

Native Village of Eklutna
Prioritized Contaminated Sites

All sites are listed as open in the ADEC contaminated sites database, unless otherwise noted.

1 Eklutna Army Site

Massive plume of TCE contaminated groundwater and soil contamination at the old NVE Powwow grounds. Old diesel (GRO) contamination in the gravel mines on the village side of the railroad tracks.

NVE has conducted extensive site clean-up with NALEMP, including 117 drums with lead based paint, varnish, tar, tar gas, and solvents, including TCE. NVE tested, excavated and disposed of 206 tons of contaminated soil from the site. 100 tons of “debris” were also removed and disposed of.

DoD, FUDS taking responsibility for further TCE and GRO assessment and remediation. NVE proposes to address newly discovered buried metal concentrations in future years.

Eklutna, Inc. owned land.

Proximity to Eklutna Village. Subsistence uses, and other NVE uses proposed.

2 Old Matanuska Townsite

Petroleum spill in a wetland and surrounding areas. Corroding containers with markings such as dry cleaning solvent, paint, and PCBs. Hazardous substances being stored on the lots without proper spill protection. Surface stains are observed at the site. Sheen is observed on the water surface in the wetland.

ADEC removed 80 to 100 vehicles, 29 drums and 9 containers were removed consisting of 1,071 gallons of oil, 275 gallons of glycol, and 45 gallons of a water/oil/glycol mixture. The Mat-Su Borough was involved in site inspection and removed about 80-100 vehicles from the property. Fifteen leaking drums were overpacked and 34 drums and one 5 gallon container of hazardous substances were left on the site for EPA to dispose. Contaminated soil was also stockpiled for later removal.

It is unclear if contaminated soil and drums remain at the site.

Private property owners are insolvent.

Eklutna, Inc. owns adjacent property, which may be affected.

The site is about 13 miles from Eklutna Village, in wetlands with reported seasonal flooding and 500 feet up-gradient from Rabbit Slough, which sustains a salmon fishery with stocks utilized by NVE. Clean-up can provide for beneficial uses including improved subsistence fish and wildlife habitat.

NVE will monitor the site and encourage EPA, ADEC and Mat-Su Borough to finish clean-up, to follow through with Institutional Controls and to modify them if required to best protect ecological health.

3 Peters Creek Chevron

Gasoline and diesel contamination in soil and groundwater around underground storage tanks.

Further sampling should determine whether neighboring wells are contaminated. There are two NVE member households with wells in the vicinity.

NVE will monitor database updates and encourage responsible party to take action and respond to ADEC to address soil and groundwater contamination to best protect human health. NVE will review upcoming drinking water sampling results anticipated from BGES consultants.

4 Texaco – Peters Creek Texaco

Gasoline contaminated soil was removed in 1999.

Soil and groundwater contamination remain at the site.

Responsible party was issued a notice of violation for failure to conduct further release investigation to define the extent of the remaining soil and groundwater contamination at the site. To date the requested work has not been conducted.

There are two NVE member households with wells in the vicinity.

NVE will monitor database updates and encourage the potentially responsible party to take action and respond to ADEC to address soil and groundwater contamination to best protect human health.

5 Birchwood Trespass Shooting Area

Lead contamination in soils.

Eklutna, Inc. owned land is being sold.

Its planned use is as a Southcentral Alaska law enforcement shooting range.

ADEC requests further sampling to evaluate potential remediation.

Under purchase agreement, the new landowner will clean up the site with State funding.

NVE will coordinate with new land owner to potentially assist in satisfying ADEC requirements.

6 Old Railroad Dump near Eklutna Village

This site is not in the ADEC contaminated sites database.

An elder located the likely site of this old dump across the tracks from Eklutna Village, by the historic railroad section house.

Paint, gas and oil cans, and other garbage likely dumped here.

Now owned by Eklutna, Inc.

The site could be assessed for soil and groundwater contamination.

7 ADOT Knik River Rest Stop (aka: Reflections Lake, Rambo Rest Stop)

This site is closed on the ADEC contaminated sites database, with institutional controls.

Historically owned by BLM and used as an unauthorized shooting range and dump site.

DNR and BLM removed the majority, 106 cubic yards, of lead contaminated soil. Lead contamination remains in the lake sediment, and more testing and cleanup off the historic main shooting lanes may be needed.

DNR received title for the benefit of ADF&G.

ADF&G is developing the site for recreation with trails, a canoe launch, picnic area and plans to stock the lake (former gravel pit) for recreational fishing.

NVE will monitor the database updates and encourage BLM and ADEC to follow through assessments and potential remediation to best protect ecological health.

8 Hilltop Recycling

Not listed on ADEC Contaminated Sites Database

16849 Old Glenn Hwy

About 7 miles from Eklutna Village

The site is about 325,000 square feet packed with junk vehicles, and an auto parts store. Some tribal members are concerned with possible long-term contamination from leaking fluids.

9 Loretta French Sports Complex Dump

Not listed on ADEC Contaminated Sites Database

18100 Old Glenn Hwy

Anchorage, AK 99567

NVE Tribal Council Members are concerned that contaminants are leaching toward Eklutna, Inc. property from this dump.

NVE will keep track of other ongoing contaminated sites activities near Eklutna and help coordinate required soil and groundwater sampling, especially if overall costs can be reduced.

10 Matanuska River Dump

Not listed on ADEC Contaminated Sites Database, but ADEC has placed this segment of the Matanuska River on the 2002 Section 303(d) list as a water body impaired by residue (debris).

Located ¼ to 12/ mile north of Eagle Avenue in Palmer, Alaska

This is an open debris pile on and in the Matanuska River. The Alaska Railroad initially placed railroad cars at the site in the 1960's to help stabilize the river bank. After the railroad cars were placed, the site was used as an unpermitted open dump. Trash, including vehicles, household garbage, fuel cans and 55-gallon drums, scrap metal, and other miscellaneous debris were discarded there. The dump has the potential to directly impact the river's water quality. River channels run through and next to the dump at all times of the year. Visible sheens have been observed in the river. This open dump is within the Drinking Water Protection Area for a minimum of three public water systems. The Matanuska River is designated for all uses, with the most common uses being recreational and subsistence, including fishing and river rafting. The dump is near a hiking trail in a scenic riparian woodland area.

11 JBER-Ft. Rich OUC OB/OD Area

ADEC File # 2102.38.003

FTRS-23 Demolition Area#1, Formerly Fort Richardson before 10/01/2010, Fort Richardson (JBER)

The JBER, Eagle River Flats wetlands area contaminants of concern include perchlorate, white phosphorous and munitions due DoD use as a munitions target range. Remediation includes hazing birds away, breaching ponds and pumping wetlands have been used to reduce bird kills caused by the contamination, but these measures can also have negative ecological impacts. It required ongoing research through 2015 to demonstrate that remedial response was satisfactory at reducing migratory bird fatalities. It is not clear from the ADEC database that this research to close out the IC's was conducted, or if it was, what the results were. Some areas have been capped with clay Depending on the effectiveness of the remedial response additional activity could be required by ADEC to protect migratory birds. NVE should review Bird survival report, habitat mapping, mortality, pond bottom testing required in 2018 to show effectiveness of remedy and impacts to birds.