

Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department

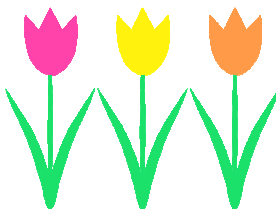
MARCH 2017

Program Update

By: Karis Porcincula

Spring is just around the corner!

With spring around the corner the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department has started their Earth Day Fair poster contest. Contest ended on March 13, 2017 at 5pm.



The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Coordinator and Environmental Assistant attended the Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage, AK from February 6-10, 2017.

Environmental staff dig clams each month to send out for Paralytic Shellfish Poison Testing. The February sample was sent on February 22nd and came back at 204 micrograms.

The Environmental Coordinator holds Environmental Teen Group almost every Wednesday Night at the Teen Center from 7-8pm.

The Environmental Assistant holds Environmental Youth Group almost every Friday afternoon at the

Boys and Girls Club from 3-4pm.

Environmental staff are still collecting Electronic Waste. If you have any electronic waste you would like to get rid of, drop it off at the QTT Environmental office. If you are an elder of handicapped, call us and we will come pick up your e-waste.



Both Environmental staff members are Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network members. If you notice anything out of the ordinary with the weather, animals, mammals, or climate change, please give us a call and report it so we can take pictures and report it to LEO for some feed back.

The 10th Annual Earth Day Fair will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the

Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Community Center. More details will come as the date gets closer.

The Environmental staff will also be starting a raffle for the Earth Day Fair soon. Please get a hold of Karis Porcincula, Jasmine Maligaya, or Wendy Gardner for tickets.

Inside this issue:

Program Update	1
PSP Update	1
AK Forum	2
Black Swans	2
Melting Sea Ice	2
Alaska's Fish Breeding Behavior	3
Earth Day Fair Raffle	3
Future Climate Change	3
Earth Day Fair	4
EYG Update	4
ETG Update	4
E-Waste Update	5
QTT Council & Staff	5
Job Opportunities	6

Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Update

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department digs clams from the Sand Point Spit Beach each month to be sent out to the Environmental Health Laboratory for testing. The results from the January sample came back at 222 micrograms which is above the FDA approved limit of

80 micrograms. The February sample was sent out and the results came back at 204 micrograms which is above the FDA limit of 80 micrograms

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department only tests clams off the Sand Point Spit Beach as this is the testing

sight written in their grant.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe neither encourages nor discourages the consumption of the local shellfish, but provides this information for the community to make an educated decision upon the consumption of the local shellfish.



Number of Months Clams Haven't Been Good:
33 MONTHS



Alaska Forum on the Environment

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental staff attended the Alaska Forum on the Environment from February 6-10, 2017 at the Denaina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage, AK.

The Alaska Forum is an information conference for those in the Environmental fields. They have sessions on air quality, invasive species, community education, water quality, solid/hazardous waste, and keynote speakers who relate to the work you are doing.



The Environmental Coordinator and Environmental Assistant attended sessions on invasive species, air quality (both indoor and outdoor), solid/hazardous waste, community education, youth leadership, and more pertaining to what the Environmental Department is currently working on.

We were able to get more information on some of the projects we would like to do in the future, especially the invasive species and solid/hazardous waste.

We also had keynote speak-

ers everyday, who came and told their stories about what types of stuff they've been doing in the field they are working in. There were many success stories and informational speeches on environmental related subjects.

Although a good portion of the information is repeated from previous conferences, they had a few panels of new information.

The Environmental Department will use what they learned to help improve the environmental education in our community.

“Black Swan” Events

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Black swan events are so rare and occur without notice on society.

A new study by the University of Washington and Simon Fraser University is the first to document black swan events occurring in the animal populations. They are usually manifest as massive, unexpected die-offs.

“No one really looked at the prevalence of black swan events in animal population before.” People who are

associated with the phrase of financial market crashes are being able to take to term and apply it to another system which gives context about looking in animal populations.

Researchers analyzed data from more than 600 animal populations, including mammals, birds, fishes and insects. These black swan events are unexpected die-offs, instead of positive surges in population.

These occurrences happen to be driven by parasites, severe winters, predators or climate – which will likely get more extreme under climate change.

One study believes climate change will make black swan events more important and hope to see black swans become more common in animal populations.

More info: http://www.enn.com/top_stories/article/50720



Melting Sea Ice Caused by Nature's Clock

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Spring is right around the corner, it is coming sooner to some plant species in the low Arctic of Greenland, while others are delaying.

These changes are because of the diminishing sea ice cover. The timing of seasonal events has to grow, produce offspring and express its life history also known as “nature’s clock.”

Studies show a dynamic

front expanded from the massive inland ice sheet, which covers most of an island of Russell Glacier.

How early a plant emerges from its winter slumber depends on the species. Studies show the Arctic landscapes are changing rapidly. The changes cause complications for the ecological structure of the region for years to come.

The Arctic is dynamic and it's changing in a direction, in which it will not be recognized as the same Arctic to those who have been working there for decades.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-02/uoc--msi022317.php



Alaska's Fish to Change Breeding Behavior

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Alaska's freshwater fish species are altering its breeding patterns in response to climate change. It could impact the ecology of northern lakes which is already feeling the effects of climate change.

One data shows stickleback breed earlier and more often in each season. It comes early in spring when the ice breakup and longer in summers when the ice is free.

Reproductive patterns of the three-spine stickleback fish over half a century in Alaska's Bristol Bay region. Several studies speculate about conditions brought on

by a warming climate can allow animals to breed more often in a single year. The study program has decades of recorded juvenile sockeye salmon and other fish which lives in the region's freshwater lakes. The program's monitoring is designed to track the commercially important sockeye salmon population.

Alaska's warming has happened twice as fast as most of the planet and these fish are adapted to survive in cold environments with limited productive seasons.



Researchers aren't sure if breeding more often and earlier in life is beneficial for fish, but it appears the fish will likely increase their richness. It could mean fish are living shorter lives because there's a higher physiological cost to breeding more than once.

For more information, visit: <http://www.washington.edu/news/2017/01/18/climate-change-prompts-alaska-fish-to-change-breeding-behavior/>



Earth Day Fair Raffle

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department is doing an Earth Day Fair Raffle where all proceeds go to future Earth Day Fair prizes.

Raffle items are: a 20 piece BBQ Grill Set, a Fujifilm INSTAX Mini 8 Instant Camera with camera case and film, a Coolerz Rapid

Rider Inflatable 4 - Person Island Tube, a Fitbit Charge, a Presto Pizzazz Plus Rotating Oven, a Cheerwing Syma Quadcopter Drone UFO with HD WiFi Camera, a Presto 23-quart Canner & Cooker with canning set and case of 8oz jars, Tupperware (modular mate, teaspoon set, measuring cup set, and chic dining

dipper), and more.

Tickets are: 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20. To buy tickets, please contact Karis Porcincula or Jasmine Maligaya at: (907) 383-6968, or stop by the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe main office. Raffle will be held at the 10 Annual Earth Day Fair.

Need not be present to win.

Earth Day Fair Raffle

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department is holding a raffle to support the Earth Day Fair. Tickets will be sold: 1 ticket for \$5.00 or 5 tickets for \$20.00!

Items for Raffle:

- 20 Piece BBQ Grill Set
- Fujifilm INSTAX Mini 8 Instant Camera w/ Camera Case and Film
- Coolerz Rapid Rider Inflatable 4 Person Island Tube
- Fitbit Charge
- Presto Pizzazz Plus Rotating Oven
- Cheerwing Syma Quadcopter Drone UFO w/ HD WiFi Camera
- Presto 23-quart Canner & Cooker w/ Canning Set & Case of 8oz Jars
- Tupperware (modular mate, teaspoon set, measuring cup set, chic dining dipper) - donated by Tiffany Jackson & Karis Porcincula
- And more...

To buy tickets, please contact Karis Porcincula and Jasmine Maligaya @ (907) 383-6968, or stop by the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe main office. Raffle will be held at the 10th Annual Earth Day Fair on April 22, 2017.

Future Climate Change

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Future climate change will affect plants and soil differently. In Europe a new study has found soil carbon loss is more sensitive to climate change compared to carbon taken up by plants. In drier regions, soil carbon loss decreased and in wetter regions soil carbon loss increased. It could be a positive feedback to the atmosphere which leads to an additional increase of atmospheric CO2 levels.

Seven climate change experiments done by scientist came across Europe which shows their shrubland plants biomass and soil carbon loss is affected by summer drought. Most of the earth's native carbon is stored in soil. The soil carbon stocks are estimated to be 2000 gigatonnes (1 gigatonne = 1,000,000,000,000 kilograms) of carbon.

Soil carbon loss is most respon-

sive to change in soil water, because soil water plays an important role in wet soils. It is where the water logs limited decomposition processed by soil biota which builds up the solid carbon as peat. Drying the soil removes the limitations leading to soil carbon loss.

For more info: http://www.enn.com/top_stories/article/50724





Earth Day Fair

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department is hosting its 10th Annual Earth Day Fair on April 22, 2017 at the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Community Center from 11:00am to 3:00pm.

The day will start out with the Green Walk from 11:00am - 12:15pm. We are asking for everyone to meet at the community center starting at 10:45am to get gloves, bags,

and to be entered into the raffle.

The Earth Day Fair will begin at 12:30pm. There will be an information booth, games, and relay races. There will also be two guessing games at the information booth, the pop can tab guess and the bottle lid guess. Both guessing games have a prize for the



person who guesses the closest. There will be face

painting, plastic bottle ring toss, water jug bowling, gold fish toss, and much more.

There will also be raffle tickets sold for the Earth Day Fair Raffle at the information booth.

Games will be played with tickets, \$1 for 1 ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets.

The Earth Day Fair poster winner will also be announced at the end of the Earth Day Fair.

We hope to see you there! Come help us celebrate Earth Day!

Environmental Youth Group Update

By: Jasmine Maligaya



The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe's Environmental Assistant has been doing Environmental Youth Group (EYG) almost every Friday at 3pm at the Boys and Girls Club.

EYG has been working on their Earth Day Poster Contest for the 10th Annual Earth Day Fair; this year's

theme is Environmental and Climate Literacy.

EYG has also discussed about the Earth Fair coming up and a few spring activities. Environmental Assistant plans to do more outdoors activities, weather pending, such as going on nature walks, examine the different types of plants,

observing birds, and weather forecast.

As spring approaches us, the Environmental Assistant plans to have the youth use their creative minds on what types of environmental activities they want to do and how to make the Earth cleaner.

Environmental Teen Group Update

By: Karis Porcincula



The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Coordinator has been holding Environmental Teen Group (ETG) almost every Wednesday evening at the Sand Point Teen Center from 7-8pm.

The Environmental Coordinator has been having the teens work on their Earth Day Fair Posters for the chance to win a Kindle HD

8. There are a few who have been working on posters.

The teens have also been working on recycling. We are hoping to have the teens do more from the curriculum.

It's almost that time of year to have the teens do their first clean up around the teen center due to there being so much trash.

The Environmental Coordinator is hoping to get the teens more engaged in ETG. Attendance numbers for ETG have been down due to the fact the gym is open at the same time.

We are hoping there will be more teen involvement in the future.

Electronic Waste Update

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department is still collecting electronic waste.



Right now, the Environmental Department is hoping to send out a shipment of electronic waste soon. We have enough for our first shipment, in which we are sending to Total Reclaim Inc. in Seattle, WA.

If you have any electronic waste you would like to get rid of, we will take it. We

take such electronic waste as televisions, stereos, computers, speakers, back up batteries, printers, fax machines, scanners, copiers (of a decent size, if you have one bigger, please let us know so we can arrange a way to pick it up), car stereos, iPods, iPads, cameras, video cameras, video game consoles, other tablets, phones, cell phones, etc.

We do not take household batteries.

You are able to drop off your electronic waste to the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Office located on the first floor of the city building, third door on the left. If you are an elder of handicapped, you can give us a call and we will come pick up your electronic waste. We also recycle ink cartridges, if you have any please drop them off.

Please continue to recycle and keep this stuff out of our landfill.



QTT Tribal Council & Staff

Tribal Council

David O. Osterback
President, Seat E

Dennis Gundersen
Vice-President, Seat B

Glen Gardner Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer, Seat D

Peter Devine Jr.
Council Member, Seat A

Alvin Osterback Jr.
Council Member, Seat C

Dick Jacobsen
Council Member, Seat G

Jason Bjornstad
Council Member, Seat F



Qagan Tayagungin Tribe

P.O Box 447

Sand Point, AK 99661

Phone: (907)383-5616

Environmental: (907)383-6968

Agate: (907)383-5833

Fax: (907)383-5814

Web: <http://www.qttribe.org>

Staff

Tiffany Jackson
Executive Director

Nikki Gundersen
Finance Director

Wendy Gardner
Administrative Assistant

Alaina Kuchenoff
Finance Assistant

Carla Chebetnoy
ETR Case Manager

Dylan Jacobsen
Gaming Manager

Karis Porcincula
Environmental Coordinator

Jasmine Maligaya
Environmental Assistant

Judith Morgan
Janitor

Sand Point Job Opportunities

Local Research Assistant (6 Positions)

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a job opportunity available for a Local Research Assistant (6 positions), temporary (full or part time).

The job starts on March 18, 2017 and goes through April 2, 2017.

The Local Research Assistant will work with research project staff to contact households, schedule interviews and surveys, and conduct subsistence surveys with Sand Point community members.

Training will occur on March 18-19, 2017.

Surveys will be done March 19-April 2, 2017.

You will be paid \$100 for successful completion of training if you complete at least 5 surveys. You will also be paid \$50 for each survey you help complete with a household.

If you like talking about hunting and fishing and are interested in working with the research project staff, don't hesitate to give them a call.

Contact:

Lisa Scarbrough, *Division of Subsistence*:
(907)242-7850 or (907) 267-2396
OR

Kate Reedy, *Idaho State University*: (208)478-9582

Tribal Intern

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe is currently seeking applications for a Tribal Intern. This position is a full-time position (*40 hours a week for 10 weeks*). \$12.00/ hour.

The Tribal Intern works under the direction and supervision of the Executive Director and is responsible for helping the Tribe to meet the goals, commitments, outputs and deliverables of various programs including but not limited to: Food Distribution Program, Agate, Tribal Transportation, Enrollment, Scholarship, and Employment Placement and Training. This person will be responsible for assisting the Executive Director and Finance Director in timely completion of contract, grant, and general tribal tasks.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- (Soon to be) 2017 High School graduate or current college student.
- Excellent people skills, written and verbal communication skills.
- Either Shareholder or Descendant of the Aleut Corporation
 - Ability to work independently and as a team member
 - Knowledge of computers and other office machines.

HOW TO APPLY: Applications are available at the QTT Office, Room 3 of the City Building. Office hours are 8am - 5pm, Monday through Friday, or downloadable from our website:

<http://www.qttribe.org>

Position is open until May 10, 2017

Qagan Tayagungin Tribe

P.O Box 447

Sand Point, AK 99661

Phone: (907)383-5616

Environmental: (907)383-6968

Agate: (907)383-5833

Fax: (907)383-5814

Web: <http://www.qttribe.org>



Box Holder

Sand Point, AK 99661