

Kotlik



Population: 618

Kotlik is located on the east bank of the Kotlik Slough, 35 miles northeast of Emmonak in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. It lies 165 air miles northwest of Bethel and 460 miles from Anchorage. The climate of Kotlik is subarctic. Temperatures range between -50 and 87 degrees F. Annually there is an average of 60" of snowfall and 16" of precipitation. High winds and poor visibility are common during fall and winter.

The community grew during the mid-1960s when a BIA school was constructed at Kotlik and residents of the nearby villages of Channiliut, Hamilton, Bill Moore's Slough and Pastolaik relocated. Due to its location with easy access by large riverboat and barge, Kotlik became one of the larger ports and commercial centers of the lower Yukon River.

The population of the community consists of 96% Alaska Native or part Native. It is a Yupik Eskimo village practicing a fishing, trapping and subsistence lifestyle.

Kotlik has a seasonal economy. Fishing and fish processing are the primary income generators. Many residents hold commercial fishing permits. Kotlik's residents rely heavily on subsistence foods, and many families have fish camps on the Yukon River. Salmon, moose, beluga whale and seal are harvested.

Air transportation of passengers, cargo and mail is provided via a gravel airstrip. There is no road access although Kotlik is easily accessible by barge. Residents use the river for commercial and private travel.