

**CIAP WEAR Trip Report
Dillingham (population 2,406)
June 27-28, 2013**



Alaska Department Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Kit Persson and Jamie Gorman) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for the City of Dillingham, June 27th – 28th, 2013. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during the June inspection.

WEAR Sites

- **Landfill, 59.097498/-158.547821 (Active)** – This is a permitted Class II Landfill that is owned and operated by the City of Dillingham and has been in use since August of 1979. The landfill is located 3.75 miles northwest of the Dillingham Airport and is roughly 15 acres in size. It accepts municipal waste, construction and demolition debris, and regulated asbestos containing materials (RACM). Semi-annual groundwater monitoring has been conducted since 2009 due to a November 2007 Notice of Violation. Public access is controlled at multiple points along the access road through a series of locking gates. The waste transfer area includes an office, shipping crates used for special waste separation and storage, an area for white goods waiting for Freon removal, a dumpster for waste transfer, and a garage for heavy equipment storage. At the time of inspection, the electric fence surrounding the transfer area was documented to have been damaged by bears. The landfill burns most of its waste within a Summit burn unit until June 1, 2014 when it will no longer be allowed through their solid waste permit. There is a gargantuan, unsorted metals pile which has no soil cover and has been the site of an unintended fire. The cell where ash is placed and covered borders a wetland. South of this cell's berm, on the wetland side, there was noted to be distressed vegetation, litter, and discolored water. The landfill operators did not have hazardous waste recognition training or Rural Alaska Landfill Operator training at the time of the inspection. The site is 8,350 feet west of the Wood River.





- **ADOT&PF, 59.041307/-158.468814 (Closed)** – This Contaminated Site (File ID 2540.26.002) is located at the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Vehicle Maintenance Facility off of Kenny Wren Road. The site's status is listed as 'Cleanup Complete – Institutional Controls' in the Contaminated Sites database. The site was documented in September of 1999 after three underground storage tanks were removed from the site, resulting in the discovery of petroleum hydrocarbons exceeding ADEC cleanup levels. Approximately 35 cubic yards of contaminated soil were stockpiled about 125 feet south of the maintenance building. During the time of inspection, these stockpiles were investigated and noted to be revegetated. Also, near the soil, several 55-gallon drums with unknown contents and various traffic cones and metal poles were discarded amongst the trees. The relation of these items to the Contaminated Site is unknown. The site is 1,500 feet north of the Nushagak River.



- **Delta Western Tank Farm, 59.037962/-158.467063 (Active)** – This tank farm is situated on the shores of the Nushagak River and is listed as an active Contaminated Site (CS) (File ID 2540.38.017). There were 11 tanks onsite located within a sheet pile containment wall that had attached fencing. The site covered half an acre and had a total capacity of 2.23 million gallons. The facility is owned and operated by Delta Western and there was an administrative building and gas station in front of the tank farm along Dillingham’s Main Street. The tank farm itself has been around since the 1940s. However, the CS status was granted much later, in 2011. The CS description details that a “seep was observed in June of 2011 near the shoreline in the rock outcrop along the southwest property boundary.” That seep contained several petroleum contaminants and was observed during inspection to have an oily sheen and a rusty orange hue. Also, at a culvert outfall 100 feet east of the tank farm enclosure, the exiting water was observed to be the same rusty orange hue and had a noticeable sheen to it. The vegetation surrounding the outfall was disturbed.



- **Icicle Seafoods Wood River Facility, 59.067637/-158.438682 (Active)** – This active Contaminated Site (File ID 2540.38.019) was reported to the CS Program on May 15th, 2013, a little over a month before the time of WEAR inspection. The site was located beside a housing connex at Icicle Seafoods approximately 280 feet from active erosion along the banks of the Wood River. The site is described within the CS Database as a release of about 150 gallons of diesel fuel from an aboveground heating oil tank. The area of concern was noted to be dug out at the time of inspection and groundwater had begun to pool. The 0.001 acre area was roped off and found to have above ADEC cleanup levels of contamination in the soil and groundwater. The pooled water had an orange-brown hue with a foamy surface texture. There was also piping surrounding the site which was in place to reroute utilities from the bunkhouse which had initially been buried in the contaminated soil. Groundwater in the area was found to occur at a depth of three to five feet.



- **Former Snopac Seafood Processing Facility, 59.067898/-158.437803 (Active)** – This is another active Contaminated Site (File ID 2540.38.018) located on Icicle Seafoods property. An Environmental Site Assessment dated November 2011 documented the presence of petroleum contamination in the areas of concern: a gravel clearing previously used for waste burning operations, former fuel tank locations, and stained areas. The site was documented during the time that the property was owned and operated as a Snopac Seafood Processing facility. Icicle Seafoods bought the processing plant from Snopac on April 1st, 2013. The site is located right on the edge of Wood River. During the inspection, it was noted that the river bank was actively eroding, despite the implementation of various erosion mitigation measures, such as the placement of concrete blocks and geotextile fabric. This erosion was on the east side of the site; on the southwest side, there was witnessed pooling water with a visible sheen. This site is located 205 feet northeast of the Icicle Seafoods Wood River Facility CS.



- **IHS Hospital Sites, 59.000154/-158.531449 (Active)** – The US Indian Health Service (IHS) Kananak Hospital has several active areas of petroleum contamination documented within the Contaminated Sites Database (File ID 2540.38.005). The edge of the IHS property boundary runs up against a steep bluff that is eroding into the Nushagak River. A historic hospital landfill was discovered several years ago when garbage began surfacing along the face of the bluff. The landfill was dug up in 2005 and transferred to the Dillingham Landfill. Also along the beach, there were witnessed seeps of bright orange sheened water originating from the bluff. These seeps were noted to have a sulfurous odor. Erosion along the bluff was most noticeable at an outfall culvert that had become completely exposed, despite the placement of heavy riprap at its base and geotextile coverage along its body. This site covers an area of about 10 acres and is located along the anadromous Nushagak River.

