12/23/03

Greg Lindt DEC CSites
459-2117 SNAKE RIVER, NOME

Spills
tank farm - old army
at mouth
likely low levels in river but not est. yet.

free product a couple of hundred feet from shore.

* quiet likely

* multiple responsible parties
Chevron and other

main concern - stop offsite migration

tanks are gone - but 200-300'

Locals & Natives are concerned about contaminated fish.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
1992 STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

NAME OF WATERBODY: SNAKE RIVER

Location or Lat/Long: NOME, AK – MOUTH OF RIVER IS NOME HARBOR.

Is the waterbody in a national or state park, monument, refuge, preserve, or similar area?:
[ ] Yes / [X] No / Name: _____

Waterbody Type:
- [X] River/Stream
- [ ] Lake
- [ ] Fresh Wetland
- [ ] Tidal Wetland
- [ ] Estuary
- [ ] Coastal Shoreline
- [ ] Groundwater

Waterbody Size:
- 35 Miles
- ____ Acres/Hectares
- ____ Acres/Hectares
- ____ Acres/Hectares
- ____ Square Miles
- ____ Miles

Segment of Waterbody Addressed:
From: _____
To: _____
Other Description: _____
Size of Segment: _____

Period of Assessment, From: _____ **To:** _____

Type of Documentation (attach if possible):
- [ ] Water quality data
- [ ] Documented oil spill
- [ ] NOV / Enforcement action
- [ ] Photos with documentation
- [ ] Photos without documentation
- [ ] Written report
- [ ] Field notes
- [ ] Overflight
- [X] Observation
- [ ] Other

Describe Source and Nature of Pollution, Documentation Provided and Other Comments:
◇ Harbor traffic @ mouth
◇ airport construction (w/ dewatering)
◇ dredging of entrance & inner harbor (high in locally occurring As)
◇ snow disposal

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: ROMANESKO **Phone:** 443-2600 **Date:** 4/6/92
Employer: State of AK **Dept:** DEC **Title:** Environmental Engineer
Address: Box 1225 Nome, AK
Education/Experience: _____

E. Hubbard, Water Quality Mgmt., ADEC, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK 99801-1795 / 907-465-5306

TYPE AND SEVERITY OF POLLUTANTS AND SOURCES: (Severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight)

POLLUTANTS:

__ 0 Cause unknown
__ 1 Unknown toxicity
__ 2 Pesticides: _____
__ 3 Priority organics: _____
__ 4 Nonpriority organics: _____
X 5 Metals: _____
__ 6 Ammonia
__ 7 Chlorine
__ 8 Other inorganics
__ 9 Nutrients
__ 10 pH
__ 11 Siltation/sedimentation
__ 12 Low dissolved oxygen
__ 13 TDS/Salinity/Chlorides
__ 30 Other: _____
__ 14 Temperature Modifications
__ 15 Flow alterations
__ 16 Other habitat alterations
__ 17 Pathogens
__ 18 Radiation
__ 19 Oil and Grease
__ 20 Taste and odor
__ 21 Suspended solids
__ 22 Noxious aquatic plants
__ 23 Filling and draining
__ 24 Total toxics
__ 25 Turbidity
__ 26 Exotic species
__ 27 Debris, foam, scum, etc.
__ 28 Insufficient stream structure
X 29 Arsenic

SOURCES OF POLLUTANTS (Severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

Point Sources:
__ 1 Industrial
__ 2 Municipal
__ 3 Storm sewers
__ 4 Combined sewers

Agriculture:
__ 11 Non-irrigated crop production
__ 12 Irrigated crop production
__ 13 Specialty crop production
__ 14 Pasture land
__ 15 Range land
__ 16 Feedlots
__ 17 Aquaculture
__ 18 Animal waste/holding areas
__ 19 Manure lagoons

Silviculture:
__ 21 Timber harvest
__ 21 Stream restoration projects
__ 22 Forest management
__ 23 Road construction/maintenance
__ 24 Elimination of stream thermal cover

Construction:
M 31 Highway/road
__ 31 Bridge construction/repair
M 32 Land development

Resource Exploration/extraction:
__ 51 Surface mining
__ 52 Subsurface mining
__ 53 Placer mining
__ 54 Dredge mining
__ 55 Petroleum activities
__ 56 Mill tailings
__ 57 Mine tailings
__ 58 Gravel mining
__ 58 Injection wells

Urban Runoff:
__ 40 Surface runoff
M 40 Storm sewers

Waste Disposal:
__ 61 Sludge
__ 62 Wastewater
M 63 Landfills
__ 64 Industrial land treatment
__ 65 Onsite wastewater systems
__ 66 Hazardous waste
__ 67 Sewage disposal

Hydrologic Modification:
__ 71 Stream channelization
M 72 Dredging
__ 73 Dam construction
__ 74 Flow regulation/modification
__ 75 Bridge construction
__ 76 Removal of riparian vegetation
__ 77 Streambank modification
__ 78 Draining/filling of wetlands

Other:
__ 81 Atmospheric deposition
__ 82 Waste storage tank leaks
__ 83 Highway maintenance/runoff
__ 84 Petroleum/chemical spills, leaks
__ 85 In-place containments
__ 86 Natural sources
__ 87 Recreational activities
__ 88 Upstream impoundment
__ 89 Salt storage sites
__ 91 Fire damage/restoration
__ 92 Underground storage tanks
__ 93 Aboveground storage tanks
__ 94 Saltwater intrusion
__ 95 Road salting
__ 96 Fish, shellfish wastes
__ 90 UNKNOWN SOURCE

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
1994 STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

WB File 115(b)

NAME OF WATERBODY: Snake River

Location or Lat/Long: Nome, AK - mouth of River is Nome Small Boat Harbor

Is the waterbody in a national or state park, monument, refuge, preserve, or similar area?:
[ ] Yes / [X] No / Name: _____

Waterbody Type:	Waterbody Size:	Segment of Waterbody Addressed:
[X] River/Stream	35 Miles	From: Headwater
[ ] Lake	____ Acres	To: Mouth
[ ] Fresh Wetland	____ Acres	Other Description: _____
[ ] Tidal Wetland	____ Acres	
[ ] Estuary	____ Square Miles	Size of Segment: _____
[ ] Coastal Shoreline	____ Miles	
[ ] Groundwater		

Period of Assessment, From: _____ **To:** _____

Assessment completed by: _____

Type of Documentation (attach if possible):

[ ] Water quality data
[ ] Documented oil spill
[ ] NOV / Enforcement action
[ ] Photos with documentation
[ ] Fish / Habitat survey
[ ] Written report
[ ] Field notes
[ ] Overflight
[X] Observation
[ ] Other (please describe below)

Assessment based on: [ ] Monitored water quality data [ ] Evaluated (Best professional judgement)

Describe Source and Nature of Pollution, Documentation Provided and Other Comments:

- Harbor traffic @ mouth
- snow disposal
- dredging of entrance & inner harbor

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: Romenesko Phone: 443-2600 Date: 2Feb.94
Employer: AK Dept: DEC Title: Engineer
Address: Nome District office
Education/Experience: _____

Earl Hubbard, Water Quality Mgmt., ADEC, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK 99801-1795 907-465-5306

5305

Sandavent ← 5276

TYPES OF POLLUTANTS (Please indicate relative severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

___ Cause unknown
___ Unknown toxicity
___ Pesticides: _____
___ Priority organics: _____
___ Nonpriority organics: _____
___ Metals: _____

___ Ammonia
___ Chlorine
___ Other inorganics
___ Nutrients
___ pH
___ Siltation/sedimentation
___ Low dissolved oxygen
___ TDS/Salinity/Chlorides

___ Temperature modifications
___ Flow alterations
___ Other habitat alterations
___ Pathogens
___ Radiation
___ Oil and Grease
___ Taste and odor
___ Suspended solids

___ Noxious aquatic plants
___ Filling and draining
___ Total toxics
___ Turbidity
___ Exotic species
___ Debris, foam, scum, etc.
___ Insufficient stream structure
X Arsenic

Other: _____

SOURCES OF POLLUTANTS (Please indicate relative severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

Point Sources:
M Industrial
M Municipal

Urban Runoff:
___ Storm sewers
___ Combined sewers
H Surface runoff

Agriculture:
___ Non-irrigated crop production
___ Irrigated crop production
___ Pasture land
___ Range land
___ Feedlots
___ Aquaculture
___ Animal waste/holding areas
___ Manure lagoons

Silviculture:
___ Timber harvest
___ Stream restoration projects
___ Road construction/maintenance
___ Elimination of stream thermal cover
___ Log Transfer Facilities (estuary)
___ Log Sort Yard (land)

Construction:
M Highway/road
___ Bridge construction/repair
M Land development

Resource Exploration/extraction:
___ Surface mining
___ Subsurface mining
___ Placer mining
___ Dredge mining
___ Petroleum activities
___ Mill tailings
M Mine tailings
___ Gravel mining
___ Injection wells

Waste Disposal:
___ Sludge
___ Wastewater
M Landfills Industrial land treatment
___ Onsite wastewater systems
___ Hazardous waste
___ Sewage disposal
___ Septic tank leak

Hydrologic Modification:
___ Stream channelization
M Dredging
___ Dam construction
___ Flow regulation/modification
___ Bridge construction
___ Removal of riparian vegetation
___ Streambank modification/destabilization
___ Draining/filling of wetlands

Marinas:
___ Small boat harbors (up to 10 slips)
___ Harbors (recreational/commercial)
___ Loading facilities (commercial)

Other:
___ Atmospheric deposition
___ Waste storage tank leaks
M Highway maintenance/runoff
___ Petroleum/chemical spills, leaks
___ In-place containments
H Natural sources
M Recreational activities
___ Upstream impoundment
___ Salt storage sites
___ Fire damage/restoration
___ Underground storage tanks
___ Aboveground storage tanks
___ Saltwater intrusion
___ Road salting
___ Fish, shellfish wastes
___ UNKNOWN SOURCE

END

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

1994 STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

NAME OF WATERBODY: Snake River

Location or Lat/Long: Nome, AK - mouth of River is Nome Small Boat Harbor

Is the waterbody in a national or state park, monument, refuge, preserve, or similar area?:

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- Harbor traffic @ mouth
- snow disposal
- dredging of entrance & inner harbor

RESPONDENT INFORMATION:

Name: Romenesko **Phone:** 443-2600 **Date:** 2Feb 94

Employer: AK **Dept:** DEC **Title:** Engineer

Address: Nome District office

Education/Experience: _____

Earl Hubbard, Water Quality Mgmt., ADEC, 410 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK 99801-1795 907-465-5306

TYPES OF POLLUTANTS (Please indicate relative severity; H= High, M= Medium, S= Slight):

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X Arsenic

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___ Upstream impoundment
___ Salt storage sites
___ Fire damage/restoration
___ Underground storage tanks
___ Aboveground storage tanks
___ Saltwater intrusion
___ Road salting
___ Fish, shellfish wastes
___ UNKNOWN SOURCE

END

SNAKE River File
ED

MEMORANDUM State of Alaska

Department of Environmental Conservation

To: Eric Decker, Environmental Specialist, WQM Date: March 6, 1995

Through: Telephone no: 443-2600
Fax number: 443-5961

From: Randy Romenesko, NDO Subject: Snake River Impairment
File: 400.83.xxx

On 2 March, 1995 we talked about the subject river. Specifically we discussed whether or not the Snake River was impaired by turbidity and arsenic and are there "persistent exceedences of these water quality standards". It is my opinion the Snake River is not impaired given the criteria that must be met. This opinion is based upon limited scientific data. The opinion is formulated upon discussion with local resource managers and my experiences with this river system.

Concerning turbidity issues:

-Construction activities at the local airport are issued dewatering permits (General Permits), thus effectively eliminating/minimizing turbidity from this source.

-There exists limited mining activities on tributaries to the Snake River. To my knowledge there has been no complaints or actions taken as a result of these activities impacting the River. There is no mining on the River itself.

-Snow storage and associated runoff is of some concern. Snow removal and storage at the local airport is limited by the proximity of the airport to the Snake River. Snow storage in parts of town may impact tributaries to the River. Runoff associated with snow melt is seasonal and temporary.

-Dredging of inner harbor, by the US Corp of Engineers, is done on an as need basis. Usually dredging is done every other year for a week or two. Dredged materials are discharged into Norton Sound.

Concerning Arsenic:

-Arsenic (As) present is naturally occurring, and appear in sediments associated with mined deposits. The US Corp of Engineer has done limited studies on sediments in the inner harbor located at the mouth of the River. Elevated levels in the water column do not appear to be a problem from the limited data available.

Boat harbor activities at the inner harbor are increasing, but do not contribute to As or turbidity.

Snake River — turbidity near an issue 5 to 6 years ago.

Dredge 6 - located between the river & ocean.

ADFG. Charlie Lean (Nome) discussed with Barbie March 7

- highly turbid but now the discharge goes through ponds but now drains to ocean.
- Revenues upstream that have septic that may leach
- Water is quite clear
- Leachate from Nome Dump & may reach Snake River - ½ mile from mouth
- Power plant cooling system may cause a thermal discharge
- Particles from past mining
- Dredge 5 is in Dry Cr - an extreme high water days - there may be turbidity.

Summary - there are some sources but no documented WQ problems now - but water had problems 8-10 yrs ago.

- there are springs coming from tailing piles in the - tailings are 2 miles long and ½ mile ~~long~~ wide - there was an accident in the mid-80's where dogs died because of drinking water below tailings.

Suggest calling Mac McLean -