



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

The Council

Incorporated as Dena' Nena' Henash
Vol. 49 No. 8 • August 2024

Biden Backs Indigenous Knowledge to Protect Alaska

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) has expressed deep appreciation for the Biden Administration's recent decisions aimed at protecting Alaska's lands, waterways, and wildlife. These decisions represent significant steps forward in supporting Indigenous knowledge and promoting a sustainable future for the region.

The Administration's final Record of Decision (ROD) to adopt the No Action Alternative for the Ambler Road project is a monumental victory for Alaska Native communities. This decision safeguards one of Alaska's most vital

watersheds, preserving the health and vitality of entire ecosystems within the Brooks Range and Gates of the Arctic National Park.

"This is a historic win for the Alaska Native community. It reaffirms that our voices matter, that our knowledge is invaluable, and that our lands and animals deserve protection," said Brian Ridley, Chief of the Tanana Chiefs Conference. "The Biden Administration's ability to review the mountains of evidence in support of a rejection of the Ambler Road Project is proof that our collective voices are powerful and

that we must continue to speak up to protect our ways of life. The previous Administration did not consult with Tribal Leaders when the Ambler Road proposal was brought forth, and TCC is very appreciative of the efforts of Tracy Stone-Manning, Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and her team for meaningful consultation with TCC and its member Tribes. This Record of Decision signifies a monumental step forward in the fight for Indigenous rights and environmental justice and must be protected by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BACK TO SCHOOL MEANS TIME TO VACCINATE

Walk-in for your child's sports physical & update
their immunizations at CAIHC!

July 29th | 4pm-7pm

Aug 5th | 4pm-7pm

Aug 13th | 4pm-7pm

Aug 3rd | 10am-4pm

Aug 10th | 10am-4pm

Aug 18th | 10am-4pm



IN THIS ISSUE...

PAGE 3: TCC Dental Assistant
Program Graduation

PAGE 5: CHAP Spotlight

PAGE 6: Leadership for Results
Graduation

PAGE 8: Saving Salmon

PAGE 11: Day of Prayer

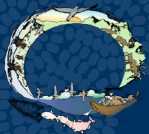


Mission

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

Executive Board

Trimble Gilbert, Arctic Village
1st Traditional Chief

Andrew Jimmie, Minto
2nd Traditional Chief

Brian Ridley, Eagle
Chief/Chairman

Sharon Hildebrand, Nulato
Vice-President

Charlie Wright, Rampart
Secretary/Treasurer

Herbie Demit, Tanacross
Upper Tanana

Claude 'Joe' Petruska, Nikolai
Upper Kuskokwim

Nancy James, Gwichyaa Zhee
Yukon Flats

Ivan Demientieff, Grayling
Lower Yukon

Lori Baker, Minto
Yukon Tanana

Charlie Green, Galena
Yukon Koyukuk

Peter Demoski, Nulato
Elder Advisor

Mackenzie Englishoe, Gwichyaa Zhee
Youth Advisor



Letter from the Chief

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

In July, I had the honor of participating in a virtual consultation with the White House, where I had the opportunity to advocate for Executive Order 14112. This Executive Order is crucial as it would facilitate easier access to funding opportunities for Tribes, helping us to better serve our communities and address our needs. During this consultation, we discussed improving access to funding allocated for Alaska Tribes for important issues such as Health, Housing, Public Safety and more. We emphasized the importance of tribal sovereignty and the need for funding agencies to recognize that tribally designated and led consortia are authorized to access federal dollars on behalf of Tribes.



Additionally, I had the privilege of visiting the village of Koyukuk to meet with their Tribal Leadership and community members. During this visit, we presented on various topics requested by the Tribe and listened to community comments and questions. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the community of Koyukuk for their warm hospitality and for providing us with the opportunity to learn more about their needs and concerns.

Last month also saw me traveling to Ruby to attend the memorial potlatch for our late Traditional Chief Don Honea Sr. It was a solemn and moving experience, and I am grateful that I could join the community in remembering and honoring a great leader who contributed immensely to our region. Chief Honea's leadership and guidance are greatly missed.

The potlatch also honored the life of the late Esther McCarty, whom I had the honor of serving with during my time on the Doyon Board. I always appreciated Esther's strong insights, passion for serving, and love for her people. No matter the circumstances, Esther always made a point to remind us of our culture and traditions, urging us to stay grounded in them and remember who we are as Native people. She was a true leader who is deeply missed. I would like to thank the community of Ruby for allowing me to be part of this important event and to pay my respects.

Before the potlatch in Ruby, I attended the Gwich'in Gathering in Circle where I made the welcome address. There, I also had the opportunity to provide a few comments on the importance of protecting our ways of life and addressing the ongoing salmon decline. TCC has been actively involved in efforts to combat this issue. At the beginning of the gathering, we participated in a prayer over the fish and rivers, connecting with the land in a meaningful way. It was a wonderful way to start the gathering and emphasize our shared commitment to the environment.

As we move into August, I want to acknowledge the fact that our salmon returns are once again not where we want them to be. I understand that these numbers are devastating as this is usually the time spent putting away fish for our families. However, please rest assured that TCC is continuing to do everything within our power to implement change and protect our salmon for future generations. My hope is that one day we will see salmon once again flourishing in our rivers – allowing us to practice our traditions and feed our families.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our communities. Together, we will navigate these challenges and work towards a better tomorrow for all our people.

Mahsi' Choo,
Chief Brian Ridley



988

**Free & Confidential Support for People
in Suicidal Crisis**

24 Hours/Day • 7 Days/Week

Your story isn't over.

TCC Dental Assistant Program Celebrates Recent Graduates

By Dr. Toby Imler, DDS

On June 12, 2024, the Dental Division at the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center celebrated the successful completion of seven graduates from the Dental Assistant Trainee program. Begun in early 2022, this training program has proven instrumental in helping TCC meet the staffing needs of the Dental Clinic and to provide excellent care. Additionally, the program supports the company's goal to hire and "train our own." The training gives staff an entry point into a rewarding health profession and provides a career with multiple opportunities for growth and advancement.

This six-month training program consists of two parts. In part one, participants learn important information about dental theory and practice through textbooks and observation. In part two, participants engage in three months of chairside patient training. The success of this program is a joint effort amongst the entire Dental Staff, as all take part and help the trainees in their journey. This team approach gives the trainees a broad perspective and prepares them to work in the clinic with multiple general dentists and specialists.

After the trainees successfully complete the first six months and meet their patient experience requirements, they receive their certificate of graduation from the program. Graduates are then eligible for hire into the TCC Den-

tal Assistant career ladder. This career track provides for continued growth, opportunities for specialization, and advancement both in the Dental Clinic and throughout TCC.

The graduates of this program are helping the Dental Clinic resume service levels that were negatively affected by the pandemic. The role of the dental assistant is essential to clinic operations and without them, the care provided to TCC patients would be greatly reduced. One excellent example of this is evident in how TCC Dental has been able to maintain its extensive travel schedule to the villages, traveling over 130 weeks in the last year to villages throughout the Interior.

We are grateful for each one of the students and the hard work and dedication they have displayed to complete this program. We applaud their desire to learn, grow, and provide exceptional care to our patients. We want to congratulate them on their accomplishments and wish them the best as they enter this exciting profession.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about a career as a Dental Assistant or the training available, please reach out to the Dental Clinic by calling 907-451-6682 ext. 3200. Opportunities exist both at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center and at several rural sites.



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO REAP THE BENEFITS OF QUITTING SMOKING

- **5 YEARS AFTER QUITTING**, the chances of having a stroke decrease.
- **15 YEARS AFTER QUITTING SMOKING**, the chances of coronary heart disease drop close to the level of someone who does not smoke.

Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW for free, personalized support from a coach and to create your quit plan today!



ALASKA'S TOBACCO
QUIT LINE
IT'S FREE. IT'S CONFIDENTIAL. AND IT WORKS.

LET'S TALK!

Helping you help loved ones struggling with substance misuse. This support group is open to everyone and is completely free! It does not require commitment or active engagement in services.

Drop in whenever you need support!

Scan the QR Code for more info & join us Wednesdays via Zoom 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



Biden Administration Sides with Indigenous Knowledge for a Sustainable Future in Alaska

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this Administration and our delegation as a process well followed and implemented.”

Additionally, the Biden Administration announced the final Environmental Impact Statement recommending the No Action Alternative for the 17(D)(1) region of Alaska. This decision protects 28 million acres of land, safeguarding the livelihoods of countless animals, ecosystems, and Indigenous communities. It also corrects the lack of consultation from the previous administration and reinforces the importance of preserving Alaskan ecosystems amidst the climate crisis.



In another impactful move, the United States Interior Department announced the complete transfer of the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM) from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management, and Budget. Effective July 15, 2024, this transition strengthens federal subsistence policy and structure, ensuring that federally qualified subsistence users and Alaska Native peoples have an opportunity for meaningful engagement in its implementation.

“For thousands of years, subsistence practices have been immensely

important for Alaska Native communities, and remain deeply intertwined with their lifeways, food security, and cultures,” the report states, “Nowhere else in the United States is there such a heavy reliance upon wild foods.

TCC commends the Biden Administration’s recent actions, which bring hope for the future of Alaska’s lands, waterways, wildlife, and people. Now more than ever, it is crucial to listen to and follow the wisdom and practices of Traditional Indigenous knowledge. These recent decisions demonstrate that government entities can indeed be stewards of the land, working in harmony with the communities that have cared for it for generations.




2024 ELDER FISH DISTRIBUTION UPDATE

In November 2024, TCC will begin distributing salmon to TCC Elder beneficiaries who currently live in the Fairbanks area. Sign-up for this distribution will begin in October 2024. More information will be made available as we near that date.



Every Tuesday
In-Season Teleconference

Every Tuesday at 1:00pm AKST

Tune in to the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association’s weekly teleconference for first-hand information, management Q&A, and to share traditional ecological knowledge.

1-800-315-6338
Participant Code: YUKON# (98566#)

VISIT YUKONSALMON.ORG

Community Health Aide *Spotlight*

Katrina Dillard - Northway

By Linden Staciokas

If you are a village health aide, your whole family ends up being involved. Midnight call outs, out-of-town trainings, chores left undone at home when you are gone, family outings that have to be postponed if there is an emergency; all of these affect not just the health aide but also their partners and children. Katrina Dillard, one of the three health aides in Northway, said as much when she was interviewed for this profile.



"My husband is a carpenter. When I am gone or busy, he has to pick up my chores and responsibilities at home in addition to his own. I have two children, both teenagers, so he takes care of them, too." For a family like hers that depends on berry picking, fishing, and hunting to help fill the cupboards and freezer for the winter, having one adult gone can seriously increase the workload for the rest of the family.

In Katrina's case, the support necessary for her to practice her job extends beyond her family to include the entire community of Northway. Why? Because being a health aide is not the only hat she wears. Katrina is also a Tribal court judge and on the school board. In a village of about 230 people, when one of the people heavily involved in community affairs is called away for other duties, it has a larger impact than it would in a bigger village or town.

Being a health aide was not initially Katrina's chosen career. Born in Fairbanks and spending much of her childhood in Washington state, Katrina did not move back to be near her parents in Northway until 2004. As she says, "I came for a visit, but my parents bought

me just a one-way ticket, so I stayed!" Although her grandmother had been a health aide, and Katrina has always been good in math and science, her first step into the medical field was as an ETT, or Emergency Trauma Technician. It was not until she saw the advertisement for a health aide for Northway that she thought to change her focus to being a health aide for her hometown.

After completing the training and working in the job for almost a year now, Katrina is still in learning mode. In fact, one of her favorite parts of her job is increasing her skills by absorbing new information every day.

She also appreciates the trust her patients put in her at some of the most vulnerable times of their lives. Not only do they trust her to make the right medical decisions, but they also rely on her to keep their information confidential. She is careful to be deserving of the belief they place in her. As she says, "What happens in the clinic stays there." If she has concerns or needs to debrief about a patient, she has her TCC supervisor, the other two health aides at the clinic, or the doctor supervising the case from Fairbanks to help her process the case.

When she is feeling the stress of a difficult day and talking is not enough, Katrina turns to her hobbies for help. She works off her worries by sewing or doing outdoor activities. She and her family are dedicated hikers who love exploring the numerous trails around Northway. They also enjoy camping, whether or not it is connected to subsistence activities such as hunting.

Asked if she wanted to give particular thanks to anyone for helping her

in her career, aside, of course, from her husband and children, Katrina said, "Just about everyone I know has helped me make the decision to become a health aide. There is not one person that I have met who hasn't been happy for me and the career change. Most of them have strived for me to make the change and I feel that it is one of the best decisions in my life. I have worked for Northway Village for the past 11 years, in social services and now as a health aide. I have made some amazing friends and family. I have been trusted by many and will keep that trust as long as I can. I'm looking forward to becoming a CHAP one day and fully serving my community of Northway."

The various titles for the health aides change slightly as people pass through the four levels of training and state certification required to be a full health aide. It can be confusing for a non-medical person to understand what Katrina meant when she said she is "looking forward to becoming a CHAP one day." The explanation is this: Katrina has completed levels one and two of the four training modules, received her state certification for level one, and is just waiting for the official state board certification for her level two training. She will be eligible to be promoted to a full Community Health Aide Practitioner when she finishes and obtains her state certifications for sections three and four of the training.

Katrina's supervisor Amanda Ashley says, "Katrina is a bright and compassionate health aide. She is deeply involved in helping the community, and she is sure to make you crack a smile. Northway is lucky to have her!"



Celebrating Success: Leadership for Results Training Graduates

The first Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) 2024 Leadership for Results training cohort celebrated the completion of this transformative program with a graduation ceremony on June 18th. Held in Fairbanks, this intensive program spanned over seven months, empowering 24 participants from across the TCC region, including Tribal Administrators, Community Leaders, Emerging Youth Leaders, and TCC staff from across the organization.

Throughout the program, participants delved into vital skills for sustainable change. They learned advanced techniques in capacity-building, honed leadership strategies, and fostered crucial partnerships. The curriculum, designed to enhance emotional intelligence and strategic planning, equipped participants to tackle pressing issues within their communities effectively.

An integral aspect of the training was the Action Learning Project, where teams applied their newfound skills to address local challenges and create sustainable change. This hands-on

approach not only yielded actionable insights but also fostered a spirit of collaboration and innovation.

Participants' family members attended this event, as did Chief Brian Ridley, Vice President Sharon Hildebrand, Senator Scott Kawasaki, Representatives Ashley Carrick and Mike Cronk, and Borough Assembly Member Savannah Fletcher. Rev. Dr. Anna Frank joined cohort one through the program after participating in the Blanket Exercise portion of the course, and she also gave the keynote address at the ceremony. On two occasions Rev. Dr. Frank shared, "This program is a dream come true. It's what I have always wanted for our people."

As we congratulate these exceptional leaders, we look forward to witnessing their continued contributions towards a resilient and empowered future for our communities. Cohort two will begin in December with applications opening in August 2024. Please reach out to Aleisha Singh or Tiffany Simmons if you have questions at 907-452-8251 ext. 3359.



August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Getting vaccines at the recommended times is the best way to protect against serious diseases. This month, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) encourages you to talk with your health-care providers about which vaccines you and your family members need to protect yourself from preventable diseases.

Why is it important to get regular immunizations?

Many people believe that natural or herd immunity will keep them safe or that the diseases we vaccinate against no longer exist. This is not true. Diseases like polio or measles are rare because many generations have been vaccinated against them. However, these diseases do still exist, and outbreaks can occur worldwide.

They can also do lasting damage to your body. By getting vaccinated, you protect yourself and those around you, making major outbreaks less likely.

How do vaccines protect us?

Some people believe that vaccines will make them sick or cause autism in children. This also is not true. Vaccines help our immune systems fight infections faster and more effectively than they could on their own. Vaccines are made from very small amounts of weak or dead germs, which spark your immune response and train your body to recognize these germs and fight them off. While you might experience mild side effects from the vaccine, like soreness at the injection site or a short period of illness, these are minimal compared to the illnesses the

vaccine is protecting you from.

The idea that vaccines cause autism came from a study that was discredited and retracted. This connection has never been accurately confirmed.

How do we know that vaccines are safe?

Each vaccine goes through many studies to ensure they are safe and effective and to determine correct dosage. Vaccine trials involve many participants to confirm their safety. Once determined to be safe, the vaccine is sent to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for approval, where it undergoes further evaluation and inspection. This rigorous process ensures that the vaccines you take are safe and effective at keeping you healthy!



Seeking a small school
where you can
experience a warm and
tight-knit community?

You have a choice!



Call us for more info
907-474-0958

Our School:

- ✓ Grades 7-12
- ✓ Small Class Size
- ✓ A Fall Subsistence Break
- ✓ The Chance to learn about native culture and traditions.
- ✓ College Classes Sponsored by TCC GO

601 Loftus Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709

k12northstar.org/effiekokrine

**Scan to learn more about
how vaccines keep you and
your loved ones healthy!**



<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/diseases/index.html>

**Do You Have
Medicaid?**

Don't Miss This Letter!



Medicaid Renewal Letters



Medicaid renewal has started the annual renewal process, and the Division of Public Assistance will be reaching out to households to verify information to renew medicaid coverage.

Questions?

Contact Alternate Resources at
907-451-6682 ext. 3100

Tribal Resource Stewardship Corner

Using Traditional Knowledge to Protect Salmon



By Brian McKenna, Project Lead

The late Reverend Chief David Salmon was born in Teetsik (Salmon Village) along the Draanjik (Black River) in 1912 to William and Alice Salmon. Chief Salmon lived a traditional Athabascan lifestyle - fishing, hunting, and trapping in the upper Draanjik for many years. He married, raised a family, became an ordained priest, and received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Chief Salmon was a founding member of TCC and Denakkanaaga, and a Traditional Chief for TCC. Chief Rev. Dr. David Salmon shared stories of his life and of the history of the lands, waters, and animals of the Draanjik. His stories from the past are helping to protect salmon today.

TCC's Tribal Resource Stewardship Division staff are using the traditional knowledge shared by Chief Salmon

to locate, identify, and protect salmon habitats in the Draanjik. In the 1980s, Chief Salmon shared his knowledge, history, and language with the University of Alaska Fairbanks to advance



Chief David Salmon

the Alaska Native Language Archive, which promotes the preservation and revitalization of Native languages. Some of Chief Salmon's traditional knowledge relating to salmon was later incorporated into the Gwich'in Naji

Googindi' K'it (Gwich'in Place Names Atlas). According to Chief Salmon, there are two important spawning locations in the Kevinjik Creek of the Draanjik, Nee'inlii ("fish [dog salmon] swim together to a certain point") and Nèhdlii Ni'inlii ("Coho salmon swims to a certain point"). Chief Salmon explained that this area has perennial warm water springs, which prevent the water from freezing in the winter, creating favorable conditions for salmon.

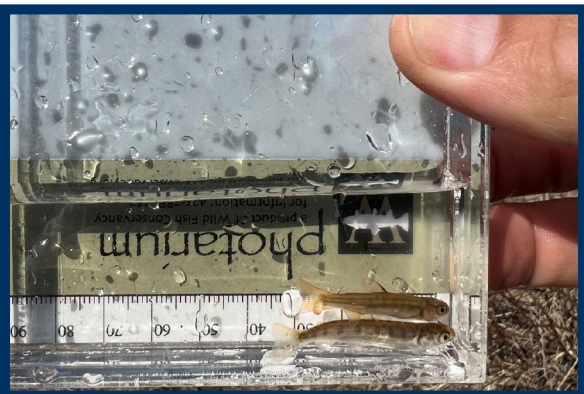
on.

While traditional knowledge is rich and plentiful in the Draanjik region, there is a significant data gap within the western constructs used to manage the Yukon River salmon fisheries. Two of the tools used to help manage these fisheries include the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) and genetic stock identification. The AWC catalogs all fresh water habitats critical to supporting salmon and provides protection to these habitats through Alaska statutes. Currently, Coho salmon in the Kevinjik Creek are not protected within the AWC.

Genetic stock identification relies on the creation of a genetic baseline. The Yukon River genetic baseline for Coho salmon is incomplete and lacks any information for the Draanjik. A genetic baseline is created by identifying a unique genetic marker for each spawning population (or region). As salmon are harvested in the ocean or in-river fisheries, genetic samples from the harvested fish can be compared with the genetic baseline markers to determine which spawning pop-



TRS Staff Conducting Aerial Survey of Nee'inlii May 2024



Juvenile Chum and Coho salmon documented at Nee'inlii in May 2024



TRS staff Brian Lepping and Brian McKenna at Nee'inlii May 2024



Aerial view of Nee'inlii May 2024

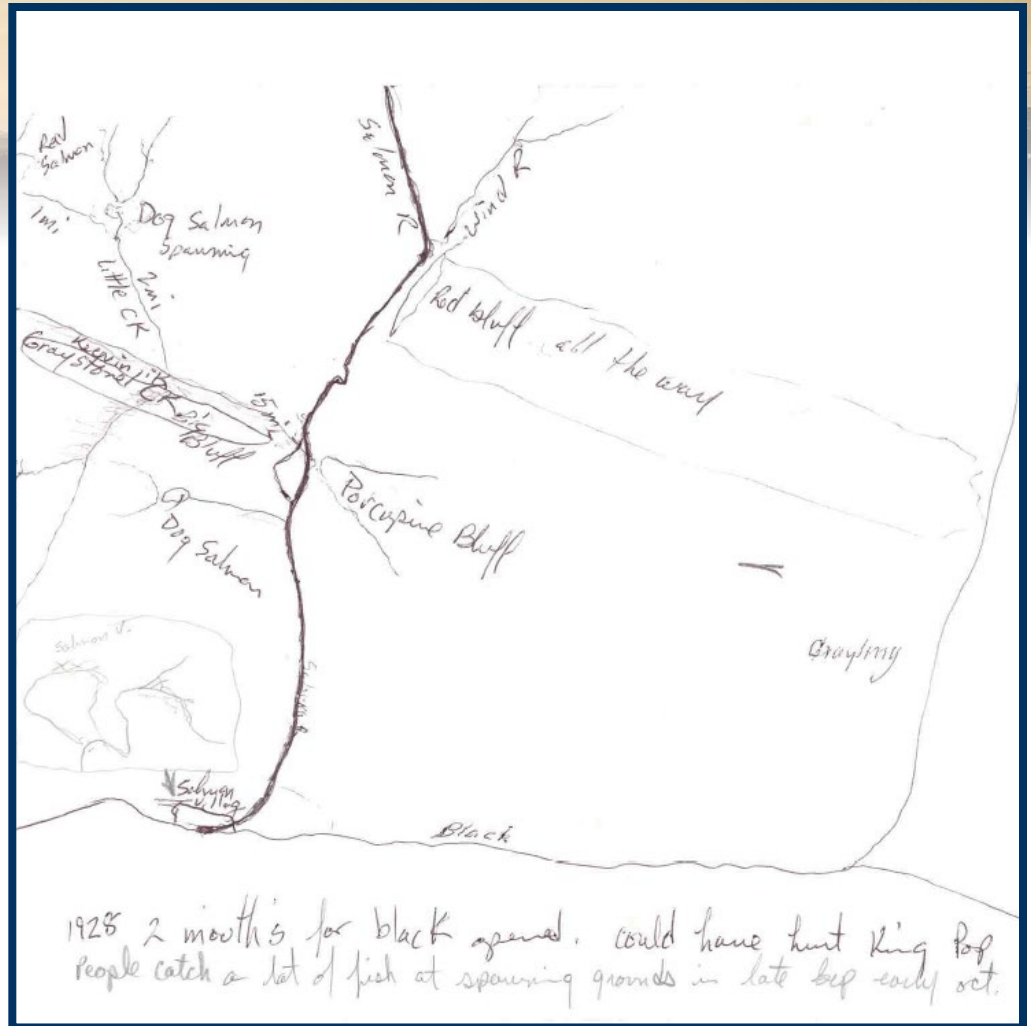
ulations (or regions) those fish came from.

TCC staff have been conducting research in the Draanjik for several years with the goal of filling these data gaps. In September of 2017, TCC staff collected genetic tissue samples from fall chum salmon spawning at Nee'inlii to establish a genetic baseline for this population. In August of 2021, TCC staff documented juvenile Coho salmon rearing at Nee'inlii and submitted a nomination to the AWC to protect this traditional place and critical salmon habitat.

Fall chum salmon migrate into the Draanjik and spawn at Nee'inlii in the Kevinjik Creek each September. Their eggs remain in the gravel over winter until they hatch the following spring. Juvenile fall chum salmon leave this system in the same year they are born, shortly after breakup, as they begin their migration to the ocean. Adult Coho salmon migrate up the Draanjik in the fall and spawn at Nèhdlii Ni'inlii in the Kevinjik Creek, presumably between October and February. The specific spawning time-frame, duration, and location have not yet been documented. Juvenile Coho salmon may remain in freshwater through multiple winters before migrating to the ocean. How long juvenile Coho salmon are staying in this system, or where they might be going before leaving for the ocean, are cur-



View of Nee'inlii May 2024



Chief Salmon's hand drawn map of the Salmon River (Teedraanjik or Salmon Fork Black River)

rently unknown.

In 2024, TCC received funding through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Yukon River Salmon Research and Management Assistance grant. This project uses traditional knowledge and western science to learn more about the Coho salmon life cycle, document how Coho

salmon are using these important traditional places in the Draanjik, and establish a genetic baseline for this specific population of Coho salmon. Traditional knowledge has identified these critical salmon habitats, which will be documented using aerial surveys and on-the-ground sampling in 2024. These surveys could provide

insight into the biology and ecology of Coho salmon in the Draanjik. This information will also be used to update the Anadromous Waters Catalog, providing protection to important salmon

habitats, such as Nee'inlii and Nèhdlii Ni'inlii. Traditional places like these echo a long history and cultural connection to salmon.

If you know of traditional places or critical salmon habitats that are in need of protection, please reach out to TCC's Tribal Resources Stewardship Division at TRSP@tananachiefs.org

Sources

- **Chief David Salmon – Tanana Chiefs Conference.** Tanana Chiefs Conference, Traditional Chiefs. 2024.
- **Gwich'in Naji Googindi' K'it / Gwich'in Place Names (eloka-arc-tic.org).** Gwich'in Naji Googindi' K'it/ Gwich'in Place Names Atlas. 2024.
- **Home | Alaska Native Language Archive | Alaska Native Language Archive (uaf.edu).** University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska Native Language Archive. 2024.
- **Thomas, Bruce, J. Shlosman, M. Osborne, and E. Barnhill.** 2004. Black River-Salmon Fork Weir Feasibility Study. Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments, Technical Document 04-01.

TCC Leadership Visits Koyukuk

On Monday, July 15th, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) leadership visited the community of Koyukuk. This visit aimed to meet with Tribal Leadership and community members, provide reports and updates, understand local priorities, and answer any questions.

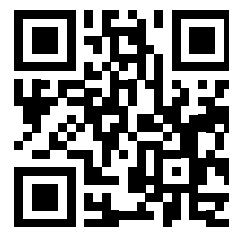
We extend our heartfelt thanks to the community of Koyukuk for welcoming us and taking the time to share your insights and concerns.



DO YOU HAVE YOUR ALASKA REAL ID?

Starting May 7th, 2025, all Alaska Residents will need a Real ID to fly on commercial airlines, visit or work on a military base or other federal property.

For more information on the Alaska REAL ID, visit www.dhs.gov/real-id or scan the QR code below



INTERIOR NATIVE
VOTE

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH CANDIDATE MIXER

August 28th, 2024 | 11:00am-2:00pm | Doyon Chiefs Court

Interior Native Vote (INV) is hosting a candidate mixer to give shareholders, Tribal members, and Fairbanks residents the opportunity to speak with the Fairbanks House & Senate Candidates about their goals and priorities.

Stop by for a **free Indian Taco** and to learn more about the upcoming elections, discover your voting districts, polling locations, and more! There will be swag, door prizes & raffles. Don't miss this chance to make your voice heard!

For more information, contact Cheyenne Dibert, Government Rural Affairs Coordinator, at 907-459-2105 or dibertc@doyon.com



TCC Hosts Annual Day of Prayer for Our Animals, Lands, and Waterways

On Friday, June 21st, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) gathered with communities from around the region in a day of prayer for our animals, lands, and waterways. The gathering, adopted as a resolution by TCC's full board of directors, acts as a response to the salmon crisis and calls for us to lift up our collective voices in prayer and affirmations for the survival of our way of life.

In Fairbanks, the Day of Prayer gathering took place on the banks of the Chena River. Attendees brought gifts of salmon skin, stinkweed, flowers, and beads as offerings to the river. Amber Vaska, TCC's Executive Director of Tribal Government and Client Services, opened the gathering by introducing TCC's new Tribal Re-

source Stewardship Division Director, Diloolo Erickson. Diloolo and a Traditional Healer led a prayer, after which several attendees led prayers of their own. Drumming and singing followed.

The gathering then became a pilgrimage to the river, where people left their offerings and gave gratitude for the provisions the rivers have supplied for generations.

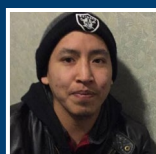
TCC would like to thank everyone who shows up and joins us in all of our efforts to preserve our culture and subsistence way of life. If you are interested in taking action on behalf of our lands, animals, and way of life, reach out to TCC's Tribal Resource Stewardship Division at trsp@tananachiefs.org.



MISSING



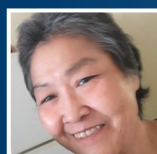
Lorraine Ginnis



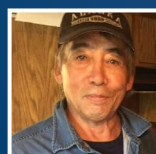
Willis Derendoff



Doren Sanford



Debbie Nictune



Frank Minano

SUBMIT TIPS ANONYMOUSLY:

Text AKTIPS followed by your tip to 84711 or visit <https://dps.alaska.gov/ast/tips>



Call the Alaska State Troopers at 907-451-5100, Fairbanks Police Department at 907-450-6500 or TCC Public Safety at 907-452-8251 ext.3269.

Visit www.tananachiefs.org/missing for more information.



Tanana
Chiefs
Conference

The Council Newsletter

(907) 452-8251 ext. 3424
communications_dept@tananachiefs.org
www.tananachiefs.org

Communications Division
122 First Avenue, Suite 600
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701



Sign-Up to receive
our E-Newsletter!
Get important
updates straight
to your inbox.



FIND YOUR PURPOSE

Join Our Team!

New Vacancies

Fairbanks	Administrative Assistant II - IT
Fairbanks	Addictions RN - Advanced
Fairbanks	Village Support Accountant
Fairbanks	Addictions RN
Fairbanks	Addictions RN - Advanced
Fairbanks	Senior RN Case Manager
Fairbanks	Administrative Support Manager - Executive Administration
Fairbanks	Security Officer I
Fairbanks	Nurse Practitioner - Pediatric
Fairbanks	Administrative Assistant II - Accounting
Fairbanks	Community Injury Prevention Manager
Fairbanks	Ophthalmologist (Physician)
Fairbanks	Addictions Certified Nurse Aide
Fairbanks	Staff RN
Fairbanks	Behavioral Health Crisis Clinician
Fairbanks	Wellness Project Prevention Coordinator
Galena	Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant
Tok	Operations Technician - Upper Tanana Health Center
Tok	Expediter - Upper Tanana Health Center
Tok	Security Officer I



Apply Online or Learn About Our Benefits!

Visit our website at www.tananachiefs.org/careers to see a full list of open positions and learn more about the benefits available through Tanana Chiefs Conference.

JOBS LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF JULY 17, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

**AUG
6-7**

**Yukon-Kuskokwim
Subregional Meeting**
Allakaket

**AUG
8-10**

**Yukon-Tanana
Subregional Meeting**
Manley Hot Springs

**AUG
13-15**

TCC Partners Boat Trip
Eagle • Northway • Tanacross • Tetlin

**AUG
20-21**

Executive Board Meeting
Fairbanks
More Information to Come

**AUG
22-23**

Food Security Summit
Interior Aleutian Campus • Great Room • Fairbanks

**AUG
26-28**

**Lower Yukon
Subregional Meeting**
Grayling

**AUG
31**

**Upper Kuskokwim
Subregional Meeting**
Anchorage

**SEP
2**

TCC Offices Closed
Labor Day

**SEP
26-27**

Housing & Transportation Summit
More Information to Come

