

CIAP WEAR Trip Report  
Aniak (population 541)  
May 24, 2012 & September 10, 2013



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program and Contaminated Sites Program (Lori Aldrich and Bill O'Connell) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for the Village of Aniak on May 24, 2012. We met with Laura Simeon, Gina McKindy, and Leonard Morgan of the Aniak Tribal Council to discuss potential sites to visit. On September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the Solid Waste Program (Kym Bronson and Kit Persson) re-inspected Aniak for additional sites. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during the 2012 and 2013 inspections.

**2012 WEAR Sites**

- **Landfill, 61.585558/-159.595336 (Active)** – This landfill is located approximately 1.5 miles west of town. It is a fenced, self-haul landfill that operates with minimal management from the City. The site has been in operation since the late 1980s and accepts municipal and construction and demolition wastes. Waste is spread throughout the 5 acre site and residents open burn. The landfill is located more than 1,500 feet from the Kuskokwim River, which is eroding at 2 feet per year according to the Army Corps of Engineers 2009 Baseline Erosion Assessment (BEA) study.



- **North Landfill, 61.586563/-159.572446 (Closed)** – This landfill is located directly north of the active sewage lagoon approximately 1 mile west of the village. The landfill was operated during the 1980's. Although the landfill is covered, debris such as metals and drums are apparent at the surface. An elevated forested area exists between the landfill and the river. It is located approximately 300 feet from the Kuskokwim River, which is eroding at 2 feet a year per the BEA study.





- **Runway Landfill, 61.586473/-159.553446 (Eroded)** – Local residents reported this landfill was located along the Kuskokwim River by the north end of the runway. It was operated from the 1960's to 1980. It has completely eroded into the river, although boaters still report the occasional barrel or other trash in the river bank. We were not able to locate the landfill specifically, but relied on local knowledge to site its former location.



- **Crowley Tank Farm, 61.581991/-159.536261 (Active)** – This tank farm is located in the center of town approximately 100 feet from the Kuskokwim River and is owned by Crowley Fuel Services. The riverbank upstream of this site is reinforced with concrete blocks. The BEA study calculated erosion at 0.75 feet per year in this section of riverbank.





- **Transformer Lot, 61.581164/-159.535471 (Abandoned)** – There is an empty lot within the town of Aniak where a number of transformers are being stored or have been abandoned. There was also various scrap metal and equipment in the lot. Although we did not observe any staining, from the apparent age of the transformers, some could contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The site is over 270 feet from the Kuskokwim River, which is eroding at 0.75 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **Boneyard, 61.591492/-159.601325 (Active)** – The boneyard is located approximately 1.5 miles west of town and ½ mile east of the barge landing. It contains primarily old trucks and equipment with some other metals including fuel tanks. Some staining was present on the ground around the equipment. The boneyard is located approximately 150 feet from the Kuskokwim River. The BEA study calculated erosion at 2 feet per year in this section of riverbank





## 2013 WEAR Sites

- **ADOT&PF Runway Apron, 61.582026/-159.551934 (Active)** – This is an active Contaminated Site (File ID 2404.38.006) located off the runway near Aniak High School. The petroleum contamination present came from former large bulk fuel tanks, drums, large GE generators, and miscellaneous debris. All tanks and debris were removed from the site and the contaminated soil is being land farmed at the site to remediate the contamination. The landfarm is completely fenced. The land is owed by Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) and is located approximately 1,420 feet from the Kuskokwim River.



- **Aniak Light & Power Tank Farm, 61.581144/-159.534518 (Active)** – This tank farm is owned by Aniak Light & Power and is fully fenced. There are nine horizontal tanks of fuel oil, two horizontal tanks of gasoline, and one very large vertical tank of fuel oil. The tanks are in a lined containment berm, and the liners seems to be holding about half an inch of water. There were several areas of darker soil that may be due to contamination. The site is located approximately 220 feet from the Kuskokwim River.





- **Former White Alice Communications Site, 61.580471/-159.550536 (Active)** – Formally an Air Force White Alice Communications facility that operated from 1955-1979, this site is owned by the State of Alaska ADOT&PF. The Aniak High School and Middle School buildings are located on this an active Contaminated Site (File ID 2404.38.007) with PCB and petroleum contamination. Various clean ups have occurred to remediate or remove the PCB contamination and work continues to occur to cleanup this site. During the site visit, on the runway side of the school buildings we found 2 decommissioned fuel tanks labeled 'Permanently Closed' with blackened vegetation near the metal piping. There were also several 55 gallon drums marked "motor oil," approximately 28 gas containers, and an overgrown school waste storage site. The site is 1,800 feet from the Kuskokwim River.

