

# AHTNA

## Demolition and Environmental Remediation *Cape Sabine and Pt. McIntyre, Alaska*

*U.S. Navy*

### ***Project Description***

Located on the remote shore of northwestern Alaska, **Cape Sabine** was once a fully manned Early Warning Detection (EWD) Radar Site during the Cold War. The site was decommissioned in the 1960s and was put on the list for demolition. Ahtna carefully performed demolition of buildings, tanks, and towers taking care not to damage the sensitive Alaskan tundra. In addition, several areas with petroleum and PCB-contaminated soils were excavated and restored to original condition. Complicating the situation were daily visits to the camp by bears, which had to be deterred by an electric fence. Despite high winds, snow, rain, and fog, the Ahtna crew completed the project on time, with no safety incidents. Final comments from the Alaska Bureau of Land Management stated that the site was one of the finest EWD site restorations they had seen.

**Point McIntyre** is located on the Arctic Ocean, 15 miles northwest of Prudhoe Bay, and served as one of the U.S. Navy's Defense Early Warning (DEW) Line sites before operations ceased in the 1960s. As part of a larger remedial action effort, Ahtna was called to assist in decommissioning and cleanup of the abandoned DEW Line facility. Work was conducted in two phases to accommodate the extreme weather and logistical conditions ever present in the Arctic. The first phase was performed during the late winter months and consisted of demolition and initial debris removal. The work was conducted in harsh conditions with temperatures dipping below -40 degrees. Due to the extreme cold, the site could only be accessed by land via an ice road. A small crew was then mobilized via helicopter in late summer to remove waste and debris that were hidden by the thick layer of snow.



**Cape Sabine, AK.** Ahtna carefully performed demolition of buildings, tanks, and towers taking care not to damage the sensitive Alaskan tundra.



**Pt. McIntyre, AK.** A small crew was mobilized via helicopter to remove waste and debris.