

# Tetlin Tribal Recycling Project FY 2009

## **Tetlin Environmental Program (TEP)**

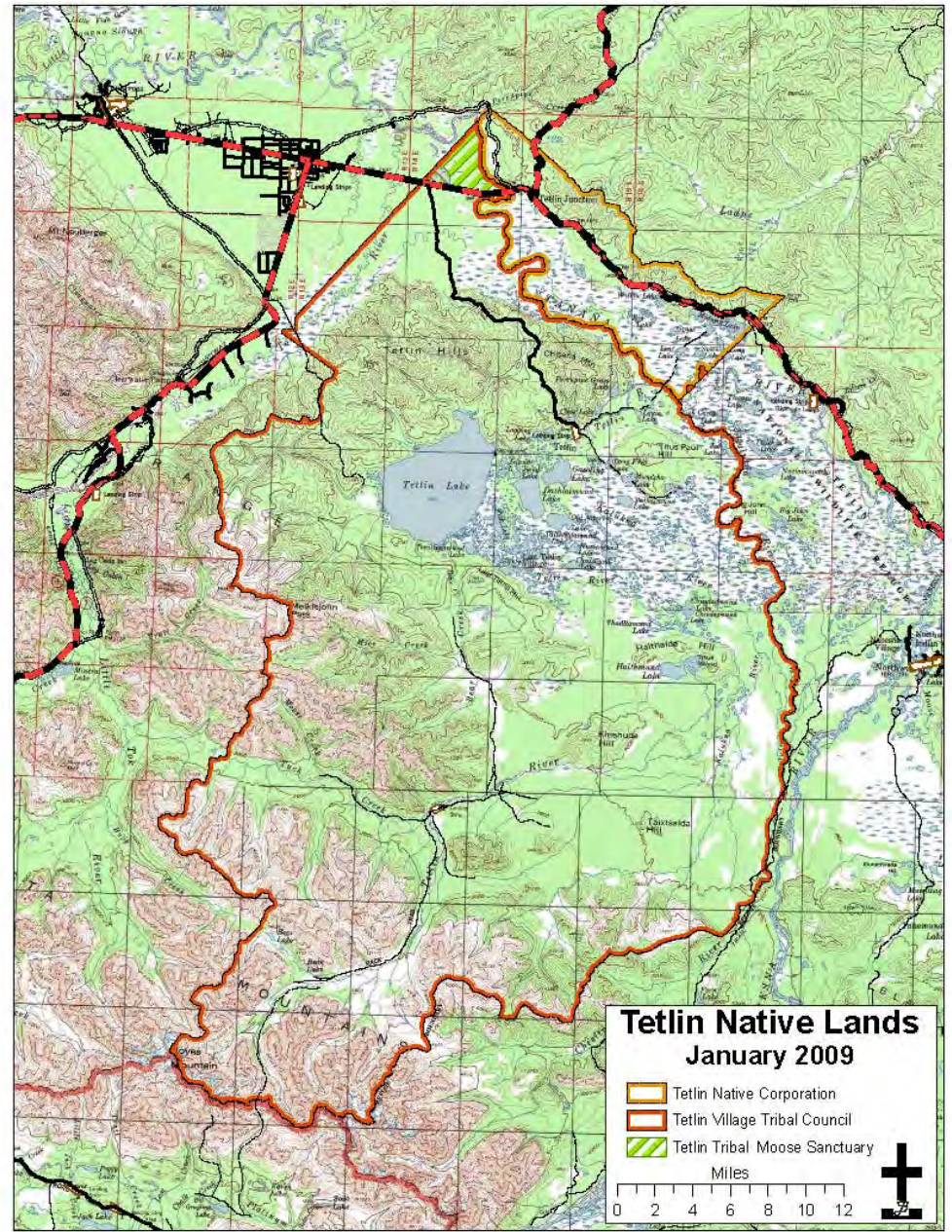
Patricia Young; Coordinator

Juanita Wilson; Technician

# Where is Tetlin??

- The Native Village of Tetlin is an Upper Tanana Athabascan community located near the headwaters of the Tanana River. Tetlin is a remote village located in the southeast interior region of Alaska, approximately 230 miles south of Fairbanks, and 65 miles from the Alaska/Canada border on the Alaska Highway.
- Tetlin is accessible by a twenty-three mile private, non-paved, off-road system year round.
- Some neighboring Villages and Communities include: Northway, Tok, Tanacross, Dot Lake, Healy Lake, and Mentasta.

Tetlin Village Council owns approximately 700,000 acres of the former Tetlin Indian Reservation. Tetlin Tribal lands incorporate the watershed of Tetlin River, with the Tanana River acting as the northern boundary and the Kalutna River as the eastern boundary. Tetlin shares its borders with both the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge (to the east) and Wrangell St. Elias National Reserve (to the south).



# Grant Objectives

Tetlin Tribal Recycling Project will complete the following objectives:

1. Refurbish donated building
2. Set-up Tetlin Tribal Recycling Facility
3. Hold Quarterly Educational Outreaches
4. Purchase recycling bins, can crushers, etc. for each household to better prepare community about recycling and the reduction of wastes.

**Objective 1:** Refurbish donated 16x20 building

Tetlin Village Council donated a used building to Tetlin Environmental Program to use as Tetlin Recycling Facility. The building was in need of a make-over.

TEP posted a request for bids and hired a contractor; whom hired local people to refurbish building.



## Objective 2: Set-Up Tetlin Tribal Recycling Facility

Once building is refurbish and ready, Tetlin Environmental Program will begin to set-up Tetlin Recycling Facility, which includes purchase of recycling bins and other necessary items.

Set-up also includes hanging signage and setting-up recycling bins.

# Completed Recycling Center



Note: Building is for cold storage only; no heat or electricity



## Objective 3: Hold quarterly educational outreaches.

- Hold quarterly (4) educational outreaches during funded year targeted at residents involving recycling and about ways to effectively reduce waste within the Native Village of Tetlin.
- We were only suppose to hold four outreaches about recycling, but we actually held many more....
- From: E-Waste Collection, Cell Phone Collection, recycling outreaches, and informative sessions about the progressive of the grant.
- During Last Tetlin Culture Camp; we held a session about recycling when camping and hiking. Also, we collected a boat-load of recyclables to take bake to Tetlin at the end of Culture Camp. Recyclables included; batteries, cans, plastics, and Capri Sun pouches.
- Regular articles and inserts published in the monthly Tetlin Environmental Newsletter.





**Have you been wondering what to do with that old TV, VCR, cell-phone, microwave oven, computer, and other electronics??**

**Tetlin Environmental Program has a solution!!**

On May 8, 2009, Tetlin Environmental will be holding an E-Waste Collection at the Tetlin Tribal Recycling Center!!

Stop by and drop off any electronics you have around the house. If you do not have a vehicle, Tetlin Environmental Employees will be doing a limited pick-up through the village.

**Thanks to YRITWC for their help and support!**



If you have any question please contact Patricia Young, Tetlin Environmental Coordinator at (907) 882-1268.

**Do you have a used cell-phone??**

**Is it collecting dust??**

**Do you want to keep cell-phones out of our landfill??**



You can now donate your old cell-phone!  
Tetlin Environmental Program is having a  
Cell Phone Collection Drive!!

You can drop off your cell phones in various locations in the Tok Area. Please look for the donation boxes at Three Bears, Tetlin Village Council-Tok Office, and Tetlin Clinic. Boxes will be collected on May 28. Thank you for your help!!

For more information contact:  
Patricia Young (907) 883-1268  
or email: [pyoungak@gmail.com](mailto:pyoungak@gmail.com)

# Topics & Issues Discussed At Outreaches

- Establishment of Tetlin Recycling Facility
  - What can be recycled and collected at facility?
  - Where to take recyclable materials?
  - Where to dispose/leave/store Hazardous waste in our community and surrounding communities?
- Ways to Reduce Waste in our Community
  - How to effectively extend the life of our landfill.
  - How can collection of recyclables and hazardous waste help?
- Ways to Reuse and Recycle in our Community
  - Ways we can reuse everyday items in our life's
  - How to organize recyclables at home
- Through these steps together we can maintain “a clean, healthy, and safe place to live, work, and continue our cultural heritage and traditional ways of life.”
  - A FINAL GATHERING – Reflection of how we can help.
  - Households will receive recycle bins for their homes, along with can crushers to help them prepare for and begin recycling.

**Objective 4:** Properly equip residents of the Native Village of Tetlin to be actively involved in recycling and reduction of wastes into our waste stream.

- Purchase recycling bins, can crushers, etc. for each household to better prepare community about recycling and the reduction of wastes.
- So far, 40 households have received a can crusher and 13. gallon recycling bin. Those that were not home during the first and second round of distribution will still have a chance to receive a can crusher and bin.

# Environmental Results (Outcomes and Outputs)

## Outputs:

- Tetlin Recycling Facility established.
- Increased number of truckloads of recyclables that will be collected to transfer out of community.
- Increased number of people educated and/or refreshed about the importance of recycling and reduction of wastes from the waste stream.
- Increased amount of recyclables that are taken out of main waste stream, which in turn decreased the amount of waste that enters our landfill, which in turn extends the life of Tetlin Landfill.
- Quarterly educational outreaches held, which increases the number of people educated about solid waste management and recycling.
- Project will positively impact all residents of Tetlin, all 165 of them.

## Outcomes:

- Increased capacity for Tribal environmental stewardship.
- Increased behavioral changes amongst residents regarding recycling.
- Reduction of wastes disposed of in Tetlin Landfill.
- Changes in local knowledge regarding recycling and reduction of wastes.
- Changes in local behavior regarding disposal of wastes.
- Innovative local demonstration project that result in the removal of solid and hazardous wastes out of Tetlin.

# Tetlin Environmental Program

Our mission is to actively serve the residents of the Native Village of Tetlin to improve the local environmental quality by working together with community leaders, local residents, area businesses and neighbors to create a clean, healthy, and safe place to live, work, and continue our cultural heritage and traditional ways of life for future generations.