

EKLUTNA, INC - RIVER RESTORATION



Eklutna's Contributions to Anchorage

- Over 1000 housing units
 - Millions in property taxes to MOA
 - Customers for AWWU/electric utilities
 - More to come - Powder West
- ROW and Easements to State/Utilities
 - Highway ROW for New Glenn
 - Water and transmission easements
- Land for Anchorage's needs
 - Schools and Trails
 - Rehab Center and Eklutna Gas Plant
 - APD parking, training facility
- Conservation Easements



How F&W Program Impacts Community

- Devalues EI and other private owners land near the River
- Deprives citizens of full value of Chugach State Park
- Subsistence and sport fishing opportunities continue to suffer
- Disconnected ecosystem
- Eklutna Valley devoid of key element for development



How Champions for the Community Arise

- Dena'ina name of Eklutna is 'Idlughet' meaning "river flowing by the objects"
 - Two Knobs (objects) were mined by AK Railroad for decades
 - The namesake of Eklutna was slowly being mined for railroad ballast
- AK Railroad and Wells Fargo reversed course after re-evaluating resource use and champion preservation of the Knobs
- Knobs (Eklutna namesake) now preserved
- Land donated to Eklutna/Ikluat



Parallels to F&W Program

- The Eklutna River has been used for power and drinking water for decades
- Resource users going through evaluation process - F & W Program
- Alternative sources for resources identified
- Opportunity for resource users to CHAMPION the return of a community treasure and cultural icon



We All Need the River

- Strategic importance in restoring Eklutna River
 - Making Anchorage a more desirable city to live in
 - Adding recreational and tourism activities
 - Encouraging development
 - Return of ecological systems
 - Culturally-significant resource
 - Educational tool



Grandma Olga Nikolai Ezi, a well-respected elder from the Native Village of Eklutna, and a fish drying rack, located on the newly renovated north finger of the Ship Creek

We All Need a Champion

- Eklutna and partners removed the first dam
- Opportunity for Project Owners to do what the Railroad and Wells Fargo did for Eklutna & Anchorage
- Need more collaborative effort to find a workable solution
- There's a better life for the Eklutna River than the Portal Option
- Eklutna has given the community so much, it's time to reciprocate

