

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Project Name Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades

Community Matanuska-Susitna Borough Loan Type & No. ACWF 561131

Project Engineer Susan Start ⁸⁸ Environmental Impact Analyst Adele Fetter

Review Date 4/1/19

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Identification
 - a. Applicant: Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB)
 - b. Address: 350 East Dahlia Avenue
Palmer, AK 99645
 - c. Project Number:

2. Contact Person
 - a. Name: James D. Jenson MSB/PW, O&M Division Manager
 - b. Address: 1420 S. Industrial Way, Palmer, AK, 99645
 - c. Telephone Number: 907 861-7752 (o), 907 354-3472 (c)

3. Project Cost Estimates and Funding Sources
 - a. Total Eligible Cost: \$4,500,000
 - b. State Share: N/A
 - c. Local Share: N/A
 - d. Other Share: N/A

4. Estimated User Costs

The existing user charge has increased over time, but would not change based on the project cost. The community has already implemented a 3% sales tax that is intended, among other things, to assist in covering the costs of the proposed project. The no action alternative would have costs associated with it as well, as the facility would continue to be out of compliance with its permitting.

5. Environmental Information Document (EID)
 - a. Title: Environmental Review for Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades, Talkeetna, Alaska
 - b. Prepared by: HDL Engineering Consultants
 - c. Abstract:

The community of Talkeetna is located in the MSB at the confluence of the Talkeetna and Susitna Rivers. Recent growth in tourism and an expanding residential population has stressed Talkeetna's wastewater system to the point at which it cannot comply with its wastewater discharge permit during peak flows. The current system consists of 23,000 linear feet of gravity and pressure sewer pipe with three lift stations. Wastewater flows to a lift station, where it is pumped via force main to a series of facultative lagoon cells at the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF), which discharge into a constructed wetland of effluent polishing. Wastewater is discharged via a measurement weir and conveyance pipeline to the Talkeetna Slough, which flows to the Talkeetna River. The analysis identifies a range of alternatives to increase the operating capacity of the WWTF and bring it into compliance with current effluent limits for fecal coliform and dissolved oxygen, as stipulated in the current discharge permit. The current alternative includes Phase I and Phase II. Phase I of the project is to include two new primary treatment anaerobic cells, modification of the existing treatment lagoons, disinfection/reaeration treatment processes, and installation of lagoon baffles. Phase II would require further analysis after Phase I has been completed, and could include expansion of the lagoon.

B. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

1. Does the document provide a clear discussion of the need for the proposed facility relative to public health, wastewater/drinking water problems, and other concerns? Yes

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND COST

1. Project Description

The preferred alternative proposes to expand the existing facility per the design guidelines from Alberta, Canada for facultative wastewater treatment lagoons. The configuration for this includes construction of two new anaerobic lagoon cells, one new storage lagoon cell, a reaeration basin, and a chlorination/dechlorination facility. The proposed project would remove the existing constructed wetlands and expand the facility footprint from approximately 8 acres to approximately 19 acres. The footprint expansion is located within the WWTF property.

2. Project Cost Estimate

Administration	\$95,100
Project Design	\$317,000
Construction	\$3,170,000
Equipment	\$317,000
Other (Contingency)	\$634,000
 Total Estimated Cost	 \$4,500,000

D. ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

1. Does the document briefly describe all alternatives studied in the planning document, including the No Action alternative? Yes
2. Does the document discuss low-cost alternative technologies if the project will be built in a small community? N/A
3. Does the document compare the alternatives with respect to relevant environmental impacts and capital and operating costs? Yes
4. Does the document discuss the apparent best alternative in detail? Yes
5. If the selected alternative is not the most cost-effective one, does the document provide a justification for this? N/A

E. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

1. Is a description of the project planning area included in the document? Yes
 - a. Does the document include characterization of the planning area? Yes
 - b. Describe the planning area boundaries and key topographic and geographic features of the area. Yes
 - c. Discuss population distribution and industrial/commercial features of the planning area. Yes
2. Are the major features of the proposed project described?
 - a. Describe the length, diameter, and type of material for distribution lines N/A
 - b. Describe the number, size, depth, and location of sources and related equipment and structures. Yes
 - c. Describe storage facilities, collection system, pumping stations, and fire flow requirements. Yes
 - d. Describe the location and type of treatment facilities. Yes
 - e. Describe any planned new or upgrade construction. Yes
 - f. If relevant, explain how the wastewater/drinking water project fits into a regional plan. Yes
 - g. Describe the schedule of construction. Yes
3. Are flow projections described for existing and projected wastewater/drinking water flows. Is the contribution of flow to residential, commercial, and industrial sources characterized including conservation measures (metering)? Yes
4. Are pertinent natural and man-made features relating to environmental impacts identified? Yes
 - a. Physical Aspects (Topography, Geology, and Soils)

- (1) Are there physical conditions (e.g., steep slopes, shrink-swell soils, etc.) that might be adversely affected by or might adversely affect construction of the facilities? No
- (2) Are there similar physical conditions in the planning area that might make development unsuitable? No
- (3) Are there any unusual or unique geological features that might be affected? No
- (4) Are there any hazardous areas (slides, faults) that might affect construction or development? Yes, floodplains

Discussion: The project area is within the existing WWTF property boundary and is suitable for this type of facility. Floodplain impacts will be addressed and mitigated through permitting and any components of the proposed project will have the capacity to withstand a flood event without loss of functionality. The Application for the floodplain development permit is attached. The floodplain development permit will be acquired prior to construction and all stipulations will be followed.

b. Meteorological Aspects

- (1) Are there any unusual or special meteorological constraints in the planning area that might result in an air quality problem? No
- (2) Are there any unusual or special meteorological constraints in the planning area that affect the feasibility of the proposed alternative? No

Discussion: The proposed project is not in a non-attainment area. Mitigation will be proposed to the greatest degree possible to limit the additional impact from operating machinery (blowers, generators, or other noisy equipment) and odors.

c. Population

- (1) Are the growth rates excessive (exceeding 6 percent per annum for the 20-year planning period and 2 percent per annum for a 30-year planning period)? No
- (2) Do the plans call for sufficient extra capacity? N/A

Discussion: The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) looked at population trends for both residential population and tourism. The current WWTF is over capacity. The primary goal of the project however, is to bring the WWTF into compliance with the State-administered wastewater discharge permit.

d. Economics and Social Profile

- (1) Does documentation exist which suggests that the local populace can afford to build the project? No
- (2) Will certain landowners benefit substantially from the development of land due to main line routing or treatment facility location and size? No
- (3) Will the facilities adversely affect land values? No
- (4) Are any poor or disadvantaged groups adversely affected by this project? No

Discussion: The majority of residents in the Talkeetna area are serviced by the MSB water/wastewater system. The project will have no disproportionate impacts on minority or low income populations.

e. Land Use

- (1) Is the location of the treatment facility or other facilities incompatible with local land use plans? No
- (2) Will inhabited areas be adversely impacted by the project site? Yes
- (3) Will new development be stimulated by a new treatment facility have adverse effects on older, existing land uses (agriculture, forest land, etc.)? No
- (4) Will this project contribute to changes in land use in association with recreation, mining, or other large industrial or energy development? No

Discussion: The land use planning documents for the area include the Talkeetna Comprehensive Plan (updated 1999) and the MSB Comprehensive Development Plan (updated 2005). According to the MSB tax parcel viewer, there are eight properties located adjacent to the WWTF, which include privately owned lots and undeveloped land owned by Cook Inlet Region, Incorporation (CIRI). The proposed project cannot meet the minimum recommended buffer of 1,000 feet between wastewater facilities and occupied buildings. Mitigation will be proposed to the greatest degree possible to limit the additional impact from operating machinery (blowers, generators, or other noisy equipment) and odors.

f. Floodplain Development - No Floodway construction is allowed.

- (1) Has the community determined if any part of the planned project will be located within the 100-year floodplain? Yes
- (2) If some part of the planned facility will be located within the 100-year floodplain, and no practicable alternative to this exists, has the

- community indicated that measures will be included in the design of the facilities to minimize or avoid adverse effects to the floodplain? Yes
- (3) Will the facility be able to fully function and operate during 100-year flood event? Yes
- (4) If the 100-year floodplain will be impacted by the proposed project, has the community indicated how the public will be notified of this and how public input will be collected? Yes

Discussion: A Floodplain Development Permit will be acquired from the MSB Permit Center prior to construction and after construction a Letter of Map revision based on fill (LOMR-F) will be submitted after construction is complete. Any Phase II construction will require additional review. Applications are included. The flood permit must be acquired prior to construction and all permit conditions must be followed.

g. Wetlands

- (1) Is any portion of the project planning area located within wetlands as defined and mapped by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or as determined through site visits by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Soil Conservation Service, or a private consultant? Yes
- (2) If part of the proposed project will be located in or will affect wetlands, as determined by maps and/or site investigations, will a 404 dredge and fill permit be required from the USACE? Yes
- (3) Have alternatives to keeping the project outside the identified wetlands been proposed in the EID or facility plan? N/A
- (4) If adverse effects to wetlands are foreseen have adequate mitigation measures been proposed? Yes

Discussion: Filling of the lagoon on the north side of the facility is exempt from permitting per Title 33 CFR 328.3(b)(1) since it is a treatment lagoon designed to meet the Clean Water Act. Confirmation that a Section 404 permit will not be required for the proposed project has been requested from the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) (request attached, wetland delineation included as supporting documentation). Any changes to the proposed project or further phasing may require additional review.

h. Wild and Scenic Rivers

- (1) Does the planning area contain a designated or proposed wild and scenic river? No

Discussion: There are no designated wild or scenic rivers within the project area.

i. Cultural Resources

- (1) Has the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) been consulted to determine if there are any properties (historic, architectural, or archaeological) in the planning area which are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places? Yes
- (2) If cultural resources have been identified in the project area, will the project have direct or direct adverse impacts on any listed or eligible property? No
- (3) Has the community developed mitigation measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to cultural resources identified in the proposed project area? N/A

Discussion: Both construction alternatives for the proposed project were submitted to SHPO, concurrence on No Historic Properties Affected was received on February 8, 2017 (attached). Requests for comments were also submitted to CIRI, Knik Tribal Council, Chickaloon Village Traditional Council, and the MSB Planning Department. No comments were received.

j. Flora and Fauna

- (1) Has the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service completed a threatened and endangered species evaluation of the proposed project site? N/A
- (2) Are there any designated threatened or endangered species or habitats in the planning area? No
- (3) Will the project have direct or indirect adverse impacts on any such designated species or habitats? No
- (4) Will the project have direct or indirect adverse impacts on other fish and wildlife, or their habitats, including migratory routes, wintering, or calving areas? No
- (5) Does the planning area include a sensitive habitat area designated by a local, state, or federal wildlife agency? No

Discussion: There is no designated critical habitat within the project area. No threatened or endangered species are known to be within the project area. The Talkeetna River is a listed anadromous stream. Impacts to the Talkeetna River and Talkeetna Slough are not anticipated. Storm water Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used during construction to stabilize slopes and prevent mobilization of particulate matter to adjacent vegetated low points. To avoid disturbance to migratory birds and their nests, the contractor would follow the USFWS Recommended Time Periods for Avoiding Vegetation Clearing in Alaska in Order to Protect

Migratory Birds (May 1 to July 15). Prior to construction an eagle nest survey would be conducted to determine the presence of active nests. If active bald eagle nests are found within 660 feet of the WWTF property, then either construction activities will be prohibited during sensitive nesting time periods or monitoring would be conducted during the nesting period according to USFWS protocol.

k. Recreation and Open Space

- (1) Will the project eliminate or modify recreational open space, parks, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value? No
- (2) Is it feasible to combine the project with parks, bicycle paths, hiking trails, waterway access, and other recreational uses? No

Discussion: The project will all be within the existing WWTF property. No recreational spaces will be impacted.

l. Agricultural Lands

- (1) Does the planning area contain any environmentally significant agricultural lands (prime, unique, statewide importance, local importance, etc.) as defined in the EPA Policy to Protect Environmentally significant Agricultural Lands, date September 8, 1978? No
- (2) If yes, will the project directly or indirectly encourage the irreversible conversion of environmentally significant agricultural lands? No

Discussion: There are no important farmlands, prime forest lands, or prime rangeland in the area of the proposed project. The land for the proposed project is all within the existing WWTF property.

m. Air Quality

- (1) Will there be any direct air emissions from the project (as from construction equipment) which will not meet federal and state emission standards? No
- (2) Is the project service area located in an area without an approved or conditionally approved Air Quality Permit? N/A
- (3) Does the project violate national ambient air quality standards in an attainment or unclassified area? No
- (4) Will the facilities cause odor or noise nuisance problems? Yes

Discussion: The proposed project is not located within a non-attainment or maintenance area for any National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Mitigation will be implemented for control of odors.

n. Energy

- (1) Are there additional cost-effective measures to reduce energy consumption or increase energy recovery which could be included in the project? Yes
- (2) Have air quality issues of energy recovery been addressed? N/A

Discussion: Energy efficiency was considered within the PER and consideration was taken when selecting alternatives.

o. Regionalization

- (1) Are there jurisdictional disputes or controversy over the project? No
- (2) Have intermunicipal agreements been signed? N/A
- (3) Have intermunicipal agreements been discussed with surrounding communities? N/A

Discussion: The proposed project lies all within the existing property of the Talkeetna WWTF. No intermunicipal agreements are needed for the proposed project.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF PROPOSED PROJECT

1. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the project upon man-made and natural features clearly identified, and is mitigation provided (refer to Section D of this attachment)? Yes
2. Are additional potential or existing impacts that are worthy of discussion in the EID noted? Yes
3. Are there obvious areas of impact that have not been considered in this evaluation? List them below No
4. Have unavoidable adverse impacts that cannot be full mitigated been listed and discussed? Yes

Discussion: The environmental impacts associated with the WWTF upgrades do not appear to be significant. The project components are aimed at improving the discharges from the WWTF in order to meet permitting requirements. Floodplain impacts and odor and noise impacts to nearby properties will be mitigated.

H. MEANS TO MITIGATE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. Have mitigation measures been clearly listed? Yes
2. Have means of achieving mitigation measures and monitoring their

implementation been given? Yes

Discussion: A MSB floodplain development permit (and LOMR-F) will be acquired for the project and all conditions and stipulations in the permit must be followed. In addition, to minimize impacts from construction, a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and Notice of Intent (NOI) will be acquired prior to construction.

I. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Has the public been given ample opportunity to review the proposed project and environmental impacts? Yes

Discussion: A public meeting was held on March 21, 2019, and most attendees were in support of the proposed project. A draft scoping summary is included as supporting documentation. Several commented that the proposed project was a necessary improvement. Two attendees expressed concern over the new sales tax and asked if the proposed improvements were the best alternative. A caller to HDL Engineering Consultants after the meeting opposed the project. A public comment period for this document will be open for 30 days after the issuance of the FONSI. Any substantive comments will be addressed and if needed, the document will be modified and public noticed again.

J. AGENCIES CONSULTED

1. United States Fish and Wildlife Service
2. Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archeology
3. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
4. United States Army Corps of Engineers
5. Matanuska-Susitna Borough
6. United States Department of Agriculture
7. Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
8. Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated
9. Knik Tribal Council

K. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

1. Preliminary Engineering Report for Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades
2. Environmental Review for Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades
3. Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades Alternatives memo
4. Wetland Delineation Report and Functional Assessment
5. Draft Public Scoping Summary

TALKEETNA SEWER AND WATER - Rate increase history

Residential Rates

	At June 30, 1992	Jul-92	Jul-05	Jan-06	Jan-07	Jan-08	Jan-09	Oct-12	Jul-15	Jul-16	Jul-17
Increased by:			25%	25%	2%	2%	2%	5%			
Water	18.68	25.00	31.25	39.06	39.84	40.64	41.45	43.53	50.00	62.50	78.00
Sewer	20.61	25.00	31.25	39.06	39.84	40.64	41.45	43.53	47.00	53.50	60.00
Total:	39.29	50.00	62.50	78.12	79.68	81.28	82.90	87.06	97.00	116.00	138.00

Commercial

Increased by:			25%	25%	2%	2%	2%	5%			
Water	18.68	28.00	35.00	43.75	44.63	45.52	46.43	48.75	56.00	70.00	87.50
Sewer	32.10	48.00	60.00	75.00	76.50	78.06	79.62	83.60	89.00	101.00	114.00
Total:	50.78	76.00	95.00	118.75	121.13	123.58	126.05	132.35	145.00	171.00	201.50



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488

Planning and Land Use Department

Development Services Division (907) 861-7822

FAX (907) 861-8158 - E-Mail PermitCenter@matsugov.us

FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT NOTICE

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Code 17.29.100

“A development permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins within any area of special flood hazard established in MSB 17.29.060. The permit shall be for all structures, including manufactured homes, as set forth in the definitions, and for all development including fill and other activities, also as set forth in the definitions.”

I James Jenson hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand and will
(Print Applicants Name)

comply with MSB 17.29.100. Failure to do so may result in enforcement actions in accordance with MSB 1.45.

Development Site Address: Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Plant

Applicants Mailing Address: 1420 S. Industrial Way

Applicants e-mail Address: JJenson@matsugov.us

Applicants Phone number: (907) 861-7752

Applicants Signature

Date

Received by and copy given to applicant

Permit Center

Date



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Planning and Land Use Department

Permit Center

350 East Dahlia Ave, Palmer, Alaska 99645

(907)861-7822 fax (907)861-8158

permitcenter@matsugov.us

APPLICATION FOR FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MSB 17.29

Application Fee is: \$100 for proposed development. *The application must be complete with all attachments. Please carefully read MSB 17.29 and these instructions. Fill out forms completely. Use N/A if a question is not applicable. Address all development. Attach additional sheets as needed. Additional information and permits may be required. For more information go to www.matsugov.us and click on Flood Info.*

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS (All drawings must be to scale and show all required dimensions)

- A site plan showing horizontal dimensions and location of all existing and proposed development on the site.**
- Drawings or photos depicting what the development will look like showing vertical dimensions.**
- A completed Elevation Certificate.** To be completed once construction is complete.

PROJECT LOCATION: TRS Township 26N., Range 4W., Section 19 , Meridian Seward Meridian

SUBDIVISION: N/A BLOCK: N/A , LOT: B3

STREET ADDRESS: N/A

MSB TAX ACCOUNT ID#: 26N04W19B003

FLOODING SOURCE: Talkeetna River

Is site in a Special Use District (SPUD) or City? Yes No

If yes, which SPUD or City? N/A

Development and use must also comply with the rules for the SPUD and city.

Ownership: If the applicant is not the property owner of record, a letter of authorization signed by the owner must be attached to this application.

Is written owner's authorization attached? N/A Yes No

Name of Property Owner

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Attn: Jim Jenson

Address: 1420 S. Industrial Way

Palmer Alaska, 99645

Phone: Hm: N/A

Wk: (907) 861-7752

Email: JJenson@matsugov.us

Name of Property Owner

Address: _____

Phone: Hm: _____

Wk: _____

Email: _____

Type of Use:

- Residential, Number of dwelling units _____
- Industrial

- Commercial
- Public/Institutional

Describe the use:

The WWTP is operated by the MSB Public Works Department. This facility collects and treats wastewater from residential and commercial properties in Talkeetna.

Type of Project:

- New Structure
- Relocation
- Existing
- Crawl Space
- Addition
- Mobile/Manufactured home placement
- Private Storage/Garage
- Dock
- Road/Bridge construction
- Other type of structure(s) (Tank, Tower, etc.) Describe:

- Excavation 1,720 total cubic yards.
- Fill 10,300 total cubic yards
- Grading _____ square feet.
- Dredging _____ total cubic yards.
- Drilling
- Watercourse/shoreline alteration
- Paving _____ square feet
- Mining (gravel, soil, etc.) _____ total cu yds.
- Utilities, type _____

Substantial Improvement means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of a structure either before the improvement or repair is started or if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

Is this project a Substantial Improvement? Yes No

If Yes: When was the existing structure originally built? _____ N/A

Value of existing structure prior to proposed addition/alteration repair \$ _____ N/A

Estimated cost of addition/alteration addressed by this application \$ _____ N/A

*A detailed estimate must be submitted with application

Project Description: {Example: Warehouse – 20,000 sq. ft.; Office – 5,000 sq. ft., etc. or living space 1,000 sq. ft.; Garage 400 sq. ft., 20,000 sq. ft. paved parking area, 98 ft. tall tower or, 1,000 cubic yards of fill.} Include all structures and development.

The MSB is proposing upgrades to the Talkeetna WWTP to bring it into compliance with discharge limits stipulated in its Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. Please see attached project description.

For Treatment Building

Maximum height of structure above avg. grade: ~22 ft.

Number of stories above avg. grade: 1

Total exterior gross area of Building: ~ 1,800 sq. ft.

Type of foundation: Concrete

How is the structure anchored?

Concrete footing.

Type of Sewage Disposal: None Existing Proposed Pit Privy Holding Tank Septic Tank
 Public/Community Other (Specify) Wastewater from floor drains are stored in a holding tank.

No part of a subsurface sewage disposal system shall be closer than 100 ft from any body of water or water course (MSB Title 17.55.020)

Type of Water Supply: None Existing Proposed Private well/Cistern Public/Community

Provide additional details on flood proofing and anchoring for sewage disposal systems pursuant to the National Flood insurance Program (NFIP).

Proposed improvements to the WWTP, that may be potentially exposed to floodwaters, will be constructed above the approximated 500-year flood elevation of 365 feet and has been checked for anti-buoyancy provisions.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

I understand that for each building located in numbered A Zones, which is constructed or substantially improved under this permit, the owner must provide to the Borough the actual "As Built" elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor within 90 days of completion of the structure.

I am the owner of this property, or the owner's authorized agent, and I attest that the information in this application is true and agree to conform to all applicable laws of this jurisdiction.

Applicant Printed Name

Applicant Signature

Date

WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY.

The degree of flood protection required by this permit is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by manmade or natural causes. This permit does not imply the property or structures will be free from flooding or flood damages. This permit does not create any duty or liability on the part of the borough, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Insurance Administration for any flood damages that result from reliance on this permit or any administrative decision made hereunder

FLOODPLAIN DETERMINATION (To be completed by the Administrator)

1. MSB FLOOD HAZARD AREA DEVELOPMENT PERMIT - ALL NEW STRUCTURES INCLUDING MANUFACTURED HOMES, SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT.
- a. Is elevation certification attached? Yes No
 - b. Is proposed Site Plan attached? Yes No
 - c. Is site in a designated Flood Hazard Area? Not Mapped Yes No
FIRM Panel # _____ FIRM Zone _____
BFE _____ Source _____ LAG _____ Lowest Floor _____
 - d. Is site in a designated Floodway? Not Mapped Yes No
 - e. Does structure have an enclosed crawl space? Yes No
 - f. Will structure/improvement(s) be anchored to prevent floatation, collapse, and lateral movement? Yes No
 - g. Will all materials and utility equipment used be resistant to flood damage? Yes No
 - h. Will all construction methods and practices, minimize flood damage? Yes No
2. NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE N/A
- a. Is first floor flood-proofed to base flood elevation? Yes No
 - b. Is structure capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy? Yes No
3. MANUFACTURED HOME N/A
- a. Will manufactured home be placed on a permanent foundation? Yes No
 - b. Will manufactured home be anchored with over-the-top and frame ties to ground anchors in accordance with MSB 17.29.160? Yes No
4. UTILITIES AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT N/A
- a. Are new and replacement water and sewer systems designated to minimize and eliminate infiltration of flood waters? Yes No
 - b. Is new or replacement sanitary sewage system designed to minimize or eliminate discharge from system to flood waters? Yes No
 - c. Is on-site waste disposal system located to avoid impairment and contamination during flooding? Yes No
 - d. Are all tanks, containment areas, pipeline, dikes, diversion areas, ditches, fill, etc. located or designed to avoid impairment and contamination during flooding? Yes No
 - e. Are all electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing and air conditioning equipment and other service designed, elevated or located to prevent flood waters from entering and accumulating in components? Yes No

5. EXCAVATION OR FILL/ROAD CONSTRUCTION----- N/A
- a. Will fill encroach upon a mapped floodway?----- Yes No
- b. Are culverts or drainage provided to maintain existing drainage patterns?----- Yes No
6. ALTERATION, RELOCATION OR, ENCROACHMENT IN, WATER COURSE----- N/A
- a. Will watercourse be altered or relocated?----- Yes No
- b. Will proposed development encroach into any watercourse?----- Yes No
- c. Describe the type, and extent of any encroachment into, alteration or relocation of a water course resulting from the proposed development. _____

- d. Will encroachment, relocation, or alternation of the water course result in diminished flood carrying capacity during occurrence of the base flood discharge?----- Yes No

REVIEWED BY:

Certified Floodplain Manager

Date

Talkeetna WWTP Upgrades – Phase 1
Planning and Land Use Department - Permit Center
Floodplain Development Permit Application
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) is proposing upgrades to the Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to bring it into compliance with discharge limits stipulated in its Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The MSB Department of Public Works operates a wastewater collection system, which conveys wastewater flows from residential and commercial properties in Talkeetna to a WWTP located northeast of downtown Talkeetna. The WWTP was constructed 1988. The growth in tourism and an expanding residential population has stressed Talkeetna's wastewater system to the point that it struggles to comply with its State-administered wastewater discharge permit. The proposed project is located in Section 19 of Township 26N, Range 4W, Seward Meridian, and on U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle *Talkeetna B-1*.

Proposed Project

The proposed project would expand the existing facultative lagoon treatment system and include the following:

- Extend the existing force main by approximately 220 linear feet.
- Construct two additional anaerobic treatment lagoon cells by placing approximately 5,200 cubic yards (cy) of fill.
- Install approximately 1,625 linear feet of lagoon baffles in existing wastewater cells.
- Install backend treatment infrastructure which includes:
 - Decommissioning the existing constructed wetlands by discharging water, excavating to the existing lagoon liner, and placing approximately 5,200 cy of fill.
 - Constructing a backend treatment building as well as a chlorine contact and reaeration basins.
 - Installing approximately 630 linear feet of effluent pipeline.
- Install yard piping.

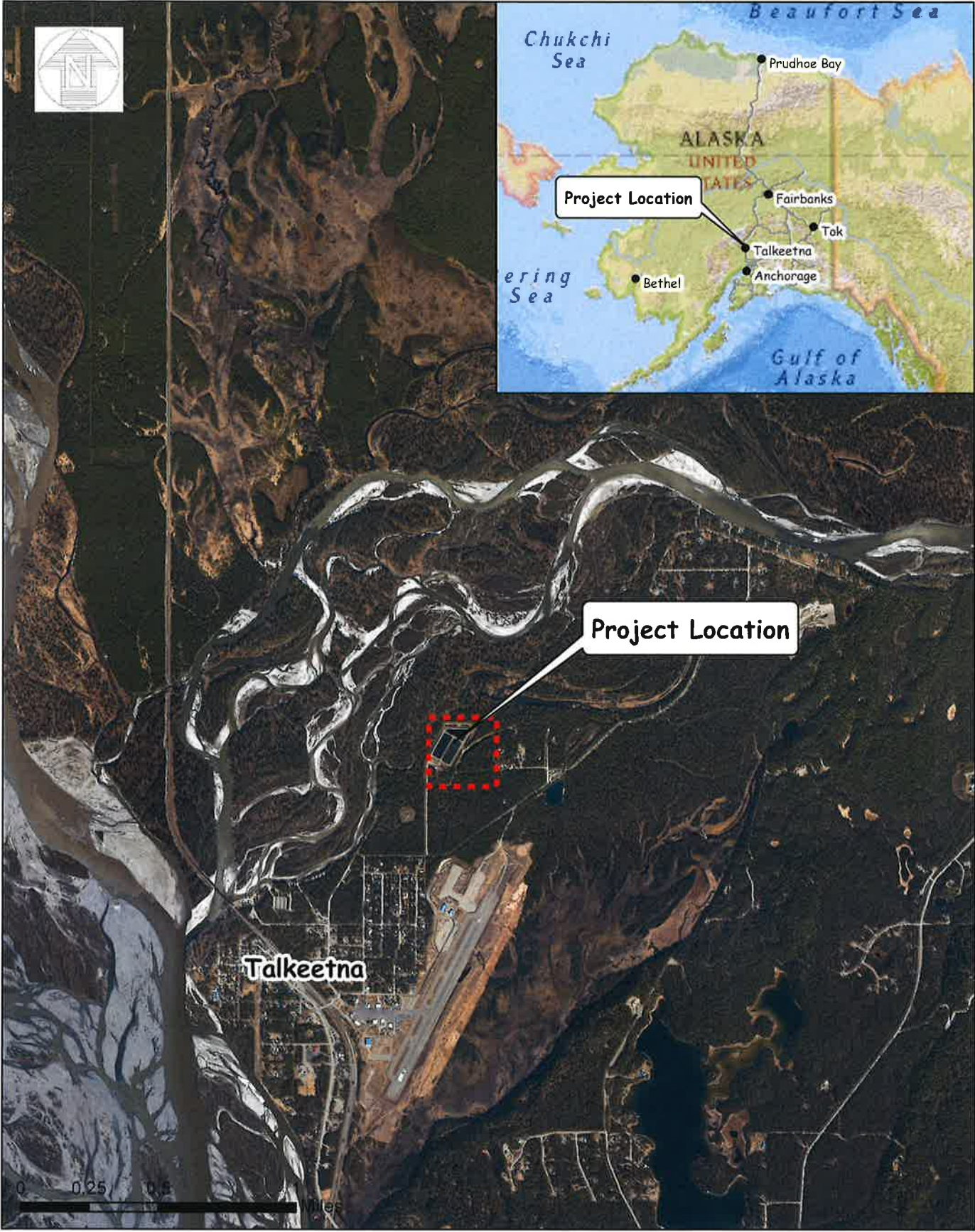
The proposed improvements are located within the existing facility footprint and are not located in a designated floodway. The anaerobic cells, treatment building, chlorine contact basin, and reaeration basin will be constructed above the 500-year flood elevation. Floatation calculations for the chlorine contact and reaeration basins and discharge pipeline are also enclosed.

Project Funding

MSB has obtained funding to complete the proposed improvements to the WWTP from the State of Alaska Clean Water Fund.

Agency Consultation

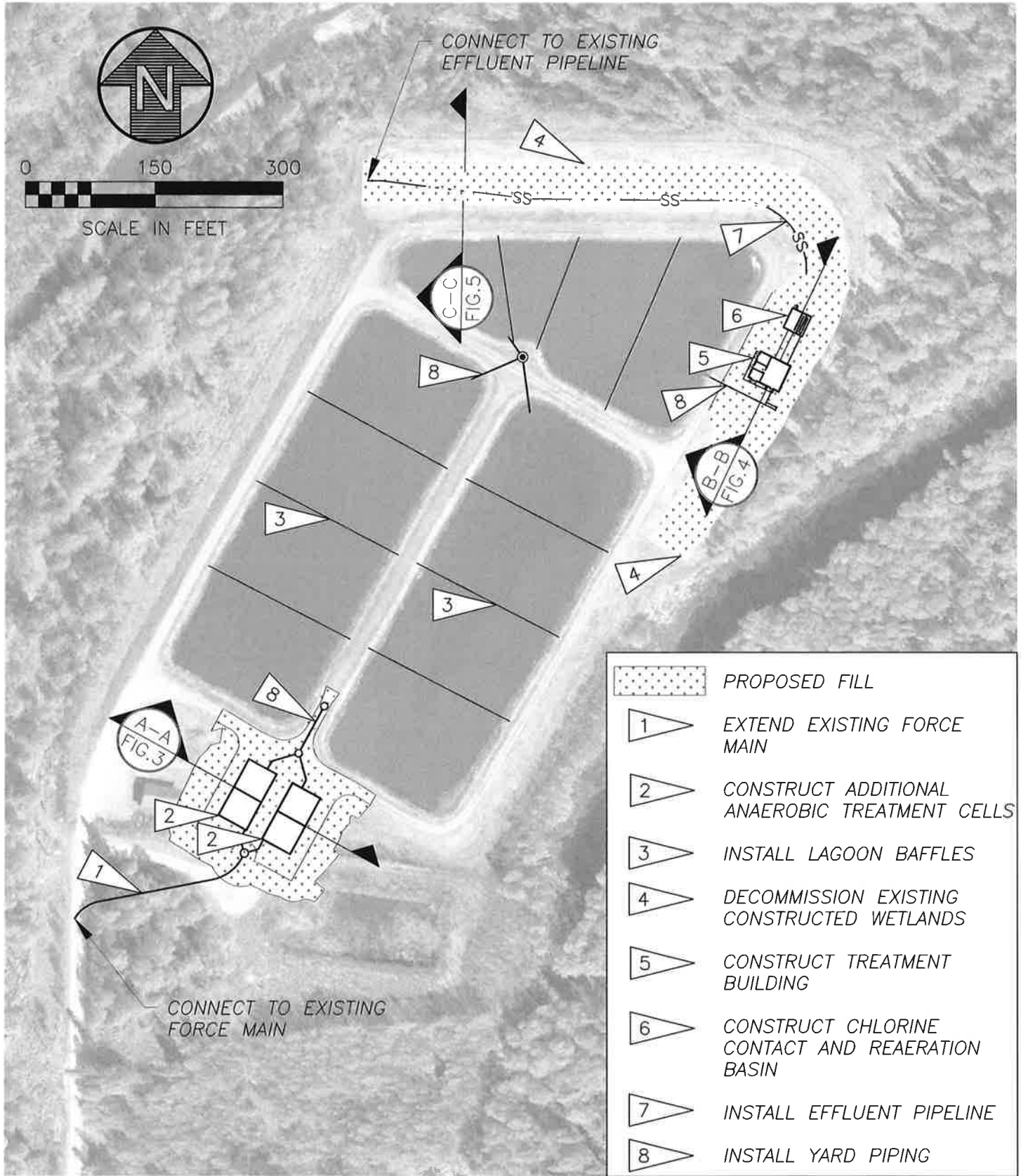
On **March X, 2019**, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responded to a verification request and concurred that the proposed project will not affect waters of the U.S. under the Corps' jurisdiction and that a permit will not be required to construct the project. A copy of the correspondence is enclosed.



Section 19, T26N, R4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Quad Map Talkeetna B-1 SE
 Talkeetna, Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Public Works Department
 Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Phase 1
 March 2019

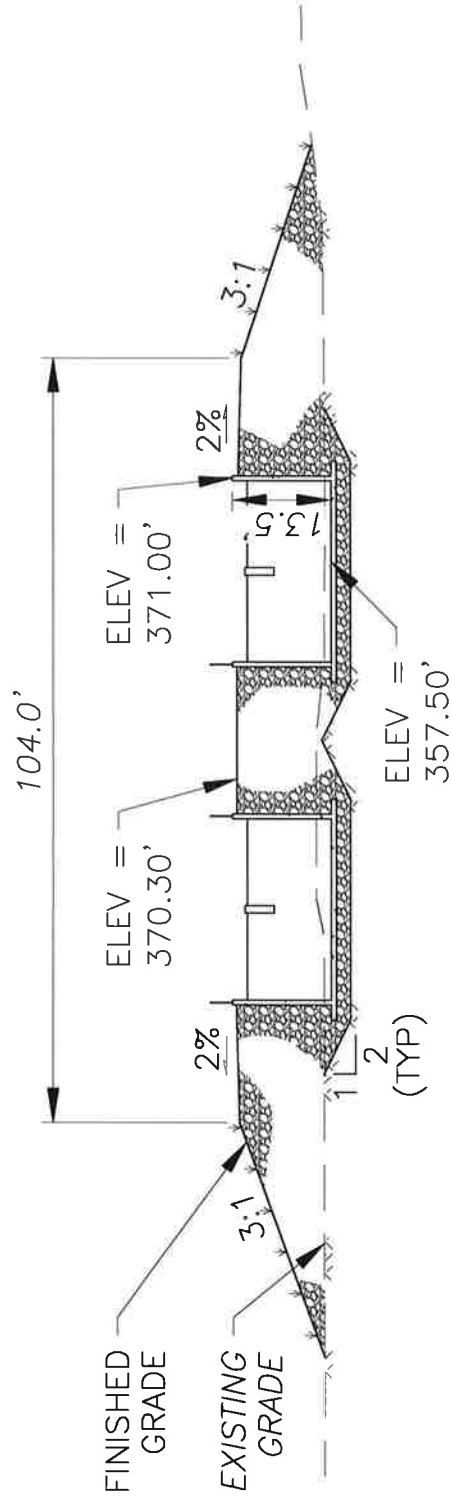
Figure 1 - Location Map



Section 19, T26N, R4W, Seward Meridian
USGS: Quad Map Talkeetna B-1
Talkeetna, Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Public Works Department
Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
March 2019

Figure 2
Proposed Project Area

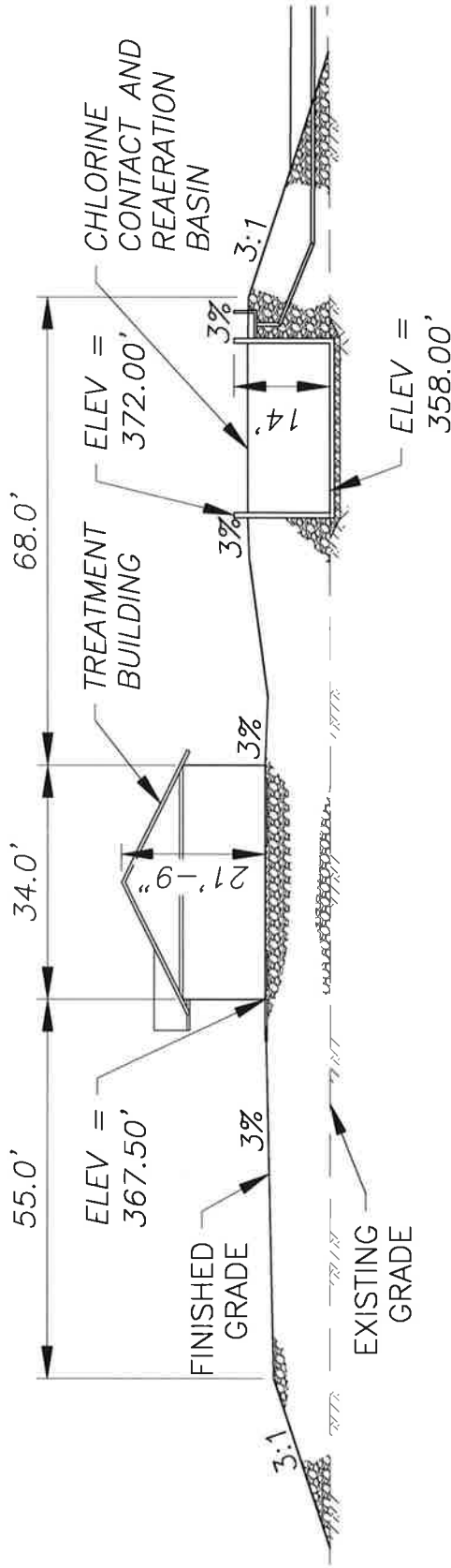


ANAEROBIC CELLS SITE SECTION

Section 19, T26N, R4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Quad Map Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna, Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Public Works Department
 Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
 March 2019

Figure 3
 Anaerobic Cells Site Section
 (A-A)

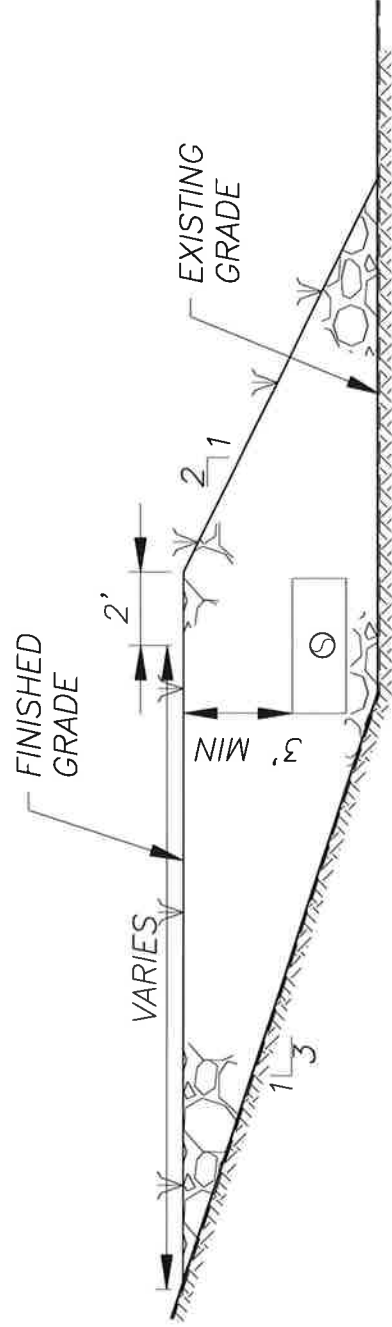


BACKEND TREATMENT SITE SECTION

Section 19, T26N, R4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Quad Map Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna, Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Public Works Department
 Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
 March 2019

Figure 4
 Backend Treatment Site Section
 (B-B)



EFFLUENT PIPELINE TYPICAL SECTION

Section 19, T26N, R4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Quad Map Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna, Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Public Works Department
 Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
 March 2019

Figure 5
 Effluent Pipeline Typical Section
 (C-C)

From: Brooke A. Therrien
To: regpagemaster@usace.army.mil
Cc: [Heather A. Campfield](#); [Christopher J. Bowman](#)
Subject: Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades - Permit Verification
Date: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 8:56:00 AM
Attachments: [Layout - 65% Plans - 11x17.pdf](#)
[Talkeetna WWTP Wetland Final Report.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good Morning,

The purpose of this email is to request verification that a Section 404 wetlands permit is not required for a project to upgrade the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC is making this request on behalf of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Public Works Department. A description of the proposed project is provided below. We are requesting written verification that the project will not affect waters of the U.S. under the Corps' jurisdiction, and that a permit will not be required to construct the project.

Project Description

The MSB is proposing upgrades to the Talkeetna WWTP to bring it into compliance with discharge limits stipulated in its Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The project is located in Section 19 of Township 26N, Range 4W, Seward Meridian, and on U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle *Talkeetna B-1*.

The proposed project would expand the existing facultative lagoon treatment system and include the following work:

- Construction of two additional anaerobic treatment lagoon cells
- Chlorination/dechlorination disinfection system
- Reaeration system
- Yard piping
- Miscellaneous site improvements

A copy of the overall site plan (65% design) is attached.

Wetlands Delineation

HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC completed a wetlands delineation of the 40.0-acre WWTP property on October 3, 2018. A total of 3.06 acres of waters of the U.S., including jurisdictional wetlands, were mapped within the property. The area of non-jurisdictional wastewater treatment lagoons totaled 8.81 acres. A copy of the wetlands delineation is attached.

Permanent Impacts and Mitigation

The project would completely avoid impacts to jurisdictional wetlands by limiting fill activity to the existing WWTP disturbance footprint and treatment lagoons.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this project.

Sincerely

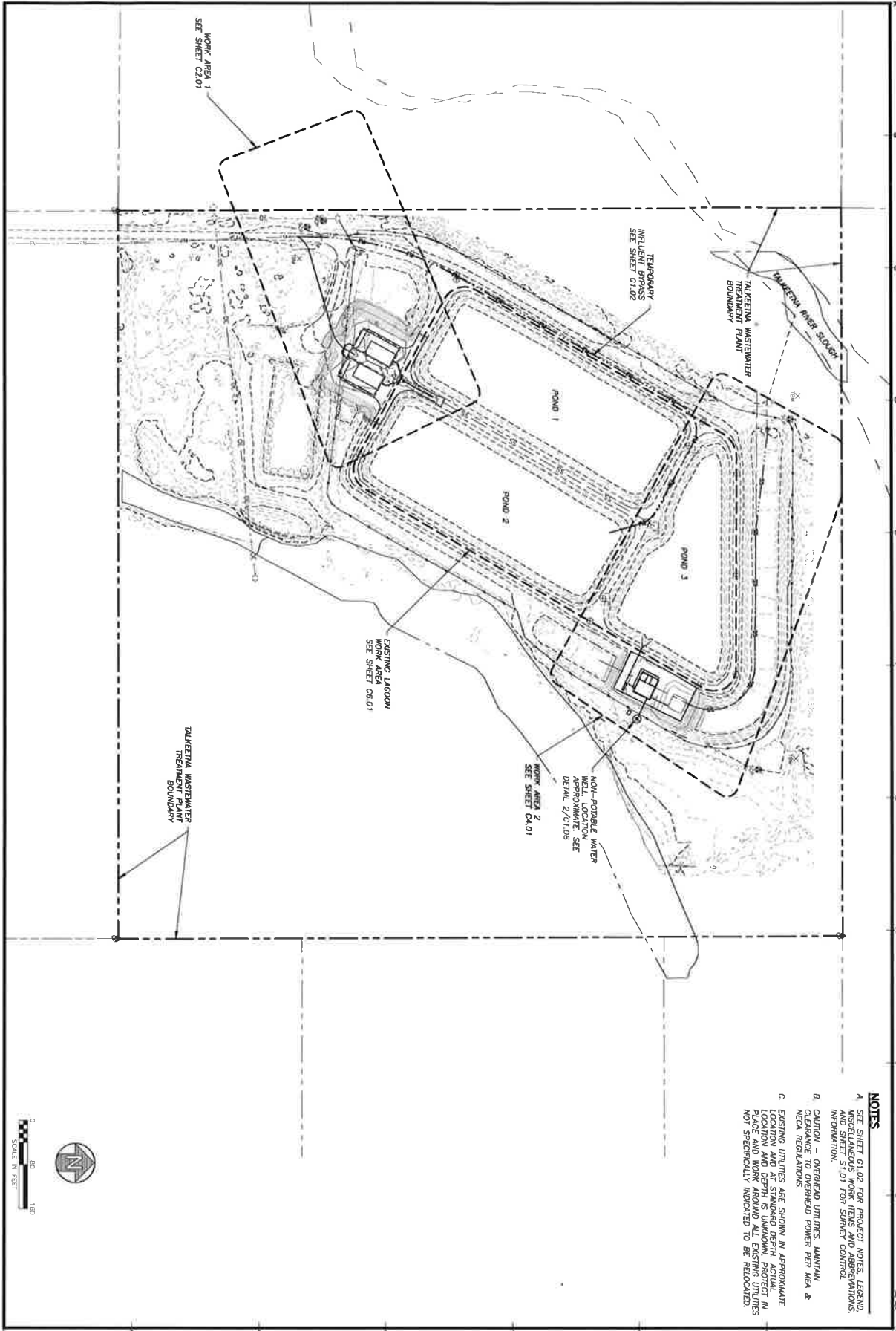
Brooke Therrien
Environmental Specialist



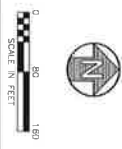
Engage | Empower | Exceed

3335 Arctic Blvd, Suite 100 | Anchorage, Alaska 99503
main 907-564-2120 | direct 907-564-2159 | cell 907-538-4733
BTherrien@HDLAlaska.com | www.HDLAlaska.com

www.HDLAlaska.com



- NOTES**
- A. SEE SHEET C1.02 FOR PROJECT NOTES, LEGEND, MISCELLANEOUS WORK ITEMS AND ABBREVIATIONS, AND SHEET S1.01 FOR SURVEY CONTROL INFORMATION.
 - B. CAUTION - OVERHEAD UTILITIES MAINTAIN CLEARANCE TO OVERHEAD POWER PER MEA & NECA REGULATIONS.
 - C. EXISTING UTILITIES ARE SHOWN IN APPROXIMATE LOCATION AND AT STANDBY DEPTH. ACTUAL PLACE AND WORK AROUND ALL EXISTING UTILITIES NOT SPECIFICALLY INDICATED TO BE RELOCATED.



TALKEETNA WWP UPGRADES - PHASE 1
 MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PUBLIC WORKS
 TALKEETNA, ALASKA

DATE: 01.04
 DRAWN BY: JERRY
 CHECKED BY: JERRY
 OVERALL SITE PLAN

HDL ENGINEERING
 Consultants LLC

65% SUBMITTAL
 NOT FOR
 CONSTRUCTION

3335 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 100 Anchorage, AK 99503
 www.HDLalaska.com

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

December 16, 2016

Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-3565

RE: Combined Initiation and Finding of No Potential to Effect
Section 106 Review Process
Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) has applied to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development for federal financial assistance to upgrade the Waste Water Treatment Facility in Talkeetna, Alaska. HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC (HDL), on behalf of the MSB, has been authorized by the USDA to initiate the consultation process required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (see attached authorization). Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are combining initiation of Section 106 consultation and our finding that no historic properties would be affected by the proposed project.

Proposed Project

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) is proposing to upgrade the Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Talkeetna, Alaska. The existing WWTF is not in compliance with its State-administered wastewater discharge permit (see attached project description for further information). The project is located within Section 19 of Township 26 North, Range 4 West of the Seward Meridian, and within U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Talkeetna B-1 (Figures 1 & 2).

Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project consists of the property parcel boundaries (Figure 3).

CIVIL
ENGINEERING

GEOTECHNICAL
ENGINEERING

TRANSPORTATION
ENGINEERING

ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES

PLANNING

SURVEYING
& MAPPING

CONSTRUCTION
ADMINISTRATION

MATERIAL
TESTING

RIGHT-OF-WAY
SERVICES

Identification Efforts

To date, no project specific cultural or historic resource field surveys or other identification efforts have taken place. A review of the MSB tax parcel viewer identified eight properties adjacent to the APE which includes;

- Three privately owned residential lots located east of the APE;
- Two parcels of undeveloped land owned by Cook Inlet Regional Incorporation (CIRI) located to the north and west of the APE; and
- Three parcels of undeveloped land that according to the MSB tax parcel viewer does not contain any ownership or building data located south, southwest, and northwest of the APE.

According to the MSB tax parcel viewer the surrounding properties are predominantly undeveloped, with the exception of a single family residence with several buildings on the adjacent property to the east. One of the buildings located on this property was built in 1970 which makes it eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The current design concept places the eastern edge of the new lagoon cell approximately 200 feet from the eastern property boundary and 250 feet from the nearest residential building.

The NRHP on-line database, researched on December 5, 2016, indicated that there are two sites within 1-mile of the WWTF that are listed on the NRHP. These include the Talkeetna Airstrip and the Talkeetna Historic District located in/near downtown Talkeetna. Impacts to either site are not anticipated.

The MSB respectfully requests a representative from the Office of History and Archaeology to research the Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRs) Files to determine if there are known historical and archaeological resources that have been identified within or near the proposed project's APE. Currently, neither the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the MSB employ staff that meet the Secretary of the Interior's requirements to conduct research of the AHRs files.

Consultation Efforts

Consultation with other interested parties will include; Chickaloon Village Traditional Council; CIRI; Knik Tribal Council; and MSB Planning Department.

Preliminary Determination

Based on the results of our identification efforts and assuming no known sites of historical or archaeological significance exist within the WWTF property, the USDA and the MSB find the project has no potential to effect historic properties.

RE: Section 106 Review Process
December 16, 2016
Page 3 of 3

We respectfully request concurrence with our no historic properties affected finding. In addition, we request your approval to proceed with the project without completing a project specific cultural resources survey. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact Brooke Therrien by mail at 3335 Arctic Boulevard, Anchorage, Alaska, 99503, by phone at (907) 564-2159, or by email at BTherrien@HDLAlaska.com; or you may contact USDA Rural Development directly by calling Tasha Deardorff by phone at (907) 271-2424, Ext 118, or by email at Tasha.Deardorff@ak.usda.gov.

Sincerely,
HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC



Brooke Therrien
Environmental Specialist

Attachments:

- Section 106 Consultation Authorization
- Project Description
- Figure 1: Location and Vicinity Map
- Figure 2: Existing Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Figure 3: Area of Potential Effect and Proposed Development



Rural Development

510 L Street,
Suite 410
Anchorage, AK
99501

Voice 907.271-2424

Section 106 Consultation Authorization and Instructions to Applicant

DATE: 12/13/2016

TO: Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
Palmer, Alaska

HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC
Anchorage, AK

FROM: USDA Rural Development
510 L Street, Suite 410
Anchorage, AK

SUBJECT: Initiating Consultations under the Section 106 Process

In order for Rural Development to make a decision on the Talkeetna application, an environmental review must first be completed. Among other items, this environmental review includes an analysis of the potential for your proposed project to impact sites that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This analysis is required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations located at 36 CFR Part 800. NHPA requires Rural Development to work closely with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Tribes, and other consulting parties to take into account the effects of your project on historic properties and to attempt to find ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects, to the extent practicable.

Receipt of this letter from Rural Development authorizes you to initiate consultation under the Section 106 process. Please proceed as follows:

1. Review the attached letter (Attachment 1) and the required supporting documentation (Attachment 2).
2. Your Rural Development representative will:
 - Answer any questions you have about completing the letter and the supporting documentation;
 - Assist you in a preliminary description of the area of potential effects* (APE);
 - Assist you in developing a preliminary list of the consulting parties.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Please complete the following:

1. Send the completed letter (Attachment 1) and the supporting documentation (contained in Attachment 2) to each of the consulting parties on the list (retain a dated copy of each letter for your records).
2. Include a copy of this Authorization/Instructions document with your letter to the SHPO and/or THPO.
3. Allow 30 days for receipt of comments. Incorporate any comments received into the environmental information/report (depending on Rural Development program) being prepared as part of your application to Rural Development, and attach copies of each letter you sent out and comments received to the environmental information/report.

The initiation of consultation is the first step in the Section 106 process. This authorization permits you, as an applicant (or, by proxy, the applicant's consultant), to initiate this consultation process and to assist Rural Development in collecting and evaluating information to facilitate timely compliance with Section 106 requirements. Rural Development remains legally responsible for making all formal determinations and findings under the Section 106 process.

Please be aware that some proposals require the services of a professional consultant. For example, an archeological survey may be needed before the Section 106 process can be concluded. Your Rural Development representative can provide you further guidance, if there is a need for such services. As an applicant, you are still responsible for the requirements of this letter, even though you have hired a consultant to assist you.

This authorization to initiate consultation under the Section 106 process does **not** constitute Rural Development approval of your request for financial assistance. All costs incurred by the applicant in compliance with the Section 106 process are incurred at the applicant's risk.

Note: Do **not** take any actions which might have an adverse effect on historic property or cultural resources until the Section 106 review process is completed. Section 110(k) of the National Historic Preservation Act **may prohibit** federal agencies from providing federal financial assistance to any applicant who "... with intent to avoid the requirements of Section 106, has intentionally significantly adversely affected a historic property..."

Please contact your Rural Development representative Tasha Deardorff at (907) 271-2424 ext 118 or by email at Tasha.Deardorff@ak.usda.gov, should you have any questions.

* The area of potential effects (APE) is defined by 36 CFR Part 800, Section 800.16(d) as follows: "Area of potential effects means the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking."

Project Description

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) is proposing to upgrade the Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Talkeetna, Alaska. The project is located within Section 19 of Township 26 North, Range 4 West of the Seward Meridian, and within U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Talkeetna B-1 (Figure 1 & Figure 2).

The existing WWTF is not in compliance with its State-administered wastewater discharge permit. Correspondence from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) includes a listing of permit compliance excursions, including high effluent fecal coliform counts, low effluent dissolved oxygen concentrations, inadequate biological oxygen demand (BOD₅) and total suspended solids (TSS) removals, and/or excessively high effluent BOD₅ and TSS concentrations. The MSB is seeking to upgrade the WWTF to bring it into regulatory compliance now and into the future.

Currently, two alternatives are being considered in association with the proposed project. Both alternatives would reconfigure the lagoon cells within the existing facility and construct additional lagoon cell(s). Alternatives may involve construction of chlorination/dechlorination facilities or ultraviolet disinfection facilities; addition of lagoon aeration equipment; construction of new lagoon cells; and/or modifications to existing lagoon cells.

For the purpose of evaluation of impacts to historical and archeological properties we have used the alternative with the larger proposed footprint for our identification efforts. A conceptual sketch of the alternative with the larger configuration and ground disturbance footprint is shown in Figure 3. The project would increase the existing 10-acre facility to approximately 20 acres, including lagoon cells, access driveways, and embankment slopes. All improvements associated with the facility upgrade would be located entirely within MSB-owned property.

Description of Project Site

The project site is located on a 40-acre property currently owned by the MSB and occupied solely by the existing WWTF. The proposed area of expansion is undeveloped, forested, and relatively flat. The majority of the site is uplands, with the exception of an inactive wetlands slough of the Talkeetna River running through the center of the property, and an active slough in the northwest corner of the property into which the WWTF currently discharges effluent. The property is within a FEMA-designated special flood hazard area; however, there are no other special land use or zoning restrictions.

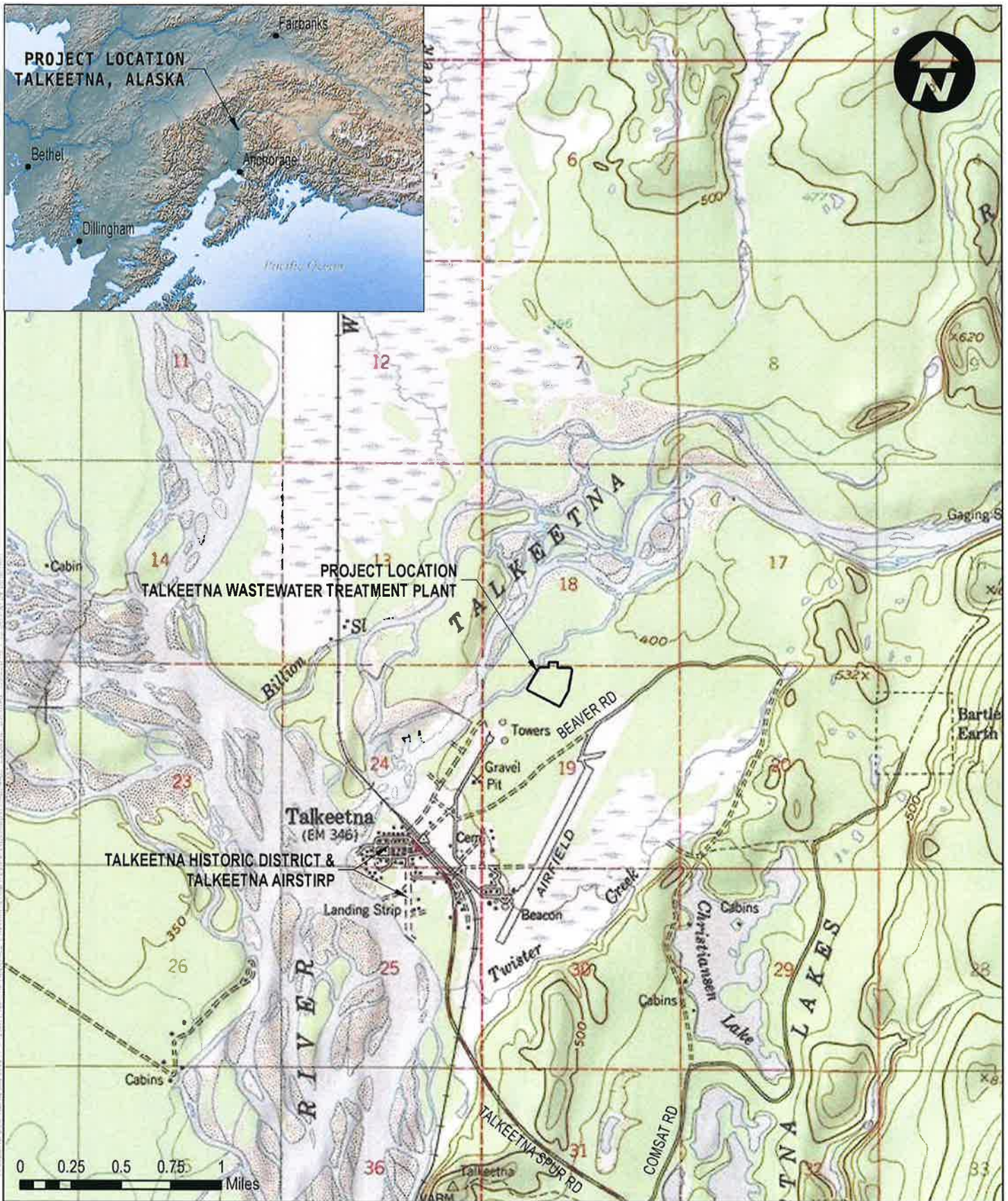


Figure 1: Lagoon cell with undeveloped, forested portion of MSB-owned land behind.

Federal, State, and Local Agency Involvement

The proposed project is being funded through the USDA Rural Utilities Program. Federal, State, and local permits that may be required to construct the proposed project are shown in the table below:

Regulatory Action	Regulatory Agency	Project Activity
Federal Agency		
Environmental Document	USDA	Project requesting federal funding from USDA
Wetlands Permit	USACE	Discharge of fill or dredged material into waters of the U.S.
State of Alaska Agency		
Water Quality Certification	ADEC	Storm water discharge review of USACE wetlands permit
Section 106 Review	ADNR State Historic Preservation Officer	Work potentially affecting significant cultural, historic, pre-historic, or archaeological resources.
Construction General Permit	ADEC	Storm water discharges to waters of the U.S. from construction site.
Local Agency		
Floodplain Development Permit	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	Work within FEMA-mapped flood areas.



Section 19, Township 26N, Range 4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Talkeetna Waste Water Treatment Facility
 December 2016

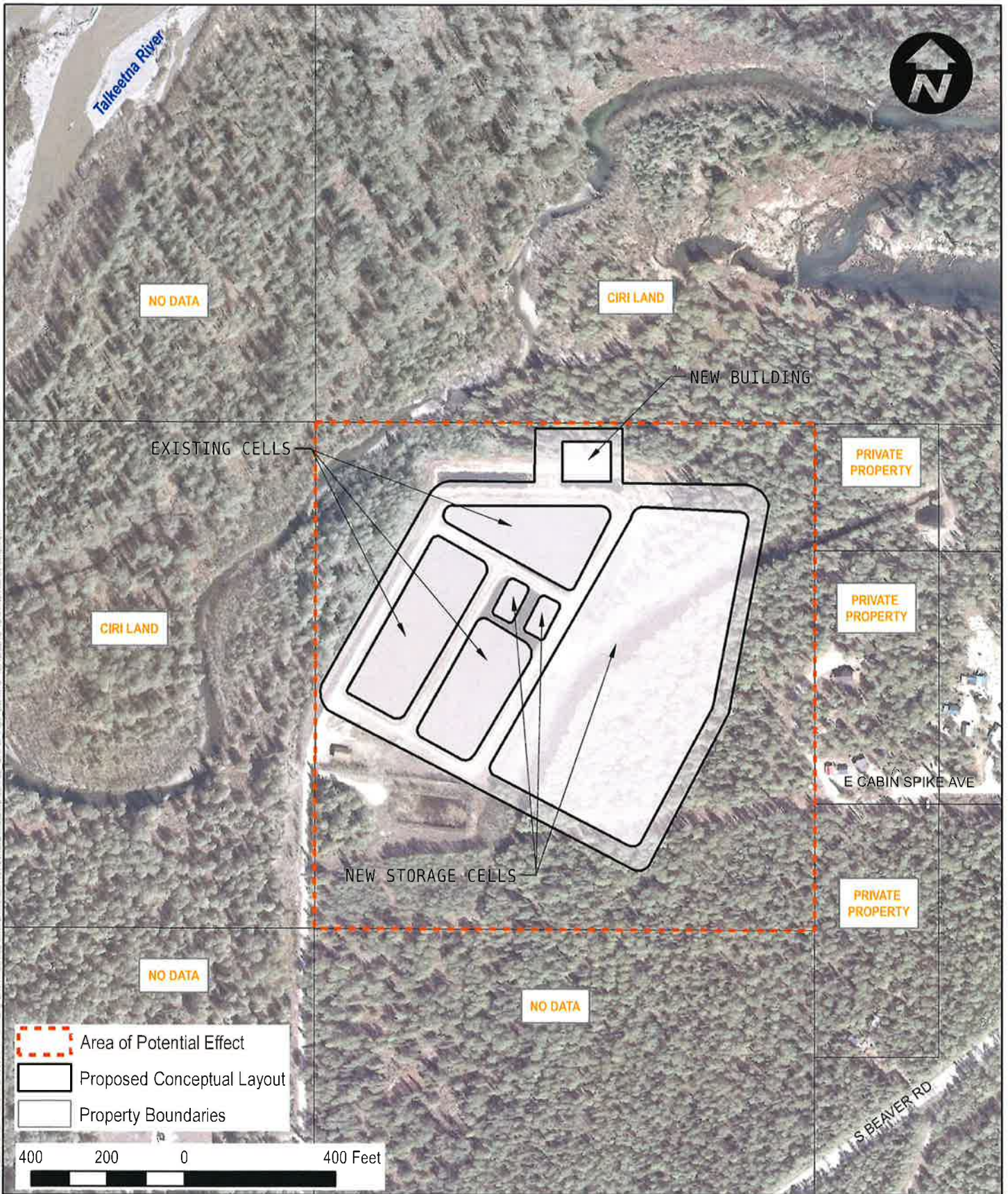
Figure 1
Location and Vicinity Map



Section 19, Township 26N, Range 4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Talkeetna Waste Water Treatment Facility
 December 2016

Figure 2
Existing Talkeetna Wastewater
Treatment Facility



Section 19, Township 26N, Range 4W, Seward Meridian
 USGS: Talkeetna B-1
 Talkeetna Alaska

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
 Talkeetna Waste Water Treatment Facility
 December 2016

Figure 3
Area of Potential Effect &
Proposed Development



Rural Development January 25, 2017

Alaska field office

510 L Street
Suite 410
Anchorage, AK
99501

Voice 907.271.2424
Fax 855.201.1074

Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-3565

RE: Section 106 Consultation
Request for Concurrence Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proposing to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Talkeetna, Alaska. The existing WWTF is not in compliance with its State-administered wastewater discharge permit. The USDA is proposed to provide assistance with upgrades to the WWTF. The project is located within Section 19 of Township 26 North, Range 4 West of the Seward Meridian, and within U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Talkeetna B-1 (Figures 1 & 2).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the USDA requests your concurrence with our finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

Project Purpose and Need

The current WWTF is over capacity due to recent residential growth and tourism in Talkeetna. The MSB faces potential penalties for Clean Water Act violations for failure to comply with current permit effluent limits for fecal coliform and dissolved oxygen. The purpose of this project is to increase operating capacity of the WWTF and bring it into compliance with current effluent limits for fecal coliform and dissolved oxygen, as stipulated in the current wastewater discharge permit.

- Wastewater Treatment System

Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project consists of the MSB's property parcel boundary (Figure 3).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Identification Efforts

A review of the MSB tax parcel viewer identified eight properties adjacent to the APE which includes:

- Three privately owned residential lots located east of the APE;
- Two parcels of undeveloped land owned by Cook Inlet Regional Incorporation (CIRI) located to the north and west of the APE; and
- Three parcels of undeveloped land that according to the MSB tax parcel viewer does not contain any ownership or building data located south, southwest, and northwest of the APE.

According to the MSB tax parcel viewer the surrounding properties are predominantly undeveloped, with the exception of a single family residence with several buildings on the adjacent property to the east.

The NRHP on-line database, reviewed on December 5, 2016, indicated that there are two sites within 1-mile of the WWTF that are listed on the NRHP. These include the Talkeetna Airstrip and the Talkeetna Historic District located in/near downtown Talkeetna. Impacts to either site are not anticipated.

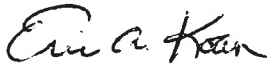
On December 16, 2016, HDL Engineering Consultants, on behalf of the USDA, initiated consultation with SHPO. On December 28, 2016, the SHPO acknowledged initiation and provided results of a presence/absence check for known cultural resource sites within the proposed project area. A review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRIS) database indicates there are no known cultural resource sites within the identified APE.

Consultation Efforts

Consultation letters to other interested parties were mailed out on December 20, 2016 to the following: Chickaloon Village Traditional Council; CIRI; Knik Tribal Council; and MSB Planning Department. To date, no comments have been received.

We respectfully request concurrence with our finding of No Historic Properties Affected. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact the undersigned at (907) 271-2424, Ext 102, or by email at eric.koan@ak.usda.gov.

Sincerely,



ERIC A KOAN
WEP SPECIALIST

Attachments:

- Figure 1: Location and Vicinity Map
- Figure 2: Existing Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility
- Figure 3: Alternative 1 Layout Design
- Figure 4: Alternative 2 Layout Design

CC: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Koan, Eric - RD, Anchorage, AK

From: Brooke A. Therrien <BTherrien@HDLAlaska.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Koan, Eric - RD, Anchorage, AK
Subject: FW: Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility--Initiation of Section 106 Consultation, SHPO Comments

See below.

From: Johnson, McKenzie S (DNR) [mailto:mckenzie.johnson@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2016 11:16 AM
To: Brooke A. Therrien <BTherrien@HDLAlaska.com>
Cc: tasha.deardorff@ak.usda.gov
Subject: Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility--Initiation of Section 106 Consultation, SHPO Comments

File No.: 3130-1R USDA-RD
2016-01564

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (AKSHPO) received the subject initiation letter on December 19th, 2016 (dated December 16th, 2016).

We offer the following comments:

The correspondence requested that our office conduct a presence/absence check for known cultural resource sites. Upon review of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database, there are no reported cultural resource sites within the identified Area of Potential Effect (APE). At this time we are unaware of any potential or known historic properties that may be of concern for the proposed project scope. Please keep in mind that only a small portion of Alaska has been surveyed for cultural resources, therefore there is still the possibility that previously unidentified resources are located within the APE.

On pg. 3 of the correspondence our concurrence is requested with a finding of 'no historic properties affected' for the subject project. While we may agree that this is an appropriate finding of effect at present based on what is known for the project and APE, we are not supposed to provide concurrence to the applicant without prior authorization from the lead federal agency when operating under Section 106 regulations. USDA-RD has previously indicated that they prefer the applicant to initiate consultation with us to assist with identifying any potential concerns, but they would still like to remain the primary correspondent for the final request for concurrence. As such, we have Cc'd the identified USDA-RD contact for their own records so they may submit the final finding of effect once determined.

Although the APE as currently defined may encompass any one of the alternative designs, the specific layout does ultimately affect the direct footprint of impact. If the final design is not known at the time of USDA-RD's submittal we suggest that the alternatives are each presented and incorporated into the assessment if feasible.

As a minor technical clarification, the subject line as well as the preliminary determination found on pg. 2 indicate a finding of 'no potential to effect'. Under Section 106 the term 'no potential to effect' has a specific meaning [see 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)] that implies that the project's components have *no potential* to physically affect historic properties *assuming they were present*. Typically these are administrative type projects (hiring new people, ordering mail supplies, cleaning), or other actions that do not have the potential to physically alter or otherwise disturb the current natural or built environment of the APE. This is not technically a 'finding' but a decision on whether or not an undertaking requires review under Section 106 based on the nature of the project. If the project had *no potential* to affect historic properties, consultation under Section 106 would not be required.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and review. Please let me know if you have any questions, otherwise we look forward to receiving the final submittal for review from USDA-RD.

Mckenzie S. Johnson
Archaeologist I, Review and Compliance
Alaska State Historic Preservation Office/Office of History and Archaeology
550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-269-8726
E-mail mckenzie.johnson@alaska.gov

OHA is updating Alaska's historic preservation plan and wants to know what historic places matter to you. Please share your thoughts by taking a short survey that is available online at:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AKHPP>



United States Department of Agriculture

2.8.17

3301R USDA-RD

Rural Development January 25, 2017

Alaska field office

510 L Street
Suite 410
Anchorage, AK
99501

Voice 907.271.2424
Fax 855.201.1074

Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-3565

MSB No Historic Properties Affected
Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: 2.8.17 **File No.:** 3301R USDA-RD
2016-01564
Please review: 36 CFR 800.13 / A.S. 41.35.070(d)

RE: Section 106 Consultation
Request for Concurrence Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Talkeetna Wastewater Treatment Facility

Dear Ms. Bittner:

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proposing to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Talkeetna, Alaska. The existing WWTF is not in compliance with its State-administered wastewater discharge permit. The USDA is proposed to provide assistance with upgrades to the WWTF. The project is located within Section 19 of Township 26 North, Range 4 West of the Seward Meridian, and within U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle Talkeetna B-1 (Figures 1 & 2).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), implementing regulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the USDA requests your concurrence with our finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

Project Purpose and Need

The current WWTF is over capacity due to recent residential growth and tourism in Talkeetna. The MSB faces potential penalties for Clean Water Act violations for failure to comply with current permit effluent limits for fecal coliform and dissolved oxygen. The purpose of this project is to increase operating capacity of the WWTF and bring it into compliance with current effluent limits for fecal coliform and dissolved oxygen, as stipulated in the current wastewater discharge permit.

- Wastewater Treatment System

Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project consists of the MSB's property parcel boundary (Figure 3).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Anchorage Fish And Wildlife Conservation Office
4700 Blm Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
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In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 07CAAN00-2018-SLI-0390
Event Code: 07CAAN00-2019-E-00399
Project Name: Talkeetna WWTP

April 08, 2019

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, and proposed species, designated critical habitat, and some candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Please note that candidate species are not included on this list. We encourage you to visit the following website to learn more about candidate species in your area: http://www.fws.gov/alaska/fisheries/fieldoffice/anchorage/endangered/candidate_conservation.htm

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered

species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Anchorage Fish And Wildlife Conservation Office
4700 Blm Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 271-2888

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 07CAAN00-2018-SLI-0390

Event Code: 07CAAN00-2019-E-00399

Project Name: Talkeetna WWTP

Project Type: Federal Grant / Loan Related

Project Description: The proposed project is as described in the ER

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/61.88726123014875N150.18272639277671W>



Counties: Anchorage, AK | Matanuska-Susitna, AK

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 0 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.