

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PROFILE: EMMONAK

Location: Part of the Lower Yukon Subregion. Emmonak is located at the mouth of the Yukon River, 10 miles from the Bering Sea, on the north bank of Kwiguk Pass. It lies 120 air miles northwest of Bethel and 490 air miles from Anchorage, in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

Historical Setting: The village is called "Imangaq" in Yup'ik. Villagers call themselves "Kuigpagmuit" or "people from the Yukon River." The original settlement was 1.4 miles south of its present location and was first reported by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1899. In the 1940s, commercial fishing became a major industry in the village, and the Northern Commercial Company built a cannery. In 1964, the cannery was washed away by floods. Due to increasing flooding and erosion, the village was relocated 1.4 miles north in 1964-65. The new location was named Emmonak, which means "blackfish."

Language: Central Yup'ik

Climate: Emmonak falls within the transitional climate zone, characterized by tundra interspersed with boreal forests, and weather patterns of long, cold winters and shorter, warm summers. Freeze-up occurs during October; break-up occurs in June.

Access: Emmonak relies on air and water transportation. A state-owned gravel airstrip is available. There are no connecting roads, but winter trails to Kotlik, Alakanuk, and Nunam Iqua are used by snow machines. Skiffs and ATVs are used during the summer for local transportation.

Cultural Resources: Emmonak is a Yup'ik Eskimo village involved in commercial fishing, processing, and subsistence activities. Residents of Chuloonawick, a nearby fish camp, also live in Emmonak.

Local Contacts

Village Corporation: Emmonak Corporation	Email: emkcorp@yahoo.com	Phone: 907-949-1129
City: City of Emmonak	Email: emkcity@gmail.com	Phone: 907-949-1227
Tribal: Emmonak Tribe	Email: emktribal@gmail.com	Phone: 907-949-1720

Demographics / Housing

Poverty Rate	23.3%	2000	2010	Percent of Residents Employed	68.14%
Total Population		767	762	Median Household Income	\$60,694
Median Age of Total Population		23	22	Denali Commission Distressed Community	No
Average Household Size		5	5	Percentage of Native Alaskans	96.33%
Housing Units	213 total, 185 occupied, 28 vacant, AVCP Regional Housing Authority				

Energy

Owner	Description	Notes	Economic Factors
AVEC	Electrical Power Plant owned and operated by AVEC, PCE subsidized	4 Diesel Generators. Heat recovery is utilized. Intertie with Alakanuk completed in 2011; tieline planned. Emmonak Wind & Transmission 800kW.	4-6 Employees

Bulk Fuel

Owner/Operator	Fuel Provider	Storage Capacity
City	North Star (final year of 3-year contract)	60,000 Heating Oil, 10,000 Gasoline
Native Corp.		150,000 Heating Oil, 200,000 Gasoline

Water & Sanitation

Owner/Operator	System Type	Number of served	Notes	Economic Factors
City of Emmonak	Surface source, circulating system	198 connections	Energy Audit completed	3 Employees

Health

Owner/Operator	Description	Notes	Economic Factors
Tribe/YKHC	Pearl E. Johnson Subregional Clinic	No improvements scheduled.	Estimated 15 employees
	Women's shelter	Provides regional service	

Education

Owner/Operator	Description	Number of Students	Economic Factors
LYSD	K-12 School and Head Start	215 (14 teachers)	26 Employees

Transportation

		Notes
Air Access	Gravel airport, good condition	General aviation airport
Boat / Barge Access	Dock with barge access	Fuel, Goods, Materials

Landfill

Owner/Operator	Description	Notes	Economic Factors
City of Emmonak	Permitted, Class III	New berms, fencing, burn box. Have operator.	Operator