



Meilani Schijvens, Director

**20 Years of Southeast Alaska Economic Development
MS Natural Resource Policy 1999, University of Oregon
BA History 1995, Colby College**



Meilani Schijvens is the owner and director of Rain Coast Data, a Juneau-based research and consulting firm specializing in Southeast Alaska economic analysis, publications, socioeconomic impact studies, multipliers, survey research, and public outreach. Ms. Schijvens is a lifelong Southeast Alaskan and has dedicated her professional career to Southeast Alaska economic and community development. She holds a Master's of Science in Natural Resource Policy from the University of Oregon.

Ms. Schijvens has been engaged in economic planning and analysis across Southeast Alaska since the 1990's. She has authored numerous economic development planning and economic publications. Southeast Alaska by the Numbers is a widely published document that provides a comprehensive assessment of the socioeconomic, demographic, and industry data impacting the regional economy, along with industry forecasting. Other publications Ms. Schijvens has recently authored include The Inter-Island Ferry Authority by the Numbers 2016, The Value of Alaska's Marine Highway in 25 Stories 2016, the Southeast Alaska 2020 Economic Plan, The Sitka Economic Development Association Strategic Plan 2016, The Southeast Alaska Business Climate Survey 2015, The Maritime Economy of Southeast Alaska, The Economic Impact of Shipbuilding in Ketchikan, The Wrangell Visitor Economy by the Numbers, and The Arts Economy of Southeast Alaska. Her current work efforts include projects in Skagway, Juneau, Wrangell, Ketchikan, Prince of Wales, and Sitka.

Ms. Schijvens also specializes in public outreach and involvement. She is involved in several public outreach campaigns, including the Juneau Downtown Harbors and the Wrangell Institute Property. Other recent examples of public outreach and involvement include the Juneau Economic Plan, the Tongass Forest Plan Five-Year Review Project, and the Juneau Transit Plan. Ms. Schijvens' key strengths are in community and economic development, research, analysis, public outreach, and advocacy.

Before founding Rain Coast Data, Ms. Schijvens worked as Executive Director for Southeast Conference, as a Research Analyst at McDowell Group, and as a Program Officer at the Juneau Economic Development Council. She taught Alaska Natural Resource History at the University of Oregon, worked as an environmental technician at the Greens Creek Mine, and was a staffer in Washington DC for the US Senate Minority Leader.

Selected Relevant Work History

- Southeast Alaska 2020 Economic Plan
- The Inter-Island Ferry Authority by the Numbers, 2016
- Southeast Alaska by the Numbers 2012-2016
- Juneau Economic Indicators 2006-2011
- The Maritime Economy of Southeast Alaska
- The Arts Economy of Southeast Alaska

Selected References

- Shelly Wright, Executive Director, Southeast Conference (907) 586-4351
- Carol Rushmore, Economic Development Director City and Borough of Wrangell (907) 874-2381
- Dennis Watson, General Manager, Inter-Island Ferry Authority (907) 530-4800 ex 27



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH, ANALYSIS & PUBLICATIONS

105 South Seward Street
Soboleff Center Suite 301
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Rain Coast Data is a Juneau-based research and consulting firm specializing in Southeast Alaska economic analysis, publications, socioeconomic impact studies, survey research, and public outreach. For the past 20 years, Rain Coast Data Director Meilani Schijvens has focused on regional economic, maritime, transportation, and natural resource development.

Rain Coast Data begins with raw data and information collection, and transforms it into beautiful, short, full-color publications that can be widely used and read. We do the research, analysis, graphics, charts, info-graphics, writing, layout, photography, and we arrange for printing or web-posting. Once your publication is complete, we will conduct a media rollout for your product.

Rain Coast Data understands that while for some the media release is the final step, for many organizations an in-person presentation of the study or project to local groups can be a critical next step. Once we have published your document, we will create a visually attractive presentation for you. We will put together your talking points, and can give the presentation.

While the firm is new, the services being provided by Rain Coast Data not; Ms. Schijvens has been studying the Southeast Alaska economic conditions for two decades. Recent examples Rain Coast Data work includes Southeast Alaska 2020 Economic Plan, Southeast Alaska by the Numbers, Skagway Alaska Business Climate Survey, The Inter-Island Ferry Authority by the Numbers, The Value of Alaska's Marine Highway in 25 Stories, The Arts Economy of Haines Alaska, The Sitka Economic Development Association Strategic Plan, Wrangell's Visitor Industry by the Numbers, and Results through Books and Early Reading.

Ms. Schijvens is a past Executive Director of Southeast Conference, and a life-long Southeast Alaska resident.

Rain Coast Data's Economic Publication Services

