

Tununak Activity Report

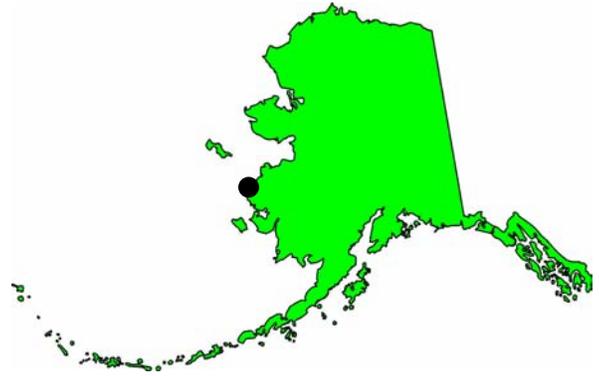
Community Overview

Lead RUBA Staff: Paul Chimiugak, Bethel Office

2001 Population: 394

Region: Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Local Governments: Traditional Council & IRA Council



The Village Council operates the washeteria, central watering point for residents to haul their own water, and multiple watering points. They also provide a honeybucket haul service. The Village Council is the policy making board for the utility.

Water is derived from Muskox Creek. A flush/haul system began construction in 1992. Only five homes are currently served, and 30 additional units are in construction. 40 additional household units will need to be installed. Most residents currently haul water and honeybuckets, and rely on the washeteria for laundry and bathing. 5% of households use individual septic systems. The landfill needs to be upgraded.

RUBA Activity This Quarter

On February 27th, we received a letter from the Tununak Traditional Council (TTC) which stated they were terminating the RUBA assistance agreement that had been signed in 1999. The RUBA Agreement provides for termination by either party upon notice.

Tununak Traditional Council has both state and federal funding for sanitation improvements that have been held up pending resolution of management problems, including a debt to the IRS. The RUBA program had been enlisted to assist in resolving those problems. Over the past two years, a cooperative relationship between the council and our staff had developed. That relationship rapidly deteriorated in the past 6 months, after the latest tribal election.

In the past six months, the council has not kept up with timely filing of IRS payroll tax reports and payments, which then prevented them from being able to file an Offer in Compromise on their past tax liabilities. Resolution of this past tax liability, along with other management concerns were special conditions of getting the project funds.

A letter was sent to the Traditional Tribal Council acknowledging receipt of their notice, and cancellation of the RUBA agreement.

RUBA Activities for the Coming Quarter

RUBA anticipates no activity with this community.