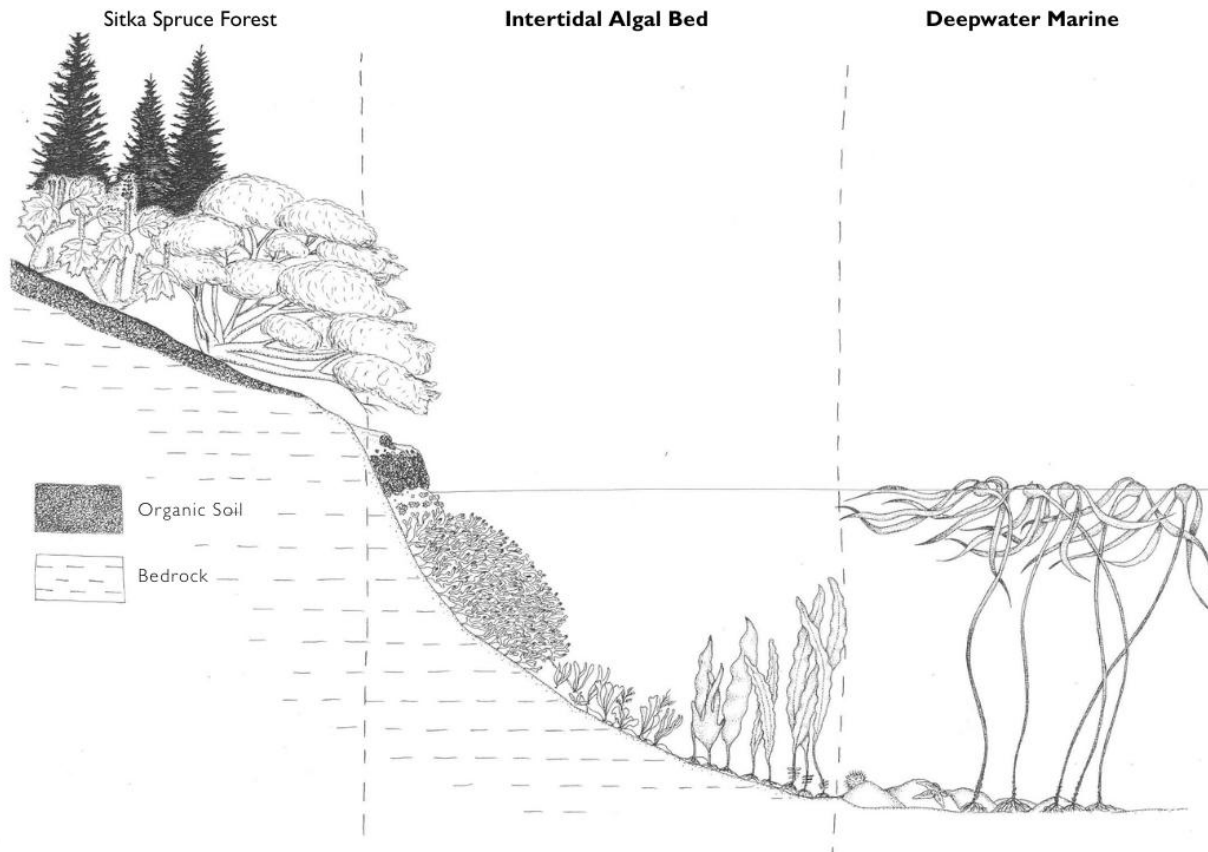


Ocean Water and Kelp Bed



Ocean Water

Ocean waters include nearshore and deepwater environments. Nearshore waters are often less saline due to freshwater inputs and support a greater diversity of plant and animal life due to their comparatively shallow depths, through which sunlight can penetrate. Nearshore waters grade to marine deepwater with increasing distance from shore. Substrates can be soft-bottomed (mud, sand, shell, and gravel), shell debris, or rocky. The benthic communities that reside here include infauna (organisms that live within sediments) and epifauna (organisms that live on sediments). Prominent species include barnacles, king crabs, bryozoans and other hydroids, shrimp, ascidians, anemones, sea pens, sea whips, brittle stars, sea cucumbers, sponges, gastropods, urchins, and shrimp. Cold-water corals, comparable in diversity, size, and structure to tropical coral reefs, form important benthic habitat in the Gulf of Alaska.

Subtidal Algal Bed

Subtidal algal beds are often dominated by bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) and typically form

along exposed coastlines with strong currents and bedrock substrate. Kelp beds appear as black-brown patches in coastal waters punctuated by areas of lighter color, which are the kelp blades floating on the surface. These structurally complex habitats provide critical food and shelter for marine mammals, sea otters, invertebrates, and fish.

Animal Species Supported:

Mammals:

Northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*) – **Aatak** [NW, PG], **Isuwiq, Qaigyak** [Chenega]

Sea otter (*Enhydra lutris*) – **Arhnaq, Igam'aq** [Chenega]

Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*) – **Wiinaq** [Chenega, NW, PG]

Pacific white-sided dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*) – **Mangaq**

Harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) – **Isuwiq**

Dall's porpoise (*Phocoenoides dalli*) – **Ciibiq** [Chenega]

Birds:

Black brant (*Branta bernicla nigricans*) – **Kamouk** [PWS]

Pigeon guillemot (*Cephus columba*) – **Cugaq** [PWS]

Puffins (*Fratercula cirrhata*, *F. corniculata*) – **Tunngat** [Kodiak], **Ngaq'ngaq** [Chenega],

Ngaqngaaq [NW, PG]

Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) – **Kuckalaq** [Chenega], **Kum'agyak** [NW, PG]

Harlequin duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) – **Qaingiaq** [PWS], **Lluuyulinguaq** [NW, PG], **Qainiaq** [Kodiak]

Gull (*Larus* spp.) – **Naruyaq, Qatayaq** [Kodiak], **Naahqwaq** [Chenega], **Qukiswa'aq** [NW, PG]

White-winged scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) – **Gaalerualek** [PWS]

Black scoter (*Melanitta nigra americana*) – **Kukumyaa'aq, Cúwahnaq, Sukumyaaq** [PWS]

Surf scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) – **Tunuculek**

Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax* spp.) – **Agasuuq** [Chenega], **Uyalek** [NW, PG]

Red-legged kittiwake (*Rissa brevirostris*) – **Kiuksaa'aq**

Black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) – **Qay'aqaaq** [PWS]

Common eider (*Somateria mollissima*) – **Qaanillqaacak**

Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisea*) – **Ayusaq**

Murre (*Uria* spp.) – **Quanaaq** [PWS], **Allpaq**

Fish:

Sculpin (*Cottidae* spp.) – **Kalagaq**, **Kala'aq** [NW, PG]

Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) – **Iqalluarpak** [NW, PG]

Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*) – **Amutaq**

Irish lord (*Hemilepidotus* spp.) – **Kayuluk** [NW, PG]

Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) – **Sagiq** [NW, PG]

Capelin (*Mallotus villosus*) – **Cikeq**, **Iqalluaq**

Tomcod (*Microgadus proximus*) – **Saakelaq**, **Taaqatak**

Pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*) – **Amartuq**, **Amaqaayak**, **Amartupiaq** [Chenega],
Luuqaanak [NW, PG]

Chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) – **Alimaq**, **Kangitneq**, **Algnartuliq** [Chenega], **Alima** [NW, PG]

Silver salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) – **Qakiiyaq**, **Caayuaq**, **Caiyuq** [Chenega]

Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) – **Mayuwartaq** [NW, PG]

Sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) – **Niklliq** [Chenega], **Sayak** [NW, PG]

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) – **Aamasuuk**, **Iiliksak**, **Iigallupaq** [Chenega],
Lluq'akaaq [NW, PG]

Starry flounder (*Platichthys stellatus*) – **Waa'uuq**, **Ggagtuliq**

Rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.) – **Cilupuuq** [N Alutiiq], **CiRupuuk** [S Alutiiq]

Black rockfish (*Sebastes melanops*) – **Tukuq**

Yelloweye rockfish (*Sebastes ruberrimus*) – **Ushmaq**

Eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) – **Cikeq**, **Qusuuk** [NW, PG]

Marine Invertebrates:

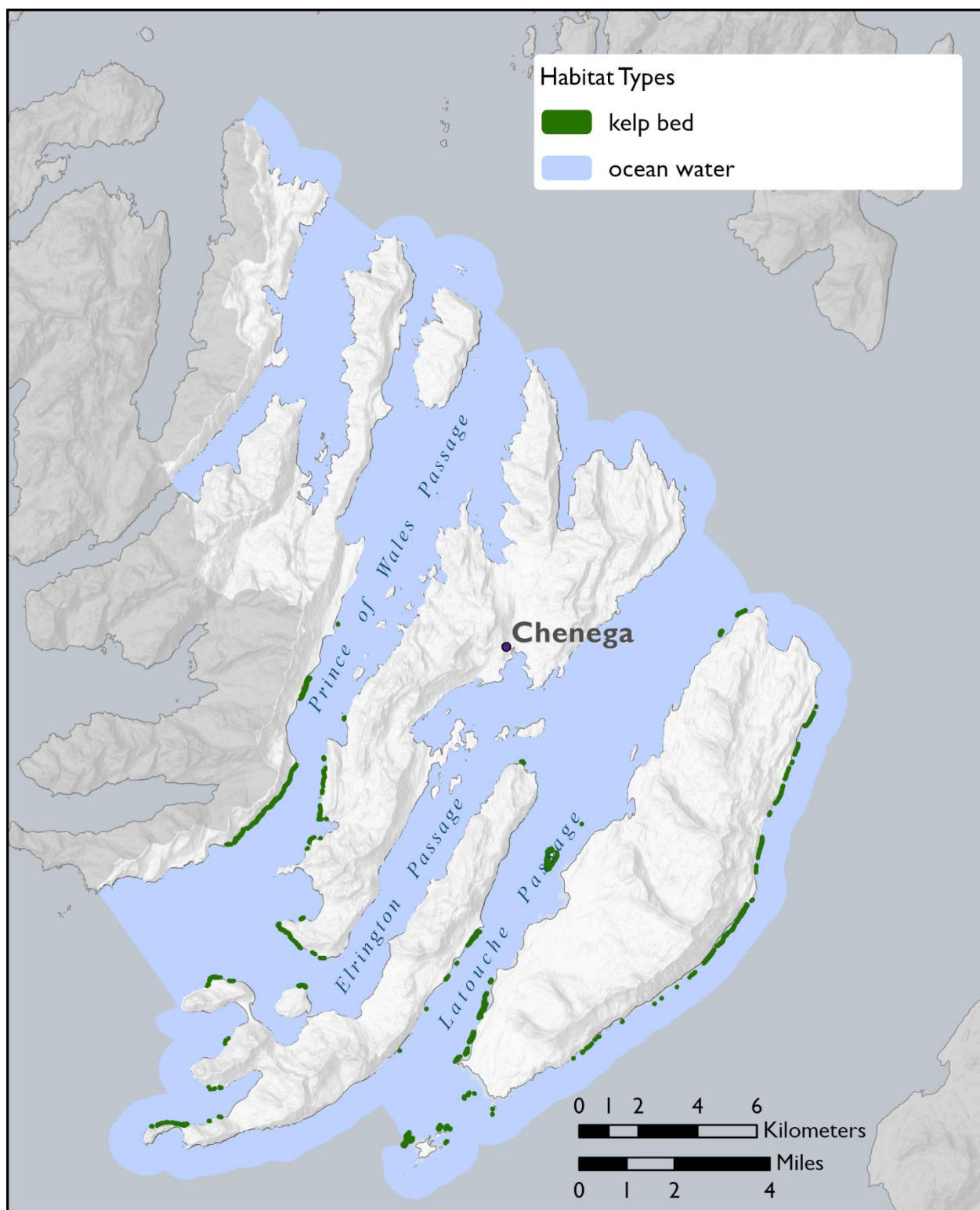
Commander squid (*Berryteuthis magister*) – **Amikuruuq** [N Alutiiq], **Utguiruaq** [S Alutiiq]

Giant Pacific octopus (*Enteroctopus dofleini*) – **Amikuq** [N Alutiiq], **Utguiq** [S Alutiiq]

Dungeness crab (*Metacarcinus magister*) – **Iwalrayak** [N Alutiiq], **Sakuuq**

Alaska spot prawn (*Pandalus platyceros*) – **Kumitgarpak**

Sea urchin (*Strongylocentrotus franciscanus*, *S. droebachiensis*) – **Uutuk** [Chenega, NW, PG]



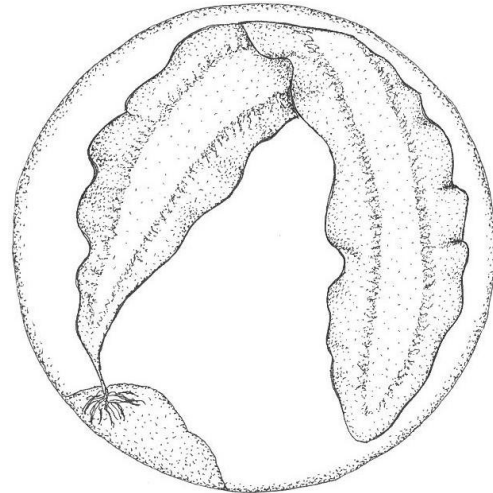
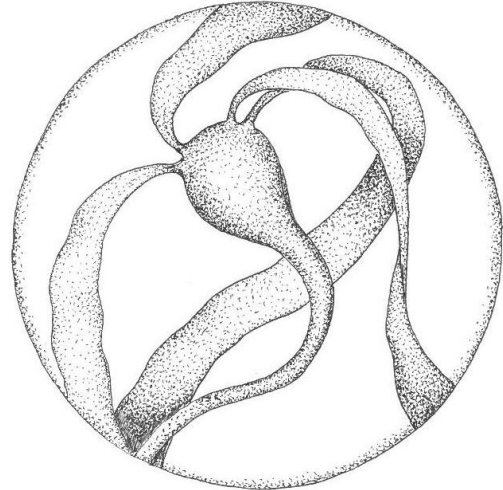
Subsistence Plants:

Species: Common name (*Scientific name*) – **Alutiiq name** [if known]

[NW = Nanwalek; PG = Port Graham; PWS = Prince William Sound]

Bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) – **Nasquluq** [Kodiak];
Meq'aq, Qahnguq [PWS]: Stems can be eaten raw or made into pickles and relish. Hollow stems can be used to siphon water, while thinner stems can be used as a whip, fishing line, steam bath switch, material for sewing nets or children's toys (pop guns), and as rope for securing boats or climbing. Hollow bulbs are used as a bowl to hold oil or store other foods. Kelp is also an effective garden fertilizer.

Sugar kelp (*Saccharina latissima*): No documented use by Alutiiq, but other regional groups collected and dried leaves for consumption. Contemporarily grown as an important maricultural species.





Example of ocean water and subtidal algal bed habitat (PC: ShoreZone – Elrington Island, Chenega region)