Salt Chuck Mine Superfund Site
Community Involvement Plan
Kasaan Bay, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 10

April 26, 2013

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Section 1. Community Involvement Overview

EPA's experience has been that when the public is involved in EPA's work, the cleanup process results in a better outcome and a more robust remedy. This Community Involvement Plan summarizes community concerns and information needs and describes opportunities for the community to be involved during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

EPA has developed this Community Involvement Plan based on input from the community and agency partners, discussions with stakeholders, and historic site files. EPA's Remedial Project Manager and Community Involvement Coordinator will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this plan.

1.1 Community Involvement Purpose

The purpose of the Community Involvement Plan is to show how, when, and where EPA will provide information the public needs to understand our work, and to show how the community can be actively involved in the cleanup process.

The official guidance for EPA's Community Involvement Program is available online at http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag/pdfs/ci_handbook.pdf.

The CIP is a "living document" that will be modified as new information and issues develop over the course of the investigation and cleanup of the Site.

EPA understands that transparency in the cleanup process builds public confidence and encourages public participation. Frequent and informative communication throughout the cleanup process should involve all stakeholders. We welcome suggestions from community members on how we can best keep you informed and involved.

1.2 Community Involvement Goals

EPA's Community Involvement Program has four goals:

1. Provide opportunities for the public to become actively involved
2. Meet the community's information needs
3. Incorporate community input, knowledge, issues, and concerns
4. Give feedback to the public on how their issues and concerns were incorporated into the cleanup work.

Section 2. Site Overview and the Cleanup Process

The Salt Chuck Mine is an inactive former gold, silver, and copper mine on Prince of Wales Island in the Tongass National Forest at the northern end of Kasaan Bay. Heavy metals from mine tailings have polluted the uplands and sediments in the intertidal area of Salt Chuck Bay. EPA is conducting a cleanup study of the mine under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or "Superfund").

Salt Chuck Mine is located at the northern end of Kasaan Bay, on Prince of Wales Island, approximately 4½ miles south-southwest of Thorne Bay, Alaska. The mine takes its name from the shallow, restricted Salt Chuck, which borders the mine site to the south, and forms the northernmost arm of Kasaan Bay. See Figure 1 - Site Map on page 8. The nearest year-around population is located at Thorne Bay, which is accessible from the Site by road and trail. The closest community by water is the Native village of Kasaan, located 10 miles southeast of the site on the east side of Kasaan Bay.

The Salt Chuck Mine site in general is accessible by trail, boat, float plane, or helicopter. Service roads extend past the north end of the mine site, and are used by hikers, hunters, and casual recreational vehicles.

The Salt Chuck area is designated as an area of intensive public recreation use by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR, 1998) Prince of Wales Island Area Plan. Salt Chuck Bay is an excellent protected waterway for canoes, kayaks, and other small boats, and passage to Lake Ellen is possible for small craft on high tides. The glory hole at the Salt Chuck Mine is occasionally used by rock climbers for rappelling. A Forest Service campground is located about 1.2 miles northwest of the site at Lake No.3. In addition, public cabins are located on Forest Service land on the southeast shore of Salt Chuck Bay about one mile from the site, and on the north shore of Browns Bay about 1½ miles south of the site. Although there are no dock facilities at the mine site, a trailhead at the upper end of Salt Chuck Bay is accessible during high tide by small craft. However, it is thought that this mode of access is used less frequently than the road system and trail extending from the glory hole to the mill. There is a marked trailhead located along the Forest Service road about 0.5 miles north of the glory hole. The nearest public access boat ramp to the site is located in Kasaan, about 10 miles southeast of the site.

The Salt Chuck area is designated for potential intensive community use for harvest of clams, crabs, deer, waterfowl, and black bear by residents of Kasaan, Hollis, and Craig. Residents may also collect berries from the area. The closest community by water is Kasaan located about 10 miles southeast of Salt Chuck Mine along the eastern shore of Kasaan Bay.

Residents of Kasaan, Hollis and Craig harvest clams from the Salt Chuck area.

The Organized Village of Kasaan uses Kasaan Bay as a commercial and tribal subsistence fishery and shell fishery.

2.1 Salt Chuck Mine History

Salt Chuck Mine was originally known as the Goodro Mine when the first claims were staked in 1905. By 1907, approximately 35 feet of adit had been driven, a short shaft had been sunk, and several surface cuts were opened. A mill with a rated capacity of 30 tons/day was constructed on site in 1915. The mill capacity was increased to 300 tons/day in 1923. Total production figures for the mine indicate that over 326,000 tons of ore were mined at the site, with production halting in 1941. Copper, gold, silver, and platinum group elements (PGEs), most notably palladium, were the primary ores produced from Salt Chuck Mine.

An extensive tailings deposit comprising roughly 100,000 cubic yards of material is located primarily in the intertidal zone south and southeast of the mill. Smaller areas of tailings lie above the intertidal zone along a tailings spit, around the mill, and adjacent to an unnamed stream. Together, the tailings deposits cover an area of approximately 23 acres.

2.2 The Cleanup Process

The primary contaminants of potential concern at this site are mine-related metals such as copper and vanadium in surface water, sediments, and shellfish tissues. Organic chemicals of potential concern include coal tar hydrocarbons and petroleum fuel components remaining from mining operations. Concentrations of all of these contaminants in upland and intertidal areas will be evaluated during the RI/FS to determine whether they are at levels that could pose a risk to people or wildlife that may use these areas and come into contact with contaminated sources.

Contamination exists within both Forest Service managed uplands and State of Alaska intertidal lands. At the request of the state of Alaska, EPA added the Salt Chuck Mine to our Superfund National Priorities List in March 2010. The Superfund listing makes the site eligible for federal cleanup funds while EPA seeks to recover costs from the responsible parties.

In 2011, the U.S. Forest Service built a short access road to the site, removed building debris, drums and tanks, excavated 5,400 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soil and 8,400 tons of contaminated material including metals-contaminated tailings.

The EPA is now planning a remedial investigation/ feasibility study (RI/FS) to address the rest of the contamination on state-managed intertidal land and on uplands managed by the Forest Service.

The RI/FS phase of the cleanup process determines the nature and extent of contamination at the site, assesses whether risks may be posed by site contamination, tests whether certain technologies are capable of treating the contamination, and evaluates the cost and performance of technologies that could be used to clean up the site.

Workers collect shellfish for sampling.

RI/FS activities completed and pending include:

2011 activities (completed):

- Held community meeting in Kasaan
- Conducted field investigation: Collected samples of mine tailings, surface water, sediments, and clam tissue at the Salt Chuck Mine intertidal area

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2012 activities (completed):

- Held community meetings in Kasaan and Thorne Bay
- Conducted field investigation: Collected samples of mine tailings, surface water, sediments, and clam tissue at the Salt Chuck Mine intertidal and upland area

2013 activities (in progress):

- Hold community meetings in Kasaan and Thorne Bay
- Prepared 2013 field investigation plans
- Prepared planning documents for a treatability study
- Perform field investigation
- Implement the treatability study

2014 activities (pending):

- Hold community meetings in Kasaan and Thorne Bay
- Prepare a treatability study report
- Prepare a remedial investigation report.
- Prepare a feasibility study

SOURCE: USDA FOREST SERVICE,
1:63,360 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC),
CRAIG (C-2) QUADRANGLE

0 2,000 4,000 8,000
SCALE IN FEET

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SITE LOCATION MAP

SALT CHUCK MINE
TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST, ALASKA

FIGURE 1

Section 3. Community Issues and Concerns

3.1 Community Profile

Prince of Wales Island has 12 communities: Craig , Coffman Cove, Edna Bay, Hollis, Hydaburg, Kasaan, Klawock, Naukati, Point Baker, Port Protection, Thorne Bay, and Whale Pass. In 2010, the total population of the island was 5,559.

Timber production, commercial fishing, and fish processing are major employers on the island. Tourism is a growing component of the island's economy. Travelers visit the island for charter fishing for salmon and halibut, shrimping and crabbing, deer and bear hunting, wilderness lodge stays, kayaking excursions, wildlife viewing and photography, trail hiking, beach-combing and Native-Alaskan cultural education. Prince of Wales Island lies within the 17-million acre Tongass National Forest.

3.1.1 The Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK)

The Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK) is a federally recognized Tribe on Prince of Wales Island located 10 miles southeast of the Salt Chuck Mine on the east side of Kasaan Bay.

Kasaan is located on the western side of Kasaan Peninsula and with traditional territory encompassing the entirety of Kasaan Bay, including the areas surrounding Salt Chuck Mine. Kasaan residents and Tribal members of the OVK have harvested fish, clams, mussels, crab, and shrimp from the waters around Salt Chuck for decades, including areas currently impacted by tailings from the Salt Chuck Mine. The state has posted health warnings against shellfish harvesting in the Salt Chuck intertidal area.

In 2003, under an EPA Indian General Assistance Program grant, the OVK formed the Kasaan Bay Watershed Council, which guides the priorities to be addressed by the OVK Natural Resources Department. In the Kasaan Bay Watershed Management Plan (2005), the Watershed Council identified the Salt Chuck Mine as one of the top cleanup priorities, due to contamination from the mine and its impact on subsistence resources. The Tribe conducted a Unified Watershed Assessment (2006) which identified the Salt Chuck area as a Category I Watershed in need of restoration.

The OVK was in full support of listing the Salt Chuck Mine on the National Priorities List. Under a 2004 Tribal Environmental Agreement between the EPA and the OVK, and a 2007 Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service, the OVK requested continued government to government coordination on Salt Chuck to make sure the needs of the Tribe are being incorporated and addressed.

3.2 Past Community Involvement

Prince of Wales Island has been the site of numerous cleanup operations, most involving the cleanup and closure of numerous Ketchikan Pulp Company logging camps and administrative sites. The Thorne Bay community landfill was a cleanup and closure site in the late 1990s. A recent cleanup of a portion of Coffman Cove Road addressed acid rock drainage from pyrite rock inadvertently used during construction.

The U.S. Forest Service has been actively involved in outreach with stakeholders at the Salt Chuck Mine site. The USFS developed a Community Involvement Plan for their 2010 removal action, obtained information from stakeholders on community concerns, conducted a public comment period, and issued a response to public comments.

3.3 Community Concerns

To support development of this Community Involvement Plan, EPA distributed community questionnaires in the summer of 2012 and received responses from ten local residents. The purpose of the qualitative questionnaire was to collect voluntary information on the customary and traditional use of the Salt Chuck Mine Site area for subsistence. This input was needed to determine the types of foods that might be targeted for sampling during field investigations by EPA at Salt Chuck Mine and surrounding areas.. Appendix B contains the community questions used and a summary of the responses from the questionnaires (names are kept confidential).

Section 4. Community Involvement Action Plan

EPA's main points of contact for the Salt Chuck Mine Superfund Site are:

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U.S. EPA Region 10, Anchorage, AK
907-271-1271 or 800-424-4372
Gusmano.Jacques@epa.gov

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Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 10, Seattle, WA
206-553-6689 or 800-424-4372
Skadowski.Suzanne@epa.gov

Community Involvement Activities and Communication Tools

EPA will use the community involvement activities and tools outlined in this plan to keep residents informed and aware of opportunities to be involved.

4.1 Fact Sheets, Handouts, and Fliers

EPA fact sheets on the Salt Chuck Mine will be short (1-2 pages) documents using non-technical language describing site activities. Fact sheets will be emailed or mailed to interested community members and stakeholders. Fact sheets will also be available at Salt Chuck Mine community meetings, and available on the EPA Salt Chuck Mine website. The fact sheets will summarize larger, technical documents related to the cleanup process at the site. Other handouts may be distributed at the community meetings and posted on EPA's Salt Chuck Mine web site. 1-page fliers will be used to notify community members of public meetings or other events.

4.2 Technical Assistance

EPA can provide technical assistance and training resources to help communities participate in Superfund decisions at sites in their community.

4.2.1 Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) provides money for activities that help a community group participate in decision making at eligible Superfund sites. An initial grant up to $50,000 may be available for a qualified community group to contract with independent technical advisors to help the community understand the investigation and cleanup. More information about Technical Assistance Grants is online: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/. Tribes are not eligible for this grant.

4.2.2 Superfund Support Agency Cooperative Agreement

Superfund Support Agency Cooperative Agreement (SACA) funding may be available to tribes for tribal oversight of investigations, studies, and cleanups of Superfund sites on the National Priorities List. EPA uses SACAs to transfer funds to a State, local government or Indian Tribe that assumes responsibility as the lead or support agency for the Superfund cleanup.

4.3 Community Advisory Group

Community members can form a Superfund Community Advisory Group (CAG) to serve as the main point of contact for

exchanging information among the community and EPA, the State, and other Federal agencies involved in the Superfund site cleanup. More information about Community Advisory Groups is online: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag/whatis.htm

4.4 Web Site

EPA has created a web site specifically for the Salt Chuck Mine Superfund Site:

http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/scm

EPA's web site provides easy, one-stop public access to background information about the site, the site investigation and cleanup documents and reports, site updates, and announcements of community meetings and public comment periods. By regularly posting information about the project on a web site, EPA, our partners, and the community will have one source to check when searching for information about the cleanup.

4.5 Community Meetings

EPA holds meetings to provide new or updated information about the Salt Chuck Mine cleanup and gather community feedback throughout the process. EPA will announce public meetings by e-mail, on the web site, and news releases sent to the Southeast Alaska's Island News, Ketchikan Daily News, Juneau Empire, and Capital City Weekly, as well as local radio and television outlets. EPA will continue to hold community meetings at the David S. Peele Community Hall or Totem Trail Café in Kasaan and at the Bay Chalet in Thorne Bay.

4.6 Information Repository

EPA maintains an Information Repository near the site where reports and documents about the site cleanup are available to community members. The Information Repository will hold the Administrative Record for the site, which consists of copies of official documents and other pertinent information about the site and EPA activities.

The Salt Chuck Mine Information Repository is located at:

Thorne Bay Ranger District
1312 Federal Way
Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919
907-828-3304 (call ahead for viewing hours)

The most complete collection of documents is the official EPA site file, located at:

EPA Records Center
1200 6th Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101
206-553-4494 (call for an appointment)

4.7 Mail and Email Lists

EPA will maintain a list for distribution of fact sheets and meeting notices by email and surface mail. To be added to the site's mailing and/or email list please contact the Remedial Project Manager or the Community Involvement Coordinator.

4.8 Proposed Plan

EPA will develop a Proposed Plan for cleaning up the site, based on results of the

Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. EPA will issue a public notice through the local media to notify the community, so interested members of the community can comment on the Proposed Plan. EPA may hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan. EPA will develop a Responsiveness Summary to formally respond to public comments received on the Proposed Plan.

4.9 Public Comment Opportunities

EPA will hold a formal public comment period on the Proposed Plan. EPA can also offer informal public review and comment opportunities at other steps in the cleanup process, such as the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study reports. EPA will notify the community of formal public comment periods and public hearings by display ads in the local newspaper, Southeast Alaska's Island News, and newsletters (e.g. OVK Newsletter), as well as website announcements, mailed postcards, email announcements, and fliers posted in the community.

4.10 Public Notices

For those who are not on the site mailing list, EPA will announce community meetings and the public comment period about the cleanup in a display advertisement in the main section of the local newspaper, Southeast Alaska's Island News, and online news sites including the Capital City Weekly.

Appendix A - Summary of 2012 Community Questionnaire Results Salt Chuck Mine, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska

Summary of 2012 Community Questionnaire Results Salt Chuck Mine, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska

PREPARED FOR: Jacques Gusmano/USEPA

PREPARED BY: Dennis Shelton/CH2M HILL
Paul Townley/CH2M HILL

DATE: April 2, 2013

Purpose and Background

This memorandum summarizes the results of a Community Questionnaire submitted to community members of Thorne Bay and the Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK), Prince of Wales Island, Alaska. The purpose of the qualitative questionnaire was to collect voluntary information on the customary and traditional use of the Salt Chuck Mine Site area for subsistence. This input was needed to determine the types of foods that might be targeted for sampling during field investigations by EPA at Salt Chuck Mine and surrounding areas.

The Salt Chuck Mine site is an inactive former copper, gold, silver, and platinum group elements (most notably palladium) mine located in the Tongass National Forest at the northern end of Kasaan Bay, Alaska, and was added to the EPA National Priorities List on March 4, 2010.

The OVK is a federally recognized Tribe located 10 miles southeast of the Salt Chuck Mine on the east side of Kasaan Bay. Kasaan is located on the western side of Kasaan Peninsula and with traditional territory encompassing the entirety of Kasaan Bay, including the areas surrounding Salt Chuck Mine. Kasaan residents and Tribal members of the OVK have reportedly harvested fish, clams, crab, and shrimp from the waters in and around Salt Chuck for decades, including intertidal areas currently impacted by tailings from the Salt Chuck Mine. The state of Alaska has posted health warnings against shellfish harvesting in the Salt Chuck intertidal area.

The OVK was in full support of listing the Salt Chuck Mine on the National Priorities List in 2010. Under a 2004 Tribal Environmental Agreement between the EPA and the OVK, and a 2007 Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service, the OVK requested continued government to government coordination on Salt Chuck Mine cleanup to make sure the needs of the Tribe are being incorporated and addressed. As a result, EPA has held community meetings to provide new and updated information about the Salt Chuck Mine cleanup and gather community feedback throughout the process.

The Community Questionnaire was submitted to community members during public meetings held on July 26, 2012 in Thorne Bay and on July 30, 2012 in the Village of Kasaan. Since it has been determined that shellfish near Salt Chuck Mine contain increased levels of mine-related metals such as copper, some of the questionnaire questions deal with use of shellfish, whereas others address potential harvest of the plants and other animals and fish in the tidal and upland area of Salt Chuck Mine. A copy of the community questionnaire is attached.

Results

The following summarizes the results of the questionnaire on a question by question basis. At the request of some respondents, the information given is kept confidential and not linked to specific individuals, and will only be used for the purpose stated above. A total of 10 people responded to the questionnaire. The numbers provided below indicate the number of these 10 respondents that provided the specific answer indicated.

1) **During the early days of mining, between 1910-1930, and before mining, what is your understanding of how much subsistence activity was happening at the Salt Chuck Mine area?** Check one answer.

High amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past	7
Medium amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past	0
Low amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past	0
I don't know	3

2) **What is your understanding of the amount of subsistence activity at the Salt Chuck Mine Area that is going on now?** Check one answer.

High amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now	0
Medium amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now	0
Low amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now	9
I don't know	1

3) **How much are <u>you</u> now using (or have used within the past year or so) the Salt Chuck Mine area for subsistence use?** Check one answer.

I'm not using the Salt Chuck Mine area for subsistence now	8
I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area very little for subsistence now	2
I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area quite a bit for subsistence now	0
I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area a lot for subsistence now	0

4) **If you do not use Salt Chuck for subsistence now, or use it very little, please tell us why**. Check all that apply.

Salt Chuck Mine area is too contaminated from past mine activities	6
Salt Chuck Mine area is too far away/too difficult to reach	2
There are better subsistence areas closer to me than the Salt Chuck Mine area	4
I'm concerned about Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)	3
I don't participate in subsistence	0

5) **If you harvest and eat shellfish, what types of shellfish do you prefer to eat, and about how much do you eat per person in your family each year? This includes all shellfish gathered in all of Kasaan Bay, not just Salt Chuck.**

Type of shellfish	Prefer to eat? (check one)	How many **pounds** eaten per person in your family each year? (check one)				
		less than 1	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	more than 10
Butter clams	8 Yes; 2 No	0	1	1	1	4
Soft shell clams	2 Yes; 5 No	0	0	0	1	1
Cockles	7 Yes; 3 No	0	0	2	1	3
Mussels	3 Yes; 5 No	0	1	0	1	1
Shrimp	8 Yes; 2 No	0	0	0	2	5
Crab	10 Yes; 0 No	0	1	0	3	5
Other: Gumboots (2 respondents)		0	1	1	0	0
Other: Sea cucumber (1 respondent) – no rate given						
Other: Scallops (1 respondent) – no rate given						

6) **What plants do you collect for food, tea, or medicine in all of Kasaan Bay, not just from the Salt Chuck Mine area? Include both marine plants from the ocean and upland plants from the land.** Check all that apply.

None	3
Seaweed	6
Beach Asparagus	7
Berries	7
Other: Goose tongue	2
Other: Hudson Bay tea	3
Devil's club, cedar bark, spruce root, nettles, yarrow, licorice fern root, mint	1 each

7) **Do you harvest fish from Lake Ellen Creek?** Check one answer.

Yes	0
No	10
Other: "I used to trout fish"	1

8) **If you harvest and eat fish from Lake Ellen Creek, what types of fish and about how much per person in your family do you eat each year?**

Type of fish	Eat from Lake Ellen Creek? (check one)	How many **pounds** eaten per person in your family each year? (check one)				
		less than 1	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	more than 10
Trout	1 Yes; 4 No	0	0	1	0	0
Soft Red (sockeye) salmon	0 Yes; 5 No	0	0	0	0	0
Silver (coho) salmon	0 Yes; 5 No	0	0	0	0	0
Steelhead	0 Yes; 5 No	0	0	0	0	0
Other (name)	0 Yes; 0 No	0	0	0	0	0

9) **What other foods do you harvest near the Salt Chuck Mine area?** Check all that apply.

None	7
Deer	2
Grouse	0
Other: Seal	1

10) **Salt Chuck is also a recreation area for hiking and day trips. About how many days each year do you use the Salt Chuck Mine area for recreation?** Write the number in the blank below.

Number of days per year:

0 (7 respondents)
"1 w/kids but not any more"
"2 when in school"
"5 or so"

11) **When we communicate with you over the next two years to update you on our findings and distribute information, what are the best ways to communicate with you?** Check all that apply.

E-mail	9
Town meetings	1
Mailings	0
Other: "No"	

12) **Do you know of other interested people who want to be kept informed about this work and are not currently on our e-mail list?** If so, please let us know how we can get in touch with them.

1 respondent: "Everyone is interested to some extent"

13) **What other issues do you think are important for us to know, while we conduct this Remedial Investigation?**

"Glad that historic equipment is being left at site. Look at past investigations from 1987ish"
"Can animals that forage in or near Salt Chuck become contaminated? (deer, waterfowl, etc.)"
"More information and workshops regarding PCP in general. Also, cover testing issues and methods."
"There is a lot of commercial crabbing in the Salt Chuck"

Conclusions

The results of the qualitative questionnaire can be summarized as follows:

- The subsistence use of Salt Chuck Bay was reportedly higher in the past, but is not very prevalent today.
- The primary types of shellfish noted as harvested for consumption at Salt Chuck Bay and surrounding areas are clams, crabs, and shrimp.
- Sea asparagus and berries are the most common plants reported as gathered at these locations, although a wide variety of other plants were also noted as occasionally harvested for consumption or medicinal purposes.
- Lake Ellen Creek is not a notable location where fishing occurs for consumption purposes.

Based on the results of the Community Questionnaire, the types of foods to consider for sampling during field investigations at Salt Chuck Mine and surrounding areas include clams, crabs, shrimp, sea asparagus, and berries. The actual types of biota to target for sampling will depend on seasonal availability (e.g., legal harvesting seasons, berry development, etc.). Tissue residue data from plants and shellfish will be used by EPA to assess the potential for exposure and risk posed by historic releases from the Salt Chuck Mine.

2012 Community Interview Questions
Salt Chuck Mine Site

Date: _____ 2012

Name: _____

Residence (town/village): _____

E-mail address: _____

EPA and the U.S. Forest Service are conducting a Remedial Investigation (RI) at the Salt Chuck Mine. Part of the RI involves collecting environmental samples to determine the level of risk to people and the environment from the mine tailings and any run-off coming from the tailings. Sampling will take place over the next two summers. To be certain we collect the right kind of samples, we'd like your input on the types of foods you might collect near Salt Chuck Mine and surrounding areas.

We know that shellfish near Salt Chuck Mine contain increased levels of copper, so some of our questions deal with your use of shellfish. We are also interested in the plants, and possibly other animals and fish, in the tidal and upland area of Salt Chuck Mine.

Completion of this questionnaire is voluntary. Any information you give us will be kept confidential and will only be used for the purpose stated above. All information will be summarized as a group, and none of the information will be directly linked to you. You may skip any question or stop at any time without consequence.

Please help us target our sampling efforts by answering the questions below. Thank you.

1) **During the early days of mining, between 1910- 1930, and before mining, what is your understanding of how much subsistence activity was happening at the Salt Chuck Mine area?** Check one answer.

__ High amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past
__ Medium amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past
__ Low amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine in the past
__ I don't know

2) **What is your understanding of the amount of subsistence activity at the Salt Chuck Mine Area that is going on now?** Check one answer.

__ High amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now
__ Medium amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now
__ Low amount of subsistence activity at Salt Chuck Mine going on now
__ I don't know

3) **How much are <u>you</u> now using (or have used within the past year or so) the Salt Chuck Mine area for subsistence use?** Check one answer.

__ I'm not using the Salt Chuck Mine area for subsistence now
__ I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area very little for subsistence now
__ I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area quite a bit for subsistence now
__ I'm using the Salt Chuck Mine area a lot for subsistence now

4) **If you do not use Salt Chuck for subsistence now, or use it very little, please tell us why**. Check all that apply.

__ Salt Chuck Mine area is too contaminated from past mine activities
__ Salt Chuck Mine area is too far away/too difficult to reach
__ There are better subsistence areas closer to me than the Salt Chuck Mine area
__ I'm concerned about Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)
__ I don't participate in subsistence

5) **If you harvest and eat shellfish, what types of shellfish do you prefer to eat, and about how much do you eat per person in your family each year? This includes all shellfish gathered in all of Kasaan Bay, not just Salt Chuck.**

Type of shellfish	Prefer to eat? (check one)	How many **pounds** eaten per person in your family each year? (check one)
Butter clams	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Soft shell clams	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Cockles	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Mussels	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Shrimp	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Crab	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Other (name):		__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10

6) **What plants do you collect for food, tea, or medicine in all of Kasaan Bay, not just from the Salt Chuck Mine area? Include both marine plants from the ocean and upland plants from the land.** Check all that apply.

__ None
__ Seaweed
__ Beach Asparagus
__ Berries
__ Other (name): _____

7) **Do you harvest fish from Lake Ellen Creek?** Check one answer.

__ Yes
__ No

8) **If you harvest and eat fish from Lake Ellen Creek, what types of fish and about how much per person in your family do you eat each year?**

Type of fish	Eat from Lake Ellen Creek? (check one)	How many **pounds** eaten per person in your family each year? (check one)
Trout	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Red (sockeye) salmon	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Silver (coho) salmon	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Steelhead	__ Yes __ No	__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10
Other (name):		__ less than 1 __ 1 to 2 __ 3 to 5 __ 6 to 10 __ more than 10

9) **What other foods do you harvest near the Salt Chuck Mine area?** Check all that apply.

__ None
__ Deer
__ Grouse
__ Other (name): _____

10) **Salt Chuck is also a recreation area for hiking and day trips. About how many days each year do you use the Salt Chuck Mine area for recreation?** Write the number in the blank below.

____ number of days per year

11) **When we communicate with you over the next two years to update you on our findings and distribute information, what are the best ways to communicate with you?** Check all that apply.

__ E-mail
__ Town meetings
__ Mailings
__ Other (please specify): _____

12) **Do you know of other interested people who want to be kept informed about this work and are not currently on our e-mail list?** If so, please let us know how we can get in touch with them.

_____

_____

13) **What other issues do you think are important for us to know, while we conduct this Remedial Investigation?**

_____

_____

_____

_____

Thank you for your participation.