station Kodiak.