Kawerak invites tribes, native corporations and municipalities of the Bering Strait region to submit comments and concerns regarding human health, culture, and the ocean as we undergo and experience change in our environment. If you would like Marine Program staff to assist you in understanding those changes or advocating your concerns please contact our office at the address below.

QUYAANA.

**Marine Program**

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The Kawerak, Inc. Marine Program is one of seven programs in the Natural Resources division. It will focus on potential impacts of increased marine shipping on individuals, subsistence resources and the environment within our region.

Arctic marine transits to transport resources and people from all parts of the globe have increased in the last decade through ice free Arctic waters.

National and international agencies are developing strategies to take advantage of the polar marine routes to lessen costs of shipping.

Kawerak must engage in these important discussions because of the great potential impacts to our way of life. Subsistence resources, the environment, and culture are vital aspects of Alaska’s first people and the public at large.

"We want to see our subsistence way of life continue."
Participant, 2014 BSVAS Workshop

"Protect our waters, remember our resources are like money in the bank. It’s what we have to survive."
Participant, 2014 BSVAS Workshop

Kawerak’s Marine Program advocates for local priorities and will propose actions to minimize negative impacts of increased shipping in the Bering and Chukchi Seas.