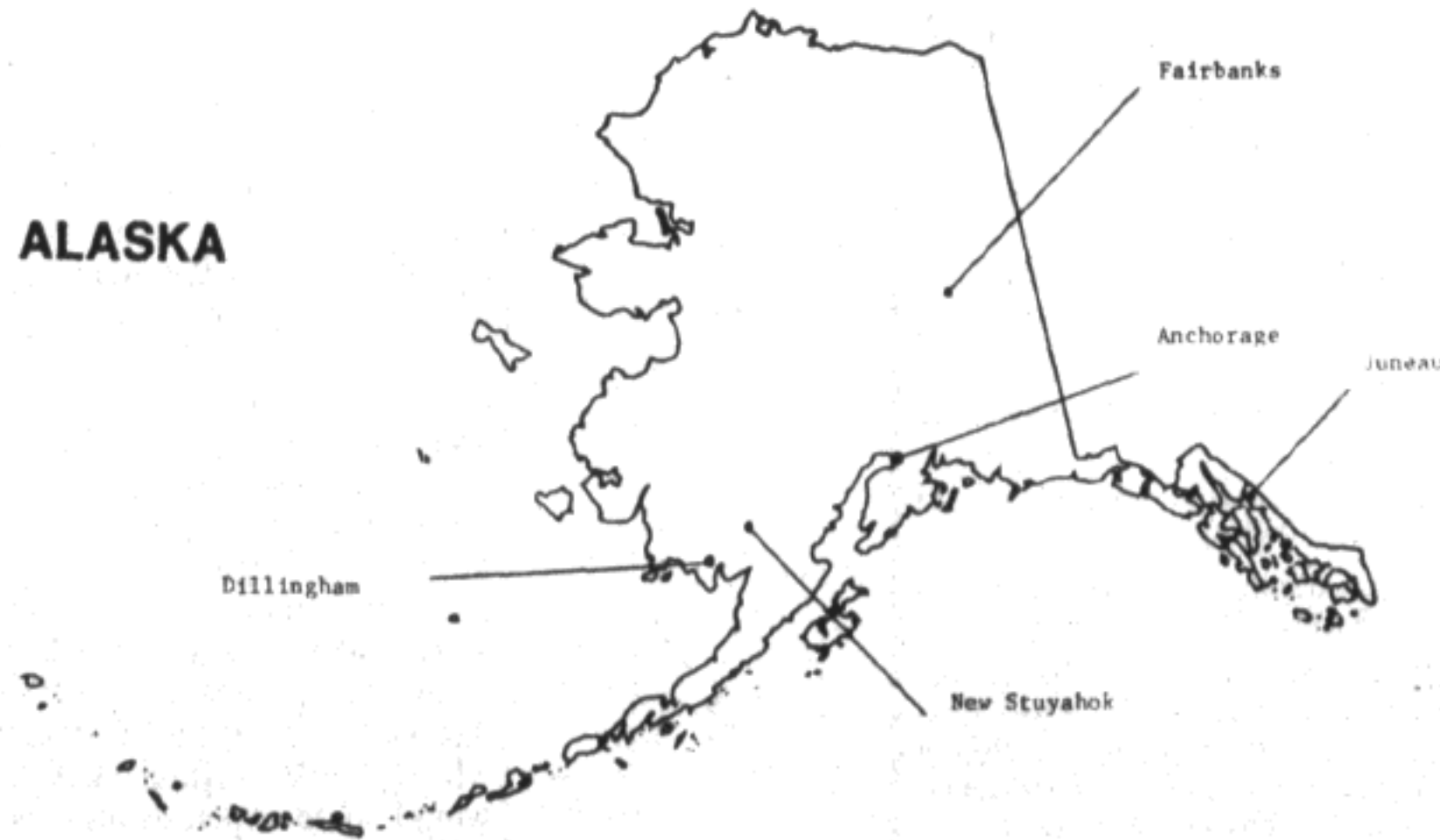


Village population increases



NEW STUYAHOK — New Stuyahok is located in the Southwest region of Alaska on the Nushagak River.

The village is about 59 degrees N. Latitude and 158 degrees W. Longitude. New Stuyahok is about 52 air miles northeast of Dillingham. There are about 275 air miles between New Stuyahok and Anchorage.

The distance from Dillingham to New Stuyahok is 85 river miles. The village is about 12 miles upriver from Ekwok. The village is situated two beach levels above the Nushagak River; one level is about 25 feet above river level, and one about 40 feet above river level.

The population of New Stuyahok has taken a dramatic increase over the past 39 years. The population in 1950, shortly after the village had been settled, was about 88. By 1960, that population was 216. In 1980, the population had risen to 331.

The current population in New Stuyahok is about 375 people. The dramatic population increases reflect a growing economy for the people of New Stuyahok.

The residents of New Stuyahok can remember three village sites in the history of the village. The villagers were involved in reindeer herding in the 1920s and 1930s. By 1942, the reindeer herds were gone. At this time the village was located on the Mulchatna River.

In 1942, residents moved to the pre-

sent village location. This relocation was for two reasons: To be close to the Bristol Bay fishery and to receive barge service.

New Stuyahok is pronounced *Nu-STU-yo-hok*.

The number of both private and public facilities in New Stuyahok is increasing. Oil revenues have developed the city's utilities. Corporate activities have increased. Adequate housing facilities and private profits have spurred an increase in residential and private construction.

Most recent public projects in New Stuyahok include housing, a water sewage system, telephone-satellite utilities, a new Post Office and improvements to the Alaska Village Electric Co-operative power facility.

Private construction of facilities is also on the increase as the population steadily increases.

The primary economic base in New Stuyahok is the commercial salmon fishing industry, although about 80 persons trap commercially, and several are employed full-time by the government or the school district. There are about 30 fishing boats and about 40 boats owned by village residents.

About 90 people actually participate in commercial fishing. Fishermen hold drift permits and set net permits. In addition to the commercial salmon fishery, about eight residents participate in the commercial herring

fishery in Togiak Bay.

Beaver, lynx, fox and mink are the primary species trapped for fur. Muskrat, otter, wolverine, marten and weasel also are taken. Furs are sold to fur buyers who pass through the village or at Dillingham at the annual Beaver Round-up Festival held late each winter, as well as the annual New Stuyahok Beaver Festival.

Transportation to and from New Stuyahok is by land, water or air, depending on the time of year and the desire of the traveler. Commercial transportation is provided by several air carriers by seat or charter fare.

Transportation by river is possible during the spring, summer and fall months while the river remains free of ice. Dillingham is the nearest center for the residency of commercial transportation businesses. Residents of New Stuyahok are linked to outside points of destination or origin via Dillingham.

Many residents use the Nushagak River as the route to haul supplies from the port of Dillingham to New Stuyahok. Commercial barge service is available for freight, private or commercial. Barge services operate during the summer months, and in addition to freight, transport fuel supplies to all communities on the Nushagak River.

Private transportation is by airplane, recreation vehicle, snowmobile, river boat and dog sled.