

Idlughet Qayeht'ana

Eklutna Village Dena'ina



Overview and History of the People, Salmon,
and Traditional Lands, Yesterday and Today.

Eklutna Tribal Council



Dustin Lorah
Trustee

Aaron Leggett
President

Lois Munson
Trustee

Trésia Coleman
Trustee

Dorothy Cook
Secretary

Maria Coleman
Second Chief

Adam Leggett
Treasurer

Idlughet Qayeh'tana exercised indigenous sovereign powers to re-organize into a Tribal Council form of government in 1961 and named it **Native Village of Eklutna (NVE)** in order to be recognized while pursuing land claims. NVE is neither a profit nor a non-profit corporation.

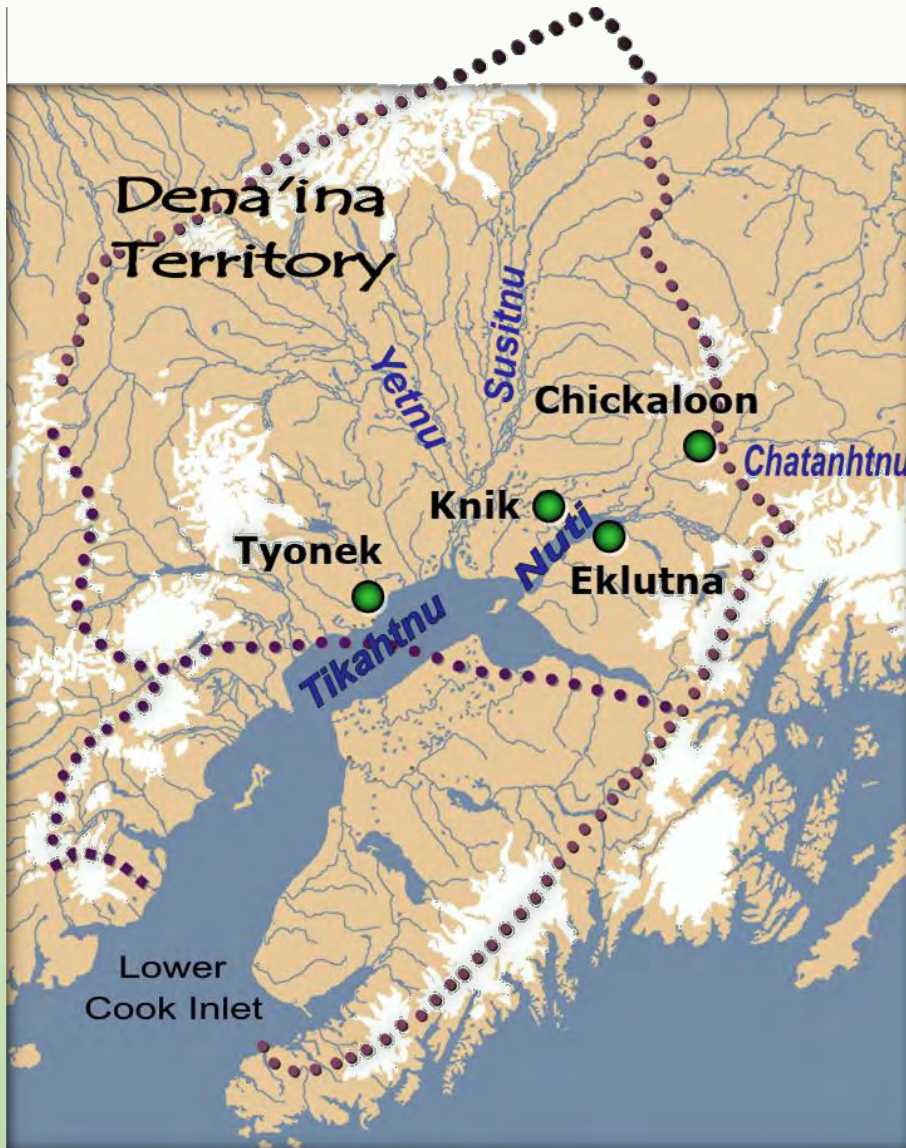
Native Village of Eklutna is a traditional tribal government, recognized by its citizens, various organizations, and the federal government by U.S. 16 U.S.C. section 7871 as **Eklutna Native Village**, Indian Tribal Government Tax Status Act of 1982, and confirmed by Congress in the 1994 Tribal List Act. Eklutna also has a separate branch for Tribal Court with rules first written in 1998.

Both inherent and delineated powers of the Tribe are vested in the Tribal Council. Delegated powers are also granted by the United States and other governments. A Memorandum of Understanding with **ANCSA Corporation Eklutna, Inc.** helps to facilitate cooperative work on mutually beneficial projects.

As a result of being an Indian tribe described in IRC Section 7871 a federally recognized tribe and/or its political subdivision is determined by the IRS to be an organization to which **contributions may be tax deductible**, as provided in IRC Section 170.

Dena'ina Ełnena

Our Land



- Dena'ina boundaries are loosely described based on uses, villages, and geographical features.
- Anchorage, JBER, and Matanuska Valley are akin to *subdivisions within* Traditional Dena'ina Territory.
- Lands owned by **Eklutna, Inc.** are also part of Anchorage, Chugach State Park, and the Mat-Su Borough. More land is still owed to Eklutna.
- Indigenous People have strong spiritual and physical connections to traditional lands and resources.
- Our Citizens want homes and access to traditional and cultural activities for their families and community.

Railroad

Inseparable

Alex Family

Chilligan Family

Our connections started way before our time.

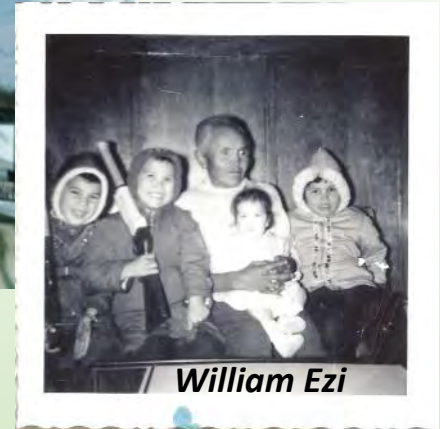
Olga Ezi



Experimental Farm off Trunk Road

Knik

Chickaloon



William Ezi

Theodore Family

Wasilla

Our families have history and relatives in the Mat-Su Valley.

Ondola Family



Stineburg first Alaska Home 1947

360 Tribal Members continue to move from one home to another, subsist, and “camp out” with relatives.

Eklutna Shareholders, Tribal Citizens, and Descendants claim Eklutna as home no matter where they live.

Peter Ezi Sr.



Jim Creek & Swan Lake

Dingi Sukdu



Cash Story

- **Idlughet** was created next to **Nuti** when two giant rocks washed out from **Idlu Bena** (*Eklutna Lake*).
- **1700's** Russian Trade. Upper Inlet Dena'ina served as middlemen for Tikahtnu, Kuskokwim and Copper River areas, Kenai, and Southeast.
- **1836-1839** Smallpox Epidemic.
- **1862-1865** U.S. Civil War.
- **1867** Treaty with Russia. Alaska Commercial Co. trading posts set up along **Nuti**, and near **Eklutna**.
- **1897-1904** Alaska Gold Rushes.
- **1914** Hunting & Trapping limited.
- **1915** Anchorage & Railroad began.
- **1917 WWI**.
- **1918** Influenza Epidemic.
- **1924-1946** The Tyonek orphanage moved to Eklutna, Eklutna Industrial School was built for Alaska Natives.
- **1926** U.S. Supreme Court applies 1924 Citizenship Act to AK Natives.
- **1929-1939** the Great Depression New Deal brought colonists to the Mat-Su Valley. Fish bans began.
- **1936** 326,000 Acre Eklutna Reserve.
- **1930's-1940's** Diphtheria and TB.
- **1941 WWII**
- **1959** Statehood. Fish traps banned.
- **1960's** Tribal Land Claims.
- **1971** ANCSA signed into U.S. law and Alaska Pipeline got underway.

Nutrition

Salmon

Elder Stories

Our Health, Our families, and Our Culture Depend On It!



***Sharing
Community Connection***

***Social Interaction
Healing***

***Learn Dena'ina ways
Values and Beliefs***

***Favorite Meals
Indigenous Food***

Traditional Knowledge

***Family Time,
Laughter, and Stories***

***Create Life-Long
Survival Memories***

Mat-Su Salmon Fish Habitat Partnership

The Mat-Su framework and goals fit within the Overall Objectives and Mission of Native Village of Eklutna.

NVE Land & Environment

To Protect and manage traditional lands and environment for the health and benefit of Idlughet Qayeht'ana and our way of life.

Eklutna Culture

To reinvigorate our traditions and culture while sharing our history and perspective with others.

NVE Projects & Programs

Our Traditional Knowledge, Elder Guidance's, research, discussions, studies, resolutions, monitoring and hands-on tasks are compatible.

NVE Mission Statement

To empower Idlughet Qayeht'ana (*Eklutna Village People*) and strengthen our Nation.



Chin'an! (*Thank You*)

Two Decades of Traditional Tribal Council and Board of Director Service. Employment focus on Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina History and Culture, Interviews, Brochures, Signage, and Presentations. Council appointed THPO, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 2004.