



# DONLIN GOLD

NEWSLETTER  
JULY 2013

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### LET US SHARE YOUR EVENTS

Donlin Gold has started publishing a Community Calendar on the back page of every newsletter, informing readers about upcoming celebrations, festivals and other important gatherings in the region. If you have an event in your area that you would like published in an upcoming edition please let us know.

Send us the name of the event, location and date, as well as a brief description. Email the information to [sgamache@DonlinGold.com](mailto:sgamache@DonlinGold.com) or call (907) 273-0200.

## DONLIN GOLD EIS MOVES INTO DRAFTING STAGE

The scoping stage of the permitting process officially came to a close on March 29, 2013. The Army Corps of Engineers is currently researching issues, reviewing scoping comments and developing alternatives as they prepare to write the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

During scoping, the Army Corps collected written and verbal comments from agencies and the public to identify issues and concerns about the proposed mine and the project area. Public scoping meetings were held in 13 communities in the region and Anchorage. As noted on the EIS website, the comments provided will help the Corps of Engineers thoroughly analyze the effects of the proposed project.

Donlin Gold was pleased with the turnout at the public scoping meetings hosted by the Corps of Engineers. We believe it is an indication of interest in and understanding of the project.

### ESTIMATED TIMELINE OF THE EIS PROCESS (Information adapted from the US Army Corps of Engineers)



### WHAT IS AN EIS?

An environmental impact statement is a document that evaluates a proposed federal action and considers alternatives for a project. It allows decision makers to have a comprehensive picture of the potential benefits, risks and alternatives of a project such as the proposed Donlin Gold project, before the permitting agencies make permitting decisions.

Developing an EIS can take a few years to complete and involves many steps. A draft EIS is developed, followed by a final EIS, and the process is completed with a Record of Decision.

CONTINUED INSIDE: "DONLIN GOLD EIS MOVES INTO DRAFTING STAGE"

# Face to Face with Stan Foo

Public input is a very important part of our planning process, and we would like to hear from you.

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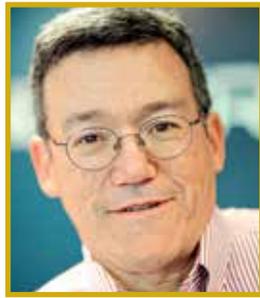
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Find us on Facebook at  
[Facebook.com/DonlinGold](https://www.facebook.com/DonlinGold)

For more project information visit us online at [www.DonlinGold.com](http://www.DonlinGold.com)

To voice concerns or complaints about the project contact us at [complaint@DonlinGold.com](mailto:complaint@DonlinGold.com) or (855) 279-0382

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Responsible development is supported by many things: a strong baseline, world-class engineering, engaging with stakeholders, hiring locally, and supporting a rigorous and transparent permitting process. This month marks one year since we submitted our permits to the Army Corps of Engineers and other permitting agencies, which kicked off the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Earlier this year, many of you attended the Corps' public scoping meetings to learn more about the permitting process and the project, and to share your concerns and insights about the proposed

Donlin Gold project. We were glad to see how well-attended the scoping meetings were, and especially to see how well people understood the project.

Donlin Gold's Community Relations Team works hard throughout the year visiting communities and reaching out to people to communicate details about the project and answer questions. As I have said in the past, all of us at Donlin Gold are grateful to everyone who has provided feedback, insight, and suggestions on the project during our years of exploration. Comments heard during scoping this year were just as helpful, and those comments are now helping the lead and cooperating agencies develop a reasonable range of alternatives to analyze in the EIS. We are fortunate to have tribes serving in the cooperating agency role also, as they bring a wealth of traditional and local knowledge to the table that will help develop the alternatives to consider and strengthen the analysis in the EIS.

Our commitment to responsible development is unwavering. Each day, our team works to move our project forward and ensure that it not only meets our company goals, but is one that also brings benefits to stakeholders and minimizes effects to the human and physical environment. We are all stewards of the region's natural resources, and we hope you continue to be involved in the permitting process, helping to shape the best mining project in the state. To learn more about the NEPA process and permitting updates for the Donlin Gold project, please visit the Corps' EIS website at [www.DonlinGoldEIS.com](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com)

Stan Foo  
General Manager  
Donlin Gold

## Timeline



### THE PERMITTING PROCESS (3+ YEARS)

REGIONAL AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES  
National Environmental Policy Act requires an Environmental Impact Statement. Formal public comment opportunities.

# POTENTIAL JOBS AT DONLIN GOLD

Donlin Gold published a jobs booklet containing information on the potential jobs at the proposed project and training resources. In each newsletter, we highlight some of the careers from the jobs booklet that could be available if Donlin Gold is permitted and a decision is made to begin construction of the mining project.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Administrative Assistants perform a wide variety of duties requiring knowledge of office systems and procedures. Clerical duties are assigned based on office and department needs, and may include a combination of answering telephones, typing or word processing, maintaining schedules, tracking data, operating office equipment, filing and more. Administrative Assistants are often good multi-taskers, pay attention to detail, effective communicators and very organized, and must enjoy working with computers in an office environment.

## PREPARATION AND TRAINING

Entry-level Administrative Assistants should have at minimum a high school diploma or GED. Executive Administrative Assistants typically have five-plus years of administrative experience and are proficient in computer software including Microsoft Word, Excel and other programs.



## ASSAY LAB TECHNICIAN

Assay Lab Technicians prepare rock samples to test for gold content, and other chemical properties and criteria. Assay Lab Technicians work under the direction and supervision of a trained metallurgist, chemist or geologist. They follow procedures designed by geologists to analyze rocks and minerals, milling products and waste byproducts to provide data that makes it possible to locate, mine and extract minerals in a safe, economical and environmentally responsible manner. Individuals in this profession tend to be detail-oriented and have an interest in science, particularly geology and chemistry. They must also work well under the direction of others.

## PREPARATION AND TRAINING

A high school diploma or GED is required for this job. Focusing on classes in chemistry and other sciences in high school is helpful to better understand the responsibilities of the position. Experience in a laboratory environment will better prepare an applicant for the working environment of this job and gives them a competitive advantage.



You can view the full Donlin Gold Jobs Booklet online by visiting [www.DonlinGold.com/employees](http://www.DonlinGold.com/employees) ■

## JOIN DONLIN GOLD'S TALENT BANK

With the project in the permitting process, Donlin Gold is focused on building a local workforce. If the project is approved for development, thousands of positions would be available during construction and operation of the mine. Donlin Gold is committed to filling these positions with as many qualified residents from the YK region as possible.

To get a general idea of what kinds of current skills, job experience and education residents from the region have, Donlin Gold has created a Talent Bank on its website where people can provide this information. This will help Donlin Gold create a workforce development plan that is tailored to the needs of residents in the region.

Please fill out and submit your work history profile information in the Talent Bank section of our website by visiting: [www.DonlinGold.com/employees](http://www.DonlinGold.com/employees)

Your talent bank profile is not an application for employment, but the information will help Donlin Gold plan and prepare for future local workforce development needs. All of the information submitted will be kept confidential.

Permitting is expected to take a minimum of three years. During this time, residents can start preparing themselves with the training and education they will need to join the Donlin Gold team. Donlin Gold's workforce development plan will help direct residents to the programs and training resources available that will support them in becoming a desired job applicant. ■

Continued from Front Page  
**“DONLIN GOLD  
 EIS MOVES INTO  
 DRAFTING STAGE”**

**WHAT ARE THE  
 DIFFERENT ROLES?**

Many entities have a role in the NEPA process and ensure that the process is effective. The following table aims to help you understand what these roles are, who sits in these roles, and what the purposes of these roles are.

For more information about the NEPA process, you can read A Citizen’s Guide to the NEPA: Having Your Voice Heard (available online) or visit: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/basics/nepa.html>

For updates and more information about the EIS for the Donlin Gold project please visit: [www.DonlinGoldEIS.com](http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com) ■

WHO THEY ARE?	WHAT THEY DO?
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leads the NEPA process and issues a Record of Decision</li> </ul>
<b>COOPERATING AGENCIES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bureau of Land Management</li> <li>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</li> <li>Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration</li> <li>Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>AK Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>Village of Crooked Creek</li> <li>Village of Lower Kalskag</li> <li>Knik Tribal Council</li> <li>Native Village of Chuathbaluk</li> <li>Native Village of Napaimute</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special expertise to offer on an environmental issue</li> <li>Jurisdiction (the authority to make decisions and judgments such as permitting authority)</li> <li>Cooperating Agencies are responsible for assisting the Lead Agency by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participating in scoping</li> <li>Developing information and preparing environmental analyses</li> <li>Making staff available to support the Lead Agency</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>STAKEHOLDERS</b> General public AK Native organizations Local and regional interest groups Mining industry State and federal agencies Other interested people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask questions, identify concerns, and share ideas to help shape the direction of the EIS analysis during the scoping process.</li> <li>Share substantive comments on the draft EIS during the comment period.</li> </ul>
<b>APPLICANT</b> Donlin Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests the federal permit that started the EIS process.</li> <li>Pays for the cost of the EIS preparation.</li> </ul>

**YK COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATE  
 IN CLEAN UP GREEN UP**

This year’s Clean Up Green Up event was a great success, with 46 communities participating in area cleanups. Donlin Gold feels strongly that Alaska’s environment should remain healthy, and to promote this we provide incentives to communities that get involved in Clean Up Green Up. In addition to funding for items such as food and prizes, Donlin Gold donated 80 bikes that were distributed to the participating communities.

Individual communities decided how to organize their cleanup events; here are a few highlights.

In St Mary’s, 30 youth, including the local Girl Scouts troop, and several adults participated in a three-day event. A total of 175 bags of trash were collected in town and along the airport road. The

entire community was invited to a BBQ with burgers and snacks, where prizes were awarded to every volunteer.

In Anvik, 15 participants filled 53 bags of trash. There was a festive atmosphere with a watermelon eating contest and prizes for the most interesting trash found. One patroller found a TV while another found an Easter egg filled with candy.

Participants in Mekoryuk filled 156 bags of trash during their two-day event, while in Napaskiak volunteers collected an astounding 223 bags.

Donlin Gold thanks Era Aviation and Ryan Air, who delivered bicycles to the participating communities. In our ongoing commitment of healthy communities, we thank all the volunteers for helping keep their communities clean and beautiful. ■



Top: St. Mary’s Girl Scout troop helping Clean Up Green Up their community. Bottom: Aniak’s Clean Up Green Up community event.

## FISH CAMP VISITS SUPPLY PFD'S TO YK RESIDENTS

To promote awareness and encourage safety on the water, Donlin Gold staff visited fish camps for its third summer in the YK region, distributing boating safety kits that were packed in canvas tote bags. The kits contained PFD coats of all sizes, as well as other useful items that can be difficult or expensive to find in the region, including mosquito coils, fish cutting gloves and aprons, a thermos or water bottle and a t-shirt or sweatshirt.

Mary Sattler, Donlin Gold's Manager of Community Development and Sustainability, notes "we live on the river all year round. Many PFDs or float coats that people have are old, or they don't have enough for the whole family." In response to feedback from last year's visits, more adult-sized PFDs were handed out this year in addition to children's sizes.

Messages that Donlin Gold staff promoted while visiting fish camps included communicating how important it is to have a boating safety plan that lists your destination, dates and times of when you expect to return, and a description of your boat. Like a flight plan, the information should be left with a responsible person before you leave. Tote bags handed out also contained a water safety checklist and a blank safety plan for boaters to fill out.

In support of the Kids Don't Float campaign, initiated by the Department of Natural Resource's Office of Boating Safety, Donlin Gold is proactive about restocking the boards that hold children's PFDs. These free life jackets are usually borrowed for the summer, so Donlin Gold staff makes sure that there are plenty for people to use.

Another way Donlin Gold promotes boat safety is through public service announcements, which are broadcast on KYUK out of Bethel, KCUK out of Chevak and KSKO out of McGrath.

Donlin Gold is grateful to Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), who were partners in providing the boating safety kits. We are committed to a safe work environment and safe communities, and our boating safety kits are just one extension of our commitment to safety. ■



Top: Nunapitchuk infant being zipped into a PFD provided by Donlin Gold. Middle: Nunapitchuk youth with their Donlin Gold PFDs. Bottom: Max Olick's grandchildren swimming in the Kuskokwim River with their PFDs.



CHF Treasurer Helen "Dolly" Bush receives a check from Donlin Gold General Manager Stan Foo and NovaGold President and Donlin Gold board member Greg Lang.

Photo courtesy of Calista Corporation/Roy Corral Photography

## DONLIN GOLD CONTRIBUTES TO CALISTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Each year, Donlin Gold contributes to the Calista Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund, and this year was no different. On June 19 at the annual Calista Golf Tournament, Donlin Gold General Manager Stan Foo and NovaGold President and Donlin Gold board member Greg Lang presented a \$75,000 check to Calista Heritage Foundation Treasurer Helen "Dolly" Bush.

"Since 2003 the scholarships awarded have increased each year," said CHF President/CEO Rea Bavilla. "This remarkable achievement is only possible due to the generous participation of businesses and organizations, including Donlin Gold. We are extremely grateful."

The Calista Heritage Foundation offers scholarships to eligible Shareholders or Descendants of Shareholders of the Calista Region who are enrolled as full- or part-time students in a college or vocational program. Most of the money given to students stays in state: in 2012, the top five schools that scholarship recipients attended were the University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska Career College, University of Alaska Fairbanks – Kuskokwim Campus and Yuut Yaqungviat flight school in Bethel. Donlin Gold realizes the importance of secondary education and supports youth pursuing educational opportunities. ■

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER **DONLIN GOLD SUPPLIES PFD'S TO YK RESIDENTS**



Taassiq Tucker Hoffman holding up his new PFD at a Kwethluk River fish camp.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2013

### ANIAK

#### ANIAK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL FAIR

**August 15-17**

**Fairgrounds (weather permitting)**

Activities for all ages including the 5th Annual Clinton Morgan Jr. Silver Salmon Derby, turkey shoot, Bingo Rama, fish cutting contest, Akutaq & dessert contest, fireworks, dance and the annual multi-affle!

Contact:

Gina McKindy at (907) 675-4349

### BETHEL

#### BETHEL FAIR

**August 19-25**

Come enjoy a talent show, live music, a BMX competition, a cribbage tournament, photography show and more.

Contact:

Reyne Athanas at (907) 543-4538

### CHEVAK

#### CHEVAK TUNDRA FEST

**August 16-18**

A celebration of successful hunting, fishing and gathering. Share culture, songs and dance with surrounding villages.

Contact:

Joseph Slats at (907) 858-7428

### KONGIGANAK

#### SALMONBERRY FESTIVAL

**August 12-14, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

Activities will include kayak and bike races, sack races and free throw contests for youths, adults and elders. There will be a final potluck with awards for the winners.

Contact:

Kongiganak Tribal Council at (907) 557-5226

### TOKSOOK

#### TOKSOOK BAY BLACKBERRY FESTIVAL

**August 30 – September 1**

Enjoy various events including live music, cultural performances and contests and blackberry picking.

Contact:

John Carl at (907) 427-7100

### TUNTUTULIAK

#### SALMONBERRY FESTIVAL

**August 9 & 10**

There will be games and events, plus a fundraiser for Search and Rescue and other community services.

Contact:

Tuntutuliak Traditional Council at (907) 256-2128