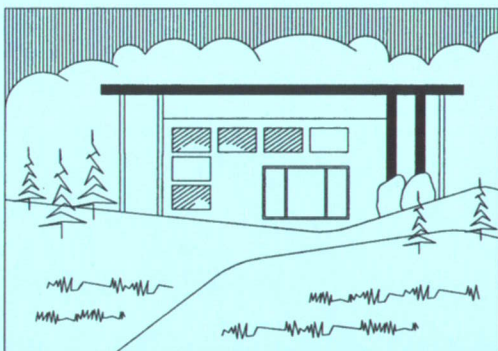
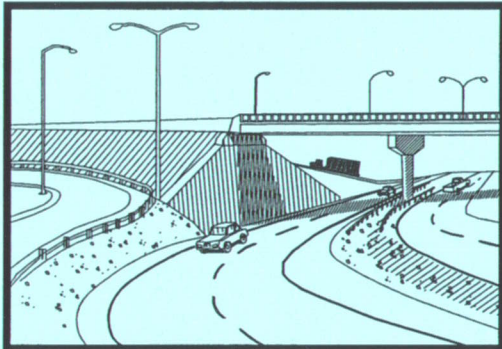
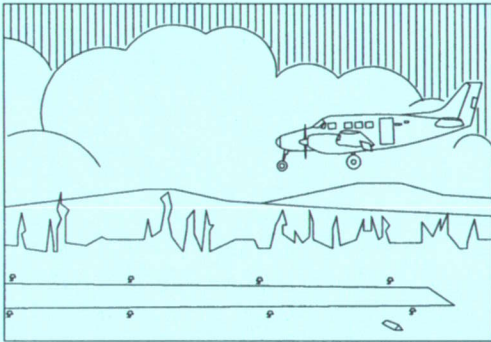


# Geotechnical Data Report

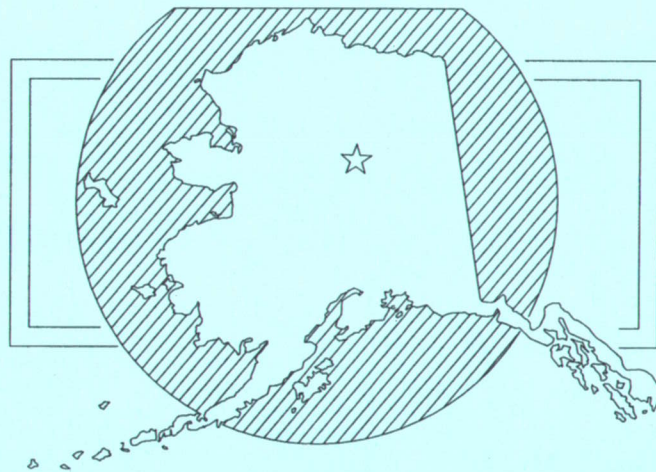
## Kotzebue to Cape Blossom Road

AKSAS: 76884



STATE OF ALASKA

Department of Transportation  
and Public Facilities




NORTHERN REGION

OCTOBER 2009

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES  
NORTHERN REGION MATERIAL SECTION

GEOTECHNICAL DATA REPORT  
KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
STATE PROJECT 76884

PREPARED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JULIE ROWLAND  
Engineering Geologist

REVIEWED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
STEVE MASTERMAN  
Regional Geologist

APPROVED BY:

  
10-26-09

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEO J. WOSTER, P.E.  
Materials Engineer


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES  
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## Contents

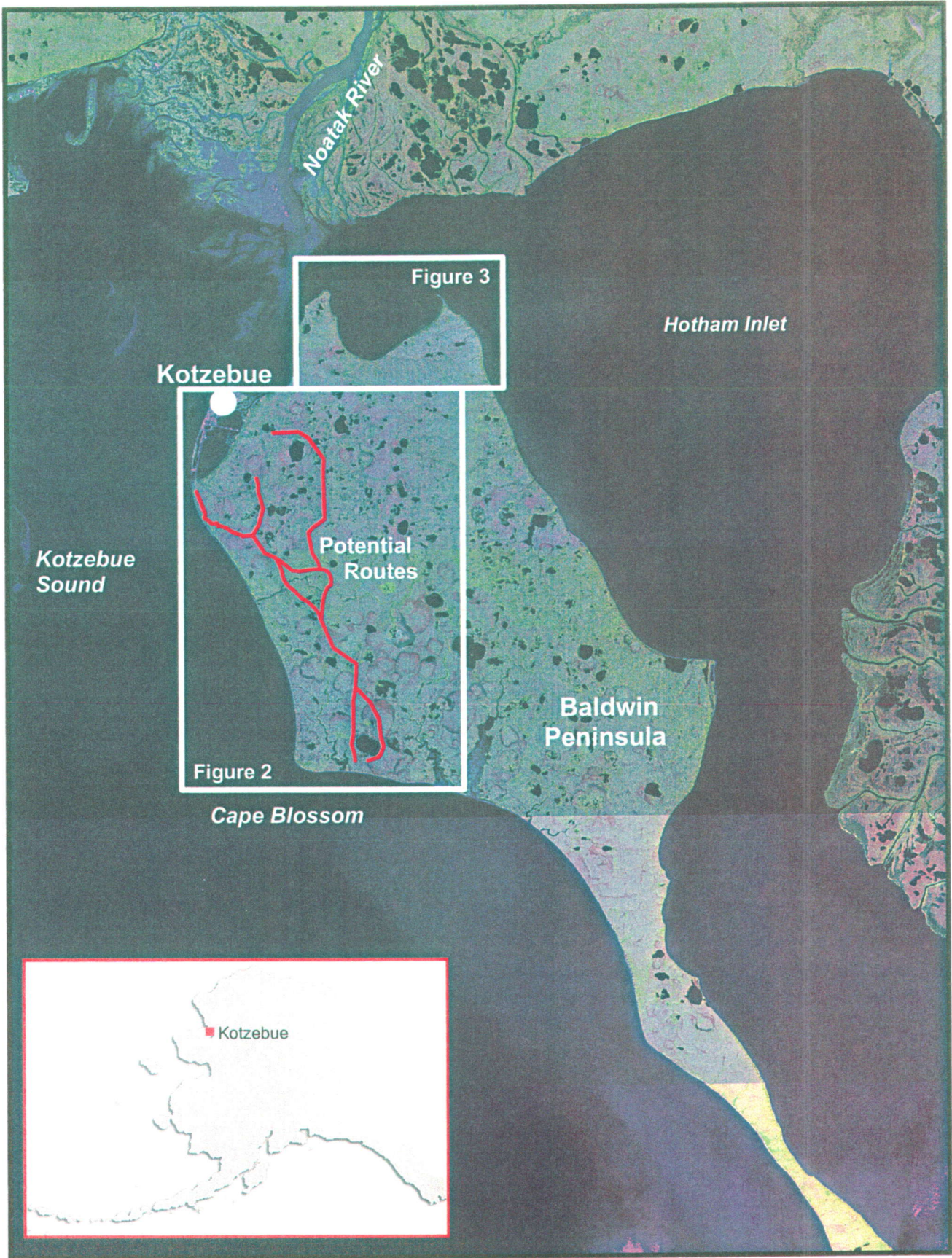
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**KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
 GEOTECHNICAL DATA REPORT  
 PROJECT LOCATION**



**FIGURE 1**

**GEOTECHNICAL DATA REPORT  
KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
STATE PROJECT NO. 76884  
NORTHERN REGION**

## Summary

At the request of ADOT&PF Project Manager Ryan Anderson, Northern Region Materials Section (NRMS) conducted a reconnaissance-level geotechnical investigation of various proposed routes between Kotzebue and Cape Blossom. NRMS personnel also explored selected areas looking for materials (gravel). NRMS personnel drilled 44 auger holes to depths of 10 to 42 feet. Drilling occurred from April 6 to 23, 2009.

In general, soils consisted of frozen silt with ice and organics with some zones of massive ice. The exception to this was at Sadie Creek where soils were thawed to some extent and contained fine sand. The sites drilled for material found 22 to 26 feet of frozen silt without encountering granular soils.

## Physical setting

### Climate

Kotzebue is located in coastal northwestern Alaska, north of the Arctic Circle and south of the Brooks Range. Situated on the northwest tip of the Baldwin Peninsula (protruding into Kotzebue Sound), Kotzebue's climate is transitional between maritime to continental. The following data are from the Western Regional Climate Center web site ([www.wroc.dri.edu](http://www.wroc.dri.edu)).

Climate data summary for the Kotzebue Airport, period from 1949 to 2005

(in °F)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
Aver. High	4.5	3.8	8.8	21.5	38.3	50.6	59.2	56.5	46.7	28.1	14.1	5.0	28.1
Aver. Low	-8.7	-10.4	-7.6	4.0	25.1	38.7	48.6	47.0	36.9	18.9	3.4	-7.9	15.7
Precip (in)	0.46	0.4	0.35	0.43	0.37	0.55	1.43	2.14	1.58	0.8	0.6	0.53	9.63
Snow (in)	7.0	6.0	5.7	5.3	1.4	0.1	0	0	1.1	6.6	9.6	9.1	52.1

The following freeze/thaw indices are based on UCAN data (Unified Climate Access Network) through the AEDIS (Alaska Engineering Design Information System) web site (no longer available). The thawing index, or degree-days above freezing, is a measure of thawing that occurs during the year. The thawing index listed below takes the annual thawing-degree-days (TDD) for the last thirty years and averages them. The design

thawing index takes the average of the three warmest (highest) TDD over the last thirty years.

Likewise, the freezing index, or degree-days below freezing, can be used to calculate the depth of ground freezing during winter. The freezing index listed below averages the annual freezing-degree-days (FDD) for the past thirty years. The design freezing index averages the three coldest (highest) FDD for the same period. The alternate freezing index averages the three warmest (lowest) FDD.

Thermal indices based on temperature records, 1976 to 2005, Kotzebue Airport

Thawing Index (average annual thawing-degree-days (TDD) of last 30 years)	2200
Design Thawing Index (average of warmest three annual TDDs in 30 yrs)	2673
Freezing Index (average annual freezing-degree-days (FDD) of last 30 years)	5459
Design Freezing Index (average of coldest three annual FDDs in 30 yrs)	6762
Freezing Index Alt. (average of warmest three annual FDDs in 30 yrs)	4435

## Geology

Kotzebue is located on the northwest tip of the Baldwin Peninsula. The Baldwin Peninsula, which separates Hotham Inlet from Kotzebue Sound, lies within the Kobuk-Selawik Lowland physiographic province. The peninsula is a “rolling, lake-dotted lowland containing hills as high as 350 feet, bordered by bluffs” (Wahrhaftig, 1965). It formed as the end moraine of an early Pleistocene glacier that moved west out of the Brooks Range. Marine and glacial sediments were likely mixed as the moraine pushed across the (intermittent) ocean floor. Subsequent to its formation, the peninsula has undergone erosion of its coastline as well as accumulation of thick silt deposits on its uplands. The silt mantle exceeds 70 feet in places where drilled (R&M, 2007), and contains organics and ice, as wedges, lenses and crystals.

Bedrock does not outcrop on the peninsula. Bedrock was reportedly intercepted at a depth of 82 feet in a hole drilled 1000 feet west of the airport (Shannon & Wilson, 1982).

The uplands are underlain by permafrost except beneath thaw lakes and larger creeks (i.e. Sadie Creek) where thaw bulbs are present. The active layer is probably 1 to 3 feet thick in undisturbed areas.

Historically, the project area has low seismicity. A search of the Alaska Earthquake Information Center (AEIC) web site ([www.aeic.alaska.edu](http://www.aeic.alaska.edu)) for the area between N66° and N69°, and W162° and W165°, indicates no earthquakes greater than Magnitude 4.0 have been recorded since 1898. Using the USGS interactive probabilistic seismic hazards deaggregation web site, the peak horizontal ground acceleration with a 10% probability of exceedence in 50 years and mean return period of 475 years was calculated to be 0.09396 g for the project site.

## Field investigation

Test holes were completed using a Mobil B-24 track-mounted drill, equipped with custom sleds and pulled by snow machine. 4-inch O.D. solid-stem augers were used, and soils samples were collected from auger cuttings. Subsurface conditions were logged in the field, and selected samples were submitted to Northern Regions Materials Laboratory for testing. The testing program included particle size gradations for classification, moisture content, and organic content analyses. Salinity tests were performed on two samples from Sadie Creek by Shannon & Wilson, Inc. Test hole locations were recorded using a hand-held Garmin GPS (datum NAD 83). Holes were backfilled with cuttings.

## Site and Subsurface conditions

At the time of exploration, the site was under 1 to 5 feet of packed snow. Terrain was gentle and rolling. Aerial photographs show extensive patterned (polygonal) ground, small lakes and ponds throughout the uplands. Oblique photos of the eroding coastal bluffs show exposed ice wedges within the silt mantle.

### Routes to Cape Blossom

We drilled 39 holes along several route segments between existing roads near Kotzebue and a proposed port site east of Cape Blossom. The route segment designations correspond to the lettered segments found in the draft reconnaissance study report for this project (ADOT&PF, 2008, page 9). The terrain the routes cross is relatively uniform, however, the eastern route passes through about 5 miles of hilly terrain in the middle portion, while the western route is flatter overall. The southern half where the routes join is relatively flat with minor elevation changes.

Landforms include thaw ponds and lakes, drained lake beds turned to muskeg, and rolling hills composed of vegetated silt with organics and ice. Patterned ground is evident throughout the area. Aerial photographs show that some areas have more prominent polygons than other areas, either due to a deeper active layer or larger diameter polygons. When drilling in snow-covered polygonal ground, one cannot tell if the drill is set up on a perimeter ice wedge or in the center. Not hitting massive wedge ice in a given hole within this type of terrain does not therefore indicate that massive ice is not present in the general area.

The following is a generalized soil profile:

- Organic mat, 6-12 inches thick with visible ice
- Brown silt with high organics and visible ice (Vs)
- Gray silt (not always present) with slight organics, excess nonvisible ice (Nbe)
- We intercepted massive ice thicker than 3 feet in 11 of the 39 test holes. Significant amounts of ice were commonly present.



- All holes except at Sadie Creek were frozen from the ground surface to the depth drilled. Due the time of year, we could not determine the depth of the active layer.

Because there were no significant differences in soil conditions between the various routes, route selection can be based on criteria other than geotechnical factors such as cost. The western route is more direct and avoids hills so may be cheaper and easier to construct. Roads through hilly terrain may require cutting or cut/fill construction; cutting into these soils should be avoided as it would accelerate thawing.

### **Sadie Creek**

We drilled two test holes adjacent to Sadie Creek along two different route segments. The downstream test hole, 09-1207, was drilled to a depth of 42 feet. Soils consisted of gray silt to silt with sand, with organics. Soils were thawed and wet below 3 ft, (thaw bulb). The relative density appeared to be loose based on drill action. Groundwater seeped into the hole below about 18 ft, and a slurry of wet silt was pumped out by the augers. Salinity of a sample from 17 ft deep was 31.7 parts per thousand (ppt).

The upstream test hole, 09-1225, went to 30 feet. We found gray silt to silt with sand, and organics in this hole as well, but the ground was only thawed between 7 and 17 feet (smaller thaw bulb). Soils were wet and loose where thawed. Drilling was difficult in the deep frozen soils as cuttings did not clear out of the hole readily. Salinity of a sample from 17 ft deep was 26 ppt.

The elevated salinity readings suggests that sea water may have inundated Sadie Creek at some point. Salinity is of potential concern for its corrosion potential on driven piles and for its affect on frozen soil strength properties. It weakens the strength of frozen soils due to the increased unfrozen water content. For general comparison, seawater has an average salinity of 35 ppt. Our samples are a mixture of soil and water so cannot be directly compared.

### **Coastal material sites**

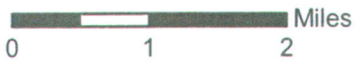
We drilled two areas that were reported as having potential for granular material based on observations of gravel in nearby coastal bluffs (R&M, 2007). We drilled four test holes southeast of Pipe Spit on the plateau above the bluff (09-1249 to 09-1251) and one hole (09-1252) between the airport ridge and the north coast. We found frozen silt with organics and ice to depths of 22 to 26 feet in all test holes. Test hole 09-1251 intercepted massive ice from 16 to 23 feet, the depth drilled. This silt layer is apparently greater than 25 feet thick where drilled and covers any granular soils that may be present.

## References

- ADOT&PF, January 2008, Draft Kotzebue to Cape Blossom Road Reconnaissance Study. which includes as an appendix: Reconnaissance Geology Report, Existing Conditions: Soils, prepared by R&M Consultants, Inc, for the Kotzebue Airport Relocation Feasibility Study, October 2007.
- Geode Exploration, 1984, Kotzebue aggregate exploration dredge sites, prepared by Len Nelson, for the City of Kotzebue.
- Shannon & Wilson, Inc, 1982, Geotechnical feasibility study, Kotzebue Airport expansion, Kotzebue, Alaska, for ADOT&PF, Northern Region.
- Wahrhaftig, Clyde, 1965, Physiographic Divisions of Alaska, U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 482, p.27-28.

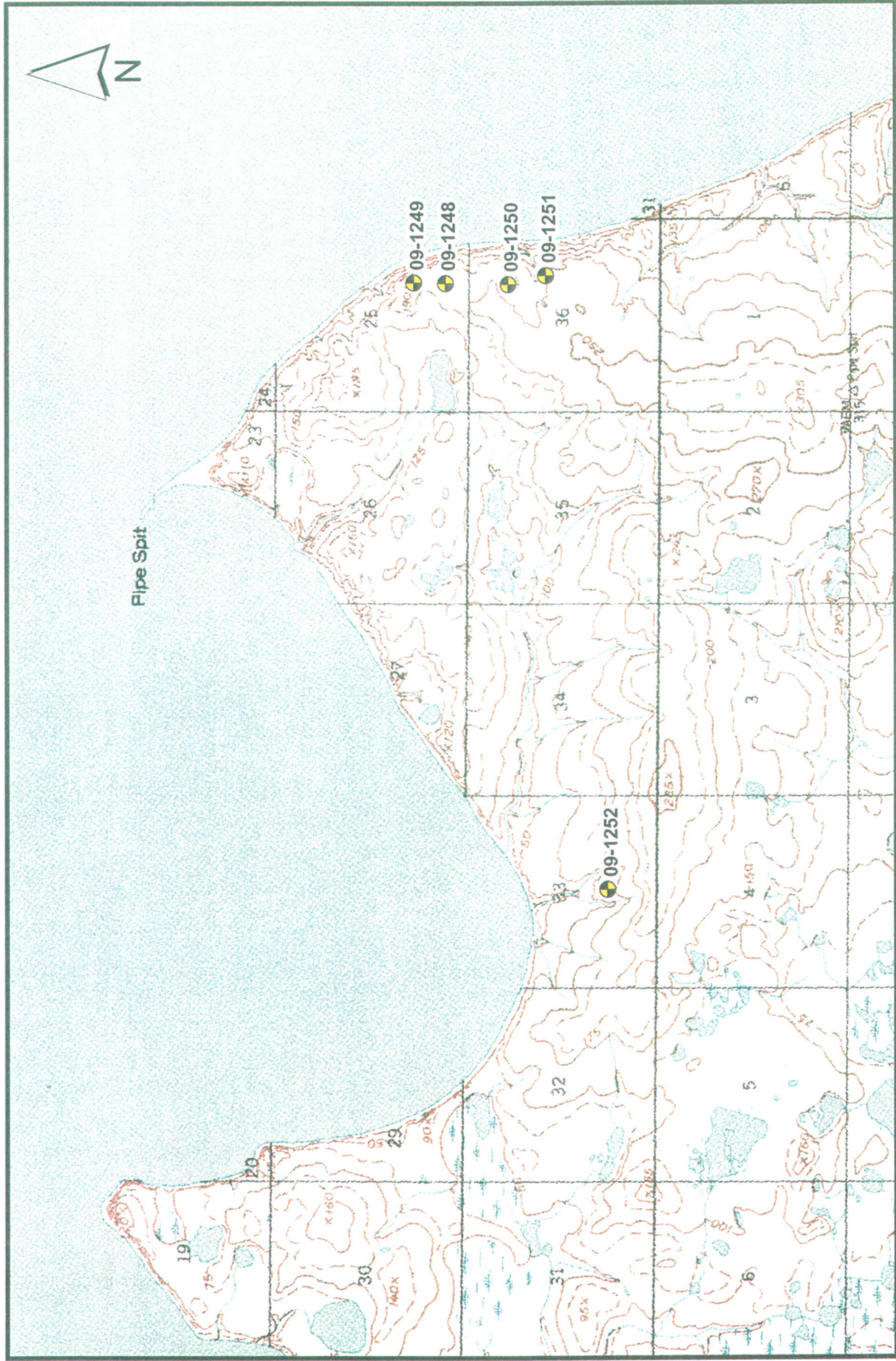


● Test Hole



**KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
GEOTECHNICAL DATA REPORT  
TEST HOLE LOCATIONS**

**FIGURE 2**



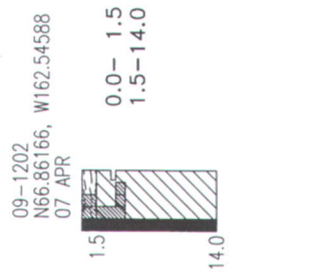
KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
 GEOTECHNICAL DATA REPORT  
 POSSIBLE MATERIAL SITES  
 TEST HOLE LOCATIONS



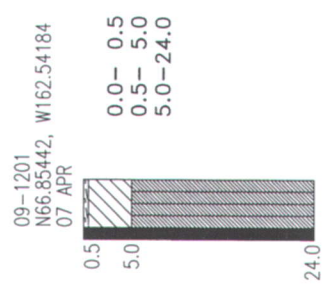
Test Hole

FIGURE 3

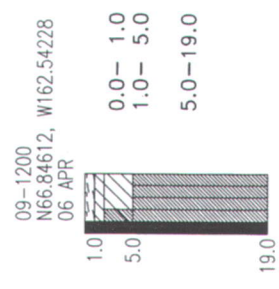
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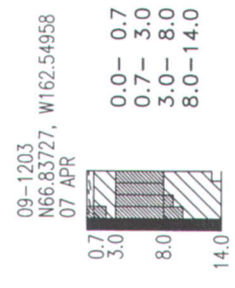
09-1202  
Bn-Rd PEAT, Vr  
Bn SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6300  
(3.0-3.5)  
NM 160.7%  
ORG 7.4%



09-1201  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Nbe  
Wh ICE



09-1200  
ORG MAT, Vr  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Nbe to Vs  
Wh ICE

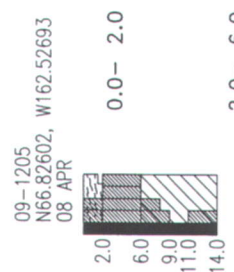


09-1203  
ORG MAT, Vr  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs  
Bn-Wh ICE  
Bn SILT, Si Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6302  
(13.0-14.0)  
NM 45.9%  
ORG 4.3%

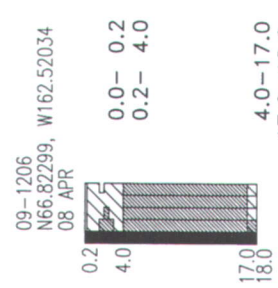


09-1204  
PEAT, Vr  
Bn SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6303  
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ORG 5.7%

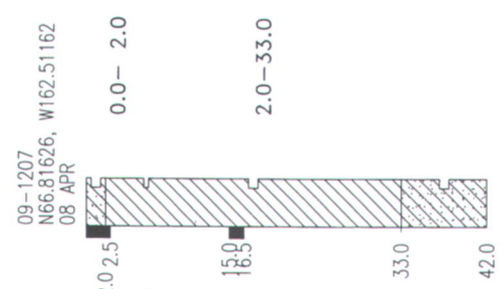
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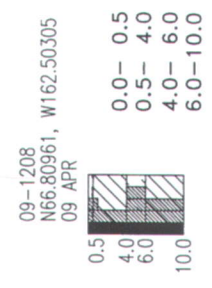
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PEAT, Vr  
SAMPLE 09-6304  
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ORG 90.2%  
Wh ICE  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs



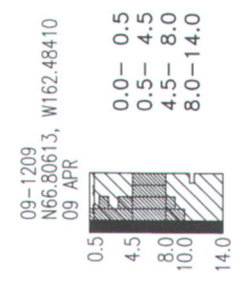
09-1206  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Nbe to Vs  
SAMPLE 09-6305  
(1.5-2.0)  
NM 118.2%  
ORG 4.0%  
Bn-Wh ICE  
Bn SILT



09-1207  
Bn Sa SILT, Org  
SAMPLE 09-6306  
(0.5-1.5)  
ML, 65.7% -200, NV,  
NP  
NM 107.1%, ORG 15.4%  
Gy SILT, wet, loose,  
sl Org  
SAMPLE 09-6307  
(6.0-6.5)  
ML, 95.6% -200, NV, NP  
NM 35.4%, ORG 4.9%  
SAMPLE 09-6308  
(17.0-18.0)  
ML, 92.5% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 40.5%, ORG 3.6%  
Gy SILT w/ Sa, wet,  
sl Org  
SAMPLE 09-6309  
(37.0-38.0)  
ML, 70.8%-200, NV, NP  
NM 42.7%, ORG 1.9%

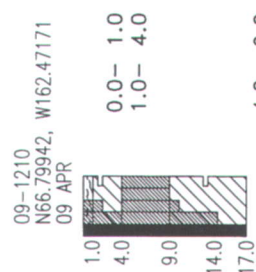


09-1208  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs  
Bn ICE w/ Si  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs

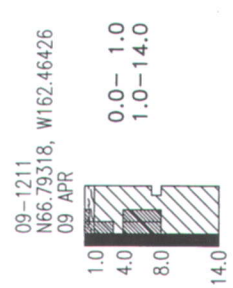


09-1209  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs  
Bn ICE  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6310  
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ML, 98.4% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 83.6%

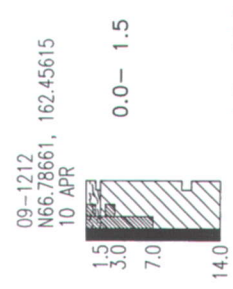
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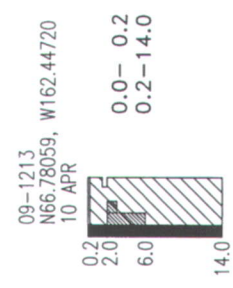
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Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs  
SAMPLE 09-6311  
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NM 186.4%  
ORG 24.4%  
Bn ICE  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6312  
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NM 120.2%  
ORG 6.4%



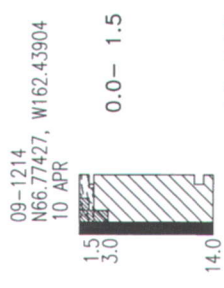
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ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
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(7.0-8.0)  
NM 120.6%  
ORG 9.8%



09-1212  
PEAT w/ Si  
SAMPLE 09-6314  
(1.0-1.5)  
NM 603.5%  
ORG 78.8%  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6315  
(10.0-11.0)  
NM 75.1%  
ORG 15.2%



09-1213  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, hi Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6316  
(1.5-2.0)  
NM 95.0%  
ORG 24.4%



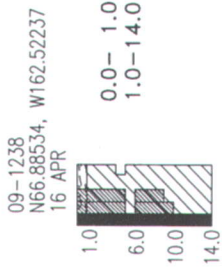
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PEAT w/ Si  
SAMPLE 09-6317  
(1.0-1.5)  
NM 695.9%  
ORG 47.0%  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6318  
(12.0-13.0)  
ML, 97.7% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 39.9%  
ORG 4.9%

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGY UNIT

DATA: JR  
DRAWN: BAM  
APPROVED:SSM  
DATE: OCT 2009

KOTZEBUE TO CAPE  
BLOSSOM ROAD  
PROJECT NO. AKSAS 76884  
V:\Geo\76884 Kotzebue\76884Z01

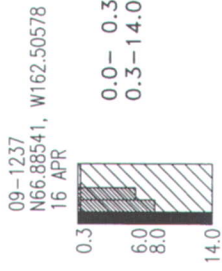
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16 APR

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1.0-14.0

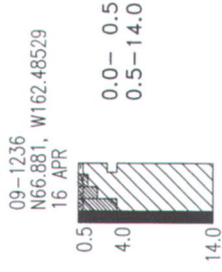
9-1238  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6341  
(4.0-5.0)  
ML, 53.3% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 281.6%,  
ORG 25.0%



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N66.88541, W162.50578  
16 APR

0.0- 0.3  
0.3-14.0

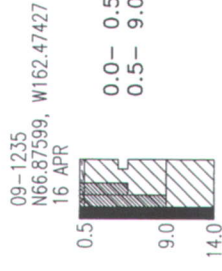
09-1237  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe



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16 APR

0.0- 0.5  
0.5-14.0

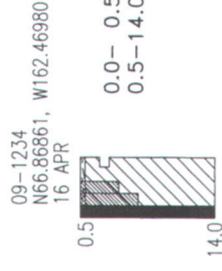
09-1236  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6340  
(3.0-4.0)  
NM 134.0%,  
ORG 12.6%



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16 APR

0.0- 0.5  
0.5- 9.0  
9.0-14.0

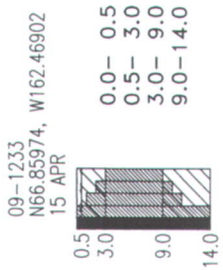
09-1235  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6339  
(4.0-5.0)  
NM 115.8%,  
ORG 13.9%  
Bn-Gy SILT,  
sl Org, Nbe



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N66.86861, W162.46980  
16 APR

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0.5-14.0

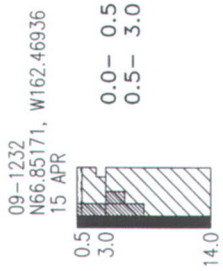
9-1234  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6338  
(2.0-3.0)  
NM 181.3%,  
ORG 31.0%



09-1233  
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15 APR

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3.0- 9.0  
9.0-14.0

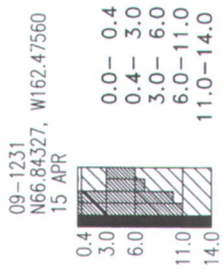
09-1233  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs to Nbe  
Wh-Bn ICE  
Bn SILT, sl Org, Vs to Nbe



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15 APR

0.0- 0.5  
0.5- 3.0  
3.0- 14.0

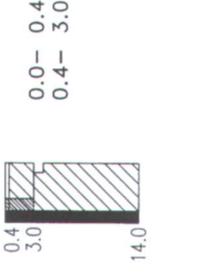
09-1232  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6337  
(2.0-3.0)  
NM 206.2%,  
ORG 33.1%  
Gy SILT, sl Org, Vs to Nbe



09-1231  
N66.84327, W162.47560  
15 APR

0.0- 0.4  
0.4- 3.0  
3.0- 6.0  
6.0-11.0  
11.0-14.0

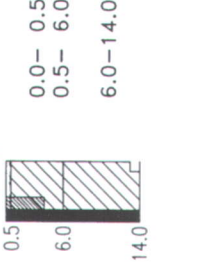
09-1231  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs to Nbe  
Wh-Bn ICE  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
Gy SILT, Nbe



09-1230  
N66.83689, W162.48640  
15 APR

0.0- 0.4  
0.4- 3.0

09-1230  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6336  
(3.0-4.0)  
NM 93.4%, ORG 8.2%



09-1229  
N66.82941, W162.48244  
15 APR

0.0- 0.5  
0.5- 6.0  
6.0-14.0

09-1229  
ORG MAT, Vr  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
Gy SILT, sl Org, Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6335  
(13.0-14.0)  
ML, 93.8% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 52.8%,  
ORG 2.9%

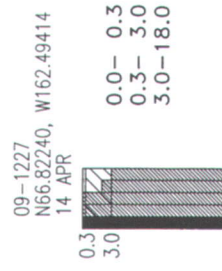
**ROAD SEGMENT G**



09-1228  
N66.82387, W162.47446  
14 APR

0.0- 0.5  
0.5- 7.0  
7.0-14.0

09-1228  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6333  
(3.0-3.5)  
NM 169.3%, ORG 13.0%  
Gy SILT, Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6334  
(9.0-10.0)  
NM 64.0%, ORG 8.3%



09-1227  
N66.82240, W162.49414  
14 APR

0.0- 0.3  
0.3- 3.0  
3.0-18.0

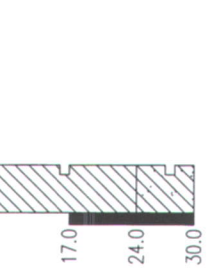
09-1227  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
Bn-SilT, Org, Vs to Nbe



09-1226  
N66.82143, W162.46400  
14 APR

0.0- 1.0  
1.0-14.0

09-1226  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6331  
(1.0-2.0)  
NM 158.9%, ORG 22.8%  
SAMPLE 09-6332  
(9.0-10.0)  
NM 122.2%, ORG 11.7%



09-1225  
N66.81305, W162.46339  
13 APR

0.0- 1.0  
1.0-24.0

09-1225  
ICE, Org  
Gy SILT, wet, Org, Vs to Nbe.  
Trace to slight sand.  
SAMPLE 09-6327  
(1.0-2.0)  
NM 271.4%, ORG 25.8%  
SAMPLE 09-6328  
(4.0-5.0)  
NM 147.5%, ORG 11.0%  
SAMPLE 09-6329  
(16.0-17.0)  
ML, 89.8% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 48.5%, ORG 5.5%  
Gy SILT w/ Sa, wet, sl Org  
SAMPLE 09-6330  
(27.0-28.0)  
ML, 84% -200  
NV, NP  
NM 63.9%



09-1224  
N66.80760, W162.47113  
13 APR

0.0- 1.0  
1.0- 3.0  
3.0-11.0  
11.0-14.0

09-1224  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6326  
(2.0-3.0)  
NM 232.0%,  
ORG 27.8%  
Bn SILT, Org, Nbe  
Gy SILT, Nbe

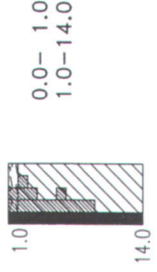
STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGY UNIT

DATA: JR  
DRAWN: BAM  
APPROVED: SSM  
DATE: OCT 2009

KOTZEBUE TO CAPE  
BLOSSOM ROAD  
PROJECT NO. AKSAS 76884  
V:\Geo\76884 Kotzebue\76884\201

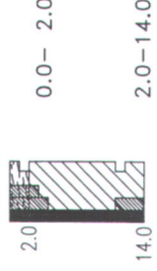
ROAD SEGMENT J

09-1215  
N66.76808, W162.43124  
10 APR



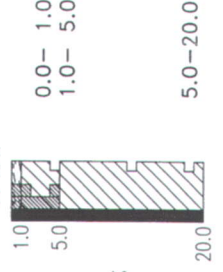
09-1215  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe

09-1216  
N66.75967, W162.43442  
10 APR



09-1216  
ORG MAT w/ Si  
SAMPLE 09-6319  
(1.0-2.0)  
NM 624.1%, ORG 51.5%  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6320  
(11.0-12.0)  
NM 110.0%  
ORG 11.8%

09-1217  
N66.75047, W162.43391  
11 APR



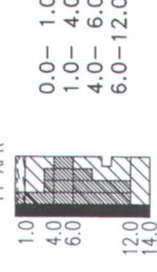
09-1217  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs  
SAMPLE 09-6321  
(4.0-5.0)  
NM 231.0%  
ORG 19.7%  
Gy SILT, Org, Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-6322  
(12.0-13.0)  
ML, 93.6% -200  
LL 35 NP  
NM 42.9%  
SAMPLE 09-6323  
(18.0-19.0)  
NM 53.4%

09-1218  
N66.73965, W162.43358  
11 APR



09-1218  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
Gy SILT, Nbe

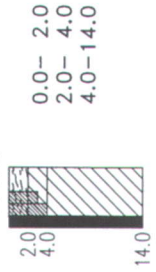
09-1219  
N66.73240, W162.42505  
11 APR



09-1219  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs  
Bn-Wh ICE  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs  
SAMPLE 09-6324  
(9.0-10.0)  
NM 315.8%  
ORG 24.0%  
Gy-Bn SILT, Nbe

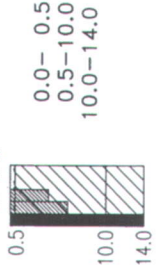
ROAD SEGMENT K

09-1220  
N66.73640, W162.40477  
11 APR



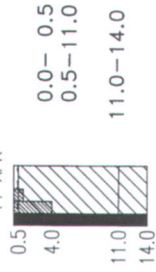
09-1220  
PEAT, Vr  
Bn SILT, hi Org, Vs  
Bn SILT, Org, Nbe

09-1221  
N66.74606, W162.40201  
11 APR



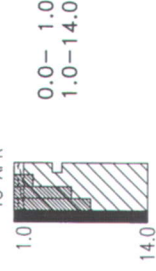
09-1221  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
Gy SILT, Nbe

09-1222  
N66.75409, W162.40382  
11 APR



09-1222  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe  
Gy SILT, Nbe

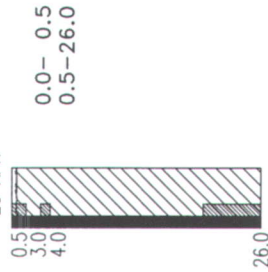
09-1223  
N66.76107, W162.41321  
13 APR



09-1223  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs to Nbe  
SAMPLE 09-1223  
(4.0-5.0)  
NM 271.0%  
ORG 16.6%

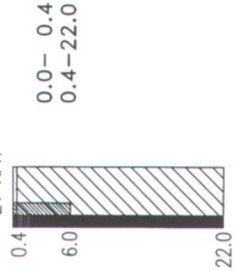
POSSIBLE MATERIAL SITES

09-1248  
N66.92519, W162.28958  
20 APR



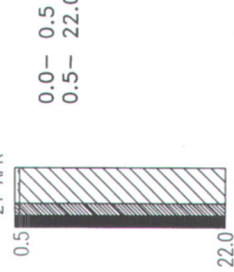
09-1248  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT Org,  
Vs to Nbe

09-1249  
N66.92757, W162.28947  
21 APR



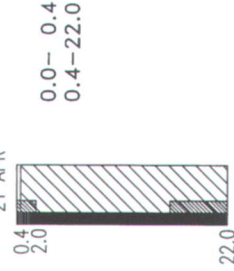
09-1249  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe

09-1250  
N66.92048, W162.28975  
21 APR



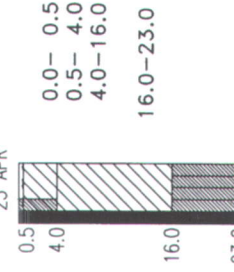
09-1250  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org, Vs

09-1251  
N66.91765, W162.28804  
21 APR



09-1251  
ORG MAT  
Bn-Gy SILT, Org,  
Vs to Nbe

09-1252  
N66.91284, W162.40533  
23 APR



09-1252  
ORG MAT  
Bn SILT, Org, Vs  
Gy SILT, sl Org,  
Nbe to Vx  
Wh-Gy ICE

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGY UNIT

DATA: JR KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
DRAWN: BAM  
APPROVED:SSM PROJECT NO. AKSAS 76884  
DATE: OCT 2009 V:\Geo\76884 Kotzebue\76884Z01

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
NORTHERN REGION  
LABORATORY TESTING REPORT

PROJECT NAME: KOTZEBUE TO CAPE BLOSSOM ROAD  
PROJECT NUMBER: 76884  
AKSAS NUMBER: J. ROWLAND  
SAMPLED BY:  
MATERIAL SOURCE:

TEST HOLE NUMBER	09-1207	09-1207	09-1207	09-1207	09-1209	09-1214	09-1217
DEPTH (feet)	0.5-1.5	6.0-6.5	17.0-18.0	37.0-38.0	10.5-11.0	12.0-13.0	12.0-13.0
LATITUDE	N66.81626°	N66.81626°	N66.81626°	N66.81626°	N66.80613°	N66.77427°	N66.75047°
LONGITUDE	W162.51162°	W162.51162°	W162.51162°	W162.51162°	W162.4841°	W162.43904°	W162.43391°
LAB NUMBER	09-6306	09-6307	09-6308	09-6309	09-6310	09-6318	09-6322
DATE SAMPLED	8-Apr-09	8-Apr-09	8-Apr-09	8-Apr-09	9-Apr-09	10-Apr-09	11-Apr-09
% Passing							
3"							
2"							
1.5"							
1.0"							
Gravel							
0.75"							
0.5"							
0.375"							
#4							
#8							
#10							
#16	100			100			
#30	99			99			100
Sand							
#40	96			99			99
#50	88			98			99
#60	84	100		96			98
#80	77	99	100	94			97
#100	74	99	99	92		100	97
Silt/Clay							
#200	65.7	95.6	92.5	70.8	98.4	97.7	93.6
0.02							61.6
Hydro							
0.005							27.2
0.002							17.4
0.001							12.6
LIQUID LIMIT	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	35
PLASTIC INDEX	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
USCS CLASSIFICATION	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML	ML
USCS SOIL DESCRIPTION							
NATURAL MOISTURE	107.1	35.4	40.5	42.7	83.6	39.9	42.9
ORGANICS	15.4	4.9	3.6	1.9		4.9	2.90
SP. GR. (FINE)							
SP. GR. (COARSE)							
MAX. DRY DENSITY							
OPTIMUM MOISTURE							
L.A. ABRASION							
DEGRAD. FACTOR							
SODIUM SULF. (CRSE)							
SODIUM SULF. (FINE)							
NORDIC ABRASION							
REMARKS	hi Org <sup>1</sup>	sl Org <sup>1</sup>	sl Org <sup>1</sup>			sl Org <sup>1</sup>	
GENERAL COMMENTS	Gradation is based on material passing the 3" sieve, according to Alaska Test Method T-7. <sup>1</sup> Organic content determination is based on the results of the ATM T-6 test method. (Soil descriptions shown in parentheses are based on field determinations.) USCS Soil Description Abbreviations: WG = Well-graded; PG = Poorly-graded; E = Elastic; L = Lean; F = Fat						





# Appendix

Symbols and definitions  
Unified Soils Classification System  
Frozen soil classification

# SYMBOLS AND DEFINITIONS

## BASIC MATERIAL SYMBOLS

	ASPHALT
	PEAT
	CLAY (Cl)
	ICE
	SILT (Si)
	POORLY GRADED SAND (Sa)
	POORLY GRADED GRAVEL (Gr)
	WELL GRADED SAND
	WELL GRADED GRAVEL
	BEDROCK (Bx), soft(Type)
	BEDROCK (Bx), hard(Type)

SOFT OR HARD BEDROCK BASED ON DRILLING RATE

### NOTE

MAJOR COMPONENT (UPPER CASE ... SOLID LINES)

MINOR COMPONENT (Title Case ... DASHED LINES OR SPARSER PATTERN)

## USCS SIZE DEFINITIONS

BOULDERS (Boulders)	12" +
COBBLES (Cobbles)	3" TO 12"
GRAVEL	#4 TO 3"
ANGULAR FRAGMENTS	#10 +
SAND	#200 TO #4
SILT	#200 TO 0.005 mm
CLAY	MINUS 0.005 mm

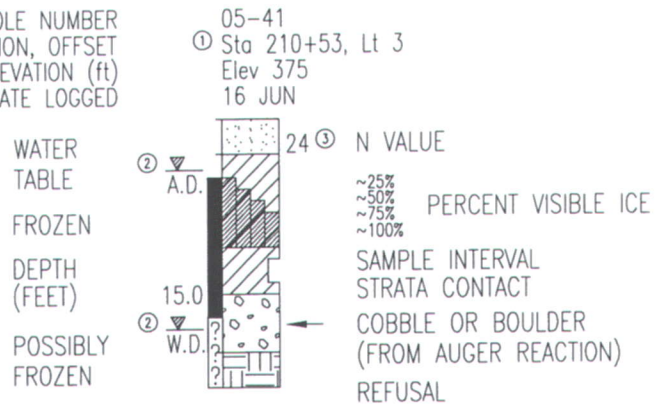
## TEST RESULTS

...%-200	= % PASSING #200 SIEVE
NM ...%	= NATURAL MOISTURE
ORG ...%	= ORGANIC CONTENT
SSc _	= SODIUM SULFATE LOSS(coarse)
SSf _	= SODIUM SULFATE LOSS(fine)
LA _	= LOS ANGELES ABRASION
DEG _	= DEGRADATION
LL _	= LIQUID LIMIT (NV = no value)
PI _	= PLASTIC INDEX (NP = non-plastic)

## MISC.

Tr	= TRACE
sl	= SLIGHTLY
hi	= HIGHLY
w/_	= WITH UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT
X <sup>tls</sup>	= CRYSTALS
TH	= TEST HOLE
TT	= TEST TRENCH
TP	= TEST PIT

## TYPICAL LOG



- ① Station value may also be on centerline e.g. Sta 210+53, CL or lat-long format e.g. N64.56789°, W145.67890°
- ② W.D.= WHILE DRILLING, A.D.= AFTER DRILLING
- ③ "N VALUE" INDICATES STANDARD PENETRATION TEST (1.4" I.D., 2.0" O.D. SAMPLER DRIVEN WITH 140 LB. HAMMER, 30" FREE FALL) AND IS SUM OF 2nd AND 3rd 6" OF PENETRATION.

## PLAN VIEW SYMBOLS

	POWER AUGER TEST HOLE (TH)
	HAND AUGER TEST HOLE (TH)
	EXPOSED MATERIAL
	PROBE
	HAND DUG TEST PIT (TP)
	DOZER/BACKHOE TEST TRENCH (TT)
	BODY OF WATER
	FLOW DIRECTION
	WASTE BERM
	BANK
	SWAMP
	TREELINE

## SOIL DENSITY/CONSISTENCY DESCRIPTORS

NON-COHESIVE		COHESIVE	
RELATIVE DENSITY	BLOWS/FOOT (N) VALUE	CONSISTENCY	BLOWS/FOOT (N) VALUE
VERY LOOSE	< 4	VERY SOFT	< 2
LOOSE	5-10	SOFT	2-4
MEDIUM DENSE	11-30	FIRM	5-8
DENSE	31-50	STIFF	9-15
VERY DENSE	> 50	VERY STIFF	16-30
		HARD	> 30

## COLOR

Bk = BLACK	Gy = GRAY	Tn = TAN
Bl = BLUE	Or = ORANGE	Wh = WHITE
Bn = BROWN	Rd = RED	Yw = YELLOW
Gn = GREEN		

## MOISTURE

dry	= < OPTIMUM*	DUSTY, DRY TO THE TOUCH
moist	~ OPTIMUM*	DAMP, NO VISIBLE WATER
wet	= > OPTIMUM*	VISIBLE FREE WATER

\* OPTIMUM MOISTURE FOR MAXIMUM DENSITY

# DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF FROZEN SOILS

Part I Description of Soil Phase (a) (Independent of Frozen State)	Major Group (2)		Sub-Group		Field Identification (6)	Pertinent Properties of Frozen Materials which may be measured by physical tests to supplement field identification. (7)	Guide for Construction on Soils Subject to Freezing and Thawing Characteristics (8)	Criteria (9)
	Description (3)	Designation (4)	Description (5)	Designation (6)				
Part II Description of Frozen Soil	Segregated ice is visible by eye. (Ice 1 inch or less in thickness) (b)	N	Poorly Bonded or Friable	Nf	Identify by visual examination. To determine presence of excess ice, use procedure under note (c) below and hand magnifying lens as necessary. For soils not fully saturated, estimate degree of ice saturation: Medium, Low. Note presence of crystals, or of ice coatings around larger particles.	In-Place Temperature Density and Void Ratio a) In Frozen State b) After Thawing in Place Water Content (Total H <sub>2</sub> O, including ice) a) Average b) Distribution Strength a) Compressive b) Tensile c) Shear d) Adfreeze Elastic Properties Plastic Properties Thermal Properties	← Usually Thaw-Stable →	The potential intensity of ice segregation in a soil is dependent to a large degree on its void sizes and may be expressed as an empirical function of grain size as follows:  Most inorganic soils containing 3 percent or more of grains finer than 0.02 mm in diameter by weight are frost-susceptible. Gravels, well-graded sands and silty sands, especially those approaching the theoretical maximum density curve, which contain 1.5 to 3 percent finer than 0.02 mm by weight without being frost-susceptible. However, their tendency to occur interbedded with other soils usually makes it impractical to consider them separately.  Soils classed as frost-susceptible under the above criteria are likely to develop significant ice segregation and frost heave if frozen at normal rates with free water readily available. Soils so frozen will fall into the thaw-unstable category. However, they may also be classed as thaw-stable if frozen with insufficient water to permit ice segregation.
			No excess ice	Nb				
	Segregated ice is visible by eye. (Ice 1 inch or less in thickness) (b)	V	Individual ice crystals or inclusions	Vx	For ice phase, record the following as applicable: Location Orientation Spacing Length Hardness } Structure } Color } Estimate volume of visible segregated ice present as percent of total sample volume	Ice Crystal Structure (using optional instruments.) a) Orientation of Axes b) Crystal size c) Crystal shape d) Pattern of Arrangement	← Usually Thaw-Unstable →	Soils classed as non-frost-susceptible ("NFS") under the above criteria usually occur without significant ice segregation and are not exact and may be inadequate for some structure applications: exceptions may also result from minor soil variations.  In permafrost areas, ice wedges, pockets, veins, or other ice bodies may be found whose mode of origin is different from that described above. Such ice may be the result of long-time surface expansion and contraction phenomena or may be glacial or other ice which has been buried under a protective earth cover.
			Ice coatings on particles	Vc				
Part III Description of Substantial Ice Strata	Ice (Greater than 1 inch in thickness)	Ice	Ice with soil inclusions	Ice + Soil Type	Designate material as ICE (d) and use descriptive terms as follows, usually one item from each group, as applicable: Hardness, Structure, Color, Admixtures: e.g.: Clear, Cloudy, Porous, Canded, Granular, Stratified Hard Soft (mass, not individual crystals) e.g.: Contains Thin Silt Inclusions	Same as Part II above, as applicable, with special emphasis on Ice Crystal Structure.		
			Ice without soil inclusions	Ice				

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Ice Coatings on Particles** are discernible layers of ice found on or below the larger soil particles in a frozen soil mass. They are sometimes associated with hoarfrost crystals, which have grown into voids produced by the freezing action.

**Ice Crystal** is a very small individual ice particle visible in the face of a soil mass. Crystals may be present alone or in a combination with other ice formations.

**Clear Ice** is transparent and contains only a moderate number of air bubbles. (e)

**Cloudy Ice** is translucent, but essentially sound and non-pervious

**Porous Ice** contains numerous voids, usually interconnected and usually resulting from melting at air bubbles or along crystal interfaces from presence of salt or other materials in the water, or from the freezing of saturated snow. Though porous, the mass retains its structural unity.

**Canded Ice** is ice which has rotted or otherwise formed into long columnar crystals, very loosely bonded together.

**Excess Ice** is the volume of ice in soil which exceeds the total pore volume that the soil would have under natural unfrozen conditions.

**Ice Lenses** are lenticular ice formations in soil occurring essentially parallel to each other, generally normal to the direction of heat loss and commonly in repeated layers.

**Ice Segregation** is the growth of ice as distinct lenses, layers, veins and masses in soils, commonly but not always oriented normal to direction of heat loss.

**Well-bonded** signifies that the soil particles are strongly held together by the ice and that the frozen soil possesses relatively high resistance to chipping or breaking.

**Poorly-bonded** signifies that the soil particles are weakly held together by the ice and that the frozen soil consequently has poor resistance to chipping or breaking.

**Friable** denotes a condition in which material is easily broken up under light to moderate pressure.

**Thaw-Stable** frozen soils do not, on thawing, show loss of strength below normal, long-time thawed values nor produce detrimental settlement.

**Thaw-Unstable** frozen soils show on thawing, significant loss of strength below normal, long-time thawed values and/or significant settlement, as a direct result of the melting of the excess ice in the soil.

**NOTES:**

(a) When rock is encountered, standard rock classification terminology should be used.

(b) Frozen soils in the N group may on close examination indicate presence of ice within the voids of the material by crystalline reflections or by a sheen on fractured or trimmed surfaces. However, the impression to the unaided eye is that none of the frozen water occupies space in excess of the original voids in the soil. The opposite is true of frozen soils in the V group.

(c) When visual methods may be inadequate, a simple field test to aid evaluation of volume of excess ice can be made by placing some frozen soil in a small jar, allowing it to melt and observing the quantity of supernatant water as a percent of total volume.

(d) Where special forms of ice, such as hoarfrost, can be distinguished, more explicit description should be given.

(e) Observer should be careful to avoid being misled by surface scratches or frost coating on the ice.

Modified from: Linell, K. A. and Kapiar, C. W., 1966, *Description and Classification of Frozen Soils*, Proc. International Conference on Permafrost (1963), Lafayette, IN, U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Publ. 1287, pp.481-487.