

Napaskiak Activity Report

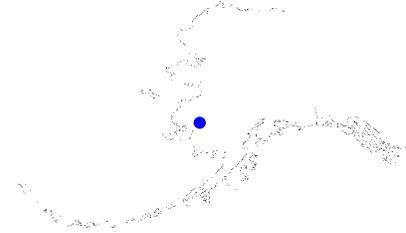
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Johnny Evan, Bethel Office

2000 Census Population: 390

Region: Lower Kuskokwim

Local Governments: Second Class City, Village Council



The Village Council in Napaskiak maintains a central watering point for the residents to haul water to their residences and operates multiple other watering points. The Village Council also operates the honeybucket haul service to the sewage lagoon and provides for honeybucket pits. The Village Council operates the utility under a Memorandum of Agreement with the City and is the policy making body for the utility.

Residents haul treated water from one of two watering points. They occasionally experience water shortages. Some homes have tanks with running water for the kitchen, but very few have complete plumbing.

Honeybuckets are disposed of by residents in bunkers at various locations. Sewage is then pumped from the bunkers and transported to the sewage lagoon. The school has its own well, but needs a new water treatment system. A flush/haul demonstration project is under construction for 6 homes. Funds have been requested to serve an additional 30 homes.



General Information

The flush haul demonstration project is operating very well since its inception. A rate analysis was completed with the six units and future additions considered. Despite the additional units received, the Tribe will be ready to institute any new user rates for sanitation services. The community is slated to receive an additional thirty (30) units this summer and should be constructed and put to use by late Fall. The Tribe drafted a Washeteria rate analysis in June 2001, and should be reviewed early next quarter. The Utility Master Plan is still being reviewed by interested agencies, and should be nearing completion soon.

Observations and Recommendations

Finances — Finances are stable as revenue is compacted through Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc. Gaming operations continue to subsidize the utility services. The tribal organization instituted a user fee of \$25.00 per month to the residential customers in the six demonstration units. They also looked at revised user fees for the flush haul system demonstration project for when the additional units are installed and on line.

Accounting Systems — Utility uses Cougar Mountain accounting software. They appear to be having no problems running the system.

Tax Problems — There are no tax problems to report.

Personnel System — The assistant Tribal Administrator was delegated to monitoring the new demonstration project.

Organizational Management — The Tribal Council acts as the utility board, and is actively involved in all aspects of the planning process.

Leadership/Governance — The Tribal Council is the core for the successful operations of the organization.

Operation of Utility —The community is planning to connect thirty residential customers by next fiscal year. A rate study was completed for the community with the additional units being considered.

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

A utility assessment will be conducted to initiate a new RUBA Work Plan. A sample rate Review Sanitation Master Plan with Community and complete the Washeteria Rate analysis.