



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 861-8689 • Fax (907) 861-8669

Mike.Brown@matsugov.us

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2024
TO: Mayor and Assembly
FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager
RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Fish Passage Program Summary: The fish passage program has replaced nine (9) fish passage barriers on anadromous creeks and streams throughout the Mat-Su Borough since 2020. Two were replaced in 2024 on Crocker Creek at Settler's Bay Drive and a Meadow Creek tributary along West Lakes Boulevard. More detailed information is provided in the attachments below.

Online Land Sales: The Land and Resource Management (LRM) Division will offer two Borough-owned land sales this fall. Public Surplus is the online platform that will be used for the competitive auctions. The first land sales will be for tax-foreclosed properties. The online catalog of those properties will be available for public viewing beginning September 30, 2024. Online bidding will be from October 14 through noon (12 p.m.) on October 29. Payment will include a 5% buyer's premium, and the winning bid needs to be paid by 5 p.m. on November 5. The online catalog, Public Surplus links, and more will be available at www.matsugov.us/landsales as we are nearing the sale.

After the tax-foreclosed auction, the LRM Division will open a Competitive Borough Land sales auction on November 4, 2024. Online bidding will start on November 18, and the auction will close on December 3 at noon (12 p.m.). The brochure will be available on our website and the Public Surplus website starting November 4, 2024. Borough financing is available for these parcels, and the winning bidder must close within 30 days.

Public Affairs Media Flyover:

Fisheries

- [How to report your dipnet harvest online by Aug. 31](#)
Frontiersman
- [NFWF announces \\$1.2 M in matching grant funds available for fish and wildlife habitat](#)
Alaska News Source

Transportation

- [Safer Streets priority for Mat-Su](#)
KTNA

- New effort underway to secure funds for Port Mac Rail Extension
Frontiersman

Assembly

- Assembly approves \$33.82 in road bonds for voter approval
Frontiersman
- Assembly wants a proposed West Susitna Road moved so industrial traffic can access port
Mat-Su Sentinel
- Split vote has borough Assembly favoring planned West-Su Susitna Road Access
Frontiersman
- Should the Mat-Su Borough fix these roads?
Mat-Su Sentinel

State Fair

- Winner named in State Fair's annual great pumpkin weigh off contest
Alaska News Source

Cities

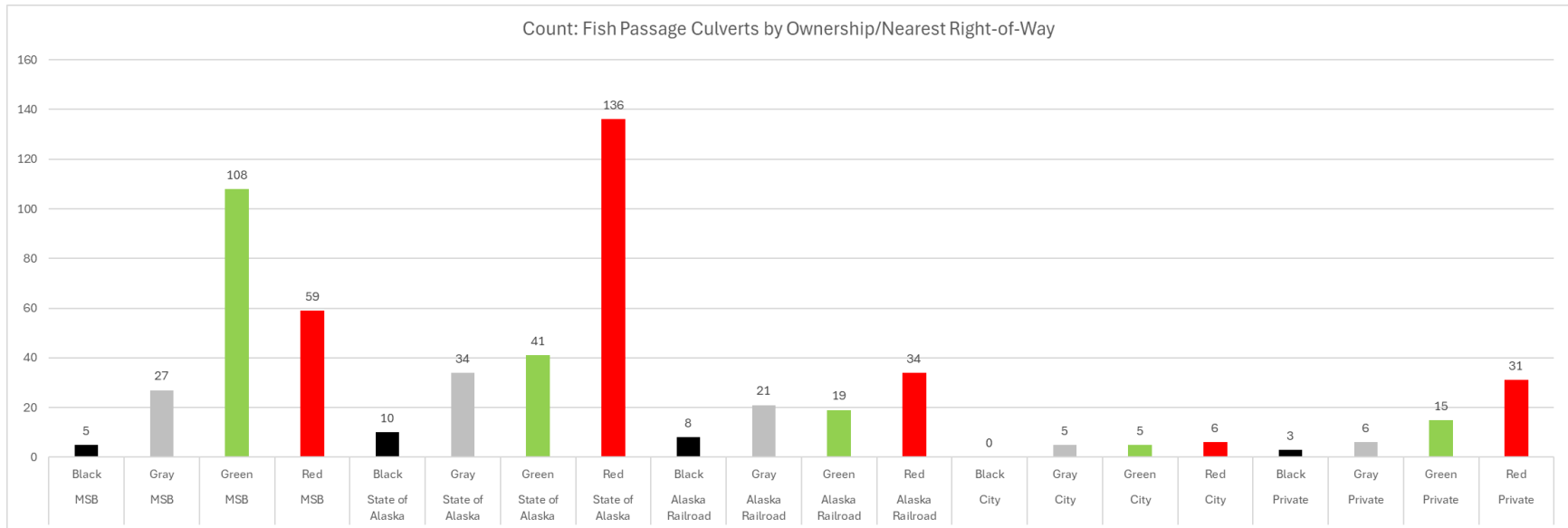
- Palmer's new City Manager says his past controversies won't be a problem
Mat-Su Sentinel

Election

- Few Surprises in low turnout state primary election
Frontiersman
- Wasilla Rep. Jesse Sumner drops out of Alaska House race
ADN

Future Events:

- Sat., September 28 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., 16th Annual Mat-Su Emergency Preparedness Expo, Menard Sports Complex, 1001 S. Clapp Street, Wasilla



A green status means the culvert is passable for juvenile salmon, red means it is not, grey is marginal, and black is undetermined. ADF&G biologists provide these ratings and have detailed information online on their mapper under the “Fish Passage” tab at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/1a4eb07b42ff4ebb8c71ba45adaedf0c/>.

As you can see from the above chart, the Borough continues to make significant progress on fish passage improvements. The following table shows recent work, ongoing projects, and new applications being worked on by staff.

Fish Passage Projects 2020-2024					
Completed Projects					
Year	Project Name	Cost			
2020	Ridgecrest Rd at Blodgett Lake Fish Passage Improvements	\$ 252,784.00			
2020	Cottonwood Creek at Marble Way	\$ 712,000.00			
2021	Point Mackenzie Road Culvert Replacement - Goose Creek (done by AKDOT)	\$ 77,934.48			
2021	Cloudy Lake at Philips Drive (off Meadow Lakes Loop)	\$ 393,000.00			
2022	Caswell Creek at Hidden Hills Road	\$ 479,000.00			
2022	O'Brien Creek at Royal Lane	\$ 368,000.00			
2022	O'Brien Creek at O'Grady Drive	\$ 353,000.00			
2023	O'Brien Creek at Rubacaba Street	\$ 280,000.00			
2024	Crocker Creek at Settlers Bay Drive	\$ 928,000.00			
2024	Meadow Creek Tributaries at Lakes Boulevard (Big Lake)	\$ 150,000.00			
		Total	\$ 3,993,718.48		
Ongoing Fish Passage Projects					
Const. Yr	Project Name	Granting Agency	Current Task	Grant	Local (Match)
2025	Caswell Creek Middle Tributary at Hidden Hills Road	TIP 21	Construction	\$ -	\$ 450,000.00
2025	Neklason Lake at Homebuilt Circle	NOAA/AKSSF 56007	ROW Acquisition	\$ 296,000.00	\$ 104,000.00
2025	Lynda Lake Portage at Beaver Lake Road	NOAA/AKSSF 56007	Design	\$ 296,000.00	\$ 103,200.00
2026	Cottonwood Creek at Fern Street	NOAA/AKSSF 57004	ROW Acquisition	\$ 390,000.00	\$ 210,000.00
2026	Coal Creek at Sushana Drive	NOAA/AKSSF 57004	Design Procurement	\$ 438,750.00	\$ 235,868.00
2026	Meadow Creek at Birch Rd., Larae Rd., Kenlar Rd. (Partnering w/Knik Tribe)	FHWA	Predesign	\$1,697,410.00	\$ -
2025	Birch Creek Tributary at Mastodon Road	NOAA/AKSSF 55008	PD&E (in-house) Design	\$ 236,000.00	\$ 82,000.00
			Total	\$3,354,160.00	\$1,185,068.00
Ongoing Fish Passage Projects - in Application Phase					
Const. Yr	Project Name	Granting Agency	Current Task	Grant	Local (Match)
2027	Kings/Anderson Lake connection culvert and Charley Drive	NOAA/AKSSF	App. Submitted	\$1,258,470.00	\$ -
2027	Kings/Anderson Lake connection culvert and Charley Drive	USFWS/NFHP	App. Development	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
TBD	Plumley Maud Trail at Robert's Creek	USFWS/NFHP	App. Development	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
2026	Coal Creek/Sushanna (applying for additional funds)	USFWS/NFHPP FFY24	App. Submitted	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
2026	Cottonwood/Fern Street (applying for additional funds)	USFWS/NFHPP FFY25	App. Submitted	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
2025	Neklason Lake/Homebuilt (Legislation to accept & appropriate in progress)	USFWS/NFHPP FFY23	App. Awarded	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
TBD	Oceanview Drive and - in partnership w/Chicaloon (NOAA 2024) (Panoramic Rd - Access off Moos	TBD	App. Development	\$ 740,000.00	\$ -
TBD	Oilwell Rd. MP 8	TBD	App. Development	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 475,000.00
TBD	Oilwell Rd. MP 9	TBD	App. Development	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 475,000.00
			Total	\$2,658,470.00	\$1,370,000.00