







2009 Emmonak SUBSISTENCE BASELINE PROJECT

PROJECT FOCUS

This is a study of the subsistence way of life in all its complexity including harvests, use, sharing, participation, location, history, and issues of concern.

STUDY GOALS

This study is being done as part of a larger project which focuses on **local traditional knowledge** (LTK) in six Bering Sea communities: **Akutan, St. Paul, Togiak, Nelson Island, and Savoonga**. Some of the main research goals are:

-  To make a comprehensive record about how the people of Emmonak understand, harvest, and use wild resources.
-  To document, characterize, and quantify local harvest practices and changes to better understand the relationship between the Bering Sea ecosystem and its communities.
-  To document and characterize local understanding of Bering Sea ecosystem structure and function to allow comparison with biological understanding and sharing of knowledge between both ways of knowing
-  To integrate the results of the above goals across the communities involved, identifying key similarities and differences as well as regional trends or associations with particular environmental features





SURVEY DESCRIPTION

The surveys we are doing over the next few weeks will collect demographic, economic, and wild resource harvest information in an interview format. Questions will ask about who

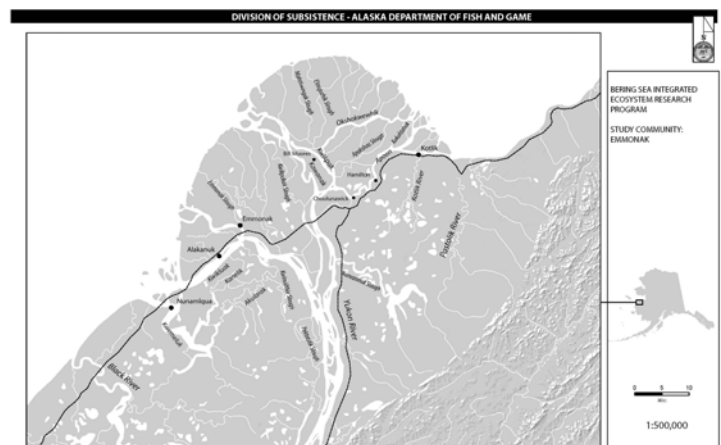
lives in the household, what kind of employment they may have, which kind and amount of wild resources they harvested, and where these activities take place. This study aims to create an accurate “snapshot” of your community’s unique economy and related activities for an entire year, so your participation is very important

PROJECT PURPOSE

The information will be used to address several kinds of questions about contemporary hunting and fishing activities as well as change through time in:

-  harvested species and use areas,
-  the types of jobs people have,
-  harvest gear and technology, and
-  harvest effort and strategies.

The information can be used to help protect your subsistence hunting and fishing rights by assisting regulators when they have to make decisions about critical fish and wildlife issues. As part of the larger Bering Sea Project, this information will also be combined with that from other studies to help understand climate change.



SURVEY STAFF

The Division of Subsistence has worked cooperatively with village and tribal organizations throughout Alaska for the past 30 years and is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and trust with its partners. We seek and obtain community input and permission prior to beginning each project, and actively recruit and employ local assistants in reaching our study goals. Upon completion of a project, we return to the community and present the results for local review, comments, and corrections. Once the final materials are approved, we send complete copies to all participating communities, funding agencies, public libraries and other interested parties; they can be found online at:

<http://www.subsistence.adfg.state.ak.us/geninfo/publctns/techpap.cfm>

Data from the project are also added to the Community Subsistence Information System (CSIS), which houses all historical harvest data for the State of Alaska.

PARTICIPANT CONFIDENTIALITY

The information collected in these surveys is strictly confidential and published at a generalized household level; this means that no specific hunting sites or berry-picking areas will be disclosed and no individual person can be identified from the information that we use. The information is not used for enforcement purposes. Your participation is voluntary and you may choose to stop at any time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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