

CIAP WEAR Trip Report
Port Heiden (population 123)
September 9, 2012



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Elizabeth Stergiou) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for the City of Port Heiden on September 9th, 2012. The following narrative is a brief description of her findings during the inspection. Please note that due to staffing changes this report was not written by Elizabeth Stergiou.

WEAR Sites

- **Landfill, 56.942129/-158.576732 (Active)** – This self-haul landfill was constructed in 2009 and is located approximately 2.5 miles east of the community. The footprint for the site is around 5 acres. The landfill is currently permitted, although inspections have noted the approved operations plan is not being followed. Noted problems with the site include: the site is fenced, but not locked, and waste is not separated prior to being burned in the burn unit. This landfill contains municipal waste, inert waste and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) polluted soil per ADEC approval. It is located 3.75 miles east of Bristol Bay, which is eroding at 20 feet per year according to the Army Corps of Engineers 2009 Baseline Erosion Assessment (BEA) study.



- **East Landfill, 56.942073/-158.570161 (Closed)** – This fenced landfill is approximately 2.3 acres in size. It was closed in 2009 when the current landfill was constructed, which is 810 feet directly west. Wastes in the landfill include municipal waste and construction and demolition waste. It is approximately 4 miles east of Bristol Bay, which is eroding at 20 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **Marine Header, 56.916079/-158.682935 (Active)** – This marine header is located between Goldfish Lake and Bristol Bay. It was built adjacent to the east side of the Meshik Landfill. Erosion has exposed barrels, metal scraps, and lead acid batteries on the marine header shoreline. Ground is of volcanic ash and pumice and gravelly sands. The erosion is caused by the fierce storms in the area. As of this site visit, the header was approximately 10 feet from the shoreline of Bristol Bay, which is eroding at 20 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **Meshik Landfill, 56.916078/-158.683758 (Eroded)** – This closed landfill was in operation beginning in World War II and operated for approximately 70 years. It contained municipal waste and military waste from the war and was approximately 1.3 acres in size. On March 18, 2013 the Solid Waste Program received photographs showing the bulk of the landfill has eroded into Bristol Bay. The erosion is caused primarily by fall storms with strong winds and storm surges, and secondarily by high tides. Ground is of volcanic ash and pumice and gravely sands. Locals estimate the yearly rate of erosion for 2011 to be 10 feet; however the BEA study estimates the yearly rate to be 20 feet.



- **Tank Farm, 56.917889/-158.680744 (Active)** – This active tank farm consists of 2 vertical fuel tanks and 7 horizontal tanks on 1.83 sq acres. It is located between Goldfish Lake and Bristol Bay. It is 160 feet from Bristol Bay, the closest source of erosion. The erosion is caused primarily by fall storms with strong winds and storm surges, and secondarily by high tides. Ground is of volcanic ash and pumice and gravely sands. Locals estimate the yearly rate of erosion for 2011 to be 10 feet and the BEA study estimates the yearly rate to be 20 feet.



- **City Shop, 56.923196/-158.663487 (Active)** – This site consists of the city shop and used lead-acid battery storage. There are 50 batteries, of various types and sizes, stored on a pallet, outside. There are approximately 20 other batteries scattered throughout the site, some stored in barrels, some resting on cars, and some on the ground. There are approximately 45 barrels stored in groupings near the shop. Some barrels show evidence of fire, some of corrosion, and others of leakage onto the ground. One grouping of barrels sits on a black oil-stained cloth that clearly shows black soil underneath. There is also scrap metal, tubing, yellow plastic drum containers, and plastic culverts stored at the site. This site is located 0.6 miles from Bristol Bay, which is eroding at 20 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **Boneyard, 56.952816/-158.633175 (Active)** – This site is currently used for stockpiling vehicles and draining fluids. The majority of the vehicles are rusted and in varied states of decomposition. There is evidence of fluids underneath the cars. The wells where fluids were drained contain oily sheens, discolored water, barrels, free product and emptied oil containers. This site is associated with Fort Morrow and may be cleaned up as part of ongoing activities associated with the fort. The site is 1,200 feet south of the runway and 2 miles from Bristol Bay, which the BEA study lists as eroding 20 feet a year.

