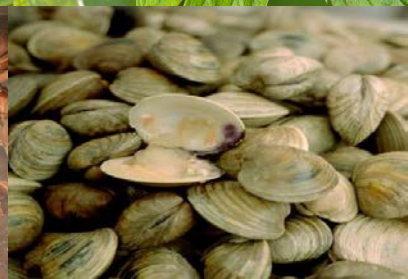
YAKUTAT TLINGIT TRIBE









ANKAU SALTCHUCKS

"OUR BEACHES WERE OUR GARDEN…ANKAU ALWAYS HAD THE BEST OF EVERYTHING"

What is the Saltchuck?

- Rich estuary as a source of food by the Tribe in all seasons. Covers a large peninsula located near Yakutat, AK.
- Clams, cockles, crab, fish, seal, ducks, moose, deer, many kinds of berries, and plants for herbal medicine.
- How of the Yakutat Culture Camp, where youth learned to dry fish and seaweed, gather berries, outdoor recreation, and learning the traditional ways of storytelling, song and dance.
- Abandoned military facilities and dumps used between the 1940's and 1970's are scattered over most of the peninsula.

ANKAU SALTCHUCKS

Our Culture Camp was a place where children can learn and live the traditional Tlingit way of life through song & dance, storytelling, language, arts, crafts, and the preparation of traditional subsistence foods.

The Culture Camp began in 1985 and closed in 2003 due to extremely high levels of dioxin in the soil, water, and seafood.

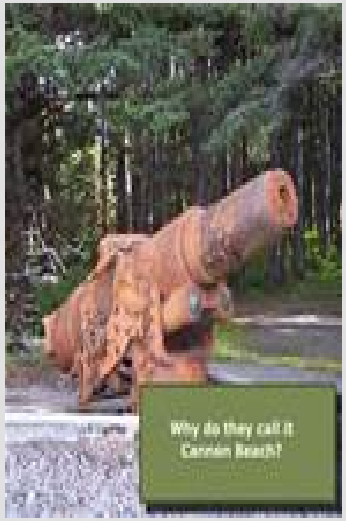
The dioxin contaminates were left from abandoned military and dump sites from the 1940's to 1970's scattered throughout the peninsula.

1940'S TO 1970'S

The Military and Dump sites have affected our traditional way of life with the high levels of dioxins found at our subsistence site. Though Yakutat is covered with various places to gather subsistence foods the Ankau Saltchucks is an area with easy vehicle access for all community member to enjoy.

This area has been a concern for over twenty years and the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe has been very dedicated in having Ankau be sampled, tested and cleaned for future generations. It was a struggle in the beginning to find a starting point to 1) inventory the sites, 2) have the site sampled , and 3) seek funding and resources for the clean-up.






HISTORY

Health Concerns

- Unusual patterns of health concerns within the community in the 1990's raised the possibility of exposure to dioxins in the saltchuck
- Former military facilities were identified as possible sources of contamination

2003-2006

- The culture camp was located on former military garrison site
- Use of the camp was discontinued in 2003 due to concerns about dioxin exposure
- Sampling by the Department of Defense (DOD) from 2003 to 2006 confirmed dioxins in soil at the former garrison site
- Dioxins were found in shellfish tissue collected from the culture camp beach
- Dioxins were also found in shellfish tissue by the Ankau bridge
- 2013 barracks area (culture camp) site investigation. Sample soil and delineate the extent of dioxin contamination at the Barrack area.

2010

DIOXONS WERE DETECTED IN SOIL.. AT OVER 14 TIMES THE SCREENING LEVEL."

Site Investigation

2010 Culture Camp

- Funded under U.S. EPA Tribal Response Program
- Built on results of previous investigations
- Soil sampling in the Culture Camp area with lower detection limits
  - Develop a sample profile for the dioxins
  - Compare with typical source profiles

Seafood sampling within the Ankau Saltchucks (localized or widespread)

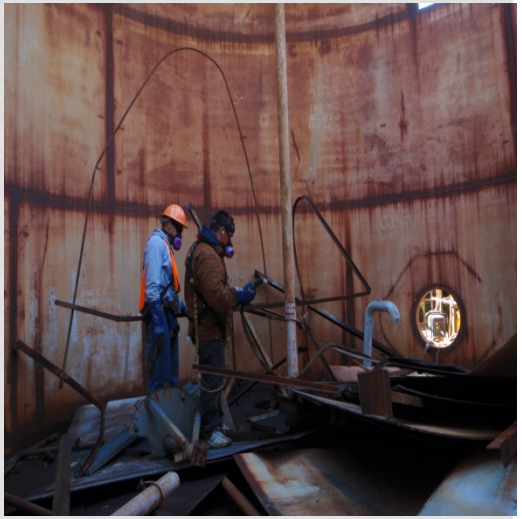
Collected 2 crab samples at Culture Camp Site

Collected 1 soil sample at Culture Camp

Site Investigation Results

- Dioxins detected from both crab samples
- Dioxins detected in the soil sample at 62.62 ng/kg, over 14 times the screening level of 4.3 ng/kg
- Soil dioxin pattern findings indicate the dioxin source may be chemical in nature and not from combustion.
- Results suggest localized sources of dioxins
- Additional research will be required to determine sources

2011-2012 SAMPLING AND CLEAN-UP



CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES

OUR A-TEAM

2012-2014

2012 WORK COMPLETED

The summer of 2012 was site cleaning, brushing, chipping, and sampling at the Ankau Saltchucks with a crew of three who filled 1 cubic yard bag, with DRO contaminated soil with average weight of 3100 pounds. The crew filled fourteen (14) 20′ containers that were shipped by Alaska Marine Line to a waste site in the state of Washington.

The crew works with Kathryn Foster, Senior Civil Engineer with Ridolfi who provided hands on training to do sampling of shellfish and soil at the Ankau Saltchucks. Kathryn provides a wide variety of service to our program to help strengthen our clean-up efforts for a safe subsistence future at the Saltchucks.

2012-2014 Scope of Work at ANKAU SALTCHUCKS

Tribal Response Program

- Maintain survey & inventory of BF sites/ Enhance public record
- Public outreach and education
- Mechanism for approval & verification of clean-up work
- Conduct site investigation (contamination in natural resources)
- Develop report of findings that shares the exposure pathways for dioxins

DOD/ NALEMP 2012-2014

- Removal debris and close septic tank and manholes
- Remove surface debris Ankau bridge
- Sample soil at former OCRRS Barracks Area (Culture Camp)
- Remove surface debris former motor shed
- Remove surface debris former ammunitions storage area
- 2013 Barracks area (Culture Camp) Site investigation Sample soil and delineate the extent of dioxin contamination at the Barracks area. It was recommended by Carey Cossaboom, Project Manager with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to grid-out the barrack site (culture camp) in order to sample the entire area.

SHELLFISH AND SOIL SAMPLING

Environmental Justice Grant

- Environmental Justice Grant to fund further dioxin testing in the shellfish at the Ankau Saltchucks.
- 9 sampling sites for crab/ clams

Cockle samples- dioxins September 2012

- Above is the map of shellfish sampling completed in 2010, 2012, and 2014

RESOURCES

Our program works with Joe Sarcone, Environmental Health Scientist With ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) that co-hosted community meetings to perform a health consultation on dioxin data collected in the Ankau Saltchucks. The specific information that was discussed at our 2012 meeting is 1) do community members still gather food from the Ankau site, 2) what kind of subsistence food is gathered, and 3) how much consumption of subsistence foods.

Mr. Sarcone then will gather all information and provides a detailed report of the areas consumption and concerns to focus on for future information that may help our program with location details of contaminates sites. YTT will continue to provide the data gaps for ATSDR

Ridolfi provides environmental consulting and civil engineering that specializes in habitat restoration, site investigation, and clean-up, waste management. The organization helps guide and train YTT to the environment that impacts every stage of the planning and execution, ensuring that our project and there work address important concerns today while leaving a positive legacy for the future.
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ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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