

CIAP WEAR Trip Report  
Nunapitchuk (population 551)  
July 7, 2014



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Doug Huntman and Jacob Timmons) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for Nunapitchuk on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during the July inspection.

**WEAR Sites**

- **Landfill, 60.881144/-162.480153 (Active)** – This 30 acre unpermitted landfill consists of two adjacent tundra ponds (west and east) that contain trash and are surrounded by the waste. Trash is hauled from the community to the landfill, 1.3 miles to the southwest. During the summer, garbage is taken by boat and is dumped off of the boardwalk near the edge of the western tundra pond. During winter, garbage is taken by snow machine and is set in the middle of the frozen pond. When the pond thaws, the trash sinks to the bottom. Although the eastern tundra pond is not designated for landfill use, it is being used as such. There is also a metals area in between the tundra ponds to the south. A functioning Tok burn unit is located at the landfill, but it appears to have been rarely used.



- **Food Waste Landfill, 60.86303/-162.416176 (Active)** – This unpermitted landfill is in a tundra pond located 2.5 miles south of Nunapitchuk on the east side of the Johnson River. It is where community members dispose of their own subsistence and food waste. Many 5 gallon buckets and other plastics are mixed in with the subsistence and food waste in addition to municipal waste. All of the waste did not make it into the tundra pond itself and a part is freely mixing with the Johnson River.



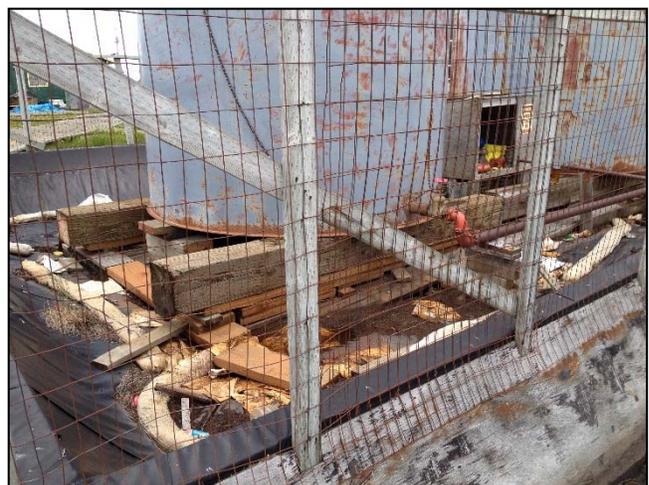
- **AKARNG Armory, 60.89455/-162.459521 (Active)** – This Alaska Army National Guard Armory is 800 feet southwest of the school. It is an active Contaminated Site (File ID 2436.38.001) due to petroleum contamination. In 2000 approximately 10 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated and sent to Bethel for treatment. There is staining and stressed vegetation found near the building's day tank. Cleanup levels have been approved and work continues on this site. The nearest source of erosion, the North Fork Johnson River, lies 430 feet away.



- **Gas Station and Tank Farm, 60.902142/-162.450067 (Active)** – This tank farm and gas station are owned by Nunapitchuk Limited, the village corporation. This site is located on the north shore of the North Fork Johnson River, about 1,000 feet west of the airstrip. Eleven fuel tanks are in use and within a wooden walled, lined secondary containment. There are 8 vertical tanks and 3 horizontal tanks, each resting on wooden supports. There is vegetation growing within the entire containment area. Additionally, four tanks and three 5,000 gallon propane tanks are present outside of secondary containment. The fueling dock is built on the shore so that boats can drive up and refuel. A wooden wall reinforced with sandbags acts as erosion mitigation to protect this site.



- **Washeteria Tanks, 60.896842/-162.457093 (Active)** – This site is located less than 60 feet from the washeteria. It consists of two single-walled vertical tanks with a total capacity of 15,750 gallons of diesel. The tanks are supported by wooden timbers. Although they are fenced and within secondary containment, the lining is ripped and torn in several locations making its integrity questionable. Some staining and sheen was found in between the boardwalk and tanks. The tanks have been in this location since at least the 1990s and is operated by the City of Nunapitchuk. The nearest source of erosion, the North Fork Johnson River, lies 600 feet away.



- **AVEC Tank, 60.895961/-162.459518 (Active)** – This site contains a double-walled horizontal tank with a capacity of 27,000 gallons and was installed in 2007 through a Denali Commission project. It is owned by AVEC and is used for the standby generator facility located adjacent to the tank. Only a standby generator is needed as power to Nunapitchuk is supplied by the community of Kasigluk through an intertie power line. The tank is mounted on a driven pile foundation for stability and is fully fenced. The North Fork Johnson River, the nearest source of erosion, lies 250 feet away.



- **School Tank Farm, 60.895942/-162.455996 (Active)** – This tank farm is owned and operated by the Lower Kuskokwim School District for the Anna Tobeluk Memorial School. This site, located 100 feet south of the school, contains four 10,000 gallon diesel tanks within elevated, fenced secondary containment. The tank farm is constructed several feet above ground on wooden pilings. There are three horizontal yellow fuel tanks that are adjacent to this tank farm, but they have not been in use or connected since at least 1998 per a Denali Commission report. The North Fork Johnson River, the nearest source of erosion, lies 800 feet away.



- **Old Elementary School Tank Farm, 60.896408/-162.460306 (Active)** – This tank farm includes five yellow vertical diesel tanks within a wooden diked and fenced area. It is unknown if the containment is lined. The tanks have a total capacity of 44,750 gallons. The tanks appear to be connected and in use. Some stained, dead vegetation as well as ponded water with sheen is present directly outside of the tank farm in between the wooden wall and the boardwalk. This site was owned and operated by the Lower Kuskokwim School District for the former elementary school; however the school has been consolidated with the high school. It is unknown if these tanks are still owned by the School District. This site can be found 500 feet west of the current school and 60 feet from the South Fork Johnson River.

