



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Trisha Bower and Sandra Woods) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for the City of Kotzebue, August 12th, 2013. Randy Walker, the Public Works Director, helped coordinate our visit. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during the August inspection.

WEAR Sites

- **Landfill, 66.85445/-162.608641 (Active)** — This 11 acre site is a permitted Class II landfill that is operated by the City of Kotzebue. The City has a Public Works Department that manages the landfill, employing a full time Landfill Manager and auxiliary staff. This landfill is designed as a freezeback landfill and is currently monitoring freezeback using thermistors. This landfill accepts municipal solid waste, construction and demolition debris, scrap metal, polluted soil, and some special wastes with ADEC approval. This facility is completely fenced and is located approximately 1800 feet from Kotzebue Sound.



- **Baler Facility, 66.898720/-162.584265 (Active)** – The City of Kotzebue processes all of their community’s waste locally in town at the Baler Facility. The waste is stored and processed at this facility. Municipal solid waste is processed into bales and then bagged prior to delivery to the landfill. Special wastes are also stored here prior to processing. This facility is permitted under the landfill’s solid waste permit. It is located approximately 1250 feet from Kotzebue Sound, which is experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the Army Corps of Engineers 2009 *Baseline Erosion Assessment* (BEA) study.



- **Nullagvik Hotel & Hanson Trading, 66.8981/-162.600455 (Active)** – These two sites are known contaminated sites and are being monitored by the Contaminated Sites Program (File Numbers: 410.38.018 and 410.38.022). The sites are contaminated with petroleum above ADEC clean-up levels. The contamination was found during the removal of a 500 gallon underground heating oil tank in October 2007. The original Nullagvik Hotel was located on the Hanson Trading Company site and was demolished around 2012. The new Nullagvik Hotel was constructed in 2011 on the lot next to the original hotel. The long-term plan for the hotel is to remediate the Hanson Trading Company site that the original hotel sat on so that they can expand the hotel further. This area is located approximately 100 feet from Kotzebue Sound. The Sound was experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the BEA study; however a seawall was installed in 2011 for erosion mitigation.



- **Airport Alaska Airlines, 66.891045/-162.602169 (Active)** – This is a known contaminated site that is being monitored by the Contaminated Sites Program (File ID 410.26.005). The Alaska Airlines terminal at the Kotzebue Airport was served by two underground storage tanks installed in the early 1980s. In 1993 a shallow excavation at the terminal was reported to have heavy sheening on the groundwater seeping into the pit. A release investigation identified several off-site sources as well as the two underground storage tanks as potential sources. The two tanks and the associated piping have since been removed, but the contamination remains. This site is located approximately 900 feet from Kotzebue Sound, which is eroding at 2 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **Airport Northwestern Aviation, 66.890808/-162.594827 (Active)** – This is an active contaminated site that is being monitored by the Contaminated Sites Program (File ID 410.26.007) due to petroleum contamination. Ben Lomond Inc. installed six underground storage tanks (UST) while subleasing the property from James D. Rood, which subsequently leaked fuels. The underground storage tanks ranged in size from 500 to 10,000 gallons and stored Jet A, AV gasoline, and possibly heating fuel. Six USTs were removed from the property around 1996. This site is located approximately 1950 feet from Kotzebue Sound, which is eroding at 2 feet a year per the BEA study and 150 feet from Kotzebue Lagoon.



- **ADOT&PF MarkAir (Former Cargo Bldg), 66.891204/-162.603312 (Active)** – This is a known contaminated site that is being monitored by the Contaminated Sites Program (File ID 410.38.003). This is the former location of the MarkAir Cargo building, which burned and was demolished in 1995-1997. A new building was built on the existing concrete slab in 1998-1999 and now houses Lynden Air Cargo and Northern Air Cargo. Impacted soil was identified to the east, west and possibly underneath the building. This site is located approximately 780 feet from Kotzebue Sound, which is eroding at 2 feet a year per the BEA study.



- **City of Kotzebue, 66.901102/-162.588596 (Active)** – There was a historical spill of #1 diesel that occurred over time from 1950 to 1980. An estimated 100,000 to 200,000 gallons spilled underground in an area up to 10 acres. ADEC was alerted when fuel was discovered seeping into the elementary school basement in 1980. The source is undetermined and likely from multiple suspected sources: ruptured tank from 1950s bulk tank farm, former distribution line from bulk tank farm to the school and former hospital, and tank farm located at the school. An estimated 40,000 gallons was recovered between 1980 and 1984, with an estimated 20,000-40,000 gallons of recoverable fuel estimated to remain underground in 1986. This site is tracked under two files: City of Kotzebue (File Number 410.38.008) used to track site history and pore water and groundwater conditions, and Kotzebue Former IHS/BIA Hospital- School Pipeline Release (File ID 410.38.025) used to track site characterization and potential remedial efforts associated with the historic releases on former school and hospital properties. This school site is approximately 200 feet from Kotzebue Sound. The Sound was experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the BEA study; however a seawall was installed in 2011 for erosion mitigation.



- **Maniilaq Association Family Crisis Center, 66.898832/-162.577131 (Active)** – This is a known contaminated site that is being monitored by the Contaminated Sites Program (File ID 410.38.024). In February 2008 approximately 300 gallons of diesel fuel spilled from an aboveground heating oil tank at the Maniilaq Association Family Crisis Center (aka Women’s Shelter). A partial cleanup was conducted by excavating contaminated soils into 27 supersacks. However, remaining soils are still above cleanup levels. This site is located approximately 2000 feet from Kotzebue Sound. The Sound was experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the BEA study; however a seawall was installed in 2011 for erosion mitigation.



- **Crowley Tank Farm, 66.903243/-162.583453 (Active)** – This is the community tank farm owned and operated by Crowley Marine Services. It is located on the northern outskirts of Kotzebue at the end of Shore Ave. The site has a total capacity of 6,167,196 gallons of fuel within a secured area with secondary containment. This tank farm is regulated by the ADEC Terminals and Tank Farms Section. This site is located approximately 200 feet from Kotzebue Sound. The Sound was experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the BEA study; however a seawall was installed in 2011 for erosion mitigation.



- **Electric Association Tank Farm, 66.893542/-162.595453 (Active)** – This is the community utility plant operated by the Kotzebue Electric Association. It is regulated by the ADEC Terminals and Tank Farms Section. There are two fuel tanks with a total capacity of 2,165,016 gallons within a secured area with secondary containment. There were two transformer stockpiles at this site in a publicly accessible area, in addition to a pile of street lights. This site is located approximately 1500 feet from Kotzebue Sound. The Sound was experiencing erosion of 2 feet a year per the BEA study; however a seawall was installed in 2011 for erosion mitigation.

