

# Tuluksak Activity Report

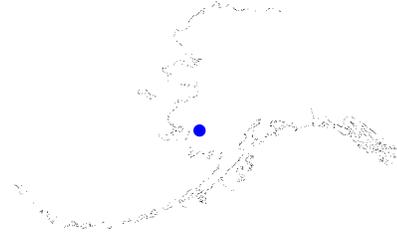
## Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Johnny Evan, Bethel Office

2001 Population: 428

Region: Lower Kuskokwim

Local Governments: Village Council



The Village Council operates the washeteria and the central watering point. The Village Council is the policy making board for the utility.

Only one watering point, with storage capacity of less than 7,000 gallons, serves the entire community, washeteria, clinic, and school. Residents haul honey-buckets to fifteen bins located sparingly throughout the community. A feasibility study was completed to implement a piped water and sewer system in the future. A larger water storage tank, water system improvements are the community's priority.

## General Information

The Tribal organization hired a new Tribal Administrator and appointed the Administrative Assistant to Housing Director. The accounting system is still computerized through Mind Your Own Business (MYOB) financial software. The system can do everything except Payroll. The Tribal organization, with new council members, met with IRS to negotiate their 1993 to 1996 past tax liabilities. With the reduction of the container haul system rate, the collection rate improved considerably. The Tribal organization is still negotiating with Yupiit School District for the possible take-over of the well/washeteria operation and maintenance for the next fiscal year.

## Observations and Recommendations

Finances — Despite RUBA recommendations to increase user rates, the user fees are still the same and are not covering the expenses incurred by the sanitation services. But the collection rate has improved considerably. The Tribe still has a debt with the local corporation, but is paying it off with the sales tax accrued.

Accounting Systems — The accounting system, now run by the Tribe, is computerized. The financial software is capable of producing monthly financial reports, separate according to job units, and record payroll records/journals. With this capability, the Tribe will soon do their own accounting activities.

Tax Problems — They are current with their tax liabilities, and are still negotiating with IRS on the past tax liabilities. The tribe, with new council members, met with IRS to initially get the negotiation in process. The Tribe submitted the required forms, now, it is up to IRS to make a decision as to the situation.

Personnel System — The Tribal organization hired a new Tribal Administrator, and appointed the Administrative Assistant to the Tribal Services & Housing Director. The new Bookkeeper is now the Chief Accountant who handles all the accounting functions. They also hired a Tribal Clerk who is responsible for all the clerical duties.

Organizational Management — The Tribal Council is actively involved in all aspects of the planning process. The capital projects are now underway in accordance to their five year infrastructure plan. The Council met with the Moravian Parsonage and is still waiting to transfer the land to the Tribal community. The Tribal organization is looking into whether taking over the water treatment plant operations.

Operation of Utility — The user fee of \$30 was reduced to \$20 despite the low collection rate. With the reduction, collection rate has improved considerably. The Tribal organization is still looking into whether they should initiate a water rate at the watering point.

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

### Anticipated Activity

Monitor the negotiation with IRS on their past tax liabilities.