

Nunapitchuk Activity Report

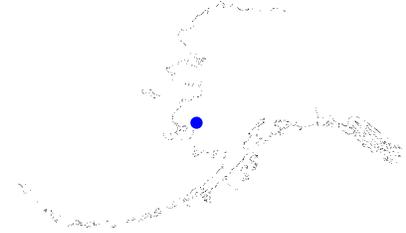
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Johnny Evan, Bethel Office

2001 Population: 466

Region: Lower Kuskokwim

Local Governments: Second Class City, Village Council



The City of Nunapitchuk and the Village Council jointly operate the central watering point and provide a water truck delivery service. The City operates the washeteria and provides a honeybucket haul service.

Well water is treated and supplied from a central tap year round. Fifteen additional flush/haul units are currently under construction and are slated to complete by February 2002. Remaining households not in the flush haul system, haul their own water and honeybuckets. Sewage containers are located throughout the City, and are emptied into one of two new sewage lagoons (one on each side of the River). The City provides piped water to the school. Teacher's housing, located in the old school, has an independent water and sewer system that needs improvements.



General Information

Boardwalk construction throughout the community with access to homes is still ongoing. The primary purpose of the boardwalks are to provide water/sewer haul vehicles access to every house for utility services. Currently, there are 29 flush haul units in operation and 15 units are currently under construction. Originally, 42 flush haul units were slated for construction, but only 15 units are being constructed. They started carpentry on 25 units, but have concentrated on the 15 units. The Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) and Nunapitchuk are still considering whether to close the BIA compound well and water treatment plant and connect it via the school. The water plant renovation has been completed. The community is still planning to construct a second water plant in another part of the main community, after a feasibility study is completed. The new lagoon construction is complete, but before the old lagoon can be closed, it needs more fill. The new utility service rates are in effect.

Another grant is available for 40 more units in the future. This will give an opportunity to those residents on the container haul system to transfer to the new flush tank and haul system units.

Observations and Recommendations

Finances — Finances are still stable this quarter, but they do not cover the true cost of providing services. The City developed a budget using the new additional units.

Accounting Systems — The accounting system is primarily managed through Excel spreadsheets. The organization purchased QuickBooks Pro financial software and is now planning to convert the accounting system to it.

Tax Problems — They continue to be current with their tax liabilities.

Personnel System — The City hired a Utility Bookkeeper for the sanitation services. The City has a new Mayor and is proactive on all aspects of the administration of the organization.

Organizational Management — The City Council still needs to decide whether they want to hire a City Manager and/or a Utility Manager. It has been recommended to the Council that a full time City Administrator, and/or a Utility Manager be hired. With the current sanitation services, container haul and flush haul, they need a utility manager who would monitor and coordinate the water sewer services. The governing body is proactive in all aspects of the city planning process.

Operation of Utility — The community is planning to construct a second water treatment plant in the part of the community that is on the other side of the river. A new rate analysis will be required after the additional fifteen units are installed.

Category	Inadequate	Meets Minimum Requirements	Exceeds Minimum Requirements
Finances	X		
Accounting Systems	X		
Payroll Taxes		X	
Personnel System	X		
Organizational Management	X		
Operation of Utility	X		

Anticipated Activity

- Provide the necessary training to the new Utility Bookkeeper.