

Alakanuk Activity Report

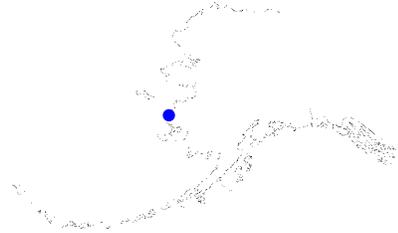
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Leroy Seppilu, Anchorage Office

2000 Census Population: 652

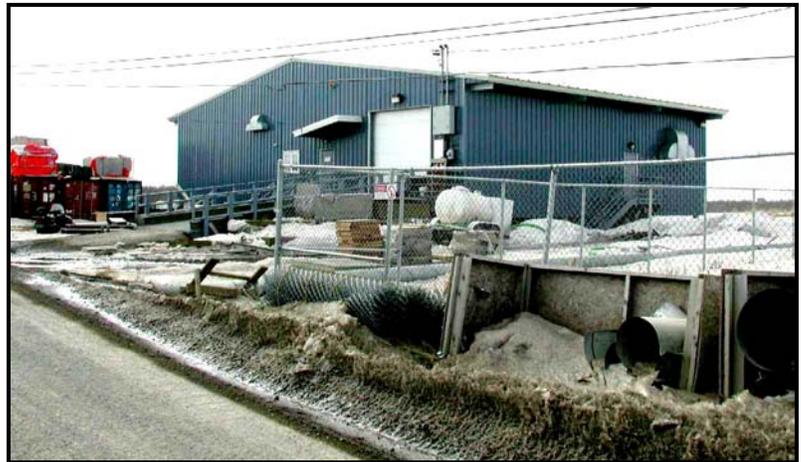
Region: Yukon Delta

Local Governments: Second Class City



The City of Alakanuk operates the water and piped sewer system and the central watering point. There is a sewage lagoon available for individuals to dump their honeybuckets. The City Council is the policy making body for the utility.

Water is derived from the Alakanuk Slough, is treated, stored in a tank, and piped to most of the community. In 1998, 83 homes, the school and teachers' housing were connected to a new piped system. New facilities include a water treatment plant, heated 300,000-gal. water storage tank, vacuum sewage plant, sewage lagoon, arctic piping, and household plumbing. A new subdivision is currently underway, and nine homes will be connected to the piped utilities. There are 25 unserved homes that are threatened by riverbank erosion; they use rain catchment or haul from the water storage tank, honeybuckets and pit privies. These homes will be moved and replaced by the BIA in 2001. The landfill uses an incinerator to reduce the volume of refuse.



The Water/Sewer Facility.

General Information

The City Bookkeeper gave notice that she would be resigning from her position. She was the one that had been trained to use Quick Books Pro 99. Her resignation also affects the water & sewer utility as she had been the one to send bills and keep track of payments. The City advertised the position but as of June 30 no one had been hired.

Observations and Recommendations

Finances — The City is fortunate to have had the Administrator and Bookkeeper cross-trained with water & sewer utility billing and keeping records. The City Clerk, fresh out of high school is being trained with Quick Books Pro 99 as well. The Administrator is not as good as the Bookkeeper with this accounting software program. There are 91 residential customers and 21 commercial customers with 100% collections. There is \$48,000 in the reserve fund.

Accounting Systems — We may see less use of Quick Books Pro 99 once the Bookkeeper resigns. However, the Administrator has training with the program and should do okay.

Tax Problems — No tax problems in this quarter.

Personnel System — The Bookkeeper will leave a wide gap as she leaves her position. The City Administrator does not feel good about this. Although I think the City will do okay.

Organizational Management — The Administrator is talking about downgrading herself to either the Bookkeeper or City Clerk. She feels that there is too much stress with the Administrator position. The Mayor has been encouraging her to stay on.

Leadership/Governance — The City Administrator has been providing strong leadership to the City for the last few years and now she is talking about becoming a Bookkeeper or City Clerk.

Operation of Utility — The water & sewer utility is functioning well and RUBA staff expect it to continue that way. It runs “on a dime”.

Ranking

1 = Inadequate

4 = Adequate to meet minimum requirements

7 = Exceeds requirements

Category	1	4	7
Finances			X
Accounting Systems		X	
Tax Problems			X
Personnel System		X	
Organizational Management			X
Leadership/Governance		X	
Operation of Utility			X

Anticipated Activity

RUBA program is basically phasing out of this community. We are not anticipating travel to this community any longer. Telephonic assistance continues to be provide as needed. Leroy Seppilu will be transferring to the Nome Office effective September 1,2001, and become responsible for the communities in that region.

