

Innovative Approaches to Tribal Partnerships

Alaska Tribal Conservation Alliance, Ahtna Intertribal
Resource Commission, Knik Tribal Conservation District,
Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

Focuses of Session

- Focus on the growing movement of Tribal Conservation Districts (TCDs) in Alaska and the innovative approaches that these groups are taking to address local natural resource concerns.
- The session will cover the unique challenges faced, as well as the unique strengths and partnerships developing in Alaska.

Overview

- Alaska Tribal Conservation Alliance (ATCA) History
- ATCAs Services
- Pilot Programs
- Quick Facts About Alaska TCDs
- Regional & Annual Symposium
- Challenges in Alaska

Alaska Tribal Conservation Alliance (ATCA)

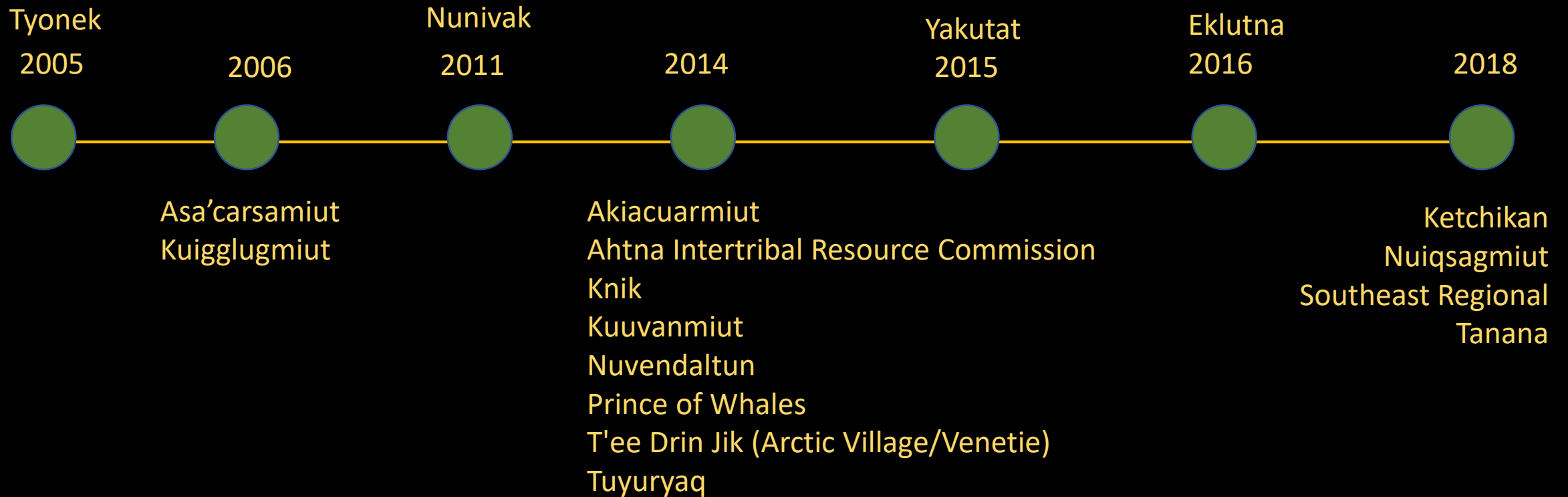


“ATCA’s mission is to provide education, collaboration and outreach to the tribal conservation districts in Alaska to preserve and enhance the natural resources and traditional subsistence way of life.”

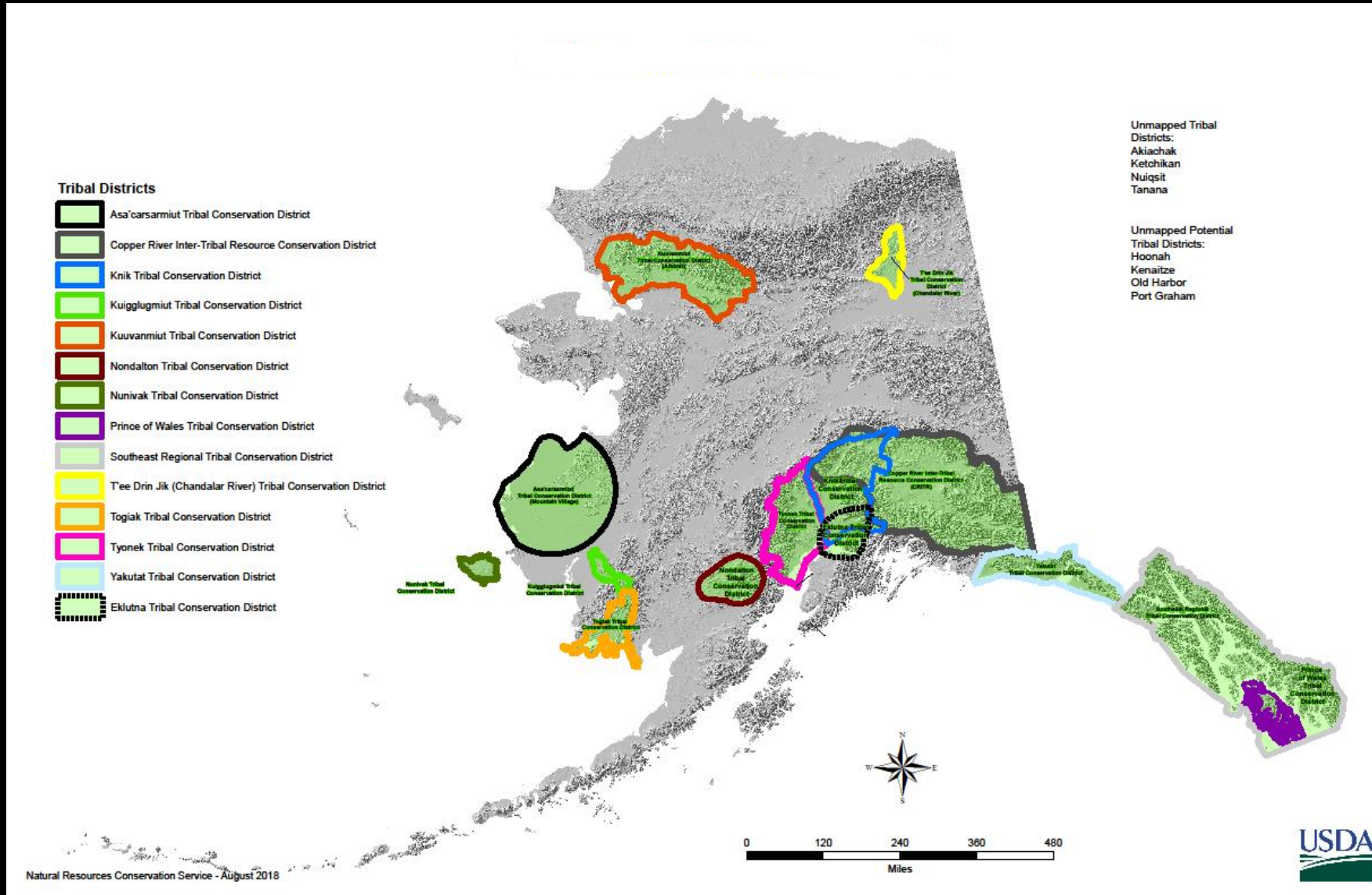
ATCAs History

- ATCA is a multi-tribal 501(c)(3) nonprofit
- Established in 2011 by the first 3 Tribal Conservation Districts (TCD) of Alaska: Tyonek (2005), Mountain Village (2006) and Kwethluk (2006)
- For ATCAs first 5 years management consisted of an Executive Director
- Today our team consists of an Executive Assistant, a Conservation Planner, Communication Manager, and a Technology Specialist

Establishment of Alaska's TCDs



Map of Alaska's TCDs



ATCA's Services

- We serve 18 TCDs with 23 projected by the end of 2019
- Build Capacity at ATCA
- Assist TCD's with capacity building
- Advocate for Alaska and TCDs
- Provide Training and Education to TCD's or any person interested in Tribal Conservation
- Assist TCDs in Short and Long-term Planning/Prioritizing
- Outreach for new TCD's
- Conservation Planning

Pilot Programs

- **1.0 Research, Outreach, Education (ROE)**
 - Future Alaska Native Conservationist
 - Provide science education through hands-on activities
 - Strives to incorporate youth education into all conservation projects.
 - Summer Youth Program
 - Internships
 - Culture camps
- **1.1 Symposium/ conferences**
- **1.2 Education**
 - Working effectively with Alaska Natives

Pilot Programs

- **2.0 Conservation and Planning (CAP) Program**
- **2.1 Natural Resource Conservation/Management/Restoration**
 - 2.1.1 Habitat Monitoring and Restoration Program
 - 2.1.2 Erosion, air/water/soil monitoring and quality assessments
- **2.2 Community Assistance**
 - Support sustainable practices through waste reduction and energy conservation.
 - Infrastructure which can include seawalls, culverts, high tunnels, etc.
 - Needs assessment

Pilot Programs

- **3.0 Tribal Agricultural Program (TAP)**
- This program will provide food security/ sovereignty, will focus on agriculture and subsistence
- Food assessment

ATCAs Partnerships



Partnerships with TCDs

- Tyonek TCD
- Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission
- Knik TCD
- Kuigglugmiut TCD
- Asa'carsamiut TCD
- Nunivak Island TCD
- Nuvendaltun TCD
- Tuyuryaq TCD
- Prince of Wales TCD
- T'ee Drin Jik TCD



Quick Facts

- Alaska 663,267 mi²
 - 571,951 mi² of land
- 189,912 mi² are designated TCDs
- California + Maine = Alaska's TCD area
- Within Alaska's TCDs are ≈ 80 communities
- In these 80 communities ≈ 37,000 people (2010 census)



- **58 TCDs in the Nation**
- **18 of those are in Alaska**

Regional Conferences

- In order to extend our service area, ATCA hosts regional conferences across the state, in regions where TCDs do not currently exist.
- The conference is a support system for forming Tribal Conservation Districts and aims to address challenges that Tribes may face regarding natural resources conservation, subsistence, and agricultural activities.



ATCA Annual Symposium



- Since 2012 ATCA has hosted an Annual Symposium
- Brings together Tribal Conservation Districts, Native Corporations, Government Agencies, and other stakeholders
- Identify and address natural resource concerns, exchange knowledge, support common goals, and assist in overcoming barriers surrounding management of natural resources, subsistence, and agriculture activities on tribal lands.



Challenges Rural Alaska Faces

- 86% of Alaskan Villages are non-road accessible
- 95% of goods are imported to major hubs in Alaska
- Goods must then be shipped to villages
- High gas prices = high cost of living a subsistence life
- Limited time to conduct subsistence due to seasonality
- Need for food security and food sovereignty



Thank You

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