

Appendix E

Agency Coordination

Agency Scoping

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Hillman, Kacy

From: Coskey, Owen A (DOT) <owen.coskey@alaska.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2014 9:55 AM
To: Ashton, William S (DEC); Dau, Jim R (DFG); jewel_bennett@fws.gov; Curtis.Jennifer@epa.gov; mathhew.eagleton@noaa.gov; Bruce.Greenwood@faa.gov; jeanne.hanson@noaa.gov; michiel.e.holley@usace.army.mil; Magdanz, James S (DFG); Menard, James A (DFG); Morris, William A (DFG); breich@maniilaq.org; louise_smith@fws.gov; Ted_Swem@fws.gov; shannon_torrence@fws.gov
Cc: Beck, Albert M L (DOT); Johnston, Christopher F (DOT); Dianoski, Bruce T (DOT); Kacy Hillman; Nelson, Brett D (DOT); Anderson, Ryan (DOT); Smith, Kevin L (DOT); Chapman, Judy (DOT); Taralyn.Stone@faa.gov; Werneke, Alvin E (DOT); Adler, Penelope (DOT)
Subject: Agency Comment Request-Kiana Airport Improvements
Attachments: Kiana Agency Scoping Letter, Appendix, Figure 1.pdf; Figures 2 & 3.pdf

Dear Agency Stakeholder:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is proposing improvements to the Bob Baker Memorial Airport (IAN) in Kiana, Alaska. We respectfully request that you review the attached preliminary scoping information, and provide comments identifying potential issues and concerns associated with the proposed project.

Your input is critical to our decision-making process, regulatory compliance efforts, and formulation of the proper environmental documentation. Should you desire to provide comments or other information, we ask that you submit your response as detailed in the letter by **September 26, 2014**. If you have any questions or require additional project information, please do not hesitate to contact me as noted below.

Thank you kindly,
Owen Coskey
Environmental Impact Analyst II
Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
owen.coskey@alaska.gov
907.451.5377



August 26, 2014

Re: Kiana Airport Improvements
Project Number: 63179
Request for Scoping Comments

Dear Agency Contact,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), is proposing to improve the Bob Baker Memorial Airport (Kiana Airport) in Kiana, Alaska. The project area is located in Sections 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9, Township 18 North, Range 8 West, and Sections 31 and 32, Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Kateel River Meridian illustrated on the Baird Mountains (A-3 and A-4) and Selawik (D-3 and D-4) USGS topographical maps (Figure 1).

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve safety and efficiency of the Kiana Airport. Due to the remote location of Kiana, goods and services can only be delivered to the community by barge or aircraft. Barge transport to Kiana is hindered by shallow Kobuk River waters during the ice-free summer months (July, August, and September), and is inaccessible by barge during the winter months when the Kobuk River freezes over; therefore, air cargo is essential to delivering goods and services to the community. The runway's current 3,400-foot length limits the type of cargo aircraft that can service the airport, so larger aircraft (such as DC-6) can only land partially loaded which limits the amount of delivered goods and services to the community. A 4,000 foot runway would allow for larger aircraft such as the Beechcraft 1900, DC-6 and a C-130 to access this community, greatly increasing cost efficient transportation of passenger and cargo. In addition, the existing runway's deteriorating surface causes operational problems that result in frequent runway closures during the spring breakup due to soft runway conditions from poor drainage. Furthermore, the airport apron is often congested with increased aircraft operations during the summer months.

Proposed Action

DOT&PF and FAA are currently evaluating one build alternative (Proposed Action) that would provide the most effective solution to meet the purpose and need (Figure 2). The Proposed Action includes the following improvements:

- **Runway Skew and Extension:** The existing 3,400-foot runway would be skewed 3.5 degrees north from Runway end 24 and lengthened 600 feet for a 4,000 foot new runway distance. The new skewed runway will increase the apron setback while utilizing the existing apron. This will also increase the efficiency of cargo aircraft and enhance the safety of aircraft operations by removing existing penetrations to the Object Free Area (OFA) and Part 77 Transitional Surface.
- **Runway Resurfacing:** The existing gravel runway would be graded and resurfaced to improve conditions for takeoffs and landings as well as allow for year-round operations.
- **Apron Expansion:** The existing apron would be expanded and set back from active airspace to reduce aircraft congestion.
- **Drainage Improvements:** Drainage would be improved by replacing culverts, reestablishing the drainage ditch along the north side of the runway and grading the runway to drain as needed. Improving drainage around the runway would allow for a stable runway surface and minimize future deterioration of the runway due to saturated embankments.
- **Material Site and Proposed Haul Route Development:** The Proposed Action would extract fill from an undeveloped material site approximately 2.8 miles northwest of Kiana. The proposed temporary access haul route road would be extended from the end of the existing sewage lagoon road to the material source. This material access route may require temporary easements and permits as needed. (Figure 3).
- **Snow Storage and Removal space:** The Proposed Action provides a designated area for increased snow storage and operating space.
- **Navigational Aids:** Existing PAPI (Precision Approach Path Indicator) and REIL (Runway End Identifier Light) will be shifted with the runway re-alignment.
- **Right-of-Way:** For project completion additional lands will need to be obtained through the Right-of-Way process.

Other proposed actions include providing continual dust control to alleviate health issues, replacing ageing lighting systems, and completing other improvements as funds allow.

The project is in the early stage of design and the environmental process. DOT&PF will complete an environmental assessment (EA) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. To ensure potential impacts of the project are identified and appropriate mitigation measures are considered, your agency's input at this time is important. Early identification of environmental concerns will facilitate efficient project development.

The enclosure summarizes preliminary research results for your review. We request your comments on the proposed project, particularly in regard to resources under your jurisdiction. If you have any information that would assist us in evaluating potential impacts to these resources, please provide it. Your comments will be included in the EA. Based on agency and public input, and additional engineering evaluations, DOT&PF's goal is to refine the project scope and identify issues of concern.

Please provide your written comments no later than **September 26, 2014** to DOT&PF Attn: Chris Johnston, 2301 Peger Road Fairbanks, AK, 99709, or e-mail your comments to chris.johnston@alaska.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this request, if you have any questions regarding the proposed project please contact me at (907) 451-2322.

Sincerely,



for Christopher F. Johnston, PE
Engineering Manager

Enclosures: Appendix A – Preliminary Research Results
Figure 1 – Location & Vicinity Map
Figure 2 – Site Plan
Figure 3 – Proposed Haul Route and Material Site

cc: Brett Nelson, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Al Beck, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Ryan Anderson, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Bruce Dianoski, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Owen Coskey, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Christopher Johnston, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Kevin Smith, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Judy Chapman, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Penny Adler, DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Alvin Werneke Jr., DOT&PF, Fairbanks
Taralyn Stone, FAA, Anchorage

Appendix A - Preliminary Research Results

Essential Fish Habitat

A search of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) *Fish Resource Monitor* (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/index.cfm?ADFG=maps.interactive>) identified three anadromous streams south of the proposed project vicinity, summarized in the table below. The streams are greater than 500 feet from the proposed project area of disturbance.

Anadromous Stream Name	Anadromous Stream Number
Squirrel River	331-00-10490-2115
Kobuk River (Nazuruk Channel)	331-00-10490
Kobuk River	331-00-10490-2117

Hazardous Materials, Pollution Prevention, and Solid Waste

A search of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) *Contaminated Sites Database* found six open sites south of the proposed project vicinity within the town of Kiana. The open contaminated sites are located down gradient and away from the proposed project. Another contaminated site was located adjacent to the proposed project area of disturbance near the southeast end of the runway, but the site was cleaned up for contaminated diesel range organics and the site was closed on January 29, 2008. In addition, a sewage lagoon is located 0.7 mile north of Kiana (managed by the Alaska Rural Utilities Cooperative) and a Class 3, ADEC-permitted landfill (operated by Kiana Traditional Council) is located immediately south of the lagoon.

Historical, Architectural, Archeological, and Cultural Resources

A cultural resource survey was conducted in August 2012 of the project area and proposed material site. An additional survey was completed along the proposed haul route in June 2014. The cultural resources survey did not identify any resources recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; therefore, it is not anticipated historic properties would be affected by the proposed project. The FAA will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Tribal entities in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Parks, Refuges, and Critical Habitat Areas

A review of the ADF&G Conservation Areas website (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=protectedareas.locator>) revealed no state refuges, sanctuaries, critical habitat areas, or wildlife ranges within the proposed project vicinity.

The proposed project is outside of existing designated conservation lands, and the boundary of the Selawik National Wildlife Refuge is located south of the proposed project along the Kobuk River (<http://alaska.fws.gov/nwr/realty/map/se.htm>).

Threatened and Endangered Species

A review of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) critical habitat areas for threatened and endangered species (<http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/crithab/>) did not identify any threatened or endangered species critical habitat in the general vicinity of the project. However, the project area is within the known range of the threatened polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*)

(<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=polarbear.main>). The USFWS will be consulted to confirm that no threatened and endangered species or critical habitat would be impacted by this project.

Water Quality

The ADEC has delineated a drinking water protection area (<http://dec.alaska.gov/das/GIS/apps.htm>) for the Kiana Water System which overlaps the town of Kiana, in addition to the proposed project. Water for the community of Kiana comes from two wells along the Kobuk River. Numerous streams cross, or are adjacent to, the proposed haul road, materials site, and area of airport improvements. A search of ADEC data revealed no impaired waterbodies within the project area.

According to *Climate Change in Kiana, Alaska Strategies for Community Health* (Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, 2011), thawing permafrost is causing erosion and subsidence in Kiana. Construction can increase the active thaw layer. There are also deep erosion ravines on the southwest side of the runway from storm water runoff within the proposed project area and north of the sewage lagoon, approximately 0.8 mile north of the airport, from wastewater discharges, identified in the *Erosion Information Paper – Kiana, Alaska* (USACE, 2009).

Wetlands

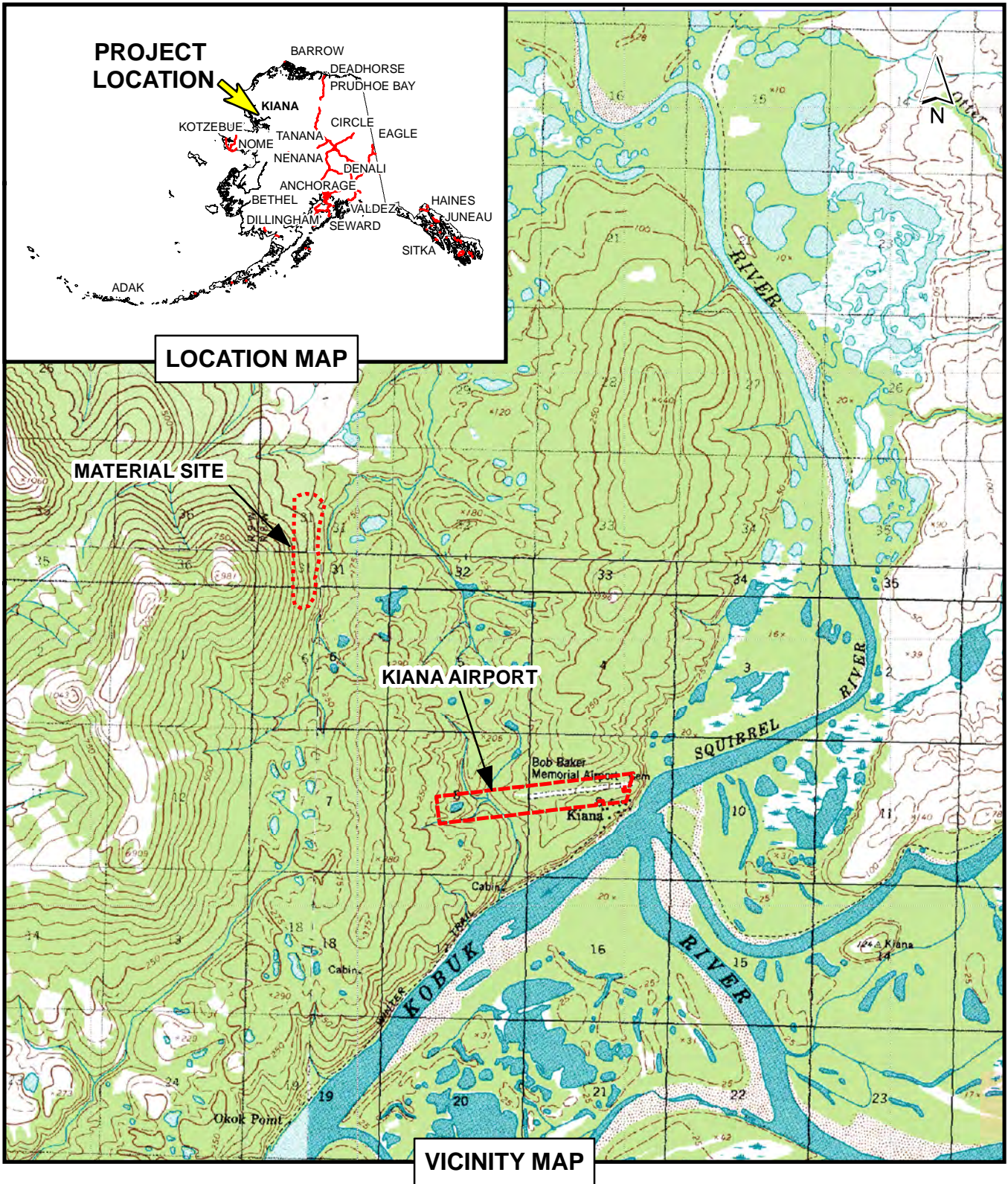
A search of the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapper (<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/>) showed no data available for the area. A wetlands delineation was conducted in August 2012 to map wetland boundaries within the airport and material site project areas and evaluate potential project impacts. Emergent and shrub-dominated wetlands comprise the majority of the airport and material site study areas. Forested wetlands, upper perennial streams, lower perennial streams, flooded ponds, and uplands were also identified within the airport and material site study areas. An additional wetlands delineation was completed for the proposed haul route in June 2014. The majority of the proposed haul route study area is composed of shrub-dominated wetlands. Emergent wetlands, upper perennial streams, lower perennial streams, flooded ponds, and uplands were also identified within the proposed haul route study area. Necessary permitting will be conducted in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for unavoidable wetland impacts.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

The upper part of the Kobuk River is classified as a Wild and Scenic River, although this reach of the river is over 150 miles upstream from the project area (<http://www.rivers.gov/>).

Wildlife

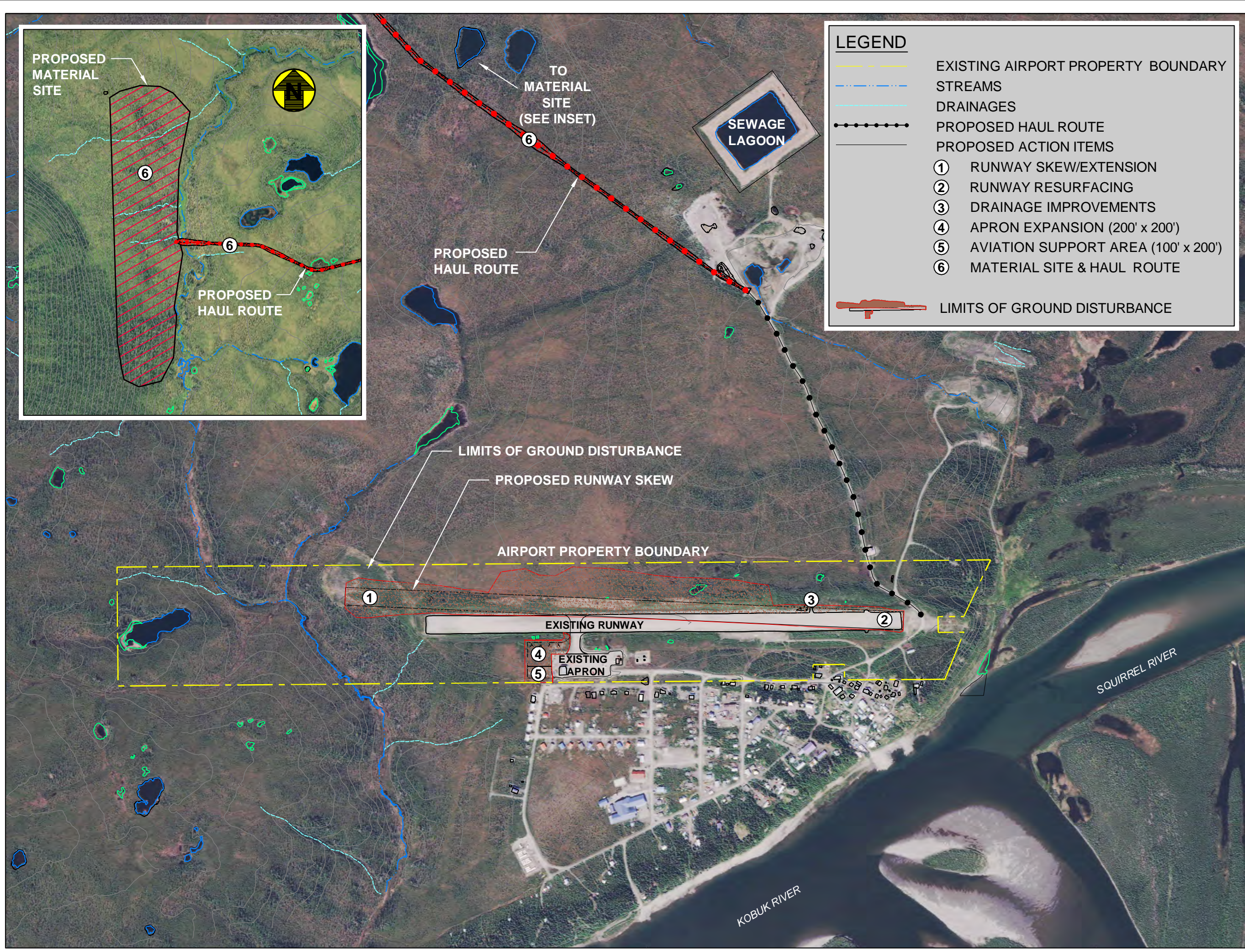
The Western Arctic Caribou Herd typically travels through the Kiana area on its migration between summer calving and over wintering areas (http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/ak/fdo/kobuk-seward_peninsula.Par.39106.File.dat/3_46_bou_corridors.pdf). Caribou provide a key subsistence food resource to numerous northwest Alaska communities.



PROJECT SITE
 Sec 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 31 & 32
 T18N & T19N, R8W
 Kateel River Meridian

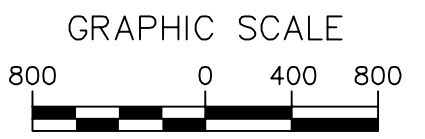
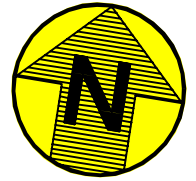
STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES NORTHERN REGION BOB BAKER MEMORIAL AIRPORT (KIANA AIRPORT) IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT	
AKSAS Project No: 63179	FIGURE
DATE: August 2014	1

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LEGEND

- EXISTING AIRPORT PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- STREAMS
- DRAINAGES
- PROPOSED HAUL ROUTE
- PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS
- ① RUNWAY SKEW/EXTENSION
- ② RUNWAY RESURFACING
- ③ DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS
- ④ APRON EXPANSION (200' x 200')
- ⑤ AVIATION SUPPORT AREA (100' x 200')
- ⑥ MATERIAL SITE & HAUL ROUTE
- LIMITS OF GROUND DISTURBANCE

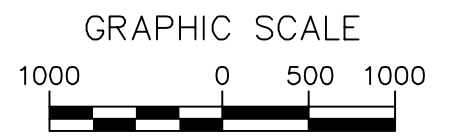
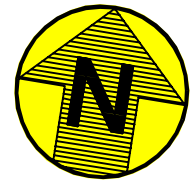
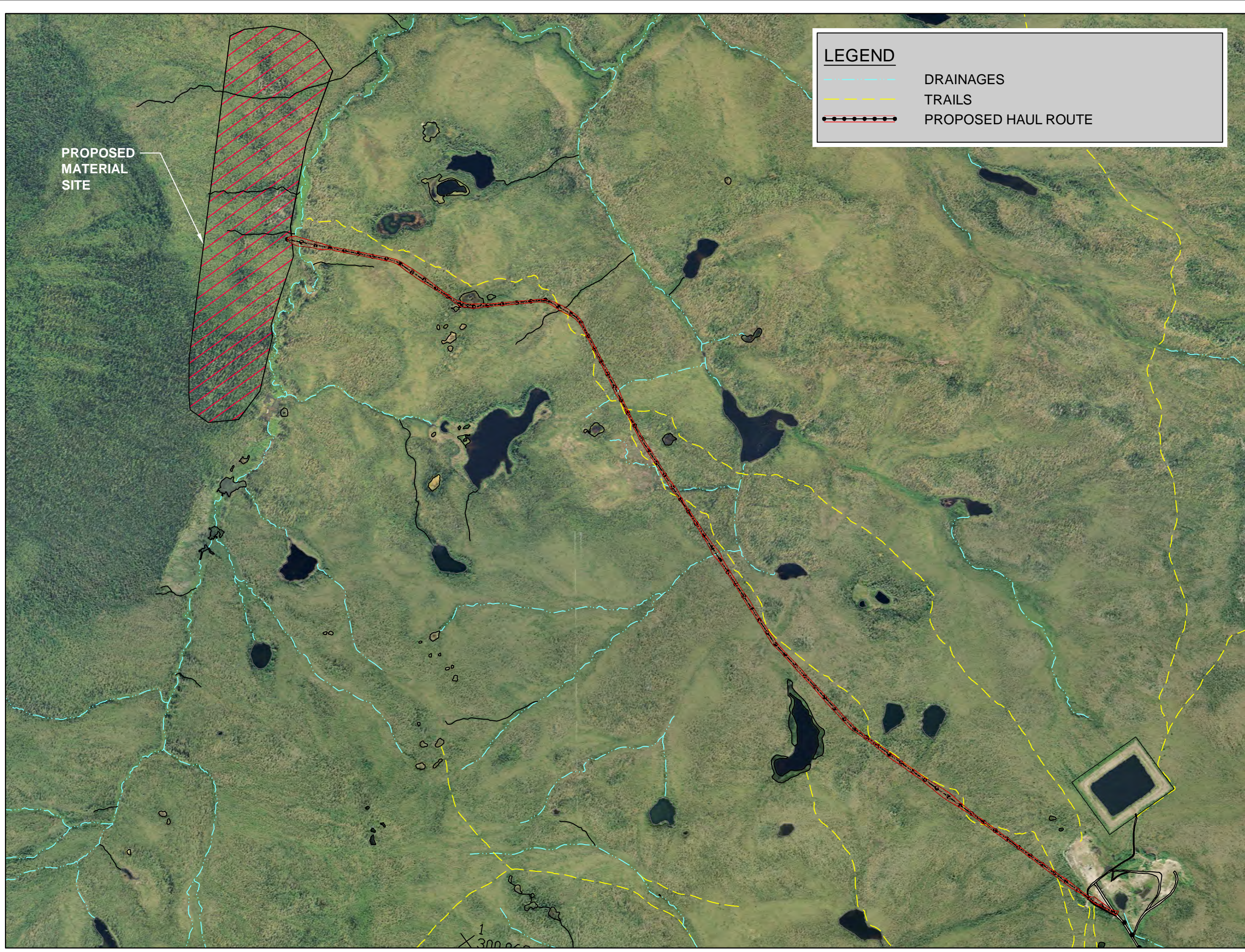


SITE PLAN

STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
 NORTHERN REGION

**BOB BAKER MEMORIAL AIRPORT
 (KIIANA AIRPORT)
 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

AKSAS Project No: 63179	FIGURE
DATE: August 2014	2



**PROPOSED HAUL ROUTE
AND MATERIAL SITE**

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
NORTHERN REGION

**BOB BAKER MEMORIAL AIRPORT
(KIANA AIRPORT)
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

AKSAS Project No: 63179	FIGURE
DATE: August 2014	3

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Kacy Hillman

From: Coskey, Owen A (DOT) <owen.coskey@alaska.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2014 2:50 PM
To: Kacy Hillman
Subject: FW: FW: Agency Comment Request-Kiana Airport Improvements

[More comments.....](#)

From: Matthew Eagleton - NOAA Federal [<mailto:matthew.eagleton@noaa.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2014 10:38 AM
To: Coskey, Owen A (DOT)
Subject: Re: FW: Agency Comment Request-Kiana Airport Improvements

Owen,

Thanks for the information. Importantly for EFH consultation, the action will need a determination by the Federal action agency (funding or authorizing the project) as to whether or not any activities may adversely effect EFH. Should FAA determine adverse effects on EFH, then a more complete EFH Assessment will be required. If no adverse effect to EFH is determined, then no EFH consultation is necessary. NMFS foresees some effects may result from the proposed work, however feels these effects are not considered adverse. Thus, no further EFH consultation is necessary for the project.

I hope this information is useful when drafting your NEPA documents, specifically for Magnuson Stevens Act (which includes EFH).

Please call me with any further questions.

Matt

On Tue, Aug 26, 2014 at 9:59 AM, Coskey, Owen A (DOT) <owen.coskey@alaska.gov> wrote:

Sorry Mr. Eagleton, looks like this didn't come through the first time (I think I misspelled your name/email address).

Thanks.

From: Coskey, Owen A (DOT)
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2014 9:54 AM
To: Ashton, William S (DEC); Dau, Jim R (DFG); jewel_bennett@fws.gov; Curtis.Jennifer@epa.gov; mathew.eagleton@noaa.gov; Bruce.Greenwood@faa.gov; jeanne.hanson@noaa.gov; michiel.e.holley@usace.army.mil; Magdanz, James S (DFG); Menard, James A (DFG); Morris, William A (DFG); breich@maniilaq.org; louise_smith@fws.gov; ted_swem@fws.gov; shannon_torrence@fws.gov
Cc: Beck, Albert M L (DOT); Johnston, Christopher F (DOT); Dianoski, Bruce T (DOT); Kacy Hillman (khillman@uskh.com); Nelson, Brett D (DOT); Anderson, Ryan (DOT); Smith, Kevin L (DOT); Chapman, Judy (DOT); Taralyn.Stone@faa.gov; Werneke, Alvin E (DOT); Adler, Penelope (DOT)
Subject: Agency Comment Request-Kiana Airport Improvements

Dear Agency Stakeholder:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is proposing improvements to the Bob Baker Memorial

Airport (IAN) in Kiana, Alaska. We respectfully request that you review the attached preliminary scoping information, and provide comments identifying potential issues and concerns associated with the proposed project.

Your input is critical to our decision-making process, regulatory compliance efforts, and formulation of the proper environmental documentation. Should you desire to provide comments or other information, we ask that you submit your response as detailed in the letter by **September 26, 2014**. If you have any questions or require additional project information, please do not hesitate to contact me as noted below.

Thank you kindly,

Owen Coskey

Environmental Impact Analyst II

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

owen.coskey@alaska.gov

[907.451.5377](tel:907.451.5377)



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office
101 12th Avenue, Room 110
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
August 29, 2014



Alaska Department of Transportation
& Public Facilities
Attn: Chris Johnston
2301 Peger Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709

RE: Kiana Airport Improvements, Scoping

Dear Mr. Johnston:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed the scoping request for the Alaska Department of Transport and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) and the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) proposal for improvements to the Bob Baker Memorial Airport in Kiana, Alaska. Because this project is still at the scoping stage, the Service would like to know if the benefits of the project could be achieved by lengthening and widening the existing runway, rather than realigning the entire runway. The proposed project appears to require a very large amount of fill material, including the construction of a long road and large material site. The Service typically recommends avoiding and minimizing permanent fish and wildlife habitat loss to the greatest extent possible on any project. Regardless of the final project design, the Service offers the following general recommendations.

Endangered Species: The project is within the range of some listed species and if the project proceeds, your office should contact our Endangered Species Branch about this issue.

Migratory Birds: The Service recommends consideration be given to migratory birds when planning for land clearing or fill activities. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the willful killing or harassment of migratory birds. Migratory bird nests, eggs or nestlings could be destroyed if work is conducted in nesting habitats during the spring and summer breeding season, which is generally May 20 to July 20 for areas in the general latitude of the Seward Peninsula (http://alaska.fws.gov/fisheries/fieldoffice/anchorage/pdf/vegetation_clearing.pdf). To protect nesting migratory birds and ensure compliance with the MBTA, the Service recommends clearing vegetation or placing initial fill prior to May 20 to render the area unsuitable for breeding birds prior to their spring arrival. This prevents birds from attempting to nest in the project area and facilitates project work during the summer. Alternatively, clearing or fill could occur after July 20 to prepare the site for late summer work or work the next year.

Eagles: The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act protects eagles from take, as well as from disturbance to their nests, roosts, and foraging sites. The Service is not aware of any eagle nests within the project location (Service, unpublished data); however, our information is not current for this area. Should an eagle nest be observed within one half mile of the project footprint at any time during project implementation, please contact our office.

Fish and Streams: Fish surveys should be conducted in order to determine the types of fish present in the streams that will be impacted by proposed project activities, particularly the ones leading to anadromous waterbodies (i.e., the stream adjacent to the proposed material site and the one that leads to the Kobuk River). Providing adequate fish passage at stream crossings is important for maintaining local fish populations; therefore, stream crossings through fish habitat should provide for free and efficient passage for all life stages of fish.

Construction practices should minimize the introduction of sediment and other contaminants in streams, which can be transported downstream and adversely impact fish populations. We recommend a minimum 100-foot riparian buffer along all anadromous water bodies and a minimum 50-foot riparian buffer be maintained adjacent to all ponds and non-anadromous streams.

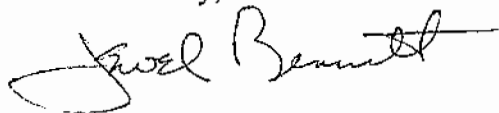
Wetlands: A variety of wetlands will also be impacted by this project and the Service recommends a wetland map of the project area be developed to provide a basis for a mitigation plan for the unavoidable permanent wetland losses that will occur with this project. All stream (and wetland) crossings should be designed to maintain the functional connectivity of the existing drainages.

The Material Site and Road: Again, the Service is interested in knowing if the project could be achieved without the use of such a large material source and construction of the long road, which itself would require a large volume of fill material. Should a material site and road be constructed, we recommend the development of a mining and reclamation plan that will protect the stream adjacent to the material site from impacts such as sedimentation directly into the stream. A vegetated buffer should be retained between the mine site and stream (for appropriate widths, see recommendations offered in Fish section above), no materials should be stockpiled in the buffer, and sediment control measures should be in place prior to commencement of mining activities.

Invasive Species: The Service recommends the project implement Best Management Practices for minimizing the introduction and proliferation of invasive species by thoroughly washing equipment before entering the jobsite, using weed-free fill and mulches, and appropriately disposing of spoil and vegetation contaminated with invasive species. This is particularly important at sites adjacent to waterways where an introduced species could be easily transported downstream and spread throughout areas that would not otherwise be exposed to invasive species.

We appreciate this opportunity for comment. Should you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact Charleen Veach at 907-456-0276 or charleen_veach@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jewel Bennett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jewel Bennett
Branch Chief
Conservation Planning Assistance

cmv/cmv

ecc: Gayle Martin, EPA, Anchorage
Matt LaCroix, EPA, Anchorage
William Morris, ADF&G, Fairbanks



January 28, 2015

Ms. Jewel Bennett, Branch Chief
Conservation Planning Assistance
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office
101 12th Avenue, Room 110
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Re: Project #63872 Kiana Airport Improvements, Scoping Comments

Ms. Bennett,

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) appreciates the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service comments dated August 29, 2014 in response to our Scoping Letter regarding the Kiana Airport Improvements project.

Runway Skew: The runway is going to be shifted approximately 3 degrees north to increase the offset between the apron and runway centerline. This would also increase the efficiency of cargo aircraft and enhance the safety of aircraft operations by removing existing penetrations to the Object Free Area and Part 77 Transitional Surface (FAA Code of Federal Regulations). The runway is also going to be lengthened to accommodate larger aircraft already servicing nearby communities and to increase cost efficient transportation of passengers and cargo.

Endangered Species: DOT&PF will contact the Endangered Species Branch about the project falling within the range of listed species.

Migratory Birds: DOT&PF will comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and intends to adhere to the recommended measures to protect migratory birds by clearing vegetation or placing initial fill prior to May 20 or after July 20.

Eagles: The DOT&PF understands the Service's comments concerning eagles: should an eagle nest be observed within one half mile of the project footprint at any time during project implementation, the DOT&PF will contact the Service.

Fish and Streams: The DOT&PF is working with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to ensure state requirements for fish habitat protection are met. Adequate fish passage at stream crossings will be provided for free and efficient fish passage for all life stages of fish. Either full fish passage

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culverts or enhanced hydrologic design culverts will be used to ensure safe fish passage. Construction practices will minimize the introduction of sediment and other contaminants into streams. The Service's recommended minimum 100-foot riparian buffer along all anadromous water bodies and a minimum 50-foot riparian buffer will be maintained to all ponds and non-anadromous streams.

Wetlands: The DOT&PF will work to maintain functional connectivity of existing drainages. Wetland maps of the project areas have been produced, and the DOT&PF will obtain a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Permit appropriate to the scope of work and comply with mitigation measures.

The Material Site and Road: The Service questioned whether the project could be achieved without the development of a new material site and access road. The project does require this new material site in order to supply the material needed to construct these airport safety improvements. A mining and reclamation plan will be developed as required for project permits and authorizations. The DOT&PF looked at several material site alternatives to the currently proposed site. Other proposed material site options have issues with archaeological finds, lack of useful material, lack of access, and land ownership concerns. Of the viable material bearing sites, the proposed site is the closest to the project area and causes the least amount of impact. There is no surface-owner estate opposition. The decision to create an all-season access road is rooted in constructability, viable access for local (non-DOT&PF) interests, and the overall cost-savings of avoiding seasonal access and maintenance associated with a winter haul road. The DOT&PF will require the contractor and developer of the material site to maintain a 100-foot vegetated buffer between the material site and the adjacent stream to protect the stream from material site development impacts. No material stockpile will be allowed in the vegetative buffer, and sediment control measures will be required prior to commencement of mining activities.

Invasive Species: The DOT&PF will require that Best Management Practices are implemented for minimizing the introduction and proliferation of invasive species. These practices include, but are not limited to: washing equipment before entering the project area; using weed-free fill and mulches; and appropriately disposing of spoil and vegetation that may have been contaminated.

Thank you for your comments. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact Owen Coskey at 907-451-5377 or owen.coskey@alaska.gov, or Christopher Johnston at 907-451-2322 or chris.johnston@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,



Cristina DeMattio for
Christopher F. Johnston, P.E.
Engineering Manager

oc/mlh

Coskey, Owen A (DOT)

From: Charleen Veach <Charleen_Veach@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 2:53 PM
To: Coskey, Owen A (DOT)
Cc: Demattio, Cristina M (DOT); Johnston, Christopher F (DOT); Louise Smith
Subject: RE: Kiana comments and potential meeting

Hi Owen,

Thank you for following up with us on the Kiana project. We have reviewed your response to our August 29, 2014 comment letter and believe that you have adequately addressed our fish and wildlife concerns. At this point in time, we do not think it is necessary to conduct a meeting regarding this project, but we certainly appreciate the invitation to do so. If you have other issues to discuss and feel it is necessary to have a meeting, please let me know.

Louise Smith is working on the Barrow project and will contact you regarding a meeting time.

Thank you,

Charleen Veach

Charleen Veach

Fish & Wildlife Biologist
Conservation Planning Assistance
US Fish & Wildlife Service
101 12th Avenue, Room 110
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-456-0276; (alternate) 907-822-7245

“Don't find fault, find a remedy; anybody can complain” - Henry Ford

From: Coskey, Owen A (DOT) [mailto:owen.coskey@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 12:09 PM
To: charleen_veach@fws.gov
Cc: Demattio, Cristina M (DOT); Johnston, Christopher F (DOT)
Subject: Kiana comments and potential meeting

Good afternoon Ms. Veach,

Attached is the Alaska Department of Transportation's (DOT) response to the Fish and Wildlife Service's August 29th letter concerning issues around the Kiana Airport Improvements project.

To that end, I would like to meet with you to discuss Kiana and the upcoming Barrow Airport project.

Will you be available to meet sometime next week? Cristina DeMattio (project designer for Barrow) and Bruce Dianoski (designer for Kiana) are available next Tuesday (February 3) afternoon, but are certainly flexible with scheduling.

Thank you,

Owen Coskey

Environmental Impact Analyst III

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

De Bord, Daniel

From: De Bord, Daniel
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2015 5:59 PM
To: william.ashton@alaska.gov; jewel_bennett@fws.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; jim.dau@alaska.gov; matthew.eagleton@noaa.gov; jeanne.hanson@noaa.gov; james.magdanz@alaska.gov; jim.menard@alaska.gov; breich@maniilaq.org; louise_smith@fws.gov; ted_swem@fws.gov; shannon_torrence@fws.gov; oha.revcomp@alaska.gov; judy.bittner@alaska.gov; michelle.hale@alaska.gov; james.rypkema@alaska.gov; steve.machida@alaska.gov; jack.winters@alaska.gov; megan.marie@alaska.gov; jeanne.proulx@alaska.gov; ben.ellis@alaska.gov; chris.hladick@alaska.gov; vaughan.molly@epamail.epa.gov; Soderlund.Dianne@epamail.epa.gov; hcd.anchorage@noaa.gov; michael.9.salyer@usace.army.mil; tribedirector@katyaaq.org; rjoule@nwabor.org; cityclerk@cityofkiana.org; ak_fisheries@fws.gov; lands@nana.com; naturalresources@nana.com; news@nana.com
Cc: leslie.grey@faa.com; Dianoski, Bruce T (DOT); Coskey, Owen A (DOT); Stumpf, RJ (DOT); Lindberg, Sara
Subject: Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project: EA Available for Comment and Public Meeting
Categories: Evidence, Important

Dear Interested Stakeholder,

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), announces a public meeting and the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project (No. 63179). The purpose of the proposed project is to improve the safety and efficiency of the Kiana Airport by bringing the airport into compliance with FAA standards for the Beechcraft 1900, the design aircraft.

The Draft EA is available electronically at <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/kianaairport/> or can be viewed at the Northern Region DOT&PF office (address listed below).

You may submit your comments by mail, email, fax, or text telephone (telephone device for the deaf) to the contact person below. You may also submit your comments to DOT&PF, in person, at a public meeting in Kiana. DOT&PF representatives will be on hand to answer questions. In addition, you also have an opportunity to request a separate formal public hearing on the EA. If requesting a public hearing, please provide a written justification for the request.

Event: Public Meeting
Date: Friday, May 15, 2015
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Kiana School, Kiana, Alaska

The deadline for comments is Sunday, May 31, 2015.

The draft EA was prepared with community and agency input and in accordance with the following special purpose regulations including: Sections 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act; Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act; and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Protection), 11990 (Wetlands Protection), and 12898 (Environmental Justice).

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact:

RJ Stumpf, P.E.,
Project Engineer
Northern Region DOT&PF
2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: (907) 451-2285, Fax: (907) 451-5126
Email: rj.stumpf@alaska.gov
To correspond by text telephone, call (907) 451-2363

It is the policy of the DOT&PF that no person will be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of any programs, services or activities we provide based on race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, ability, or national origin. This policy will be implemented regardless of the funding source, including Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration and State of Alaska funds.

DOT&PF complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, and/or special modifications to participate in this public meeting should contact the project manager above no later than 10:00 am March 8th to make any necessary arrangements.

Please note: Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be publically made available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sincerely,

Daniel De Bord
Environmental Scientist
Stantec
621 West Mallon Avenue, Suite 309, Spokane, WA 99201-2181
Phone: (509) 340-1704
Fax: (509) 328-0423
daniel.debord@stantec.com



Celebrating 60 years of community, creativity, and client relationships.

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 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [Lindberg, Sara](#)
To: [Larquier, Ann Marie](#)
Subject: FW: Kiana Airport Safety Improvements project
Date: Thursday, June 04, 2015 11:36:33 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[DEC_PWS_Map.JPG](#)
[DEC-FH_Recommendations_for_General_Construction_Projects_April_2015.pdf](#)
[Project Number 63179.pdf](#)

From: Palmer, Charley (DEC)
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2015 10:22 AM
To: Stumpf, RJ (DOT)
Cc: Miller, Christopher C (DEC); Baril, Rebecca M (DEC); Grantham, Linda J (DEC); Irwin, Marci L (DEC); Boger, Will K (DEC)
Subject: Kiana Airport Safety Improvements project

Mr. Stumpf,

I was recently made aware of this airport improvement project (#63179) through the [Online Public Notice](#) system. I reviewed the project location with respect to public water system (PWS) sources, and it appears that this project is within the Zone A Drinking Water Protection Area (DWPA) for the following PWS (see attached "DEC_PWS_Map.JPG" and the table below). For this reason, we ask that the attached recommendations for general construction projects be followed.

PWSID	PWS Name	Source ID	Source Name	Source Type	Activity Status	Facility ID	Federal Classification	DEC-EPS	DWPA Zone
340230	KIANA WATER SYSTEM	WL001	WL KIANA WELL #2	GW	Active	43397	Community water system (C)	Linda Grantham	A
		WL002	WL KIANA WELL #1			48835			

KEY

GW = Groundwater
 SW = Surface water
 GU = Groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW)
 DWPA = Drinking Water Protection Area
 Zone A = Several-month time of travel for contributing GW, or 1,000-foot buffer of contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries.
 Zone B = Two-year time of travel for contributing GW, or 1-mile buffer of contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries.
 Zone C = Watershed boundary for contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries.
 Zone D = No such zone exists.
 Zone E = 1,000-foot buffer of contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries for a source using GWUDISW. Combined with Zone A/B for the contributing GW.
 Zone F = 1-mile buffer of contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries for a source using GWUDISW. Combined with Zone A/B for the contributing GW.
 Zone G = Watershed boundary for contributing SW body and its immediate tributaries for a source GWUDISW. Combined with Zone A/B for the contributing GW.
 Provisional DWPA = 1,000-foot radius from a PWS source.

Regards,

--

Charley Palmer, *Hydrologist*
 State of Alaska – Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
 Division of Environmental Health - Drinking Water Program
 Public Drinking Water Protection

555 Cordova Street
 Anchorage, AK 99501

Direct: 907-269-0292
 Main: 907-269-7656 (Toll-free 1-866-956-7656)
 Web: <http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/index.htm>

Links of interest:

GIS Web Maps and Services: <http://dec.alaska.gov/das/GIS/apps.htm>
 Groundwater Protection & Water Wells Stakeholder Workgroup: http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/DWP/DWP_WaterWells_Mtng.html
 Private Water Wells Info: http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/DWP/DWP_PrivateWells.html
 Gravel/Rock Extraction Manual: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wnpssc/protection_restoration/BestMgmtPractices/gravel.htm
 Sign up for Drinking Water Protection announcements: <http://list.state.ak.us/soalists/DEC.Drinking.Water.Protection/jl.htm>

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kiana,ak

Content | Legend

Sites

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Water Protection Areas

Months Time of Travel) or SW 1000

Time of Travel or SW-1 mile buffer)

Watershed Boundary)

Surface Water Influence (1000 ft

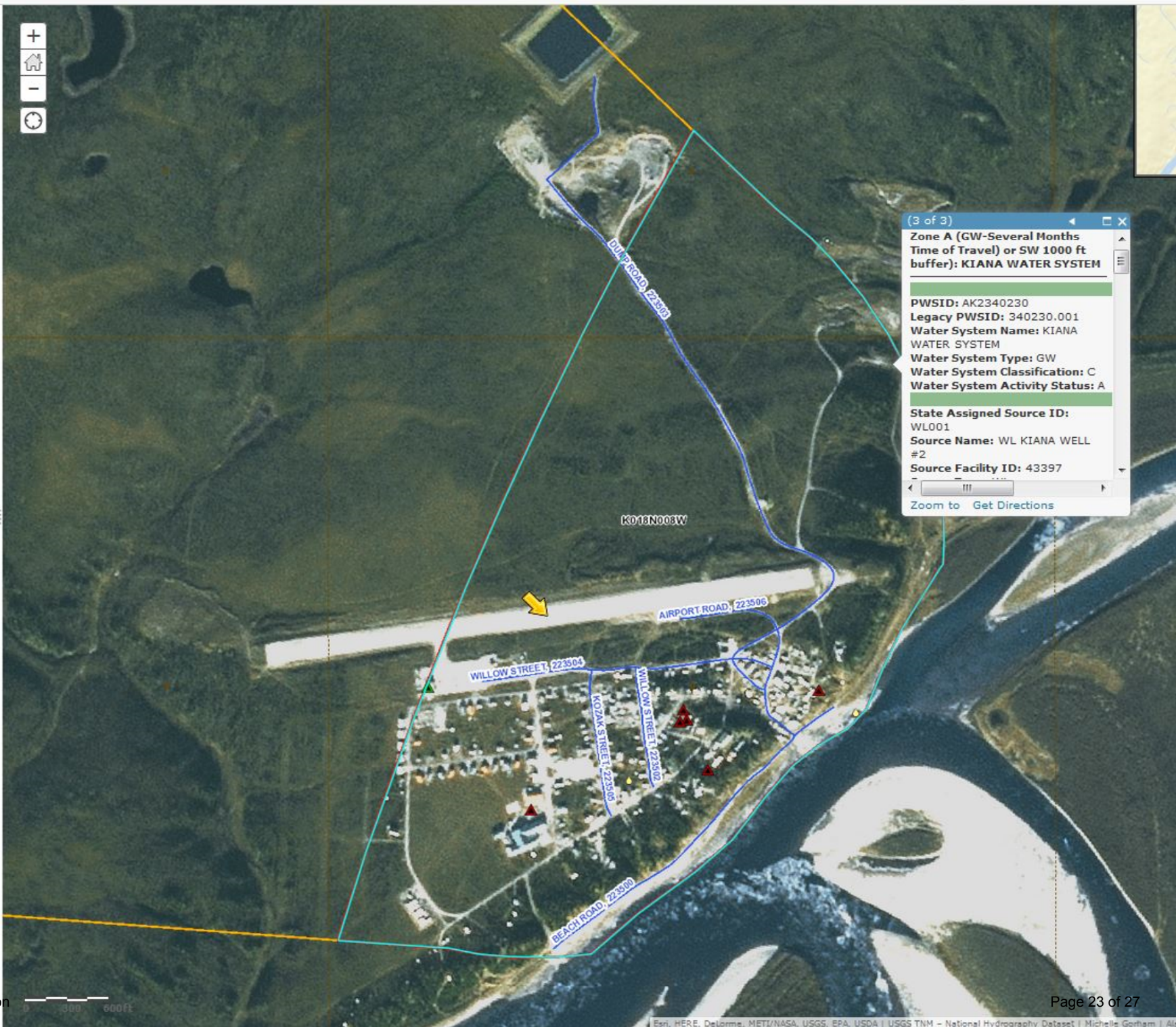
Surface Water Influence(1 mile

Surface Water Influence (1/2 mile

Watershed Areas

Point Location

Right Location



(3 of 3)

Zone A (GW-Several Months Time of Travel) or SW 1000 ft buffer): KIANA WATER SYSTEM

PWSID: AK2340230
Legacy PWSID: 340230.001
Water System Name: KIANA WATER SYSTEM
Water System Type: GW
Water System Classification: C
Water System Activity Status: A

State Assigned Source ID: WL001
Source Name: WL KIANA WELL #2
Source Facility ID: 43397

Zoom to | Get Directions

DEC/Division of Environmental Health-Drinking Water Program

Recommendations for General Construction Projects near a Public Water System (PWS)

1. Identify on a legible map the location of existing public water system (PWS) drinking water protection areas (DWPA) for PWS sources (e.g. springs, wells, or surface water intakes) that intersect the boundary of the proposed project/permit area. The DWPA's can be found using the interactive web map application, "Alaska DEC Drinking Water Protection Areas", located at <http://dec.alaska.gov/das/GIS/apps.htm>.
2. Where the project/permit intersects a PWS DWPA, notify the PWS contact. PWS contact information can be obtained using the online application, *Drinking Water Watch*, <http://dec.alaska.gov:8080/DWW/>, by entering the appropriate 6-digit PWS ID (e.g. 225025).
3. Within the identified DWPA, control stormwater discharge.
4. Within the identified DWPA, restrict project/permit activities that could significantly change the natural surface water drainage or groundwater gradient.
5. All data related to the project/permit, including but not limited to, water quality results (field and lab), survey data, water levels, subsurface lithologic descriptions and depth, and groundwater flow direction and gradient information, shall be made available to the permitting agency upon request. The permitting agency may provide the data to other public agencies and to the general public upon request.
 - a. All water quality sampling and hydrologic data collection to be accomplished under the supervision of a qualified professional and follow a written sampling plan approved by the permitting entity.
6. Limit the amount of equipment storage, maintenance and operation, and other potential sources of contamination, within the Zone A PWS DWPA (several-months-time-of-travel for contributing groundwater, or 1,000-foot buffer of the contributing surface water body and its immediate tributaries), within the Zone E PWS DWPA (1,000-foot buffer of the contributing surface water body and its immediate tributaries for a source using groundwater under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW)), or within the *Provisional* PWS DWPA (1,000-foot radius around a PWS source).
7. Implement best management practices where equipment storage, maintenance and operation, or other potential sources of contamination is located within a PWS DWPA and that will minimize the potential for contamination to enter the water source used by a PWS.
8. Immediately notify the nearby PWS of any identified potential contamination, such as spills or excess erosion.

De Bord, Daniel

From: De Bord, Daniel
Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2015 4:07 PM
To: 'City Clerk'
Cc: 'Coskey, Owen A (DOT)'; 'Dianoski, Bruce T (DOT)'; Lindberg, Sara
Subject: FW: Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project: EA Available for Comment and Public Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Evidence

Hello,

Could you make sure that the City's Public Works director, Crystal Johnson, gets the email below. A portion of the project area coincides with Kiana's Drinking Water Protection Area. After downloading the Environmental Assessment (EA), see PDF page 16 of the EA. We and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation want to make sure that the City is appropriately informed and has opportunity for comment.

Thanks and have a great day!

Daniel

Daniel De Bord

Environmental Scientist
Stantec
621 West Mallon Avenue, Suite 309, Spokane, WA 99201-2181
Phone: (509) 340-1704
Fax: (509) 328-0423
daniel.debord@stantec.com



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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: De Bord, Daniel
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2015 5:59 PM
To: william.ashton@alaska.gov; jewel_bennett@fws.gov; curtis.jennifer@epa.gov; jim.dau@alaska.gov; matthew.eagleton@noaa.gov; jeanne.hanson@noaa.gov; james.magdanz@alaska.gov; jim.menard@alaska.gov; breich@maniilaq.org; louise_smith@fws.gov; ted_swem@fws.gov; shannon_torrence@fws.gov; oha.revcomp@alaska.gov; judy.bittner@alaska.gov; michelle.hale@alaska.gov; james.rypkema@alaska.gov; steve.machida@alaska.gov; jack.winters@alaska.gov; megan.marie@alaska.gov; jeanne.proulx@alaska.gov; ben.ellis@alaska.gov; chris.hladic@alaska.gov; vaughan.molly@epamail.epa.gov; Soderlund.Dianne@epamail.epa.gov; hcd.anchorage@noaa.gov; michael.9.salyer@usace.army.mil; tribedirector@katyaaq.org; rjoule@nwabor.org; cityclerk@cityofkiana.org; ak_fisheries@fws.gov; lands@nana.com; naturalresources@nana.com; news@nana.com
Cc: leslie.grey@faa.com; Dianoski, Bruce T (DOT); Coskey, Owen A (DOT); Stumpf, RJ (DOT); Lindberg, Sara
Subject: Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project: EA Available for Comment and Public Meeting

Dear Interested Stakeholder,

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Event: **Public Meeting**
Date: **Friday, May 15, 2015**
Time: **5:00 p.m.**
Location: **Kiana School, Kiana, Alaska**

The deadline for comments is Sunday, May 31, 2015.

The draft EA was prepared with community and agency input and in accordance with the following special purpose regulations including: Sections 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act; Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act; and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Protection), 11990 (Wetlands Protection), and 12898 (Environmental Justice).

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact:

RJ Stumpf, P.E.,
Project Engineer
Northern Region DOT&PF
2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: (907) 451-2285, Fax: (907) 451-5126
Email: rj.stumpf@alaska.gov
To correspond by text telephone, call (907) 451-2363

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Sincerely,

Daniel De Bord
Environmental Scientist
Stantec
621 West Mallon Avenue, Suite 309, Spokane, WA 99201-2181

From: [Lindberg, Sara](#)
To: [Larquier, Ann Marie](#)
Subject: FW: Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project: EA Available for Comment and Public Meeting - USFWS Comments
Date: Thursday, June 04, 2015 11:17:49 AM

From: Charleen Veach [mailto:Charleen_Veach@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2015 3:49 PM
To: Stumpf, RJ (DOT)
Subject: Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project: EA Available for Comment and Public Meeting - USFWS Comments

Dear RJ Stumpf,

The US Fish & Wildlife Service has reviewed the EA for the Kiana Airport Safety Improvement Project.

We appreciate the incorporation of our concerns (presented to ADOT&PF in a comment letter dated August 29, 2014) into your EA and have no further comments on this project as it is proposed in the EA.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity for comment.

Charleen Veach

Charleen Veach
Fish & Wildlife Biologist
Conservation Planning Assistance
US Fish & Wildlife Service
101 12th Avenue, Room 110
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-456-0276; (alternate) 907-822-7245