

TTCD Newsletter—Fall 2018

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

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Subsistence is Our Agriculture.

Habitat Monitoring & Restoration Program

This summer, TTCD, Native Village of Tyonek, Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, and other partners initiated an invasive pike suppression task force for the Threemile Creek drainage. The task force worked through the month of June and removed 1,335 pike from the drainage. In addition to pike control, the team established an outstanding working group for future years and created the largest known dataset on an invasive pike population in Alaska. Suppression efforts are planned to continue in May and June of 2019.

In 2018, TTCD and partners completed culvert replacements on lower Indian Creek and the

Left: One pike removed from Threemile Creek this June had 20 juvenile salmon in its stomach.

Right: Newly installed culvert on lower Indian Creek.



Congahbuna Lake outlet, restoring salmon access to upstream habitat. Thank you so much to our partners: The Boutet Company, Tyonek Contractors, Western Construction, Native Village of Tyonek, Tyonek Native Corporation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership, ConcoPhillips AK, Hilcorp, Cook Inlet Region Inc, AK Sustainable Salmon Fund, and AK Department of Natural Resources.

TTCD and NVT held a culvert blessing ceremony on October 4 to celebrate these projects with community members, students, and project partners. Thanks to everyone for attending!



Technical Assistance Program

This year, TTCD and the NVT Environmental Department worked with Western Construction to remove 4,263 lbs of lead batteries. Since 2014, we have now removed over 10,000 lbs of lead batteries from Tyonek, preventing future water

contamination issues from aging batteries!

TTCD and NVT plan to continue removing lead batteries, electronic waste, and other hazardous materials to dispose of them properly.

In this issue:

Habitat Monitoring & Restoration Program	1
Technical Assistance Program	1
Tyonek Grown	2
TYCS Program	2



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Tyonek Grown Program

In 2018, TTCD Garden Supervisor Gwen Chickalusion and Summer Youth Interns Leeanne Smoke, Janie Standifer, Reka Smoke, Dominic Moon, Steven Standifer, and Alicia Smoke did a fantastic job growing a bounty of vegetables.

This year, NVT connected a waterline to the Tyonek Garden, making potable water available, and TTCD added row cover to the outdoor fields. The Annual Garden Blessing Cere-

mony was held in May and involved the Tebughna School and Tyonek community members, and kicked off a productive growing season.

On Potato Harvest Day, students and staff harvested more than 600 lbs, and additional harvests by staff put the total at over 1,000 lbs—Great job everyone! Potatoes will be provided to the Tyonek Elders program and Tebughna School, and will be available for purchase at the Tribal Center and in Anchorage.



Above: Sam Bartels with new water line.

Below: Blessing Ceremony in May.



Below, L to R: Janie Standifer, Steven Standifer, and Dominic Moon hold a market; Alicia, Leeanne, and Reka Smoke in high tunnel; Potato harvest day with Tebughna School.



Other ways that you can support TTCD:

1. Earn donations for TTCD by shopping at Fred Meyer!
Link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to AC438 at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.
2. Contribute through Pick.Click.Give
3. Earn donations for TTCD when you shop on amazon through smile.amazon.com.
4. Donate to TTCD through our website: www.ttcd.org

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**Thank you so much
for your support!
- TTCD Board of
Directors and
Executive Director**

Tyonek Youth Conservation Science Program

In September, TTCD received a three year grant from the US Department of Education Alaska Native Education Program to support monthly conservation science lessons at the Tebughna School and TTCD's youth internship program. Check our Facebook page to learn more about future lessons at the school and the progress of this exciting project.

Now that the outdoor growing season has ended, TTCD and the Tebughna School are gearing up to utilize TTCD's hydroponics system for winter veggies. Students will have the opportunity to not only learn more about hydroponics, but to eat fresh greens produced by this system during the winter months.