City and Borough of Sitka
Visitor Plan Stakeholders
Subcommittee: Environment
David Clarke, Presenter
July 17, 2006
Updated from notes

Q? What are the natural resources and infrastructure?

Original category: Resources and Environment (2)

Natural Resources: Those actual and potential forms of wealth, supplied by nature; as coal, oil, water power, arable land, etc. (Webster's New World Dictionary)

- Air quality
- Timber
- Sea Life
- Remote Experience (solitude)
- Soundscape (peace & quiet)
- Viewshed (undisturbed vistas)
- Wilderness
- Wildlife
- Water
  a) Fresh
  b) Ocean
- Water Power
- Minerals

Infrastructure: a substructure or underlying foundation; esp., the basic installations and facilities on which the continuance and growth of a community, state, etc. depend, as roads, schools, power plants, transportation and communication systems, etc. (Webster's New World Dictionary)

- Public buildings
- Roads, sidewalks, trails, and bike paths
- Education
    1) Public schools
    2) Universities and Colleges
    3) Public Service Academy
- Utilities
    1) Water & Wastewater
        a) Treatment plant
    2) Electricity
        a) Green Lake hydro
        b) Blue Lake hydro
        c) Jarvis Street back-up
- Waste disposal
    1) Curbside pick-up
    2) Transfer station
    3) SMCIP scrap yard
    4) Recycling centers
    5) Garbage barge
    6) Kimsham
- Communications
    1) Radio
    2) Telephone
    3) Cellular
    4) Cable
    5) Satellite
    6) Internet

- Emergency management
    1) Sitka Community Hospital
    2) SEARHC
    3) SVFD
    4) EMT services
    5) Medevac
    6) Police
    7) SAR
    8) USCG

- Accommodations
    1) Hotels & motels
    2) Inns & B&Bs
    3) Lodges & short term rentals
    4) U.S.F.S Parks & Cabins (camping)
    5) R/V parks
    6) Elder Hostels (SJ)

- Transportation

A) Passengers

1) Airport
    a) Commercial flights
    b) Air taxis
    c) Rental cars

2) Ferry terminal
    a) Alaska Marine Highway System

3) Local
    a) Bus
    b) Taxis
    c) Water taxis
    d) Allen Marine
    e) Bike & kayak rentals
    f) Seaplane Docks

B) Goods

1) Samson Tug & Barge
2) Alaska Marine Lines
3) Northland Services
4) Fuel docks & tank farms
5) Air freight & forwarders
6) Post Offices

- Ports and Harbors and
    1) Sealing Cove
    2) Crescent Harbor
    3) Old Thompsen Harbor
    4) New Thompsen Harbor
    5) ANB Harbor
    6) City bulkhead
    7) Petro dock
    8) Sawmill Cove
    9) Lightering facilities
    10) Starrigavin boat launch
    11) Seaplane facilities
    12) Haul-outs
    13) The “Grid”

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Q? Water Quality in Sitka?

(Community Issue)

This question came up during the question choosing process at our "Environment" table and I assumed responsibility for it, so here it goes. I e-mailed Mark Buggins at the City of Sitka, Water and Wastewater, with two questions.

Q1. 'What is the quality of our fresh water in Sitka?'

MB. "Sitka's water quality is quite high. There are two reports each year that the water dept is required to do. One specifically is on the WQ from the previous year and the other is on the watershed protection program. The WQ rpt should be just what you are looking for." (see attachment)

Several years of these reports are available at WWW.cityofsitka.com, Dept Pages (left margin), Public Works, scroll down to Water & Wastewater.

Q2. "What are the impacts of Visitors on our water?'

MB. "Sitka averages ~3.5 million gallons per day* of water production. A nationwide average is 100-150 gallons per person per day (gppd). I have no consumption values for visitors but a textbook average for a factory worker on location for 8 hours is 25-50 gppd. I think it depends on the type of visitor - a visitor from a big cruise ship would be 25 gal or less, a visitor staying at a hotel or B&B and fishing would be on the high end of the 100-150 gal/d I'd guess."

"The small cruise ships that dock at Petro or at the city bulkhead usually fill their tanks w/ water (they like our water). We meter that water and charge them accordingly."

SH question: If the city makes ~3.5 million gals/day, what happens to the water that is not used each day?

Answer: The water produced for each day is pumped into two water towers on the hillside. These water towers, or more accurately storage tanks, not only provide a safe reservoir for our drinking water, but also, because of their elevated locations, create the pressure need to provide water service to all. The water that is produced in excess of our daily needs simply flows out through an overflow valve, through a series of pipes and conduits until it ends up where all water eventually does, back in the ocean. This is a second-hand explanation, so if you want to know the exact routes and locations, please seek more information from Mark Buggins at the City of Sitka, Water and Wastewater Dept.