

The Valdez Fish Derbies ended Labor Day weekend, but the work continues for the Valdez Fish Derbies committee as they tally the numbers from 2011 and start planning for 2012. The final numbers show total ticket sales for the derbies down about 2.6 percent over the 2011 season. The silver salmon derby was up slightly, while the halibut derby numbers went down. All net proceeds from the non-profit go to fund advertising to encourage anglers to come to Valdez and for projects geared toward promoting fishing in the Valdez Community. With ticket sales at \$151,000, sponsor income at \$38,000 and t-shirt sales at \$10,000, the Valdez Fish Derbies ended up with a gross revenue just shy of \$200,000.

On the expense side, \$79,100 cash was allocated for cash prizes. The \$79,100 included \$17,000 for the truck and \$22,000 cash for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes in both derbies. Valdez Fish derbies also paid cash for Women's Derby prizes and to purchase vest and jackets for daily and weekly prizes. In 2011, Valdez Fish Derbies spent \$45,424 on advertising and marketing in magazines, newspaper, radio, television, and electronic media.

Wages paid to the sponsorship coordinator, bookkeepers and the people to disburse and collect tickets and money all season totaled \$16,575 for the year." The amount spent on wages is able to stay low because we have so many volunteers", commented Debbie Yamakami. "If we didn't have weigh-in volunteers and so many people helping with events and activities, we couldn't run the derbies".

Other notable expenses for the derbies are insurance at about \$4,000, gaming fees and taxes at \$1,300. Office, event and weigh-in expenses totaled approximately \$16,000 for the season and included postage, phone charges, office supplies, calibrating scales, dues and memberships, taxes, sponsor recognition, and volunteer recognition.

Valdez Fish Derbies will finish the season with a net gain of about \$30,000 and the non-profit will use some of that money for a project to benefit the Valdez Fishing Community. In previous year's Valdez Fish Derbies purchased fish totes for the harbor and helped to pay for community picnic tables.