

the council

Vol. 44, No. 5

A REPORT TO THE MEMBER TRIBES OF TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

May 2019



New Tok Subregional Clinic

On April 16th, TCC hosted a special event in Tok where the public could learn more about the upcoming construction of the New Tok Subregional Clinic.

The new clinic will meet the needs of our growing and aging population by providing comprehensive care to those we serve closer to home.

Services will include primary care, urgent care/trauma, dental, behavioral health, itinerant specialty services, lab,

radiology, pharmacy, group training, and security.

TCC is focused on local hire within the subregion and will be offering classes such as MAPTS project support, CDL permits, and construction trade classes. Those interested in attending these classes should contact TCC Employment and Training Program at (907) 452-8251 ext. 3199 or ext. 3416 to sign up.

TCC hopes to open the doors to the

clinic in the Summer of 2020

Current timeframe:

- Design – In progress
- Demolition of old building in April/ May
- Foundation in July
- Enclosed before snow fall
- Construction complete summer of 2020

We are very excited about this project and for the Upper Tanana!

CALLING ALL 2019 GRADUATES! *We want to feature you!*



Send your photo and information (Name, Tribal Affiliation, and School of Graduation) to Communications_Dept@tananachiefs.org by June 7th, 2019

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MISSION STATEMENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

VISION

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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Lower Yukon

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Yukon Tanana

Norman 'Carl' Burgett/ Huslia
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski/Nulato
Elder Advisor

Jolie Murray/Beaver
Youth Advisor

CHIEF'S REPORT

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

This month we celebrate Mother's Day. To all of the mother's – for all that you do, thank you and Happy Mother's Day.

With breakup season behind us, I would like to remind everyone that it's important to stay safe while travelling or working on the rivers. Remember to be cautious, wear your life jacket, and follow proper procedures to ensure that you and your loved ones stay safe. Review the spring travel safety tips and learn how to properly fit a life jacket on page 3. Have fun, be safe, and please do not drink and drive.

Congratulations to all of the 2019 graduates! Education is essential in ensuring the success of our people for years to come. We would like to honor our graduates by highlighting you in our upcoming newsletter! Details on how to send your photo and information is located on the front page.

In accordance with Resolution 2015-71 Protect the Porcupine Caribou Birthplace in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain. Which was reaffirmed October 2017 at the Special Full Board of Directors, I testified with others including Gwich'in Steering Committee Director Bernadette Demientieff, Chief Galen Gilbert of Arctic Village, Chief Dana Tizya-Tramm of Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation, Sam Alexander of Fort Yukon, and Fenton Rexton of Kaktovik in Washington, DC on the protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in front of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee. We testified in favor of H.R. 1146, the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act, which would repeal the portion of the 2017 tax law that opened the Arctic Refuge to oil and gas development.

This past April, tribal leadership, TCC Executive Board, staff, and I attended the Self Governance Conference in Traverse City, Michigan. This conference provided an open dialogue between tribal leadership, Rear Admiral Michael D Weahkee, Principal Deputy Director of Indian Health Services (IHS), and Tara Sweeny, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs. Some of the discussion topics included Protecting the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Sanitation Deficiency Systems Guidelines, Hepatitis C Virus Treatment, Advanced Appropriations, Contracts Support Costs and Data Reporting.

TCC leadership will meet with our Executive Board of Directors to review and update our 2015-2020 strategic plan and to incorporate the resolutions passed during our 2019 convention. A full list of passed resolutions and who to contact at TCC regarding each resolution can be found on page 11. As in previous years, TCC leadership will continue to travel to your villages to get tribal input and guidance on our strategic plan and initiatives to continue to be in alignment with our tribes. As always, we are working towards Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

Ana Bassee,
Victor Joseph
Chief/Chairman



SPRING TRAVEL SAFETY TIPS

SPRING IS HERE, WHICH THAT IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THE ICE MELTS, CREATING HAZARDOUS TRAVELING CONDITIONS. BEFORE YOU VENTURE OUT, REVIEW THE FOLLOWING TIPS TO ENSURE THAT YOU STAY SAFE WHILE TRAVELING.

Be prepared. If traveling by snow machine, make sure that it is in good condition with enough fuel to get you where you need to go and back. Tell someone where you are going, what route you plan to take, and when you plan to return.

Check the weather forecast.

You must be prepared for any extreme weather that comes your way.

Bring a friend if traveling long distances.

Traveling is safer when done in pairs and the most dangerous situations occur when a person is injured and alone. If you must travel alone, tell someone. If traveling long distances, be sure to check in at nearby communities and villages.

Avoid traveling across bodies of water when uncertain of ice thickness or water currents.

Temperature, snow cover, currents, and springs can affect the thickness and relative safety of ice. Ice is seldom the same thickness over a single body of water; it can be 2 ft. thick in one place and 1 in. thick a few yards away. Check the ice at least every 150 ft. drowning is the leading cause of snowmachine deaths in Alaska.

Slow down. Speed is a contributing factor in nearly all fatal snowmobiling accidents. Drivers should proceed at a pace that will allow ample reaction time for any situation. Drive at moderate speeds, and drive defensively, especially after sunset.

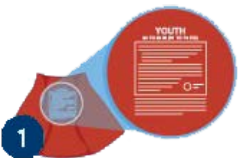
Pack for Survival by bringing:

- A knife, axe, or saw
- A flashlight, flares, or a strobe
- Waterproof matches
- High-Energy food or bars
- Electrical/Duct Tape
- An extra key
- Radio/Cell Phone
- GPS
- Thermal Blanket
- First-Aid Kit

Don't drink and drive! Drinking impairs your judgement and increases the risk of getting into an accident and getting lost.

How to **PROPERLY** Fit a Life Jacket

Submitted by Marvin Roberts
TCC Health & Safety Coordinator



STEP 1: CHECK LIFE JACKET LABEL FOR THE APPROPRIATE WEIGHT OR CHEST SIZE

The life jacket will indicate the size and weight of the intended user. Make sure the wearer is within these ranges. Verify that the life jacket label states it is "Coast Guard approved."



STEP 2: PUT THE LIFE JACKET ON

Inspect the life jacket for wear and tear. Warning signs include rips and missing or broken buckles or straps.



STEP 3: BUCKLE ALL STRAPS AND TIGHTEN OR ZIP UP ALL ZIPPERS

Make sure all straps can be buckled and zippers zipped. Don't forget the crotch strap if there is one!



STEP 4: HAVE THE WEARER LIFT THEIR ARMS OVER HEAD AND GENTLY LIFT THEM BY THE TOP OF THE LIFE JACKET ARM OPENING.

If the jacket rides up above their ears, it's too big. If the straps or zippers don't close, the jacket is too small.

www.boatus.org

Now Accepting

NEW BIA HOUSING APPLICATIONS

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Housing Improvement Program (HIP) is a Grant Program to help eligible American Indians/Alaska Natives renovate existing housing or build new homes!

WHAT IS HIP?

HIP, the Housing Improvement Program, is a home repair, renovation, replacement and new housing grant program administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and federally-recognized Indian tribes for American Indians and Alaska Native individuals and families who have no immediate resource for standard housing. While not an entitlement program, HIP was established under The Snyder Act of 1921 as one of several BIA programs authorized by Congress for the benefit of Indian people.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for HIP assistance, you must be a member of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or be an Alaska Native; live in an approved tribal service area; have an income that does not exceed 125% of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Poverty Guidelines; have present housing that is substandard, as defined by the regulations; have no other resource for housing assistance; have not received assistance after October 1, 1986 for repairs and renovation, replacement or housing, or down payment assistance; and have not acquired your present housing through a federally sponsored housing program that includes such housing assistance.

WHAT DOES HIP IMPROVE?

Interim Improvements: Provides up to \$7,500 in housing repairs for conditions that threaten the health and/or safety of the occupants.

Repairs and Renovation: Provides up to \$60,000 in repairs and renovation to improve the condition of a homeowner's dwelling to meet applicable building code standards.

Replacement Housing: Provides a modest replacement home if a homeowner's dwelling cannot be brought to applicable building code standards.

New Housing: Provides a modest new home if you do not own a home, you may be eligible if you are the owner or leaseholder of land suitable for housing and the lease is for not less than 25 years at the time assistance is received

Home buyer ship: Assistance with down payment and closing costs towards the purchase of a modest home in your community.

HOW TO APPLY:

Pick up an application from your tribal office or download it at: https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/bia/ois/HIP%20Application%20Form_expires%202-28-2022.pdf

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- Provide a copy of your Tribal Enrollment Card/Certificate of Indian Blood
- Provide proof of income for **entire household**
- Proof of ownership of land or obtain a 25 year lease agreement
- If you are claiming disability, provide a letter stating disability from clinic
- Mail a **complete** application to TCC Housing Division. Please make a copy for your records.

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15TH, 2019

Alzheimer's or dementia?

What's the Difference?

By Margaret Craft
CHOP Administrative Assistant

Although Dementia and Alzheimer's seem very similar, they are not the same. Dementia is a group of brain disorders that affect memory, thought, decision making, and emotions. Alzheimer's disease is one of those disorders, but there are many different types of dementia.

Dementia doesn't include simple memory mishaps – like forgetting someone's name or where the car key are. A person with dementia has a hard time with memory, communication, speech, focusing, reasoning, judgment, and visual perception. The most common type of dementia is Alzheimer's. About 60% - 80% of people who have dementia, have Alzheimer's.

If you know someone, especially an elder, who may be forgetful or can't remember who you are, even if they have known you for years? That person may have dementia or Alzheimer's. It's hard to tell them apart because the symptoms of very similar. You will want to do some research on both of these diseases to educate yourself on what to expect and how to handle it.

Attending medical appointments is very important, not only so you can help them understand what the doctor is saying or asking but also so that you can understand and help better.

If the person is trying to make a big decision, such as staying in their village, you will have to make some hard decisions to honor that request. It will be up to the surrounding family to provide the kind of help they will need as the disease progresses. Love and respect the elder for who they are at that moment.

This is a hard and confusing time for everyone. When my husband had dementia, I didn't know that what was happening. Looking back on it, I should have asked for help and education.

He was retired and home by himself most of the time. He was always cooking for me while I was at work. One day, I came home to find him cooking two whole potatoes in a plastic bowl with the burner on. Two years before that, he had a stroke. This affected his writing, reading, and understanding ability. I thought that the new symptoms of

forgetfulness was from his stroke.

During the summers, he would tend to the yard by mowing the grass. One day, when I returned home I found him lying on the ground. Not knowing how long he had been there, I was able to help him up and get him inside. At that point, I know I couldn't leave him alone anymore. In his mind, he thought he can still do these things.

Although it was very hard for me, I put him in Denali Center. Soon after that, he forgot who I was.

Three years ago, he lost his battle to the disease and passed away.

With better education and knowledge of the signs before it got worse, I would have quit working to care for him and found help sooner.

If you know someone who is showing symptoms of dementia or Alzheimer's, seek help and education now. For more information, call Alzheimer's Resource Agency Alaska at 907-452-2277, Anchorage at 907-561-3313 or 1-800-478-1080, or TCC Home Care Services at 1-800-478-7822 ext. 3243 or 3440.

2019 Culture & Wellness Camp Schedule

Lower Yukon

- Shageluk - August 26-30
- Anvik - Dates TBD

Lower Yukon

- Tanacross - June 3-7
- Healy Lake - Dates TBD

Lower Koyukuk

- Galena - Dates TBD
- Koyukuk - September 1-7

Yukon Flats

- McGrath - Tentative
- Takotna - Dates TBD

Upper Kuskokwim

- Circle - August 12-16
- Birch Creek - Dates TBD

Upper Tanana

- Rampart - July 15-19
- Nenana - August 19-23

To watch camp highlights from previous years,
visit <https://www.tananachiefs.org/culture-and-wellness-camps/>

Charlene Stern *New Vice President*



During the 2019 Full Board of Directors meeting, Charlene Stern of Arctic Village was elected as the new TCC Vice President.

Charlene *Khaih Zhuu* Stern is the daughter of Florence Newman of Arctic Village and Peter Stern of Fairbanks; the granddaughter of the late Rev. James and Maggie Gilbert, and the late Alfred and Barbara Stern.

She was born and raised in Fairbanks and Arctic Village, and is an enrolled member in the Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government.

Previously, she served as the President of Fairbanks Native Association and as a delegate on the Yukon Tanana Subregion. She has 10+ years of experience working with Tribal governments

and non-profit organizations, she is a Professor of rural development, and a strong advocate for Tribal sovereignty.

Charlene is excited to put her education and experience to work for the TCC region.

All of us at TCC are looking forward to working with Charlene!



Congratulations Charlene!

BILL STEVENS, FORT YUKON

Bill Stevens was born on the trap line outside of Fort Yukon on November 7th, 1933. His parents were John Stevens and Maggie Davis, who together had eight children. Stevens and his family made a living selling and trading the furs they trapped: muskrat, lynx, martin, and mink. Another huge part of their lives was raising and driving dogs. Stevens refers to these times as "the best part of our life."

Stevens recalls seeing many people in Fort Yukon drinking alcohol. "There was a bush pilot that would sell wine," says Stevens. "The whole town would get drunk once in a while." He saw how drug and alcohol use negatively influenced the community, and it wasn't long before the impacts of alcohol came to affect his family. His mother froze to death on the trap line after drinking. "That is why I went to relocation," he says. "I was young and one day I said to myself, 'Ten years from now... I'll be doing like this?' I didn't like it."

If there is one thing that Bill Stevens is known for, it is his love of music - and fiddling in particular. Stevens credits his skillful playing to his drive and willingness to continue despite struggle.

Stevens has been able to play his fiddle across the world including the United States, Canada, England, Australia, Scotland, and more. He has become a mentor for youth across our region and helps them to learn and foster their love for music.

Despite the hardships throughout his life, Stevens always found a way to persevere, and to give back to his people and community. "I had a lot of silent sufferings, but I always managed through."

To hear Bill's full story, visit www.tananachiefs.org



TCC's Legacy of our Elders series documents the lives and stories of Athabascan elders throughout the TCC region. Their interviews are compiled into volumes that include a DVD movie as well as an accompanying book. The books and DVDs highlight the elders and the stories that they want to share. These videos are available on our website at www.tananachiefs.org

Funding for Legacy Project made possible by TCC & The National Park Service.

May is National STROKE AWARENESS Month

May is National Stroke Awareness Month and all of us at Tanana Chiefs Conference want to provide you with some great educational materials that could **SAVE YOUR LIFE**. Understanding why strokes occur, what causes them, and how to prevent them are incredibly important. Stroke causes more than 133,000 deaths annually, an alarming number considering **80% of strokes are PREVENTABLE**, mainly by monitoring your blood pressure.

If you are worried about your blood pressure or want to know more about your risk of stroke, make an appointment with your provider.

STROKE RISKS

There are many stroke risk factors, however, many of them are ones that you can **control, treat and improve**. If you want to keep your stroke risks low, schedule regular checkups with your provider and seek treatment for any of the below conditions if you have them.

- **High Blood Pressure** - If you have high blood pressure (or hypertension), know your numbers and keep them low. High blood pressure is the leading cause of stroke and the most significant controllable risk factor for stroke.
- **Smoking** - If you smoke cigarettes, take steps to stop. Recent studies confirm that cigarette smoking is another crucial risk factor for stroke.
- **Diabetes** - If you have diabetes (Type 1 or 2), keep blood sugar controlled. Diabetes Mellitus is an independent risk factor for stroke. Many people with diabetes also have high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and are overweight. This increases their risk even more.
- **Diet** - If your diet is poor, eat foods that improve your heart and brain health. Diets high in saturated fat, trans fat and cholesterol can raise blood cholesterol levels. Diets high in sodium (salt) can increase blood pressure.
- **Physical Activity** - If you're physically inactive, starting moving and being more active. Physical inactivity can increase your risk of stroke, heart disease, becoming overweight, developing high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and diabetes, heart disease and stroke.
- **High Blood Cholesterol** - If you have high blood cholesterol, get it under control. People with high blood cholesterol have an increased risk for stroke. Large amounts of cholesterol in the blood can build up and cause blood clots, leading to a stroke.

Other risk factors include; Carotid artery disease, peripheral artery disease, atrial fibrillation, other heart disease, and sickle cell disease.

WARNING SIGNS



F FACE DROOPING

Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven or lopsided?



A ARM WEAKNESS

Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift?



S SPEECH DIFFICULTY

Is speech slurred? Is the person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "The sky is blue." Is the person able to correctly repeat the words?



T TIME TO CALL 911

If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1. Time is important! Don't delay, and also note the time when the first symptoms appeared.

Sometimes, other symptoms appear, separately, in combination or with F.A.S.T. signs, such as;

- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech.
- Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg. Especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Fake or Fact?

How to Find Research-Based, Reliable, Relevant Answers to your Gardening Questions

By Heidi Rader
Tribes Extension Educator

It's easy to find any answer to any question, including gardening questions, right? Sure, you can just google the answer, but unfortunately you might end up with the most popular answer but not reliable, relevant or unbiased information. The quantity of easily accessible gardening information also doesn't mean that it is relevant or reliable.

One of the things that makes it hard to find answers to gardening questions is that for many questions, they depend on where you live. For instance, which varieties and crops you can grow, when to start seeds indoors and which pests are present is information that is highly dependent on your location. Then of course there is a lot of gardening information that doesn't depend heavily on your location.

Ask these questions before deciding to trust information.

Is the information reliable? Ask who wrote the information and try to determine if it is based on research. Links to research that back up claims are a good indicator of reliability. Of course, you could go directly to research articles that are peer-reviewed, but that can make for dense and difficult reading. Luckily, Extension information does some of the hard work for you, making research-based information easy to understand.

Gardeners with personal blogs might make claims based on their own experience. That would be considered anecdotal information, meaning that may not be repeatable for you and others, and the gardeners may or may not know the cause of something without doing further experimentation. If you have no idea what the information is based on, that's a red flag.

Is the information profit-driven? You can tell if they're either selling a product or have ads on their site. Just

because it's a profit-driven site doesn't mean the information is unreliable or biased, but it could be a conflict of interest and influence what someone has to say. Plus, how annoying are pop-up ads?

Next, ask if the information is locally relevant. That is, does the information apply to where you live? For example, information that is reliable and credible in Texas is not necessarily locally relevant to someone in Alaska, or even more specifically, Interior Alaska.

None of these factors will individually determine whether information is reliable and useful to you, but in combination, they can help you assess whether or not to trust the information.

The Cooperative Extension Service seeks to provide reliable, research-based and relevant information. Information is updated regularly, based on research and is location-based so it's reliable for where you live. Most of our information is provided by experts and specialists, but we also harness the on-the-ground experience of Alaska Master Gardener volunteers who are experts in gardening in specific locations all over the state. They share their knowledge and real-life experience on the Alaska Master Gardener blog.

Unfortunately, the most reliable, trustworthy and relevant information doesn't usually come up first in a google search. Here are tips for navigating the sea of information.

- Do a standard Google search but look for words like "extension" in URLs or titles, and for suffixes like edu, gov or org in the domain name.
- Search only within extension sites using this Google search: search.extension.org.



- Search or browse extension sites of our closest neighbors such as Washington at extension.wsu.edu and Oregon at extension.oregonstate.edu. You can either go directly to their sites and search using their search engines or you can use a google-powered search within a specific site by typing "site:extension.wsu.edu growing tomatoes."
- Consult UAF Cooperative Extension Service's more than 400 publications, which you can download online at uaf.edu/ces/pubs/catalog/.
- Call or email your local Extension agent. Find one near you at www.uaf.edu/ces/districts.

Try Cornell's Vegetable MD Online: vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu.

Ask a UAF extension pest expert: uaf.edu/ces/pests. You can easily submit a photo online also.

Are you looking for a video? Look on extension YouTube channels or go to this clearinghouse of curated, evidence-based videos: goodgardeningvideos.org.

For inspiration or motivation or to learn from other Alaskan gardeners, check out the Alaska Master Gardener Blog: alaskamastergardener.community.uaf.edu.

If you can't find the answer online, you can always call or email your local extension agent—me!

Heidi Rader is a tribes Extension educator for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service and the Tanana Chiefs Conference. **She can be reached at 907-452-8251, ext. 3477 or hbrader@alaska.edu.**

MAY IS *Mental Health* MONTH

There are approximately 1.2% or 4 million Americans who identify themselves as having some Native American or Alaska Native heritage or background in the United States. Among those Native American and Alaska Natives, a whopping **21% of that population had a diagnosable mental health issue in this last year.** That is approximately 840 thousand people in the United States who suffered from some mental illness! In comparison to other ethnic groups, Native Americans and Alaska Natives are at higher risk

for some common mental illness, such as depression, substance abuse, and anxiety than any other population. Disparities in wealth, education, access to care, have led to sickness and death, and stigma among mental health can be an enormous barrier in receiving mental health treatment. How mental health illness are identified, discussed, and managed are dependent on the way it is viewed within a culture. Through person-centered treatment, delivered by

staff with a dedication to cultural humility, Tanana Chiefs Conference strives to deliver the most effective and appropriate care for the region's greatly diverse populations. Mental health is much more than a diagnosis. Whether you are looking to make goals for yourself, manage difficult life situations, or build more positive relationships with the people you care for most, remember to take care of your mental health.

*Take
care of
your Mental
Health!*

7 SKILLS TO HELP A FRIEND IN NEED

1. **CALMNESS** - comforts your friend in a time of need
2. **HONESTY** - encourages your friend to trust you
3. **NON-JUDGEMENTAL ATTITUDE** - creates a safe space for your friend
4. **RESOURCEFULNESS** - gives your friend ideas on where to get help

5. **EMPATHY** - shows that you really care
6. **REASSURING** - makes your friend feel like things are going to be ok
7. **ENCOURAGING** - helps your friend get help and support

United States Census Bureau, (2014). American fact finder. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration. (2014). Racial and ethnic minority populations. American Psychiatric Association, (2009). Mental Health in American Indians and Alaska Natives.

TCC Hunting and Fishing Task Force *Strategy Session*

On April 10th-11th, TCC Hunting and Fishing Task Force held a Strategy Session to review and plan for the 2019 hunting and fishing season.

During this two-day meeting Chief Joseph, tribal members, and partners discussed potential partnerships, ceremonial moose, strategic planning,

and priorities. They also discussed potential threats such as declining moose and the Governor's budget.

Luke Titus of Minto reminded us of the importance of elders attending these critical meetings.

To learn more or to get involved, visit www.tananachiefs.org/sustainability/



BLM *Draft* Land Use Plan

By Suzanne (Zann) Little
Officer, US Public Lands and Rivers

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the federal land manager of millions of acres of land in the Tanana Chiefs' region. In March BLM released a draft land use plan called the Draft Bering Sea Western Interior Resource Management Plan. When complete, this plan will decide allowable uses of 13.5 million acres of traditional land now managed by BLM. In its preferred alternative in the draft plan, BLM does not include conservation measures Tribes and communities asked for with their nominations for Areas of Critical Environmental Concern for

local watersheds.

BLM's preferred alternative C opens 99 % of BLM-managed land to mining. In its draft plan, BLM says opening this expanse of land to mining will not cause impacts because their current data shows 'low mineral potential' in the planning area. We have learned that some of the data BLM is using to support its 'low mineral potential' finding is from the 1950s, an era in which poor technology was available for mineral investigations, compared to today.

The public comment period for the

Bering Sea Western Interior Resource Management Plan ends on **June 13, 2019** and TCC Tribes may wish to develop comments for BLM.

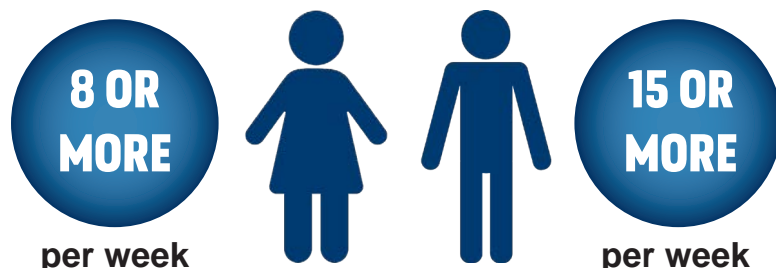
Comments on the plan can be sent to BLM by email at: **BSWI_RMP_Comment@blm.gov** or by regular mail: BLM Anchorage Field Office, Attn: BSWI RMP, 4700 BLM Road, Anchorage, AK 99507

For more information contact Suzanne Little at (907) 245-2400 or slittle@pewtrusts.org

Below is a glimpse of some of the different alternatives in the plan:

Bering Sea Western Interior Resource Management Plan				
Item	Alternative A – No Change Alternative	Alternative B	Alternative C The Preferred Alternative	Alternative D
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	No change - Current ACECs in Place 1,884,376 acres (14% of planning area)	Total ACEC 3,912,698 acres (29% of planning area) designated as ACECs	No acres would be designated as ACECs - Zero Percent	No acres would be designated as ACECs - Zero Percent
High Value Watersheds (HVW)	0 River Miles	21,382 River Miles & 4.8 million acres - Mining Generally Not Allowed in High Value Watersheds	14,888 River Miles - But All High Value Watersheds are Open to Mining above the 100-year Floodplain	12,982 River Miles - But All High Value Watersheds Open to Mining above the 100-year Floodplain
Mining Not Allowed - (Withdrawn from Locatable Mineral Entry)	Mining not allowed on 4,804,488 acres	Mining not allowed on 9,842,497 acres - Mining not allowed on 68% of planning area	Mining not allowed on 46,953 acres - Mining not allowed on less than 1% of planning area	Mining not allowed on 46,953 acres - Mining not allowed on less than 1% of planning area
Mining Allowed - (Open to Locatable Mineral Entry)	8,661,406 acres 300 foot setbacks on Tag, Lower Kateel and Gisasa Rivers and tributaries to the Nulato River	Mining Allowed on 3,623,397 acres - 25% of planning area	Mining Allowed on 13,418,941 acres - 93% of planning area	Mining Allowed on 13,418,941 acres - 93% of planning area
Avoid Constructing Roads and Transmission Lines (Right-of-Way Exclusion Areas)	No Right-of-Way Exclusion or Avoidance Areas	ACECs are ROW Exclusion Areas	Some ROW Avoidance Areas in High Value Watersheds	No Right-of-Way Exclusion or Avoidance Areas
No Digging and Building (No Surface Occupancy) but for Oil and Gas Development only - Does not apply to mining	Follows Management Plan to mitigate fisheries conflicts	No Designations for 'No Surface Occupancy' because High Value Watersheds are Closed to Oil and Gas Development and Mining	Within High Value Watersheds - Designates Some Areas 'No Surface Occupancy' for Oil and Gas Development - No Suction dredge mining in non-navigable waters in HVW - But all areas are open to mining	No 'No Surface Occupancy' Designations - Within High Value Watersheds - Requirements - open to Mining and Oil and Gas Development with standard stipulations. Suction dredge mining permitted with approval
Impacts to Subsistence	May result in a significant restriction to subsistence uses for the communities of Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, Kaltag, Lime Village Marshall, McGrath, Nikolai, Nulato, Russian Mission, Shageluk	May result in a significant restriction to subsistence uses for the communities of Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, Kaltag, Lime Village Marshall, McGrath, Nikolai, Nulato, Russian Mission, Shageluk	May result in a significant restriction to subsistence uses for the communities of Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, Kaltag, Lime Village Marshall, McGrath, Nikolai, Nulato, Russian Mission, Shageluk	May result in a significant restriction to subsistence uses for the communities of Anvik, Grayling, Holy Cross, Kaltag, Lime Village Marshall, McGrath, Nikolai, Nulato, Russian Mission, Shageluk

WHAT IS HEAVY DRINKING?



For more information on ways to speak with youth on excessive alcohol use, contact
Prevention Through Wellness
TCC Division of Wellness & Prevention
(907) 452-8251 ext. 3400 or 800-478-6822

FULL BOARD RESOLUTIONS

These resolutions were passed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors during our 2019 Annual Convention in March. Each resolution has been assigned to a staff member. If you have questions, please contact that person directly using the extension below. To view all of our resolutions, visit our website at: www.tananachiefs.org

- 2019-01 Improve and Expedite Hiring Process - *Heather Rogers ext. 3095*
- 2019-02 Random Drug Testing for Executive and Health Board and Require Testing 1 Week Before Elections - *Heather Rogers ext. 3095*
- 2019-03 Improve Standards and Local Hire in Housing Projects - *Tiffany Simmons ext. 3438*
- 2019-04 Improve Public Safety in Rural Alaska - *Natasha Singh - 3008*
- 2019-05 Wrongfully Convicted People Receive Permanent Fund Dividends for Years Spent Incarcerated - *Natasha Singh - 3008*
- 2019-06 Advocates to Assist Our Youth When They Encounter the Judicial System - *Will Mayo ext. 3110*
- 2019-07 Protect the Inherent Sovereign Rights of Native Tribes - *Natasha Singh - 3008*
- 2019-08 Calling on the United States Government to Renounce the Doctrine of Discovery - *Referred to the Executive Board*
- 2019-09 Resolution in Honor of Extraordinary Leadership and Volunteerism of Tom Kriska - *Tanna Carter ext. 3112*
- 2019-10 Funding Year 2020 Governor Dunleavy Proposed Budget - *Natasha Singh ext. 3008*
- 2019-11 Indian Environmental General Assistance Program - *Bill Justice ext. 3433*
- 2019-12 Requesting Support of Tanana Chiefs Conference to Assist in Planning and Implementing Women's Gatherings in the Villages - *Kailey Erickson ext. 3244*
- 2019-13 Affordable Detox Treatment - *Ginessa Sams ext. 3336*
- 2019-14 Urgent Health Needs of Alatna Village - *Crystal Stordahl ext. 3402*
- 2019-15 Have an Elder Health Care Advocate for the Tanana Chiefs Conference Region - *Jennifer Eden ext. 3181*
- 2019-16 Elder Home in Tok for Upper Tanana Region - *Jacoline Bergstrom ext. 3141*
- 2019-17 Patient Mileage Reimbursement - *Jennifer Eden ext. 3181*
- 2019-18 Wellness and Prevention Activities for the Upper Tanana Region - *Kailey Erickson ext. 3244*
- 2019-19 Expansion of Substance Withdrawal Services for Interior Alaska - *Ginessa Sams ext. 3336*
- 2019-20 TCC to Assist FNA to Enter Into a BIA Title IV Compact for Welfare Assistance and Social Services - *Will Mayo ext. 3110*
- 2019-21 Protecting Opportunities to Hunt for Local Village Residents - *Ben Stevens ext. 3078*
- 2019-22 In Support of the State of Alaska to Budget Funds to Support and Fund a Statewide Alaska Indigenous Teacher Training Program - *Ed Alexander ext. 3032*
- 2019-23 Establish a Climate Change Advisory Committee - *Bob Sattler ext. 3343*
- 2019-24 Authorizing Tanana Chiefs Conference to Be the Tribal Energy Resource Development Organization (TERDO) and to Apply for BIA Funding Under the FY19 Tribal Economic Development Capacity Grant Program - *Dave Pelunis-Messier ext. 3479*
- 2019-25 Oppose the Murphy Dome Road Expansion - *Paul Mayo ext. 3261*
- 2019-26 Protect Alaskan Waters to Ensure the Waters Remain Pristine and Uncontaminated - *Paul Mayo ext. 3261*
- 2019-27 Authorization and Support for Tanana Chiefs Conference to Submit a CTAS Purpose Area 7 Tribal Victim Services Program - *Tiffany Simmons ext. 3438*
- 2019-28 Authorization and Support for Tanana Chiefs Conference to Submit a CTAS Purpose Area 3 and 9 Tribal Victim Services Program - *Tiffany Simmons ext. 3438*
- 2019-29 Seek Funding for a Language Immersion Program - *Ed Alexander ext. 3032*
- 2019-30 Protect Ceremonial Moose - *Ben Stevens ext. 3078*



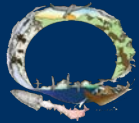
THE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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Letters to the Editor, other written contributions and photo submissions are welcome. However, space is limited and program-oriented news has priority. We reserve the right to edit or reject material. Letters and opinions are not necessarily the opinions of Tanana Chiefs Conference.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

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WWW.TANANACHIEFS.ORG

Village Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Aide (Rampart, Chalkyitsik, Ruby)
- Community Health Aide/Practitioner (Allakaket, Healy Lake, Nenana, Kaltag, Rampart, Stevens Village, Ruby, Chalkyitsik, Tetlin, Dot Lake, Hughes, Circle, Alatna)
- Healthy Transitions Clinician (Tok)
- Physician Assistant-Upper Tanana Health Center (Tok)
- Tribal Administrator-Onsite Supervisor (Circle)
- Tribal Family Youth Specialist (Takotna)
- Village Public Safety Officer (Circle, Grayling, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Tanana, Nulato, McGrath, Huslia, Ruby)

Fairbanks Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Assessment Clinician
- Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Fairbanks
- Behavioral Health Clinical Associate-Fairbanks
- Behavioral Health Clinician
- Behavioral Health Crisis Clinician
- Certified Medical Assistant II
- Coding Manager
- Diagnostic Radiology Technologist
- Health and Safety Officer
- Healthy Transitions Clinician
- Hospitality Support Staff
- Lead Behavioral Health Clinician
- Old Minto Family Recovery Camp Traditional Counselor
- Psychiatrist
- Regional Instructor
- RN
- Service Desk Technician
- Youth Cultural Tourism Student

Region- Wide Vacancies

- Itinerant Clinician - SOC
- Squad Boss
- Wild Land Firefighter Type II Crew Member

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF April 11th, 2019

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

TCC Closed
All Staff Meeting • May 17th

TCC Closed
Memorial Day • May 27th

TCC 5K Run/Walk
Birch Hill Recreational Area • June 2nd

Denakkanaaga Annual Conference
Nulato, AK • June 4th-6th



DENAKKANAAGA ANNUAL ELDERS & YOUTH CONFERENCE

*Serving Others: A Traditional Native Value Guiding Us:
Honoring Poldine Carlo*

**June 4th - 6th
Nulato, AK**

Conference participants will discuss various issues impacting Interior Native elders and youth, including federal and state budgets and their impact on elder programs and services, subsistence fishing, the rising opioid problem, and revitalization of Native languages. Elder delegates from the 42 Interior Alaska villages and Fairbanks will attend the conference, along with youth, leaders and representatives from various organizations.

