



Maniilaq Association

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Submitted by: Stanley Tomaszewski; Brownfield Coordinator

Subject: Noatak Brownfield Inventory visit 10/05/2010.

Upon arrival, Maniilaq Assoc. Brownfield Coordinator met with Noatak IGAP Environmental Coordinators Wanda Page and Carol Wesley 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.

1. **School Tank Farm-** Owned by the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, identified on community map as Site Number 27 is still active and located across from the old school and near the airstrip. Established in the 1980's tank farm consisting of 15 vertical tanks was used as bulk fuel storage for the old school. During this time of active use releases have been reported including a underground line leak and an accidental spill of unknown volume; both were cleaned up by School District personnel from Kotzebue. Redevelopment reuse purpose is to remain a bulk fuel storage facility and "not have any more spills". (No photos of Tank Farm; camera failure)
2. **Noatak Class III Landfill (opened 1995); Status: Active/Unpermitted-** Noatak IRA owned/operated landfill on NANA leased land, No. 30 on community map, located SW of town does not meet FAA required minimum distance from airstrip and does not adhere to DEC Solid Waste Program guidelines for proximity to the school and nearby residences. The landfill is fenced (compromised in some areas with mangled gate) and consists of three cells: a main refuse area, metal debris area and honey bucket lagoon. The honey bucket lagoon, situated at dump entrance, is primarily used for refuse and is filled with assorted debris. The landfill is self-haul and open burning of trash on the ground was observed; a local made burn barrel noted onsite appeared inoperable. IRA Council has banned burning on windy days due again to proximity to the new school and nearby residential subdivision approx. 1200 ft. away. "Noatak IRA and EPA IGAP hire local operator with a 450 dozer to clean the road and pile trash for more use of area and apply coverer material from time to time". Redevelopment-Reuse- Purpose; after closure "would use for staging area for heavy equipment and possible new mechanic shop; maintenance shop area for heavy equipment"



Segregated Metal



Dump Entrance and open burning on ground



Segregated metal and Burn Barrel (in operational)



Broken Entrance Gate and honey bucket disposal area

3. **Derelict Equipment Staging Area**- Located approximately 1-2 miles from Noatak River and one half mile from landfill; identified as site no. 29 on community map. Apparently debris consisting of variety of “broken down equipment”, rusting tanks and pipe along with other items were left after completion of water sewer pump house construction project by Village Safe Water. Public concern is due to potential for these degrading materials “settling and seeping into the land”. The community would like to have this derelict machinery, etc. moved to the dump or backhauled for possible recycling. **Redevelopment-Reuse-Purpose:** Heavy equipment parking area and storage pad for other IRA and water sewer equipment.



Broken equipment and construction debris staging area

4. **Old Dumpsite on Noatak River (Active until 1995):** The Old Dump Site, located on land owned by NANA, was used between the 1970s and 1995. In February 2010, the Native Village of Noatak submitted an Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Brownfield Assessment (DBA) request form to DEC to address contamination and erosion concerns at the Old Dump Site in Noatak. The DBA request indicated that eroding debris is falling into the river from the Old Dump Site and that the community feels the Current Dump Site is not in compliance with federal and state regulations, and states the community's need for a new landfill. Thus, both the Old Dump Site and the Current Dump Site are included in the Property Assessment and Cleanup Plan (PACP). An Emergency Watershed Program grant for \$12,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture was awarded to Noatak in the fall of 2010. The grant was used to excavate the dump stockpile from the river bluff edge, remove most of the debris from the river, and add backfill. Additional work required at Old Dump Site includes stabilizing or removing the remaining refuse, final capping, and grading.
- Redevelopment –Reuse Purpose;** The Native Village of Noatak stated that they would like to see the Old Dump Site cleaned up and used as a winter boat storage yard. The estimated cost to close the Old Dump Site in accordance with DEC guidance is \$206,759 with the majority of the cost for labor, fuel, and provisions to cap and grade the dump site.



Backfilled Area at Old Dump Site



Backfilled Area at Old Dump Site

Eroding Riverbank at Old Dump Site



Cut Bank Adjacent to Old Dump Site







