

# Welcome to 2018 ATCEM



Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

[www.yritwc.org](http://www.yritwc.org)

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council  
(YRITWC)  
Success Stories of FY 2018

Solid Waste Management Coordinator (SWM)

Katherine R. Brower

And

Drinking Water Improvement Project Coordinator  
(DWIP)

Thomas C. Brower III

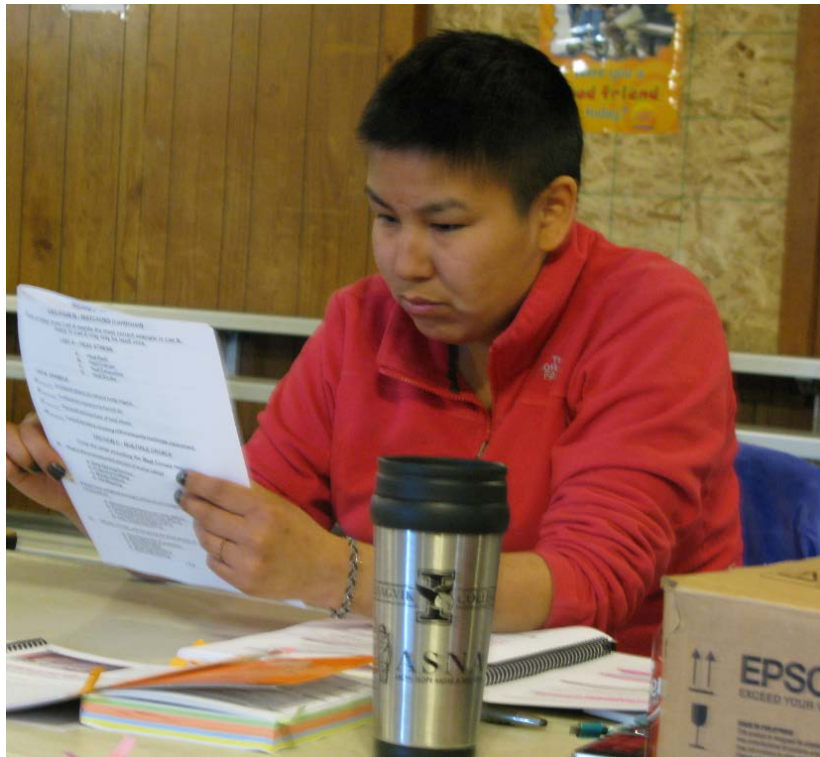
Map of Yukon River Watershed, comparison of Alaska and USA, which extends across Alaska into Canada. Canada is the start of head waters (Yukon River and empties into Bering Sea.



The YRITWC is an International Non-Profit Organization created by the Indigenous people of the watershed to address health, water and environmental issues in the Yukon River Basin and its sounding tributaries

The YRB which consists of the Yukon River and all surrounding tributaries, covers a vast portion of Alaska and the Yukon Territory in Canada. It is the fourth largest basin in North America. It spans more than 2,200 miles and drains an area of 330,000 square miles, nearly twice the size of California. In Alaska, the YRB is home to 66 Tribal communities, comprised of Cupik, Yupik, Koyukon, Ahtna, and Gwich'in Athabascan Tribes. Although Alaska is the largest of the 50 United States, it has few roads and most communities are accessible only by plane, boat, or snow machine.

Ever since we, Solid Waste Coordinator (SWM) and Drinking Water Improvement Coordinator (DWIP) have been employed (2016 to present) and funded by USDA, we have traveled to 26 villages within the Yukon River Basin to provide trainings and technical assistance.



## FY 2018 summer season, SWM and DWIP Coordinators traveled to 6 rural villages to provide trainings and technical assistance

- ▶ **Holy Cross** - 2 from village of Chuloonawick, 1 from Grayling, 1 from Anvik, 6 from Holy Cross, total of **10** individuals
- ▶ **Nenana** - 1 from Minto, 3 from YRITWC, 5 from Nenana: total of **9** individuals
- ▶ **Fort Yukon** - 1 from Nenana, 2 from Koyukuk, 3 from Fort Yukon, 1 from Chalkyitsik, 1 from Minto and 1 from Arctic Village: total of **9** individuals
- ▶ **Stevens Village** - 1 from YRITWC, 2 from Beaver, 2 from Stevens Village: total **5** individuals
- ▶ **Alakanuk** - 1 from Chuloonawick, 10 from Alakanuk: total **11** individuals
- ▶ **Hughes** - all **6** from the village
- ▶ **Total of 50 trained during FY 2018 have become environmental experts both in SWM and DWIP**

Trainings consisted of Integrated Solid Waste Management Planning (ISWMP), and Safe Drinking Water & Sanitary Practices. These trainings integrate together to protect municipal and traditional water sources. While mapping is done by each village, ADEC regulations are used as guide lines to site a potential new landfill or sewage lagoon and/or making improvements to a existing landfill.

- ▶ Other trainings provided: Drum Crusher, Freon Removal, 40 and 8 hour refresher courses and of course the Backhaul Manual, very useful resource on guidelines to do backhaul.

One of the successes was the drum crushing effort, and this took lot of communication, planning, scheduling to transport the drum crusher with the Yukon river barging companies. Six villages have managed to crush total of 562 - 55 gallon drums. Contact SWM at: [kbrower@yritwc.org](mailto:kbrower@yritwc.org) if your community has a stock pile of empty 55 gallon drums ready to be crushed

- ▶ Koyukuk - 170 drums in 2017
- ▶ Holy Cross - 160 drums in 2018
- ▶ Fort Yukon - 70 drums in 2018
- ▶ Chalkyitsik- 80 drums, along with 52 five gallon steel cans in 2018
- ▶ Ruby - 40 drums in 2018
- ▶ Huslia - 42 drums, in 2016 where Drum crushing training took place



- ▶ Contact either SWM or DWIP so location of drums can be inserted into the map of your community and SWM Coordinator will work out the details

Backhaul program is another success story by number of villages that have communicated and coordination with Solid Waste Coordinator during FY 2018.

- ▶ Chevak- 3 connexes, Batteries, E-Waste, Fluorescent light bulbs
- ▶ Koyukuk - 27 pallets, after Freon removal of white goods
- ▶ Holy Cross - 41 pallets
- ▶ Gwich'inZhee - 29 pallets (3 pallets propane bottles)
- ▶ Alakanuk, and Nunam Iqa - 12,000 pounds of white goods combined, Freon removal done by Alakanuk EPA IGAP staff

Visit the [yritwc.org](http://yritwc.org) web site, click on Solid Waste and you'll be able read the Backhaul manual to get guidance on preparation your waste for backhaul. Updates are made as we receive them.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to protecting the health of the Yukon River Basin through your backhaul efforts. We recognize that it takes a lot of work, time, and energy to operate a successful backhaul program and are grateful to partner with you. Since FY 2018, villages have grossed over 20-million pounds mark. We invite you to continue to partner with YRITWC in this important effort. Your work prevents contamination to the environment, drinking water, traditional water sources and extending the life of local landfills. Please visit the updated *Backhaul Manual* for latest information on waste management and handling practices. Also the *Safe Drinking Water & Sanitary Practices Manual* which is designed to give you a basic understanding of the need for safe drinking water. Water is the most valuable resource on Earth and should not be taken for granted, protect the water resources from being contaminated from trash.

## Why is DWIP involved with Integrated Solid Waste Management trainings?

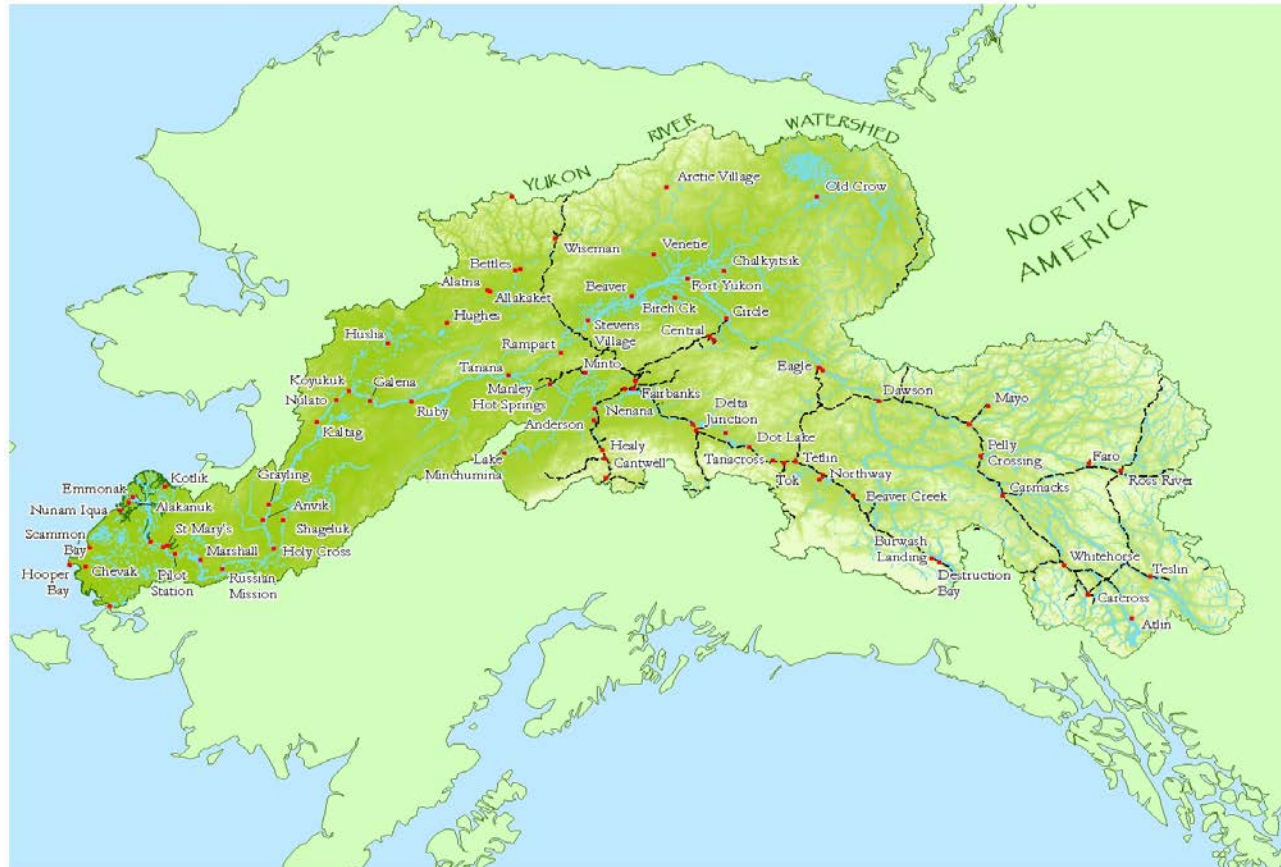
- ▶ First of all during the Integrated Solid Waste Management Planning trainings a map must be generated for each community. Traditional and community water sources must be sited on the map and protected. Landfill should be located 1,000 feet from the river or ocean if possible; landfill must be more than 500 feet from drinking water well head or more than 200 feet from surface drinking water source location, at a minimum 5,000 feet or better. Distance between the landfill and a drinking water source is necessary to reduce the chance of contaminating the water. Greater the distance between landfill and drinking water sources less chance there is for contamination to occur.






For additional information please visit the website at [yritwc.org](http://yritwc.org) and click on programs of your interest.

- ▶ Please sign in, provide your email address and we'll provide you with information requested.





# Thank you for attending this Presentation of FY 2018 Success stories of Solid Waste Coordinator and Drinking Water Coordinator

Any questions?

Additional questions can be asked outside of this room since we're only allotted one hour for this space.