



Bering Sea Elders Group

August 13, 2024
For Immediate Release

BERING SEA ELDERS GROUP AWARDED GRANT FROM FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

(Anchorage, Alaska)—The Bering Sea Elders Group (BSEG) is pleased to announce that it was awarded a grant in the amount of \$75,000 from the First Nations Development Institute (FNDI) of Longmont, Colorado. This grant will support BSEG’s continued ecological stewardship efforts in the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area (NBSCRA) which covers 291,000 square miles.

“BSEG supports the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area (NBSCRA) Bering Intergovernmental Tribal Advisory Council in coalition with several Tribes and Tribal organizations,” said BSEG Executive Director Jaylene Wheeler. “As noted in the NBSCRA Executive Order, ‘the preservation of a healthy and resilient Bering ecosystem, including its migratory pathways, habitat, and breeding grounds, is essential for the survival of marine mammals, fish, seabirds, other wildlife, and the subsistence communities that depend on them.’”

Over the past year, BSEG has been actively involved in two coalitions, including the NBSCRA Coalition and Bering Sea Tribal Coalition. These strategic partnerships along with the leadership of the BSEG Executive Committee have led to some key accomplishments for BSEG. These include strengthening BSEG’s governance through board-related training and internal policy development, improving external communications and outreach, and the planning for the 2024 Summit to be held in October.

“This unrestricted grant will help BSEG continue our important advocacy for the tribes and communities within NBSCRA as well as creating awareness of the important issues threatening subsistence and our traditional way of life,” said Ms. Wheeler. “We are grateful to the First Nations Development Institute for their support.”

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The Bering Sea Elders Group (BSEG) was founded in 2008. BSEG is an association of Elders appointed by 38 Tribes in the Yukon-Kuskokwim and Bering Strait regions of Alaska. For more information about BSEG, visit: <http://www.beringseaelders.org/about-us/>