

# Investing in America through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

## Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants

### Tribes and Intertribal Consortia Fact Sheet

## Native Village of Ekwok

### Selected Grant Recipient

**Name:** Native Village of Ekwok

**Project Location:** Ekwok, AK

**Project Title:** Ekwok Recycling Project

### EPA Information

**Region:** EPA Region 10

### Grant Funding: \$817,497

The Native Village of Ekwok will expand solid waste recycling program activities and increase community participation by establishing a new stand-alone solid waste recycling program housed in the community's new green building. The project will support existing solid waste employees, the purchase of a baler, and distribute solid waste management infrastructure. This project will increase recycling collection capacity, prevent environmental contamination, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through landfill diversion.

### SWIFR Grants to Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

The 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides the largest EPA investment in recycling in 30 years to support National Recycling Strategy implementation and build a circular economy for all. As part of the Investing in America agenda, this funding supports improvements to waste management systems and programs, allowing resources to be used more efficiently and reducing the impact on the climate. SWIFR Tribal grant funding can be used to develop or update post-consumer materials management plans; establish or optimize collection and management of materials; fund infrastructure, technology, or other improvements to reduce contamination; enhance markets for recycled commodities; and increase the diversion, recycling rate, and quality of materials collected. These grants also advance the Justice40 Initiative, which aims to ensure that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to communities that have historically been underserved and overburdened by pollution.

EPA will make the award to the Native Village of Ekwok once all legal and administrative requirements are satisfied.

### Highlights

- Creates recycling and heavy equipment operator jobs.
- Reduces energy consumption and improves capacity for collecting and storing recyclables.
- Serves a small coastal Tribe.

