

Nunapitchuk Activity Report

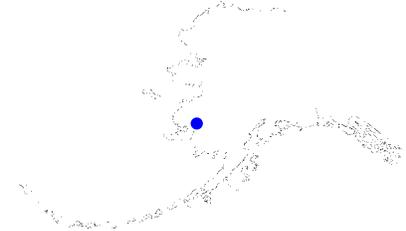
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Johnny Evan, Bethel Office

2000 Census 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. A flush/haul system was recently installed in 33 homes in Nunapitchuk, with water delivery and tank hauling services. Construction continues on the remaining 73 homes, and should be completed by 2001.

Unserved households 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, and access to homes, are still ongoing. There are currently twenty-nine flush haul units in operation, and forty-two units planned for construction once funding is awarded. The water plant is under going renovations and should be complete end of this quarter. The community is planning to construct a second water plant on the other part of the main community. A rate study was completed for the service units in operation, and the community met to discuss the new rates.

Observations and Recommendations

Finances — Finances are still stable this quarter. The City needs to develop a budget for the new additional units and for the second water treatment plant.

Accounting Systems — The accounting system is primarily managed through Excel spreadsheets. The organization purchased QuickBooks Pro financial software, and still is planning to computerize their accounting system.

Tax Problems — They are current with their tax liabilities.

Personnel System — The City hired a utility bookkeeper for the sanitation services.

Organizational Management — The City is currently having the Tribal Administrator (past City Administrator) work part time as the City Administrator. There is a very real concern that the workload is too much for a part time position. 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.

Leadership/Governance — 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 on the second part of the community that is on the other side of the river. A new rate analysis will be required after the additional 40 units are installed.

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 new RUBA Work Plan will be initiated the next quarter to address the situation of the current sanitation services. A new rate study will be implemented and begin the process of computerizing their accounting system.