



Tyonek

TRIBAL
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

June, 2026

June marked the start of TTCD's "pike camp," where our Habitat Monitoring and Restoration team spends the entire month in Beluga eradicating invasive pike that prey on juvenile salmonids. Pictured is Bella, a staff member of our partner, the Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission, examining a northern pike's stomach contents. June also marked the beginning of the TTCD Youth Summer Internships, ongoing work to complete the yurt at the Tyonek Garden and a summer reading event for Tyonek youth. Plus, TTCD is hiring!



Dena'ina word of the month



Our Dena'ina word of the month is Na'tukda jani, which means Father's Day. Because Father's Day falls in June, it's a good opportunity to learn how this concept is expressed in Dena'ina and continue building our family-related vocabulary.

Na'tukda jani:
Father's Day

Habitat Monitoring & Restoration



The HMR team has been busy at work in Beluga this month at “pike camp,” our month-long field camp in June aimed at suppressing invasive Northern pike in the southcentral region. So far this month, over 800 invasive pike have been removed by TTCD crew and partners! In Tyonek, the team has been partnering with local subsistence fishers to gather data from their Chinook catches, collecting weight, length, and scales from captured kings to improve our understanding of the conditions of returning fish. Many thanks to all the subsistence fishers who contributed to our collection efforts!

Tyonek Grown

The Tyonek Grown program hosted its Youth Summer Internship orientation at the start of this month, welcoming six youth interns in addition to a Farm & Field Technician who served as a youth intern in previous years. Since then, our interns have been hard at work weeding, prepping beds, and planting at the Tyonek Garden.



Tyonek Gather



It looks like summer out there, Tyonek Gather friends! This month we have fresh hot house grown beefsteak and cocktail tomatoes, English cucumbers, and eggs from Polaris Farm out in Palmer. We look forward to bringing you more veggies as soon as we can! Keep an eye out for our first Tyonek Grown farmers market, starting in July.

Sign up and order from the Tyonek Gather marketplace: tyonekgather.localfoodmarketplace.com.

Tyonek Youth Conservation Science

We hosted a joyful youth storytelling and garden day at the Tyonek Garden. Youth gathered to listen to stories, plant seeds for the season, and enjoy popsicles while learning and connecting in the garden space.



Observe & Report

It's pupping season, and multiple young seal pups have been spotted alone along the shores of Cook Inlet. Sometimes young animals may look abandoned but their mothers are actually nearby. Please keep your distance and ensure people, vehicles, and dogs stay well away. Do not approach or handle the animal. Instead, call the Marine Mammal Stranding Hotline with your observations so trained responders can advise next steps, which may include monitoring, leaving the animal alone, or initiating a rescue if needed. Disturbance can cause stress and harm to the animal's chances of survival.

Find information here:

https://www.alaskasealife.org/stranding_guidelines

TTCD Store

TTCD has some new swag, including zip-up hoodies! You can order TTCD and Tyonek Grown gear on our website! Go to ttcd.org and click "Shop."



WE ARE HIRING!

COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR



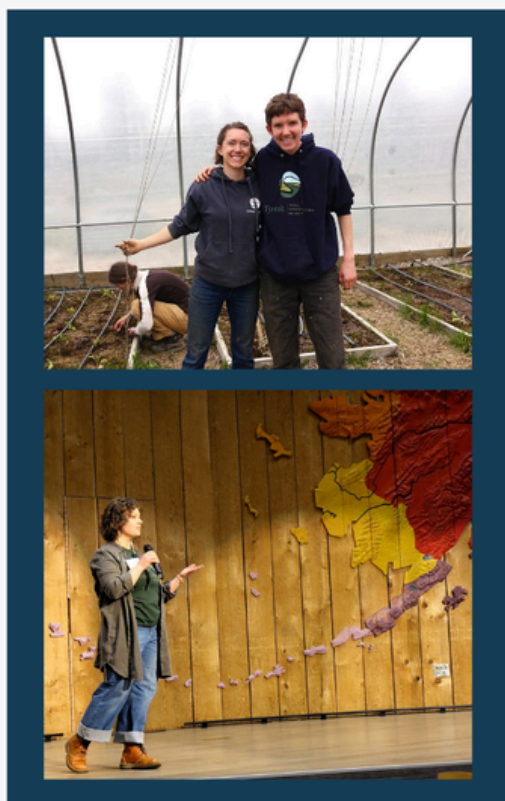
EXEMPT/FULL-TIME SALARIED \$65,000

We are seeking a full-time Communications and Engagement Coordinator to join our team! This position is responsible for working with the Executive Director and Grants & Programs Coordinator to support the new Alaska Tribal Conservation District Network, manage external media and outreach, and support fund development.

APPLY BY: POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB FUNCTIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement communications strategies supporting organizational priorities, programs, and fundraising
- Coordinate meetings, events, trainings, communications, and subgrant relationships for the Alaska Tribal Conservation District Network. Organize annual statewide symposium and other network training events
- Manage newsletters, social media, websites, and outreach content and schedules
- Assist with donor stewardship and fundraising activities
- Translate complex information into clear, compelling messages for diverse audiences
- Assist with grant reporting and funder communications
- Provide consistency in external communications to multiple target audiences



HOW TO APPLY!

Submit a resume and a cover letter describing your interests and qualifications. Email your application to admin@ttcd.org.



Submit your application materials to admin@ttcd.org. Position open until filled.

For a full description of the job, visit www.ttcd.org



admin@ttcd.org | 907-278-1022

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What's on the menu?

Recipe: Rhubarb Cobbler

Rhubarb Filling:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 4 cups chopped rhubarb
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 tablespoon butter, diced
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Topping:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons white sugar, divided
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cold butter, cubed
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk
- 1 large egg

Directions

- Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Lightly grease a 9-inch square baking dish.
- Filling: Mix sugar and cornstarch together in a large saucepan. Stir in rhubarb and water. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 minute. Transfer to prepared baking dish. Dot with butter and sprinkle with cinnamon.
- Topping: Sift together flour, 1 Tbsp sugar, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl. Cut in butter with 2 knives or a pastry blender until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Beat together milk and egg in a small bowl; add to flour mixture and stir until just moistened.
- Drop spoonfuls of topping over rhubarb filling. Sprinkle with remaining 2 Tbsp sugar.
- Bake in the preheated oven until rhubarb is bubbling and topping is crisp and lightly browned ~ 20 mins.



How's it growing?



Check out the asparagus shooting up in the high tunnels at the Tyonek Garden! This asparagus is from a trial planted three years ago that we are now finally able to harvest! Asparagus harvesting begins in the third year after planting, and the harvest window lasts for 4 to 8 weeks.

