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Submitted by: Stanley Tomaszewski; Brownfield Coordinator

Subject: Buckland Brownfield Inventory visit 5/26/2009.

Upon arrival, Maniilaq Assoc. Brownfield Coordinator met with Buckland IGAP Environmental Coordinator Shannon Melton to assist with Brownfield Inventory and assess back haul-recycling activities. We used community maps provided by ADEC during Introduction to Brownfields Workshop, Kotzebue April 1-2, 2009, and survey forms completed by attendees for the purpose of inventory and prioritization of sites. Potentially contaminated sites identified in survey forms were visited, with one noted exception, and are described below.

1. **Early 1960's Dumpsite on Tundra Pond Banks-** Located Track II Parcel A on site map, pond/lake with connecting creek lies between terminal end of airstrip and due west of north end of town and only limited access from the airport road. The pond is several acres in size with overflow drainage via roadway culvert and creek to nearby Buckland River 200 yards (approx.) distance. Previous use as dumpsite evidenced by what appears to be old generator components, 55 gal. drums, snow machine frames, water/sewer carrier pipe and other unidentified rusting materials. Mentioned items are located both in and out of water with some only partly exposed. Residents are concerned about environmental contamination of water and habitat (fish and mammal) from petroleum and rusting metal debris. They "would like to restore the creek and be able to fish again"
Redevelopment Reuse Purpose...Return to green space.



Exposed drums and water sewer carrier pipe, snow machine parts

2. **Buckland Class III Landfill (opened 1986); Status: Active-** City owned/operated landfill located required minimum distance at least from airstrip and community and lies due west from town center. The dump is constructed on grade of earthen berm type containment with fencing on top and gated single entrance. Fence in moderate disrepair with barbed wire retainer top of fence also compromised in sections. The entrance gate was open, appeared broken, nonfunctional. The dump is mostly self-haul with unrestricted access to public all hours, site control signage for improved dump management, nonexistent. **General condition of dump is as follows:** Garbage and cover material compaction not being done (Note; suitable cover material available and stockpiled onsite), ponding of water/leachate allowed at entrance and inside dump deters residents from entering, result; dump outside fence (see photos). “Summit Const.” type burn box observed with gates left open-smoldering-unattended, variety animal carcasses left on ground outside dump or mixed in with misc. non-segregated refuse. Additionally, numerous 55 gal. drums loosely staged at entrance, contents unknown, some with bloated tops and standing in “water” with petroleum sheen, runoff potential exists to nearby ditch ultimately to creek some 60 ft. behind landfill. **Overall description based upon observations made this date: Poorly Maintained.** Residents understand environmental and health impact when household refuse, animal and human waste left exposed along with leachate and petroleum contamination of surrounding water bodies/groundwater, etc...**Reason for citizen concern?-** “Landfill leachate flowing thru creek behind the landfill where we used to trap for fish!” Redevelopment-Reuse- Purpose; undetermined.



Burn-box and animal carcasses



Dump entrance with ponded water



Misc. drums in water/leachate



Non-Segregated refuse at entrance

3. **Washeteria/School Waste Water Lagoon (Active)** - Map identification; Public Utilities Easement Parcel B Block 3 and located “between uptown and downtown” centers receives untreated sewage discharge from the subject locations; this discharge likely to contain raw sewage, laundry detergents, and cleaning type chemicals. The lagoon is rectangular in shape estimated size to be about one acre, containment constructed of shallow earthen dike and corrugated metal bulkheads or railings topped with chain link security fencing (Note: fence unstable due to soil erosion at post bottoms, needs repair). Adequate site control signage is clearly visible, warning of lagoon contents. Discharge to lagoon is through insulated carrier pipe elevated some two to three ft. above water surface, freefalls into containment. This discharge point is located NE corner just inside fencing some 200 ft. from washeteria. Primary concern to residents is “during flood time in May the water rises from the back of the village from two mile lake and goes through all parts of the village including the Old Dumpsite on Airport Road, the current landfill, and the sewage lagoon overflows out to the river, when the water level starts to go down” leaving undesirable residue in wake. Community Redevelopment Plan; limited plan includes “keeping lagoon open until (new) water/sewer system is completed and would like to get this (one) cleaned up if it is not going to be in any use for future” waste water management, then could be redeveloped for green space.

Lagoon w/discharge pipe and warning sign



Water plant, washeteria and pipe to lagoon



Lagoon view through fence



Waste water discharge to lagoon (top pipe),
City water source line from river (lower pipe) to water treatment plant

4. **Old Dumpsite on Buckland River (Active until late 1970's):** Located on river bank approximately two miles downriver, placing it equal distance from city drinking water source intake (from river). This dumpsite “was used by all community members” to dispose of household trash, metal drums, old snow machines,” etc...Subsequent annual flooding/tidal action is eroding river bank causing refuse to surface and often ends up washing into the river along with possible contaminants. Historically, activity in this area said to include “community members putting up nets for fish, and animals such as moose, rabbits, and ducks crossing nearby” have residents concerned animal habitat and drinking water may be negatively impacted. A redevelopment-reuse plan as stated recently “would like to get it cleaned up” and let return as natural surroundings. (River conditions not permitting site visit this date, no photograph)

5. **Fuel Tank Farm (New) Status; Active-** Located adjacent to “homes, very close to the lakes that drain into the river where we fish and hunt for marine mammals” described as new tank farm; is actually fairly old and intended to supplement fuel storage needs until new bulk_fuel storage facility completed and is apparently still used to some capacity. Local source historical knowledge informs “this was an old tank farm and built to add on the new tank farm in your 2003. This last year 2008 there was a spill of about 8,000 gallons. There was a crack in the holding tank”. Continues on to describe clean up attempts sad “they got tanks and tanks of snow and stove oil, burned them in ash burner” along with 2-3 ft. depth excavated contaminated soil “burned them too”! Response to the Redevelopment-Reuse Question; “the stove oil, is it cleaned up well?” “Would like to clean it up and make sure all stove oil is cleaned-up” the answer.



New Bulk fuel Storage adjacent to Old-New tank farm and drainage ditch

Tank Farm and proximity to homes, and equipment storage







Imagery Date: 8/19/2007

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65°58'38.63" N 161°08'08.71" W elev 77 ft

Google earth

Eye alt 5060 ft



