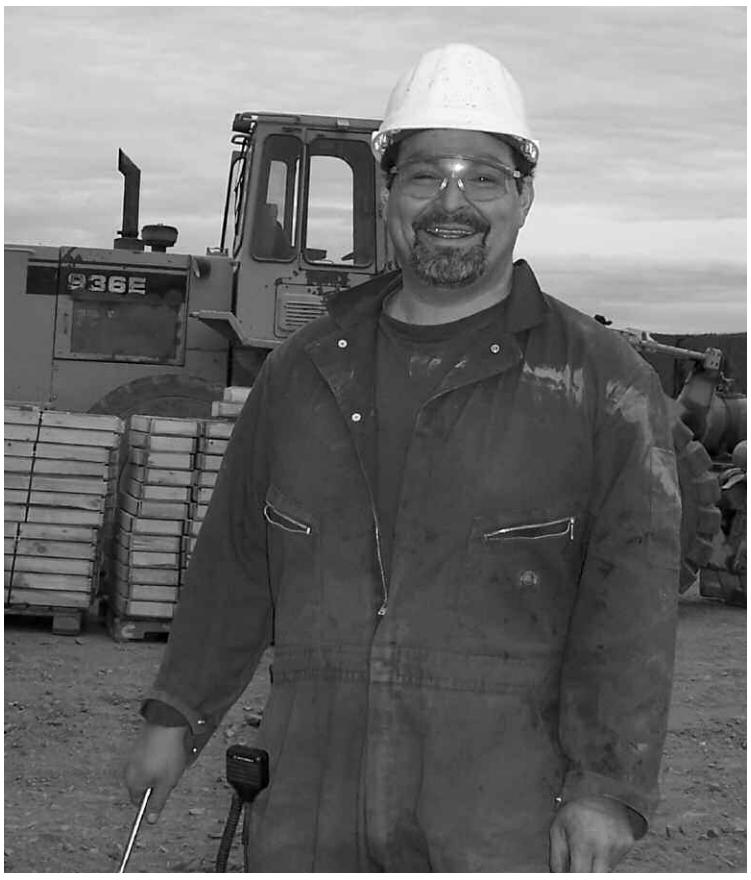
DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP



WORKING FOR TOMORROW

***Top photo**: Wassillie Kameroff, Chuathbaluk, is the Shareholder Hire Coordinator at the Donlin Creek Project. Here he briefs the crew as Donlin Creek Project Operations Manager Bill Bieber listens in the background. **Bottom photo**: Macarlo Christensen, Jr., (Upper Kalskag) is a mechanic and has worked at Donlin for two years. He says that his experience maintaining his own boat as a commercial fisherman helped him get his job.*



Answers to questions we hear about working on the Donlin Creek Project

Bill Bieber, who wrote this article, is responsible for managing all support activities as Operations Manager for the Donlin Creek Project. He also manages workforce development and the Shareholder Hire Program. He has been with Placer Dome for 21 years.

While traveling from village to village, one of the most common questions residents of the region ask is about potential Donlin Creek jobs. Here are the answers to some of the questions I am commonly asked about our Shareholder Hire Program, training opportunities, the types of jobs at Donlin, and how employment contributes to individual and region-wide economic prosperity.

Q: What is the Shareholder Hire Program?

A: In 1995, Calista Corporation and Placer Dome entered into an exploration agreement that included the Shareholder Hire Agreement. This agreement was championed by Jay Taylor, former President and CEO of Placer Dome, and Matthew Nicolai, President and CEO of Calista. At the time the agreement was drafted, the Calista Region had a high percentage of unemployment and both company executives were intent on developing as many employment opportunities in the region as

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FACE TO FACE

Summer season wraps up at Donlin Creek



Stan Foo, Project Manager-Alaska for Placer Dome, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.

This has been one of the busiest years at the Donlin Creek Project yet. In addition to continually gathering information and conducting ongoing work to learn more about the gold deposit and the environment in the surrounding area, we have had several opportunities to meet with people from the region and hear their concerns. In this second edition of the project update, I'm able to report that we've made good progress on several fronts.

The past few months have also presented several opportunities to gain a greater appreciation for the subsistence resources that are so important to residents of this region. I was able to hear your concerns firsthand at The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC) Annual Shareholders Meeting, the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Special Convention on Mining, the Aniak State Fair, the Kuskokwim Watershed Summit, and finally, the AVCP Annual Convention.

And we've made important progress over the past few months in terms of our ability to address some of your concerns. We continue to be encouraged by the potential to use wind energy to provide up to 40 percent of the power for the project. Using renewable wind energy could help reduce our costs and it provides environmental advantages, both important steps for this project. **Using wind power will limit the amount of fuel that will need to be transported and the total number of barges that will need to travel up the Kuskokwim River.**

In another effort to reduce barge traffic from downriver, we have been actively searching for a nearby source of lime. Lime is a critical ingredient in gold mining; it is needed in the process to extract gold out of its host rock and it is very important to environmental protection through the mine's life and after closure. But it takes a lot of lime for a deposit the size of Donlin. For these reasons, we are encouraged to be able to report that geologists have identified a potential source of lime close to the project.

We also hosted trips for YK Region residents to Placer Dome operations in the Lower 48 states. In August, 10 representatives from Calista Corporation and TKC toured the Golden Sunlight Mine in Montana, a 23-year-old mine that is in its final years of operation. Donlin supervisors also toured Placer Dome's Cortez Gold Mine in Nevada last month to learn more about operations and safety on the job. We hope to continue these educational tours next year.

Placer Dome's Golden Sunlight Mine won the 2004 Environmental Excellence Award from the Northwest Mining Association for its reclamation efforts.

Although the large drilling program is complete and snow has covered most of the camp, we will have a smaller, one-rig program through the fall and our environmental work at the site will continue. We are also maintaining a reduced workforce at camp to complete maintenance work in preparation for what we hope will be an even busier 2006 season. **I continue to be very impressed with our staff.** We emphasize active participation from all of our employees in safety training programs and there has been an enthusiastic response, with safety becoming an important part of our camp culture.

I will continue to keep you updated on our progress and look forward to returning to the villages throughout the year. Be safe, and if you have questions or concerns call us at (907) 273-0200.

-Stan Foo
Project Manager-Alaska, Placer Dome



Tribal representatives at AVCP's Annual Convention worked long hours and raised serious issues about mining in the region. Seated from left: Mark Leary, Bea Kristovich, Marcie Sherer, Vivian Changsak, Julia Dorris and Phyllis Evan.

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

LEARNING FROM SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

Donlin Creek supervisors visit operating Placer Dome mine

Last month, Donlin Creek supervisors visited the Cortez Gold Mines project located outside of Elko, Nevada. The mine is operated by Placer Dome, and the mining and milling processes closely resemble the processes proposed for the Donlin Creek project. The Cortez visit gave the Donlin staff a firsthand look at the type of operations, safety and employment that may develop if Placer Dome decides to advance Donlin through the feasibility and permitting stages, construction, and the actual mining process.

Visiting the Cortez Mine provided a firsthand look at what is needed to mine, mill and support a large modern open pit gold mine. The trip also demonstrated Placer Dome's commitment to providing job training and advancement opportunities. Mine employees generally acquire skills that can later transfer easily to many different jobs in a variety of industries. Human resource specialists say that some of the best employees in the technical and mechanical trades, and equipment maintenance and operation, developed their work skills while working for mines.



Tisha Kuhns, (Akiachak and Bethel), geologist, Mike Evan and Joey Evan (Lower Kalskag) brothers and maintenance supervisors, all looking into the active open pit at Cortez Gold Mines. They are standing 900 feet above the pit bottom. Tisha spent time with the mine geologists learning about the geology of the deposit. Joey and Mike toured the maintenance department to learn about the preventative maintenance program and practices used at Cortez.





***Photo top**: Left to right: Bill Bieber, Donlin Creek Project Operations Manager, Lydia McCarr (Stony River), purchasing and logistics supervisor, Leonard Morgan (Aniak), Shareholder Hire Coordinator, Mike and Joey Evan (Lower Kalskag), maintenance supervisors, on the grill of a mine haul truck at the Cortez Mine in Nevada. This is the largest haul truck in the world, standing four stories high. The mine has 10 of these trucks. **Photo right**: Mike Evan (Lower Kalskag), maintenance supervisor, in the driver's seat of a computerized 400-tonne haul truck simulator at the Cortez Mine site. During this exercise, each participant is in a virtual Cortez pit backing up and pulling the 400-tonne load of rock from the mine to where it has to be delivered.*

Mechanics who work in large mines work with state-of-the-art technology and equipment, allowing them to gain experience in mining as well as other industries. This is especially true at Cortez where the equipment is so advanced that most experienced operators have never before seen anything like it.

Equipment operators learn to operate many types of equipment, so they are cross-trained for several jobs, increasing their chance for promotions and pay increases. Because mining operations are long-term, it is one of the few industries that invests in employees' professional growth. Technical and support jobs in the mining industry also require employees to become knowledgeable in other areas of operations; this gives employees a diverse and marketable knowledge base.

LEARNING FROM THE LAND

Environmental studies continue

Although much of the summer fieldwork at Donlin Creek has come to an end for the year, environmental data collection will continue through the fall and winter. Based on the feedback Placer Dome is receiving from residents of the Donlin Region, there are three issues that are of special concern if the mine is developed: 1) ground and surface water quality; 2) the chemical makeup of water that will flow off the waste rock; and 3) fish quantity and quality in Crooked Creek and its tributaries.

Water Quality: Nick Enos, Donlin's project environmental coordinator, Tisha Kuhns, geologist, David John, environmental technician, and Greg Sakar, environmental technician, have just completed the third batch of ground and surface water sampling measurements for the year. Nineteen groundwater wells and 15 surface water points were sampled. The project now has a total of almost two years of groundwater quality data and nine years of surface water quality data. All samples are submitted to independent, state certified labs for analysis before the data is incorporated into the project database that will be required by state and federal agencies once the permitting process begins.



***Photo top**: Catherine Wise, (Sleetmute and Lower Kalskag), core cutting supervisor, is seen here with test piles of rock representative of the deposit; the test piles are set up alongside the existing camp at Donlin Creek. **Photo right**: Greg Sakar (Crooked Creek), environmental tech at Donlin, is shown here collecting stream flow data near Donlin this summer. Greg worked for RuralCap in Anchorage just before he came to work on the Donlin Creek project.*



Several ongoing studies help Placer Dome better understand the behavior of rocks that will be mined at Donlin Creek as they interact with water. Test piles (of rock that is representative of the deposit) are set up alongside the existing camp at Donlin. As these rocks are exposed to air and weather they break down. By sampling the water that runs off the test piles and then having it analyzed by the independent labs, Placer Dome can understand how rocks exposed during mining will react over time. The metals analysis of the water will be used to design water treatment systems for the project facilities.

Fish Quantity: Fisheries biologists have just completed the autumn fish count in Crooked Creek and its tributaries, marking the sixth year of baseline fisheries data collection in this area. To date, results show significant variations from year to year in the types and numbers of fish present in Crooked Creek.

Fish Quality: This is also the second year of the detailed bio monitoring program at Donlin Creek. Fish and invertebrate samples are collected at various points along the creek and analyzed for the presence of any metals. Results show that the metal levels in the fish tissue, from the rocks and minerals in the land, are the common levels found elsewhere in Western Alaska.

Data from these baseline study projects will be combined to help advance our understanding of the way water around the Donlin Creek area behaves and how to avoid any effects on the subsistence resources of the region.

– James Fueg
Technical & Permitting Manager
Donlin Creek Project



DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

ONE JOB CAN GO A LONG WAY

When residents of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region get jobs at Donlin Creek, payroll dollars can go far beyond benefits for that individual person. The entire region can benefit.



Daryl McKindy, left, (Aniak) mechanic, and Simeon Sipary (Soldotna), mechanic/ welder work with a cutter as they repair heavy equipment at Donlin.

- Employees will spend money on things like homes, cars, food, clothes, and travel. As a result, there will be opportunities for existing businesses to grow and new businesses to start in the region to accommodate the increased demand for products and services.
- Today many communities in the region cannot provide even the most basic emergency services needed for survival. The increased healthcare-related products and services that accompany new industry could reduce mortality rates in the region, which are some of the highest in the nation.
- Poverty is the greatest cause of social decline in depressed regions, according to numerous studies. It results in substance abuse, higher-than-average accidental death, increased domestic violence, higher-than-normal suicide rates, and higher school drop out rates. Jobs created by new industry can ease poverty and be an important part of a sustainable future for the region.

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possible. The agreement states that Calista Shareholders and their descendants are given a hiring preference.

Q: Is the Shareholder Hire Program successful?

A: This year was one of the most successful years of the program: of 118 total employees, 111 were Shareholder employees. Of this number, about 70-80 have worked at the project for at least five years and many for nearly 10 years. If the mine construction goes forward and Donlin Creek goes into production, we will have at least 400 full-time year-round employees. Obviously the goal is to train and employ as many Shareholder employees as possible to fill those jobs. Currently we have about 92 percent Shareholder hire.

Q: We are told that if the mine goes through it will be good for future generations. When will we see signs of this?

A: I believe the upper Kuskokwim River villages have already experienced some benefits from just the exploration programs Donlin Creek has brought to the region so far. If the project goes into construction and mining, then the entire region will benefit from direct wages to residents, potential growth in local businesses to support the mine efforts, and by increased spending in the villages by residents with higher incomes. This will be felt well into the early stages of development and will only gain momentum from there.

The region will gain experienced workers and many different types of jobs and trades. Younger groups of potential employees seem to already have the necessary technical skills (math, science, computer knowledge) that will be necessary to excel at Donlin if the



High school students from Aniak had many questions about mining and environmental issues when they toured the project.

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Local resident takes on greater responsibility

For the most part, Lydia McCarr was born and raised in Bethel, but she is quick to point out that she spent many of her formative years in the village of Stony River. She attended portions of grade school and high school in Stony River, receiving her diploma there in 1989.

After graduating, Lydia served as a supply specialist for the Army. After her honorable discharge, she moved back to Anchorage before joining the Donlin Creek Project in 1998.



Lydia McCarr, purchasing and logistics supervisor, pauses for a photo at a drill site while working at Donlin Creek this summer.

"It happened accidentally," she says, recalling being hired at Donlin, when Chiulista Camp Services President George Gardner interviewed her for a different job that fell through and instead offered her a position at Donlin where she developed the original purchasing and warehousing process.

Her responsibilities include filling requests for supplies and working with the accounting and purchasing departments so that orders are accounted for in inventory. She also expedites supplies and materials, and handles logistics so that they are cost effective and meet critical timelines.

This past July, she assumed additional responsibilities as the Logistics Coordinator and back-up Shareholder Hire Coordinator. She also participates in project management decisions and policy development.

Lydia looks forward to further developing her career at Donlin. "I see myself as being the top supervisor in my department here, having six to 10 people working under me doing what I'm doing now. I'd be a good boss because I'd already know how to do their jobs and I'm a people person," she says.

Lydia's parents are Iyana and Mary Gusty of Stony River. She has three sisters (Amy, Carey and Georgianna) and two brothers (Evan and Logan Gusty). Her siblings live in Stony River, Bethel and Fairbanks.

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project shifts into the construction and mining stages. This year we had younger employees come to Donlin and do very well, and we expect to see them next year if there is a large hiring program. These younger employees were grade school and high school students when Donlin first became a possibility in 1996, and many of them listened to presentations that we conducted in the schools. Now we are seeing them in the workforce and they are doing very well. I am confident that they will remain part of our regular staff in the future.

Q: What kinds of jobs are available?

A: On the last page of this project update there is a list of the types of jobs we are hiring for at Donlin. If the mine becomes a reality, the jobs related to operating the mine will be very different from what we are hiring for now. Those jobs will include mine equipment operators, mechanics, electricians, millwrights, administrative, engineers, geologists, accounting, computer techs, surveying, environmental, safety and medical, fire fighting, security, warehousing and logistics, port operations, barging and facility maintenance.

Q: If I work at Donlin Creek will I be able to subsistence hunt and fish?

A: A two-weeks-on, two-weeks-off rotating schedule for all employees enables staff to participate in subsistence activities – in fact, that's the main reason that we designed the schedule this way.

Q: If I want to try and work there for the 2006 season, what should I be doing now to prepare?

A: The project is a drug- and alcohol-free work place. New employees must have the drug test and pre-employment application completed. Candidates need to pass a pre-employment drug screening, and must be dedicated, flexible, and willing to do many different types of jobs. Recruitment for 2006 will be in November and December. Most Donlin employees stay on, so there is not a lot of turnover.

Q: How much money will I make?

A: Pay rates vary based on the job and how long the employee has worked on the project. The base pay for entry level work, such as housekeeping, starts at $12 per hour and the upper end of hourly wages is $23 per hour. We work 12-hour days, so the average employee gets about 40 hours a week of overtime, which pays time and a half. This means an entry level person typically makes about $1,200 per week.

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Q: Are the jobs year-round or seasonal?

A: Most of the jobs right now are seasonal. We make every effort to keep our supervisors working year-round, so they often end up doing different jobs in the off season. All maintenance, cleaning, and organizational projects take place during the winter. Typically the peak activity takes place between May and August. If the mine is permitted, then there will be 400 year-round jobs.

Q: Do I need to have special training?

A: Any prior training or experience is certainly a plus, but most training is provided on-the-job. We do not train for positions that would require a college degree, but we do provide general training, as well as the basic math and sciences required for some jobs.

Q: How is Placer Dome preparing for the 2006 Shareholder hire efforts?

A: In the past our efforts to hire TKC and Calista Shareholders have focused primarily on the surrounding seven villages because of the limited number of jobs now during the exploration phase. This winter we will be traveling to subregional centers down river such as Bethel, Hooper Bay, and St. Mary's to expand our employee base region-wide.

We are also giving more responsibility to our Shareholder supervisors, which will include more extensive training during the off season. If the drilling program expands next year, there will be two new drill coordinator supervisor positions. We are training one person from the region for that job now and evaluating our staff to identify another person to promote.

Q: What kinds of new jobs will be coming online in 2006?

A: In addition to hiring Drill Coordinators, we may be bringing on an electrician and we will be hiring another Purchasing and Logistics Coordinator. Our driller training has really been a success: this year, 75 percent of the drillers were Calista Shareholders. This number would have been 100 percent, but several of the drillers from the region were working on other Alaska projects like Greens Creek Mine and Nixon Fork Mine.

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***Photo top**: Helen Kvamme from Aniak is new to the Donlin project this year where she works as an EMT. Prior to joining the Donlin team she was a community health practitioner, field supervisor and an instructor with the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.*
***Photo right**: Ed Sakar (Crooked Creek), started working at Donlin Creek as a driller's helper nine years ago. Since then, he has worked his way up to being a geologic technician, which means he helps geologists process core.*



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Q: If I get a job at the Donlin Creek project and the proposed mine does not go through, how long will I have a job?

A: If the mine is successfully permitted and allowed to move into construction and operations, the life of the mine is estimated to be 15-to-20 years or more. If the decision is made not to build the mine, the camp will require only about four employees to perform care and maintenance services for up to six months until the site will be completely closed down.

– Bill Bieber, Operations Manager, Donlin Creek Project



EXPLORATION PHASE JOBS AT DONLIN

- Administrative Assistant
- Assistant Chef
- Bull Cook
- Camp Manager
- Cook/Baker
- Core Cutter Supervisor
- Core Cutting
- Core Handler
- Dishwasher
- Drilling Coordinator
- EMT
- Environmental Technician
- Equipment Maint. Supv.
- Expeditor
- General Laborer
- Geologic Technician
- Head Cook
- Heavy Equip. Operator
- Heavy Equip. Maintenance
- Housekeeper
- Janitor
- Kitchen Helper
- Maintenance Assistant
- Lead Mechanic/Supervisor
- Mechanic Assistant
- Prep Lab Supervisor
- Sampler
- Server/Prep Cook

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DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

JOBS AT DONLIN CREEK IN 2006





***TOP**: Clockwise from lower left: **Joey Evan** (maintenance supervisor from Upper Kalskag), **Peter Alexie** (mechanic and equipment operator from Russian Mission), **Danny Levi** (Drilling Coordinator from Lower Kalskag) and **Wassillie Kameroff** (shareholder hire coordinator from Chuathbaluk) take a break for a "photo op" during their work at Donlin in mid-December. **RIGHT**: **Christine Hinojosa Perez** (on-site receptionist and document control from Sleetmute) has worked in several jobs at Donlin including field sampler and geology technician. Everyone who arrives at Donlin and walks into the office is greeted with a big smile and "How are you, today?" from Christine.*

Donlin Project Recruiting Trips

The proposed 2006 Donlin Creek Project work program will require expanding the current workforce numbers. In an effort to increase the employee applicant database, recruiting trips to Bethel took place this winter. The first trip took place on November 11th and 12th. This trip included a project employment presentation to a standing-room-only crowd of students and faculty at Bethel High School on November 11th. The purpose of the presentation was to inform students of possible career paths and how Donlin may someday play a role in their choices.

The Donlin Creek Project was represented by half of the on-site management team who were available for questions regarding different department opportunities. The students had great questions and it was apparent that some of them had researched the Donlin Creek Project prior to the team's arrival. The students led the conversation into detailed career topics. "It was very refreshing and demonstrated a real desire to gain further education," commented Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber.

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Bonuses and Promotions

"The 2005 work program was successful in many ways. Drilling production was the highest in project history, resulting in very good bonuses being paid to our local drillers and drill helpers. This year's work force was very competent and dedicated - and when you have the experienced and dedicated employees that we had this year, great things happen. There was very little employee turnover and, in fact, most of the full time employees ended up working longer shift rotations than normal because of the heavy workload this year. Another important key to the success of our program is that we make every effort to promote from within, so it is not uncommon for those hired for entry level jobs to be promoted based on skills, abilities, dedication and attendance. "

– Bill Bieber,
Operations Manager Donlin Creek Project

FACE TO FACE

Looking Forward to Another Productive Year



***Stan Foo**, Project Manager-Alaska for Placer Dome, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.*

At the Donlin Creek Project we are excited at the prospects that 2006 holds for our team and for the residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Late in the first quarter we plan to make important decisions and firm up the detailed project description for the proposed Donlin Creek Mine. More than 10 years of analysis and exploration have gone into this decision-making process, including detailed studies of: water quality and management, fish and wildlife, wetlands, archeology and historical resources, cultural and traditional knowledge, air quality, socioeconomics, and power source options.

All of these studies will be reviewed by state and federal regulators beginning in the second quarter of 2006 when the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process begins. Our hope is that the residents of the YK region will participate actively during the public comment periods designed into the EIS process. These are important opportunities for us all to learn more about the issues that you would like to see addressed in the environmental review conducted by the regulators.

We currently plan to reopen the Donlin exploration camp and start our 2006 drilling program in February. Already residents of the region are asking us about what kind of training will best prepare them for a job at Donlin Creek. Certainly specialized training can be of great help. But I cannot emphasize enough the importance of a good, basic educational foundation – in fact, in many cases this is all that is needed. Basic reading, writing, math and science skills taught in the region's school districts are critical to success in the mining industry. Just as critical are the life skills that come with the positive influence of school and family in the villages: a good work ethic, timeliness, trust-worthiness, and dependability. Just as I have heard the elders say throughout the region, education is an important foundation for the future of the next generation and those that will follow.

Although most elders may never work for the mine, their interest captures the essence of what the Donlin Creek Shareholder Hire Program is about: they want to know how the next generations will benefit from employment if the mine is developed. More and more, younger residents who were school-age children when Donlin first became a possibility in 1996 are successfully completing their first year of employment here and may remain part of the regular staff in the future. The current younger generation may not know much about mining or Donlin Creek, but in just a few short years, they may be the next generation workforce staffing Donlin Creek if the mine is permitted and becomes a reality.

While the new year causes us to look forward, this message would not be complete without a look back into 2005. We were all shocked and deeply saddened in December by news of the tragic passing of Lydia McCarr in Anchorage. Lydia was one of our shining stars at Donlin Creek where she served honorably as purchasing and logistics supervisor. She had hopes, that we shared, that she would be the top supervisor in her department in an operating mine someday. When we interviewed her last month for our employee spotlight column, Lydia recommended that other residents in the region apply for work at Donlin saying, "You're with your friends and family and you know everybody, so it's a really good place to work." Everyone will miss her positive influence at camp. Our thoughts and prayers are with her friends and family in Stony River and Bethel at this time.

– Stan Foo
Project Manager-Alaska, Placer Dome



***Stan Foo** presents **Maver Carey**, TKC President/CEO, with a $5,000 donation to the Kuskokwim Education Foundation (KEF) scholarship fund. The spirit masks were purchased by Donlin Creek in the silent auction held at the TKC office in November as a fund raiser for KEF.*

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"It's about more than a paycheck," Bieber says. "Employees gain job skills that can never be taken away from them – they can carry these skills into new employment opportunities long after the mine is gone. Something far more valuable is learned at Donlin Creek—that is the ability to succeed. New employees see our local supervisors' successes and they gain confidence from that." Shareholders are finding that with a little guidance, and a sound work environment, they can be more successful than they ever imagined.

On November 12 a public presentation was held at the Bethel Armory and lunch was provided by Chiulista Camp Services, Inc. Despite a low turn out, a small group of 10 potential employment applicants had great questions and showed a high level of interest for the job possibilities. On December 16th another public presentation and recruiting trip took place in Bethel. This time a larger group of interested potential applicants showed up and a lot of applications were filled out or taken home.

This is just the beginning of what will be a great push to expand the Donlin Creek workforce with more residents from the Yukon Kuskokwim region for the 2006 season. More trips are being planned – this time to the coastal villages in the first quarter of 2006.



Andrew Kameroff *(Lower Kalskag) started working as a drill helper at Donlin in 1996. He moved into camp maintenance in 1998 where he remains today.*

BARRICK FILES REVISED OFFER FOR PLACER DOME

On December 22, 2005 Barrick Gold Corporation announced a revised and increased offer for all of the outstanding shares of Placer Dome Inc. Placer Dome's Board of Directors has unanimously recommended that its shareholders tender their shares to the revised Barrick offer, which is scheduled to expire on January 19, 2006. The revised offer follows the original unsolicited offer made by Barrick on November 10, 2005.

The proposed acquisition would give Barrick ownership of all of Placer Dome's assets, including the Donlin Creek project in Alaska. Barrick has negotiated a separate, follow-on sale agreement that will result in Goldcorp Inc., another Canadian-based gold mining company, acquiring a number of Placer Dome's assets including the Campbell, Musselwhite and Porcupine mines in Canada, the La Coipa mine in Chile and 40% of the Pueblo Viejo project in the Dominican Republic.

Placer Dome Chief Executive Officer Peter Tomsett said: "This agreement provides our shareholders with an ongoing stake in a dynamic and growing company. The combined organization will possess world-class assets and growth opportunities with the scale, financial capacity and expertise to capitalize on them."

Barrick President and Chief Executive Officer Greg Wilkins said: "We are very excited about the coming together of two great gold mining companies. We can now move forward and deliver value - together - from our assets, people and projects. As a result of the friendly transaction, and with the support of Placer Dome's shareholders, we will be implementing an integration plan. Together, Barrick and Placer Dome employees have an unparalleled opportunity to achieve the vision of becoming the best gold mining company in the world."

The outcome of Barrick's offer for Placer Dome will not be known until the offer expires on January 19, 2006 or a later date if the offer is extended. Completion of the offer is subject to certain conditions including a sufficient number of shares being tendered to the offer such that Barrick would own at least 66 2/3% of Placer Dome's shares.

Whatever the outcome, management of the Donlin Creek project plans to conduct business as usual in the coming weeks and months. This will include a large drilling program, ongoing environmental and engineering activities, and importantly, the shareholder hire program.

Note to Security Holders: In response to the original exchange offer by Barrick relating to Placer Dome, Placer Dome filed in Canada and the U.S. and mailed to its shareholders a Directors' Circular dated November 23, 2005, and filed with the SEC a Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9, which includes the original Directors' Circular as an exhibit thereto. In connection with the revised offer described in this document, Placer Dome filed in Canada and the U.S. a Notice of Change to its Directors' Circular, which is being mailed to Placer Dome shareholders, and filed with the SEC an amendment to its Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9, which includes the Notice of Change to its Directors' Circular as an exhibit thereto. These amended documents set forth the full response of the Board of Directors of Placer Dome to the revised offer by Barrick described in this document. Security holders are urged to read the Notice of Change to the Directors' Circular, as well as the amended Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 (including any amendments or supplements thereto and the other documents filed as exhibits thereto) because they contain important information. Security holders may obtain a free copy of the Notice of Change to the Directors' Circular as well as any other documents filed by Placer Dome in connection with the revised offer, free of charge at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov, from Placer Dome at www.placerdome.com, or by contacting Georgeson Shareholder, the information agent retained by Placer Dome, at 1-866-245-2999.

A LESSON IN SUCCESS

Former Placer Dome Interns Recall Golden Sunlight Mine



__Mary Martinez__ (left) is the daughter of the late __Ambrose Yunak__, and her mother __AnnaMarie (Hunt) Yunak__ from Kotlik. Kathleen Hoffman is the daughter of the late __George Hoffman, Sr.__, Aniak, and her mother __Agnes Hoffman__, originally from Emmonak.

When Kathleen Hoffman, Aniak, and Mary (Yunak) Martinez, Kotlik, flew to Whitehall, Montana to intern at the Golden Sunlight Mine, the only thing they knew for sure was that nothing was certain except that they'd go home at the end of the summer with money and college credits.

They'd never met each other. They didn't know where they'd be living or who they'd be living with. They didn't know anyone else who would be working at the mine. They didn't know what their internships would be. They'd never had to worry about ticks and snakes before. And they had no experience with 100-degree weather.

"We worked 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day in 100-degree weather. At the end of the day we'd go home and not even move, just so we didn't break out in a sweat," Mary says. "It's a good thing we both liked classic movies!"

It was June 1996, Kathleen then 26, and Mary then 29, found out about the Placer Dome internships through Calista Corporation, where both are shareholders and had previously received college scholarships. Today, nine years later, they both still have great memories. And somewhere, they add, they have the Golden Sunlight hard hats and jackets they wore then—though they both agree they wouldn't fit quite as well today.

The first part of their on-site orientation was to look at a list of the different internship opportunities at Golden Sunlight. Mary, who was already interested in the environmental sciences, chose environmental reclamation of waste rock piles, which involved evaluating successes with her supervisor Troy Smith, a Soils Scientist and Reclamations Specialist with Golden Sunlight. This included spending time on waste rock piles as high as 200 feet to look at test vegetation spots that were being monitored to see how well the draught-resistant vegetation was growing on the east and west sides.

Golden Sunlight Mine is a 25-year-old Placer Dome Gold Mine that started in 1982 and is regarded today by industry experts as a stellar example of successful mining reclamation. When Mary and Kathleen were there, the mine was in the first stages of reclamation, which is the process of restoring the surface environment of lands disturbed as a result of mining activity back to acceptable pre-existing conditions.

"....these are the kinds of skills that anybody in the region can use at the mine or anywhere else. It's an exceptional way to gain experience and decide if that's what you want to be involved in...."

— Mary Yunak Martinez

Kathleen says she had less of an idea about what she wanted to do, so at first she tagged along with Mary and Troy, until she discovered surveying and decided to spend her summer doing

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP



*Interns **Mary Martinez** (Kotlik) and **Kathleen Hoffman** (Aniak) with reclamation specialist **Troy Smith** during their internship at Golden Sunlight mine in 1996.*

that. She was paired with two other surveyors and she was taught what surveying was about from the very beginning, until she got to the point where she even knew how to read a GPS.

"It was such a great job, it really opened my eyes," Kathleen says. "I loved it!" She spent her days with a tripod taking pictures of the landscape and documenting the information. This included monitoring a manmade hill of waste rock that was shifting and needed to have gravel moved to reinforce it. Besides the education, she says her experience exposed her to "a different reality and that there's really life beyond Alaska."

"I knew about mining and I'd heard of Donlin, but it wasn't a reality until I had this experience," Kathleen says. Today, Kathleen is serving her third term as Secretary and Treasurer for The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC) Board of Directors.

In Mary's case, an interest turned into a professional passion, and in 2003 she received her Master's degree in Environmental Science at Alaska Pacific University.

Her experience at Golden Sunlight also contributed to her success today as Land Planner at Calista Corporation's Lands Department. There she is responsible for drafting gravel sales agreements between the corporation and contractors working on water and sewer, and airport projects within the region. She also drafts transfer documents for subsurface sales for landfill, and water and sewer projects, and generates land status maps for village lands.

"Without the experience at Golden Sunlight, I wouldn't have the vocabulary and knowledge of what is required of waste rock piles at a mine and how they are reclaimed," Mary says. "This is especially important with the possibility of the Donlin Project moving forward. The Golden Sunlight internship gave me the opportunity to perhaps participate as a knowledgeable person in resource management."

Besides the professional experience they gained, both agree that one of the most impressive parts of Placer Dome's operation there was that the company was always so committed to teaching employees the environmental perspective of their operations, along with the importance of safety, including CPR, and hazmat training.

It is also impressive to see how many people it takes in a wide variety of jobs to operate a mine. "Surveyors, blasters, engineers, assayers, equipment operators, mechanics, geologists, plant scientists, healthcare providers, safety officers, educators, hydrologists, security officers: these are the kinds of skills that anybody in the region can use at the mine or anywhere else," Mary says. "It's an exceptional way to gain experience and decide if that's what you want to be involved in. They are a mentor for your life."

EXCELLENCE

*Last year, Golden Sunlight Mines was presented the **2004 Environmental Excellence Award** for outstanding achievement in mine reclamation and environmental protection. Its reclamation efforts also won the **2004 Hardrock Mineral Community Outreach and Economic Security Award** from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.*

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Tisha Kuhns is the first professional of Yupik Eskimo descent to be employed by the Donlin Creek Project as a geologist. Tisha started working at Donlin Creek as an intern last winter in the Anchorage office, and was hired as a contract geologist for the 2005 summer field season before being hired full-time by the company in December.

Tisha is originally from Bethel, the granddaughter of Joe Lomax, and the daughter of Carlton and Lucy Kuhns. Her parents have always been active in education, her father becoming a principal in Akiak at the age of just 24. They have both always encouraged her to pursue higher education. By the time she was in high school the family was living in Homer where she found that she excelled in the sciences. Discussions with her father about the earth sciences and geology peaked her interest in her chosen profession long before college.

During her university studies at Southern Oregon University, Tisha was the recipient of Calista Foundation scholarships, a program for which Placer Dome has been a major sponsor for a number of years. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology earlier this year, Tisha headed back to Alaska determined to find work as a geologist – she didn't care where her work might take her since she loves the traveling aspect of most geology jobs. But she was especially delighted when she learned that she was eligible for a job in her own region on the Donlin Creek Project. Her goal is to work in geology for 1-to-2 years before going back to graduate school "just to make sure that this is the field I want to pursue before I make the significant investment in graduate school."

Tisha is also one of 55 young men and women who were recently selected to participate at the Conference of Young Alaskans. In mid-January, these emerging leaders will gather at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to discuss and make policy recommendations for Alaska's future.

Stan Foo, Donlin Creek Project Manager, is proud of everyone involved in shareholder hire program successes like this, and pleased Tisha has joined the full-time team at Donlin Creek. "Tisha is an enthusiastic young geologist who has caught on quickly to all tasks assigned to her," he said. "She understands local cultures and is a great asset to our project team."

Working between the Anchorage office and the Donlin Creek exploration camp, Tisha's duties include core logging, geologic data base maintenance, field surveying, as well as assisting with surface and groundwater monitoring. Tisha will spend several weeks early next year with geologists at our Cortez mine in Nevada to gain experience working as a mine geologist in an operating environment.



Drug Testing

The Donlin Creek Project has a strict drug and alcohol policy. This year the project had the lowest number of policy violations ever with less than 5 percent turn-over due to drug test failures.

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

Chiulista Camp Services Dishes Up Donlin Meals

Awesome! That's the word that fills the dining hall between the sounds of lip smacking and second servings being dished up in the dining hall at Donlin Creek. Although there aren't a lot of after work activities at the mine, the friendly staff and freshly-prepared food is the one thing everyone looks forward to and talks about region-wide. Even though Chiulista faces the daily challenge of remote cooking, this is no canned lima beans and surprise casserole slop line. For those who can make it past the homemade breads and desserts made daily, a fresh salad and fruit bar is available at every meal. Lunch includes several hot dishes to choose from. Sunday dinner is surf and turf night, with a choice of prime rib and shrimp or halibut. And a smile and a kind word comes with every tasty morsel served at what we call "The Grey Wolf Diner" at Donlin Creek camp.





__LEFT: Christine Sakarook__, Crooked Creek, is a popular cook and baker at Donlin Creek's Grey Wolf Diner. __TOP: John Gillamhead__, cook, fires up ribs at Donlin. __RIGHT:__ Left to right: __Jose "Mario" Lopezcook__, takes a minute to visit with __Laura Crane__, Sleetmute, and __Elena Phillips__, Crooked Creek, both members of the housekeeping team.



TAKING TIME TO PARTICIPATE

Permits Protect Public Safety

In the first issue of this project newsletter, we talked about the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public process that will be conducted by the state and federal governments for the proposed Donlin Creek mine project. All public agencies charged with protecting the public interest will come to the table for the EIS process. They will meet with each other, and with communities that may be affected, as they decide which specific issues need to be studied during the EIS. They will continue to work with these communities when the Draft EIS is published for review.

Once the EIS is completed, it will serve as the primary guide for all permits that may – or may not – be issued for the proposed mine project. It is critical that residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region participate actively in the EIS process, which may take as long as 3 years.

Agency names:

COE	US Army Corps of Engineers
DEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DOT	Alaska Department of Transportation
DNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
NMFS	US National Marine Fisheries Service

Some of the permits that may be required

Plan of Operations (DNR)
Reclamation and Bonding (DNR)
Solid Waste Permits and Bonding (DEC)
Sewage Treatment System Approval (DEC)
Air Quality Permits (DEC)
Fish Barrier Permits (DNR)
Water Rights (DNR)
Right of Way/Access (DNR/DOT)
Dam Safety Certification (DNR)
Cultural Resource Protection (DNR)
Monitoring Plan (Surface/Groundwater/Wildlife) (DNR/DEC)
Coastal Zone Consistency Determination (DNR)
NPDES Water Discharge Permit (EPA)
Dredge and Fill Permit (COE)
Historical and Cultural Resources Protection (COE)
Threatened & Endangered Species Act Consultation (NMFS)
Essential Fish Habitat (NMFS)
Threatened & Endangered Species Act Consultation (NMFS)
Bald Eagle Protection Act Clearance (NMFS)
Migratory Bird Protection (NMFS)

PROPOSED DONLIN CREEK MINE

Preliminary Project Description at a Glance

- **Large open pit truck and shovel mining operation "not underground"**
  - 30-40,000 tons per day of ore mined
  - About 5 tons of development rock for every ton of ore mined
  - Mill will process ore by crushing and grinding to pulverize the ore to flour like consistency
  - Sulfide flotation and pressure oxidation (autoclave) to pretreat ore
  - Gold recovered with cyanide in a carbon-in-leach closed system
  - Tailings piped to a permitted storage facility
  - On site diesel generation of electricity supplemented by wind energy
  - Camp facilities for 400 employees
- **Transportation**
  - 6,000 foot paved airstrip on site
  - A 25-mile road will connect the project site to the Kuskokwim River and a river port near Junguk Creek
  - All supplies will be barged to the river port on the Kuskokwim River
  - About 200 barges will be required each year during a 120-day shipping season
- **Reclamation of mine site**
  - Developer will be required by the State of Alaska to set aside a guaranteed bond for the full cost to reclaim the site at the end of the mine life
- **Labor force**
  - Average 400 employees over an estimated 15-to-20 year mine life

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DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP



Large Mine Permitting Experts

The federal and state large mine experts who traveled to Bethel at the invitation of AVCP to field questions about the permitting process were (left to right) from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Also in attendance was the Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) area fisheries biologist (far right).

EIS PROCESS: TIME WILL TELL

An entire half-day of the AVCP Special Convention in March was devoted to hearing from the federal and state officials who will ultimately decide what would be required of Placer Dome / Barrick in order to be issued permits that would allow them to develop the proposed Donlin Creek Mine near Crooked Creek.

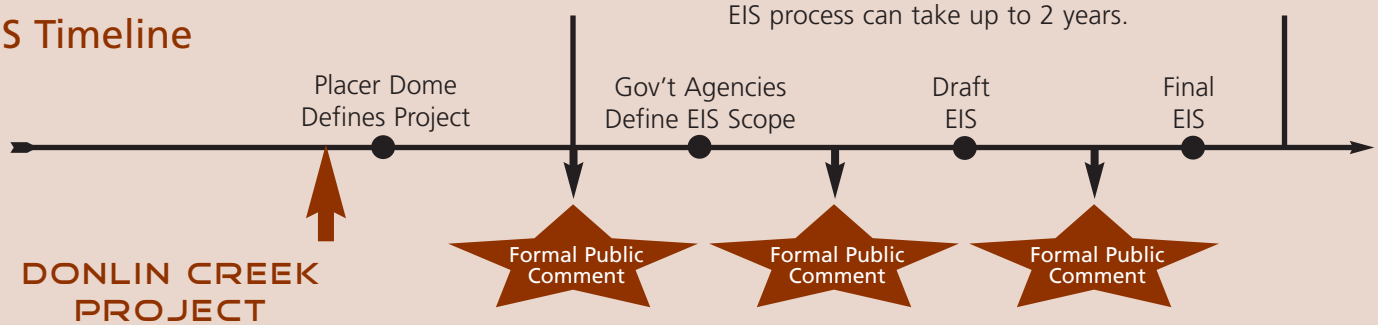
EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are the two federal agencies that would likely have permitting responsibilities for the project. One would be the lead agency assigned to manage the 2-plus year Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study process that will begin once the developer has submitted its' permit applications later this year.

The EIS process for the Donlin Creek Mine will begin once the developer has completed their proposed project description and submitted federal permit applications. Then, based on the proposal, the lead agency will work with all the other federal and state agencies that have permitting responsibilities, to outline a study plan for the in-depth EIS. Burgh explained that for the proposed Donlin Creek Mine, the team of government experts would likely hire a highly qualified team of independent third-party environmental engineers and scientists to work full-time on the Donlin EIS. One of the first things that this consulting team will do is meet with area residents to outline the proposed project description and then listen carefully to what issues or concerns arise in the minds of locals when they ponder the prospect of the proposed mine development.

continued on pg. 5

Taking Time to Participate

EIS Timeline



Most of the permit decisions leading up to construction will be based on the EIS conclusions.



Stan Foo,
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.

FACE TO FACE

We Are Beginning A Long Journey Together

We were invited by the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) to attend their Special Convention in Bethel in March. Two days of the convention focused directly on the Donlin Creek project. AVCP invited people with many different perspectives to share their thoughts on development of a mine in the region.

It was reported in the Drums the next week that "the group was sharply divided on the proposal." This may be true at this early stage in planning for the project. But it was clear to me that there was agreement on one important point. As it was reported in the Discovery, "Elders at the convention stressed the need for unity within the Yu'pik community as the time comes to decide on whether or not to mine." The cultural tradition of unity of voice in the Yu'pik community has long been a heritage that I have admired.

Our team listened carefully throughout the conference - especially when the elders spoke. One elder said "We must be very careful. We must hold the gold mine accountable. But we cannot be ruled by fear. We must take the big step - take the risk and move forward. If we had never taken risks in my generation when we were young, then we would never have made any progress." This helped us to better understand the need for more information on the specifics of the project in the region.

I would like to offer one thought for your consideration on the topic of taking positions early in a public process. On a project as complex as a large gold mine there is much to study and much to contemplate before decisions are made. We on the Donlin Creek project team have been studying this project for almost 10 years now. And still there are important aspects of the project on which we have not yet made up our own minds - aspects of the project on which we need to gather more information before we can determine what the best way is to design the project.

Thoughts On The Transition

A few words about the new company that has been formed by the combination of Barrick and Placer Dome. Change is often awkward, but I am impressed. I am pleased that my Alaska staff and I will remain intact and dedicated to the Donlin Creek project. I have had numerous meetings with Barrick executives and technical personnel, and I am impressed with the resources they plan to devote to our efforts at Donlin Creek as we continue to make the project one that we can be proud of. Barrick, and our JV partner NovaGold, will continue to strive towards ensuring we develop a mine that will be safe and minimize any impacts to the environment and fish, game and plants that people in this region depend upon.







DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

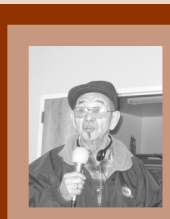
PLACER DOME OFFICIALLY BECOMES BARRICK

At the convention it was clear that residents have many questions about a mine in the region. In spite of this, others suggested that the tribes decide now whether or not they would support a mine.

I would ask that you give us time to answer the delegates' questions with the respect and the detail that you deserve as stewards of the land.

The EIS process that the government regulators described at the convention is much like a long, detailed conversation. It can take two years or more to be sure that all of the important questions have been asked and answered. Please, let's complete the conversation before you decide as a people whether or not to support a mine in your region – or more accurately, whether or not to support our specific mine proposal in your region.

Thank you in advance for your patience,
Stan Foo







Barrick Gold Corporation completed its purchase of Placer Dome, Inc. on March 14, 2006. With this acquisition, Barrick is now the world's largest gold producer. Shortly after the acquisition was complete, a newsletter was sent by Barrick to all Placer Dome employees because it was understood that everyone would have a lot of questions.

"The acquisition of Placer Dome actually started long before Barrick made the offer to acquire Placer Dome. We considered the various companies out there, and realized that Placer Dome was the best fit – it would make the best combination of our existing people and projects. So, at the end of October 2005, we made an unsolicited offer for the company.

From the outset we wanted it to be friendly. The Placer Dome board and management did an excellent job because they really needed to solicit other opportunities. Then, toward the end of December we agreed to adjust our price, and Placer Dome's board unanimously recommended acceptance of the offer – and the transaction became a friendly one. We were very pleased with that.

Barrick has already expressed great confidence in the existing leadership for Placer Dome here in Alaska and said there will be no changes locally as everyone transitions to "Barrick". Still, we thought that Donlin Creek employees and our readers throughout the YK region might be interested in parts of the Barrick employee newsletter.

At Barrick, we're all very excited to meet and start working with the Placer Dome people, and we hope they're already feeling the warmth of that welcome. We also want them to know how much we respect their efforts in making Placer Dome the company that it is today. But now it's time to work as one, to combine our forces as one family and achieve our vision. We know there's going to be some uncertainty through this timeframe, some questions that Placer Dome employees will want to ask. We want to assure them that we're going to work through all those things promptly and fairly. We do believe that we are now on the cusp of creating a truly great company in the gold mining industry. All the effort will be well worth it."

Questions?

If any of you, our employees or our neighbors throughout the region, have any questions about our new company, feel free to call Stan Foo directly at Placer Dome / Barrick's Anchorage office (907) 273-0200.

DOWNRIVER RECRUITING EFFORTS: NEW EMPLOYEES

Things Are Expanding This Year at Donlin Creek Camp

The proposed 2006 work program for the Donlin Creek Project will be the largest ever as the 11th season begins. Until now most of the 120 employees in camp have all come from the upriver villages because the workforce was available and we always start locally. While the expanded program allowed for numerous promotions within the existing workforce, now there is a need to reach out to the rest of the region in order to fill the 30 to 40 remaining open positions.

To meet the project's goal to hire from within the region whenever possible, the Donlin Creek recruiting team made four trips to Bethel this winter starting in mid-January. Attendance at the first two meetings in Bethel was not as high as Placer Dome / Barrick had hoped, so they called the YK Delta Job Service office to help out as the company started to plan the third recruiting trip.



Photo right:
YK Delta Job Fair *The Donlin Creek Project team scheduled their 4th recruiting trip to Bethel at the same time as the area's Job Fair. Here Sophie Evon, administrative assistant at Donlin Creek Camp, helps to host the booth where total applications collected was 100.*



Photo above:
Donlin Creek at Bethel Job Fair *Five members of the Donlin Creek Project team including Geotech Caroline Moses (left at the job fair) traveled to the YK Job Fair in Bethel on March 8th to recruit employees from downriver. Others who attended to talk with interested applicants included Bill Bieber, Wasillie Kameroff and Leonard Morgan.*



Photo left:
New Hire from Bethel *Duane Samuelson (pictured here at work) was hired from Bethel to go to work as a new driller assistant at the Donlin Creek Project. Like most employees, he works a two-weeks-on/two-weeks-off shift.*



Donlin Creek Heavy Equipment Operator from Russian Mission *Stan Peters from Russian Mission mailed his application into Chiulista Camp Services in Anchorage where it was reviewed according to job qualification criteria. Then a phone interview was conducted from camp and he was hired right away.*

"Working with Job Service has been great. It's like one-stop shopping. We call them when we are able to schedule a trip to Bethel and they take it from there," says Donlin Creek Project Operations Manager Bill Bieber. "They make job applications available through their office, then screen the applications according to the qualifications criteria that we provide them, and by the time that we arrive in Bethel, they have interviews set up for us with all of the qualified applicants."

So the next two recruiting trips to Bethel were much more productive. A total of 22 employees were hired from Bethel including an electrician, a geotechnician, mechanics, equipment operators, driller assistants, sample prep lab technicians, and core cutting operators.

The Donlin Creek Project recruiting team attempted to fly in to Hooper Bay in mid-January as well, but on the day that they were scheduled to fly out the Bering Sea weather turned bad and they weren't able to fly in. But the Donlin Creek team is determined to get out to the coast as well as more downriver communities, so more trips will be scheduled this coming fall as the recruiting program expands.

continued from pg. 1

Burgh explained that DNR's Large Mine Permitting Coordinator, Tom Crafford, would be an important part of the EIS team. He explained that the issues and concerns raised by locals and by the team of independent experts will define the scope of the EIS analysis. As an example, he listed the studies that were conducted for the Pogo Gold Mine EIS near Delta Junction:

- Surface Water Quality & Quantity
- Groundwater Quality & Quantity
- Meteorology
- Aquatic Life
- Wildlife
- Wetlands
- Socioeconomics
- Cultural Resources
- Subsistence
- Visual Resources
- Noise
- Air Quality



Protecting the Public Interest

Colleen Burgh, representing EPA, explained to the AVCP delegates that the EIS process is specifically designed to protect the public interest as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Once the specific scope of the Donlin study effort is defined, then work to gather information to answer these important questions about the project proposal would begin. Burgh explained that NEPA's EIS process is carefully designed to allow for important opportunities for tribal consultation, as well as general public participation.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

DAVID JOHN, Crooked Creek

No one has been working at the Donlin Creek Camp longer than David John. He started work as an all-around handyman the day the camp opened in 1996 – but as far back as 1984 he worked as a soil sampler for an early exploration company exploring for gold at nearby Snow Gulch. He knows the territory. This might have something to do with the fact that David was born and raised in the nearby village of Crooked Creek.

David's rise through the ranks is a testament to his hard work and dedication. It has included job titles like:

- handyman
- nodwell driver
- soil sampler
- surveyor
- grid cutter
- camp maintenance man
- driller assistant
- environmental technician
- lead geological technician



Today as Lead Geotech, one of David's major duties is converting the drillers' data from feet into metrics so that it can be properly analyzed. In addition, he is responsible for training newcomers to the Geology Department on the art of what is called "orienting core". The oriented core process is used to determine the precise angle and direction of faulting and veining within rock that may host gold. As David explains it, "Our program is designed to drill into the ground at a range between –45 degrees and –65 degrees. But often when the bore hole (the core) gets to more than 1,000 feet deep, it can drift – usually because the drill bit has hit a fault zone or a gouge where the shale is all broken up. So, it's important to test the bore holes to know exactly where and when they are drifting – because that tells us where the gold is." This month he is training these Donlin Creek employees:

- William Kinsey, Bethel
- Bobby Alexi, Chuathbaluk
- David Phillips, Crow Village, and
- Christine Perez, Sleetemute

But that's not all! David is still called upon every quarter to conduct environmental monitoring of the surface water and all feeders that flow into Crooked Creek.

Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber says "David is a great example of how someone can become successful in this type of career. He has always demonstrated dependability and a serious dedication to whatever job he is doing and to the project as a whole." Bieber goes on to describe David's value to the project as more than just technical. "David has always been the rock that other employees lean on when they need advice or guidance. I'm certain that his path to success is far from over."

Lead Geotech David John *maintains a keen personal interest in observing all aspects of the environment around the project and throughout the watershed. "It is our country. I want to make sure that the land remains trash free – same with the water and the air, the fish and the wildlife – everything. I'm thinking about the generations to come."*

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

PROJECT BARGING ON THE KUSKOKWIM

Listening to Residents' Early Concerns

Thinking through all of the issues associated with increased barging on the Kuskokwim is just one example of why Placer Dome/Barrick began its "conversation" with the region early in the planning process. We have much to learn in order to make sure that our project works the best it can for everyone who may be affected.

Even though the project description for the proposed Donlin Creek Mine won't be finalized until later this year, there has been much discussion in the region about the possible impacts of increased barging on the river. Recently, Donlin Creek Project Manager Stan Foo sat down to answer some questions about the possibility of barging supplies upriver to Crooked Creek.

Q: How many additional barges on the Kuskokwim would the Donlin project need to supply the mine?
During the life of the mine, our initial calculations are that on a typical day during the 120-day season, someone standing on the riverbank would see an average of one additional tug per day heading upriver pushing 2-to-4 barges – and, of course, one more tug coming back down river pushing the empty barges. We aren't quite sure yet how many barges would be needed for the construction phase of the mine; though initially there would likely be more equipment going up and less fuel. But there are a couple of big questions that still need to be worked out.

Q: Like what?
Our initial research suggests that we may be able to supply 30-to-40% of Donlin's power needs with power generated from windmills at the site. If this proves out, then it could eliminate the need to barge as much as 16 million gallons of fuel upriver. That could bring the number of barges needed down significantly. But it's really just too early to tell. We'll know by the time we finalize our project description and file our permit applications so that the EIS study process can start.

Q: How many additional barges on the river?
So far, it looks like on a typical day during the season, an average of one additional tug per day heading upriver pushing 2-to-4 barges and one more tug coming back downriver. But there are a couple of big questions that still need to be worked out.

Q: Where would most of the supplies come from?
Most of the supplies would be coming out of Pacific Northwest ports like Seattle and Vancouver. We would probably lighter the freight from the large ocean-going barges to smaller 100-ton river barges somewhere between Bethel and Johnson Crossing. And when the season was over the barges would likely be stored at a suitable all-season port site.



Experienced Captains Would Be Needed *"Seasoned Kuskokwim River tug, barge and riverboat captains could be a huge asset for the life of the project," according to Donlin Creek Project Manager Stan Foo.*

Q: How long would it take to get the supplies upriver?
It'd be a 4-to-5 day round trip from Bethel to a dock on the Kuskokwim River at the mouth of Jungjuk Creek just downriver from Crooked Creek.

Q: Would the barges be coming back downriver empty?
Yes, for our purposes most of the returning barges would be empty. This may create opportunities to backhaul materials. This is something that the mine would be willing to explore provided that it can be done in a way that does not affect mine operations.

Q: Do you realize that residents of this region rely heavily on the commercial and subsistence salmon fishery on the Kuskokwim River – a fishery that reaches its peak during the shipping season?
Yes, absolutely. In fact, we have been talking with fishermen in the area for more than a year now in an attempt to better understand the fishery – and this is just the beginning. We would want to make certain 1) that there was enough space and time in between the barges to allow for fishery openings, and 2) that we had a good communication system in place that would allow the fishermen to manage their nets effectively.

DONLIN CREEK JOBS

Many Ways to Apply for Jobs at Donlin Creek



Heavy Equipment Operator from Hooper Bay
The Donlin Creek recruiting team met Kenneth Smith from Hooper Bay while he was in Bethel. He interviewed and was hired right away based on his past experience operating heavy equipment.



Donlin Creek Geotechnician from Bethel
Caroline Moses from Bethel was hired this spring to work as a Geotech at Donlin Creek. She's already out at camp.

If you would like to apply for a job at the Donlin Creek Project, you can contact any of the following agencies for a job application:

- **Chiulista Camp Services**
  1-800-277-5516 or 907-278-2208
- **Association of Village Council Presidents Recruiting Office**
  1-800-478-3521
- **YK Delta Job Service**
  1-800-478-2210

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PROJECT UPDATE

SUMMER 2006

DONLIN CREEK

FROM THE GROUND UP



Donlin Drillers: An Important Role

Benny Borowski *(left) from Chuathbaluk is one of the senior drillers on the project and has worked as a driller at other mines in Alaska. We're glad to have him back at Donlin.* ***Tim Alexie*** *(center) from Kalskag has been a driller at Donlin for 6 years now.* ***Eddie Pasitnak*** *(right) from Akiachak and is a new driller assistant this year. Eddie attended the job fair in Bethel early this spring where he submitted an application, was interviewed and scheduled to attend the driller assistant training. After successfully completing the training he was selected from the group of 12 applicants to work with Tim Alexie.*

BUSIEST EXPLORATION SEASON EVER

Employment at the Donlin Creek project is at an all time high this season. As of this writing, a total of 157 people are employed in the on-going exploration program. If permitted, the mine will eventually employ about 400 people for its 20-plus year mine life. This year the project weighed in at 93% Alaska Native Hire. Barrick and Calista have committed to work hard in their on-going efforts to maintain a strong focus on Shareholder and Shareholder Descendant hire during the operations phase of the mine as well.

During the Exploration Phase of a mining project, the environmental and engineering crews, the geotechs, the geologists, the drillers and the driller assistants are joined by all of the camp staff, including catering, equipment and maintenance to make as much progress as possible in the work season. We currently have 8 drill rigs in the field. The drillers are critical to the success of the project.

The driller assistant is a key entry-level position; it is generally the first step to moving up in the project workforce. The job is difficult and it requires both a strong back and a strong mind. The job requires physical strength, but also math skills and organizational skills. The job is outside in the field and you have to work in all kinds of weather. "If one driller or driller assistant does not come to work or has to leave work, we lose production which is not good for the project," according to Donlin Operations Manager Bill Bieber.

Driller assistants who do well, can learn quickly, and have demonstrated serious commitment to the project by always being on shift when they are scheduled, may be given the opportunity to become drillers - or to move into support jobs and work their way up to supervisor, based on performance and abilities. Most of our department supervisors began their careers at Donlin as driller assistants.



Exploration Camp Expansion

When the Donlin Creek project grew to 157 employees this summer much work had to be done on camp expansion. In this photo carpenters Bobby Japhet and Walter Jim (both of Bethel) begin construction on more tents for housing, additional office space, storage, dining, recreation and wash facilities.

continued on pg. 4

FACE TO FACE

An Independent Third Party Environmental Analysis

With each core sample logged and each engineering study completed, we come closer and closer to completing the detailed project description that will form the basis for our permit applications. Like all mine developers, we will be required to file our applications with the state and federal agencies that will, or will not, allow us to develop a mine at Donlin Creek.

Our filing will begin a detailed environmental analysis that will be conducted by an independent third party consulting firm hired by the lead federal regulatory agency. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will likely be the lead federal agency and as such would publish a request for proposals soliciting experienced, highly skilled environmental engineering firms to conduct a review of our proposed project description and the analytical work upon which it is based.

The EPA will also work with all of the other permitting agencies with applicable land, water, habitat and wildlife management responsibilities to solicit meaningful participation from the potentially affected public, including the tribes. This is one of the many rigorous steps required of these agencies in the development of the Donlin Creek Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

One of the more meaningful steps in the EIS process is the collection of traditional knowledge from the people who have made this land their home for generations. In the past, the permitting agencies have worked hard to understand the baseline conditions



Stan Foo,
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.

that are critically important to the people who make Alaska their home. It is the agencies' job to ensure that these values are protected.

For these compelling reasons, we cannot and will not support a proposal that yet another independent study be funded to re-do precisely the same analytical work that will already be done in the EIS by independent scientists and engineers – work that will already be overseen by public agencies charged with protecting the environment the people of the YK region depend on.

We on the Donlin team will continue to work hard on the development of our project description. We are studying possible contingencies so that our preferred plan will work well and allow us to be good neighbors. When we have completed our project description, we will welcome the close scrutiny that the agencies and the public will give it.

We welcome your participation in asking the important questions that will shape the future of the region. Once the EIS process starts, there will be a formal framework for this participation. Until then, please feel free to call me at (907) 273-0200 if you have important questions about the Donlin project.

In the meantime, thank you for your patience, as we pull together the many details that form the foundation for a project as complex as Donlin Creek.

Most sincerely,

Stan Foo

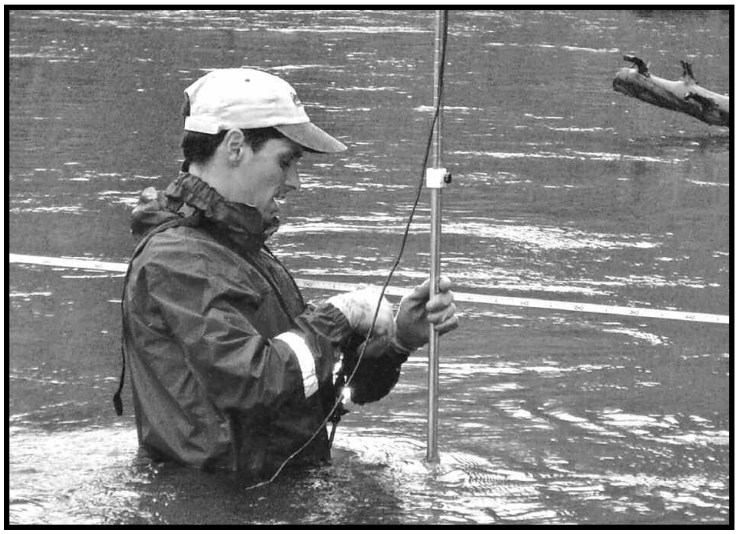


Barrick Officials Celebrate Camp Expansion
*(left to right) Barrick Officials **Brad Doores** Vice President and Assistant General Counsel, **Stan Foo** Alaska Manager and Donlin Creek Project Manager, **Bill Bieber** Donlin Operations Manager, and **George Potter** Senior Vice President Project Development cut the cake welcoming the Barrick executives to Donlin Creek.*

ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS

The Dialogue Continues

By Nick Enos, Donlin Creek Project Environmental Coordinator



***Nick Enos**, Environmental Coordinator for the Donlin Creek Project, has been working in geological, environmental and earth sciences in Alaska for more than 14 years now. He received his Master of Science degree from Oregon State University in GeoSciences.*

The following article started as a series of email questions about the proposed Donlin Creek mine to Nick Enos from Lisa Machen at Georgetown Tribal Council and their Environmental Coordinator, Renee Fredericks. Others from the region joined in the email exchange, and eventually Ryan Maroney with the Lower Kuskokwim Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) asked if he could publish the questions and answers in the RC&D newsletter. Portions of it are reprinted here with their permission; this text has been edited for clarity and length.

To view a copy of the article in its entirety in the RC&D's July 2006 newsletter go to: http://lowerkuskokwim.blogspot.com or contact Ryan Maroney, Lower Kuskokwim RC&D Coordinator at ryan.maroney@ak.usda.gov or (907) 543-7157 in Bethel.

Q: Open pit cyanide leach mines – What efforts are being made to prevent an effect on waterfowl? Even if this pond water doesn't seep into the groundwater, can any of the particles be carried away in the evaporation process?

A: Firstly, I would like to clarify that Donlin Creek would not be a heap leach operation. Cyanide leaching is part of the process we would use, but it would occur in closed tanks inside the mill facility. Before these tailings are discharged from the mill they will go through a cyanide destruction process that will greatly reduce the level of cyanide in the tailings material.

I assume by "pond water" you are referring to the tailings storage facility (TSF), sometimes referred to as the "tailings pond." The surface water quality will be required to be safe to water fowl or terrestrial species per state and federal law. The water quality will be continually monitored during the life of the mine, and for a period of time after closure. Groundwater quality in the vicinity of the tailings facility will also have to be monitored.

Prior to tailings disposal in the TSF all tailings will be treated using the patented INCO SO2 / Air Cyanide Destruction Process. Any residual cyanide reaching the TSF will hydrolyze to safe carbonate and ammonia. As has been demonstrated in other operations in Alaska (such as Fort Knox Mine), the safe ammonia volatilizes off as nothing more than a faint odor.

Q: Will there be a double barrier beneath the waste rock pile? What is it constructed of? Weight limitations? Life expectancy of its material?

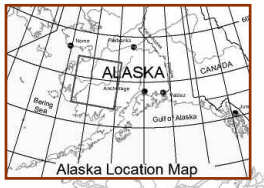
A: No. Liners will not be used beneath the waste rock facilities. Given the specific conditions at Donlin, liners are not technically practical and they would pose a barrier to the natural water flow in this instance.

Rather, our current operating plan calls for sorting the waste rock mined at Donlin Creek. Any rock that is placed on the waste rock facility will be characterized and demonstrated to be non-acid generating material. Any materials that exhibit the potential for metal leaching or acid-generating will be stored below the water level in the permitted tailings storage facility. The waste rock facility will be designed so that all water run-off can be collected in a single pond, where it will either be used in the mill process, or treated.

continued on pg. 6

Donlin Reaches 93% Alaska Native Hire

Each of the villages highlighted with a colored dot in the map on this page has residents who are working at the Donlin Creek project. Camp management will make more trips next winter to continue to recruit from villages all over the region.







Stebbins
Saint Michael
Kotlik
Bill Moores' Slough
Hamilton
Chuloonawick
Emmonak
Alakanuk
Sheldon Point
Yukon River
Grayling
Anvik
Shageluk
Iditarod
Flat
Holy Cross
DONLIN CREEK PROJECT LOCATION
Crooked Creek
Georgetown
Red Devil
Sleetmute
Napamiute
Aniak
Chuathbaluk
Mountain Village
Pitkas Point
Saint Mary's
Pilot Station
Marshall
Hooper Bay
Russian Mission
Ohogamiut
Upper Kalskag
Lower Kalskag
Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge
Tuluksak
Newtok
Kasigluk
Nunapitchuk
Atmautluak
Bethel
Akiachak
Akiak
Kwethluk
Napakiak
Oscarville
Napaskiak
Clarence Rhodes National Wildlife Range
Tuntutuliak
Eek
Chefornak
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Kwigillingok
Kuskokwim Bay
Quinhagak
Togiak
Ophir

project update summer 2006

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP


Photo 2


Photo 3


Photo 5

DONLIN'S LOCAL WORKFORCE as of 8/8/06

Peter L. Abruska Jr. ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie Paul Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Wassily B. Alexie ■ Oscar P. Andreanoff Daniel B. Ausdahl Jr. ■ John B. Borowski Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain Thomas B. Charles ■ Flora R. Chikigak ■ Joseph Chikoyak Jr. ■ Richard P. Ciletti Clarence A. Cutter Jr. ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards John Egoak Jr. ■ Nick Ephamka Jr. ■ David M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Joseph Evan Lucy A. Evan ■ Michael Evan Sr. ■ Raymond Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan Sophie M. Evon ■ Alex W. Felker ■ Elizabeth F. Felker ■ William H. Felker Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ John D. Gillam Henry Green ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Timothy E. Gregory ■ Wassillie J. Gregory Sr. Francina M. Gusty ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Lloyd S. Heckman ■ Elena O. Heroux Christine Hinojosa-Perez ■ Nate S. Hoffman ■ Aaron J. Housler ■ Dennis T. Isaac Bobby Japhet ■ David D. Jenkin ■ Walter Jim Jr. ■ Andrew John ■ David John Evan R. John ■ Harold G. John ■ Nick W. John ■ Rosalie A. John ■ Sarah A. John Andrew S. Kameroff Jr. ■ Glen D. Kameroff Sr. ■ Joe F. Kameroff Sr. ■ Daniel Kelila Johnnie Kelila ■ Thomas P. Kinegak ■ William G. Kinzy ■ Mark C. Kozevnikoff Paul G. Kozevnikoff ■ Melvin T. Kvamme ■ Ruth E. Lang ■ Brian Laraux Basil N. Larson ■ Marvin J. Lawrence ■ William E. Lawrence ■ Elena Levi Gulga A. Levi ■ Kevin Levi ■ Nick H. Levi ■ Jose M. Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek Kenneth Luke ■ Evan MaCar ■ Mary A. MaCar ■ Stephan S. Macar ■ Andrew N. Makaily Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Abel F. Martinez ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Elena B. McCarr June McCarr ■ Daryl J. McKindy ■ Guy A. Merculief ■ Annie Michaelson Eric P. Morgan Jr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Josephine R. Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan Mathew J. Morgan ■ Tonya R. Morgan ■ Walter A. Morgan Jr. ■ Walter A. Morgan Sr. Kenneth D. Morrow ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Sammy J. Murphy ■ Martin Z. Nick Goosma Nickoli ■ Christopher W. Nicoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli Jr. ■ Carl Noah Floyd J. Nook ■ Robert B. Nose Sr. ■ Ted Ollivier ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Eddie G. Pasitnak Jr. Brad D. Pensgard Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Patrick J. Peteroff ■ Frederick K. Peters Martha Lee Peters ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ Stanley J. Peters George N. Peterson ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Alexandria J. Phillips ■ David A. Phillips Katherine N. Phillips ■ Sergie Phillips ■ Yago A. Pitka Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Daniel P. Rankin Virgini Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Christine Sakar Gregory O. Sakar ■ Jimmy J. Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Michael J. Sakar ■ Mike D. Sakar Roxanne H. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Vanessa N. Sakar Vivian A. Sakar ■ Michelle F. Samuelson ■ Oscar T. Samuelson ■ Maria M. Sattler Kenneth A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Richard B. Struthers Donovan D. Teter, ■ Leonty Tinker ■ Lloyd D. Twitchell ■ Phillip Urovak Peter N. Valka ■ Jeremy Y. Wigley ■ Devon M. Zaukar ■ Evan D. Zaukar Jennie E. Zaukar ■ Juanita M. Zaukar ■ Sandra A. Zaukar

Photos

1. Washing the Cat

Walter Morgan *from Aniak started work at Donlin as a mechanic last year.*

2. More Employees from Downriver

Robert Nose *(left) from Akiachak is an operator / mechanic on the Donlin Creek project.* ***Stan Peters*** *(right) from Russian Mission is a highly experienced mechanic who joined the Donlin team last year.*

3. One of Three Chosen

Carl Noah *from Akiachak started with us in May and was one of only three driller assistants selected from the training group of 12 candidates to actually work on the rig.*

4. Game of Horseshoes on the 4th of July

(left to right) ***Devon Zaukar*** *is a driller from Anchorage;* ***Leon Tinker,*** *field support, is from Russian Mission;* ***Bobby Japhet*** *is a carpenter from Bethel; and* ***Oscar Samuelson*** *is a mechanic from Kalskag. But who won?*

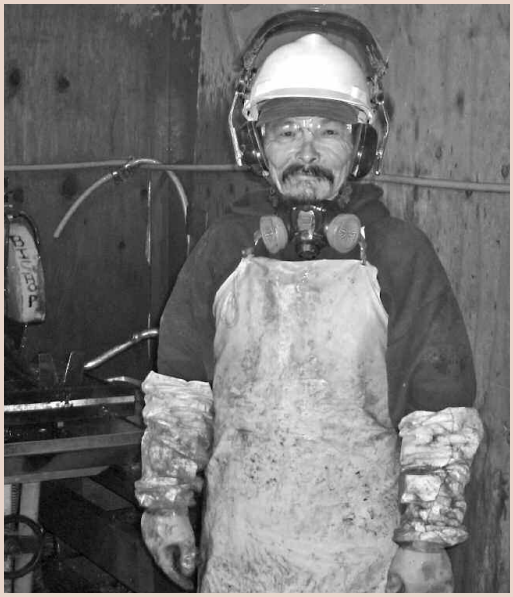
5. Environmental Monitoring

Lloyd "Danny" Twitchell *originally from Bethel was recently the Environmental Coordinator for the Native Village of Napaimute. Now he is part of the Donlin Creek project environmental team. In this photo he is changing out particulate matter (PM) sampling filters as part of Donlin's air quality monitoring program.*

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Pete Peters
Core Cutter at Donlin Creek Project since 1996

Core cutting is a very difficult and demanding job. It requires accuracy, organization, safety and quality work. The job also requires a lot of lifting. Core cutters handle the core samples after they have been photographed and logged by the geologists. The core cutter cuts the core sample in half; half of the sample remains in the core boxes and the other half is bagged by the cutter and sent to the sample prep lab for further processing. Pete has been working as core cutter and assistant supervisor for many years now at Donlin.



Always Working Hard
"Pete works hard, smart, safe and is always busy working when he is at camp," says to Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber.

Pete was born and raised in the village of Crooked Creek and has lived there and in Aniak his entire life. His parents are Steven and Sophie Peters and Pete has not been married yet. Pete has never left Alaska but would like to travel to Canada to visit his sister and is currently saving money for the trip.

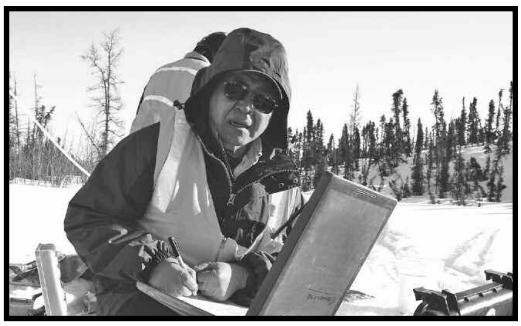
Pete worked for the Kuspuk School District as a janitor for 10 years prior to working at Donlin Creek. Pete said that he really enjoys core cutting and is proud of the fact that he once cut 86 boxes or (516 ft.) in one shift. Pete is very proud of the fact that he has been drug free and accident free for many years. Pete said he really encourages young people to go to school and apply for work at Donlin Creek. The things he likes best about his job is the core cutting itself, the people and the food.

"Pete has always been a model employee, he works hard, smart, safe and is always working when he is at camp and always comes to work when he is scheduled to work" according to Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber. "Pete has become one of our corner stone employees at Donlin Creek."

We Made A Mistake

Please note that we had a typo in our last newsletter. The caption for a photo on page 7 described the barges that would be needed to carry supplies and equipment upriver to the mine as 100-ton barges. In fact, they would be 1,000-ton barges.

continued from pg. 3



Testing Water Quality in All Seasons
David John *collecting water quality field data in the Donlin Creek project watershed.*

Q: Mercury Emissions – What is the level of mercury occurring naturally in the mining area? Is there a chance that the mercury will break down and escape into the environment? What are the containment plans?

A: Any potential mercury emissions associated with Donlin Creek cannot be realistically estimated until the mine and mill designs have been completed. However, we do know that the ore at Donlin Creek is relatively low in mercury, so we do not anticipate any issues with our ability to manage potential mercury air emissions. Here is how it works. The primary source of potential mercury air emissions at Donlin Creek will likely be during the processing of ore. Some of the processes produce gas emissions, and these have the greatest potential for mercury emissions. Those emissions are dealt with through a number of pollution-control technologies. One example is the autoclave (pressure oxidation vessel), where mercury in the gas phase can be effectively controlled by wet pollution control devices.

If you want to learn more about mercury control systems being used in Nevada, where this field has advanced dramatically in recent years, I suggest the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Mercury Air Emissions Control Program: www.ndep.nv.gov/mercury. And remember, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) air permits for the operation will follow federal air quality standards. I encourage you to take a look at the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA)

Clean Air Act website: www.epa.gov/oar/caa/contents.html This website contains quite a bit of information about emission standards.

Q: Have there been any studies or research into how the warming temperatures may affect the permafrost in the Donlin Creek Mine area, and as a result, change the water table?

A: Engineering and geotechnical studies have been completed to map permafrost layers at the project site. One of the primary methods of mapping permafrost has been the installation of down-hole "thermistors" (ground temperature measurement devices). The main issue with permafrost will be in exposing it during development of the open pit. Engineering design of the facilities is certainly taking permafrost into consideration.

Note that in general, the thawing of permafrost due to global climatic changes would result in increased permeability of soils with less surface runoff, higher surface evaporation rates, but also an increased potential for groundwater storage. These are all factors that must be considered when designing the facilities.

Q: Will the bond posted to cover the cost of cleaning up the mine in case of bankruptcy be a "Corporate Guarantee Bond" or be independently guaranteed? How is the amount of bonding determined in this project?

A: Reclamation bonding is required by law, and managed, by the State of Alaska. The State will determine the exact amount and nature of the bond in order to protect the public interest. Therefore the best source of information for your questions about bonding is the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). I suggest that you look at the Reclamation Bonding section (Article 4) of the State's Mining Laws and Regulations booklet: www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/mining/2004Reg_book.pdf



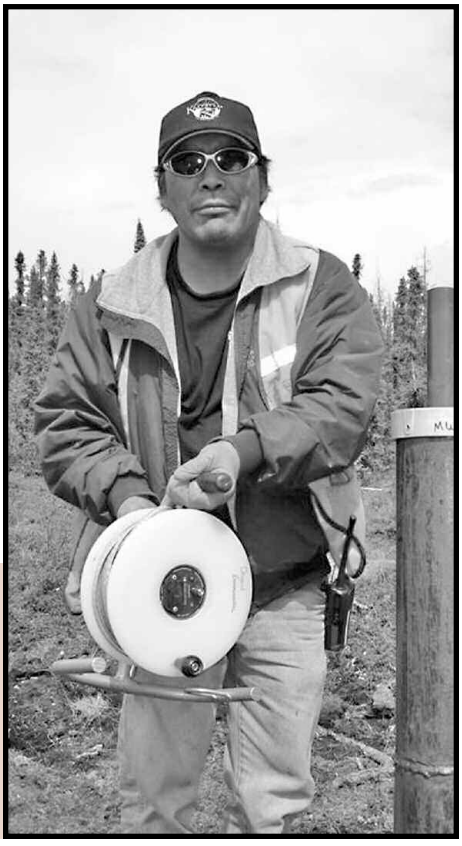
Environmental Compliance

***Jill Duerfeldt** joined the Donlin Environmental team as an Environmental Specialist last December. She is currently working on a Master of Science degree in Natural Resource Management at Central Washington University. She has worked previously as a wilderness technician for the US Forest Service and a wildlife technician for a UAF project near Chevak. Jill has taken a leading role in maintaining the field operations for Donlin's air and water quality sampling programs, and in helping the field crews comply with the project's current operating permits.*

Bonding requirements are reviewed by the State on a regular (5 year) basis to re-evaluate closure and reclamation procedures and to ensure that the estimated cost for closure and reclamation is adequate. After the review is complete the closure/reclamation plan and bond amount are readjusted.

In Our Next Newsletter

This conversation between YK region residents and Donlin Creek Environmental Coordinator, Nick Enos, will continue. More questions about the proposed tailings storage facility and water quality will be covered in our next issue. If you have questions that you would like answered by Nick in this column, call him at our Anchorage office at (907) 273-0200.

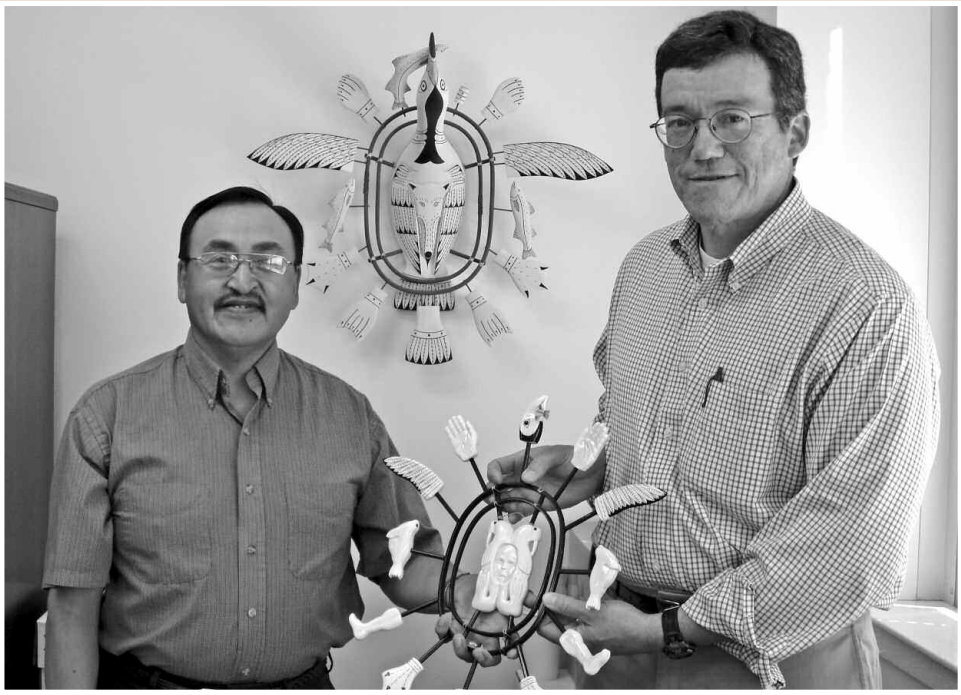


Water Quality Studies

Greg Sakar from Crooked Creek who has been featured in previous project newsletters, is collecting groundwater level measurements for water quality studies. Donlin Creek Project Manager Stan Foo calls Greg "a multi-talented and very reliable employee."

EDUCATION IN THE REGION

A Donlin Creek Joint Venture Priority



Alaska Manager for Barrick, Stan Foo, receives a spirit mask from Felix Hess in recognition of the Donlin Creek Joint Venture's contribution to the Calista Scholarship Fund this year.

—

The company also donated to The Kuskokwim Educational Foundation at TKC's annual meeting in Aniak in June, 2006.

BARRICK

NovaGold

DONLIN CREEK JOINT VENTURE

4720 Business Park Blvd., Suite G-25
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

RECORD EXPLORATION SEASON COMES TO AN END

by Bill Bieber, Donlin Operations Manager

The 2006 Donlin Creek Project work program was the most challenging ever. The program began in early January with an ambitious 131,000 feet budgeted for the exploration drilling program. A lot of work was taking place, getting the camp and heavy equipment ready for another busy year when the integration of Placer Dome and Barrick began. By the end of the first quarter, the Barrick management team had increased the work program to almost 260,000 feet of drilling.

This required a significant camp expansion, additional heavy equipment and a major increase in the workforce. In fact, the number of drill rigs on-site went from 4 to 8, and the entire workforce had to be doubled. The camp expansion included doubling the size of the dining facility, increasing sleeping capacity from 70 beds to 150 beds, and constructing a new bathroom and changing-room facility for the drilling crews.



Camp Expansion
The expanded exploration program required a camp expansion supported by a whole new crew, including carpenters Bobby Japhet and Walter Jim from Bethel, electricians John Egoak from Russian Mission and Cliff Walters from Mountain Village, and arctic structure assemblymen Pete Valka and Tim Gregory from Anchorage. This crew was supported by various laborers and by the camp maintenance crews.

Drillers

The need to have in-field supervision and drilling coordination required the establishment of the Drilling Coordinator position. Five employees were selected from the group of existing equipment operators to be trained for the five new coordinator positions. The qualifications used for selection of these new leadership positions were:



Core Samples Everywhere
Core handler Nick Nicoli from Aniak is checking one of the many wooden crates where core samples were stored at the Donlin Creek site this year.

- operating ability,
- length of experience,
- knowledge of all aspects of the drilling process, and
- the ability and desire to lead.

The Drilling Coordinators are Danny Levi (Kalskag), Wassilie Gregory (Sleetmute), Danny Ausdahl (Kalskag), Seraphim "Silly" Evan (Kalskag) and Johnny Kelila (Aniak). A big part of the program's success this year was due to their ability to anticipate program needs, communicate effectively with the geologic team, and keep everything flowing.

The drilling contractor Boart Longyear, drillers, and driller assistants did a great job this year. The volume of drilling exceeded the total amount drilled at Donlin Creek throughout the entire 11 years of exploration. These crews endured extreme cold, heat, a record year for bugs, an over-crowded camp facility, lack of regular transportation, long walks to the rig, and supply shortages - and still managed to complete the program ahead of schedule.

continued on pg. 6

FACE TO FACE

Reflections On a Busy, Busy Year

Stan Foo,
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.



You can tell from reading our cover story that this has been the busiest season ever on the Donlin Creek project - by a long shot! Not only was it by far the most productive exploration season in our 11 years of operation near the village of Crooked Creek, but it has been a very eventful year on many other fronts as well.

Corporate Ownership Status

The year 2006 saw the successful integration of Placer Dome, Inc. by Barrick Gold Corporation. It's important to note there were no changes in the faces that are managing the operations at Donlin Creek. A 10 year track record of successful operations was recognized by Barrick as a solid foundation from which they plan to grow at Donlin and in Alaska. Barrick continues as the manager and operator of the Donlin Creek Joint Venture with NovaGold. The project partners plan to continue their diligent efforts at Donlin Creek. It will be business as usual in 2007. Barrick looks forward to another busy year of drilling, support activities and continuing to work on the final engineering and environmental protection concepts.

KNA and AVCP Leadership Support

While we have had the support of many upriver villages near Donlin Creek for some time now, the non-profit Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA) that represents all 10 of the upriver villages near Donlin, formalized their support for the project this Fall. Not only did they pass a resolution in support of the Donlin project, they carried this resolution to the Annual Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Convention in Bethel asking that all 56 villages in the vast Yukon Kuskokwim region vote to support the project.

According to KNA Executive Director Calvin Simeon from the upriver village of Aniak, "After intense debate for two days, a resolution very much like the KNA resolution passed unanimously at the AVCP Convention."

Initially YK residents had understandable concerns about a large open pit mine operation - they had many questions and no experience with large mines. Many of these concerns remain because the learning process about mining technology, which the region's leaders are committed to, has just begun.

But we are glad to see that all of our hard work talking openly and honestly with the region about the project planning process, and our interest in incorporating local values into our plans, has resulted in a willingness by both KNA and AVCP to resolve to support the Donlin project **conditional on the project's ability to preserve the integrity of the Kuskokwim River's resources**. We are confident that we can do this. We greatly appreciate these expressions of confidence. We will honor this trust and never take it for granted.

Barrick Gold, Inc. Core Values

Speaking of trust, many of you have expressed an interest in getting to know the operating partner of the Donlin project better. In response to your questions, we begin a series of articles in this issue that will outline the corporate values that form the basis of all Barrick mining operations.

As always, if you have pressing questions about the Donlin project that are not answered in our newsletters, feel free to call me at (907) 273-0200.

Most sincerely,
Stan Foo

AVCP PASSES RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DONLIN CREEK

On October 12, 2006 an article titled "AVCP Passes Resolution Supporting Donlin Creek" ran in the Bethel-based Tundra Drums newspaper. It reported that at their 2006 Annual Convention, the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) representing 56 YK region villages "voted unanimously to pass a resolution in support of the Donlin Creek Mine Project on the condition that it could adequately protect the natural resources of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta."



Specifically, AVCP Resolution 06-10-14 states that "AVCP member villages support development of the Donlin Creek Mine Project to the extent that it can be done in an environmentally sound manner that preserves the integrity of the Kuskokwim River and its related subsistence resources."

The resolution goes on to acknowledge:

- both benefits and risks associated with the project to the YK people and the developer,

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

INFORMATION AND CONCERNS

Shared at Bethel Meeting on Donlin Project

In response to questions from the region, the Donlin Creek project hosted two meetings on the concepts for a potential gold mine at Donlin Creek at the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center in Bethel on October 2, 2006.

From 9:00 am to 5:00 pm delegates from the 56 villages in the YK region that are represented in the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) were invited to attend a series of discussions on topics of interest and concern about the project. A broader informational meeting for Bethel community residents was hosted the evening of October 2. Those who attended listened to:

- YK residents who traveled to an older Barrick mine Outside who talked about what they saw, concerns they had, and questions they asked.
- Montana residents who came to Bethel to answer questions about what it's like to live near a Barrick mine in Montana.
- An Indian Tribal leader who lives near a Barrick mine in Nevada who talked about what it's like to have a Barrick open pit mine as a neighbor there.
- Barrick officials who addressed concerns about mine safety and environmental issues raised by YK residents.

More importantly, residents were then able to ask questions of all the presenters and share their concerns. As Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, Stan Foo, said, "This is the beginning of what will be a long conversation and like all long conversations, it is a learning process for all of us. As I told our team before we came to Bethel today, the most important thing that we can do at this point in the planning process is listen. We are here to learn more about your local values so that as we proceed in our project planning process, the project itself can reflect and respect those values as much as possible."



Presenter Danny Ausdahl from Kalskag
Drill Support Coordinator Danny Ausdahl presented a portion of the project update at the Bethel meeting. According to Ops Manager Bill Bieber, "Much of the success of the drilling program this year was due to Danny's leadership in the field."



Facilitator John Oscar of Mekoryuk
The public meeting in the evening was facilitated by Cenaliulriit Coastal Resource Service Area Executive Director, John Oscar. This meeting was scheduled from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, but the 34 people who attended participated actively until it was adjourned by John at 11:15 pm.



Facilitator Calvin Simeon of Aniak
The day-long meeting with AVCP delegates was facilitated by non-profit Kuskokwim Native Association Executive Director, Calvin Simeon, from the village of Aniak. A total of 89 people signed-in at this meeting. It was scheduled for 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, but it ran until 6:45 pm with lots of interesting discussion.

- the need for continuing education on, and participation in, large mine project development and regulation,
- employment and training benefits to the region's residents,
- the ability of associated employment opportunities to help address social concerns and improve the region's quality of life, and
- the likelihood that the project will serve as a catalyst for the development of much needed regional economic infrastructure.

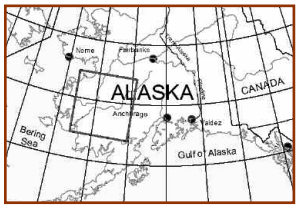
The resolution further states that "the development of the Donlin Creek Mine must be done with maximum input and involvement from Kuskokwim River communities, especially those closest to the mine."

Project Manager for Barrick-Alaska, Stan Foo, was pleased to hear of the consensus that followed detailed discussion of the Donlin project. "We have worked hard to earn the trust of the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim region and we understand that this will be an on-going process. AVCP's resolution is especially encouraging because we are confident that we can meet the YK region's expectations for environmental excellence."

An Extraordinary Year

The 2006 Donlin Creek Project work program was quite extraordinary - by far the most challenging and the most productive year in the project's 11 year history. We would like to extend a most sincere thank you to all of our supervisors, employees, contractors and vendors for all of their help and their patience. Next year is looking like another challenging year with even more twists and turns, but we are confident that this team is ready to handle it and handle it well.


Photo 1



Each village on the map with a brown circle has residents working at Donlin.

Stebbins
Saint Michael
Kotlik
Emmonak
Bill Moore's Slough
Alakanuk
Hamilton
Nunam Iqua
Grayling
Ophir
Telida
Nikolai
Takotna
McGrath
Shageluk
Anvik
Flat
Mountain Village
Scammon Bay
Pitkas Point
Paimiut
Pilot Station
Saint Mary's
Marshall
Hooper Bay
Chevak
Holy Cross
Donlin Creek Project Location
Russian Mission
Georgetown
Crooked Creek
Red Devil
Stony River
Chuathbaluk
Sleetmute
Napaimiut
Upper Kalskag
Aniak
Newtok
Ohogamiut
Nunapitchuk
Lower Kalskag
Tununak
Kasigluk
Akiachak
Tuluksak
Mekoryuk
Toksook Bay
Atmautluak
Bethel
Akiak
Kwethluk
Lime Village
Umkumiute
Napakiak
Oscarville
Nightmute
Napaskiak
Chefornak
Tuntutuliak
Kongiganak
Eek
Kipnuk
Kwigillingkok
Quinhagak
Goodnews Bay
Togiak
Twin Hills
Platinum
Manokotak
Ekuk


Photo 7

0 100 miles

project update winter 2006

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP


Photo 2


Photo 3


Photo 4


Photo 5


Photo 6

DONLIN'S LOCAL WORKFORCE at height of season

Peter L. Abruska Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Paul Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Rolland Amos ■ Raymond Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl Jr. ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ John B. Borowski Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Thomans B. Charles ■ Joseph Chikoyak Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Clarence A. Cutter Jr. ■ Fritz L. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ John Egoak, Jr. ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Joseph Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Michael Evan Sr. ■ Raymond Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Nicholas R. Fitka ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ John D. Gillam ■ Roland J. Green ■ Constatine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Timothy E. Gregory ■ Wassillie J. Gregory Sr. ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Christine Hinojosa-Perez ■ Leonard J. Horner ■ Aaron J. Housler ■ Andrew B. Hunter, Jr. ■ Gary M. Ivanoff ■ William Jackson, Sr. ■ Bobby Japhet ■ David D. Jenkin ■ Walter Jim Jr. ■ Andrew John ■ David John ■ Evan R. John ■ Harold G. John ■ Nick W. John ■ Patricia N. John ■ Rosalie A. John ■ Andrew S. Kameroff, Jr. ■ Andrew Kameroff Sr. ■ Glen D. Kameroff Sr. ■ Joe F. Kameroff, Sr. ■ Wassilie Kameroff ■ Daniel Kelila ■ Thomas P. Kinegak ■ Ephrim M. Kozevnikoff ■ Paul G. Kozevnikoff ■ Melvin T. Kvamme ■ Ruth E. Lang ■ Basil N. Larson ■ Evan K. Larson ■ Marvin J. Lawrence ■ Elena Levi ■ Gulga A. Levi ■ Janel M. Levi ■ Kevin P. Levi ■ Danny Moses Levi ■ Andrew Littlefish, Sr. ■ Jose M. Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek ■ Kenneth Luke ■ Evan MaCar ■ Ross Maitland ■ Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Daryl J. McKindy ■ Annie Michaelson ■ Franklin D. Moncher ■ Eric P. Morgan Jr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Glen D. Morgan Jr. ■ Josephine R. Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan. ■ Roger D. Morgan ■ Walter A. Morgan, Sr. ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Sean P. Murdock ■ Sammy J. Murphy ■ John J. Mute ■ Kyle M. Myers ■ Anutka Nickoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli ■ Floyd J. Nook ■ Samuel J. Overton ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Brad D. Pensgard, Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Martha Lee Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Stanley J. Peters ■ Terrence W. Peters ■ Elena Phillips ■ Alexandria J. Phillips ■ Alexie Phillips ■ David A. Phillips ■ Katherine N. Phillips ■ Olga A. Phillips ■ Samantha G. Phillips ■ Yago A. Pitka, Jr. ■ Axinia A. Pitka ■ Lester C. Pitka ■ Evan K. Polty, Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Virgini Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Gregory O. Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Roxanne H. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Maria M. Sattler ■ Barbara B. Savage ■ Travis Q. Shavings ■ Ishmael A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder, Jr. ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Theodore P. Stephanoff ■ Martha A. Stevens ■ Richard B. Struthers ■ Donovan D. Teter ■ Barbara Tinker ■ Phillip Urovak ■ Peter N. Valka ■ Clifford W. Walters ■ Catherine I. Wise ■ Nina M. Wise ■ Evan D. Zaukar ■ Jennie E. Zaukar

Photos

1 Wide Awake at Night
Terrance Peters from the village of Pilot Station on the Yukon River worked night shift this year operating heavy equipment and moving large drill rigs from one site to another.

2 A Geotechnician's Work is Never Done
Roxanne Sakar from Crooked Creek works as a geotechnician helping to get the paper work started for each drill hole, preparing transport boxes, setting the core samples up to be logged, and measuring the distances between fractures and other features in the core.

3 Member of the Russian Mission Bunch
Alex Edwards is one of 23 people from the Yukon River village of Russian Mission that worked at Donlin this year. He came to work in camp maintenance in October 2006, but will begin the 2007 season as a heavy equipment operator.

4 Safety First
In addition to being certified as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Alex Felker from the nearby village of Crooked Creek, oversees all safety training and compliance at Donlin Creek Camp.

5 Shop Supervisor
Mike Evan from Lower Kalskag may be modest but the truth is that as Shop Supervisor he is responsible for all general mobile maintenance.

6 Environmental Monitoring Never Stops
Jill Duerfeldt is a shareholder descendent who lives in Anchorage and works at Donlin as an Environmental Specialist. In this photo she is purging a groundwater well in preparation for water sampling, just one of the many ways that she helps the field crews comply with current operating permits.

7 For the Record
Core cutting supervisor John Evan from Kalskag explains how each core sample is photographed and kept on file.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Joey Evan

Joey Evan was born in Bethel and raised in Lower Kalskag where he graduated from George Morgan Senior High School in 1994. One of his first jobs was working for Power Products in Bethel where he learned how to do small engine repair. Later he worked for North Web Marine as a barge employee, and then for Faulkner and Walsh hauling gravel.

Joey first came to work on the Donlin Creek project in 1998 as a driller assistant. By the year 2000 he was on the payroll as a mechanic, and in 2004 he was promoted to maintenance supervisor - a position that he still holds today. Two big parts of this job are training and trouble-shooting mechanical problems. It might be the latter that he likes the best. " I really like the challenge of figuring out what is wrong with some-thing - and then fixing it."



From Driller Assistant to Maintenance Supervisor
Even though Joey Evan came to Donlin with experience as a mechanic, he first took a job on this project as a driller assistant. Today he is a Maintenance Supervisor with management and hiring responsibility.

If you ask Joey what the toughest parts of the job are, he'll say 1) getting parts on time, and 2) keeping the drilling coordinators from stealing all of his good guys. Still, he says the best thing about his job is that "Every day is different and challenging." The advice that Joey Evan offers to new employees in his department is "Be safe, work smart and get a game plan before you do a job."

When you ask Joey what his favorite hobbies are when he's not at work, he'll tell you that he loves to hang out with his kids, go snow machining, and go hunting and fishing.

continued from pg. 1

Core Cutting and Sample Prep Labs



Prep Lab Crew
Sean Alexie (Russian Mission), Margaret Alexie (Kalskag), Gulga Levi (Kalskag), Kathy Phillips (Chuathbaluk) and Lucy Evan (Kalskag) are all hard at work in the Prep Lab. Here the remaining half of the core sample is crushed and pulverized in preparation for transport to an assay lab in Fairbanks.

The core cutting and sample prep labs both doubled in size and a night shift was added. The volume of work demanded from the two departments in order to keep up was immense and the crews did an exceptional job. Prep lab supervisors Memo Martinez and Elena Levi did a great job maintaining the sample flow for the project. Core cutting supervisors Eric Morgan, John Evan and Alexandria Phillips and their crews also did a great job.

Geotechs and Geologists

The geologists and geologic technicians (geotechs) worked shorthanded most of the year spending long days in the dust, heat, and bugs. Even with their busy days, they always took time to talk eagerly with the many tours that visit Donlin every year. These crews often get overlooked when praise is handed out. They go about their jobs quietly and discreetly day in and day out. Field geologists Chris Gyeryski, Kerry Adler and Fawn Glassburn had to work extremely long days - and then be on call at night as well. Rich Harris joined our project management team as Chief Geologist in August. His experience with large mine projects will be a great asset to Donlin as he leads the geology program forward.



So Many Drill Sites
Chief Geologist Rick Harris with a map that shows the location of each of the drill sites from which core samples were drilled and collected by the drill crews.

Equipment Maintenance

The equipment maintenance crews led by Joey Evan and Mike Evan did a great job keeping everything running and serviced 24 hours a day, 7 days a week come rain, snow or shine. Joey and Mike spent a lot of time training new employees and building up their crews this year. The maintenance department picked up a lot of great guys and the project is very fortunate to have them on the team.

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

Camp Maintenance

Camp maintenance supervisors Phillip Donhauser and Sergie Phillips had some serious challenges keeping an 11-year-old camp functioning with the large numbers of people we had throughout the year. The camp population record was set in December at 169 people. In order to keep up with incoming crews, sleeper tents were often finished just hours prior to occupancy. There were several times that facility breakdowns could have been serious but the camp maintenance crews were able to react promptly and improvise parts and equipment to keep things running.



Winter Weather Brings Out the Snowmachines
A member of Donlin's environmental team packs up monitoring equipment on the sled that he will haul behind a snowmachine into the field for a day of water quality sampling.

Purchasing and Warehousing

The purchasing and warehouse staff consisting of Evan John and Francine Morgan on-site (with the help of Anchorage-based office staff Leslie Jensen, Anna Davis and Julie Owen) did a great job. The list of supplies needed (especially the hot list items) always seemed to reach camp just in time to avoid shut down or delays. Expediters Frank Moncher and Alexie Pleasent handled 1.4 million pounds of cargo this year - literally. They worked weekends, after hours and even on holidays in order to keep the hot items, the hot-hot items and even the HOT-HOT-HOT items coming on a regular basis.

Administration

The camp administration staff did a great job running the office and coordinating travel. Shift changes exceeded 75 people in one day several times this year. The pressure of coordinating incoming and outgoing flights was sometimes quite high. The shareholder hire coordinators managed deployment of 168 new and returning employees starting in January and running through October. And through it all, the employee-turnover rate this year was lower than expected at just 18%.

The staff in the Anchorage office provided a tremendous amount of support. Without the in-town staff, the project at Donlin Creek would grind to a halt. These behind-the-scenes workers make sure that bills get paid, supplies get moved, and much-needed support keeps coming. I would like to extend a very warm thank you to them from all of us at camp.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT BARRICK GOLD CORPORATION

Who is Our New Neighbor in the Region?

In response to questions from residents in the region, this article will begin a series where we will share with our readers more information about the core values that guide Barrick Gold Corporation in its daily operations.

One of the people who came to Bethel to listen to local issues and concerns in October was Peter Sinclair, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for Barrick. He said, "At Barrick we are committed to making a positive difference in the communities in which we live and work." He went on to explain that there are four pillars to Barrick's approach to achieving corporate social responsibility:

- ethics,
- employees,
- community,
- environment, health and safety.

Ethics The Barrick Code of Business Conduct and Ethics mandates that we conduct our business with strong ethical standards and in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. We strive to act as a responsible corporate citizen and lend our expertise to help engage in constructive public dialogue and informed debate on issues of importance to the company, the mining industry and the communities in which we operate.

In Our Next Issue
Employees: The Second Pillar of Corporate Social Responsibility

Barrick Helps Out in the YK Region

The morning that the Hooper Bay fire was first reported in the news, Barrick officials called the Red Cross to see what they could do to help. In this photo Stan Foo (right) hands Red Cross CEO Joe Mathis (left) a check to help out on the ground in Hooper. The Red Cross' Director of Preparedness and Response, David Williams, later wrote,



"The most significant donation to date was from the Donlin Creek Joint Venture. This donation came out of the blue with no direct solicitation from the Red Cross. I was impressed to see that Stan Foo of Donlin Creek was willing to invest in the well being of the people of the YK Delta."

In addition, on December 18th Barrick responded with a cash donation to the AVCP National Guard Fund to assist families of guardsmen from the region who have been deployed to the Persian Gulf.

SENATOR STEVENS TOURS DONLIN CREEK PROJECT



After spending much of the day October 17th with employees and managers at Donlin, Senator Stevens, shown here with Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber (left) and Donlin Creek Project Shareholder Hire Coordinator Leonard Morgan (right), wrote Barrick saying,

"I appreciated the opportunity to view your project firsthand. Your commitment to safety, to the environment, and to the people of the region is to be commended. I appreciate your stewardship and I wish you success in your endeavors."

BARRICK

NovaGold

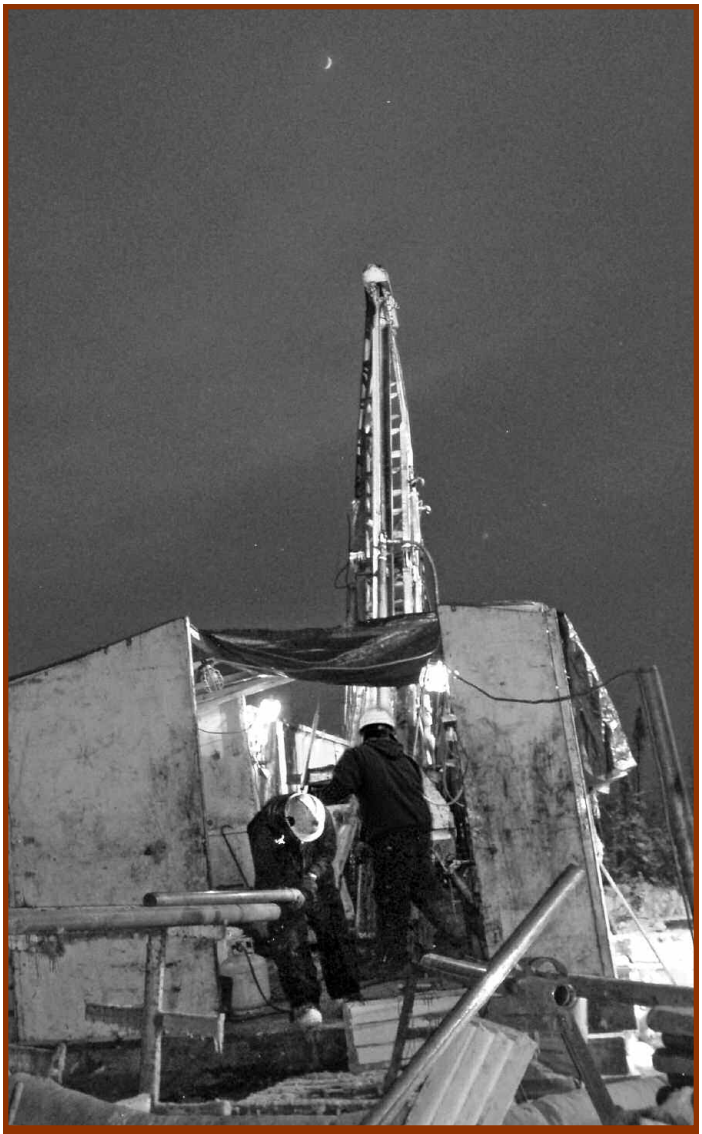
DONLIN CREEK JOINT VENTURE

4720 Business Park Blvd., Suite G-25
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

PROJECT UPDATE

EARLY SPRING 2007

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP



People from All Over the Region Working Together
And they work hard! In this photo workers on a January day endured temperatures hovering around 37 degrees below zero with a cold wind out of the north at 18 knots. To date, Donlin Creek employees have come from 23 different villages around the YK region. Of the shareholder hires at Donlin today, 70 come from upriver villages, and 59 come from other downriver villages in the region.

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE ON BASELINE STUDIES

One of the most important components of the Donlin Creek project is the ongoing environmental baseline program. What is environmental baseline? Baseline refers to the existing environmental conditions. And why is collecting baseline data important? Baseline studies are needed in order to establish existing conditions, identify environmental risks, assess potential impacts and identify relevant standards.

So, what kind of environmental baseline data have been collected at Donlin Creek?

Water Quality Monitoring
Water is the lifeblood of most natural ecosystems. At Donlin Creek our water quality database now includes nearly 10 years of data. Four times a year we monitor and collect samples from an established network of stream stations and groundwater wells that surround the project area. In addition to monitoring the field parameters of the water, we also have the water chemistry analyzed for nearly 40 chemical parameters, including elements of concern that have been associated with mining activity, such as arsenic, mercury, and ammonia. **The understanding of these current concentrations is just one way of ensuring the long term protection of the water quality in the Crooked Creek drainage.**

Air Quality Monitoring
Given the very remote location of the Donlin Creek Project, and very few existing emission sources, collecting extensive air quality data is a cornerstone of our baseline program. We currently collect meteorological data from a network of weather stations in the project area. Things like wind speed, temperature, solar radiation, and relative humidity will aid in modeling the dispersion of any potential emissions from proposed facilities at Donlin Creek. We also maintain an ambient air station to monitor the level of common pollutants regulated by national air quality standards. Given the concern over mercury, we have also added a mercury sampler at our air station.

We thank the many residents of the region that helped contribute to the Kuskokwim River studies in 2006, and look forward to more participation in 2007.

cont. on page 7

FACE TO FACE

Working Hard
Addressing Local Concerns



Stan Foo,
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, and Donlin Creek Project Manager.

After just a few weeks off during the holidays, we officially reopened camp on January 11th and began ramping up this year's drilling program. At this writing, we have 8 drills active on site: 4 core rigs, 1 reverse circulation drill, and 4 shallow core/auger drills.

We safely completed an intensive program last year successfully accomplishing all of our objectives. Despite many new employees, working under adverse conditions at our remote site, we made it through the year with no lost-time accidents. **This is an impressive achievement for such a young workforce and gives all of us a great deal of pride as part of this team effort.** It's great to see this year's program moving forward with a focus on continuing to improve upon this high level of safety awareness.

The performance of our local workforce has rapidly gained the respect of our Barrick colleagues. There continues to be growing optimism about building a viable workforce from within this region for the future phases of the project as well.

Through the early part of the year, we have been meeting with local villages and tribal councils to provide updates on the Donlin project. We appreciate the open two-way dialog they wish to maintain. Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA) has helped us to keep communication lines open by inviting us to speak at regional meetings. On February 23rd in Kalskag at the KNA Elders and Youth Conference we presented a project update on possible options being studied that we had not considered before to address transportation and power challenges on the project, including the possibility of harvesting peat for fuel. We presented a project update at a similar meeting in Aniak on January 26th at the KNA Tribal Gathering. The feedback we get from residents at these meetings is very helpful in our planning process.

We are also working with KNA to provide financial assistance for their fishery intern program. This program will support qualified college students to 1) assist KNA's fish biologist David Orabutt; and 2) interact with our staff in our ongoing environmental monitoring programs.

We look forward to more opportunities this year to provide project updates throughout the region. As soon as our on-going studies testing the feasibility of alternative project components are completed later this year, we plan to review our proposed concepts with residents out in the region. We will explain how our proposed alternatives could work and answer questions you might have about the project.

Until all the data is in and our preferred concepts are firmed up, one can only speculate about what the Donlin Creek mine might be like. Speculation can often be unsettling, and may raise the level of anxiety for no real reason, which never really does anyone any good. It often leads to rumor and the spreading of misinformation.

But once we have completed our analyses, we are confident we will be able to provide answers for the questions we are hearing in the region. Until then, we ask for your patience while we develop a proposal for:

- what the proposed mine will look like, and
- where we will propose to build it, the road and the port,

before you rush to any conclusions.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please call us directly at our Anchorage office at (907) 273-0200. Listening carefully to your concerns and working together are important to us. This will help us design a project that will be successful and beneficial for everyone involved.

Most sincerely,
Stan Foo

We Heard Your Concerns
So We Are Now Studying New Alternatives

In response to concerns residents have expressed about potential increases in barge traffic, some of our ongoing studies are focusing on possible alternatives to the base case power and transportation concepts:

- A peat resource evaluation is being conducted to see if fuel-grade peat could be a viable alternative to diesel, thereby drastically reducing the number of barges needed to transport diesel fuel.
- A road alternative is currently being looked at that would potentially connect the project to a port site at Birchtree Crossing, 12 miles downstream from Aniak. If our studies show that this alternative is viable, it could reduce barge traffic by allowing for deeper draft, and thus fewer, barges coming upriver to the port.
- In association with the alternative road and port site at Birchtree, we are evaluating a known limestone resource nearby that could provide lime for the project, thereby reducing the amount of lime shipped to the project from Outside. We will know more about the resource after we complete our test drilling this month.

Keep in mind that at this stage these are possibilities we are considering and not part of our base case scenario. We look forward in the next newsletter to updating you on these studies after we have finished the first phase of analysis.

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

EXPLORATION CAMP: WHAT'S IT REALLY LIKE?

by Bill Bieber, Donlin Creek Camp Operations Manager

When Donlin Creek exploration camp first opened more than 10 years ago, it was a place where employees from the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region struggled with living in an unfamiliar environment. But over the years, area residents who have come to work at Donlin have helped willing camp managers understand what kinds of things could help to make Donlin more like home. Management's willingness to listen, learn and make changes has made a big difference.

Today according to Shareholder/Logistics Director, Leonard Morgan, "People who work here now miss Donlin when they go home for their two weeks off. Don't get me wrong; they are anxious to get back to home and family. But they come back and say that they missed their friends here, the sense of community, and the food!"

Employees are scheduled to work by shift or as we say, "rotation": usually two-weeks-on and then two-weeks-off. Some people have worked into two-weeks-on and one-week-off shifts. But one of the local cultural practices that Barrick has come to accommodate are the many unplanned events, such as seasonal flooding, funerals, potlatches, in village life that require Donlin Creek employees' presence at home. To allow for this without disrupting work plans, we have worked with employees to identify co-workers with the same skill sets that can substitute for each other if something important comes up at home. They basically trade rotations.



Housing (right)
Housing is provided in camp where everyone lives in tents. Employees take pride in keeping the camp clean and orderly. In this early February photo you can see that the night crew has plowed a pathway around camp after a fresh snow fell the night before.

While on shift, employees work 7 days per week, 12 hours or sometimes more per day. This gives employees a 168-hour work month but still allows for important time at home for family life and for all-important traditional subsistence events such as hunting, fishing, wood gathering and berry picking.

Since there are no roads connecting villages along the river, and no road access from the river to the project site, all employees are flown in and out of camp at Barrick's expense from anywhere in the YK region or Anchorage.

Early on we learned that one of the things that our Yupik employees were missing most was a traditional gathering place where they could visit with friends at day's end so we expanded the dining hall to allow for more traditional, open interaction in a family-like setting including a recreation room with a pool table, a TV and movies.

continued on pg. 7



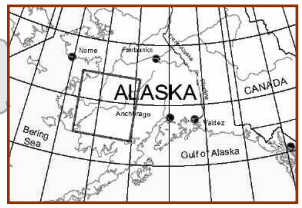
The Gathering Place (left)
The dining hall was expanded this year to include a recreation area. It serves as the gathering place not only for breakfast, lunch and dinner - but also for relaxation, conversation and recreation for employees from all over the YK region.





A Good Camp Cook Keeps Everyone Happy (above)
They say that the most important person in a mining camp is the cook because he or she keeps everyone else happy - and they're right! Here John Gillam, Camp Services Manager from Fritz Creek, and prep cook David Jenkins from Nunapitchuk prepare for one of their 3 times / day meal services. Lunch and dinner menus of hearty and heart-healthy dishes change daily at Donlin camp and include some foods cooked in the region's traditional manner.

PEOPLE WITH PAYCHECKS FROM ALL OVER THE REGION



Each village on the map with a brown circle has residents working at Donlin.


Photo 1

Stebbins
Saint Michael
Kotlik
Emmonak
Bill Moore's Slough
Alakanuk
Hamilton
Grayling
Nunam Iqua
Ophir
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Napaimiut
Sleetmute
Ohogamiut
Nunapitchuk
Lower Kalskag
Tununak
Kasigluk
Akiachak
Tuluksak
Mekoryuk
Toksook Bay
Atmautluak
Bethel
Akiak
Lime Village
Kwethluk
Napakiak
Umkumiute
Nightmute
Oscarville
Napaskiak
Chefornak
Tuntutuliak
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Eek
Kwigillingkok
Quinhagak
Goodnews Bay
Platinum
Togiak
Twin Hills
Manokotak
Ekuk


Photo 6

0 100 miles

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP


Photo 2


Photo 3


Photo 4


Photo 5

Donlin's Workforce at Height of 2006 Season

Peter L. Abruska Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Paul Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Rolland Amos ■ Raymond Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl Jr. ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ John B. Borowski Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Thomans B. Charles ■ Joseph Chikoyak Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Clarence A. Cutter Jr. ■ Fritz L. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ John Egoak, Jr. ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Joseph Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Michael Evan Sr. ■ Raymond Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Nicholas R. Fitka ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ John D. Gillam ■ Angie Grant ■ Roland J. Green ■ Constantine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Timothy E. Gregory ■ Wassillie J. Gregory Sr. ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Christine Hinojosa-Perez ■ Leonard J. Horner ■ Aaron J. Housler ■ Andrew B. Hunter, Jr. ■ Gary M. Ivanoff ■ William Jackson, Sr. ■ Bobby Japhet ■ David D. Jenkins ■ Walter Jim Jr. ■ Andrew John ■ David John ■ Evan R. John ■ Harold G. John ■ Nick W. John ■ Patricia N. John ■ Rosalie A. John ■ Andrew S. Kameroff, Jr. ■ Andrew Kameroff Sr. ■ Glen D. Kameroff Sr. ■ Joe F. Kameroff, Sr. ■ Wassilie Kameroff ■ Daniel Kelila ■ Thomas P. Kinegak ■ Ephrim M. Kozevnikoff ■ Paul G. Kozevnikoff ■ Melvin T. Kvamme ■ Ruth E. Lang ■ Basil N. Larson ■ Evan K. Larson ■ Marvin J. Lawrence ■ Elena Levi ■ Gulga A. Levi ■ Janel M. Levi ■ Kevin P. Levi ■ Danny Moses Levi ■ Andrew Littlefish, Sr. ■ Jose M. Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek ■ Kenneth Luke ■ Evan MaCar ■ Ross Maitland ■ Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Daryl J. McKindy ■ Annie Michaelson ■ Franklin D. Moncher ■ Eric P. Morgan Jr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Glen D. Morgan Jr. ■ Josephine R. Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan. ■ Roger D. Morgan ■ Walter A. Morgan, Sr. ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Sean P. Murdock ■ Sammy J. Murphy ■ John J. Mute ■ Kyle M. Myers ■ Anutka Nickoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli ■ Floyd J. Nook ■ Samuel J. Overton ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Brad D. Pensgard, Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Martha Lee Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Stanley J. Peters ■ Terrence W. Peters ■ Elena Phillips ■ Alexandria J. Phillips ■ Alexie Phillips ■ David A. Phillips ■ Katherine N. Phillips ■ Olga A. Phillips ■ Samantha G. Phillips ■ Yago A. Pitka, Jr. ■ Axinia A. Pitka ■ Lester C. Pitka ■ Evan K. Polty, Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Virgini Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Gregory O. Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Roxanne H. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Maria M. Sattler ■ Barbara B. Savage ■ Travis Q. Shavings ■ Ishmael A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder, Jr. ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Theodore P. Stephanoff ■ Martha A. Stevens ■ Richard B. Struthers ■ Donovan D. Teter ■ Barbara Tinker ■ Phillip Urovak ■ Peter N. Valka ■ Clifford W. Walters ■ Catherine I. Wise ■ Nina M. Wise ■ Evan D. Zaukar ■ Jennie E. Zaukar

Early Spring Hires Since January

Arnold Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Darrell Alexie ■ Martin Augline ■ Theodore Bobby ■ Jonathon Chase ■ Eugene David ■ Ryan David ■ Garrett Evan ■ Kalela Evan ■ Aloysius George ■ John George ■ Morris Green ■ Thomas Hart, Jr. ■ Charles Heckman ■ James Hoffman ■ Dennis Hopper ■ Joel Isaac ■ Jeremiah Japhet ■ Joe Joe ■ Sam Joe ■ Sarah John ■ Paul Kareroff III ■ Robert Kameroff ■ Golga Kelila III ■ Matt Laraux ■ Daris Larson ■ Oscar Larson ■ George Levi ■ Neil Mackaily ■ Kenneth Morrow ■ Steven Moses ■ Patricia Murphy ■ Randy Nayuamin ■ Harley Noratuk ■ Daniel Olrun ■ Anthony Payne ■ Shawn Peter ■ William Phillips ■ John Pitka ■ August Pleasant ■ Melissa Savage ■ Elia Sergie ■ Arthur Simeon ■ Francis Tinker ■ Albert Willis, Jr.

Photos

Photo 1: Ready for a Day's Work in the Cold
John Askoak from the village of Russian Mission receives instructions for the day's work before heading outside to help construct more foundations and tent structures to support a growing camp. He is on the camp maintenance crew.

Photo 2: Nothing Stops the Drill Rigs
Crews expedite supplies to and from the exploration drill rigs in winter by snow machine in order to keep them operating 24 / 7 through wind, rain, sleet and snow.

Photo 3: Prep Lab Supervisor
Prep lab supervisor Eufemio "Memo" Martinez supervises the team that prepares lab rock samples for packaging and shipment to labs in Fairbanks and then Vancouver or Reno for testing.

Photo 4: Satellite Reception is Good
Donlin camp's location in a shallow valley on the southwest face of the Kuskokwim Mountains near the top allows for pretty good satellite reception. The satellite dish in this photograph receives voice-over IP phone service as well as satellite television programming for camp.

Photo 5: From Staples to Snow Machines and Everything in Between
Evan R. John from Anchorage enjoys his purchasing and warehousing work. He is responsible for making sure that Donlin camp has everything readily on hand that it needs to function on a daily basis.

Photo 6: Always Getting Ready
In her work as kitchen helper, Jennie Zaukar from Sleetmute makes sure that the kitchen is spotless, the salad bar is stocked, the beverage dispensers are full of iced tea, coffee, soda and juices, and the buffet is presented with care.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Michael Evan, Sr. Shop Foreman



Shop Foreman Michael Evan
Mike has been working at Donlin camp for 11 years now. He started out as a core cutter. After a series of jobs, he found his niche as a mechanic / heavy equipment operator in the year 2000. Today he is a mechanic shop supervisor.

Michael Evan was born and raised in the nearby Yupik Eskimo village of Lower Kalskag on the Kuskokwim River where he has lived his entire life. His first job ever was as a bus driver in his village where he took the local children to school in the village of Upper Kalskag 4.2 miles to the northeast.

Michael says that he applied for a job on the Donlin project because it was the only full time job available in the nearby area.

He started out as a core cutter in 1996 and took other odd jobs as assigned around camp until he found his niche in the shop as a mechanic/operator in the year 2000. He acquired the skill and ability to diagnose/troubleshoot mechanical problems with all kinds of machinery - a skill that is invaluable at a remote site in rural Alaska. In fact, all of his experience keeping boat and ATV motors running to pursue the subsistence lifestyle that he loves had to help in the long run. It turns out that his diagnostic skills were coupled with repair skills - better yet! He repairs all kinds of machinery, generators, and equipment on site. He was promoted to shop foreman in 2004.

What he likes best about being here is the variety of things he has the opportunity to fix. Not only all the current equipment but also the parade of new items that seem to find their way into camp. His favorite part of his job is the training and advising of new employees on the operation / maintenance / repair of everything from heavy equipment-to-generators.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT
BARRICK GOLD CORPORATION

BARRICK

In response to questions from residents in the region, this is the second article in a series where we are sharing with our readers more information about the Corporate Social Responsibility Charter that guides Barrick Gold Corporation in its daily operations in communities around the world. The 4 pillars of social responsibility that shape our commitment to making a positive difference in the communities in which we live and work are:

- ETHICS
- EMPLOYEES
- COMMUNITY
- ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY.

In our last Donlin newsletter we talked about the first pillar, our strong commitment to high ethical standards.

Employees
The employment of indigenous peoples and local community members is a Barrick priority. We respect and value each of our employees and observe the fundamental tenets of human rights, safety and non-discrimination on our projects. But, perhaps, what sets us apart is our serious commitment to helping our employees develop to their full potential.

Ask Your Neighbor
We encourage you to ask any of the employees from the Donlin Creek project about their experience working with Barrick.

We fairly compensate our employees for their contributions, we provide meaningful performance feedback to them and offer them professional development and training opportunities. We encourage accountability and employee involvement in issues affecting the workplace to help improve safety and work conditions. We also recognize that best practices in this important area continue to evolve and that, accordingly, we must learn and evolve as a business as well.

In Our Next Issue
Community: The Third Pillar of Corporate Social Responsibility

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP

continued from page 3



Employees Fly In and Out of Camp (above)
Family-owned and operated Vanderpool Air Service, out of the village of Red Devil, has been flying Donlin employees in and out of camp from all over the YK region for more than 10 years now. Stan Foo says the Vanderpools do a great job. "They are very dependable and operate with a high level of safety and professionalism."

Hard at Work Before Sunrise (below)
As the sun rises over Donlin Creek camp in January, these crews have already been hard at work for two hours. They are digging a long ditch to house electrical and sewer hook-ups for new modular men's and women's bathroom and laundry units for the expanding crews. The pre-fab units used in construction of the facilities had to be specially designed to fit into a C-130 cargo plane in order to get them in to the site.



At Donlin everyone is treated equally and with the greatest respect. It takes a wide variety of skills to run a mineral exploration camp, including:

- carpenters
- construction workers
- cooks / prep cooks
- core cutters
- core handlers
- core sampling technicians
- data entry
- drillers
- driller assistants
- electricians
- environmental technicians
- geologists
- heavy equipment mechanics
- heavy equipment operators
- housekeepers
- human resource specialists
- office personnel
- paramedic / EMTs
- plumbers
- power generation technicians
- prep lab technicians
- purchasing agents
- small engine mechanics
- warehousemen

We are always interested in hiring seasoned professionals. But we are also interested in talking with people who want to begin a new career and have a professional attitude, a desire to succeed, and a willingness to dedicate themselves to their jobs and their fellow workers.

To Apply for a job on the Donlin Creek Project contact:

Chiulista Camp Services
Go to www.chiulista.com
Call 1-800-277-5516 (Main)
or 1-907-375-6107 (Donlin Camp)

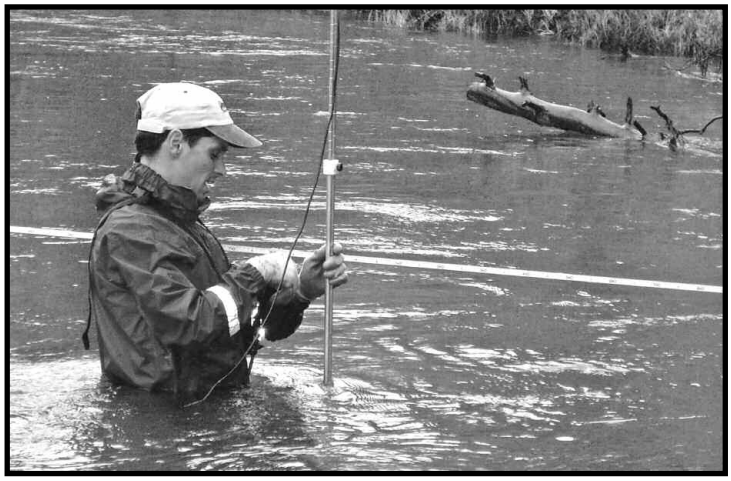
continued from page 1

Kuskokwim River Studies

In 2006 we initiated a number of new studies on the Kuskokwim River to help assess potential impacts resulting from increased barge traffic that may be associated with the Project. Primarily, we focused on river and marine wildlife observations in the lower Kuskokwim, existing river use patterns along the entire stretch of river from Georgetown to Eek, and analyzed satellite imagery to estimate current erosion patterns on the river. These programs will be greatly expanded in 2007. We thank the many residents of the region that helped contribute to these studies in 2006, and look forward to more participation in 2007.

Other Studies

The space in this column is too limited to describe all of the components of our environmental baseline program, but we welcome questions at any time. Future articles may focus on the fish, wildlife, socioeconomic, mercury baseline, or other ongoing studies, depending on interest. Please let us know what you would like learn more about.



Nick Enos authored this article. He is Environmental Coordinator for the Donlin Creek Project, and has been working in geological, environmental and earth sciences in Alaska for more than 14 years now. He earned a Master of Science degree in Geosciences from Oregon State University.

THE YUPIK AND ATHABASKAN WAY OF LIFE

When the Donlin project first got underway, leaders in the region provided our management with some history of the region and with a cultural sensitivity class. Still today we rely on leaders like Wasillie Kameroff originally from Chuathbaluk and Leonard Morgan from Aniak to help train non-Native supervisors to understand important cultural practices that they may never have experienced before.

With this article, we begin a series where we will publish some of the lessons we have learned for the benefit for our readers who are not resident in the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

The closest village to the Donlin Creek project just happens to be the point along the Kuskokwim River where the Yupik Eskimo culture from downriver and the Athabaskan culture from the upriver villages meet. At Crooked Creek there has been a blending of the Yupik and Athabaskan cultures for many, many years that we have tried to integrate into the daily life at Donlin Camp.

One of the Yupik cultural values is called the **"eye of awareness."** This eye is present in most traditional Yupik art. The Yupik people have an entire language using only facial expressions and often complete conversations are conducted without a single word spoken. A high sensitivity for honest emotion, rather than just what someone says, is considered paramount when the Yupik people are in the process of developing trust in newcomers. They rely more on the genuineness of what a person says, not just the words.



Celebrating Slavic at Donlin Camp
Every year managers from Donlin are invited to the village of Crooked Creek to participate in Slavic - the Celebration of Russian Orthodox Christmas observed in the YK region between January 6th and 10th. When possible, Crooked Creek village leaders then come to Donlin to perform Slavic traditions for those remaining in camp.

Donlin management respects and observes both Yupik and Athabaskan cultural values. We try to foster use of Native languages by encouraging it in camp. We celebrate traditional ways and events. We follow funeral traditions by allowing employee family members to attend services while on rotation. We donate food to the affected family for potlatches as is traditional in the region. Family is the most important thing to our employees and we make every effort to accommodate participation.

BARRICK

NovaGold

DONLIN CREEK JOINT VENTURE

4720 Business Park Blvd., Suite G-25
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

DONLIN CREEK

FROM THE GROUND UP

PROJECT UPDATE JUNE 2007



DRILLING AROUND THE CLOCK
Drill crews collect core samples from within the Donlin Creek project area. The drill rigs are delivered to remote sites by helicopter, and then assembled on top of drill pads. Neil Makaily is part of the crew that constructs the drill pads. Neil is from Pilot Station and works at Donlin Creek along with his father, Andrew, and his brother, Andrew Makaily III.

Village of Sleetmute meets with Donlin team

On May 31st the Donlin Creek management team traveled to Sleetemute at the invitation of the Traditional Council to present a project update to residents, listen to concerns and answer questions. More than 60 residents attended the gathering at the new community hall and actively participated in the discussions for more than three hours.

As Traditional Council President, Pete Mellick, Sr. said, "We have been getting emails from outside groups saying bad things about Barrick, and this starts rumors. We need you to answer some questions. We need to learn more about the issues that have been raised."

Barrick's Alaska Manager, Stan Foo said, "We too, have seen the emails that are circulating, and I agree – we need to keep talking directly with the villages. This time the rumors are just that – rumor, not truth. We're here to answer any and all questions you have – and if there is not time to get to all of them today, we'll be happy to come back. Just give us a call – anytime."

Residents had many questions: about cyanide, about acid rock drainage, about arsenic, about water quality, about what will happen to the site after mine closure, about nearby fish and wildlife, about the bond that the state requires to guarantee long term water quality monitoring and reclamation, about jobs, and many other things.

Everyone agreed that the highlight of the gathering was a presentation by Donlin's Special Projects Supervisor, Danny Ausdahl from Kalskag. According to Operations Manager, Bill Bieber, Danny is his right hand and takes on all of the special projects that need leadership for a short, but intense, period of time. Danny talked about some of

(Continued on photo page)



Face to Face

BARRICK AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Stan Foo
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick,
and Donlin Creek Project Manager

In our efforts to ensure that the Yukon Kuskokwim region benefits from Donlin Creek in a sustainable way, the agreement that we signed with Calista more than 10 years ago to explore, develop and operate the Donlin Creek project includes a focus on 1) employment for Calista shareholders and their descendents, and 2) contracting opportunities for Calista subsidiaries or partnerships.

Our intent in making these commitments was to ensure that the people of the region will have opportunities to do business with the mine. We now see excellent examples of the success of these efforts through Calista's Chiulista Camp Services subsidiary, which has done such a good job (95 percent Shareholder/ Descendent Hire) of giving the region's residents the first opportunity for direct employment at Donlin. Similarly, Calista's partnership with drilling contractor Boart/Longyear has meant significant on-the-job training opportunities and advancement for many shareholders who now provide core drilling services for the project.

It is Calista's responsibility to coordinate with businesses owned by shareholders and descendents in the formation of effective subsidiaries and partnerships with Calista to secure similar levels of participation by the region's business community. The project is still in the planning phase, but we understand that the more lead time the business community in the region has to plan for economic development opportunities, the better.

At this time there are still many decisions that we need to finalize regarding whether we will be able to contract for some services or whether the services will need to be owner-operated by Barrick. However, acknowledging the business community's interest in better understanding the range of services that generally make up an operating mine, we've compiled a preliminary list. These include: logistics & transportation, electrical contracting; environmental monitoring; security services; catering; accommodations; janitorial services; road building & maintenance; port construction & operation; and emergency spill response service.

Calista continues to express their intent to work with the village corporations and the business community in the region to develop qualified subsidiaries and partnerships to provide services to Donlin Creek as it moves forward.

At Barrick we value this aspect of the Donlin project highly because these business development opportunities are the foundation upon which sustainable communities are built. As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at our Anchorage office (907) 273-0200.

Sincerely,
Stan Foo

Protecting communities and the environment

INTERNATIONAL CYANIDE MANAGEMENT CODE

Many of the comments that we have heard from community representatives relate to concerns about the transport and use of cyanide. We understand and appreciate these concerns; the word "cyanide" typically causes an immediate negative reaction. Sodium cyanide is the chemical that is used to extract gold from the host rock in which it is found.

Cyanide, while hazardous to wildlife and people, can be safely utilized for gold extraction if carefully managed. In fact, the variety of sodium cyanide we currently plan to transport to Donlin Creek is a dry, solid product that can be easily and safely managed while in transit.

In response to public concern about cyanide use a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee, under the guidance of the United Nations Environmental Programme

(Continued on Employee Spotlight page)



SAFE CYANIDE TRANSPORT
Barrick has signed a commitment to adhere to the strict provisions of the International Cyanide Management Code. At Donlin Creek the transportation of dry solid sodium cyanide would be transported to the proposed mine site in specialized stainless steel or carbon steel ISO (International Standards Organization) tank containers.

Safe cyanide transport

(Continued from inside cover)

(UNEP) and the International Council on Metals & the Environment (ICME) developed the International Cyanide Management Code. This collaborative project represents the first time that a multi-stakeholder group including regulators, the industry and environmental advocacy organizations has worked cooperatively to generate such a code.

The objective of the Cyanide Code is to ensure the safe manufacture, transport, and use of cyanide in the gold mining industry based on adherence to a ***strict set of principles that cover all aspects of cyanide use and transport, including:***

- the production of cyanide;
- its transport from the producer to the mine;
- its on-site storage and use in the extraction of gold;
- decommissioning of cyanide facilities when the mine closes;
- accident prevention;
- worker health and safety;
- emergency response and training;
- public reporting; and
- stakeholder involvement.

Although Donlin Creek is not currently an operating mine, all planning and engineering design for the proposed gold mine project are based on strict adherence to the Cyanide Code Principals.

Barrick Gold Corporation is one of only 13 gold companies in the world that have chosen to become signatory to the International Cyanide Management Code. As such, Barrick is committed to certifying that its operations meet the strict obligations of the Code. ***The company's operations are audited by an independent third-party auditor meeting the Code's criteria and using its Verification Protocol.*** All audit summaries are posted on the ICMI web site for public access. The ICMI has developed criteria for the level of expertise necessary for Code auditors and prohibiting conflicts of interest with the audited company.

For more information about the International Cyanide Code visit ***http://www.cyanidecode.org***



Employee Spotlight

WALTER JIM, MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Walter Jim's job title is Maintenance Supervisor, but that doesn't tell you much about all his duties at Donlin Creek. Some folks call him "the landlord" because:

- he makes sure the facilities are operational;
- he orders supplies and materials needed by the maintenance crews;
- he assigns rooms to people coming to work at the camp; and
- he tracks the daily fuel consumption.

The list goes on and on. Walter began working at Donlin Creek in April 2006 as a lead carpenter but he says he likes his current job better because "I'm learning a lot about the daily needs and wants of the camp."

Born and raised in Bethel, Walter's first job was working the "slime line" at a local fish cannery when he was 14, and he says he has been working ever since. At 16 he became a tender boat captain. But that's not the only reason he came to know so many people all up and down the river – he also has lots of family along the river. His mother, Mollie "Kinegak" Jim, is from Aniak. Her father was a Moravian Church lay pastor and her grandfather was one of the first two ordained Native Moravian preachers in Alaska. His mom migrated to Bethel where she met his dad, Walter John Sr., who is from Chefornak.

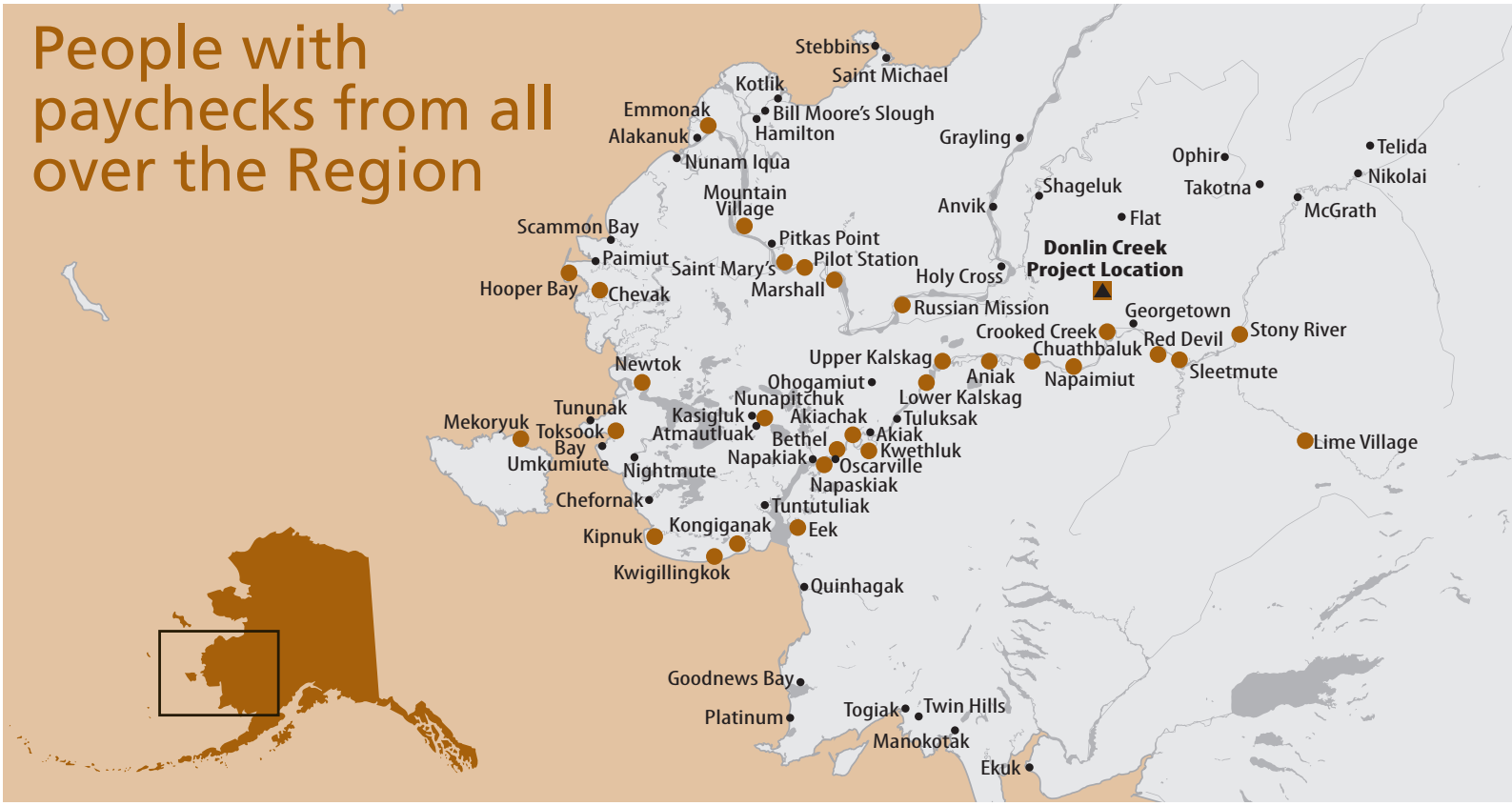
Walter says one of the benefits of working at the camp is that he gets to see family from all over the region – five of his relatives work at Donlin Creek – and he runs into people he met when he traveled around Alaska in junior and senior high school with the wrestling team.

When he is not working, Walter enjoys hunting and fishing and has worked with his cross-shift alternate, Phillip Donhauser, so he can spend three weeks each summer in fish camp.

Team recognition

THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06 - ‘07

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards ■ Lorraine Egnaty ■ Kalela Evan I ■ Michael Evan, Sr. ■ David M. Evan ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ Janet M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Morris Evan ■ Raymond Evan ■ Joseph Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Nicholas R. Fitka ■ Rose L. Frisby ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ Aloysius C. George ■ John W. George ■ Mason J. Gilila ■ John D. Gillam ■ Caleb L. Gordon ■ Angie M. Grant ■ Morris C. Green ■ Ryan Green ■ Chesley Greeno ■ Wassillie J. Gregory, Sr. ■ Constatine R. Gregory ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Thomas N. Hart ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Christine Hinojosa-Perez ■ James S. Hoffman ■ Dennis L. Hopper ■ Leonard J. Horner ■ Aaron J. Housler ■ Andrew B. Hunter, Jr. ■ Dennis T. Isaac ■ Joel M. Isaac ■ Gary M. Ivanoff ■ Bobby Japhet ■ Jeremiah L. Japhet ■ David D. Jenkin ■ Walter Jim, Jr. ■ Joe B. Joe ■ Sam A. Joe ■ Harold G. John ■ Patricia N. John ■ Rosalie A. John ■ Sarah A. John ■ Andrew John ■ David John ■ Evan R. John ■ Nick W. John ■ Paul N. Kameroff III ■ Andrew S. Kameroff, Jr. ■ Andrew Kameroff, Sr. ■ Glen D. Kameroff, Sr. ■ Joe F. Kameroff, Sr. ■ April C. Kameroff ■ Robert S. Kameroff ■ Wassilie Kameroff ■ Golga Kelila III ■ William K. Kelila ■ Daniel Kelila ■ Johnnie Kelila ■ Thomas P. Kinegak ■ Paul G. Kozevnikoff ■ Mark C. Kozevnikoff ■ Melvin T. Kvamme ■ Ruth E. Lang ■ Matthew D. Laraux ■ Basil N. Larson ■ Daris E. Larson ■ Oscar P. Larson ■ Marvin J. Lawrence ■ George J. Levi ■ Gulga A. Levi ■ Nick H. Levi ■ Kevin P. Levi ■ Elena Levi ■ Moses Danny Levi ■ Andrew Littlefish, Sr. ■ Jose M. Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek ■ Kenneth Luke ■ Evan Macar ■ Ross J. Maitland ■ Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Andrew N. Makaily ■ Neil A. Makaily ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Tom Martini ■ Vincent T. Maxie ■ Daryl J. Mckindy ■ Benito Mendoza ■ Annie Michaelson ■ Franklin D. Moncher ■ Carl M. Morgan, Jr. ■ Eric P. Morgan, Jr. ■ Glen D. Morgan, Jr. ■ Walter A. Morgan, Sr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Roger D. Morgan ■ Terence C. Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan ■ Tonya R. Morgan ■ Kenneth D. Morrow ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Steven J. Moses ■ Sean P. Murdock ■ John J. Mute ■ Roy F. Naneng ■ Randy T. Nayamin ■ Anutka Nickoli ■ Goosma Nickoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli ■ Nick J. Nicoli ■ Gjovalin Nika ■ Carl Noah ■ Harley G. Noratuk ■ Samuel J. Overton ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Roselene M. Paniyak ■ Anthony D. Payne ■ Brad D. Pensgard, Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Shawn J. Peter ■ Frederick K. Peters ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Stanley J. Peters ■ Terrence W. Peters ■ Martha Lee Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Alexie Phillips ■ Elena Phillips ■ William R. Phillips ■ David A. Phillips ■ Katherine N. Phillips ■ Samantha G. Phillips ■ John A. Pitka ■ August M. Pleasant ■ Evan K. Polty, Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Daniel P. Rankin ■ Virgini Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis D. Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Gregory O. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Vivian A. Sakar ■ Bolossa A. Sam ■ Oscar T. Samuelson ■ Maria M. Sattler ■ Barbara B. Savagev ■ Melissa M. Savage ■ Elia R. Sergie ■ Travis Q. Shavings ■ Arthur W. Simeon ■ Ishmael A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Byron P. Stephanoff ■ Theodore P. Stephanoff ■ Donovan D. Teter ■ Barbara Tinker ■ Cindy S. Tinker ■ Francis J. Tinker ■ Leonty Tinker ■ Lloyd D. Twitchell ■ Phillip Urovak ■ Peter N. Valka ■ Josette R. Wade ■ Clifford W. Walters ■ Edward J. White ■ Albert A. Willis, Jr. ■ Catherine I. Wise ■ Richard A. Wolf, Jr. ■ Jennie E. Zaukar ■ Juanita M. Zaukar ■ Evan D. Zaukar









*1. **PETE STEPHANOFF** of Russian Mission normally builds tent foundations as part of the tent construction crew, but this picture shows him working on a compound beam for use in the recreation/fitness room presently under construction. 2. Electrician **OSCAR LARSON** from Kwethluk was hired through the People's Learning Center (Yuut Elitnaurviat) in Bethel. 3. **ARTHUR SIMEON** of Aniak is responsible for the camp's water supply. He joined the Donlin team in March to serve as our Plumber.*



Sleetmute meeting

(Continued from front cover)

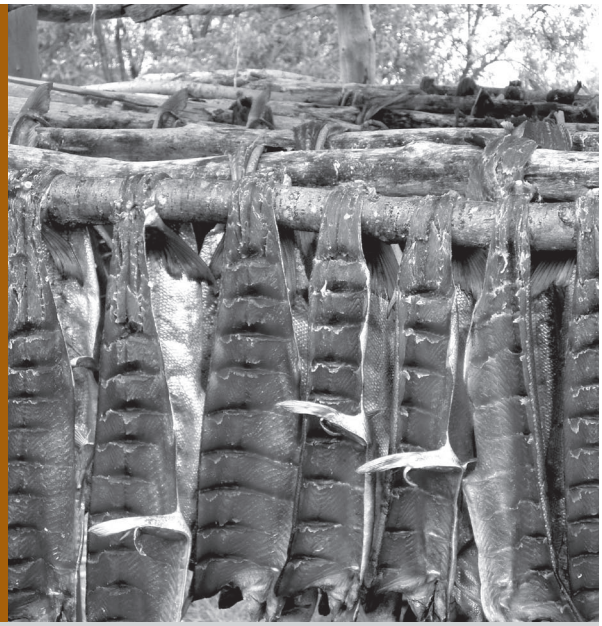
the work that he supervises including ongoing reclamation activities and the recent peat exploration project. He said, "Even though everyone takes full responsibility for their own work, working together and working safely is key." As Calvin Simeon from Kuskokwim Native Association commented from the audience, "It was very powerful to hear Danny speak because his words came from the heart and he clearly takes great pride in his work."

Housekeeper/Kitchen Helper Laura Crane of Sleetmute, along with Catering Manager John Gillam of Fritz Creek and Housekeeper/Kitchen Helper Ollie Pepperling of Sleetmute grilled burgers before the Sleetmute meeting.

Understanding the Yup'ik Athabaskan Culture

When the Donlin project first got underway, leaders in the region provided Barrick management with some history of the region and a cultural sensitivity class put on by a Native speaker who specialized in the Yu'pik culture. In this series, we will publish some of the lessons learned for our readers who are not residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

FISH CAMP: The fish camp tradition is an important part of the subsistence way of life on the Kuskokwim. It is much more than just harvesting the treasured fish native to the region. It is about family time together, sharing Native traditions, visiting with neighbors passing by on the river, enjoying the bounties of the region and actively connecting with the past. Management at Donlin camp honors these traditions by arranging for summer schedules that allow employees to take meaningful periods of time off to spend at fish camp.



Learning more about Barrick Gold Corporation

*In response to questions from residents in the region, in this series we are highlighting more information about the **Social Responsibility Values** that guide Barrick Gold Corporation in its daily operations in communities around the world.*

Barrick is grounded by four pillars that guide our commitment to making a positive difference in the communities in which we live and work: 1) ethics, 2) employees, 3) community, and 4) environment, health and safety.

COMMUNITY: We fully consider social, cultural, environmental, governmental and economic factors when evaluating project development opportunities. In those communities where we operate, we interact with local residents, governments, non-governmental organizations, international agencies and other interested groups to facilitate long term, beneficial resource development. We give priority to building partnerships in entrepreneurial endeavors that contribute to enhancing local capacity. We also commit to providing financial support to local organizations through our charitable donations, budgets and policies.

Barrick respects the interests of all members of the communities in which we conduct business and encourages open and constructive dialogue and interaction with them. *In our next issue: Our Commitment to the Environment, Health and Safety.*

BARRICK

NovaGold

DONLIN CREEK JOINT VENTURE

4720 Business Park Blvd., Suite G-25
Anchorage, AK 99503

Crooked Creek safety training

(Continued from front cover)

When government grant requests were denied, Barrick stepped in, donating three of the life-saving tools to the village clinic, presenting the new equipment to the Crooked Creek Village Council this summer. It is another way that the Donlin Creek project team demonstrates its ongoing support for communities and their dedication to safety in the region.

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION

Crooked Creek residents with the three new Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) that Barrick donated to the local clinic after the village's grant applications for the equipment were denied by government agencies.



Employee Spotlight

ELLEN PACE, HEAD COOK



Ellen Pace grew up near a mine, so being at Donlin Creek feels a lot like home. Ellen was born in a house in the village of Red Devil on the Kuskokwim River. Red Devil was the site of an operating mercury mine from 1921 through 1971. Her mom, Annie Willis, still lives in Red Devil where her dad, George Willis, Sr., worked his own mine after he left the military.

She says after going away for high school and living in Oregon, Washington and the Mat Su Valley, she's happy to be "closer to home." As a Calista Corporation shareholder who was raised around the mining industry, it feels natural to her. There are differences though – she says that Donlin Creek is bigger and there are more local people employed here which gives her the opportunity to "stay more in touch with the villages" when she's working.

Before becoming Head Cook, Ellen worked as a housekeeper, kitchen helper and baker at Donlin. Ellen notes both similarities and differences between Donlin and other projects she has worked on. When she worked at Prudhoe Bay, she knew many of her co-workers from the years they attended Mt. Edgecumbe High School together, just like here at Donlin. When she cooked at Red Devil Mercury Mine, she fed 50 people – not the 150 people she's cooking for now. And at Donlin they have begun serving more of the traditional foods that the locals enjoy like duck and salmon. Ellen enjoys working with Catering Manager John Gillam and says that she'd rather do the cooking and let him do the managing, because "that gets hectic!"

Ellen lives in Anchorage with husband John, a teacher at Russian Jack Elementary School and waits tables in the evening. The couple has two teenagers: Brittany, 15 and Terry, 18.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Barrick management. In this series, we are publishing some lessons learned for our readers who are not residents in the region.

RESPECTING NATURE AND THE LAND: In the Native culture the land is a vibrantly alive and abundant resource. It is believed that all things in this world have life, just as humans have life. The land provides birds, animals, perennial berries, vegetables, and grass for weaving. Lakes, rivers, shallow creeks, and the sea provide a variety of fish, birds and marine mammals. Donlin Creek is committed to recognizing and nurturing this inherent respect for nature and the land.

Learning more about Barrick Gold Corporation

CORE VALUE: BEHAVE LIKE AN OWNER : We accept accountability for our actions and results. We treat the company's assets as our own. We look for opportunities to grow our business. We act with integrity, within the letter and spirit of the law and Barrick's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics.

Ask about ownership and responsibility and you'll hear this from Wassilie Kameroff, Director of Shareholder Hire/Logistics, from Anchorage, "At Donlin Creek we work very hard to make sure the water quality in the nearby streams is not affected by our operation – just as we manage fuel and other hazardous materials in the villages. Protection of the environment has to come first when you operate near our precious subsistence resources." It's just one more way that we weave our core beliefs into the work we do at Donlin Creek.



BARRICK

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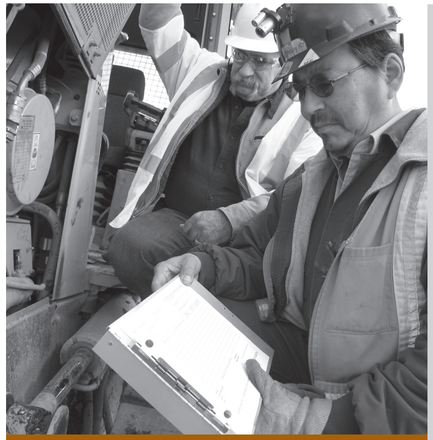
DONLIN CREEK JOINT VENTURE

PO Box 241285
Anchorage, AK 99524-1285

DONLIN CREEK

FROM THE GROUND UP

PROJECT UPDATE AUGUST 2007



Maintaining equipment at the highest operational standards is a key element of safe operations at Donlin Creek. Here, Safety Training Director Rusty Roberts (left), and Equipment Safety Trainer Johnnie Kelila of Aniak (right) complete inspections of Donlin's heavy machinery.

Focus on safety

"Every employee going home safe and healthy every day."

The team at Donlin Creek works to meet this goal every day. Managers are challenged to lead by example and to take responsibility for the safety of each employee under their supervision. Company-wide statistics for 2006 continue to show progress toward meeting this goal. Training and education of managers and employees are both critical to achieving a zero incident record at Donlin Creek.

Safety Training Director Russell "Rusty" Roberts takes this goal very seriously. Rusty has spent nearly 30 years in the industry. He trains employees on the safe use of equipment and machinery, reviews their skill levels, develops task-training plans for individuals, and it is up to him to keep the camp emergency preparedness plans up-to-date. He is expected to be part of any response team. He and colleagues Alex Felker, Camp EMT/Safety Trainer, from Crooked Creek, Ricky Ciletti, Paramedic/Safety Trainer, from Aniak and Johnnie Kelila Sr., Equipment Safety Trainer, from Aniak, make up the Safety Department and report directly to the project's management team.

"Success can only be measured by the number of incidents," said Bill Bieber, Donlin Operations Manager, adding "at Donlin, the only acceptable number is zero."

(Continued on page photo page)

Crooked Creek safety training a success

This winter, Donlin Creek was asked by the students of Johnnie John Sr. School in Crooked Creek to help them learn more about safety and community health. Some of the students had been certified in emergency trauma techniques, but some of their certifications had lapsed. Meanwhile, other students had become interested. So, Camp EMT and Safety Trainer (and Crooked Creek resident) Alex Felker and Camp Operations Manager Bill Bieber flew in to the village to teach the students about emergency medical and trauma response, basic CPR and basic first aid.

While Felker was teaching, he promised the students and village health aide Helen Macar that he would help them get a life-saving Automated External Defibrillator, or AED, into the village. Invaluable in all kinds of emergencies, today's AED is equipped with advanced technology, allowing caregivers to watch a patient's medical situation until more help arrives.

(Continued on Employee Profile page)

TO APPLY FOR A JOB AT DONLIN, CALL CHIULISTA CAMP SERVICES AT **1-800-277-5516** OR GO TO
WWW.CALISTACORP.COM



Face to Face

Stan Foo
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick, and Donlin Creek Project Manager

Summer is by far the busiest season in the YK region. Yet, despite the focused efforts and hard work to harvest subsistence resources, there were a lot of discussions and activities in villages this month related to Donlin. For the most part, the Donlin team's participation was as an invited presenter at community meetings. Again and again at these meetings we heard from locals that the region's subsistence resources are their top priority and that, although jobs are important and needed, responsible economic development must protect the region's subsistence resources.

PRIORITY: PROTECTION OF SUBSISTENCE RESOURCES One of our most important concerns at Donlin Creek is making sure we can protect the salmon and other subsistence resources of the region. As our work progresses, we believe we will be able to demonstrate to the people of the region, the EPA and the other regulatory agencies, that we can mine at Donlin Creek safely while minimizing any adverse impacts to the surrounding environment. We are strongly committed to maintaining healthy habitat for all fish and game in the region.

BETHEL CYANIDE ORDINANCE This ordinance would have banned cyanide transport through the port of Bethel. It failed to pass at the July 24 Bethel City Council meeting by a vote of 4-to-2. Members of the community and their elected representatives attended a number of City Council meetings and an informational meeting sponsored by the City Council prior to the vote. They heard the facts about how sodium cyanide would be transported and used at Donlin.

I was impressed with the turnout at the City Council meetings and at the community meeting, where residents, tribal representatives and business leaders of Bethel and other villages asked important questions, shared their thoughts and stated their opinions. Public testimony seemed to represent the broad range of thoughts and opinions that we hear from all over the region. If you have any additional questions about cyanide, go to www.cyanidecode.org and www.atsdr.cdc.gov.

VILLAGE LEADERS TOUR DONLIN CREEK
I continue to be encouraged that more village councils are requesting tours of Donlin Creek and are taking the initiative to learn, first hand, more about our project and plans. Their efforts to be well-informed before they have the opportunity to comment on the Donlin project proposal during the permit application process is appreciated.

As fall approaches, we will continue to work toward designing, permitting and building a mine that will be a world class example of responsible economic development and leave intact the rich legacy centered around subsistence resources and Alaska Native cultures. If you have any questions about the Donlin Project, please call our Anchorage office directly at (907) 273-0200.

Sincerely,
Stan Foo



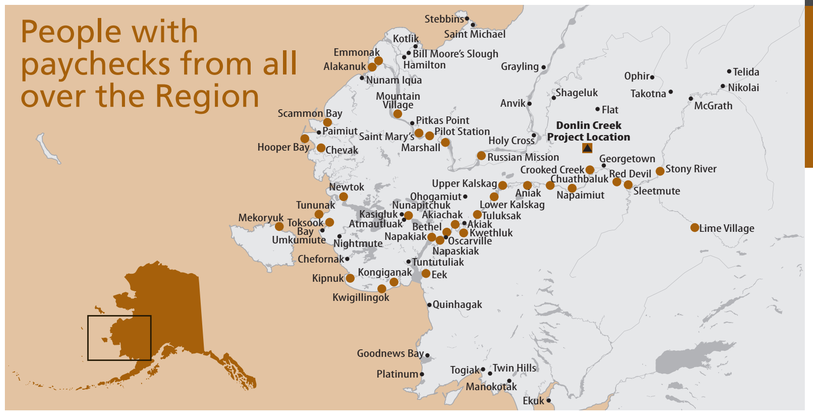
On August 7, Donlin Creek was pleased to host The Honorable Todd Palin; Commissioner Emil Notti, Department of Commerce and Economic Development; Commissioner Click Bishop, Department of Labor And Workforce Development; and other state officials for a tour of the project and for discussions about future training and workforce development opportunities in this region. Photo includes: (kneeling left to right): Commissioner Notti; Commissioner Bishop (standing left to right): Stan Foo; Bill Bieber; Todd Palin; Johnnie Kelila; Fred Esposito, Director of Seward VoTech Center; Fred Villa, UAF Associate VP for Workforce Development; Greg Cashen, Director Dept. of Labor; Dennis Steffy, Director of the UA Mining and Petroleum Training Service; Danny Ausdahl; Ricky Ciletti; and Ross Maitland.

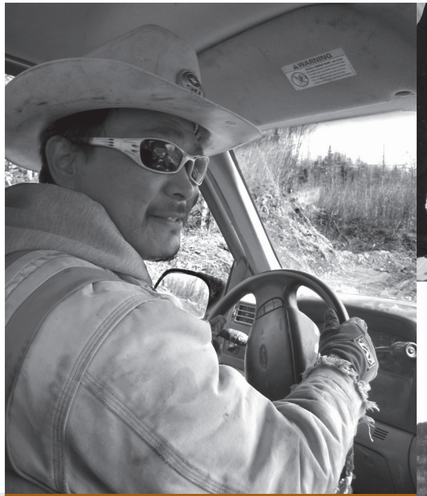
Team recognition

THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE '06 - '07

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. 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Levi ■ Elena Levi ■ Janet Levi ■ Moses Danny Levi ■ Andrew Littlefish, Sr. ■ Jose "Mario" Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek ■ Kenneth Luke ■ Evan Macar ■ Stephan Macar ■ Elena McCarr ■ Ross J. Maitland ■ Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Andrew N. Makaily ■ Neil A. Makaily ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Tom Martini ■ Vincent T. Maxie ■ Daryl J. Mckindy ■ Benito Mendoza ■ Annie Michaelson ■ Franklin D. Moncher ■ Carrie B. Morgan ■ Carl M. Morgan, Jr. ■ Eric P. Morgan, Jr. ■ Glen D. Morgan, Jr. ■ Walter A. Morgan, Sr. ■ Walter Morgan, Jr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Roger D. Morgan ■ Terence C. Morgan ■ Mathew Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan ■ Tonya R. Morgan ■ Kenneth D. Morrow ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Steven J. Moses ■ Sean P. Murdock ■ Patricia Murphy ■ Sammy J. Murphy ■ John J. Mute ■ Roy F. Naneng ■ Randy T. Nayamin ■ Brandon Nayamin ■ Derek F. Nelson ■ Anutka Nickoli ■ Goosma Nickoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli ■ Nick J. Nicoli ■ Gjovalin Nika ■ Carl Noah ■ Harley G. Noratuk ■ Daniel Olrun, Jr. ■ Samuel J. Overton ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Mollie Paneok ■ Rose M. Paniyak ■ Brian Parrett ■ Eddie G. Pasitnak, Jr. ■ Anthony D. Payne ■ Brad D. Pensgard, Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Shawn J. Peter ■ Frederick K. Peters ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Stanley J. Peters ■ Terrence W. Peters ■ Martha Lee Peters ■ Michael Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ MaryRose Peterson ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Alexandria Phillips ■ Alexie Phillips ■ Elena Phillips ■ William R. Phillips ■ David A. Phillips ■ Katherine N. Phillips ■ Samantha G. Phillips ■ Axinia Pitka ■ John A. Pitka ■ Michael Pitka ■ Yago Pitka ■ August M. Pleasant ■ Evan K. Polty, Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Michael Price ■ Daniel P. Rankin ■ Nelson Revet ■ Virginia Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis D. Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Edward Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Roxanne H. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Gregory O. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Vivian A. Sakar ■ Bolossa A. Sam ■ Pete Sam ■ Oscar T. Samuelson ■ Maria M. Sattler ■ Barbara B. Savage ■ Melissa M. Savage ■ Elia R. Sergie ■ Travis Q. Shavings ■ Arthur W. Simeon ■ Ishmael A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Robert H. Snyder, Jr. ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Byron P. Stephanoff ■ Theodore P. Stephanoff ■ Donovan D. Teter ■ Barbara Tinker ■ Cindy S. Tinker ■ Francis J. Tinker ■ Leonty Tinker ■ Lloyd "Danny" Twitchell ■ Phillip Urovak ■ Peter N. Valka ■ Arthur J. Vaska, Jr. ■ Josette R. Wade ■ Clifford W. Walters ■ Marcus Waskey ■ Tina Wassily ■ Edward J. White ■ Albert A. Willis, Jr. ■ Catherine I. Wise ■ Nina M. Wise ■ John Wise ■ Richard A. Wolf, Jr. ■ Jennie E. Zaukar ■ Juanita M. Zaukar ■ Evan D. Zaukar

People with paychecks from all over the Region









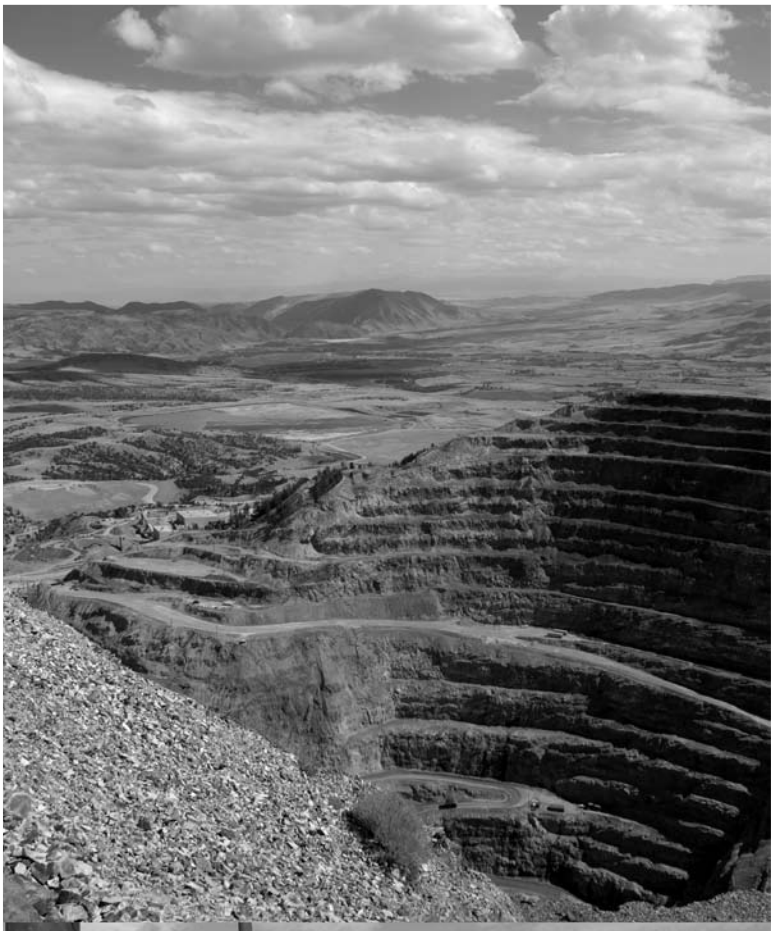
Driving the drill pad crew to each drill site is just one of the many roles of a Drill Coordinator, and Seraphim "Silly" Evan (above) from Kalskag does his job with serious attention to detail. The carpentry crew (top right) including Fritz Albert and Bobby Japhet both from Bethel, has been busy all year. They are responsible for keeping camp structures in tip-top shape. Daris Larson of Anchorage (lower right) works on a cloudy day on one of the drill rigs at Donlin Creek. As a Driller Assistant, Daris handles the drill rods and makes sure the core is carefully measured, organized and properly labeled.

Focus on safety *(Continued from front cover)*

That kind of success comes through employee education, awareness, responsibility and empowerment at every level of camp operations. "We care about the people here," said Bieber, "as well as safe communities in the region." Every person – working or visiting – has a role to play in safety. "It's up to every single person here to put safety at the top of their priority list," said Bieber, "because it takes everyone working together to make this a safe operation 100 percent of the time."

Corporate regulations call for regular safety drills throughout the year, and "practicing now will save time and possibly lives in a real emergency," said Kelila, one of the original first hires at Donlin Creek. In an emergency, the plans include sounding alarms and notifying employees and others in the surrounding areas, handling fires or hazmat spills and caring for people with medical needs. "The idea is to have it ready," said Bieber, "but never really need it." Roberts, Felker, Ciletti and Kelila agree, adding "We're always prepared."

DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP
PROJECT UPDATE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007





Top: Barrick's Golden Sunlight open pit mine in Whitehall, Montana has been in operation for 25 years. ***Above:*** *Leaders from communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region ask tough questions of Barrick's Mill Superintendent (far left) as a part of their two-day Golden Sunlight community/mine tour in Montana.*

YK Residents Tour Barrick's Montana Mine

MEET WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS



by James Fueg
Technical and Permitting Manager

If one picture is worth a thousand words, then what is an intense two-day community/mine tour worth? If you ask the Yukon Kuskokwim region leaders that have participated in one of the three tours of Barrick's Golden Sunlight mine conducted since 2005, you are likely to hear that it is a valuable step in the self-education process. The most recent tour took place in August when twelve representatives from the region traveled to the small town of Whitehall, Montana to tour the large open pit mine, meet with local residents, and ask tough questions.

Golden Sunlight is a large open pit gold mine that has been in operation in Montana for the past 25 years. While every mine is unique, there is value in becoming familiar with mines that are operated by the same owner that may be proposing a mine in your area - especially if some of the same technologies are being considered.

YK residents had ample opportunity to speak with both community residents and Golden Sunlight employees one-on-one.

Meeting with Whitehall Residents - The YK residents on the tour expressed an interest in meeting with local residents. At the Montana State University extension office the group met with a group of Whitehall residents who are members of the Community Transition Advisory Council (CTAC) for their monthly meeting with management from Golden Sunlight. The CTAC was established to facilitate routine and open communication between the community and the mine.

(Continued on page 5, MONTANA MINE TOUR)

TO APPLY FOR A JOB AT DONLIN, CALL CHIULISTA CAMP SERVICES AT **1-800-277-5516** OR GO TO
WWW.CALISTACORP.COM



Face to Face

Stan Foo
Project Manager-Alaska for Barrick,
and Donlin Creek Project Manager

I am often asked how young people of the region can prepare for working at Donlin and if they should pursue specific training. My response is always the same: The best thing a young person in the region can do is to focus on getting a good high school education with a focus on math and science. This is true whether you want to be an engineer or a geologist, a heavy equipment operator or an accountant, a mechanic or a lab technician. Many people do not realize how advanced modern heavy machinery and the many other aspects of mining have become; equipment operators, mechanics and all trades and positions have to have the capacity to understand the new technologies.

At Donlin we are doing our part to encourage and support the students of the YK region. We look forward to increasing these efforts if we decide to move forward and are then successful in the permitting process. Examples of our current efforts include:

- supporting both Calista and TKC scholarship funds;
- providing funding for fishery interns through KNA;
- working with the Bethel Learning Center to provide apprenticeships;
- supporting Boys and Girls Clubs in the YK region;
- supporting Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in the region;
- mentoring local students; and
- encouraging them to focus on developing a good work ethic.

We worked with elders in the region to develop our policies on substance abuse. A goal of our program is to encourage all of our employees to be good role models for the youth of their villages. We will continue to respect the elders of the region and listen carefully to what they have to offer. As they say, our employees must never take their job as role models lightly, as there are always young people watching all of our actions.

> *"At Donlin, we also feel that having the right attitude, being a team player and having a good work ethic, are more important than training for a specific job or skill."*

In our recent meetings at Donlin with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the Commissioner of Community and Economic Development we were encouraged by the state's willingness to take a significant role in preparing young people in the region today for jobs that will be available in the future. This is not only a commitment we make to the local communities, it is a critical component that must be in place if Donlin is to move forward successfully.

As always, if you have any questions, please call us directly at our Anchorage office (907) 273-0200.

Sincerely,
Stan Foo

Barrick Employees Warm Hearts and Hands

Anna Davis, a Barrick employee in the Anchorage office, was surprised to see all of the unclaimed items in Orion Middle School's lost and found collection. Lots of snow pants, coats and jackets, sweaters, sneakers, boots, gloves and scarves had piled up, even after the items were displayed for the kids and their families to claim. Anna, an active member of the PTA, approached the school's principal about donating the items to a worthy cause.

As an Alaska resident and mother, Anna knows the importance of dressing children warmly during the cold winters. She wanted to make sure that these items were made available

(Continued on page 3, FROM BARRICK TO BETHEL)



Before long, all of the Barrick employees in the Anchorage office had volunteered bags of outgrown coats and mittens along with toys and games. From n: Katrina Greene, Anna Davis, and Vanessa Busby sort and organize donation items.

From Barrick to Bethel

(Continued from page 2)

free of charge to people that needed them. The school suggested that Anna take the clothing to various charitable organizations, but she learned that some of them would have put price tags on the items, so she decided to head in another direction.

Anna mentioned the stash to one of her Barrick co-workers - Tisha Woolley - who grew up in Bethel. Tisha's father is the principal of the Mikelnguut Elitnaurviat (ME) Elementary School in Bethel, and she knew that he was always in need of items to give to children who could use them. With temperatures in Bethel and the surrounding areas dropping to -25 degrees and lower in the winter, children who don't have warm clothing are at risk.

Anna decided that the clothes should be sent to the school, so she enlisted the help of Tisha and co-workers Katrina Green and Vanessa Busby to help wash the clothes and get them ready to send out to Bethel. The women worked on the project at home in their free time, washing and sorting through everything to make sure that all shoes, boots and gloves had mates.

But the collection continued to grow. Friends of Anna donated more clothes, books and stuffed animals. With the donated items accumulating, Anna and the Barrick group worried about the cost of shipping to Bethel. Anna approached Stan Foo – Project Manager, Alaska for Barrick and Donlin Creek Project Manager - about the possibility of Barrick covering the shipping cost to Bethel. After hearing about the generosity of everyone involved, Stan immediately agreed.

After the items are shipped, they will be distributed during community events at the school. The ME school administration will set out the donated items so that families can pick up things that their children need. If the school has too many of any one item, the extras will be sent to other communities in the area for distribution.

The Barrick group hopes to make the donation an annual event, especially after seeing how employees and the community supported them.



Employee Spotlight

AARON HOUSLER, CORE HANDLER SUPERVISOR

Aaron Housler from the village of Russian Mission is happy about his career with Donlin Creek – he makes a good living while being able to spend most of his time outdoors. Aaron has worked his way up through the ranks and now, at 22, is one of Donlin's youngest crew supervisors. This month's Donlin Creek Spotlight employee started in 2006, in Camp Maintenance, and smiling, says he "will stay here as long as I don't get in trouble or laid off."

Aaron's first job at home was with SYETP – the Summer Youth Employment Training Program – where he says he learned many valuable skills. He worked a variety of jobs after that, from grocery to construction, before becoming a part of the Donlin Creek family. Now, his duties at Donlin allow him to spend the majority of his time working in the field on the waterline that supplies water to the drills – a position he started after working the pump station and drill rigs. Aaron points out that there are numerous job opportunities at Donlin Creek and his advice to people interested in applying is "Stay clean and get mechanical training."

After his daily shift at Donlin, Aaron stays busy playing pool, talking on the phone, watching TV and talking with the rest of the staff. He enjoys learning about his co-workers and finding out how their workdays went. He has his hands full on his two weeks off as well. He is the proud parent of a daughter, Marie, who is four months old. His wife, Josephine, is the Headstart Program Director in Russian Mission. Aaron also likes to spend free time at home subsistence hunting and fishing.

Team recognition

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Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards ■ Lorraine Egnaty ■ Kalela Evan I ■ Kalela P. Evan II ■ Michael Evan Sr. ■ David M. Evan ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ Janet M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Mary K. Evan ■ Morris Evan ■ Raymond Evan ■ Joseph “Joey” Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Thaddeus Fisher ■ Aaron M. Fitka ■ Nicholas R. Fitka Jr. ■ Rose L. Frisby ■ Thomas Fryer ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ Aloysius C. George ■ John W. George ■ Mason J. Gilila ■ John D. Gillam ■ Caleb L. Gordon ■ Angie M. Grant ■ Carl P. Green ■ Carla L. Green ■ Henry Green ■ James L. Greene Jr. ■ Morris C. Green ■ Ryan Green ■ Chesley Greeno ■ Wassillie J. Gregory Sr. ■ Constantine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Jesse J. Gunlik ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Thomas N. Hart ■ Michael R. Hetherington ■ Charles M. Heckman Jr. ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Elena O. 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Clockwise from upper left: ***Basil Larson****, a construction laborer from Russian Mission, helps build the flooring for the maintenance shop's new storeroom;* ***Fritz Albert****, a carpenter's helper from Bethel, works on the construction the maintenance shop's new storeroom; Donlin Creek geologist* ***Fawn Glassburn*** *from Fairbanks closely examines core samples with a hand lens - these samples will be used to determine the locations of possible future mining sites;* ***Amanda Ausdahl,*** *from Upper Kalskag, is a geologic technician at Donlin Creek - she is responsible for entering geologic data so that Barrick can determine the best sites for further exploration.*

Montana Mine Tour

(Continued from front page)

Here the YK residents' tough questions began. The YK residents covered topics with the CTAC like environmental protection, improvements to public facilities, social impacts, creation of new business opportunities, community life after mine closure, reclamation of the land for public use, and the structure of mining taxes in Montana.

Tour of Mine Facilities - The mine tour included a visit to the large open pit where rock is removed and then trucked to the mill site. Members of the group were able to get a realistic feel for the size and scope of modern mining operations, which is needed if one truly wants to understand the potential impacts of mining. Visitors also got a first-hand look at the mill site, where the gold is extracted from the rock through a multi-stage, complex process using sodium cyanide. YK residents posed many questions about the role of sodium cyanide in the gold extraction process, and the safety of its transport, management, and eventual destruction processes - both during processing and over the long term.

Tailings Management - The tailings are the mud-like leftovers that remain after the milling and cyanide destruction process. They are sent by pipeline to a tailings storage facility for long-term storage and eventual reclamation. The tailings impoundment is carefully engineered to contain the tailings during operation and after closure. During the reclamation phase the impoundment is covered with a minimum of three feet of topsoil and planted with native vegetation.

Reclamation - Barrick's expenditures on reclamation at Golden Sunlight have totaled more than $17 million. Over 1,000 acres have already been reclaimed before the mine has even closed. This practice of reclaiming as you mine is called concurrent reclamation. Here reclamation has been and continues to be on-going. Land disturbances are actively recontoured and revegetated to blend into the natural hillsides. Once the new vegetation starts growing, the wildlife moves back in. Several of the YK visitors commented that they were surprised to see that wildlife thrives in the area.

Mike Williams *from Akiak (right) and Donlin's Technical and Permitting Manager* ***James Fueg*** *(left) look out over the new tailings impoundment at Golden Sunlight.*



Consider Talking with Tour Participants - We would like to encourage you to contact people in your area that have participated in one of the Golden Sunlight tours to get their first-hand impressions of this Barrick mining operation. Participants on the August trip included: Archie Andrews (Tuntutuliak Village Corporation), William Igkurak (Kwigillingok Power Company), Mike Williams (Akiak Tribal Council), Mark Leary (Napaimute Tribal Council), Michael Samuelson (Bethel Tribal Council), Marcie Sherer (Napaimute Tribal Council), Renee Fredericks (Georgetown Tribal Council), Rachel Klein (The Kuskokwim Corporation), Felix Hess (Calista Corporation), and Danny Twitchell (Bethel Tribal Member and Donlin Creek employee).

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history and cultures of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Barrick management. In this series, we are publishing some of this information for our readers who are not residents in the region.

HARD WORK: As Alaska enters the fall season, people of the Yukon Kuskokwim work hard to ensure that their summer harvests will sustain them in the upcoming winter months. Families work together to 'put-away' and preserve their fish, game, berries and greens. Freezers are filled to capacity with the region's bounty. Family and village leaders also work together to share and provide for elders and those who are unable to make their own harvests. Barrick understands that subsistence is hard work and that it sustains families and cultures. Donlin Creek supports the subsistence way of life by providing every employee time off for subsistence activities.



Learning more about Barrick Gold Corporation

Barrick is grounded by our **Core Values**, highlighted in this series, which guide our commitment to responsible behavior as we conduct our business around the world. In practice, our core values bring long-term benefits to the communities where we operate, and foster a culture of excellence and collaboration among our employees.

CORE VALUE: DELIVER RESULTS We have a clear vision of where we're going and the plan to get there. We focus our resources to achieve our objectives. We pay attention to detail and keep our commitments. We deliver results.

Elena Levi, of Lower Kalskag, is a Prep Lab Supervisor at Donlin Creek. She knows that going the extra mile is crucial for success. "I'd like to work at Donlin as long as it takes to get the job done!" she says. With employees like Elena, we're sure that Donlin Creek's future is bright.

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DONLIN CREEK
FROM THE GROUND UP
PROJECT UPDATE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

Successful 2007 drilling season draws to an end




by Bill Bieber, Operations Manager and J. Ross Maitland, Human Resources

A great feeling of pride should be felt throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region as another successful drilling season at Donlin draws to an end and we move to our reduced winter crew size. This season, every challenge was met with a positive attitude by all of the workers from this region who have built and staffed this camp.

The 2007 drilling program objectives were met in full, and all geologic data was collected and samples prepped by the mid-November deadline without one Lost Time Incident (LTI).

EXCELLENT SAFETY RECORD: In 2006, the Donlin project did not have a single Lost Time Incident. So far in 2007, Donlin has recorded more than 373,000 man hours without a lost time incident as we work toward a two-year record.

This is a significant achievement, especially since the drilling program was ambitious and complex. More than 230,000 feet of core drilling was completed by more than 300 local shareholders and descendants. A safe, alcohol- and drug-free workplace is maintained at Donlin where our employees flourish and grow in their jobs both personally and professionally.

Special additions to the crew this year were the Kuspuk School District interns. Not only did these young men and women successfully complete their two-month internships, but in addition, they were asked to stay on as employees. These employees' schools, families and communities should take great pride in these efforts. This program was born of an invitation from the school district. We would be honored to visit other school districts in the region to discuss future opportunities as well.

No other project in Alaska has ever matched our commitment to, and results for, local hire. And yet, the company could not have achieved 94 percent local hire without a strong partnership with both the new and the seasoned workers from the YK region. Success at Donlin Creek is tied closely to the assistance and support of the communities throughout the YK region. We look forward to on-going partnerships in the future as our workforce grows.






*2007 was a banner year for our drilling teams, who drilled more than 230,000 feet of core. Donlin Creek operates multiple drill rigs, and the core samples they produce are sent to the main lab for analysis and testing after being processed in the Donlin Creek facility. Driller **ANDREW MAKAILY, JR.** of Kalskag (right) was just one of the many skilled workers Donlin Creek has hired from the region.*

TO APPLY FOR A JOB AT DONLIN, CALL CHIULISTA CAMP SERVICES AT
1-800-277-5516 OR GO TO:
WWW.CHIULISTA.COM/EMPLOYMENT.ASP



Douglas Nicholson
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Face to Face
A TIME OF TRANSITION

BARRICK AND NOVAGOLD FORM NEW PARTNERSHIP: We are pleased to report that NovaGold and Barrick have agreed to form the Donlin Creek LLC, a new 50/50 partnership that resolves all outstanding legal issues and allows the project to draw on the experienced professionals from both companies working together as one team to make the Donlin project a success.

As the new company begins its work, one significant change has occurred. As VP NovaGold Resources Alaska, Inc., I have been named President and General Manager for the Donlin Creek LLC and will assume the project management role that was previously held by Stan Foo. Stan has been named to the board of directors for the Donlin Creek LLC and will remain with Barrick Gold Corporation. Stan will be working with me to ensure a smooth transition.

In keeping with the spirit of cooperation established by Barrick and NovaGold in signing the new agreement, we want to build on the success and good work that has been done by Stan and the Donlin Creek team and continue to build on the cooperative relationships throughout the region. We plan to make few changes as the existing team transitions from the joint venture structure to the newly integrated Donlin Creek LLC.

In the coming months the new company will evaluate the draft feasibility study that Barrick completed and work to optimize the project options on power, logistics, mining, milling and incorporating the results of the 2007 drill campaign. Both NovaGold and Barrick agree that Donlin has tremendous potential and look forward to working with the region to unlock that potential. We, as a project and a management team, look forward to meeting with you and listening to your hopes and concerns and sharing our vision and plans for carrying the project forward. We want to reaffirm to you our commitment to keep the region informed and to respectfully solicit and consider your input on the potential development of the project.

ANTI-MINING INITIATIVE: At the same time, there is a troublesome issue on the horizon; the anti-mining voter initiative would potentially make the Donlin Creek project much more difficult to develop. The promoters of this petition drive have deceptively called it a "clean water initiative." The truth is it takes away the rights of local communities to have a meaningful voice on economic development initiatives proposed on Native lands. Please be careful before you agree to sign any petitions. If you want to see Donlin go through the open public permitting process, then please do not sign the anti-mining petition.

MOVING FORWARD: As we review the past year and look forward to 2008, there is much to be grateful for:

- the successful team that we have built together for Donlin Creek;
- the subsistence resources upon which our employees and neighbors in the region depend;
- the safe completion of a complex and ambitious drilling program in 2007;
- the sincere interest that YK residents are expressing in the Donlin project; and
- the opportunity to work together toward an exciting future for the region.

We should all be proud that we staffed and completed a very active and complex work program at Donlin this year. Credit for this goes to the quality of our employees from the region and the team spirit that is a part of everything we do. Our minimum maintenance staff will keep Donlin camp safe through the cold winter months, and we look forward to ramping up again next year with a newly defined work program.

I look forward to meeting with you to discuss the project, answer your questions and listen to you in the new year. Finally, we want to wish all of you happy holidays and a successful and prosperous new year.

***RUSTY ROBERTS** of Wasilla is a Safety Training Coordinator at Donlin Creek mine. Rusty has an extensive background in mining safety, and has trained many Donlin employees on the safe operation of equipment.*



Safety first at Donlin

Donlin Creek's first priority is safety. Employees who have been extensively trained staff every area of the Donlin Creek project, ensuring that the highest levels of safety are maintained. The past year has been the safest year on record for Donlin, and we are committed to continuing to raise the standards at the facility in the coming years.

Donlin Creek actively seeks new ways to increase the level of safety at the mine at all times. Staff members engage in regular safety meetings to discuss issues and provide up-to-date training.

(Continued on photo page)

Housing project in Crooked Creek

by Calvin Simeon
Executive Director Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA)

In a great example of tribal and corporate cooperation, the Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA) has been working closely with Barrick Gold Corporation's skilled local work force. When KNA was lucky enough to have its request for funding for the Crooked Creek Elders' Housing Project approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, it quickly became apparent that the cost would be significantly more than originally thought due to the location of the project.

During the Crooked Creek Tribal gathering this summer, I mentioned the fact that attracting a skilled work force that was willing to go to Crooked Creek and build the housing project for the amount funded was proving difficult. At this point, Barrick literally stood up and stated that if we were having a problem, they were willing to help.

Crooked Creek Traditional Council also volunteered to step up to the plate and help out where they could. In the end, the tribe helped move the material and extend the pad. The Donlin team was as good as their word, helping out with construction, electrical and plumbing.

In this time of ever-decreasing funding, it is vital to develop and foster corporate partnerships to better serve our villages.

At this time I would like to send a sincere thank you to Donlin for their willingness to work closely with the KNA to finish this important project before winter sets in. Now elder George Phillips of Crooked Creek can be assured of living in a warm, new house. I would also like to thank our carpenter, George Gregory of Upper Kalskag, for sticking with the project to the end.



***OSCAR LARSON** of Bethel worked as the electrician on the Crooked Creek Elders' Housing Project. KNA's housing project, which was partially funded by a grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, was built with help from Donlin Creek employees.*



Employee Spotlight

TRAVIS SHAVINGS, CORE HANDLER

A graduate of Nuniwarmiut High School in Mekoryuk, Travis Shavings applied for employment at Donlin through the Bethel Job Center. After a few months' wait, Travis found out that he had been hired as a maintenance laborer. He later moved onto job assignments as a carpenter and then a plumber's helper. Afterwards, he joined the drill pad and waterline crew, and at age 24 has been an important addition to the team, according to his supervisors. He likes his job at Donlin, and says, "The longer you work here, the more you feel like this is home."

His father is Samuel Shavings and his mother is Harriet Smith Shavings, who was born in Bethel. When he's at home he keeps busy with subsistence activities, hunting and fishing, as well as just about anything out-of-doors including basketball, football, lap game*, snow machining and four-wheeling. Shavings also spends time with his friends and helping out around the house.

When it comes to giving advice to anyone who wants to join the Donlin Creek team, he says, "Simple, don't be late. Work safely and really hard." When it comes to feeling homesick he advises new employees to "keep yourself busy and time will fly by."

*For readers who may not be familiar with the YK culture, 'lap game' is a version of stickball or softball widely played throughout the region's villages.

Team recognition

THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06 - ‘07

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. 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People with paychecks from all over the region









MORRIS EVAN of Marshall (right) works as a Core Cutter, and has been fully trained on the equipment and techniques that will keep him safe around the equipment he uses. GIFFORD BERRY of Tuluksak (lower left) checks the generator during the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. night shift at Donlin Creek. Administrator TINA WASSILY of Anchorage (upper left) manages a number of important camp functions, including travel arrangements for Donlin employees.

Safety first at Donlin

(Continued from inside cover)

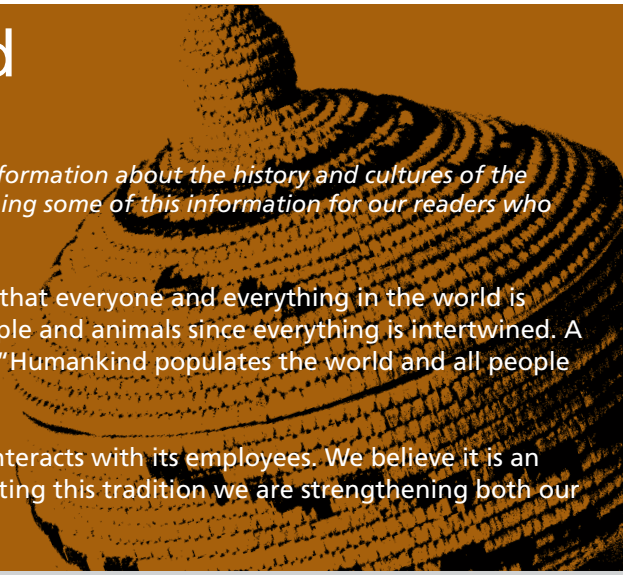
Some of Donlin Creek's current training programs are a Supervisor's Safety Program, Hazard Recognition Training and a Courageous Leadership Program. In addition to these specialized programs, Donlin also runs a refresher course on safety.

Rusty Roberts is the Safety Training Coordinator, and is a member of the safety team at Donlin Creek. He brings 30 years of experience in open mine safety to the Donlin project. His past experience includes work at Greens Creek, Fort Knox, Pogo, and Kensington. Rusty was the safety coordinator for the last mine that he worked at – Kensington – and brings this experience to the crew at Donlin.

Donlin Creek has only had a few minor accidents this year, and credits this low level to its training programs. Rusty thinks that this training has been a building block for Donlin, and says that recent accidents at other mines could have been prevented by making sure that employees knew the limitations and capabilities of their equipment.

Donlin Creek believes in providing the safest possible workplace for its employees. Rusty says, "Donlin's first priority is safety, and management is very proactive in constantly raising the bar on safety." Rusty says that the high-level commitment to safety is the main reason he wanted to work at Donlin.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan cultures



When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history and cultures of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin management. In this series, we are publishing some of this information for our readers who are not residents in the region.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS: At the core of the Yup'ik way of life is the belief that everyone and everything in the world is related. A sense of compassion and respect is essential in dealing with people and animals since everything is intertwined. A well-known saying is "Ella-gguq allamek yuituq," which translated means "Humankind populates the world and all people are one."

This respect for all people has shaped how management at Donlin Creek interacts with its employees. We believe it is an important lesson to pass along to our employees, and know that by respecting this tradition we are strengthening both our workforce and the region.



Learning more about NovaGold

NovaGold's foremost commitment is to create wealth by remaining focused on its core values of respect, integrity, safety, accountability, empowerment, communication, growth and sustainability. Only by creating wealth for shareholders and for the communities in which it works can NovaGold sustain itself as a company, protect the environment and bring benefits to local communities.

By mining responsibly, NovaGold fosters a positive reputation for itself and the mining industry as a whole. A positive reputation builds trust, acceptance and support, reducing project risk, generating potential business opportunities and creating wealth for shareholders, the company and local communities.

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PROJECT UPDATE JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

High Cost of Power Drives New Study

IS A REGIONAL INTERTIE FEASIBLE?

Earlier evaluations of the options to supply the high volumes of power needed for a mine at Donlin were based on much lower fuel costs than today. In an effort to improve the economics of a potential mine at this remote location, the Donlin Creek LLC has recently contracted with a consultant to evaluate the possibility of building a power intertie to the railbelt.

Donlin's power consultants will evaluate the technical, economic and regulatory feasibility of constructing transmission lines and power generation facilities to potentially service the proposed gold mine. The consultants will also assess possible partnership opportunities for a transmission line, as well as the ability to enter into long-term power contracts with third party suppliers.

Donlin Creek LLC General Manager, Doug Nicholson said that his initial meetings with representatives from the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) were quite encouraging. "AIDEA is anxious to find a more economic solution to meeting the power needs of the villages in the YK region," he observed. "It's also very encouraging to see leaders in the region looking closely at broader applications of the wind/diesel success stories at Toksook Bay and Kasigluk. I'll be very interested in hearing their thoughts after the wind power development workshop in Bethel," said Nicholson.

All of the intertie options evaluated by the Donlin consultants will be compared to the wind/diesel power option that was considered the base case scenario for Donlin in previous feasibility analyses. Nicholson stressed, "Only if the new study finds that an intertie will work effectively for the project will this option be pursued." Other options, like a coal-fired power plant in Bethel, will not be reconsidered. The Donlin intertie study is scheduled to be completed by early summer.



TESTING INTERTIE / WIND POWER FEASIBILITY Site studies on a ridge above Crooked Creek show that winds here could only supply about 25 percent of the power needed for Donlin. A new Donlin study will assess the feasibility of an intertie like this one that serves the Pogo Gold Mine project in Interior Alaska.

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Face to Face

A FOCUS ON IMPROVING THE ECONOMICS OF THE DONLIN PROJECT



Douglas Nicholson
President and
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Donlin Creek Feasibility Study
It's no secret that building and operating a large gold mine in remote country like rural Alaska is a massive undertaking. That's why we spend as much time as we do studying and re-studying the technical, environmental and financial feasibility of a project like Donlin. This year we will be back at the drawing table doing everything we can to responsibly improve the economics of our plan. Increases in fuel and materials prices in the past few years have changed many aspects of this project. It's time to reevaluate.

Intertie Feasibility Analysis Power is by far the most expensive part of any remote large mining project. If our new study shows that a regional intertie could be technically and financially feasible, then the Donlin team would work with the region's residents to see if an acceptable plan could be developed to make an intertie a reality.

We can see several benefits to an intertie; two in particular may be of interest to those in the region. First, the amount of fuel that would need to be barged upriver would be reduced. Second, if the intertie is feasible for Donlin, then we would like to work with YK leaders to see if there may be other funding sources available to bring the benefits of lower cost energy to the region.

The 2008 Field Season Two record drilling seasons in a row have yielded many core samples that need to be further analyzed in laboratories in Anchorage and Vancouver. The primary goals for 2008 are 1) to optimize the feasibility analysis, and 2) to firm up the resource estimates for the property through more detailed analysis of the core samples.

Initially, we thought this would mean far fewer jobs in the field at Donlin itself this year. However, our work this month suggests that if our spring 2008 drilling results are good, we will be able to gear up to almost 90 percent of our 2007 workforce. We are now in the process of rehiring our top performers who stuck it out to the end of the season with us - a lot of great people.

As always, if you have any questions about our project, feel free to call our Anchorage office at (907) 273-0200

Sincerely,
Doug Nicholson



Shareholder descendant JILL DUERFELDT, *of Anchorage, an Environmental Specialist, purges a ground-water well to prepare for sampling.*

Winter Environmental Studies

(Continued from the employee spotlight page)

Wildlife Studies
At Donlin, wildlife studies take place throughout the year. Understanding the availability of habitat for populations of moose, furbearing animals, and birds is central to understanding potential development impacts of activities. During winter, biologists at Donlin conduct low-level aerial tracking surveys and snowshoe field transects. Tracks of the many types of mammals in the area, such as marten, wolf, and hare, are then mapped according to population density and habitat type.

These are just a few examples of the environmental studies that continue through the winter at Donlin. The camp may be quiet, the dark nights long, and the temperatures cold, but the environmental team at Donlin is just as busy as in July.

Winter Environmental Studies

When winter arrives at Donlin Creek, the days get shorter, the creeks freeze over, and many of the animals become less active. The environmental baseline program at Donlin, however, definitely does not hibernate for the winter. Many of our most important studies continue through this cold season.

Water Quality

Although creeks and wells freeze over during the winter months, monitoring of the area's water quality is no less important. In fact, collecting information about seasonal variability, or changes, is very important. Even though the surface of Crooked Creek freezes over, water continues to flow beneath the ice. By using ice augers and portable pumps, Donlin's environmental team collects water samples directly through the ice. They also collect important water discharge, or stream flow, information. The biggest challenge facing winter field crews is ensuring that water samples, delicate electronic instruments, and fingers, do not freeze in these temperatures. Insulated coolers and heat packs are necessities in "below zero" conditions.

Snow Surveys

Understanding the water balance in the Crooked Creek watershed requires studying how much water precipitates, evaporates, and flows over and through the ground. But just as important is the amount of water that is "stored" in snow during the winter months. During the spring, this water is released as runoff into the local streams, sometimes causing flooding. Snow surveys are carried out in the American and Anaconda Creek watersheds in order to calculate the amount of water stored within the snow pack. By using snow-machines, snowshoes, and snow sampling equipment, Donlin's field team measures snow depth and Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) at numerous locations throughout the area.

(Continues on the inside front cover)



DAVID JOHN, *of Crooked Creek, an Environmental Technician and Geotechnical Trainer, collects groundwater quality measurements at a well near American Creek.*



Employee Spotlight

DANNY TWITCHELL, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Born and raised in Bethel, Danny Twitchell grew up with a love for Alaska and its unique environment. He grew to appreciate the great sense of community during his 25 years there, and loved the benefits of living in a small town.

Prior to working with Donlin Creek LLC as an Environmental Specialist, Danny was introduced to the environmental world with Orutsararmiut Native Council (ONC). His current position here at Donlin, which he has held for nearly two years, requires him to collect critical data determining air and water quality near the Donlin project. This "baseline data collection" involves, among other things, collecting a variety of water quality characteristics. "It is almost like taking vital signs of water systems" he says. He monitors any changes to these signs to ensure the water remains healthy. He is also responsible for inspecting sites to confirm compliance with Barrick/Novagold strict environmental policies, which is one of his favorite parts of the job. He also enjoys the benefits of working in the field, and the unique, family-like camp setting where employees have fun and work well together.

Although he moved to Wasilla nearly three years ago, he misses Bethel and returns frequently for visits and to speak to groups about the Donlin project and its environmental aspects. He addresses members of the Bethel community with the purpose of clarifying misconceptions about the mining process that environmental groups have incorrectly communicated.

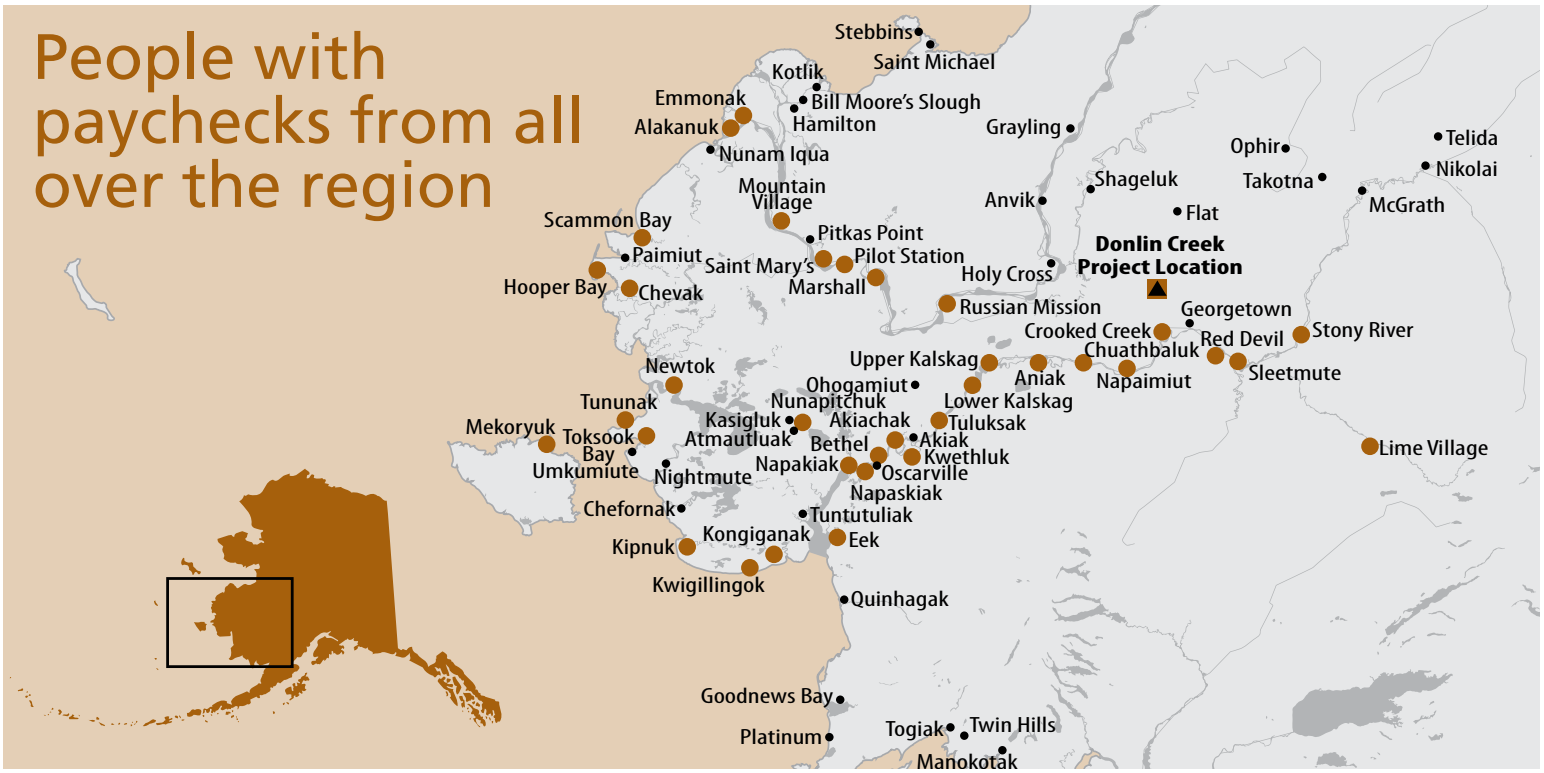
Danny resides in Wasilla with his wife, Isha, and three children—daughters Bessie and Betty, and son Danny Jr. He loves "experiencing the wonders of Alaska" by taking road trips around the state with his growing family. He plans on working with the Donlin Creek project as long as he can and says, "I'm excited to see what the future holds at this place."

Team recognition

THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06, ‘07, ‘08

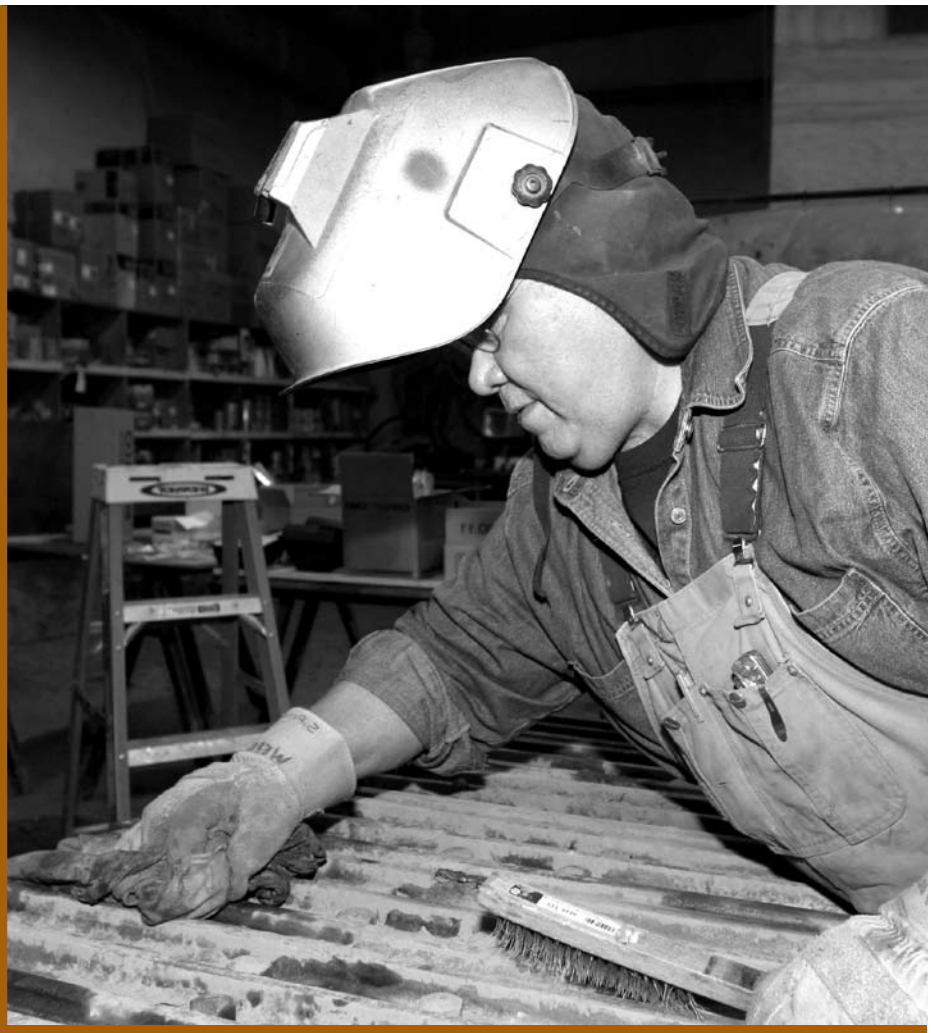
Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. 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Note: *The work force at Donlin rotates and many workers return year after year following planned absences to fill seasonal roles.*









GIFFORD BERRY (top left) of Tuluksak, drives through camp to check fuel levels of stoves and generators. Gifford is part of the maintenance crew and has a work schedule from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. to ensure the camp operates smoothly through the night. STAN PETERS (right) of Russian Mission prepares the track of a Kobelco excavator with a wire brush as part of his responsibilities as a Driller Coordinator at Donlin Creek. PHILLIP DONHAUSER (lower left) of Aniak, adds a new name to the camp manifest as part of his duties as Camp Maintenance Supervisor. Phillip keeps track of all incoming and outgoing camp personnel and visitors to camp.



ETT Training

Donlin Creek LLC sponsored an Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) training session the week of Jan. 21-25 to ensure continued safety in potential emergency medical situations. As part of the emergency response program, ETTs tend to have the ability to get to the scene first, and they are often able to help individuals before a paramedic can respond. ETTs are also certified to call other emergency units, such as medevacs, if necessary.

Ross Maitland, Donlin Creek LLC Human Resources Coordinator, arranges the training, which features a 40-hour class taught by Dave LeMaster. A bush pilot and former member of the Aniak Emergency Response Team, Dave trains the well-known Aniak Dragon Slayers — a teenage emergency and medical rescue team. He is also responsible for all ETT training at camp and occasionally fills in for absent EMTs.

(Continued on back page)

Driller Coordinator WASSILLIE GREGORY of Sleetmute practices putting a bandage on GREGORY SAKAR of Aniak, who works as an Environmental Tech at Donlin Creek.



ETT Training *(Continued from photo page)*

The week-long ETT training teaches CPR, first aid, basic life support and hands-on patient evacuation. According to Ross, 16 Donlin Creek LLC employees successfully completed their ETT training during each of the last two training sessions, and 27 employees earned their first aid and CPR cards in 2007. "Donlin Creek is really supportive of the idea," Ross says. For the last session, the company funded flights for employees, who were not currently at camp, to attend the training.

Not only does this help Donlin maintain its two-year record of working without a Lost Time Incident, but also it benefits the home villages of certified ETTs when they're not working at camp. In small villages ETTs are often first to arrive on an emergency scene, even before EMTs.

Ross is hopeful that the program will continue to improve by offering a new EMT training course in the next year. He says, "We keep moving forward with this process so everyone feels safe here."

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents in the region.

Cooperation: Traditional Yup'ik culture emphasizes strong cooperative values, centered around compassion and respect. Initial efforts in executing the updated joint venture agreement are underway, as NovaGold and Barrick Gold Corporation work together in a 50/50 partnership to advance the Donlin project. The new Donlin Creek LLC is committed to continuing the Native tradition of cooperation with local communities and Alaska Native corporations.

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PROJECT UPDATE EARLY SPRING 2008

Keeping the Region Informed

DONLIN INVITED TO SPEAK TO COMMUNITIES

Employees at Donlin Creek, LLC have an ambitious goal: they plan on visiting every village in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region that has invited them by the end of the 2008 season. These visits are a chance for the Donlin team to update tribal members on the project and answer questions the communities have about operations, environmental protection and plans for the future. So far the team has visited Kwethluk, Mountain Village, Pilot Station, Marshall, Kotlik, Atmautluak, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Eek, Pitkas Point, Emmonak, Scammon Bay, Chevak and Hooper Bay.



WASILLIE KAMEROFF, *Logistics Camp Director from Lower Kalskag, is a valuable member of the team visiting the Region's villages.*

The idea was conceived in January this year, when a group of Donlin employees decided that the best way to respond to questions they were getting about the Donlin project would be to actually visit the villages and answer questions in person.

The presentations serve as a forum for YK residents to express any concerns they may have about the Donlin Creek exploration project and to obtain accurate information about it. Employees are able to talk about their own experiences of living and working at Donlin Creek. The presentation usually consists of an informational video and a slide show, followed by a question and answer session. The Q&A sessions give community members an opportunity to address topics of interest, and they give Donlin staff an opportunity to listen and learn.

Spearheading this project are Operations Manager Bill Bieber and Logistics Camp Directors Wassillie Kameroff and Leonard Morgan. They have traveled to every location to present and meet with the councils and residents of each village.

A rotating team of Donlin employees, including Ross Maitland, Human Resources (HR) Manager; Tina Wassily, Administrator; Eufemio Martinez, Prep Lab/Corecutting Supervisor; Ricky Cilletti, Paramedic; Elena Levi, Prep Lab Supervisor; Virginia Roads, Camp Counselor; Peter "Boise" Alexie, Shop/Maintenance Supervisor; and Joseph Evan, Shop Foreman, have traveled with them to different villages as representatives of the workforce at Donlin Creek.

Wasillie Kameroff's fluency in Yup'ik has proven to be a very valuable asset, because many of the Elders do not speak English. His contribution to the presentations has been integral to its overall success. Typically, Wasillie and Leonard arrive in the villages before the rest of the traveling team. They share their day-to-day experiences of working at Donlin; they talk with residents about the facility, food and the work environment. One of the main purposes of these trips has been to encourage open communication between the region's villages and the area residents who work at Donlin Creek.

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Face to Face Communication: The Path to Trust



Douglas Nicholson
President and
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Part of creating a successful project is finding a path for different stakeholders to come together to make a shared vision a reality. Open, honest communication and mutual respect are the keys. Since its inception 13 years ago, the operators of the Donlin Creek project have conscientiously done our best to maintain an open, honest relationship with the residents of the region, out of a deep respect for you and for the area in which we work.

Meeting at Donlin Camp

When I rejoined the Donlin team in December, I was anxious to meet with area residents to give an update on the project and open a dialogue. We invited all of the upriver tribal leaders to a meeting at Donlin Camp on February 7th for a project update. We were delighted that tribal representatives from all of the 11 upriver villages accepted our invitation; almost 60 people attended. During the meeting we were able to discuss the project status and the ongoing studies including examination of a potential powerline to the railbelt.

By all accounts the meeting went very well and we received a very positive meeting summary from one of the participants. Recently, however, another account of that meeting was offered as a letter to the editor in one of the region's newspapers apparently authored by someone who did not attend the meeting. Some rather serious allegations were made that I would like to address here.

During our Donlin project update several leaders asked if we would make time to discuss the Clean Water Initiatives that many had been hearing about in radio ads. Even though we were not there to talk about the initiatives, we agreed to this and offered any technical assistance we could to help go over the initiatives to the best of our ability. The meeting became the tribal leaders' meeting.

At one point during the discussion of the initiatives an attendee asked a question directly of one of the Donlin staff regarding his personal experience on rivers near mines in Montana. He replied saying he grew up on rivers near a mine where motorized riverboats like YK residents use were not allowed. (Nothing over 10 hp is allowed on the Jefferson, Madison and Beaverhead Rivers near the Golden Sunlight Mine at Whitehall. We have since learned that the Montana boating laws are not related to clean water initiatives or mining.) It is unfortunate that the intent of our staffer's personal recollections, shared in good faith at the meeting, have been misunderstood and then unintentionally misrepresented in the press calling the integrity of the project into question.

I want to personally assure those who attended the meeting that I value our relationship and I will never intentionally mislead you. If some of you left with a misimpression, I apologize. I want to encourage my employees to continue to be open and honest in their discussions with you the residents of the region. I believe it is the enthusiasm, honesty and integrity of our employees that makes them our project's greatest asset. I encourage you to talk with them about any questions you may have about our project.

On-Going Opportunities

At this time of year opportunities to listen and share information are plentiful - our cover story illustrates this. In addition, we were invited to provide an update on the Donlin Creek project at the Aniak Elders Conference on April 10th. We were honored to have been invited. We learned a lot as we listened to the elders from the region and responded to their questions.

On April 12th we were invited to participate in a panel discussion at the Annual Meeting of the Native Village of Napaimute. The panel was titled "Improving Economic Development Opportunities in Our Region: A Cooperative Effort Between Tribal Governments, Village and Regional Corporations, and Private Industry."

Those of us who live and work in the YK region have a long haul ahead of us if the Donlin project is to become a reality. We have always been forthright with the residents in the YK region. We have always treated them with respect. Our hope is that in the future if anyone on the river has a concern about any Donlin communications, you will come directly to us first and give us a chance to respond. It may be only a misunderstanding - again. We will always honor you with a first opportunity to clear up a misunderstanding. We hope that you will return this courtesy.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
(907) 273-0200

Donlin's HR Manager Visits Bethel

The Donlin Creek Project has a Native hire rate of over 90 percent. To make sure the people in the Yukon Kuskokwim region know about the opportunities at Donlin and what it is like to be a part of the team here, Human Resources (HR) Manager Ross Maitland recently took a trip to Bethel, Alaska. He was invited to attend the Bethel Job Fair and visit the Bethel High School to talk about the future of the Donlin Creek project.

At both events, he met with prospective employees, worked with them on filling out applications, and offered tips for successful interviewing. His goal was to meet with individuals who were interested in learning more about the project's career opportunities.

Ross encourages applicants to be open with employers about their current work experiences. If they have repaired four-wheelers, worked in a cannery, or lived a subsistence lifestyle, he wants to know about it. These experiences translate directly into the work being done at camp – repairing machines, working outside, and lifting sample trays in the lab, to name just a few.

Ross tells people interested in a job to take the application home and think about it. Most of the time, they are surprised at all of the things they have to offer after they start writing. In many cases, applicants need to use extra paper so they can include all of their past experience.

Donlin's HR Manager feels that his primary duty is to the current and potential employees at the project. Ross' goal is to help people get jobs at Donlin, but he also encourages youth to grow academically and get as much education as they can.

At the recent Bethel High School presentation, Ross told the youth that they will not miss out on an opportunity with Donlin if they decide to attend college – by the time they graduate, the project is likely to be in full swing. There will be many

(Continued on back page)



Employee Spotlight

FRANCINE MORGAN

Francine Morgan is one of ten brothers and sisters, born in Bethel and raised in Aniak, Alaska. She lived there until she was 25, developing a special bond with the rural communities of the Upper Kuskokwim.

Francine is a Warehouse Purchasing and Logistics Administrator and has worked at Donlin Creek for two years. She makes sure that Donlin Creek has all the things it needs to continue running smoothly. Francine purchases and arranges logistics for all parts, equipment, freight and flights from Anchorage. She also schedules the food flights every Wednesday with Hageland Air, making sure that stomachs stay full at Camp.

An important part of Francine's job is scheduling the transport of backhaul – items like propane tanks, used batteries, old pipes, equipment and drill rig containers – out of Donlin. Transporting these materials offsite is one of the many ways that Donlin protects the environment at Donlin Creek.

Francine is living with her daughter, Carla, while her daughter's husband is in Afghanistan serving in the military. She also has three granddaughters – Isabel, Carley and Nancy – who keep her busy when she isn't at work. "We're busy all the time with the grand daughters, working and getting caught up on movies," says Francine.

Francine had been interested in working at Donlin since she heard about the project, but at first there were no openings. She kept checking back until a position opened up for applications. She applied and was hired after interviewing with Bill Bieber. Francine encourages people who are interested in working at Donlin Creek not to be discouraged if there are not any openings right away — keep checking back until a position becomes available.

Team recognition

THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06, ‘07, ‘08

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards ■ Lorraine Egnaty ■ Kalela Evan I ■ Kalela P. Evan II ■ Michael Evan, Sr. ■ David M. Evan ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ Janet M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Mary K. Evan ■ Morris Evan ■ Raymond Evan ■ Joseph “Joey” Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Thaddeus Fisher ■ Aaron M. Fitka ■ Leonard G. Fitka, Jr. ■ Nicholas R. Fitka, Jr. ■ Rose L. Frisby ■ Thomas Fryer ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ Aloysius C. George ■ John W. George ■ Mason J. Gilila ■ John D. Gillam ■ Caleb L. Gordon ■ Angie M. Grant ■ Carl P. Green ■ Henry Green ■ James Greene, Jr. ■ Morris C. Green ■ Ryan Green ■ Chesley Greeno ■ Wassillie J. Gregory, Sr. ■ Constantine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Jesse J. Gunlik ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Thomas N. Hart ■ Charles M. Heckman, Jr. ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Elena Heroux ■ Michael R. 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Note: *The work force at Donlin rotates, and many workers return year after year following planned absences to fill seasonal roles.*













FRITZ ALBERT, (top left) from Akiachak, is on the carpentry crew and is shown flooring the maintenance tent. EVAN POLTY JR., (top right) from Russian Mission, is a Drill Coordinator at Donlin Creek. BARBARA HUNTER (lower right) of Scammon Bay works as a Bull Cook/House Keeper at Donlin Creek. BRUNO KASAYULIE (bottom center) of Scammon Bay works for Ramp Services. GEORGE CHIKOYAK, (bottom left) from Bethel, is an Adminstrative Assistant at Donlin Creek.



DONLIN'S HR MANAGER VISITS BETHEL

(Continued from photo page)

opportunities for people who have pursued additional training at college, Job Corps or Alaska Vocational and Technical Center (AvTech). The competition for jobs at Donlin is tough, and any additional skills that potential employees can offer are an asset.

Ross plans on additional visits around the YK region and statewide. He wants to share his expertise with anyone who is interested in pursuing a good job with Donlin Creek, and his excitement about the project leaves an impression on the people he meets. "I like to see people motivated in their careers," he says with a smile.

***ROSS MAITLAND**, now living in Anchorage, is the Human Resources Manager for Donlin Creek.*

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history and cultures of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Barrick management. In this series, we are publishing some of this information for our readers who are not residents in the region.

Hospitality to Guests: Allaniuyaraq is the way to treat guests who come to visit you. Traditionally, Yup'ik culture emphasizes the welcoming of guests and respect toward new individuals. On Feb. 7, 2008 Donlin Creek welcomed tribal leaders from the Upper Kuskokwim villages to camp for a project update on the formation of the Donlin Creek LLC and the outlook for the project during the 2008 season. Donlin Creek will continue to work in cooperation with local communities to advance the Donlin project and create jobs within the region.

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PROJECT UPDATE JUNE/JULY 2008

Donlin Welcomes Kuspuk Interns Back

For the second year, Donlin Creek LLC and the Kuspuk Career Academy are working together to offer summer internships to young people from the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Donlin Creek and the Academy are partnering to introduce interns to the professional world, starting with a mock interview for their summer positions at Donlin. Interns will work full shifts and earn a paycheck while gaining exposure to various career paths.

The internship program is offered through the Kuspuk Career Academy, which entails five weeks of classes that give participants instruction on language arts, technology skills, math, drug and alcohol awareness, interview techniques and other workplace skills. The goal of the Career Academy is to increase the vocational opportunities available to young people in the region. The program, in its second year, is already experiencing a significant increase in participation.

Charlie Thacker, Director of the Career Academy, approached Donlin's management last year about internship opportunities. Charlie's plan was to work with Donlin's management team to develop Career Academy programs that would prepare students for positions onsite.

According to Donlin Creek Human Resources Manager Ross Maitland, the internship program gives youth a chance to "get their feet wet in the real world," and allows them to gain work experience while taking part in a paid internship. "The program is open to everyone," says Ross. "Learning skills at Donlin is a great chance for these kids to start out on a career path that will serve them well beyond the life of the mine."

Bill Bieber, Donlin Creek's Operations Manager, says that the program is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved.

Donlin secures interns that have had exposure to technical training, and the interns get valuable real-world experience that could lead to a full-time job. "It helps Donlin and it helps the region," says Bill. "We get excellent interns, and the participants gain work skills close to their homes."

"The Kuspuk Career Academy is creating high-caliber employees with their programs," says Donlin's Bill Bieber. "Everyone involved — Charlie, the administration and the students — should be very proud of the results."



Human Resources Manager ROSS MAITLAND (center) currently of Anchorage, introduces students from the Kuspuk Career Academy to Donlin Creek. Students are placed in various positions throughout the summer in order to gain a variety skills and professional experience.

TO APPLY FOR A JOB AT DONLIN, CALL CHIULISTA CAMP SERVICES AT
1-800-277-5516 OR GO TO:
WWW.CHIULISTA.COM/EMPLOYMENT.ASP

Face to Face

TARGET SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF STUDIES



Douglas Nicholson
President and
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

May marks the first six months of Donlin Creek LLC's operation; it has certainly been a busy time. Both new faces and old have been working very hard to move the project forward. As many of you know by now, the project tabled a draft feasibility study last November. In the last six months a lot of hard work has gone on to review and continue to improve the project.

One aspect of the project we focused significant resources on was the delivery of power. Everyone who has to pay the electric bill or purchase fuel oil to heat their home understands that the delivery of energy to our region is a significant and expensive challenge. The project took a long look at the possibility of bringing power to the project by running a power line to the railbelt and linking to the grid. The results of that study were not what had been hoped for for a number of reasons. At our Board meeting in May, the decision was made to carry the project forward based on generating power for the Donlin operation onsite.

The Path Forward
We are currently moving the study phase to completion by finalizing our optimized Feasibility Study. Between June 1, 2008 and the first quarter of 2009, Donlin will be finalizing the Feasibility Study. The project will be coordinating the development of support documents for permit applications that will be submitted after the Feasibility Study is completed. Once the Feasibility Study is complete, the project will move into the beginning stages of the permitting process.

Village Meetings Coming Up
In the coming months we will develop our preferred project description to share with the region's residents. We will be anxious to hear your feedback so that we can consider it before drafting our final permit applications. We want to hear what everyone on the river has to say, so we are carefully planning village meetings at key locations across the region between October 2008 and April 2009.

New Team Member
I am pleased to welcome Mary Sattler Nelson, former Representative for District 28, to our team. Mary's insight and fresh perspective will certainly assist us in designing a sustainable project that will benefit the region for years to come. In addition, Mary is a great resource; please contact her at (907) 301-9609 to ask her questions and stay informed as the project moves forward. Look for meeting notices in your area this coming winter, or if you have any questions any time, give me or Mary Sattler Nelson a call.

As always, thank you so much for your continuing support.

Sincerely,
Doug Nicholson (907) 273-0200



Donlin Creek LLC employee ANNA DAVIS, an Anchorage resident, sorts clothing from several Anchorage schools' Lost and Found bins. The clothing will be donated to children in Bethel and the surrounding areas.

Donlin Employees to Donate Clothing to Bethel Schools

May 23 was the final day of classes for students in the Anchorage School District. It was also the day that several schools donated children's unclaimed lost and found items to Donlin Creek LLC's annual clothing drive to help children in the Bethel area.

Donlin Creek LLC employee Anna Davis, of Anchorage, worked with Orion Elementary School last year to gather clothing from the school's lost and found bin that was never claimed. This year, two additional schools, Aurora Elementary and Central Middle School, also contributed their unclaimed items to the drive.

Anna will work with fellow Donlin employees Tisha Wooley, originally of Bethel, and Susan Dixon and Elva Marr of Anchorage to wash, sort and prepare the items for shipment and distribution in August.

Mary Sattler Nelson Named Donlin's Manager of Community Development & Sustainability



Mary Sattler Nelson has accepted a full-time position as Manager of Community Development & Sustainability for Donlin Creek LLC. Mary announced that she would not seek a sixth term earlier this year after serving 10 years in the Alaska State Legislature as a representative of Bethel and the surrounding villages.

"I'm excited at the prospect of taking on new challenges that can have long-term, positive social and economic impacts in our region," Mary said. "I have watched Donlin closely for more than 10 years now and have been impressed with Barrick/Nova Gold's commitment to working with the upriver communities near their exploration operation. Not only have they kept their environmental commitments, but I've also seen firsthand the positive effects that their 90 percent local hire rate has had on our communities. Now I want to work with the company to ensure that these benefits are realized throughout the region so that they can be sustained not only through the construction, operation and reclamation of the mine — but also beyond."

Both NovaGold and Barrick emphasize a commitment to sustainability in their corporate values and their day-to-day operations all over the world. According to Donlin Creek LLC President/General Manager Douglas Nicholson, "Careful planning upfront can ensure that Alaskans realize the maximum benefit possible with an economic development opportunity like the Donlin project. Mary is the perfect individual to help us partner in a meaningful way with the YK communities. We are delighted that she will be working with us to do the right thing in the region."

In the past, Mary has been a commercial fisher, Bethel Coordinator for Coastal Village Services, Rural Outreach Coordinator for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and a Fisheries Technician for ADF&G. She has also served on the boards for the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council, Rural CAP, youth representative for the National Congress of American Indians and as a commissioner on the Tolerance Commission - among many others.

Mary's responsibilities with Donlin Creek LLC will include development of annual public involvement plans and working

(Continued on back page)

Employee Spotlight

TINA WASSILY, ADMINISTRATOR

Tina Wassily is Donlin Creek's Administrator at camp and as such is in charge of the travel department, office supplies, inter-departmental paperwork, timesheets and promotional items. Tina is also in charge of a staff of two that help her keep things running smoothly. In addition to these duties, she works with Donlin's Operations Manager, Bill Bieber, as his assistant.

Tina currently lives in Anchorage, but was born in Bethel. In addition, she has lived in Aniak, Kalskag and Bristol Bay. Her first job was in high school, working seasonally as a commercial fishing deckhand on her father's boat. Commercial fishing was extremely demanding, and Tina says this experience helped her form a strong work ethic and taught her to never underestimate her abilities.

Tina has been with Donlin Creek for over a year and says that her experience has been overwhelmingly positive. She feels that there is a great sense of teamwork and camaraderie at the camp and that this support has played a large role in helping her do her best. Tina says that other employees are always eager to share their knowledge and experience, helping her learn new ways in which she can contribute to the project.

When Tina is not at camp, she spends time with her fiancé, Nathan Harrison, and her children Ryan, Nicole and Joseph. She enjoys snowshoeing, writing and spending time outdoors. Her mother, Margaret Simeon, is originally from Aniak and currently lives in Anchorage. Her father, Jimmy Wassily, resides in Clark's Point.

Tina says that she wants to help the project grow and is excited to be a part of Donlin's success. "I am very dedicated to Donlin Creek and the people I work with," she says. "I plan on working here for the duration of the project."



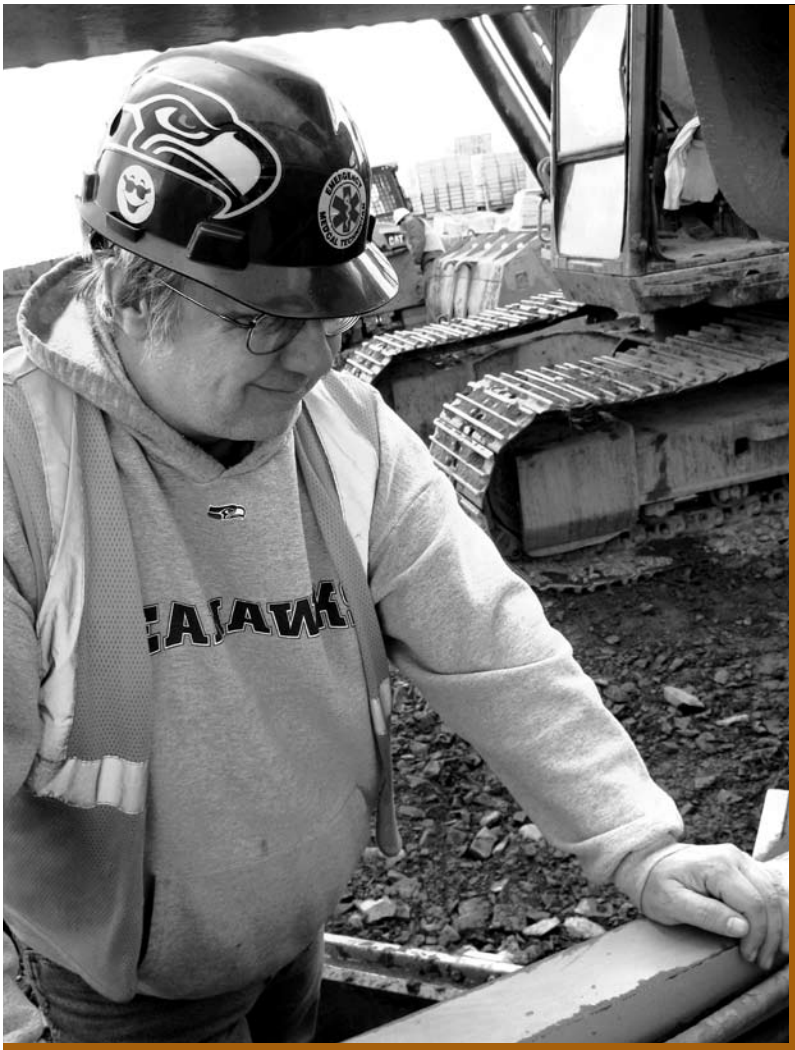
Team recognition

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Note: *The work force at Donlin rotates and many workers return year after year following planned absences to fill seasonal roles.*











Safety First, ALEX FELKER*, (left) of Crooked Creek, is an EMT/Site Safety on the Donlin Creek project. Working at a Drill Site* CARL NOAH*, (top right) from Akiachak, is a Driller A for the Donlin Creek project.* BASIL LARSON*, (bottom right) a Carpenter from Mountain Village, keeps all the buildings at camp in good repair.* ALOYSIOUS GEORGE*, (bottom center) from Pilot Station, collects samples in the field as a Prep Lab Supervisor at Donlin Creek.*

Donlin Resources Called Upon for Rescue



On April 10, 2008, Donlin Creek received a request for assistance from the Alaska State Troopers. A small plane had gone down, and the troopers needed Donlin to aid them in a search and rescue effort due to the camp's proximity to the scene.

Within minutes of receiving the call, Shop Foreman Peter "Boise" Alexie, of Russian Mission, and helicopter pilot Dusty Mosness, of Montana had been dispatched. Upon arrival at the scene, the two men quickly located the pilot, who was unharmed.

Boise and Dusty loaded the pilot into the helicopter and returned with him to camp. The entire operation — from the rescue team's take off to their safe return to camp with the pilot — took less than 40 minutes.

Shop Foreman PETER "BOISE" ALEXIE*, of Russian Mission, and helicopter pilot* DUSTY MOSNESS*, of Montana, took this photo of the downed aircraft that they located quickly after receiving a request for assistance from state troopers.*



Mary Sattler Nelson Joins Donlin Team

(Continued from page five)

with multidisciplinary team members to implement them regionally. She will work with community leaders in the YK region to form partnerships that will contribute to sustainable community development.

Mary's mother and stepfather live and work in Bethel, and her father and stepmother live and are raising their family in Stony River. She has four children: Conrad Qugpak, Matthew Van Mataq, Job Taassiq and Nora Ikamtuk. Her husband Joe Nelson is originally from Yakutat.

MARY SATTLER NELSON has joined Donlin Creek LLC as Manager of Community Development & Sustainability. She is seen here with her baby NORA SHINE *IKAMTUK* NELSON, DOUG NICHOLSON, and LEO MORGAN, TKC President.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents in the region.

Communication: In traditional Yup'ik communities the people would often gather to discuss plans for the village. The leaders would say "Everyone is invited to come and listen." In Yup'ik this was called "yuaqeggarrluteng," or "inviting anyone who can hear, letting everyone know."

This tradition has been engrained into the work ethic and culture of Donlin Creek. Communications with our employees and the region are open and sincere. And through community forums and honest dialog with local leaders, Donlin Creek is working with the YK communities to create a bright future for the project

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DONLIN CREEK
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PROJECT UPDATE
AUGUST 2008

Donlin Honored for Safety Milestone

Reaching a single year of zero lost-time injuries (LTI) is a remarkable achievement for any operation, mining or otherwise. Donlin Creek LLC has reached its second consecutive year with no LTI, and was honored on June 23 with an International Society of Mining Safety Professionals (ISMSP) Award and a Barrick Special Merit Award. Both awards were in recognition of 2007 as an injury-free year.



The ISMSP was founded to promote the development of health and safety professionals throughout the international mining community. Donlin's record was compared to best practices in mines around the world. Bill Bieber, Operations Manager at Donlin Creek, says that the project might actually be approaching five years with no LTI, but formal records that could verify this statistc have only been kept since the beginning of 2006.

Barrick Gold's Don Ritz, Vice President of Safety, and Bob Dechant, Corporate Safety and Health Manager were on hand to present the accolades. Donlin's Rusty Roberts, Site Safety/Training Coordinator, accepted the awards, but asserts that getting to this point was a team effort. He says that safety is not just a goal at Donlin Creek; it is an attitude that has been engrained into the corporate culture.

Bill says that the achievement can be credited to a "strong culture of people looking out for each other constantly." Both the positive working environment and the familiarity between employees have contributed to the professional climate of the project.

"We tell our employees that no job is worth it unless it's safe," says Rusty. Creating an environment in which safety practices become embedded into everyday activities is crucial, and Donlin Creek has achieved that. "People at camp watch out for each other," he says.

Face to Face

Your NO VOTE ON 4 *is Critical to the Future of the Donlin Project*

You will have an opportunity to vote on Ballot Measure 4 on Aug. 26. This vaguely worded initiative attempt was first promoted as an effort to protect clean water. Now the backers of the initiative say it is an attempt to prevent the development of one mine project. Either way it is misleading.

If Passed, Measure 4 will Affect Donlin: It's not just about one controversial mine elsewhere. Measure 4 would create regulatory uncertainty that could make it impossible to develop ANY new large metal mines. As voters go to the polls, they need to know that no initiative can be so narrowly written as to affect only one project. Our Constitution requires that rules applied by the State have to be applied equally throughout Alaska.



Economic Benefits from Donlin Are at Risk: The broad and deceptive language in this initiative will require new regulations and lead to court challenges affecting large mine permits for years to come. This means significant uncertainty as to the future of a mine project at Donlin Creek.

It's Not About Clean Water: Everyone supports clean water. That's why the people who crafted Ballot Measure 4 chose to call it the "Clean Water Initiative." But this is misleading in a number of ways, including:

• The truth is Alaska's mining laws are already among the toughest in the world, and they are working well to protect our watersheds, our fish and our people.

• Measure 4 could ruin these environmental protections by layering on unnecessary red tape that will make permitting here so complex that large metal mine developers say they will seriously think about pulling out of Alaska.

It is About Jobs: If Measure 4 passes, it will threaten jobs. We have worked hard to make sure that the exploration-phase jobs at Donlin held steady at 90 percent shareholder/descendent hire. If Donlin does not get permitted, there will be no more jobs.

I urge you to vote **NO** on Ballot Measure 4.

Jobs Update: Our employees at Donlin-Creek have done such an exceptional job this summer that we have already met the drilling goals set for the season. This accomplishment, coupled with the fact that we now need to focus primarily on preparing for the permitting process, means that our seasonal layoffs have come a little early this year.

As with all large mine projects, as we move into the permitting phase, the exploration programs in the field will be scaled back. We must focus on environmental and engineering work for the next few years if we are to 1.) proceed successfully through permitting, and 2.) get a positive decision to construct from our Board. We will still do some drilling, some geotech and maybe a little exploration, but at a lower level during this period.

Pending the defeat of Ballot Measure 4 and success in the permitting phase, we can all look forward to more than 2,000 jobs during the mine construction phase, and then approximately 800 jobs during the 20 plus years of operating life of the mine. I can assure you that we will be anxious to rehire previous employees and recruit many more from within the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region because the quality of the Donlin workforce during our exploration phase has been outstanding.

As always, both partners in the Donlin Creek LLC remain committed to moving this project forward with attention to the highest environmental, engineering and sustainability values. If you have any concerns or questions, please call us at (907) 273-0200. Thank you so much for your continuing support.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Moving*Forward*

Our "Moving Forward" feature will highlight some of the different ways in which Donlin Creek seeks to provide training and career paths for our employees. By providing opportunities for advancement at Donlin, we help both our workforce and the project move ahead.



Donlin's current Drillers and entry-level Driller Assistants, from L - R: **Ken Luke**, Driller A, Anchorage; **Michael Pitka**, Driller Assistant, Chefornak; **Bruce Bunker**, Driller, Utah; **Dennis Issac** *(in front)* Driller AA, Lower Kalskag; **Joe Beans** *(back)* Driller Assistant, Saint Mary's; **Randy Nayamin**, Driller B, Lower Kalskag; **Martin Williams**, Driller Assistant, Kwethluk; and **George Johnson**, Driller Assistant, Mountain Village.

Donlin Creek's Driller Assistant program is designed to offer training and mentorship to individuals interested in a career in mining. Participants start out as a Driller Assistant B, an entry-level position, in which they receive on-site training in Mine Safety and Health Administration, first aid and CPR. They are gradually introduced to increasing levels of responsibility as they train with more experienced drillers on the rigs.

The goal of this highly successful program is to advance the trainees as Drillers through hands-on experience and education. Many former Driller Assistants have moved on to become Driller AAAs, a top position that is in charge of a drill rig and its maintenance.



Employee Spotlight***DARYL McKINDY***

Daryl McKindy has been working at Donlin Creek since May of 2005. He began his career as an Assistant Mechanic and is currently working as a Driller Coordinator. Before joining the Donlin team, he worked for the Kuspuk School District as a mechanic and performed building maintenance.

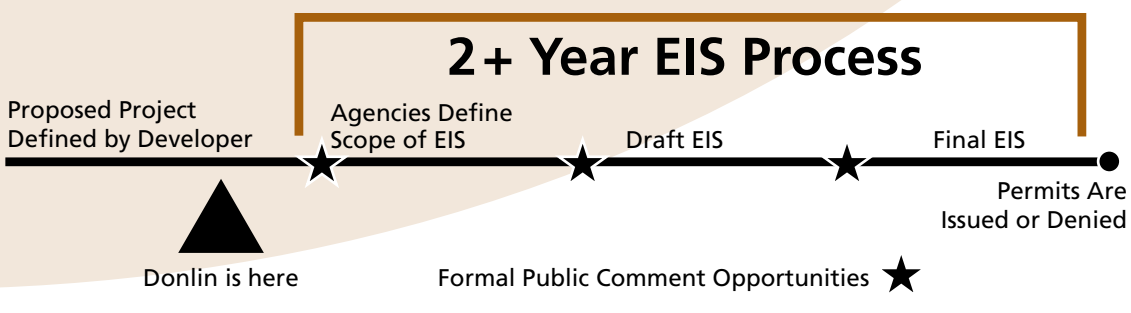
Daryl was born in Bethel and raised in Aniak. His parents are John McKindy and Marie Kameroff, both of Upper Kalskag. His favorite part of working at Donlin is being a member of a great team. He says that his fellow crewmembers are a lot of fun, and that enjoying your job "makes you want to get up in the morning." Daryl was originally interested in a position at Donlin because of the schedule it offered and the ability it gave him to work in the region.

He says that being home for half of the year is a bonus since he and his wife Gina have two young daughters, Jaci and Mandy. During his time off, Daryl spends time with his family, and enjoys hunting for moose and waterfowl around Aniak.

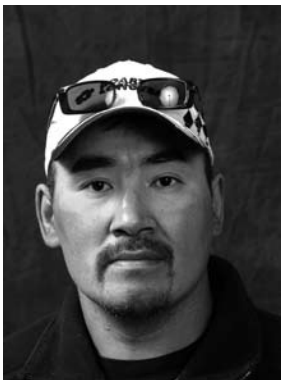
Since camp is less than a half hour from home, Daryl says that he would like to stay with Donlin as long as possible. He considers the project a great place to work. "People come here from all over," he says. "It's good to get to know people from all over the place!"

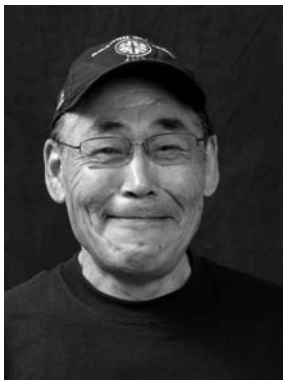
Timeline

In this section, we will be highlighting important milestones in the development of the Donlin Creek project, illustrating our progress as we move forward.



Team recognition THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06, ‘07, ‘08




From L - R: Carl R. Noah, Driller, Akiachak • George Johnson, Driller Assistant, Mountain Village • Michael Hetherington Jr., Driller Assistant A, Kalskag • David Jenkins, Baker/Cook, Nunapitchuk • Maria Sattler, Head Housekeeper, Stony River

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards ■ Lorraine Egnaty ■ Kalela Evan I ■ Kalela P. Evan II ■ Michael Evan, Sr. ■ David M. Evan ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ Janet M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Mary K. Evan ■ Morris Evan ■ Raymond Evan ■ Joseph “Joey” Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Thaddeus Fisher ■ Aaron M. Fitka ■ Leonard G. Fitka, Jr. ■ Nicholas R. Fitka, Jr. ■ Rose L. Frisby ■ Thomas Fryer ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ Aloysius C. George ■ John W. George ■ Mason J. Gilila ■ John D. Gillam ■ Caleb L. Gordon ■ Angie M. Grant ■ Carl P. Green ■ Henry Green ■ James Greene, Jr. ■ Morris C. Green ■ Ryan Green ■ Chesley Greeno ■ Wassillie J. Gregory, Sr. ■ Constantine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Jesse J. Gunlik ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Thomas N. Hart ■ Charles M. Heckman, Jr. ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Elena Heroux ■ Michael R. 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Larson ■ Daris E. Larson ■ Evan K. Larson, Jr. ■ Oscar P. Larson ■ Marvin J. Lawrence ■ David B. LeMaster ■ George J. Levi ■ Gulga A. Levi ■ Nick H. Levi ■ Kevin P. Levi ■ Elena Levi ■ Janet Levi ■ Moses Danny Levi ■ Andrew Littlefish, Sr. ■ Jose “Mario” Lopez ■ Roman M. Lubczonek ■ Kenneth Luke ■ Evan Macar ■ Stephan Macar ■ Elena McCarr ■ Ross J. Maitland ■ Andrew N. Makaily III ■ Andrew N. Makaily ■ Neil A. Makaily ■ Eufemio Martinez ■ Tom Martini ■ Vincent T. Maxie ■ Daryl J. Mckindy ■ Benito Mendoza ■ Annie Michaelson ■ Franklin D. Moncher ■ Aaron P. Morgan ■ Carrie B. Morgan ■ Carl M. Morgan, Jr. ■ Eric P. Morgan, Jr. ■ Glen D. Morgan, Jr. ■ Walter A. Morgan, Sr. ■ Walter Morgan, Jr. ■ Francine M. Morgan ■ Roger D. Morgan ■ Terence C. Morgan ■ Mathew Morgan ■ Leonard P. Morgan ■ Tonya R. Morgan ■ Kenneth D. Morrow ■ Carolyn Moses ■ Steven J. Moses ■ Sean P. Murdock ■ Patricia Murphy ■ Sammy J. Murphy ■ John J. Mute ■ Roy F. Naneng ■ Randy T. Nayamin ■ Brandon Nayamin ■ Derek F. Nelson ■ Thomas G. Nesbit ■ Anutka Nickoli ■ Goosma Nickoli ■ Nicholas J. Nicoli ■ Nick J. Nicoli ■ Gjovalin Nika ■ Carl Noah ■ Harley G. Noratuk ■ Daniel Olrun, Jr. ■ Samuel J. Overton ■ Balasha E. Pace ■ Mollie Paneok ■ Rose M. Paniyak ■ Brian Parrett ■ Eddie G. Pasitnak, Jr. ■ Anthony D. Payne ■ Brad D. Pensgard, Jr. ■ Olga M. Pepperling ■ Shawn J. Peter ■ Frederick K. Peters ■ Mike P. Peters ■ Stanley J. Peters ■ Terrence W. Peters ■ Martha Lee Peters ■ Michael Peters ■ Pete S. Peters ■ MaryRose Peterson ■ Sam A. Peterson ■ Alexandria Phillips ■ Alexie Phillips ■ Elena Phillips ■ William R. Phillips ■ David A. Phillips ■ Katherine N. Phillips ■ Samantha G. Phillips ■ Axinia Pitka ■ John A. Pitka ■ Michael Pitka ■ Yago Pitka ■ August M. Pleasant ■ Evan K. Polty, Jr. ■ Leon Polty ■ Michael Price ■ Daniel P. Rankin ■ Nelson Revet ■ Virginia Rhodes-Woodmancy ■ Curtis D. Robinett ■ Alexie N. Sakar ■ Edward Sakar ■ Mary B. Sakar ■ Roxanne H. Sakar ■ Steven W. Sakar ■ Gregory O. Sakar ■ Rodney A. Sakar ■ Vivian A. Sakar ■ Bolossa A. Sam ■ Pete Sam ■ Oscar T. Samuelson ■ Maria M. Sattler ■ Barbara B. Savage ■ Melissa M. Savage ■ Elia R. Sergie ■ Travis Q. Shavings ■ Arthur W. Simeon ■ Ishmael A. Smith ■ Robert H. Snyder ■ Robert H. Snyder, Jr. ■ Patrick D. Spein ■ Byron P. Stephanoff ■ Theodore P. Stephanoff ■ Donovan D. Teter ■ Barbara Tinker ■ Cindy S. Tinker ■ Francis J. Tinker ■ Leonty Tinker ■ Lloyd “Danny” Twitchell ■ Phillip Urovak ■ Peter N. Valka ■ Arthur J. Vaska, Jr. ■ Josette R. Wade ■ Clifford W. Walters ■ Marcus Waskey ■ Tina Wassily ■ Edward J. White ■ Martin H. Williams ■ Albert A. Willis, Jr. ■ Catherine I. Wise ■ Nina M. Wise ■ John Wise ■ Richard A. Wolf, Jr. ■ Tationa A. Yagashoff ■ Jennie E. Zaukar ■ Juanita M. Zaukar ■ Evan D. Zaukar

Note: *The work force at Donlin rotates and many workers return year after year following planned absences to fill seasonal roles.*







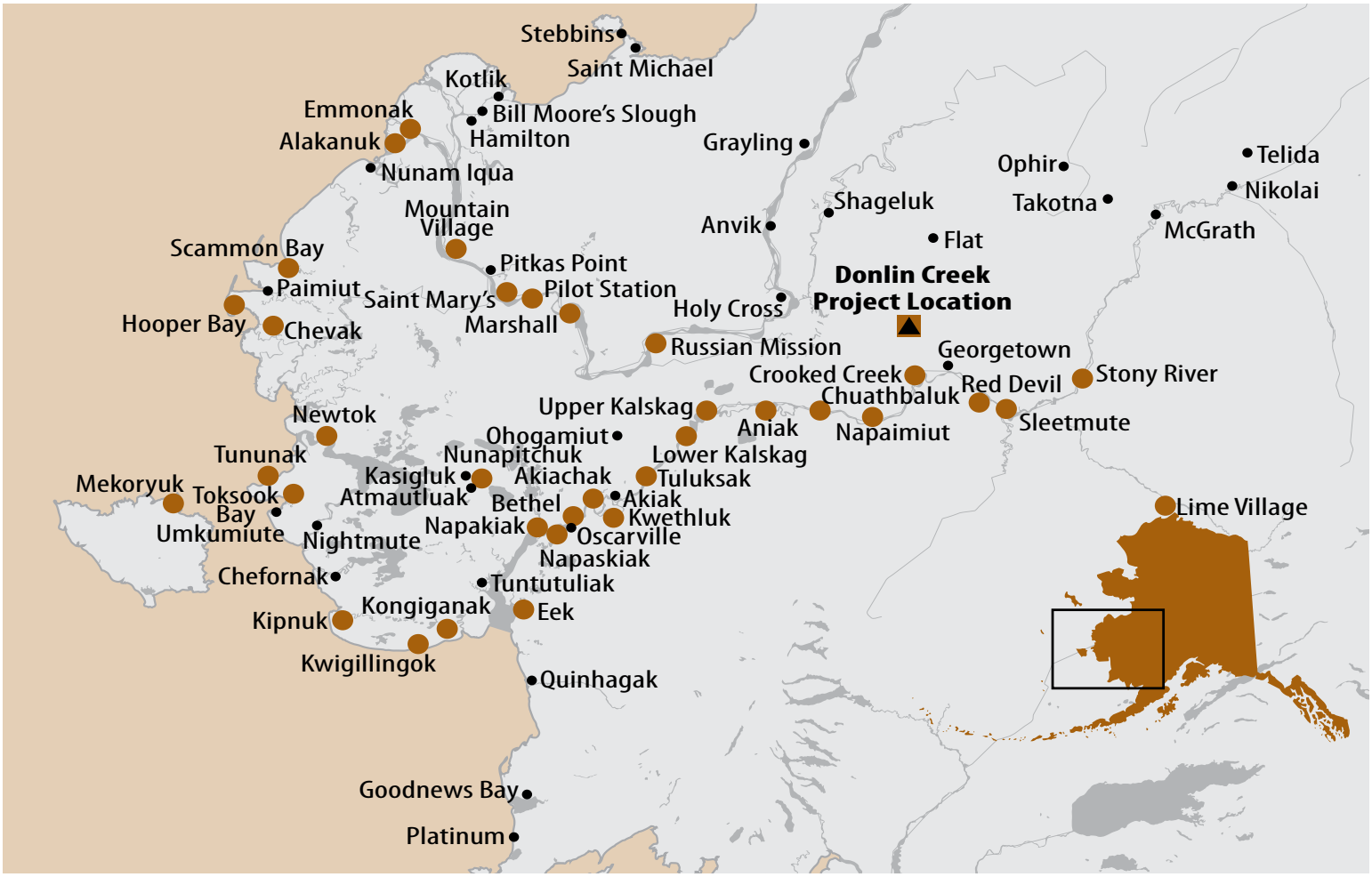
From L - R: Walter Jim Jr., Maintenance Supervisor, Bethel • Sam Overton, Driller A, Chuathbaluk • Ollie Pepperling, Housekeeping Supervisor, Sleetmute • Sammy Murphy, Driller C, Anchorage • Andrew McKaily III, Driller A, Pilot Station

Hiring 90% of our workforce locally






From L - R: Joe Beans II, Driller Assistant A, St. Mary's • Sam Murphy, Driller C, Anchorage • Tina Wassily, Administrator/Manager, Anchorage, George Chikoyak, Administrative Assistant, Bethel • Dennis Issac, Driller AA, Lower Kalskag








From L - R: George Johnson, Driller Assistant A, Mt. Village • David Jenkins, Nunapitchuk, Cook/Baker
Elena Phillips, Prep Cook/Housekeeper, Crooked Creek • James Greene Jr., Geo tech, Pilot Station • Ken Luke, Driller A, Anchorage

Mary Sattler Nelson on Ballot Measure 4

Director of Community Development & Sustainability, Donlin Creek LLC



Alaska's current science-based approach to mining regulations is not only the envy of the world, but it is constantly being improved as new technologies come about. We shouldn't throw out that system, based on emotion, and replace it with the unknown. That is irresponsible and could have devastating consequences to an industry that I believe is extremely important to our state and local region.

Proponents of Ballot Measure 4 claim that it is needed to protect salmon and human health. Based on my experience in Juneau, I can assure you that Alaska has a world-class regulatory process already in place that does both of those things. Mines must adhere to both state and federal laws regarding clean water and providing for healthy aquatic life

The timing of Measure 4 is very unfortunate. Donlin Creek may well be the first large mine project to go through the Alaska permitting process after Measure 4 passes — IF it passes. Measure 4's broad language leaves a lot of room for interpretation. This means that Donlin may be held up in court for a very long time as lawyers argue and argue. And while the lawyers get paid to argue, the economic development that we have been working toward in the YK region will be put on hold — and depending on who wins all the arguments, Donlin Creek Mine may never become a reality.

Don't let this happen. Please help to get out the vote in your community. VOTE NO ON BALLOT MEASURE 4 on Aug. 26.

Mary Nelson

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents in the region.

Learning through listening: Yup'ik leaders have a tradition of gathering the community together to share life lessons they have learned. One important piece of advice was to "listen to instructions grounded in experience." With this message, people were encouraged to listen to others and to become *teglegamek muirumayaaqua* (filled with information).

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DONLIN CREEK
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
FALL 2008

Job Placement for Donlin Employees

Chiulista Offers Assistance During Slow Period on Project

The people of the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region have played a key role in advancing the Donlin project to its current phase. During the upcoming NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process, Donlin's workforce will be scaled down to a maintenance crew. As a result, Chiulista Camp Services (CCS) and the Donlin Creek team are working together to find job placements for employees who have been laid off until, hopefully, permits are granted and the project moves into the construction phase.

Monique Henriksen, Senior Vice President of Chiulista, reports that CCS has offered interested Shareholders temporary positions in hospitality and foodservice at Calista's Mayflower Catering in Anchorage and with its North Slope Project. As positions become available, Calista Human Resources or CCS notify individuals who would be a good match. Monique explains that employees must take action after being contacted. It is up to each individual employee to fill out applications and conduct follow-ups by calling potential employers and checking in on the status of their applications.

One employee who has benefited from Chiulista's assistance is Garrett Evan. He began his career as a Driller Assistant at Donlin Creek and now works as a Driller, switching between Pogo and Fort Knox mines. Garrett says that Chiulista's services have been helpful to him, but that you still need to be proactive. He says that when he is notified of an opening, he fills out an application immediately and submits it to the potential employer's Human Resources department.

"With winter come lay-offs in the mining industry," Garrett says. He encourages Donlin Creek employees to begin looking in advance and to fill out as many applications as possible.



"With winter come lay-offs in the mining industry."
Garrett Evan, Driller

"Donlin employees are attractive to potential employers because of the skills they have gained at the project," Monique states. This includes transferable training such as MSHA, ServSafe and Food Handlers. Valuable on-the-job experience is also gained in positions like Driller, Prep Lab employee and Core Cutter.

Chiulista will continue to work with Calista and other subsidiaries to find positions for skilled workers. If you are interested in learning about open positions within Chiulista, contact Monique Henriksen at (907) 278-2208, or visit them online at **www.chiulista.com/employment**. To find out about jobs within other subsidiaries, Call Calista HR at **(800) 277-5516** or, visit them online at **www.calistacorp.com/hr/default.asp**.

Face to Face

Upcoming Project Roll Out Meetings

An Opportunity to Learn More: In response to requests from many of the YK villages, we are preparing materials to help us describe to you our proposal to develop a large open pit gold mine at Donlin.



We want to share the proposed plan with you and answer your questions. More importantly, we want to understand any and all concerns that you may have about our draft proposal so that we can modify our project to address them if possible, before we finalize and submit our permit applications to the regulatory agencies.

Meeting Plans are Coming Together: Mary Nelson has begun the process of speaking with tribal leaders in subregional villages about the logistics of this process. Based on her conversations so far, and on conversations she had with some of you while you were at AFN in Anchorage, it looks like we will be traveling to about 12 centrally located villages. We will invite tribal councils, elders, youth and other community members from the surrounding villages to join us there.

Careful Planning: We are continuing the engineering studies on the project. We have enough detail to begin what we hope will be an ongoing conversation with you about Donlin. We are starting our conversation with you early, before we know for certain the project will be built. We want to understand your concerns and consider your suggestions so that we can advance the best plan for developing the project – a plan that both meets the needs of the company and brings the greatest benefit to the residents of the region.

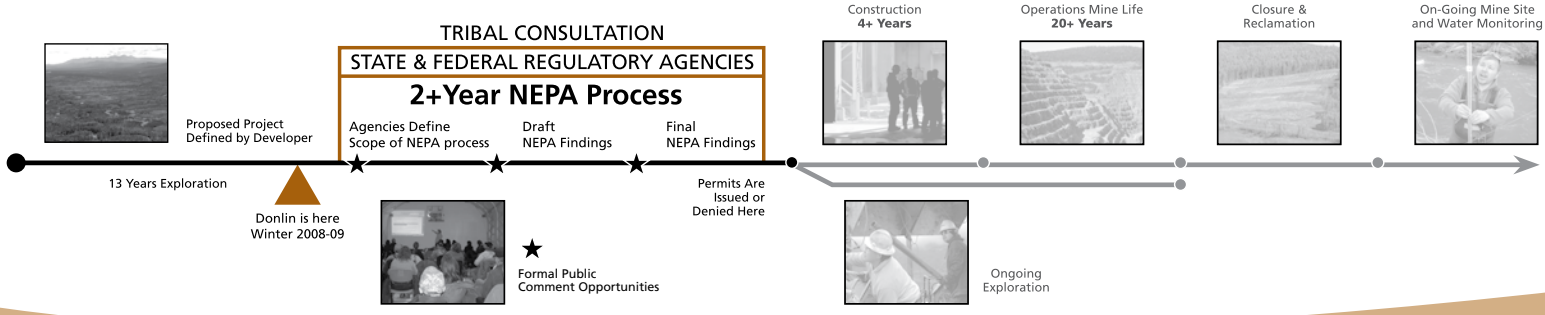
Employment Update: The project is entering a new phase completing engineering, geologic and environmental studies, modifying design plans, drafting permit applications and then participating in the permitting process. All of these tasks are time and resource intensive. Our resources must be dedicated to these tasks, not to continued exploration – the task that has made Donlin camp a vital employment center in the region for more than 10 years now.

We look forward to a day when we may learn that permits have been granted for the project and a decision can be made to construct a large mine project that will provide employment and economic opportunity for residents of the region for years to come.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Timeline



Moving*Forward*

Our "Moving Forward" feature highlights some of the different ways in which Donlin Creek seeks to provide training and career paths for our employees. By providing opportunities for advancement at Donlin, we help both our workforce and the project move ahead.



Donlin's Cooks/Bakers, Kitchen Help, Housekeeping/Assistants from L - R: **David D. Jenkins,** Baker/Cook; **Dan Rankin,** Cook; **Ollie Pepperling,** Supervisor Housekeeping; **John Gillam,** Camp Services Manager; **Elena Phillips,** Prep Cook/Housekeeper; **Annie S. Michealson,** Kitchen Helper/ Housekeeping

Donlin Creek offers job training and advancement opportunities to people in the region who are interested in catering and the culinary arts. Crewmembers start out as Housekeepers; as they advance, they can be promoted to Kitchen Helper, Prep Cook or Baker. The training program includes mentoring from Senior Cooking Staff and education on food safety, meal preparation, and the logistics of providing fresh, nutritious meals in a remote location.

The Cooking Crew program at Donlin Creek has been very successful. While many Crewmembers plan on staying with Donlin when the project moves into development, the education and training they have received at camp has prepared them for a food service career in any industry.



Employee Spotlight***STAN PETERS***

Stan Peters is Donlin Creek's Shop Foreman, and is in charge of maintenance and repairs on all of the motorized equipment on site. As a Foreman, Stan is required to do a bit of everything– from welding to engine repair. He brings decades of experience to the team, and has learned a wide variety of skills from past jobs, including commercial fishing engineer, heavy equipment mechanic, pilot and airplane mechanic.

Stan advises people who are interested in a career at Donlin to work hard and learn as much as possible.

He says that he started out watching welders, machinists and mechanics at work, learning something new every day. In this spirit, Stan has started a program to teach crewmembers the basics of preventative maintenance and upkeep on equipment. Learning these skills is good for both the company and the employees, he says.

When not working, Stan enjoys playing the guitar and the violin, dog mushing, and subsistence hunting and fishing at home. He says that his two-week schedule gives him a chance to enjoy his hobbies and spend time with his family.

Stan says that the people he works with are exceptionally helpful and assist him whenever he needs it. "I am grateful and honored to be treated with such respect," he says. "The young people I work with help me; they are my hands and my strength. They should get all the credit!"

Team recognition THE DONLIN CREEK WORKFORCE ‘06, ‘07, ‘08







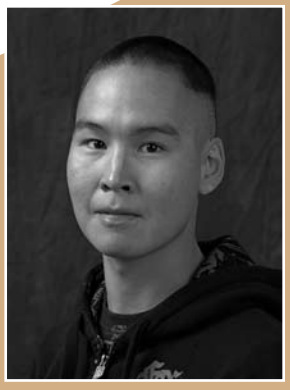
From L - R: Gabriel Heckman, Heavy Equipment Operator • Myron Askoar, Driller Assistant • Elena Phillips, Prep Cook/Housekeeper • Phillip Donhauser, Camp Maintenance Supervisor • Derek Nelson, Core Cutter

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. 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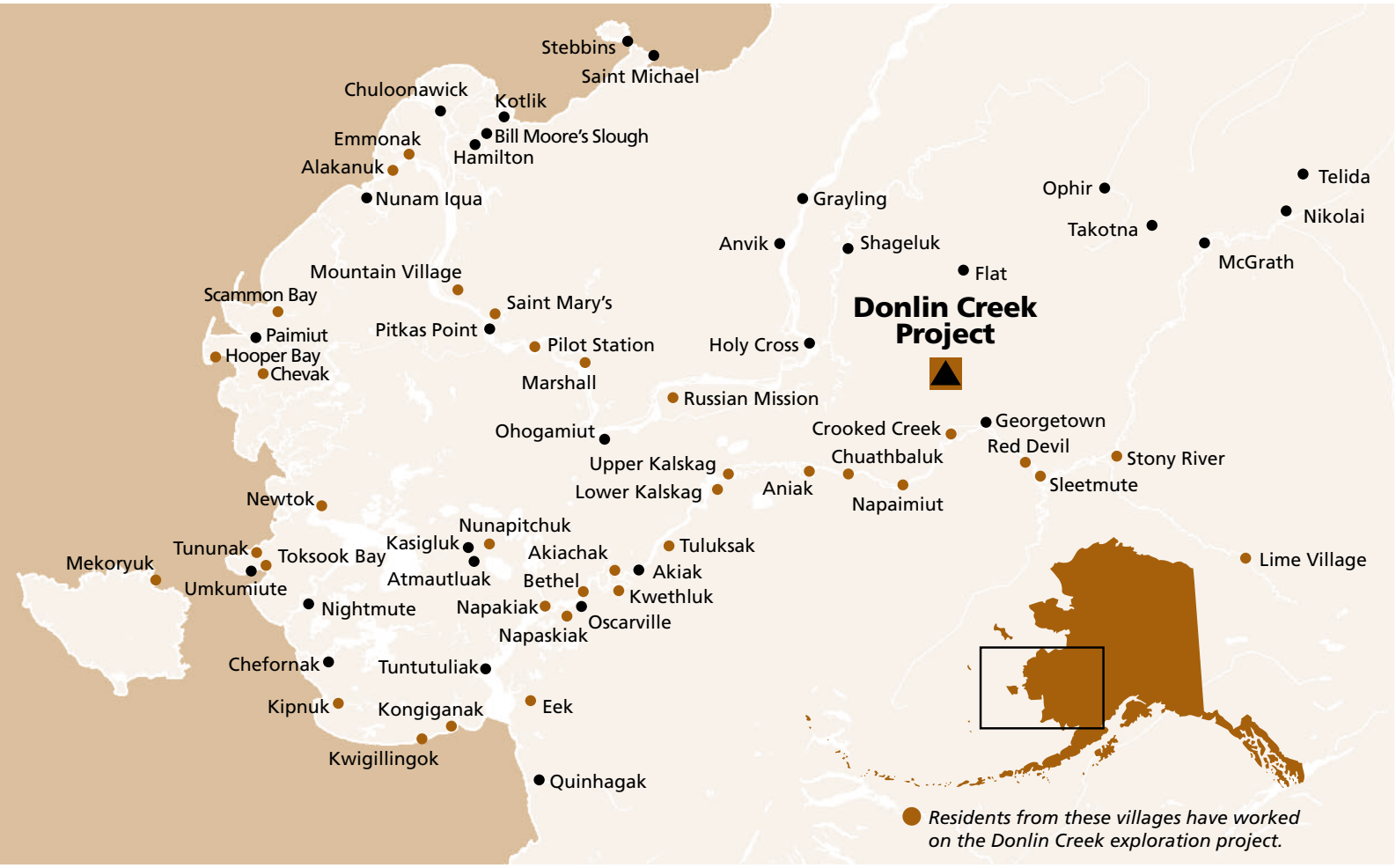
From L - R: Joseph Chikoyak Jr., Camp Maintenance • Christine Sakar, Baker/Housekeeper • Pete Sam, Geo Tech • Marvin Lawrence, Waterline Crew • Curtis Paul, Drill Pad Crew

People with paychecks from all over the region






From L - R: Gusty Gusty, Drill Pad Crew/Waterline • Traditional Yup'ik foods are a part of each meal at Donlin camp. • Nick John, Driller • Leonard Morgan, Shareholder Logistics Director








From L - R: Cindy Tinker, Administrative Assistant • Danny Twitchell, Environmental Specialist • Dean Demientieff, Camp Maintenance • Byron Stephanoff, Drill Pad Crew Supervisor

MINING VOCABULARY WORDS:
Hard Rock Mining and Gold Doré Bars

Hard Rock Mining: Mining of valuable minerals – such as gold, copper, zinc, nickel and lead – from bedrock. Gold deposits, like the ones at Donlin Creek, are located in bedrock and would be extracted using techniques like blasting and excavation.

Gold Doré Bars: Large scale mining operations usually process ore on site, creating a low-purity gold metal. This metal is poured into doré bars, weighing as much as 55 pounds, which are then transported to refineries for further purification.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we share some of these insights for our readers who are not residents in the region.

Tungayagtunarquq: Yup'ik people are taught to be generous with everyone they meet. When visitors come to a village, they are shown respect and generosity – they are fed if they are hungry and clothed if they are cold. This tradition creates an extended circle of friendship and is called *tungayagtunarquq* (gaining many relatives).

At Donlin Creek we encourage our workforce to be respectful and thoughtful. Through this tradition, we gain new insights from each other, bringing us closer together as a team and helping us forge new friendships.

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PROJECT UPDATE
FEBRUARY 2009

Donlin Team Travels to Villages to Listen and Learn

The Donlin team promised the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) villages to share our proposed mine project concepts with you before we submit applications for permits. Our goal was, and is, to listen to any questions or concerns you may have about our proposal so that we can be responsive and make adjustments, where appropriate, to our proposal before we submit it to the state and federal agencies for the beginning of the NEPA process.

We began this region-wide effort in mid-December when we met with tribal representatives and community members from:

- Crooked Creek
- Upper Kalskag
- Lower Kalskag
- Chuathbaluk
- Napaimiut
- Red Devil
- Sleetmute
- Stony River
- Aniak
- Kwethluk
- Akiak
- Akiachak
- Tuluksak

We explained in detail how the engineers and scientists on the project have worked hard to design protections into all the facilities and transport systems that will protect the region's subsistence resources, water quality and overall quality of life. We listened carefully at these initial subregional village meetings and were given a lot to consider.

Issues raised included managing potential wake impacts, avoiding fish impacts, planning to make sure that commercial and subsistence fishery openings aren't interrupted, maintaining water quality, and management of hazardous materials during transport and at the mine site. The issues raised in the region demonstrate why the planning process for a large mine project is long and complicated.

Mary Nelson, Donlin's Manager of Community Sustainability, is now working with the leaders in 16 additional villages to plan for the next series of meetings.



Before the village meeting in Aniak, all residents were invited to join the Donlin team for dinner at the school gym.

Concerns about barge traffic:

- managing potential wake impacts
- avoiding fish impacts
- planning to make sure that commercial and subsistence fishery openings aren't interrupted
- maintaining water quality

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Summary of Proposed Project Presented at Village Meetings



Donlin Operations Manager Bill Bieber, Manager of Community Sustainability Mary Sattler Nelson and I began a series of village meetings in the region in December to present the proposed Donlin Creek development plan and to seek feedback. We have been working hard to make sure that we consult with representatives from all 56 of the villages in the YK region on our mine project proposal before we finalize it.

Challenging Logistics: This is quite a logistical challenge to say the least – but Mary assures me that it is possible. We are determined to keep our promise to share our proposal, listen to your questions and, wherever possible, adjust our proposal to make sure that your concerns are addressed before we submit our permit applications. I would like to personally thank those communities that have already shown us such gracious hospitality. Unfortunately, with so many residents to consult with, from so many different villages, we have had to make tough decisions about centralized meeting locations and about not always being able to stay and visit as long as we would like. Our hope is that this is just the beginning of a much longer conversation with you.

Participation and Comments: The comments we received from our initial series of meetings are appreciated and demonstrate your heartfelt concern for the region and the environment. They also express your willingness to welcome a change that will bring an opportunity to improve the way of life for current and future generations provided it can be done in a culturally and environmentally responsible manner. Some of you are familiar with the project, already having worked for the project, known someone who has, or participated in one of the many meetings or events over the years where our team has presented updates. For others this series of meetings we have embarked on will be your first opportunity to learn about the project. Whichever it is, your participation is welcomed and encouraged.

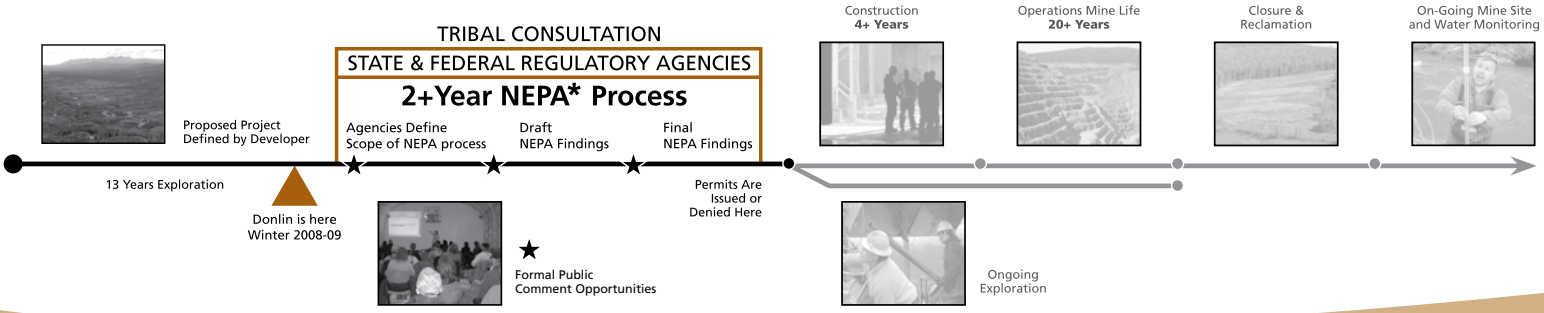
Greater Detail: For those residents who would like greater detail, we will be hosting two open houses in the region where you will have the opportunity to talk with the experts individually and ask your questions. We are setting up a Web site where we plan to post more information and studies as they become available. We have also set up a toll-free telephone number that we hope will make it easy for all of us to speak to each other often about any concerns that you may have. And we will be back if you want us to come.

Call Us: I'd like to encourage leaders in villages throughout the region to call Mary at (888) 225-7590 if you would like to talk to her about coming to your area. The more we know about what the residents of your community would like to discuss about the project, the better. And as always, feel free to call us any time if you have any questions or concerns about the project.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
(888) 225-7590

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Input Statement (EIS).

How Would Diesel Fuel be Transported into the Region?



These are barges similar to the ones that would transport fuel to the proposed mine. This photo shows three barges; Donlin tows would have 4 barges.

The mine would require large amounts of fuel every year. It would be transported to Dutch Harbor by tanker, then by double-hull ocean barges to Bethel, where it would be transferred to double-hull river barges for the trip up the Kuskokwim River to a proposed port at Birch Tree Crossing, about 10 miles down river from Aniak. From there the fuel would be transported to the mine via pipeline. This 12-inch, buried pipeline would follow the route of a proposed 74-mile access road from Birch Tree Crossing to the Donlin Creek mine site.

How many barges?

Between one and three barge tows per day would make the trip from Bethel to Birch Tree Crossing each shipping season. A barge tow would consist of four barges pushed by a tug.

What if there was a fuel spill?

The Donlin Creek project would have an emergency Spill Response Plan ready to implement immediately if there were an accident. The plan includes staged response equipment and trained response crews.

Job *Training*

Vocational Education in the YK Region

Yuut Elitnaurviat (Yuut), Yup'ik for The People's Learning Center, is a state-of-the-art facility that provides training and education to residents of the YK Delta. The school, located in Bethel, was the first vocational education center in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta.

Since its inception, Yuut has focused on offering culturally relevant and regionally responsive programs to students from rural Alaska. One example is the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Apprenticeship Program, the only federally registered, specific trades apprenticeship in the YK Delta. Apprentices specialize in carpentry, electrical or plumbing. Once they have completed on-the-job training and classroom education, apprentices are prepared to take the state licensure exam. The apprentices become Journeymen after successful completion of the state exam and then may work as a plumber, electrician, or carpenter. The school offers a wide variety of other training modules and is always looking for ways in which it can expand the curriculum to meet the needs of employers and residents in the region.

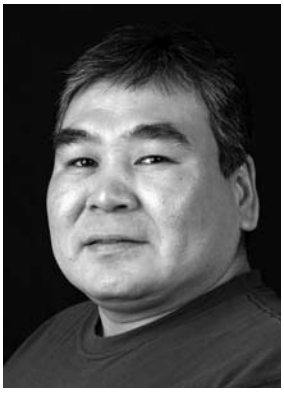
Donlin Creek LLC is working with Yuut to provide on-the-job training at Donlin and to help create a new generation of professionals in the region.

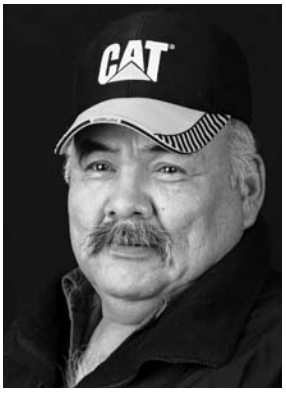


Carpentry students receive Votech instruction at Yuut Elitnaurviat.

For additional information on Yuut Elitnaurviat visit them on the Web at www.yuut.org or call (800) 478-3321 ext. 6985.

Team recognition THE DONLIN CREEK LLC WORKFORCE '06, '07, '08








From L - R: Evan R. John, Purchasing • Monica Friemering, Kitchen/Housekeeping • Leonard Morgan, Personnel Logistics Supervisor • Vincent Amos, Driller Assistant • Robert Snyder, Heavy Equipment Operator

Peter L. Abruska, Jr. ■ James W. Active, Jr. ■ Fritz P. Albert ■ Arnold D. Alexie ■ Darrell P. Alexie ■ Margaret M. Alexie ■ Sean A. Alexie ■ Bobby W. Alexie ■ Charles Alexie ■ Gabriel Alexie ■ Nelson Alexie ■ Peter B. Alexie ■ Ricki M. Alexie ■ Timothy R. Alexie ■ Ryan Alstrom ■ Rolland Amos ■ Tom G. Amos ■ Vincent T. Amos ■ Mary S. Anaruk ■ Oscar Andreanoff ■ Lawrence P. Andrews ■ John S. Askoak ■ Nichols S. Askoar ■ Martin Augline ■ Daniel B. Ausdahl, Jr. ■ Amanda R. Ausdahl ■ Gerald Beans ■ Joseph P. Beans II ■ Gifford M. Berry ■ David Blanket ■ Ignati T. Bobby ■ Theodore I. Bobby ■ Simeon Bobby ■ John B. Borowski, Jr. ■ Timothy O. Chamberlain ■ Thomas B. Charles ■ Daniel M. Charlie ■ Jonathan A. Chase ■ George Chikoyak ■ Joseph Chikoyak, Jr. ■ Oscar W. Chunak ■ Richard P. Ciletti ■ Mary F. Constantine ■ Olinka O. Constantine ■ Laura J. Crane ■ Paul Curtis ■ Clarence A. Cutter, Jr. ■ Alvin B. David ■ Eugene H. David ■ Fritz L. David ■ Ryan S. David ■ Phillip Donhauser ■ Iakov D. Duffy ■ Lyman S. Duffy ■ Alexander B. Edwards ■ Lorraine Egnaty ■ Kalela Evan I ■ Kalela P. Evan II ■ Michael Evan, Sr. ■ David M. Evan ■ Garrett W. Evan ■ Janet M. Evan ■ John A. Evan ■ Lucy A. Evan ■ Mary K. Evan ■ Morris Evan ■ Raymond Evan ■ Joseph "Joey" Evan ■ Seraphim W. Evan ■ Alex W. Felker ■ William H. Felker ■ Thaddeus Fisher ■ Aaron M. Fitka ■ Leonard G. Fitka, Jr. ■ Nicholas R. Fitka, Jr. ■ Rose L. Frisby ■ Thomas Fryer ■ Aaron J. Gabrieloff ■ Julie N. Gabrieloff ■ Wayne T. Gabrieloff ■ Aloysius C. George ■ John W. George ■ Mason J. Gilila ■ John D. Gillam ■ Caleb L. Gordon ■ Angie M. Grant ■ Carl P. Green ■ Henry Green ■ James Greene, Jr. ■ Morris C. Green ■ Ryan Green ■ Chesley Greeno ■ Wassillie J. Gregory, Sr. ■ Constantine R. Gregory ■ Kimberly M. Gregory ■ Jesse J. Gunlik ■ Francina M. Gusty ■ Robert K. Gusty ■ Thomas N. Hart ■ Charles M. Heckman, Jr. ■ Darlene J. Heckman ■ Gabriel S. Heckman ■ Elena Heroux ■ Michael R. 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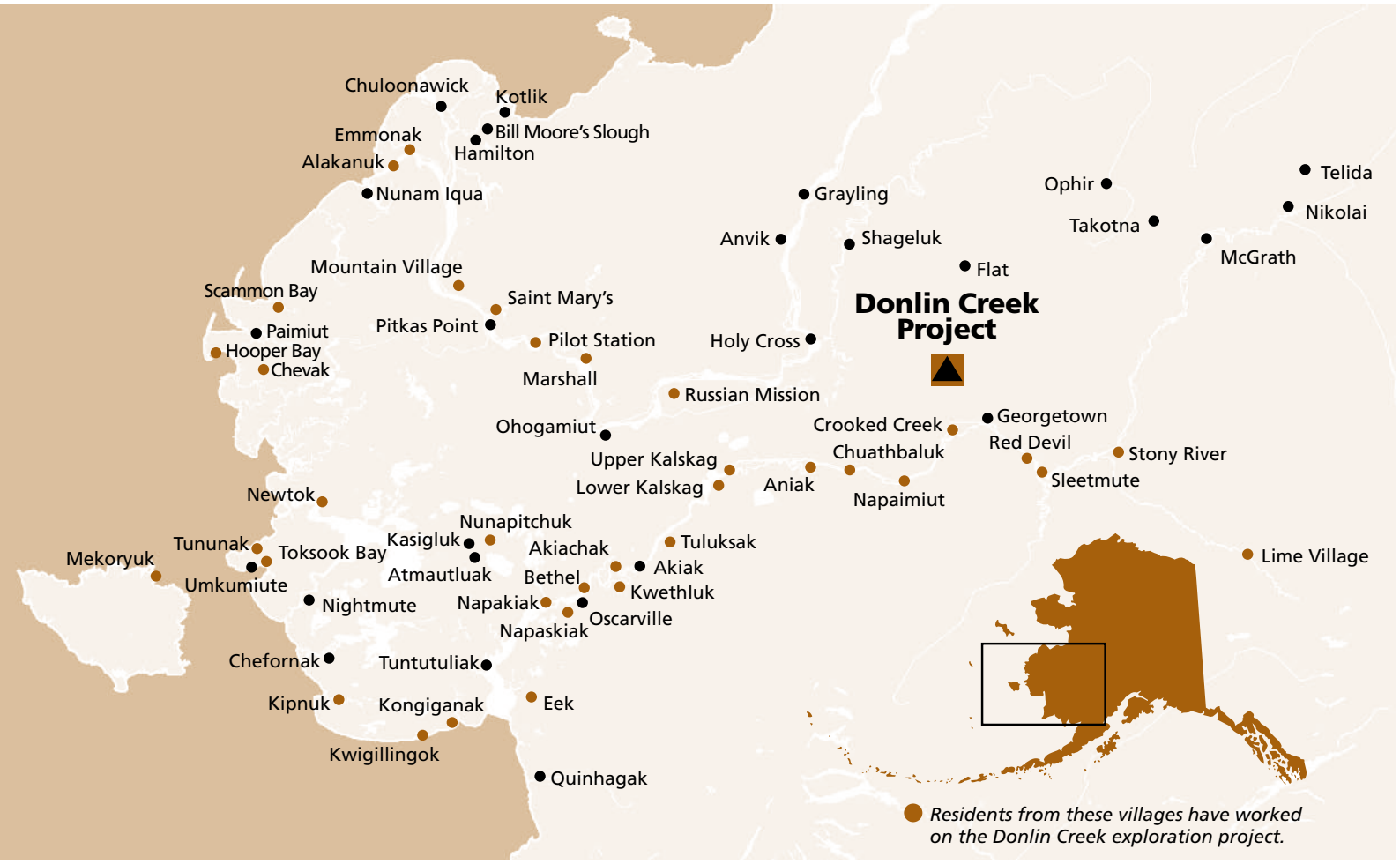
From L - R: Randy Thaddaeus, Driller • Jenny Zaukar, Kitchen/Housekeeping • Oscar Chunak, Camp Maintenance • Aloysius George, Drill Pad Crew • Joseph Evan, Shop Foreman






From L - R: Jill Duerfeldt, Environmental Specialist; Evan R. John, Purchasing • Larry Quick, Helicopter Pilot • Wassillie Gregory, Heavy Equipment Trainer; Stan Peters, Shop Foreman • Cal Craig, Environmental Specialist

So far, where have paychecks gone in the region?







From L - R: Doug Nicholson, President and General Manager, speaks at the Aniak Village meeting. • Village residents listen to speakers at December's Kwethluk Village Meeting after dinner. • Village residents listen to speakers at December's Cooked Creek Village Meeting.

MINING VOCABULARY WORDS: *Tailings Pond and NEPA*

Tailings Pond: This is a man-made pond that is created to suspend rock in tailings material as it settles to the bottom of the tailings storage area. Water from the tailings pond is often recycled for use in the mill.

NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act): NEPA applies to all federal agencies and all of the activities that they manage, regulate, permit or fund – including private sector development proposals. This law requires that the permitting agencies disclose and consider the environmental implications of any such proposed development in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the culture of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we share some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Your Future is Ahead of You: Traditional Yup'ik Eskimos believed that if you lived a good life, you would reap the benefits – that *Ciunerpeceni caningqauq taunatekitarkarci*, literally translated, "Your future is ahead of you, you will come to it."

Donlin will continue to look for ways to enhance the lives of people in the region through career development and training. As we look ahead, we will stay committed to contributing to a sustainable future for the YK Delta.

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PROJECT UPDATE
MARCH 2009

The Donlin Workforce

Important in the Past and the Future

Bill Bieber, Operations Manager

Throughout the 13-year history of the Donlin Creek project, our workforce has been an important key to success, and it will continue to play a key role in the project's future success. A huge effort has been made in the development and operation of the shareholder hire program at Donlin. This program was designed to support not just the exploration phase, but all future phases of the project as well.

This is important to understand because, unfortunately, there will be very few jobs at Donlin during the current phase of the project – the permitting phase. Right now only 14 of our local employees remain at camp. The on-site work program for 2009 only includes supporting environmental baseline data collection, minimal maintenance of the camp facilities, and providing support for ongoing engineering studies.

Over the last 13 years, Donlin Creek has employed, trained and promoted many hundreds of local Yukon Kuskokwim region employees. Several hundred of these have proven themselves in terms of dedication to the project, reliability, ability to learn a variety of tasks, and often the ability to become a leader within their work group. It is expected that these several hundred past employees will once again find their way back to Donlin for future employment, should the project be permitted and move forward.

Every employee and his or her employment history is recorded and kept on file so that if the time comes for rehire, we already have information that can help us best place that employee into a new position.

We have invested a lot of money and effort in developing our employees, and they have invested a tremendous amount of dedication and effort into the project.



Bill Bieber at Donlin Creek camp this winter

"Our past Donlin employees are considered an outstanding resource and will be key in the construction and operation of Donlin Creek, should it be successfully permitted and move forward."

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE: JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Most of the Donlin jobs in the past focused on exploration drilling. The construction and operations phase jobs will require retraining – some on-the-job and some at one of the many vocational education resources in the region.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Village Meetings Ongoing



Bill Bieber, Mary Nelson and I continue to travel in the region in our efforts to meet with village residents to share our project proposal and then listen to your questions and concerns. Our goal is to fully understand your concerns before we submit permit applications so that we can make any necessary adjustments to the project proposal before making our formal application.

In February we met with inland residents of Napakiak, Napaskiak, Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk and Atmautluak. Then we flew out to the coast to meet with residents of Kipnuk, Chefornak, Kwigillingok and Kongiganak. We attempted to land for meetings in Toksook Bay and Hooper Bay, but Mother Nature had other plans on those days. We will keep trying. Mary is also making plans with other villages as this is being printed.

Already we have learned so much from the people who have made their home in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) for so many years. We are learning more about so many of the issues involved in developing a mine in this remote area. We are learning more about the fisheries' cycles – and learning that we have much more to learn in order to minimize impacts from barging. We do believe it can all be done – and done very well, if we all work together.

As always, the leaders in the YK villages have been very gracious hosts. For this, and for the active participation in the meetings, we are very grateful.

Sincerely,

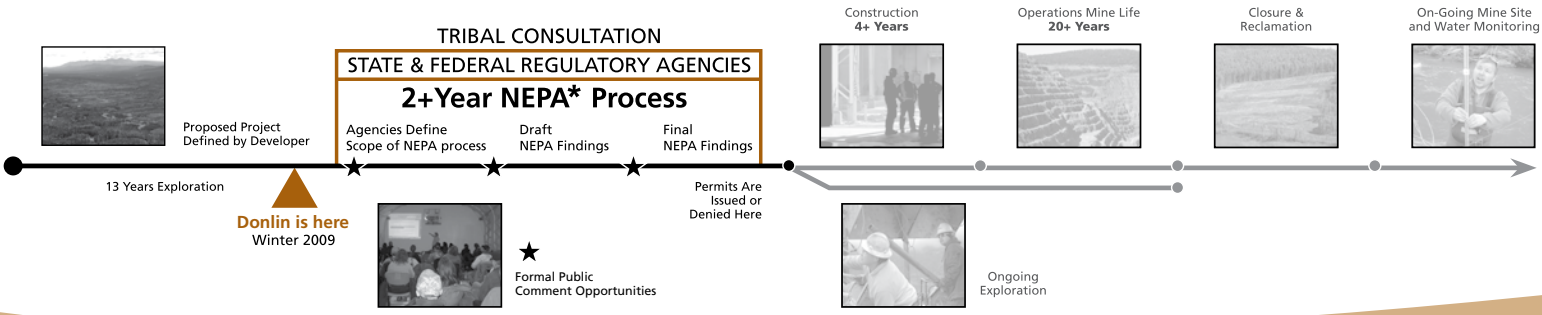


Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
(888) 225-7590



Students and adults listen to the discussion in Quinhagak. Adults from bottom left: Francis Echuck, Willie Pleasant, Ella Guest, Annie Cleveland, Jimmy Hunter (2nd row middle), Margaret Ford (far right), Ester Fox (top row middle) and Dorothy Galila (top row far right).

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Ongoing Environmental Studies

Donlin Creek LLC is preparing to submit permit applications for the proposed mine project to both state and federal agencies. An important foundation of the applications includes detailed plans for both reclamation and maintenance of the area after the mine is closed. These plans are based in part on the environmental baseline data gathered on site by the Donlin team.

The team has compiled a comprehensive resource of records and statistics about the land, water, subsistence resources, wildlife and fish, climate and air quality in the area. "We have multiple years of data at this point," says Nick Enos, Environmental Manager for Donlin Creek LLC. "It is very important to monitor the existing environment so we can properly characterize the predevelopment conditions, design operations that minimize the impact, and monitor any changes that take place so we can address them immediately." Nick says that he and the other members of the crew track everything that may be impacted, from salmon runs and waterways to birds, wildlife and cultural sites.

The Donlin team consistently monitors all aspects of the habitat surrounding the project site, and will be able to present detailed, accurate information on its condition before, during and after production at the mine. Nick says that this information will be available to stakeholders and agencies once permit applications have been submitted.

The environmental studies completed to date will help move the project forward in several ways. First, they will illustrate the predevelopment status of the area. This will be very important during the permitting stage since this data will be used to evaluate the proposed plans and develop a reclamation program for closing the mine. Secondly, these studies will be used during the feasibility study to ensure that the project plans are consistent with an environmentally sound operation.

"Our job will not stop once the project is complete though," says Nick. "We will monitor the area as long as necessary, long after the mine closes. Our obligation doesn't stop once the mine has closed."



Danny Twitchell, Environmental Specialist, monitors the water near the proposed Donlin Creek mine last summer.

Job *Training*

Yuut Elitnaurviat's Carpentry Apprentices



Kevin Keyes, a student at Yuut's Apprenticeship Program, works in the shop during a hands-on training session.

In this section we will be highlighting some of the different ways in which Donlin Creek LLC is working with the region to collaborate on the development of training opportunities that are available. By providing opportunities for growth, we help both our workforce and the project move ahead.

Yuut Elitnaurviat's Carpentry Apprenticeship Program provides training for individuals who are interested in pursuing a career as a carpenter. This specialized training course furnishes participants with the skills and knowledge needed for employment in the industry – including basic math, building codes, and hands-on experience with tools and arctic construction methods.

After completing all on-the-job training and classroom requirements, carpentry apprentices are prepared to take the state licensure exam. Apprentices in the program become Journeymen after successfully completing the state licensure exam.

Yuut Elitnaurviat provides its students with training and experience that lead to career opportunities. As we move ahead, Donlin Creek LLC will continue to work with these successful graduates to help create a new generation of professionals in the region.

Village Meetings from December '08 to February '09

Committed to Sharing Information and Listening Carefully







From L - R: 1. Paul Beebe and Johnny White, Sr. listen to presentation of Donlin project description at Quinhagak meeting in January. • Ron Simon from Tuntutuliak speaks from the heart in Quinhagak. • Allen Jimmy, Julia Jimmy and Nora Ricteroff at the Napakiak meeting







From L - R: Pete Peters at our first Roll Out Meeting in Crooked Creek • Eric Snuggerood, former State Representative Phillip Guy, Jackson Williams, James Nicolai and David Gilila, Sr. at the Kwethluk community meeting • Iana Gusty from Stony River delivers the invocation at the Aniak meeting.





From L - R: Kipnuk residents Julia Handley and Minnie Amik recognizing Donlin employees in project description booklet • David Paul, Henry Kanuk, John Atti, Owen Beaver, David Wiseman, Moses Strauss and David O. David listen in the front row to Donlin's Bill Bieber.

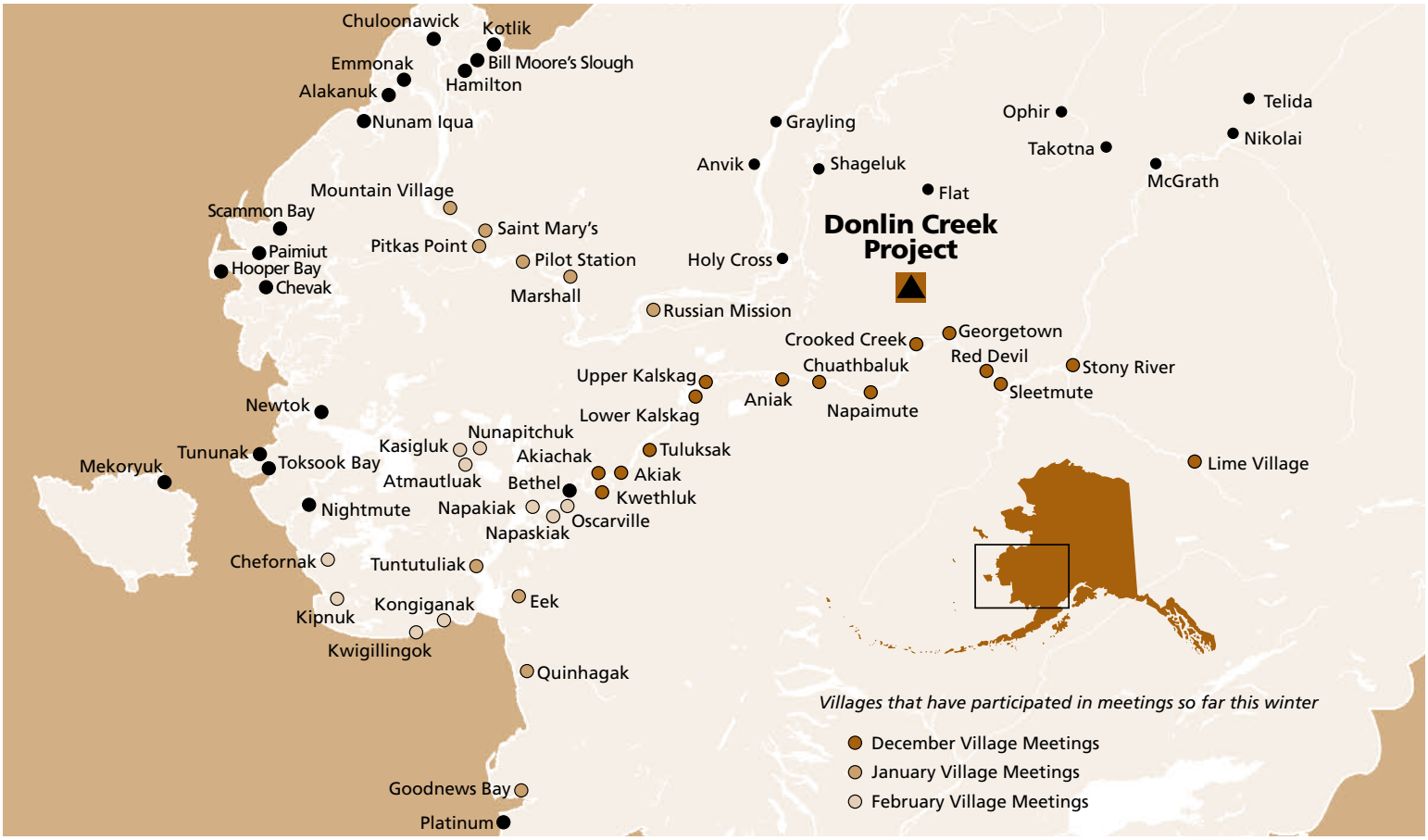
Donlin Creek LLC – Listening to the Region, then Returning to Address Your Concerns in our Proposal







From L - R: Robert Ayagalria of Napakiak • Rosalie Mathew and Jobe Abraham from Chefornak read the project description. • Nicholas Paul from Napakiak (foreground) and Leo Beaver from Kasigluk listen intently.











From L - R: Carl Motgin from Napakiak • George Andrew, Sr. from Nunapitchuk at mic after Traditional Council President Jacob Black (R) welcomed everyone to Napakiak. • Elder George Nacailnguq Billy from Napakiak sharing his wisdom • Mary Nelson, Donlin's Manager of Community Sustainability, listens carefully.

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MINING VOCABULARY WORDS: *Permitting and Underground Mining*

Permitting: This is the public process to seek permits to develop and operate a mine required of applicants by government regulatory agencies.

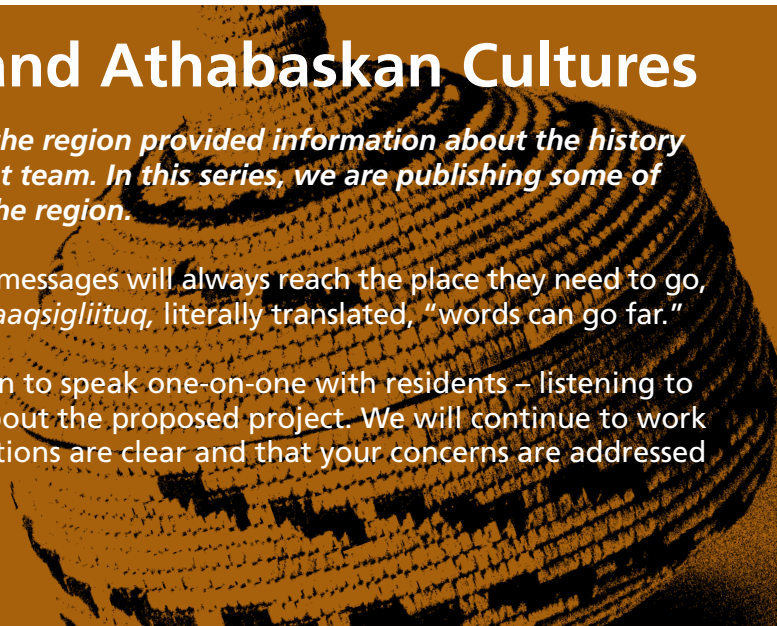
Veins: These are long, continuous strands of mineralization contained in rock beneath the earth's surface.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Words Can Go Far: Yup'ik people believe that important messages will always reach the place they need to go, even if it is far away. They believe that *Qaneq-gguq una yaaqsigliituq,* literally translated, "words can go far."

Donlin Creek LLC is traveling to villages around the region to speak one-on-one with residents – listening to their questions and concerns, and sharing information about the proposed project. We will continue to work with the people of the YK Delta to ensure that our intentions are clear and that your concerns are addressed as we move forward together.



DONLIN CREEK LLC
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PROJECT UPDATE
APRIL 2009

The Donlin Workforce

Important in the Past and the Future

Part 2: Training Opportunities

by Bill Bieber, Operations Manager

Workforce development has always been, and will continue to be, a cornerstone to the success of the Donlin Creek project. If you have ever seen a major construction project you have seen many different types of jobs going on at one time – everything from carpentry to iron work to electrical and concrete work to heavy equipment, design, management and finance, not to mention camp cleaning and catering, trucking, bus driving and maintenance. We recognize that although there is some level of experience in the region regarding these trades, the number of experienced employees needed to construct a project the size of Donlin Creek probably isn't already present in the Yukon Kuskokwim or even the entire state of Alaska.



Bill Bieber, Operations Manager

A significant training effort needs to take place, and it will be conducted in two phases. The first phase will be to prepare for a major construction effort involving an estimated 2,000 employees, peaking at around 2,500. What is the likelihood of Alaska being able to produce 2,500 experienced construction employees? It is not too likely; therefore, training needs to take place.

Several training locations have been identified by Donlin within the region. The first location considered is the Yuut Elitnaurviat People's Learning Center in Bethel. This facility is currently being considered as the main training hub for the project. Training sites in Aniak and Saint Mary's are also being considered in addition to the Bethel site.

We will utilize all available resources in the region including the Department of Labor, the Calista employee database, the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) database and the Donlin Creek LLC database to recruit regional candidates for the construction phase.

Once construction reaches the midpoint of completion, the training centers will then be converted to provide training for the operational phase of the project, utilizing workers who are already working on the

Continued on page 3

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Community Meetings: Bill Bieber, Mary Nelson and I continued to travel in the region last month to share our proposed mine project description with more Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) communities and learn more about their concerns. Since our last newsletter, we met with village residents from Emmonak, Alakanuk, Nunam Iqua, Toksook Bay, Newtok, Tununak, Nightmute, Hooper Bay, Paimiut, Scammon Bay and Chevak.

With a region as vast as the YK, this has been quite an effort. But we committed to reaching out to all of the tribes in the region after learning of AVCP resolutions in 2006 and 2008 requesting that we work with the tribes on our project proposal before the formal permitting process begins. Our meetings are voluntary and not required by law. The formal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process that will be undertaken by the state and federal agencies will include both scoping and formal tribal consultation. Our meetings with the tribes are not in any way associated with the NEPA scoping or government-to-government processes that the agencies will undertake. Our only hope in this effort has been to respond to residents' requests for more information about our proposal and to learn about any concerns before we submit our permit applications so that we can address them in our final project proposal.



Doug Nicholson listens to Sandra Kozevnikoff from Russian Mission.

Informational Open Houses: In response to some YK region residents' requests for more detailed information on the proposed project, we have produced two subregional area Informational Project Open Houses: one in Aniak on March 12 and one in Bethel on April 8. Our goal at each of these meetings is to create an opportunity for the specialized scientists and engineers who have been developing the Donlin mine project proposal to speak face-to-face with the people who live in the region. Here, detailed questions can be responded to directly in as much detail as residents request. And yet again, our design team is learning even more as they listen to more of the traditional knowledge that residents share with them.

Meeting with Kuskokwim Fisheries Working Group: One of the biggest concerns that we hear in the region is the concept that the 1-3 barge tows per day could effect fish runs, commercial and subsistence fishing activity, or erosion rates. Each barge tow would consist of four barges pushed by a tug. On March 20 we met with the Kuskokwim Fisheries Working Group, co-chaired by Bev Hoffman, Greg Rozitska and Lamont Albertson, to discuss how we might work with them to learn more about both concerns and practices along the river before we flesh out the details of our plan. Our hope is to work with this group of knowledgeable, local fishers to minimize any potential impacts and make the barge traffic work for everyone who lives and works on the Kuskokwim River.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please call us directly at any time at (888) 225-7590.

Sincerely,



Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
(907) 273-0200

Q&A: Donlin Creek LLC Addresses Questions from the Region

Q: CAN THE DAM BE USED FOR HYDROELECTRIC POWER IN THE FUTURE?

A: The consistency of tailings at Donlin would be like a thick, silty mud that would have no potential for hydroelctric power generation. It is true that wet tailings resembling silt would be left over from the milling process and an engineered dam would be built to contain the tailings, but this dam is not capable of hydroelectric power production unfortunately. It would have a synthetic liner similar to those used for landfills to minimize any seepage. A system would be in place to collect any seepage and pump it back to the tailings facility.

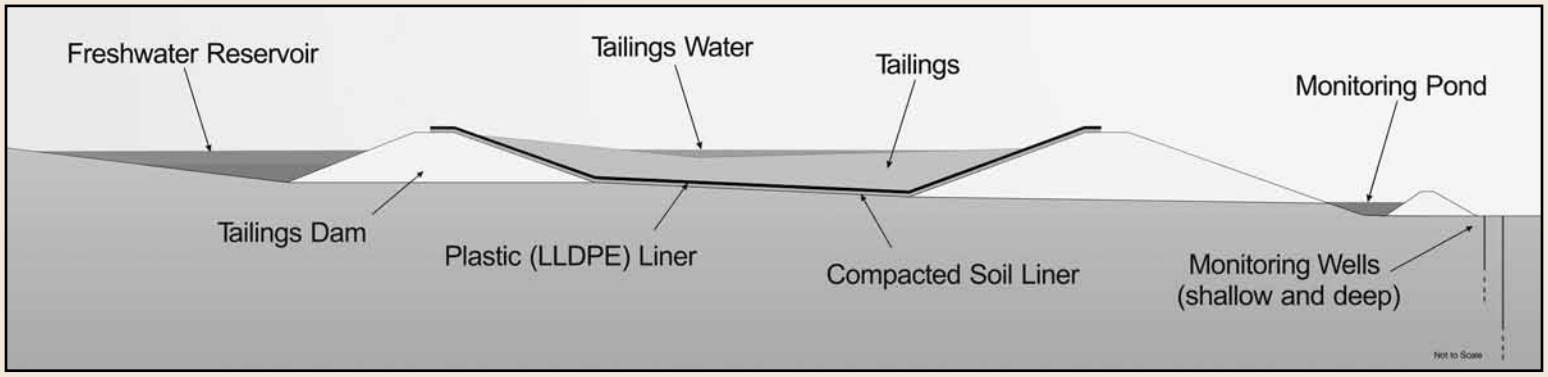
Groundwater and surface water below the facility would be monitored on an ongoing basis. The ultimate size of the tailings storage facility would be about 1.75 miles long by 1 mile wide.

After the close of mining and milling activities, excess water would be pumped from the tailings storage facility to the pit lake. The area would then be covered with rock, gravel, and soil, and seeded with indigenous grasses.



Tailings pond at a gold mine

Tailings storage facility - cross section





(Donlin Workforce, continued from cover)

construction phase. This will be accomplished by first retraining regional construction employees as portions of the construction are completed.

Throughout the construction of Donlin Creek, project employees will be hired to complete work slated for completion such as pre-stripping which includes heavy equipment operating, maintenance, and other related phases of completion.

The training centers will be utilized by Donlin, if permitted, until the mine is fully staffed and ongoing training can be completed on site.

Upriver residents operated the large equipment simulator as part of the Job Training information station at the Aniak Open House.

Open House in Aniak on March 12

By Mary Sattler Nelson



Enric Fernandez from the Donlin team greets Nick Kameroff of Aniak.

This March, Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) held its first Informational Project Open House at the Aniak Community Center in response to upriver residents' requests for more in-depth detail on all aspects of the prospective Donlin Creek gold mine. While the recent Community Meetings were planned as presentations from DCLLC management with time for general questions and discussion, the Open House allowed us to address questions from participants in a one-on-one format.

At the Open House, DCLLC made available a core team of experts involved in the development of our proposed safe and responsible mine. Our goal was to provide the people in the region direct access to our team and allow enough time to go into as much detail on specific questions as residents requested. DCLLC flew in residents from the 10 outlying, upriver villages to Aniak for the Open House: Lower Kalskag, Upper Kalskag, Chuathbaluk, Napaimiut, Crooked Creek, Georgetown, Red Devil, Sleetmute and Stony River.

Participants had the chance to talk with project scientists and engineers on the following subjects:

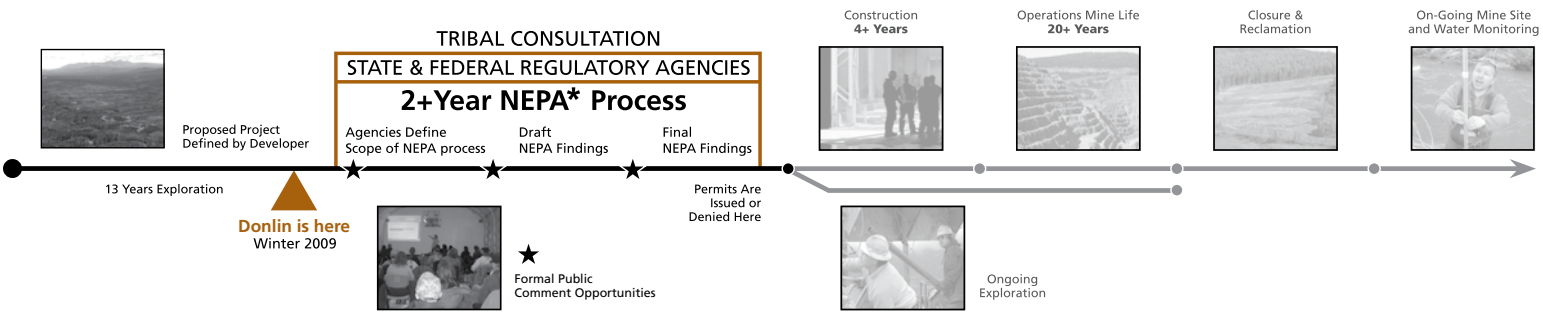
- Seismic planning
- Water quality management
- Acid rock drainage (ARD)
- Transportation issues
- Hazardous materials
- Cyanide management
- Mercury management
- Tailings dam design
- Reclamation planning
- Reclamation guarantees
- Employment and training

"I was very glad when DCLLC in our last meeting said they'd be coming back with experts in each of these fields," Nick Kameroff, an Aniak Open House attendee said. "We are able to pick [Donlin's] brains to see how the process will be phased and implemented to be an operating gold mine. All of the stations help me realize how they're working to protect the environment."

Orutsararmuit Native Council and DCLLC also hosted an Open House in Bethel on Wednesday, April 8 at the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center from noon to 7 p.m. All residents from the Yukon Kuskokwim region were invited to attend.

Andrew Gusty, another Aniak Open House participant, says, "What we're doing today is the right thing for the village … It's good to watch the process. The way they plan it, it will be good – good for local people."

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Donlin Creek LLC – Listening to the Region, then Returning to Address your Concerns in our Proposal







From L - R: Upriver residents Wassillie Macar and Andrew Gusty point out critical habitat to DCLLC's Enric Fernandez who takes notes. • Andrew Fredericks from Sleetmute had many questions for Donlin team members. • Sophie Sakar interprets during the Aniak Open House.

Village Outreach









From L - R: Annie Lou Williams • Mary Nelson explains the Open House format. • Project Forester answers Mary Effemka's questions about the reclamation plan.

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Baseline Studies: In order to ensure that any future development does not compromise the integrity of the proposed project area, a strong environmental program has included a combination of various initial baseline studies since 1996.

Some of these studies include surface water quality monitoring, groundwater quality monitoring, mercury baseline studies and geochemistry. Environmental baseline data from these studies are used to design a mine that meets environmental standards, protects natural resources and monitors the environment to ensure it is protected.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Words of Wisdom: Yup'ik elders pass on *Qanruyutet* (words of wisdom) to the younger generation through their oral traditions, giving youth the tools they need to be successful in life.

As Donlin Creek LLC visits villages in the region, we are listening to residents and encouraging them to share *Qanruyutet* with us. We believe that success will only be achieved with the support of the people residing in the Yukon Kuskokwim, and we are actively listening to you in order to hear and address your concerns.

DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
MAY 2009

Donlin Responds
to Community Requests for More Detail

By Mary Sattler Nelson

Over the past four months, the Donlin team has met with representatives from 54 villages in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region to present the Donlin Creek mine proposal, seeking feedback and responding to questions and concerns. Our goal has been to better understand residents' issues with the project and then make necessary adjustments to the project description before finalizing it and completing permit applications.

In the course of our travels in the region we learned that some area residents desired more detail on the proposed project and its potential effects. In response to this request, Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) co-hosted a regional Project Open House in Bethel on Wednesday, April 8 with Orutsararmuit Native Council. In addition to the Donlin management team, we brought 12 scientists and engineers who have been working with Donlin to design an environmentally sound project.

"We have hosted many project update meetings in the region over the past seven or eight years, but we learned more at this meeting than all the others combined. The real experts on the topic of the Kuskokwim River shared many of their insights with us."

- James Fueg , Engineering Manager

Each team member was available for one-on-one conversations with members of the public from noon to 7 p.m. at informational stations on the following topics:

- *Transportation route: ocean / river / ports / road*
- *Mine design and operation*
- *Water / tailings / waste rock management*
- *Cyanide management*
- *Tailings Storage Facility*
- *Power generation*
- *Acid rock drainage (ARD) management*
- *Geotechnical / seismic planning*
- *Reclamation and mine closure*
- *Community sustainability: jobs / training / long-term benefits*

Continued on page 3



Participants at the Bethel Open House share information about current commercial and subsistence fishing uses on the Kuskokwim River while Donlin's Engineering Manager takes notes on a map.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



> "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Bethel and each of the many YK villages that we visited for their gracious hospitality during our travels."

Our first round of region-wide meetings was completed with the co-hosting of the Bethel Project Open House with Orutsararmuit Native Council in Bethel on April 8. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Bethel and each of the many YK villages that we visited for their gracious hospitality during our travels. Perhaps the most important gift that they shared with us was their wealth of knowledge about the Kuskokwim River.

The people who have made their home on the Kuskokwim for thousands of years are the experts on this unique waterway. While we have been able to bring technical experts on various aspects of engineering and protecting waterways to the table, their knowledge is only useful when combined with the years of experience and understanding that the users of this river share with us.

Early in the course of our planning for this project, it became clear that protection of the Kuskokwim was of paramount concern to area residents. For example, in order to understand how best to minimize barging impacts, our team has worked with local residents on a number of important studies. Biologists have worked with local field crews to record wildlife observations, to document the location and nature of subsistence and commercial river activities, and to develop studies of barge wakes and river erosion. Our goal is to propose a barge design, a barging route and a schedule that will respect existing river uses.

But we still have much to learn before finalizing our proposed barging plan. We asked many people at the Bethel Open House about ways that we can learn more about the Kuskokwim River fishery. As we take the time to carefully engineer our transportation plan, our hope is to work closely with all locally-elected officials, who represent the YK communities, to make the best plan possible.

Would we notice an increase in barges?

Yes. If you were standing at one place on the river between Bethel and the proposed new port at Birch Tree Crossing, you would see about three barge tows per day – for example, two going upriver and one coming back down. (A barge tow would consist of four barges pushed by a tug.)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call us anytime at (888) 225-7590.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
(907) 273-0200

Questions We Heard in the Region

In the coming months we will be responding to the many questions that we heard in the region during our meetings with village leaders and others, including:

- *How many barges would it take to transport fuel and other supplies to the mine site?*
- *What if there was a fuel spill?*
- *How would the riverbank be protected from additional erosion?*
- *Would the Bethel port be used for transferring supplies from ocean barges to river barges?*
- *How would toxic materials be handled on the trip upriver?*
- *Would there be a new port upriver?*
- *Could the tailings dam get a crack in it and leak?*
- *Will any of the mining water mix with the water in nearby streams that our people, our moose and our fish rely on?*
- *How does the cyanide destruction process work? Will all the cyanide be destroyed?*
- *How would the mine get its power?*
- *Did you study power alternatives that could help the region address its energy crisis?*
- *How will the mercury that is in the rock near Donlin be managed during the crushing and milling process? Will it affect air quality?*
- *What are the seismic conditions at Donlin? What if there was an earthquake?*
- *What about jobs for locals? And job training?*

We look forward to responding to these questions and more in future newsletters.

(Donlin Responds, continued from cover)

In addition to inviting all Bethel residents to attend, Donlin offered to provide transportation costs for two people from each YK community, as identified by their respective tribal leaders to represent their villages at the Open House. Participation was excellent, especially given the long distances that so many had to travel. More than 200 people signed in at the Open House and spoke with team members.

The new Open House format was designed to give access to technical experts for Open House attendees, even those who may not be comfortable speaking in public.

After introductions and some initial questions from the group, conversations between the residents and the design team yielded very helpful results. As James Fueg, DCLLC's Engineering Manager observed, "We have hosted many project update meetings in the region over the past seven or eight years, but we learned more at this meeting than all the others combined. The real experts on the topic of the Kuskokwim River shared many of their insights with us. This information will inform our work in very important ways, allowing us to minimize any potential project impacts."



Peter "Bosie" Alexie, DCLLC's Special Project Manager, shows Conor Angaiak how to use the heavy equipment simulator while Conor's mom, Mary Pete, watches.



James Fueg, DCLLC's Engineering Manager, listens to residents and notes current uses of the Kuskokwim river.

Job Training: Yuut Electrical

In this section we will be highlighting some of the different ways in which Donlin Creek LLC is working with the region to collaborate on the development of training opportunities. By providing opportunities for growth, we help both our workforce and the project move ahead.

Yuut Elitnaurviat's (Yuut) Electrical Apprenticeship program offers training and on-the-job experience to individuals who are interested in becoming journeyman electricians or maintenance professionals.

> The program provides students with the specialized skills they will need to be competitive in the electrical industry.

The classroom portion of the curriculum addresses a wide range of industry-specific topics including reading blueprints and understanding electrical codes, theory and wiring. Students are next asked to put this knowledge to the test in the field. The hands-on segment of the training module allows them to use what they have learned in real-life scenarios.

The program provides students with the specialized skills they will need to be competitive in the electrical industry. Apprentices must complete 8,000 training hours along with numerous classroom sessions prior to taking the licensure exam required for all journeymen electricians in the state of Alaska.

Donlin Creek LLC will continue to identify and help to develop training and career opportunities within the region. High-caliber professionals trained in programs like Yuut Elitnaurviat will ensure the future success of both the YK residents and the Donlin project.

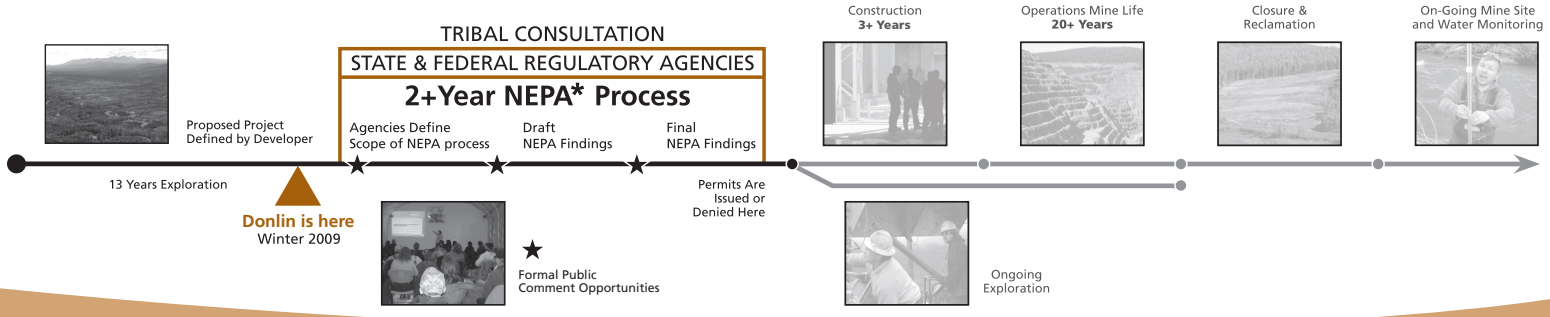


Electrical students at Yuut get hands-on experience at the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Apprenticeship Program.



Students at the Yuut Electrical Apprenticeship Program study theory and electrical codes during the classroom portion of their training.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Donlin Creek LLC – Listening to the Region

Returning to Address your Concerns in our Proposal



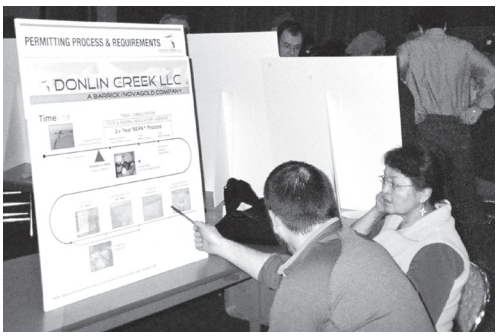




From L - R: Scientists and technical experts from the Donlin team are introduced to participants at the Bethel Open House. • Lillian Michael explains, in Yup'ik, information Nick Enos shares with regional elders about the proposed tailings dam. • DCLLC's Environmental Manager, Nick Enos, answers questions about cyanide management with Edward Nicholai and others.

Village Outreach









From L - R: Minnie Fritz reviews the NEPA timeline with Enric Fernandez. • Mary Nelson, with Lillian Michael's interpretation, discusses features of the proposed tailings pond. • Fisheries Biologist, Ed Flemming, answers questions about baseline studies he has done on the Kuskokwim River with Eugene Joseph and others.

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Acid Rock Drainage (ARD): When rock containing sulfide minerals is exposed to air and water, acid can form and leach metals from the rock. Metal leaching can occur with ARD or on its own. Although much of the rock at Donlin is not acid generating, rock that does have this potential would be managed in the waste rock facility by isolating and containing it to prevent acid generating conditions.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Ways of listening and understanding: In the Yup'ik culture, when an individual learns from a more knowledgeable person, they practice ***niisngayaraq*** – a way of listening that creates understanding and empowers change.

As Donlin Creek LLC travels to the villages of the YK, we are actively listening to the suggestions and comments of residents. This mutual understanding will enable us to build a project that will benefit the people of the YK Delta while respecting their culture and traditions.

DONLIN CREEK LLC
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PROJECT UPDATE
JULY 2009

Workforce Development & Training

A Long-Term Commitment

By Mary Sattler Nelson

Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) has made a commitment to work with the job training centers in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region to help build capacity to meet the training needs for the region and the proposed Donlin Creek mine workforce. On May 19 and 20 DCLLC hosted the initial Workforce Development Committee meeting at the Donlin Creek camp. In attendance were representatives from the project; State of Alaska, Department of Labor; University of Alaska; Chiulista Camp Services; Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation; Yuut Elitnaurviat; Kuspuk School District and the Interior Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council. The primary goal of the meeting was to discuss the scope of the training effort that will need to take place over the next two to three years.

Aniak, Bethel and St. Mary's Training Centers Critical: The group agreed that utilizing and including the three exsisting training facilities in Aniak, Bethel and St. Mary's will be the focus of the Committee's efforts. We recognize that input from these training sites is essential. The group will first focus on developing a charter and mission statement for the planning and work that lies ahead. We look forward to our next meeting when we will begin to review training center capacity capabilities for employment needs of the region and the project.

The group plans to next meet in August. At that meeting we will formally organize, adopt a charter and mission statement and begin to lay out timelines and specific goals. We will also begin to assess the potential job opportunities that will be created in the region in the next few years and how the training centers can help people prepare to fill those jobs.



The Workforce Development Committee. From left to right: Charlie Thacker, Mary Sattler Nelson, Bill Bieber, Lamont Albertson, Dennis Steffy, Nicholas Morgan, Brad Allen, Monique Henriksen, Dennis Thomas, David Stone, Edward Beans, Ross Maitland, Kurt Kuhne, Rusty Roberts

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



> "We will have completed our second round of optimization studies and will be prepared to submit permit applications at year-end 2009."

The price of gold this year is at an all time high, but it's a difficult time to be a gold mining company right now. Recent increases in the price of gold have been more than matched by cost increases in fuel, construction materials and heavy equipment – all essential components of any mine that might be built at Donlin Creek. Donlin Creek, if built, is expected to be one of only a handful of gold mines worldwide that is capable of producing over one million ounces of gold annually, but the upfront cost of building that mine is very large and has increased steadily over the years. This cost, coupled with the uncertainty in global financial markets, means that a decision to proceed with construction is a complex and difficult decision to make.

Development in some of the other industrial sectors has slowed or even stalled this year. Our industry has seen projects delayed or canceled. The good news in this is that because the demand for construction materials and fuel has declined, the prices for these key ingredients have begun to drop as well.

Optimization Studies On-Going: What does this mean for the Donlin project? We are continuing to work to make this the best project we can, environmentally, culturally and economically. As some of you might have seen recently, Donlin Creek has just completed a study to determine the feasibility of the project. We are now re-examining its assumptions and cost projections in light of the new pricing dynamics of 2009 brought about by the current worldwide financial situation.

We also continue to work on preparing permit documentation and draft applications. Based on the recently completed study and input from you during our many trips to the region over the winter, we are taking extra time to prepare as complete and detailed a permitting package as we can. Again, I would like to thank all those who participated in the meetings.

Project Timeline: To achieve our goals we have adjusted our timeline. We will have completed our second round of optimization studies and will be prepared to submit permit applications at year-end of 2009.

As always, if you have any questions about the project, please give me or Mary Nelson a call at our toll free number (888) 225-7590.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek, LLC

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: What is waste rock?

A: Rock that is removed, but does not go to the mill, is called waste rock. The waste rock at the proposed Donlin Creek mine would be either used as construction material, backfilled in the pit after mining, or hauled to an engineered waste rock facility. Reclamation of this facility would take place in stages throughout the life of the mine, and at closure the remaining waste rock would be contoured, covered, and revegetated.



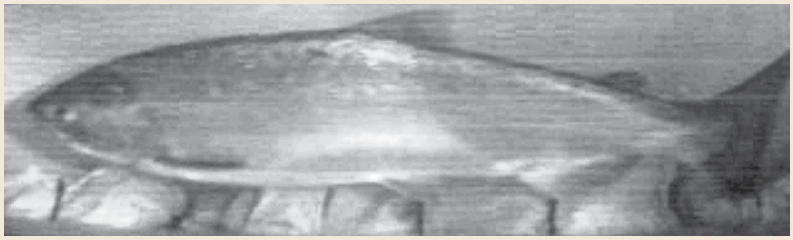
Waste rock pile above a tailings pond

Crooked Creek Fish Weir

Aquatic biologists have conducted aerial salmon count surveys during the Chinook, Chum and Coho runs on Crooked Creek and its tributaries since 2004. In order to get more reliable counts, a fish weir was installed in 2008. The resistance board fish weir includes a digital video recorder (DVR) to accurately record and count the fish. The resistance board weir and DVR technology have been proven by both Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be effective in streams that experience turbidity issues similar to those of Crooked Creek. This video counting method means that there is no live trap collection of the fish; they simply pass through the guidance structure and continue upstream. The digital video is then used by biologists to identify the species, gender and size of each and every fish that passes through the weir. This year Donlin Creek's biologists and environmental team completed the reinstallation of the weir on June 2.

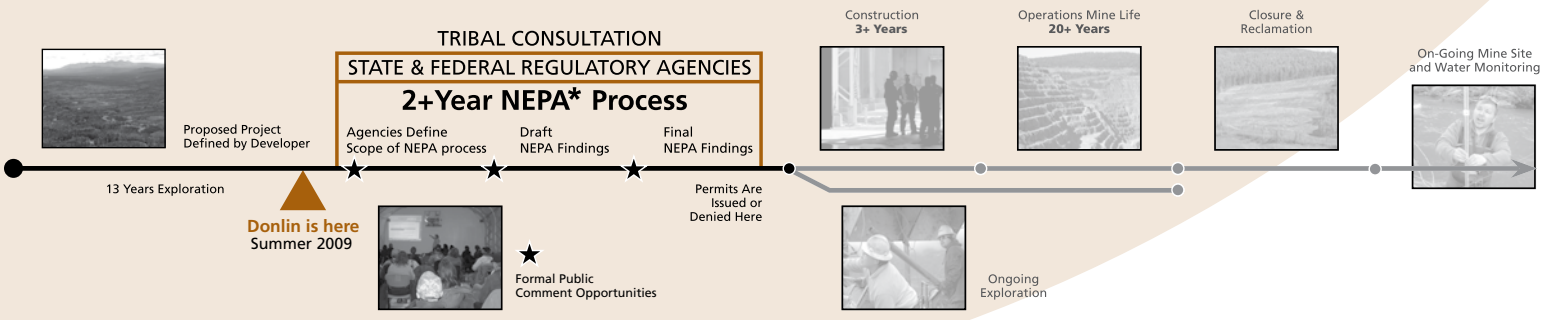


Installing the resistance board fish weir on Crooked Creek



Screen capture of Coho salmon migrating upstream in 2008

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Donlin Creek LLC Recognized for Safety Record

Three Years with No Lost Time Accidents

Donlin Creek LLC has been honored with the Barrick Merit of Safety Award. This award of distinction recognizes 360 days of zero Lost Time Accidents, and 2008 is the third consecutive year Donlin has received the honor.

Donlin employees and management live by the motto "Every Person Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day," which guides their actions both on and off the worksite. An important component of this mindset is the team effort required to keep all members focused on their own safety and that of their co-workers. By watching out for one another and sharing skills and knowledge, the staff ensures the atmosphere at camp is supportive and injury-free.

Implementing safety at all levels is the main goal at Donlin Creek, and although Barrick's numerous operations around the world have stringent precautions in place to protect employees, only nine – including Donlin (jointly owned and operated by Barrick and Nova Gold Resources) – of the corporation's 27 operating mines and 10 projects worldwide received the Merit Award in 2008. This illustrates the high standards that Donlin Creek employees have maintained consistently throughout the exploration phase of the project.

Managers at Donlin have also been proactive in the development of innovative methods for promoting safety in the workplace, including educational opportunities for crewmembers. These programs enhance the company's culture of safety by keeping certifications and training up-to-date, and have opened the door for individuals who are interested in pursuing career paths like Emergency Medical



Ricky Ciletti (Paramedic & Safety), Rusty Roberts (Safety Coordinator) and Bob Dechant (Manager of Corporate Safety and Health) with the safety award

Technician (EMT). Supervisors are also required to stay current with the latest developments in workplace safety and training, including weekly meetings that ensure injury prevention is the number one priority on site.

> "Implementing safety at all levels is the main goal at Donlin Creek."

Donlin Creek LLC will continue to promote the highest levels of safety among its workforce both on site and off. Through inventive employee training programs and internal promotion practices, the Donlin management team is committed to preparing all staff members to move the project forward successfully and safely, while adhering to the company's vision of "Every Person Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day."



The Donlin team accepts their third annual Safety Merit Award from Barrick Gold Corporation.

Front Row: Ricky Ciletti (Paramedic & Safety), Phillip Dounhauser (Camp Maintenance Supervisor), Elena Levi, Memo Martenez, Bob Dechant (Manager of Corporate Safety and Health) *Second Row:* Stan Peters (Shop Foreman), Joey Evan (Shop Foreman), Evan John (Purchasing), Tina Wassily (Camp Office Manager), Leonard Morgan (Personnel Logistics Director), Ross Maitland (Human Resources Coordinator), Danny Twitchell (Environmental Specialist), Boise Alexie, Cal Craig (Environmental Specialist), Bill Bieber (Operations Manager) *Very Back:* Rich Harris, Rusty Roberts (Safety Coordinator)

Donlin Creek LLC – Listening to the Region

Returning to Address your Concerns in our Proposal

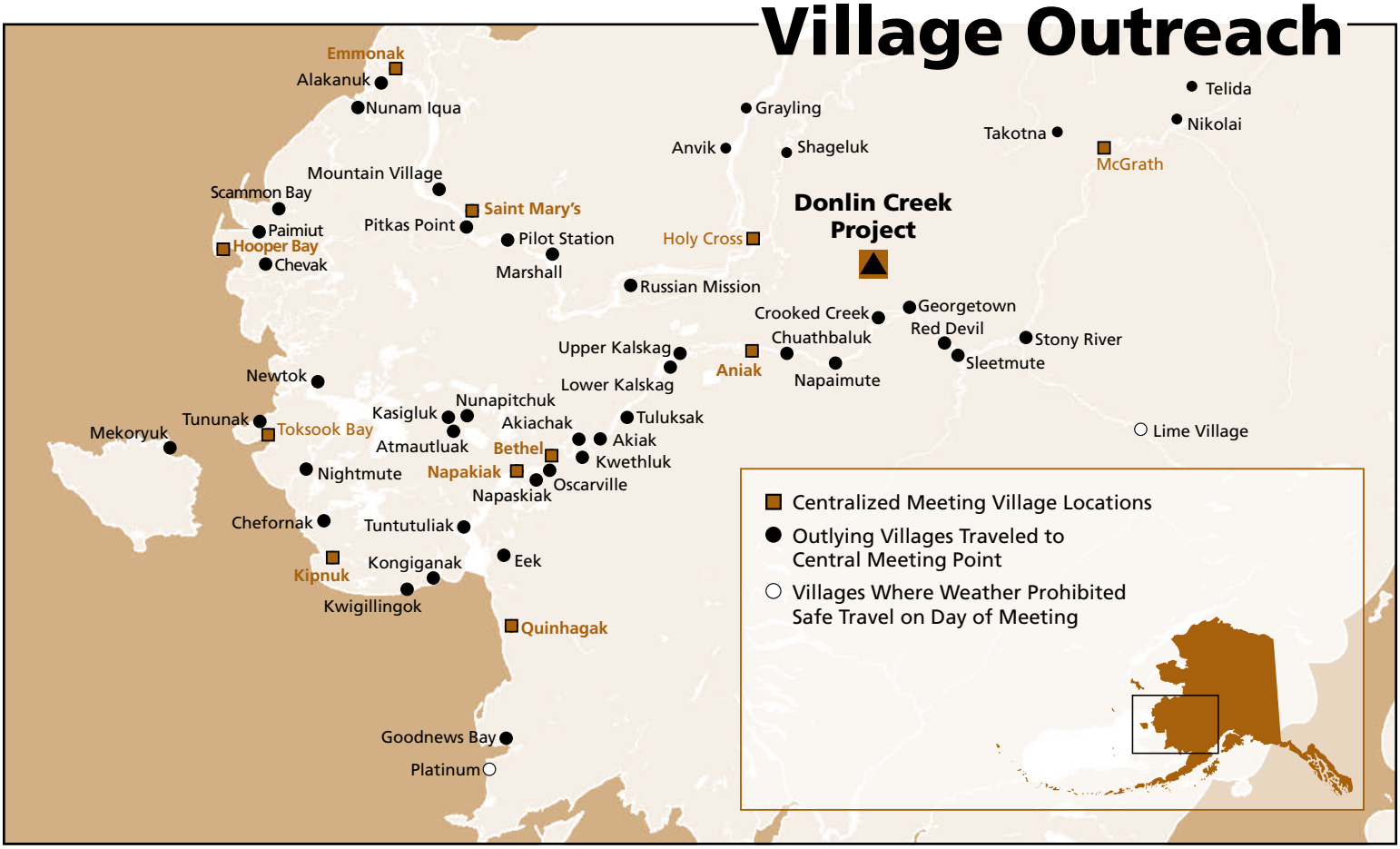






From L - R: Wendy Kameroff listens as Bill Bieber responds to her questions at the Aniak Open House. • Napakiak residents listen to simultaneous Yup'ik translation of the Donlin presentation at their Village Meeting. • Alexie Temple listens at the Napakiak Village Meeting.

Village Outreach









From L - R: Daniel Jimmy Sr. studies the Donlin Creek Proposed Project Summary booklet at the Kipnuk Village Meeting. • Owen Beaver speaks as others listen at the Kipnuk Village Meeting. • Grace Hill listens intently as questions and concerns are discussed at the Quinhagak Village Meeting.

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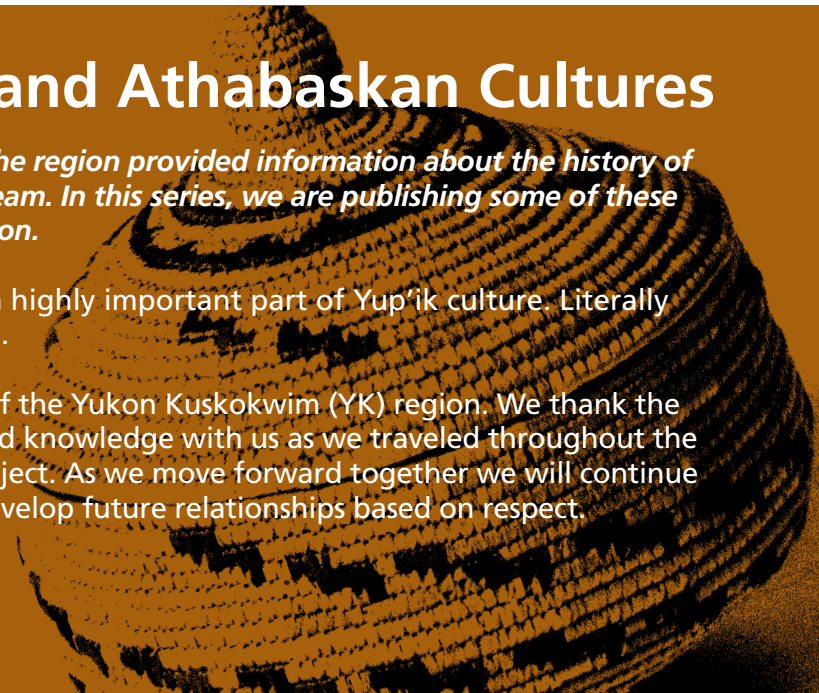
Open Pit Mine: An open pit mine is an excavation at the surface of the ground for the purpose of extracting ore, and which is open to the surface throughout the life of the mine. Donlin Creek would be an open pit mine. At its largest, the open pit would be about 2 miles long by 1 mile wide. Donlin would proccess approximately 50,000 to 60,000 metric tons of ore per day.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Ways of being respectful. Showing respect to others is a highly important part of Yup'ik culture. Literally translated means ***takaqiyarat*** – ways of being respectful.

Donlin Creek LLC has the highest regard for the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region. We thank the many individuals who shared their thoughts, opinions and knowledge with us as we traveled throughout the region over the past six months discussing the Donlin project. As we move forward together we will continue to listen to the people of the YK, working together to develop future relationships based on respect.



DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER
2009

Kuskokwim River Studies in 2009

By Stephen Jewett & Lee Ann Gardner

Donlin Creek LLC has contracted with RWJ Consulting, in concert with the University of Alaska (UA), to continue studies on the Kuskokwim River in 2009. These studies are being conducted on the main channel of the Kuskokwim River where barge traffic would travel to supply the proposed project.

The studies include conducting wildlife observations for a one-hour period five days per week from fixed points on land throughout the barge shipping season. Two observation stations are located in the Fowler Island area and three stations are located in the Helmick Point area.

The field teams consist of wildlife observers and local boat operators with life-long experience on the river. The Helmick Point area team is based out of Tuntutuliak; the Fowler Island team is based out of Bethel. This is the fourth field season that such observations are being done in the Fowler Island area and the third field season for such observations in the Helmick Point area.

An important objective of DCLLC's baseline studies is to gather information on how local people use the river, such as for transportation and fishing. To gather information about where fishing occurs on the river, fishing activity surveys are being conducted periodically from Georgetown, downriver to Eek Island. These surveys note the locations of boats that are fishing, boats that are not fishing, set nets and active fish camps.

All locations are recorded on a GPS unit. The surveys are scheduled throughout the barging season

(Continued on page 5)



Wildlife observation team at Fowler Island area station. Brian Henry of Akiachak (at left) with wildlife observer Shawn Harper and the spotting scopes used to make the wildlife observations on the Kuskokwim River.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



Village Leaders Tour Donlin

Leaders in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) villages often request that their traditional councils come to Donlin camp to see our exploration operations and to better understand exactly where the proposed mine components will be on the ground.

Recently we hosted the Kasigluk Traditional Council at Donlin Camp. We were pleased to have them in camp where they were able to meet almost all of our employees and see them at work. In helicopter tours of the site, we were able to explain where the proposed mine pit, the plant site, the waste rock facility, the tailings storage facility the access road and all of the other facilities would be located.

Members of the Council had questions on rock and the potential for acid rock drainage. There were also questions regarding the milling process and cyanide destruction. As always it was a great opportunity to answer these questions and to share what we have learned in studying these issues of concern for many years now.

Council member Esai Twitchell said that he was really surprised to see how far the proposed mine site is from the Kuskokwim River. The current exploration and proposed mine site is 13 air miles north of the Kuskokwim River village of Crooked Creek. While Crooked Creek itself flows from the site all the way down to the Kuskokwim. The visitors also learned of the many mine site design features that would control all of the water on site.

As always, if you have any questions about Donlin, feel free to call Mary Sattler Nelson or me at 1 (888) 225-7590.

Sincerely,

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.



Donlin hosted a tour of the exploration camp and proposed mine site for Kasigluk Traditional Council members and environmental staffers. (L to R top row): Leo Beaver, John Active, Moses White, Golga Brink, Esai Twitchell, Annie K. Andrew. (L to R front row): Donlin Manager of Community Sustainability Mary Nelson, Sharon Brink, Lydia Andrew and Cauline Nicholai.







From L - R: Coffee Break — Visitors from Kasigluk take a coffee break during their tour of the Donlin Creek site. • Examing Ore — Tour participants had many questions as they learned about the mining process. • Dining Hall — Kasigluk visitors enjoy ice cream in the Donlin camp dining hall.

Air Quality Monitoring Program

by Nick Enos, Environmental Manager

In order to characterize the baseline air environment at the Donlin Creek project, a continuously operating air quality and metrological (MET) monitoring program has been functioning at the project site in recent years. In 2003, a meteorological monitoring station was installed on American Ridge, at the location of the proposed mill site. An additional monitoring station was then added at the current camp location in 2005. During 2007, a third monitoring station was installed on "Lime Ridge" (Peak 1918), north of camp to better characterize the winds at higher elevations.



Environmental Specialist Danny Twitchell installs the filter tray in the particulate matter (PM10) monitor at the Donlin Creek Air Quality Station.

Monitoring includes recording wind speed, wind direction, vertical wind speed, temperature, differential temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation, precipitation, and barometric pressure. In 2008 a SODAR (Sonic Detection and Ranging) system was also installed on American Ridge to collect upper-level wind speeds.

Once all the weather data is collected, it is used during engineering and feasibility studies to design a project that is appropriate for the climate at Donlin. The information will also be used during permitting to assess the potential impacts from things like dust and gas emissions from the proposed project. To further support the assessment, on-site monitoring of current ambient air data was initiated in 2006 for potential air pollutants, including:

- Sulphur dioxide (SO2)
- Oxides of nitrogen (NOX)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Ozone (O3)
- Particulate matter with diameters of 10 µm or less (PM10) and 2.5 µm or less (PM2.5)

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: What are baseline studies?

A: Baseline studies document the existing environment. These studies include water quality and air quality monitoring, cultural surveys, fish and wildlife surveys, wetlands and habitat mapping, geochemistry and many others that characterize the pre-development environment. Understanding the existing environment is necessary to ensure that any future development does not compromise the environmental quality of the project area. Baseline data from these studies are used to design a mine that meets environmental standards, to submit to regulatory agencies during the permitting process and for monitoring the environment before, during and after mining.



David John of Crooked Creek collecting baseline water quality data in Spring 2006.

Fall Geotechnical Drilling Program at Donlin Creek

by James Fueg, Permitting Manager

Activity picked up at Donlin Creek again this month when the geotechnical drilling program starts up. While this will be a relatively small drill program (using a single drill rig) the information collected is of great importance in producing a well engineered, safe, and environmentally sound project.

Unlike exploration drilling when looking for gold, geotechnical drilling is done to allow the engineers and geologists to understand the physical properties of the rocks on which they will design buildings, dams, and other structures.

The information collected helps to answer questions like:

- How much ice is present in the subsurface?
- Are there any faults present?
- How strong is the rock?
- How will the rock behave during an earthquake?
- How deep do we need to dig the foundations in order to be on solid rock?

In addition to detailed examination and testing of the drill core in the field, samples of the rock may be sent to laboratories around the world for various types of testing. Before a mine can be built at Donlin Creek, hundreds of these test holes will be drilled all over the property on the site of every major structure needed.



DCLLC initiated a geotechnical drilling program this summer in order to better understand the structural properties of the rock underlying the proposed facility sites.

> "Before a mine can be built at Donlin Creek, hundreds of these test holes will be drilled all over the property on the site of every major structure needed."

Drilling this fall will focus on the area around the proposed plant site and the proposed location of one of the water storage dams in American Creek. Crews will work diligently and the drilling will be supported by helicopter to minimize any impacts to wetlands in the project area.

In addition to drillers and helpers, the program is supported by field operations and logistics staff, mechanics, environmental specialists, and camp management personnel – all of whom are crucial to a successful drilling program. As always, safety will be a major focus and the project safety staff will be on site to assist in making sure that the project continues to maintain the outstanding safety record achieved over the last few years.

(River Studies Program continued from page 1)

during times when only subsistence fishing occurs, as well as during commercial fishery openings. This is to get "snapshots" in time of what the level of use is, as well as where that use is occurring on the river from ice out in the spring until the end of the barging season in October. Ten surveys are planned for 2009.

To obtain daily counts of boats fishing/not fishing and set nets, wildlife observation teams also record how many of each they observe when they do wildlife observations. The Fowler Island team travels on one of the busiest sections of the river each day (from Bethel to south of Fowler Island).

The studies described above occur on the main channel of the Kuskokwim River. However, because many fish camps occur off the main channel, an aerial survey was conducted at the height of fishing activity to document this use. This year, the aerial survey was done on June 24, 2009 to collect photographs of the Johnson River and Kwethluk River drainages. These photographs will be used to count the number of active fish camps, set nets, and boats on these rivers during a heightened time of fishing activity.

Donlin Creek LLC – Listening to the Region

Returning to Address your Concerns in our Proposal

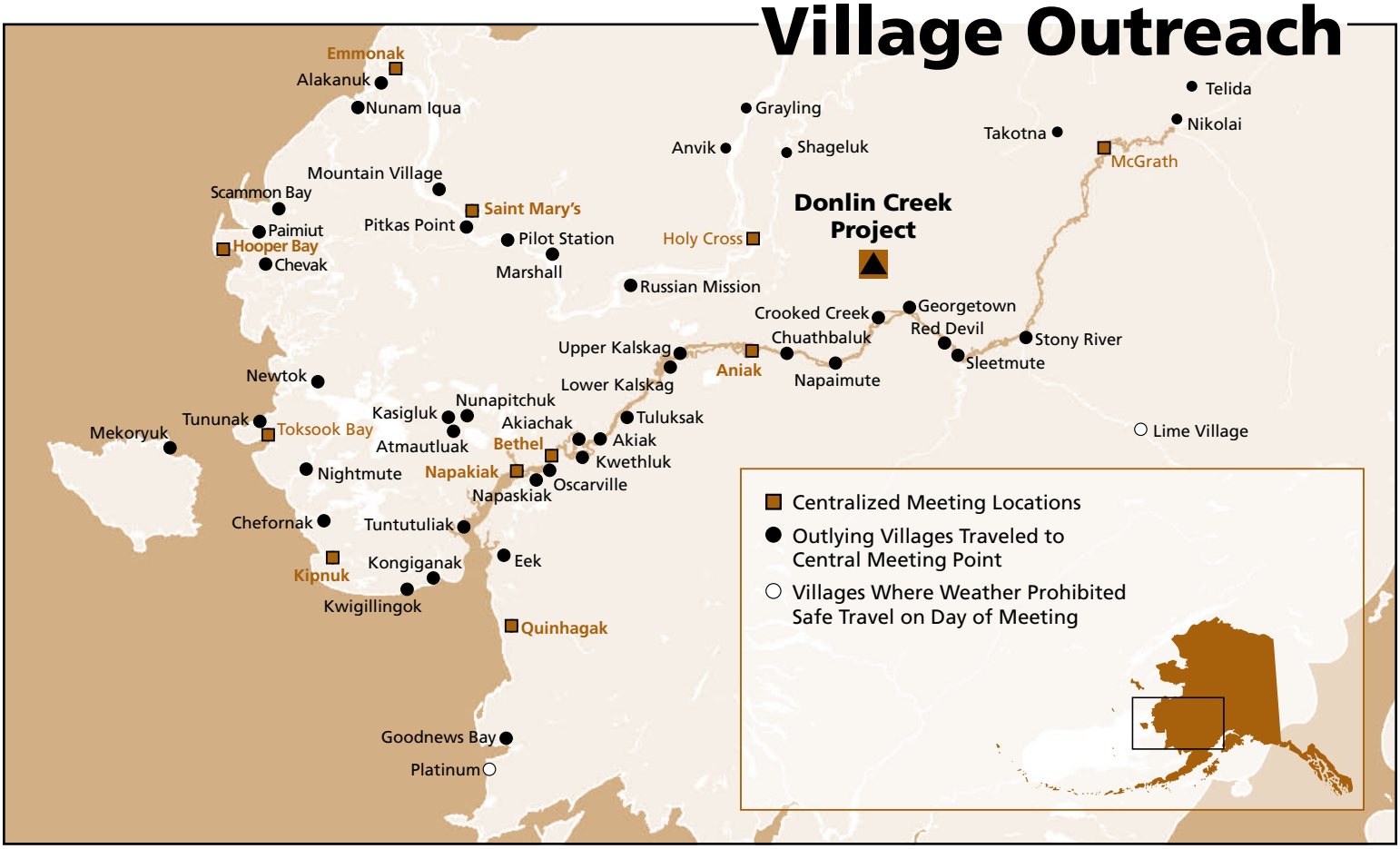






From L - R: Contract Yup'ik interpreter Sam Alexie translates for elders at the Kwethluk community meeting • Doug Nicholson speaking at the Quinhagak community meeting. • Mitchell Dammeyer and Nick Kameroff listen intently at the Aniak open house on the Donlin project.

Village Outreach









From L - R: Mary Nelson and Pete Peters at the Crooked Creek village meeting. • Teacher Larry Strunk listens at the Quinhagak community meeting. • Tori Simeon & Tatianna Morgan at the Aniak open house.

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Ore: The naturally occurring material from which a mineral or minerals of ecomomic value can be extracted profitably. The gold ore at the proposed Donlin Creek mine requires large scale mining, crushing, grinding, concentration of the gold bearing minerals, and finally, a complex process to recover the gold from the mineral concentrate.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Way of honoring and respecting others: Maintaining the traditions of others through mutual honor and respect is a highly important part of Yup'ik culture. Literally translated, it means **qigcikiyaraq** – way of honoring and respecting others.

Donlin Creek LLC respects and honors the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region. By traveling throughout the region, we have Learned much about the value of mutual respect in communicating and understanding the values of all residents along the Kuskokwim watershed.



DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
OCTOBER 2009

Kuskokwim Native Association Internship Program

by Mike Thalhauser, Fisheries Director, Kuskokwim Native Association

With the silver salmon run complete and the fireweed blossoms gone, the Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA) Fisheries Department has wrapped up another college and high school internship season. Each summer KNA hosts between fifteen to twenty high school students from the Kuskokwim region for internships lasting one or two weeks at either the George or Tatlawiksuk River fish weir. These weirs are salmon management tools KNA operates cooperatively with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) to monitor salmon spawning. The goals of the internship program are to foster awareness about the KNA fisheries program, to introduce youth to local career opportunities in fisheries, and to develop a pool of future leaders who are well informed about Kuskokwim fisheries issues.

High School Interns

Carrie Hackett, a graduate student at Alaska Pacific University (APU), coordinates the high school intern program. She implements a curriculum based on Kuskokwim area fisheries and ecological concepts related to salmon. KNA works closely with the local Kuspuk School District to align its curriculums with local and state standards so that students gain field knowledge and work experience while receiving school credit for their work. She also spends one to three weeks during the winter at each village school in the Kuspuk School District to teach a more in-depth curriculum with the goal of using local fisheries projects to teach math, biology, and social sciences.

College Interns

For students interested in pursuing a career in fisheries, KNA also hires three to five college interns each year. These interns rotate among eight KNA fisheries monitoring projects and gaining a variety of professional experiences including the opportunity to work with biologists from state, federal, Native, and other local organizations. This year, in addition to working on KNA cooperative

Continued on page 3







From left to right: KNA college intern Alex Nicori III of Kwehtluk radio-tagging fish at the Kalskag fish wheels. • KNA high school intern Dakota Phillips of Aniak sampling a King bigger than he is at the George River Weir. • KNA college intern Rochelle Sakar of Crooked Creek sampling at the Tatlawiksuk River weir.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



Aniak Fair Proves Unbeatable

The staff and employees of Donlin Creek always look forward to participating in the Interior Rivers Fair in Aniak, or as we have always called it "The Aniak Fair." It's always great to be on the river but especially in that first week in August. It's good to see everyone who has worked at Donlin over the years and catch up on family news and future plans.

This year was no exception and we thank everyone who stopped by for burgers and hot dogs and chat. I would like to say we had as much luck on the softball diamond but, alas, the Donlin softball team lost their longstanding title as the winningest team at the Aniak Fair to the Alaska Commercial Co. (A.C.) team and we tip our caps to them. (Just wait till next year.) According to Danny Twitchell, a veteran of many of the Donlin games at the Fair, "That A.C. team was hot – we didn't stand a chance!"

Mary Nelson didn't fare any better at the arm wrestling table. Mary says "Erica Kameroff is one strong lady. She had my arm down within two or three seconds – okay, maybe it was one second." I think the important thing is that a good time was had by all. I guess all we can do is lick our wounds and look forward to another chance next year.

Meanwhile we continue to host groups at Donlin to visit and learn about the project. Camp activities increased in August and will continue through at least September. We are continuing a short drill program to collect additional geotechnical information to assist in the project design. All of the ongoing environmental baseline work continues as well.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at 888-225-7590.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.



The Alaska Commercial (AC) Co. Softball Team proudly poses for a group shot after trouncing former champions (the Donlin team) 19-8 Friday night at the Fair. Front row from left to right: Dakota Phillips / Freddie Morgan / Dustin Turner / Dakota Nicoli back row Austin Sjong / George Kameroff / Francis Vaska / Joe Charles / Bruce Morgan / and Darlene Holmberg.

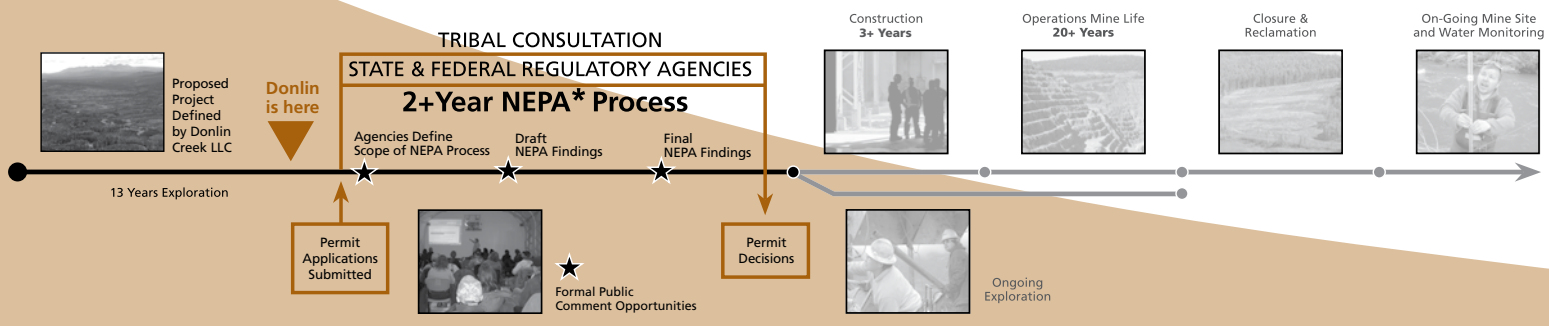


Donlin's HR Manager Ross Maitland and Danny Twitchell and Ricky Ciletti (both of whom play softball for the Donlin team) just after their devastating loss to the AC team.



Erica Kameroff, the overall winner of the women's arm wrestling contest at the Fair makes short work of Mary Nelson, Donlin Manager of Community Sustainability.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Employee Spotlight: Checking Back In

Tisha Woolley, Donlin Creek LLC Geologist

In January of 2006 Tisha Woolley (previously Tisha Kuhns) was the focus of our employee spotlight as a geologist of Yup'ik Eskimo descent recently employed by the Donlin Creek project. She is now an Environmental Geologist overseeing the project's water quality data management. Tisha is also a young community leader, and was selected as one of only 50 delegates to the Conference of Young Alaskans held in Fairbanks in 2006.

Since 2006, Tisha has moved to the Donlin Creek LLC Anchorage office after having her son, Samuel. This transition has allowed her to advance her professional skills in environmental and geological database management. She has also taken on the responsibility of overseeing the quality control/ quality assurance portion of environmental data collection.

Tisha says she is excited to be a member of the Donlin Creek team. "I love this project for what it is and what I hope it becomes," she said. "I hope to still be involved in the Donlin project as long as I can." Tisha's degree in geology from Southern Oregon University, and her experience working at Barrick's Cortez Mine in Nevada in 2007 have prepared her well to become more involved in Donlin's Environmental Department. Her goals include gaining more technical experience in the water quality program, and taking on more responsibility in the environmental management of the project.

Tisha's commitment to the project is clearly very strong. "This project for me is quite cherished on many levels," she said. "My family is from the Kuskokwim region," she added. "I take my involvement seriously and know that if I can work hard by helping and ensuring that we are all on the same page – making sure that we're all taking care of ourselves, each other and the environment – this project can be a success."

Her supervisor Nick Enos says, "Tisha has become an invaluable member of our team. She brings a high level of focus and detail to the management of our environmental data. I have complete confidence in Tisha's abilities and know that she will continue to grow professionally."



Born and raised in Bethel, Tisha Woolley is now an Environmental Geologist in the Donlin Creek LLC Anchorage office.

Sharing in Celebration

The 2009 Interior Rivers Aniak State Fair









Top, from L - R: Donlin's chief cook John Gillam, Bill Beiber and Ross Maitland at the grill, preparing to feed hundreds of people. • Joey and Janet Evan with their daughter Iris. • Scott Morgan (far right) at the Fair with his great-grandparents Nancy and Leonard Morgan, Donlin Logistics Coordinator. • Donlin Operations Manager Bill Beiber helps to prepare for the BBQ on Saturday, August 15 at the Fair.

Georgetown Traditional Council Youth Camp Participants Tour Donlin

The Georgetown Traditional Council (GTC) has taken proactive steps to encourage their young people to choose a life path that includes the benefits of life in rural Alaska by creating the GTC Tribal Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Camp. This summer six of the program's participants visited Donlin camp for a tour of the project. The students, aged 14 to 19, included: **Arnold Evans, Diana Evans, Jordan Evans, Tyler Samuelson, Shane Wilmarth and Renee Wilmarth.** Adult chaperones, Jonathan Samuelson and Valerie Dudley, were also present as counselors. All of the participants flew to Donlin camp and visited drill operations and the camp site before having lunch in the main dining hall.

Will Hartman, GTC Project Director, said that the youth camp lasted a total of eight days and was geared toward younger tribal members, showcasing the opportunities that exist for them in rural areas. The GTC youth also visited the George River fish weir, run by the Kuskokwim Native Association (KNA), and did construction work by building a shed in Georgetown. This experience, said Hartman, helped the young people get a clear, firsthand understanding of opportunities available in the middle Kuskokwim River area versus moving out of the region for work.



GTC youth camp students listen as Donlin's Human Resources Manager Ross Maitland discusses core cutting techniques at the Donlin camp.



Georgetown Tribal member and camp counselor Valerie Dudley (right) visits the Donlin camp with GTC youth camp participants Renee Wilmarth and Diana Evans.

Kuskokwim Native Association Internship Program (Continued from page 1)

fisheries monitoring projects, college interns worked with a consulting firm, Ottertail Environmental Inc., conducting electro-fishing work to gather baseline data for the Donlin Creek project.

Intern Day in Aniak

College Interns who complete the KNA requirements each give a formal presentation of their experiences at a public meeting in Aniak, and at the annual Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program Intern Day, sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management (USFWS/OSM) in Anchorage. This meeting includes college interns and their sponsors from throughout Alaska.

College interns are also awarded scholarships of up to $6,500 towards their tuition. This year's KNA college interns were: Seraphim Ukatish from Nanwalek as a Partners Office Intern, currently attending the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA); Alex Nicori III from Kwethluk as a Partners Research Intern, currently attending the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF) where he is enrolled in the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program, (ANSEP); and Rochelle Sakar from Crooked Creek as a Partners Research Intern, who plans to attend UAA.

The KNA Fisheries Department would like to thank all of its project cooperators, especially: the USFWS, ADF&G, Ottertail Environmental Inc., and the professionals who helped in training and mentoring our future biologists and leaders. We are also grateful for the USFWS/OSM Partners Fisheries Monitoring Program, the Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative (AYKSSI) and the Coastal Villages Region Fund for supporting the high school and college internship programs. Many thanks go to Donlin Creek LLC and AYKSSI for providing intern scholarships in 2009 and finally, congratulations to all KNA 2009 interns!



KNA intern Seraphim Utakish of Nanwalek maintaining a whitefish radio telemetry receiver used to track seasonal movements of whitefish along the Kuskokwim River.

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: How far is the proposed mine site from the river?

A: The Donlin Creek project site is located about 12 miles north of the village of Crooked Creek, which is on the Kuskokwim River. The project is within the Crooked Creek drainage, which flows south to the Kuskokwim River. The Donlin Creek mining project would be operated with a water management system that is designed and engineered to control all surface water and ground water at the site. State-of-the-art planning and engineering methods are being used in the design to ensure that any water discharged from the site meets stringent water quality standards. Water quality monitoring during mining will be an important element of the plan.



Donlin Creek LLC: Listening and Addressing your Concerns in our Proposed Project

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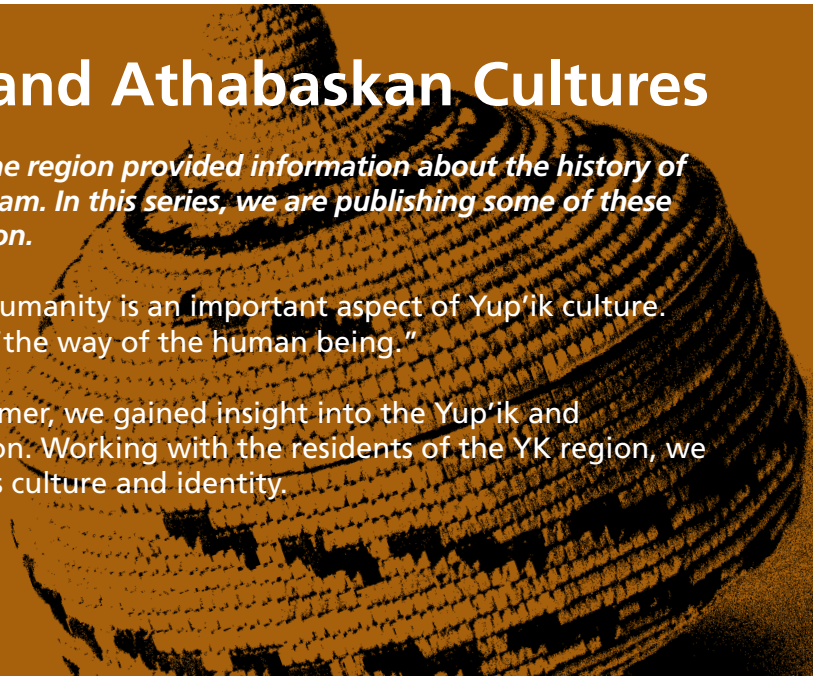
Autoclave: A pressurized container used in processing gold ore with high sulfide content. Within the autoclave the sulfide ore is treated with oxygen at high temperature and pressure to convert it into an oxide ore, which can then be processed using conventional methods to recover the gold. A similar process occurs in nature when sulfide rocks are exposed to oxygen in the air, but over a much longer period of time.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Yuuyaraq: Maintaining a sense of identity, culture and humanity is an important aspect of Yup'ik culture. Literally translated, yuuyaraq means "way of living" or "the way of the human being."

As we listened during our travels in the villages this summer, we gained insight into the Yup'ik and Athabaskan people's commitment to cultural preservation. Working with the residents of the YK region, we at Donlin Creek hope to preserve and honor the region's culture and identity.



DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
NOVEMBER 2009

Donlin Clothes Drive for Bethel Schools

As the start of the school year approached this fall, Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) Geologist Tisha Woolley organized the third Donlin Clothes Drive to provide clothing for schoolchildren in Bethel. DCLLC staff collected 19 boxes worth of clothing and gear including boots, shoes, jackets and more, and delivered them to Bethel on September 22.

"There were many people who helped with the logistics," Tisha said. "Felisa Childress was a big help in figuring the best and most efficient way for these boxes to get out to Bethel. Frank Moncher and Alexie Pleasant made it all happen with deliveries and pickups."

Part of the clothes collection included washing and drying the donations to save the expense of doing so in Bethel, where water is more expensive. The DCLLC staff helping with this piece of the project included Susan Dixon, Elva Marr, Felisa Childress, Nancy Hazelberg, Jan Montgomery, Jeanne Luhrs and Alison Brill. "We surely could not get this to happen without their help," Tisha said.

The feedback from the educators and staff at Mikelnguut Elitnaurviat (M.E.) Elementary School in Bethel is one of the best parts of the project, Tisha said. "It's nice to know that there are those in the school system that are so thankful for these clothes and winter gear, and that they know it will be put to good use. We're really happy that our efforts have become welcome in the Bethel community," Tisha added.

"Providing clothing and gear can act as a relief for families who may not have the funds for these necessities, especially during tough economic times," Tisha said. "Basically, if we can make a child smile (when they get that pair of boots or gloves to play outside for recess) and know that they are comfortable, it is all worth it," Tisha said.





Top: Volunteers L to R Anna Kinegak and Loretta Nerby unload boxes of clothing from the Donlin Clothing Drive at M.E. School in Bethel. Left: Lead maintenance man, Eugene Reynolds, carts boxes of clothing into the M.E. gym for sorting. Additional Photos on page 3.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



Brine Chill Drill Program

Understanding Permafrost

When building industrial facilities on Alaska soil it is critical to test the soils for their permafrost content. For example, in order to ensure that the foundation of the Contact Water Dam will be engineered to compensate for the seasonal movements of permafrost, we need to drill for soil samples in the area proposed for the building site to fully understand the character of the soil. This is what the Brine Chill drill program is all about.

The Donlin team has just completed this year's Brine Chill drilling program ahead of schedule and below budget. It went even more smoothly than we expected. Our on-site crews have become very efficient at conducting this program as this is the second year that it has been undertaken. One of the engineering goals is to preserve any permafrost that we are drilling through. To accomplish this we have to use drilling fluids that are kept at a -10 degree Fahrenheit temperature. It's not an easy process but our Donlin crews are now pros at Brine Chill.

With the drilling program complete, we are now cutting back to our normal winter season crew levels. Once construction of the new hangar and the remodel of the kitchen are complete at the end of October, we will be down to 16 camp employees total in order to maintain a rotation of eight crew members on site through the winter.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please drop by our Bethel office to speak with Mary Nelson, or contact the Anchorage office toll free at 888-225-7590.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.

In this series of photos Donlin Creek staff work on the construction of the new hangar this fall.

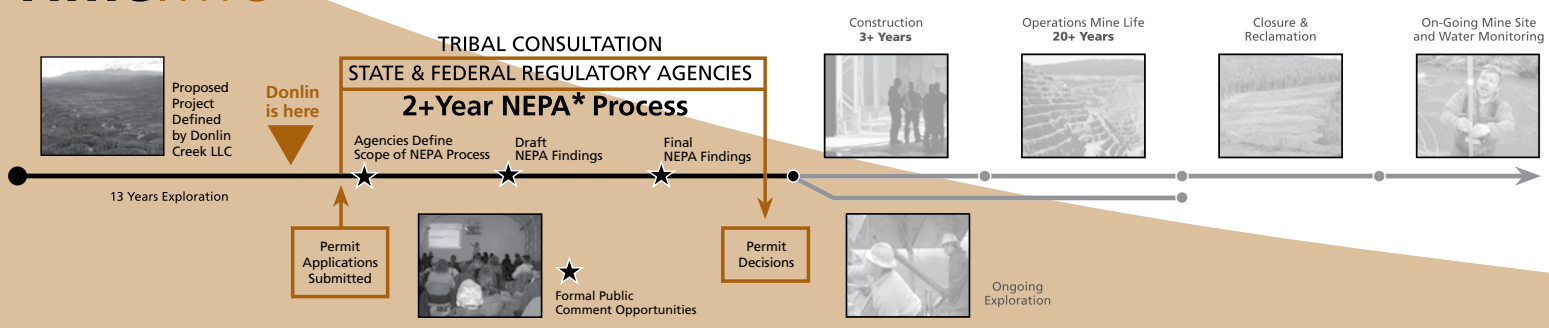






The Donlin camp hangar construction crew includes, from L to R: Constantine Gregory, Stan Peters, Bill Beiber, Bobby Japhet and Frank Moncher.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Tour

This past summer Donlin Manager of Community Sustainability Mary Nelson led a delegation from the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce on a guided tour of the Donlin Creek mine. Chamber participants represented organizations such as First National Bank, Samson Tug & Barge, the University of Alaska, Tesoro, Delta Western, and more.

Chamber Chair Caroline Higgins of Totem Ocean Transit Express (TOTE) said that the visit to the proposed mine site was part of a Rural Outreach project in which the Chamber is trying to better understand rural Alaska's needs and determine how to better support businesses in rural areas. Around 17 to 20 Chamber members traveled up to Bethel and a limited number then traveled to the proposed Donlin Creek mine site from there.

> "The other thing that struck me is just truly how remote it is, and how challenging it will be to develop. But what great opportunities and good things it'll bring to the region."
>
> Caroline Higgins, Chair

"Many of our Board members are very interested in the Yukon Kuskokwim region and mining issues," said Chamber President Wayne Stevens. "The State Chamber has adopted legislative positions in the past in support of the mining industry in Alaska," he added.

"I was really impressed at how clean and organized it was," Chair Higgins said. "And I have to say that as we landed I was thinking 'I haven't seen that many core samples in one place ever!' And I've seen a lot of core samples."

"The other thing that struck me is just truly how remote it is, and how challenging it will be to develop. But what great opportunities and good things it'll bring to the region," Higgins added.

Samson Tug & Barge Vice President and Chamber Board Member Cory Baggen participated in the tour as well. "I'm in the transportation business and the first thing I think is 'how are they going to get everything here?' It's an incredible challenge. And they've got great plans for it, that's the amazing thing," she said. "The people out there are some of the nicest people; they are so proud of what they're doing."

"I think the employment opportunity is just so huge out there," Baggen added.



State Chamber of Commerce Tour participants (L to R): Cory Baggen, Ralph Samuels, Mike O'Shea, Jason Dineen, Allen Hippler, Mary Nelson, Heidi Franklin, Caroline Higgins, Hal Ingalls, (front) Kyle Herron, Representative Bob Herron, Paul Richards, and "Buddy" Herron.



Tour participants receive an overview of the project from DCLLC Operations Manager Bill Beiber.

Chamber Board Member Paul Richards appreciated the focus that Donlin Creek LLC puts on its employees, as well as the emphasis on safety. "They allow families to come to the site so that they can understand what the project stands for," he said. "This mine has dedicated itself to the idea that the family is as important as the employee."

Overall, the Chamber tour seemed to be a success. "We went away impressed with the fact that they're working in an area of high unemployment, and they're doing it in an environmentally sound manner," Richards said. "I wish we had ten Donlin Creeks in Alaska."

Employee Spotlight: Checking Back In

Walter Jim, Maintenance Supervisor

Walter Jim was the focus of our employee spotlight as Maintenance Supervisor with Donlin Creek LLC in June 2007. Today Walter holds the same position and oversees many things including keeping the camp running, monitoring water and fuel, and attending to daily population needs including assigning tents, and ordering supplies and materials for every job that exists at the camp.

Throughout his time at DCLLC, Walter has become an employee representative for the project. He serves on the Supervisory Travel Team, a group of staff who travel to villages in the region to provide presentations on the Donlin project and answer any questions that the public may have on the proposed mine site and future plans. He has also attended the annual Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention on behalf of DCLLC as well as the Alaska Miners Association (AMA) convention.

One of the questions most often asked, Walter said, is when the mine project will start operations.



Maintenance Supervisor, Walter Jim, has been with Donlin Creek LLC since 2006.

He answers this by explaining that DCLLC has not yet begun the permitting process, which can take more than two years to complete, and that as soon as DCLLC knows the timeline, they will communicate it to the public.

Walter is interested in seeing how his job responsibilities will change if the actual mining project begins.

"My job title might change, but I'm very interested to see how this place is going to turn out and be a plus for the region. There are so few jobs here in the region now. That's one thing we want for people in our region to allow them to stay here at home and make a living in the area, and keep them employed for the long run."

DCLLC Clothes Drive for Bethel Schools (Continued from cover)





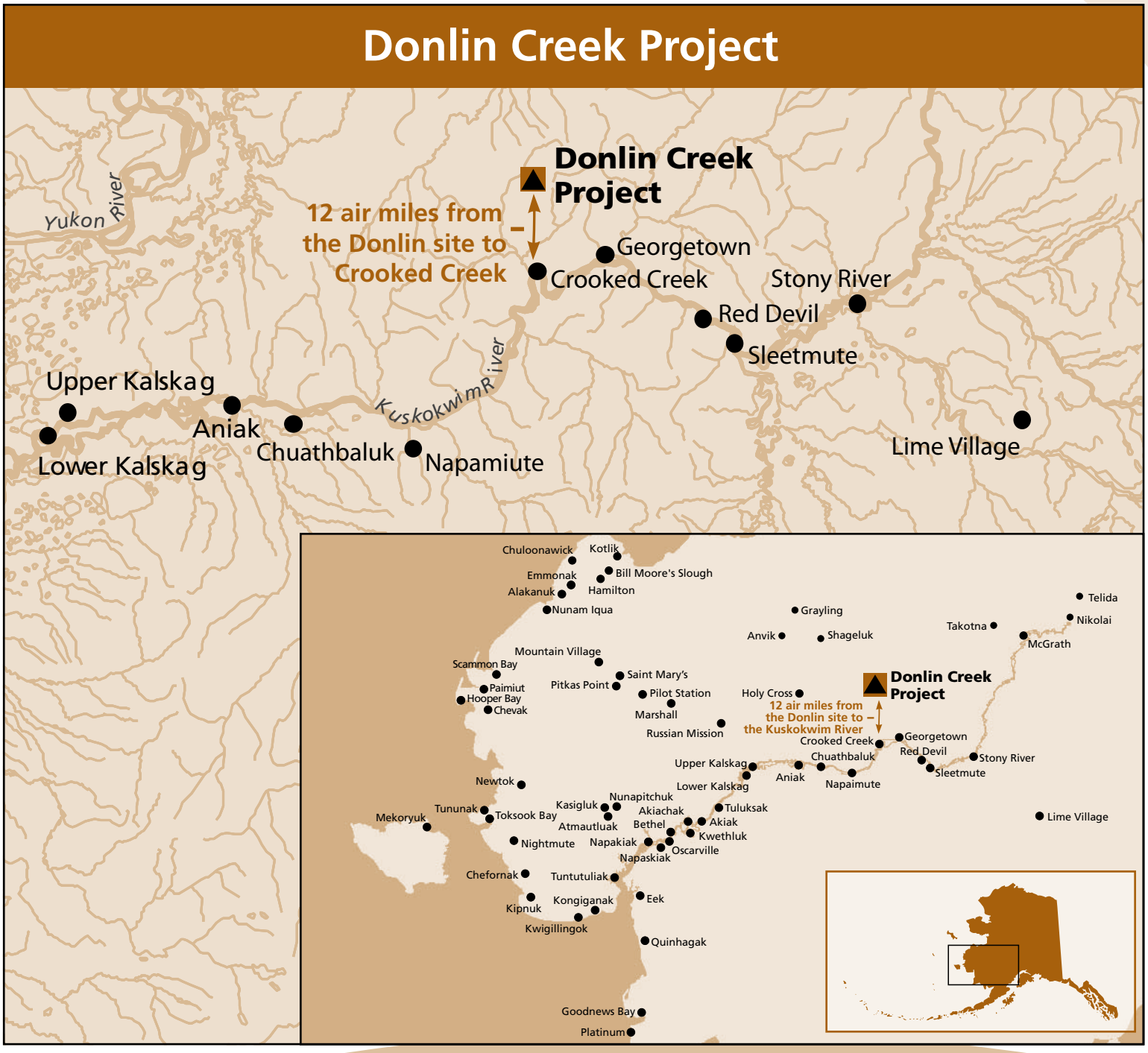


Left to Right: Anchorage DCLLC Staff that assisted with the drive include from L to R: Jan Montgomery, Elva Marr, Felisa Childress, organizer Tisha Woolley, Jeanne Luhrs, Alexie Pleasant, Alison Brill and Nancy Hazelberg. • Volunteers unload boxes of clothing from the clothes drive at M.E. School gym in Bethel. • Students and families sort through boxes of clothing from the clothes drive at M.E. School in Bethel.

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: What takes place during a tour of the Donlin project?

A: Once visitors arrive at Donlin camp, staff provide everyone with a safety briefing, an overview of the physical layout of the Donlin exploration project and a Q&A session to address any questions participants might have before beginning the tour. During the overview, Donlin camp employees describe things like the proposed mine design, geology, equipment, operations, maintenance and more. When the overview is completed, weather permitting, tour participants board helicopters for a fly-over of the proposed mine project. After the fly-over tour, visitors are taken to the Donlin camp dining hall for a hot lunch provided by the DCLLC kitchen staff before heading back home.



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Stakeholder: A person, group or organization that believes they could potentially be affected by a proposed development.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Yuuluaqautekat: Maintaining a life balance with culture, family, and community is an important aspect in Yup'ik culture. Literally translated, "yuuluaqautekat" means "advice that helps one live a proper life," and is a treasured gift.

Throughout the course of the Donlin project, we have gained insight into the concerns of the people within the region and received important advice. Together we at Donlin Creek LLC hope to continue to respect, honor and uphold the region's culture and identity.



DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
DECEMBER 2009

Yukon-Kuskokwim Residents Tour Golden Sunlight Mine

Several residents from the Yukon-Kuskokwim (YK) Region traveled to the Golden Sunlight Mine in Whitehall, Montana in October and took a tour of the facilities. Golden Sunlight is a Barrick open pit gold mine that has been in production since 1982. In 2004 the mine won the Environmental Excellence Award from the Northwest Mining Association, and is regarded by industry experts as a good example of successful mining reclamation. The mine's reclamation efforts also won the 2004 Hardrock Mineral Community Outreach and Economic Security Award from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

The trip included a tour of the mine facilities, but also a meeting with the Community Transition Advisory Committee (CTAC) in Whitehall, composed of local residents. The CTAC meets monthly with management from Golden Sunlight and was originally established to facilitate communication between the community and the mine in Montana.

Attendees on the Golden Sunlight tour included community leaders from the Yukon-Kuskokwim region, including Senator Lyman Hoffman and his wife, Lillian, from Bethel. In the meeting with Whitehall community leaders, Senator Hoffman asked a number of questions regarding mining taxes and how the local government and schools benefit from the Montana minerals mining tax.

David O. David, a lifelong hunter and commercial fisherman in Bristol Bay, was curious if the people around Whitehall eat wild animals and fish as the people in our region do. Local people said that like most rural Montana residents they were avid hunters



YK Residents Denny Thomas, Alex Felker, Fred Phillip, Mary Nelson, Lillian and Senator Lyman Hoffman, Bill Bieber and David O. David in Whitehall, Montana, on a trip to visit the Golden Sunlight Mine.



Denny Thomas of Crooked Creek poses in front of a 200 ton haul truck at the Golden Sunlight Mine.

Continued on page 3

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



As 2009 comes to a close, many may be wondering what happened to the plan to start the permitting process for the proposed Donlin Creek mine before year end. I wanted to provide a status update to let you know that although it may feel like the project is moving at the pace of an advancing glacier, it is definitely advancing!

The enormous task of designing a project of this scope includes many twists and turns, and can result in projected goals being moving targets. The economic downturn over the past year has not waylaid the project. It has, however, created a need to revisit cost estimates for construction and operating expenses. We've had to take a look at capital expenses and do some tweaking in response to what has changed in the mining industry and world markets.



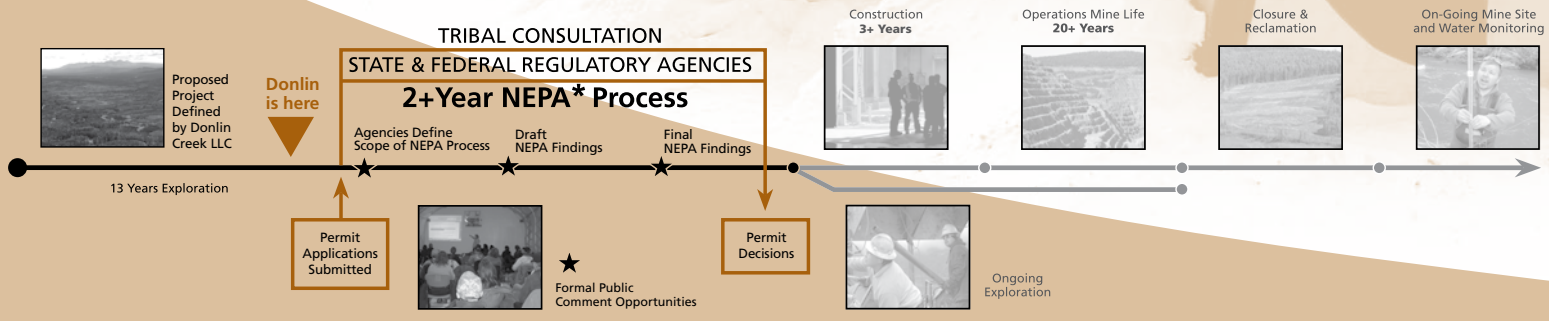
Lewis Ridge Road at Donlin Creek.

On the bright side, as we continue to work on the project in preparation for permitting we are continually refining it. These efforts are resulting in a better project all around. For example, we have developed improvements in fuel efficiency and water resource management. Our environmental baseline studies continue to build on our understanding of the region, to provide sound footing for our environmental monitoring program.

We have greatly appreciated the hospitality given us in the region as we visited throughout the past months to get to know you better and learn what your questions and concerns are about the proposed mine. And we have enjoyed giving tours to village representatives so that they can see what we've been up to at Donlin Creek. We will continue to keep you informed as we move the project forward as the year ends and a new one begins.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

YK Residents Tour Golden Sunlight Mine (continued from page 1)

and fishers before the mine and that they are still today. The reclamation that Placer Dome (now Barrick) has done at the site has attracted all the wildlife back that lived there before. Fred Phillip made comments after the tour that his experience in Montana allowed him to see that both sides of mining issues have valid points of view, and he is not firmly in either camp.

Participants on the October trip included: Senator Lyman Hoffman and Lillian Hoffman (Bethel), Fred Phillip (Kwigillingok), Denny Thomas (Crooked Creek), David O. David (Kwigillingok) and Alex Felker (Crooked Creek).



Tour participants pose for a photo after Whitehall leaders discussed their positive relationship with the mine with the YK Delta residents. (Front from left) Lillian Hoffman, Lyman Hoffman (behind Lillian), David O'David, Paula Johnston (Superintendent of Schools), Tim Dimock, John Brower, Terry Ross (Mayor of Whitehall), Denny Thomas, Cy Wilsey (Barrick North American Land Manager), Dave Cole (Captain of Jefferson County Search and Rescue). (Back from Left) Bill Bieber, Fred Phillip, Mary Nelson, Tom Harrington (CTAC), Mark Thompson (Golden Sunlight Mine Environmental Superintendent), Ken Weber (Jefferson County Commissioner)



Golden Sunlight's Environmental Superintendent Mark Thompson shows the tailings impoundment to Lillian and Senator Lyman Hoffman, Mary Nelson, Fred Phillip, David O. David and John Bower



YK Residents at the Golden Sunlight Mine, getting a closer look at their tailings impoundment.

Association of Village Council Presidents' 45th Annual Convention



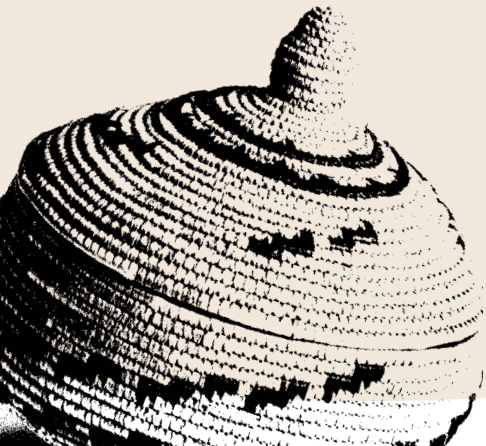
Attendees gather in Bethel for the Association of Village Council Presidents' (AVCP) 45th Annual Convention in October.



Donlin Environmental Technician Danny Twitchell and Governor Sean Parnell at the Convention.



Bethel elder and ONC Tribal Chief Peter Jacobs takes a break during the Convention.





Senator Hollis French, Senator Albert Kookesh, Representative Bob Herron, AVCP President Myron Naneng and AVCP Chairman Ray Watson address the delegates.



Aide to U.S. Senator Mark Begich, Tiffany Zulkosky speaks at the convention.

Employee Spotlight: Checking Back In

Joey Evan, Maintenance Supervisor

Maintenance Supervisor Joey Evan was first profiled in the Winter 2006 issue of the Donlin Creek LLC Project Update, and we caught up with him again this month to touch base and see how things were going for him. Joey's current position remains the same, Shop/Maintenance Supervisor at camp. His job duties are varied and keep him busy at all times. "It's about taking care of all the equipment," Joey said. "Making sure all the equipment is in safe running condition to meet the safety requirements of the camp."

Joey also notes he often helps out the other departments at camp. "We like to give the camp maintenance staff help when they need extra hands with carpentry work and other things." In fact, there isn't much that Joey doesn't do.

During his time with Donlin Creek, Joey has gained skills in using diagnostic codes to diagnose heavy equipment such as bulldozers, excavators and loaders. He hopes to continue his work at Donlin to gain more training on heavier equipment, and learn as much as he can to better himself in other skills and learn more about technology. "Now the equipment is all run off computers," Joey noted.



Joey Evan, Maintenance Supervisor, has been with Donlin Creek since 1998.

Joey enjoys his work at Donlin as well. "What I like best about up here is that every day is a different day," he said. "You don't always do the same thing the same day."

In his spare time Joey still enjoys the things that were important to him in 2006 – being with his family, and hunting and fishing.

Donlin Creek Trains in High Angle Rope Rescue Class

In September, Donlin Creek Operations Manager Bill Bieber taught a class in high angle rope rescue. Donlin staff that attended that class included Tina Wassily, on-site office manager, and Memo Martinez, Prep Lab Supervisor.

The class is designed to train employees to rappel down cliffs, off of buildings, or on steep embankments in order to rescue accident victims that cannot be reached through other means. The class includes 44 hours of training. Bill Bieber received his instructor's certification in 1994 at the Grand Canyon rescue center in Sedona, AZ and was happy to share it with Tina, Memo and 10 others in the Donlin training class.





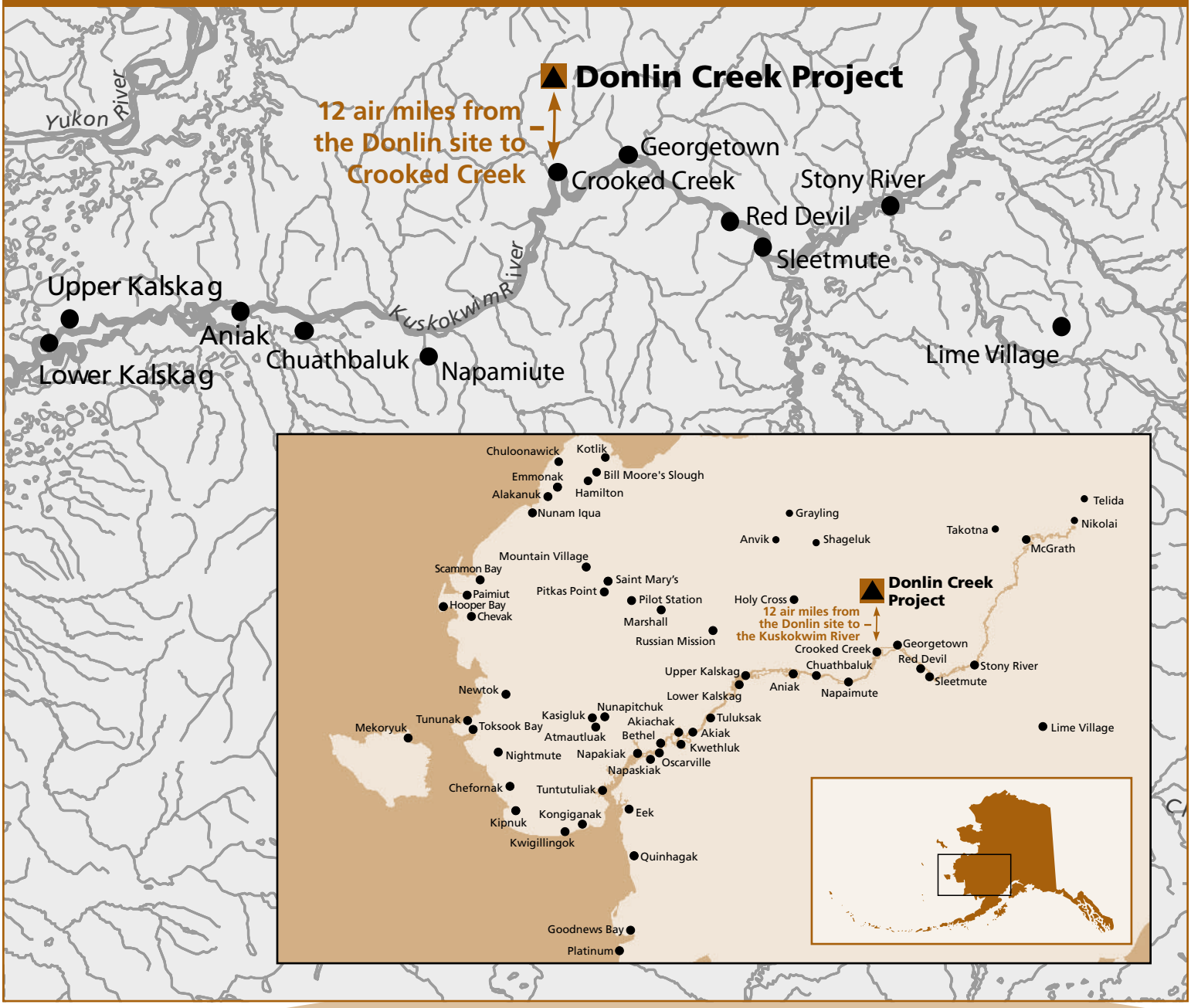
Left: Donlin Prep Lab Supervisor Memo Martinez (left) and Operations Manager Bill Bieber (right) train in the air at the High Angle Rope Rescue course. • Right: Donlin on-site Office Manager Tina Wassily trains in the High Angle Rope Rescue class.

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: Are all mines alike?

A: No. In fact, all mines are different one from another. A mineral deposit is one of a kind, and certainly the land – the elevation, the watershed, the climate – is unique to every proposed mine site. The access to infrastructure like roads and power is very different from one project to another as well. As a result, the design of every facility that is engineered to mine the unique resource from each unique site is very specific to each location – and different from any other mine.

Donlin Creek Project



Donlin Creek LLC: Listening and Addressing your Concerns in our Proposed Project

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Waste rock: Rock that does not go into the mill is called "waste rock." At the proposed Donlin Creek mine site, the rock that does not get used will be used as construction material on site or hauled to a waste rock facility.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabaskan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Piciryarat: Instructions and wise words are a common thread in traditional cultural references. Literally translated, "piciryarat" means "manners, customs, traditions," and is a traditional rule for right living.

Throughout the course of the Donlin project, we have gained insight into the concerns of the people within the region and received important advice. Together we at Donlin Creek LLC hope to continue to respect, honor and uphold the region's culture and identity.



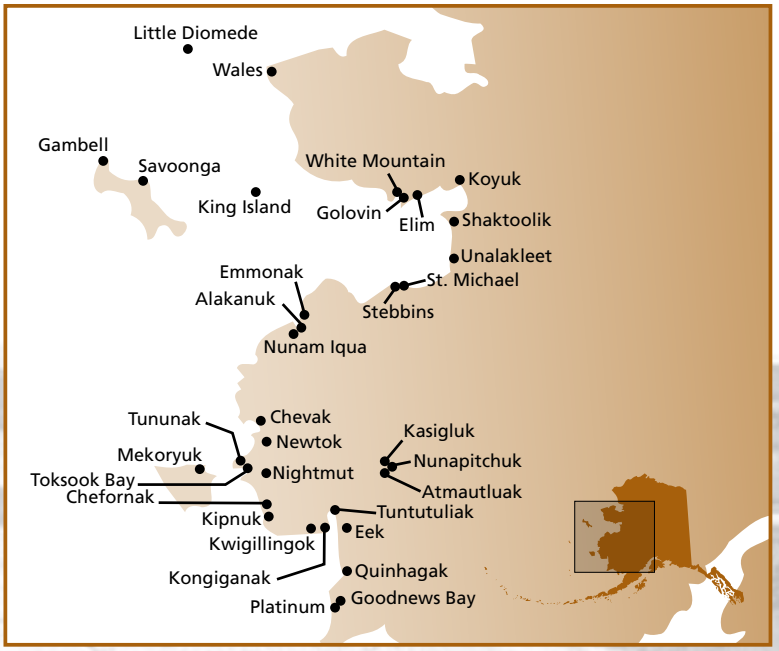
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PROJECT UPDATE
MARCH 2010

Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group Holds First Meeting

Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group (BSEAG) member tribes met in Bethel in November for a summit to discuss fishery management concerns. The group approached Donlin Creek LLC to sponsor the conference; one of the group's greatest challenges is gathering representatives from 34 remote villages to a central point to listen to the scientists and then reach consensus on policy initiatives.



According to DCLLC Manager of Community Development and Sustainability, Mary Nelson, "We were pleased to be able to help support such important policy work. The BSEAG mission falls within the parameters of all three of our primary community sustainability funding categories: environmental, subsistence/cultural, and community wellness."

The elders want their policy work on marine fisheries issues to be informed by science as well as traditional knowledge, so they invited scientists to attend and speak about research going on in the Bering Sea. The BSEAG agreed that there is much work to be done. But as elder David O. David from Kwigillingok said, "Before you get ready to submit a fisheries management plan, come and talk to us about what your plan proposes."



Bering Sea Elders Advisory Council conference attendees listening to Chairman David Bill.

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Wintertime is Slower but Still Productive



> "An important aspect of the project's Water Resources Management Plan is that there is no discharge of water from the tailings, waste rock, or mill into the environment."

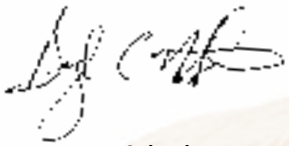
Midwinter is a slow time at the Donlin Creek Project camp. A small crew keeps our year-round Environmental Baseline Studies Program running, monitoring the air and water, and accumulating data that continues to build our understanding of the area. Studies of the geochemistry of the site are also done throughout the year to give the scientists and engineers designing the project a thorough understanding of how to work with the land and water.

Ongoing: The Mine Planning Process
The environmental studies and exploration data collected over the past 15 years will provide the foundation for the project that Donlin Creek LLC will submit to the permitting process. Once the design is complete everyone in the region will have the opportunity to examine in detail all of the project's proposals for water resource management, transportation logistics, construction, operation, and eventual closure and reclamation of the mine.

Goal: No Water Discharge from the Tailings, Waste Rock and Mill
An important aspect of the project's Water Resources Management Plan is that there is no discharge of water from the tailings, waste rock, or mill into the environment. Water discharge, if required, would be limited to water taken from the dewatering wells around the pit. In the event that any water treatment is needed, the water discharged to the environment after treatment would meet established water quality and aquatic life standards.

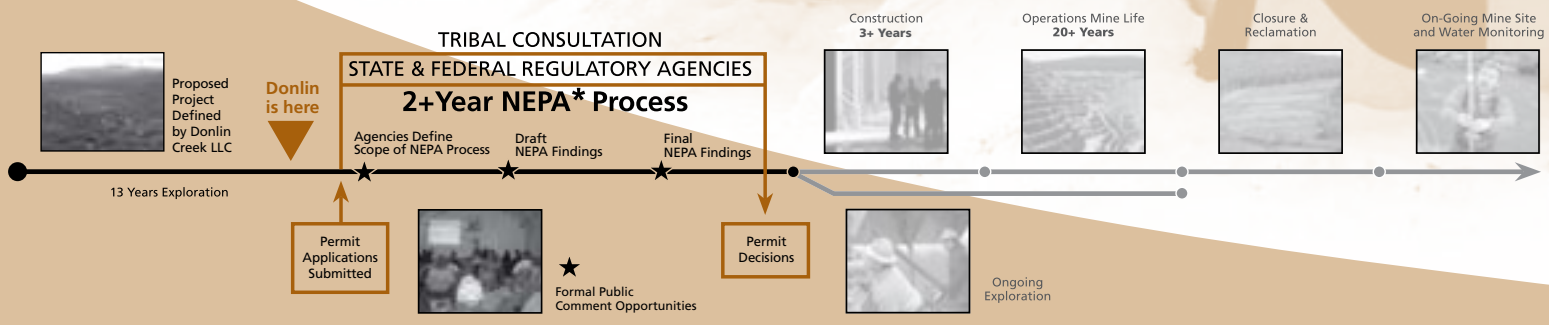
Addressing Challenges
As the Donlin Creek team strives to design a viable mine, there are still some daunting issues to come to terms with, such as the cost and transport of fuel and the lack of infrastructure in the region--but those issues are not new to residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

Our hope is that our team's efforts to overcome the challenges that come with responsible resource development in the region will one day bring lasting benefit to your communities.



Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: What efforts are made to manage mercury emissions at mine sites?

A: Donlin's Mercury Management Philosophy

Background: Mercury occurs naturally in the earth's crust. It is particularly concentrated in areas associated with relatively recent volcanic activity, high heat flows, and plate tectonic boundaries. For example, southwest Alaska is an area that includes significant areas of natural mercury occurrence.

Natural processes such as weathering of rock, vaporization from soil, wildfires and off-gassing of the world's oceans, emit mercury into the atmosphere. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other scientific sources, one-half of the mercury emitted into the environment each year is from natural processes. Combustion of coal is the single largest human-generated source of mercury air emissions. Industrial mining is a relatively minor source of mercury air emissions on a global and a national level.

Once released into the atmosphere, mercury may be transported great distances from its original source. For example, according to the EPA, approximately one-third of mercury that is deposited in the western U.S. comes from sources in Asia. Additional modeling using EPA-approved models shows that mercury deposition in Alaska is most sensitive to emissions from East Asia.

Efforts to Date, Working with Government to Control Mercury: The Nevada gold mining industry has a history of working with regulators in efforts to reduce mercury emissions. For example, in 2001, the EPA and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) began a dialogue with major gold mining companies that operate mines in Nevada, concerning mercury emissions controls. All parties agreed to a Voluntary Mercury Reduction Program (VMRP) which was successfully implemented and resulted in reduced mercury emissions.

Later, in 2006, the Nevada mining industry again worked with the NDEP and obtained passage of the Nevada Mercury Air Emissions Control Program (NMCP) into law. The NMCP expanded mercury emissions control requirements to all precious metals mines in the state of Nevada and made compliance compulsory.



Southwest Alaska is an area that includes significant areas where mercury occurs naturally in the earth's crust.

Currently, the Nevada mining industry is working closely with EPA to develop a federal rule under the Clean Air Act which would require Maximum Achievable Control Technology ("MACT") for mercury at all gold mines in the U.S. The industry is supporting EPA's efforts to develop and finalize the rule.

The Donlin Commitment: Donlin and its owners, Barrick and NovaGold are committed to state-of-the-art emissions control equipment at all of their operations.

Employee Follow-up: Tina Wassily, Camp Office Coordinator

Tina Wassily was first profiled in the summer of 2008. This May, Tina will have been with Donlin Creek for three full years. The size of the on-site crew has reduced to 27 people on average, and with no administrative support assistant, Tina takes care of the office in addition to her regular work. "I'm pretty much doing everything," she said.



Tina Wassily, Camp Office Coordinator

"I am responsible for travel, office supplies, Information Technology (IT) equipment in the office, assisting departments that need administrative support, and hosting special events for the Donlin Creek employees," Tina said. "In the past," Tina added, "I have traveled with the Donlin Creek LLC team to presentations." She also received a Safety Award in 2008 and has participated in several training opportunities onsite, including Arctic Indoctrination Training, high angle rope rescue and Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training. "I keep an open mind to learning new things," Tina said.

Tina resides in Kenai when she's off duty, but enjoys her time at the Donlin camp, as well. "We all work as a team and I consider this place my second home," Tina said. "It's a family atmosphere," she said. "We all work together to help each other out. It makes it a really good place to work."

"I believe in teamwork and take pride in my work," Tina added, "I am very fortunate to work with an outstanding group of individuals onsite." Tina also hopes to continue her work at camp. "I do see myself staying at Donlin Creek for the future," she said.

When off duty and at home in Kenai, Tina enjoys antiquing, camping, walking on the beach, and spending time with her family and friends. "I have three kids who are my life and make it phenomenal," Tina said. "My son Ryan Haglund, my daughter Nicole Haglund, and my youngest son Joseph Haglund."

Bering Sea Elders Conference (Continued from cover)











Top Left to Right: Fisheries biologist Henry Huntington presents the results of recent studies in the Bering Sea to the elders on the first day of the conference. Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group Chairman David Bill convenes the proceedings of the first BSEAC. Yup'ik elder Peter Jacobs discusses issues raised at the meeting with Donlin Operations Manager Bill Bieber. Participants asked many questions of the presenters and each other during the two day conference. Bering Sea elders snack on dried fish during a break at the conference.

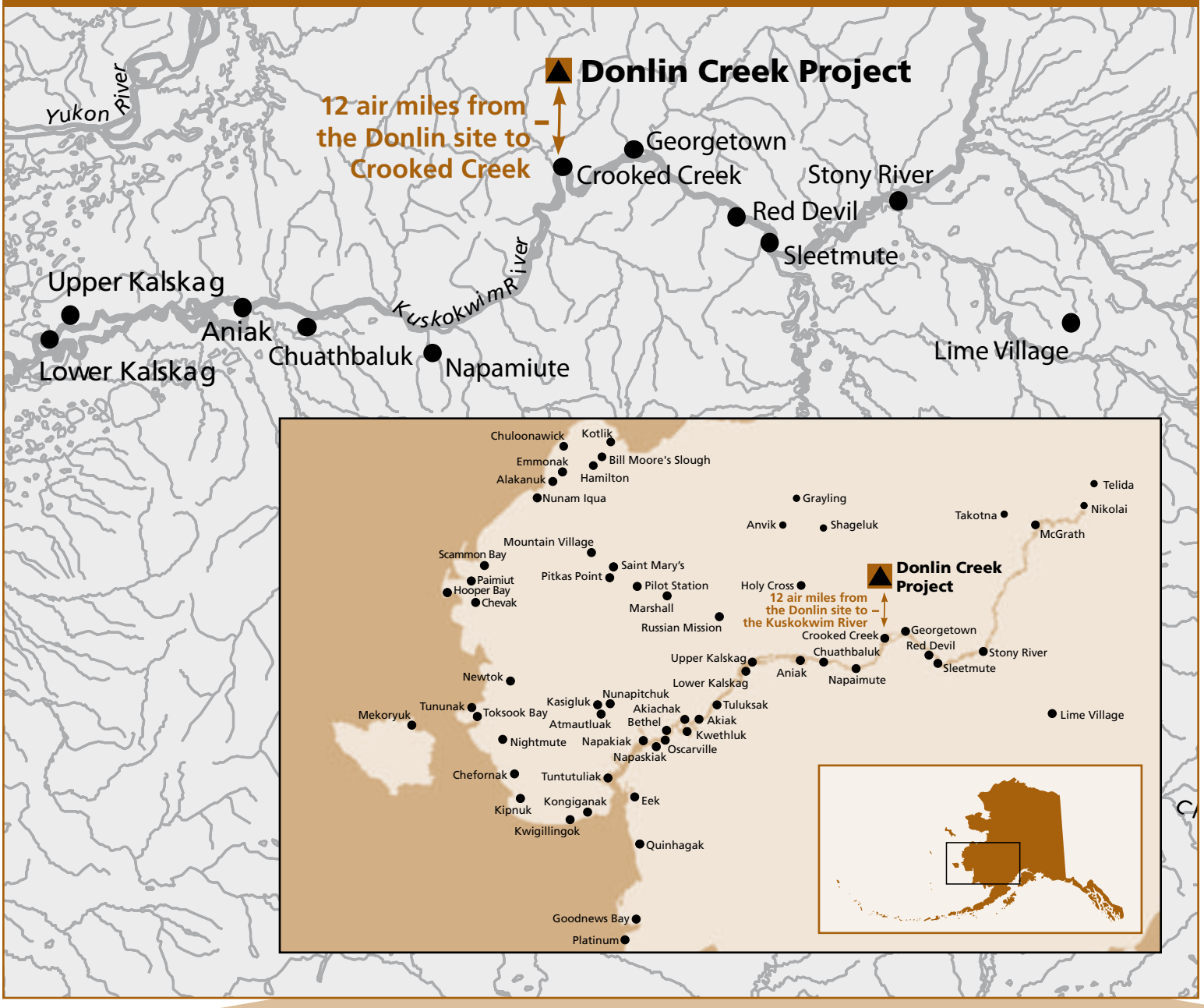






Left to Right: Dorothy Childers (left) with the Alaska Marine Conservation Council and fisheries scientist Tom Van Pelt (right) address the elder's conference. Yup'ik elder Moses Strauss traveled many miles to participate in the meeting of the Advisory Council. After a presentation on the status of the Donlin project, DCLLC Operations Manager Bill Bieber answers questions that elder Charlie Brown had regarding air quality issues.

Donlin Creek Project



Donlin Creek LLC: Listening and Addressing Your Concerns in our Proposed Project

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NEPA: The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions. To meet NEPA requirements federal agencies prepare a detailed report known as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

Teggutngungnaqluten: Traditional ties and a strong community are key elements in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Literally, "Teggutngungnaqluten" translates to "a source of strength," or "strong foundation or support." The Yukon Kuskokwim region embodies a long-standing, strong, and stable foundation of tradition and cultural value.

At Donlin we strive to respect, honor and uphold the region's culture, identity, and ways of tradition and strength. We wish all residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim the very best in the coming year.



CORRECTION: Donlin Creek LLC would like to apologize for an error in the 2010 calendar. The photograph for the month of March is of Olga Wigley, pictured above, not Katherine Sakar.

DONLIN CREEK LLC
A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY
PROJECT UPDATE
APRIL 2010

DCLLC Assists Crooked Creek with Community Archaeology

As baseline data collection on the Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) proposed mine project continues, areas have been identified where archaeological evaluation is required to ensure that development projects do not disturb significant cultural resources. The assessment includes the study of various areas by surveying with a walk-through and test-pit digging for high potential areas or fly-over for lower potential areas which, according to DCLLC Consulting Archaeologist Chris Wooley, may contain historic sites. Conducting the archaeological surveys is a requirement of the permitting phase and has also provided an opportunity for Donlin to show their commitment to the communities in the area by supporting local involvement in a community archaeology project.

One early project field survey provided some interesting historical and archaeological results. When Wooley teamed up with Northern Land Use Research staff and surveyed the area for a potential port site off the Kuskokwim River, they found evidence of an abandoned settlement in the form of old house depressions. "We could tell from looking at it," Wooley said. "It wasn't right next to the river, but back on an old river terrace, so we figured it could be pretty old."

To confirm the age and nature of the settlement, the researchers opened a "test pit," which means digging a small, square hole and sifting down through it to analyze what lies beneath the surface. "We found some pretty remarkable stuff in just that one hole," Wooley said. The original test pit results indicated the site was roughly



Tribal members Darien Thomas and David John excavate with trowels inside the 2000 year old housepit.

> "Archaeology provides an intersection where science and tradition come together so that people can start to make sense of both."

(Continued on page 2)

Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*



The YK Region's Unique Cultural Heritage

Before Donlin Creek LLC proposes to develop any infrastructure to support a mine, the company has to do a lot of homework on the ground to make sure that any valuable historical or cultural resources located in the area are identified. In fact, before any development activity can occur, cultural resources in proposed development areas must be located and inventoried. While state and federal agencies require that this fieldwork be done, DCLLC has been working with area residents to go above and beyond what is required in an effort to contribute to historic and cultural preservation in the area.

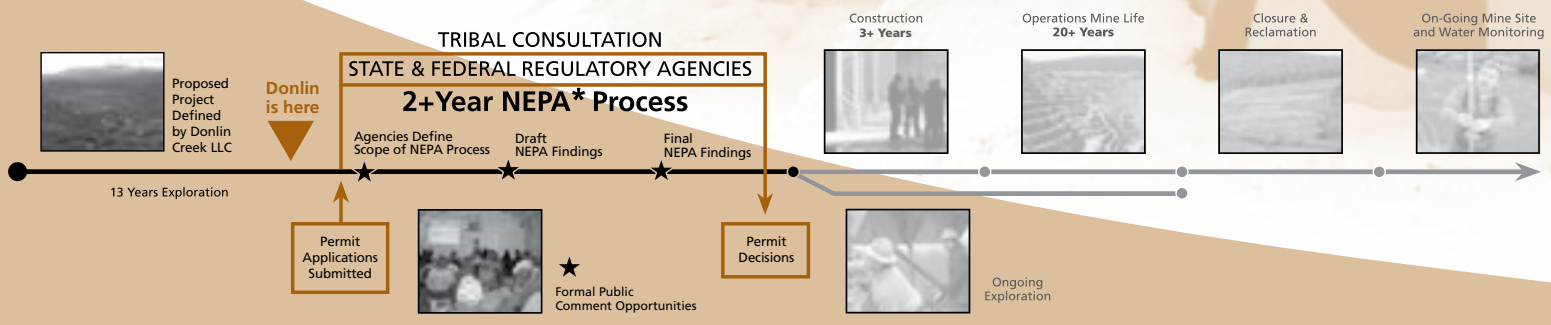
> "By working with local experts on history and culture, archaeologists work to identify the resources found in the area and to evaluate their significance."

A cultural resource may include historical, ethnographic, and traditional cultural properties. By working with local experts on history and culture, archaeologists work to identify the resources found in the area and to evaluate their significance. When significant cultural resources are found they are protected by either avoiding the site in the course of development or by mitigating any unavoidable impacts. But before those kinds of decisions can be made, all of the areas must first be studied to ensure that all significant cultural resources are identified.

At Donlin, as part of the permitting process, we have utilized professional archeology consultants such as Chumis Cultural Services and Northern Land Use Research, in consultation with local cultural experts to thoroughly evaluate all areas of potential development. At Donlin our studies have gone beyond what is simply required by law. As our cover story this month illustrates, we are committed to documenting the cultural heritage of the Yukon Kuskokwim region and will continue to do what we can to help add to the understanding of this area's unique cultural heritage.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek L.L.C.

Timeline



*NEPA: National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: How are archeological resources protected in the course of development?

A: State and Federal agencies and landowners require that development projects not disturb significant cultural resources. Working with local cultural and historical experts, archaeologists work to 1) identify the resource(s) found in the project area; 2) evaluate whether or not the resource is historically significant (for example, an old 55 gallon drum used to haul fuel may not be), and then if the archeological resources are found to be significant, 3) protect the resource(s) by avoiding the site in the course of development or mitigate any unavoidable impacts. For example, a developer building a road or a mine could detour around the valuable historical site in order to avoid impacts to the archeological resources.

DCLLC Assists Crooked Creek with Community Archaeology

(Continued from cover)

2000 years old and spurred a lot of local interest in the site.

"There hasn't been much, if any, detailed archaeological work done on that stretch of the river," Wooley said. When archeologists identified the site in 2006, Wooley added, they knew it was important and they wanted to make sure they took the right steps in uncovering and preserving both the historical and cultural values at the site. Later Donlin project plans changed and the surveys moved into other areas, but the community and the archaeologists remained interested in the original location.

"Crooked Creek tribal members were very interested in knowing more about the place because it is mentioned as a significant place in their oral traditions," said Wooley. "The tribal leadership continued to bring up the idea of doing a larger excavation, and we discussed maybe doing something there as a community archaeology project if we could find a funding source."

Donlin Creek was willing to help out with the funding which enabled the archaeologists and the tribe to contribute as a community project. Wooley said, "Crooked Creek tribal leadership believes that it is important that the young people can see both worlds, they need to know what science is all about but they also know what their cultural traditions are. What I've found is that archaeology provides an intersection where science and tradition come together so that people can start to make sense of both."

This past summer, Donlin funded a community archeology project involving 12 days of excavation. Initial findings included tools, processed birch bark, pieces of burnt wood and animal bones. Some of the tools were made from obsidian from an area near the Koyukuk River, "which means it was traded over hundreds of miles, thousands of years ago," said Wooley. The crew also found several "bipoint" arrowheads as well as knives, similar to the traditional Ulu knife commonly used in Alaska today.



Archaeologists and Crooked Creek tribal members work "the screen" identifying small flakes and bone fragments from the site.

"It was a very successful couple of weeks. We worked with the community and showed them how we do science, and they got to participate as we all collected and analyzed data, but at the same time we're piecing together the story of that ancient community," Wooley said. "It was just a perfect match of science and tradition."

Next issue: *Read more about the excavation, the community members involved, and what else was learned at the site.*

Employee Follow-up: Checking Back In

Danny Twitchell, Environmental Specialist

Lloyd Daniel Twitchell, or "Danny," as most know him, is an Environmental Specialist with Donlin Creek LLC and was last profiled in January 2008. Since then, Danny said, "my work has pretty much stayed constant."

"We continue to put a lot of time and effort into our compliance work," Danny explains, "that was, and still is, the main part of our job." Compliance is the act of assuring that all operations and projects performed by DCLLC are done in compliance with state, federal, and internal company policies. He has gained some additional training since 2008, including certification in EPA Method 9 Visual Emission Evaluation, known as "smoke training."

What is smoke training? "You learn how to categorize and identify smoke to see if the on-site incinerator and generator are operating properly and in compliance," Danny said. The equipment must operate within certain emissions limits, and the coloring and type of smoke can help assess this. "You have to learn to categorize the emissions…its visual identification and classification," he said. "It was an interesting class." Danny was also recently certified by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation as a drinking water system operator.

Danny says his favorite part of the job is working in the woods. "I like being in the outdoors and I get to do that out here a lot," he said. This type of work includes gathering baseline data about the existing conditions of the environment and other environmental research. "It's really interesting to look at this. It makes me wish that the communities on the Kuskokwim had data about the quality of the water from 100 years ago to now so that we would have an even more complete picture," Danny, who grew up in the region, added. "Collecting this information in the field is cool."



Danny Twitchell is an Environmental Specialist with Donlin Creek LLC.

"The project provides many opportunities to learn more about the area," Danny added. "That's one of the things I like." He also appreciates the training DCLLC provides for its workers. "Not a whole lot of companies do for their employees what this company has done for the people in the region," Danny said. "Other companies don't put as much into training their people, or simply don't have the patience to do it right."

Danny also has high hopes for the future of the Donlin project. "I look at this as my career," he said. "This company has been so good to us out here; I hope I'm able to work out here for as long as the project continues."

> "I don't take it for granted at all. I think it's amazing what they do for the people out here."

DCLLC Assists Crooked Creek with Community Archaeology

(Continued from cover)





Left to right: Tribal members Beducia Thomas and Janine Stewman watch as David John and Darien Thomas excavate with trowels at the archaeological site. Site workers and volunteers huddle near the archaeological site and learn more about how to dig a "test pit" and how to recognize differences in sediment layers.

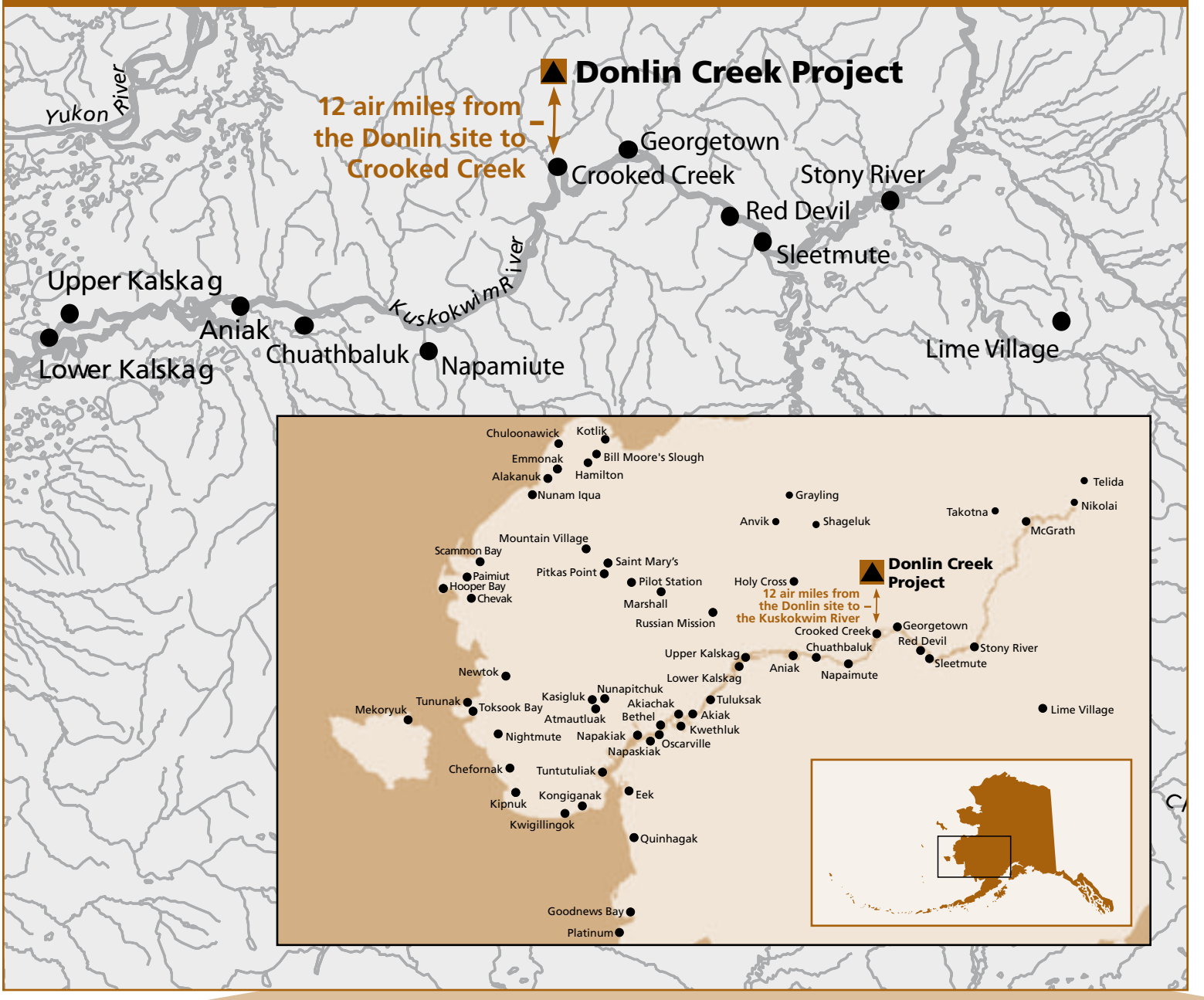






Left to Right: Tribal member Darien Thomas uses a trowel to excavate site materials at the 2009 community archaeological project. Tribal members visit the archaeological site during the summer 2009 dig. Here Darien shows two Crooked Creek residents how to screen. Site workers and volunteers lay out an excavation grid for the 2009 community archaeology project.

Donlin Creek Project



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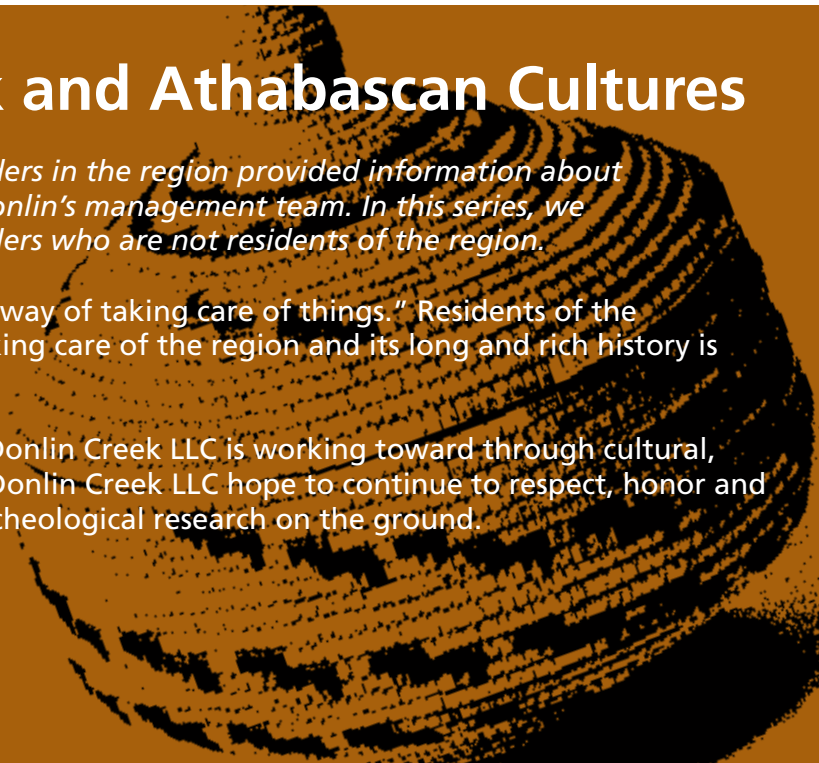
Archaeology: The scientific study of material remains of past human life and activities, such as fossil relics, artifacts, and monuments.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon-Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Kencikiyaraq: Literally translated, *kencikiyaraq* means "way of taking care of things." Residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region have always believed that taking care of the region and its long and rich history is vitally important.

Understanding the region and its history is something Donlin Creek LLC is working toward through cultural, historical and archaeological research. Together we at Donlin Creek LLC hope to continue to respect, honor and uphold the region's culture by continuing important archeological research on the ground.



DONLIN CREEK LLC

A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY

PROJECT UPDATE
MAY 2010

Donlin Studies Possible Gas Pipeline

Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) will conduct a study in 2010 on a possible natural gas pipeline from Beluga to the proposed Donlin Creek mine near Crooked Creek. The study will examine the feasibility of constructing a 12-inch natural gas pipeline from Cook Inlet to Donlin to supply power for the proposed mine operation.

As envisioned, the pipeline would be buried for its entire length of 325 miles. Gas from the pipeline would be used to produce electricity at the site. The pipeline would be privately financed and operated, and would not be contingent on other projects under discussion in Alaska.

In the next year much work will be done on environmental baseline studies, stakeholder consultation and technical issues. Donlin will follow its long established process of consulting with all stakeholders, its Alaska Native partners, and State and Federal regulatory agencies.

The study is expected to take 12 to 18 months. If a pipeline is found to be feasible, it may become part of the Donlin Creek project that would ultimately be submitted to State and Federal regulators under the National Environmental Policy Act. Permitting is expected to take another three years to complete.



12-INCH PIPELINE
Project in Minnesota: Worker inspects pipeline just before it is buried and right of way is re-seeded



12-INCH PIPELINE RIGHT OF WAY AFTER CONSTRUCTION AND REVEGETATION

Questions We Heard in the Region

Q: Will there be as many jobs at Donlin this season as in previous summers?

A: No. The exploration at camp will be very small. Most of this season's focus will be on the gas pipeline study. It is being done by the staff engineers and scientists at Donlin and their specialized consultants. There will be a small field program to support it with a limited geotechnical drilling crew. The field crew will stay at lodges along the route or fly back to Donlin camp at days end.

DCLLC Assists Crooked Creek With Community Archaeology

Part Two

The April Donlin Creek LLC newsletter profiled a community archaeology project near the village of Crooked Creek, where the remains of an ancient settlement were found and analyzed by project archaeologists and Tribal members. To follow-up in this issue, Chris Wooley, DCLLC Consulting Archaeologist, highlights the cooperation between the Traditional Council and the archaeologists that made the 2009 project possible.

The most important part of the project, for Wooley, was that participants saw the direct connection between the past, present and future, and the distinct connection between science and tradition. One way the project combined science with tradition was by having the archaeologists work side by side with Tribal members and DCLLC project employees, such as Darien Thomas and David John.

Darien participated as a youth intern and contributed a unique knowledge of culture and tradition as she helped excavate test pits and found ancient artifacts. "Darien uncovered a number of unique artifacts there," Wooley said. "She really understood how amazing it was when she picked the stone tool out of the dirt. When we said, 'You're the first person to touch this for over 2,000 years!' I could tell she was excited."



Tribal leaders have asked DCLLC archeologists to bring their findings to the students in the school at Crooked Creek.

David John, Lead Geotech at Donlin, was born and raised in Crooked Creek and was a natural choice to participate in the project. "I didn't know him well before the project," Wooley said, "but I knew he was a hard worker and that his father knew the country really well. He also has a great perspective on history and culture."

(Continued on page 3)



Donlin Creek Exploration Camp located 12 miles inland from the Kuskokwim River

DCLLC Assists Crooked Creek With Community Archaeology

(Continued from page 2)

"We were able to work with people that got along well and were well-matched to the job, which was basically digging up part of a 2,000-year-old house," Wooley said. Fellow archaeologists Josh Reuther, Justin Hays, Molly Proue and Jason Rogers all worked closely with Tribal members and Donlin staff. "We were able to look at the site from many different points of view, not just the science," Wooley said.

The excavation took place for 12 days in the summer of 2009. "We had visitors come down from the community and watch the progress, which was really great," Wooley added. "Darien and David showed them what we were doing and were able to help communicate what archaeologist do because they became archaeologists for awhile." The area where the dig took place actually figures prominently in some of the oral traditions of the Middle Kuskokwim region. "It was important to have community members involved in excavating the house," Wooley said. Oral traditions about this place shed light on how people lived on the river, and we hope the archaeology can add other details not available in the oral history. Archaeology is just another tool for understanding the past and one which complements cultural traditions."

"Sometimes when people find interesting artifacts, they want to dig them up but they don't have the expertise to gain the important information that sites contain," he said. "We wanted to do this the right way. When you do archaeology you aren't just pulling arrowheads out of the ground, you're learning the story, helping create ownership of the past, and getting all the details."



Site workers and volunteers work at the "test pit," which was the site of the community archeology project on the Kuskokwim River.



Tribal member Darien Thomas holds up archaeological evidence at the site of the dig.

"In this case, we are learning about what time of year people were living at the site based on the bones of the animals people left behind. We're still figuring it out, and we are doing it collaboratively," he continued.

After the excavation, months of lab work followed to analyze each item discovered at the site. "We have a wood expert look at the wood," Wooley said. "We have geologists who look at the origins of the stone materials in the site and how close the site was to the riverbank 2,000 years ago. Bone experts look at the bones and analyze them." A detailed map of the site provides important information on the location of items within the house itself. The lab studies took place all winter and are being finished up this spring. The excavation and analysis are providing important information about the location and its history. "It's like so many amazing places in Alaska; it's a unique archaeological and heritage site," Wooley said. "We have been very fortunate to work with a community like Crooked Creek whose Tribal members are excited and interested in continuing to learn more about the past."

"I think it really helps bring together science and traditional ways of knowing," Wooley continued. "Local people were told all of these things about the past through oral traditions, and that is an essential cultural record. What we're doing, in a way, is helping confirm what was passed down through the years."

"We're hoping to get back out to Crooked Creek and the Middle Kuskokwim villages to present the information to the schools as requested by the Traditional Council," he said. "We'll be working on that."



Peter "Paniguaq" Jacobs Sr.

Last month the people of the Yukon-Kuskokwim lost the traditional chief of the Orutsaramiut Native Council, Peter Jacobs Sr., a cultural historian who worked across the entire region to preserve the Native Ways of Being, the language and our traditional wisdom.

I had the privilege of working closely with Peter for many years while I was in the legislature, and like all of you, I am a better person for having known him. He made us all smile when we saw him round the corner with a twinkle in his eye and a spring in his step. We always knew that his counsel came from a place of love for all of us. He was such a big presence in our region; he will be deeply missed.

-Mary Sattler
Manager of Community Development and Sustainability



Employee Spotlight:

Jill Duerfeldt, Environmental Specialist

Jill Duerfeldt has worked as an Environmental Specialist with Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) since November 2005. Although she was not raised in rural Alaska, Jill has extended family in Eek, Kongiganak, Bethel and other coastal communities, and as a result believes that she has a vested interest in protecting the lands and waters around the region.

Jill's duties include oversight of all environmental resources that could potentially be impacted by the project, including wildlife, water, wetlands, vegetation and air quality. One of her primary roles is the collection of DCLLC's environmental baseline data. "Baseline data provides us with a snapshot of the surrounding environment prior to development," Jill said. "It's important that we have this information so we can closely monitor the environment." This data is also used for planning purposes year round. "One of the most challenging and interesting aspects of my job is winter work," Jill said. "We measure the density of the snowpack to calculate the volume of stream run-off during the spring."

Ensuring that the Donlin project is in compliance with state and federal regulations is another important function of the Environmental Specialist position. Jill says compliance is a critical factor in all day-to-day activities, from spill prevention on site to monitoring stormwater runoff, which can cause erosion. Other compliance efforts include training; Jill has received numerous certifications since joining the team, including HAZWOPER, ETT and Hazardous Shipping. Jill is also certified by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in water treatment, water distribution, wastewater treatment, and wastewater collection.

> "I want to help protect the subsistence resources my relatives rely on. It's vital to preserve their way of life."

Prior to her position with DCLLC, Jill worked at the Nyac gold exploration project and as an Environmental Technician with the U.S. Forest Service. Jill likes working in a hands-on environment; she enjoys learning new skills and says she has expanded her knowledge base since joining the Donlin team. "I've learned a lot during my years in the field. Working with the Donlin employees and contractors has been a great learning experience."

Jill is dedicated to her work at Donlin Creek LLC and is excited to be a part of the team moving forward. She says that DCLLC's environmental efforts will be critical for both a successful project and a sustainable future in the region. Jill also feels invested in Donlin's success personally. "I want to help protect the subsistence resources my relatives rely on," Jill said. "It's vital to preserve their way of life."

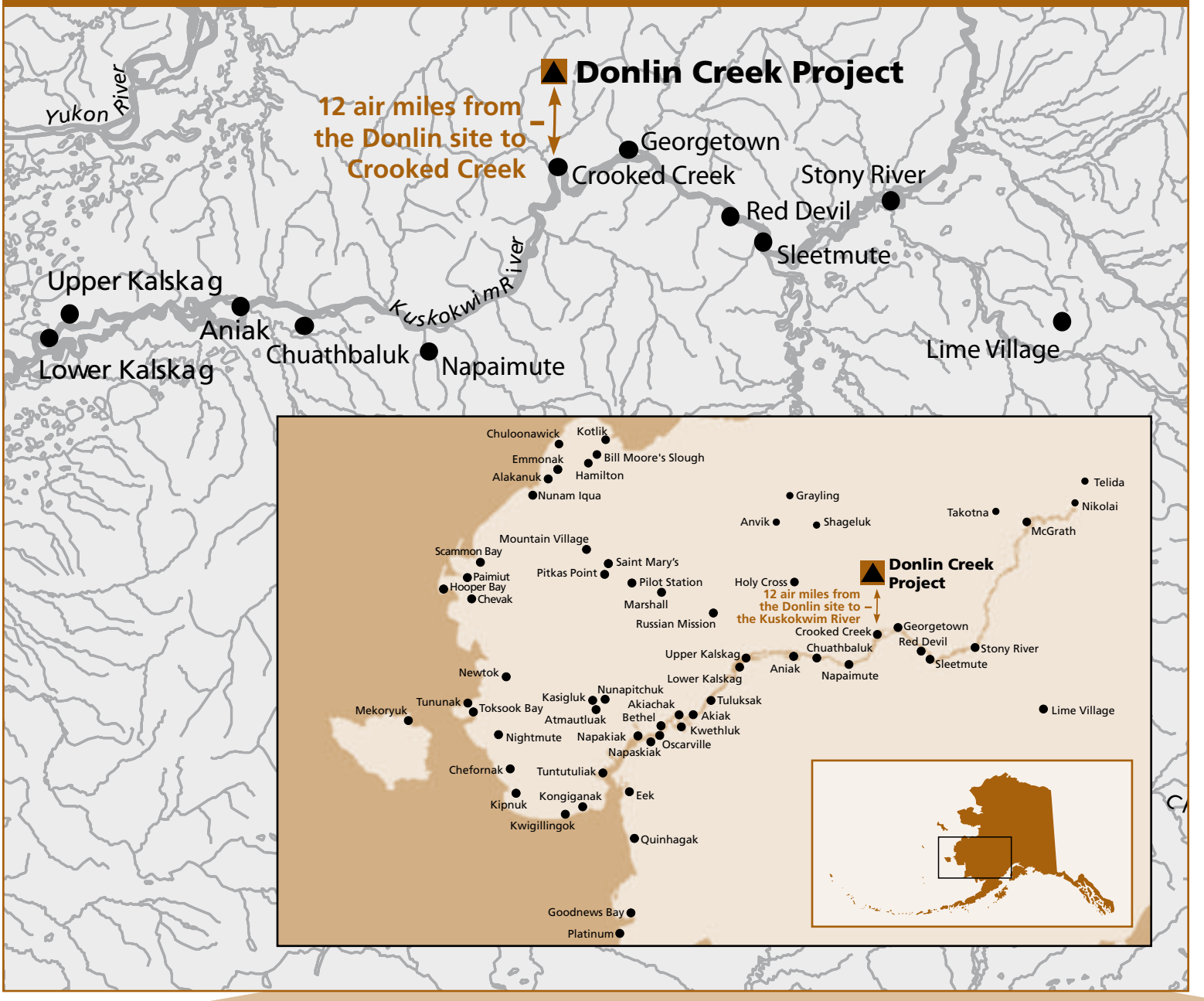






Left to Right: Anthropologist Chris Wooley, and Tribal members Darien Thomas, Lisa Thomas and Evelyn Thomas examine findings from the Crooked Creek test pit. Site workers and volunteers collaborate on the community archeology project sponsored by DCLLC on the Kuskokwim River. Site workers and volunteers dig at the test pit near Crooked Creek.

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Feasibility Study: A feasibility study is an evaluation of whether or not a proposed project is economically, technically, and environmentally viable.

Understanding the Yup'ik and Athabascan Cultures

When the Donlin project first got under way, leaders in the region provided information about the history of the Yukon-Kuskokwim region to Donlin's management team. In this series, we are publishing some of these insights for our readers who are not residents of the region.

Yuuciq: Respect for nature, respect for life, and respect for one another – these are important life values. Literally translated, yuuciq means "life." This concept applies to the life of the region and its people throughout history, as well as the life imbued in its culture and traditions, both today and thousands of years ago.

Throughout the course of the Donlin project, we have listened to and gained understanding and insight regarding the concerns and questions of the people within the YK region. Together we at Donlin Creek LLC are committed to honoring and respecting the past, present and future lives of the people, history, and culture of the Calista region.

DONLIN CREEK LLC
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PROJECT UPDATE
AUGUST 2010

2 Face to Face
3 Safety
4 Technical Corner
5 Opportunities
5 Stewardship
6 History
FROM THE GROUND UP

"WHAT IS EXPLORATION?"

SIXTEEN YEARS OF DISCOVERY



Persistent prospecting led to discovery of placer gold in the gravel of Donlin Creek in 1909. Since then the prospecting and discovery cycle has repeated several more times, and miners eventually recovered roughly 30,000 ounces of gold from near-surface deposits.

Exploration continues at Donlin Creek, but unlike the previously mined placer deposits from the past, today's lode gold deposits are contained in bedrock and can extend to great depths beneath the surface. Exploration of these deeper deposits requires scientific methods as well as boot-and-hammer prospecting to accurately estimate what might lie below the surface. Starting in 1994 and continuing today, Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) exploration geologists analyze historical data, and complete extensive trenching, surface sampling, geological mapping, geophysics, core drilling and computer modeling. Geologists then work with metallurgists and mining engineers to determine how to extract gold from the rock, mine the deposit in an environmentally responsible manner and layout the operation so buildings and other mine facilities are not constructed over mineral-rich areas.

Discovery is only the beginning. This lengthy and complex exploration process also provides engineers and planners with the basic geological information to determine if the gold resource is of sufficient quality to support an actual mining project.

NEXT STEPS AT THE DONLIN CREEK PROJECT

Mines are often in difficult-to-access places. This is certainly the case with the Donlin Creek project. Everything from hardhats to hamburgers have to be shipped or flown into the project site since it is not directly connected to a road, water or rail system, making transportation very costly. This is where feasibility studies come into the picture. Not only does there need to be a mineral deposit to mine, but the economics must make sense. The question of, "can the project be developed profitably?" needs to be answered, and this requires estimating the capital and operating costs of a mine against the potential revenues from production.

The biggest challenge at the Donlin Creek project is access to power. It is estimated the mine operation would require 127 megawatts of energy with peak loads of 152 megawatts. This is a significant amount of power; for comparison, Anchorage

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Our condolences go out to the family of a young man from Nevada who died Monday June 21, 2010 following an accident at the Livengood exploration project about 70 miles northwest of Fairbanks. It was reported that the cause of the accident was a piece of clothing caught in moving equipment during exploratory drilling. This is the first mining death in Alaska since 2007 and underscores the importance of workplace safety, training and attention to detail in the mining exploratory work environment.

Donlin employees and management live by the motto, "Every Person Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day." Our culture of safety guides employees' actions both on and off the worksite. We watch out for one another, share skills and knowledge, and create a supportive environment. This philosophy is not turned off at the end of the day; it is always operating.

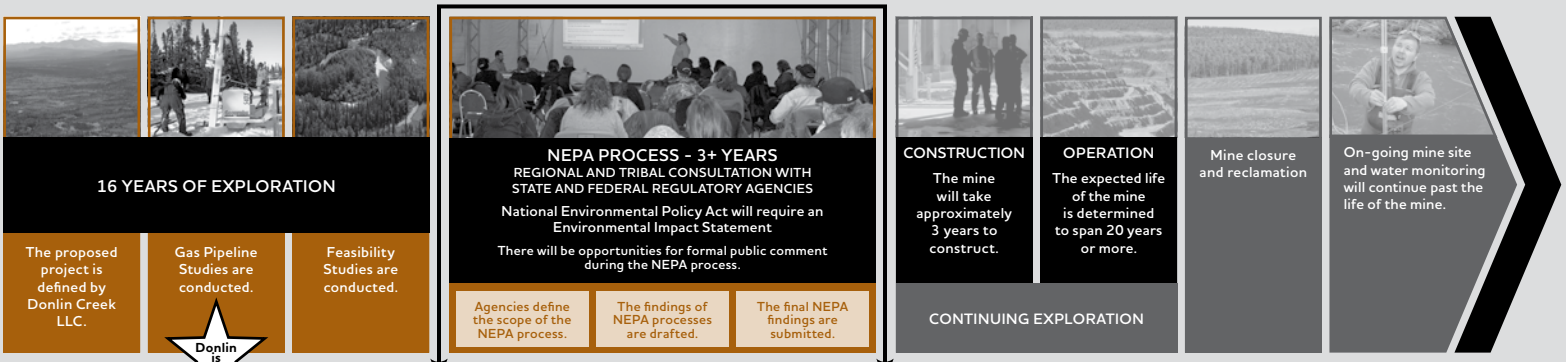
"Every Person Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day."

It is vitally important that the whole team works together to be safe and all employees are focused on their own safety and that of their co-workers. For several years in a row Donlin Creek LLC has been honored with the Barrick Merit of Safety Award, a distinction that recognizes 360 days of zero Lost Time Accidents. This is evidence of our outstanding workforce and their commitment to a job well done.

Donlin Creek has remained a safe workplace because everyone plays his or her part in making it safe, and we thank you for your hard work.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Timeline



HELICOPTER OPERATIONS

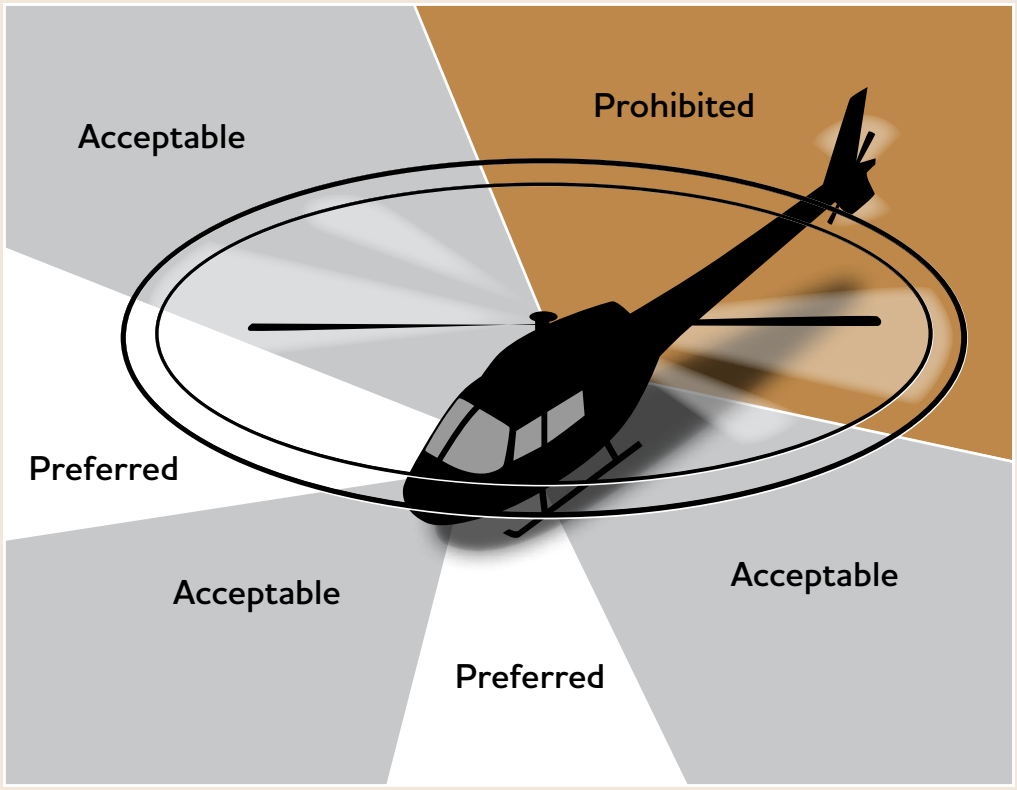
Environmental and engineering field work being conducted this summer to collect data for reviewing a gas pipeline option will require helicopter support. The length of the proposed pipeline – 325 miles – is such that workers cannot walk to every work site. Therefore, they will be helicoptered in from lodges where they are staying to drop-off spots along the proposed route. They will then walk short distances to each of the sites being studied. The following are general safety rules when traveling by helicopter:

1) Follow the pilot's instructions – they need to be able to see you at all times and will instruct you where to stand and when to move.

2) Never approach a helicopter from the rear even if the engine is not running – the pilot will not be able to see you from behind the aircraft, and the moving tail rotor is very dangerous and it is not visible when it is running.

3) Hold onto all light-weight items as they could be blown away; if an item does get blown away, do not chase after it when the rotors are turning. It's not worth your life.

4) Pay close attention to the pilot's pre-flight briefing. Where there are no roads, helicopters provide unrivaled access, but remember: in a helicopter you are the cargo. Do what you are told, keep your head down and your hands to yourself, and stay safe. ■



"WHAT IS EXPLORATION?"

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Municipal Light & Power reaches peak loads of about 180 megawatts. Therefore, cost–effective sources of energy need to be developed or obtained since the project and the area are not connected to a power grid. Over the next 12 to 18 months DCLLC will conduct further studies for a 12-inch, 325-mile natural gas pipeline to bring gas to the mine site. Once these pipeline studies are completed, DCLLC will revise its feasibility study for this new power source option.

PERMIT TIME

After the feasibility studies are completed it is anticipated that DCLLC will file project development permit applications by the end of 2011. Exploration, feasibility and the permitting process are all lengthy but important milestones that mark the Donlin Creek project's advance towards a construction decision. ■

CASE STUDY: CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING KEY TO SUCCESSFUL NATIVE HIRE PROGRAM IN ALASKA

At the remote Donlin Creek mining project, an innovative local hiring program was established to provide employment and skills training for the Indigenous peoples of the Yukon-Kuskokwim region. The Native hiring program was first established in 1996, and it continues today.

Presently, the Donlin Creek project is staffed primarily by Yup'ik and Athabascan Natives. Although now highly successful, the local Native hire program encountered significant, unanticipated challenges early on, as a variety of social, cultural and economic factors threatened to jeopardize its success.

Local Native Alaskans nearest to the Donlin Creek project are Yup'ik and live throughout Western, Southwestern and South-central Alaska. The Yup'ik culture in Alaska has endured many years of limited economic opportunities and exceedingly high unemployment. Aside from government-funded work projects, few job prospects had previously existed for Native men and women in the region.

THE LOCAL HIRE PROGRAM AT DONLIN

In order to provide stable jobs and develop the skills of local Indigenous people, preferential consideration is given to local Alaska Natives in the hiring process. Specifically, the program stipulates that members of local Native communities, and their spouse or descendants, should be given first consideration for any job that becomes available for which they are trained (or could be trained in a reasonable amount of time) over other candidates from outside the region.

EARLY CHALLENGES

In 1996, Placer Dome hired 152 employees in order to keep 48 full-time positions filled. The program sustained heavy injury rates, overwhelming drug screen fail rates, and a high rate of voluntary termination.

A cultural barrier that pre-dated the project began to develop and reflected a difficult period of transition. The historic treatment of Alaska Native people, compounded by attempts to "Westernize" the Native population, had created a significant lack of trust of outsiders among Native communities. While the Donlin Creek project offered a chance for meaningful employment, concerns persisted, and this contributed to a lack of trust between Native and non-Native workers.

FIRST YEAR RESULTS:

- 318% overall employee turn-over – this figure represents turn-over due to policy violations from drugs and alcohol, missed rotations, and voluntary and involuntary termination
- 50% failure of random drug screening tests
- 70% voluntary termination - this figure only includes employees that passed the drug screening tests and were not terminated

The combination of these failures made it clear that significant action was needed. For the program to be successful, the team at Donlin needed to understand why these failures had occurred and take action. A cross-cultural outreach plan and consultation was undertaken to gain a deeper understanding of the social, cultural and economic obstacles these employees were facing. Research and consultation with project partners, former and current employees and surrounding communities led to a comprehensive action plan.

THE NEW ACTION PLAN

- The company's drug policy was redrafted to include hard and fast penalties, yet provide for a period in which employees could reapply for employment following a violation, provided they met certain milestones.
- An on-site professional counselor was hired, specializing in substance abuse, family counseling, workplace counseling and stress management.
- Worker rotations were adjusted from 20 days on /10 days off to a two week on / two week off rotation, 12 hours per day.
- To build trust, a local Alaska Native was hired as the program coordinator.
- Cultural sensitivity training was conducted for both Alaska Native and non-Native employees.
- Camp dining and recreational rooms were constructed to allow for more traditional, open interaction in a family-like setting.

THE PROGRAM TODAY

The program today is yielding impressive results. Currently, 92% of exploration camp employees and 90% of crew supervisors are Alaska Natives. A stable and increasingly effective and productive workforce has emerged, as the Donlin Creek project moves toward the permitting, construction and operating phases. Beyond statistics, many of the men and women working at Donlin Creek credit the opportunity to work at Donlin with a renewed sense of purpose, self-esteem and hope for their future.

As the next phases of the project begins, Donlin Creek LLC is committed to continuing to work closely with local Alaska Native people to bring significant economic opportunities to the region. ■

Opportunities

PIPELINE STUDIES THIS SUMMER

Operations at the Donlin Creek camp are at a reduced level of activity. There will be some limited core sample drilling this summer but most of the work for the next year is now focused on carrying out environmental and engineering studies required to review a gas pipeline option. This information will then be integrated into Donlin's overall feasibility study to determine how the project would operate using gas for on-site power generation rather than the earlier diesel option.

Chiulista Services, Inc. (CSI) is Donlin Creek LLC's Staffing Services provider, meaning CSI recruits prospective employees, conducts hiring, and manages employee payroll and benefits. Since camp operations are smaller this summer, there are just a select few jobs available. Those wishing to be considered for employment should visit www.chiulista.com.

Donlin Creek LLC and Chiulista Services, Inc. are proud to be drug and alcohol free workplaces and require that commitment from all of their employees. ■



Stewardship

SMALL DRILLING FOOTPRINT

Anytime you construct something, you need to know about the ground conditions, the surface on which it will rest. In the case of Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) gas pipeline studies, understanding the ground conditions is necessary for planning where and how a pipeline would be buried. Some of the questions DCLLC would like to answer during this summer's studies are:

- What are the ground conditions along the study route?
- Where are all of the cultural sites located along or near the route?
- Is the route feasible?

If the ground conditions in any area are not appropriate for constructing and burying a natural gas pipeline then the route would need to be altered.

To understand the ground conditions, it is necessary to drill holes and collect samples. Due to the remoteness of the area, DCLLC uses helicopters to transport small mobile drilling rigs for the sub-surface testing. Unlike oil drilling rigs and exploration drilling rigs, these are much smaller and leave a very small footprint. Typically the area to be drilled is cleared of brush, and the drill is then set in place by helicopter. Drilling operations can take anywhere from a few hours to a full day depending on how deep a sample is needed. After completion of the hole, the samples are bagged, the rig is removed, the fist-sized hole is filled in with dirt.

Drilling operations for selection of a potential pipeline route and determining construction needs are not like looking for minerals, so the holes drilled do not need to be very deep. Even so, DCLLC fills in the holes to minimize impact to animals in the area. Using this method, Donlin is able to test the ground samples and leave behind a very small indication that testing occurred. ■





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MINING VOCABULARY: NATIVE METAL

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The subsurface gold at Donlin Creek is not in native form, but instead occurs combined with sulfide minerals. Therefore metallurgical processes are required to extract the gold from the ore. ■

YUKON KUSKOKWIM MINING HISTORY

Alaska has a rich mining history, and the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region is no exception. Placer gold exploration and mining began in the YK region with prospectors in the early 1900s, and many unique individuals staked claims and worked gold pans there.

One such character was Jujiro Wada. Born in Japan in the 1870s, Wada was intrigued by stories of America and went to San Francisco in 1890. He worked as a cabin boy for the Pacific Steam Whaling Company, and later as a shore whaler in Barrow for Charles Brower and the Cape Smythe Whaling and Trading Company where he learned Alaska Native languages and how to handle sled dogs. He is famously known for spreading the word about Felix Pedro's gold strike and starting the Fairbanks gold rush when he drove one of E. T. Barnette's dog teams from the trading post (later named Fairbanks) to Dawson City.

In early 1912, Wada was in the Kuskokwim area, looking for a Japanese man, known locally as Allen, who had disappeared there. In July of that year, he and a partner made a gold strike on the Tuluksak River. Wada took about $12,000 in gold (worth about $274,000 in today's currency) with him when he went to Seattle to report the findings to his backers. When he returned later that year he brought with him two sled loads of mining equipment, another sled load of miscellaneous supplies and four Japanese companions who would serve as assistant dog drivers. The Japanese and their 20 dogs then drove to the strike on Bear Creek, a large northeast headwater tributary to the Tuluksak River, where Wada remained until February of 1913. Wada died in 1937 in San Diego, California at age 65. ■



Japanese musher Jujiro Wada, dog, and unidentified man at Dawson City, February 1903.

DONLIN CREEK LLC

A BARRICK/NOVAGOLD COMPANY

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OCTOBER 2010

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FROM THE GROUND UP

DONLIN AT WORK THIS SUMMER

THE PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF ROCK

Geotechnical engineering, or geotech for short, is the branch of civil engineering concerned with the structural behavior of earth materials. Questions like "is the rock stable," "how will the rock degrade under stress" and "does it have acid buffering properties" are answered with thorough geotech studies.

Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) performed over 790 geotech studies this summer. These involved drilling test holes, looking at the physical and chemical characteristics of each core segment sampled, and putting the material through a variety of tests. With geotech studies the geologists and engineers are not necessarily looking for valuable minerals, but rather the rock is being examined for its engineering properties with construction purposes in mind.

These studies help DCLLC identify design parameters such as how steep pit headwalls can be built, where sources of fill rock are and where stable underlying rock is located for the construction of heavy infrastructure.

This summer's geotech work contributes to Donlin Creek LLC's body of knowledge to build an environmentally sound and socially responsible gold mine. ■

ANIAK FAIR







Aniak Fair Photos (left to right): Women's arm-wrestling contest; BBQ lineup, sponsored and prepared by DCLLC; Ester Deal fillets salmon at the fish-cutting contest.



Face to Face *with Doug Nicholson*

Two men who worked to create the Alaska we know today recently passed away – U.S. Senator Ted Stevens and The Kuskokwim Corporation Chairman of the Board Leo Morgan. In many ways their beginnings could not have been more different, but they both loved Alaska and worked on behalf of its people.

Chairman Morgan was born in a tent in Kalskag on Aug. 16, 1948 and Senator Stevens was born in Indianapolis, Indiana to a modest family from Chicago on Nov. 18, 1923. Both served their country proudly in uniformed service, Leo in the U.S. Navy from 1967-1971 during Vietnam and Ted in the Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1946 during World War II. Leo Morgan was a founding father of The Kuskokwim Corporation, serving on the board of directors, primarily as Chairman, since 1979. Senator Stevens was instrumental in creating many laws and acts that helped to shape the state. In their respective positions they worked on issues of subsistence, health and education. Chairman Morgan and Senator Stevens shared a common goal, to better the lives of their people and provide opportunities for future generations.

On behalf of Donlin Creek LLC, I thank them both for their tenacity, passion and dedication to Alaska and the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

Doug Nicholson
President and General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC



Mary Sattler, Doug Nicholson and Leo Morgan at Donlin in 2008 during TKC Shareholder meeting.



Stan Foo, Senator Stevens and James Fueg at Donlin in 2006 during a site visit.

In lieu of flowers for Chairman Leo Morgan please send donations to the Kuskokwim Educational Foundation (KEF) scholarship fund in his memory.

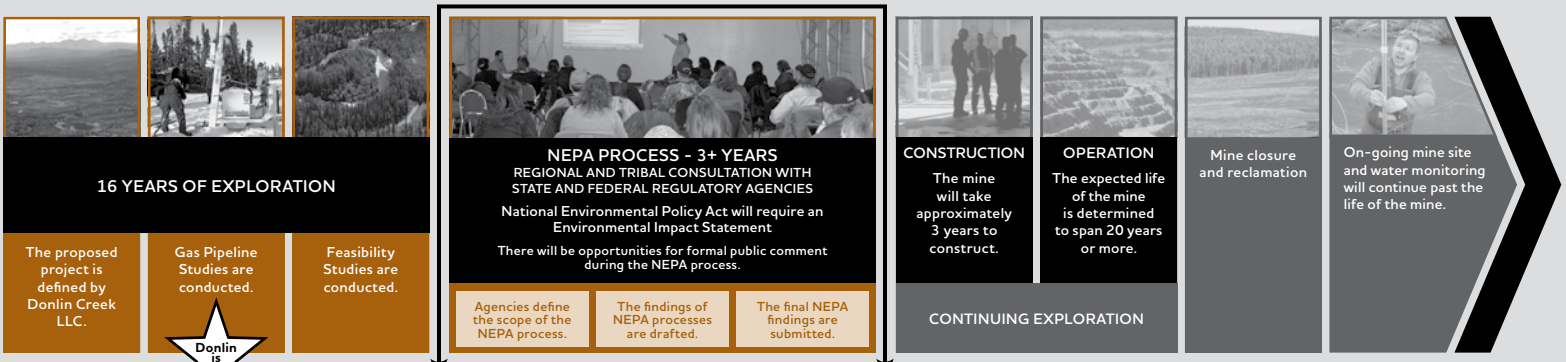
Kuskokwim Educational Foundation
4300 B Street, Suite 207
Anchorage, AK 99507

The Stevens Family has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the North to The Future Foundation, which was established to recognize and honor the career of Senator Stevens and to perpetuate public service in Alaska.

North to the Future Foundation
701 W 8th Ave, Suite 700
Anchorage, AK 99501

northtothefuture.net

Timeline



IF THE BEAR APPEARS TO BE INTERESTED:

- Identify yourself as human by talking and slowly waving your arms.
- Slowly increase your distance from the bear while continuing to watch it. Do not run; this behavior could invite pursuit.

IF THE BEAR APPROACHES:

- Stand your ground!
- Quickly assess the situation. Is the bear behaving defensively or in some other way?
- Remain calm; attacks are rare.
- Do not run unless you're absolutely sure of reaching safety.
- Prepare your deterrent.

IF THE BEAR IS APPROACHING IN A SELF-DEFENSIVE MANNER:

- Try to appear non-threatening.
- Don't shout at the bear; talk to the bear in a calm voice.
- If the bear stops its approach, increase your distance.
- If the bear resumes its approach, stand your ground, keep talking calmly, and prepare to use your deterrent.
- If the bear cannot be deterred and is intent on attack, fall to the ground as close to contact as possible and play dead.
- When the attack stops, remain still and wait for the bear to leave. If an attack is prolonged or the bear attempts to eat you, it is no longer being defensive.

IF THE BEAR APPROACHES IN A NON-DEFENSIVE MANNER:

- Talk to the bear in a firm voice.
- Try to move away from the bears travel path.
- If the bear follows you with its attention directed at you, stop! Stand your ground, and prepare to use your deterrent.
- Act aggressively toward the bear. Shout! Use noisemakers. Make yourself look as big as possible.
- If the bear attacks, use your deterrent and fight for your life.

WORKING IN BEAR COUNTRY

The environmental and engineering field work conducted this summer to collect data for reviewing a gas pipeline option requires Donlin Creek LLC employees to travel and work in thick brush – the perfect habitat for black and brown bears. Just about all of Alaska is "bear country," and knowing how to travel and work here is an essential skill.

The following are general safety rules when traveling in bear country.

PREVENTION

- Stay alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Don't surprise bears; make noise to warn them of your presence.
- Travel in groups, which are noisier and easier for bears to detect.
- Choose your campsites and travel routes carefully.
- Keep a clean camp and work area free of attractants.
- Move away discreetly from bears that are unaware of you or in the distance.

WHAT TO DO IN A CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Even with precautions, it is possible to encounter bears. Be prepared, learn about bear behavior and consider carrying deterrents such as bear spray, firearms, non-lethal projectiles and a variety of noisemakers, and know how to use them.

PROTECTION

BEAR SPRAY

Bear spray has been used to deter bears at close range in a number of situations. It's not 100 percent effective and should not be a substitute for avoiding an encounter. Make sure you purchase an approved bear spray, not a personal defense product, and carry it ready to use, not in your pack. Keep it handy in your tent at night. Exercise caution, if discharged upwind or in a confined space, bear spray can disable the user. Sprays are only meant to be discharged at close range (6-8 yards) in the face of an approaching bear.

FIREARMS

If you intend to carry a firearm, make sure it's adequate, such as a 30 caliber or larger rifle or a 12-gauge shotgun with rifled slugs. Practice until you can shoot quickly and accurately under stress and at close range at an object moving rapidly and irregularly toward you. Mentally rehearse the situations where you'd use it. Wounding a bear can make the situation a lot worse.

Firearms should never be used as an alternative to common-sense approaches to bear encounters. If you are inexperienced with a firearm in emergency situations, you are more likely to be injured by a gun than a bear. Ensure you have met the legal requirements to carry firearms where you are going.

State law allows a bear to be shot in self-defense if you did not provoke the attack and if there is no alternative, but the hide and skull must be salvaged and turned over to the authorities.

SUMMARY

- Avoid surprising bears at close distance, look for signs of bears and make plenty of noise.
- Avoid crowding bears; respect their "personal space."
- Avoid attracting bears through improper handling of food or garbage.
- Plan ahead, stay calm, identify yourself and don't run.

In most cases, bears are not a threat, but they do deserve your respect and attention.

For additional information about working in bear country, contact Kodiak Wildlife Products at 1-866-356-3425 or visit www.kodiakcanada.com. ■

Technical Corner

Reprinted with permission from Barrick's Corporate Responsibility program

CASE STUDY: RECLAMATION closing a mine the right way

Land disturbance is a consequence of mining. The aim with reclamation is to minimize the footprint, mitigate the impacts and, once mining is finished, to leave behind land that will support productive uses for future generations.

Donlin Creek LLC (DCLLC) is focused on closing any future mine with the same discipline used to build and operate one. Careful planning during development and operations helps to reduce the area affected by mining activities, as well as the environmental effects of disturbance. An important element of the environmental planning and management is the development of closure and reclamation plans. These are required and prepared as a part of initial project planning and design. Closure and reclamation plans are then routinely updated during the life of each operation to ensure that environmental impacts are effectively addressed and financial obligations are satisfied.

During operations, whenever possible, disturbed land areas are contoured and revegetated after they are no longer required for active mining. At closure, in order to return the disturbed land to a stable state for post-mining land uses, DCLLC will remove, relocate, demolish or transfer ownership of buildings and physical infrastructure; close pits; treat and monitor tailings and waste water appropriately; and slope, contour, cap or cover and vegetate the waste rock dumps and tailings impoundments.

DCLLC will minimize its footprint by creating policies and procedures during the earliest stages of the project's development and continuing them throughout the life of the mine. For example, reclamation at Barrick's Cortez mine in Nevada is ongoing and involves restoring habitat, creating new habitat, stabilizing steep slopes and improving the site's long-term water and air quality.

Barrick has taken a leading role in the design and construction of evaporative covers for both waste rock dumps and tailings impoundments. It has won industry and government awards for its successful reclamation activities. Reports about Barrick's efforts are available each year in its annual Responsibility Report viewable at: www.barrick.com/CorporateResponsibility/Reporting/EHSSReports/default.aspx

DONLIN CREEK LLC'S GUARANTEE

To ensure reclamation is carried out, the law requires the DCLLC to provide financial assurances the mine will be closed according to the permit requirements even if the operator goes bankrupt. This assurance takes the form of a bond or other financial insurance that is held independently and guaranteed. ■

DONLIN RECLAMATION AND CLOSURE ELEMENTS



Sloped, capped and re-vegetated waste rock area

THE PIT

This was previously an open pit allowed to fill with water to become a lake over a period of many years. The water quality of the lake is continuously monitored to ensure that it is not toxic to wildlife. Before any water is discharged it is treated to meet all regulatory water quality standards.



Inspection of native tree seedlings for environmental rehabilitation at Pueblo Viejo.

THE TAILINGS

Tailings are pulverized rock, the consistency of silt, covered with a shallow layer of water. After the close of mining and milling activities, excess water is pumped from the tailings storage facility to the pit lake. The area is then covered with rock, gravel, and soil, and seeded with native grasses.



Reclamation in progress on a slope near the former Homestake mine.

WASTE ROCK

Waste rock facilities and other disturbed areas are re-contoured, covered with topsoil as needed and seeded with a native grass mix. Over time native trees and plants naturally re-establish themselves and reclaim the area.



Completed Post-mining reclamation: before and after

BUILDINGS & EQUIPMENT

The buildings and equipment would be taken apart and removed. Some material, such as concrete, can be buried in permitted on-site landfill trenches that would be covered with soil, as required by regulatory agencies.

GAS LINE PROJECT *by Bill Bieber, Operations Manager*

The Donlin Creek Project started a gas line study project using our Geo Probe drilling rigs and crews for a portion of the field work. Donlin Creek staff in conjunction with Steve Rowland, owner of the Recon Company, designed the custom drilling rigs, manufactured by Innovative Subsurface Solutions out of Kansas.

While the rigs were being customized and rebuilt for the gas line project, the crew was being selected. The job was very different from what our crews were accustomed to. This project would require them to drill Geo Technical holes along the 320-mile proposed route, requiring the crews to work in remote locations with little or no communication, and in some of the most difficult terrain Alaska could throw at them. The crews would be staying in remote lodges and camps all along the route and would only be able to work from a helicopter in what was the rainiest summer on record.

We knew this crew had to be the best, toughest, most durable and most dependable. Donlin Creek has many great human assets who work on the project, but the crew selection was based on the ability to run drilling rigs with total air support, to problem solve in the field, and to perform their own maintenance and repairs at the rig site.

We knew we would need an outstanding crew leader, one who worked well under pressure, who was organized and very productive, yet very safety and environmentally conscious. Peter (Boise) Alexie from Russian Mission was selected to head up the Geo Probe portion of the project. Boise received the long list of possible candidates and selected the following:

Carl Noah	Bethel
Gerald Beans	Saint Mary's
Joseph Beans	Saint Mary's
Kenneth Luke	Mountain Village
Thomas Kinegak	Akiachak
Samuel Overton	Aniak
John Pitka	Russian Mission
Andrew Makaily III	Pilot Station

The crew was then sent to on-site training at Donlin Creek for a 40-hour emergency Trauma Training, which included cardiac defibrillation and helicopter rescue. The crew was also trained in Haz-Mat response and in Bear Guard II training in order to carry firearms on the project.

In addition to compliance training, the crew attended drilling rig training for three days – May 25 – 28 in Palmer. The crew mastered operation of the drilling rigs, drill sampling according to the required geo technical results, and planning and organizing the program with Steve Rowland from Recon.



The first field crew (Bill Bieber, Kenneth Luke, Sam Overton) arrived in Beluga on June 1 to start clearing the drill sites and helicopter landing zones. The rest of the crew arrived on June 4 at Beluga, and the 320-mile hike to Donlin began.

Boise and crew hit the ground running, and within the first leg of the drilling program, which ended on June 20, his crew was already five days ahead of schedule. The terrain was dense with large trees, and there were bears everywhere. We were pleasantly surprised to see the progress that the crew made through that area. During the next leg, the crew was stationed at Rainy Pass from July 5 - 24. This leg was very difficult due to weather conditions and thick forest, and the cutting crews definitely earned their money through that stretch. By the July 24, Boise and company were even further ahead of schedule, even with extra work added.

The crew left Rainy Pass and headed to Big River, arriving on August 8 after some much deserved time off. They were so far ahead of schedule that they were moved to Donlin Creek Camp several weeks early and completed the project on August 22, a full 21 days ahead of schedule.

The most impressive part of the results was the fact that there were no medical aid injuries, no environmental compliance issues and absolutely no damages to the rigs or equipment. All of the lodge owners throughout the project gave us great reviews and said they thoroughly enjoyed having the crews stay with them. They did say however they have never seen a crew eat so much food and work so hard, yet laugh the entire time, keeping the mood of the lodge and crews very positive.

I asked Boise what he enjoyed the most about the job and he said, "We had fun, we worked hard, and we felt great about getting the opportunity to be a part of something so important to the project."

This crew definitely showed they had what it took to do the job, and they have my complete respect and gratitude for a job well done! ■

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YUKON KUSKOKWIM MINING HISTORY

The Yukon Kuskokwim region's rich mining history includes the discovery of other precious metals besides gold. Platinum was discovered in Goodnews Bay, Alaska in 1926. Walter Smith, a Yup'ik Eskimo from the village of Kanakanagamute on Chagvan Bay, led Henry Wuya, a Yup'ik Eskimo, and Charlie Thorsen, a white prospector, both from the village of Mumtrak, to a place on Platinum Creek where Smith had earlier panned some of the heavy metal which he termed "black gold." A sample of the metal was sent to the College of Mines in Fairbanks for assay, and in the winter of 1927 the heavy grey metal was confirmed to be platinum.

From 1927 until 1933 hand mining operations produced the scant amount of 3,000 ounces of crude platinum, or less than 500 ounces a year but in 1934 the Northland Development Company headed by Andrew Olsen of Flatland Iditarod shipped into Goodnews Bay heavy equipment to set up a complete and self-sufficient modern mining camp. In the first year of major operations, the company produced approximately 2,575 ounces of crude platinum. In 1935 the Goodnews Bay Mining Company was incorporated and production increased to almost 8,000 ounces.

Parts for a 1,400-ton Yuba diesel-electric dredge arrived at Goodnews Bay in 1937 on a freighter from San Francisco. The parts then had to be hauled 25 miles across the tundra to the camp. It took two months to assemble them. During 1938, the first full season of operation of both the dredge and dragline, production rose to approximately 37,000 ounces.



Walter Smith, the Yup'ik Eskimo who discovered the placer deposit of platinum at Goodnews Bay in 1926 while panning for gold.

Until the mid 1980s the Goodnews Bay platinum mine had produced a total of about 600,000 troy ounces of platinum metal concentrate from placer deposits.

Adapted with permission from Platinum Metals Rev., 1962, 6, (2), 68-74 original article available at http://www.platinummetalsreview.com/pdf/pmr-v6-i2-068-074.pdf ■

DONLIN CREEK LLC

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DECEMBER 2010

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Donlin Creek Camp Tours

VISITORS GET A FIRSTHAND VIEW

Alaska's long summer days are the perfect opportunity to show people firsthand the prospects of the Donlin Creek project, and this summer was no different. Donlin had a variety of village residents from the The Kuskokwim Corporation (TKC) region come and tour the project site this summer. The villages included: Lower Kalskag, Upper Kalskag, Chuathbaluk, Sleetmute and Stony River. The village of Tuluksak also came for a tour because they weren't able to make it to the mining site last year. Many Calista Corporation board members also visited the site.

This wasn't the first time for many of these villages to take a tour, but Donlin wanted to make sure they were updated on the proposed gas line route, and the new timeline for submitting permit applications. However, this summer's tours were unlike others in the past because Donlin was not doing exploration work around the project site. Instead, more emphasis was put on getting information out about how Donlin plans to power the project using a 325-mile buried natural gas pipeline that runs from the Cook Inlet region to the mining site.

Donlin Creek's Community Development and Sustainability Manager, Mary Sattler says many of the people who are able to come and see the proposed mining site feel positive about the project. She says visitors often notice the high morale among the workforce, and feel that Donlin's safety and environmental standards are exceptionally high. ■

CAMP TOURS



Tribal members from Lower Kalskag at their 2010 Tribal Gathering.



Before the helicopter tour: Judy, Sam and Rose of Sleetmute, Boise and Lee.



Anna and Priscilla of Chuathbaluk on their helicopter tour.

Safety

HOW THICK IS THICK ENOUGH?

To increase safety, it is recommended that the following ice thicknesses be attained prior to travel on a frozen surface.



5" of ice supports foot traffic.



8" of ice is stable for snowmachining.



12" of ice provides stablity for vehicles.

ICE SAFETY

Many communities surrounding the Donlin Creek project use the Kuskokwim River or area lakes year-round for subsistence and recreational activities.

It's important to follow certain safety guidelines during the winter as these bodies of water freeze and thaw based on changing weather conditions.

Recommendations for ice thickness can be based on how it looks - clear, blue or green ice. Ice that is white means that it has air or snow within it and should be considered unstable.

If you are unsure of the ice thickness, it is recommended that you drill a hole near shore and measure the ice before venturing out.

TIPS FOR TRAVELING ON ICE

- You should never travel on ice alone. A buddy may be able to rescue you or go for help if you fall through.
- Before you leave, tell someone else where you are going and your expected time of return.
- Avoid traveling on ice at night because it is difficult to see open holes in the ice when it's dark.
- Bring safety equipment including extra clothes, ice picks, rope, a pocketknife, whistle, compass and a waterproof fire starting kit.

FOOT TRAFFIC ON ICE

- For activities like walking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing or ice fishing, ice is safe enough when it becomes 5" thick.
- Be extremely careful when traveling on river ice because currents can quickly change ice thickness.

SNOWMACHINING ON ICE

- Ice should be at least 8" thick.
- Keep a distance of 10 yards between you and other snowmachines.

VEHICLES ON ICE

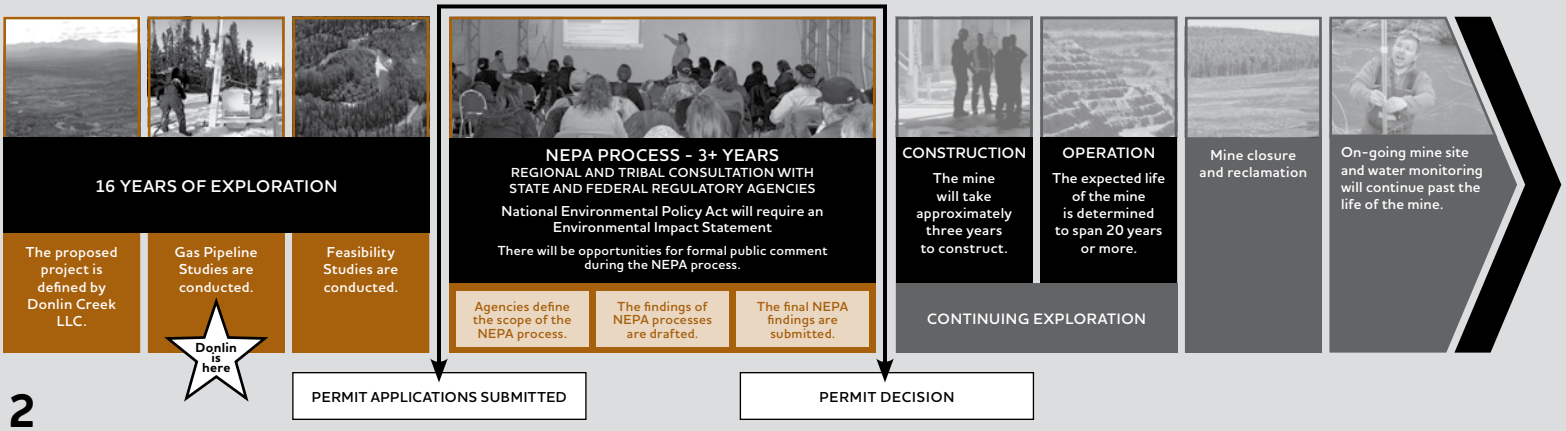
- Ice should be at least 12" thick.
- Drive under 10 mph to avoid creating ice waves. The weight of a vehicle causes ice to bend, so as a vehicle moves across the ice, a bending wave travels with it. The faster a vehicle moves, the quicker ice waves travel causing any flaws in the ice to become unstable quicker.

Winter brings plenty of exciting outdoor activities that require us to travel on ice. By following these guidelines we can make sure that our travels are safe and fun for everyone.

Donlin Creek wishes you safe winter travels.

Ice safety information extracted from Alaska Department of Fish and Game: http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/Static/Region2/pdfpubs/icefish.pdf ■

Timeline



Employee Spotlight

DAVID LeMASTER: Donlin Creek EMT

David LeMaster has worked in the safety department of Donlin Creek as an EMT since 2007. He is responsible for responding to medical emergencies, and addressing potential safety issues. He also provides first aid training to Donlin's staff. In addition to being an employee at the project, David is also a strong force behind the Dragon Slayers, a program that teaches teens in rural Alaska various skills in firefighting, emergency response, and the medical field.



"I became an EMT instructor with Pete's encouragement and now continue his mission of turning teenagers on to the fun and fulfillment of emergency medicine." -David LeMaster

David moved to Aniak in 1996 after receiving teaching certificates in primary and secondary education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. For more than 10 years, David has taught science, aviation and emergency medicine classes to middle and high school students in Aniak. In 1997, he joined the Aniak Fire Department with the encouragement of former Aniak Fire Chief Pete Brown. David said Pete inspired him to help young people in rural Alaska. "Pete knew that these kids had much more potential than most believed," said David. "By giving them the training to become medics they could help their communities, while at the same time help themselves to become more."

David became an EMT instructor for teenagers and eventually joined Pete's program called the Dragon Slayers. In this program, rural teens complete more than 100 hours of fire and first aid training, and eventually they learn how to perform basic EMT functions. Once they get enough training, the Dragon Slayers respond to actual emergency situations. Many Dragon Slayers have gone on to become professionals in the medical field, including Donlin Creek's lead paramedic, Ricky Ciletti.

Over the past few years, David has helped expand the Dragon Slayers program into other rural communities through Camp Kick Ash. Participants receive intense training in firefighting and emergency response over a 3-4 week period. According to David, they just finished the 15th Camp Kick Ash in Fairbanks at the end of October.

In late 2009, Pete passed away after losing his battle with cancer. David and other members of the Aniak Fire Department have a strong commitment to keeping Pete's dream alive, by helping the youth in rural Alaska turn their career dreams into a reality. In addition to being a Donlin employee, David is also a pilot and flight instructor in Aniak. In his off time he enjoys snow machining, hunting, and fishing. ■



Dragon Slayer teens in rural Alaska.



Training for fire rescues.



Water rescue practice in survival suits.

Opportunities



Students visit excavation site.



David John of Crooked Creek gives a classroom presentation.



Students check out excavation site.

A SCHOOL LESSON IN FIELD SCIENCE AND HISTORY

As the Donlin Creek project searches for a potential port site off the Kuskokwim River, one field survey project has provided some interesting historical and archaeological results. Donlin Creek consulting archaeologist Chris Wooley and his team have been sharing those results with students at the Johnnie John Sr. School in Crooked Creek, Alaska.

This September, students took a field trip to the Anguacuaq site to get a firsthand experience of how archaeology works. Students learned about the different tools archaeologists use, including a total station: a modern electronic device that combines the ability to measure a position horizontally and vertically at the same time.

As part of the permitting process for the Donlin Creek project, field surveys have been conducted in the middle Kuskowim region. Since 2009, Chris has focused on the excavation of a 2,000-year-old house depression at the Anguacuaq site.

Prior to taking the field trip, archaeologists with Northern Land Use, and Chumis Cultural Resource Services gave a presentation at the school. Students were able to look at some of the artifacts that have been excavated including a mammoth tooth fragment, possible bison bones, and a couple of chert knives. Chris said they are carbon dating some of the bones that have been excavated, and once they are identified, they plan on sending the bones back to the school for a science display.

Overall, students really seemed to enjoy the learning experience. In thank you letters addressed to Chris and his team, one student wrote, "I basically liked all the pits because you can't tell what is there. Who knows, you might find something that you didn't expect."

Teachers also had positive feedback to give about the lesson in archaeology. "Having other adults come to the school and talk to the kids about some of the options that they have before them is always a valuable experience," said Tim Shumway, a teacher at Johnnie John Sr. School. "Many of our students are really unaware of the wide range of possibilities for careers out there."

Chris said they are unsure if they will continue to do more excavation at the site, but if they do, they plan to involve the community in it. ■

"I'm grateful that you are not only working with students, but also that you are being respectful and showing great reverence to everything you have come across," said student Alice May Zaukar.



Archaeologist Josh Reuther gives a field presentation.

Technical Corner

WATER MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

As a limited resource, it's important for mining companies to carefully manage the impact their operations have on freshwater resources. As the global population continues to grow, along with the economy, so do the competing claims for freshwater resources.

Water management has been one of the top issues in creating plans for the Donlin Creek project. The region is rich in freshwater resources, with 15 to 30 inches of annual precipitation, and 40 to 90 inches of annual snowfall. In order to assure the community that the local water supply is not compromised, any water that comes in contact with the mine, such as rainwater or snowmelt would be diverted into a contact water pond. This pond would be used to supply water for a mill. A fresh water reservoir could also provide an additional supply of water for processing, as well as other emergencies and unexpected situations like firefighting.

Donlin Creek is also looking at different methods of recycling water to help reduce water use. In some instance mines can use saline water, or water that is unsuitable for



Typical large gold mine tailings dam.



Tailings pond at a gold mine.

domestic purposes. Groundwater that has not been impacted by mining activities can be returned through infiltration ponds if it meets water quality standards. Barrick Gold Corporation, which equally owns Donlin Creek with Nova Gold, currently uses some of these water management practices at other mining sites.

Employees at Barrick's properties carefully monitor discharged water for quality and quantity. Most often, permit limits are imposed on the amount of certain elements that can be discharged in the water. Water that is used for processing and mining can be treated and discharged back into the environment under permit standards.

The Donlin Creek region has a rich supply of fresh surface water. Donlin is committed to protecting surface and groundwater sources from pollution. Surface water quality monitoring and groundwater quality monitoring are being conducted as part of the baseline studies for the Donlin Creek project. The mine would redirect and redesign layout of its operations to best avoid any contact with streams and rivers within the watershed. ■

History

THE ALASKA KING OF COAL: EVAN JONES

As many of us hope our stocking won't be filled with coal this Christmas, for one miner, it was safe to say getting coal was a thoughtful gesture.



Evan Jones was inducted into the Alaska Mining Hall of Fame in 1999.

Nicknamed "half-pint" because of his lack of physical stature, Evan Jones quickly became the father of Alaska coal mining.

Born in 1880 in Aberdare, Wales, Evan had his first experience in coal mining at the age of 12 as a trapper boy. In the late 1880s he traveled to Canada where he worked at a coal mine in Frank, Alberta.

A few years later, Evans traveled to Alaska for a superintendent job at the Doherty Mine in Palmer. He eventually became the superintendent of the Eska and Chickaloon Mines.

During the 1930s, Jones was affiliated with several mines, most notably Wishbone Hill.

The Wishbone Hill mine, which was connected to the Premier mine by railroad, suffered in production when an engineer ran the railroad off the tracks after a New Year's Eve Party. A major flood finally caused the Wishbone Hill Coal Mine to close.

During World War II, at the request of Colonel Ohlson, the general manager of the Alaska Railroad, Evan was tasked with reopening and operating the Eska mine. Coal produced at the Eska mine was used for operating the railroad and military bases in Anchorage. ■

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MINING VOCABULARY: LEACHING

A chemical process used for the extraction of minerals from an ore. At Donlin Creek we are proposing to use cyanide to leach the gold from the gold bearing ore. This process would take place in large tanks inside the mill building. Once the gold is removed from the cyanide solution, the solution will run through a "cyanide destruction" process that destroys most of the cyanide before the tailings are pumped to the tailings pond. ■

CELEBRATING RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas, or as they say in Russia:
Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i s Novim Godom.

Just thirteen days after Western Christmas, on January 7, the Russian Orthodox Church celebrates its Christmas, in accordance with the old Julian calendar.

After the 1917 Revolution, Christmas was banned throughout Russia, along with other religious celebrations. It wasn't until the fall of Communism, about 75 years later, that the holiday was openly observed.

Today, Christmas is once again celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox faith with an all-night mass. It's customary to fast on Christmas Eve Day (January 6), then gather together for a big meal when the first star is sighted in the sky. ■



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MARCH 2011

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DONLIN CREEK PRESENTS PROJECT UPDATES AT CALISTA SHAREHOLDER MEETINGS

Throughout February, Donlin Creek has been attending Calista Shareholder meetings in the Yukon Kuskokwim region as part of our continuing effort to give the people of the region an update on the project and to answer all questions and concerns. Meetings will continue through March.

Donlin Creek is providing food and door prizes for those who attend and a Yup'ik translator will be present at most meetings. Donlin Creek encourages all families to attend an upcoming meeting. Community input will help us build a safe and responsible project.



Donlin Creek is attending Calista Shareholder meetings throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Napaskiak: February 3, 12:00-4:00 pm
Napakiak: February 4, 12:00-4:00 pm
Kwethluk: February 10, 12:00-4:00 pm
Akiak: February 11, 12:00- 4:00 pm
Aniak: February 14, 12:00 4:00 pm
Chuathbaluk: February 15, 12:00-4:00 pm
Kalsags: February 16, 12:00-4:00 pm (cancelled due to weather)
Bethel: February 18th 4:00-8:00 pm

MARCH MEETINGS

Atmautluak: March 8, 12:00-4:00 pm
Nunapitchuk: March 9, 12:00-4:00 pm
Chefornak: March 10, 12:00-4:00 pm
Tuntutuliak: March 15, 12:00-4:00 pm
Eek: March 16, 12:00-4:00 pm
Quinhagok: March 17, 12:00-4:00 pm
St. Mary's: March 29, 12:00-4:00 pm
Mountain Village: March 30, 12:00-4:00 pm
Russian Mission: March 31, 12:00-4:00 pm

APRIL MEETINGS

Crooked Creek: April 1, 12:00-4:00 pm



Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

On February 24, as allowed in the Donlin LLC partners' agreement, Barrick elected to appoint a new General Manager to the project, replacing Doug Nicholson. As Doug's replacement, I am both humbled and excited to be rejoining the Donlin Creek team and I look forward to becoming reacquainted with the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

The Donlin Board and I are thankful for Doug's dedication and loyalty to the project and the team, as well as the great strides made under his direction. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

As we enter 2011, one of our biggest goals is to complete our updated feasibility study. This study will objectively identify all of the technical and environmental parameters and processes required by the project, as well as the project economics. A decision on whether to submit permit applications will be made based on this updated study. There are numerous state and federal regulatory agencies involved in the permitting process for large mines. We hope to begin permitting later this year, which is a process that will take three or more years to complete. There will be numerous opportunities for public comment during the permitting process and we encourage you to participate.

Over the past few years, the Donlin team has conducted hundreds of scientific and engineering studies to evaluate the project and the surrounding lands and waterways. This year we will be conducting additional environmental studies, firming up river port locations and identifying the costs to construct and operate a natural gas pipeline running from Cook Inlet that would help supply a clean source of power to the project.

Our years of research and the ongoing studies will allow us to answer the essential questions of how to build a mining project that will enrich the lives of those living in the Yukon Kuskokwim region in an environmentally responsible way.

This February and March we have been conducting project update briefings at 18 villages in the region during Calista Shareholder Meetings. We hope you can join us so we can answer any questions you have. Your active participation is an important part of the planning process.

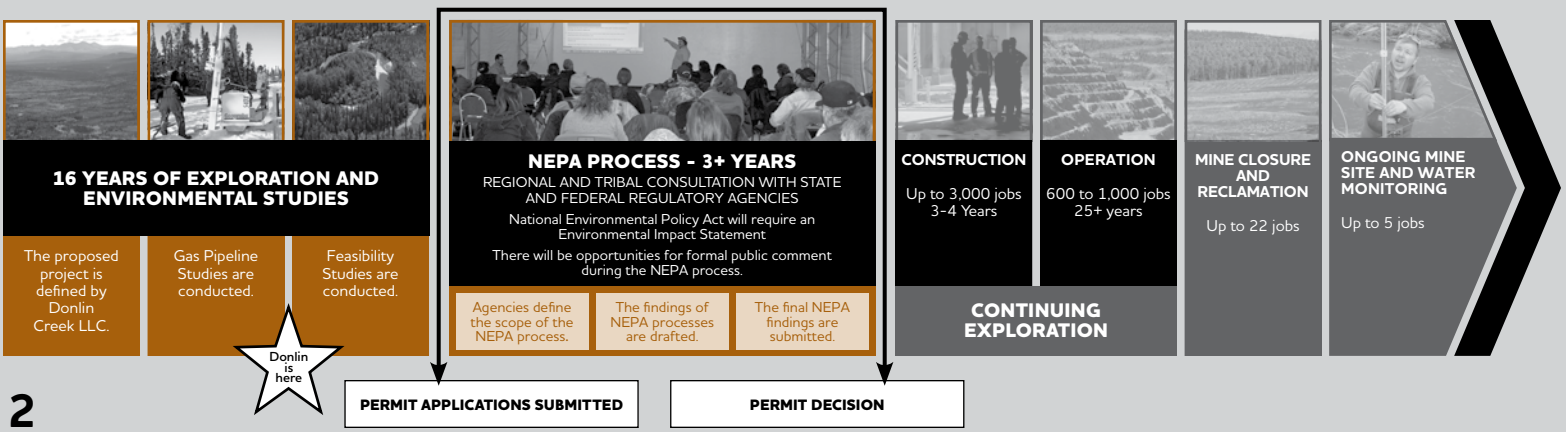
It is great to be back with the Donlin team. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

FEASIBILITY STUDY INCLUDES:

- Technical design of all facilities
- Required manpower, machinery and heavy equipment
- Costs and economics to build and operate
- Environmental permitting and compliance requirements
- Construction and production schedules

Timeline



COLD WEATHER PROTECTION

Protecting ourselves from the extreme impacts of cold weather is very important.

Cold temperatures can severely damage any exposed skin, and lower our core body temperature if we are not dressed appropriately for the outdoors.

FROSTBITE

Frostbite happens when flesh becomes frozen. The skin will look white, feel hard and cold, and will no longer have any pain sensation. If you think you may have frostbite, you need to seek medical attention immediately.

TIPS FOR COLD WEATHER PROTECTION

- Dress in loose layers that can easily be removed if you get too hot.
- Use wool or synthetic clothing such as polyester. Do not wear cotton.
- Protect commonly exposed parts of the body including: ears, face, hands and feet.

HYPOTHERMIA

Hypothermia occurs when our body's core temperature lowers to less than 95 °F and it can be fatal. Once our bodies become this cold, our bodily functions begin to shut down, including our brain.

TIPS FOR PREVENTING HYPOTHERMIA

- Dress in layers. Your outer layer should be wind and water-resistant. Your inner layers should consist of wool or synthetic fabrics.
- Keep your body fueled with high carbohydrate foods, and drink water; plenty of water helps your body turn calories into heat.

Victims of hypothermia often can't care for themselves so it's important for people in their group to be aware of the signs and treatment methods. Signs of having hypothermia include: intense shivering, fatigue, stumbling, slurred speech and irrationality.

TIPS FOR TREATING HYPOTHERMIA

- Shelter the victim from wind and weather.
- Remove any wet clothing and replace with dry clothes or a sleeping bag.
- If the victim is alert, give them warm liquids and food.
- Handle the victim gently. Rough handling can cause a heart attack.
- For advanced hypothermia, get medical help immediately.

It's important to protect yourself, family and friends from the cold this winter, and it all starts with prevention. Donlin Creek encourages everyone to have warm and safe winter outings.

Information extracted from: http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/safety/wintcold.htm. ■



Stan Peters, Shop Foreman, at the Donlin Creek Camp.



Donlin Creek camp under snow.

MODERN DAY USES OF GOLD

Thousands of years ago, our ancestors cherished gold for its mystical qualities, believing it warded off evil spirits and healed the sick. Since this time, it has been a highly sought-after precious metal for coinage, jewelry, and other arts.

Now in the 21st Century, non-toxic and biologically benign gold is used in modern medicine to help us live longer, healthier lives. With a reserve estimate at more than 33 million ounces of gold, the Donlin Creek mine could greatly support all of the different mediums in which gold is used.

MEDICINAL USES

- With gold-plated interiors, lasers give off a more focused beam, helping save the lives of heart patients suffering from once-inoperable heart conditions and tumors.
- Gold-plated thermometers give accurate body temperatures of newborns and unconscious patients.
- Biochemists use gold to bond with complex and compound materials such as proteins to create needed drugs.
- Researchers place gold on DNA strands to study the hybrid genetic material of cells.

AN EVERYDAY LIFESAVER

Outside the world of medicine, gold is at work, usually unseen, helping make people's lives safer.

- In cars, airbags depend on gold-coated contacts and electronic sensors for reliability, saving hundreds of thousands of lives in the past 15 years.
- In the air, commercial airplanes rely on gold-bonded compressor vanes to cool their turbines from exhaust that can reach up to 1150°F.
- At work, gold-coated infrared equipment is used to detect a dangerous build-up of carbon monoxide and other air pollutants.
- Below ground, miners rely on gold-activated sensors to warn of low levels of oxygen and trigger an automatic replenishment in seconds.

USES IN GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Since the first basic computer, gold has been at the frontline of digital technologies. Today's Information Age is dependent on gold, making possible the free exchange of ideas from every corner of the world.

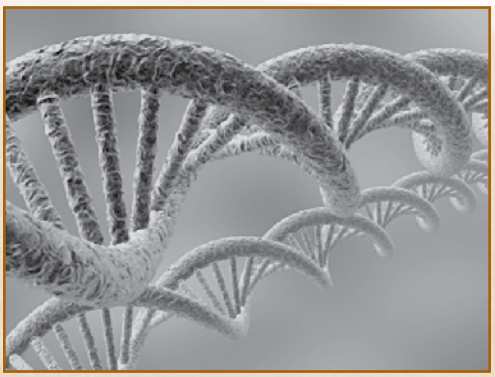
- Computers, the heart of the digital revolution, depend on gold circuitry.
- Electronics and telecommunications equipment count on gold for reliable performance, as it does not corrode in normal atmospheric conditions.
- Trading in securities and other financial instruments depends on gold for static-free transmissions worth billions of dollars.
- National security is aided through the major role gold plays guaranteeing the reliability of sophisticated electronic monitoring and communications.

Looking at gold consumption on a global level, China is now the leading producer of gold, while India is the world's largest consumer of gold.

Article Extracted from Barrick Website: http://www.barrick.com/Investors/AboutGold/HowGoldisUsed/default.aspx ■



Commercial airplanes rely on gold-bonded compressor vanes to cool their turbines.



Researchers place gold on DNA strands to study the hybrid genetic material of cells.



Telecommunications equipment counts on gold for reliable performance, as it does not corrode in normal atmospheric conditions.

Opportunities

DONLIN EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED FOR WARMING THE HEARTS OF OTHERS

Recognizing her strong commitment and involvement in the community of Bethel, Environmental Specialist Tisha Woolley is the recipient of Barrick's Corporate Social Responsibility Champion award.

For the past three years, Tisha has organized the "Great Clothes Giveaway," a winter clothing drive that generates 20 to 30 large boxes of items for low-income school children in the Bethel region annually.

Throughout the year, Tisha collects unwanted winter gear such as hats, coats, boots, and scarves from numerous schools in the Anchorage area. She then coordinates with Anchorage-based Donlin employees to have the items washed and sorted.

In September, just when temperatures begin to drop, the clothes are shipped to Bethel and passed out at the school.

Joshua Gill, the Principal of Mikeinguut Elitnaurviat Elementary School, said this year they had the largest community response ever for the clothing drive, with families lined up outside the door.

"Many who came were folks that could really benefit from the giveaway," said Gill. "In less than an hour all but a few items were left."

By volunteering her time and motivating others to volunteer, the only small cost associated with the project is shipping charges.

Tisha's coworkers are thankful for her volunteer efforts, which help build a positive identity for Donlin Creek in the community and encourages other employees to get involved.

"Tisha has made all of us at Donlin a bit more socially responsible by providing children in the Bethel area with clothing they otherwise would not have," said Donlin Accounting Supervisor Jan Montgomery.

Tisha, who has strong family ties to Bethel, was the first professional employee of Yup'ik Eskimo descent hired by the Donlin Creek project.



Tisha Woolley traveled to Nevada in mid-January to receive her Barrick CSR Champion award.

"Tisha's work ethic, along with her selfless commitment to the community makes her a fine member of the Donlin Creek team," wrote former Donlin Creek President and General Manager Doug Nicholson.

While expanding her commitment of stabilizing the environment to stabilizing a community, Donlin Creek is proud Tisha was selected for the CSR award, recognizing her leadership and commitment to bettering the community of Bethel. ■

History

HISTORY: THE KUSKOKWIM 300

Battling blizzards, whiteouts and wind-chill temperatures up to -80°F every January some of the world's most experienced mushers gather in Bethel to compete in the Kuskokwim 300. The 300-mile sled dog race from Bethel to Aniak and back is a real test of strength, especially for the mushers who go on to compete in the Iditarod six weeks later.

The race trail passes through the six Yup'ik Eskimo villages of Kwethluk, Akiachak, Akiak, Tuluksak and Upper and Lower Kalskag.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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MINING VOCABULARY: TAILINGS

Material rejected from a mill after most of the recoverable valuable minerals have been extracted. At the Donlin Creek mine, wet tailings resembling silt would be left over from the milling process. An engineered dam with a synthetic liner would be built to contain the tailings and protect it from seepage. The dam would be able to withstand strong earthquakes. The ultimate size of the tailings storage facility would be about 1.75 miles long by 1 mile wide. Over time, the tailings compact to a clay-like consistency. The thin layer of water covering the tailings would be removed and rocks, soil and natural vegetation would be placed on top to reclaim the area. ■

HISTORY: THE KUSKOKWIM 300

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Long before snowmachines and telephones arrived, residents in the Kuskokwim Delta region communicated by mail, which was delivered by dog sled. An official monthly mail route between Bethel and Holy Cross was started in 1906. The Kuskokwim 300 was started in 1980 to commemorate this early mail route.

During the summer of 1979, Bethel mushers gathered at the home of Iditarod veteran Myron Angstman to discuss the possibility of hosting a mid-distance dog race. Angstman thought a race not quite as long as the Iditarod could be put together in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region. Angstman, Beverly Hoffman and John McDonald were among the early organizers of the first Kuskokwim 300.

At the start of the 1980 inaugural race, low temperatures and blizzard conditions forced the wind-chill factor to -100°F for the first 36 hours. But that didn't keep 17 mushers from starting and finishing the first K300. Rick Swenson finished in first place with a time just over 71 hours, winning $3,500.

This year's race was a close one with musher Mike Williams Jr. finishing in second place just one minute behind musher Paul Gebhardt. Williams Jr. will be competing in this year's Iditarod with the sponsorship of Donlin Creek.

Donlin Creek is also a proud sponsor of the Kuskokwim 300 and Iditarod; two amazing races that help keep tradition and culture alive in Southwest Alaska.

Race history extracted from: http://www.k300.org/core/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/history-of-the-kuskokwim-3001.pdf ■

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JUNE 2011

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Check out Donlin Creek's new look online
www.donlincreek.com

SHARING A VOICE THROUGH VILLAGE VISITS

As the long daylight hours shed light on Alaska's beautiful landscapes, Donlin Creek has been working to shed new light on the mining project and its future prospects. Over the past few months, dozens of villages in the Yukon Kuskokwim region have been hosting informational presentations by Donlin Creek employees; some of them were held in conjunction with the Calista Corporation Shareholder relations meetings.

This is the first time Donlin Creek has participated in the Calista Shareholder meetings, but Donlin Creek employees have held informational presentations in villages throughout the region before.

In the past, Calista shareholder meetings were often filled with questions about the Donlin project. This year, the shareholder relations committee invited project representatives to their winter meetings to update the region on the project's status.

The meetings are not only a way for residents to come learn about the mining project and hear information first-hand, but they also help keep Donlin Creek well informed of regional concerns.

In prior meetings many residents expressed concern about excessive barge traffic when one of the original plans was to ship in all fuel required to power the mine. After hearing these concerns, Donlin Creek pursued the gas pipeline option as an alternative method to power the mine. The gas pipeline option will result in about an 80 percent reduction in fuel barged up the Kuskokwim River and a reduction of barge traffic to about one barge of fuel and one barge of supplies each day.



Mary Sattler and Bill Bieber give updated information at the Tuntutuliak meeting.

Since February, Donlin Creek representatives visited more than two dozen villages; seven of those visits were separate of the Calista Shareholder village meetings. The last presentation this spring was for Napaimute in Bethel on May 24. The following list includes all the villages that were visited by Donlin staffers: Oscarville, Napaskiak, Napakiak, Kwethluk, Akiak, Bethel, Aniak,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

In mid-May, our neighboring village of Crooked Creek was devastated by a forceful flood caused by an ice jam on the Kuskokwim River. On the night of May 8, residents quickly headed to higher ground as water, dozens of feet higher than the normal level, moved through their village, destroying many homes. That following morning the Donlin Creek camp was contacted and asked to help.

Within hours, staff from Donlin Creek, Chiulista Services, Vanderpool Flying Service and JayHawk Helicopters was able to evacuate all of the residents who needed to leave the flooded village to the Donlin Creek site. Employees who were on their way to the Donlin Creek camp brought essential items like toiletries to give to those in need. Villages such as Russian Mission, Aniak, Nikolai, and others sent clothes to disburse to Crooked Creek residents.

In the days that followed, Donlin employees with specialized knowledge were able to help state officials with environmental and damage assessments of the village as the water levels began to drop.

I want to thank everyone who pulled together and helped Crooked Creek during this disaster. The flood waters have receded now, but the real work has just begun. More help is needed in the reconstruction effort. To assist in that effort, two bank accounts have been set up for people to send donations directly to the community.



Flooding destroyed many homes in Crooked Creek village.

Please consider helping Crooked Creek return to normal - neighbors helping neighbors.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Creek LLC

Please help Crooked Creek residents with a donation.

Key Bank
Account Number
720111004977

Routing Number
125200879

Wells Fargo
Account Number
1380172252

Routing Number
556900395

American Red Cross
www.alaska.redcross.org

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Creek LLC.

Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



NEPA PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the NEPA process.

Agencies define the scope of the NEPA process.

The findings of NEPA processes are drafted.

The final NEPA findings are submitted.

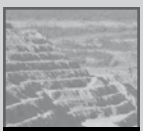
PERMIT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

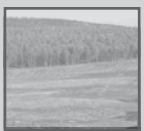
Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

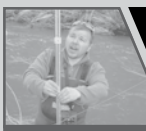
Up to 1,000 jobs
25+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

CAMA-I DANCE FESTIVAL: A CULTURAL RENAISSANCE



The Emmonak Eskimo Dancers perform at the Cama-i Dance Festival.

The 2011 theme for the Cama-i Dance Festival was "Ilakellriit Quyurrluteng – Family Coming Together" and that it truly was. For three days in March, thousands of people filled the town of Bethel, dancing each night away. Dance is such an important part of the cultures in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, and since 1989 Elders, parents and children have participated in the festival as part of a broader cultural reawakening.

The first Cama-i started as a small gathering of regional dance groups and has grown to include dances and performers from all over the world. In 1990, the Bethel Yugtarvik Museum of Yup'ik history partnered with the Bethel Council on the Arts to create an annual, three-day-long version of the festival. More than 100 dancers and drummers from Alaska participated in the first year.

Now dozens of dance groups, ranging from traditional Native dance groups to Hmong, Acrobatics and high school drill teams, take part in the festival. Among the Cama-i festival favorites: 92-year-old MaryAnn Sundown from Scammon Bay, a Yup'ik dancing legend who still wows the crowd.

The Cama-i gathering is also a venue for artists to sell their works of art. It is a great place to find those unique one-of-a-kind creations made by the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. The festival wouldn't be complete without a Native foods dinner provided by the residents of Bethel that feeds 600 to 700 people. The Cama-i Festival is an all-volunteer effort involving 200 to 300 volunteers annually. Great job Bethel Council on the Arts!

Article Information Extracted from: bethelarts.com ■



The Atka dancers wear fur-trimmed gowns and beaded headdresses.



The Atka dance group shares their Aleut language and culture through their performances.



The Atka dancers mimic Aleut activities such as berry picking and salmon fishing.

CONSERVING GAS ON-SITE

Donlin Creek is committed to conserving fuel at the site for the same reason we all are – cost and the environment. And while there may not be much we can do about the prices we pay at the gas pump, there are several ways we can make our vehicles more fuel-efficient to help reduce the amount of times our face cringes at the sight of our gas receipt.

Here are some tips to help ensure that you're getting the best gas mileage your vehicle or ATV can deliver.

DRIVE AT REASONABLE SPEEDS

Speeding, rapid acceleration and constant braking wastes gas and can lower your fuel efficiency by 5 to 30 percent.

REMOVE EXCESS WEIGHT

An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle can reduce your MPG (miles per gallon) by up to 2 percent. This figure is based on the percentage of extra weight relative to the vehicle's weight so having a heavier load will affect smaller vehicles more than larger ones.

AVOID EXCESSIVE IDLING

When your vehicle is idling it's burning gas and getting 0 MPG. Vehicles with larger engines typically waste more gas idling than those with smaller engines.

KEEP TIRES PROPERLY INFLATED

By keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressure, you can improve your gas mileage by more than 3 percent. Information on the proper tire pressure for your vehicle is generally found on a sticker in the driver's side doorjamb, in the glove box or in the owner's manual. Underinflated tires can lower gas mileage by 0.3 percent for every 1-psi drop in pressure of all four tires.

USE THE RECOMMENDED GRADE OF MOTOR OIL

You can improve your gas mileage by 2 percent by using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil. For example, using 10W-30 motor oil in an engine designed to use 5W-30 can lower your gas mileage by up to 2 percent. You can find the recommended grade of motor oil for your vehicle by checking the owner's manual. It is also recommended to use motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to be sure it contains friction-reducing additives.

The same fuel saving tips can be applied to other vehicles such as ATVs and four-wheelers, however the percentages of how much gas is used or saved will vary due to their smaller weight and size.

Fuel prices are something Donlin Creek is taking into consideration as the project feasibility study nears completion. Staff have been exploring alternative energy sources to help power the mine, after some residents raised concerns about fuel being barged in to the project site. Donlin Creek will also be following the suggestions in this article to help reduce the amount of fuel that needs to be brought in to the site.

Fuel saving tips source: fueleconomy.gov ■



Driving at reasonable speeds will increase your ATV's fuel efficiency.



Having extra weight in your vehicle will use up more gas.



Donlin Creek is taking fuel prices into consideration as the project feasibility study nears completion.

FINDING SUCCESS ON AND OFF THE TRAIL

A lot can happen in 10 days - we can lose a few pounds, get our spring-cleaning done, learn a few new words of a language, but it's not too common for us to have "finish the longest sled dog race in the world" on our checklist – unless you're Mike Williams Jr.

It was his second time running the Iditarod, and this year he accomplished his goal of posting a better finish than his run last year at just under nine and a half days. He describes this year's trail being much smoother, allowing his team to get through the task of treading through more than 1,100 miles of some of Alaska's toughest terrain.

"I'm satisfied with the performance of my team and very content about my time, placing and how well my dogs looked at the finish," Mike Jr. said.

"Some days were a little hot," was how he surprisingly noted that temperatures were out on the trail this year. Last year his team battled through temperatures up to 50 below and was constantly struggling with what mushers refer to as "chicken feet" – when ice builds up on the back of the dog's wrists and ankles.

Mike Jr. was especially thankful for better conditions this year since he only started getting ready for the Iditarod last November - a few months later than when he typically starts preparing. One of his biggest tasks during training was to get accustomed to each dog's needs. Some he says are picky eaters, while others have lower metabolisms, shorter hair, or not-so-tough feet.

A Yup'ik Eskimo from Akiak, Alaska, the 26-year-old has been running dogs since childhood. His father, Mike Williams Sr., has competed in 14 Iditarods and in the Kuskokwim 300 18 times. While growing up, Mike Jr. helped his father train and prepare his team. It was always his dream to compete in the Iditarod – a dream finally realized last year.

When he's out on the Iditarod trail he experiences a variety of feelings and emotions. "There is for sure times of excitement where your heart is pumping and your hands grip the handle bars till they're white," Mike Jr. said.

But then the sleep deprivation starts to kick in. "At checkpoints sometimes it's hard to get up out of a warm bed and get dressed to go back out on the trail, but then again it's not that hard because I remember it's a race and I got to get going."

From his father, relatives and other mushers, he says he gets the same piece of advice: always take good care of the dogs. "Take care of their feet, feed them well and keep them hydrated," he notes.

Despite his 13th place finish in this year's Iditarod, and a close second place finish in the K300, Mike Jr. says he's not planning to race next year. He has a new goal now: completing a college education.

He says his other future goals include getting more involved with the youth in the Yukon Kuskokwim region by helping them lead healthy, productive lives. His father mushed to bring awareness to sobriety, while Mike Jr. mushes to help bring awareness to youth sobriety. "It saddens me to hear about suicide, threats to commit it, violence and drug use in the region. It doesn't make sense to me when I hear someone say how boring it is to be somewhere and how there is nothing to do."



Donlin Creek sponsored musher Mike Williams Jr. in the 2011 Iditarod.

Mike Jr. says while growing up in a village he always had plenty to do. Besides mushing he enjoys building things, hunting and playing his guitar.

His advice to the youth in the region: "Read something good, do something to make your parents proud, do something to make your grandparents happy. Go to school, college, or trade school and focus on those things to keep yourself away from the drugs and alcohol abuse."

Mike Jr. believes he will eventually return to the Iditarod and compete for the first place prize, but for now his goal is to pursue a college education.

Donlin Creek was a proud sponsor of Mike Williams Jr. in this year's Iditarod and a Principal Partner Sponsor of the Last Great Race. ■

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An updated look! Check out the new version of the Donlin Creek website. You'll find the most up-to-date information about the project, as well as other fun features such as the new Donlin Creek Camp webcam. ■

To voice any concerns or grievances about the Donlin Creek project, call 855-279-0382.

VILLAGE VISITS

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Chuathbaluk, Kalskag, Nunapitchuk, Chefornak, Tuntutuliak, Eek, Quinhagak, St. Mary's, Mountain Village, Russian Mission, Crooked Creek, McGrath, Nikolai, Grayling, Tuluksak, Akiachak, Goodnews Bay and Napaimute in Bethel.

A typical meeting began with lunch, followed by a Powerpoint presentation with questions and answers and finished with a raffle for 25 gallons of fuel and other door prizes.

Donlin Creek is committed to keeping the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim region part of the planning process as the project proceeds. We ask that anyone with additional comments or questions contact us, as we look to complete our final feasibility study this fall and make a decision on whether to begin the permitting process. ■



Residents of Quinhagak attend a Donlin Creek project informational meeting.

DONLIN GOLD

PROJECT UPDATE
JULY 2011

NEW NAME **SAME COMPANY**

The Donlin Board voted to change the name of the company to Donlin Gold. Find out why in this month's Face to Face article with Stan Foo.

MONTHLY WORD GAME **WIN A PRIZE!**

Join in on our new game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered into a prize drawing.

JULY'S WORD OF THE MONTH:
DONLIN GOLD

Please submit your answer by August 17 by email at *info@DonlinGold.com* or mail to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

DONLIN **EMPHASIZES** THE IMPORTANCE OF **WEARING A PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE**

It's the time of year when hundreds of families in the Yukon Kuskokwim region are heading to their fish camps, preparing the smokehouses and drying racks, and teaching the youth how to live a subsistence lifestyle. As the salmon have returned to the Kuskokwim River, so have the Native people to harvest this vital food source integral to their health and wellness.

To help families have a fun and safe fishing season, Donlin Gold Community Relations staff visited fish camps in the Bethel and middle Kuskokwim area to provide boating safety related items and informational cards about how to travel safely on the water. At each visited fish camp, staff passed out bags filled with safety and fish camp supplies including personal flotation devices (PFDs), rain gear, fish cutting aprons, rubber gloves and mosquito repellent coils.

One of the biggest issues Donlin staff stressed during their fish camp visits is the importance of always wearing a PFD when traveling by boat, no matter what. In Alaska, drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death, and in a majority of drowning cases the victim was not wearing a PFD. By wearing a PFD when boating, we can show our children how to be safe, just as we show them how to safely set nets and use knives to cut fish. To learn more tips about boating safety, please read through the safety section of this newsletter.



Donlin's Community Relations team passed out helpful supplies while visiting fish camps to promote PFD safety.

Safety plays an essential part in all that Donlin Gold does and helping families live healthier, safer lives is just one way Donlin Gold can create a project that enriches the lives of those in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. ■



Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

You may have noticed a new name and logo on the front of this newsletter. That's because last month the Donlin Board voted to change the name of our company to Donlin Gold. As the project heads toward the permitting process, our company and project will be referenced more, and we felt it was a good time to modify the name of our company to one that better reflects who we are and what we hope to do.

The new name, Donlin Gold, embodies our identity better as we look to distinguish ourselves from other projects in Alaska and clarify the type of project we hope to develop if we receive the necessary state and federal permits to do so.

Despite the change in our name, our values and commitment to the Yukon Kuskokwim region remain the same. It is our priority to create a project that will enrich the lives of those who live in the region for many years to come by offering jobs, scholarships, opportunities and safe, responsible development that does not compromise the environment.

We look forward to continuing our work and building relationships with residents and their families throughout the YK region. We will continue to update you with information about the project, and appreciate your ongoing input on how we can move this project forward in a productive and responsible manner.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

A LOOK AT THE NEW LOGO

DONLIN GOLD

DONLIN GOLD

DONLIN GOLD

DONLIN GOLD

For more information about the project please visit our website **www.DonlinGold.com** or contact us at **info@DonlinGold.com** or **(888) 225-7590**

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at **complaint@DonlinGold.com** or **(855) 279-0382**

Timeline





16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold

Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



NEPA PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

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There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the NEPA process.

Agencies define the scope of the NEPA process.

The findings of NEPA processes are drafted.

The final NEPA findings are submitted.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,000 jobs
25+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

Technical Corner

DONLIN CONDUCTS FIELD WORK FOR NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

Donlin Gold is looking to wrap up its pipeline studies this summer to have the final feasibility study completed this fall. Donlin is now at the point of completing the final round of expected pipeline field work, with a focus on identifying potential Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) crossings. Directional drilling is one method of pipeline construction that allows the pipe to be fed through a hole that is drilled deep below difficult terrain or major streams. This field work will provide Donlin with necessary information for the feasibility study, which will help determine whether the project should advance to the permitting process.

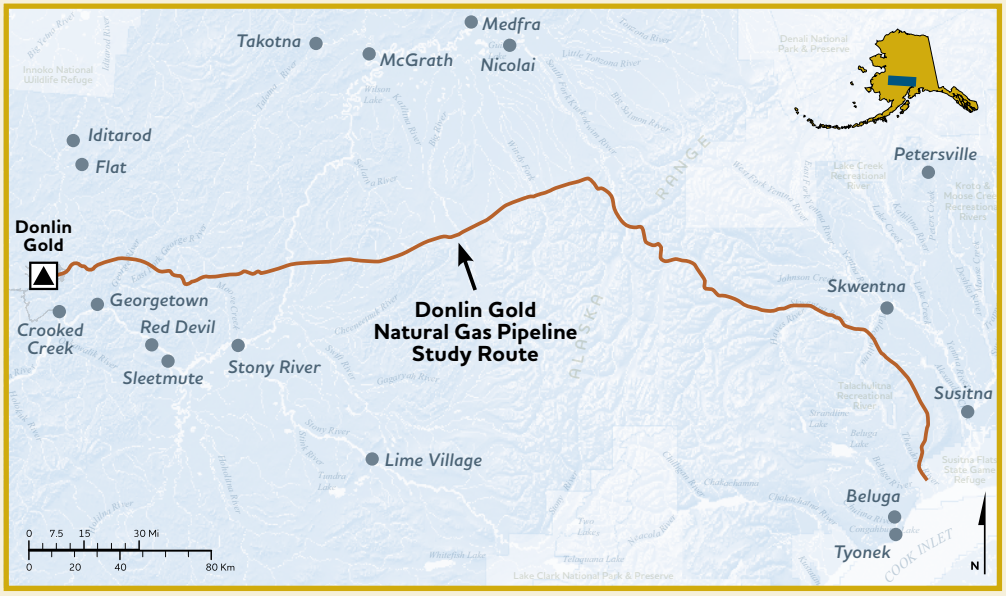
Donlin Gold began studying a natural gas pipeline option last year after hearing concerns from residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region about barging in large amounts of fuel to power the mine. Over the past year-and-a-half, crews have been studying if and how a 312-mile-long buried pipeline from Cook Inlet to the mine site could be an option for powering the mine. The natural gas supplied through the pipeline would be used to produce electricity at the site.

There were many questions asked about the pipeline during Donlin's informational project meetings held in dozens of villages this past spring. Below are some of the most common questions and answers that were asked about the pipeline.

QUESTION
Will there be a road with the pipeline?

ANSWER
There will be no permanent road along the pipeline route. Temporary roads would be used in some areas during construction, but any constructed roads would be removed and the land will be reclaimed once the pipeline is built.

QUESTION
Will it look like the Trans Alaska Pipeline?



ANSWER
No, it will be buried along the entire route, about four to five feet below ground, and will go beneath all streams and rivers.

QUESTION
How will you know if there are any leaks?

ANSWER
There will be leak detection systems and processes built in, as well as manual check valves approximately every 20 miles, which will be accessed by helicopter.

QUESTION
Will local residents be able to tap into the natural gas pipeline resource for use in our communities?

ANSWER
Although Donlin will not be a gas distributor, there may be opportunities for others to consider utilizing any excess capacity that may become available in the pipeline for local use.

QUESTION
What will happen to the pipeline once the mine is closed?

ANSWER
That will be determined by state and federal regulating agencies, along with the landowners during the permitting process.

In addition to the expected 3,000 jobs needed to build the mine, the pipeline project would add additional jobs for its construction phase. However, the exact number of those additional jobs has not yet been determined. Some of the pipeline work would be contracted out but the project would still provide jobs to many local residents. More than two dozen employees are working on the pipeline field work this summer. ■

MAKING WAY FOR ALASKA'S MUSHERS

During the first week of August, several Donlin Gold employees will be assisting the Iditarod Trail Committee in clearing forest fire debris from the trail along the Post River burn area. This will be the second year Donlin has helped make the trail safer for mushers in the Last Great Race. Look for the full story in next month's newsletter. ■

Got Questions?

DONLIN GOLD'S COMMUNITY RELATIONS STAFF IS LISTENING AND RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

If you've had questions about the Donlin Gold project in the past few months, these people have probably answered them. Donlin Gold has added new staff to its Community Relations Department to support ongoing discussions, dialogue and engagement regarding the project with residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region.



(Pictured from left to right: Mary Sattler, Sue Gamache, Colleen Laraux, Vernon L. Chimegalrea, Wayne Morgan and Kurt Parkan.)

One staff member has been around a lot longer though. You may remember her, standing before a gathered crowd, listening to an audience member share their opinion of the Donlin Gold project. This setting could be any one of the 23 community meetings the Donlin Gold team participated in this past winter. Not only is **Mary Sattler** a familiar face at Donlin Gold, she is almost always recognized in every community in the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

Mary was raised in Kwethluk, Tuntutuliak, Platinum and Bethel where her family commercially fished and had a tender boat operation. During college, she worked for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as a herring and salmon tech, and spent a decade representing Bethel and surrounding villages as a Representative in the Alaska State House.

Mary joined the Donlin team three years ago as Manager of Community Development and Sustainability. Her priorities involve helping Donlin serve as a partner in supporting and improving the health and wellness of communities in the region. She also enjoys being outdoors and spending time with her four children, her boyfriend and his three children.

Mary is not alone in her pursuit of engaging dialogue with the region's communities. The Donlin Gold Community Relations Department recently added four new members to its team. Each is a shareholder of the Calista Corporation.

Sue Gamache was born and raised in Anchorage, although her mother and maternal grandparents are from Crooked Creek. During the summer, Sue spent her childhood commercial fishing in Kenai, both set net and drift boat fishing.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, she worked for Calista Corporation for 28 years performing a variety of duties. While working for Calista, Sue was able to gain exposure to the Donlin Gold mining project when its discovery and studies phase began in 1996.

Sue's goal is to build connections with various stakeholder groups and individuals by demonstrating social responsibility through communication activities and involvement. She looks forward to becoming more familiar with the mining industry, honing up on her mining terminology and keeping the public openly informed. When not at work, Sue enjoys spending time with her husband of 25 years, Jim Fitzmaurice, beachcombing, boating, fishing, berrypicking and camping.

Colleen Laraux was born and raised in the Bethel area, attending grade school in Kongiganak and graduating from Bethel High School. After spending two years in Fairbanks, she moved back to Bethel where all three of her grown children reside.

Colleen will be providing support services to Donlin's Community Relations staff, working in the Bethel office. Her goals are to provide up-to-date information about the project and to correct any misconceptions about old mining operations. In her free time, Colleen enjoys spending time with her family, reading, fishing and cooking.

Vernon L. Chimegalrea is a great asset to Donlin's communication team, growing up in the Yup'ik culture and being able to speak the Yup'ik language that many residents in the region still primarily use. Originally from the village of Napakiak, he grew up in Bethel speaking Yup'ik and English. He attained his bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

As a Donlin Gold employee, Vernon enjoys being able to translate presentations from English into Yup'ik to ensure that Yup'ik speakers are able to understand the processes to be used in the mining project. His main goal is to make sure that residents thoroughly understand Donlin Gold is just as concerned about the environment as they are, and that the best available methods and practices will be utilized in Donlin's mining efforts. In his spare time, Vernon enjoys hunting and gathering activities, creating arts and crafts and studying languages.

Wayne Morgan was raised in Aniak in a very large family of nine brothers and two sisters. He's been involved with the Donlin Gold project since exploration began by attending

numerous public meetings. Wayne enjoys working in Donlin's Community Relations Department because he likes meeting people within the region. He says his biggest goal is to help get the word out about training local people and getting them ready for the project.

Wayne also enjoys coaching high school basketball. This year he led the Aniak Halfbreed men's team to a State title. When not coaching, Wayne enjoys spending time with his wife and their four children doing outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing and photography.

Kurt Parkan is the leader of the Community Relations team at Donlin Gold as the Manager of External Affairs since September of 2010. Before joining Donlin, Kurt was the External Affairs Director with the Nature Conservancy of Alaska and Deputy Commissioner for the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, during the Tony Knowles administration. He also spent eight years working for the Alaska State Legislature, primarily as staff for the House of Representatives Finance Committee. Kurt originally came to Alaska from California to fight forest fires.

Kurt's goal in managing the Community Relations Department is to help the Donlin team give the region as much information as possible about the project. He sees the Community Relations staff as an important link to better understanding regional concerns, interests and needs so Donlin Gold can be a good neighbor, contributing to healthy communities.

If you ever have any questions about the Donlin Gold project, please do not hesitate to contact the Community Relations staff by email at info@DonlinGold.com or by phone in Anchorage at (907) 273.0200, Bethel at (907) 543.0745, or Aniak at (907) 675.4416. ■

Safety

TIPS FOR SAFE BOATING TRIPS

During the subsistence salmon fishing season on the Kuskokwim River this year, Donlin Gold Community Relations staff have been visiting fish camps to hand out informational cards about boating safety. Because subsistence fishing is such an important part of Donlin employees' lives and to those that live in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin Gold is encouraging everyone to wear a life jacket when boating.

In addition to wearing a PFD, Donlin Gold supports the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation in promoting the following steps to ensure a safe and fun boating experience:

BE PREPARED

- Check the weather forecast
- Take the proper equipment
- Make sure your boat is loaded properly
- Give someone your float plan
- ALWAYS WEAR YOUR PFD

CREATE A FLOAT PLAN

Before leaving let a responsible person know what your trip plans are, so that if you end up missing, they can get help.

Your Float Plan Should Include:

1. Names of those going
2. Your destination
3. When you expect to arrive and return
4. What survival gear you are carrying
5. A description of your boat

If anything changes in your plan, make sure you let the responsible person know.

Drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death in Alaska and there have already been a few drowning-related deaths in the Yukon Kuskokwim region this year. Wearing a proper fitting PFD at all times when boating can mean the difference between life and death, especially in Alaska's cold waters. A proper fitting PFD should always hold



the person's head out of the water. It is also state law that all children 13 years or younger wear a PFD in a boat.

Donlin Gold lives by the motto: "Every employee going home safe and healthy every day," and by wearing a PFD, this is just one way we can continue to fulfill our safety mission.

For more information about water safety or to purchase a PFD please call YKHC's Injury Prevention Department at (907) 543-6085. ■

DONLIN GOLD

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MINING VOCABULARY: **BEDROCK**

A general term for solid rock that lies beneath soil, sediments, or other unconsolidated material. The gold deposits at the Donlin Gold project site are located in bedrock, and would be extracted using safe and controlled modern day mining techniques. ■

HISTORY OF THE WORLD ESKIMO-INDIAN OLYMPICS

In the third week of July, many Yukon Kuskokwim region residents were in Fairbanks to perform in or watch the 50th annual World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (WEIO). The first WEIO games held in 1961, was inspired by long-established traditions of Native peoples of the circumpolar areas of the world, who gathered in small villages to participate in games of strength, endurance, balance and agility. The hosts provided food and lodging, and visitors brought news from surrounding villages. Along with these athletic games, dancing, story telling and other audience participation games took place.

During the first year of the WEIO, four Eskimo dance groups and two Indian dance groups participated in the event. Competitions in the high-kick, blanket toss, seal skinning and the Miss Eskimo Olympics Queen Contest were held as well. The event was such a big success, it has been held annually ever since.

Big changes were made to the event in the 1970s. Women's divisions were established and in 1973, the event's Board of Directors passed a resolution changing the name of the World Eskimo Olympics to World Eskimo-Indian Olympics to more accurately reflect the ethnicity of the participants.

The event helps preserve the strong cultural traditions of the Yukon Kuskokwim region, and provides an opportunity for friendly competition, entertainment and laughter. It also builds and renews friendships.



Miss Kuskokwim 2011, Kelsey Wallace, moments before being crowned Miss WEIO 2011. Photo courtesy of www.ciugun.com

Donlin Gold sponsored Miss Kuskokwim, Kelsey Ciugun Wallace, who was crowned the Miss World Eskimo-Indian Olympics Queen during this year's WEIO. Donlin supports Wallace, a Yup'ik Eskimo from Bethel, in her cultural revitalization efforts as she demonstrates to her peers the importance of carrying on her region's traditions. ■

DONLIN GOLD

PROJECT UPDATE
AUGUST 2011

JULY'S WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

NICK J. DULL OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Congratulations to Nick Dull, the first Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the words "Donlin Gold" were referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join our new game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

AUGUST'S WORD OF THE MONTH: MINE

Please submit your answer by September 26, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

SUMMERTIME MEANS TOUR TIME FOR DONLIN GOLD

If it is true a picture is worth a thousand words, then many people are getting a novel's worth of information participating in this summer's Donlin Gold camp tours. Nearly 30 tours were scheduled for groups ranging from teachers and school children to village elders and community leaders as well as government officials. Tours are an excellent opportunity for visitors to get a good visual understanding of the proposed project and supplement the information they may have already received from Donlin's newsletters, project description flyers and community meetings.



Donlin employees are able to share information about the project to visitors and answer their questions directly.

Reading about the project's location is helpful but actually flying the 10 miles from Crooked Creek to the project's location in the mountains provides a better understanding of just how far it is from the Kuskokwim River.

A common highlight of the tours are the presentations from staff who work in various capacities at the camp. There is a very high percentage of shareholders from the region who work at the camp, especially in supervisory roles, and their message to tour groups about the work they do and their high level of camaraderie at camp has been reported as particularly valuable.

Information is also shared about the possibility of having up to 3,000 jobs during construction, 600 to 1,000 jobs during the 27-plus-year mine life, as well as

CONTINUED INSIDE: "CAMP TOURS"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

SEND MAIL TO:
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Anchorage, AK 99503

PHONE:
(907) 273-0200
(888) 225-7590 toll free

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at ***complaint@DonlinGold.com*** or **(855) 279-0382**

This has been a busy summer for Donlin Gold. We successfully completed another field season of environmental baseline studies around the project site and along the proposed gas pipeline route. We are working hard to wrap up our feasibility update and expect it to be completed later this fall. The next step in the project will be submitting our initial permit applications in the first quarter of next year.

SAFETY NEWS

I am pleased to report our employees have once again been recognized for their commitment to workplace safety. Five years and over 1.4 million hours without a loss time incident is a remarkable achievement – great job team! Safety was also the driving force behind our summer fish camp and boating safety program, helping residents realize the importance of wearing personal flotation devices and providing them with the resources to do so. We will continue this popular program next year.

A FIRSTHAND LOOK

Historically the time between fishing and hunting seasons is best for people of the region to visit the Donlin project site. Mary Sattler, Wayne Morgan and Vernon Chimegalrea led approximately 30 tours of the camp this summer. Guests were able to learn firsthand from the Donlin staff about their job duties and experiences at camp. We want people to understand what Donlin Gold is proposing for the region and there is no better way to learn than to see the site in person. Visitors are often surprised to find we are located in the hills, 10 miles away from the village of Crooked Creek and the Kuskokwim River.

This fall we will also be taking village leaders on tours of operating gold mines in Montana and Nevada. By touring a working mine, visitors can get an idea of what an operating Donlin Gold mine could look like, and this knowledge can be shared with others.

CREATING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Two groups of interns benefited from Donlin Gold's activity this summer: our field interns as well as participants in the Kuskokwim Native Association's (KNA) fisheries management program. Donlin supported KNA's fieldwork on Crooked Creek, which helps develop practical fisheries management skills and prepares participants for future jobs.

Creating training opportunities is important to us. Donlin Gold is the second largest contributor to the Calista Heritage Foundation scholarship program and a major donor to The Kuskokwim Corporation scholarship program as well.

The Donlin Gold project will need qualified employees when we go into production. Providing opportunities now gives students the necessary education and training to prepare for good jobs in the future.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



NEPA PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the NEPA process.

- Agencies define the scope of the NEPA process.
- The findings of NEPA processes are drafted.
- The final NEPA findings are submitted.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,000 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

Camp Tours

Continued from front cover

SUMMERTIME MEANS TOUR TIME FOR DONLIN GOLD

Donlin's plans to provide training opportunities to help prepare people in the region for careers at the mine.

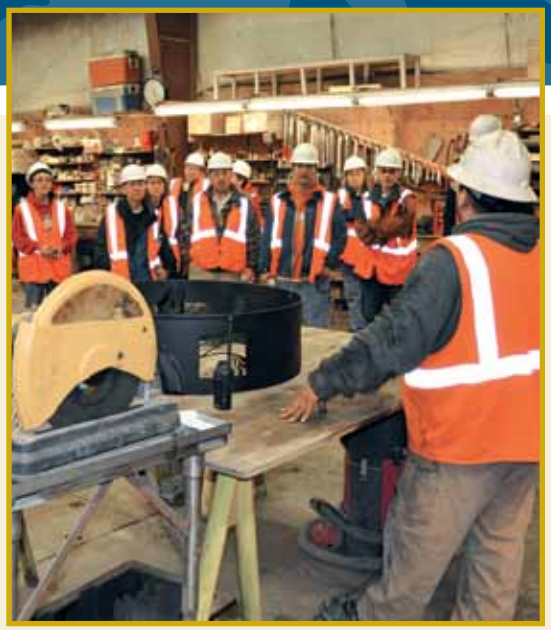
During the tours, presentations are made about the environmental protection measures and baseline studies that have been incorporated into the project plans. Participants get to see the proposed locations of the camp designed to house 600 employees at a time including the airport, open-pit mine, waste rock storage, milling facility and the fully-lined tailings facility. There is also discussion about Donlin's plans for reclaiming the land once the mining operation is complete, which begins long before the end of the mine's life.

Donlin Gold understands that earning people's trust starts with providing accurate, appropriate and timely information. But it also requires staff to listen carefully so they can respond to questions and concerns. These tours help give people the opportunity to gather valuable information so they can work with Donlin to develop the project in a safe and responsible manner.

Next summer and fall, tours will be offered again of the Donlin project site, as well as additional tours of the Fort Knox gold mine near Fairbanks and mines in the Lower 48. These personal tours require a time commitment from visitors and Donlin thanks them for taking their time to learn about the mining process and the proposed project. ■

In addition to the campsite tours, the Donlin community relations team is also preparing tours of operating mines in the Lower 48 which are owned and operated by Barrick Gold, including the Golden Sunlight Mine in Montana and the Cortez and Goldstrike mines in Nevada.

These operating mine tours provide a firsthand view of a working gold mine. Although these operations can be different in some ways from the planned Donlin mine, there are similarities which can inform visitors about modern mining technologies and processes.











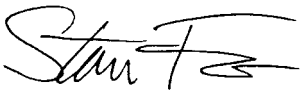
Between fishing, working and enjoying spurts of sunshine, dozens of Yukon Kuskokwim residents came to tour the Donlin Gold project site this summer.

FALL APPROACHES

Even though we had a busy summer, we had time for some fun. Myself, along with staff from Aniak, the Donlin camp and the Anchorage office were able to enjoy the Interior Rivers State Fair in Aniak this month. The weather was cool and wet (the classic fair weather), and while my softball skills were a little rusty, everyone had fun. A special thanks goes to John Gillam, our camp catering manager, for once again preparing a delicious barbeque dinner for the entire community.

As fall approaches and people pick berries and prepare for the hunting season, we wish you all safe travels and success.

If you have questions or concerns relating to the Donlin project please contact us. Your voice is important.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

MINERS AND MUSHERS

CLEARING FOREST FIRE DEBRIS FROM THE IDITAROD TRAIL

The 2009 Post River fire, which burned just over 920 acres, caused damage to portions of the Iditarod Trail. Since the fire, burned trees have fallen across the trail creating a very difficult and hazardous route for mushers to maneuver.

In August, Donlin employees Boise Alexie, Kenny Luke, Gerald Beans and Lloyd Heckman assisted the Iditarod Trail Committee in clearing forest fire debris along the trail from Post River south to the Rohn checkpoint. It took the crew five days to clear eight miles of the trail. This is the second year Donlin has helped make the trail safer for mushers of the Last Great Race with trail maintenance. While operating chain saws for 12 hours a day in bear country, the Donlin crew remained very aware of personal safety.

Donlin Gold is a Principal sponsor of the Iditarod and continues to support this great Alaska tradition. ■

Opportunities







From top to bottom: Marvin McDonald, Chris Matter and Eric McComb

SUMMER INTERNS GET OUT IN THE FIELD

Bethel resident Marvin McDonald spent most of his summer conducting land surveys, bio monitoring, installing fish weirs and monitoring water and air quality as an intern in Donlin Gold's environmental department. He is an engineering student at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

Employees who got the chance to work with Marvin noticed his great attitude and the high energy he brought to every task. Colleagues also appreciated his desire to learn and ask good questions, and noted that he frequently offered ideas and solutions to problems. Marvin even joined the Donlin Gold softball team at the Aniak fair this year.

Two geology students from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Chris Matter and Eric McComb, also completed summer internships at Donlin Gold. Chris and Eric participated in a variety of tasks including collecting soil samples for geochemical analysis, assisting with geological mapping, using geological logs to mark sample intervals and entering drill hole and soil sample information into a database.

By providing internships like these, Donlin Gold helps students gain more knowledge and firsthand experience in the field in which they are pursuing degrees. Seeking a talented workforce, Donlin is committed to providing opportunities, such as internships, for young people in the Yukon Kuskokwim region to help them prepare for their future, whether it is with Donlin or another company or organization. ■

TIPS FOR A SAFE HUNTING TRIP

As the salmon fishing season comes to a close, many residents and Donlin Gold employees in the Yukon Kuskokwim region are preparing for hunting season. The following hunting tips provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will help us all have a safe and successful hunting experience.

HAVE A PLAN

Logistical planning is one of the key components in creating a successful hunting trip. Poor weather conditions should always be assumed, and you should be prepared to remain in the field longer than expected.

Aircraft and boating accidents are the leading causes of hunting-related injuries and fatalities in Alaska. If you do not already possess the first aid and survival skills needed to endure an emergency for several days in the wilderness, learn and practice them before you go hunting. You should always let a responsible person know where you are going and how long you plan to be gone, that way if you are overdue they can get help.

EQUIPMENT

For a safe and successful trip, each piece of equipment needs to be working properly. Begin preparing your equipment weeks before your planned hunt so you do not rush your packing and forget an essential item. Make sure batteries are newer, knife blades are sharpened, and clothing and tents are in good shape. Practice setting up your gear to make sure all the parts and pieces are intact and make any necessary repairs before your hunt.

> "Confidence in your gear makes for a successful and enjoyable hunt."

FOOD

Always make sure you bring enough food, with up to three additional days worth incase you end up remaining in the field longer than expected. Do not count on eating game meat, and pack foods that are high in calories to help supply your body with the energy needed to meet demanding field conditions. If traveling by boat or ATV, it is recommended to pack canned foods. If traveling by plane or hiking, it is recommended to pack dried foods. Whatever your mode of travel is always wear the appropriate safety gear.

> "Create a daily meal plan for your hunting trip."

CLOTHING

Having the appropriate clothing for a hunting trip is just as important as the food and equipment you bring. Always dress in layers, wearing wool or synthetic fibers. Bring wind and rain protection gear as well. It's important to wear adequate footgear that provides traction and will protect your feet from overheating or getting cold.

> "Always dress in layers, wearing wool or synthetic fibers."

Donlin Gold recognizes the importance of subsistence hunting for many families throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Just as we support our employees going home safe each and everyday, we encourage residents to practice these hunting tips to ensure a safe and successful hunting season.

For tips on gun safety visit the National Rifle Association website www.nrahq.org/education/guide.asp ■



For the fifth year in a row, Donlin has received the Barrick Gold "Merit of Safety" award.

DONLIN RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING SAFETY RECORD

Donlin Gold was recently recognized by three separate entities for its exceptional workplace safety.

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Click Bishop toured the project site and presented an award to Donlin Gold for accomplishing 1.4 million work hours with zero loss time injuries. While visiting, Commissioner Bishop talked with employees about the different safety measures they practice on and off the job.

The Donlin team was also recognized in June by the International Society of Mine Safety Professionals (ISMSP) for working a similar number of hours without a lost time incident. This is the third time Donlin Gold has received a plaque from ISMSP for outstanding safety performance.

The third award received was the Barrick Gold "Merit of Safety" award for working without a lost time incident in 2010. Barrick North American President Greg Lang presented the award to the Donlin team during a visit to the project site in June. This was the fifth consecutive year Donlin Gold has received this award.

It is because of the workers at the Donlin camp, where approximately 90 percent of the employees are from the Yukon Kuskokwim region, that Donlin can claim this success. Thanks for a job well done and for living by the motto, "Every person going home safe and healthy everyday." ■

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MINING VOCABULARY: **OPEN-CUT**

Also known as open-pit, a mining operation in a wide-open area on the surface. The Donlin Gold mine would be an open-cut mine. The Fort Knox mine near Fairbanks that Donlin employees visited this month is also an open-cut mine. ■

GIRL SCOUTS CAMPS

Over 1,000 girls from 20 villages in the Yukon Kuskokwim region were involved in rural Girl Scouts camps this summer. Villages included Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Chevak, Emmonak, Kotlik, Alakanuk, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, Mountain Village, Tuluksak, Akiak, Akiachak, Nunapitchuk, Kasigluk, Napaskiak, Kwigillingok, Kipnuk, Tununak, Toksook Bay and Bethel. The Girl Scouts experience gives girls the confidence and tools needed to lead and become citizens who will make a difference in the world.

Donlin Gold is pleased to sponsor the Girl Scouts of Alaska and joins the council in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the national Girl Scouts organization next year. ■





One of the activities included in the summer camp experience is the gathering of subsistence foods, including berry picking of salmonberries, blueberries and blackberries.

OUR ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO CREATE A MINING PROJECT THAT WILL HELP ENRICH THE LIVES OF THOSE IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES TO LIVE IN SAFE, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES.

DONLIN GOLD

PROJECT UPDATE
SEPTEMBER/
OCTOBER 2011

AUGUST'S WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

KAREN LIDSTER

Congratulations to Karen Lidster, who guessed closest to the correct amount of times (23) the word "mine" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

SEPTEMBER'S WORD OF THE MONTH: GOLD

Please submit your answer by November 4, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

WATER MANAGEMENT:

UNDERSTANDING ONE OF THE REGION'S MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCES

Water is one of the most valuable and important resources in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region. Streams and rivers provide a habitat for salmon, transportation for residents and nourishment to wildlife. The YK region also has a plentiful source of fresh surface water, with about 20 inches of precipitation annually at Donlin.



Danny Twitchell, Environmental Specialist, collecting water samples.

Throughout the history of the project, Donlin Gold has made it a priority to study the quality and quantity of water in the area, in order to design a project that will minimize impacts on the environment. All of the water that comes into contact with the proposed mine facilities would need to be managed to ensure that any discharge would meet permitted standards.

Donlin has been gathering surface water quality data since 1995, and has collected surface and groundwater quality data quarterly since 2003. Currently, the Donlin Environmental Department routinely collects water quality samples from about 20 surface water stations, and about 25 groundwater wells.

Other environmental baseline studies are conducted in the area's streams and rivers as well. Aquatic biologists have conducted salmon and resident fish surveys since 2004 to document fish species, run timing, and aquatic habitat. A fish weir has been installed seasonally since 2008 to provide more definitive numbers of fish entering the Crooked Creek watershed.

CONTINUED INSIDE: "WATER MANAGEMENT"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



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Fall is my favorite time of year, but always seems like a short season in Alaska, going from long summer days to long crisp nights. We begin to change our routines and plan for freeze up, while we enjoy being outside in the fall colors and the cooler weather. Things are no different at the Donlin Gold project.

TIME OF TRANSITION

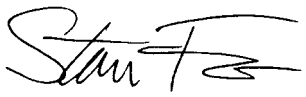
Fall signals the end to our field season at Donlin Gold. Staff wrap up projects that need to completed before winter and make sure the camp is winterized. Fish surveys and other environmental baseline studies are winding down for the year and crews are bringing back their equipment to be stored. Plans for environmental surveys that will be conducted through the winter are being made.

The Donlin Gold project will also be transitioning in an important way as we complete our updated feasibility and engineering studies and continue to prepare to begin the permitting process early next year. We expect permitting to take at least three years to complete, and possibly longer. Through the many meetings and tours we have held for people from the villages this year, we have listened and learned about the concerns people have about protecting the environment, the Kuskokwim River and subsistence resources in the region. We have also heard how eager and anxious many people are to prepare for the job opportunities that our project will provide.

MOVING FORWARD

As we move to the next phase of the project, we want residents and stakeholders to continue to communicate with us about their concerns and needs. We strive to produce a project built on the strength of open communication between Donlin and residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, and can accomplish this by sharing ideas and information with each other. Donlin will continue to create opportunities for gatherings, dialogue and partnerships. We hope residents will continue to provide us with feedback utilizing the various communication outlets –phone, mail, email, visiting our village offices, or attending our project update meetings.

I hope everyone has a safe and successful hunting season, and I look forward to hearing your ideas and sharing ours.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.

Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



NEPA PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the NEPA process.

Agencies define the scope of the NEPA process.

The findings of NEPA processes are drafted.

The final NEPA findings are submitted.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,000 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

Continued from front cover

WATER MANAGEMENT

Along the Kuskokwim River, from Georgetown to Kuskokwim Bay, river use surveys have been conducted to document how and when people use the river for subsistence, recreational, and commercial activities in order to help Donlin plan a project that minimizes any impacts on resident's river use and subsistence activities.

Donlin Gold will continue to conduct water quality monitoring throughout the life of the project and long after the mine is closed. Donlin anticipates moving forward into the permitting process during 2012. As part of the permitting process, the agencies will conduct an Environmental Impact Statement of the proposed project, including its potential impacts on local water resources. During that time there will be opportunities for the public to comment on Donlin's proposed water management plans.

MEET DONLIN'S ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM

Over the past several years, three environmental specialists, Jill Duerfeldt, Danny Twitchell and Tisha Woolley, have been conducting water quality baseline studies and collecting environmental data for the Donlin project. All of them have family ties to the YK region and understand the importance of protecting the environment and the area's aquatic resources.

Jill, who was raised in Oregon, has family ties in Eek and Kongiganak, Alaska. After graduating from college, she worked for Calista's Land and Natural Resources department, before being offered the opportunity to work with Donlin's environmental team. Since 2005, Jill has been sharing on-site responsibilities of environmental compliance, coordinating field studies, and conducting water quality baseline monitoring.

Lloyd "Danny" Twitchell has been with Donlin's environmental team since 2006. Born and raised in Bethel, Danny has a personal connection with the Kuskokwim River. "It has given me a great respect for the watershed," Danny said. "It has provided fishing, hunting, transportation, and recreation and most of my fondest memories growing up had to do with spending quality time with family and friends on the Kuskokwim River."

In addition to environmental compliance activities, Danny commits the time and patience to follow data collection protocol to efficiently conduct quarterly water quality baseline studies, support the air quality monitoring program, and participate in aquatic surveys.

"I'm honored to be a member of an environmental team that works very hard to ensure our lands and our Kuskokwim River are protected for future generations," Danny said.

Tisha Woolley, who was born and raised in Bethel and whose grandfather is Joe Lomack, joined Donlin in 2005 as a geologist. A year later, she joined Donlin's environmental department. As part of Tisha's job to manage Donlin's water quality monitoring program, she conducts on-site visits during water sampling to ensure that proper collection procedures are being followed.

In addition to the team members highlighted in this article, other Donlin employees have assisted with water monitoring activities including Joe Bobby of Lime Village, Gerald "Bubba" Beans of Eagle River and Greg Sakar of Crooked Creek.

Donlin Gold is pleased with its environmental team for their hard work and personal dedication over the years to provide accurate, efficient and important information about the region's water resources. The information from these environmental studies will be used to ensure that Donlin operates a mining project responsibly, with minimal impact. ■

> "As part of Donlin Gold's commitment to responsible development, staff will continue to conduct water quality monitoring throughout the project and long after the mine is closed to ensure the region's viable resource remains protected."







Danny Twitchell, Tisha Woolley and Jill Duerfeldt have been conducting water quality baseline studies and collecting environmental data for the Donlin project over several years.







Top: Donlin Gold stakeholders pose for a photo with a gold bar at the Goldstrike Mine in Elko, Nevada. Middle: Nick Enos, Donlin Gold, Environmental & Permitting Manager confers with Calista Corporation board member, Willie Kasayulie while observing a daily blast at the Goldstrike Mine. Bottom: A blast in the open pit at the Goldstrike Mine.

LEARNING FROM OTHER PROJECTS: DONLIN TOURS MINES IN NEVADA

Envisioning what an operational Donlin Gold mine would look like can be a difficult thing to do, especially when most people are visual learners. Because no actual construction or development has happened at the Donlin site, it's hard to understand the true scale of the project. That's why for several years Donlin has made it a priority to visit and host tours at other successful operating gold mines throughout the U.S. in order to show what could potentially exist just 10 miles north of Crooked Creek village.

Earlier this month, several residents and representatives from the Yukon Kuskokwim region joined Donlin Staff on a tour of two operating gold mines in Nevada, including village council members, and Calista Corporation President Andrew Guy.

The two gold mines visited were the Cortez mine and Goldstrike mine. Both mines are located just outside of Elko, Nevada and are operated by Barrick Gold, one of Donlin's parent companies. These mines utilize conventional open-pit methods, some of which may be used at Donlin.

During the tours, stakeholders were able to observe and learn about the mines' operating mills, concurrent reclamation and the autoclave process. The visiting stakeholders reported they were surprised and encouraged by the amount of precautions taken at the operating mines, as every employee makes safety their top priority.

Edna Beebe, an Indian General Assistance Program Coordinator from Eek who participated in the mine tours, said she was surprised to see how large the mine sites were. She hopes to share information about the different modern day mining practices she learned with the community of Eek.

"This is one of the best trips I've been on. I learned so much," said Beebe. "Before the trip I was iffy about the whole mining business."

Another common factor these mines have with the Donlin project is their investment in communities. Both mines contribute to local scholarship programs and provide assistance to organizations that benefit the area. Like Donlin, these mines understand by contributing to the community, they are producing a project that benefits everyone who lives in the region.

Taking tours of operating gold mines provides stakeholders with assurance that development can be done responsibly. By learning about the planning and operational processes of other mines and sharing the information with the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin can continue to build a satisfactory and successful project. ■

Opportunities

NEW TENT, NEW EVENT:
DONLIN SUPPORTS THE ALASKA STATE FAIR

It's hard to imagine something more exciting than the food at the Alaska State Fair, but this year a new event contended with the cream puffs: a meet and greet with the legends of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.



Alison Brill, Donlin Gold Office Services Supervisor.

The event took place at the Donlin Gold Ravens People tent, a brand new venue at the fair. The Iditarod Trail Committee started the event by presenting 2011 Iditarod Champion John Baker with his championship ring. Baker, who not only captured first place in this year's Iditarod, also set a new record for the fastest race time.

Baker was joined at the meet and greet by four-time Iditarod Champions Martin Buser and Jeff King along with 1978 Iditarod Champion Dick Mackey, 2004 Iditarod Champion Mitch Seavey, and veteran mushers Dee Dee Jonrowe, Ramey Smyth and Dallas Seavey.

Race fans of all ages at the Alaska State Fair had the chance to take pictures with the Iditarod athletes and hear their stories about the Last Great Race. It wasn't all just handshakes at the meet and greet, paws were present as well. Fans were able to pet and play with several sled dog pups.

Donlin Gold is a continuing sponsor of the Iditarod, recognizing Alaska's strong historical ties to mining and mushing. ■



DeeDee Jonrowe greets a young fan at the Donlin sponsored Iditarod Meet and Greet Event.

VILLAGE FESTIVALS CELEBRATE SUBSISTENCE

As residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region wrap up their fishing, hunting and gathering seasons, many come together to celebrate their subsistence successes during village fall festivals.

At the Tundra Fest in Chevak, Alaska families participated in an array of contests including harpoon throwing, bird plucking, bread making and table games. Students tested their speed in footraces, while others showed off their Eskimo dancing skills.

Participants at the Blueberry Festival in Toksook Bay were a little bit pickier with their activities. The top-three winners of the festival's blackberry-picking contest brought in a combined 36 lbs. of the sweet berries. The winners of the contest were Esther Chimiugak, Winnie Julius and Priscilla Moses.

Other family activities at the Blackberry Festival included a fiddle dance, mini-basketball tournament, a qaspeq contest and an akutaq contest.

At the Kongiganak Salmonberry Festival, families participated in kayak races, a cakewalk and several other contests. High school students celebrated their heritage by performing Eskimo dances at the festival, while others honored community members who recently passed away during a paper lantern memory send-off.

Several members of the Donlin team attended the festivals to celebrate the end of summer with local residents and Donlin is pleased to help support these activities. ■

DONLIN GOLD

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MINING VOCABULARY: **BALL MILL**

A steel cylinder filled with steel balls into which crushed ore is fed. The ball mill is rotated, causing the balls to cascade and grind the ore. A ball mill will be used at the Donlin mine to help reduce the gold-bearing ore into fine silt like sand to be further processed. ■





It is officially hunting season for many residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Boise Alexie, the Assistant Camp Operations Manager at Donlin, had a successful moose hunt with his 10-year-old son Ethan Cooper. Donlin supports its employees' practice of subsistence living and encourages them to apply their workplace safety standards to their daily lives.

ONE OF OUR PRIMARY GOALS IS TO CREATE A MINING PROJECT THAT WILL HELP ENRICH THE LIVES OF THOSE IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES TO LIVE IN SAFE, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES.

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2011

NOVEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

MAE MURDAUGH

Congratulations to Mae Murdaugh! Her answer was randomly chosen among others who submitted the correct amount of times (15) the word "region" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH: YEAR

Please submit your answer by January 16, 2012, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

2011: COMMITTED TO SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND OPEN COMMUNICATION

This has been a significant year for Donlin Gold, as the project wraps up 16 years of environmental and engineering studies and prepares to begin submitting permit applications in 2012.



Donlin employees Boise Alexie, Kenny Luke, Gerald Beans and Lloyd Heckman help clear fire debris along the Iditarod trail.

In 2011, Donlin Gold completed studies for a natural gas pipeline from Cook Inlet to the project site. Environmental, geotechnical, and cultural/archaeological fieldwork was successfully finished along the proposed 313-mile pipeline corridor. The logistical support for this year's program included staging drill crews and field personnel from four remote camps and lodges. All work was completed without a lost time accident or major incident.

Additional environmental studies continued throughout the year, including water, fish, and air quality evaluations. In addition to providing crucial information about the current state of the environment for planning purposes, these field studies have also created internship and educational opportunities for local students.

Communicating with communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region has always been a priority of the project, and this year Donlin focused on expanding its community outreach efforts by adding staff and opening an office in Aniak, in addition to

CONTINUED INSIDE: "2011: COMMITTED TO ..."

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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907-543-0744

ANIAK OFFICE
Anyaraqmuite Office Center
Suite 204
Aniak, AK 99557
907-675-4416

As the year winds down, it's a good time to reflect on all of the accomplishments we've made over the past several months as well as our plans for the coming year.

At Donlin Gold, we appreciate all of the efforts and hard work of our staff at the site and in our offices in Anchorage, Aniak and Bethel.

Our team has worked diligently to keep the project moving forward from completing this year's environmental and engineering fieldwork at the site, to exploratory drilling along the proposed 313-mile corridor for a natural gas pipeline. Studies along the Kuskokwim River were also completed, along with dozens of village visits and staff leading numerous tours of the site, and accomplishing another year with zero loss time incidents.

We appreciate the feedback and discussions we've had with residents throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region during our village visits and tours of the Donlin site. We look forward to the work ahead of us as well as continuing our conversations with local residents next year.

CONTINUED COMMUNICATION

One thing we have learned in the past 16 years of exploration is not one form of communication fits all for sharing information about our project with the YK region and getting input from residents. Smart phones and social media seem to be taking hold throughout the area, however some villages still have limited Internet connectivity and mobile phones are not always an option for some residents. That is why we will continue to take the various steps in keeping the lines of communication open and sharing information through village visits, providing a monthly newsletter, opening regional offices and hosting camp tours. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the many communication options we've provided, to give us your feedback and get your questions answered. We will continue to share project information using a variety of communication outlets so that everyone can become better informed.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2012

We plan to begin permitting during the first half of next year. When our permit applications are formally submitted, federal and state regulatory agencies will begin to review the project proposal along with the scientific and engineering information to determine whether to grant the necessary permits needed to build and operate the mine.

We anticipate it will take three or more years for the regulatory agencies to review and evaluate approximately 100 permits that will need to be approved in order to move forward with the project. Due to the time it takes to move through permitting, we are still several years away from any construction activity. However, we will be putting together a workforce development program in the YK region to identify training needs and employment opportunities so that when the time comes, residents will be prepared to fill the hundreds of positions that will be available at the Donlin Gold mine. We will also be visiting schools in the YK region this winter to talk to students about training needs and career opportunities to prepare them for future employment at the mine.

We'd like to thank the residents of the YK region for their continued input. From all of us at Donlin Gold, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to hearing from you.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

MUCH MORE TO DONLIN GOLD

by Peter Twitchell

THE DELTA DISCOVERY
December 7, 2011, Volume 13, Issue 49



I'm going to let the story of Wassilie Kameroff and myself drive this story. We were attending a five-day healing workshop at the Donlin Gold camp that changed our lives, at one point becoming like little boys and girls again.

When I first met Wassilie, I looked at him for what he is: an Elder to be respected. The workshop was facilitated by Andy Chelsea, his wife Phyllis, and their daughter Ivy Chelsea.

If you remember the story of Alkali Lake then you know whom I am talking about. Andy was the positive force behind the successful sobriety movement of Alkali Lake, Canada some 40 years ago.

The workshop was intense and focused on healing of the individual. Thirty-four men, women, teens and Elders represented the cross section of our communities from the Yukon, Upper, Middle, and Lower Kuskokwim areas. These teens, adults and Elders represented the cross section of our communities very well. It was awesome!

The night before we returned home, they had us play musical chairs. It went something like this, "I like people with glasses, except for those wearing green," and everyone had the color green on their name tags, so we'd all get up and run and find another chair to sit on. The person left standing had to repeat the process using their own imagination. It was sober fun, I didn't want the night to end.

When it was my turn I raised my head up and let out a yell as I dashed across the room. I glanced at Wassilie for a second and saw a very determined and playful young boy running towards me on a direct collision course until we were about a foot apart and he zipped around me effortlessly into his chair.



Tim Buchanan, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for Barrick, addresses Alkali Lake training participants.

That night I went back to my hut and laughed as I replayed the moment we all acted like kids once again.

There is much more to Donlin Gold I found out. Their boss Bill told us he wanted healthy families and communities for the region and its people. Wassilie told me he needed good workers. It made me think of Donlin Gold as a land of opportunities both in its rich resources and what it has to offer in fruit to the people of the region, good health and wealth.

I was happy they supported groups like the one I was involved in where we could learn how to be healthy human beings again. I believe Donlin Gold, from my few days being there, would like nothing better than to have their workers healthy both at the mine and while on break at home.

I believe that's the image they want to project out to the world that the Donlin Gold mine is clean, and the people of the region are also clean and healthy in mind, body and spirit. ■

Article reprinted with permission by The Delta Discovery.

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.

Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the NEPA process.

Agencies define the scope of the NEPA process.

The findings of NEPA processes are drafted.

The final NEPA findings are submitted.

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,000 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

Continued from front cover

2011: COMMITTED TO SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND OPEN COMMUNICATION

the existing offices in Bethel and Anchorage. Proactive efforts were initiated to keep local communities better informed about the project and to listen to residents' concerns. This included conducting meetings with 30 villages - half of them with the Calista Shareholder Committee, hosting 40 tours of the Donlin Gold project site for community leaders and students, and leading tours to existing gold mines in Nevada and Montana so community leaders could see an operating mine firsthand. Community outreach efforts also included starting programs to promote safe and healthy communities including a boating safety program during the summer subsistence fishing season.

Donlin Gold will continue to work closely with the communities of the Yukon Kuskokwim region and encourages participation from residents as the project advances to permitting next year. ■

Photo Captions: A) Residents of McGrath take a tour of the Donlin project site. B) Mary Sattler at Donlin's display booth at the annual Resource Development Council for Alaska conference. C) Representatives from the YK region join Donlin staff on a tour of an operating gold mine in Nevada. D) Sue Gamache, Fritz Beebe and Val Bue at the annual AVCP convention. E) Donlin receives the Barrick Gold "Merit of Safety" award. F) Residents from the villages of Napakiak and Nicolai tour the Donlin project site. G) Intern Charles Grammer helps collect field samples. H) Donlin employees and friends participate in the Alaska Run For Women. I) A Girl Scout learns about the gathering of subsistence foods during summer camp. J) Core drilling samples being prepped for storage. K) Volunteers gather at a new home dedication in Crooked Creek. L) The village of Crooked Creek devastated by spring flooding. M) Geology student Chris Matter interns with Donlin Gold. N) Former Iditarod Champion Martin Buser holds puppy at the Donlin Gold Raven's People tent at the Alaska State Fair. O) Donlin donated $50,000 to the Crooked Creek Tribal Council. P) Residents from the village of Tuntutuliak tour the Donlin project site. Q) Donlin employees share information about the project to visitors and answer their questions directly. R) Anchorage Donlin employees Nancy Hazelberg and Alison Brill help out with citywide clean up day. S) Rep. Alan Dick, R-Stony River, and Crooked Creek resident Dennis Thomas stand by the U.S.G.S high-water mark. T) Calista Corporation President Andrew Guy and Calista Board member Willie Kasayulie attend a gold mine tour in Nevada. U) Donlin staff take a tour of Fort Knox gold mine near Fairbanks, Alaska. V) Donlin Gold Operations Manager, Bill Bieber on a Donlin fishing trip. W) Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group members discuss the Donlin project. X) Donlin's Community Relations team passed out helpful supplies while visiting fish camps to promote PFD safety. Y) ANSEP students tour the Donlin Gold project site. Z) Donlin Gold Operations Manager, Bill Bieber providing a project update at the Bering Sea Elders Advisory Group meeting.

DONLIN GOLD















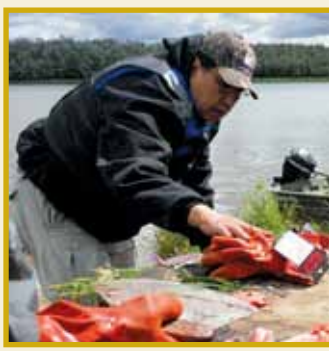












Looking back at **2011**


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READY TO RESPOND:
TEAM OF LOCAL VOLUNTEERS HELP KEEP YK COMMUNITIES SAFE

From providing ice condition reports of the Kuskokwim River, to aiding other agencies during a disaster, Bethel Search and Rescue (BSAR) has assisted with saving many lives in the Yukon Kuskokwim region for more than 30 years.

The BSAR team is a dedicated, all-volunteer group of men and women who respond to calls for help in the YK area. BSAR also provides assistance when requested by the Alaska State Troopers, Civil Air Patrol, City of Bethel Police, Village Police Safety Officers, and other search and rescue teams in surrounding villages. The nonprofit organization was formed in the 1970s by the late Freddy Pete of Bethel. Today, approximately 50 to 60 members make up the BSAR team.

Most recently the organization helped State Troopers survey coastal villages for damage caused by a powerful low-pressure storm system that struck Western Alaska in early November. Hurricane winds and towering sea surges left dozens of communities without power, roads underwater and buildings battered.

During the summer, search and rescue missions are conducted on foot, by boat or aircraft whereas in winter snowmachines or aircraft are used. BSAR crews are prepared to respond in extreme weather conditions, and will conduct searches as long as possible.

BSAR operates on the support and donations of the people and organizations in the YK region. Donlin Gold is committed to improving safety in the region by making monthly financial contributions to this important organization. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS A MINING PROJECT THAT WILL CREATE JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION.

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2012

DONLIN PREPARES FOR WINTER VILLAGE VISITS

PROJECT UPDATE MEETINGS

ATMAUTLUAK
Gray Traditional
Council Building
Friday, Feb. 3, 2012
12:00 p.m.

AKIACHAK
Youth and Elders Building
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012
12:00 p.m.

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION IN VILLAGES TBD

ALAKANUK
Monday, Feb. 13, 2012

KALSKAG
Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2012

CROOKED CREEK
Monday, Feb. 27, 2012

RED DEVIL
Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012

STONY RIVER
Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012

For dates, times and locations of other upcoming meetings please visit *DonlinGold.com/villagevisits*

As part of Donlin Gold's ongoing community outreach efforts, staff will visit dozens of villages throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region again this year to share updated project information with residents, listen to their concerns and gather their feedback on the proposed project. While Donlin supplies other ways for people to provide their comments, this face-to-face approach is extremely valuable.

These village informational meetings provide residents with the opportunity to learn about the project directly from Donlin staff. They also give residents a chance to be heard - whether they have a question or concern about the project, everyone is encouraged and offered the opportunity to speak. Last winter, Donlin met with approximately 30 villages and intends to meet with nearly the same number of villages again this winter.

Donlin Gold's Community Relations team and other staff plan to begin village visits in early February. The first 15 project meetings will be held in conjunction with the Calista Corporation Shareholders Relations meetings. Donlin will attempt to visit as many villages as possible in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, including villages staff were unable to visit last year. Notices will be posted in a community center or mailed to residents in advance, letting them know the date and location of the meeting in their village.



Akiachak residents attending a village visit meeting in May of 2011.

Residents can also visit the website DonlinGold.com or call 1-(888)-225-7590 to get information, dates and times of the village meetings. ■



Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

WHY SAFETY IS OUR STANDARD

At Donlin Gold safety is always a top priority among our workforce. From wearing appropriate gear to understanding how to correctly operate tools and equipment, every employee is required to follow safety procedures and guidelines to ensure their wellbeing and that of their coworkers.

The project site is located in a remote area and our employees must consider many different safety elements that are uncommon for the typical workforce. For instance, those who are out in the field conducting studies must be prepared for changing weather conditions and be mindful of wildlife encounters.

Most communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region are not connected by road so travel is often done by snowmachine, boat or plane depending on the season. Employees have to be prepared for and use the proper safety gear for travel such as helmets, life jackets or seatbelts, and to make sure appropriate emergency gear is always available.

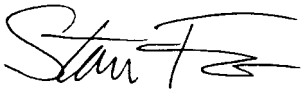
> “We appreciate the effort of our employees to maintain a safe environment and their accomplishment of more than 1.5 million accident-free work hours shows their dedication to safety.”

Communication is key in maintaining our high safety standards. If an employee is headed into the field, they always make sure their radio equipment is fully operable and let their coworkers know when and where they are going, and when they expect to return. If an employee is operating equipment, they communicate with others in their area about what they are doing so that no one is potentially put in harms way.

Continuous training also helps ensure our injury-free work environment. Managers, supervisors, and employees are consistently provided with the education and training to increase their knowledge about safety processes and how they can help others be safe as well. Although we have a very good track record, we always strive to improve our safety knowledge and awareness.

The mining industry comes with many inherently high-risk tasks on a daily basis, so it is important that additional effort and emphasis is put on safety to ensure that we can live by our motto, “every person going home safe and healthy every day.” We will continue to make safety our top workforce priority.

We appreciate the effort of our employees to maintain a safe environment and their accomplishment of more than 1.5 million accident-free work hours shows their dedication to safety. Many of them have also taken the time to share their safety knowledge with their communities to help family and friends live safely, and we are glad to see our safety culture being a benefit for the region.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

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OPERATIONS MANAGER RECOGNIZED FOR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITIES

Over the years, Donlin Gold's Operations Manager Bill Bieber has developed a strong reputation for building a quality workforce at the Donlin camp while executing Donlin Gold's commitment to Alaska Native hire. By promoting strong safety values, implementing a firm approach to performance outcome, and showing respect for employees, Bill has built a strong level of trust with Donlin camp employees and their communities. He was recently recognized for this hard work by being awarded Barrick Gold's Global Corporate Social Responsibility award. Barrick is one of Donlin Gold's parent companies and selected Bill from 47 nominations worldwide. Nominations were evaluated on benefit of the employee's work to the community, results, the ability of their projects to be repeated in other locations, and the impact of their work on the company's reputation.

Bill has dedicated more than 16 years to developing strong relationships with the communities of the Yukon Kuskokwim region surrounding the Donlin Gold project. His respect for the residents of these villages and deep commitment to cross-cultural understanding led him to develop an Alaska Native hire program that is regarded as a best practice in the Alaska mining industry.

> "Bill has built a strong level of trust with Donlin camp employees and their communities."

During a flood in May of 2011, which devastated Crooked Creek village near the Donlin Gold camp site, Bill's outstanding leadership and the efforts of the employees he has mentored over the years saved lives and provided emergency relief support to the flood victims. Donlin Gold assisted the village's restoration effort throughout 2011. Bill was given the Yup'ik name "Paluqtaq" by village elders, which means "beaver." One elder noted, "I have great respect for beavers, because they do not just accept nature as it presents itself. They work hard and use their surroundings to meet their needs."

Bill's personal commitment and perseverance for creating opportunities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region are a cornerstone for Donlin Gold's commitment to being a responsible corporate neighbor.



Operations Manager, Bill Bieber

"Bill Bieber participates in village meetings and presentations to schools, talking about jobs and healthy choices in a nearly evangelical style that can only come from a true believer," said Kurt Parkan, External Affairs Manager. "Bill exemplifies Donlin Gold's commitment to the people of the YK region." ■

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.

Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.

The findings of permitting processes are drafted.

The final permit findings are submitted.

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,000 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

DONLIN EMPLOYEES UPHOLD STRONG SAFETY VALUES

From receiving numerous awards year after year, to achieving more than a million hours without a lost time incident, these benchmarks show just how strong the safety culture is at Donlin Gold. In addition to protecting the environment, the safety of Donlin employees is one of the company's top priorities.

It is through the dedication, commitment and safety practices of the Donlin staff that the company is able to uphold such high safety standards and continuously achieve injury-free milestones in the workplace.

> "Constant awareness, risk assessments and reminders are crucial components of a successful safety program."

Donlin employees and management live by the motto "every person going home safe and healthy every day," which guides their actions both on and off the worksite. An important component of this mindset is the team effort required to keep all members focused on their own safety and that of their co-workers. Although no injuries mean no lost work time, the Donlin safety culture is much broader than that. By watching out for one another and sharing skills and knowledge, the staff ensure a supportive and accident-free work atmosphere and a better project.

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

By adhering to strict safety guidelines, Donlin employees are able to maintain a safe work environment. Each employee is required to complete the following trainings under Donlin's safety policy:

- mandatory 24-hour new surface miner training;
- an annual eight-hour refresher course;
- task training certification for all equipment operators and maintenance personnel;
- regular department-specific safety training sessions;
- employee training to help everyone carry out their jobs safely and productively.

Donlin's safety culture is also enhanced by having employees participate in additional ongoing safety events including:

- approved safety programs such as Barrick's Courageous Leadership safety program;
- measureable safety and health performance reviews;
- immediate preventative and remedial actions after accident investigations;
- following recognized industry standards and complying with all regulations;
- requiring that vendors and contractors comply with all safety and health standards.





DONLIN GOLD

Through employee safety training programs and help with keeping certifications up-to-date, workers are able to maintain a regularly safe working environment. Managers have also created innovative methods to encourage the practice of safe behaviors as well as being able to provide their staff with additional safety educational opportunities.

This focus on additional training has opened the door for individuals who are interested in pursuing career paths like Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Supervisors are also required to stay current with the latest developments in workplace safety and training, including weekly meetings that ensure injury prevention is the No. 1 priority on-site. ■

“Every person going home safe and healthy every day.”

PREVIOUS PAGE
Left photo: Camp Maintenance Supervisor, Phillip Donhauser.
Right photo: Safety Training Director, Rusty Roberts, Equipment Safety Trainer, John Kelila and EMT/Safety Coordinator, Alex Felker.

CURRENT PAGE
Lower left photo: (Back Row) Douglas Moffitt, Jr. and Nicholas Askoar (Front Row) Evan Larson, Derek Nelson, Gulga Levi, Mary Rose Peterson, Eufemio Martinez and John Askoak.
Right side, top photo: Shop Foreman, Josep Evan
Right side, middle photo: Environmental Specialist, Jill Duerfeldt
Right side, bottom photo: Driller Assistant, Joe Beans, Jr.









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DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Angie Olrun-Santa Ana, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "year" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

JANUARY WORD OF THE MONTH:
SAFE, SAFETY, OR SAFELY

Please submit your answer by February 13, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

A RACE OF STRENGTH: **THE KUSKOKWIM 300**

The Kuskokwim 300 (K300) is a unique sled dog race held every January that isn't for just everyone. Participants in the 300-mile round trip race from Bethel to Aniak endure temperatures that can drop to -80°F and snowstorms that produce whiteout conditions or warm weather with open water along the Kuskokwim River.

While many mushers compete in the K300 to measure any last minute weaknesses before they head on to the Iditarod a few weeks later, others participate to honor the traditional and cultural values of mushing in the region. Hundreds of volunteers help support the race by staffing and assisting mushers at checkpoints all along the river.

More than a dozen mushers competed in this year's K300 including several from the YK region: father and son Mike Williams Sr. and Jr. of Akiak, Pete Kaiser of Bethel, and Richie Diehl and Isaac Underwood of Aniak.

Donlin Gold is happy to be a sponsor of the Kuskokwim 300. ■

DONLIN GOLD WILL CREATE A SAFE, HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MINING PROJECT THAT ENRICHES THE LIVES OF RESIDENTS IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2012

DONLIN BEGINS ANNUAL VILLAGE VISITS IN AKIACHAK

UPCOMING PROJECT MEETINGS

Feb. 27 Crooked Creek
Feb. 28 Red Devil
Feb. 29 Stony River
March 13 Toksook Bay
March 14 Tununak
March 15 Nightmute
March 20 Newtok
March 21 Mekoryuk
March 22 Kipnuk

AKIACHAK MEETING QUESTION

Why does Donlin's current plan not include a permanent road with the gas pipeline?

-Robert Hoffman,
Calista Board Member

Answer: To minimize impact to the environment and along the historic Iditarod trail, Donlin Gold will not be creating a road along the pipeline route. Stakeholders in the region have expressed opposition to the idea, and studies have shown that a permanent road is not necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline.

In an area where residents operate on a seasonal schedule for subsistence activities, winter has always proven to be a good time for Donlin employees to meet with residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region and provide them with an update on the project. Staff began this year's set of annual village visits at Calista Corporation's shareholder relations committee meeting in Akiachak. About 50 people attended the first project update meeting.



Vernon L. Chimegalrea gives a presentation in Yup'ik.

Donlin Gold employees Bill Bieber, Mary Sattler, Vernon Chimegalrea, Wayne Morgan and Colleen Laraux were on hand to answer questions about the project. At the request of attendees, Vernon Chimegalrea gave the entire presentation on the project in Yup'ik. Residents said having the presentation available in Yup'ik was very helpful, especially for explaining more technical aspects of the project such as the milling process, and Vernon was praised for his translating abilities.

Calista Board Members George Guy, Michael Akerelrea, Robert Hoffman and Willie Kasayulie were also in attendance at the meeting. After project information was shared, residents and board members were able to ask questions and provide their feedback on any issues or concerns regarding the project.

Donlin provided lunch and door prizes to residents at the meeting, which included items like fuel and snowmachine helmets. The helmets were given away as part of Donlin's regional outreach safety campaign, since snowmachine related accidents are a major cause of injuries and in some cases fatalities in the region.

The Donlin team has been to Akiachak before, as is often the case with other villages, and has brought community leaders to the Donlin Camp for a firsthand view of the project. Donlin appreciates residents taking the time to attend the village meetings, which provide a more traditional and personalized way of

CONTINUED INSIDE: "AKIACHAK VILLAGE VISIT"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



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INVESTING IN EDUCATION

At Donlin Gold we recognize the importance of education and providing students with access to opportunities so they can fulfill their career aspirations. As part of our goal to create a project that will enrich the lives of those who live in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region, Donlin has been supporting educational opportunities for youth in the area. This has taken form in scholarships, internships, and educational outreach including field trips and classroom presentations. We hope that providing more resources and tools to students to explore their interests will help them succeed in completing the education and training necessary for their desired professional ambitions.

We believe it is especially important to support youth in the YK region in completing their high school education. Finding a long-term and well-paying job in the region can be difficult, with many employment opportunities limited to government contracting or seasonal work. Although college may not be for everyone, completing a vocational or trade school program can be beneficial in securing a sustainable and satisfying job in the future. By investing in students now and helping them pursue their career interests, they can become thriving individuals and help their communities achieve economic growth.

INTERNSHIPS

One way we have supported the academic growth of students is by providing internships. These internships give a hands-on learning experience for students who are interested in science and engineering, including the fields of geology, archaeology, environmental conservation, and water and fisheries management.

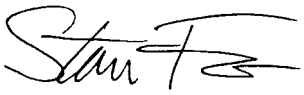
We have also partnered with vocational and training organizations such as the Kuspuk Career Academy and the Kuskokwim Native Association's fisheries management program providing internships to their participants. The Kuspuk Career Academy focuses on broader educational and professional growth, offering students instruction on math, communication and technological skills.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Donlin Gold also makes annual contributions to the Calista Heritage Foundation (CHF) Scholarship Fund and the Kuskokwim Educational Foundation (KEF). By supporting these scholarship funds, we are providing educational opportunities directly to the youth of the Calista region.

The CHF Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance to Alaska Natives with ties to the Calista Region, and enables recipients to participate in continuing education activities and formal programs of study. Last year, Donlin provided $75,000 in scholarships to CHF. The funds and total donations directly benefited over 200 students. KEF offers different types of scholarships, including for students entering the construction, business, or health related fields as well as those attending college.

As the Donlin project prepares for permitting, we will continue to reach out to youth in the region and provide them with the resources for further education and career development. We know it is important to invest in students now as we plan to fulfill our commitment of hiring as many local residents from the region as possible in the future.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

STAYING SAFE EACH AND EVERY RIDE

In Alaska, the Iron Dog snowmobile race has become a popular annual event every February. Donlin Gold is a sponsor of the race where dozens of teams cover more than 2,000 miles of some of Alaska's most rugged terrain and rough weather conditions. In order to compete, racers must have survival skills and uphold high safety standards. One of the biggest safety measures they must ALWAYS practice is wearing a helmet while riding.



Donlin employee Jill Duerfeldt in full snowmachine safety gear.

During the winter, many residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region use snowmachines as a primary mode of transportation, and they are also used by field crew and staff at the Donlin camp. It's important for all riders, whether they're competing in a race, working, or getting around their community, to ride safely and responsibly by wearing a helmet.

Studies show that between 40 and 50 youth are hospitalized every year in Alaska due to snowmachine injuries. Typically these injuries occur when a snowmachine collides with another object, the rider is ejected, or a rider falls out of a sled being towed by a snowmachine. To prevent injuries like these from happening, the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities recommends practicing the following safety guidelines for snowmachining:

- **CHECK THE LATEST WEATHER REPORT TO DETERMINE IF CONDITIONS ARE SAFE.**
- **FILE A TRIP PLAN WITH A RELIABLE PERSON. BE SURE TO DESCRIBE YOUR SNOWMACHINE, YOUR PLANNED ROUTE, WHO'S GOING WITH YOU AND WHEN YOU PLAN TO RETURN. GIVE YOUR PLAN TO SOMEONE WHO WILL BE ABLE TO GET HELP IF YOU ARE OVERDUE.**
- **WHEN RIDING IN THE DARK, REDUCE YOUR SPEED TO LESS THAN 40 MILES PER HOUR.**
- **MAINTAIN ADEQUATE SPACING BETWEEN YOURSELF AND OTHER MACHINES TO AVOID COLLISIONS.**
- **DRESS IN LAYERS, INCLUDING CLOTHING RESISTANT TO WIND AND WATER, SNOWPANTS THAT COVER YOUR ANKLES WHEN SEATED AND BOOTS THAT COME UP TO YOUR MIDDLE-CALF AREA.**
- **CHECK YOUR SNOWMACHINE AND ALL EQUIPMENT BEFORE LEAVING.**

Safety is among the top priorities of Donlin Gold, and employees live by the motto, "every person going home safe and healthy every day." By wearing safety gear such as hard hats, helmets, safety glasses and weather-appropriate clothing, Donlin employees are able to avoid injuries and uphold the company's safety record of zero-loss time incidents. The project also provides additional safety benefits to the region, when employees share their safety knowledge and act as examples to youth. ■

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

- Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.
- The findings of permitting processes are drafted.
- The final permit findings are submitted.

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

PREPARING YOUTH FOR FUTURE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Donlin staff is planning to visit with students in the region this spring to give them information about how they can start preparing for potential future employment opportunities at the proposed mine. With permitting expected to take more than three years, current high school students can begin to acquire the skills needed for the jobs that will become available if the project is developed.

If permits are approved and working aged adults have received relevant training, they might be eligible for the jobs that will be offered during mine construction, which is estimated to take between three and four years. Once the mine is built, operation is estimated to last 27 years, meaning the project can provide jobs for residents, their children and potentially their grandchildren.

Donlin Gold is planning on visiting the classrooms of students in grades 7-12 in more than a dozen villages and will make more school visits in the fall. The villages, dates, and times of these visits will be announced soon and posted on the Donlin website.

Materials will be distributed to students explaining the different types of jobs that will be available, including information on the different training and certification requirements of the positions. Donlin Gold will also post these materials on its website so that other students and residents in the region can access them.

Depending on the position, some jobs will require vocational training or a four-year college degree. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training will also be a minimum requirement of employees, but is not mandatory until the project is in full operation. Positions such as mechanics, welders, and electricians must typically attend a one to two-year vocational college or apprenticeship program to get the necessary certifications and experience for these jobs. Heavy equipment operators may get experience through on-the-job training or by attending a trade school. However, some heavy equipment operators may have acquired their skill from other industries such as construction and road maintenance. A high school diploma or equivalent is important to have since many of the jobs require reading and writing, and some positions may require math skills.

For hourly employees, the average pay could range from $15 to $29 per hour. The wage for professional positions will vary, although the Alaska Department of Labor reports the average mining industry wage for professional positions such as mining and geological engineers is $45 per hour. Benefits including health, life, dental and vision insurance will be provided to employees as well as vacation and holiday paid time off.

Donlin will also be looking for other characteristics in potential employees such as level of education, safety knowledge, work ethic (including attendance and interpersonal skills), flexibility to work rotating shifts and night shifts, and their commitment to remaining drug and alcohol free. ■









Photos from top to bottom: Students Eric McComb, Chris Matter, Kevin Keyes and Marvin McDonald have gained hands-on work experience at Donlin Gold.

Continued from front cover

AKIACHAK VILLAGE VISIT

communicating about the project. Listening to concerns has and will continue to be an important part of the project, and Donlin encourages residents to share their thoughts with staff, whether it's during a village visit or through other methods of communication –phone, mail, email, comment card, visiting a regional office or on the website.

More village meetings are scheduled in the next few weeks. Flyers with the date, time, and location of each meeting will be posted throughout communities and some residents will be sent invites through the mail. Residents can also get an updated list of the project meetings by visiting www.DonlinGold.com/community or by calling (888) 225-7590. ■



Mildred Evan showing a core sample to her granddaughter.

PROVIDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN THE YK REGION

Mining and resource development has been an economic engine in Alaska historically. From gold pans to pipelines, production of natural resources has provided jobs and supported the economy for many years.

Building a local workforce comprised of residents from the Yukon Kuskokwim region has been one of the project's top priorities since exploration began. Over the past several years, the Donlin camp has maintained a strong local hire record, at times up to a 90 percent Alaska Native Shareholder hire rate, including on-site supervisors.

If all permits for the project are approved, it is estimated that about 3,000 jobs will be created for three years during construction, followed with up to 1,400 jobs during the mine's estimated 27-year operation life. This would make Donlin Gold one of the three largest employers in the Calista region, along with the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation and the Lower Kuskokwim School District, which have more than 1,000 employees each.

The project will create additional jobs outside of the mine, within the region. Economists estimate indirect job creation resulting from the spending habits of the new workers at the mine could be as many as 600 new jobs.

A WIDE SPECTRUM OF WORK

The types of jobs available during construction of the mine will include: carpenters, iron workers, electrical and concrete workers, heavy equipment operators, engineering designers, management, office workers, finance, housekeeping, cooks, catering, large truck operators, bus drivers and maintenance. Construction jobs will be located at the mine site, the Kuskokwim River port site, storage facilities and along the pipeline route.

A broader range of employee skill levels will be needed once the mine is operational, from technical workers to highly-skilled laborers. Most of the positions will be at the mine, the mill and in support operations. Barge and port operation workers will be seasonal positions.

The project site will include a camp capable of housing 638 workers. Camp operations will include many different job opportunities that are similar to those needed to operate a small community. All future employees will be trained on Donlin's safety and environmental policy standards, in order to contribute to responsible development and a healthy workplace.

2012: A YEAR FOR PLANNING

Donlin Gold is committed to hiring a local workforce to the greatest practical extent. The project will be completing a workforce development plan this year that will help identify the types and number of jobs needed in each occupation as well as the training required to prepare a workforce for employment in the coming years. ■

HOW MANY JOBS WILL BE AVAILABLE?

DURING CONSTRUCTION
(3-4 YEARS)
UP TO 3,000 JOBS

DURING OPERATION
(27+ YEARS)
UP TO 1,400 JOBS

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JANUARY WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Elsie Iteen, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "safe" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

FEBRUARY WORD OF THE MONTH:
EDUCATION

Please submit your answer by March 16, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

DONLIN SUPPORTS STUDENT LITERACY PROJECT

As part of the national Dictionary Project, Donlin provided a dictionary to every third grader in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region. The book also included a gazetteer containing information about U.S. presidents, the Constitution, all 50 states, maps of the continents and facts about the solar system. The goal of the Dictionary Project is to assist all students in the U.S. with becoming good writers, active readers and creative thinkers. More than 740 dictionaries were sent to third graders in 49 schools throughout the YK region. Donlin would like to thank Era Aviation for their help with transporting the books to the villages. ■





Left Photo: Third graders in Chevak receive dictionaries.
Right Photo: Edward Chase and Willie John of Era Aviation.

DONLIN GOLD WILL CREATE A SAFE, HEALTHY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MINING PROJECT THAT ENRICHES THE LIVES OF RESIDENTS IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2012

VILLAGE VISITS

Please join us for a project update meeting and to share your thoughts about the project. Severe weather may cause a meeting cancellation or rescheduling. To get an updated list of the village meetings please visit *www.DonlinGold.com/community* or call **(888) 225-7590.**

APRIL VILLAGE VISITS

April 2 Napakiak
April 3 Quinhagak
April 4 Tuluksak
April 5 Eek
April 9 Kasigluk
April 10 Kwethluk
April 11 Akiak
TBD Bethel

DONLIN TEAM RECOGNIZED FOR AIR EVACUATION EFFORTS

The Alaska Air Carriers Association (AACA) recognized Donlin Gold with a special award at their annual convention in February for Donlin's air evacuation efforts of residents during the Crooked Creek flooding disaster.

The AACA Emergency Transport Award recognizes an aviation team or pilot who, through a particular rescue/ transport, exemplified professionalism and expediency saving lives. The AACA said Donlin's "generous, immediate and tireless service" to evacuate the citizens of Crooked Creek village in May 2011 merited the award.

Donlin Gold staff Bill Bieber, Boise Alexie, Ricky Ciletti, and Jayhawk helicopter pilot, Mark Barker, who assisted with the evacuation at the Donlin camp, accepted the award on Donlin's behalf. Bill said their emergency response was a team effort, and emphasized the company's commitment to communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

"The success of that rescue was a huge group effort. It wasn't just select individuals, everyone at the camp participated at some level," Bieber said. "We don't do these kinds of things for recognition, it's just a neighbor looking out for another neighbor."

As the town of Crooked Creek became inundated with water, residents reached out to Donlin Gold for help. Donlin employees quickly formed a response team and a plan, and transported more than 50 elders, parents and children from the village to the camp with the helicopter. Donlin also flew emergency supplies to 80 people who remained at higher elevations in Crooked Creek.



Donlin Gold received the AACA Emergency Transport Award.

Donlin Gold is honored to receive this award from the AACA, which promotes strong safety values and professionalism among Alaska's aviation industry as well as stewardship to Alaska's communities. ■

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

SEND MAIL TO:
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Anchorage, AK 99503

PHONE:
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(888) 225-7590 toll free

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at ***complaint@DonlinGold.com*** or **(855) 279-0382**

A SHARED HERITAGE WITH THE LAST GREAT RACE

March is one of my favorite months; the days are getting longer, there is more sun throughout the day and temperatures begin to rise. If you are a sports fan like me, you know it is also time for "March Madness" basketball, spring training for baseball and in Alaska the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

The Iditarod is a significant annual event throughout Alaska, including the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region. This year's race provided great competition, getting down to the last few checkpoints before Dallas Seavey made his move to take the lead from Aliy Zirckle, becoming the youngest winner of the event. This year's top 10 mushers also included two young men from the YK region: Pete Kaiser of Bethel and Mike Williams, Jr. of Akiak.

The Iditarod celebrated its 40th anniversary this year, however, mushing has been a part of the YK region for many generations and shares a long history with mining in Alaska. Dog teams have been used in the region to support many activities including trapping, mail delivery, prospecting, travel, freighting and mining.

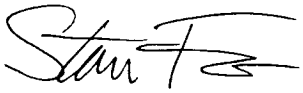
With the development of gold discoveries in the Kuskokwim Gold Belt in the late 1800s and early 1900s, dog teams transported supplies and miners to various settlements and mining sites during the long Alaska winters. Trails were blazed and expanded to provide safe trips for mushers and their dogs.

The Historic Iditarod Trail is named after the Iditarod mining district, located about 50 miles north of the Donlin Gold project. This year the Historic Iditarod Trail is celebrating its 100th anniversary, when mushers first used the trail to deliver supplies and mail to the gold camps including Iditarod, Ophir, Flat and Nome.

Last summer, a small helicopter-supported crew from Donlin Gold, which included some of our local employees from the region, helped make the Iditarod trail safer, and possibly a bit faster, by clearing brush and debris that built up as a result of forest fires in the Post River area.

All of us at Donlin Gold are proud to be involved as a Principal Partner Sponsor of the Last Great Race, which promotes strong safety practices among all mushers to ensure their teams of canine athletes arrive safely and are properly cared for during their 1,049-mile race to Nome.

We look forward to supporting the Iditarod in years to come and celebrate its cultural significance among the region. We'd like to congratulate all of the mushers and their teams for their hard work and dedication in preparing for this event.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

- Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.
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START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs







A PICTURE PERFECT IDITAROD CELEBRATION

This year, the world's longest sled dog race celebrated its 40th anniversary. As a Principal Partner Sponsor of the Iditarod, Donlin Gold wanted to give race fans something memorable to take home from the ceremonial start.

Donlin set up a photo tent where fans, friends and families could take a professional photo with 2011 Jr. Iditarod winner Jeremiah Klejka and one of his winning dogs, Guinness. The photos were free and printed on-site so participants could take them with.

In addition to providing the new photo event, Donlin Gold also sponsored Mike Williams Jr. in this year's Iditarod. Born and raised in Akiak, this was Williams' third time competing in the Last Great Race.

Mike Jr. has been mushing since childhood, helping his father, Mike Williams Sr. train for many of the races he's participated in over the years. Both father and son mush to raise awareness for sobriety, although Mike Jr. focuses his campaign on youth sobriety.

Donlin Gold enjoyed participating in this year's Iditarod and supporting the event, which has strong ties to the Yukon Kuskokwim region. ■

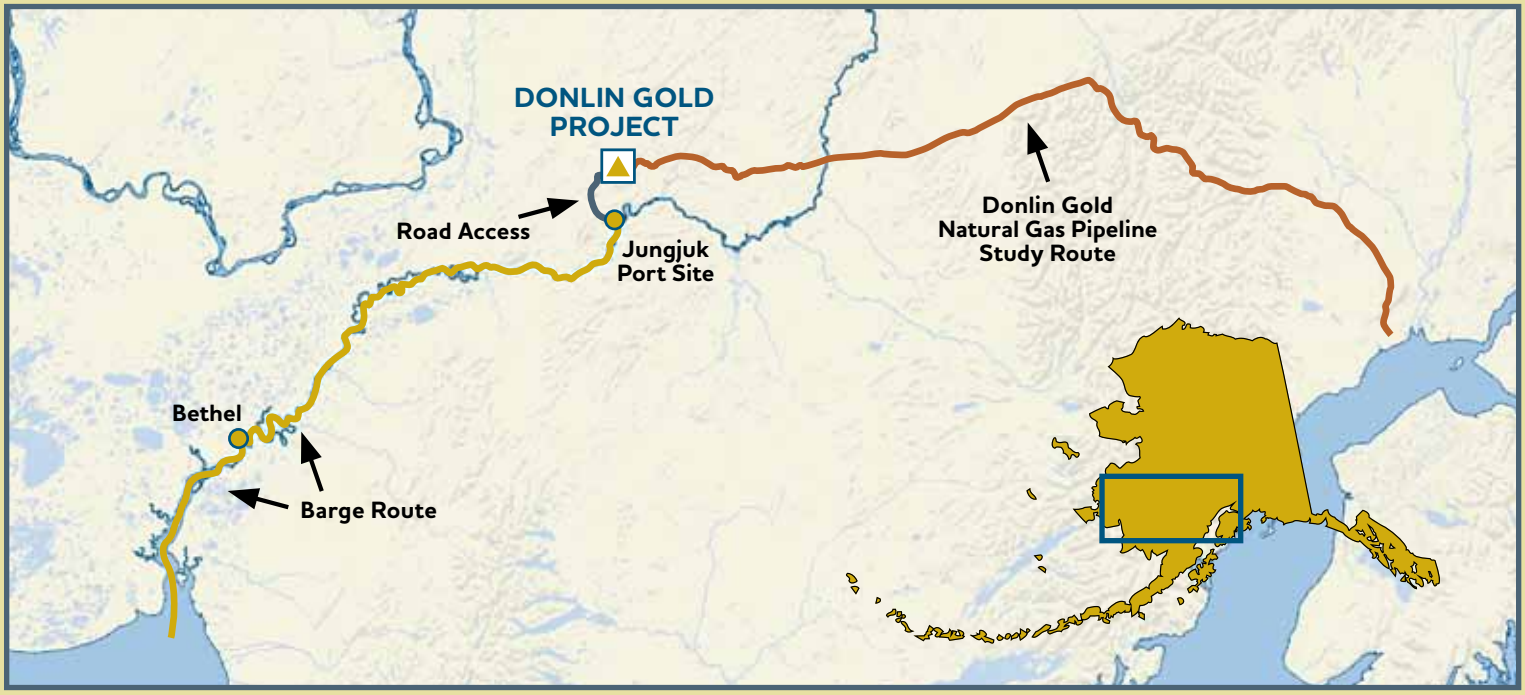








GETTING GOODS TO THE MINE:
CAREFUL LOGISTICS PLANNING



Barges would transport cargo to the mine site and a proposed natural gas pipeline would supply on-site power to the project.

The Donlin Gold project is located in a part of Alaska that is not connected by road to the rest of the state. Residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region and employees at the Donlin camp rely on various modes of transportation including ATVs, snowmachines, airplanes, helicopters and boats to get around.

Due to the remote location of the Donlin site, careful consideration has been given in the planning of transporting materials and supplies needed to build and operate the mine. Over 100,000 tons of equipment and supplies would need to be transported to the site every year during operation, in addition to fuel for vehicles and heavy equipment.

The logistics of getting supplies to the project site is complex, involving the use of ocean-going tankers and barges, river barges, two ports, an airstrip near the mine, an access road to the Kuskokwim River and a buried natural gas pipeline. Most general cargo for the mine would be consolidated at marine terminals in the Pacific Northwest for marine barging to Bethel.

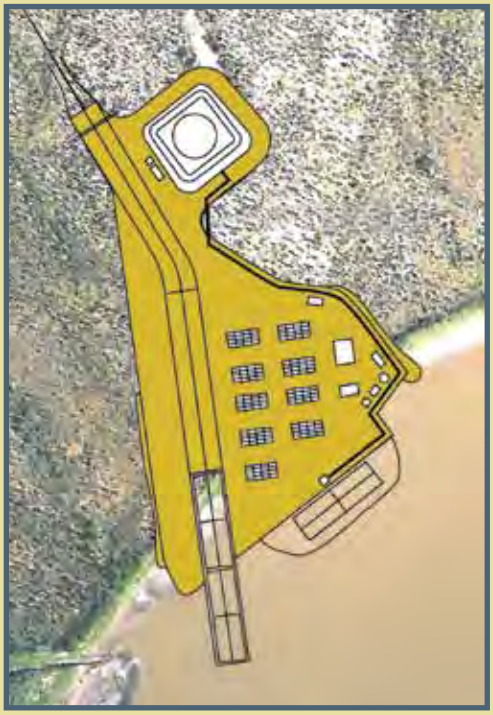
At Bethel, cargo would be unloaded from marine barges and placed in temporary storage, or transferred directly onto river barges for seasonal shipment to the Jungjuk Port site, located on the Kuskokwim River eight miles south of Crooked Creek village. Proposed facilities at the Jungjuk Port site include barge berths, a barge ramp, container-handling equipment, seasonal storage for cargo containers and fuel, and office facilities for seasonal barging operations. From Jungjuk, cargo would be transported by truck on a 30-mile private access road to the mine.

Because the Kuskokwim River begins to freeze in October and the mouth of the river doesn't usually clear of ice until late May, the shipping season for both ocean barges and river barges will be limited from early June through early October.

PROTECTING THE RIVER

In response to concerns about increased traffic on the Kuskokwim River, Donlin Gold has conducted numerous studies to better understand the potential effects on river and subsistence activities in the region. Data from these studies are helping Donlin create a safe and environmentally sound mining project. Information from these studies and stakeholder feedback has also led Donlin to incorporate a buried natural gas pipeline into its plans to supply power to the project on-site and decrease the number of barge trips required for fuel delivery.

The proposed 312-mile-long buried pipeline would transfer natural gas from Cook Inlet to the proposed Donlin mine site. Throughout the planning process, the Donlin team has been working with stakeholders along the proposed pipeline route, to identify and minimize any potential effects during both construction and operation. The proposed pipeline would be buried most of the route and the right-of-way would be reseeded after construction so that only small check valves would be visible aboveground every 20 miles.



The proposed Jungjuk Port site.



A proposed longer airstrip would be built several miles from the mine.

TRANSPORTING FUEL

Fuel that would be used for heavy equipment, vehicles and other machinery would be transported to Dutch Harbor by tanker, then to Bethel in marine barges. From Bethel, fuel would either be transferred directly to river barges, or off-loaded for temporary storage. Double hull river barges would transport fuel up the Kuskokwim River to the Jungjuk Port site, where it would be transferred to a fuel storage facility at the mine site using tanker trucks.

Significant attention has been given in planning the safest and most effective means of river transportation in response to residents' concerns over the possibility of a fuel or hazardous chemical spill during barging. Some of the safety precautions incorporated into the design include:

- developing detailed ocean, river, and land response plans, training personnel and response teams, and providing suitable equipment for response to spills at critical locations;
- using shipping containers that exceed industry standards for the transport of hazardous materials;
- using custom-designed double hull barges for fuel transport; and
- reducing the volume of diesel fuel requirements with a buried natural gas pipeline.

Careful planning for the unlikely possibility of a fuel spill is one of the most important parts of any industrial development plan of operations. In fact, agencies will require review and approval of spill prevention and contingency plans before issuing permits.

ROAD ACCESS

Cargo and fuel offloaded at the Jungjuk Port terminal would be transferred to trucks and transported about 30 miles by road to the mine during the barging season. The proposed private road would not pass through or near any settlements or communities, and would have no junctions with any existing road system. Mine employee housing and camp facilities would be located along the road west of the mine facilities. A number of stream crossings would be required along the access road, using both bridges and culverts. The primary purpose of the road would be to transport cargo and fuel, and would only be used by mine employees.

EXPANDING AIR SERVICE

Personnel and some supplies would be transported by air. There is currently an airstrip at the Donlin exploration camp that has been in use for the past 16 years. A new 5,000 foot airstrip would be constructed approximately nine miles west of the mine site. ■

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FEBRUARY WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Walter Lee, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "education" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

MARCH WORD OF THE MONTH:
IDITAROD

Please submit your answer by April 20, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

NEWTOK VILLAGE VISIT

Photo captions (from left to right): Xavier John wins a snowmachine helmet as part of Donlin's winter safety campaign. Donlin staff travel to Newtok to provide residents with an update on the project and answer questions. Peter John of Newtok entertains meeting guests with his harmonica.







DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2012

STUDYING WETLANDS IN THE REGION

People in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region depend on rivers, streams, ponds, lakes and wetlands for their subsistence activities. Waterways are important for travel and economic activity such as transporting fuel and freight, commercial fishing, and resource development. They also provide a source of water for residents and wildlife. According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife, nearly 79 percent of the surface land in the YK region is estimated to be wetlands. Approximately 50 percent of the land in the vicinity of the proposed mine has been mapped as wetlands. Donlin Gold recognizes and appreciates the diverse role water and wetlands play in the region.



Waterways provide transportation and subsistence resources in the YK region.

PRESERVING WATER AND WETLANDS

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) established a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. , including wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the federal regulatory agency responsible for ensuring that losses to water and wetland areas are replaced on a watershed basis. Provisions in the CWA, and the 2008 Compensatory Mitigation Rule, require that any effects to wetlands be mitigated on a watershed basis. Donlin Gold must demonstrate through the permit review process that the potential effects to wetlands, streams and other aquatic resources will be avoided and minimized to the extent practicable. For effects that are unavoidable, compensatory mitigation is required to replace the loss of wetland functions within the watershed. Compensatory mitigation is the process of restoring, establishing, enhancing, or preserving wetlands, streams

CONTINUED INSIDE: "STUDYING WETLANDS"

SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

To help students and local residents prepare for successful careers at Donlin Gold, Donlin's Workforce Development Team will be giving presentations at schools throughout the region this spring and fall. Staff will be explaining the types of jobs that will be available during construction and operation of the proposed mine, and the training requirements for these jobs.

SCHOOL VISITS

April 25 - Crooked Creek, Johnnie John Sr. School

April 26 - Sleetmute, Traditional Council Office

May 1 - Aniak, Jr. Sr. High School Gymnasium

May 2 - Chuathbaluk, Crow Village Sam School Gymnasium

May 3 - Kalskag, George Morgan Sr. High School Gymnasium

May 8 - Russian Mission, School Gymnasium

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

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PROTECTING RIVER RESOURCES

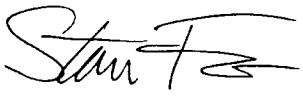
One of the most important lessons we have learned over the many years we have worked on the Donlin Gold project is that the Kuskokwim River is a lifeline to the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Understanding the many roles it plays for residents and wildlife has been an important part of designing and planning a safe and environmentally sound mining project. From subsistence fishing, to transporting supplies and goods, the Kuskokwim River helps sustain the many communities along its length.

Although the proposed Donlin Gold project is located miles from the Kuskokwim River, this waterway would be used during development and operation of the mine to transport supplies and goods to the site. We have been studying areas along the river to assess current ongoing effects to the river system and to understand the potential effects the project could have.

In addition to providing valuable resources, we have grown to understand that the Kuskokwim River has cultural significance; it's a place where residents have taught their families traditional subsistence activities including hunting, fishing and gathering for many generations.

We believe we can create a responsible and safe mine that respects traditional ways of living by understanding the traits and importance of this river, and listening to residents as they share their views and concerns about the project.

We encourage residents to continue sharing their thoughts with us through our available communication channels—mail, email, phone and during our village visits. As many residents prepare for their summer activities, we wish everyone safe boating travels and a successful subsistence season.



Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.

Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.

Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.

The findings of permitting processes are drafted.

The final permit findings are submitted.

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

Continued from front cover

STUDYING WETLANDS

or other aquatic resources. There are three mechanisms for mitigating unavoidable effects to wetlands including mitigation banks, in-lieu-fee program credits and permittee-responsible mitigation. Donlin Gold will be working with regulatory agencies throughout the permitting review process to develop a compensatory mitigation plan which considers all of these mechanisms.

> "Donlin Gold recognizes and appreciates the diverse role water and wetlands play in the region."

RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

USACE will provide opportunities for stakeholders to take part in the permitting process, allowing public review and comment on the proposed mitigation plans.

Donlin Gold will continue to incorporate input from local communities and regulatory agencies into the proposed plans to avoid, minimize, and mitigate effects on aquatic resources and wildlife in the region. ■





It is estimated nearly 79 percent of surface land in the YK region is wetlands.

COMBINING SCIENCE AND CULTURE

Donlin Gold would like to congratulate student Michael Martinez, who took home several awards at this year's Alaska Science and Engineering Fair. Martinez is the son of Donlin employee Eufemio "Memo" Martinez and Calista land planner, Mary Yunak Martinez.

Martinez won the "Best in Show" award in addition to a first place award from the Society of American Military Engineers. His outstanding project also earned him the chance to compete in the Broadcam MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars), a national competition for 6th–8th grade students.

Martinez's project focused on the science and engineering behind the ancient Atlatl, a spearthrower tool used by Yup'ik hunters that uses leverage to achieve greater velocity.

Congratulations on a job well done, and the best of luck to Martinez at nationals. ■







Student Michael Martinez won several awards for his project at the state science and engineering fair.

BEING PREPARED FOR SPRING BREAK UP

As spring break up gets close, it's a great time for all of us to make sure we are prepared for any emergency that may occur with a change in season. According to the National Weather Service, the flood potential from snowmelt and ice jams throughout Alaska this spring is above normal, and a sudden warming of temperatures at the end of April could cause conditions to worsen. A similar situation occurred last year as ice jams on the Upper Kuskokwim River caused major flooding in the village of Crooked Creek, destroying many homes and buildings. Listed below are some tips provided by the Center for Disease Control on how to be prepared for a flood.



Last year, ice jams along the Kuskokwim River caused devastating flooding in the village of Crooked Creek.

FLOOD READINESS TIPS

- Learn your community's emergency plans, warning signals, evacuation routes and locations of emergency shelters.
- Plan and practice a flood evacuation route with your family.
- Ask an out-of-town relative or friend to be the "family contact" in case your family is separated during a flood. Make sure everyone in your family knows the name, address, and phone number of this contact person.
- Know how to turn off electrical power, gas and water supplies to your residence.

YOU SHOULD ALSO HAVE AN EMERGENCY SUPPLIES KIT THAT INCLUDES:

- Clean containers for up to a five-day supply of water.
- Up to a five-day supply of non-perishable food and a non-electric can opener.
- First aid kit.
- A battery-powered radio, flashlights and extra batteries.
- Sleeping bags or extra blankets.
- Water-purifying supplies.
- Rubber boots, sturdy shoes and waterproof gloves.
- Personal hygiene supplies, such as soap and toothpaste.
- A change of clothes.

As a company that's committed to upholding high safety standards, Donlin Gold would like to encourage all residents to be prepared for any disaster. By following these flood-preparedness practices, we can help keep our families and communities safe each and every day. ■

SHARING CULTURES THROUGH LIVE PERFORMANCE

Every year, hundreds of performers of all ages and cultures gather in Bethel to celebrate the Cama-i Dance Festival. This year's festival theme was Cauyam Yuucia, which means "Life of the Drum."

The festival is an event that showcases the premier dances of Alaska Native cultures, sounds of traditional instruments and flavors of festive foods. A cultural ambassador is also crowned as "Miss Cama-i" whose mission is to build leadership and community involvement in Alaska Native culture and traditions among Alaska Native youth. Ashleigh Naneng of Bethel was crowned this year's 2012 Miss Cama-i. This year's festival was held in honor of Ashleigh's late grandmother, Maryann Sundown.

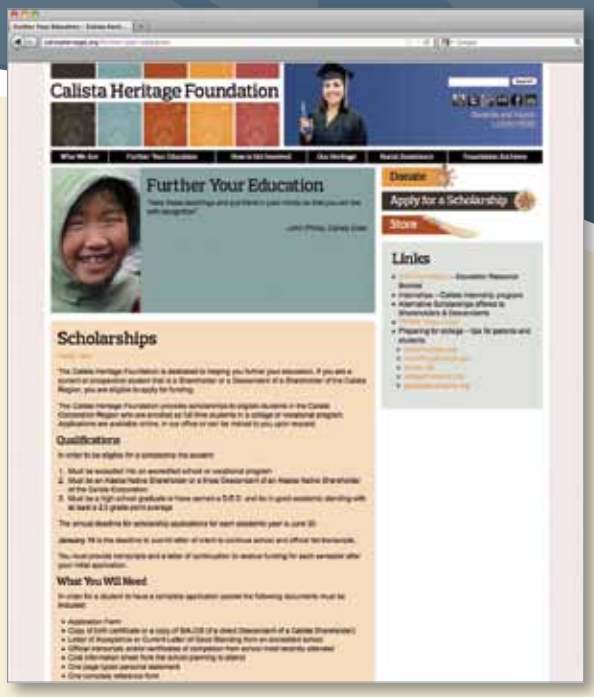
Donlin would like to congratulate festival participants for doing a wonderful job. ■



The theme of this year's Cama-i Dance Festival was "Life of the Drum."

REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE





To help students in the Yukon Kuskokwim region access scholarship and educational resources more easily, Donlin Gold funded the Calista Heritage Foundation's website.

In 2011, the Calista Heritage Foundation (CHF) granted over $314,750 in scholarships to over 200 Alaska Native students with ties to the Calista Region. CHF also provided a dozen students with paid internships at Calista Corporation or its subsidiaries.

Donlin Gold is one of the major contributors to this scholarship fund, giving $75,000 to CHF. Donlin also understands that many students apply for scholarships and other educational benefits online. Having online access to resources provided by CHF will bring great value to students, helping them advance into bigger educational opportunities.

FEATURES OF THE CALISTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION WEBSITE INCLUDE:

- Streamlines the process for students searching/applying for scholarships.
- Provides online scholarship and internship applications.
- Makes it easier for students to ask questions and find information.
- Provides information for organizations and people interested in donating.
- Provides insight on the history of the Yup'ik, Cup'ik and Athabascan cultures.

Please visit the CHF website at ***calistaheritage.org***

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

To help raise funds for the Calista Heritage Foundation scholarship program, Donlin will be participating in the 13th Annual Calista Golf Classic Tournament. At last year's tournament, more than $200,000 was raised and the proceeds directly benefited over 200 Calista Shareholder and Descendant students.

For more information on the Calista Golf Classic Tournament visit ***calistaheritage.org***

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MARCH WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Karen Lane, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Iditarod" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

APRIL WORD OF THE MONTH:
WATER

Please submit your answer by May 11, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

To help residents clean up their communities this spring, Donlin Gold is providing more than 20 villages in the YK region with supplies to participate in the "Clean Up, Green Up" program. By working together, we can all help protect the environment and keep our communities healthy by picking up any waste or debris that may harm the environment, people or wildlife. Look for photos in next month's newsletter to see how YK residents participated in the program. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
MAY 2012

MONTANA MINE TOUR

On May 8, Donlin staff and a group of community leaders from the Yukon Kuskokwim region visited the Golden Sunlight mine, operated by one of Donlin's parent companies, Barrick Gold Corporation. The Golden Sunlight mine is located in southwestern Montana in the Bull Mountain range and began operating in 1975. The group also met with community leaders from Whitehall, a community located about five miles from the mine.

The Golden Sunlight open pit mine shares some similarities to the proposed Donlin Gold project, but also has some differences in its gold extraction process. Visiting operating mines has been a valuable way for residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region to learn firsthand about modern day mining processes and technologies. Donlin Gold conducts informational visits each year to Barrick properties in Montana and Nevada.

TRACKING TRACKS: SCIENTISTS CONDUCT WINTER WILDLIFE SURVEYS

Winter wildlife are an important subsistence resource in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. Many residents have trap lines that are only accessible when there is enough snow for safe winter travel.



Biologist Willow Hetrick conducts aerial winter wildlife surveys at the Donlin Gold camp.

Although winter can be a quieter time at the Donlin camp compared to summer activities, biologists and environmental scientists spend the season gathering information about the area in colder conditions. Since 2004, surveys of wildlife near the proposed project have been completed during winter. In March, ARCADIS biologist Willow Hetrick and Jayhawk helicopter pilot Dan Lyons conducted aerial wildlife studies, observing and collecting data about the habits of various mammals in the region.

Weather can sometimes make aerial studies challenging. Flying conditions must be safe and it is essential to have a fresh layer of snow to make animal tracks visible. These studies involve flying aerial transects across the project area, where numerous mammal tracks are observed including those of marten, American weasels, snowshoe hares, wolves and fox. Tracking winter wildlife can be difficult because many mammals are less active and therefore appear less abundant during the colder months, making it difficult to find repeat sightings and collect consecutive data.

The survey's primary objective is to monitor distribution and population trends of the mammals in the project area. Monitoring the distribution and abundance of mammals can be important for documenting the effects of harvest, habitat change and environmental variability on these populations. ■

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at ***complaint@DonlinGold.com*** or **(855) 279-0382**

THE IMPORTANCE OF SALMON

When Alaskans hear the word summer two thoughts automatically come to mind: daylight and fishing. Like many of us, my family and I are looking forward to the long summer days spent fishing in Alaska's rivers and streams. All of us at Donlin Gold have grown to have the utmost respect for the importance of the salmon resource in the Kuskokwim River.

From our years of meeting with residents and discussing the Donlin Gold project with the people of the YK region, it is clear the region's fish may be the single most important resource to local residents. Not only is it a critical protein source but it is also central to the subsistence way of life that defines the region's culture. Understanding this resource is central to our ongoing environmental studies.

Our baseline environmental studies of fish and aquatic habitat have been ongoing in the Crooked Creek watershed nearly every year since 1996. We plan on continuing these studies this year and will gather more important baseline environmental data.

As we all look forward to our first catch of the summer, we would like to remind everyone to wear a life jacket when boating so we can all have a safe and productive season.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold





Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.

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Donlin is here



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PERMIT DECISION



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OPERATION

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27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

A SPRING OF VILLAGE ENGAGEMENTS

Some came by foot while others arrived by snowmachine to attend Donlin's project update meetings held in 22 villages throughout the region this spring. Having the opportunity to meet face-to-face has been a valuable way of engaging residents and providing updates on the progress of the project and proposed mine plans. These meetings have an open-dialogue environment where attendees can ask questions, share insight, and voice their concerns.

From previous meetings, where Donlin Gold Community Relations employee Vernon Chimegalrea was on hand to provide Yup'ik translations, Donlin learned that many villages preferred to have the entire presentation given in their Native language.

This year, Vernon prepared the entire meeting in Yup'ik and was the key presenter at most meetings. Attendees gave positive feedback and expressed their gratitude for Vernon's Yup'ik project presentations. Stakeholders said they better understood the proposed plans and the mining process by hearing the presentation in Yup'ik, while simultaneously seeing the PowerPoint in English. Only three of the 22 meetings were presented in English.



Residents attend a project update meeting in Akiak.



Tuluksak residents listen to a project update presentation.



Donlin Community Relations employee Vernon Chimegalrea gives a project presentation in Yup'ik.

"It's the first time anyone spoke to us in Yup'ik in updating us about the Donlin Gold project. It was very informative and more understandable," said Max Angelan who attended the Kwethluk project meeting.

As part of Donlin's ongoing safety initiative, the winter safety campaign was launched, promoting safe travel and activities. One element of the campaign seeks to encourage the use of snowmachine helmets among residents. Understanding that helmets are not only expensive but also difficult to acquire in the region, Donlin held drawings at the village meetings and provided numerous attendees with helmets during each visit.

> "It's the first time anyone spoke to us in Yup'ik in updating us about the Donlin Gold project. It was very informative and more understandable."

Donlin appreciates residents taking the time to make the trip and participate in its project update meetings. For several years, these meetings have created an open forum focused on engagement and respectful communication.

Donlin will continue to visit villages throughout the region, providing residents with updates on the project. Residents can also continue to learn about the proposed project online at www.DonlinGold.com, by visiting one of Donlin's regional offices in Bethel or Aniak, or by calling toll free 1-(888) 225-7590 to have project information mailed to them. ■

UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED **DONLIN PROJECT**

During Donlin's project update meetings, attendees are encouraged to ask questions about the proposed project. Here are some of the questions commonly asked by residents and the answers to those questions.

QUESTION:

I rely on my subsistence activities every year. If I plan to take time off for these activities, will it affect my job security?

ANSWER:

Donlin understands subsistence activities are significant in the preservation of the Yup'ik, Cup'ik and Athabascan cultures, as the YK region depends on these practices to not only live, but to keep their traditional ways of living alive. Most of Donlin's work schedules would be rotational, allowing employees the opportunity to hunt, gather and fish during their time off.

QUESTION:

What kind of energy would the proposed project be using?

ANSWER:

The original plan for power supply at the Donlin project was similar to most rural industrial projects in Alaska—primarily through on-site diesel generation. But when residents expressed concern about the amount of fuel that would need to be barged upriver to meet the mine's energy needs, the Donlin team revisited the power supply options.

The current plan proposes using natural gas supplied by a buried natural gas pipeline to produce on-site power generation. This plan would still require barge-transport of diesel fuel, but the volume required would be much less. It's estimated, on average, the proposed Donlin mine would require more than 150 megawatts (MW) of electrical power.

QUESTION:

How will water and the watershed be protected?

ANSWER:

To provide a foundation for responsible development, Donlin has studied the hydrology and water quality of rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands in the Crooked Creek watershed for 16 years. Donlin appreciates and understands water is an important resource to residents and wildlife, supporting their subsistence activities and providing a means of travel. Data from Donlin's studies have been used in the planning and design of the proposed project. This data will be reviewed in great detail during the permitting process.



Youth and Elders in Quinhagak learn about the Donlin project.

QUESTION:

How many barges will be going up and down the Kuskokwim River daily?

ANSWER:

On average, up to three, one-way river barge trips would be made in a day. There would be a total of about four river barges used for transporting equipment and fuel needed to construct and operate the proposed Donlin mine, but not all of them would be en-route at once. Because the Kuskokwim River begins to freeze in October and the mouth of the river does not usually clear of ice until late May, the shipping season for both ocean barges and river barges would typically be limited from early June through early October.

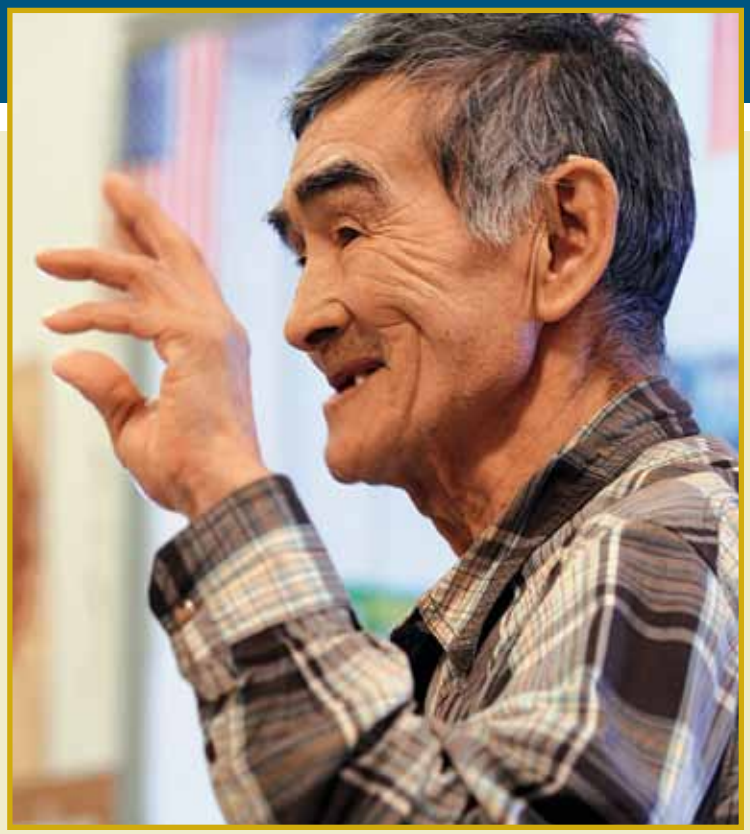
QUESTION:

When will jobs become available?

ANSWER:

Jobs for construction would begin to become available once all permits are approved by federal, state and local regulatory agencies. The permitting review process is expected to take a minimum of three years. It is estimated that the Donlin project could create about 3,000 jobs over a three year construction period, followed by up to about 1,400 jobs during the mine's estimated 27-plus year operational life.

Donlin is currently working to identify the type of jobs, how many positions will be available for each job, and the training required to prepare a local workforce for employment in the upcoming years. To help residents in the region better understand the jobs that would be available, Donlin plans to publish a jobs booklet that will highlight many of jobs that would be available and the associated responsibilities for each position.



Residents ask questions during a meeting in Napakiak.

QUESTION:

How will mercury be managed once the project is in operation?

ANSWER:

Donlin is committed to the use of state-of-the-art mercury emissions controls, and the use of best management practices for the capture, storage, and transport of mercury. One of Donlin's parent companies, Barrick Gold Corporation, is recognized as an industry leader in mercury management. Any mercury air emissions would be strictly regulated, and subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants. Mercury that is captured by emissions controls would be transported to a federally regulated facility. Mercury that remains in the rock throughout the milling process would be stored in a fully lined tailings storage facility.

QUESTION:

I'm concerned about cyanide getting into the environment. How is it going to be handled?

ANSWER:

Cyanide is widely used for the production of gold. Gold typically occurs at very low concentrations in rocks and a weak cyanide solution provides the most effective method of extracting gold from the ore.

One of Donlin's parent companies, Barrick Gold Corporation, helped develop the International Cyanide



Prizes including hats were given out during the meetings.



Families gather to learn about the project in Eek.

Management Code. The Code provides the independent method of certification for the responsible management of cyanide. The certification includes everything from the manufacture and transportation of cyanide, to its use in the gold mining process. Developed under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Program, the Code is the product of multi-stakeholder input and is supported by environmental advocacy groups from around the world.

Donlin has incorporated the International Cyanide Management Code guidelines into its plans, and will seek certification during operations. Donlin would also utilize a state-of-the-art cyanide detoxification process to reduce the levels of any cyanide remaining in the mill tailings. Any cyanide remaining in the tailings storage facility would further disintegrate under natural conditions.

If you have a question about the Donlin Gold project you can send it by mail to the address listed on the back of this newsletter, email *info@DonlinGold.com* or call toll free, (888) 225-7590. ■

DONLIN GOLD

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APRIL WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Mareldine Lever, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Water" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

MAY WORD OF THE MONTH:
ENVIRONMENT

Please submit your answer by June 11, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

DONLIN RECOGNIZED WITH RED CROSS COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARD

Every year, the Red Cross honors Alaskans for their outstanding contributions to the community and going beyond the call of duty to help someone in need at their annual Real Heroes Breakfast. This year, Donlin Gold employees Bill Bieber, Wassillie Kameroff, Boise Alexie, Ricky Ciletti, Memo Martinez, and contract helicopter pilot, Mark Barber were recognized by the Alaska Red Cross with a Community Safety Award for their assistance with emergency evacuation efforts of Crooked Creek residents during the devastating floods that destroyed multiple homes last spring.

Staff at the Donlin Gold camp provided Crooked Creek evacuees with warm clothing, shelter to sleep and food while their homes became inundated with ice water. A Donlin helicopter brought emergency food and supplies to residents who remained at higher elevations in Crooked Creek.

Donlin would like to thank the Red Cross for recognizing the efforts of its employees who went above and beyond to provide assistance during the flooding disaster. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2012

YK COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATE IN SPRING CLEAN UP

Donlin would like to thank the following communities for their participation and efforts to keep the environment clean:

ANIAK
ATMAUTLUAK
BETHEL
CHEFORNAK
CHUATHBALUK
CROOKED CREEK
GOODNEWS BAY
UPPER KALSKAG
LOWER KALSKAG
KASIGLUK
KIPNUK
KONGIGANAK
KWETHLUK
KWIGILLINGOK
LIME VILLAGE
MARSHALL
MEKORYUK
NEWTOK
NIGHTMUTE
NUNAM IQUA
NUNAPITCHUK
PILOT STATION
PLATINUM
QUINHAGAK
RUSSIAN MISSION
SLEETMUTE
STONY RIVER
TOKSOOK BAY
TUNTUTULIAK
TUNUNAK

Dozens of communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region participated in this year's "Clean Up, Green Up" program with the support of Donlin Gold. A total of 30 villages received funds provided by Donlin to purchase supplies and prizes to give to participants for their clean-up efforts. Donlin also provided bicycles for each community to award as prizes. Donlin Gold would like to thank Era Aviation for shipping the bikes to each community.



Whether it was a weeklong event or done in a day, each community organized how they would clean up their village. Some communities turned their clean-up effort into a contest, offering prizes to youth or groups who turned in the most collected trash. Many villages held picnics, potlucks or barbeques for participants after they finished collecting litter.



Above: Donlin office staff Jeanne Luhrs, Hilda Black and Sue Gamache participated in the city wide clean up. Below: Willie John and Edward Chase of ERA Cargo in Bethel manage bicycle shipments.

During Alaska's long winters, it's not uncommon for trash and materials to get blown around, especially during storms with strong winds. Once the snow melts, it's much easier to find and collect trash that has escaped trashcans. The "Clean Up, Green Up" program is a great way for families to work together to help clean their communities. Their efforts not only help protect the environment and wildlife, but also provide a safe place for their families to play, recreate and live.

Donlin supports this program and is committed to helping maintain a healthy and clean environment, in addition to a safe workplace. ■

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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As the snow melt has revealed the bottoms of our boats readying them for trips to fish camp and our favorite fishing spots, it has also uncovered litter that inevitably escapes trash cans only to be buried by the snow during our long winters. Like many of you, Donlin staff have also cleaned up around our communities and office locations this spring to "green" our communities. Summer is always a good time to remind ourselves of the beauty of Alaska and how we appreciate our natural surroundings. I, like most others at Donlin, live in Alaska for the wildness and natural beauty it offers. It is important for all of us to do our part personally and professionally to respect and minimize our impact to all that Alaska has to offer.



With community clean-up efforts completed and as we head out on the water, it is important for all of us to remember boating safety. This summer, Donlin has teamed with the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Injury Prevention and the Alaska Office of Boating Safety to promote the "Alaska Boating Safety" and "Kid's Don't Float" programs. Before you travel by boat, please remember to always let someone know where you are headed, carry a communication device, check the weather, and have the proper gear. During your travels make sure everyone in the boat is sober and wearing a life jacket. By following these practices we can all have a safe and successful boating season.



Above: Donlin Gold staff will visit fish camps this summer to pass out boating safety items. Below: Donlin Gold promotes its strong safety values by providing life jackets to local residents.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

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There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

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START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



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Up to 3,000 jobs
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Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs



Residents from the YK region join Donlin staff for a tour of Barrick's Golden Sunlight mine.

LEARNING FROM OTHER MINING OPERATIONS

Residents and leaders from the YK Region joined Donlin staff last month on a tour of the Golden Sunlight mine located in southwestern Montana. The mine is operated by one of Donlin's parent companies, Barrick Gold Corporation.

Tour guests were able to see in person how a modern mining operation works, from where the rock is removed, to where it gets transported and the technical process used for extracting the gold. Participants were also able to ask employees who work at the mine questions to understand their role in creating a successful operation.

Donlin encourages residents to talk with tour participants to hear their impressions of the Golden Sunlight operation.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE LATEST TOUR INCLUDED:

Shelby Edmund	Alakanuk
Donna Christine Lindsey	Bethel
Joseph H. Moses, Jr.	Bethel
Robert Arthur Lindsey	Bethel
Prisca Edna Woods	Emmonak/Bethel
Oscar Wassillie Active	Kongiganak/Bethel
Roland Peter Andrew	Kongiganak
Alexander W. Nicori, Jr.	Kwethluk
Johnnie Evan	Napaskiak/Bethel
Margaret Martina Nickerson	Newtok
Willard D. Church, Jr.	Quinhagak
Norbert Billy Beans	St. Mary's
Rachel Paulie Long	St. Mary's
James Aiagiak Charles	Tuntutuliak

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

As a major contributor to the Calista Heritage Foundation (CHF) scholarship fund, Donlin would like to remind students the annual scholarship application deadline is June 30.

In order to be considered for a scholarship, a student:

- Must be accepted into an accredited school.
- Must be an Alaska Native Shareholder or a lineal Descendant of an Alaska Native Shareholder with ties to the Calista Region. Lineal Descendants must send their birth certificate or other documentation substantiating their relationship to a Shareholder.
- Must be a high school graduate or have earned a GED and be in good academic standing with at least a 2.0 grade point average. Students must submit transcripts from past academic work to verify grade point average.

Donlin Gold funded the Calista Heritage Foundation's website, to help students in the YK region access scholarship and educational resources more easily. Students can submit their applications to CHF online, by visiting www.calistaheritage.org ■

POWERING THE PROPOSED MINE



A grinding circuit would pulverize the ore.

Selecting an appropriate power source for a remote resource development project can be challenging, especially in the Yukon Kuskokwim region where energy resources are limited and very expensive. The Donlin team has spent a lot of time researching and planning a power supply system that best meets the needs of the project while minimizing potential effects to the region.

It's estimated, on average, the proposed Donlin mine would require more than 150 megawatts (MW) of electrical power. This is comparable to the average power requirements for the Greater Fairbanks area. The power is used to drive the shovels that load the rock into the haul trucks, to run the grinding mills that pulverize the gold bearing rocks, and to power the pumps and compressors that keep the whole operation running. A safe reliable source of power is also needed to heat the buildings and the camp where employees would live and work.

PRIMARY SOURCE OF POWER

The original plan for power supply at the Donlin project was similar to most rural industrial projects in Alaska—primarily through on-site diesel generation. But when residents expressed concern about the amount of fuel that would need to be barged upriver to meet the mine's power needs, the Donlin team revisited the power supply options.

The current plan proposes electricity being produced on-site using natural gas supplied through a pipeline from Cook Inlet. This plan would still require barge-transport of diesel fuel, but the volume required would be much less. By switching from diesel to natural gas as the primary source of power, Donlin removed the need for approximately 80 million gallons of diesel fuel that would have been transported by river barges each year.

EXPLORING OTHER POWER SOURCES

Many power options were evaluated during the feasibility analysis:

- Wind generation
- Coal
- Liquefied petroleum gas
- Hydroelectricity
- Nuclear
- Peat/biofuel
- Geothermal
- Powerline intertie to the existing grid
- Propane

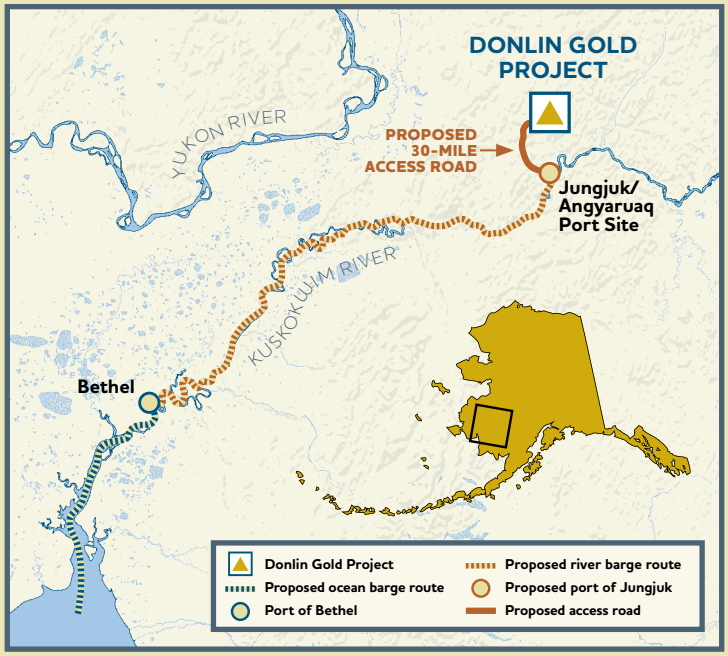
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

A 14-inch buried pipeline would transport natural gas approximately 312 miles from Cook Inlet to the proposed Donlin Gold mine site. The proposed pipeline would require one compressor station to move the gas through the pipe. The pipeline would be entirely buried except for two above ground fault crossings. Small surface check valve stations would be located about every 20 miles along the route.

FUEL TRANSPORT

Fuel for heavy equipment and light vehicles would need to be transported by marine barges to Bethel. From Bethel, fuel would be transferred to specially designed double hull river barges for transport up the Kuskokwim River to the proposed Jungjuk Port site, located approximately eight miles downriver from Crooked Creek village. From Jungjuk, the fuel would be transported via road to the main fuel storage tank at the proposed mine site.

After years of studying the environment and hearing feedback from residents in the region, Donlin has created a power supply plan that would help fulfill its commitment to running a socially and environmentally responsible mining project. ■



Barges will transport supplies up the Kuskokwim River to the Jungjuk Port site.

PREPARING FOR CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Donlin Gold staff met with students and residents in villages during May to share information about the different types of jobs that could come available at the mine, and what they need to do to prepare for those positions. Although the project is potentially three to four years away from workforce hire, Donlin is committed to hiring a local workforce as the project progresses and is trying to educate students early on how they can become qualified to work at the mine if it is permitted for development. More visits are scheduled for the fall when school is back in session.

A variety of jobs would be available throughout construction and operation of the proposed mine that would include entry level to highly experienced senior and management positions. Some jobs would require a college degree, multiple certifications, or years of experience, while other positions may require a special certification for an entry-level position. There would also be positions that would require applicants to have minimal work experience or only a high school diploma or GED. All jobs with Donlin require a strong work ethic, a positive attitude, and a commitment to safety. In addition, Donlin also informed youth and residents about its drug and alcohol free workplace policy, explaining the importance of this practice to contribute to a healthy and safe work environment for all employees.

Most importantly, Donlin wanted students to understand that all applicants would need a high school diploma or GED regardless of the position they applied for, stressing the importance of finishing high school. To help reiterate and personalize Donlin's educational message, Iditarod musher Pete Kaiser spoke at three of the school visits in the villages of Crooked Creek, Sleetmute and Russian Mission. He shared with students his experiences with setting goals and developing a strong work ethic to accomplish them. He also talked about the importance of getting a high school diploma; Kaiser graduated from Bethel High School in 2005.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. This provides high school students and residents with time to consider if they might want to pursue a career with Donlin. If so, now is the time to begin acquiring educational, technical, and hands-on job skills needed for the hundreds of jobs that would come available if the mining project is approved. ■



Students attended Donlin's workforce development meeting in Crooked Creek.



Iditarod musher Pete Kaiser shared with students the importance of getting a Diploma or GED.

JOB RESOURCES

www.DonlinGold.com/careers
www.jobs-calista.icims.com

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

www.calistaheritage.org
www.kuskokwim.com/content/educational-foundation

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MAY WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Susan Taylor, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Environment" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

MAY WORD OF THE MONTH:
SHARE

Please submit your answer by July 6, by email at info@DonlinGold.com or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

MAY VILLAGE VISITS

Donlin continued its village visits in May, providing a project update to residents in the communities of Aniak, Chuathbaluk, Kipnuk and Sleetmute.







DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
JULY 2012



BOATING SAFETY TIPS

- Always wear a Life Jacket
- Carry a communication device
- Give someone your trip plan
- Make sure your boat is loaded properly
- Check the weather forecast and tide tables

PROMOTING A SAFE BOATING SEASON: DONLIN STAFF VISIT FISH CAMPS

Many Yukon Kuskokwim residents welcomed Donlin Community Relations staff as they visited fish camps along the Kuskokwim River to provide safety items and information, including life jackets. Donlin launched its boating safety campaign last summer and continued it this year after getting positive feedback from residents about its impacts.



Donlin Gold Community Relations employee Vernon Chimegalrea helps set up boating safety equipment.

As part of their subsistence way of life, every summer hundreds of YK families travel to fish camps by boat where they spend a few weeks catching, smoking and drying salmon.

During Donlin's visits, staff offer life jackets, and other helpful fish camp items such as rain gear, aprons and rubber gloves for fish cutting. It is important for residents to be prepared and equipped with safety equipment and knowledge because drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death in Alaska. In most fatal drowning cases, the victim was not wearing a life jacket.

In addition to having the right equipment, it is also important to have a boating trip plan. Your float plan should include the names of everyone going in the boat,

CONTINUED INSIDE: "DONLIN STAFF VISIT FISH CAMPS"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

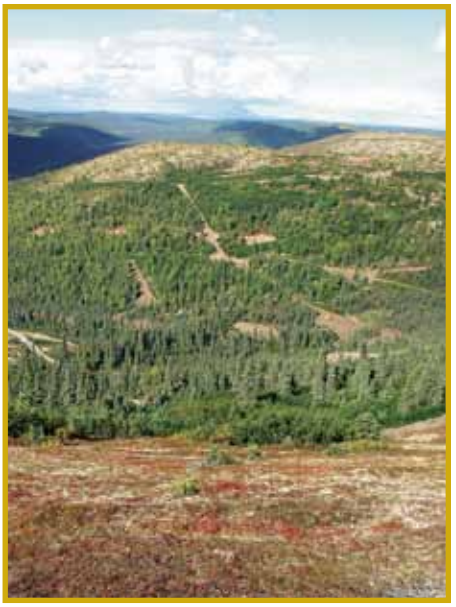
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(888) 225-7590 toll free

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at ***complaint@DonlinGold.com*** or **(855) 279-0382**

The long days of summer mark a busy time of year for all of us in Alaska. For residents in the YK region, summer is a time of harvest from the rivers and the land, while teaching subsistence practices to youth and providing for families. At Donlin, we ramp up our activities by hosting tours of the project site for local residents, visiting fish camps and increasing our efforts with our environmental baseline studies program. Although we collect environmental data year-round, our program is scaled back during the winter months for practical and safety reasons. During the summer, we are able to increase our program activities and collect more information to strengthen our environmental baseline.



Environmental baseline studies are a major part of Donlin's summer activities.

Our commitment to responsible development is underpinned by the strong environmental baseline data collected over the past 16 years as well as with the community interactions and meetings that help us understand the concerns, traditional knowledge, and environmental factors that form the region's history and culture. Using this information, we have worked to design a project that aims to bring shared value to stakeholders by providing economic opportunities, while promoting a healthy and safe environment for communities to maintain the subsistence way of life so important to the heritage and livelihood of the region. Part of the ultimate success of the Donlin project will be to demonstrate to residents of the region our respect for the land and Kuskokwim River, and our commitment to hiring locally.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.

Donlin is here



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

- Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.
- The findings of permitting processes are drafted.
- The final permit findings are submitted.

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION

Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION

Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING

Up to 5 jobs

DONLIN LAUNCHES CULTURE WEBSITE



While planning the proposed mining project, Donlin Gold has conducted cultural studies, and met with residents to better understand the region's history, culture, values and people. Donlin has created a new microsite, an extension of its main website, to share Yup'ik and Athabascan cultural information and resources that have been gathered over many years during exploration.

The cultural website features history of the region, ancient stories of Alaska Native cultures, languages, geography and subsistence information. Donlin has planned and designed a project that considers the social and cultural aspects of the region, and aims to incorporate and respect the traditional knowledge and customs of local residents.

Sharing information and stories is one way Yukon Kuskokwim residents are preserving their culture. Donlin is hopeful that by providing a new cultural microsite, visitors to the site can learn about the region and its rich cultural history.

You can visit Donlin's new cultural microsite at ***culture.DonlinGold.com*** ■







Continued from front cover

DONLIN STAFF VISIT FISH CAMPS

your destination, dates and times of when you expect to arrive and return, and a description of your boat. This float plan should be given to a responsible person before you leave, so they can get help if you are overdue.

By following these safety practices and always wearing a life jacket, we can all have safe and successful boating travels with our families. As a company that is committed to providing a safe work environment for its employees, Donlin extends this commitment to communities in the region by helping residents live healthier, safer lives. ■



Mercedes Thomas cutting fish.

DONLIN SPARKS NEW YOUTH EVENTS FOR FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Donlin Gold organized and sponsored a day of games and activities for youth at this year's Fourth of July celebration in Bethel, and the weather cooperated quite well with the efforts to make the event a success. The city has not held Independence Day activities for youth for a long time.

Local Donlin Gold staff set up activities for kids at this year's celebration including three-legged, gunnysack and foot races as well as a relay race. About 50 kids participated in the events, and prizes such as backpacks, sweatshirts and fishing gloves were awarded.



Wanting to provide an event that all family members could participate in, several of Donlin's employees were able to come up with an impromptu activity that tied in a traditional event of the region known as Uqiquq. It was customary for this "throwing party" to occur when an individual made their first successful hunt. The family celebrated by throwing practical items out into a crowd of women. During Donlin's adopted version of Uqiquq, two young men tossed promotional items to a crowd that drew in about 100 participants. The event lasted nearly 15 minutes, and many participants commented how much fun they had trying to catch the items.





As a company that is committed to the communities of the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin is glad it could work with the region to provide a fun and safe Fourth of July celebration, bringing back events for youth and families. ■

Above, middle, lower right: Youth in Bethel participate in Fourth of July games and activities sponsored by Donlin Gold. Below: Residents gather to take part in the "throwing party" event Donlin staff helped create.





A DAY TOUR OF DONLIN GOLD







Above: Kongiganak residents check out the Donlin Gold camp including the heavy equipment shop and multipurpose building. Middle: Toksook Bay residents take a day-long tour of the Donlin Gold camp. Below: Residents from Kongiganak were able to come see the proposed Donlin project site.

Every summer, Donlin staff host about 30 tours of the proposed project site, and this summer has been no different with visitors coming from all over the YK region. Residents from communities who have expressed an interest in seeing the area are invited to come learn about the project to gain a firsthand perspective.

Donlin sends an invitation letter to each village governmental entity whether it is a city or tribal council or a Native Corporation. These entities are asked to select up to nine residents in their village and provide the best date for when they would like to visit the proposed project site. Donlin then sets up the arrangements for the tour including a chartered plane.

On the day of the tour, the plane picks up those who are going on the tour in a village and takes them to the Donlin Gold project site. When visitors get off the plane, they are treated to lunch and given a safety briefing. Once the tour begins, visitors are shown around the site from the heavy equipment shop and multipurpose building, to an employee tent and the geology office where they learn more about the gold deposit. From Lewis Ridge, visitors get a bird's eye view of the project area, including the proposed pit, and waste rock and tailings storage facility sites. Guests are flown back to their community at the end of the day.

In addition to complimenting the cooks on the food, many visitors comment on how nice it is to talk directly with employees and learn from them about the project and what it is like to work there. A majority of Donlin's camp employees are from the YK region and can recognize a friend or family member among the crowd of guests. Visitors are also surprised to learn there is a maqi (steambath) at Donlin as well as running water in the community bathrooms and electricity. Guests also notice how clean the project site is and how much attention staff pays to safety.

By providing these tours, residents from the region are able to get a better sense of the project by seeing the area in person, supplementing much of the information they have read or heard about. As a company that's committed to communicating with the region, Donlin will continue to provide tours of the site and would like to thank those who have taken the time to learn more about the project by visiting us. ■

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JUNE WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Debbie LoMonaco, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Share" was referenced in last month's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

JULY WORD OF THE MONTH: FISH

Please submit your answer by August 30, by email at *info@DonlinGold.com* or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

TED STEVENS DAY JULY 28

This month we commemorate the hard work and contributions of the late Sen. Ted Stevens on July 28, 2012, officially Ted Stevens Day. Sen. Stevens created legislation that helped shape Alaska and provided federal resources for sustaining health, subsistence and education. Through his leadership, many Alaskans were able to realize great opportunities for themselves and their families in the Last Frontier. ■



Photo: Stan Foo, Sen. Ted Stevens and James Fueg at the Donlin Gold campsite.

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DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2012

DONLIN GOLD SUBMITS PERMIT APPLICATIONS

After years of studying and planning a project in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin Gold has submitted permit applications. This initiates an extensive review process that is expected to take at least three years and will involve many tribal, local, state and federal agencies as well as other stakeholders. More than 100 permits would ultimately need to be approved before any construction or development of the proposed project can begin.



An aerial view of the camp at Donlin's project site.

THE PERMITTING PROCESS

The application for permits will trigger the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EIS is to help the agencies make informed decisions that consider the environmental consequences of the proposed project and the alternatives available. For the Donlin Gold project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be the lead federal agency, with cooperation from other federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Bureau of Land Management. The State of Alaska Office of Project Management and Permitting will manage and coordinate the review by the various state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Department of Natural Resources.

ARE PERMITS EVER DENIED?

Individual permits can be outright denied, or they may be issued with changes made to the project. Regulatory agencies sometimes request changes based on regulatory

CONTINUED INSIDE: "PERMIT APPLICATIONS"

REVIEWING PERMITS

More than 100 permits would need to be approved by state and federal agencies before development of the project could begin. These permits consider multiple aspects of the project, including environmental and cultural considerations. Here are some examples of the state permits that will need to be reviewed and approved by different state departments including the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Plan of Operations (DNR)

Reclamation and Bonding (DNR)

Waste Management Permits and Bonding (DEC)

Air Quality Permits (DEC)

Fish Habitat and Fishway Permits (DNR)

Cultural Resource Protection (DNR)

Monitoring Plan (Surface, Groundwater, Wildlife) (DNR/DEC)

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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PHONE:
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Facebook.com/DonlinGold

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at ***complaint@DonlinGold.com*** or **(855) 279-0382**

At Donlin, we believe responsible development must be supported with a strong environmental baseline. As many of our readers know, we have been collecting environmental data and information from the project area and the region to support our project design and permit applications since 1996. After 16 years of environmental studies, data gathering and careful planning, I am glad to say we have reached a milestone in our project with the submittal of our major permit applications in late July. This submittal of our permitting documents marks the start of the state and federal permitting processes, which will include a public review process led by regulatory agencies. We expect it will take several years before a decision is finalized on the Donlin permits.

All of us at Donlin are grateful to everyone in the region who has provided feedback to us and helped shape the design of this project with their insight and suggestions. We have taken your comments to heart and designed a project with your concerns about health and safety in mind. Healthy communities are, in part, dependant on the continuation of a subsistence way of life that can stand beside resource development and economic growth in the region.

Responsible development at Donlin means minimizing the project's effects on the physical environment so subsistence and cultural heritage can continue to prosper, and positive economic impacts can be realized at a local level. It also means continuing to communicate and engage with you in your communities about our project. We hope you will continue to share your insights and provide your input about our proposed plans with the agencies as the permitting process progresses.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline





16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

- Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.
- The findings of permitting processes are drafted.
- The final permit findings are submitted.

Donlin is here

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION
Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION
Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION
Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING
Up to 5 jobs

DONLIN HOSTS EDUCATORS OF THE YK REGION

This summer Donlin Gold provided teachers from the Yukon Kuskokwim region a hands-on learning experience as part of the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium (APICC) externship program. The APICC program gives teachers of middle and high school grades the opportunity to work directly with employees of a company in the mining, construction or oil and gas industry for a week.

Sarah Joslin, a science teacher at Aniak Jr./Sr. High School participated in the externship program at Donlin Gold. While staying at the project site, Joslin was able to visit each department and learn about what each employee does in their field.

"I feel like it was a worthwhile experience," Joslin said. "I didn't realize the extent of the project and how long the mine is expected to last."

Brian Rendall, who is an instructor for the Lower Kuskokwim School District's Career and Technology Education Department, also spent a week at the Donlin camp. In addition to his classroom work for the district, Rendall teaches drivers education and welding in eight different villages. During his externship at Donlin Gold, Rendall learned how some of the trades he is already skilled in could be used specifically at the Donlin Gold project. He can now take this knowledge back to the classroom and help his students prepare for potential future jobs at Donlin.

These externships help educators gain a greater understanding of the industrial and business world, and how the academic concepts they teach are applied in the workplace. The program is also beneficial because it is local, showing educators what career opportunities could be available in their communities for students once they graduate.

As a company that is committed to local hire, Donlin Gold's participation in this program is beneficial because educators in the YK region will have a better idea of how to prepare students for potential careers at the proposed project if it is approved for development. Also, by getting educators out in the field, like at the Donlin site, it can help provide them with firsthand knowledge of the science and engineering concepts they teach in the classroom, which can later be used in the actual workplace. Being able to show students how they can apply their knowledge in the "career world" can provide a more meaningful school education experience. ■







Photos: Educators Sarah Joslin and Brian Rendall participate in camp projects to learn about potential work and educational opportunities for their students.









Photos: Students from the YK region learn firsthand about the various jobs and activities at the Donlin Gold project site.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN **HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPEDITION** AT DONLIN GOLD

Field trips are always a fun learning experience for students, especially when they take you out of the classroom and to a place where you get to apply your knowledge while learning new things hands-on. This was the case for 10 Bethel students, who were able to participate in a three-day exploration camp at the Donlin Gold site this summer.

Yuut Elitnaurviat, a job training and educational center located in Bethel, partnered with Donlin Gold to coordinate the expedition for the students and their chaperones. Donlin staff taught the students about their work fields and also provided them with activities to engage them in the process of running a camp and collecting environmental data.

Donlin camp employee Wassile Gregory showed the students the mechanical, technical and safety components of running a shop. Safety is a top priority at Donlin Gold, and students learned about the systems employees use every day to keep the work environment safe. They also participated in a rescue drill that involved repelling down an incline and saving a dummy.

Operations Manager, Bill Bieber helped students learn the complex process of mining for gold, and what types of equipment and infrastructure would be needed to actually operate a mine if it were built. One evening, the group tried a more traditional mining approach, gold panning, with Donlin camp employees Dwayne Hoffman and Mike Hetherington.

Feedback from students on the trip was very positive. “It was a great experience,” said Bethel student Jericka Blevins, “I enjoyed my time there with everyone.” In a letter from Yuut Elitnaurviat, the career guide staff thanked the Donlin employees who involved the students during their visit. “The honor and respect evidenced by management and staff for each other is exemplary. A huge expression of thanks goes to Donlin Gold,” the letter said.

Donlin is committed to hiring residents from the region and building a local workforce. By exposing students to the various working tasks at the project site, they can better prepare themselves with the skills and training to become part of the Donlin workforce team, if the project is approved for development. Donlin plans to continue working with various schools and organizations in the YK region to provide educational opportunities for students. ■

RECORD FUNDRAISING FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Donlin Gold is pleased to announce the Calista Heritage Foundation fundraised over $222,000 at its annual Gold Classic Tournament this year. Donlin Gold sponsored and participated in the event, donating $75,000 to the scholarship fund. These funds will help hundreds of scholarship recipients from the YK region. To learn more about the foundation visit ***calistaheritage.org*** ■

PERMIT APPLICATIONS *Continued from front cover*

expertise, technical knowledge and public input to a proposed project before final permit approval.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT DURING PERMITTING

The public is included in the permitting process on multiple levels, including 'scoping' where the public and agencies help identify issues and potential impacts of a proposed project as well as commenting on draft permits and other documents (such as the EIS). The lead permitting agency coordinates public involvement, and will provide a single point of contact for the public to reach and submit feedback to. Upon completion of the draft EIS, the agencies will make it available for public review and comment. Public comments on the draft EIS must be considered by the agencies and may result in changes to the EIS.

WHAT IS DONLIN DOING DURING PERMITTING?

Donlin will be providing the agencies with additional information, as requested, throughout the permitting process, and will respond to proposed project changes if requested by permitting agencies on draft permits. Donlin will continue to collect ongoing environmental baseline data.

Donlin will also continue visiting communities to share information. This will include the local workforce development program to help prepare residents for future jobs at the mine if it is approved for development. ■

U.S. SENATOR TAKES A TOUR OF DONLIN GOLD



During a visit to the Yukon Kuskokwim region in July, Alaska U.S. Sen. Mark Begich made a stop at the Donlin Gold camp to take a tour of the proposed mine site.

This was the first time the senator saw the site, and the tour provided him with the opportunity to speak with Donlin employees directly and learn about the proposed project firsthand. Donlin Gold Operations Manager, Bill Bieber, led the tour in addition to sharing information with the senator about Donlin's commitment to hiring a local workforce for the construction and operation of the mine if it is approved for development.

Following the tour, the senator expressed his enthusiasm for the project. "After seeing the operation firsthand, I believe Donlin is setting a national model for local hire and recruitment that will create jobs for the region for decades to come," Sen. Begich said. "This is an exciting economic opportunity for Alaska."

Donlin Gold thanks Sen. Begich and others for coming to learn about the project. ■



Top Photo: U.S. Sen. Mark Begich touring camp with Operations Manager Bill Bieber. Bottom Photo: Donlin staff pose with Sen. Begich.

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MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

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AUGUST WORD OF THE MONTH: PERMIT

Please submit your answer by September 30, by email at *info@DonlinGold.com* or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

YK BROADCASTING GOES DIGITAL WITH HELP FROM DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold was able to help fund the purchase of equipment for KYUK to begin broadcasting its televised programming on a digital signal. Originally, this switch was scheduled to happen in July, but failure of the station's analog transmitter pushed engineers to make an immediate change in May. Not only does the new digital signal provide viewers in Bethel with better picture quality, it also provides service for those who are unable to afford or choose not to subscribe to cable services. With the introduction of the digital signal, KYUK is now able to offer four programmed channels:

15.1 Alaska One public television • 15.2 ARCS • 15.3 360North • 15.4 KYUK Bethel

As a company that is committed to communicating with residents of the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin Gold also provides underwriting support for local programs broadcasted on KYUK, which is owned by Bethel Broadcasting, Inc. This company is Alaska Native owned and operated, and provides public radio and television broadcasting to the Yukon Kuskokwim region. ■

"LIKE" DONLIN GOLD ON FACEBOOK

Donlin Gold now has a Facebook page where staff will be sharing photos and information about the project.

You can find us on Facebook by visiting **www.facebook.com/DonlinGold**

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2012

PROVIDING A CULTURAL EXPERIENCE AT THE ALASKA STATE FAIR

Donlin Gold sponsored the Raven's People Tent at the 2012 Alaska State Fair. For two weeks, fairgoers from all over the state could experience and learn about Alaska Native cultures through dance performances, arts and crafts, storytelling and artifact exhibits at this hosted venue.

Donlin Gold is committed to the communities of the YK region and supporting their cultural values.



THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBSISTENCE TO DONLIN EMPLOYEES

Subsistence in the Yukon Kuskokwim region is more than just gathering food and materials to help one live; it is tied to a spiritual, social and cultural process that engages an entire community. Embedded in the subsistence cycle are values of respect for nature, love of family, sharing throughout the community and learning from elders. The Donlin team appreciates the importance of the subsistence way of life, and values and respects the subsistence practices of its employees.



Donlin employee, Ricky Ciletti harvests animals to be shared with others.

Many Donlin staff from the YK region take part in subsistence activities year-round. Employee Ricky Ciletti practices subsistence with knowledge he has gained from people and the animals themselves. In the last few years, he and his brother, Joe Kameroff, have focused on harvesting older animals.

"This gives the younger animals a chance to grow and add to the gene pool," Ciletti said. "Archery equipment has also made us learn more about the animals and ethics of hunting."

Ciletti said one of the important parts of subsistence is sharing, and he tries to share what he harvests with others who do not have the opportunity to hunt.

With age, Donlin Community Relations Liaison Sue Gamache has learned to cherish the subsistence teachings of her family. As a child she didn't really look forward to going to camp and picking berries for days in a row, but now she looks back on the experience with greater understanding and appreciation for the collective efforts needed to sustain a large family.

"You feel content knowing that all of your hard work fishing and gathering in the summer will pay off during the long winter ahead," Gamache said.

CONTINUED INSIDE: "SUBSISTENCE"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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Donlin Gold has developed a great appreciation for the importance of subsistence hunting and fishing in the YK region.

Crisp autumn air, changing leaves, and termination dust in the hills signal winter is not far away and seasonal activities at Camp will start winding down. Our summer interns have returned to school or to their homes to help with fall subsistence activities. Over the years, we have developed a great deal of respect and appreciation for the importance of subsistence hunting and fishing in the region and throughout Alaska. We encourage our employees to take part in subsistence activities and we make reasonable schedule accommodations to ensure they can. It is important to us at Donlin that subsistence activities and resources continue to contribute to the cultural health and well-being of the region. We believe this can happen with the responsible development of the proposed Donlin Gold mine.

Education and providing hands-on training is also important to us, and I am personally pleased that we were able to grow our internship program this summer. In years past we partnered with organizations such as the Kuspuk Career Academy and the Kuskokwim Native Association to place interns in positions at Donlin. This summer, we also had an independent internship program and recruited enthusiastic YK region students to fill four positions at the Donlin project site as well as two additional intern positions with the KNA fisheries program. We hope to continue to grow our internship program as our project progresses and support our young adults as they develop into future leaders.

Best of luck to all of you with the fall moose hunt and other fall subsistence activities, and please be safe.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



16 YEARS OF EXPLORATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- The proposed project is defined by Donlin Gold.
- Natural Gas Pipeline Studies are conducted.
- Feasibility Studies are conducted.



PERMITTING PROCESS - 3+ YEARS

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES

National Environmental Policy Act will require an Environmental Impact Statement.

There will be opportunities for formal public comment during the permitting process.

- Agencies define the scope of the permitting process.
- The findings of permitting processes are drafted.
- The final permit findings are submitted.

Donlin is here

START PERMIT APPLICATIONS

PERMIT DECISION



CONSTRUCTION
Up to 3,000 jobs
3-4 Years



OPERATION
Up to 1,400 jobs
27+ years

CONTINUING EXPLORATION



MINE CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION
Up to 22 jobs



ONGOING MINE SITE AND WATER MONITORING
Up to 5 jobs

SUMMER INTERNS GET WORK EXPERIENCE AT DONLIN GOLD



Offering internships to students is a standard practice at Donlin Gold. This ongoing program provides students with a firsthand experience performing the kinds of tasks they would be doing if they joined the Donlin Gold workforce. They listen, work with and learn directly from current employees, who share their knowledge and professional experiences with the students. Interning with Donlin Gold offers students the opportunity to see if the mining industry is the line of work they would like to enter once they complete their education.



Throughout exploration and environmental baseline data collection, Donlin Gold has provided internship opportunities for college students from the YK region. Fieldwork tends to pick up in the summer, when students have more available free time, and having additional help from interns has been beneficial for the project.

This summer Donlin Gold hosted four summer interns who worked in Donlin Gold's Engineering Department.

Donlin interns start in mid-May (when school gets out) and finish in August (before school starts). During their internship, students generally work a rotational schedule so they can participate in subsistence activities as well. Students seeking an internship at Donlin Gold have to submit an application before the summer and must demonstrate they have a positive attitude and are a team player.





Donlin would like to recognize the hard work of its interns and hopes they will return with the project once they successfully complete their education. Donlin is committed to hiring as many local, qualified residents as possible and providing internships is one way Donlin Gold can help young residents in the region determine if they would like to join the Donlin Gold team if the project is approved for development. ■

DONLIN 2012 SUMMER INTERNS

Agnes Waskey (Aniak) – UAF, Mechanical Engineering Program

Thomas Albert (Tununak) – UAF, Mechanical Engineering Program

Marvin MacDonald (Bethel) – UAA, Mechanical Engineering Program

Chase Stewman (Crooked Creek) – UAA, Civil Engineering Program





Donlin interns conduct fieldwork, including environmental baseline data collection with fish counting and water sampling.



Donlin Gold Community Relations Coordinator, Colleen Laraux, prepares smoked king salmon strips at fish camp.

Continued from front cover

SUBSISTENCE

Fish are a vital subsistence resource for residents in the YK region, supplying food year-round for families, especially in the winter months. Donlin Gold Community Relations Coordinator, Colleen Laraux, goes to fish camp every summer with her family.

"Year in, year out, this is what we do," Laraux said. "During the peak of the season, we are up until the wee hours of the morning, looking forward to the culmination of our work by having smoked king salmon strips in the freezer."

Donlin Gold recognizes the essential role subsistence plays in the Yup'ik and Athabascan cultures, and has created a project that values, respects and accommodates the subsistence way of life. ■







From top to bottom: Sam Alexie and Jenny Phillips attend the Crooked Creek Tribal Gathering. Bedusha Thomas provides a financial report at the Crooked Creek Tribal Gathering. Crooked Creek Traditional Council President, Evelyn Thomas, and Amanda Phillips draw for door prizes during the gathering.

COMMUNICATING WITH YK COMMUNITIES

Throughout the year, many communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region hold tribal gatherings where village leaders, council members, residents and others from surrounding areas meet. During the tribal gatherings, families and friends celebrate their culture with dancing, storytelling and traditional food. They also address community matters including the local economy, energy, health care and sustainability. Projects affecting the region are discussed, including new ways to improve the livelihoods of residents while protecting their subsistence way of life.

This summer, Donlin Gold staff were invited to tribal gatherings to share information about the proposed project and participate in festivities. Donlin Community Relations employee, Wayne Morgan, attended tribal gatherings in Chuathbaluk, Upper Kalskag and Russian Mission. Typically 50 to 100 residents were present at the meetings, and sometimes representatives from other agencies including the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation and the Association of Village Council Presidents attended. At the meetings, residents asked Wayne questions about the project and he was able to address their concerns.

During the Crooked Creek tribal gathering, Donlin's External Affairs Manager, Kurt Parkan, gave a project summary presentation, and discussed the latest news with residents about permitting and building a local workforce.

Donlin appreciates the opportunity to participate in these Tribal Gatherings and being able to address the concerns of residents and answer their questions in person. ■



STUDYING ROCKS IN THE YK REGION



One of the many ways Donlin Gold learns about the geologic setting of the proposed project site in the Yukon Kuskokwim region is through studying core samples. Geologists and project employees use core samples to scientifically analyze rock types, gold mineralization and other geological elements below the ground surface.

Drilling and sampling core is a major part of the field-studies program at the Donlin site. Data collected from the core samples is entered into a computing system and is used by geologists, project planners, and engineers to interpret the geologic features of an area and to create visual representations such as three-dimensional models. This information is also used to estimate the gold content and distribution at the site, and to determine how the gold might be extracted from the rock.

Approximately 1.2 million feet of core has been drilled at Donlin since 1995. The Donlin core-management team is implementing a system that organizes where the core is stored, how it is stored and how it can be identified for retrieval.

The core-management team includes 12 people from the YK region. To help preserve the core, the team has transferred nearly 250,000 feet (about 47 miles) of core from cardboard to plastic boxes since 2011. They also care for and maintain core stored in wooden boxes. Donlin Gold is grateful to this team for doing an exceptional job and would like to recognize them for making this huge undertaking a safe, efficient and successful operation. ■



MINING DEFINITIONS

Metallurgical
Science using procedures for extracting metals from their ores, purifying and alloying metals and creating useful objects from metals. At the Donlin site, a Metallurgist would propose how to extract the gold from the ore and prepare it for market.

Geotechnical Engineering
Uses principles of soil and rock mechanics to investigate subsurface conditions and materials to determine their relevant physical/mechanical and chemical properties. This science helps planners evaluate the natural conditions and stability of a site for any alteration that may come with project construction.



Top left: The Donlin re-boxing team organizes how the core is stored.. Top right: Donlin Geotechnician Pete Sam and employee Joe Beans of the re-boxing crew. Middle: Core samples provide geologists with scientific information of underground elements. Bottom: The team has transferred nearly 47 miles of core from cardboard to plastic boxes since 2011.

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER SUMMER INTERNS GET WORK EXPERIENCE



Photo from left to right: Donlin Gold General Manager Stan Foo, Tim Buchanan of Barrick Gold, Donlin Intern and Engineering Student Agnes Wasky of St. Mary's, Donlin Gold Manager of Community Development and Sustainability Mary Sattler, Donlin Gold External Affairs Manager Kurt Parkan, Caroline Rossignol of Barrick Gold and Ron Rimellman of NOVAGOLD.

JULY WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Angela Kamkoff, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Fish" was referenced in July's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

SEPTEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH: INTERN

Please submit your answer by October 30, by email at ***info@DonlinGold.com*** or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

JOIN DONLIN'S TALENT BANK

With the project in permitting, Donlin Gold is focused on building a local workforce. If the project is approved for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin is committed to filling these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: www.DonlinGold.com/employees

Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin plan and prepare for future local workforce development needs. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. During this time, residents can start preparing themselves with the training and education they will need to join the Donlin Gold team. Donlin's workforce development plan will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant. ■

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DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2012

DONLIN GOLD AT 2012 AFN

Donlin Gold participated in this year's Alaska Federation of Natives Convention as a Susitna Sponsor and as a Mentor Sponsor of the Elders and Youth Conference.

Donlin Gold would like to thank everyone who visited Donlin Gold's exhibit booth at AFN to say hello and learn more about the proposed project.

It was a great opportunity to meet new people and see familiar faces.



DONLIN GOLD WRAPS UP SEASON OF PROJECT SITE TOURS

Summer is a vibrant and busy time at the Donlin Gold project site. Environmental engineers, scientists, technicians and interns head out to do fieldwork and collect environmental data, while communications staff visit fish camps to promote boating safety practices and share information about the project. Back at the camp, employees maintain facilities and provide healthy meals for crews. But what really makes the project site a lively place, is all the visitors that come from the YK region to take a project tour during the summer months.



Charles, Melissa and Lindsey Laraux, and Sam Blankenship look out over Lewis Ridge at the Donlin Gold project site.

This year, residents and local leaders from 23 villages came to learn about the project in a daylong tour at the Donlin Gold site. Donlin Gold has been providing these site tours to help people in the region see firsthand the area the proposed project is in. Mary Sattler, Donlin Gold's Manager of Community Development and Sustainability, organizes the summer tours and says many visitors are surprised to learn no actual mining has begun.

"They often don't realize mining has not started in the 17 years Donlin Gold has been there, just fieldwork with geology and environmental baseline studies," Sattler said. "Most people are also very relieved to see that the project is not near the Kuskokwim River."

Donlin Gold project employees enjoy having the tours because it provides them with the chance to see friends and familiar faces, as many of them also live in the YK region. It also gives employees the chance to share what they are doing with the project and talk about their safety and workplace values.

CONTINUED INSIDE: "DONLIN GOLD WRAPS UP PROJECT SITE TOURS"

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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The fall months seem to be passing by quickly as our cool, wet summer did. By now, everyone has had a good reminder that winter is not too far off, and families have likely settled into the familiar routine the school year brings. For our youth, homework is plenty and extracurricular activities (like basketball and Native Olympic sports) are ramping up, while parents and teachers are focusing on caring for and inspiring their students. I strongly believe that completing school will give individuals a competitive advantage for jobs at Donlin Gold and elsewhere. Throughout the year, Donlin Gold supports education with donations to various scholastic academic and athletic programs, and with contributions to scholarship funds and various programs/organizations that support YK region students.

Part of the success we have had at Donlin Gold has been hiring local residents to help meet the employment needs of the project. To build on that success, we have begun visiting schools now to specifically talk about jobs we hope to offer in the future if the project is permitted. Our goal with these meetings with students and teachers is to explain the types of jobs that would be available and the education requirements of those positions. We hope that by giving this information now, students will study hard and take advantage of scholarship and vocational training opportunities so they can be work ready after permitting and seek jobs with Donlin Gold.

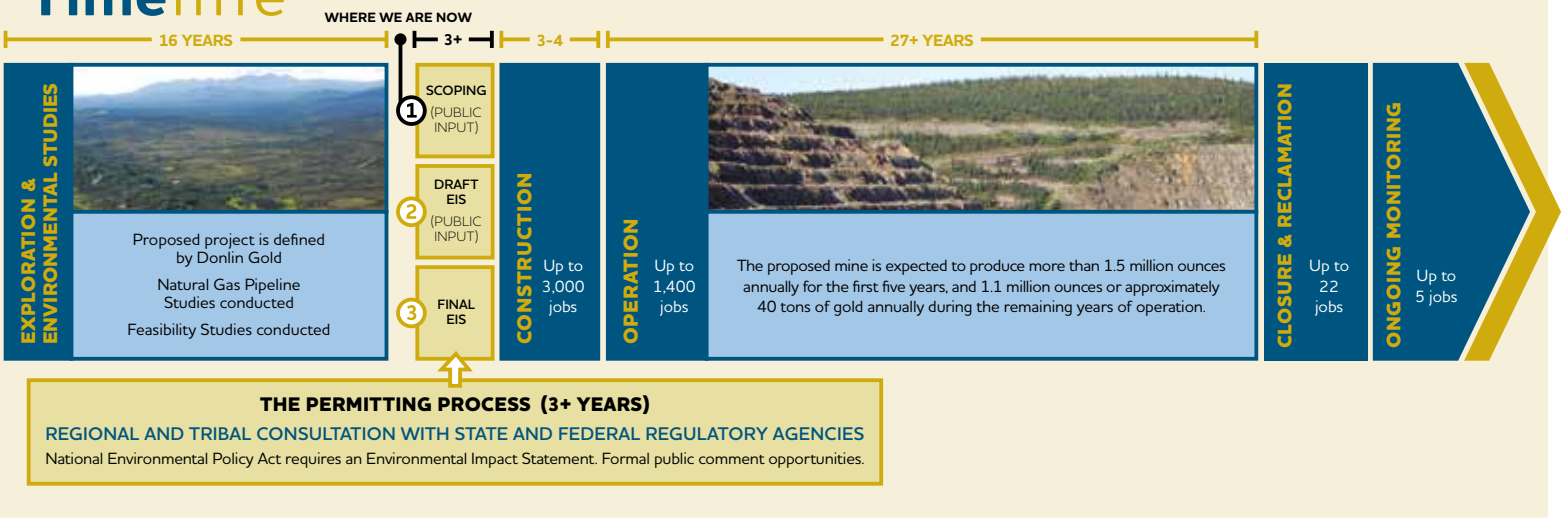


Donlin Gold staff visit with students in the YK region.

We wish all students in the YK region a safe, productive and fun school year.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



ANSEP STUDENTS LEARN NEW SKILLS AT DONLIN GOLD



In September, more than a dozen high school students in the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) visited the proposed Donlin Gold project site. Many activities at the Donlin Gold camp are well aligned with ANSEP's goals of diversifying students' math and science skills, while giving them exposure to the professional world.



During their trip, ANSEP students covered a variety of fields involved with the Donlin Gold project from health and cooking to environmental science. Students met with State of Alaska employees from the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Natural Resources to learn how state agencies work with natural resource development projects. They were also able to get out in the field—Donlin Gold Environmental Specialist Danny Twitchell demonstrated to students how to conduct water samples. Students also traveled to Lewis Ridge with Mary Sattler, Donlin Gold's Manager of Community Development and Sustainability, to see the site of the proposed mine and learn more about the project.



At the camp facilities, students visited the Donlin Gold kitchen where they learned from employees about cooking for a large group of people, and how to safely and efficiently run a kitchen. Students were able to put their new cooking knowledge to work by preparing a cake for one of the ANSEP students, John Kassaiuli, who was celebrating his birthday during their visit.



Health and safety are a top priority of the project and it is something Donlin Gold employees are passionate about. Donlin Gold Paramedic and Camp Field Supervisor, Ricky Ciletti, demonstrated to the students the basics of first aid response including CPR, how to stop bleeding and properly bandaging an injury. Students were able to practice these response skills on training dummies and bandaged fake injuries on each other.

Between touring the camp and learning about the different fields involved in the mining project, students and employees participated in some fun games and team building exercises. By working together and having fun, everyone was able to create an enjoyable learning environment.



Donlin Gold would like to thank the ANSEP students and chaperones for taking the time to come and learn about the project directly. Donlin Gold appreciates the opportunity to provide educational experiences to students in the YK region. ■

Top to Bottom: ANSEP students and chaperones visit Lewis Ridge to see the proposed project. Students learn health and safety skills at the Donlin Gold camp kitchen. Donlin Gold's on-site paramedic, Ricky Celetti, gives ANSEP students a CPR demonstration. ANSEP student, John Kassaiuli, celebrates his birthday at the Donlin Gold camp. High school students in the ANSEP visit the Donlin Gold project site.

DONLIN GOLD HOSTS LARGEST CLOTHING DRIVE YET

The first snowfall of the year brings lots of excitement to the YK region, as children are eager to play outside while others enjoy winter recreational activities. But as the seasons change, so do the children; many of them outgrow their outdoor jackets and shoes from the previous winter. The annual Bethel Clothing Drive provides hundreds of youth and families in the region with outdoor gear, clothing, and shoes, and this year Donlin Gold collected the largest amount of items to date.

Donlin Gold employees collected a total of 48 boxes of gear for the clothing drive this year; typically 10 to 20 boxes of clothing are collected. Donlin Gold employees start in the spring, gathering outerwear and shoes from lost and found bins at various schools in the Anchorage School District. They help clean and sort the items and pack them in boxes for transport to Bethel.

All of the items were handed out to children and families in need at Mikelnguut Elitnaurviat (M.E.) Elementary School in Bethel at the end of September. More than 200 students at M.E. benefitted from the clothing drive.

Donlin Gold would like to thank the volunteers and staff at M.E. for dedicating their time to helping with the drive. Donlin Gold is committed to being a good neighbor and appreciates the participation of its employees in fulfilling this commitment. ■







Photos: Dozens of volunteers helped with this years clothing drive, which benefitted more than 200 students at the Bethel school.

2012 ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
SUCCESS BEYOND BARRIERS







Left to Right: Donlin Gold employee Colleen Laraux talks with AFN participant Paul John. Donlin Gold employee Danny Twitchell and his daughter visit the Donlin Gold booth. Donlin Gold employees Vernon Chimegalrea and Sue Gamache talk with booth visitor Tiffany Zulkosky.

Continued from front cover

DONLIN GOLD WRAPS UP SEASON OF PROJECT SITE TOURS

"When people come to visit the project site, they can't help but notice the strong commitment employees have to safety," Sattler said. "Visitors also experience some of Donlin Gold's safety culture as they are supplied with safety vests and hard hats they must wear when touring the area."

Donlin Gold Community Relations Employee Vernon Chimegalrea provides the project tours in Yup'ik for groups that request it. Chimegalrea said this is especially beneficial for stakeholders to understand the more technical aspects of the proposed project such as the milling process.

One of the main things many residents enjoy is getting the bird's-eye view of the project site. They are driven by truck to the top of Lewis Ridge, which overlooks the proposed mine area.

Donlin Gold is committed to sharing information about the project with the YK region and will continue to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to learn about the proposed project firsthand through project site tours, village visits and other means of communication. ■





Top: Residents from Akiak learn about the proposed project site. Bottom: Residents of Kalskag take a tour of the Donlin Gold project site.

DONLIN GOLD PRACTICES FIRE SAFETY

This month is Alaska Fire Prevention Month. Alaska has an alarming rate of fire-related deaths, many of which could have been prevented through education and awareness. As we prepare to keep our homes warm this winter, it's important to think about fire safety. Heating related fires are the leading cause of house fires in Alaska for the last two years, surpassing unattended cooking fires. By following the suggested home heating safety tips, we can keep our families warm and safe this winter.

HEATING FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR HOME

(Provided by the Alaska Department of Public Safety)

- Keep heaters at least three feet from combustible material
- Do not use extension cords for electric space heaters
- Turn off portable space heaters when leaving the house
- Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood in fireplaces and wood stoves
- Make sure smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working regularly

Unattended cooking fires are another major cause of house fires. By taking precautions, we can decrease the chance of a house fire.

OTHER FIRE PREVENTION SAFETY TIPS:

- Always stay near the stove when you are cooking
- Put out all cigarettes completely
- Do not overload electrical outlets
- Keep matches and lighters away from children
- Put out all candles when leaving a room or going to bed
- Store flammable liquids in an approved container in a secure location
- Keep your heating system clean and maintained

From the kitchen to fieldwork, Donlin Gold employees work together to make sure flammables are safely stored and take precautionary measures to prevent fires at the project site. As a company committed to safety, each employee does their part to make sure every one goes home safe and healthy every day. ■

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER: YK RESIDENTS VISIT THE PROJECT SITE



Members of the Orutsararmiut Native Council of Bethel visit the Donlin Gold project site.

AUGUST WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Tina Gardner, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Permit" was referenced in August's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin Gold's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

OCTOBER WORD OF THE MONTH:
SCHOOL

Please submit your answer by November 30, by email at *info@DonlinGold.com* or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

JOIN OUR TALENT BANK

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To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin Gold create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

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Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin Gold plan and prepare for future local workforce development needs. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential.

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DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2012



Students in Chevak receive dictionaries donated by Donlin Gold.

SUPPLYING DICTIONARIES TO YK STUDENTS

Donlin Gold is helping elementary children expand their reading and comprehension by participating in the national Dictionary Project. The project aims to provide every third grader in the U.S. with a dictionary, encouraging them to become good writers, active readers, creative thinkers and resourceful learners.

Donlin Gold will be sending nearly 700 dictionaries to third graders in the Yukon Kuskokwim region this month. This is the second year Donlin Gold has participated in the program, and the company hopes students will become lifelong learners by providing them with a valuable educational tool. ■

PREPARING YOUTH FOR FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

To help students and residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region prepare for the many jobs that would become available if the project is approved for development, Donlin Gold staff have visited local schools in the region this fall to share information on potential employment opportunities and job preparation.

The workforce development visits have included the communities of Aniak, Kalskag, Crooked Creek, Chuathbaluk, Stony River and Sleetmute. Up to 50 students in each school have attended the meetings.



Students in the YK Region learn about jobs in the mining industry.

Iditarod musher Pete Kaiser of Bethel attended the school meetings with Donlin Gold staff to talk about the importance of finishing school. He compared getting an education to racing in the Iditarod. “You never want to quit when you’re almost at the finish line,” Kaiser said. Students were able to ask Kaiser questions about racing and what it’s like working with the dogs. “We’re a team, and we all work with each other and motivate each other,” Kaiser said. “You can apply the same idea in school with your classmates, teachers and families to be successful in your education.”

CONTINUED INSIDE: “PREPARING YOUTH FOR FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES”

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*



Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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November marks a time of remembrance, celebration and giving thanks as the winter holidays quickly approach us. This month, we honor and remember veterans who bravely and graciously served our country and those who are currently serving. November is also Native American and Alaska Native Heritage Month - a time for us to honor Native Alaskans who have made enormous contributions to the riches of Alaska, and through their great achievements often made tremendous sacrifices to shape Alaska's character as we know it today.

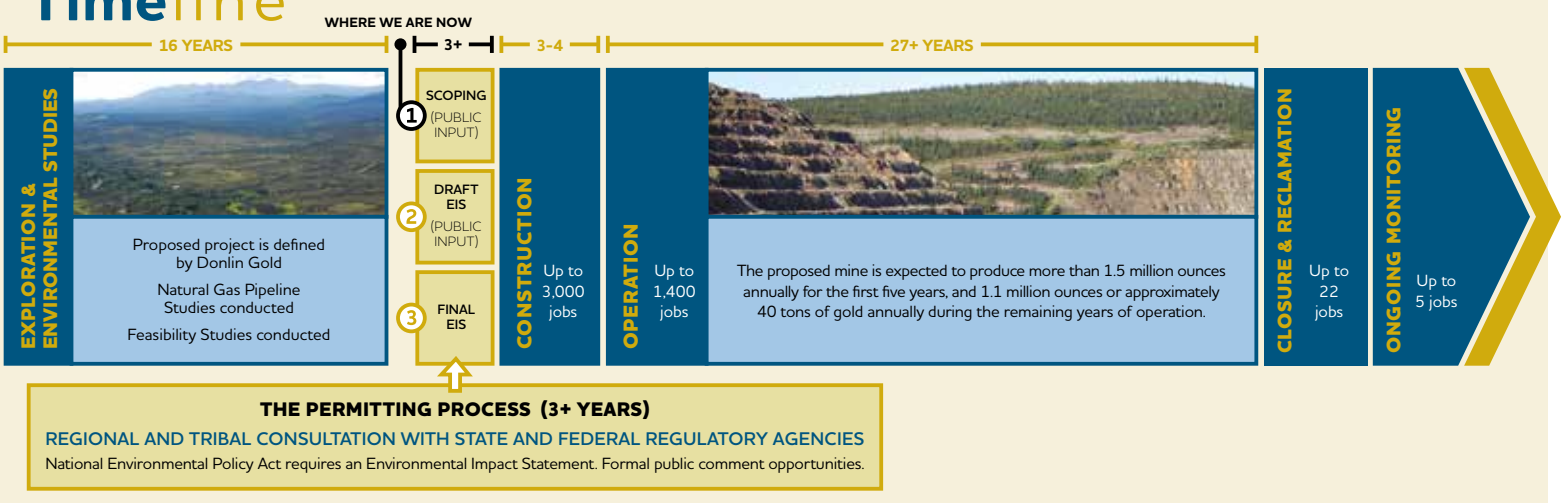
At Donlin Gold, we strive to honor and show our respect for Alaska Native cultures in our year-round work and practices. This year we were able to support a number of community-identified cultural events and initiatives aimed at strengthening and continuing Alaska Native heritage. I am also delighted to say we launched a culture page on our website, featuring the Yup'ik and Athabascan cultures in the Donlin Gold project area, and we conducted the majority of our village visit meetings in Yup'ik this year. Many people who attended the meetings commented that they had a greater understanding of the project having it explained in Yup'ik.

Our goal with past meetings was to provide project information to help you understand the proposed Donlin Gold project. We hope you feel informed and that you will participate in the federal and state permitting processes coming up.

On behalf of all of us at Donlin Gold, I would like to thank all the veterans in our region and wish you all a healthy and safe Thanksgiving holiday shared with loved ones.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline





Students perform team-building exercises to learn about job preparation.

Continued from front cover

PREPARING YOUTH FOR FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Donlin Gold's Operations Manager, Bill Bieber, also spoke with students on the different careers available to them in the YK region and provided them with information on what they could be doing now to prepare for these careers, whether it's in mining or another field. He also shared information about the Donlin Gold project with students including the permitting process and a timeline of when the project could begin construction if it is approved for development. With a minimum estimated mine life of 27 years, many of these students could have lifelong careers with Donlin Gold.

Donlin Gold plans to continue meeting with youth of the YK region to share career information with students. ■





Left: Students learn about science and engineering in a team-building project. Right: Iditarod musher Pete Kaiser speaks with students about the importance of finishing school.

DONLIN GOLD HELPS BETHEL SENIOR CENTER PURCHASE NEW BUS

The Eddie Hoffman Senior Center in Bethel serves dozens of elders daily, offering social activities and providing nutritional meals. Honoring the company's commitment to the people of the Yukon Kuskokwim region, Donlin Gold provided funds to help the senior center purchase a bus to transport elders to and from the center.

A total of 30 seniors are regularly picked up from their homes with the bus and brought to the center for a day of activities and a warm, cooked meal. Having the bus provides an efficient, safe and quick way for helping elders access the center daily. The bus also helps transport elders to medical appointments, events, shopping and running errands.

The Eddie Hoffman Senior Center is primarily run on donations, and having the bus supports the center's efforts to provide valuable services to elders in Bethel. Donlin Gold is committed to the communities of the YK region, and providing assistance to elderly services helps Donlin Gold fulfill this commitment. ■

YK RESIDENTS TOUR OPERATING MINES WITH DONLIN GOLD STAFF

This fall Donlin Gold had the opportunity to host tours at operating mining projects in Alaska, Montana and Nevada.

A total of 30 residents from several communities participated in a tour of the Fort Knox Gold mine in Fairbanks. The Fort Knox mine provides guests with a firsthand view of a large-scale gold mine operation in a cold climate setting.

Before residents are taken on a tour of the mine site they are given a safety briefing and gear, including hard hats, glasses and safety vests. During the tour, they are shown where blasting occurs at the site and how various mining machinery and equipment work.

Mine visitor Curtis Mann of Kipnuk told KYUK radio he has a lot of concerns towards the mining industry, especially with how it could affect subsistence. After taking the tour of Fort Knox, Mann said he is swayed in favor of the mine as long as operators keep subsistence and responsible development in mind.

After visiting the Fort Knox mine, Stephen Maxie of Napaskiak told KYUK he has no opinion of the Donlin Gold project right now, but he was mesmerized seeing all of the heavy equipment in operation and how the rock is crushed.

Another 20 residents from the YK region joined Donlin Gold staff for a tour of the Golden Sunlight Mine in Whitehall, Montana. Visitors learned from local leaders what it's like having a gold mine as their neighbor and the economic benefits it has brought to their region.

The group also learned more about large-scale gold mining by seeing the milling process (how the gold is extracted from the rock), and touring the open pit mine, stockpile, reclamation areas and the tailings storage facility at the Golden Sunlight Mine.

After adjusting to flight cancellations due to Hurricane Sandy, 30 residents from the YK region flew to Salt Lake City and then drove by motorcoach to Elko, Nevada where they toured Barrick's Goldstrike Mine.

These tours provide residents in the region with a firsthand view of what a mining project looks like, and the different facets involved from infrastructure to jobs and environmental monitoring. Donlin Gold appreciates residents taking the time to learn more about the mining industry and the proposed Donlin Gold project. ■





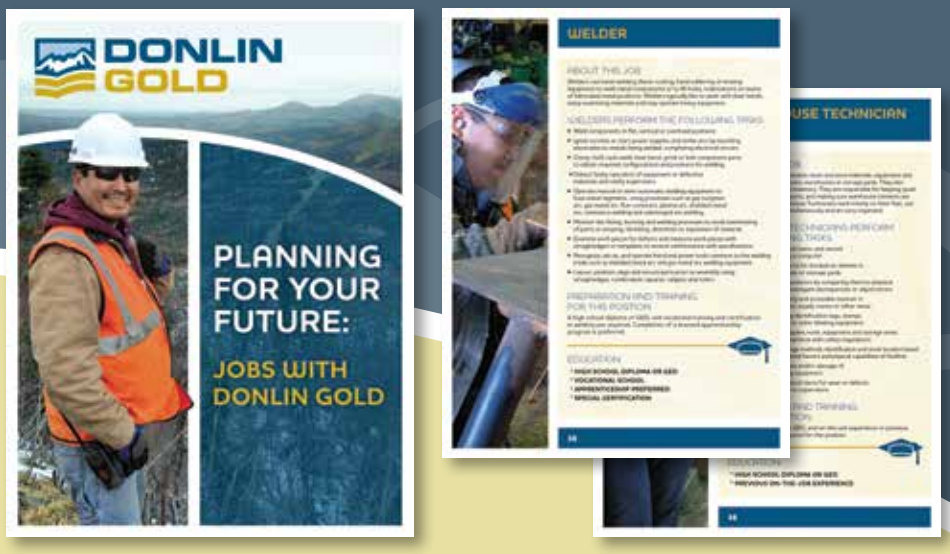






Dozens of YK residents toured operating mines with Donlin Gold staff in Alaska, Montana and Nevada to learn about the industry firsthand.

DONLIN GOLD RELEASES JOBS GUIDE



Donlin Gold has prepared a jobs booklet with information to help residents who may be interested in working for the mining project if it is approved for development. The booklet gives information about various jobs that could be available, the standard education and training necessary for each position, and a list of resources available on where someone can get the training or education. Donlin Gold is committed to hiring qualified applicants from the Yukon Kuskokwim region and giving them information that helps them prepare for the positions that could be available.

The jobs booklet also provides general information about the project and Donlin Gold's employment process. During construction of the project up to 3,000 jobs could be available, and during the estimated 27-year mining operation up to 1,400 jobs could be available. A variety of positions would need to be filled throughout the project, ranging from entry level to highly skilled.

To view the Jobs Guide:
Visit www.DonlinGold.com
Email info@DonlinGold.com
Call (888) 225-7590
Or request one by mail at the address on the back of this newsletter. ■

POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Here are some examples of jobs that could be available at Donlin Gold after the permitting process, which is currently underway.

WAREHOUSE TECHNICIAN

Warehouse Technicians receive, store and issue materials, equipment and other items from stockrooms, warehouses or storage yards. They also monitor fuel delivery and inventory. They are responsible for keeping good records and compiling reports, and making sure warehouse contents are kept in good order. Warehouse Technicians work mostly on their feet, can perform multiple tasks simultaneously and are very organized.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, and on-the-job experience or previous work experience are required for this position.

WELDER

Welders use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering or brazing equipment to weld metal components or to fill holes, indentations or seams of fabricated metal products. Welders typically like to work with their hands, enjoy examining materials and may operate heavy equipment.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, and vocational training and certification in welding are required. Completion of a licensed apprenticeship program is preferred.

DONLIN GOLD STAFF LEARN SUICIDE PREVENTION

Part of creating a safe and responsible project at Donlin Gold includes promoting the health and social well-being of employees. Suicide is a common and sensitive matter in Alaska, especially in rural communities, and in recent years a strong public effort has been placed statewide on suicide prevention and awareness.

Just before seasonal operations at the Donlin Gold camp wrapped up, guest speakers from health agencies, including the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation, provided employees with an in-depth presentation on suicide prevention called "safeTALK." The program helps people identify the signs of when someone might be thinking about suicide and what they can to help them. Suicide rates are higher in Alaska in the winter, and Donlin Gold hopes the information provided to employees during the presentation will help them make a difference in their communities.

Donlin Gold would like to thank the guest speakers who volunteered their time to get this important message out, helping to create safer and healthier communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region.

There are multiple safeTalk trainings planned in communities throughout the YK region this winter. For a full schedule, please visit: www.livingworks.net/training/region?state=Alaska ■

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER: PREPARING YOUTH FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Donlin Gold staff visit with YK region students to talk about job opportunities and preparation.

SEPTEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Dario A. Notti, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Intern" was referenced in July's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME
WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin Gold's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

NOVEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH:
WORKFORCE

Please submit your answer by January 30, 2013, by email at ***info@DonlinGold.com*** or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

JOIN DONLIN GOLD'S TALENT BANK

With the project in permitting, Donlin Gold is focused on encouraging local residents to become job-ready should the project begin construction and operation. To get a general idea of the current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: www.DonlinGold.com/employees

Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin Gold plan and prepare for future local workforce development. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2012

CORPS OF ENGINEERS ANNOUNCES PROJECT SCOPING PUBLIC MEETINGS

The US Army Corps of Engineers announced the first four scoping meetings for public comment on the proposed Donlin Gold project.

BETHEL
MONDAY, JANUARY 14

ANIAK
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

CROOKED CREEK
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

ANCHORAGE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

For more information about these and other upcoming scoping meetings as well as information about the project and the permitting process, visit www.donlingoldeis.com

2012: MOVING THE DONLIN GOLD PROJECT FORWARD

In 2012, the Donlin Gold project reached a major milestone with the official submittal of permit applications. After 16 years of project planning, collecting environmental baseline data and conducting studies, the proposed project is now being reviewed by state and federal regulatory agencies. Although permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years, Donlin Gold will continue to collect baseline data and encourage local workforce development with the anticipation of project approval.

Donlin Gold is committed to hiring as many qualified residents from the region as possible, and potential applicants need to be prepared for the thousands of potential job openings. Donlin Gold is visiting with communities to share information about the positions, and training and education that would be required for a qualified applicant. ■



Donlin Gold held dozens of tours for YK residents at the proposed project site in 2012.



Donlin Gold will continue to share job information and training resources with residents in the region.

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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PHONE:
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(888) 225-7590 toll free

Find us on Facebook at
Facebook.com/DonlinGold

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at
complaint@DonlinGold.com
or **(855) 279-0382**

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complaint@donlingold.com
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This year has marked a great milestone in our project with the submittal of our permits for the proposed Donlin Gold mine. We are excited to enter this new phase of the project and encourage you to participate in the upcoming public scoping meetings hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. With the shift to permitting, we will be ramping up our efforts to help communities become "work-ready." In the coming years, educating students and adults about the potential jobs available and the training or educational requirements for these jobs will be one of our focal points during community visits. As we advance through permitting, we will place more emphasis on identifying training needs and how Donlin Gold can work with local partners such as Yuut Elitaurviat, UA's Mining and Petroleum Training Service, AVTEC and others to help meet some of those needs. Throughout exploration we have been committed to maximizing local hire, and our commitment is as strong as ever moving forward.

Looking back on this year, I am also glad to say Donlin Gold has had the opportunity to support many local organizations and projects involving YK youth, scholars, athletes and elders. We are grateful for the dedication people involved with these organizations have for their communities. We hope to continue supporting great projects and organizations that contribute to the quality of life and education for so many in the region.

From all of us at Donlin Gold, we send our warmest wishes for a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold released its jobs booklet containing information on the potential jobs at the proposed project and training resources. Here are some examples from the jobs booklet that could be available at Donlin Gold if a decision is made to begin construction.

GEOLOGIST

Geologists play a part in all aspects of mining exploration, discovery, evaluation and production cycles. In exploration, Geologists are responsible for finding new mineral sources that can potentially be mined. Geologists conduct subsurface surveys to identify the characteristics of potential land or mining development sites. Geologists may specify the ground support systems, processes and equipment for safe, economical and environmentally sound extraction. An individual seeking a career in this field should like doing research, compiling information, analyzing and interpreting data, earth science, writing and math. They should also enjoy working in the field, in the office and in laboratory settings.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

Geologists have a high school diploma and a bachelor's degree in geology or geological engineering from an accredited college or university. Some geology positions may require a master's degree.



HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Heavy Equipment Operators (Open Pit Miners) drive a wide range of heavy equipment used in the mining process such as tractor-trailer combinations, loaders, graders, excavators, dozers (up to and including D11), forklifts, mobile cranes, or large capacity shovels or trucks. An individual seeking a career in this field should be willing to work in all climates at irregular hours, enjoy physical activity outdoors and communicate effectively.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, in addition to a certificate from a vocational school or previous experience operating heavy equipment is required.



Donlin Gold plans to continue meeting with youth and residents of the YK region to share information on potential jobs and training resources available for residents.



DONLIN GOLD EMPLOYEE NAMED CALISTA CORPORATION SHAREHOLDER OF THE YEAR

Longtime Donlin Gold employee Wasillie Kameroff was recognized as the Calista Distinguished Shareholder of the year at this year's Calista Corporation Annual Shareholders meeting. This award recognizes a shareholder who puts the interests of others above their own and helps to better the daily lives of residents in the YK region. Kameroff, who has worked for the Donlin Gold project since 1995 as the Shareholder Hire Coordinator, was nominated by his peers for the award.

Kameroff has helped create happier and healthier communities in the YK region through his efforts to build a drug- and-alcohol free workforce at Donlin Gold.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE: "SHAREHOLDER OF THE YEAR"









2012:

COMMITTED TO BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Throughout the year, Donlin Gold supported a variety of programs, initiatives and events within the Yukon Kuskokwim region. These events help Donlin Gold learn more about the values and cultural traditions of local communities. Donlin Gold is committed to being a good neighbor and will continue to be involved in and support events that help enrich the lives of residents in the YK region. ■



Photo Captions: A) Calista Heritage Foundation scholarship recipients. B) 2012 Iditarod winner Dallas Seavey at the finish line. C) Donlin Gold supports the Rural Girl Scouts of Alaska program. D) Youth in Bethel participate in Fourth of July games and activities sponsored by Donlin Gold. E) Donlin Gold employees Vernon Chimegalrea and Sue Gamache talk with booth visitor Tiffany Zulkosky at AFN. F) Donlin Gold set up an Iditarod photo tent where fans could get a photo with 2011 Jr. Iditarod winner Jeremiah Klejka. G) Students in Chevak receive dictionaries donated by Donlin Gold. H) Youth at the Cama-i Dance Festival. I) Dozens of volunteers help with the annual Bethel Clothing Drive supported by Donlin Gold.



DONLIN GOLD





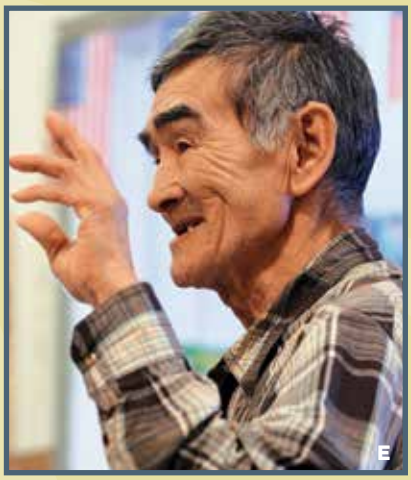












2012:

COMMUNICATING WITH THE YK REGION

Sharing information about the proposed Donlin Gold project with residents has been an important part of the planning process. In 2012, Donlin Gold staff met with 24 villages, held an additional 24 tours of the camp and proposed project site, and took residents to visit other operating mines in Alaska and the Lower 48.

Most of the project presentations during the village visits this year were given in Yup'ik, helping residents get a better understanding of the project and processes involved during development and operation. Through these visits, Donlin Gold has been able to communicate with residents, providing information about the proposed project and answering questions as they come up.

Donlin Gold appreciates the time residents have given to learn about the project, and we look forward to strengthening and building relationships with residents in the YK region. ■





Photo Captions: A) ANSEP students and chaperones visit Lewis Ridge to see the proposed project. B) YK residents toured an operating mine with Donlin Gold staff in Montana to learn about the industry firsthand. C) Donlin Gold staff visit with students in the YK region. D) Families gather to learn about the project in Eek. E) Residents ask questions during a meeting in Napakiak. F) Residents from Akiak learn about the proposed project site. G) Mildred Evan showing a core sample to her granddaughter in Akiachak. H) Residents from Kongiganak were able to come see the proposed Donlin Gold project site. I) YK residents get a safety briefing before touring an operating mine in Montana.





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IN THIS NEWSLETTER **DONLIN GOLD IN 2012: A YEAR IN REVIEW**



Donlin Gold Community Relations employee Vernon Chimegalrea helps set up boating safety equipment.

OCTOBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Angie (Olrun) Santa Ana, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "School" was referenced in October's newsletter.

MONTHLY WORD GAME WIN A PRIZE!

Join Donlin Gold's word game by finding out how many times the Word of the Month was referenced in the newsletter. Each correct answer will be entered in a prize drawing.

DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH: YEAR

Please submit your answer by January 30, 2013, by email at *info@DonlinGold.com* or mail it to the address listed on the back of this newsletter.

Continued from Inside "SHAREHOLDER OF THE YEAR"

He has helped employees take pride and responsibility in their jobs by supporting them to be safe, sober and skilled workers. These employees have taken their discipline and dedication to safety back to their communities, and they are now showing others how to do the same.

"Wasillie has gone far above any required efforts on his part," Donlin Gold Operations Manager, Bill Bieber, wrote in his nomination letter. "When you talk with the current supervisors they all say that Wasillie's coaching and guidance has helped them to be successful at their job, and therefore they have also been able to enjoy life knowing that they are accomplishing great things and they are independent."

Donlin Gold congratulates Kameroff for his achievements. Wasillie Kameroff has been a positive force within the Donlin Gold project, supporting communication efforts with residents in the region, and helping to build a local and safe workforce. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2013



ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS ON DONLIN GOLD

For the proposed Donlin Gold project, the US Army Corps of Engineers is working on putting together a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) to assess the environmental impacts of the project prior to permitting decisions being made. The EIS process for the Donlin Gold project involves a scoping stage that allows for public input to identify environmental concerns and issues related to the proposed project. Initial meetings were held during January in the region and in Anchorage. Additional meetings are scheduled throughout February and March.

PROVIDE INPUT ON THE DONLIN GOLD PROJECT

If you are unable to attend a scoping meeting, but would like to provide your input on the EIS process for the proposed Donlin Gold Project, comments can be submitted through March 29, 2013. Verbal and written comments are considered equally. Comments received after March will be considered, but will not be included in the scoping report.

You can submit your comments on the Donlin Gold project directly to the US Army Corps of Engineers by:

- Email: **comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com**
- Use the comment form on the website, **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com/Comment.aspx**
- Fax: (907) 562-1297
- Mail:
  Don Kuhle, Regulatory Division
  US Army Corps of Engineers
  PO Box 6898
  Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, AK
  99506-0898

WHAT IS AN EIS?

An environmental impact statement is a detailed document that evaluates a proposed action and considers alternatives for a project. It allows decision makers to have a complete picture of the benefits, potential risks and alternatives of a project, like the proposed Donlin Gold project, before they make any permitting decisions. The public, other agencies and organizations can provide input for the preparation of the EIS and provide comments on the draft

CONTINUED INSIDE: "ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS"

EIS PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

In January, public input meetings were held by the Corps in the following communities:

BETHEL
ANIAK
CROOKED CREEK
ANCHORAGE
NUNAPITCHUK
AKIAK

EIS meetings in Quinhagak and Kipnuk were canceled due to weather conditions and will be rescheduled.

Please be sure to visit the Army Corps of Engineer's project website for the most up-to-date information: **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com**

MEETINGS WILL BE SCHEDULED IN THE FOLLOWING VILLAGES

FEBRUARY 2013
Toksook Bay, Hooper Bay, Emmonak & Saint Mary's

MARCH 2013
Holy Cross & McGrath

Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

SEND MAIL TO:
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PHONE:
(907) 273-0200
(888) 225-7590 toll free

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For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

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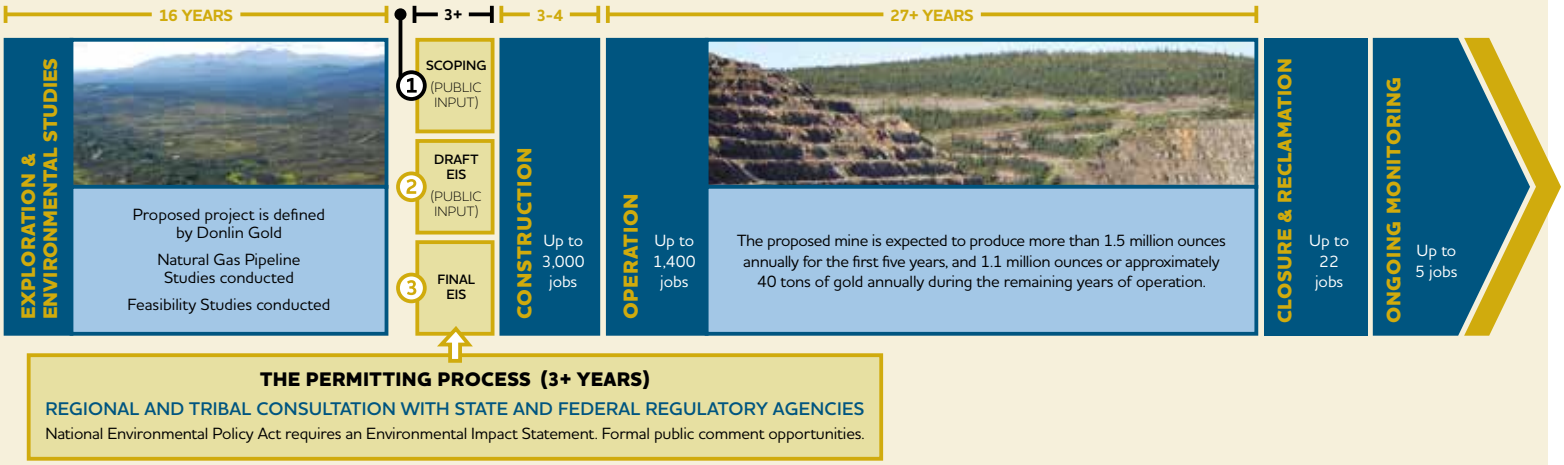
The Donlin Gold EIS is underway with the kickoff of scoping meetings that started in January. We encourage everyone to be involved in the EIS scoping meetings and throughout the process. Whether you are a supporter, you have concerns or you oppose the Donlin Gold project, your comments and concerns are important to help the regulatory agencies complete their review of our proposed project. Your comments and concerns can be provided to the US Army Corps of Engineers at the scoping meetings or by mailing or emailing them—all comments are considered equally regardless of the way they are provided.

I am very proud of our efforts over the past few years to help stakeholders better understand and visualize the proposed mine through tours of the Donlin Gold project site and through mine tours to other active operations. I am also proud of our team's efforts to openly communicate project information to stakeholders throughout the YK region and along the proposed pipeline route, of our robust baseline studies over the past 16 years, and of our history of local hire, community participation and listening to stakeholder concerns. Your input and concerns have helped shape the project into what we are proposing today, and we are committed to using the best available technologies and innovative designs. Barging has been at the forefront of concerns throughout project development, and I hope we have demonstrated to you how we have listened to your concerns—as they have truly changed the face of this project with the design of the proposed natural gas pipeline. I hope our history demonstrates to you our commitment to being an environmentally and socially responsible neighbor.

As the EIS moves forward, please continue to ask questions and share your thoughts. You will continue to see us in the region talking about workforce development and project updates. If you have any questions, please call our office or visit our website, **www.DonlinGold.com** which has up-to-date project information, as does the Corps' EIS project website, **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com**

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



K300 KICKS OFF MUSHING RACE SEASON





Top: Residents watch as mushers take off at the Kuskokwim 300 start.
Bottom: Children pet the dogs preparing to race in the K300.

"Finish what you start," was the message Bethel musher Pete Kaiser was sharing with students during Donlin Gold's fall workforce development meetings in the Yukon Kuskokwim region. And just a few months later that's exactly what Kaiser was doing in the Kuskokwim 300: applying the same principles of teamwork, safety and dedication as he and his dog sled team mushed over 300 miles to come in third place in the first major race of the mushing season.

Donlin Gold has supported the K300 for six consecutive years. A total of 21 mushers participated in the race this year, many of which are from the Yukon Kuskokwim (YK) region.

The event requires dozens of volunteers from marking the trail to providing housing and transportation to mushers and their dog sled teams. The 300-mile trail for the 2013 K300 ran from Bethel to Akiachak to Tuluksak to Kalskag to Aniak to Whitefish Lake, then back to Bethel.

Veteran musher Jeff King claimed first place in this year's K300. This was his ninth win. Many mushers who competed in the K300 will go on to compete in the Iditarod in just a few weeks. While many of them enjoy mushing as a sport, they also do it to honor the traditional values of their culture.

Donlin Gold is a major sponsor of the K300, honoring the YK region's history of mining and mushing. ■



Donlin Gold employee Peter Boise Alexie has been recognized for his outstanding safety practices with a Barrick Excellence Award.

DONLIN GOLD EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED WITH BARRICK EXCELLENCE AWARD

Every year one of Donlin Gold's parent companies, Barrick Gold, recognizes people who have demonstrated leadership, commitment and achievement in safety, continuous improvement, security, community relations and environment at its properties around the world. This year, Donlin Gold employee Peter Boise Alexie was selected among thousands of possible recipients to receive the "Barrick Excellence Award" for being a Safety Champion.

Alexie has played a vital role in developing Donlin Gold's strong safety culture and ensuring all employees operate safely. Alexie regularly conducts field level risk assessments and takes initiative to stop or delay unsafe activities. His promotion of safety extends beyond the workplace and has reached communities in the Yukon Kuskokwim region, encouraging families to live safely each day.

Donlin Gold congratulates Boise Alexie, and is thankful for all of his hard work and commitment to safety. Employees like Alexie help Donlin Gold achieve its safety motto, "each and every person going home safe and healthy every day." ■

Continued from Front Page "ARMY CORPS BEGINS PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS"

EIS. The EIS process can take a few years to complete and involves several steps. A draft EIS is developed followed by a final EIS and is then completed with a Record of Decision.

The US Army Corps of Engineers is the "lead agency" for the Donlin Gold project EIS, that is, they are the agency that leads the process. In addition to a lead agency, there may also be cooperating agencies that either have special expertise to offer or that have jurisdiction (or permitting authority for some resource). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources are serving as cooperating agencies. Cooperating tribes include the federally recognized tribes of Crooked Creek, Chuathbaluk, and Napaimute. The Kuskokwim River Watershed Council is a regional cooperating organization.

For updates and more information on the EIS process for the Donlin Gold project please visit: **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com** ■

ESTIMATED TIMELINE OF THE EIS PROCESS (Information adapted from the US Army Corps of Engineers)



DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

To assist tribes in the Kuskokwim region with their environmental programs, Donlin Gold provided a nearly $50,000 donation to the Kuskokwim River Watershed Council (KRWC). The funds will help provide scholarships to federally recognized tribes in the region to help train staff in monitoring water quality and handling invasive plant species.

This past summer, through the KRWC Invasive Species Field Program, two invasive plant species were found in Bethel and another species was found in Quinhagak. This may be an indication that there may be more invasive plant species in other locations. Invasive plant species can cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human, animal or plant health.

The KRWC also provides special trainings for villages to promote environmental programs and the collection of baseline natural science data. There are several two-and-a-half day trainings KRWC has planned for villages this year. Donated funds to the KRWC are used to pay for travel expenses for tribal staff, training materials, water quality equipment and instructors. During the trainings tribes will also be educated on how to write a Quality Assurance Project Plan, which is essential to all water quality science programs.

Donlin Gold is committed to responsible development and, like the KRWC, understands the importance of collecting scientific data for evaluation and planning purposes. Donlin Gold is pleased to support the KRWC, which is dedicated to maintaining and promoting healthy habitat areas essential to fish and wildlife subsistence resources and for the well-being of all indigenous tribes. ■



The Kuskokwim River Watershed Council provides training for tribes to learn how to monitor water quality in the region.

POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold published a jobs booklet containing information on the potential jobs at the proposed project and training resources. In each newsletter, Donlin Gold is highlighting some of the careers from the jobs booklet that could be available if a decision is made to begin construction of the mining project. You can view the full jobs booklet online by visiting **www.DonlinGold.com/employees**

DRILLER

Drillers safely operate a variety of heavy drilling equipment for completing wells and bore holes into the ground to remove core samples during mineral exploration or soil testing, and to facilitate the use of explosives in mining. Drillers may use vertical or horizontal earth boring machines. A Driller must be comfortable with holding a position of high responsibility, work well under pressure and must work well with others.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED and some previous work-related experience are required for this job. Completion of an apprenticeship program is preferred.



ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Environmental Engineers research, design, plan or perform engineering duties in the prevention, control and remediation of environmental hazards using various engineering and scientific disciplines. Work may include waste treatment, site remediation or pollution control technology. An individual seeking this position should be a problem solver, analyzer and be able to work with others toward a common goal.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, and a bachelor's degree or higher in environmental sciences or engineering from an accredited college or university program are required for this job.



Donlin Gold plans to continue meeting with youth and residents of the YK region to share information on potential jobs and training resources available for residents. ■



Snowmachine riders should always wear goggles and a safety helmet.

BE SAFE: ON THE GO, IN THE SNOW

As seasons change in Alaska, so do our activities. Many residents in the Yukon Kuskokwim region travel by snowmachine in the winter. Whether it's visiting friends and family or going trapping, hunting or ice fishing, snowmachines provide a reliable way to get around in the snow. By following safety practices, we can make sure our winter expeditions remain safe and fun for our families.

SNOWMACHINE SAFETY

- Wear goggles and a safety helmet approved for use on motorized vehicles.
- Travel at safe speeds, and always scan your surroundings for potential hazards and obstacles.
- Create a trip plan and tell someone where you are going, who you are with, when you expect to return and what equipment you have with you.
- Be careful when traveling near water, and do not take risks. Drowning is a leading cause of snowmachine deaths in Alaska.
- Make sure you are appropriately dressed for the weather conditions and have extra food and water, and a communication device as well as a first aid kit and flash light.
- Do not drink and ride. Alcohol, cold and fatigue can impair your ability to make sound judgments.

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER K300 KICKS OFF MUSHING RACE SEASON



Donlin Gold employees Mary Sattler, Vernon Chimegalrea and Colleen Laraux at the start of the Kuskokwim 300.

NOVEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Alden J. Walker Jr., our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Workforce" was referenced in November's newsletter.

DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH WINNER

Congratulations to Patricia Gineu Jacobus, our Word of the Month winner who guessed the correct amount of times the word "Year" was referenced in December's newsletter.

JOIN DONLIN GOLD'S TALENT BANK

With the project in permitting, Donlin Gold is focused on building a local workforce. If the project is approved for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin Gold is committed to filling these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin Gold create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: **www.DonlinGold.com/employees**

Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin Gold plan and prepare for future local workforce development needs. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. During this time, residents can start preparing themselves with the training and education they will need to join the Donlin Gold team. Donlin Gold's workforce development plan will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2013

DONLIN GOLD

EIS PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

In February, public input meetings were held by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the following communities:

MCGRATH
HOOPER BAY
TOKSOOK BAY

The meetings in Kipnuk and Quinhagak were canceled. Check the Army Corps of Engineer's project website at **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com** for rescheduling information.

FUTURE EIS MEETINGS

Due to weather delays, the initially published schedule has been altered. For up-to-date meeting information, please visit the Corps' project website at **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com**

DONLIN GOLD RECOGNIZED FOR SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF WORKPLACE SAFETY

Donlin Gold has been recognized by Barrick Gold Corporation with a "Site of Merit Safety Award" for accomplishing another year of zero lost time incidents in the workplace. Every year, Barrick recognizes project and mining sites around the world that have demonstrated leadership, commitment and achievement in safety and the environment.

> "For seven consecutive years Donlin Gold has been recognized for zero loss time incidents in the workplace."



Donlin Gold has been recognized with many safety awards including seven "Site of Merit Safety" Awards.

Barrick Gold Corporation Chief Operating Officer, Igor Gonzales, congratulated the Donlin Gold team for their accomplishment. "Having everyone go home safe and healthy every day only happens through hard work, courageous leadership and dedication from everyone," Gonzales said.

This is the seventh consecutive year Donlin Gold has been honored with this award in recognition of 365 days without any accidents in the workplace. Donlin Gold's safety record is an example of the strong safety standards employees practice to provide an injury-free workplace. ■

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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PHONE:
(907) 273-0200
(888) 225-7590 toll free

Find us on Facebook at
Facebook.com/DonlinGold

For more project information visit us online at ***www.DonlinGold.com***

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at
complaint@DonlinGold.com
or **(855) 279-0382**

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Face to Face *with Stan Foo*

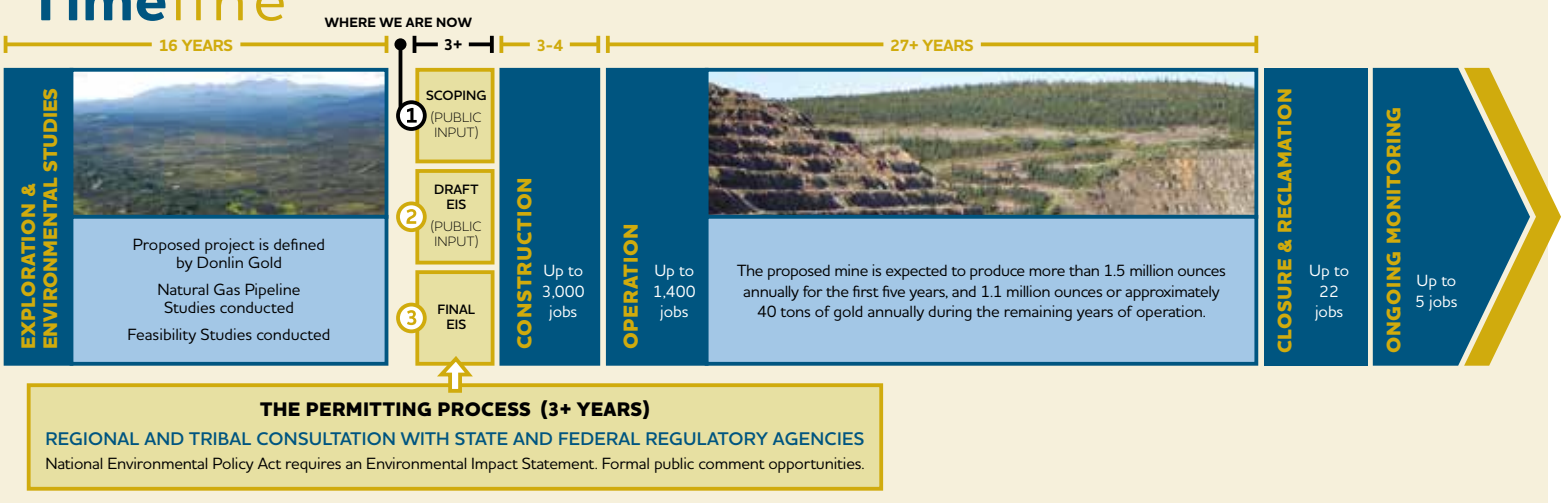


"Each and every person going home safe and healthy every day" is a motto we take very seriously at Donlin Gold. Safety is a top priority in everything we do and support. Maybe you have noticed this firsthand—from a friend or relative who worked at Donlin Gold and shared a safety tip or one you read in our newsletters; maybe you used one of the many life vests Donlin Gold helped make available in YK villages over the past couple of years; or perhaps you won a snowmachine helmet as a door prize at a public meeting or the Donlin Gold Safety Expo held just recently for the Iron Dog.

I am proud of Donlin Gold's safety practices and policies, and our employees' dedication to upholding the highest safety standards. Some of your friends, neighbors and family who have worked at Donlin Gold over the years have become safety leaders at our project site. Last month, we highlighted Boise Alexie's recognition with the Barrick Excellence Award for being a Safety Champion, and this month I am proud to say we have achieved our seventh consecutive year of an accident-free workplace. Barrick recognizes this accomplishment with the "Site of Merit Safety Award", which is the result of every Donlin Gold Camp employees' efforts and dedication to safety. This award will join the other six in the trophy case at Camp, which reminds staff each day of their hard work and courageous leadership. Congratulations to all Donlin Gold Camp employees on this significant achievement!

Stan Foo
General Manager
Donlin Gold

Timeline



POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold published a jobs booklet containing information on the potential jobs at the proposed project and training resources. In each newsletter, Donlin Gold is highlighting some of the careers from the jobs booklet that could be available if a decision is made to begin construction of the mining project.

SURVEYOR

Surveyors adjust and operate surveying instruments, such as the theodolite and electronic distance-measuring equipment. They provide information to personnel on a mine site that may include the locations of ore and waste, buildings and related land locations. They also compile notes, make sketches and enter data into computers. Surveyors typically like to conduct research and analyze information as well as work out in the field.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED, and certification from a technical training program, or a college or university degree are required for this job.



CAMP SERVICES WORKER

Camp Services include cooking and housekeeping. Cooks prepare meals throughout the day following safe food handling practices, while maintaining a clean and organized kitchen and dining hall. Housekeepers are responsible for maintaining sanitary and clean environments in all residential and working facilities. An individual seeking one of these positions will be task oriented, willing to work on their feet most of the day and can adjust to different project demands.

PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED is preferred for this position. Housekeepers may have previous on-the-job experience. Cooks and bakers may have previous on-the-job experience, but a vocational certificate is preferred.



You can view the full Donlin Gold Jobs Booklet online by visiting *www.DonlinGold.com/employees*

JOIN DONLIN GOLD'S TALENT BANK

With the project in permitting, Donlin Gold is focused on building a local workforce. If the project is approved for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin Gold is committed to filling these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin Gold create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: **www.DonlinGold.com/employees**

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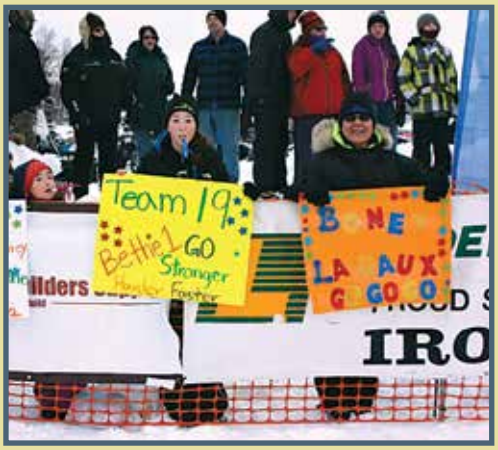
Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. During this time, residents can start preparing themselves with the training and education they will need to join the Donlin Gold team. Donlin Gold's workforce development plan will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant.

DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS SAFETY IN IRON DOG RACE

It is important for Iron Dog racers to be ready to ride through some of Alaska's most challenging terrain since they are participating in the world's longest and toughest snowmachine race – over 2,000 miles. To help racers prepare for their journey, Donlin Gold sponsored this year's annual Iron Dog Safety Expo, which provided racers and the public with snowmachine safety demonstrations and a pre-race safety inspection of the racers' rides and gear.

Donlin Gold stresses the importance of snowmachine safety, including wearing a helmet. Donlin Gold is a premier sponsor of the Iron Dog and a principal sponsor of the race's Nome halfway gold prize.







Photos (Top): Donlin Gold External Affairs Manager Kurt Parkan provides a snowmachine helmet at the Iron Dog Safety Expo. (Bottom Left): Fans support their teams at the Iron Dog Start. (Bottom Right): Donlin Gold Community Relations Manager Mary Sattler with Iron Dog Team 19, Steven Boney and Arthur Laraux of Bethel.





WINTER WEATHER: INDOOR SAFETY

As the temperature drops, many of us tend to spend more time indoors. It's important to follow certain practices to ensure the safety of our homes and families as we try to stay warm. The following are some indoor safety tips for winter (provided by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention).

INDOOR SAFETY DURING WINTER:

- Use fireplace, wood stoves or other combustion heaters only if they are properly vented to the outside and do not leak gas into the indoor air space.
- Never use a charcoal or gas grill indoors—the fumes are deadly.
- Keep as much heat as possible inside your home.
- Check the temperature in your home often during severely cold weather.
- Do not leave heating devices, such as electric heaters or candles, unattended.
- Do not allow water from dripping faucets to go down the drain. Instead, catch it in buckets or pans. Slow, running water can freeze and block your drainpipe.

CORPS CONTINUES WITH DONLIN GOLD PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

In January, the US Army Corps of Engineers began hosting scoping meetings to get public input on the proposed Donlin Gold project as the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) gets underway. There are different ways the public can provide input: by participating in a scoping meeting or by submitting comments by mail or email to the Corps.

The EIS scoping period ends on March 29, 2013. The Corps expects to publish the results of the scoping meetings in May.

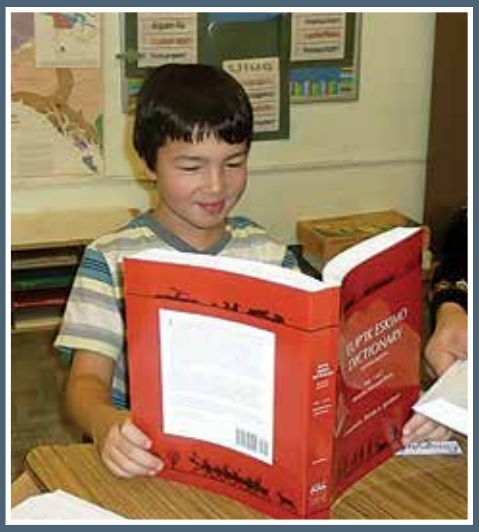
The scoping meetings and comment period provide opportunities for people who may be affected by the proposed project to express their concerns and insight, and offer input for the Corps to consider. During a scoping meeting, attendees are given a brief overview of the Donlin Gold project and the Corps explains the EIS process. Attendees at the scoping meeting can either provide their comments verbally or can submit their written comments. Sharing your thoughts about how the proposed project could potentially affect you, your community and the environment are helpful for those developing the EIS. Also, if you are aware of any literature that describes the current or past environment, these are valuable things to share in your comments.

An updated schedule of the scoping meetings is provided on the Corps' project website, **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com** The next opportunity for public review of the proposed Donlin Gold project will be after the release of the draft EIS, which is projected to be in August 2014. ■

Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS (Provided by the US Army Corps of Engineers)

- Bring written comments to a meeting
- Use the comment form on the project website, **www.DonlinGoldEIS.com**
- Email: **comments@DonlinGoldEIS.com**
- Fax comments to: (907) 562-1297
- Write to: Don Kuhle,
  Regulatory Division
  US Army Corps of Engineers
  PO Box 6898
  Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, AK
  99506-0898



Van Mat'vii Kapsner, third grader at Ayuprun Elitnaurvik Yup'ik Immersion School in Bethel.

DONLIN GOLD PROVIDES YUP'IK DICTIONARIES TO YK STUDENTS

Students and school libraries throughout the Yukon Kuskokwim region have been receiving Yup'ik dictionaries donated by Donlin Gold. The donation stems from a project Donlin Gold has been participating in, the National Dictionary Project. That project provides third graders with a dictionary to encourage students to become good writers, readers and resourceful thinkers at a young age. However, many schools in the YK region incorporate the traditional and cultural values into their teaching and education plans. This includes teaching the Yup'ik language.

The Yup'ik dictionaries, provided by Donlin Gold, are an updated version of a dictionary that was originally published in 1984 by the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Many schools have said the dictionaries help enhance their focus on language and culture.

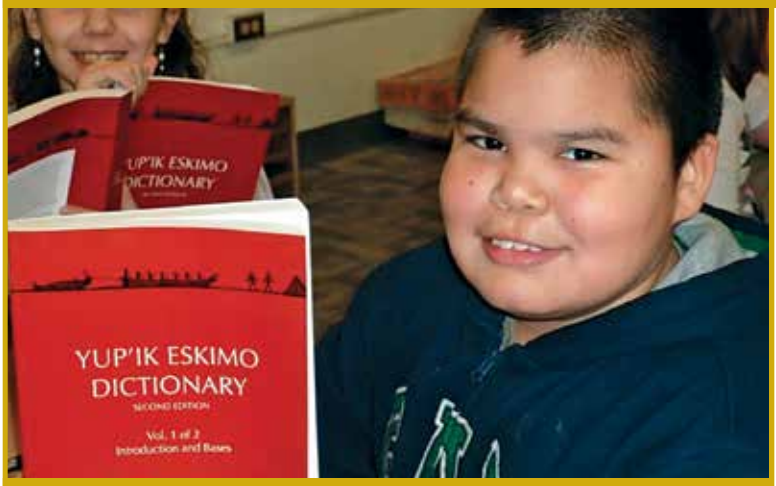
"As future leaders in the area, knowledge of Yup'ik language and culture is critically important to our students," said Daniel Walker, the Assistant Superintendent of the Lower Kuskokwim School District. "Donlin Gold's donation will help provide an additional, rich resource for our students." ■

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IN THIS NEWSLETTER **YK STUDENTS PROVIDED WITH YUP'IK DICTIONARIES**



Donlin Gold recently provided each student at Ayaprun Elitnaurvik Immersion School with a Yup'ik dictionary, including this third grader, George Tutmaralria Gregory.

DONLIN GOLD SUPPORTS SPECIAL IDITAROD WISH

You can call it the best seat in the house, except instead of a house it is the ceremonial start of the Iditarod in Anchorage. You can feel the cold crisp air on your face as you hear dozens of dogs barking with excitement and see hundreds of fans lined up on the street watching sled dog teams prepare to take off. Behind you is the leader of the pack; chances are it's a musher that has placed in the top 10 and you are sitting in their sled, waiting to ride off with the team.

Not everyone gets to have the Iditarider experience. In fact, many people pay thousands of dollars for the chance to ride in the musher's dog sled for the first 11 miles of the Iditarod ceremonial start. It is an opportunity many people wish for, including 13-year-old Hannah O'Toole of Glastonbury, Connecticut. But this year, Hannah's wish will come true.

Donlin Gold is offering this unique Iditarod opportunity to Hannah and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. An avid dog lover, Hannah will also get to have lunch with all of the Iditarod mushers prior to the start of the race and will have special access at the race restart in Willow, Alaska.

According to the foundation, Hannah's first wish is to go dog sledding. She chose this wish because she wanted to experience the winter environment and the dogs. Donlin Gold is pleased to help make Hannah's wish come true and share the experience of the Last Great Race.



13-year-old Hannah O'Toole will get to ride in the sled of an Iditarod musher during the ceremonial start in Anchorage this year.

For the third consecutive year, Donlin Gold is a Principal Partner Sponsor of the Iditarod, celebrating the Yukon Kuskokwim region's history in mining and mushing. Donlin Gold is also sponsoring three Iditarod mushers from the YK region: Mike Williams Sr. and Mike Williams Jr. of Akiak, and Pete Kaiser of Bethel. Donlin Gold would like to wish all of the mushers a safe and fun race, and may Hannah have a wonderful experience during her ride. ■

DONLIN GOLD IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MINING PROJECT THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES IN THE YUKON KUSKOKWIM REGION TO LIVE IN HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES