



# Neqsurtet Nepiit

*“The Sound of the Fishermen”*

Fall 2006

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 4

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The second bulletin from my desk for this year reported that the efforts of our company to achieve long-term allocation stability through congressional legislation were well under way. We are happy to report that on July 11, 2006, President Bush signed that legislation into law. The amended act locks in our current Bering Sea harvest quota allocation levels, and will be reviewed on a ten-year basis. Thanks go in no small part to the tremendous signature support shown by our communities.

We continue our work to provide economic opportunities for our residents. We have built a salmon operation that provides limited fish buying and processing from a plant that was started by the community of Quinhagak. That limited capacity has forced us at times to limit fish deliveries. With that in mind, we are seriously looking at the feasibility of building a larger capacity plant in the Platinum area, where our tenders can deliver at any time regardless of tide. That, in the absence of any other locally run commercial fish operations, allows for much needed economic activity by our residents on the Kuskokwim River.

This year, for the first time, we have harvested all of the 4E halibut quota. Communicating and working with our fisherman, we continue to improve that fishery. The Mekoryuk plant met an important milestone in meeting self-sustaining goals by just about breaking even.

All these activities show that we are indeed producing fisheries related activity in our region as the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Management and Conservation Act intended. And we continue to learn and improve, thanks to the input and teamwork of the Board of Directors and management.

In the great history of our culture, every resource was put to maximum use, with very little waste of resources. With that background in mind, our transportation assets are being used creatively at the tail end of the fishing season, by bringing wood from the Kenai Peninsula. With the cost of fuel and energy affecting every facet of our lives, this is meant to try and help the very high cost of heating fuel in our communities that do not have ready access to wood supplies. By bringing wood from an area that has an abundance of wood, this helps to ease the strain on our local wood resources. Depending on the success of this endeavor, we will make improved efforts to continue this.

Until the next issue, we wish everyone a successful fall hunting season.

Oscar Evon, President



CHEFORNAK • CHEVAK • EEK • GOODNEWS BAY • HOOPER BAY • KIPNUK • KONGIGANAK  
KWIGILLINGOK • MEKORYUK • NAPAKIAK • NAPASKIAK • NEWTOK • NIGHTMUTE • OSCARVILLE  
PLATINUM • QUINHAGAK • SCAMMON BAY • TOKSOOK BAY • TUNTUTULIAK • TUNUNAK

**FISHERIES UPDATE – Fall 2006**

**Herring Fisheries**

Herring fishermen harvested 416 tons (832,000lbs) of herring in the Kuskokwim Herring Districts. Cape Avinof district was not opened due to lack of participation, and Nunivak Island is not open for commercial harvest. Herring started about a week late due to the late spring.

The following is a summary of the activity for 2006.

District	Quota (tons)	Harvest	Roe %
Nelson Island	562	260	10.88%
Cape Avinof	105	0	-
Cape Romanzof	609	92	10.07%
Goodnews Bay	822	64	9.64%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,098</b>	<b>416</b>	



*Moses Pitka showing off a huge halibut at South Nunivak*



*Fishermen delivering halibut at South Nunivak*



*Heading to Nunivak Island to set up the satellite dish*

**Halibut Fisheries**

Local halibut fishermen had their most successful season in recent memory harvesting 240,974 lbs or all of CVRF's 4E quota. Grounds prices are the highest they have ever been paying \$2.50 per pound shoreside and \$2.25 per pound on the tender. This is \$.50 more than 2005 and \$1.25 more than 2004 and 2003.

Western Alaska experienced a colder than normal spring which effected all three of our fisheries. At the beginning of the season, CVS had problems with snow pack and frozen water lines at the plants, and the fleet could not get out to the halibut grounds. Once the ice receded, fishermen landed near record amounts of halibut.

Volumes increased at several plants and we look forward to this continuing in the 2007 fishing season. Fishermen were able to walk away with more cash in their pockets even with the higher fuel prices this season.

Demand is excellent for CVS halibut due to the high quality of our product. CVS only purchases #1 halibut from fishermen and this is reflected in the market price received for sales. CVS is aiming to further increase the volume running through these six plants which should reduce the operating losses making these plants more sustainable.

	2002 Harvest	2003 Harvest	2004 Harvest	2005 Harvest	2006 Harvest
Chefornak	2,874	1,024	5,548	6,974	12,993
Mekoryuk	156,432	83,531	96,784	117,270	86,658
Quinhagak	1,534	766	1,034	1,505	966
Toksook Bay	59,801	65,302	17,580	62,726	90,110
Tununak	33,580	20,009	8,176	18,696	34,067
S.Nunivak Tender	-	-	22,864	-	11,701
Hooper Bay	-	1,747	43	1,627	418
Kipnuk	112	4,750	1,745	1,146	4,061
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254,333</b>	<b>177,129</b>	<b>153,774</b>	<b>209,944</b>	<b>240,974*</b>

\*all of the 4E quota was taken this season

## Salmon Fisheries

The Quinhagak processing plant had a record year purchasing 1.8 million pounds of salmon. This plant purchases product in District W4 and W5. The first opener was June 15th for Kings and the last was September 1st for Cohos. This record production netted cash in fishermen's pockets, overtime for plant workers, and more production for CVS customers.

**Where do our Quinhagak workers come from?** This season, the CVS Quinhagak plant employed 165 workers from Chefornak, Chevak, Eek, Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Newtown, Quinhagak, Scammon Bay, Toksook Bay, Akiachak, Bethel, Kalskag, Kasigluk, Kwethluk, Lower Kalskag, Mountain Village, Nunapitchak, and Pilot Station.

**Where do our District 4 and District 5 fishermen come from?** This season, the CVS Quinhagak plant purchased salmon from 155 permit holders from Eek, Goodnews Bay, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Napakiak, Oscarville, Platinum, Quinhagak, Toksook Bay and Tuntutuliak, Akiachak, Aniak, Bethel and Atmautlauk.

Our Quinhagak plant was on limits during the peak of the salmon run and only those fishermen who had been fishing since June 15 were allowed to continue fishing, not allowing any new fishermen to enter the pool of active fishers delivering to the plant or tenders. This type of strategy rewards those fishermen who start fishing early in the season and fish consistently throughout the season. Allowing NEW fishermen to deliver during the peak would wrongfully punish our A LIST PROFESSIONAL FISHERMEN. All fishers who start fishing early, consistently every opener, and ice and bleed their catch remain on the A LIST with no exceptions. All other permit holders remain on the B LIST and are welcome to deliver when the processing plant is not on limits. If you want to be on the A LIST during 2007, plan on fishing early so you are included when CVS goes on limits.

The Quinhagak processing plant experienced a major water shortage in July. This was caused by the Fall 2005 storms that washed away the City's wells on the Kanektok River. Joe Hall, CVRF fisheries manager, shut down the plant once he found out that local residents were suffering with water shortages, and immediately held a meeting and subsequent teleconference to come up with a plan to resolve the problem. 165 plant workers from all over our region, 155 fishermen from several CVRF member communities and over 650 local residents rely upon the water plant in Quinhagak each summer. We quickly came up with a plan to dig a new well near the river to restore the City's water, as well as the water supply to the processing plant. Joe Hall would like to thank the following for their direct herculean efforts in resolving this potentially season-ending crisis:

- Paul Varady, CVRF Department Director - Projects
- Mike Bird, CVRF Senior Project Manager
- Jim Sartelle, CVS Quinhagak Plant Manager
- Annie Roach, NVK Tribal Administrator
- Bob White, YKHC Remote Village Technician
- Jonathan Alexie, NVK Water Treatment Plant Operator

The Quinhagak processing plant would not have reopened this season without all their help and it was nice working with such a professional team.



*Drying the catch for winter*



*Toksook Bay children sitting under a rack of drying salmon strips*



*A commercial fisherman laying out the net*



*Two commercial fishermen pulling in the catch*



*The F/V Kelly Mae tendering on the Kuskokwim River*



*Fishermen lining up to deliver salmon*



*Tendering on the F/V Kelly Mae*



*Fishermen delivering salmon to the Quinhagak dock*

We experimented with a small tender on the outside of the lagoon in front of Quinhagak this season which would deliver to the dock. Fishermen from other villages such as Eek, Tuntutuliak, Kongiganak, and Kwigillingok come down to District 4 to commercial fish but have to wait for high tides to deliver to the Quinhagak dock. This tender would allow them to deliver to the tender and then return home without waiting for tides. We have had large tenders in District 4 that run up to Bethel and fly the product to Kenai for processing, but planes and processing capacity in Kenai are limited when other fisheries around the state are competing for the same aircraft and custom processing plants. This smaller tender was a success because it allowed the fishermen to keep fishing longer. However, it wasn't so big that it pushed us over our overall processing capacity at the plant.

The Bethel Buy & Fly purchased over 1 million pounds of product from the dock and from two tenders. This operation purchases product in District W1A & W1B. They had their first opener June 26 and the last opener was August 30.

This operation was opened three years ago to better serve our member communities of Oscarville, Napaskiak, Napakiak, Eek, Tuntutuliak, Kongiganak, and Kwigillingok all of which are located in W1B. District W1 openers alternate W1A (above Bethel) and W1B (below Bethel) Monday – Tuesday & Thursday – Friday. Fishermen from upriver also benefit from CVS operating a tender on the river in their W1A district when it would otherwise be sitting idle every other day at our dock in Bethel. It is anticipated the additional product from upriver will allow this “Buy & Fly” operation to break even.

This season, our Bethel Buy & Fly operation purchased salmon from 281 permit holders from Eek, Goodnews Bay, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Oscarville, Quinhagak, Toksook Bay, Tuntutuliak, Akiachak, Akiak, Atmautluak, Bethel, Kasigluk, Kwethluk, Nunapitchuk, and Tuluksak.

This season's Coho run was over a pound smaller than historical average. Fishermen were never on limits and reported Coho's slipping through or falling out of their nets as they went to retrieve them. Although the Alaska Department of Fish and Game can not explain why this happened, they did confirm similar occurrences in the Yukon and Bristol Bay areas. Hopefully next season's Coho run will return to normal and we can get closer to our target of 2 million pounds purchased by this operation.

This Bethel Buy & Fly operation has an added benefit to the overall CVS operation. Our Bethel manager assists Quinhagak CVS management with the logistics of incoming freight needs, as well as scheduling outgoing planes of salmon during the peak. This operation also transloads all of our halibut inbound from the six halibut plants onto Anchorage bound aircraft.

Coastal Villages would like to thank all the employees and fishermen who made this a successful season!



*James Whitman and crew  
South Nunivak fishermen*



*Loading one of Universal Airline's DC-6  
in Quinhagak*



*Randy Nayamin and Walter Evan boxing  
salmon at the Quinhagak plant*



*Quinhagak plants workers heading home  
after the end of the season*

## Quinhagak Runway Extension

Quinhagak's new 4,000 foot runway opened last winter and was available for use by larger aircraft this salmon season. Of the 20 member communities that make up CVRF, this is now the largest runway in our region. Both Everts Air Cargo and Universal Airlines flew in and out of Quinhagak's new 4,000 foot runway. CVS hopes to incorporate Northern Air Cargo's aircraft into our schedule during 2007.

This was a cooperative project funded by EDA (Economic Development Administration) in association with the Native Village of Kwinhagak and Coastal Villages Region Fund. The main purpose of this runway extension was to allow larger aircraft into Quinhagak to fly fresh salmon to Anchorage. The fish plant can only freeze so much fish per day so having the option to fly fish out increased our capacity. This allowed CVS to purchase more fish and therefore put fishermen on less limits than previous years. Less limits means more cash in fishermen and plant workers' pockets. This is a great logistical success for the Kuskokwim salmon industry.

## QUOTA MANAGEMENT

### Pollock

In 2006 BBEDC, CBSFA, CVRF and YDFDA have pooled together their pollock quota, which is being harvested by American Seafoods. The groups have agreed to rotate harvest management responsibilities on an annual basis, and this year CVRF is the quota manager. Pollock harvest as of October 19 is 81,400.349mt, or 100%.

### Pacific Cod

For 2006 Pacific Cod, CBSFA and CVRF have pooled together and CVRF is the quota manager. As of October 25, 3058.044mt of 3,491.061mt has been caught, or 87.6%.

### FG Sablefish

The Sea Venture is going to harvest CVRF's sablefish this year. For this season, 115mt is allocated for harvest. As of October 25, there is no activity.

### Halibut – Area 4D

For area 4D, 115,920lbs is allocated, of which 8,770 was caught in area 4E. Of the remaining 107,150lbs, the Ocean Harvester caught 25,122lbs, leaving 82,028lbs remaining to be harvested. 100% of the remaining was harvested by the Shemya.

### Halibut – Area 4E

Area 4E halibut was fished by CVRF region residents, and was delivered to local plants in Hooper Bay, Toksook Bay, Tununak, Mekoryuk, Chefornak and Kipnuk. The total allocation for area 4E was 231,000lbs, and 100% of this was harvested, including an additional 10,000lbs from area 4D. A total of 241,000lbs of halibut was harvested by CVRF region fishermen.

### Atka Mackerel/Flathead/Rock/Yellowfin Sole

This year the flatfish pool is being managed by CVRF, with BBEDC, CBSFA and YDFDA pooled together. As of October 25, 5,992mt of 9,536mt was harvested, or 63%.

**CVRF Board of Directors**

**Oscar Evon, President**  
Kwigillingok

**Timothy Samson, Vice President**  
Kipnuk

**John O. Mark, Secretary**  
Quinhagak

**David Bill Sr., Treasurer**  
Toksook Bay

**Eric Olson Sr., Executive Committee Member**  
Hooper Bay

**Jonathan Lewis, Executive Committee Member**  
Chefornak

**Gabriel Olick, Executive Committee Member**  
Tuntutuliak

**Earl Atchak**  
Chevak

**William Brown**  
Eek

**Evan S. Evan**  
Goodnews Bay

**Ralph Kiunya**  
Kongiganak

**Hultman Kiokun**  
Mekoryuk

**Nicholas Paul**  
Napakiak

**Helen Kaganak**  
Napaskiak

**Peter John**  
Newtok

**Jimmy George**  
Nightmute

**Frank Berezkin**  
Oscarville

**John Bright**  
Platinum

**Sebastian Kasayuli**  
Scammon Bay

**Felix Albert**  
Tununak

**BOARD UPDATE**

Elections in seven communities are currently in progress for the CVRF Board of Directors. Elections are being conducted in: Chefornak, Chevak, Goodnews Bay, Napakiak, Nightmute, and Scammon Bay. Election results will be announced at the Annual Board Meeting in Bethel on November 16 – 18, 2006. Look for the results in the next newsletter.

The Executive Committee members joined Anchorage staff at a luncheon on Friday, September 29, at the Anchorage office. Staff members provided appetizers and other snacks, which included traditional Native foods such as, smoked salmon, dry halibut, muktuk, and seal oil.

The Executive Committee members joined 20 region youth for the 2006 AFN Elders and Youth Conference. The youth participants, Executive Committee, and Anchorage staff attended a dinner together on October 24 at Sourdough Mining Company.



*Youth and Staff dinner during AFN week at the Sourdough Mining Co.*

**AFN ELDER AND YOUTH CONFERENCE**

CVRF sponsored twenty youth participants at the 2006 First Alaskans Institute/ Alaska Federation of Natives Elders and Youth Conference. The participants completed applications, essays, and met the school requirements to attend. The students and chaperones traveled to Anchorage on October 21, and attended an orientation at the CVRF office. Several Executive Committee members attended the conference along with the students. Youth participants, Executive Committee members, and Anchorage staff attended a dinner at the Sourdough Mining Company. This event allowed everyone time together in a relaxed atmosphere, and to discuss issues with the youth they would like to see CVRF involved with.

**PROGRAM UPDATE**

**CDQ Project Fund**

The CDQ Project Fund is aimed at providing our communities assistance with a focus on economic development projects. Fisheries-related projects will be given precedence over non-fisheries-related projects. Funds are still available through the program for various communities, which the city and tribal governments are eligible to apply for.

The communities of Scammon Bay and Goodnews Bay each received funding for housing renovation projects. Tuntutuliak received funding for 2006 to assist with leveraging the Tribal COPS funding. Napaskiak received funding for 2006 to assist in Fuel Cost Equalization.

Any questions regarding this program can be brought up to your local CVRF office or the Anchorage office at 888-795-5151.

**4-SITE - Scholarships, Internships, Training, Employment**

**Scholarships** –Applications for the Spring 2007 semester are currently being reviewed. Applications for the Fall 2007 semester can be submitted and the deadline is May 31, 2007. Scholarships can be used for college, vocational training, and GED classes.

**Internships** – Wayne Phillip, summer intern for 2006, is now an accounting clerk for the Anchorage office. Those interested in an internship may apply through their local CVRF office or the Anchorage office.

**Training** – CVRF has an agreement with Paug Vik Development Corporation to provide apprenticeship opportunities for local residents on the construction of the eight fisheries support centers planned for this year. If you are interested in this opportunity contact the Anchorage office.

**Employment** – CVRF is currently recruiting for a new community liaison for Nightmute. Recruitment for the Bering Sea pollock A Season began in late August and is continuing until November. Since 2001, we have had approximately 2000 region/Alaskan residents participate in our Employment Program, with placement in fisheries jobs.

**Youth Leadership** - The John T Berry Memorial Youth Council had an outing on August 25 to commemorate the beginning of the school year. The eskimo dance group from Chevak traveled from to the AFN conference to perform at Quyana Night. The Mekoryuk Youth Council received funding for the Reindeer Festival that will be held in December.

**Commercial Fishing Loan Program** - We are currently reviewing all applications submitted on or before October 15 for the 2007 fishing season. We will be notifying loan applicants as early as January. Please call 1-888-795-5151 if you are interested in applying for next year.



*Quinhagak plant workers applying for offshore opportunities at American Seafoods*



*Napakiak John T Berry Memorial Youth Council having an outing near the river*



*Candice Cheshire recruiting at the AFN Career Expo in Anchorage*



*The 20 youth, 5 chaperones, and 3 Anchorage staff who attended the AFN Elder and Youth Conference in Anchorage*

FALL 2006

## HaullyWOOD Project

Based on the survey conducted to evaluate the use of wood for heating to offset costs of heating fuel in our 20 CVRF communities, it was determined by CVRF management that there is a need for firewood in our member communities. 30 bundles of wood weighing approximately 318 tons were purchased from Homer, Alaska to distribute to 9 communities selected on their willingness to burn wood.

Based on logistics and the season, the wood was delivered to Napaskiak, Eek, and Kipnuk as drop off points. In Napaskiak, 4 bundles were allocated to Napaskiak, 3 to Napakiak, and 1 to Oscarville. In Eek, 3 bundles were allocated to Eek, 5 to Quinhagak, and 3 to Tuntutuliak. In Kipnuk, 5 bundles were allocated to Kipnuk, 3 to Kongiganak, and 3 to Kwigillingok. All the logs were individually tagged to the allocated community along with the CVRF logo.



*The Blarney delivered the wood from Homer*



*Patty Murphy and Kevin Kennedy coordinated the delivery of the firewood*

At the point of delivery, the title of the wood was transferred to the local governing body, who was then responsible for distributing the wood to the residents.

This firewood will project much needed heat in our communities and reduce the cost of heating for our residents. Early indications are that the HaullyWOOD project is a huge success, and CVRF will consider modifications to expand it next year based on this year’s reaction to the delivery.

We wish everyone a warm and happy winter.

Delivery Point	Additional Communities Served	
Napaskiak	Napakiak	Oscarville
Eek	Quinhagak	Tuntutuliak
Kipnuk	Kwigillingok	Kongiganak



*An Eek resident cutting wood to bring home*



*Eek residents preparing to take firewood to their homes*

**FSC CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

FSCs are underway in Hooper Bay, Toksook Bay, Kongiganak and Kwigillingok during the 2006 summer construction season. All four of these FSCs are expected to be fully functional and occupied by the time you receive this newsletter. We congratulate the members of each of these first four communities on your new facility. We are excited for you!

FSC construction began in mid-October in Nightmute, Mekoryuk, Cheforak and Tununak.

The seven FSCs (Phase 3) will be located in Chevak, Tuntutuliak, Kipnuk, Napaskiak, Napakiak, Quinhagak and Goodnews Bay. Building materials will be shipped to each of these communities as soon as the ice permits next spring.

In addition, Newtok has made a request to the CVRF Board of Directors to build an FSC at the new village location. The details for meeting Newtok's request will be worked out in the upcoming months and will be coordinated with their relocation process.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the opening ceremony for each of these new FSCs. Special thanks go out to the leadership in each of these communities and the local crews that help build these FSCs.

**GEOBLOCK PROJECT IN NEWTOK**

CVRF placed a 44 ft. modular space trailer in Newtok by mid October. A portion of this unit will serve as office space for our Newtok community liaison, Lisa Tom. The largest portion of the unit will provide a much-needed meeting space able to accommodate larger groups than the cramped Tribal Council office.

Of the many challenges in placing this office in the community, the biggest is crossing the waterlogged tundra without becoming hopelessly mired. CVRF's Projects and Infrastructure Department researched many alternatives to find a solution that would be cost effective using manual labor, common skills and hand tools. CVRF chose a product made of recycled high-density polyethylene, the same material as the black pipes used in village water and sewer systems. Geoblock is the brand name for the product that comes in 40" by 20" sheets that are fastened together with screws to make a trail for vehicles.

Eighty thousand screws later, Newtok now has a strong, firm trail fifteen feet wide and nearly 900 feet long constructed entirely by the local workforce. The modular office will sit at the end of the trail that connects to the boardwalk system near the Ayaprun Elementary School.

This project will provide a good evaluation for further use of Geoblock in future CVRF projects.

Newtok crewmembers for this project were Tom Jack (foreman), Brian Kilongak, Cyril Carl, Louie Andy, Clayton Ivon, Andruska Carl and Robert Waska.



*Front view of the new FSC in Toksook Bay*



*Side view of the new FSC in Hooper Bay*



*Aerial view of the new geoblock trail in Newtok*



*Delivering the new Newtok CVRF office trailer on the new geoblock trail*

**THE QUINHAGAK “CHUMS” PLAY BASKETBALL**



*The Quinhagak “Chums” warming up for the basketball tournament*

The Quinhagak plant workers formed the “CHUMS”, a local basketball team. This team was formed as a form of recreation for the processors after hours when the workers were not processing salmon. They participated in the Quinhagak basketball tournament, along with other teams from Eek, Goodnews Bay, and Quinhagak. This was a grueling tournament for the team, as they had worked all day at the plant prior to playing. They had a second wind, and were able to take third place in the tournament. Plenty of fans, mostly from the plant, cheered the team on from the stands. We would like to thank the community of Quinhagak who assisted in scheduling the games around the players’ work hours. The CHUMS plan to play again in the future tournaments.



*Jimmy Charles of Newtok shooting a free-throw*

**OUT OF GAS IN THE FOG AND NO SIGN OF LAND**

On the evening of August 21, two commercial fishermen near Quinhagak found themselves stranded in a skiff with no gas, in the fog without any sign of any land. A fisherman reported the incident to the Quinhagak plant. CVS immediately sent a boat to deliver gas to the stranded fisherman but returned without finding them.



*Lars Lake of Hooper Bay shooting a free-throw*

The stranded fishermen were too far away for the plant to make contact via VHF but communication by VHF was made with the two stranded fisherman via another fisher closer to them. This other fisher was relaying info from the lost fishermen back to the fish plant. CVS sent a boat in another attempt only to return after not having found the two fishermen. The two fishermen reported that they had no sign of any land or the lights from the community. Communication with the two fishermen ended after their battery went dead. By this time, a search and rescue effort was already underway. After searching for hours, the effort was called off at 1:00 AM due to the heavy fog.

The search and rescue effort continued early the next morning. The Coast Guard dispatched a helicopter from Kodiak to aide in the search effort. Joe Hall, fisheries manager for CVRF, dispatched two chartered planes around 8:00am from JP Air in Bethel to assist in the search for the two fishermen. The Eider was headed back to Quinhagak from Goodnews Bay from the south to deliver product from the previous day’s opener and was asked to stay out and look for the fishermen. The Kelly Mae was on her way from Bethel to tender near Eek Island when she was diverted towards Quinhagak to search from the north. Both vessels aided in the search while en route to Quinhagak.



*Joe Hall (left) and Jim Sartelle (right) coordinated the search and rescue efforts*

JP Air located the stranded fisherman who were waving their empty gas tanks and immediately reported the GPS coordinates back to the fish plant around 9:30am. JP Air was instructed to circle the boat until the CVS skiff reached the boat and towed them back to the village.

Coastal Villages would like to thank everyone who aided in the search and rescue effort. Quyanal!

**HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

**New Employees**

Jacob Rivers – Scammon Bay FSC Mechanic/Welder  
 Joe Joseph – Kongiganak FSC Mechanic/Welder  
 Herman Beaver – Kwigillingok FSC Mechanic/Welder  
 Paul Joe Jr. – Hooper Bay FSC Mechanic/Welder  
 Robert Beans – Project Specialist  
 Candice Cheshire – Employment Manager/Recruiter  
 Cam Lampton – Project Administrative Specialist  
 Shellie Johns – Senior Accountant  
 Wayne Phillip – Accounting Clerk

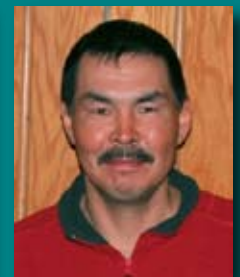
**Promotions:**

Paul Varady – Department Director – Projects & Infrastructure Development  
 Michael Bird – Senior Project Manager  
 Patty Murphy – Executive Administrator  
 Jenny Koenig – Investment Analyst  
 Larry Warner – Controller

**NEW FSC MECHANICS/WELDERS**



*Jacob Rivers*



*Herman Beaver*



*Joe Joseph*



*Paul Joe Jr.*

**HIGHLIGHT ON WAYNE PHILLIP - KONGIGANAK**

**B**orn in Bethel and lifelong resident of Kongiganak, Wayne K. Phillip is a past Louis Bunyan Memorial Scholarship recipient, past successful intern for the Quinhagak plant, and current accounting clerk for the Coastal Villages Region Fund Anchorage office.

Wayne graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School in 1990. After graduating, Wayne attended Alaska Pacific University, Soochow University (in Taiwan), and the University of Wisconsin.

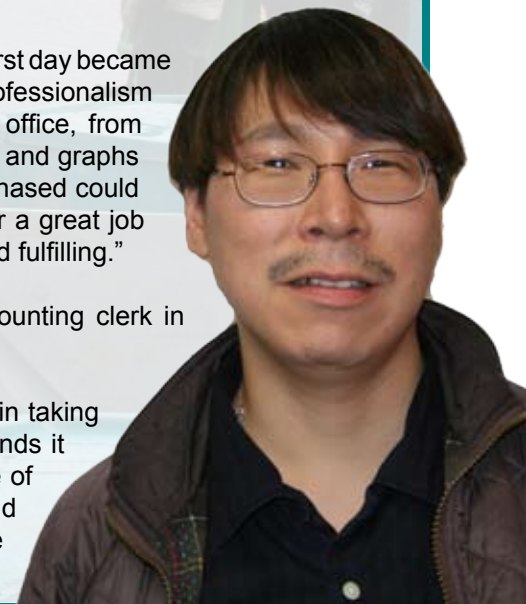
Wayne is currently taking classes from the University of Alaska Fairbanks distance program and has received his Tribal Management Certificate in May 2006. He is currently working on his A.A.S. in Tribal Management and plans on pursuing a BA in Rural Development.

In May 2006, Wayne began as an administrative intern for Jim Sartelle, salmon operations plant manager for the Quinhagak plant. The internship program challenged his creativity and ability to use various software programs by putting his knowledge to use. Jim Sartelle had this to say about Wayne:

“Wayne started with Coastal Villages Seafoods as an intern in May 2006 and from the first day became a valuable asset to a newly developing team in Quinhagak. Wayne performed with professionalism and worked numerous hours to enhance all aspects of the daily functions in the office, from accounting to shipping, and writing/paying fish tickets. Wayne developed flow charts and graphs from previous years statistics so an accurate picture of production and pounds purchased could be compared in a five-year period. In closing I would like to thank Wayne Phillip for a great job during our record season and hope that his future with CVRF and CVS are bright and fulfilling.”

After his internship, Wayne decided to join the accounting department as an accounting clerk in Anchorage. Wayne plans to return to Quinhagak for the 2007 fishing season.

Wayne believes that without the scholarship program from CVRF, he would not be in taking classes today. He also gives the internship program two thumbs up and recommends it to all CVS plants because it will benefit region residents by giving a broader picture of opportunities in the fishing industry. Wayne’s hope is to obtain a comfortable living and to be self-sufficient. Looking at Wayne’s accomplishments, we believe he is on the right path.



**BRINGING HOPE TO HOOPER BAY**

On August 3, 2006, Hooper Bay residents suffered a devastating loss that destroyed the school building, thirteen homes, and one store. Residents steered clear of the fire and kept a safe distance. Thankfully no lives were lost in the fire.

Lacking equipment and manpower, firefighters from Nome, Bethel, and surrounding communities flew to Hooper Bay to assist the residents battle the fire and secure the area surrounding the blaze. At one point, the fire came within 300 feet of a fuel tank farm owned by the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative. Firefighters successfully stopped the fire from reaching the tank farm.

Morgen Crow and Paul Varady flew in with Red Cross representatives along with a shipment of food and water. Board members David Bill Sr. and Eric Olson Sr. and CVRF employees George Smith, Amanda Hoelscher, and Lester Wilde assisted in the relief effort in Hooper Bay. Ronald Olivera, Joe Hall, Nick Souza, and Chad Wikheim coordinated efforts from the Anchorage Office to send food, water, clothing, blankets, and pillows.

The halibut plant was used as the initial Unified Command Center, and point of storage and distribution until a permanent center was established. The CVS truck was also used to deliver the items.

With the help of Universal Airlines, Everts Air Cargo, Northern Air Cargo, and Arctic Transportation Services, pallets of items were shipped to Hooper Bay. All the airlines offered to send the cargo to Hooper Bay for free or at a discounted price. The F/V Kelly Mae shipped out 26 pallets of donated items to Hooper Bay from Bethel.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the numerous organizations and individuals who responded by sending food, water, clothing, and various necessities to the families who lost their homes. Your goodwill and generosity in this time of need brings hope to everyone who was affected by the Hooper Bay fire.

**TECHNOLOGY TIPS FROM THE IT DEPARTMENT**

1. Make sure your anti-virus and spy-ware applications are kept up to date and ran weekly.
2. Avoid using your company email address to sign up for personal things to help keep spam out of your company email.
3. Defrag your hard drive about every two months to help keep your computer running smoothly.
4. Remember you can always check your company email from any location through web mail.



*Amanda Hoelscher and Morgen Crow observing the burned area*



*David Bill Sr. visiting the disaster site*



*George Smith of Scammon Bay assisted in the relief effort in Hooper Bay*



*Morgen Crow checking the remains of what were two snow-machines*

## CHANGES TO AMERICAN FISHERIES ACT

Coastal Villages is carefully monitoring proposed federal amendments that could affect our largest investment, American Seafoods, and the future of Alaska's largest fishery, the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) pollock fishery. The U.S. Congress may take action on three amendments to the American Fisheries Act (AFA) before the end of the year.

The first amendment would allow large, new fishing and processing vessels to enter the BSAI pollock fishery, even if the vessels exceed the size limitations in the AFA. This change could be very detrimental to CVRF because the vessels we own through American Seafoods are among the biggest and most efficient, and the rest of the fleet is prohibited under current law from increasing the size of their vessels. We have asked the Alaska Congressional delegation to consider the negative impacts this amendment could have on CVRF, particularly if the AFA is not also improved in ways that will help American Seafoods.

The second amendment under consideration in Washington, D.C. would create individual quotas for participants in the inshore sector of the BSAI pollock fishery. CVRF is concerned that this could increase the cost of future investments in this sector and decrease the chances for Alaska ownership in the future. We are also very concerned that this amendment would increase the efficiency of our competitors without providing any potential improvements in efficiency for our investments in the offshore sector of the BSAI pollock fishery.

The third and most important amendment to CVRF is a provision that would remove the BSAI pollock harvest cap, a cap which is preventing our company, American Seafoods, from growing any further. The harvest cap was imposed by Congress in 1998 to prevent the foreign owners of American Seafoods from expanding. Since 1998, however, American Seafoods has become U.S.-owned, CVRF's ownership has grown to 45 percent, and the cap is no longer needed to prevent the expansion of foreign ownership through American Seafoods. The harvest cap now limits American Seafoods to just 17.5 percent of the fishery, while a related processing cap allows the inshore plants to process up to 30 percent of the fishery.

More than 1,800 residents of CVRF member villages have written to Alaska's Congressional delegation in support of removing or increasing the BSAI pollock harvest cap. Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, the St. Paul-based CDQ group that owns five percent of American Seafoods, has also been actively supporting this needed change.

CVRF is hopeful that the BSAI pollock harvest cap will be increased, and that the potentially negative aspects of the other two proposed AFA changes can be minimized.

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## NEW CDQ PANEL UP AND RUNNING

A new panel has been formed to help administer the CDQ program and to coordinate the activities of the six CDQ groups. The CDQ Administrative Panel was created under federal statute (section 416 of Public Law 109-241) in July of 2006. Alaska's Congressman Don Young and Senator Ted Stevens helped create the Panel with the hope that it would strengthen the relationships and cooperation among all six CDQ groups for the benefit of western Alaska.

Congressman Young's and Senator Stevens' vision seems to be becoming reality. Each of the six groups has recently elected a representative to serve on the Panel, including: Morgen Crow (CVRF), Larry Cotter (Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association), Robin Samuelsen (Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation), Phillip Lestenkof (Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association), Eugene Asicksik (Norton Sound Economic Development Association), and Billy Charles (Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association). The Panel met on September 6, 2006 in Anchorage and made the decision to form as a non-profit corporation with the legal name Western Alaska Community Development Association (WACDA). Besides approving articles of incorporation and bylaws for the Panel/WACDA, the following interim officers were elected:



*Elias Inagak from Tununak is one of the 1800 plus residents who signed the petition*

Chair	Morgen Crow (CVRF)
Vice Chair	Larry Cotter (APICDA)
Secretary	Robin Samuelsen (BBEDC)
Treasurer	Eugene Asicksik (NSEDC)

Under the federal statute, decisions by the Panel can be made only by the unanimous consent of all six panel members. Once made, the Panel's decisions are binding upon all six CDQ groups. Among other things, the Panel has begun to develop a standardized format for annual financial reports by CDQ groups to their member villages and residents, and for annual investment reports by CDQ groups to State and federal agencies. The Panel also has a key role under the statute in developing the system that will be used to measure the performance of each CDQ group every ten years.



*From left to right:  
Eugene Asicksick, Larry Cotter, Robin Samuelsen, and Morgen Crow*

The Panel/WACDA will have its first Annual Meeting in Anchorage on October 24 and 25, 2006. At the meeting, WACDA will elect officers for 2007 and consider a budget for 2007, as well as continue work on the reporting requirements for CDQ groups and other matters under the new federal statute.

The Panel is already fostering significantly improved cooperation and communication among the six CDQ groups. The Panel is expected to play an increasing role in the administration of the CDQ program going forward. CVRF joins the other five CDQ groups in thanking Senator Stevens and Congressman Young for their foresight in creating the Panel and for giving the Panel meaningful authority under the statute. By working together, the six CDQ groups can truly maximize the benefits of the CDQ program to our communities and people.

**MARINE SAFETY UPDATE**

This year we are utilizing our newly certified trainers - Clifford Paniyak, Mike Lake, and Chris Dock - along with the mentorship of USCG, & AMSEA. We are hoping to implement some new participation incentives. (Still under consideration for approval). We are working on a budget to purchase the training materials to outfit our new trainers and logistics to maintain training equipment. We are looking to get at least one more person trained in the MSIT training. This would allow us to divide our communities by groups for our trainers to have specific areas. Our trainers can become experts to all the elements and operations of those local areas and become a resource to our fisherman and help CVRF provide a broader support network to our local communities.

We are compiling the information from the local Search & Rescue (SAR) Surveys taken earlier this year by our community liaisons, to see if there is a way to help with funding for supplies, equipment, training for the local SAR groups, to find resources to help them organize and train their volunteers.

The new Fisheries Support Centers are coming on line, training is going to be conducted for the new employees in Bethel, which includes:

- New Employee Orientation - Program Department
- Safety Orientation Training - Safety Manager
- CPR & First Aid Certification - Safety Manager
- Ordering Supplies & Equipment Process - Purchasing Manager
- During this FSC training we will be bringing in any new community liaisons who did not receive the First Aid and CPR training that was conducted in May of this year.
- The safety manager will be conducting inspections of new facilities to address any safety issues or concerns.
- The halibut plants had no major injuries or accidents this year.
- The safety manager will be conducting ergonomic evaluations in-house, and as the opportunity arises to all of our remote support staff.



*Nicholas Souza participating in the safety training held in October*



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**Neqsurtet Nepiit, "The Sound of the Fishermen"**, is a quarterly newsletter that is distributed by Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF) to share information on the scholarship, internship, training, employment and economic development opportunities that we provide to our member communities. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, please call the CVRF Anchorage office at (888) 795-5151 or at (907) 278-5151, or fax your request to (907) 278-5150.

## COASTAL VILLAGES REGION FUND STAFF

### Executive Office

Morgen Crow	Executive Director
Robert Williams	Deputy Director
Patty Murphy	Executive Administrator
Darla Graham	Receptionist/Purchasing Clerk

### Fisheries Development

Joe Hall	Fisheries Manager
Kevin Kennedy	Vessel Manager
Rhonda Kelley	Safety Manager
Peter Speaks	IT Specialist
Larson Hunter	Fisheries Coordinator
Marlene Kiokun	Administrative Assistant
Nicholas Souza	Purchasing Manager
Chadwick Wickheim	Expeditor

### Projects/Infrastructure Development

Paul Varady	Department Director
Ted Wittenberger	Special Projects Director
Michael Bird	Sr. Project Manager
Robert Beans	Project Specialist
Cam Lampman	Project Administrative Specialist
Mike Lake	Project Assistant
George Smith	FSC Superintendent
Theodore Brown	FSC Mechanic - EEK
Paul Joe Jr.	FSC Mechanic - HPB
Joe Joseph	FSC Mechanic - KKH
Herman Beaver	FSC Mechanic - KWK
Jacob Rivers	FSC Mechanic - SCM

### Programs/Human Resources Development

Ronalda Olivera	Program Director
Candice Cheshire	Employment Manager
Dawson Hoover	Outreach Coordinator
Mae Hank	Program Administrator
Gretchen Williams	Program Assistant

### Accounting

Denise LaFever	Finance Director
Larry Warner	Controller
Jenny Koenig	Investment Analyst
Shellie Johns	Senior Accountant
Catherine Robeson	Staff Accountant
Wayne Phillip	Accounting Clerk

### Community Program Managers

Lloyd Black	Napakiak	Stella Alexie	Eek
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### Community Liaisons

Nellie Abraham	Chefornak	Chris Dock	Kipnuk
Clifford Paniyak	Chevak	Darlene Daniel	Kongiganak
Bessie Galila	Goodnews Bay/Platinum	Fred Phillip	Kwigillingok
Amanda Hoelscher	Hooper Bay	Grace Friendly	Quinhagak
Liane Kameroff	Napakiak	Abraham Rivers	Scammon Bay
Laura Evan	Napaskiak/Oscarville	Vanessa Lincoln	Toksook Bay
Theodore Angaiak	Tununak	Nick David	Tuntutuliak