

ANCHORAGE Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD Post Office Box 6898 JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: March 20, 2025

EXPIRATION DATE: April 7, 2025

REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2000-00658

WATERWAY: Turnagain Arm/Portage Creek

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

All comments regarding this public notice should be sent to the address noted above. If you desire to submit your comments by email, you should send it to the project manager's email as listed below or to regpagemaster@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the public notice reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this public notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Estrella Campellone at (907) 753-2518, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at Estrella.f.campellone@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this public notice.

<u>APPLICANT</u>: Ms. Irina V. Shupilova; PO Box 533502; Anchorage, Alaska 99523. Telephone: (301) 985-8635, Extension: 2199. Email: ishupilova@yahoo.com

<u>AGENT</u>: Mr. Max Schillinger, All Points North LLC., PO Box 4207, Alaska 99645. Telephone: (907) 355-4185. Email: max@allpointsnorth.us

<u>LOCATION</u>: The project site is located within Section 31, T. 9 N., R. 3 E., Seward Meridian; USGS Quad Seward D-6; Latitude 60.83018° N., Longitude 148.97694° W.; Mile 79.6 south of Anchorage, Turnagain Arm, near Portage Creek, Alaska.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The applicant's stated purpose is to provide visitors with a positive experience at a unique and beautiful property by constructing a small private campground and visitor center for RVs and camping tents (up to a week).

<u>PROPOSED WORK</u>: To fill 0.30-acre of estuarine wetlands with 1,066 cubic yards to construct a small campground. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3 dated March 12, 2025, and sheet 4 dated March 17, 2025).

<u>APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION</u>: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: The applicant has stated that due to the parcel's small size, avoiding wetland impacts is not feasible, the space proposed for fill is needed to ensure safety of multiple recreational use, including RV parking and turning around.
- b. Minimization: The applicant would be implementing best management practices to minimize impacts to adjacent wetlands. Minimization measures would include installing silt curtains to minimize sediment transport, reseeding disturbed areas, and install a culvert to maintain hydrological connectivity in the wetland slough to maintain hydrological connectivity.
- c. Compensatory Mitigation: The applicant is proposing purchasing credits from the Harmany Mitigation Bank to offset unavoidable losses of wetlands.

<u>WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION</u>: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no cultural resources in the permit area, however, there are cultural resources within the vicinity of the permit area. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at this time. The Corps has made a No Adverse Effect determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Federally recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties. Any comments SHPO, Federally recognized Tribes, other consulting parties, and ACHP may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

<u>ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The general project area is within the known or historic range of the Cook Inlet Distinctive Population Segment (DPS) of the beluga whale (*Delphinapterus leucas*) and its critical habitat.

We have determined the described activity would have no effect on the Cook Inlet DPS of beluga whales and would have no effect on the species designated critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Therefore, no consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. However, any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

<u>ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT</u>: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

The project area is within mapped EFH for all five (5) species of salmon: sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*), silver salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*), king salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*).

We have determined the described activity would not adversely affect EFH in the project area.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Corps fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Corps, Alaska District, on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This public notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal rights or resources. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander. This application is being coordinated with federally recognized tribes and other consulting parties. Any comments federal recognized tribes and other consulting parties may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by the work under the requested permit will be considered in the Corps final assessment of the described work.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

<u>EVALUATION</u>: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be

relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

<u>AUTHORITY</u>: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities: (X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States – Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings are enclosed with this public notice.

District Commander U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

PROJECT DRAWINGS: LOCATION MAPS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

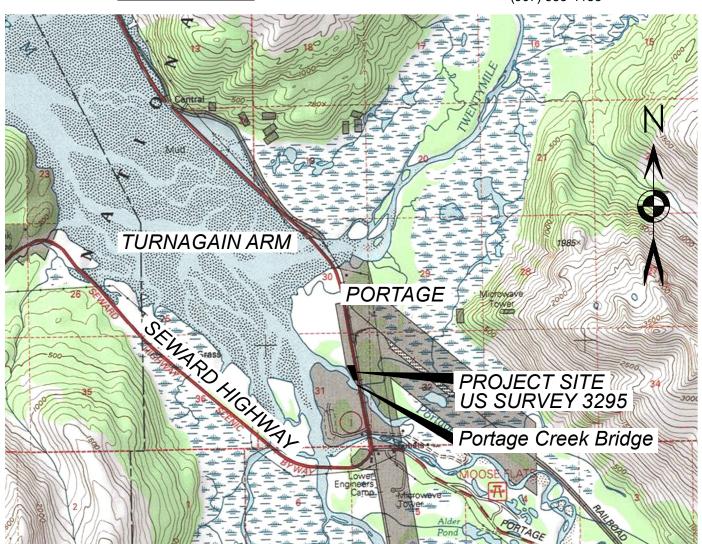


OWNER

Irina Shupilova P.O. Box 233502 Anchorage, AK 99523 (907) 231-3188

CONSULTANT

ALL POINTS NORTH LLC P.O. Box 4207 Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 355-4185



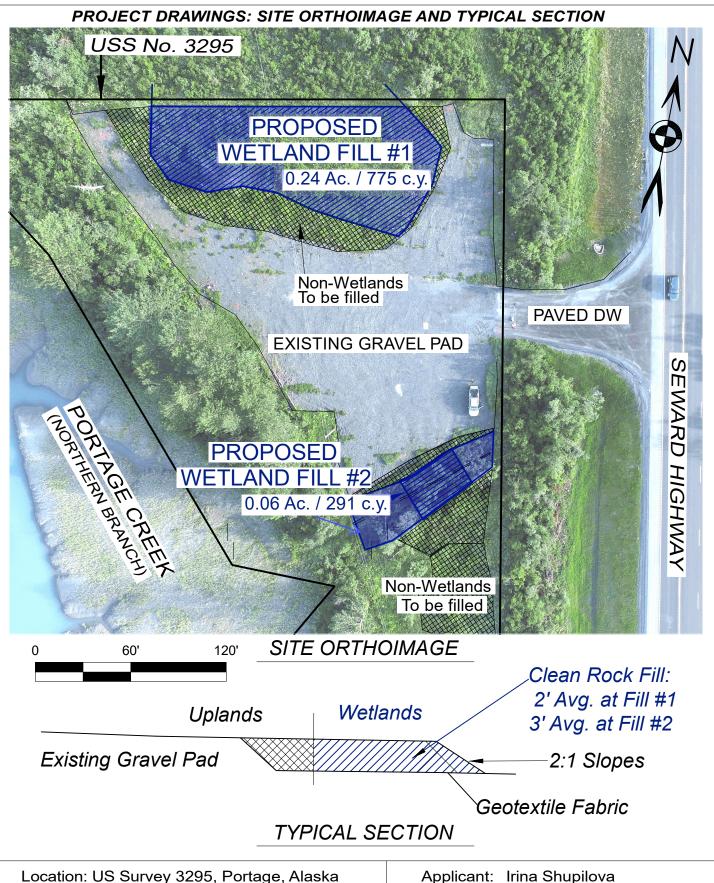


LOCATION MAP

Location: US Survey 3295, Portage, Alaska Township 9 North, Range 3 East, Sec. 21, SM Latitude: 60.83016° Longitude: 148.97988° Muni Parcel ID: 09019101000 Grid: SE6625 Waterways: Portage Creek, Turnigan Arm Applicant: Irina Shupilova
No: POA-2024-00658
Title: 2024 Pad Construction

Sheet: Sheet 1 of 4

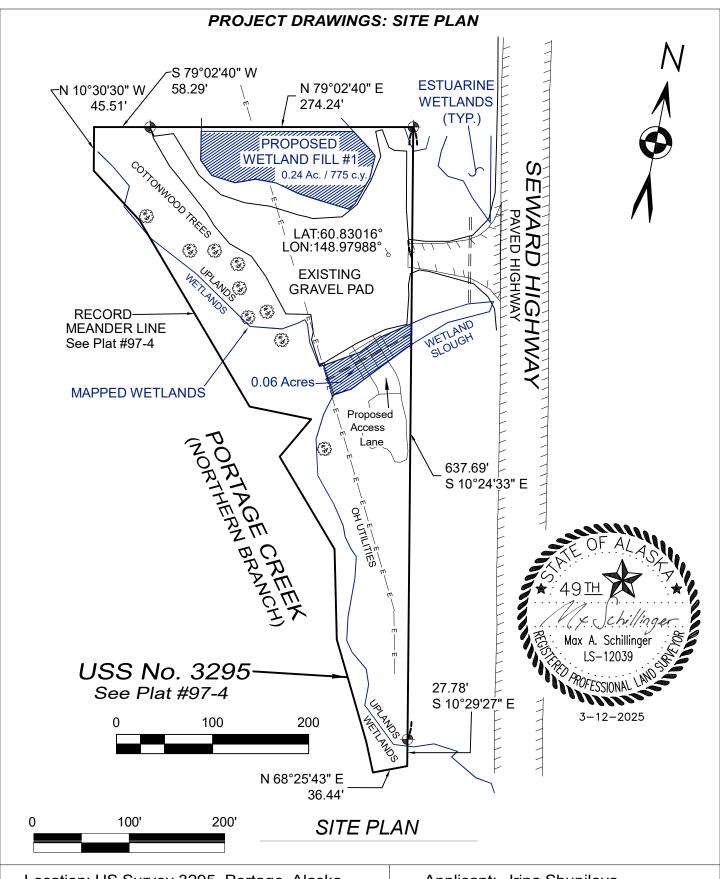
Date: July 22, 2024 rev 3-12-2025



Location: US Survey 3295, Portage, Alaska Township 9 North, Range 3 East, Sec. 21, SM Latitude: 60.83016° Longitude: 148.97988° Muni Parcel ID: 09019101000 Grid: SE6625 Waterways: Portage Creek, Turnigan Arm Applicant: Irina Shupilova
No: POA-2024-00658
Title: 2024 Pad Construction

Sheet: Sheet 2 of 4

Date: July 22, 2024 rev 3-12-2025

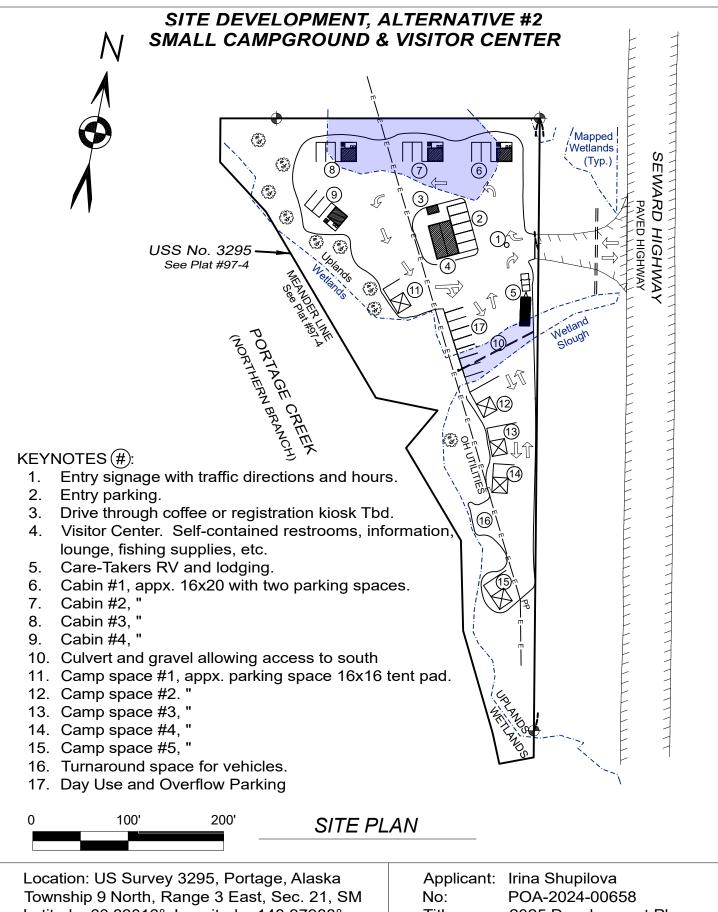


Location: US Survey 3295, Portage, Alaska Township 9 North, Range 3 East, Sec. 21, SM Latitude: 60.83016° Longitude: 148.97988° Muni Parcel ID: 09019101000 Grid: SE6625 Waterways: Portage Creek, Turnigan Arm Applicant: Irina Shupilova
No: POA-2024-00658

Title: 2024 Pad Construction

Sheet: Sheet 3 of 4

Date: July 22, 2024 rev 3-12-2025



Location: US Survey 3295, Portage, Alaska Township 9 North, Range 3 East, Sec. 21, SM Latitude: 60.83016° Longitude: 148.97988° Muni Parcel ID: 09019101000 Grid: SE6625 Waterways: Portage Creek, Turnigan Arm

Title: 2025 Development Plan

Sheet: Sheet 4 of 4

Date: Sept 29, 2025 rev 3/17/2025