

Pribilof Island Usage and Occupancy (FY 2023, Fourth Quarter)

Report to Congress *January 2, 2024*



Foreword

January 2, 2024

I am pleased to present the following report, "Pribilof Island Usage and Occupancy (FY 2023, Fourth Quarter)," prepared by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 directs the submission of a report describing the degree to which Coast Guard personnel and equipment are deployed to St. Paul Island, Alaska.

Pursuant to Congressional requirements, this report is provided to the following members of Congress:



The Honorable Maria Cantwell Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

The Honorable Ted Cruz Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

The Honorable Sam Graves Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

The Honorable Rick Larsen Ranking Member, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

I would be pleased to answer any questions you have, or your staff may contact my Senate Liaison Office at (202) 224-2913 or House Liaison Office at (202) 225-4775.

Sincerely,

Linda L. Fagan

Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard

Commandant



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I. Legislative Language

This report responds to language set forth in Section 11221 of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-263), which reads:

SEC. 11221. PRIBILOF ISLAND TRANSITION COMPLETION ACTIONS

- (a) ACTUAL USE AND OCCUPANCY REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing—
 - (1) the degree to which Coast Guard personnel and equipment are deployed to St. Paul Island, Alaska, in actual occupancy of the facilities, as required under section 524 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–120); and
 - (2) the status of the activities described in subsections (c) and (d) until such activities have been completed.

(c) FUEL TANK.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall notify the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul Island, Alaska of the availability of any fuel tank—
 - (A) which is located on property on St. Paul Island, Alaska, which is leased by the Coast Guard for the purpose of housing such a fuel tank; and (B) for which the Commandant has determined that the Coast Guard no longer has an operational need.
- (2) TRANSFER.—If not later than 30 days after a notification under subsection (a), the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul Island, Alaska requests that the ownership of the tank be transferred to such corporation then the Commandant shall—
 - (A) after conducting any necessary environmental remediation pursuant to the lease referred to in paragraph (1)(A), transfer ownership of such fuel tank to such corporation; and
 - (B) upon the date of such transfer, terminate the lease referred to in paragraph (1)(A).
- (d) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any rights of the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul to receive conveyance of all or part of the lands and improvements related to Tract 43 under the same terms and conditions as prescribed in section 524 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–120).

II. Report

The Coast Guard operates three high frequency antennae and equipment necessary to operate these antennae on Tract 43 of St. Paul Island, Alaska. Tract 43 is also used as a forward operating location for search and rescue response activities in the Bering Sea.

Usage Data (July 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023)

Total Number of Visits: 04

Date: July 14, 2023 (day trip only)

Number of People: 04

Purpose of Visit: Seventeenth District Commander site visit

Date: August 13-21, 2023 Number of People: 03

Purpose of Visit: Site visit to assess TDX¹ Hangar and utilized LORSTA property for

workspace and lodging

Date: August 14, 2023 (day trip only)

Number of People: 11

Purpose of Visit: Completed work orders/repairs on LORSTA property and Signal & Power

building

Date: September 15, 2023 (day trip only)

Number of People: 10

Purpose of Visit: Deputy Commandant for Mission Support site visit, met with new

caretaker, while work order/repairs on facility were completed

Fuel Tank

The contractor completed the demolition of the Aviation Fuel Tank, Fuel Dispensing System, and the removal of contaminated soil. All of the JP-5 contaminated soil has been removed and the site is backfilled. The Coast Guard is awaiting the Contractor's Remediation Report which will be provided to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, who will review and provide the Coast Guard with a Site Closure Report.

Transfer

On August 02, 2023, the Coast Guard sent a supplemental lease agreement for the fuel tank land to TDX. The agreement extended the lease one year to allow the Coast Guard to complete the land transfer. On August 10, 2023 the Coast Guard received the signed agreement from TDX.

¹ Tanadgusix Corporation or TDX is a shareholder-owned Aleut Alaska Native village corporation founded in 1973. Located on St. Paul Island, Alaska, the company is primarily involved in fish processing, shipping, real estate, tourism, the environment, and power generation.