

HAINES FUEL TERMINAL ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

U.S. Army, Alaska

AUGUST 2002

Volume 4, Number 1

Chilkoot Indian Association/U.S. Army Tribal Elder Meeting

On April 10, 2002, the Chilkoot Indian Association (CIA) hosted a historic meeting between members of the CIA and representatives of other Alaskan and Canadian tribes and the U.S. Army Alaska. There were 50 people present for this government-to-government meeting.

The meeting lasted just under 4 hours; the first 2 hours of the meeting consisted of introductions. Both U.S. Army representatives and tribal attendees provided information about themselves during the introductions.

The second half of the meeting consisted of the following:

- a presentation about the upcoming Ground-Based Midcourse Defense system proposed for installation in Alaska;
- a discussion of the U.S. Army's accomplishments at the Haines Fuel Terminal Tank Farm; and
- tribal response/elder's comments on the presentations.

Following the meeting, CIA and the City of Haines hosted a lunch

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for attendees at the Chilkat Bakery. This informal setting allowed for U.S. Army representatives and tribal members to interact one-on-one while eating lunch.

Restoration Advisory Board Update

The Haines Fuel Terminal Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met during the evening of April 10, 2002. Attendance at the meeting was greater than usual possibly due to interest generated at the CIA/U.S. Army Tribal Elder meeting that occurred earlier in the day and/or interest in the upcoming demolition work at the Haines Fuel Terminal (see related articles in this newsletter).

Presentations

Mr. Ed Warren, the Haines RAB Community Co-Chair, provided a summary and some feedback based on his attendance of the Alaska Forum on the Environment's Statewide RAB workshop held in Anchorage in early February 2002.



IN THIS ISSUE

CIA/U.S. ARMY TRIBAL ELDER MEETING	1
RAB UPDATE	2
SPARGE CHANNEL UPDATE	2
PICKET WELL SAMPLING	2
HAINES FUEL TERMINAL BUILDING DEMOLITION	3
NEW ARMY PROJECT MANAGER	4

Ms. Anne Marie Palmieri, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation RAB member, presented a "Back to Basics" discussion that covered defining contaminant concentrations and interpreting laboratory data. She also shared some information with the RAB on how the cleanup levels used at the Haines Fuel Terminal were derived and how they are used to make decisions about the site.

CH2M Hill, a contractor to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, provided an update of the air sparging trench treatability study that was installed at the fuel terminal in the fall of 2001. Melody Marsh, U.S. Army Co-Chair, summarized the October 2001 groundwater sampling results.

Upcoming Fieldwork

Ms. Marsh also informed the RAB about upcoming fieldwork, which included the demolition work reported in this newsletter, spring groundwater sampling, groundwater well decommissioning, and additional investigations scheduled to occur near the Manifold Building.

A date for the next RAB meeting has been tentatively scheduled for October 17, 2002.

Sparge Channel Update

The treatability study of the Paleochannel sparging trench is being evaluated for its effectiveness in treating petroleum-related compounds in groundwater.

Downgradient groundwater wells were sampled in January and May 2002. Based on airflow into the water within the trench, the system is operating effectively.

The May 2002 results still indicate elevated levels of petroleum; however, this result is expected due to the slow rate at which groundwater moves.

The downgradient groundwater wells will be sampled again in September. Results will be reported at the October RAB meeting.

Picket Well Sampling

CH2M Hill conducted semiannual surface water and groundwater sampling in May 2002. Groundwater was sampled at 11 picket wells. Surface water was sampled from six locations, including a seep located in Lutak Inlet.

The only location where contaminants of concern were detected in surface water was downgradient of the sparge curtain treatability study. At this location, benzene was detected in the culvert seep downgradient of the treatment system. Contaminant levels in groundwater remain consistent with results from the last sampling event. An update will be provided at the next RAB meeting.

Additional Investigation

As discussed during the April 2002 RAB meeting, an additional investigation of the area around the Pump House will occur in the fall of 2002. Bethel Native Corporation International (BNCI) removed various piping that had previously obstructed the ability to investigate in this area. The objective of these borings and installation of wells is to attempt to locate the source of the petroleum contamination that is located in the Paleochannel.

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Haines Fuel Terminal Building Demolition

The following article on the demolition work occurring at the Haines Fuel Terminal is provided for the readers' information. The Haines Fuel Terminal Building demolition project is funded by the Facility Reduction budget, not by the Environmental Restoration budget.

Bethel Native Corporation International, Inc. (BNCI), was contracted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Alaska District to perform demolition activities at the Haines Fuel Terminal in Haines, Alaska. BNCI sponsored 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) and 40-hour Asbestos Abatement training courses in Haines in order to have a pool of trained local Haines residents to participate in the work at the Haines Fuel Terminal. Eight local Haines residents were hired by BNCI to augment BNCI's supervisory personnel from the Anchorage BNCI office.

Demolition Tasks

BNCI arrived in Haines during the week of April 14, 2002. Work on the Haines Fuel Terminal Building Demolition project began on April 22, 2002, and was completed on June 1, 2002, ahead of schedule by approximately 2 weeks. The Haines Fuel Terminal Building Demolition tasks included:

- asbestos abatement;
- loose lead-based paint chip removal;
- hazardous material survey and removal;
- analytical soil and building material sampling; and
- the demolition of the Fan Building (Building 1201); the Fire Hose Building (Building 1203); the Carpenter/Warehouse Building (Building 1205); and the Laboratory Building (Building 1206).

BNCI also performed asbestos and loose lead-based paint chip removal from the interior of the Warehouse Building (Building 1202).

Scrap Removal

In addition to the demolition work, BNCI removed and disposed of stockpiled scrap steel from the Haines Fuel Terminal Site and removed the exposed sewer line from the beach. BNCI also removed and disposed of the aboveground 3-inch, 6-inch, 8-inch, and 10-inch fuel pipelines outside the Manifold Building (Building 1232), removed and disposed of the aboveground 4-inch and 18-inch fuel pipelines north of the Manifold Building, and conducted site surveys.

The project was successful through the cooperative/teaming efforts of the USACE, U.S. Army, BNCI, and the Chilkoot Indian Association. The Chilkoot Indian Association was the local tribal entity that BNCI used for local shareholder hire and subcontractor services. BNCI completed the work for the Haines Fuel Terminal Demolition within budget, with no accidents or injuries, and ahead of schedule.

For more information about the demolition project, contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District Project Manager, Marilyn Plitnik at 753-2881 or by e-mail at marilyn.a.plitnik@poa02.usace.army.mil.

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Bethel Native Corporation International

HAZWOPER

Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response

USACE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

New Army Project Manager

Melody Marsh has stepped down from her position with the U.S. Army Directorate of Public Works to accept a position with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine. Ms. Marsh will no longer be involved with the Haines Fuel Terminal project. We will certainly miss Melody and have appreciated all her years of hard work and dedication with the Haines Fuel Terminal Project.



At this time, the U.S. Army – Alaska (USARAK) is in the process of finding a new project manager. Until then, the Haines Fuel Terminal project will be overseen by the USARAK Restoration Team, consisting of Therese Deardorff, Mark Prieksat and Cristal Fosbrook. All three project managers have extensive experience in environmental project management. This team currently works on similar fuel terminals, located in

Tok, Delta Junction, Fort Wainwright, and Fort Richardson. In addition, the USARAK Restoration Team has served as a backup for Melody. Until a new project manager is found, the primary point of contact for the Haines project is Cristal Fosbrook. She can be reached at:

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