

Allakaket Community Plan 2018



Figure 1 Aerial view of Old Allakaket

Figure 2 Aerial View of New Allakaket



Figure 3 1st Place Art Contest Winner Jamie Ambrose:
"What do you like most about living in Allakaket?"

Prepared by:
Allakaket Tribal Council
Jordanna David, Community Planning Specialist
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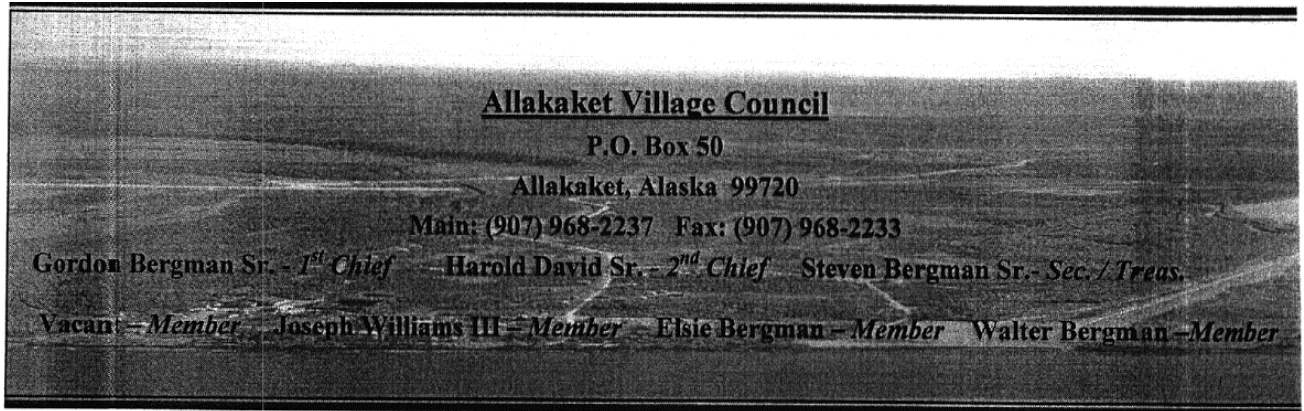
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RESOLUTION ADOPTING COMMUNITY PLAN



Resolution # 2018-12 Adopting Community Plan

Whereas, this Community Plan is important to the future growth and development of Allakaket, AK, and,

Whereas, this plan was created through a public process which captured the values and goals of our community: and,

Whereas, this plan is a tool that helps us manage change in our community: and,

Whereas, this plan is intended to coordinate future community development and service delivery; and,

Whereas; it is understood that this document was created for public use and will be made publically available and,

Whereas, we ask all public, private, and non-profit entities serving our community to recognize and use this plan; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the parties of this resolution agree to work together to pursue the values, goals, and vision express in this plan.

Certification

We hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed and approved 4 in favor, 0 opposed by the following parties:

Gordon Bergman
Tribal Government

Diana Smith
City Government

May 30, 2018
Date

June 5, 2018
Date

ALLAKAKET IS A HAPPY AND SAFE PLACE TO LIVE. THE PEOPLE ARE STRONG, LOVING AND HEALTHY WHO HONOR THE ELDERS AND SHOW RESPECT TO ALL. AS KEEPERS OF THE LAND, WE PROTECT OUR SUBSISTENCE WAY OF LIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES. OUR TRADITIONAL WAYS ARE PASSED DOWN AND WE TEACH OUR CULTURE. OUR NATIVE LANGUAGE IS SPOKEN AND PRESERVED. WE HAVE STRONG VOICES WHO EMPOWER THE YOUTH TO BECOME LEADERS. WE ARE ECONOMICALLY STRONG; WE WORK TOGETHER, WE STAY TOGETHER.



Figure 4 Best Friends: Late Marie Henzie and Kitty David

Healthy Strong Families

Respect

Providing - Sharing

Self- Sufficiency

Unity

Culture/Tradition

Youth

Education

Subsistence

Elders

Respect Youth Unity Self-Sufficiency
Subsistence
Culture-Tradition Providing-Sharing Elders
Healthy-Strong-Families Education

In February 2018 the Tanana Chiefs Conference Planning and Development Program awarded the Allakaket Tribal Council a contract to hire a local Community Planning Specialist, Jordanna David, to develop Allakaket's five-year community plan. The plan outlines the community's primary goals and objectives for future projects which were identified by community members. A community feedback survey was administered March 2018. Data was collected from forty-three completed community feedback surveys to include residential participation in the development of this document. An Allakaket community meeting was held on March 21, 2018 with 27 participants. The outcome of the meeting included identifying and prioritizing community goals and creating values/vision statement. The final plan was reviewed and adopted as an official document by Allakaket Tribal Council on June 5, 2018.

COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The community plan is a living document that should be used to help put the goals and objectives into action. The plan should be updated yearly as goals and objectives have been completed and implemented. Implementation of the Community Plan also opens up capacity building and identifying future funding opportunities, including the TCC Village Planning & Development Grant Development Specialist position, which provides funding for the Tribe to employ a community-based grant writing specialist that works closely with the Tribe to write a grant for the community to carry out one of the top goals and priorities in the community plan.



Figure 5 Pollock Simon Sr. and Elsie Bergman participating at the Community Planning Meeting on March 21st, 2018



Figure 6 Elisa Bergman and LaVerne Huntington evaluating Community Member's responses at the Community Planning Meeting on March 21, 2018

COMMUNITY PROFILE

HISTORY

The native people of Allakaket were originally nomadic and several groups created joint settlements after 1851. Until that time the groups existed in several camps relocating as the seasons changed following the wild life. The main trading center for the Koyukon Athabascan and Inupiaq Eskimos was the former site of Alatna. It was at this site in 1906 that the first Episcopal Mission Church, St. John-in-the-Wilderness was established. Years later in 1925, the post office was opened and in 1938 the name was formally changed to Allakaket. Across the river is the small Eskimo community of Alatna. The first public school was initiated in Allakaket in 1957. In 1975 the community was integrated as a City. Which included both communities of Allakaket and Alatna. In 1978 the former clinic and airport were constructed. The school that is still in use today and some of the community roads were built in 1979. In August 1994 there was a devastating flood which destroyed the majority of the communities' buildings and homes. Residents reconstructed near the old city site but the majority of the village was relocated outside of city limits.¹



Figure 9 Dressed for cold weather, Courtesy of UAF Gates of the Arctic Research Portal.



Figure 7 Akpik and Napoleon and their children, Allakaket. Courtesy of the UAF Gates of the Arctic Research Portal.



Figure 8 Ellen, Clara and Chief Moses in Allakaket, Courtesy of the UAF Gates of the Arctic Research Portal.

¹ (Allakaket, 2018)

CULTURE

Allakaket has a combination of multiple Native groups that have resided in the area including Koyukon Athabascans, Kobuk, Selawik and Nunamuit Eskimos from the North and North West. Allakaket is now mainly an Athabaskan community where the descendants are primarily upper Koyukuk Athabascans.



Figure 10 Grandpa Johnson Moses teaching kids how to make a boat paddle at Culture Camp 2004.



Figure 11 Julia Simon teaching kids how to mend fish nets at Culture Camp 2004.



Figure 12 Fishnets on the Koyukuk River.

POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

The current population estimate by the State of Alaska Department of Labor for 2017 is 164. According to the 2010 census Allakaket's population is 105 residents. Allakaket's population is primarily Alaskan Native with 95.41% being a mixture of Athabascan Indians and Eskimo. The remaining population of Allakaket is Caucasian.² The population has decreased over the past couple of decades from its high of 170 in 1990 to its current population.³ There are a number of contributing factors to the decrease in population, the primary factor being the limited employment opportunities. The Age and Gender chart below is derived from the 2010 Census data.

	Total	Male	Female
Total	105	66	39
Under 5 years	15	12	3
5 to 9 years	2	1	1
10 to 14 years	8	4	4
15 to 19 years	10	6	4
20 to 24 years	7	6	1
25 to 29 years	15	9	6
30 to 34 years	4	2	2
35 to 39 years	4	3	1
40 to 44 years	4	2	2
45 to 49 years	6	2	4
50 to 54 years	4	2	2
55 to 59 years	12	8	4
60 to 64 years	6	3	3
65 to 69 years	1	1	0
70 to 74 years	3	3	0
75 to 79 years	3	1	2
80 to 84 years	1	1	0
85 years and over	0	0	0

Median age		
Both	Male	Female
27.6	26.0	32.3

LOCATION

Allakaket is located on the south bank of the Koyukuk River, southwest of the Alatna River. Allakaket is 190 air miles northwest of Fairbanks and 57 miles upriver from Hughes. The village of Alatna is located 4 miles south of Allakaket. The community lies approximately at 66.562610 north latitude and 152.647560 west longitude.

² (Community:Allakaket, 2018)

³ (State of Alaska Department, 2018)

WILDLIFE

The Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge is an important nesting and resting area for migratory water fowl. Along the meandering streams and thousands of lakes along the Koyukuk, Alatna, and Kanuti rivers, tundra and trumpeter swans, white-fronted and Canada geese, ducks, sandhill cranes, loons, gulls, terns, and shorebirds nest and rear their young. Raptors, including bald and golden eagles, osprey, and a variety of owls and hawks also nest in the area.

The Koyukuk River supports anadromous (coho, chum, and Chinook salmon and sheefish) and resident fish (e.g., Arctic grayling, burbot, whitefish, longnose sucker, sculpin). Juvenile Chinook salmon rearing probably occurs in the main channel of the river, fish overwinter in deep pools, and some salmon probably spawn in the main channel. Sheefish spawn in the Koyukuk River upstream of Hughes and in the Alatna River. Lakes in the area provide habitat for northern pike.

A portion of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd migrates into the area periodically to winter in the Kanuti Flats and Ray Mountains. Their movements through the Alatna River Valley can bring them close to Allakaket. Moose are abundant throughout much of the area. Black bear and grizzly bear are also present. Furbearers are abundant and include beaver, muskrat, marten, mink, lynx, fox, wolf, and wolverine.⁴

VEGETATION

In the lower elevations, the Allakaket area is dominated by a tall, relatively dense forest, primarily white spruce locally mixed with balsam poplar, quaking aspen, and paper birch on well-drained stream and lake banks. Balsam poplar usually occurs with white spruce at an early stage in succession and is an early invader of floodplains. On poorly drained soils, often underlain by permafrost, black spruce predominates. Undergrowth is generally dense shrubs, including American green alder, thin-leaf alder, willow, rose, dogwood, Labrador tea, and berry bushes. The forest floor is usually carpeted with ferns, blue joint grass, fireweed, horsetails, lichens, herbs, and mosses. Wetlands generally are common throughout the area as evidenced by the myriad waterways and lakes. The generally ubiquitous permafrost, which usually keeps the water table near the ground surface, is a major factor in wetlands formation.⁵

⁴ (Allakaket, 1995)

⁵ (Allakaket, 1995)

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STATUS

Floods in the Koyukuk River basin generally result from spring snowmelt and summer rainfall. Spring flooding usually occurs from extreme snowmelt events that are sometimes complicated by the melting of ice jams at the convergence of several rivers. Rainfall floods often occur in the late summer as a result of large frontal storms. These two types of floods generally do not occur together. The extreme rainfall events usually occur after snow has already melted. Historically, Allakaket experienced flooding almost every spring. The most serious floods were recorded in 1937, 1938, 1939, 1964, 1966, 1968, and 1989.⁶ The flood of August 1994, however, is considered the record high for water. Sudden changes in river channel geometry and erosion occur after meander cut offs. Allakaket is less than 2 miles downstream from a meander on the Alatna River that is very near to being cut off. This is expected to occur within 10 to 20 years. It will cause diversion of the channel in a new direction, probably to the southeast, but the direction is not very predictable. Therefore, it is not known how this cut-off will affect the existing Allakaket town site.⁷

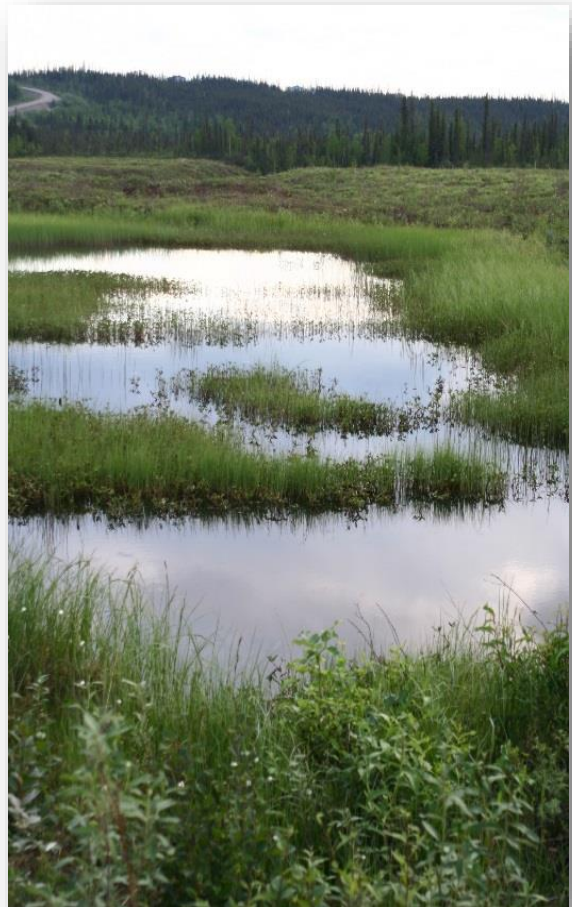


Figure 13 Summer Allakaket scenery.

SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

The soils in the area are generally loam (medium) and silty loess, and poorly drained with a peaty surface layer. Erosion potential is medium to high. Unconsolidated deposits are mostly sand and gravel, silt and clay. Permafrost, often rich ice, is present throughout the region except under major waterways. The permafrost table is shallow and permafrost may extend to depths of several hundred feet. Thawing in summer only occurs in the top three feet.⁸

⁶ (Allakaket, 1995)

⁷ (Allakaket, 1995)

⁸ (Allakaket, 1995)

CLIMATE

The area experiences a cold, continental climate with extreme temperature differences. The average high temperature during July is 70°F. The average low temperature during January is well below zero and extended periods of -40°F are common. The highest temperature ever recorded was 94 °F, and the lowest was -75 °F. Average annual precipitation is 13 inches, and average annual snowfall is 72 inches. The Koyukuk River is ice-free from June through October.⁹ Annual weather patterns, severe cold, freezing rain, and snow accumulations are predominate threats. The snowfall amount directly determines winter weather damages. More snow provides better ground insulation. Severe cold usually occurs during December-January. High winds typically occur February-March and August-September. August experiences the most rain. Too much rain causes wild game to move to more distant dry ground way from the City increasing resident travel to harvest subsistence foods. Heavy rain and spring thaw causes high river water which reduces the City's residents' capability to harvest King salmon for subsistence needs.



Figure 14 Winter Allakaket scenery.

⁹ (Community:Allakaket, 2018)

GOVERNANCE/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

TRIBAL COUNCIL

The Allakaket Tribe is governed by the Allakaket Tribal Council. The First and Second Chiefs serve as the officers of the 7 member Council. Tribal employees include a Tribal Administrator, Tribal Administrator Assistant/Office Manager, Tribal Assistant,, Bookkeeper, Tribal Workforce Development Specialist (TWDS), Tribal Family Youth Specialist (TFYS), Transportation Coordinator, Environmental Coordinator, Environmental Assistant, Solid Waste Technician, Tribal Office/Washeteria/Clinic Custodians, Washeteria Water Operator, Clinic Facilities Operator, Store Manager, Assistant Store Manager, and Store Clerk. The Tribe provides services which include an Elders Nutrition Program, Summer Youth Food Program, and Tribal Court Services, assist tribal members as needed and provide various services to the community members. The Tribe operates the Washeteria and Clinic.

CITY COUNCIL

The City consists of the Mayor and 7 City Council members. The City office handles the rent for the post office and four residential homes. The City also manages gas sales, pays for city lights, and owns the city hall, and heavy equipment. The part-time jobs held by the City are City Administrator, Clerk, Fuel Attendant and Bookkeeper.

VPSO/LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Tribal Council has not yet been able to hire a permanent VPSO. The nearest Alaska State Trooper is located in Fairbanks, Alaska. Troopers and Roving VPSOs have to fly here in bush planes for a criminal response. The community doesn't have 911 in the village, the residents have to call a 1-800 number to call the Troopers or VPSOs. There is housing available for VPSO, the building is located next to the new clinic. It is an older building that was built in 1981-1982. Before this, the building was previously used as the old store warehouse, youth center, and head start. The VPSO house needs rehab work. The Allakaket Public Safety building is located next to the City Office and was constructed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference VPSO Program in 2016 with one holding cell.

VILLAGE CORPORATION: K'OYITL'OTS'INA LIMITED

The Village Corporation holding lands in the Allakaket area is K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited which also owns lands in the vicinity of Koyukuk river villages of Alatna, Hughes, and Huslia. K'oyitl'ots'ina Corporation has nine board members, which are elected by shareholders. There are at least two board members from each of the four villages. The corporation offers higher education scholarships in addition to providing annual dividends to shareholders.¹⁰



REGIONAL CORPORATION: DOYON LIMITED

Doyon, Limited, the Native regional corporation for Interior Alaska, is a for-profit corporation with more than 19,000 shareholders. Established under the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), Doyon is the largest private landowner in Alaska, with more than 12.5 million acres allocated to the corporation under ANCSA.¹¹

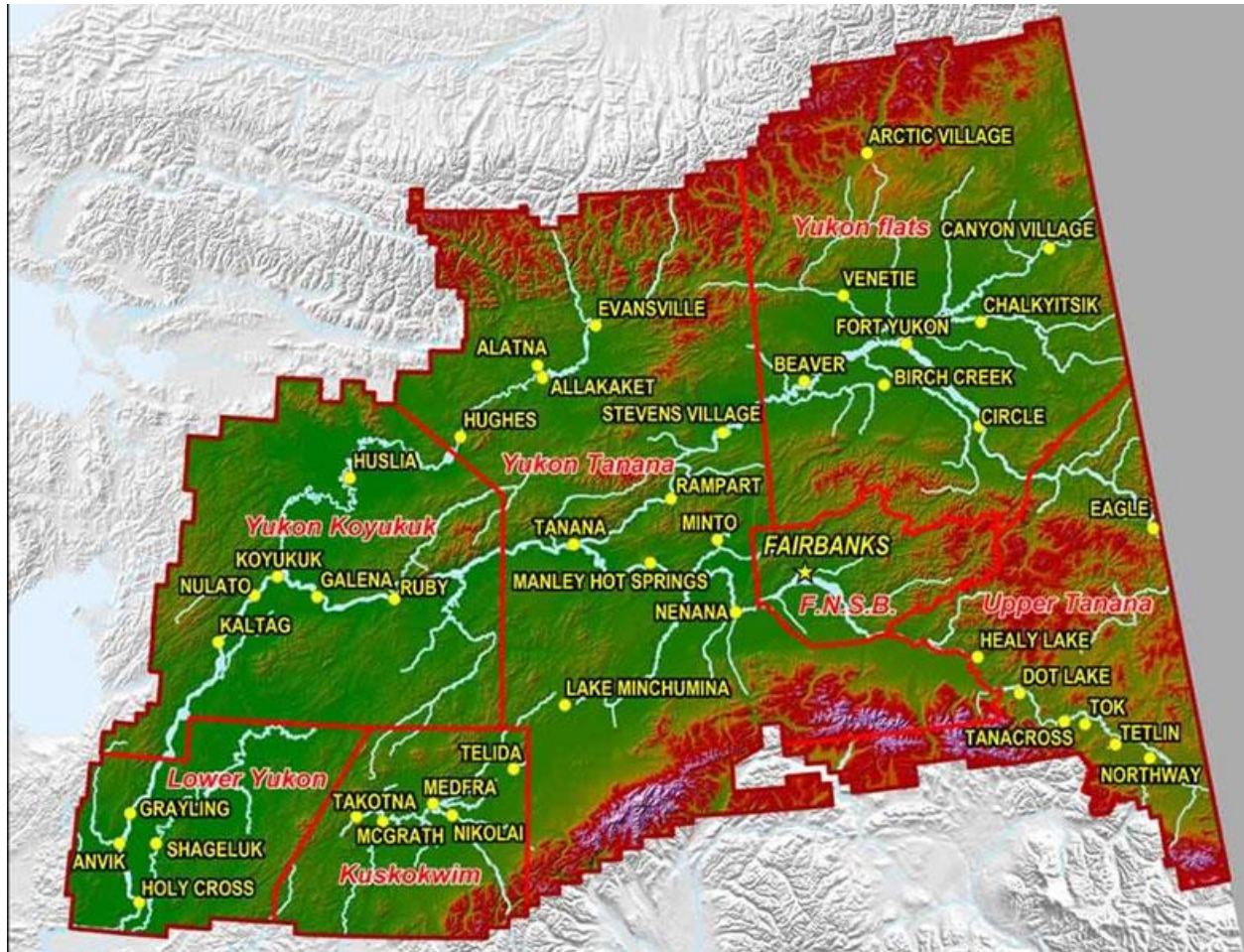


¹⁰ (The Villages Along the Koyukuk River , 2018)

¹¹ (Doyon Limited, 2018)

REGIONAL NON-PROFIT: TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is the regional non-profit corporation for the Interior Region of Alaska. Established in 1962, the organization provides services to meet the health and social service needs of tribal members and beneficiaries of the 39 tribal communities in Alaska's interior.¹²



¹² (TCC, 2018)

PUBLIC UTILITIES

WATER AND SEWER

The sewer system consists of a lagoon with a few private leach fields in place. There is a honey bucket dumpsite but there currently isn't any public transportation to it. The teachers' housing is the only housing in Allakaket with running water and sewer. The other buildings that have running water and sewer are the school, clinic and Washeteria. Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) completed two partial water and sewer projects in 2017 in two Elder homes. Future projects are pending on funding.

SOLID WASTE

The Tribal Environmental department manages the solid waste in the community. The City of Allakaket maintains a Class 3 landfill. Allakaket solid waste production is exceeding the capacity of the current landfill. No public haul system is provided to the landfill. All residence use burn barrels to dispose of their trash and haul all excess and non-burnable trash to the landfill. Opening a new landfill cell, establishing adequate storage facilities for the backhaul items, and reducing the use of burn barrels are all goals that have been identified by the community.

POWER/ENERGY (BULK FUEL & ELECTRIC)

Alaska Power and Telephone runs the electricity. Electricity is generated by a diesel generator. Roughly 99% of homes in Allakaket use electricity. The bulk fuel storage is located near the airport; it holds eight 5,000 gallon tanks. AP&T, the City, Alatna, and YKSD have two tanks each. Roughly there is a total of 4,000 gallons of fuel for the City and 6,000 gallons in the YKSD tank. Gas is \$7.50 per gallon, diesel \$7.00 per gallon. Fuel is delivered twice a month. Wood and diesel are the primary sources of heat in the community. 11 community buildings and 6 teacher housing units received energy efficient upgrades in May 2010. Upgrades were administered by Alaska Building Science Network through an Alaska Energy Authority Grant.



Figure 15 Allakaket Power Plant.

COMMUNICATIONS

RADIO

KIYU 96.9 has been recently introduced to the area. The radio station is based out of Galena, Alaska.



INTERNET AND PHONE



Alaska Power and Telephone provides the telephone service. AT&T offers long distance calling service.

GCI Internet is available at the school, school housing, the City office, and the Tribal office. There are also an additional 7 homes with internet access and 2 businesses. A GCI cell tower will be built in Allakaket in 2018.



Figure 16 Allakaket Power Plant.

BUILDINGS

SCHOOL



The Allakaket School has Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. Twenty-nine students were enrolled in the 2016-2017 school year. The school has a total of five teachers.¹³ Allakaket's school is part of the Yukon-Koyukuk School District (YKSD). All of the students are from the communities of Allakaket and Alatna and all students are eligible for the meal program. Extracurricular youth programs in Allakaket include tutoring, a high school store, field trips and a sewing program through A-Chill. There are a total of six teacher's houses, all equipped with running water and sewer. The school was built in 1979 with renovations planned in the next few years. On the

school property there is a bus and bus barn, water treatment plant/classroom, garage, boiler building, maintenance shop, fire pump with three water storage tanks, and a fire suppression building. The bus barn was built in 2006, the water treatment plant/classrooms in 1972 (it was the former Washeteria), the garage and boiler building built in 1983, the maintenance shop built in 1979 along with the school, and in 2011 the fire pumps plus fire suppression building were added. The school and facilities are located downtown in the old Allakaket.



Figure 18 Kid's Luncheon Workshop March 13, 2018.



Figure 17 2nd place Art Contest Winner Ariella Edwards, "What do you like most about living in Allakaket?"

¹³ (Community:Allakaket, 2018)

CLINIC

Allakaket has a newly constructed Community Health Clinic that opened to the public in the summer of 2017, which provides health care to all residents in Allakaket and the neighboring village Alatna. There is one permanent Health Aide, with itinerate Health Aides working when the permanent Health Aide is on leave. The Health Aide looks at all cases and consults with a doctor based in Fairbanks once a day to determine if cases need to be referred. If necessary, patients are referred to Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center in Fairbanks which is operated by Tanana Chiefs Conference.



Figure 19 New Allakaket Health Clinic.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

There has recently been a Crisis Response Team created with monthly meetings. There are approximately 21 volunteers that provide assistance to the Allakaket Tribal Council, the Allakaket Health Aides and the VPSO during times of crisis. A search and rescue crew is held by the First Chief of Allakaket when need be. Allakaket also has a crew of seasonal BLM wild land firefighters.

POST OFFICE

The U.S. Postal Service Station provides full service to both Allakaket and Alatna residents and there are 98 active mailboxes. The Post Office was constructed in 1994 after the original building was lost in the flood. It is located downtown in old Allakaket but one of Allakaket's goals is to move it out of the floodplain. The Post Master works Monday through Friday 10am-5pm. Mail is received daily by plane from Wrights Air Service or Ravn Alaska, weather permitting.



Figure 20 Allakaket Post Office.

WASHETERIA

Currently the Tribe runs the local Washeteria. Almost all of Allakaket's residences haul their water from the Washeteria. The facility has 4 washers and 4 dryers. There are also 4 showers and 1 bathtub available. Some upgrades to the Washeteria occurred in the summer of 2010. Renovations include replacement of the existing boiler and construction of the water and sewer lines above ground. Waste heat from the generator will be used to power the dryers to reduce the cost of operating the facility. ANTHC has piping repairs scheduled for the summer of 2018.

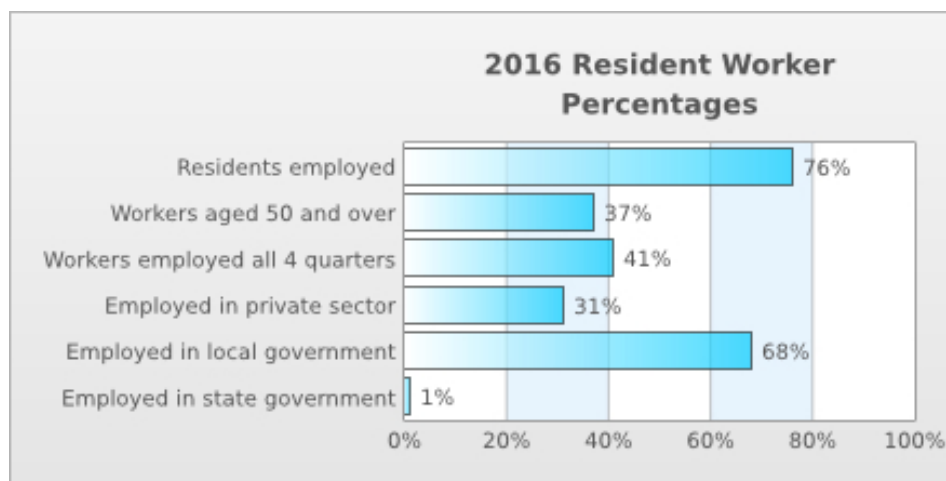


Figure 21 Allakaket Washeteria

COMPOSITION OF EMPLOYMENT

Allakaket is primarily a cash-based economy but many residents rely on the wild resource harvest, subsistence lifestyle, for the majority of their diet. Most cash jobs are part-time or seasonal. The primary year-round employers are the school, city, tribe and village corporation store. Construction and BLM emergency firefighting provide summer jobs. A few residents earn income from trapping or selling Native handicrafts.

Subsistence is the focus of the local economy. Salmon, whitefish, moose, bear, small game, and berries provide the leading food sources for Allakaket residents. Caribou are taken when available. The following graph indicates 2016 resident worker percentages for Allakaket according to the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.



LOCAL STORES AND BUSINESSES

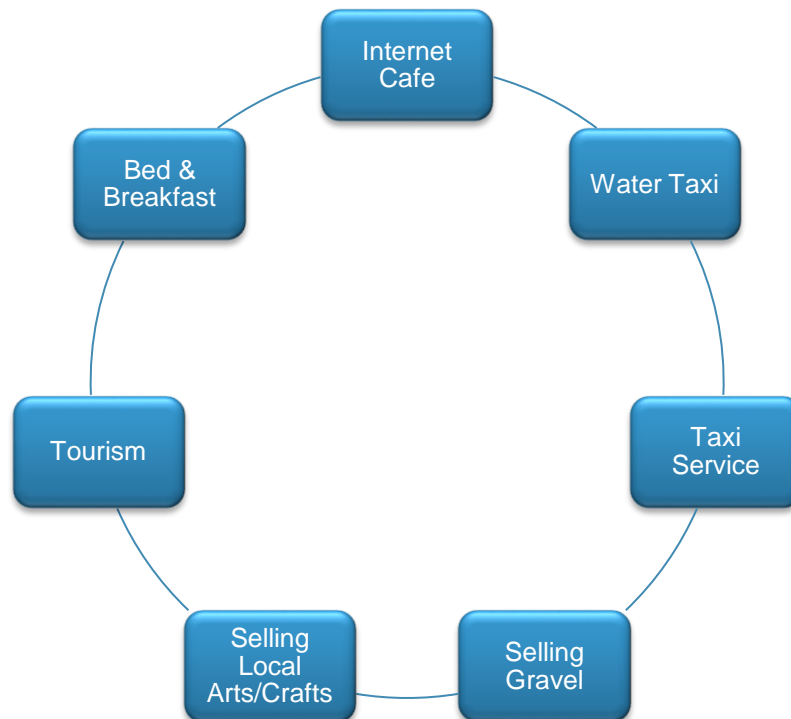
Allakaket has one store located in Old Allakaket and is operated by Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, Inc. (ANICA). ANICA is a wholesale purchasing operative that serves rural Alaskans. The store receives their products via air cargo weekly. Products available for purchase range from cereal, canned fruit, backing supplies, and soda to household products such as cleaning supplies, tarps, and rope. Allakaket has a handful of tribal members that are active sled builders and local artists that sell beadwork part-time. There are also tribal members that prepare for Memorial Potlatches by carving wood paddles and a lot of women donate beaded items. Local business opportunities in Allakaket include starting an internet café, offering a water taxi between villages along the Koyukuk River and a taxi service between old and new Allakaket, selling gravel for local construction projects, and building a new store. Allakaket also has the potential to develop an internet business selling local arts and crafts.



Figure 22 Allakaket ANICA Store and customers.

FUTURE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

The following chart illustrates the possible areas for economic development opportunities identified in the Allakaket 2018 Community Feedback Survey.



BARRIERS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

One of the primary barriers to commercial economic development in Allakaket is its relative isolation from main transportation routes connecting it with Alaska's economic hubs. Allakaket's isolation significantly increases the cost of operating any existing or possible business or industry. With that said, the prevailing attitude among community members attending community planning meetings opposed road development to a main highway for the significant impact that it would have on their subsistence lifestyle. Although subsistence is not easily measurable in terms of capital gains, it is an essential component of the livelihood for many residents of Allakaket and remains an important resource that the community wishes to protect. Any economic benefits as a result of infrastructure or commercial development would have to be weighed against the potentially negative effects on valued community assets.

HOUSING

Based on the housing statistics gathered from the 2010 Census, Allakaket has a total of 58 housing units, 44 of which are occupied. There are 14 vacant houses and two houses that are used seasonally. Out of the 44 occupied houses 30 are owned by the occupants and 14 are rented. The average number of persons per household is 3. There are 25 homes with families. Most homes have outhouses or use honey buckets. Installing running water in both new and old homes is one of the top priorities among residents' which they would like to achieve in the next five years. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has a Housing Improvement Program open for all Tribal members, along with the self-help program through Interior Regional Housing Authority (IRHA). IRHA recent projects include the construction of two homes in 2015.



Figure 23 Allakaket School.



Figure 24 An Allakaket home.

TRANSPORTATION

EXTERNAL TRANSPORTATION

Allakaket is not road accessible. Residents rely heavily on air travel for transportation, supplies, and cargo. Wrights Air Service and Ravn Alaska are the only airlines that service Allakaket. Residents of Allakaket also travel by boat to and from surrounding villages such as Hughes which is 65 miles downriver and Bettles which is 45 miles upriver on the Koyukuk River. The last barge to land in Allakaket was in 2016 with supplies to build the new clinic. The barge before that was in 2010 with supplies for the runway and road improvements. In the winter there is an ice road that connects Bettles to the Dalton Highway which cuts down on the cost of freight in Allakaket, currently only snow machines have access. The construction of the Ice Road to Bettles to allow heavy machinery and vehicles has been moved to #2 priority as decided by the community

INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION

Four wheelers, snow machine, and a few trucks, are the main modes of transportation in town. There is a total of 14 miles of unpaved roads in Allakaket. Allakaket's Long Range Transportation Plan was prepared by Arctic Resource Group, LLC and adopted in March 2013. Currently, the Long Range

Transportation Plan is being updated by Eddie Hakala of EBSC Engineering, LLC, and will be finalized by the end of 2018. The new #1 priority is construction of Yukon Road behind the Church. It was decided by the Community at the Transportation Planning Meeting on May 15, 2018. The Yukon Road will provide lots for new housing and a chance for older housing to be relocated out of the flood plain. The #3 priority will be construction of Blazer Loop located in New Allakaket. Medium priorities will include another housing subdivision on Chalatna Road and a bridge for cemetery access. Low priorities are new Boat Launch, Chalatna Trail, Tanana Trail, Kanuti Trail, and new gravel access. High priorities are in the 0-5 year range, medium 5-10 years and low 10-20 years.



Figure 25 The road leading down from New Allakaket. Continued road maintenance is needed to keep roads safe.

LAND OWNERSHIP

K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited owns a total of 92,160 acres of land and owns several subsidiaries. Allakaket is near the Kanuti Wildlife Refuge, which was formed in 1980, it covers 1.6 million acres. Allakaket Tribe has a jurisdiction of a 15 mile radius around the community. Most of the Land in and around Allakaket is owned by; community members, K'oyitl'ots'ina, Limited, Allakaket City and Tribe.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies five natural hazards for the Allakaket area. Those include: earthquakes, flooding, ground failure, severe weather, and wildland/tundra fires.

Reasons being: earthquakes, as periodic, unpredictable occurrences. Flooding from the snowmelt run-off and rainfall flooding occurs during spring thaw and the fall rainy season. Events occur from soil saturation. Several minor flood events cause damage. Severe damages occur from major floods. Riverine erosion scour occurs during high water events, and can also result from ice jam scouring.

Ground Failure occurs throughout Alaska from avalanches, landslides, melting permafrost, and ground subsidence. However, subsidence and permafrost are the primary hazards, causing houses to shift due to ground sinking and upheaval and high ground water thawing the permafrost. There is discontinuous permafrost present throughout the community.

Severe weather impacts the community with climate change/global warming El Nino/La Nina Southern Oscillation (ENSO) patterns generating increasingly severe weather events such as winter storms, extreme cold, heavy or freezing rain, thunderstorms and with subsequent secondary hazards such as riverine or coastal storm surge floods, landslides, snow, and wind etc.

The community and the surrounding forest area become very dry in summer months with weather (such as drought and lightening) and human-caused incidents igniting dry vegetation in the adjacent area.¹⁴

¹⁴ (Village, 2017)

WILD FOOD RESOURCE HARVEST (SUBSISTENCE)

The subsistence lifestyle is extremely important to residents in Allakaket and it is also important for maintaining healthy living and culture. The traditional way of life is passed on from previous generations. Moose, caribou, and other small animals are hunted and trapped for food and/or furs. Some furs are sold but mostly they are used for sewing. In the summer the community is able to harvest whitefish and salmon. The salmon numbers that make it to Allakaket are not high making other fish species such as white fish an important food source. In addition to fishing and hunting, berry picking is another very important subsistence activity. Hunting, fishing, and berry picking are all important for both preserving culture and supplying food throughout the year.



Figure 26 Men harvesting donated caribou meat.

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

COMMUNITY HALL

In most Alaskan villages the Tribal Hall is the cultural centerpiece of the community. Allakaket is no exception. The current community hall was constructed in 1995 after the old hall was damaged in the flood. It is centrally located near the church, tribal and city offices, clinic and Washeteria. Most public functions are hosted such as potlatches, dances and community meetings. It is owned and operated by the City Office.



Figure 27 Allakaket Community Hall.

EVENTS

Every August Allakaket holds a three day Culture Camp. The Culture Camp provides an opportunity for Elders to teach the younger generation important traditional skills such as making and repairing fish nets, setting fish nets, and making paddles. Another important activity of the Culture Camp is the reciting and sharing of oral stories. Allakaket also celebrates Elder's Day which is held annually. This celebration is to honor Allakaket's Elders. The celebration includes a potlatch dinner where the youth perform Native songs and dances. Gifts and awards are presented to the Elders during the potlatch. In addition to the Culture Camp and Elder's Day, potlatches are held throughout the year to bring the community together. Every March/April there is a Spring Carnival. The three day event includes traditional dog races and snowshoe races. People travel from nearby villages to participate and visit. On Memorial Day there is fence building, and the whole community works together to clean up the cemeteries and pay respects to the deceased.

PROGRAMS

Alaska Care and Husbandry Instruction for Lifelong Living (A-Chill) is a 4-year Indian Education Demonstration project that brings together Alaska Gateway and Yukon-Koyukuk School Districts and their communities. Together, the schools and their local community members collaboratively engage students in grades 6th through-12th to be inspired and learn valuable knowledge and skills related to the sciences, math, language arts, and college & career readiness.



Figure 28 A-Chill Learning sign that is posted at a Local Musher's property

This project builds on and expands the Frank Attla Youth & Sled Dog Care-Mushing Program, which has been piloted in Huslia for multiple years. According to their website, there are three dog musher teachers and one local culture expert for Allakaket. Activities also included under this program are skijoring, beading nights, in-village veterinary courses, and NYO (Native Youth Olympics).¹⁵



Figure 29 Dog races at the Allakaket/Alatna Spring Carnival 2018.

¹⁵ (A-Chill, 2018)

CHURCHES

This facility was constructed in 1993 when the historic, log church St. John's in the Wilderness, had deteriorated to a point where use of the church was threatening its preservation. Flood waters moved the new church building off its foundation. The facility was restored in 1995 and eventually relocated closer to New Allakaket.



Figure 30 Saint John's in the Wilderness Episcopal Church.



COMMUNITY GOALS & OBJECTIVES



Figure 31 Third place Art Contest Winner Joy Bergman, "What do you like most about living in Allakaket?"

Goal #1: Water & Sewer

- Every home in Allakaket will have safe affordable drinking water and healthy waste water disposal to improve the quality of health.

Goal #2 Homes

- Allakaket residents will have safe, affordable and energy efficient homes to meet the housing needs and we can say, “I own my home”.

Goal #3 Economy

- Allakaket residents strengthen economic stability by building businesses.

Goal #4 Education & Training

- Allakaket residents are productive, educated and self-sustaining citizens.

Goal #5 Tradition & Culture

- Allakakets culture is strong and thriving.

WATER & SEWER

Goal #1: Every home in Allakaket will have safe affordable drinking water and healthy waste water disposal to improve the quality of health.

Priority 1: Provide water and sewer to existing home and service expansion to new homes

Objective: Determine local lead organization, appoint project leader and establish working committee to spearhead development

Objective: Secure funding to install water and sewer systems

Objective: Evaluate alternative systems for this project

Objective: Define scope, location and estimate for project

Objective: Determine the most cost effective way to install water and sewer systems

Priority 2: Maintain and expand the system to approved safe areas

Objective: Determine the areas that are safe to expand system

Objective: Retain occupancy in homes along the waterline to keep it operational

HOMES

Goal #2: Allakaket residents will have safe, affordable and energy efficient homes to meet housing needs and we can say, “I own my home.”

Priority 1: Assess the current needs and assets

Objective: Develop and administer a survey of homes needed

Objective: Determine who is able to harvest logs and utilize the Sawmill to help build their own home

Priority 2: Obtain land to build homes

Objective: Develop a land plan to determine the location of new homes

Objective: Work with land owners to obtain land

Priority 3: Purchase a Sawmill to mill trees for logs and lumber

Objective: Secure funding to purchase sawmill

Objective: Create a policy for Sawmill use

Priority 4: Construct new self-made / custom-made log home by 2020

Objective: Provide perspective homebuilder with information on housing assistance programs such as, IRHA programs, USDA Rural programs, BIA-HIP Program, and other loans and grants

Objective: Collaborate with perspective homebuilders to work together to combine resources

Objective: Recruit family, friends and volunteers to help with harvesting and milling trees for logs and lumber to help build the custom made home

Objective: Create a generic list of materials to be purchased and use by perspective homebuilder

Objective: Have perspective homeowner order the necessary materials

Priority 5: Construct 2 new homes by 2020

Objective: Work with IRHA and other agencies to secure funding to build homes

Objective: Assess the material list for logs and lumber that can be provided locally with Sawmill

Objective: Use the local materials as a match when applying for funding

ECONOMY

Goal #3 Allakaket residents strengthen economic stability by building businesses.

Priority 1: Encourage and assist with development of local businesses

Objective: Develop and administer a survey to identify the current business needs and the current assets that will help with business start-up

Objective: Provide information and encourage attendance of business development webinars and trainings

Objective: Provide information on how to start up small business such as arts and crafts, bed and breakfast, taxi service, coffee shop, and snack bar

Priority 2: Identify business opportunities

Objective: Conduct market research or develop a feasibility study to determine what business would be feasible and if it would be self-sustaining

Objective: Write a business plan, choose a location and choose a name

Objective: Register your business, get the required tax identification numbers, apply for a business license, open a business bank account, and seek start-up funds to open the business

Priority 3: Utilize the Sawmill to create jobs and build the economy

Objective: Identify the inventory needs of logs and lumber needed

Objective: Hire local residents to produce the inventory needed

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Goal #4 Allakaket Residents are productive, educated, and self-sustaining citizens.

Priority 1: Assess the training needs

Objective: Develop and administer a survey to:

- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the employable participants
- Identify specific needs of gaining employment, such as training, higher education, etc.
- Identify challenges of gaining employment, such as transportation, childcare, etc.

Priority 2: Provide education for workforce development

Objective: Host a Career Fair to expose the residents with current opportunities

Objective: Seek training opportunities identified from the survey

Objective: Provide information on education/training assistance

Objective: Target the younger generation to join different local Unions

Objective: Provide Sawmill training

Priority 3: Overcome employment barriers

Objective: Collaborate with employers to find creative ways to overcome employment barriers

Objective: Develop awareness of employment barriers, such as lack of transportation, criminal record, training needs, child care assistance, no license or high school diploma.

Objective: Provide resources and support available to help gain employment for those who have employment barriers

Priority 4: Build a shop to teach skills

Objective: Obtain land for the shop

Objective: Seek funding to build the shop

Objective: Use Sawmill for logs and lumber to build the shop

TRADITION & CULTURE

Goal #5 Allakaket's culture is strong and thriving.

Priority 1: Revitalize the language and strengthen the culture

Objective: Apply for funding to revitalize the language and hold culture camps (Doyon Foundation, RurAL CAP, and Administration for Native Americans)

Objective: Partner with teachers and respected elders to teach

- Native singing
- Native dancing
- Song writing sewing
- Birch bark harvesting
- Snow shoe making
- Sled building
- Hunting
- Fishing
- Survival skills

Priority 2: Empower everyone, especially the next generation with self-identity

Objective: Participate in dog mushing and help to run local kennels

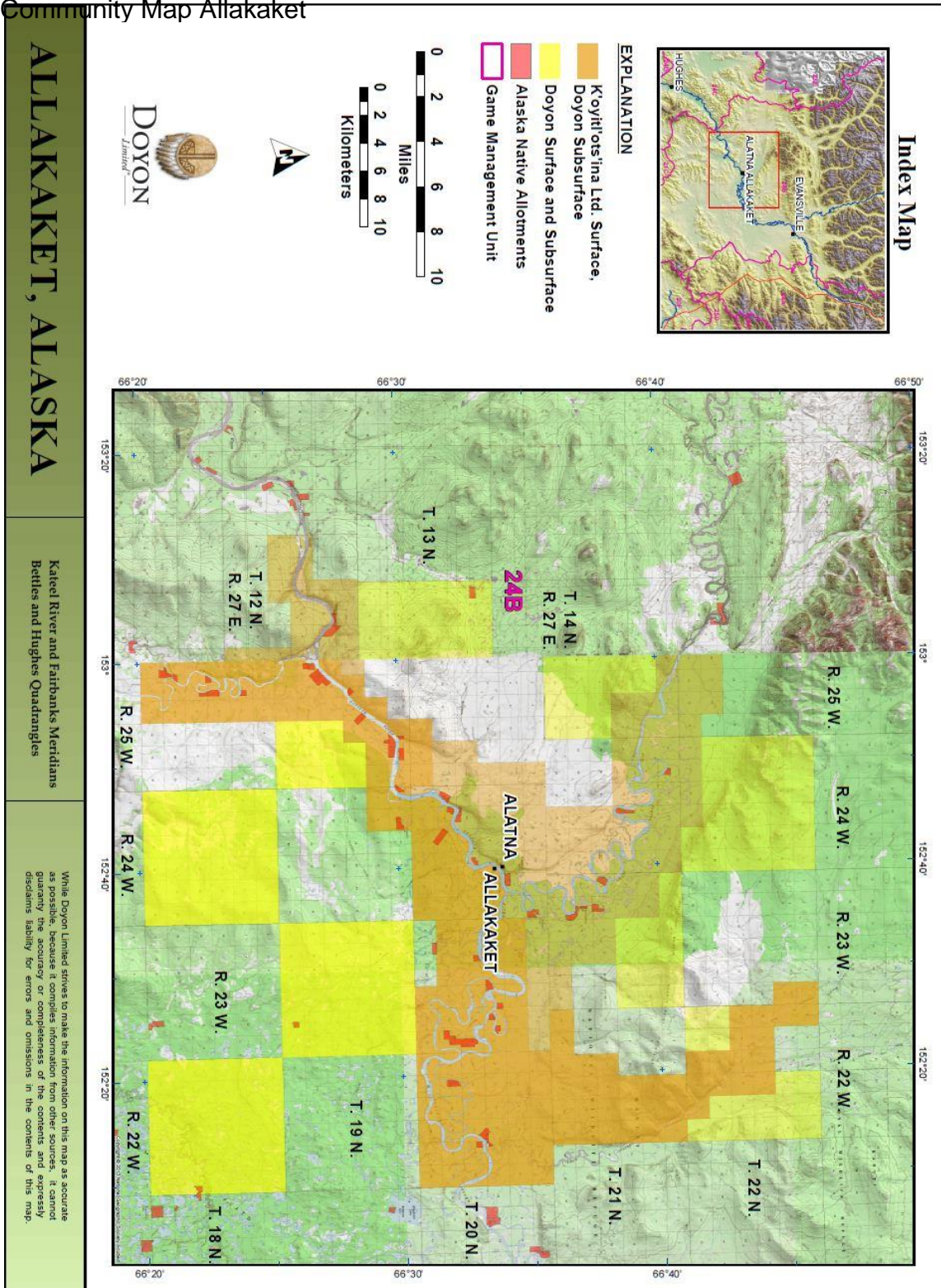
Objective: Assist with parent involvement, monitor television and game time

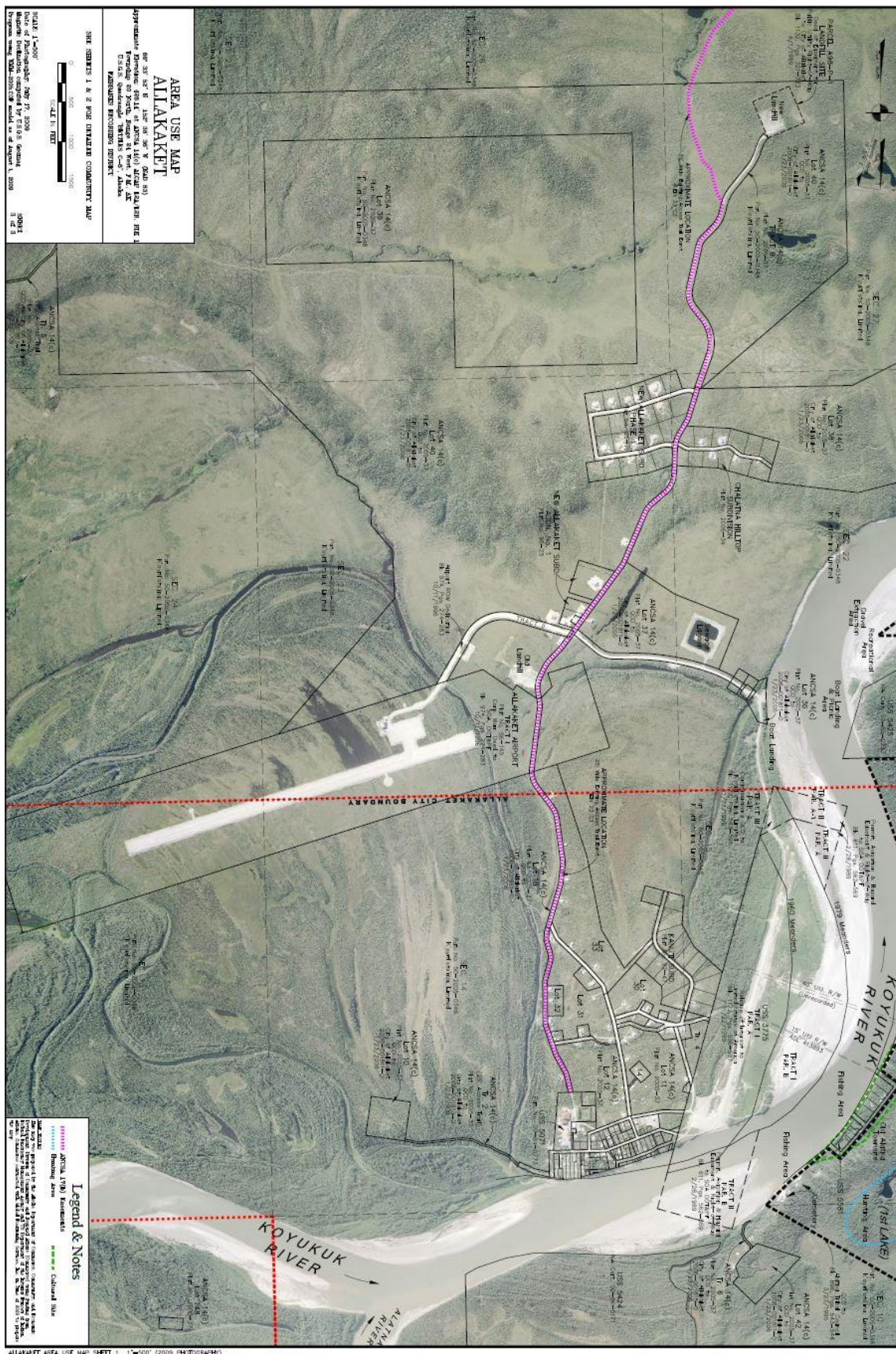
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Doyon Limited: Allakaket Surface Map

Community Map Allakaket





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