



# IRIS INSIGHT

IRIS - Providing Insight to Alaskans

April 2014



## UPCOMING DEADLINES

- **May 1<sup>st</sup>:** Procurement Manager/ Buyer Worksheet
- **May 1<sup>st</sup>:** Fixed Assets deadline (**Option 1**) - CAFR reference workbook and PCS information **IF** submitting for inclusion in IST Pass 3. (Option 2 listed below)
- **May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** For workflow to be included in Interval 3. Opportunity for testing and refinement of workflow in the system
- **May 16<sup>th</sup>:** Cost Accounting Structure and Reference Data
- **Oct 31<sup>st</sup>:** Fixed Assets deadline (**Option 2**)

### 30 day - MAY

- IRIS Team verifying and loading information for Interval 3
- **May 7<sup>th</sup>:** IRIS Open House

### 60 day - JUNE

- Semi-annual IRIS Satisfaction Survey distributed

### 90 day - JULY

- Interval 2 activities complete and Interval 3 begins!

For a complete listing of IRIS deadlines and upcoming events, please visit the IRIS GoPlan SharePoint Site (<http://intra.dof.doa.alaska.gov/sites/iris/goplans/Lists/Calendar>).

## Are you on our mailing list?

If you would like to be added to our monthly newsletter distribution list email [IRIS.Project@alaska.gov](mailto:IRIS.Project@alaska.gov).



Please join us...

## IRIS Open House

Wednesday, May 7th 10am - 1pm

3rd Floor of the DNR Building  
400 Willoughby Ave.

*All SOA employees are invited to stop by, view the IRIS Overview video, meet project staff & ask questions.*

## Status Update

The Finance and Procurement teams are 95% complete with the second pass of Integrated System Testing (IST). Pass 2 is scheduled to wrap up by June 20th in order to prepare for IST Pass 3, which is scheduled to begin in July. The functional teams also conducted Fixed Asset workshops this month and continue to host Cost Accounting workshops with departments to help them populate their Cost Accounting Structure and Reference Data.

The Technical team is making great progress on testing inbound interfaces. This type of testing helps determine whether programs used by the departments work with IRIS as expected. To date, the Technical team has tested 20 inbound interfaces from departments.

Now through June, the Human Resource Management (HRM) team is focused on prototyping, which involves reviewing the starting model of the new system, discussing current processes and considering how those processes might be revised to take advantage of IRIS' functionality.

The Change Management team continues to develop training materials. Reminder: The IRIS Overview training video is available to all employees through LearnAlaska. We encourage you to watch the fifteen-minute video and start learning about IRIS.

## Fixed Assets Terminology Word Search

Try to find the seven fixed assets terms defined below. Please note that multiple word terms (Memo Asset) will appear as a single word (MEMOASSET) in the word search. Click here for the answers.

L X G E U F Y V F Y M Y S E  
 H R Q C O F G R H H V H C T  
 N O I T S A U Q M A J X P A  
 U N O I T I S O P S I D V D  
 Y P V X L A W X Z O V G G E  
 E F I L L U F E S U J U S C  
 N O I T I S I U Q C A S N I  
 T V E Q E Y L U W B Q U N V  
 L Z B T M E M O A S S E T R  
 K P E G W L S F F K V R K E  
 H F M G J D L H O F E Q V S  
 B E T T E R M E N T D M O N  
 C D E P R E C I A T I O N I  
 U Y F N E L X A D I T O N G

**MEMO ASSET** - Assets may be tracked as part of the asset inventory without any accounting impact by flagging the asset as Memo in the asset header. Memo Assets have no net accounting impact and may be used to record assets that do not meet capitalization threshold requirements.

**USEFUL LIFE** - Useful life is the estimated life of the asset. Useful life is a positive integer expressed in years. Useful life is used in depreciation calculations to apportion total depreciation to each year of an asset's useful life.

**ACQUISITION** - The process of acquiring a new fixed asset at historical cost (that is, the original cost) by an entity. Entities will report an amount for fixed assets that equals the related fund expenditures incurred to purchase or construct the fixed asset.

**DISPOSITION** - The retirement of a fixed asset due to sale, destruction, obsolescence or vandalism for example.

**BETTERMENT** - Adding value to an existing fixed asset due to improvements/ additions made to the fixed asset.

**DEPRECIATION** - The allocation of the net costs of the fixed asset over its estimated useful life accomplished by decreasing the value of an asset by the amount of this allocation.

**IN SERVICE DATE** - The date the asset was put into use.

## TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

This month we are featuring our warehouse management team members Dennis Helkenn and Trudy Zaja.

### Meet Dennis Helken:

My family moved to Alaska in 1962 to homestead in the beautiful Copper River Valley. For a Tom Sawyer type like myself, it was a wonderful way to grow up. After high school I pursued further education in automotive related fields, and then found myself on the docks in Valdez at the beginning of the Alaska Oil Pipeline construction. I learned I had an aptitude for managing, organizing, and expediting supplies, materials and equipment, and that has been my vocation for more than 40 years. I've enjoyed watching Alaska grow for over 52 years. Joining the IRIS Project was yet another opportunity to see Alaska grow. It also reminds me of something my dad told me long ago, "Find something you love to do and get somebody to pay you well to do it." My hobbies include traveling, camping, prospecting and, of course, fishing.



### Meet Trudy Zaja: I

grew up in the Chicago area, but have always wanted to come to Alaska; not Hawaii; not California. My two high school passions were math and outdoor

sports which directed me to pursue a degree in Physical Education and Mathematics. I taught physical education and high school math, later redirecting my love of math to an accounting degree. My career as an account clerk for a drug store chain grew to Assistant Controller where Warehouse Management drew my interest. I was involved in basic Enterprise Resource Planning and inventory software implementation which led me to CGI in 1985. When CGI provided me the opportunity to work in inventory management again, and for the State of Alaska, I jumped at the opportunity. I also enjoy kayaking, skiing, hiking, listening to smooth jazz and talk radio.