



U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

## **ALASKA BASELINE EROSION ASSESSMENT**

# **Erosion Information Paper - King Island, Alaska**

Current as of December 18, 2007

### **Community Information**

King Island, also called Ukivok (OO-Q-Vok), has no permanent recorded population and is 40 miles west of Cape Douglas in the Bering Sea, south of Wales. The island is primarily precipitous rock, 700 feet high and approximately 1 mile long. The village is on the side of a south-facing bluff. King Island is unincorporated in the unorganized borough. The community members, called King Islanders, no longer reside on the island. In the early 1960's, social and economic pressures and opportunities persuaded island residents to relocate to Nome. Former King Island residents visit King Island in the spring and summer months to hunt walrus, pursue other subsistence activities, and maintain dwellings.

### **Description of Erosion Problem**

In the community erosion survey, the respondent indicates there are no problems with erosion on King Island. The erosion that does occur is due to natural events and does not adversely affect any structures or facilities. The structures are far from erosion areas, so any damage to structures is due to the normal process of "wear and tear" from the weather. Structures on the island are used by the community for subsistence in the summer.

### **Potential Damages**

None reported during the community survey.

### **Photos and Diagrams**

The attached photo of King Island village is provided from the Kawerak website. A diagram of King Island is also attached, but no erosion areas are shown.

### **References**

**Kawerak Inc. 2007.** *Kawerak website information on King Island:*

<http://www.kawerak.org/tribalHomePages/kingIsland/index.html>

**Machulsky. 2006.** *Draft History of Village Relocations.* Prepared by Mara Machulsky, Denali Commission intern.

**USACE. 2007.** *Alaska Community Erosion Survey, OMB approved number 07100001*, expires September 30, 2009 administered to Jimmy Carlisle, King Island Corporation vice president and board member, on December 18, 2007.

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### **Additional Information**

This information paper, as well as those for other communities, can be accessed on the internet at [www.alaskaerosion.com](http://www.alaskaerosion.com). For more information please contact the Corps of Engineers, project manager at (907) 753-5694 or email [Alaska.Erosion.POA@usace.army.mil](mailto:Alaska.Erosion.POA@usace.army.mil)



**Photo 1: King Island village photo courtesy of Kawerak Inc., No photo date available.**



*BERING SEA*

ate of Aerial Photo: 7 July 74

**NOTE:** The extent of erosion shown on this figure is based on interviews with the community. This data has not been field verified. This figure is only intended to show areas of erosion, not rates or severity of erosion



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## Extent of Erosion



Alaska Baseline Erosion  
King Island, Alaska