



UIC SCIENCE, LLC - BARROW, ALASKA - KAARE SIKUAQ ERICKSON - COMMUNITY LIAISON

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# Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation



**UKPEAGVIK  
IÑUPIAT  
CORPORATION**



1200 Inupiat Shareholders  
3500 Employees  
42 Subsidiaries

Long History of Providing Support and Knowledge to the Scientific Community

- 1940-1970s – Navy Arctic Research Laboratories.
- Community and Scientists learned from each other.
- 1992, UIC designated 7,466 acres of private land as the Barrow Environmental Observatory



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# UIC Science, LLC

- Provide logistics support
- Arctic orientation
- Remote camps and labs
- Vehicles and maintenance (Trucks, ATV, UTV, Snowmobiles, etc.)
- Barrow Housing Options
- Permitting
- Bear Guards
- Field consultants
- Archaeology/CRM
  
- **Local Inupiat Experts on Staff.**
  - Benefits research
  - On-site opportunity for community engagement/outreach.



*"I can never boast or praise about the quality and usefulness of our bear guard enough."*

*"Do their jobs effectively and conduct themselves professionally, seem genuinely interested in our scientific goals and use their local system knowledge to compliment and assist our study anyway they can."*

*"I can honestly say that the bear guard[s] not only facilitate our scientific endeavors, but improve on them with their intimate knowledge of ice conditions, weather patterns, trail availability/conditions, and equipment maintenance."*



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(Polar Field Services Website)  
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## Barrow - Ship to Shore Capabilities

- Several staff members have captains licenses
- Two New Munson Landing Crafts

1. 32' length, 12' width, 5.2 ' depth; Twin Volvo D6 330 HP Diesels; 250 Gal. Fuel Tank; 300 nautical mile range.
2. 26' length, 10' width, 4.5 ' depth; Twin Volvo D4 225 HP Diesels; 150 Gal. Fuel Tank; 250 nautical mile range;

Also available: Skiffs, Sub-contract vessels



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## UIC Marine Services

*Arctic barging experts.*

Distinct Advantages in the Arctic:

Easily adapt to changing Arctic conditions.

Specialized equipment – experienced and safe operators.

Only reliable barge services to all North Slope villages.

Marine Freight Logistics Specialists

Hazardous Materials & Waste Shipping

Seattle Terminalling Services, Consolidation, Container Leasing

Marine Cargo Transportation

Oilfield Services & Support, Rig Moves, Remote Site Freight & Crew Transport

Vessel Leasing, Maintenance & Operations

Construction Project Mobilization & Demobilization

Freight Barge Services

Training & Logistics Services

Port & Harbor Operations



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## Long History of Whaling

-People are proud of their whaling history; both their traditional Inupiat whaling and their Yankee whaling history.

-Community centered around whaling.

-Influences surrounding regions.

-Feeds community

-Year-long commitment.

-Traditional stewards of land and sea.



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## Walakpa Site

- Up to 4500 years old
- Long History of living off the Sea and Land
- 1500 years of continuous occupation





## Springtime Concerns

- One-time migrations vs. resident populations
  - Beluga migration/hunt – very important
  - Bowhead migration/hunt – very important
- Whale on shore-fast ice, utilize leads
- Susceptible to variable ice conditions
- May be more susceptible to ice-breaker activity
- Creation of ice leads good/bad?



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## Summer / Fall Concerns

-2016 Fall whaling – Consequences of Quintillion Fiber Optic Line construction

-Whales traveled abnormally far out (20-40 miles).

-Had to spend lots more time and resources.

-Much more dangerous.

-Seeing/expecting a large increase in marine traffic – including barges, commercial, cruise ships, yachts, and other private vessels.

-Customs? Proper documentation? Medical records? Who's responsibility is it to check?

-Security

-Emergencies? Local resources? No safe haven!





## Moving Forward

-Local representatives bring to light some of the problems, but they also want and need to be a part of the solutions.

-We need a more consistent system to facilitate ongoing 2-way communication.

-Early spring to late fall.

-Report short and long term goals (research, etc.)

-Need more funds for AEWC

-Variables always changing, especially with the changing climate!

-Both sides will benefit.

-Locals are very thankful for respectful cooperation.

- Educate community on your efforts to mitigate impacts on environment (Sikuliaq)

-Good coordination and outreach with Community!!

Example: C. Ashjian community meetings

-Remember the other marine resources (other than whales)!

-Don't forget to consult with other communities (SLI, Bering Straits, etc.) !

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# Questions?

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