

Environmental Film Fest This Weekend

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

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Erik Wander/KMXT

Wednesday is Earth Day, and as part of the celebration, the Alaska Marine Conservation Council will be presenting a new documentary film on climate change and the ocean. Environmental film fans will also be treated to a film festival this weekend at Kodiak College, held in conjunction with Whale Fest Kodiak 2009.

Part of a series of film screenings throughout Alaskan communities sponsored by the Alaska Marine Conservation Council, "A Sea Change," produced by Nijji Films, explores the topic of ocean acidification. Theresa Peterson, Kodiak outreach coordinator for AMCC, said the film combines a scientific perspective on ocean acidification with the personal story of a retired Norwegian educator who travels from Norway to Iceland to Alaska in search of cutting-edge ocean research.

-- (Peterson 1 45 sec. "It's the first documentary ... scientists around the world.")

Peterson describes the one-and-a-half hour film as an activist film. She said she hopes it helps open peoples' eyes to the problem of ocean acidification, reducing carbon emissions into our oceans and inspires people to take action and change their ways.

-- (Peterson 2 55 sec. "I find it comparable to ... and start making some changes.")

In addition to the screening, the Alaska Ocean Film Festival, featuring 10 short films focusing on our relationships with the sea will take place this Saturday. The festival is sponsored by the Alaska Center for the Environment. Mark Schreiter, Professor of History and Humanities at Kodiak College is helping organize the annual event. He said the program of films covers a

wide range of topics, from polar bears, sharks and sea slugs, to tides, seasickness and surfers. Schreiter highlighted two films he thought would be of particular interest to local viewers, including the festivals featured film on the proposed Pebble Mine.

-- (Schreiter 1 45 sec. "There's also a film titled ... on them and their livelihood.")

The screening of "A Sea Change," which will also be shown later in the week at the San Francisco International Film Festival, will be held on Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Kodiak High School choral pod. A question and answer session will follow. The Alaska Ocean Film Festival takes place Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Kodiak College. "A Sea Change" and the film festival are both free and open to the public.

I'm
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