

NPS Subsistence Preservation Funding: In 2024/2025, the preserve received funds through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to work with associated tribes on subsistence preservation activities. NPS entered into an PL 93-638 Multi-Year Funding Agreement (MFA) with Kawerak, Inc for \$148,000. Kawerak worked with the Native Village of Shishmaref to plan for a subsistence summer youth camp which was held the week of July 28. The Brevig tribal council has been working with Kawerak on their camp and Kawerak is planning for a camp in Wales. NPS supplied Deering with subsistence/cultural camp and food preservation supplies to conduct their own camp and for a canning workshop.

**Ken Adkisson – Alaska Region Award:** Ken was nominated by park staff for his many years of service and received the Director’s Award for Excellence in Natural Resource Stewardship. Ken began his career in the preserve in 1985 and later became the Western Arctic National Parklands Subsistence Program Manager in 1999. He played a crucial role in balancing subsistence needs with conservation efforts, notably establishing the Seward Peninsula Muskoxen Cooperators Group and the Western Arctic Caribou Working Group. His work involved navigating complex federal, state, and local interests, ensuring local communities were involved in co-stewardship. Over four decades, Ken's efforts have significantly improved subsistence management and conservation in Alaska, creating lasting frameworks still used today.

Fred Tocktoo Meeting Room: The NPS Exhibit and Film Tribal Workgroup suggested to the preserve that we rename the new NPS meeting room from the Beringia Room to the Fred Oogasuk Tocktoo Meeting Room. Fred Tocktoo was the Subsistence Coordinator for the preserve beginning in 1992. His role involved ensuring that traditional subsistence practices are maintained, which is crucial for the local Indigenous communities. Additionally, Fred contributed to various projects, including those related to traditional knowledge and food security in the Bering Strait region. His efforts were instrumental in preserving the cultural heritage and practices of the Indigenous peoples in the area.

Serpentine Maintenance airstrip/outhouse: In July, a group of NPS staff and volunteers worked on the airstrip, which has changed due to some front heaves that have gotten bigger over time. The airstrip was brush cut, and a drag was used across it. Because the old hole had trash and plastic honey bucket bags from winter use, the NPS had to dig a new hole and move the outhouse.