

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

Larry DeVilbiss, Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Brian Endle, District 1
Thomas Healy, District 2
John Klapperich, Chair, District 3
Bruce Walden, District 4
William Kendig, District 5
Tomas Adams, District 6
Vern Rauchenstein, District 7



John Moosey, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT

Eileen Probasco, Director of Planning &
Land Use

Lauren Driscoll, Planning Services Chief
Alex Strawn, Development Services
Manager

Paul Hulbert, Platting Officer
Mary Brodigan, Planning Clerk

*Assembly Chambers of the
Dorothy Swanda Jones Building
350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer*

March 2, 2015 REGULAR MEETING 6:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Commission and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission Member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

A. MINUTES

1. December 1, 2014, regular meeting minutes
2. December 15, 2014, regular meeting minutes
3. January 5, 2015, regular meeting minutes
4. February 2, 2015, regular meeting minutes

B. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS

1. **Resolution 15-08**, A conditional use permit under MSB 17.25 – Talkeetna Special Use District to allow for the construction of three additional cabins at Susitna River Lodging. This property is located within the Spur Road Central District which requires a conditional use permit for commercial uses over 6,000 square feet in size. This property is located at 23094 S. Talkeetna Spur Road; within Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Section 25, Seward Meridian, Parcel #D4. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (*Applicant: Howard and Darlene Hunter, Staff: Susan Lee*)

C. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

1. **Resolution 15-07**, A resolution recommending approval to name a lake within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as “Chida/Tsucde Lake. Township 17 North, Range 02 East, Section 17. Seward Meridian. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
2. **Resolution 15-09**, A resolution recommending approval to change the geographic names of two lakes, a creek and a mountain within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough from Deadman’s Lake to Kacaagh Lake, from Big Lake to Lowland Kacaagh Lake, from Deadman’s Creek to Kacaagh Creek, and from Deadman’s Mountain to Kacaagh Mountain. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
3. **Resolution 15-10**, A resolution recommending the Assembly request that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) address the issue of identifying the causes of Cottonwood Creek being designated as an impaired waterbody. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
4. **Resolution 15-11**, A resolution recommending the Assembly form and fund an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VI. AGENCY/STAFF REPORTS

- A. MSB Comp Plan/SpUD 101. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)

VII. LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*three minutes per person, for items not scheduled for public hearing*)IX. PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS (*Public Hearing to begin at 6:15 p.m.*)

Commission members may not receive or engage in ex-parte contact with the applicant, other parties interested in the application, or members of the public concerning the application or issues presented in the application.

The Planning Commission members may submit questions to the Planning Commission Clerk concerning the following matters or request for more information from the applicant at the time of the introduction. All questions and requests submitted by the Commission shall be in writing and copies will be provided to the applicant and made available to all interested parties and the public upon request. Answers to questions and additional material requests will be addressed in the staff report for the public hearing.

X. PUBLIC HEARING: LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

- A. **Resolution 15-05**, A resolution recommending the Assembly adopt the updated MSB Library Strategic Plan. Public Hearing: March 2, 2015. (Staff: Hugh Leslie)

XI. CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

- A. Meadow Lakes Community Council regular meeting minutes – January 15, 2015.
- B. Meadow Lakes Community Council – Motion to Rescind Meadow Lakes Special Use District.
- C. Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) February 25, 2015, Agenda and January 21, 2015, Draft Minutes.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Upcoming Planning Commission Agenda Items (*Staff: Eileen Probasco*)

XV. DIRECTOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

XVI. ADJOURNMENT (Mandatory Midnight)

In order to be eligible to file an appeal from a decision of the Planning Commission, a person must be designated an interested party. See MSB 15.39.010 for definition of "Interested Party." The procedures governing appeals to the Board of Adjustment & Appeals are contained in MSB 15.39.010-250, which is available on the Borough Internet home page, <http://www.matsugov.us>, in the Borough Clerk's office, or at various libraries within the Borough.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting Minutes

(Page 5 - 40)

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

December 1, 2014

(Page 7 - 16)

MINUTES

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission was held on December 1, 2014, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair John Klapperich.

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Planning Commission members present and establishing a quorum:

Mr. Brian Endle, Assembly District #1
Mr. Thomas Healy, District #2
Mr. John Klapperich, Assembly District #3 *Chair*
Mr. William Kendig, Assembly District #5
Mr. Vern Rauchenstein, District #7

Planning Commission members absent were:

Mr. Bruce Walden, Assembly District #4
Mr. Tomas Adams, Assembly District #6

Staff in attendance:

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager
Ms. Lauren Driscoll, Planning Services Chief
Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Attorney
Ms. Laura Newton, Assistant Borough Attorney
Ms. Lonnie McKechnie, Borough Clerk
Ms. Susan Lee, Planner II
Ms. Pamela Graham, Grants & Project Coordinator
Ms. Mary Brodigan, Planning Commission Clerk

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Klapperich inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved without objection.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Assemblymember Matthew Beck.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Minutes**

(There were no minutes available.)

A. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS

(There were introductions for quasi-judicial matters.)

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014****B. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

1. **Resolution 14-35**, a resolution recommending modifications to the proposed Tall Structures Ordinance to be consistent with recent changes in Federal Regulations. Public Hearing: December 15, 2014. (*Staff: Alex Strawn*)

Chair Klapperich read the consent agenda into the record.

Chair Klapperich inquired if there were any changes to the consent agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The consent agenda was approved without objection.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(There were no committee reports.)

VI. AGENCY/STAFF REPORTS

(There were no agency or staff reports.)

VII. LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

(There were no land use classifications.)

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke regarding public process: Mr. Eugene Haberman.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS (*Public Hearing not to begin before 6:15 P.M.*)

Commission members may not receive or engage in ex-parte contact with the applicant, other parties interested in the application, or members of the public concerning the application or issues presented in the application.

- A. **Resolution 14-33**, a resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit, in accordance with 17.60.030 Permit Required, for the operation of an Inert Material Monofill on MSB Parcels 17N02E18C010 and 17N02E19B006. (*Applicant: CMS*)

Chair Klapperich read the resolution title into the record.

Chair Klapperich:

- read the standard memorandum into the record regarding quasi-judicial actions;
- queried commissioners to determine if any of them have a financial interest in the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP);
- have had any ex parte contact with the applicant, members of the public, or interested parties in the proposed CUP; and

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

- if all commissioners are able to be impartial in a decision.

Commissioner Kendig:

- stated that he has not done business with the applicant, but has done business with a sister corporation of theirs;
- he sold recyclables to them; and
- stated that he doesn't feel that he has a conflict in hearing this application.

Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney, asked Commissioner Kendig to explain the nature of his relationship with the sister corporation.

Commissioner Kendig:

- stated that they are not his main buyer, but he has done business with them in the past when they offered a higher price for his scrap metal;
- opined that it was a similar situation as with the CUP for the 49th Street recycling business; and
- the last time he did business with them was late summer or early fall of this year.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- referred to MSB 2.71.080 which states that a municipal official shall recuse himself from acting on a matter or proceeding if they have done business with the applicant within a twelve month period;
- opined that based on the bright line rule set by the MSB Assembly, it appears that Mr. Kendig has a conflict since he did business with an arm of the applicants business within the last few months; and
- urged the commission to allow the applicant to question Commissioner Kendig.

Mr. Bill Ingaldson;

- stated that he is the attorney representing CMS;
- based on the business dealing as described by Commissioner Kendig, opined that they are not an ongoing client of Commissioner Kendig;
- it is no different than if someone were to purchase tires from Target;
- opined that borough code is intended to address an issue of an ongoing regular relationship.

Chair Klapperich asked Commissioner Kendig if he can be impartial in this decision.

Commissioner Kendig stated that he spent hours and hours reviewing the material, and that he feels that he can be impartial.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- stated that code does not have a provision for trying to surmise the scope of the client relationship;
- the Assembly has set a bright line rule that no official is supposed to sit when they have interacted with an applicant within the proceeding twelve months;
- acknowledged the applicant's argument with regards to this matter, but stated that it's not code; and

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

- urged the commission to follow code and lodge an objection so as not to build an error into the record.

Chair Klapperich suggested that the business transaction was small and insignificant, and questioned if there is a level on the amount of substantial financial interest.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- stated that there is a separate ethics provision that deals with substantial financial interest;
- opined that the provision that the Chair is referring to would also disqualify a commission member from sitting; and
- Commissioner Kendig clearly stated that the applicant was his client just three months ago.

Commissioner Kendig:

- stated that he did not do business with CMS, but with Central Recycling Services (CRS) which is a separate corporation; and
- acknowledged that some of the same people may be involved in the different corporations.

Mr. Stuart Jacques, President of Central Monofill Services:

- stated that the important issue is the term client;
- client implies a fiduciary relationship between the parties; and
- opined that this is not the case in this matter.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- referred to an email from Mr. Shane Durand on page 2138 of the packet which clarifies the relationship between the corporations;
- it states that CRS owns and operates the recycling facilities and holds the contract with CMS to run the monofills;
- the last line of the email states "separate companies, same owners"; and
- cautioned the commission once again that they may be building an error into the record.

Discussion ensued as to whether Commissioner Kendig should be recused.

Chair Klapperich asked the commission if there is any objection to allowing Commissioner Kendig participate in the vote to remain sitting.

Commissioner Endle objected.

Mr. Aschenbrenner stated that once Commissioner Kendig made a decision not to recuse himself, it would not be appropriate for him to vote on whether he should be recused.

Discussion ensued regarding the commission voting on whether or not Commissioner Kendig should be recused.

Chair Klapperich called for a five minute recess to confer with the Borough Clerk and the Planning Commission Clerk.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

(The meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m., and reconvened at 7:20 p.m.)

MOTION: Commissioner Healy made a motion to ask the commission if Commissioner Kendig should remain sitting for Resolution 14-33. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion failed by a vote of three to one with Commissioner Endle in opposition. (Four affirmative votes are required to pass)

(Commissioner Kendig exited the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich:

- stated that he will open the public hearing this evening so that everyone in attendance that would like to speak can speak;
- recommended that the public hearing be continued to the next meeting so that Commissioners Adams and Walden can participate; and
- will ask them to listen to the audio of the meeting so that they will be up to speed.

Mr. Ingaldson:

- opined that the commission made a mistake with the way that they handled Commissioner Kendig; and
- requested that the full public meeting be postponed until the next meeting so that the two commissioners that are absent can participate.

Mr. Aschenbrenner stated that the commissioners that are absent can participate in the discussion at the next meeting if they review the record and listen to the audio recording.

Chair Klapperich asked if there was any objection to continuing the public hearing.

There was no objection noted.

Mr. Jacques requested that they give their presentation at the next meeting.

Mr. Aschenbrenner stated that it is not normal for the public to comment prior to the applicant providing their overview.

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager, stated that it is a normal part of the procedure for the applicant to give a presentation before the public hearing and then to respond to comments after the public hearing is closed.

Ms. Susan Lee and Mr. Strawn provided a staff report:

- staff recommended approval of the resolution with conditions.

Commissioner Healy referred to page 66 of the packet and questioned whether ADEC has approved the application.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

Ms. Lori Aldridge, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Solid Waste Program:

- ADEC has declared that the application is complete and sent it out for public notice;
- there was an error in the first public notice and it was sent out for a second public notice which will remain open until December 29th; and
- at that time ADEC will review and analyze the information collected and will produce a decision document which will respond to all of the comments.

Commissioners questioned staff regarding the proposed Glenn Highway expansion and whether it will result in the applicant being subject to another public hearing and review.

Mr. Stuart Jacques, President of CMS, provided an overview of their application.

Commissioners questioned the applicant regarding:

- where the cover material will come from;
- what are the standards for long term monitoring of sites and who is responsible for monitoring;
- requested that Mr. Jacques present his recommendations for conditions;
- what is the perfect score that the applicant referred to; and
- clarification of the applicants statement that there will be little or no water that will leach.

Chair Klapperich opened the public hearing.

The following people spoke in favor of Resolution 14-33: Mr. Charles Homan, Mr. Landen Lovell, Mr. Paul Weir, Mr. Brian Goodman, Mr. Fred Thompson, Mr. Wes Walling, and Mr. Caleb Moffitt.

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution 14-33: Ms. Rose Williams, Mr. Craig Kelly, Ms. Sarah Mayfield, Ms. Bonnie Kelly, Mr. Richard Harbuck, Vice President Gateway Community Council, Ms. Robin Bumgardner, Mr. Charles Young, Ms. Samantha Oslund, Mr. Bill Quantick, Mr. Ben VanderWeele, Mr. John Stuart, Ms. DeLena Johnson, City of Palmer Mayor, Ms. Diane Warta, Mr. Arthur Keyes, Mr. Kent Johnson for Rosanne Leiner, Ms. Vicky Ramage for Rachel Garnett, Ms. Lisa Kallander, Mr. Jesse Saxton, Mr. Joe Moore, Mr. Dennis Wetherell, Mr. Don Berberich, Mr. Kent Johnson, Mr. Gabe Jenkins, Mr. Johnnie Davis, Ms. Sarah Walcott, Ms. Judy Crosby, and Ms. Linea Crosby for Mr. Norman Crosby.

The following person spoke regarding Resolution 14-33: Ms. Lori Aldrich, Regional Program Manager for the Solid Waste Program of ADEC.

The following person spoke regarding the public process for Resolution 14-33: Mr. Eugene Haberman.

(The meeting recessed at 10:26 p.m., and reconvened at 10:33 p.m.)

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution 14-33: Ms. Stephanie Nowers, Mr. Chris Kepler, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Mr. Paul Johnson, Mr. James Munter, Hydrogeologist for J.A. Munter Consulting, Inc., Ms. Kathy Jo Johnson, Mr. Scott Wells.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

The following person spoke in favor of Resolution 14-33: Mr. Nate Kruk.

Chair Klapperich invited the applicant to respond to comments and statements made by the public.

Mr. Stuart Jacques responded to comments and statements made by the public.

Mr. Alex Strawn responded to a statement made by Mr. Jacques regarding a staff site visit to the Birchwood site.

MOTION: Commissioner Healy moved to continue the public hearing until December 15, 2014. The motion was seconded.

Discussion ensued regarding not accepting new information that is received after noon the Friday before the Planning Commission meeting.

Chair Klapperich stated that no new material should be accepted and provided to the commission if it is received after 12:00 noon the Friday before the meeting.

VOTE: The motion to continue the public hearing for Resolution 14-33 passed without objection.

X. PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

(There were no legislative public hearings.)

XI. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

(There was no correspondence and information.)

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(There was no unfinished business.)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

(There was no new business.)

XIV. COMMISSION BUSINESS**A. Upcoming Planning Commission Agenda Items**

Mr. Strawn provided a brief update on projects that will be coming before the Planning Commission.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014****XV. DIRECTOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Rauchenstein:

- thanked all the people for showing up;
- acknowledged that we have all built our homes and created waste;
- questioned where everyone puts their waste;
- stated that he puts his waste in the dump;
- CMS is trying to make use of the waste; and
- opined that this is a difficult decision.

Chair Klapperich:

- stated that he is encouraged by the participation in this process;
- we have to figure out ways to take care of our communities and our water and our air;
- we have to work together to find the best solution;
- stated that he is committed to doing this; and
- he appreciates the applicants patience and the boroughs patience.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:22 p.m.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Planning Commission
Chair

ATTEST:

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Commission
Clerk*Minutes approved:* _____

MINUTES

December 15, 2014

(Page 17 - 28)

MINUTES

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission was held on December 15, 2014, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair John Klapperich.

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Planning Commission members present and establishing a quorum:

Mr. Brian Endle, Assembly District #1

Mr. Thomas Healy, District #2

Mr. John Klapperich, Assembly District #3 *Chair*

Mr. Bruce Walden, Assembly District #4 (*attended the meeting telephonically until his arrival at 6:25 p.m.*)

Mr. William Kendig, Assembly District #5

Mr. Tomas Adams, Assembly District #6 (*arrived at 6:57 p.m.*)

Mr. Vern Rauchenstein, District #7

Staff in attendance:

Ms. Eileen Probasco, Planning & Land Use Director

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager

Ms. Lauren Driscoll, Planning Services Chief

Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Attorney

Ms. Laura Newton, Assistant Borough Attorney

Ms. Susan Lee, Planner II

Ms. Pamela Graham, Grants & Project Coordinator

Ms. Mary Brodigan, Planning Commission Clerk

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Klapperich inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved without objection.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Assemblymember Matthew Beck.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Minutes**

(There were no minutes available.)

B. 2015 Planning Commission Meeting Schedule**C. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS**

(There were no introductions for quasi-judicial matters.)

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014****D. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

(There were no introductions for legislative matters.)

GENERAL CONSENT: The consent agenda was approved without objection.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(There were no committee reports.)

VI. AGENCY/STAFF REPORTS

(There were no agency or staff reports.)

VII. LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

(There were no land use classifications.)

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke regarding Meadow Lakes Community SpUD: Mr. Phil Bindon.

The following person spoke regarding public meeting process: Mr. Eugene Haberman.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS *(Public Hearing not to begin before 6:15 P.M.)*

Commission members may not receive or engage in ex-parte contact with the applicant, other parties interested in the application, or members of the public concerning the application or issues presented in the application.

- A. **Resolution 14-33**, a resolution approving a Conditional Use Permit, in accordance with 17.60.030 Permit Required, for the operation of an Inert Material Monofill on MSB Parcels 17N02E18C010 and 17N02E19B006. *(Continued from the December 1, 2014 Meeting. Applicant: CMS)*

Chair Klapperich asked Commissioner Kendig if he has any new information to add that was not previously disclosed.

Commissioner Kendig stated that he has nothing additional to add.

(Commissioner Kendig exited the meeting at 6:15 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich read the resolution title into the record.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

Chair Klapperich:

- read the standard memorandum into the record regarding quasi-judicial actions;
- queried commissioners to determine if any of them have a financial interest in the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP);
- have had any ex parte contact with the applicant, members of the public, or interested parties in the proposed CUP; and
- if all commissioners are able to be impartial in a decision.

Chair Klapperich:

- reminded everyone that this is a continuation of the public hearing opened on December 1, 2015;
- stated that those that have not testified will be allowed to speak first;
- those that have already testified may have an opportunity to speak again if time permits; and
- the applicant will have an opportunity to respond after the conclusion of the public hearing.

(Commissioner Walden arrived at 6:25 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich asked Commissioner Walden if he had listened to the audio recording from the December 1, 2014, Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Walden responded that he listened to the recording and reviewed the record.

Chair Klapperich read the standard memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions, and asked Commissioner Walden if he could be impartial in this decision.

Commissioner Walden responded "yes".

Mr. Ingaldson, Attorney for CMS:

- stated that he has concerns regarding the recusal of Commissioner Kendig;
- noted that Commissioner Rauchenstein had filed a written motion to reconsider the motion to recuse Commissioner Kendig;
- acknowledged that Commissioner Rauchenstein may have decided not to bring the motion forward; and
- stated that he would like it on the record.

Commissioner Rauchenstein:

- stated that he had intended to rethink the recusal of Commissioner Kendig; and
- he changed his mind after reading the letter from the borough attorney which said that there had been ex parte contact between Commissioner Kendig and the applicant.

Chair Klapperich continued the public hearing.

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution 14-33: Mr. Ken Smith, Mr. Stan Gillespie of the Gateway Community Council, Mr. Aaron Kallas, and Mr. Mark Drake.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

The following people spoke regarding the history of the site and the involvement of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR): Mr. Charlie Cobb, State Dam Safety Engineer in the Water Resources Section, and Mr. David Schade, Water Resources Section Chief in the Division of Mining, Oil, and Water.

(Commissioner Adams entered the meeting at 6:57 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich asked Commissioner Adams if he had listened to the audio recording and reviewed the record from the December 1, 2014, Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Adams responded that he had listened to the recording and reviewed the record.

Chair Klapperich read the standard memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions, and asked Commissioner Adams if he could be impartial in this decision.

Commissioner Adams responded "yes".

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution 14-33: Mr. David Gilley, Ms. Michelle Roundtree, Mr. Norman Crosby for Ms. Linea Crosby, Mr. Chris Sahlstrom, Mr. John Rozzi, Ms. Evelyn Bunch, Ms. Barbara Landi, Mr. David Palmer, Mr. Eric Quam, Ms. Marie Payne, Ms. Helen Hoffman, Mr. Samuel Raynovic, Ms. Stephanie Nowers for her husband, Stephen Nowers, Mr. Tony Bluma, Mr. Tony Sellen, Ms. Kellie Ballard-Chambers, Mr. Jeffrey Vincent, Mr. Jim Cassidy, Mr. Barry Orzalli, and Ms. Heather Orzalli.

The following person spoke in favor of Resolution 14-33: Mr. Larry Helgeson, Design Engineer for the monofill.

(The meeting recessed at 8:00 p.m., and reconvened at 8:10 p.m.)

The following people spoke in opposition of Resolution 14-33: Mr. Jesse Hronkin, Ms. Melodie Wright, Mr. Emmitt Leffel, Ms. Gerry Keeling, Mr. Ray Jeffers, Mr. Joe Hannan, City Manager of Palmer, Mr. Ben VanderWeele for Mr. Roger VanderWeele, Mr. Romie Deschamps, Mr. Rick Fleming, Mr. Cheyenne Guard, Ms. Stephanie Figon, Ms. Melanie Glatt, Ms. Emily Longbrake of the Alaska Community Action on Toxics, Ms. Peggy Egelus, Mr. Bill Longbrake, Mr. Murph O'Brien, Ms. Rachel Gernat, Ms. Judy Crosby, Ms. Bonnie Kelly, Mr. Joe Moore, Mr. Sarah Wolcuff, Mr. Dave Jenkins, Ms. Diane Warta, Mr. Kent Johnson, Mr. Bill Quantick, Ms. Stephanie Nowers, Mr. Joe Figon, and Ms. Kristen Lewis.

The following people spoke in favor of Resolution 14-33: Ms. Donna Mears, Mr. Grant Goulet, Mr. Glen Price, and Mr. Bill Ingaldson.

The following person spoke regarding public process: Mr. Eugene Haberman.

Chair Klapperich invited the applicant to respond to questions and statements made by members of the public.

Mr. Stuart Jacques, President of CMS:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

- introduced Mr. Dan Young of TERRASAT, Inc. and Mr. Larry Helgeson of Environmental Management, Inc.;
- responded to questions and statements from public testimony and ADNR; and
- suggested changes that he would like to see to the proposed conditions.

Chair Klapperich invited staff to respond to questions and statements from public testimony.

Mr. Alex Strawn suggested changes to proposed conditions in response to comments made by the public.

There being no one else to be heard, Chair Klapperich closed the public hearing and discussion moved to the Planning Commission.

Commissioners questioned the applicant regarding:

- status of the ADEC permit;
- what happens after the monofill is filled up and closes, and who is the responsible party;
- who has the obligation if the property is sold;
- how will the Glenn Highway expansion affect the monofill plan specifically with a proposed intersection;
- clarification of reclamation requirements with regards to pre-existing legal nonconforming rights;
- how much of Cell A and G will be available if the proposed highway intersection goes in;
- clarification of the discrepancy of how long the groundwater will be monitored after the monofill closes;
- clarification of how much top soil and silt will be provided as coverage;
- what changed in the design plans requiring the maximum finished elevation in the monofill to go from a maximum of 150 feet in elevation to 162 feet;
- will the cells be filled in the order of how they are named (A, B,C, etc.); and
- how will the site be screened from the highway if the berm is removed.

(The meeting recessed at 10:42 p.m., and reconvened at 10:48 p.m.)

MOTION: Commissioner Walden moved to approve Resolution 14-33. The motion was seconded.

Commissioner Healy:

- stated that he has serious concerns about this application, the location, and its compliance with the comprehensive plan;
- opined that this is a health and safety issue;
- the commission has heard overwhelming testimony from the public, the city of Palmer, community councils, and Home Owner Associations (HOAs);
- referred to the Core Area Plan and reuse of gravel pits going towards light industrial;
- has a major concern that there are lots of gravel sites in the area and allowing this type of use in this area will set a precedent;
- concerned about the AKDOT plans for the Glenn Highway Expansion and opined that this needs to be taken into consideration; and

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

- noted that any changes to the monofill plan will be an administrative decision.

Commissioner Endle:

- stated that he was not in favor of the initial application;
- he is looking for something from the applicant showing that they have resolved issues with the water table, ponds, and the wind;
- does not see that in the application;
- acknowledged that the applicant does not have to be a good neighbor, but does have to fulfill the requirements;
- there wasn't enough data to show that the water table will rise or fall, but opined that it is unstable;
- acknowledged the amount of testimony stating that the water levels have risen;
- the applicant has not proven that they meet the qualifications for the permit;
- does not buy that this is considered an arid climate;
- questioned the lack of a liner and that the applicant does not want to modify the design; and
- stated that he is not in favor of granting the permit.

Commissioner Walden:

- acknowledged the concerns of his fellow commissioners and the concerns of the people in attendance;
- Alaska has been in an economic bubble due to oil;
- opined that the bubble just burst due to the Saudis flooding the market with cheap oil;
- income for Alaskans will start to drop;
- stated that he is in favor of 10, 15 or 30 jobs; and
- suggested that the commission consider that there are hard times coming.

Commissioner Rauchenstein requested that the applicant be required to increase the amount of insurance that they purchase to adequately cover any problem that may occur.

Commissioner Adams:

- acknowledged that no matter what decision the commission makes, there will be someone that is unhappy;
- he is an engineer and understands some of the science, but opined that there is a lot of information that requires additional expertise;
- the applicants hydrologist said there is no risk and the borough's hydrologist says that there is risk;
- ADEC has the scientists and engineers with the background to pick this application apart;
- opined that it's unfortunate that they have not issued their permit which would contain certain stipulations;
- noted that code states that granting a permit will not be harmful to the public; and
- stated that he doesn't know if he has the expertise to vote on this permit.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014****Commissioner Rauchenstein:**

- opined that many of the standards of ADEC and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) are arbitrary;
- stated that he lives in Talkeetna and the water was just fine;
- the EPA changed their standards requiring Talkeetna to upgrade their water system; and
- they recently relaxed their standards after the people of Talkeetna spent about a million dollars to upgrade their water system.

Chair Klapperich:

- highly agrees with Commissioner Adams;
- the more he read, the more that he realized what he didn't know;
- states that due to the fact that this is a quasi-judicial action, he was not able to talk to the engineer, or the applicant, to borough staff, visit Chugiak or Anchorage sites, or research what worked in the Lower 48; and
- if borough staff recommends approval with 40 conditions, opined that it is not his place to overrule them.

Commissioner Healy:

- referred to the lengthy whereas statement regarding the leachate issue that begins on page 2,153 of the packet and goes to page 2,154;
- opined that the whereas statement is almost word for word information provided by the applicants engineers;
- is concerned with the amount of disagreement between experts regarding hydrology;
- the borough hauls about 1.6 million gallons of leachate out of the central landfill which is the same climate as the monofill; and
- acknowledged that this is like not like comparing apples to apples, but considering the risk to groundwater, stated that he cannot support this resolution.

Commissioner Adams:

- referred to emails from DEC and questioned where they will go when they review the application;
- DEC has pointed out questions in the application;
- they noted that there was nothing in the application referring to adding fill to obtain the proper groundwater separation;
- the DEC permit requires that the owner provide adequate bonding and financial assurances, and commented that CMS has not done this;
- they also stated that they will not demand this until the permit is either issued or denied;
- stated that the email from DEC was what caused him to be concerned over the actual design of the landfill;
- the commission does not have the expertise to say if the landfill should or should not be lined;
- Mr. Helgeson made a statement that the lining may cause more harm than good;
- DEC has the scientists and engineers that have the expertise to determine if the monofill should be lined;
- would like the commission to be able to review the DEC permit to see what their conditions are and to fully understand DEC's concerns regarding the design of the landfill

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

and if there is appropriate bonding and insurance should something go wrong and a body of water is polluted;

- stated that he is having a hard time supporting this application and suggested that the applicant pull it until they have the permit from DEC; and
- suggested changing the 30-year expiration date to five years which is in line with the limits suggested by DEC.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved a primary amendment to Condition of Approval number 38 for the Conditional Use Permit to expire on December 31, 2020. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Commissioners Endle and Healy in opposition.

Commissioner Adams:

- stated that there are a number of conditions of approval that he would amend if he had the expertise;
- went back to his original statement that DEC has the expertise; and
- will not be attempting to modify additional conditions because he doesn't know if he will be making them better or not.

MOTION: Commissioner Rauchenstein moved a primary amendment to Condition number 21 by changing 2 feet of topsoil to 18 inches of silt and 6 inches of topsoil.

VOTE: The primary amendment died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Commissioner Rauchenstein moved a primary amendment to change Condition number 23 to state not closer than 12 feet instead of 10 feet.

VOTE: The primary amendment died due to lack of a second.

MOTION: Commissioner Endle moved to close debate and to vote on the main motion. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion to approve Resolution 14-33 failed with Commissioners Endle, Adams, and Healy in opposition.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- stated that he is here on behalf of staff;
- even though the motion did not garner a majority vote, the commission's decision must include findings of fact and conclusions of law;
- the commission has in the past used the 30-day time frame allowed under MSB 17.60.040 to come forward with findings and conclusions; and
- acknowledged the late hour, but encouraged the commission to adopt finding.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

Discussion ensued regarding:

- all commissioners, whether they voted in favor or against the permit, should come up with findings of facts and conclusions of law supporting the denial of Resolution 14-33; and
- the findings will be submitted via email to the clerk by 5:00 p.m. on December 22nd for inclusion in the January 5th meeting packet.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to continue the adoption of findings of fact and conclusions of law to the regular meeting on January 5, 2015, and submitting draft findings of fact and conclusions of law to the clerk by 5:00 p.m. on December 22, 2014. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to continue the adoption of findings of fact and conclusions of law to the January 5, 2015, regular meeting passed without objection.

MOTION: Commissioner Healy moved to postpone all remaining business to the January 5, 2015, regular meeting. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to postpone all remaining business to the January 5, 2015, regular meeting passed without objection.

X. PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

- A. **Resolution 14-35**, a resolution recommending modifications to the proposed Tall Structures Ordinance to be consistent with recent changes in Federal Regulations.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- A. BOAA Case 14-01, Notice of Right to Appeal and Final Order (*Pertaining to PC Resolution 14-21, Sky Ranch Setback Variance*)

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**XIII. NEW BUSINESS****XIV. COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- A. School Site Selection Committee - PC Representative 2 - Commissioner Kendig Term 12/31/14
- B. Upcoming Planning Commission Agenda Items

XV. DIRECTOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2014****XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:57 p.m.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Planning Commission
Chair

ATTEST:

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Commission
Clerk

Minutes approved: _____

MINUTES

January 5, 2015

(Page 29 - 39)

MINUTES

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

The regular meeting of Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission was held on January 5, 2015, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair John Klapperich.

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Planning Commission members present and establishing a quorum:

Mr. Brian Endle, Assembly District #1
Mr. Thomas Healy, District #2
Mr. John Klapperich, Assembly District #3 *Chair*
Mr. Bruce Walden, Assembly District #4 (*arrived at 6:16 p.m.*)
Mr. William Kendig, Assembly District #5
Mr. Tomas Adams, Assembly District #6
Mr. Vern Rauchenstein, District #7

Staff in attendance:

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager
Ms. Lauren Driscoll, Planning Services Chief
Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Attorney
Ms. Laura Newton, Assistant Borough Attorney
Ms. Shannon Bodolay, Assistant Borough Attorney
Ms. Mary Brodigan, Planning Commission Clerk

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Klapperich inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved without objection.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Mike Koskovich, a member of the audience.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Minutes**

(There were no minutes available.)

A. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS

1. **Resolution 15-03**, a Conditional Use Permit in accordance with MSB 17.27 - Sutton Special Land Use District, for the construction and operation of a private outdoor shooting range, located within Township 19 North, Range 3 East, Section 32, Parcel B006; Tax ID# 19N03E32B006, Seward Meridian. Public Hearing: February 2, 2014. (*Applicant: J-TAC, LLC, Staff: Mark Whisenhunt*)

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

2. **Resolution 15-04**, a Conditional Use Permit in accordance with MSB 17.70 - Regulation of Alcoholic Beverage Uses, for the operation of an alcoholic dispensary (bar) at the 907 Club, located within Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Section 21; Tax ID# 54280000T00A, Seward Meridian. Public Hearing: February 2, 2014. (*Applicant: Nine Oh Seven, Inc., Staff: Mark Whisenhunt*)

B. INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING: LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

1. **Resolution 15-02**, a resolution recommending Assembly approval of a route selection for the Seldon Road Extension, Phase II. Public Hearing: February 2, 2015. (*Staff: Michael Campfield*)

Chair Klapperich read the consent agenda into the record.

Chair Klapperich inquired if there were any changes to the consent agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The consent agenda was approved without objection.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(There were no committee reports.)

VI. AGENCY/STAFF REPORTS

(There were no agency/staff reports.)

VII. LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

(There were no land use classifications.)

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following people spoke regarding the Meadow Lakes Community Draft SpUD: Mr. Mike Koskovich, Ms. Linda Conover, Mr. Charles Center, Mr. Mike Sweeley, and Mr. Jon Spiegel.

Commissioner Walden arrived at 6:16 p.m.

The following person spoke about a commissioner possibly having a conflict of interest the CMS Inert Material Monofill CUP application: Mr. Glen Price.

The following person spoke regarding thanking the commissioners for their hard work on the CMS Inert Material Monofill CUP application: Ms. Stephanie Nowers.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015****IX. PUBLIC HEARING: QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS** (*Public Hearing not to begin before 6:15 P.M.*)

Commission members may not receive or engage in ex-parte contact with the applicant, other parties interested in the application, or members of the public concerning the application or issues presented in the application.

(There were no quasi-judicial public hearings.)

X. PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**A. Resolution 14-35**, a resolution recommending modifications to the proposed Tall Structures Ordinance to be consistent with recent changes in Federal Regulations. *Continued from the December 15, 2014, meeting. (Staff: Alex Strawn)*

Commissioner Endle stated that he works for MTA and asked that he be recused from the public hearing for Resolution 14-35, modifications to the Tall Structures Ordinance.

There was no objection noted.

(Commissioner Endle left the room at 6:33 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich read the resolution title into the record.

Mr. Alex Strawn provided a staff report:

- staff recommended approval of the resolution.

Commissioners questioned staff regarding:

- if the purpose of the modifications are just to meet federal changes or if there are substantial modifications;
- the number of legally constructed towers in the borough that are 200 feet or more;
- whether requiring the applicant demonstrate a need for requesting additional height on a tower [MSB 17.67.110(d)(2)] conflicts with federal code; and
- referred to 17.67.110(C) and questioned whether a replacement tower would be considered a new structure [17.67.90(A)].

Chair Klapperich opened the public hearing.

The following people spoke in favor of Resolution 14-35: Mr. Murph O'Brien and Ms. Stephanie Nowers.

There being no one else to be heard, Chair Klapperich closed the public hearing and discussion moved to the Planning Commission.

MOTION: Commissioner Kendig moved to approve Resolution 14-35. The motion was seconded.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

Commissioner Adams stated that he is in favor of Resolution 14-35, but would like to tighten up the language of 17.67.110(D)(2).

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved a primary amendment to Resolution 14-35 by inserting the words "not to exceed 20 feet" to 17.67.110(D)(2) to read: "within a special use district, height increase under this section is limited to a cumulative increase of 10% of the existing facility unless the applicant demonstrates that the additional height, not to exceed 20 feet, is necessary for installation of one additional antenna array." The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed without objection.

(Commissioner Endle returned to the meeting at 7:04 p.m.)

XI. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

A. BOAA Case 14-01, Notice of Right to Appeal and Final Order *(Pertaining to PC Resolution 14-21, Sky Ranch Setback Variance, Staff Alex Strawn - Continued from the December 15, 2014, meeting)*

Chair Klapperich read the agenda item into the record.

Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney:

- stated that this item is on the agenda for informational purposes only; and
- advised that this matter could potentially come back before the board.

Commissioner Adams:

- noted that there are two dates in the order that conflict;
- the opening paragraph references the Board of Adjustments and Appeals (BOAA) rendering an order on November 24, 2014;
- the last page above the signature references September 24, 2014;
- noted that regardless of which date was correct, the appeal period appears to have expired; and
- queried if an appeal has been filed.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- stated that he believes an amended order went out after this order;
- will get a copy for the commission and opined that it may answer Commissioner Adams' question; and
- because the appellant is not present, recommended that the commission take this information as it is currently presented.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015****XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. **Resolution 15-01**, a resolution adopting findings of fact and conclusions of law to support the Planning Commissions failure to approve Resolution 14-33. *(From the decision rendered at the December 15, 2014 meeting. Applicant: CMS, Staff: Susan Lee and Alex Strawn)*

(Commissioner Kendig exited the meeting at 7:13 p.m.)

Chair Klapperich:

- read the memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions into the record;
- queried commissioners to determine if any of them have a financial interest in the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP);
- have had any ex parte contact with the applicant, members of the public, or interested parties in the proposed CUP; and
- if all commissioners are able to be impartial in a decision.

Commissioner Adams objected to the reading of the memo noting that the public hearing was closed on December 15, 2014.

Discussion ensued whether it is necessary to read the memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions after the public hearing has been closed even if the decision is continued to another meeting date.

Mr. John Aschenbrenner:

- acknowledged that he is an advocate for staff in these matters;
- agreed that it is not necessary to read the memo regarding quasi-judicial actions after the public hearing has closed;
- referred to the letter that Mr. Glen Price sent to the Borough Clerk dated January 15, 2015; and
- stated that the applicant lodged an objection to a commissioner sitting, but only after the commission had made a decision in the matter.

[Clerk's note: the commission decided to disregard the questions presented in the memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions since the public hearing had been closed on December 15, 2014.]

Discussion ensued whether the commission would accept information that is presented as handouts if it is provided after 12:00 noon on the Friday prior to a Planning Commission meeting.

[Clerk's note: the commission decided to disregard information that was received after 12:00 noon on the Friday prior to the Planning Commission meeting.]

Commissioner Healy:

- acknowledged that even if the commission disregards the questions presented in the memorandum regarding quasi-judicial actions at this time, they are not disregarding the rules that they represent;

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

- the questions were read at the onset of the public hearing and the commissioners sitting declared "no conflict";
- does not want anyone to get the impression that the commission is disregarding the issue of the conflict of interest rules; and
- stated that the commission respects the conflict of interest rules.

MOTION: Commissioner Endle moved to approve Resolution 15-01. The motion was seconded.

Commissioner Endle:

- stated that he didn't see everything that he wanted in Resolution 15-01, but opined that it presented a good starting template;
- noted that there was nothing in Resolution 15-01 that referenced back to Resolution 13-30 which denied the original application for a conditional use permit; and
- opined that there should be something in the resolution noting that there was a previous application that was denied.

MOTION: Commissioner Endle moved a primary amendment to Resolution 15-01 by adding Amendment E2 as presented on page 355 of the packet, and adding "previous application for the same" as the second whereas statement to read: "whereas, Resolution 13-30 contains findings of fact and conclusions of law which support denial of the pervious application for the same conditional use permit". The motion was seconded.

Commissioner Healy opined that the original conditional use permit was denied by the commission and, therefore, the current application is an entirely new application for a conditional use permit.

WITHDRAWN Commissioner Endle moved to withdraw his primary amendment.

There was no objection noted.

Discussion ensued regarding the amendments proposed by Commissioners Endle, Adams, Rauchenstein, and Healy.

(The meeting recessed at 8:06 p.m., and reconvened at 8:14 p.m.)

MOTION: Commissioner Healy moved a primary amendment to Resolution 15-01, by:

- moving the "now therefore" statement before the first "whereas" statement on page 11 of 12 of the resolution;
- adding "makes the following conclusions" after "findings of fact and" and before "of law supporting denial";
- deleting "whereas" from the first and second "whereas" statements on page 11 of 12 of the resolution, and numbering them conclusions "1" and "2" respectfully;
- deleting "based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law" from the new condition number "1";

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

- deleting “based on the above findings of fact” from the new condition number “2”; and
- moving the “whereas” statement from the bottom of page 2 to page 11, and renaming it as condition number “3”.

The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Commissioners Klapperich and Rauchenstein in opposition.

VOTE: The main motion passed with Commissioner Klapperich and Rauchenstein opposition.

(Commissioner Kendig re-entered the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

(There was no new business.)

XIV. COMMISSION BUSINESS**A. Planning Commission Elections****1. Planning Commission Chair and Vice Chair**

MOTION: Commissioner Kendig moved to nominate Commissioner Klapperich to be the Planning Commission Chair for 2015. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to nominate Commissioner Walden to be the Planning Commission Vice-Chair for 2015. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

2. School Site Selection Committee Representative 2

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to nominate Commissioner Kendig to be the Planning Commission Representative 2 on the School Site Selection Committee. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

B. Upcoming Planning Commission Agenda Items

Ms. Driscoll provided a brief update on projects that will be coming before the Planning Commission.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015****XV. DIRECTOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Ms. Driscoll:

- spoke to comments made during audience participation regarding the proposed Meadow Lakes Special Use District (SpUD);
- the community requested the initiation of the SpUD process, and noted that staff merely facilitates the community driven process;
- stated that the next step after a community council adopts something is for it to go before the Planning Commission;
- SpUDs are based on the comprehensive plan;
- a 60-day public review period is wrapping up today;
- the Meadow Lakes community has been working on this process for eight years, but is free to request additional time to review;
- the community council has requested that the plan go back to them for discussion at their January 15, 2015, meeting; and
- the community will decide how they wish to proceed.

Commissioner Healy:

- congratulated Commissioner Klapperich for being elected chair once again;
- stated that he will be out of the country and absent from the January 19th and February 2nd meetings; and
- thanked staff and particularly Ms. Brodigan for all of the work put in over the last few meetings.

Commissioner Walden:

- thanked commissioners for the vote of confidence in once again electing him vice-chair; and
- stated that he may have to miss some meetings in the future and will keep Chair Klapperich and Ms. Brodigan informed.

Commissioner Kendig stated that this has been a very enlightening year and that he would not have missed it for the world.

Commissioner Adams:

- noted that there is nothing on the schedule for January 19th; and
- requested that all commissioners be sent a copy of the PC Policies and Procedures.

Ms. Brodigan acknowledged that there is nothing currently on the schedule for the January 19, 2015 meeting, and asked the commission if they would like to cancel.

Chair Klapperich:

- noted that the February 2nd meeting will be busy with two quasi-judicial public hearings and one legislative public hearing;
- acknowledged that the commission spends a lot of time attending meetings and reviewing packets;

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES****REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015**

- thanked the commissioners for their time, and for being courageous and not being afraid to take a stand; and
- suggested that the commission cancel the January 19, 2015, meeting.

There was no objection noted.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Planning Commission
Chair

ATTEST:

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Commission
Clerk

Minutes approved: _____

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING QUASI-JUDICIAL

Resolution No. 15-08

**Susitna River Lodge CUP
23094 S. Talkeetna Spur Road**

(Page 41 - 58)

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Susitna River Lodging Conditional Use Permit

A conditional use permit under MSB 17.25 – Talkeetna Special Land Use District, has been submitted for the construction of three additional cabins at Susitna River Lodging. This property is located within the Spur Road Central (SRC) District which requires a conditional use permit for commercial uses over 6,000 square feet in size.

Location:

Susitna River Lodging is located at 23094 S. Talkeetna Spur Road; within Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Section 25, Seward Meridian; MSB Tax Account# 26N05W25D004.

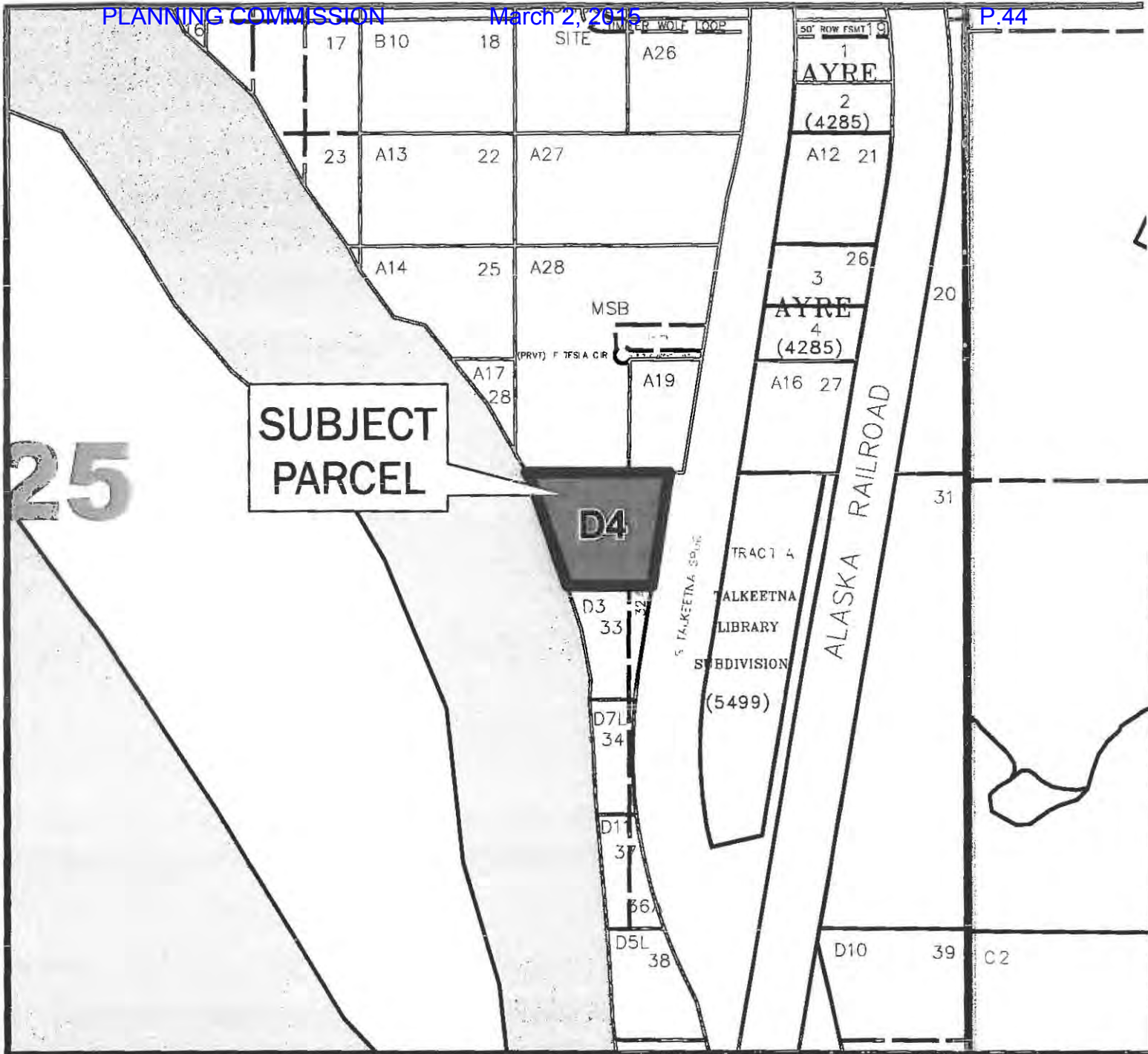
Applicant:

Howard & Darlene Hunter (Susitna River Lodging)

Public Hearing:

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing concerning this application on Monday, March 16, 2015 in the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer.

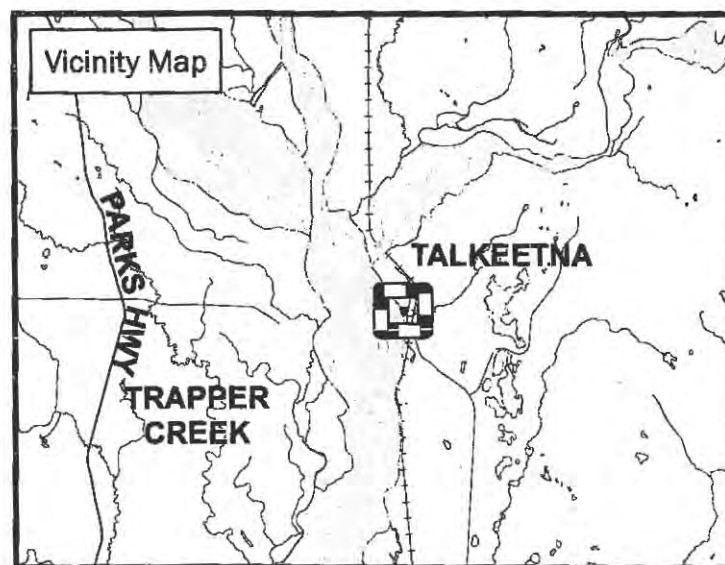
The application material may be reviewed in the Borough Permit Center. Application material may be reviewed online at www.matsugov.us and clicking on 'Public Notices'. If you have questions or want to submit comments please contact Susan Lee at 861-7862 or e-mail: slee@matsugov.us. Comments may also be faxed to 861-7876 or mailed to the MSB Development Services Division, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, AK 99645.



26N05W25D004



This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.





MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Planning and Land Use Department

Permit Center

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 745-9822 • Fax (907) 745-9876

Email: PermitCenter@matsugov.us

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 6, 2015

FROM: Susan Lee, Planner II *Susan*

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS

PROJECT: Talkeetna SpUD Conditional Use Permit

PARCEL ID: 26N05W25D004 TAX MAP: TA06

LOCATION: Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Section 25, Seward Meridian

APPLICANT: Howard & Darlene Hunter (Susitna River Investments)

A conditional use permit under MSB 17.25 – Talkeetna Special Land Use District has been submitted for the construction of three additional cabins at Susitna River Lodging. This property is located within the Spur Road Central (SRC) District which requires a conditional use permit for commercial uses over 6,000 square feet in size. The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on this application on March 16, 2015. If we do not receive comments from you we will assume you have no objections to this request.

Distribution:	_____ Pre-Design Division
_____ Borough Manager (info only)	_____ Community Development
_____ Collections	_____ Public Works Director
_____ Assessment	_____ Right-of-Way Coordinator
_____ Planning Division	_____ Emergency Services Director
_____ Environmental Planning	_____ Code Compliance
_____ Platting Division	_____ Cultural Resources

Comments: Return written comments by **February 25, 2015**. Thank you for your review.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Planning and Land Use Department

Development Services Division

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 861-7822 • Fax (907) 861-7876

Email: permitcenter@matnugov.us

RECEIVED

BASIC APPLICATION FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Carefully read instructions and applicable borough code. Fill out forms completely. Attach information as needed. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Application fee must be attached:

\$500 for Conditional Use Permit

Prior to the public hearing, the applicant must also pay the mailing and advertising fees associated with the application. Applicants will be provided with a statement of advertising and mailing charges. Payment must be made prior to the application presentation before the Borough Planning Commission.

Subject Property Township: 26 N, Range: 5 W, Section: 25, Meridian D4

MSB Tax Account # _____

SUBDIVISION: _____ BLOCK(S): _____, LOT(S): _____

STREET ADDRESS: 230945 Talkeetna Spur Rd

(US Survey, Aliquot Part, Lat. /Long. etc) _____

Ownership A written authorization by the owner must be attached for an agent or contact person, if the owner is using one for the application. Is authorization attached? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Name of Property Owner

Name of Agent/ Contact for application

Hunter Hunter

Address: Box 786

Address: _____

Talkeetna AK 99676

Phone: Hm 233-0505 Fax 233-0507

Phone: Hm _____ Fax _____

Wk _____ Cell _____

Wk _____ Cell _____

E-mail Lodging@mtaonline.net

E-mail _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & APPLICABLE CODE

1. The proposed development requires a conditional use permit under MSB Code Chapter 17.25.130.
- ✓ 2. Attach a written, detailed project description.

Access/Driveway	Yes	No	Attached
1. This project will have access to what street(s)?	X		
2. Is the street Borough maintained, State (ADOT/PF) maintained, or Private?	X		
3. Will this project require a new or modified driveway to a street or road?			
4. Does this project have an existing driveway permit?		X	
5. Provide copy of driveway permit	4		

Water Supply	Yes	No
• None		
• Existing		
• Proposed		
• Private well/cistern		
• Public/Community	X	

Sewage Disposal	Yes	No
• None		
• Existing		
• Proposed		
• Pit Privy		
• Holding Tank		
• Septic Tank		
• Public/ Community	X	
• Other (specify)		

Nonconforming Uses and Structures	Yes	No	Attached
1. Is this an expansion of a pre-existing legal nonconforming use or structure?		X	
2. If yes, this use has lawfully existed in this location since what date?			
3. If yes, has the nonconforming use been discontinued for more than 12 consecutive months since it began?			
4. If yes, list the date the used was discontinued and the date the use resumed.			
5. Describe the proposed expansion/increase of the pre-existing legal nonconforming use.			
6. To establish Grandfather Rights for a use, complete this form (including attachments), also include a copy of the earliest business license and other evidence of the continued existence of the use at this site since the date since the date the use became nonconforming.			

submitted;

SITE PLAN – Attach a detailed site plan, drawn to scale, showing the following information: (Some codes require site plans and drawings to be prepared by certified professionals)	Attached
1. Setback distances of structure(s) from the lot lines, rights-of-way, and waterbodies.	X
2. Adjacent streets, public easements and rights-of-way	X
3. Existing and proposed buildings and structures (including tanks and chemical processing equipment)	X
4. Access points	X
5. Buffering – Visual and Sound	X
6. Vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns	X
7. Location and dimensions of parking areas to be provided, including individual parking spaces	
8. Loading areas	
9. Storage and processing areas	
10. Lighting	
11. Topography	
12. Drainage management plan	
13. Sources of noise	
14. Fences	X
15. Berms	
16. Landscaping	
17. Signage	X
18. Scale and North Arrow	X

DIMENSIONAL DRAWING(S) – Attach a dimensional drawing of the horizontal views of the structure(s), drawn to scale, showing the following information: (*If more than one structure is proposed, attach requested information about each.)	Attached
1. Dimensions of all structures	X
2. Modifications	
3. Identify use areas with locations and dimensions	X
4. Delineate areas of expansion or change in use	
5. Other details sufficient to adjudicate the application	
6. Fill – Cubic Yards	
7. Excavation – Cubic Yards	
8. Scale and North Arrow	X

OTHER PERMITS, COVENANTS, PLAT NOTES, DEED RESTRICTION, ETC. <i>It is the responsibility of the owner and applicant to identify and comply with all applicable private restrictions such as covenants and plat notes, as well as all local, state and federal regulations applicable to this development and to obtain all necessary authorizations and permits. Any commercial use requires State and Borough business license. City business licenses may also be required. State Fire Marshall's review may be required for state fire and building codes.</i>	Attached	Applied For
Permit Name/#		
Permit Name/#		
Permit Name/#		
Permit Name/#		

OWNER'S STATEMENT: I am owner of the following property:

MSB Tax parcel ID #(s) _____ and,
I hereby apply for approval conditional use permit on that property as described in this application.

I understand all activity must be conducted in compliance with all applicable standards of MSB _____ and with all other applicable borough, state or federal laws.

I understand that other rules such as local, state and federal regulations, covenants, plat notes, and deed restrictions may be applicable and other permits or authorization may be required. I understand that the borough may also impose conditions and safeguards designed to protect the public's health, safety and welfare and ensure the compatibility of the use with other adjacent uses.

I understand that it is my responsibility to identify and comply with all applicable rules and conditions, covenants, plat notes, and deed restrictions, including changes that may occur in such requirements.

I understand that this permit and zoning status may transfer to subsequent owners of this land and that it is my responsibility to disclose the requirements of this status to the buyer when I sell the land.

I understand that changes from the approved conditional use permit may require further authorization by the Borough Planning Commission. I understand that failure to provide applicable documentation of compliance with approved requirements, or violation of such requirements will nullify legal status, and may result in penalties.

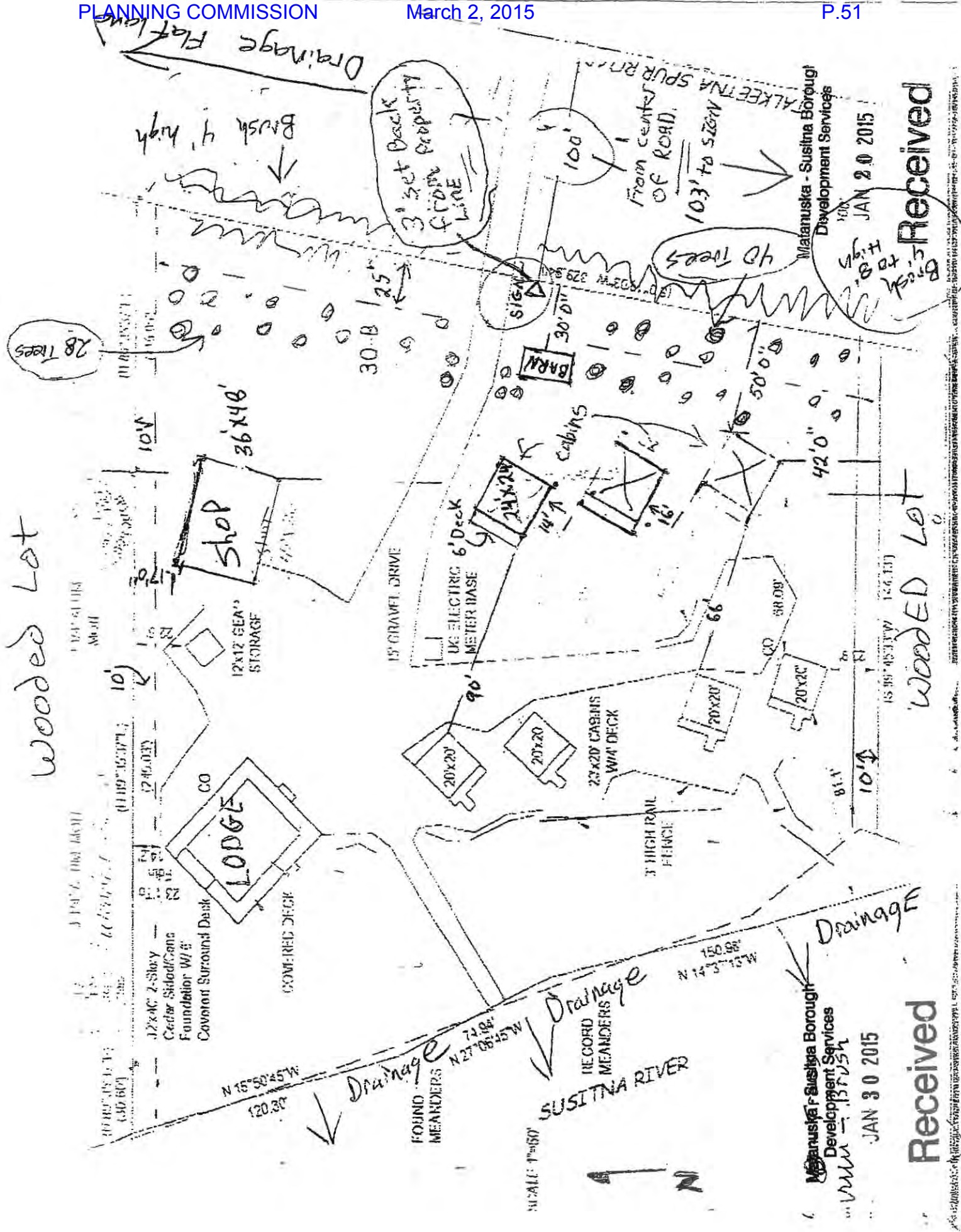
I grant permission for borough staff members to enter onto the property as needed to process this application and monitor compliance. Such access will at a minimum, be allowed when the activity is occurring and, with prior notice, at other times necessary to monitor compliance.

The information submitted in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Property Owner

Printed Name

Date



This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

December 17, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

We propose to construct 3 single level cabins to help meet the demands of the ever-growing tourism needs in Talkeetna.

Sincerely,

Howard and Darlene Hunter
Susitna River Lodge

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

January 15, 2015

Susitna River Lodge
23094 (mile 13.5) S Talkeetna Spur Rd
PO Box 786
Talkeetna, AK
99676
907-733-0505

Matanuska - Susitna Borough
Development Services

JAN 20 2015

Received

To whom it may concern,

We are petitioning to construct three nightly rental cabins.

They will be similar to the four 20x20 cabins we already have along with our four suites in the lodge on our 2.32 acres along the banks of the Susitna River, ½ mile from down town Talkeetna.

This will bring our total of nightly rentals to eleven, four suites plus seven cabins.

The new single story cabin dimensions will be 24 X 24 with a kitchenette, a full size bath and 2 bedrooms. To accommodate the growing elderly population there will be minimum stairs. The exterior construction will be the same as the other structures on the property to give a professional, aesthetic appeal. (Board and Batten)

Our local Tim Bradley of All Aspects Construction is to be our contractor.

There will be no food service, no breakfast served. Highly recommended are the local eateries.

We will continue to offer guided snowmobile tours pending we get enough snow to do so.

With the tremendous popularity of the growing tourist industry in Talkeetna, we would like to keep the lodging business local where the eateries and activity attractions can benefit as well. Seems to be a win/win situation.

Sincerely,

Howard and Darlene Hunter
Owners Susitna River Lodge

January 28, 2015

Susitna River Lodge
23094 S Talkeetna Spur Rd
Talkeetna, AK

Matanuska - Susitna Borough
Development Services

JAN 30 2015

RECEIVED

To whom it may concern,

We were asked to give dimensions to the Susitna River Lodge road sign.
They are as follows:

The base is 8 feet wide by 11 feet tall, 40 sq. ft. of signage.
It is a V shape formation and 2 sided.

At the bottom of the sign our address and phone number can be found
in a 10 inch by 8 feet long strip.

January 28, 2015

Susitna River Lodge
23094 S Talkeetna Spur Rd
Talkeetna, AK

Matanuska - Susitna Borough
Development Services

JAN 30 2015

RECEIVED

To whom it may concern,

Concerning Statement 4 in subject of the Conditional Use Permit Application,
All 6 points are in compliance:

Point 1: The conditional use will not only preserve but also add to the value, character and integrity of Talkeetna. We pride ourselves in having an establishment that enhances the experience of one visiting Talkeetna. Attempting to leave the environment untouched as much as possible. We removed only the trees necessary and strived to have a low impact to the natural habitat. The exterior of the new cabins will be natural Cedar to match the existing buildings.

Point 2: The conditional use is consistent with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan, that of preserving the area's scenic, environmental and residential qualities with no negative impact on the sense of community.

Point 3: The granting of the conditional use permit will not be harmful to the public health, safety, convenience and welfare.

Point 4: Sufficient access, setbacks, lot area, parking space, buffers and other safeguards will be provided. The existing parking lot on the premises is quite sufficient for the addition of 3 more cabins. No driveways stemming from the Spur Rd is necessary. This will allow for the growth of under brush to continue and fewer trees to be removed between the Spur Rd and the new cabins.

Point 5: The commission will find that the proposed use or structure is located in a manner, which will maximize public benefits.

Point 6: Light industrial uses will not produce noise, air pollution, water pollution, vibration, smoke, dust, fire hazard noxious or toxic gases or fumes, objectionable odors, glare, or other pollution, electrical interference, or industrial waste that creates nuisances beyond the boundaries of the property.

Regards,

Howard and Darlene Hunter
Susitna River Lodge Owners

January 28, 2015

Susitna River Lodge
23094 S Talkeetna Spur Rd
Talkeetna, AK

Matanuska - Susitna Borough
Development Services

JAN 30 2015

RECEIVED

To whom it may concern,

Concerning Statement 4 in subject of the Conditional Use Permit Application,
All 6 points are in compliance:

Point 1: The conditional use will not only preserve but also add to the value, character and integrity of Talkeetna. We pride ourselves in having an establishment that enhances the experience of one visiting Talkeetna. Attempting to leave the environment untouched as much as possible. We removed only the trees necessary and strived to have a low impact to the natural habitat. The exterior of the new cabins will be natural Cedar to match the existing buildings.

Point 2: The conditional use is consistent with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan, that of preserving the area's scenic, environmental and residential qualities with no negative impact on the sense of community.

Point 3: The granting of the conditional use permit will not be harmful to the public health, safety, convenience and welfare.

Point 4: Sufficient access, setbacks, lot area, parking space, buffers and other safeguards will be provided. The existing parking lot on the premises is quite sufficient for the addition of 3 more cabins. No driveways stemming from the Spur Rd is necessary. This will allow for the growth of under brush to continue and fewer trees to be removed between the Spur Rd and the new cabins.

Point 5: The commission will find that the proposed use or structure is located in a manner, which will maximize public benefits.

Point 6: Light industrial uses will not produce noise, air pollution, water pollution, vibration, smoke, dust, fire hazard noxious or toxic gases or fumes, objectionable odors, glare, or other pollution, electrical interference, or industrial waste that creates nuisances beyond the boundaries of the property.

Regards,

Howard and Darlene Hunter
Susitna River Lodge Owners

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE

Resolution No. 15-07

Naming Unnamed Lake

Chida/Tsucde Lake

(Page 59 - 74)

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
CULTURAL RESOURCES DIVISION
PLANNING AND LAND USE DEPARTMENT
350 East Dahlia Avenue - Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488
Fax (907)745-9876 - Phone (907) 861-8655

January 30, 2015

Hello Homeowner;

Enclosed you will find a geographic proposal for an unnamed lake in your neighborhood. We are seeking input from you regarding the proposed name of Chida/Tsucde. The first word is in Dena'ina for Grandmother and the second word is in Ahtna also meaning Grandmother. Both tribes used this area in the past. It is believed the name "Jukes," for which the lake had been previously known, is an aberrant pronunciation for Chida, based on the Kenai Dene dialect.

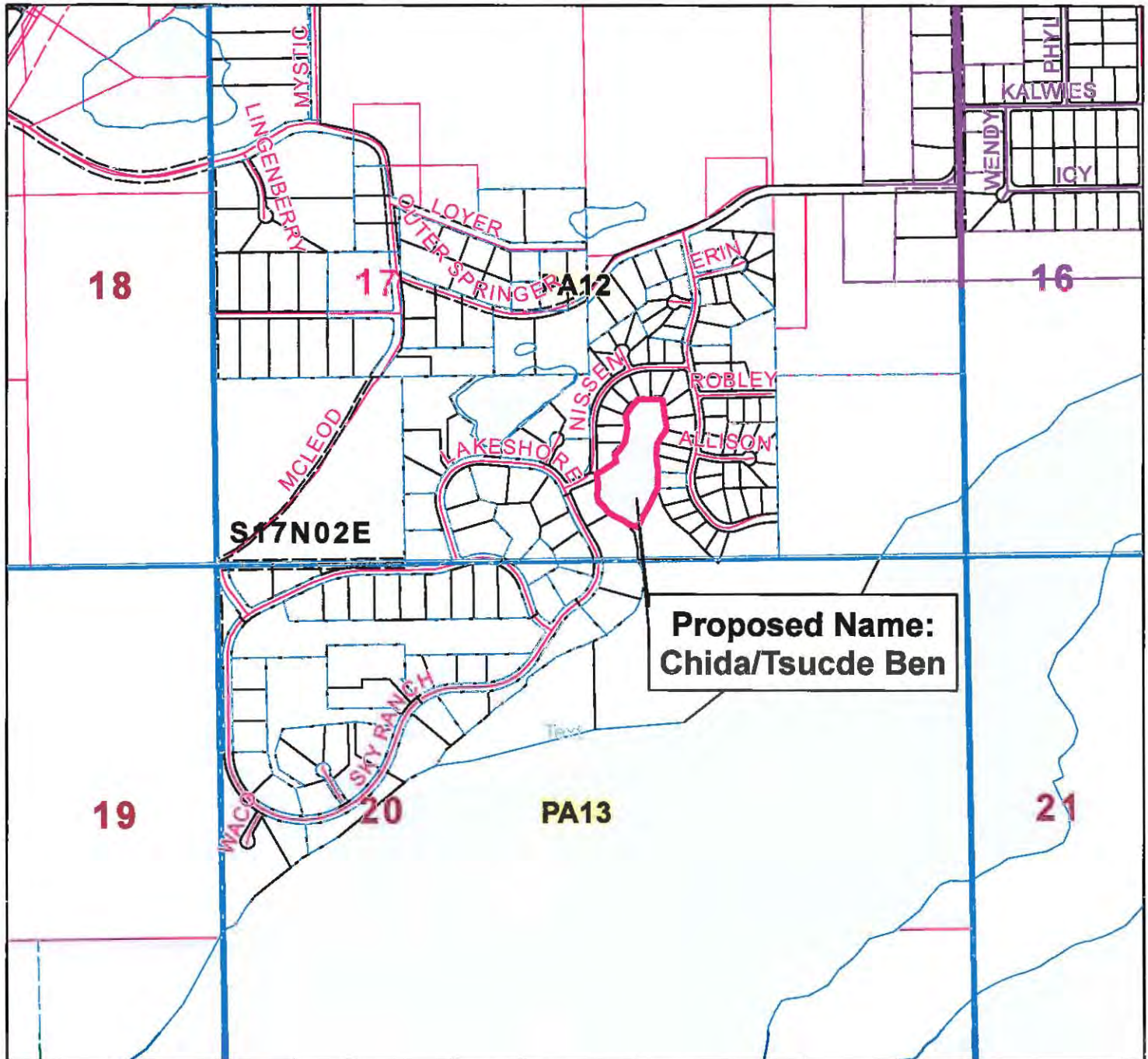
The proposed name has had approval and support from both the Ahtna and the Dena'ina Tribes. The name will be introduced in the Planning Commission Meeting set for March 2, 2015 at 6:00pm. And will be open for public hearings at 6:00 P.M. on March 16, 2015. If you have any questions about the chosen name please do not hesitate to call the above number or send comments to

Heather.ralston@matsugov.us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fran Seager-Boss
Cultural Resource Specialist
Lead Archaeologist



Matanuska Susitna Borough
Permit Center



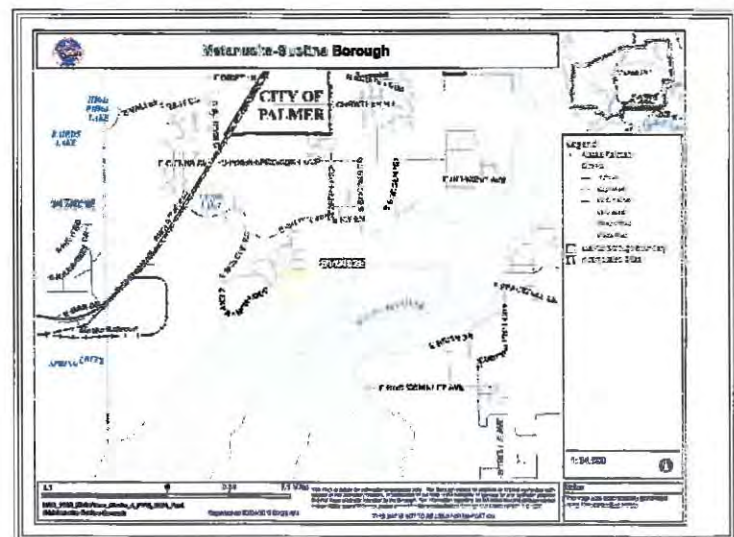
17N02E17 Unnamed Lake



This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS 861-7801.

Date: 2/4/2015

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 Miles





Welcome to our Lake, which we have named

Chida /Tsucde

Which means Grandmothers Lake in honor of the first caretakers of this area.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
- ☐ Application change
- ☐ Name change
- ☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: CHIDA / TSUCDE BEN
- Type of feature: small lake
- Evidence the feature is unnamed: Local residents surrounding the lake say has no known name
Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named? Several families surrounding the lake use the area as a natural area for years it has been locally known as "grandmother lake" - good blueberry picking area etc.

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: Alaska State Fair
miles 1.39 due south of fair near Matanuska River
Borough: MSB USGS map: ANC-C-6
Latitude: N 61° 33' 27.569 Longitude: 149° 7' 53.84
Section: 17 Township: 17N Range: 2E Meridian: Seward

BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

- ☐ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? A mispronouncement of CHIDA has been used
State the number of years known by recommended name: 35+ years according to residents
State variant spelling and/or usage if known: Tukes
Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? none that we know of

- ☐ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

CHIDA / TSUCDE BEN means Grandmother in the Dena'ina and Athabaskan cultures. In honour of the first caretakers of the area, & for today's grandmothers who continue to care for the lake and its surroundings

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

Page 2

- ☐ **COMMEMORATIVE** - The Alaska Historical Commission will not consider a commemorative name proposal until the person has been dead five years. Commemorative name proposals must include evidence of local support.

Full name of individual: _____
Date of death: _____
Last residence: _____
Length of stay in Alaska: _____
Relationship to the feature proposed to be named: _____

ATTACH A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND ADDRESS THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THE INDIVIDUAL MADE TO ALASKA

- ☐ **OTHER** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate: _____
The proposed name will be introduced in MSB Planning Commission on May 2, 2015 and a public hearing will take place on May 16, 2015.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Do other property owners adjacent to the feature endorse the proposed name? mail out to property owners in MSB is currently underway - all residents w/in a mile are being made aware of the name (proposed name)

PROPOSER:

Proposed by: Vicki Lee Fenster Date: January 30, 2015
Affiliation: Board HOA Mt View Est.
Address: PO 85
City, state, zip code: Palmer AK 99645
Telephone: 907 861-8507 Email address: ufenster@matsugov.us
v

YOUR PROPOSAL MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP OF THE AREA (1:63,360 OR 1:25,000 SCALE) INDICATING THE FEATURE TO BE NAMED. PHOTOGRAPHS, PLAT MAPS, AND SITE PLANS CAN BE USEFUL BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS LETTERS OF SUPPORT, PETITIONS, AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE ENCOURAGED.

We respectfully ask the council to give us their permission to use the Ahtna name for Grandmother.



Welcome to the Lake, that embraces the names

Chida/Tsucde Ben

Which means Grandmother in the Dena'ina and Ahtna cultures. In honor of the first caretakers of this area, and for the Grandmothers who care for it today.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank



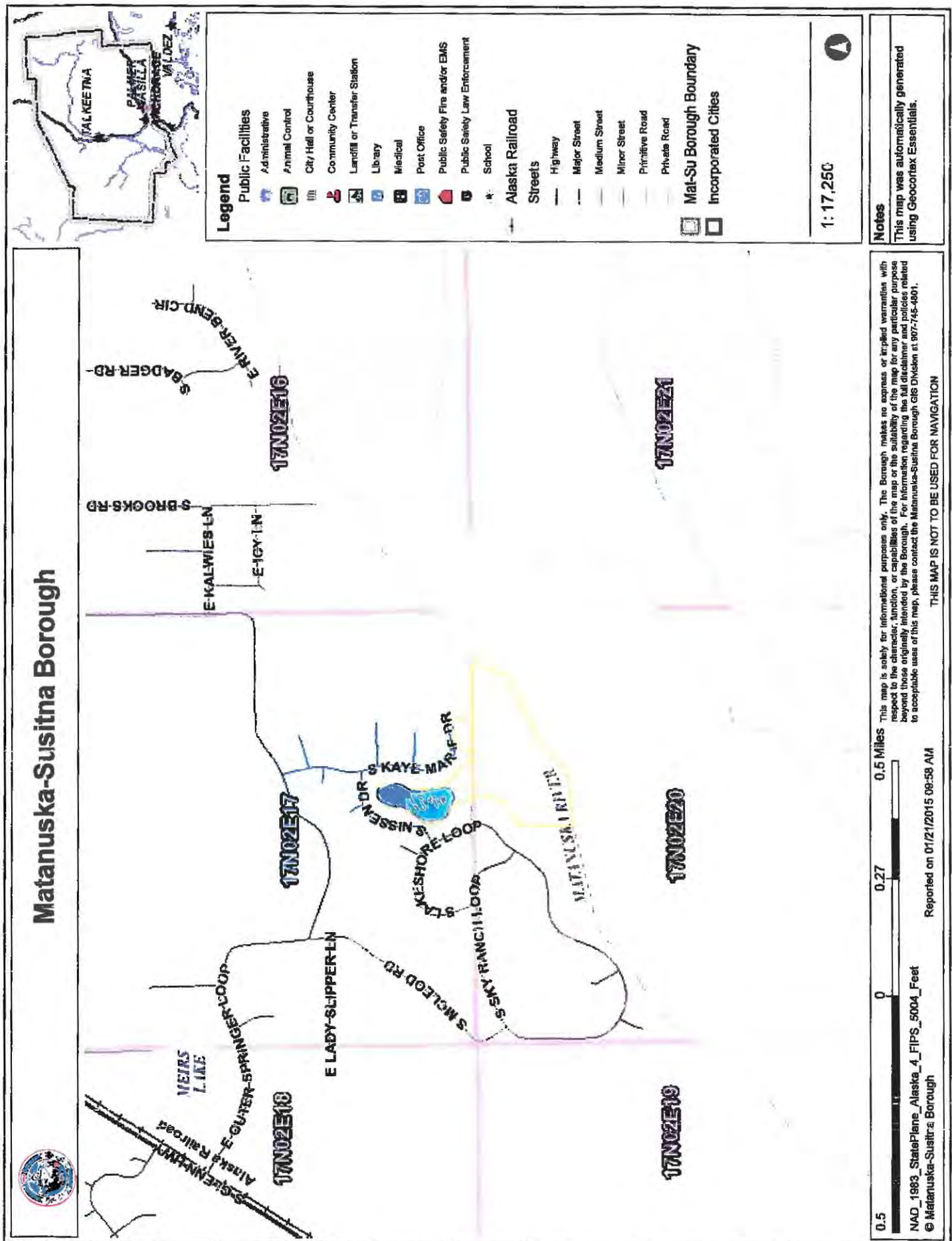
Metanauka Sustine Borough
Permit Center

Date: 1/21/2015



This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no
warranty or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or
suitability of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose
beyond those expressly intended by the Borough. For information regarding the
all disclaimer and policies related to acceptable use of this map, please contact
the Metanauka-Sustine Borough GIS 907-7901.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles



284.46

S 19°45' 11"

TOP OF BLUFF

NOTES

- 1) THE FOLLOWING SECTION EASEMENT HAS BEEN VACATEL. COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 LINE, SEC. 17, T17N, R2E, S.M., THENCE S89°58'48"E A DISTANCE OF 1320.81', THE SECTION LINE BEING 66' WIDE, THENCE S89°58'48"W A DISTANCE OF 720.72', SAID SECTION LINE BEING 33' WIDE.
- 2) NO SEPTIC SYSTEM WITHIN 200' OF WELL LOCATION.
- 3) ALL CORNER ROUNDINGS SHALL BE 20'.
- 4) UTILITY EASEMENTS ARE 15' WIDE. (U.E.)
- 5) GUY EASEMENTS ARE 15' WIDE AND 30' DEEP. (G.E.)
- 6) NO BUILDING SHALL BE ERECTED ON THE FOLLOWING LOTS UNTIL A PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY, APPROVED BY THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, IS IN OPERATION:
 LOTS 6 THRU 13, BLOCK 1
 LOTS 9 THRU 12, BLOCK 2
 LOTS 1 THRU 19, BLOCK 3
 LOTS 1 THRU 19, BLOCK 4
 AND THESE LOTS SHALL HAVE 20,000 USEABLE SQUARE FEET.
- 7) 1976 HIGH WATER MARK 40'±
- 8) SCHOOL BUS AVAILABLE VIA SPRINGER ROAD
- 9) BECAUSE OF THE NATURALLY UNPREDICABLE NATURE OF RIVERS, IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT AREA ALONG THE BANK OF THE MATANUSKA RIVER IS SUBJECT TO PERIODIC EROSION.

PLAT OF

1978

MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTATES PHASE III
A RESUBDIVISION OF TRACT A-1
OF
MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTATES ADDN. No. 1
CONTAINING 87.74 ACRES

LOCATED IN THE

W 1/2 SE 1/4, SEC. 17 AND GOV'T LOT 1, SEC. 20, T17N, R2E, S.M., ALASKA

DOWLING AND ASSOCIATES
804 EAST 15th AVENUE SUITE 2

ANCHORAGE

ALASKA

DATE: JULY, 1978

SCALE: 1" = 100'

DRAWN:

SHEET 1 OF 1

CHECKED: GJS

GRID:

NOTATION

THE PROPERTY
 MAY ADOPT THIS
 INDICATE ALL
 PLACES TO PUBLIC

IT

AUG 1, 1979.

E

COMMERCE

SKA 99501

T

R

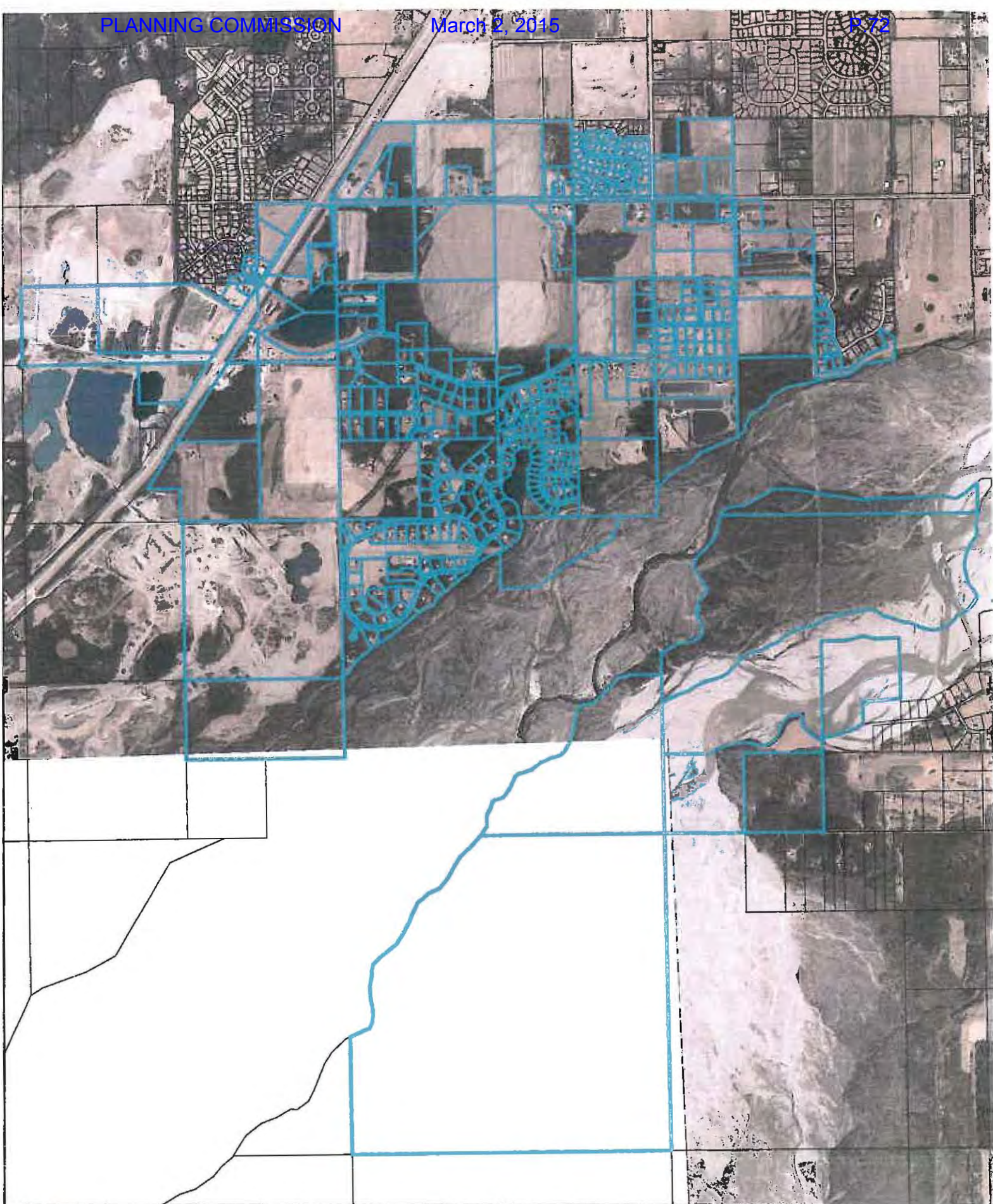
C

II

I / DAY

II

EXPIRES

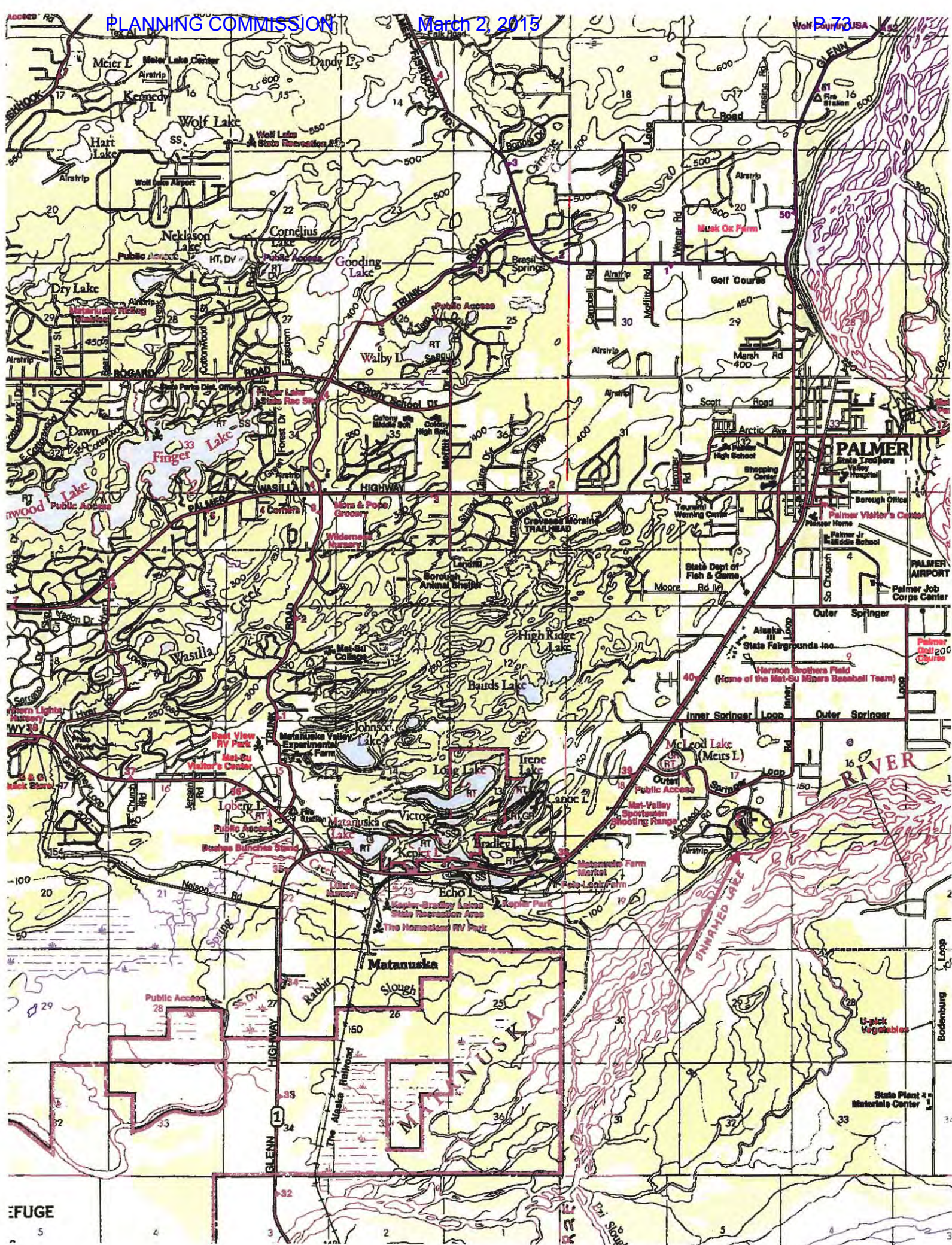


Matanuska Susitna Borough
Permit Center
Date: 1/21/2015

This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-861-7801.

0 482.5 925 1,850 2,775 3,700 Feet





This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE

Resolution No. 15-09

Naming Unnamed Lakes, Creek, and Mountain

Kacaagh Lake, Lowland Kacaagh Lake, Kacaagh Creek,
And
Kacaagh Mountain

(Page 75 - 126)

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
CULTURAL RESOURCES DIVISION
PLANNING AND LAND USE DEPARTMENT
350 East Dahlia Avenue - Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488
Fax (907) 861-7876 Phone (907) 861-7833

February 17, 2015

Dear Property owner;

We have received proposal to change the geographic names of 2 lakes, a creek and a mountain within the Matanuska Susitna Borough from Deadman's Lake, Deadman's Creek and Deadman's Mountain, to Kacaagh Lake, Kagaagh Creek, and Kacaagh Mountain. The second lake is currently named Big Lake and the proposed name is Lowland Kacaagh Lake.

- Deadman's Lake is located approximately 42 miles East of Hurricane Gulch on the Parks Highway.
- Deadman's Creek is located approximately 48 to 50 miles due East of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Highway.
- Deadman's Mountain is located approximately 45 miles due East of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Highway and 24 miles South East of Cantwell.
- Big Lake is located 45 miles East of Hurricane Gulch

The names will be introduced in the Planning Commission Meeting set for March 2, 2015 at 6:00pm. And will be open for public hearings at 6:00 P.M. on March 16, 2015. If you have any questions about the chosen names please do not hesitate to call the above number or send comments to planning@matsugov.us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Eileen Probasco
Planning Director

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Hearing on Naming of Geographic Feature
Proposed name: Kacaagh Lake

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on **March 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm** in the Assembly Chambers located at 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer, Alaska, on a proposal to make official the name Upper Kacaagh Lake, currently named Deadman Lake, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Lake is located approximately 45 miles due East of Hurricane Gulch on the Parks Highway in the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

Comments concerning the name will be taken during the public hearing or may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department, 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer AK 99645; by fax at (907) 861-7876; or by email to planning@matsugov.us Comments received prior to March 2, 2015 will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the Commissioner's review and information. Comments received after that date will be provided as handouts to the Commission. For additional information please contact Eileen Probasco at (907) 861-7850

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA**ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
☐ Application change
☒ Name change
☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: Upper Karaagh Lake
- Type of feature: Lake
- Evidence the feature is unnamed: currently named Deadman Lake

Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named?

The name Deadman has been over used throughout Alaska. The Athna people refer to Deadman Lake as Upper Karaagh Lake.

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: It lies approximately 42 miles due east of Hurricane Gulch on Parks Hwy.

Borough: Matanuska-Susitna USGS map: Healy A-3

Latitude: 630030 Longitude: 1481505305

Section: 13+14 Township: 22S Range: 04W Meridian: Fairbanks

**BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS**

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

- ☒ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? Upper Karaagh Lake is well-known

State the number of years known by recommended name: to the Centurll Athna People

State variant spelling and/or usage if known: no variants

Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? not known

This is one name in a set of 4 names referring to the mountain, the creek, the upper + lower lakes within the same vicinity.

- ☒ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The name Deadman has a dreary connotation & is not in keeping with its aboriginal name.

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

Page 2

- ☒ **COMMEMORATIVE** - The Alaska Historical Commission will not consider a commemorative name proposal until the person has been dead five years. Commemorative name proposals must include evidence of local support.

Full name of individual: NS/A
Date of death: _____
Last residence: _____
Length of stay in Alaska: _____
Relationship to the feature proposed to be named: _____

ATTACH A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND ADDRESS THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THE INDIVIDUAL MADE TO ALASKA

- ☒ **OTHER** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate: _____
The feature is in the Ahtna language and has a
significance associated with directional terms and place

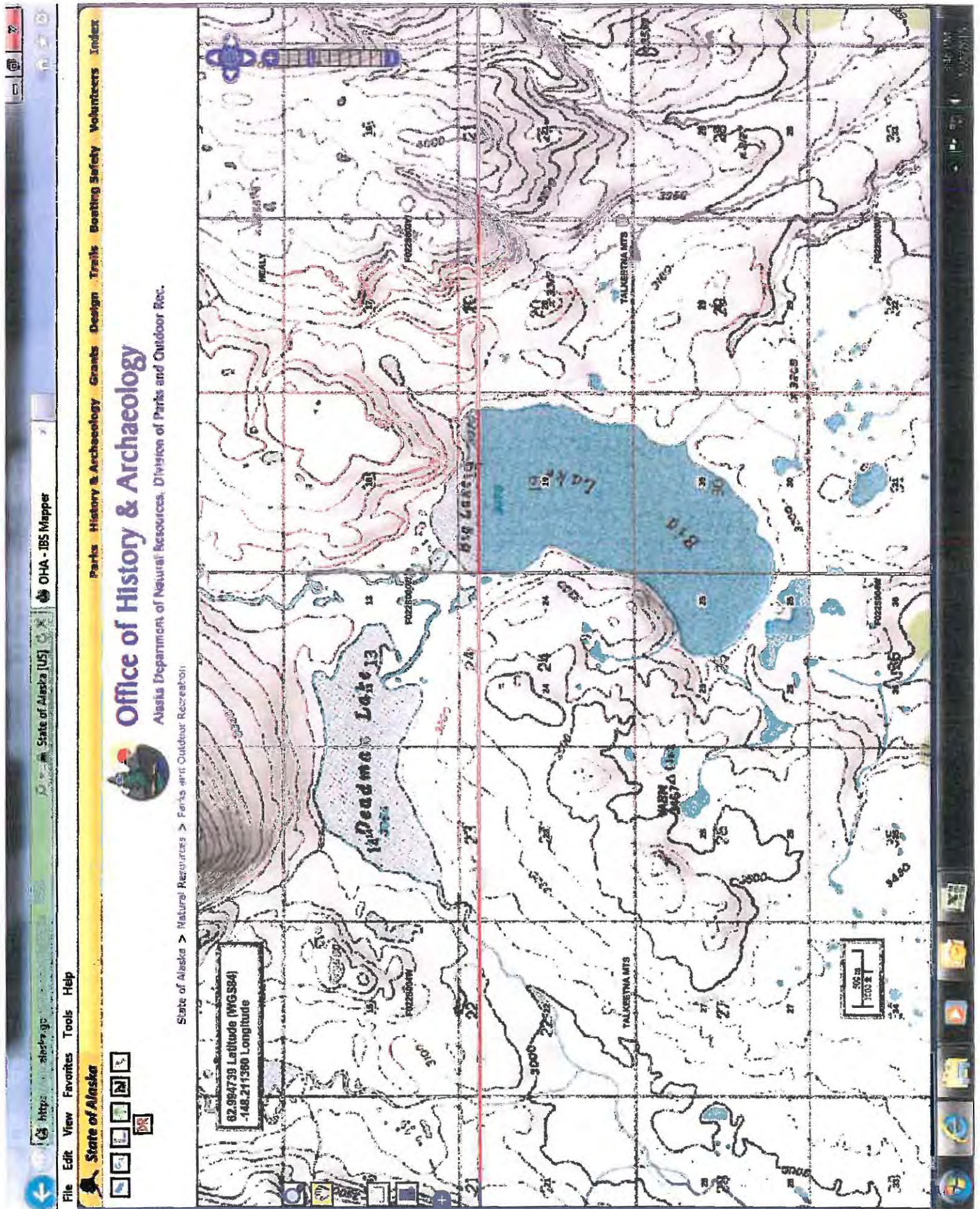
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

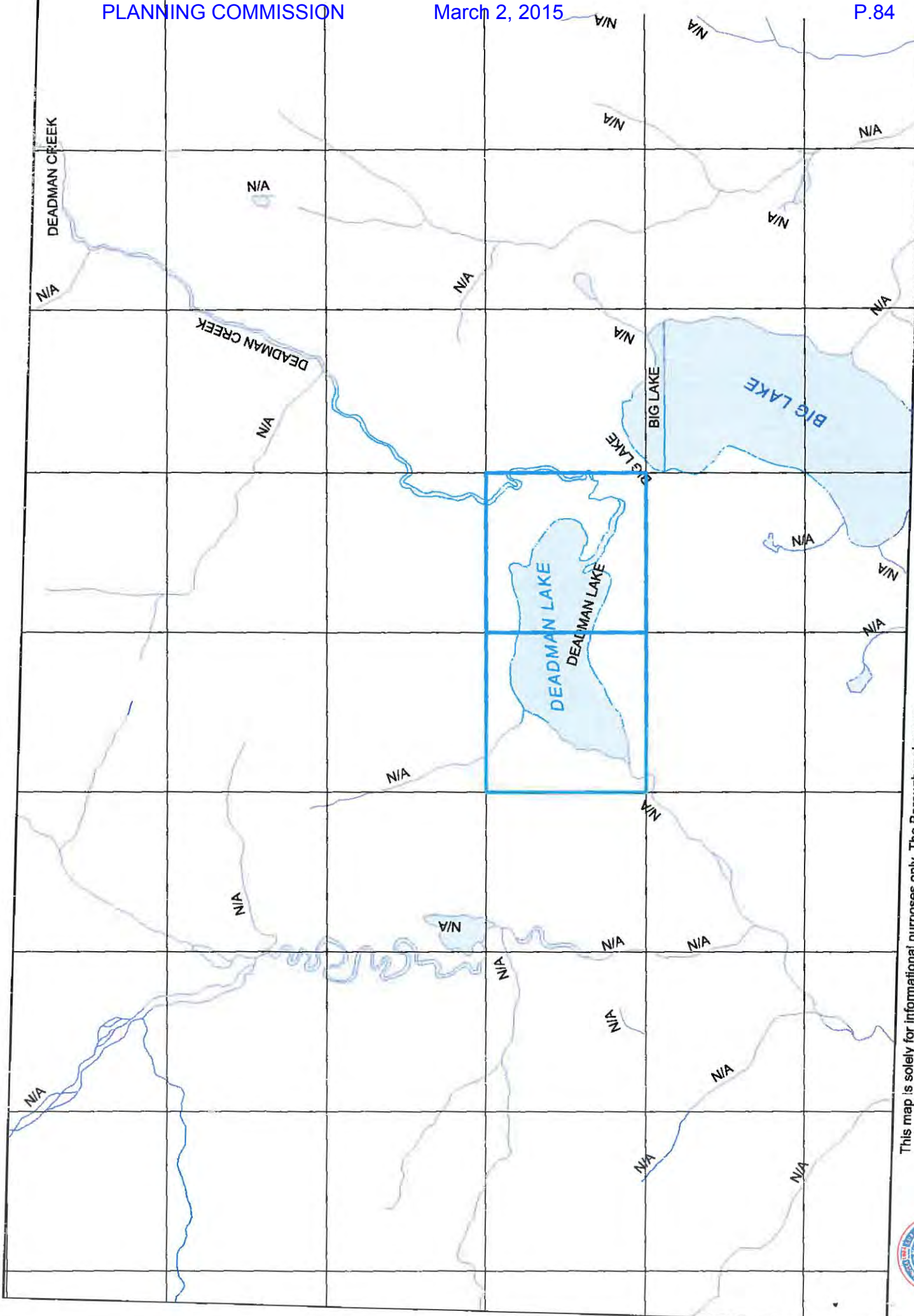
Do other property owners adjacent to the feature endorse the proposed name? Unknown
Cartwell is the closest community where the name has a
recognized use

PROPOSER:

Proposed by: James Kari - Ameritus Date: 30 Jan 2015
Affiliation: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Address: P.O. Box 757500
City, state, zip code: Fairbanks, AK, 99775
Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

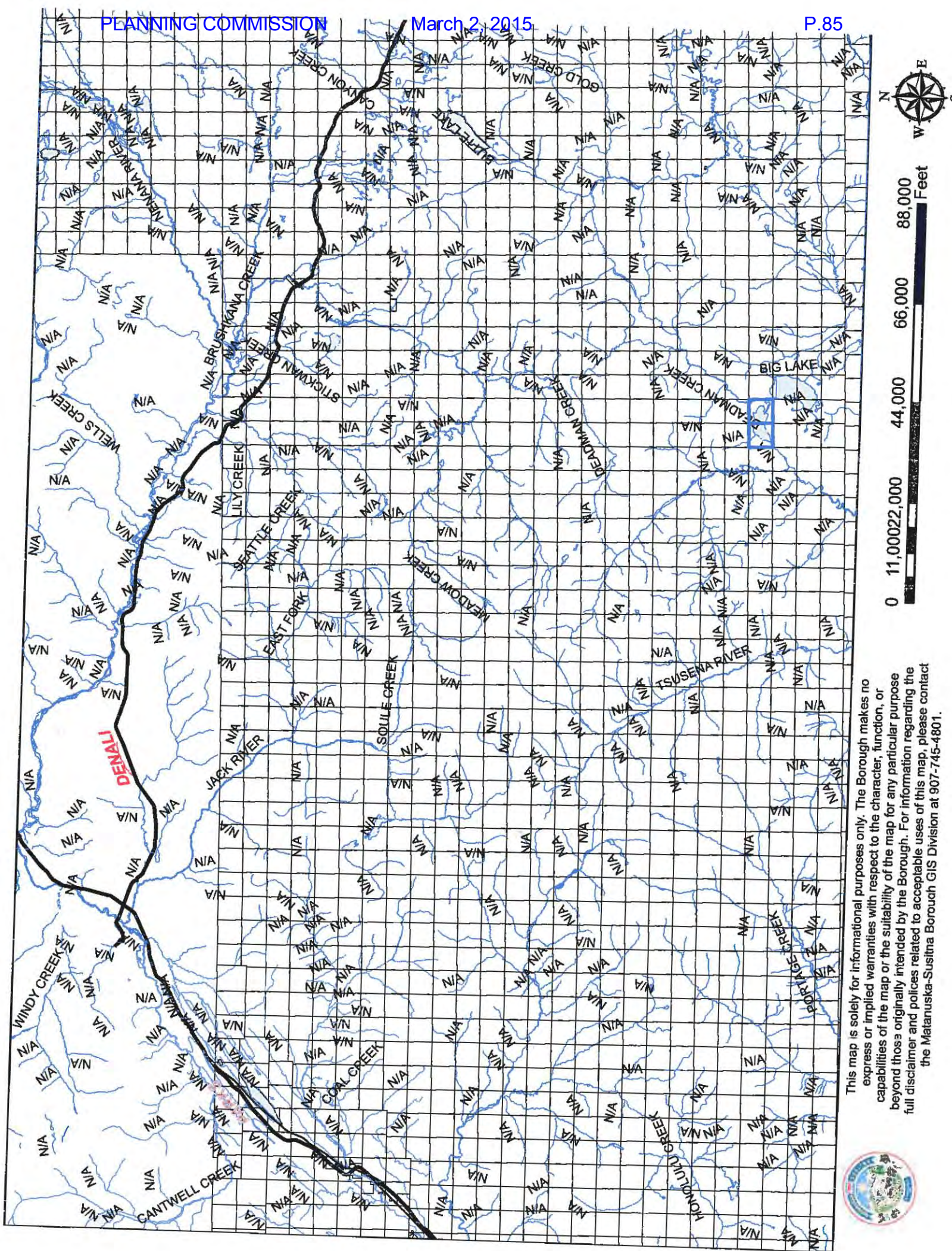
YOUR PROPOSAL MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP OF THE AREA (1:63,360 OR 1:25,000 SCALE) INDICATING THE FEATURE TO BE NAMED. PHOTOGRAPHS, PLAT MAPS, AND SITE PLANS CAN BE USEFUL BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS LETTERS OF SUPPORT, PETITIONS, AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE ENCOURAGED.





This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.





This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.



This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Hearing on Naming of Geographic Feature
Proposed name: Kacaagh Creek

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on **March 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm** in the Assembly Chambers located at 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer, Alaska, on a proposal to make official the name Kacaagh Creek, currently named Deadman Creek, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The creek lies approximately 48 to 50 miles due East of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Highway in the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

Comments concerning the name will be taken during the public hearing or may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department, 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer AK 99645; by fax at (907) 861-7876; or by email to planning@matsugov.us Comments received prior to March 2, 2015 will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the Commissioner's review and information. Comments received after that date will be provided as handouts to the Commission. For additional information please contact Eileen Probasco at (907) 861-7850

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
☐ Application change
☒ Name change
☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: Kacaagh Creek
- Type of feature: Creek
- Evidence the feature is unnamed: currently named Deadman Lake

Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named?

Deadman has been over used throughout Alaska. The Ahlta people refer to Deadman Creek as Kacaagh Creek.

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: It lies approximately 48 to 56 miles due east of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Hwy.
Borough: Matanuska-Susitna USGS map: Talkeetna Mountain D-3
Latitude: 624947 Longitude: 1482819151
Section: 26 Township: 32N Range: 05E Meridian: Seward

BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

- ☒ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? Kacaagh Creek is well-known
State the number of years known by recommended name: to the Cantwell Ahlta People
State variant spelling and/or usage if known: no variants
Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? not known
This is one name in a set of 4 names referring to the mountain
The creek, the upper + lower lakes, and the mountain within
the same vicinity.
- ☒ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:
The name Deadman has a dreary connotation + is not in
keeping with its aboriginal name

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

Page 2

- ☐ **COMMEMORATIVE** - The Alaska Historical Commission will not consider a commemorative name proposal until the person has been dead five years. Commemorative name proposals must include evidence of local support.

Full name of individual: N/A
Date of death: _____
Last residence: _____
Length of stay in Alaska: _____
Relationship to the feature proposed to be named: _____

ATTACH A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND ADDRESS THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THE INDIVIDUAL MADE TO ALASKA

- ☒ **OTHER** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The feature is in the Ahtna language and has a significance associated with directional terms and place

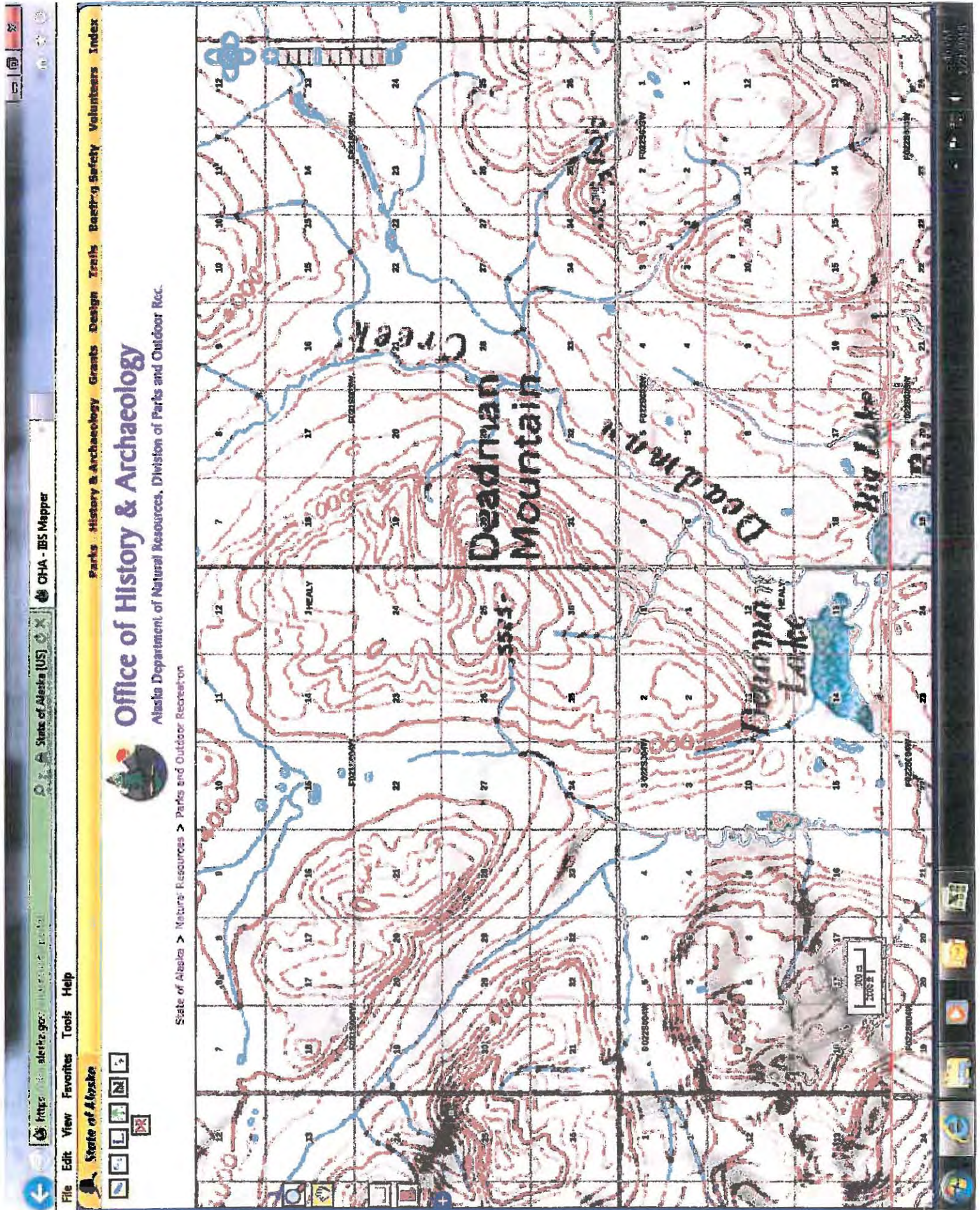
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

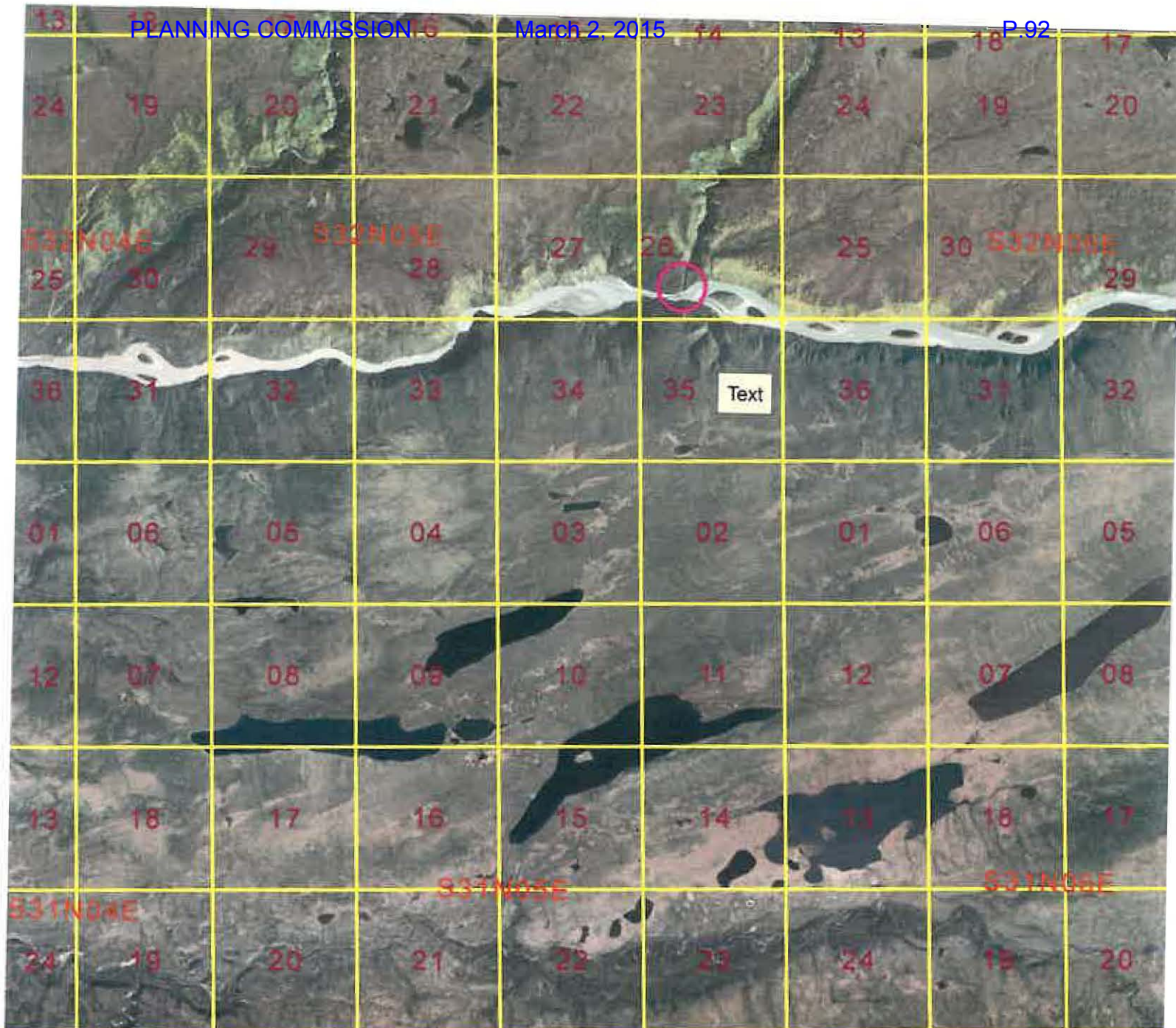
Do other property owners adjacent to the feature endorse the proposed name? Unknown
Cantwell is the closest community where the name has a recognized use.

PROPOSER:

Proposed by: James Kari - Ameritus Date: 30 Jan 2015
Affiliation: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Address: P.O. Box 757500
City, state, zip code: Fairbanks, AK. 99775
Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

YOUR PROPOSAL MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP OF THE AREA (1:63,360 OR 1:25,000 SCALE) INDICATING THE FEATURE TO BE NAMED. PHOTOGRAPHS, PLAT MAPS, AND SITE PLANS CAN BE USEFUL BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS LETTERS OF SUPPORT, PETITIONS, AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE ENCOURAGED.





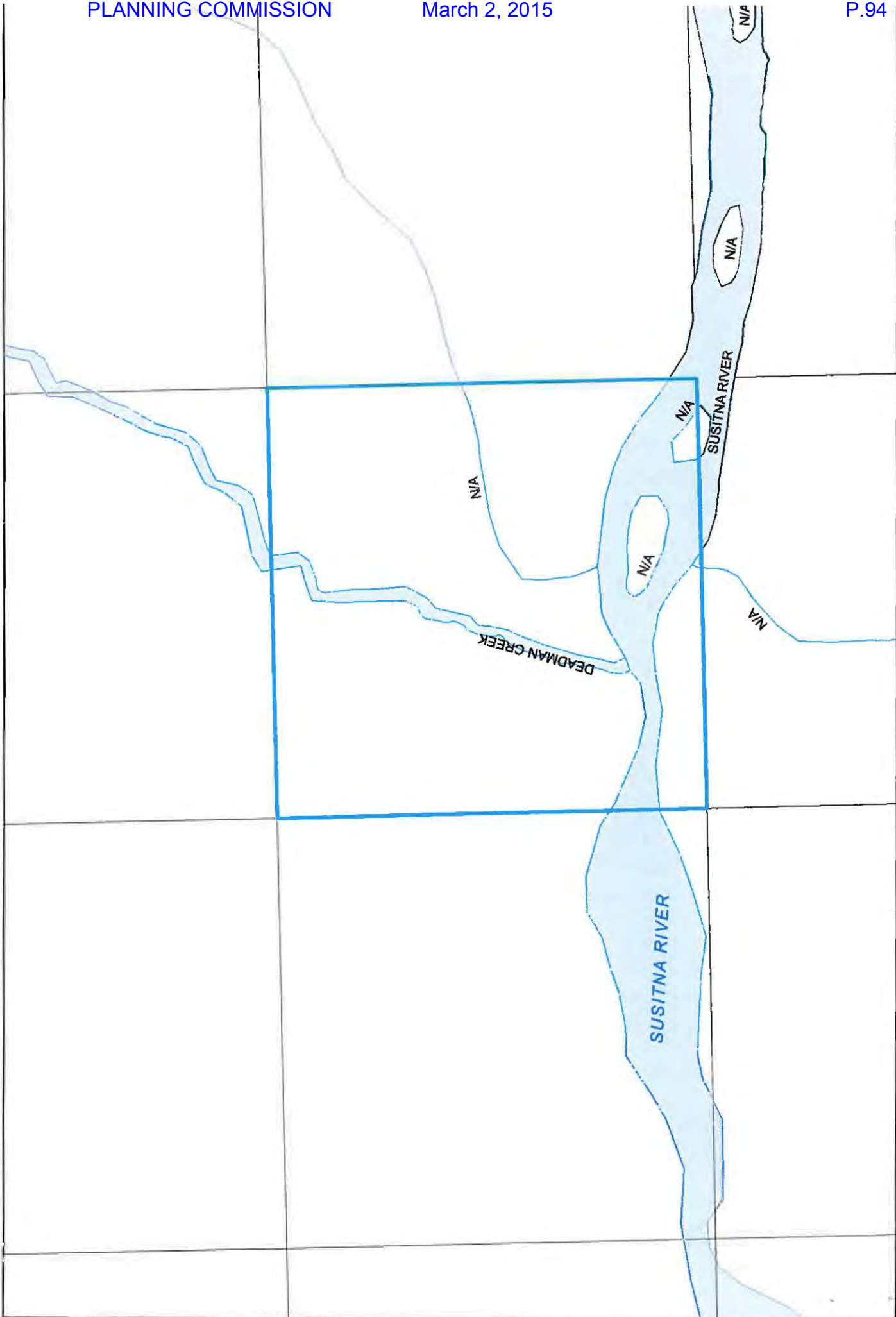
25	30	29	28	27	26	25	30	29
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

36	31	32	33	34	35	36	31	32
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

01	06	05	04	03	02	01	06	05
S30N04E			S30N05E				S30N06E	

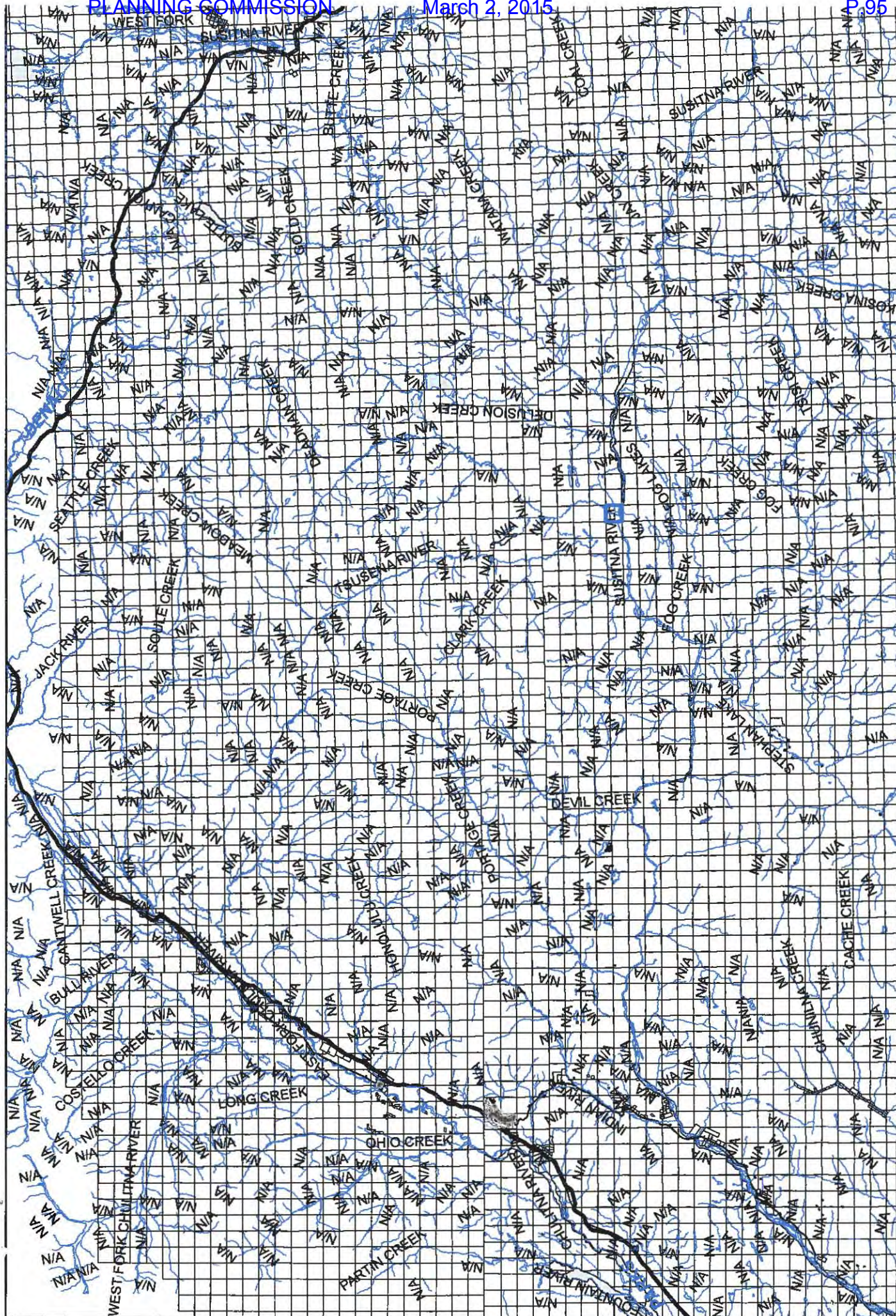
12	07	08	09	10	11	12	07	08
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----





This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.





This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.



This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PUBLIC NOTICE**Public Hearing on Naming of Geographic Feature
Proposed name: Kacaagh Mountain**

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on **March 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm** in the Assembly Chambers located at 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer, Alaska, on a proposal to make official the name Kacaagh Mountain, currently named Deadman Mounatin, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The mountain lies approximately 45 miles due East of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Highway and 24 miles South East of Cantwell in the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

Comments concerning the name will be taken during the public hearing or may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department, 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer AK 99645; by fax at (907) 861-7876; or by email to planning@matsugov.us Comments received prior to March 2, 2015 will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the Commissioner's review and information. Comments received after that date will be provided as handouts to the Commission. For additional information please contact Eileen Probasco at (907) 861-7850

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
☒ Application change
☐ Name change
☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: Kacaagh Mountain (A source on the names taken from 2014 version)
- Type of feature: Mountain of Ahna Place names List v. 3.3)
- Evidence the feature is unnamed: Currently named Deadman Mountain [Kari 2014]

Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named? _____

The current name of "Deadman" has been used to name over 20 geographical features in Alaska. The mountain already had an aboriginal name of Kacaagh.

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: It lies approximately 45 miles due east of Honolulu Creek on the Parks Hwy + 2.4 mi SE of Cantwell

Borough: Matanuska-Susitna USGS map: HEALY A-3

Latitude: 630348 Longitude: 1481338545

Section: 22 Township: S04 Range: W13 Meridian: Fairbanks

BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

- ☒ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? Kacaagh Mountain is well-known
State the number of years known by recommended name: to the Cantwell Ahna people
State variant spelling and/or usage if known: no variants
Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? not known
this is one name in a set of 4 names referring to the mountain
the Creek the upper & lower lakes in the same vicinity. (Kari 2014)

- ☒ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The name Deadman has a dreary connotation & is not in keeping with its aboriginal name

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

Page 2

- ☐ **COMMEMORATIVE** - The Alaska Historical Commission will not consider a commemorative name proposal until the person has been dead five years. Commemorative name proposals must include evidence of local support.

Full name of individual: w/a
Date of death: _____
Last residence: _____
Length of stay in Alaska: _____
Relationship to the feature proposed to be named: _____

ATTACH A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND ADDRESS THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THE INDIVIDUAL MADE TO ALASKA

- ☒ **OTHER** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The feature in the Athna language has a significance associated with directional terms and place.

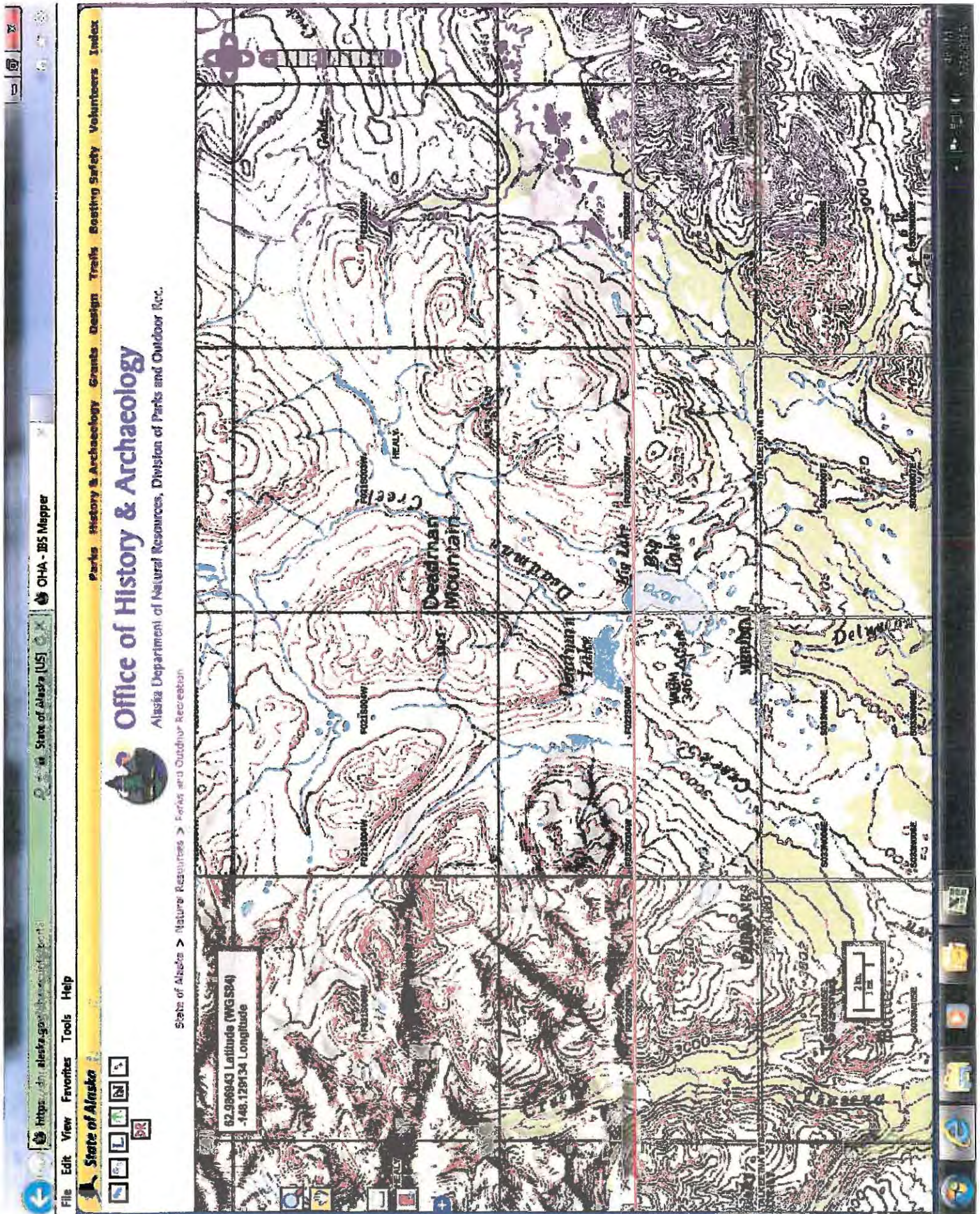
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Do other property owners adjacent to the feature endorse the proposed name? unknown
Cantwell is the closest community where the name has a recognized use.

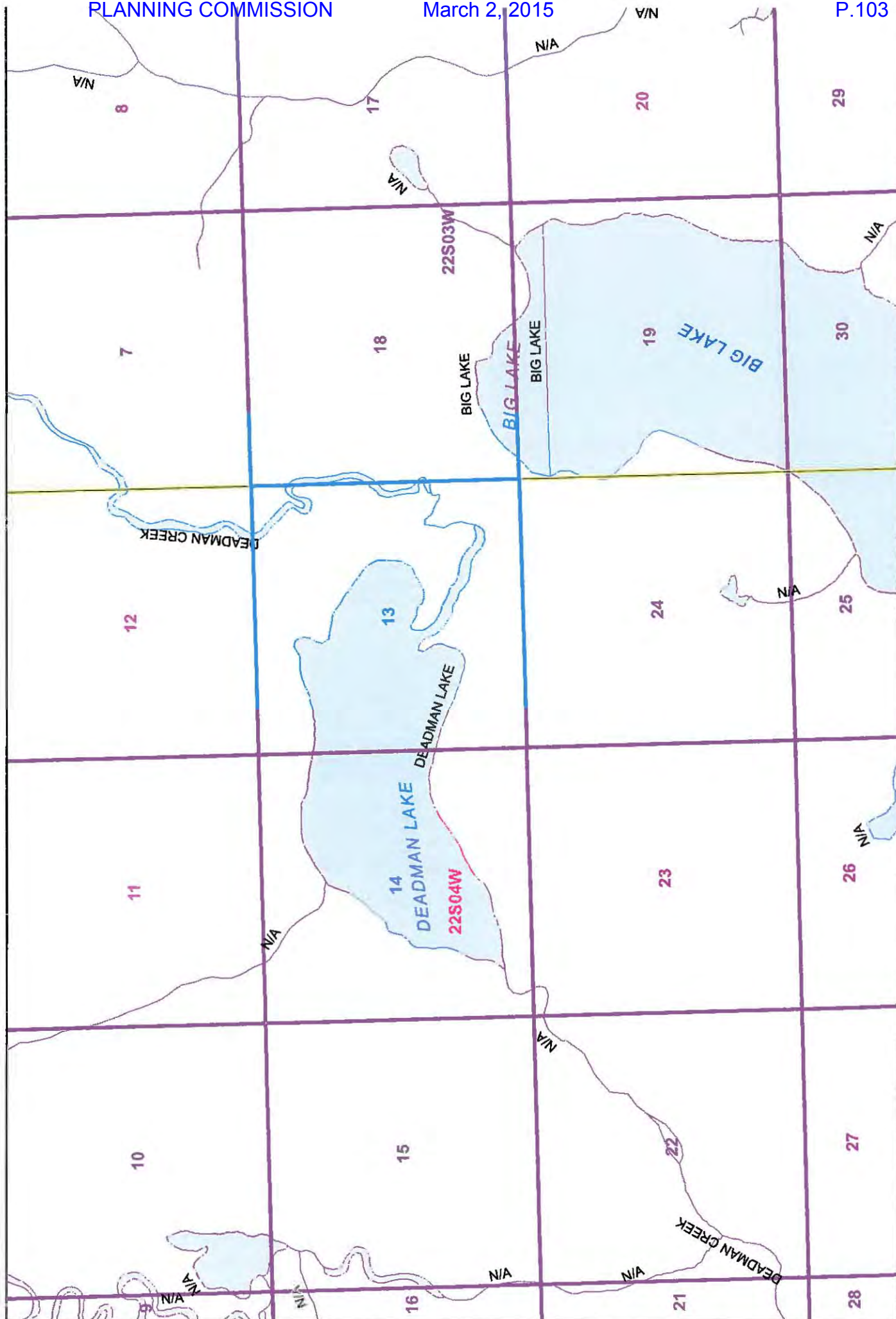
PROPOSER:

Proposed by: James Kari Emeritus Date: January 30, 2015
Affiliation: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Address: P.O. Box 757500
City, state, zip code: Fairbanks, 99775
Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

YOUR PROPOSAL MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP OF THE AREA (1:63,360 OR 1:25,000 SCALE) INDICATING THE FEATURE TO BE NAMED. PHOTOGRAPHS, PLAT MAPS, AND SITE PLANS CAN BE USEFUL BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS LETTERS OF SUPPORT, PETITIONS, AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE ENCOURAGED.



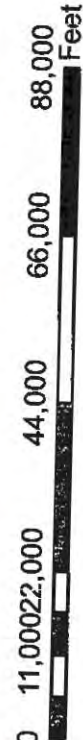
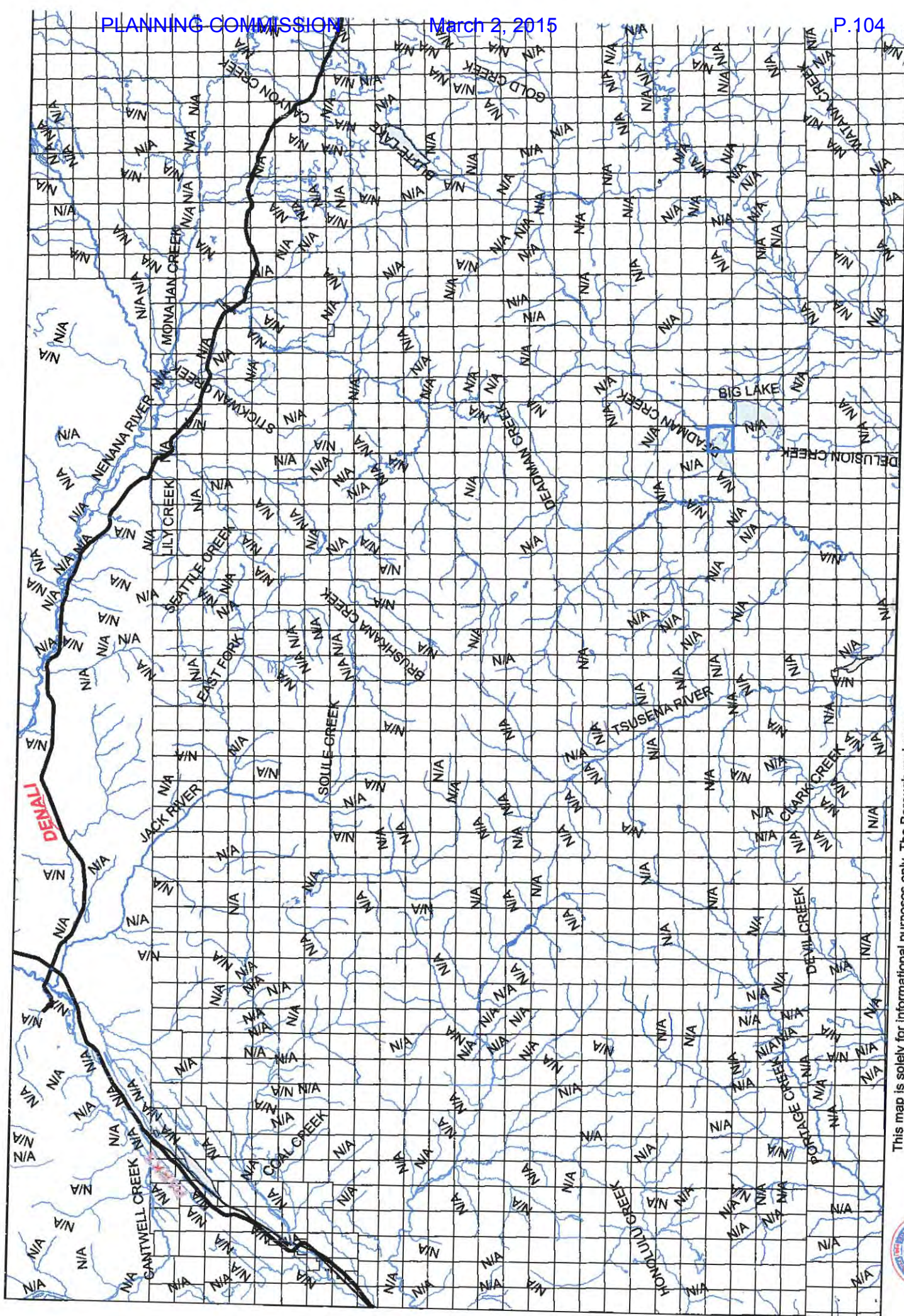




A vertical scale bar labeled "Feet" with markings at 0, 1,050, 2,100, 4,200, 6,300, and 8,400.

This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer, and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.





This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.



PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Hearing on Naming of Geographic Feature
Proposed name: Lowland Kacaagh Lake

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on **March 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm** in the Assembly Chambers located at 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer, Alaska, on a proposal to make official the name Lowland Kacaagh Lake, currently named Big Lake, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Lake is located approximately 45 miles due East of Hurricane Gulch on the Parks Highway in the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

Comments concerning the name will be taken during the public hearing or may be submitted in writing prior to the meeting to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Department, 350 E. Dahlia, Palmer AK 99645; by fax at (907) 861-7876; or by email to planning@matsugov.us Comments received prior to March 2, 2015 will be included in the Planning Commission packet for the Commissioner's review and information. Comments received after that date will be provided as handouts to the Commission. For additional information please contact Eileen Probasco at (907) 861-7850

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
- ☐ Application change
- ☐ Name change
- ☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: Lowland Kacaagh Lake
 - Type of feature: lake
 - Evidence the feature is unnamed: previously named "Big Lake"
- Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named?

Big Lake is a redundant name for a lake. There exist 25 lakes in Alaska by that name. Lowland Kacaagh Lake is an aboriginal name in Dene

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: approximately 45 miles east of Hurrican Gulch

Borough: Matanuska-Susitna USGS map: Talkeetna mountains D-3
Latitude: 625920 Longitude: 14822305
Section: Sec 25 Township: 22S Range: 04W Meridian: Fairbanks
Sec. 30-19 03W

BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

- ☒ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? Cantwell Athna speakers use the name
State the number of years known by recommended name: aboriginal name
State variant spelling and/or usage if known: unknown
Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? unknown closest community is Cantwell

- ☒ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The name is well-known to the Athna people it is one of a set of four names referring to the mountain - the Creek - the upper lake and the lowland lake - This being the Lowland Kacaagh Lake helps to signify directional terms and place

PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE IN ALASKA

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8721
oha@alaska.net

ACTION REQUESTED:

- ☐ New name
- ☐ Application change
- ☐ Name change
- ☐ Other:

DESCRIPTION:

- Proposed name: Lowland Kacaagh Lake
 - Type of feature: Lake
 - Evidence the feature is unnamed: Previously named "Big Lake"
- Why do you want to name this feature, and why do you believe the feature needs to be named?
Biglake is a redundant name for a lake. There exist 25 lakes in Alaska by that name. Lowland Kacaagh Lake is an aboriginal name in Dene

LOCATION:

Distance and direction from nearest community or prominent topographic feature: approximately 45 miles east of Hurrican Gulch
Borough: Matanuska-Susitna USGS map: Talkeetna Mountains D-3
Latitude: 625920 Longitude: 148222305
Section: Sec 25 Township: 22S Range: 04W Meridian: Fairbanks
Sec. 30-19 03W

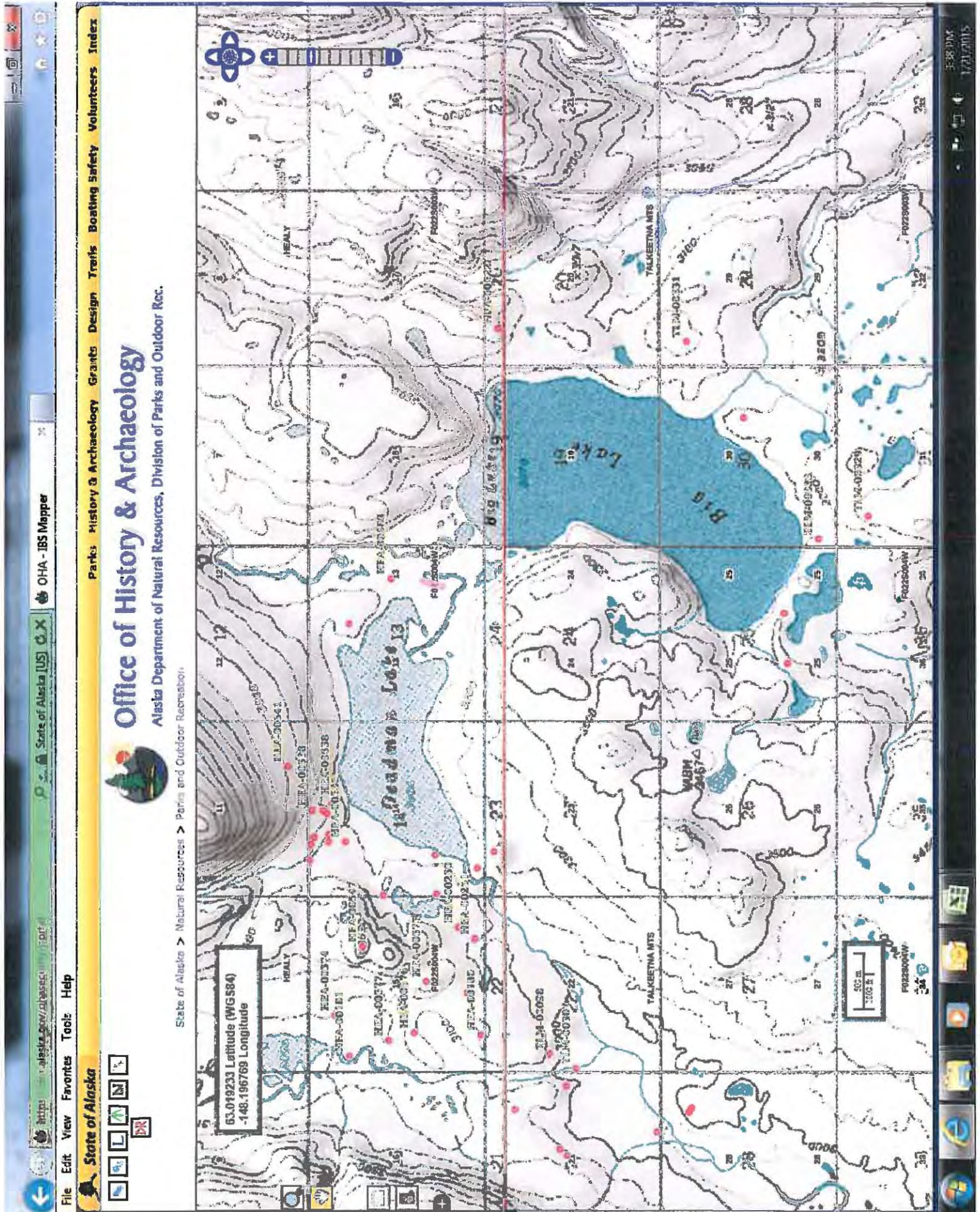
BEFORE CONTINUING, PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

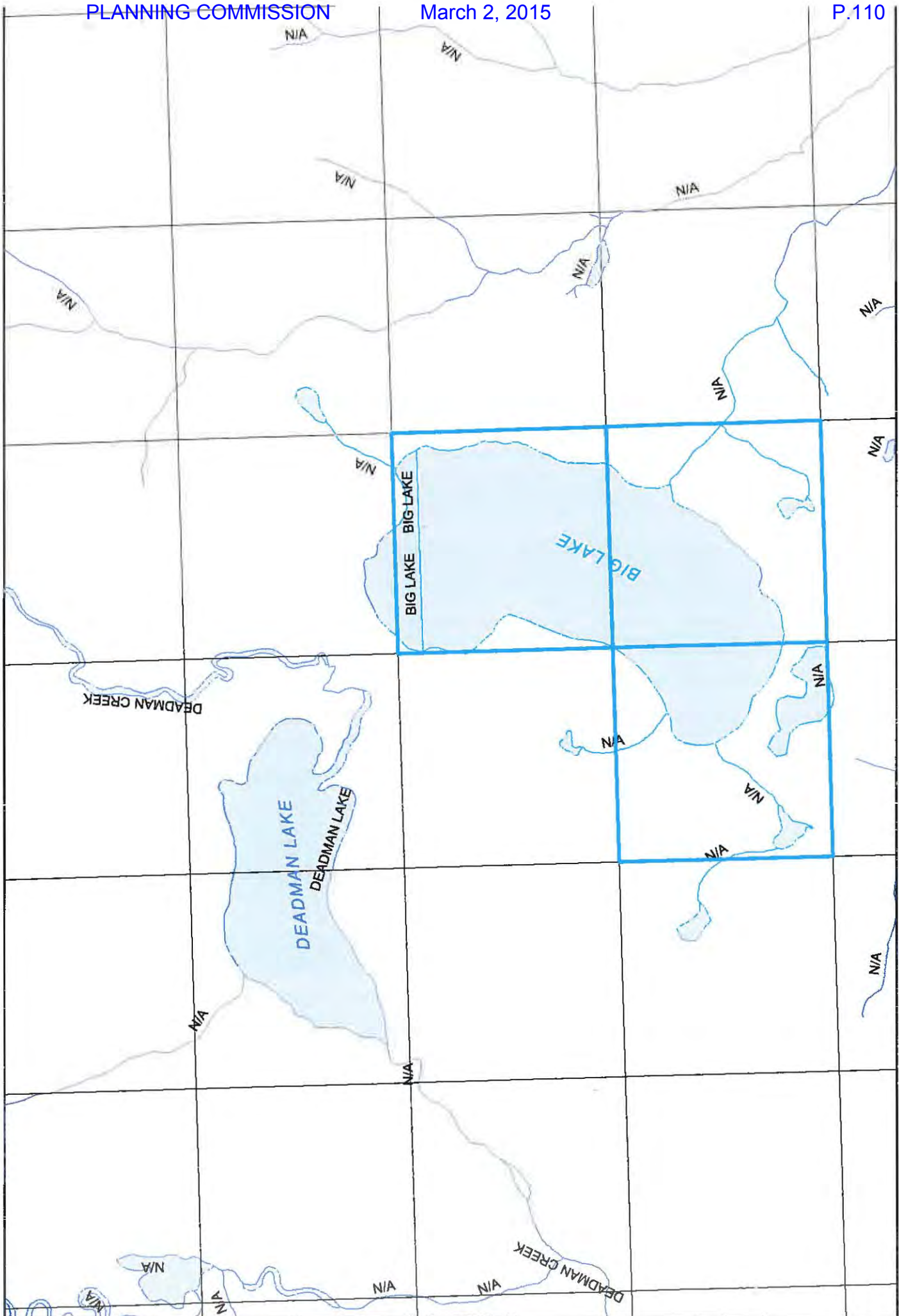
- ☒ **LOCAL USAGE** - Is the proposed name in local use? Cantwell Athna speakers use the name
State the number of years known by recommended name: aboriginal name
State variant spelling and/or usage if known: unknown
Is there local opposition or conflict regarding the proposed name? unknown closest community is Cantwell

- ☒ **DESCRIPTIVE** - Provide information about the feature and why the proposed name is appropriate:

The name is well-known to the Athna people it is one of a set of four names referring to the mountain - the Creek - the upper lake and the Lowland lake - This being the Lowland Kacaagh Lake helps to signify directional terms and place



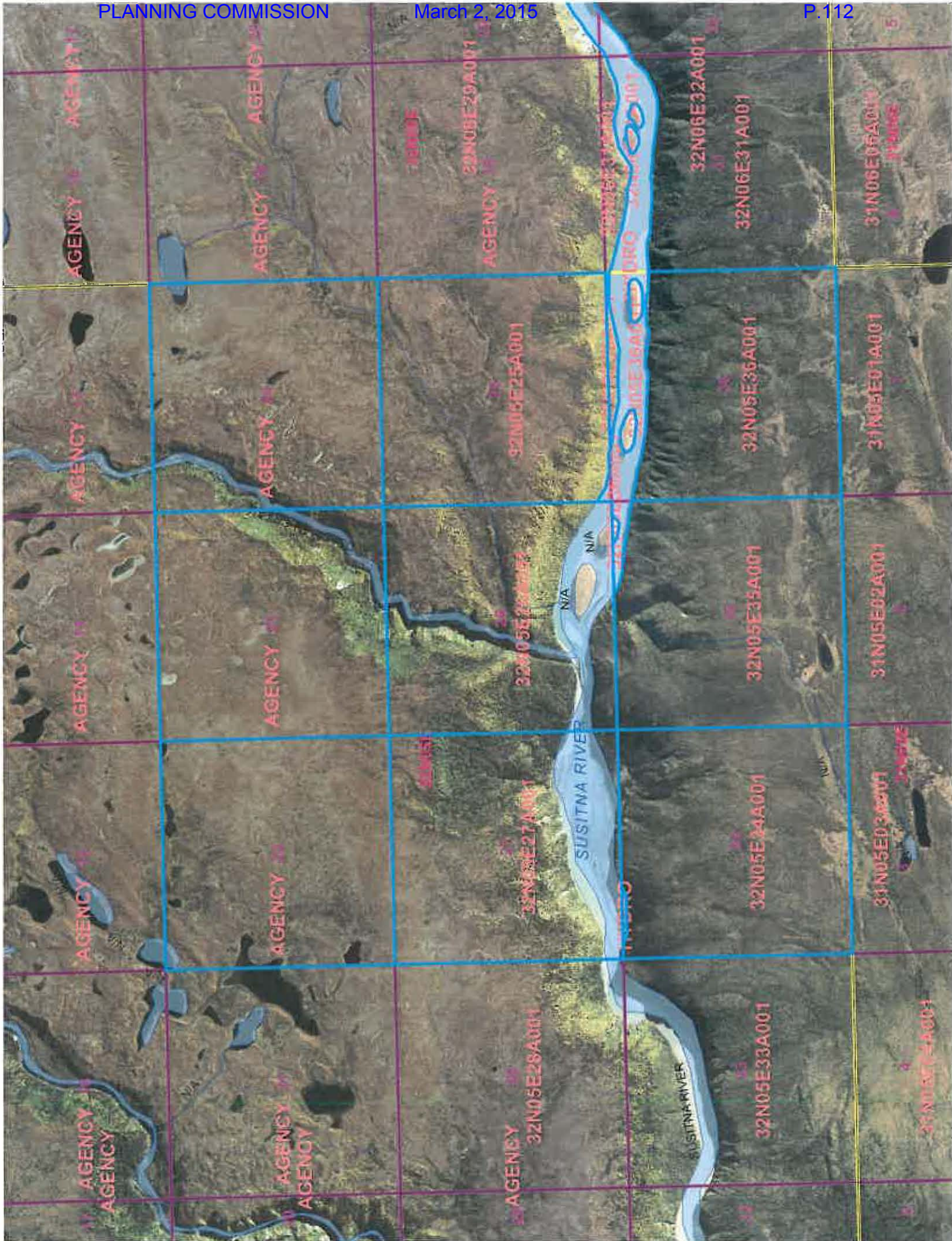
Deadman Lake and Big Lake



This map is solely for informational purposes only. The Borough makes no express or implied warranties with respect to the character, function, or capabilities of the map or the suitability of the map for any particular purpose beyond those originally intended by the Borough. For information regarding the full disclaimer and policies related to acceptable uses of this map, please contact the Matanuska-Susitna Borough GIS Division at 907-745-4801.







<u>Deadman Mountain</u>	1401033	Summit	Matanuska-Susitna	AK	630348	1481338	545	Healy A-3
					N	W	9	
<u>Big Lake</u>	1398990	Lake	Matanuska-Susitna	AK	625920	1481222	305	Talkeetna
					N	W	8	Mountains D-3

Deadman Mountain name change to Kacaagh Mountain

Deadman Creek name change to Kacaagh Creek

Deadman Lake name change to Upland Kacaagh Lake

Big Lake name change to Lowland Kacaagh Lake

These names are well known to Cantwell Ahtna people. The four name changes illustrate a “set” of generated names, that is typical of Ahtna (or Athabascan or Dene) geographic naming. Use of translations of two directional terms, Upland and Lowland illustrates the riverine directional orientation of Ahtna geography. A source on the names is attached, pages from the 2014 version of *Ahtna Place Names Lists* vers. 3.3 (Kari 2014).

The name Deadman Lake dates from 1914. Three place names with Deadman have a dreary or ominous connotation. Big Lake is a highly redundant in Alaska. The Ahtna names enhance public awareness of Ahtna language and its rule-driven geographic names. The features are proximate to the site of the proposed Susitna-Watana Dam site and thus will be noticeable contributions to the regional cultural landscape

State of Alaska User Guide Support Records Office ASGDC Visiting Alaska SDMI

Natural Resources > IRM GPU > Alaska Mapper > Map Selection > Base Map (public)

Tools Layers Legend

Base Map
Google Satellite

Map Functions

Navigation Tools

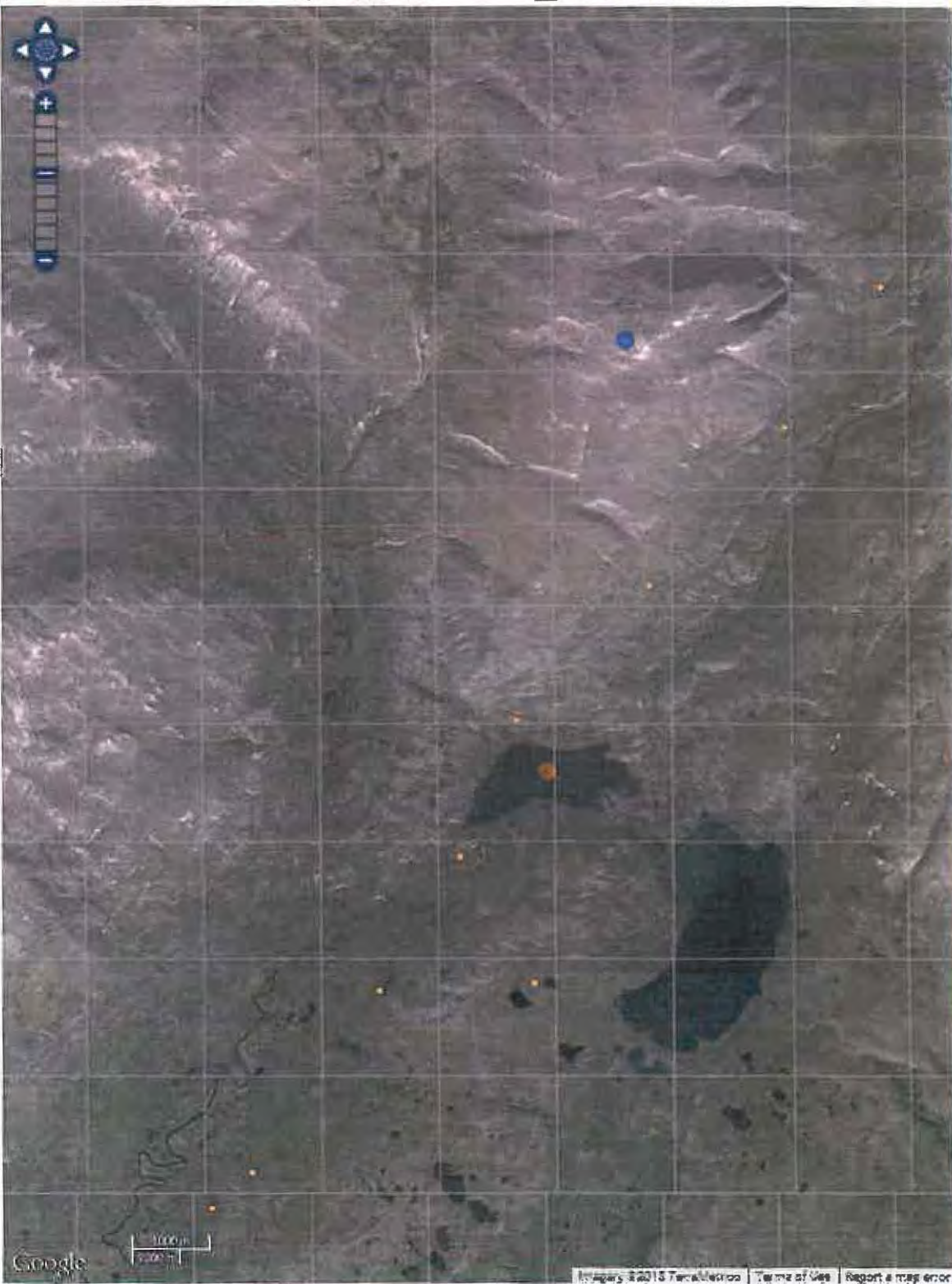
Query by Feature (3)

Feature Modify / Other

Run Query Partial

Map Info
Mouse position (DD):
Lat:
Long:

Map Center Township
TWP Links (F0225004W)



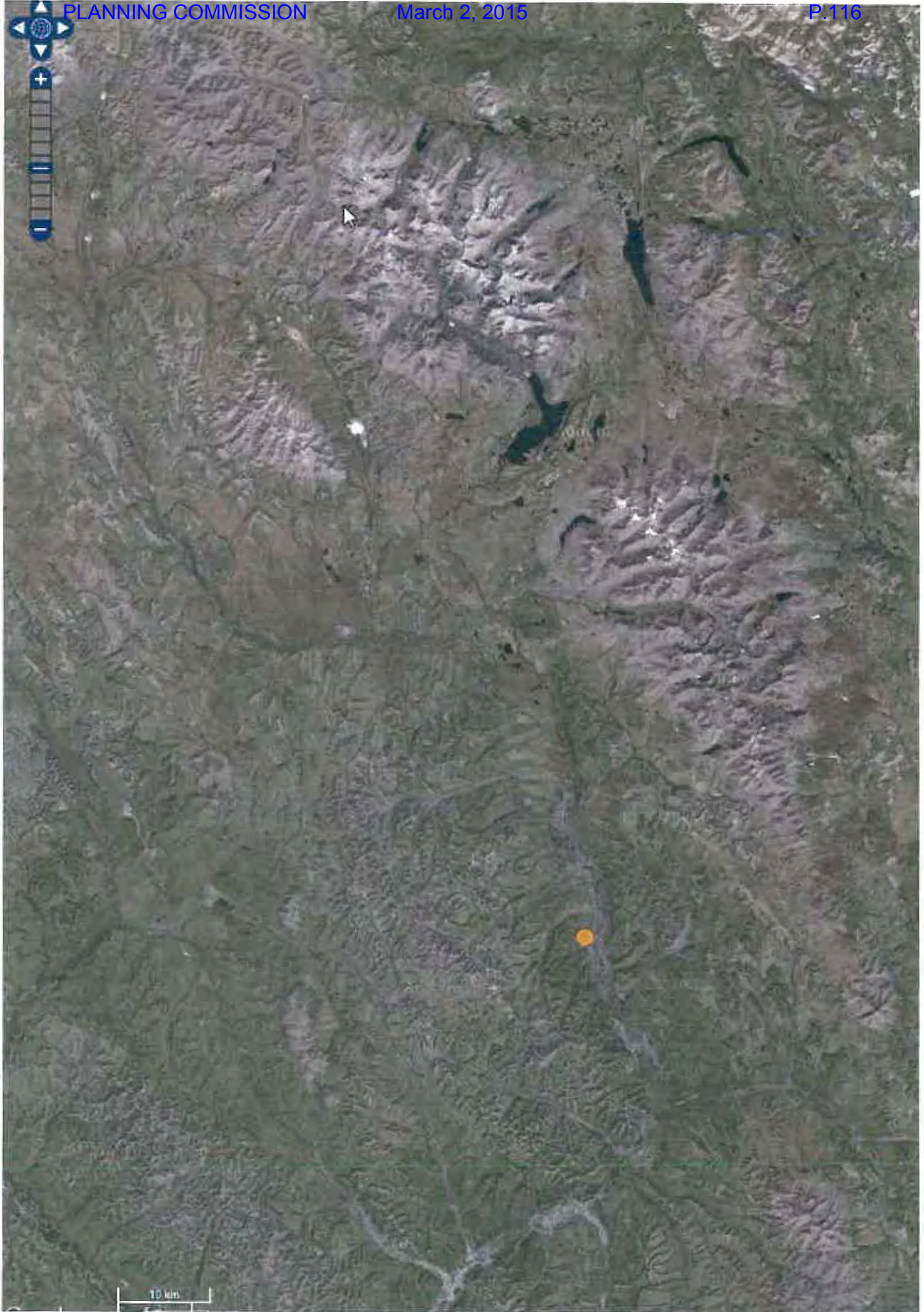
Google

Imagery © 2015 TerraMetrics Terms of Use Report a map error

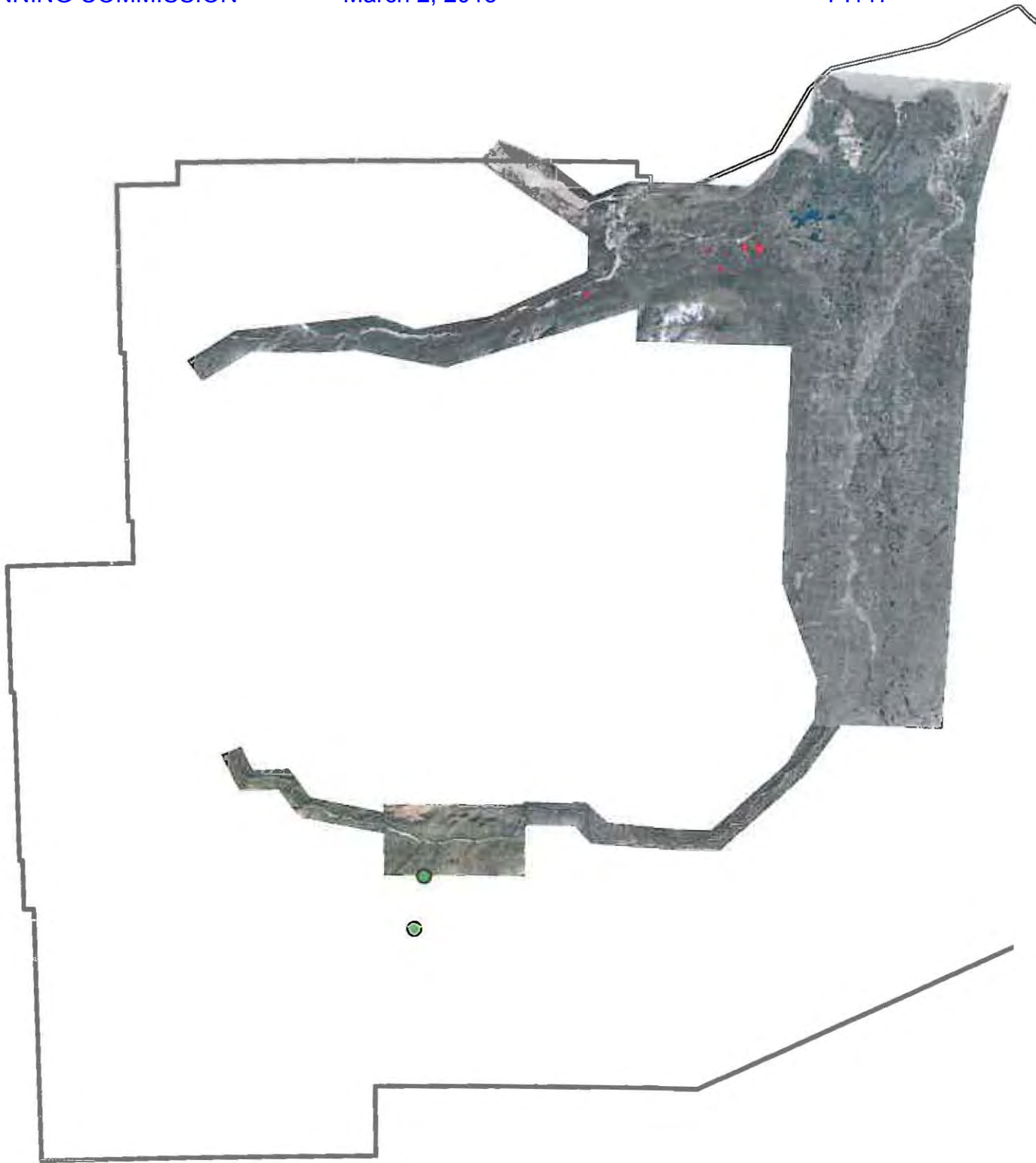




T22N
W03W
Sec 13



1.0 miles



State of Alaska

Natural Resources > IRM GPU > Alaska Mapper > Map Selection > Base Map (public) [Switch to Lite Mapper](#) [Logout \(Logged in as: public\)](#)

[Tools](#) [Layers](#) [Legend](#)

Base Map
Google Satellite

Map Functions

Navigation Tools

Query by Feature (7)

Feature Modify / Other

[Run Query](#) Partial

Map Info
Mouse position (DD):
Lat:
Long:
Map Center Township
Out of bounds



1000 m
2000 ft

[Report a map error](#)

State of Alaska

User Guide Support Records Office AS&DC Visiting Alaska SDMI

Natural Resources > IRM GPU > Alaska Mapper > Map Selection > Base Map (public) Switch to Lite Mapper

Tools Layers Legend

Base Map
Google Satellite

Map Functions

Navigation Tools

Query by Feature (3)

Feature Modify / Other

Run Query Partial

Map Info
Mouse position (DD):
Lat: 63.02373N
Long: 148.26858W

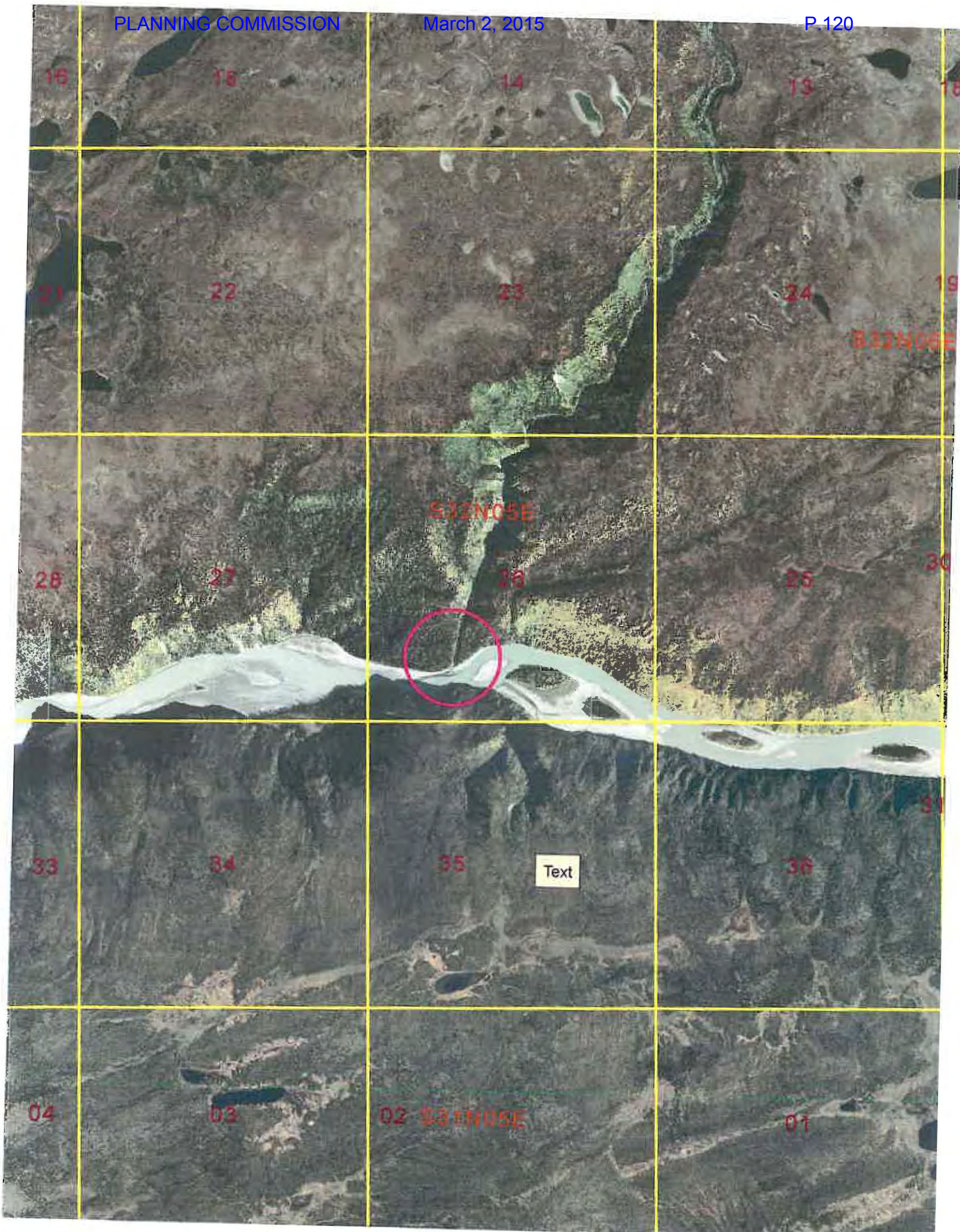
Map Center Township
TWP Links (F0225004W)



Google

Imagery ©2013 DigitalGlobe, Landsat Terms of Use Report a map error

Shortcut Mapper Shortcut Organizer VU Navigator: SETBACKS...



Wednesday, Jan 21, 2015 03:49 PM

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

Hi Fran

perhaps we should submit these jointly. We want to cc Ahtna Inc. once we have this as a submission draft.

See <http://geonames.usgs.gov/> for feature search on current official names has lat.long etc. can be added to form

name change 1)

Bulchitna Lake

ADD NOTE, justification:

Hneh'itnu Bena Lake

Bulchitna Lake was established in 1954. The name is now being used as one of M-S B's tax code districts. As noted in Kari & Fall 1987:143 and Kari & Fall 2003:159, the name Bulchitna Lake was made up and reported to USGS by a non-native person. Bulchitna is not based upon an actual Dena'ina place name. The name is derogatory and was intended to mock Native-origin place names. In the 1970s Shem Pete reported the Dena'ina name Hneh'itnu Bena means 'extends into the uplands lake'. This was first published in Kari and Fall 1987:143. geonames.usgs.gov at the entry for Bulchitna Lake Hneh'itnu Bena is cited as a variant name.

Name changes 2, 3, 4, 5

WE CAN DO THESE ON A SINGLE "BATCH" P.N. APPLICATION, USBGN has encouraged these for native place names changes.

The following is a batch of place names changes for four features, each with the Ahtna verb *Kacaagh* 'large area'. Phonetically this word is [ka-KYAAGH] with stress on the 2nd syllable. *Kacaagh* is one of the very earliest documented Ahtna/Dena'ina place names in southcentral Alaska. It is clearly noted on the 1839 Wrangell map as "See Kochobena" (Kari & Fall 2003:86-87).

Deadman Creek	1401026	Stream	Matanuska-Susitna	AK	624947 N	1482819 W	151 6	Talkeetna Mountain - s D-3
Deadman Lake	1401031	Lake	Matanuska-Susitna	AK	630030 N	1481505 W	305 4	Healy A-3 -

Deadman Mountain 1401033 Summit Matanuska-Susitna

AK 630348 1481338 545 Healy A-3
N W 9

Big Lake 1398990 Lake Matanuska-Susitna

AK 625920 1481222 305 Talkeetna Mountain s D-3
N W 8
22S. 04W Sec 25
19-30-25
22S. 03W Sec 30-19
CM 11
CM 14

Deadman Mountain name change to Kacaagh Mountain

Deadman Creek name change to Kacaagh Creek

Deadman Lake name change to Upland Kacaagh Lake

Big Lake name change to Lowland Kacaagh Lake

These names are well known to Cantwell Ahtna people. The four name changes illustrate a "set" of generated names, that is typical of Ahtna (or Athabascan or Dene) geographic naming. Use of translations of two directional terms, Upland and Lowland illustrates the riverine directional orientation of Ahtna geography. A source on the names is attached, pages from the 2014 version of *Ahtna Place Names Lists* vers. 3.3 (Kari 2014).

The name Deadman Lake dates from 1914. Three place names with Deadman have a dreary or ominous connotation. Big Lake is a highly redundant in Alaska. The Ahtna names enhance public awareness of Ahtna language and its rule-driven geographic names. The features are proximate to the site of the proposed Susitna-Watana Dam site and thus will be noticeable contributions to the regional cultural landscape

S 024 N 007 W

Hi Fran

perhaps we should submit these jointly. We want to cc Ahtna Inc. once we have this as a submission draft.

See <http://geonames.usgs.gov/> for feature search on current official names has lat.long etc. can be added to form

name change 1)

Bulchitna Lake

ADD NOTE, justification:

Hneh'itnu Bena Lake

Bulchitna Lake was established in 1954. The name is now being used as one of M-S B's tax code districts. As noted in Kari & Fall 1987:143 and Kari & Fall 2003:159, the name Bulchitna Lake was made up and reported to USGS by a non-native person. Bulchitna is not based upon an actual Dena'ina place name. The name is derogatory and was intended to mock Native-origin place names. In the 1970s Shem Pete reported the Dena'ina name Hneh'itnu Bena means 'extends into the uplands lake'. This was first published in Kari and Fall 1987:143. geonames.usgs.gov at the entry for Bulchitna Lake Hneh'itnu Bena is cited as a variant name.

Name changes 2, 3, 4, 5

WE CAN DO THESE ON A SINGLE "BATCH" P.N. APPLICATION, USBGN has encouraged these for native place names changes.

The following is a batch of place names changes for four features, each with the Ahtna verb *Kacaagh* 'large area'. Phonetically this word is [ka-KYAAGH] with stress on the 2nd syllable. *Kacaagh* is one of the very earliest documented Ahtna/Dena'ina place names in southcentral Alaska. It is clearly noted on the 1839 Wrangell map as "See Kochobena" (Kari & Fall 2003:86-87).

Tsoena Creek Map - TC 36
Deadman Creek 1401026 Stream Matanuska-Susitna
 32 NSE Sec 26 3m D-3

Deadman Lake 1401031 Lake Matanuska-Susitna
 223 04W Sec. 13-14 f.

Clark mtn

*cm
14*

S32 N05 E26
 AK 624947 1482819 151 Talkeetna
 N W 6 Mountain -
 s D-3

AK 630030 1481505 305 Healy A-3 -
 N W 4

F 22 S04 W 23

①

②

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE

Resolution No. 15-10

Cottonwood Creek – Impaired Waterbody

(Page 127 - 212)

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING

By: Eileen Probasco
Introduced: March 2, 2015
Public Hearing: March 16, 2015
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 15-10**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING THE ASSEMBLY REQUEST THAT THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (ADEC) COOPERATE WITH THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AND THE CITY OF WASILLA TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF IDENTIFYING THE CAUSES OF COTTONWOOD CREEK BEING DESIGNATED AS AN IMPAIRED WATERBODY BY ADEC.

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek is an important waterbody within the Matanuska Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek has been impacted by rapid development within the borough; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek has been identified as an Impaired Waterbody due to fecal coliform bacteria by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, due to urban runoff and urban development; and

WHEREAS, the MSB is nearing the population threshold and density which will require a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit for stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, the MSB adopted the Stormwater Management Plan in November 2013, which identifies specific strategies for water pollution prevention and site runoff control, and

WHEREAS, the City of Wasilla has a municipal wastewater system serving city residents, which could potentially be one pollutant source; and

WHEREAS, private septic systems bordering Cottonwood Creek could also potentially be a source of the pollution; and

WHEREAS, a regional investigation of the potential pollution sources of Cottonwood Creek should be conducted by ADEC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby recommends the Borough Assembly request the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) work with the City of Wasilla (COW) to look for potential sources of the pollution to Cottonwood Creek within the boundaries of the COW; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission recommends the Borough Assembly requests ADEC work with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to look for potential sources of the pollution to Cottonwood Creek outside the boundaries of the COW; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission recommends the Borough Assembly requests ADEC use grant funding to assist in identifying specific pollution sources, developing recommendations and implementing measures to improve the water quality of Cottonwood Creek.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning
Commission this ____ day of ____, 2015.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Chair

ATTEST

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES:

NO:

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
WASTEWATER AND SEPTAGE ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH WASTEWATER AND SEPTAGE ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING THE ASSEMBLY REQUEST THAT THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (ADEC) COOPERATE WITH THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AND THE CITY OF WASILLA TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF IDENTIFYING THE CAUSES OF COTTONWOOD CREEK BEING DESIGNATED AS AN IMPAIRED WATERBODY BY ADEC.

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek is an important waterbody within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB); and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek has been impacted by rapid development within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Creek has been identified as an Impaired Waterbody due to fecal coliform bacteria by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) due to urban runoff and urban development; and

WHEREAS, the MSB is nearing the population threshold and density which will require a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit for stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, the MSB adopted the Stormwater Management Plan in November 2013, which identifies specific strategies for water pollution prevention and site runoff control; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wasilla has a municipal wastewater system serving city residents, which could potentially be one pollutant source; and

WHEREAS, private septic systems bordering Cottonwood Creek could also potentially be a source of the pollution; and

WHEREAS, a regional investigation of the potential pollution sources of Cottonwood Creek should be conducted by ADEC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board hereby recommends the Borough Assembly request that the ADEC work with the City of Wasilla (COW) to look for potential sources of the pollution to Cottonwood Creek within the boundaries of the COW; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board recommends that the Borough Assembly request ADEC work with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to look for potential sources of the pollution to Cottonwood Creek outside the boundaries of the COW; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board recommends that the Borough Assembly request ADEC use grant funding to assist in identifying specific pollution sources, developing recommendations and implementing measures to improve water quality of Cottonwood Creek.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board this 10th day of February, 2015.

Tom Healy, Chair

ATTEST:

Debbie Passmore
Debbie Passmore, Admin. Support

ALASKA's IMPAIRED WATERS – 2010

As of September 2010

Impaired Waterbody Categories:**Category 4a – Impaired water with a final/approved TMDL****Category 4b – Impaired water with other pollution controls****Category 5 – Impaired water, Section 303(d) list, require TMDL**

Within the tables waters are listed by region - Interior, Southcentral, Southeast – and alphabetically.

Category 4a Waterbodies								
<u>Alaska's 2010</u>								
Category 4a Waterbodies – Impaired but not needing a TMDL, TMDL has been completed								
<u>Region</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Alaska ID #</u>	<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Area of Concern</u>	<u>Water Quality Standard</u>	<u>Pollutant Parameters</u>	<u>Pollutant Sources</u>
IN	Category 4a	40402-001	Birch Creek Drainage:- Upper Birch Creek; Eagle Creek; Golddust Creek	North of Fairbanks	N/A	Turbidity	Turbidity	Placer Mining
IN	Category 4a	40506-009	Garrison Slough	Eielson Air Force Base	N/A	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	Military Base/ Operations
IN	Category 4a	40506-003	Noyes Slough	Fairbanks	7 miles	Residues	Debris	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	30102-604	Akutan Harbor	Akutan Island	N/A	Residues Dissolved Gas	Settleable Solids Low Dissolved Oxygen	Seafood Processing/ Waste
SC	Category 4a	20401-004	Campbell Creek	Anchorage	10 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-402	Campbell Lake	Anchorage	125 acres	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff

SC	Category 4a	20401-003	Chester Creek	Anchorage	4.1 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff, Industrial
SC	Category 4a	20402-002	Eagle River	Eagle River	N/A	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Ammonia, Chlorine, Copper, Lead, Silver	Wastewater Treatment Facility
SC	Category 4a	20401-005	Fish Creek	Anchorage	6.4 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-006	Furrow Creek	Anchorage	5.3 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	30101-501	King Cove	King Cove	N/A	Residues	Seafood Waste Residue	Seafood Processing/ Waste
SC	Category 4a	20505-409	Lake Lucille	Wasilla	N/A	Dissolved Gas	Low Dissolved Oxygen	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-017	Little Campbell Creek	Anchorage	8.3 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-024	Little Rabbit Creek	Anchorage	6.2 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-018	Little Survival Creek	Anchorage	3.0 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	20401-020	Ship Creek Glenn Hwy. Bridge. Down to Mouth	Anchorage	Glenn Hwy. Bridge. to Mouth	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 4a	30102-603	South Unalaska Bay	Unalaska Island	N/A	Residues, Low Dissolved Oxygen (BOD5)	Seafood Waste Residues, Dissolved Gas	Seafood Processing Waste
SC	Category 4a	30102-607	Udagak Bay	Unalaska Island	N/A	Residues	Settleable solids	Seafood Processing Waste
SC	Category 4a	20401-419	University Lake	Anchorage	10 acres	Fecal Coliform	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff

SC	Category 4a	20401-421	Westchester Lagoon	Anchorage	30 acres	Bacteria Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff
SE	Category 4a	10301-005	Duck Creek	Juneau	N/A	Dissolved Gas, Residues, Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances, Fecal Coliform Bacteria Turbidity	Low Dissolved Oxygen, Debris, Iron, Fecal Coliform Bacteria, and Turbidity	Urban Runoff, Landfill, Road Runoff, Land Development
SE	Category 4a	10203-005	Granite Creek	Sitka	N/A	Turbidity Sediment	Turbidity, Sediment	Gravel Mining
SE	Category 4a	10203-601-001	Herring Cove of Silver Bay	Sitka	102 acres	Residues	Bark & Woody Debris	Log Storage from former Pulp Mill Operations
SE	Category 4a	10301-004	Jordan Creek	Juneau	3 miles from tide-water up-stream	Dissolved Gas, Residues, Sediment	Debris, Sediment Low Dissolved Oxygen	Land Development, Road Runoff
SE	Category 4a	10203-602	Klag Bay	West Chichagof Island	1.25 acres	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals – Arsenic, Cobalt, Copper, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Silver, Zinc	Mining

SE	Category 4a	10301-001	Lemon Creek	Juneau	N/A	Turbidity Sediment	Turbidity, Sediment	Urban Runoff, Gravel Mining
SE	Category 4a	10301-014	Pederson Hill Creek	Juneau	Lower two miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Septic Tanks
SE	Category 4a	10303-004	Pullen Creek (Lower Mile)	Skagway	Lower mile of Pullen Creek	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals – Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Zinc	Industrial
SE	Category 4a	10203-601	Silver Bay	Sitka	6.5 acres	Residues Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Pulp Residues, Logs, Bark & Woody Debris, Sediment Toxicity due to Wood Decomposition By-products	Industrial, Historical Pulp Mill Activity
SE	Category 4a	10103-602	Thorne Bay	Prince of Wales Island	7.5 acres	Residues	Bark & Wood Debris	Historical Log Transfer Facility
SE	Category 4a	10301-017	Vanderbilt Creek	Juneau	N/A	Turbidity Residues Sediment	Turbidity, Debris, Sediment	Urban Runoff
SE	Category 4a	10102-601	Ward Cove	Ketchikan	250 acres	Residues Dissolved Gas	Pulp Residues, Logs, Bark & Woody Debris, Low Dissolved Oxygen	Industrial

Category 4b Waterbodies

Alaska's 2010

Category 4b Waterbodies – Impaired, not needing a TMDL, and under “other pollution controls” and expected to meet standards in a reasonable time period

<u>Region</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Alaska ID #</u>	<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Area of Concern</u>	<u>Water Quality Standard</u>	<u>Pollutant Parameters</u>	<u>Pollutant Sources</u>
IN	Category 4b	40501-001	Cabin Creek	Nabesna	1.5 miles	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Manganese, Arsenic, Iron, Copper & Cadmium	Mine Tailings
SC	Category 4b	N/A	Exxon Valdez Beaches	Prince William Sound - Alaska	23 beaches	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Oil Spill

				Peninsula				
SE	Category 4b	10203-808	East Port Frederick	NE Chichagof Island	0.4 acres	Residues	Bark & Woody Debris	Log Transfer Facility
SE	Category 4b	10103-031	Fubar Creek	Prince of Wales Island	N/A	Sediment	Sediment	Timber Harvesting

Category 5/Section 303(d) Listed Waterbodies

Alaska's 2010

Category 5 Waterbodies – Impaired by pollutant(s) for one or more designated uses and requiring a TMDL; Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listed Waters

<u>Region</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Alaska ID #</u>	<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Area of Concern</u>	<u>Water Quality Standard</u>	<u>Pollutant Parameters</u>	<u>Pollutant Sources</u>
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40506-007	Chena River	Fairbanks	15 miles	Sediment	Sediment	Urban Runoff
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40506-002	Chena Slough	Fairbanks	13 miles	Sediment	Sediment	Urban Runoff
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40402-010	Crooked Creek Bonanza Crooked Deadwood Ketchem Mammoth Mastodon Porcupine	North of Fairbanks	77 miles	Turbidity	Turbidity	Placer Mining
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40509-001	Goldstream Creek	Fairbanks	70 miles	Turbidity	Turbidity	Placer Mining
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30501-002	Kuskokwim River	Red Devil	1,000 feet, 900 feet down river and 100 feet upriver from mouth of Red	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals - Antimony, Arsenic, Mercury	Mining

SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30101-503	Cold Bay	King Cove, Alaska Peninsula	0.01 acre	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Military, Fuel Storage
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20505-001	Cottonwood Creek	Wasilla	7 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff, Urban Development
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30102-606	Dutch Harbor	Unalaska Island	0.5 acre	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Industrial, Urban Runoff
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30203-001	Egegik River	Egegik	0.25 mile	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Spills, Fuel Tanks, Underground Fuel Tanks
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20201-401	Eyak Lake	Cordova	50 feet of shore-line	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products, Petroleum Contamination, Sheen	Above Ground Storage Tanks, Spills
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20401-412	Hood/ Spenard Lake	Anchorage	307 acres	Dissolved Gas	Low Dissolved Oxygen	Urban Runoff, Industrial
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30102-602	Iliuliuk Harbor	Dutch Harbor	1.4 acres	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Urban Runoff
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20402-001	Matanuska River	Palmer	½ mile	Residues	Debris	Landfill
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30101-502	Popof Strait	East Aleutians Borough	5 miles	Residues	Seafood Waste Residue	Seafood Processor
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30102-409	Red Lake Anton Road Ponds	Kodiak	2.0 acres	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals – Iron, Manganese	Urban Runoff

SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20401-020	Ship Creek Glenn Hwy. Bridge. Down to Mouth	Anchorage	11 miles, Glenn Hwy. Bridge. Down to Mouth	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Petroleum Products	Urban Runoff
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10203-002	Katlian River	N. of Sitka, Baranof Island	4.5 miles	Sediment, Turbidity	Sediment, Turbidity	Timber Harvest
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-504	Salt Chuck Bay	Kasaan Area, Prince of Wales Island	0.03 square miles	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals – Copper	
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10303-601	Skagway Harbor	Skagway	1.0 acre	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals – Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Mercury, Zinc	Industrial

SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-010	Unnamed Creek, Sweetwater Lake, USFS 3030 Road, ADF&G Stream 3027 (Stream 3)	Prince of Wales Island	0.4 mile	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals - Aluminum, Cadmium, Copper, Iron	Road Construction
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-012	Unnamed Creek, Sweetwater Lake, USFS 3030 Road, ADF&G Stream 3021 (Stream 6)	Prince of Wales Island	1.14 mile	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances, Dissolved Inorganic Substances	Metals - Aluminum, Cadmium, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Sulfate	Road Construction
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-013	Unnamed Creek, Sweetwater Lake, USFS 3030 Road, ADF&G Stream 3019 tributary (Stream 7)	Prince of Wales Island	0.3 mile	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals - Aluminum, Cadmium, Copper, Iron, Manganese	Road Construction
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-014	Unnamed Creek, Sweetwater Lake, USFS 3030 Road, ADF&G Stream 3019 (Stream 8)	Prince of Wales Island	0.3 mile	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals - Cadmium, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Nickel, Zinc	Road Construction
SE	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	10103-015	Unnamed Creek, Sweetwater Lake, USFS 3030 Road, ADF&G Stream 3017 (Stream 9)	Prince of Wales Island	0.8 mile	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances, Dissolved Inorganic Substances	Metals - Aluminum, Cadmium, Copper, Iron, Manganese, Nickel, Zinc, Sulfate	Road Construction

					Devil Creek			
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40506-003	Noyes Slough	Fairbanks	7 miles	Sediment, Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Oil & Grease	Sediment, Petroleum Products,	Urban Runoff
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	30501-002	Red Devil Creek	Red Devil	0.5 mile of creek	Toxic & Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances	Metals - Antimony, Arsenic, Mercury	Inactive Mine
IN	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	40510-101	Slate Creek	Denali National Park	2.5 miles	Turbidity	Turbidity	Mining
SC	Category 5 Section 303(d) listed	20505-401	Big Lake	Wasilla	1,250 acres	Petroleum Hydrocarbons	Total Aromatic Hydrocarbons (TAH)	Motorized watercraft

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Water

**Commonly Asked Questions about Total Maximum
Daily Load (TMDL)**

Just what is a TMDL?

A TMDL identifies the amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can assimilate and maintain compliance with water quality standards. TMDLs include an appropriate margin of safety and identify the level of management needed to reduce pollutant inputs to a level (or "load") that allows a waterbody to meet its designated uses.

A TMDL is composed of individual wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and background loads. In addition, the TMDL must include a margin of safety (MOS), either implicitly or explicitly, that accounts for the uncertainty in the relationship between pollutant loads and the quality of the receiving waterbody.

What are water quality standards and designated uses?

Water Quality Standards are either numeric or narrative standards used to define the goals for a waterbody by designating its uses, setting criteria to protect those uses, and establishing provisions to protect waterbodies from pollutants. Designated uses specify appropriate water uses to be achieved and protected. Appropriate uses are identified by taking into consideration the use and value of the water body for public water supply, for protection of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreational, agricultural, industrial, and navigational purposes. In designating uses for a water body, States and Tribes examine the suitability of a water body for the uses based on the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the water body, its geographical setting and scenic qualities, and economic considerations.

How are TMDLs implemented?

The mechanisms used to address water quality problems after the TMDL is developed can include a combination of best management practices (BMPs) for nonpoint sources and/or effluent limits and monitoring required through Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) permits. Municipalities and other stakeholders have the opportunity to apply for grants to assist in funding projects to help reduce water pollution.

Using a TMDL approach for water bodies does not replace existing water quality control programs or standard treatment technologies. It provides a

Commonly Asked Questions about TMDLs

March, 2011

framework for evaluating all possible water quality control efforts and promotes closer coordination of local, state, and federal efforts to better guarantee that we collectively meet water quality goals.

How does a TMDL affect my property?

A TMDL is not designed to act as a permitting tool but rather as a tool for assessing the various sources of pollution associated with a waterbody that cause the waterbody not to meet Alaska Water Quality Standards. Municipal and State zoning and ordinances apply as they would in any other permitting situation. However, permitting requirements and enforcement may be much stricter for properties adjacent to a TMDL waterbody depending on the type, duration, and extent of development to take place. Point source permits must be consistent with approved TMDLs.

How is the local community involved in restoring water quality?

The DEC supports the use of a watershed approach to address nonpoint source pollution. A watershed approach is based on the premise that water quality restoration and protection are best addressed through integrated efforts within a defined geographic area. Municipalities, non-governmental organizations, and other interested partners, have the ability to develop waterbody restoration plans and apply for funding to implement such programs. On an annual basis DEC looks for partners to address restoration plans through the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) program.

What happens if the TMDL plan doesn't restore water quality?

If monitoring indicates that water quality standards are not being achieved after a plan is approved, DEC has the ability to conduct a formal evaluation to determine if:

1. The implementation of new and improved management practices are necessary;
2. Water quality is improving but more time is needed to comply with water quality standards; or
3. Revisions to the plan are necessary to meet water quality standards.

DEC recognizes that some water quality problems will not be resolved quickly or inexpensively.

How can the public comment on the TMDL?

Alaska has a 30-day public comment period in which anyone is welcome to comment on the TMDL. During this period, news releases are sent out and the copies of the TMDL and public notice are posted on the DEC's TMDL website. DEC will respond to comments in a "Response to Comments" document prior to submitting the TMDL to EPA for approval.



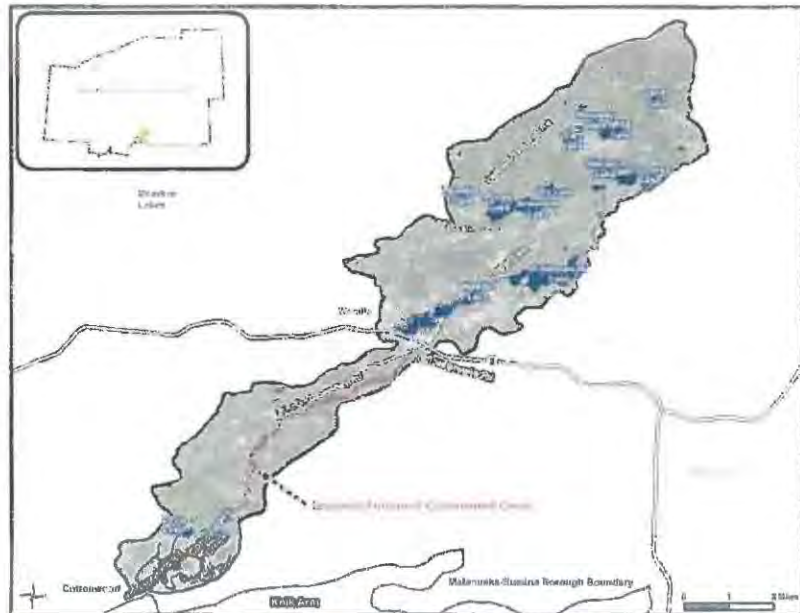
****DRAFT****
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 Division of Water

Cottonwood Creek Fecal Coliform Bacteria
Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Summary

1. What is the problem with Cottonwood Creek water quality?

Cottonwood Creek is polluted due to excessive and persistent fecal coliform bacteria. The source of the pollution is rainwater and snow melt coming in contact with the bacteria then flowing to the creek. Cottonwood Creek is part of a 39.4 square mile spring-fed watershed located near Wasilla in south-central Alaska.

The State of Alaska included 7 miles of Cottonwood Creek on the impaired waters list based on several years of fecal coliform bacteria sampling.



2. What are fecal coliform bacteria, where do they come from and why should I care?

Fecal coliform bacteria are naturally found in the digestive tracts of all warm blooded animals and humans. They are used as indicators of possible sewage contamination because they are commonly found in human and animal feces. Although fecal coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves, they indicate the possible presence of other disease-causing bacteria, viruses, and protozoans that also live in human and animal digestive systems. Because of this, contact with fecal coliform bacteria could pose health risks.



Failing or poorly maintained on-site septic systems, domestic and wild animal manure, and polluted storm runoff are common sources of fecal contamination to lakes and streams including Cottonwood Creek.

3. How will the water quality be improved?

DEC has developed a water body recovery plan, called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and is asking for your input. The plan is designed to improve water quality in Cottonwood Creek. The plan emphasizes cleaning up possible fecal coliform bacteria sources while also preventing new sources.

What are three important "fixes" for cleaning up Cottonwood Creek?

- ✓ Clean up after pets and livestock so that fecal material does not reach the creek.
- ✓ Make sure your septic system is properly installed, inspected and maintained regularly.
- ✓ Keep the naturally vegetated corridor along the creek to filter pollutants.

DEC is currently working with partners to implement several of the actions described in the plan. Specifically:

- *Cottonwood Creek Septic Cooperatives* – a program where several homeowners pump their septic system at one time and receive a discount. Contact Catherine at 841-2226.
- *National Water Quality Initiative* – a federal program that works with landowners who have livestock to improve water quality in runoff. Contact Michelle at 373-6492 x 106.
- *Streambank Restoration* – a federal program with funding opportunities for creek-side homeowners to conduct streambank restoration to improve the vegetated buffer area. Contact Elizabeth at (907) 271-2718.



In addition, the Matanuska Susitna Borough recently adopted a Stormwater Management Plan. Many of the other activities which the borough and others will be undertaking will assist in improving the water quality of Cottonwood Creek by reducing the amount and types of pollutants entering the creek's water.

4. What is the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)?

The TMDL is basically a "pollutant budget". This budget is an important component of the overall recovery plan. The budget calculates the maximum amount of fecal coliform bacteria that can enter Cottonwood Creek while still meeting the state's allowed limit.

The TMDL budget was developed using standard mathematical equations, actual creek water quality data, and other landscape and weather measurements. The calculations show the pollutant reductions needed to have the creek meet the state's allowed bacteria limit (see table below). The draft TMDL explains these calculations in detail.

A TMDL is established to meet the requirements of Section 303(d)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act.

5. How can I learn more about this draft TMDL recovery plan or make comments?

The draft TMDL is available at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wnpspc/protection_restoration/cottonwoodcreek/index.html or upon request. DEC is specifically asking for public review and comments at this time.

Written public comments must be mailed, faxed, emailed, or hand delivered to the address below before 5:00 PM on **Month xx, 2014**.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Attn: Laura Eldred
1700 E. Bogard Rd., Bldg B, STE 103
Wasilla, AK 99654

Email: laura.eldred@alaska.gov
Phone: (907) 376-1855; FAX: (907) 376-2382

Annual Pollution Limits Discussed in the Plan

Waterbody	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/year)					Percent Reduction to Load Allocation
	Existing Load	Loading Capacity	Future Wasteload Allocation ¹	Load Allocation	Margin of Safety ²	
Cottonwood Creek	1.81×10^{13}	1.97×10^{12}	1.39×10^{12}	3.84×10^{11}	1.97×10^{11}	90%

¹The Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected MS4 permit is in place.

²A margin of safety was included explicitly as 10 percent of the loading capacity.

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501**

**Total Maximum Daily Load
for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in the Waters of
Cottonwood Creek, Wasilla, Alaska**

September 2014 DRAFT

CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	2
1. Overview.....	5
1.1. Location	6
1.2. Population	7
1.3. Topography	7
1.4. Land Use	7
1.5. Climate.....	9
1.6. Hydrology and Waterbody Characteristics	10
2. Water Quality Standards and TMDL Target.....	11
2.1. Applicable Water Quality Standards	11
2.2. Designated Use Impacts.....	12
2.3. TMDL Target.....	12
3. Data Review.....	13
3.1. Data Inventory	13
3.2. Data Analysis.....	15
3.2.1. Impairment Analysis	15
3.2.2. Spatial and Temporal Variation / Flow versus Fecal Coliform Bacteria	17
4. Pollutant Sources	23
4.1. Point Sources	23
4.2. Nonpoint Sources.....	25
4.2.1. MST Report Results.....	26
4.3. Natural Sources.....	27
5. Technical Approach.....	29
5.1. Analysis Background.....	29
5.2. Existing Loads	30
5.2.1. Precipitation (P)	30
5.2.2. Runoff Coefficient (Rv)	32
5.2.3. Pollutant Concentration (C)	33
5.2.4. Calculation of Existing Load	33
5.3. Loading Capacity	34
6. TMDL	35
6.1. Wasteload Allocation.....	35
6.2. Load Allocation	36
6.3. Margin of Safety	36
6.4. Seasonal Variation and Critical Conditions	37
6.5. Reasonable Assurance	37
7. Implementation and Monitoring Recommendations	40
7.1. Implementation	40

7.1.1. Livestock, Horse Pastures/Stables and Dog Yards	40
7.1.2. Stormwater	40
7.1.3. Waterfowl.....	45
7.2. Monitoring Recommendations.....	46
8. Public Comments.....	47
9. References	48
Appendix A.....	50

TABLES

Table 1-1. Cottonwood Creek CWA Section 303(d) impairment listing information from Alaska's 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report.....	5
Table 1-2. Land use/cover distribution in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.....	8
Table 1-3. Monthly average precipitation, snowfall, and temperatures at UAF's Matanuska AFES.....	9
Table 2-1. Fresh water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria in 18 AAC 70.020(b).....	11
Table 3-1. Summary of available fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek.....	14
Table 3-2. Summary of available flow data for Cottonwood Creek.....	14
Table 3-3. Summary of geometric mean criterion exceedances at all stations in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.....	16
Table 3-4. Summary of exceedances of the not-to-exceed criterion in Cottonwood Creek.....	17
Table 5-1. Seasonal precipitation totals.....	32
Table 5-2. Runoff coefficient for the Cottonwood Creek watershed.....	33
Table 5-3. Simple Method values and resulting fecal coliform bacteria loads for Cottonwood Creek.....	34
Table 5-4. Seasonal fecal coliform loading capacities for Cottonwood Creek.....	34
Table 6-1. Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per season.	36
Table 6-2. Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per day.	36
Table 7-1. Fecal coliform bacteria removal efficiency for various BMPs.....	43
Table 7-2. Applicability of BMPs to cold climate conditions (CWP 1997).....	44

FIGURES

Figure 1-1. Regional location of the Cottonwood Creek study area.....	6
Figure 1-2. Cottonwood Creek watershed study area.....	7
Figure 1-3. Land use in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Source: NLCS 2001).....	8
Figure 1-4. Monthly average precipitation and temperatures at UAF's Matanuska AFES.....	9
Figure 3-1. Location of water quality monitoring stations in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.....	13
Figure 3-2. Fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek compared to water quality criteria.....	15
Figure 3-3. Flow versus fecal coliform bacteria observations at each sampling station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Settlement Avenue, Neklason Outlet, Below Bogard, Wasilla Lake Inlet, Wasilla Lake Outlet, Parks Highway, Old Matanuska Road, Fern Crossing).....	19
Figure 3-4. Flow versus fecal coliform bacteria observations at each sampling station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Edlund Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road).	20
Figure 3-5. Average fecal coliform bacteria observations at the Cottonwood Creek sampling stations.	20
Figure 3-6. Monthly average fecal coliform bacteria observations at each station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Settlement Ave., Neklason Outlet, Below Bogard, Wasilla Lake Inlet, Wasilla Lake Outlet, and Parks Highway).....	21
Figure 3-7. Monthly average fecal coliform bacteria observations at each station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Old Matanuska Road, Fern Crossing, Edlund Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road).	22
Figure 4-1. Potential point sources in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.....	25
Figure 5-1. Location of Matanuska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station.....	31

Figure 5-2. Relationship between snowfall and water-equivalent precipitation.....	32
---	----

ACRONYMS

AAC	Alaska Administrative Code
ACWA	Alaska's Clean Water Actions
ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
AFES	Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station - University of Alaska at Fairbanks Matanuska station
APDES	Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWP	Center for Watershed Protection
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
fc/100 mL	fecal coliforms per 100 milliliters
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
LA	Load Allocation
MOS	Margin of Safety
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MST	Microbial Source Tracking
NLCD	National Land Cover Dataset
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
UAF	University of Alaska Fairbanks
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WLA	Wasteload Allocation

(This page is intentionally left blank.)

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for
Fecal Coliform Bacteria in
Cottonwood Creek, Alaska**

TMDL at a Glance:*Water Quality Limited?* Yes*Alaska ID Number:* 20505-001*Criteria of Concern:* Fecal coliform bacteria*Designated Uses Affected:* (1) water supply and (2) water recreation*Major Source(s):* Urban Runoff and Unspecified Septic Sources*Loading Capacity:* 1.97×10^{12} fc/year*Future Wasteload Allocation:* 1.39×10^{12} fc/year (Section 6 contains seasonal allocations)*Load Allocation:* 3.84×10^{11} fc/year (Section 6 contains seasonal allocations)*Margin of Safety:* 1.97×10^{11} fc/year*Necessary Reductions:* 90%

Waterbody	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/year)					Percent Reduction to Load Allocation
	Existing Load	Loading Capacity	Future Wasteload Allocation ^a	Load Allocation	Margin of Safety ^b	
Cottonwood Creek HUC 190204010803	1.81×10^{13}	1.97×10^{12}	1.39×10^{12}	3.84×10^{11}	1.97×10^{11}	90%

^a Note that the Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit is in place.

^b Margin of Safety was included explicitly as 10 percent of the loading capacity.

Executive Summary

Cottonwood Creek is a 39.4 square mile (mi²) spring-fed watershed located near Wasilla in south central Alaska in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) included Cottonwood Creek on its 2010 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list as water quality-limited due to fecal coliform (FC) bacteria, identifying urban runoff and failing septic systems as the expected pollutant sources (ADEC 2010a). The presence of fecal coliform bacteria indicates an increased risk of pathogen contamination in a waterbody. Consumption of or contact with pathogen contaminated waters can result in a variety of gastrointestinal, respiratory, eye, ear, nose, throat and skin diseases. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is established in this document to meet the requirements of CWA Section 303(d)(1)(C) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's implementing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 130), which require the establishment of a TMDL for the achievement of water quality standards when a waterbody is water quality-limited. A TMDL is composed of the sum of individual wasteload allocations for point sources of pollution and load allocations for nonpoint sources of pollution and natural background loads. In addition, the TMDL must include a margin of safety, either implicitly or explicitly, that accounts for the uncertainty in the relationship between pollutant loads and the quality of the receiving waterbody. A TMDL represents the amount of a pollutant the waterbody can assimilate while maintaining compliance with applicable water quality standards.

Applicable water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria in Cottonwood Creek establish water quality criteria for the protection of designated uses for water supply and water recreation. The TMDL is developed for the most stringent fecal coliform bacteria criteria that protect the water supply use for drinking, culinary, and food processing. These criteria state that in a 30-day period, the geometric mean may not exceed 20 FC/100 mL, and not more than 10 percent of the samples may exceed 40 FC/100 mL (18 Alaska Administrative Code 70.020(b)(2)(A)(i)).

Fecal coliform bacteria data indicate that Cottonwood Creek does not meet the applicable water quality criteria. The largest and most frequent exceedances of the water quality criteria occur during summer months, likely due to increased stormwater runoff. Concentrations steadily increase during spring months, with increased surface runoff during spring thaw and breakup. Because of the seasonal variation in fecal coliform bacteria levels, the Cottonwood Creek TMDL is developed on a seasonal basis to isolate times of similar weather, runoff and in-stream conditions.

Because Cottonwood Creek has limited fecal coliform bacteria data and does not have continuous flow data, the TMDL was developed using the Simple Method (Schueler, 1987). The Simple Method is a lumped parameter empirical model used to estimate stormwater pollutant loadings under conditions of limited data availability and an absence of flow data. The approach calculates pollutant loading using drainage area, pollutant concentrations, precipitation and a runoff coefficient based on impervious area in the watershed. The method was used to calculate existing fecal coliform bacteria loading based on observed fecal coliform bacteria data and the loading capacity for the stream based on in-stream concentrations representing water quality criteria.

The following table summarizes the results of the TMDL analysis. The margin of safety was included explicitly as 10 percent of the loading capacity. It is expected that in the next three years stormwater discharges in the Cottonwood Creek watershed will be regulated by an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) stormwater permit for municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4); therefore, fecal coliform bacteria loads delivered to Cottonwood Creek from the expected MS4 area are addressed through the future wasteload allocation component of this TMDL. Loads delivered from the area outside of the expected MS4 boundary are addressed through the load allocation. Note that since there is currently no APDES MS4 permit in the watershed, the future wasteload allocation is actually part of the load allocation, but is presented separately for ease of implementation in the future and will be referred to as either the *wasteload allocation* or *future wasteload allocation* throughout this report. The fecal coliform bacteria allocations for Cottonwood Creek are provided as seasonal load and wasteload allocations for the watershed (as total seasonal loads and daily seasonal loads) and are equal to the

loading capacity minus the margin of safety as summarized in the tables below. Note that there are no fecal coliform bacteria data available for the winter months (October 1 – March 31) because winter conditions do not typically allow for sampling. Therefore, analyses were not conducted for this season. During winter months, precipitation falls primarily as snow, resulting in little to no surface runoff. Snow and ice accumulated during winter melts with the increasing temperatures during spring, creating increased surface runoff and steadily increasing in-stream flows. Therefore, little fecal coliform bacteria loading to Cottonwood Creek is expected during the winter months and allocations have not been provided for the winter months.

Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per season.

Season	Existing Load (fc/season)	Loading Capacity (fc/season)	Future Wasteload Allocation* (fc/season)	Load Allocation (fc/season)	MOS** (fc/season)	Percent Reduction (for LA and WLA)
Spring (April 1-May 31)	1.42×10^{12}	5.78×10^{11}	4.08×10^{11}	1.13×10^{11}	5.78×10^{10}	63%
Summer (June 1-Sept 30)	1.67×10^{13}	1.31×10^{12}	9.80×10^{11}	2.71×10^{11}	1.39×10^{11}	93%
Total (fc/yr)	1.81×10^{13}	1.97×10^{12}	1.39×10^{12}	3.84×10^{11}	1.97×10^{11}	90%

*Note that the Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected MS4 permit is issued.

**MOS was included explicitly as 10% of the loading capacity.

Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per day.

Season	Existing Load (fc/day)	Loading Capacity (fc/day)	Future Wasteload Allocation* (fc/day)	Load Allocation (fc/day)	MOS** (fc/day)	Percent Reduction (for LA and WLA)
Spring (April 1-May 31)	2.33×10^{10}	9.48×10^{09}	6.68×10^{09}	1.85×10^{09}	9.48×10^{08}	63%
Summer (June 1-Sept 30)	1.37×10^{11}	1.14×10^{10}	8.03×10^{09}	2.22×10^{09}	1.14×10^{09}	93%
Total (fc/day)	1.60×10^{11}	2.09×10^{10}	1.47×10^{10}	4.07×10^{09}	2.09×10^{09}	90%

*Note that the Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected MS4 permit is issued.

**MOS was included explicitly as 10% of the loading capacity.

The implementation of the Cottonwood Creek TMDL will focus on reductions from existing sources of fecal coliform bacteria. Microbial source tracking identified species-specific markers for human, horses, dogs, and waterfowl in Cottonwood Creek (Davis et al. 2010). Likely sources of these markers include:

- Horse pastures/stables
- Stormwater runoff (fecal matter in pet waste, sewage and diapers from trash, yards and failing septic systems)
- Waterfowl (domestic and non-domestic)

The most effective means of addressing these sources of pollution is to prevent the fecal coliform bacteria from entering Cottonwood Creek, both directly and through runoff. Maintaining healthy riparian areas should be encouraged to ensure runoff is filtered prior to reaching the streams. ADEC believes that waterfowl and wildlife contribute little fecal coliform bacteria in most of the watershed, but at some locations may contribute higher amounts at certain times of the year. Both domestic and non-domestic waterfowl are present in the watershed;

however, it is not possible to determine the specific contributions from either source because of limited data. Therefore, natural background conditions from non-domestic waterfowl and wildlife are included in the load allocation for this TMDL, but implementation practices do not apply to these sources since the pollutant loads are not a result of human actions and are considered to pose a minimal risk of pathogen transmission. Implementation of the TMDL will occur through outreach and education in the watershed, as well as through the issuance of the expected MS4 permit (see Section 7).

Addressing the potential contribution of fecal coliform bacteria from an MS4 is typically expressed in an MS4 permit as best management practices (BMPs) or other similar requirements, rather than as numeric effluent limits. ADEC recognizes the need for an iterative approach to control pollutants in stormwater discharges and anticipates that a suite of BMPs will be used in the initial permit issuance, and subsequent permit issuances may become more tailored based on BMP effectiveness and performance.

Follow-up monitoring is recommended to track the progress of TMDL implementation and subsequent water quality response, track BMP effectiveness, and track the water quality of Cottonwood Creek to evaluate future attainment of water quality standards.

1. Overview

Section 303(d)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) implementing regulations at title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 130 require the establishment of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to achieve state water quality standards when a waterbody is water quality-limited. A TMDL identifies the amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can assimilate and still maintain compliance with applicable water quality criteria. A TMDL also identifies the level of pollutant control needed to reduce pollutant inputs to a level (or "load") that fully supports the designated uses of a given waterbody and includes an appropriate margin of safety to account for uncertainty or lack of knowledge regarding the pollutant loads and the response of the receiving water. The mechanisms used to address water quality problems after the TMDL is developed can include a combination of best management practices (BMPs) for nonpoint sources and/or effluent limits and monitoring required through ADEC's Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) program responsible for issuance of permits for discharges from point sources to surface waters.

In 2010, ADEC listed seven miles of Cottonwood Creek on its CWA Section 303(d) list as water quality-limited for fecal coliform bacteria (ADEC 2010a). Table 1-1 summarizes the information for Cottonwood Creek included in Alaska's 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (ADEC, 2013a). The non-attainment of the fecal coliform bacteria criteria affects the designated uses of (1) water supply and (2) water recreation. The CWA Section 303(d) impairment listing is supported by water quality monitoring conducted in 2004 through 2008 that confirmed exceedances of applicable criteria.

Table 1-1. Cottonwood Creek CWA Section 303(d) impairment listing information from Alaska's 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report.

Alaska ID Number	Waterbody	Area of Concern	Water Quality Standard	Pollutant Parameters	Pollutant Sources
20505-001	Cottonwood Creek	7 miles	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Urban Runoff, Unspecified Septic Sources

Cottonwood Creek (13 miles) was CWA Section 303(d) listed for non-attainment of the residues standard for foam and debris in 2002/2003. ADEC has received numerous complaints about foam in Cottonwood Creek and foam was observed in the creek in 1998, 2000, 2001, and 2002. Through grant funds, an intensive water quality evaluation was conducted on Cottonwood Creek beginning in September 2004 and continuing through June 2006 for a TMDL assessment. Water quality sampling conducted in 2004 and 2005 indicated that the foam present in Cottonwood Creek is most likely naturally occurring. However, hydrologic changes within the watershed may be influencing the amount and timing of the foam. Continued water quality sampling in 2006 focused on determining the extent of FC bacteria and temperature exceedances discovered during the sampling for foam, as well as further investigation of the foam. Foam and temperature were determined to be naturally occurring hence meeting water quality standards. However, FC bacteria exceeded applicable water quality criteria. DEC conducted a study in 2010 using Microbial Source Tracking to determine if detected bacteria were from humans, *Fecal Coliform Bacteria Source Assessment in the waters of Cottonwood Creek, Wasilla, and Little Campbell Creek, Anchorage* (November 2010). Results indicate that humans are a source of the increase FC bacteria in Cottonwood Creek. Cottonwood Creek is now in Category 2 for attainment of the residues (foam) criteria and impaired for FC bacteria.

Source: ADEC (2013a)

1.1. Location

Cottonwood Creek is a 39.4 square mile (mi²) spring-fed watershed located near Wasilla in south central Alaska in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Figure 1-1). The headwaters of Cottonwood Creek are formed from springs located between the Little Susitna River and Wasilla Creek watersheds. The creek is composed of two first order tributaries: Cottonwood Creek, which flows into and out of Cornelius Lake to the east, and Dry Creek, which flows out of Anderson Lake to the west (Davis et al. 2010). Both streams flow into Neklason Lake (Figure 1-2). The total length of all streams in the watershed is 16.6 miles. The watershed also contains 10 lakes totaling over 1,000 acres and 22 miles of shoreline (Davis and Davis 2005). An estimated 20.69 percent of the Cottonwood Creek watershed is developed (Davis et al. 2010). Development upstream of Wasilla Lake is primarily residential. Development from Wasilla Lake to the Old Matanuska Road is mixed commercial and residential. The lower 8 miles of Cottonwood Creek, from the Old Matanuska Road to Cook Inlet, is primarily residential development. Seven miles of Cottonwood Creek below Wasilla Lake (from Parks Highway downstream to Surrey Road) were placed on Alaska's 2010 CWA Section 303(d) list for non-attainment of the fecal coliform bacteria criteria (ADEC 2010) (Figure 1-2).

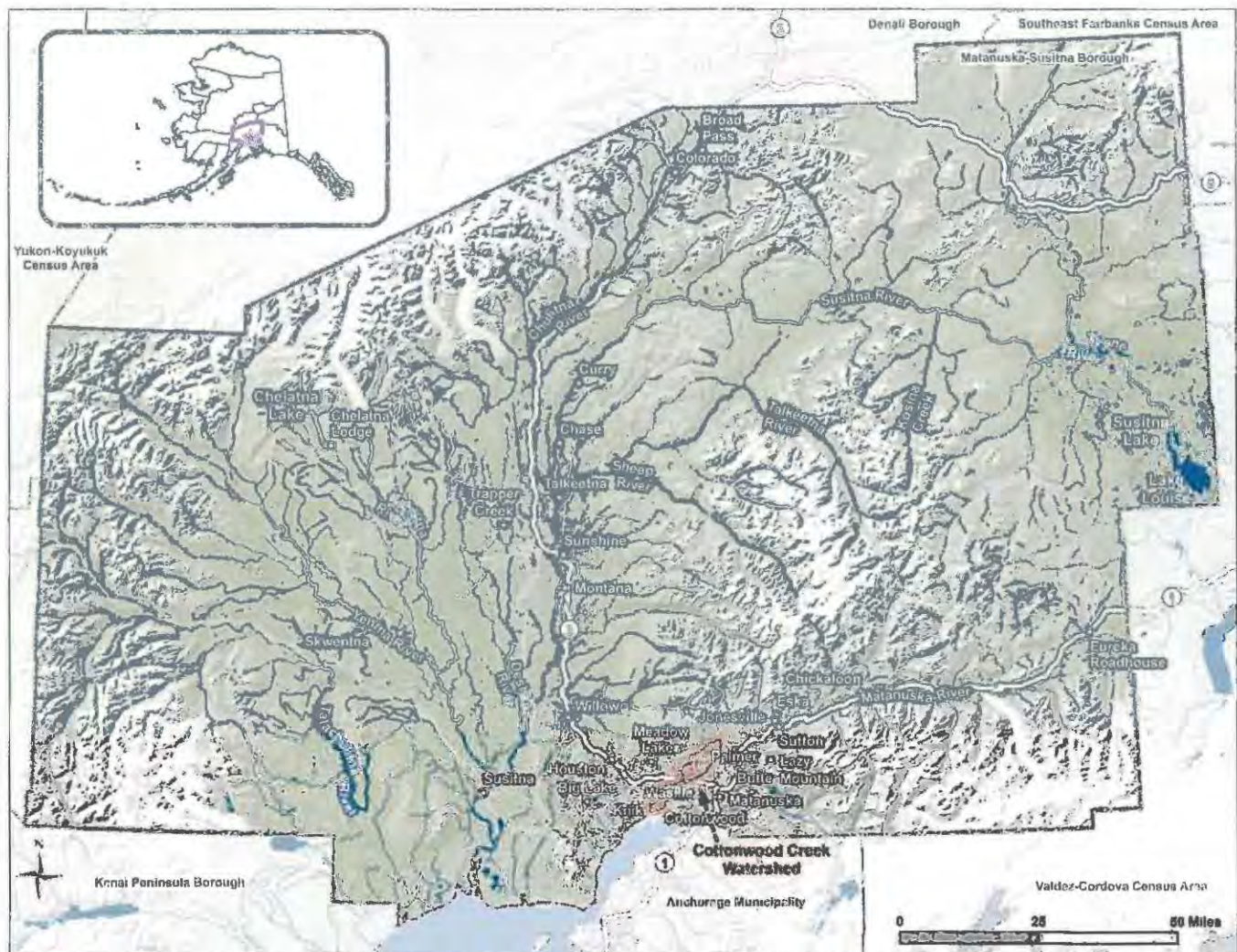


Figure 1-1. Regional location of the Cottonwood Creek study area.

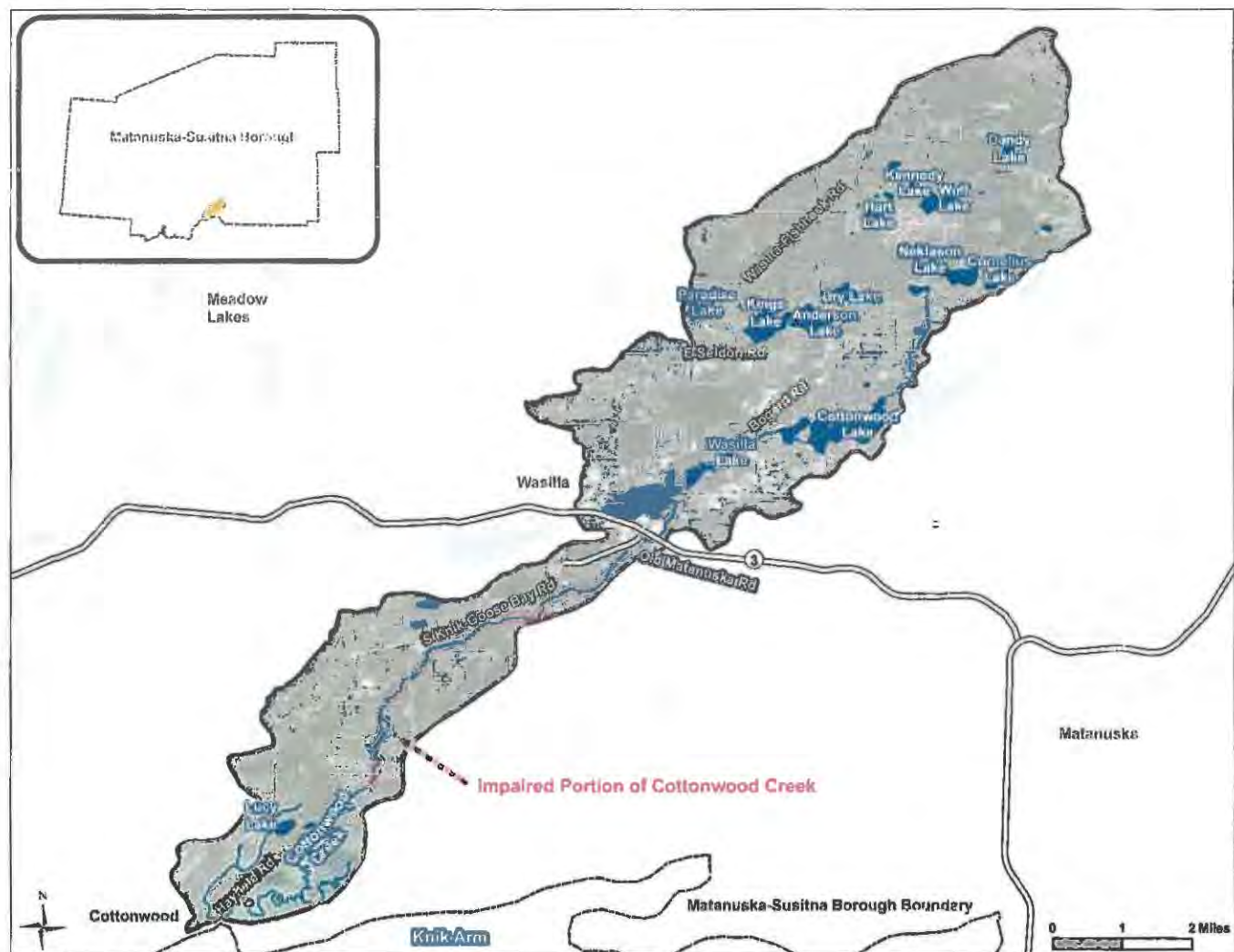


Figure 1-2. Cottonwood Creek watershed study area.

1.2. Population

Rapid rate of urban development throughout the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Cottonwood Creek watershed has occurred in recent years (Davis and Davis 2008). The population for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough recorded in the 2010 U.S. Census is 88,995, with more than 7,831 people in the City of Wasilla and 14,923 people in the Knik-Fairview census area, which is the area most closely correlated with the seven-mile impaired segment of Cottonwood Creek. The Knik-Fairview census area has seen a 112 percent population increase from 2000 to 2010.

1.3. Topography

The topography of the Cottonwood Creek watershed ranges from 12 to 779 feet. Elevation at the Old Matanuska Road is near 300 feet and stream slope through this reach is 0.7 percent (Davis et al. 2010).

1.4. Land Use

Land use data were obtained from the 2001 United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Land Cover Data set (NLCD). The NLCD data are based on satellite imagery from 2001. The Cottonwood Creek watershed is 65 percent forested and approximately 21 percent developed (Figure 1-3 and Table 1-2). Development upstream of

Wasilla Lake is primarily residential (Davis et al. 2010). Development is mixed commercial and residential from Wasilla Lake to the Old Matanuska Road. The lower eight miles of Cottonwood Creek, from the Old Matanuska Road to the Knik Arm of Cook Inlet, is primarily residential development. These percentages should be considered as best estimates until newer data becomes available.

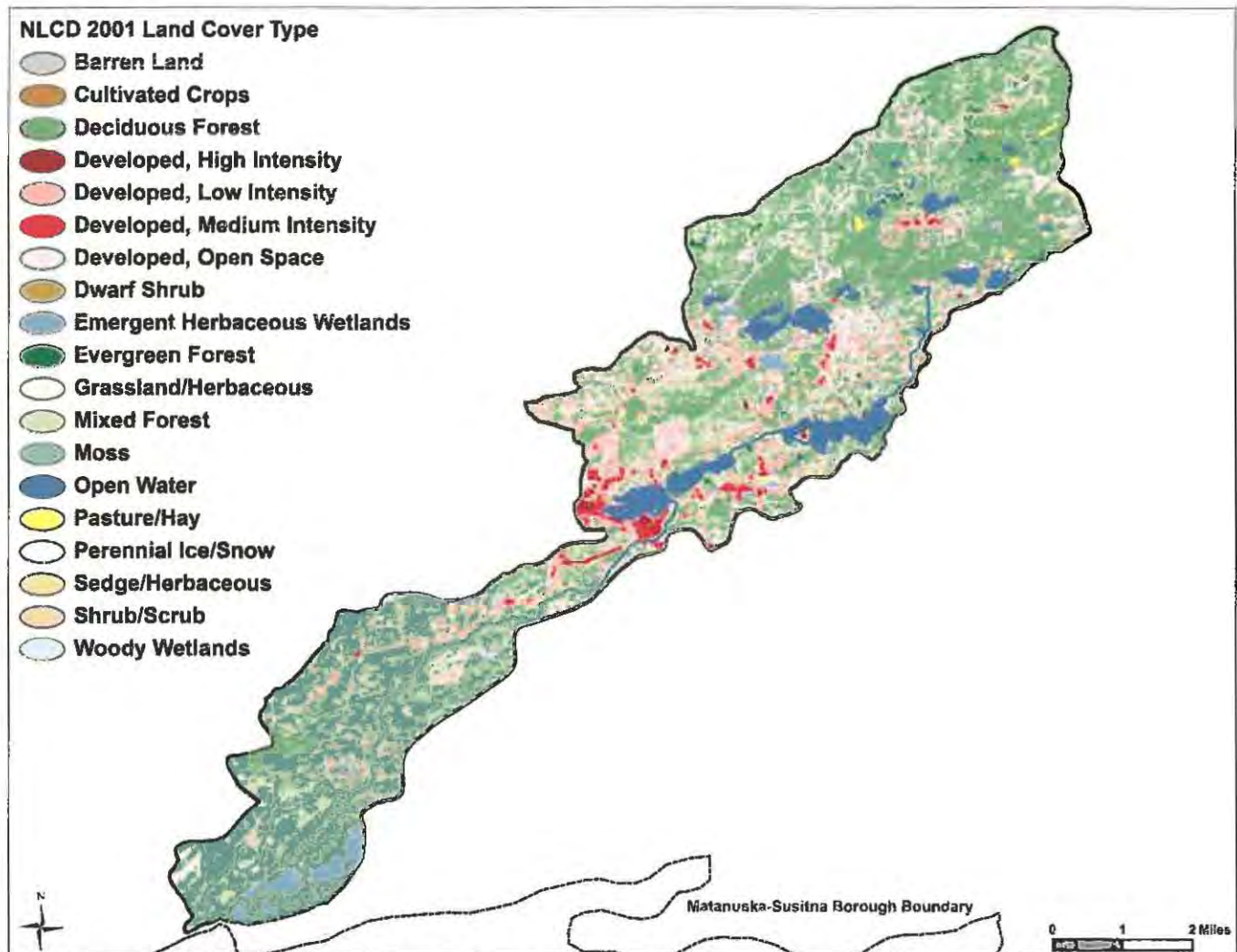


Figure 1-3. Land use in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Source: NLCS 2001).

Table 1-2. Land use/cover distribution in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

Land Use	Area (acres)	Percent of total area
Open Water	1,148	4.5 %
Developed	5,246	20.8 %
Barren	12	0.05 %
Forest	16,309	64.6 %
Shrub/Scrub	682	2.7 %
Pasture/Hay	115	0.5 %
Cropland	1	0.004 %
Wetlands	1,729	6.8 %
TOTAL	25,242	100 %

1.5. Climate

The Wasilla area is located in the “transition” climate zone of Alaska between the maritime and continental zones. Temperatures in the transition zone typically range between zero and the low 60s degrees Fahrenheit (°F) (Western Regional Climate Center (WWRC) accessed January 2013). Average annual precipitation was 14.42 inches for the period of record (1998-2012) at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks’s (UAF) Matanuska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (AFES). The average monthly precipitation for the period of record ranges from 0.33 inches in April to 2.70 inches in August. The highest temperatures occur in July on average with an annual average temperature of about 59 °F. The lowest air temperatures occur in January with minimum average temperature of about 28.1°F.

Autumn begins in early September and ends in mid-October with temperatures falling in September and snowfalls increasing in October. Winter lasts from mid-October to early April with the coldest temperatures typically occurring in January. Spring begins in late April and May with less precipitation and increasing temperatures.

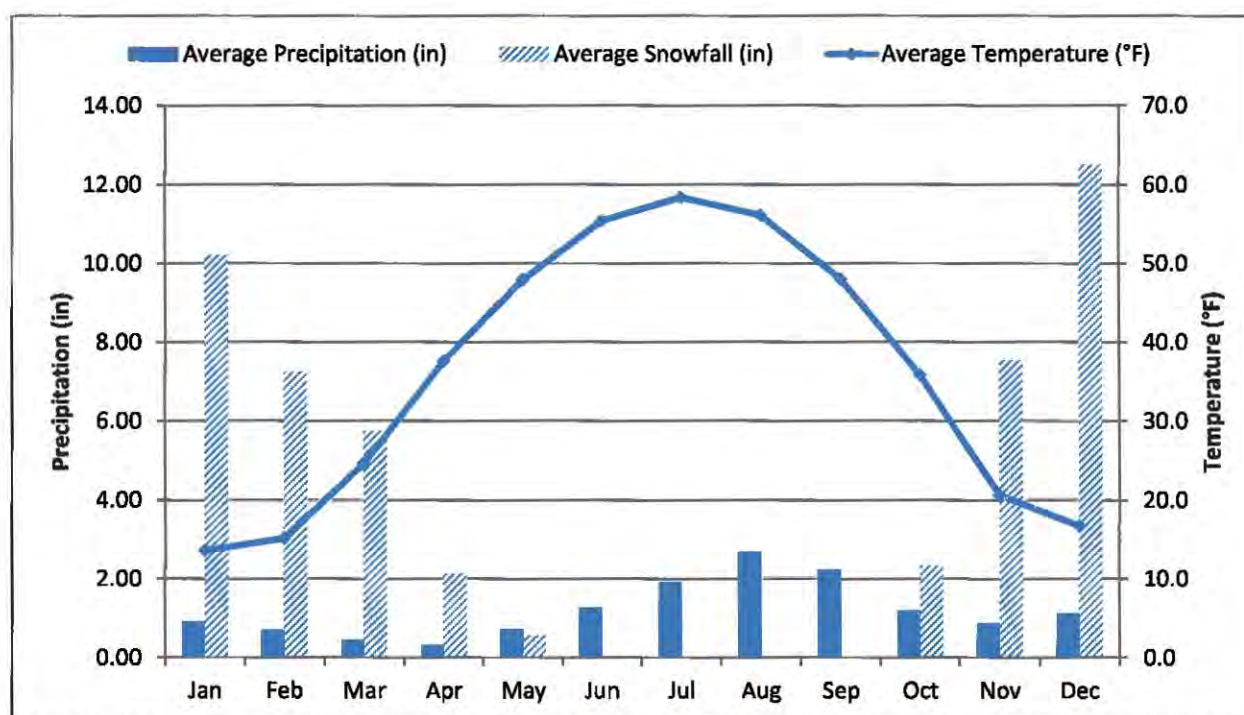


Figure 1-4. Monthly average precipitation and temperatures at UAF's Matanuska AFES from January 1998 to November 2012.

Table 1-3. Monthly average precipitation, snowfall, and temperatures at UAF's Matanuska AFES.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average Precipitation (in)	0.92	0.71	0.45	0.33	0.74	1.29	1.93	2.70	2.25	1.20	0.87	1.13
Average Snowfall (in)	10.22	7.25	5.75	2.14	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.35	7.55	12.51
Average Temperature (°F)	13.7	15.3	24.7	37.6	48.0	55.5	58.5	56.2	48.1	35.9	20.68	16.80

1.6. Hydrology and Waterbody Characteristics

Cottonwood Creek drains to the Knik Arm of Cook Inlet. The creek is a groundwater fed stream with minor variations in discharge and slightly stained or brown water (Davis and Davis 2005; 2008). There are multiple different physical habitat conditions throughout the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Davis et al 2006). The upper portion of the creek, above Cornelius Lake, typically has a lower water temperature (below 50°F) and similarly, Dry Creek is cooler than most downstream sites. The creek flows over large gravel and cobble between Neklason Lake and Mud Lake. Water temperatures are higher in this portion due to warming in upstream lakes.

Macrophytes are present along the margins of the creek and in depositional areas. Stream slopes and water velocities are much lower downstream from Wasilla Lake to below Edlund Road. The substrate in this reach is dominated by fine material. In addition to the several lakes in the watershed, there are a number of areas where the stream channel is wide with slow velocities. The stream substrate in many locations is composed of fine material colonized by aquatic macrophytes, which is typical of systems that do not receive flushing flows during snowmelt or storm events (Davis and Davis 2008). Below Edlund Road the channel slope and velocities increase again (Davis et al. 2006). Channel width and the abundance of macrophytes decrease while substrate size increases. Stream water temperatures decrease as the stream flows through this reach. Large woody debris is common in this reach and forms debris dams and step pools.

2. Water Quality Standards and TMDL Target

Water quality standards designate the “uses” to be protected (e.g., water supply, recreation, growth and propagation of fish, shellfish, other aquatic life and wildlife) and the “criteria” for their protection (e.g., how much of a pollutant can be present in a waterbody without impairing its designated uses). Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) are developed to meet applicable water quality standards, which may be expressed as numeric water quality criteria or narrative criteria for the support of designated uses. The TMDL target identifies the numeric goals or endpoints for the TMDL that equate to attainment of the water quality standards. The TMDL target may be equivalent to a numeric water quality criterion where one exists, or it may represent a quantitative interpretation of a narrative criterion. This section reviews the applicable water quality standards and identifies an appropriate target for calculation of the fecal coliform bacteria TMDL for Cottonwood Creek.

2.1. Applicable Water Quality Standards

Title 18, Chapter 70 of the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) establishes water quality standards for the waters of Alaska, including the designated uses to be protected and the water quality criteria necessary to protect the uses. State water quality criteria are defined for both marine and fresh waterbodies. The fresh water criteria are applicable to Cottonwood Creek.

Designated uses established in the Alaska Water Quality Standards (18 AAC 70) for fresh waters include (1) water supply; (2) water recreation; and (3) growth and propagation of fish, shellfish, other aquatic life, and wildlife and are applicable to all fresh waters, unless specifically exempted. Cottonwood Creek is protected for all three designated uses. Table 2-1 summarizes the water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria, which are used to determine the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) listing for Cottonwood Creek.

Table 2-1. Fresh water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria in 18 AAC 70.020(b).

Pollutant and Water Use	Criteria
(2) Fecal coliform bacteria (FC), for fresh water uses (see note 1)	
(A) Water supply	
(i) Drinking, culinary, and food processing	In a 30-day period, the geometric mean may not exceed 20 FC/100 ml, and not more than 10% of the samples may exceed 40 FC/100 ml. For groundwater, the FC concentration must be less than 1 FC/100 ml, using the fecal coliform Membrane Filter Technique, or less than 3 FC/100 ml, using the fecal coliform most probable number (MPN) technique.
(ii) Agriculture, including irrigation and stock watering	The geometric mean of samples taken in a 30-day period may not exceed 200 FC/100 ml, and not more than 10% of the samples may exceed 400 FC/100 ml. For products not normally cooked and for dairy sanitation of unpasteurized products, the criteria for drinking water supply, (2)(A)(i), apply.
(iii) Aquaculture	For products normally cooked, the geometric mean of samples taken in a 30-day period may not exceed 200 FC/100 ml, and not more than 10% of the samples may exceed 400 FC/100 ml. For products not normally cooked, the criteria for drinking water supply, (2)(A)(i), apply.
(iv) Industrial	Where worker contact is present, the geometric mean of samples taken in a 30-day period may not exceed 200 FC/100 ml, and not more than 10% of the samples may exceed 400 FC/100 ml.

Pollutant and Water Use	Criteria
(i) Contact recreation	In a 30-day period, the geometric mean of samples may not exceed 100 FC/100 ml, and not more than one sample, or more than 10% of the samples if there are more than 10 samples, may exceed 200 FC/100 ml.
(ii) Secondary recreation	In a 30-day period, the geometric mean of samples may not exceed 200 FC/100 ml, and not more than 10% of the total samples may exceed 400 FC/100 ml.
(C) Growth and propagation of fish, shellfish, other aquatic life, and wildlife	Not applicable.

Notes:

1. Wherever criteria for fecal coliform bacteria are provided in this section, fecal coliform bacteria enumeration must be determined by the membrane filter technique or most probable number procedure according to any edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*, adopted by reference in (c)(1) of this section, and adopted by reference, or in accordance with other standards approved by the department and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

2.2. Designated Use Impacts

Cottonwood Creek was placed on the 2010 CWA Section 303(d) list for non-attainment of the water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria (ADEC 2010a). The non-attainment affects the designated uses of (1) water supply and (2) water recreation in fresh water. Cottonwood Creek does not support its designated uses of water supply and water recreation due to elevated in-stream fecal coliform bacteria levels. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria indicates an increased risk of pathogen contamination in a waterbody, which could affect human health. Consumption of or contact with pathogen-contaminated waters can result in a variety of gastrointestinal, respiratory, eye, ear, nose, throat and skin diseases.

2.3. TMDL Target

Cottonwood Creek has applicable numeric water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria, and the TMDL is developed to meet the most stringent of these criteria to protect the water supply use for drinking, culinary, and food processing (water supply). As documented in Section 2.1, these criteria represent the most stringent criteria protecting all designated uses. The water quality criterion of not-to-exceed 40 FC/100 mL in no more than 10 percent of the samples will be used as the basis for this TMDL. Using the 40 FC/100 mL not-to exceed criterion results in the most stringent loading capacity, and it is expected that maintenance of the not-to-exceed criterion will also result in maintaining the geometric mean criterion of 20 FC/100 mL. If water quality data become available that show the geometric mean criterion is not being met, then the TMDL can be revised.

3. Data Review

The compilation and analysis of data and information is an essential step in understanding the general water quality conditions and trends in an impaired water. This section outlines and summarizes all of the data reviewed and includes the following information:

- Data inventory—describes the available data and information used to evaluate water quality conditions.
- Data analysis—presents results of various data analyses evaluating trends and relationships in in-stream data.

3.1. Data Inventory

Fecal coliform bacteria and flow data are available for Cottonwood Creek at 11 sampling stations collected in 2004, 2005, 2007, and 2008 (ADEC 2010b). Figure 3-1 shows the locations of the sampling stations. Table A-1 in Appendix A presents all of the available data. The data were collected during baseflow, storm flow, and spring runoff conditions. A summary of the fecal coliform bacteria data at the 11 sampling stations is shown in Table 3-1 and a summary of the flow data is shown in Table 3-2. The data are presented in Tables 3-1 and 3-2 from the upper most station near the headwaters (Settlement Avenue) moving downstream to Surrey Road. Wasilla Lake is located approximately midway between Settlement Avenue and Surrey Road.

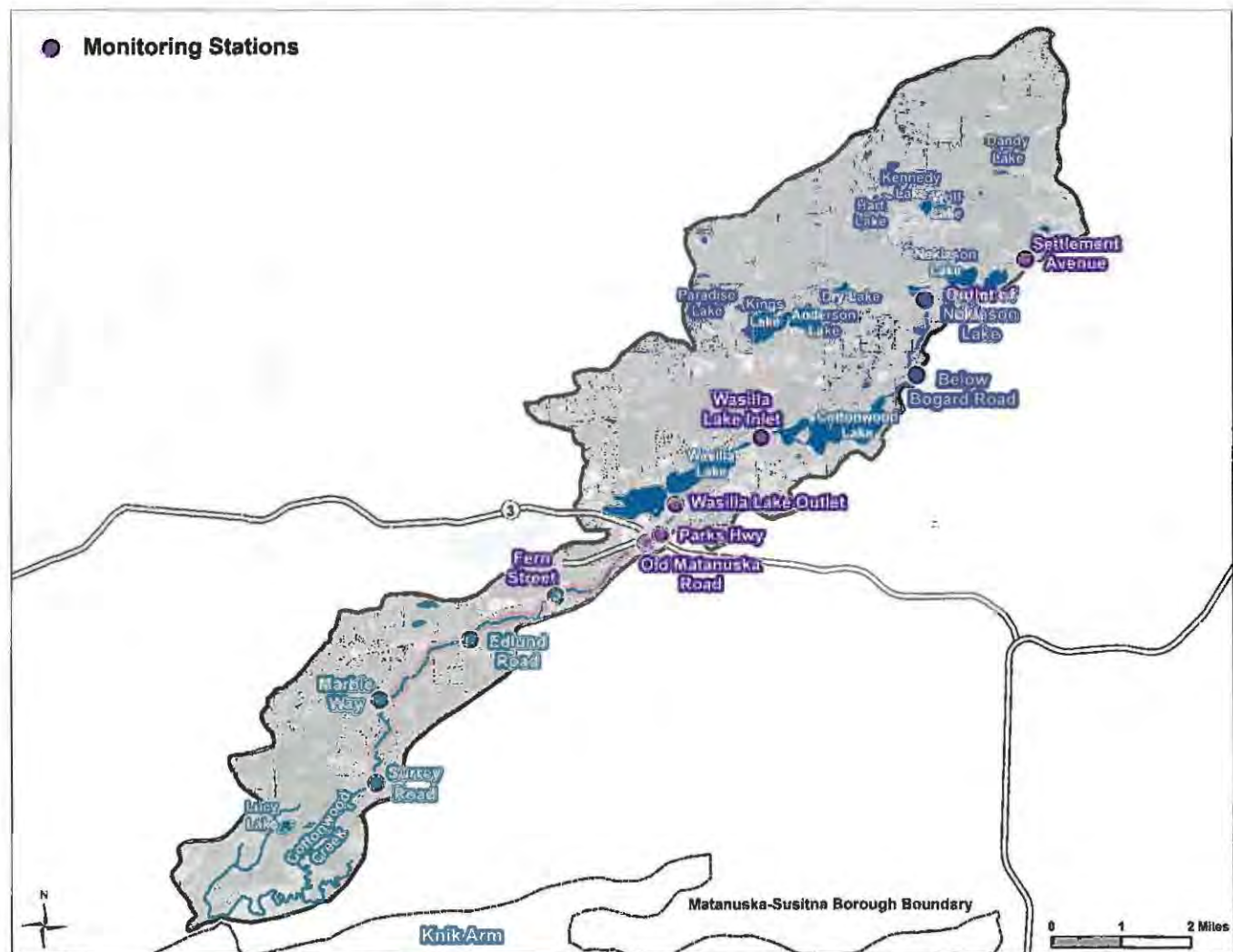


Figure 3-1. Location of water quality monitoring stations in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

Table 3-1. Summary of available fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek.

Sampling site	Number of observations	Start Date	End Date	Minimum (fc ^a /100mL)	Average (fc/100mL)	Median (fc/100mL)	Maximum (fc/100mL)
Settlement Avenue	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	0.5	328.9	30	1600/260 ^b
Neklason Outlet	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	0.5	12.3	6	50
Below Bogard	10	4/21/2004	8/30/2005	2.7	19.9	11	94
Wasilla Lake Inlet	8	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.5	9	7	30
Wasilla Lake Outlet	11	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.0	1.4	1	7
Parks Highway	10	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.5	22.5	13	116
Old Matanuska Road	21	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	0.5	56.6	50	197.5
Fern Crossing	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	10	85	95	130
Edlund Road	14	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	0.5	71.8	55	240
Marble Way	8	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	2	27	15	59
Surrey Road	34	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	4	168.4	93	1200

^a fc = fecal coliform bacteria^b The Matanuska-Susitna Borough conducted a culvert replacement project at the Settlement Avenue sample site during the summer of 2004. The high fecal coliform bacteria results are attributed to the type of soil and fertilizer used for the bank restoration and hydroseeding work. 260 fc/100 mL is the next highest observation at this station.**Table 3-2. Summary of available flow data for Cottonwood Creek.**

Sampling site	Number of observations	Start Date	End Date	Minimum (cfs ^a)	Average (cfs)	Maximum (cfs)
Settlement Avenue	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	5.5	10.65	16.1
Neklason Outlet	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	5.5	10.65	16.1
Below Bogard	10	4/21/2004	8/30/2005	5.5	13.4	20
Wasilla Lake Inlet	8	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	14.4	15.7	17.3
Wasilla Lake Outlet	10	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	14.4	15.9	18.1
Parks Highway	10	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	14.4	15.9	18.1
Old Matanuska Road	20	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	5.5	14.7	20
Fern Crossing	6	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	5.5	10.65	16.1
Edlund Road	14	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	5.5	13.5	17.3
Marble Way	8	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	14.4	15.7	17.3
Surrey Road	30	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	5.5	14.1	20

^a cfs = cubic feet per second

3.2. Data Analysis

The following sections discuss data analyses conducted to evaluate any important trends or aspects of the fecal coliform bacteria levels in Cottonwood Creek. Monitoring was conducted on Cottonwood Creek in 2004, 2005, 2007, and 2008 at 11 stations (Figure 3-1). Data at all 11 stations were reviewed to characterize the water quality of Cottonwood Creek.

3.2.1. Impairment Analysis

An impairment analysis compares available in-stream data with applicable water quality criteria to confirm the listed impairment (i.e., nonsupport of fecal coliform bacteria water quality criteria and associated uses). The analysis also evaluates the magnitude and frequency of water quality criteria exceedances. Fecal coliform bacteria data collected by ADEC in Cottonwood Creek were compared to the geometric mean and not-to-exceed criterion to evaluate impairment and water quality criteria exceedances.

Figure 3-2 shows all of the available fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek compared to the not-to-exceed and geometric mean water quality criterion. It is apparent that bacteria levels are highly variable and that the concentrations measured in recent years often exceed Alaska's water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria.

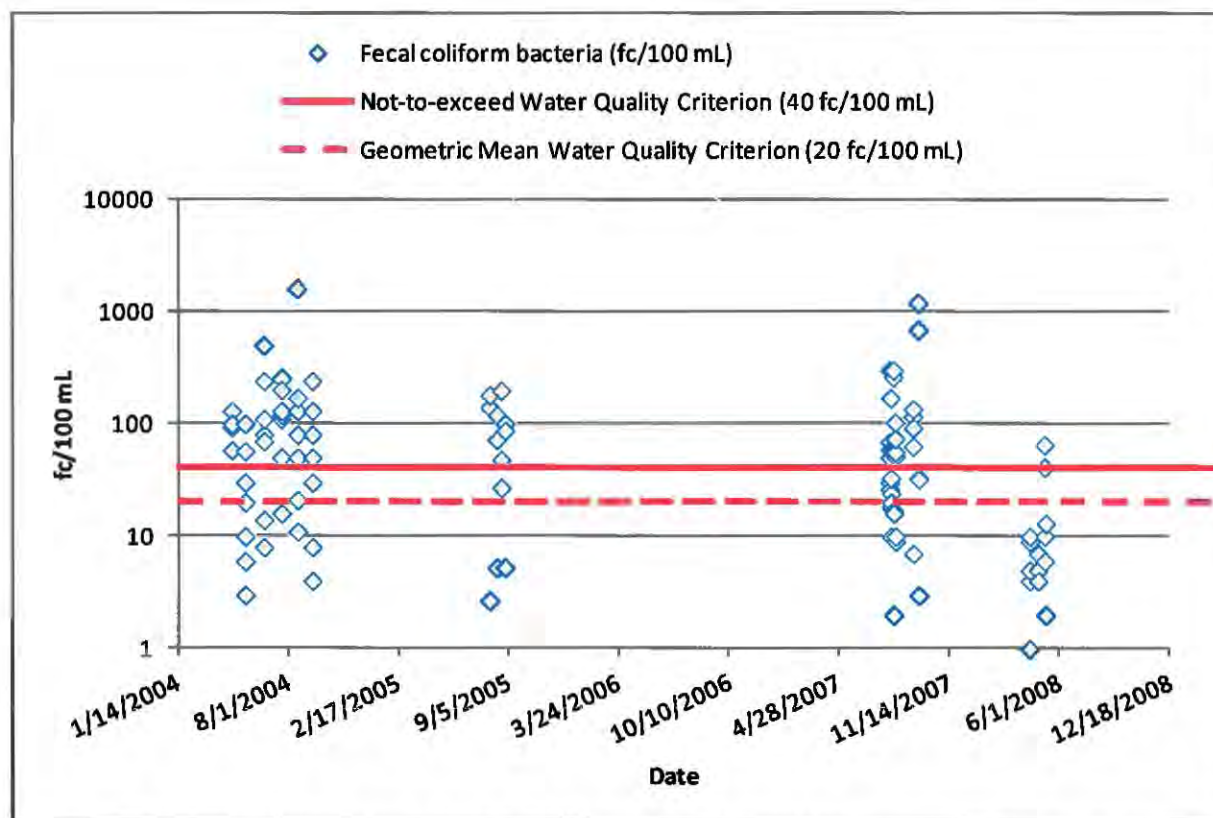


Figure 3-2. Fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek compared to water quality criteria.

For comparison to the geometric mean criterion at each sampling station, geometric means were calculated for every possible 30-day period included in the dataset, based on all individual observations within that 30-day period. Table 3-3 summarizes the calculated geometric means and their comparison to the geometric mean criterion of 20 fc/100 mL. Data at the Settlement Avenue, Neklason Outlet, and Fern Crossing stations were only

collected once per month from April through September 2004; therefore, not enough data are available to calculate geometric means at those three stations. Comparison of the geometric means at all other stations show exceedances of the 20 fc/100 mL criterion at five of the stations (Parks Highway, Old Matanuska Road, Edlund Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road). Table A-2 in Appendix A lists all of the calculated exceedances of the geometric mean criterion.

Table 3-3. Summary of geometric mean criterion exceedances at all stations in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

Sampling site	Start Date	End Date	Minimum (fc/100mL)	Average (fc/100mL)	Maximum (fc/100mL)	Number of calculated geometric means	Over 20 fc/100mL	
							Number	Percent
Settlement Avenue ^b	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Neklason Outlet ^b	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Below Bogard	4/21/2004	8/30/2005	6.7	6.7	6.7	1	0	0%
Wasilla Lake Inlet	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	1.0	7.8	14.6	2	0	0%
Wasilla Lake Outlet	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.5	1.93	4.6	3	0	0%
Parks Highway	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.8	26.4	61.9	3	1	33%
Old Matanuska Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	0.8	46.3	118.8	4	3	75%
Fern Crossing ^b	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Edlund Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	3.6	27.4	51.2	2	1	50%
Marble Way	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	4.8	24.6	44.4	2	1	50%
Surrey Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	12.0	136.4	266.0	6	4	67%

^a fc = fecal coliform bacteria

^b Sampling site did not have adequate data to calculate a 30-day geometric mean.

The fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek were also compared to the not-to-exceed criterion (i.e., not to exceed 40 fc/100 mL in more than 10 percent of the samples in a 30-day period). Table 3-4 summarizes the minimum, average, and maximum of all instantaneous observations at each sampling station for samples within any possible 30-day period and then compared to the not-to-exceed criterion. Exceedances were observed at all of the stations except for Wasilla Lake Inlet and Wasilla Lake Outlet, with the highest percentage of exceedances at Fern Crossing and Surrey Road. Table A-2 in Appendix A lists all of the individual exceedances of the not-to-exceed criterion.

Table 3-4. Summary of exceedances of the not-to-exceed criterion in Cottonwood Creek.

Sampling site	Start Date	End Date	Minimum (fc ^a /100mL)	Average (fc/100mL)	Maximum (fc/100mL)	Number of observations	Over 40 fc/100mL ^b	
							Number	Percent
Settlement Ave.	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	0.5	328.9	1600/260 ^b	6	3	50%
Neklason Outlet	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	0.5	12.3	50	6	1	17%
Below Bogard	4/21/2004	8/30/2005	2.7	19.9	94	10	1	10%
Wasilla Lake Inlet	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.5	9	30	8	0	0%
Wasilla Lake Outlet	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.0	1.4	7	11	0	0%
Parks Highway	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	0.5	22.5	116	10	1	10%
Old Matanuska Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	0.5	56.6	197.5	21	11	52%
Fern Crossing	4/21/2004	9/14/2004	10	85	130	6	5	83%
Edlund Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	0.5	71.8	240	14	8	57%
Marble Way	7/30/2007	5/7/2008	2	27	59	8	3	38%
Surrey Road	4/21/2004	5/7/2008	4	168.4	1200	34	27	79%

^a fc = fecal coliform bacteria

^b The "Number" is the number of observations exceeding the 40 fc/100 mL criterion in greater than 10 percent of the samples in a 30-day period. The "Percent" is the percentage of all samples exceeding the 40 fc/100 mL criterion in greater than 10 percent of the samples in a 30-day period.

3.2.2. Spatial and Temporal Variation / Flow versus Fecal Coliform Bacteria

Evaluation of the relationship between water quality and flow can indicate conditions under which loading and impairment occur and can provide insight into the types of sources contributing pollutant loads. No continuous flow data are available for Cottonwood Creek; however, flow data were simultaneously collected with most fecal coliform bacteria data collection in the creek (see Table A-1 in Appendix A). Flow and water quality measurements from matching days were used to evaluate the relationship between flow and fecal coliform bacteria (Figures 3-3 and 3-4). No strong correlation was found. The relationship between flow and fecal coliform bacteria varies by station. Fecal coliform bacteria are higher during higher flows at some stations while other stations show higher fecal coliform bacteria concentrations at lower flows. This indicates variable sources of fecal coliform bacteria in the watershed (see Section 4).

Evaluation of spatial and temporal patterns can assist in identifying potential sources in the watershed, seasonal variations, or declining/improving water quality trends. Figure 3-5 shows the average fecal coliform bacteria concentrations from the most upstream station (Settlement Avenue) to the most downstream station (Surrey Road). The fecal coliform bacteria concentrations tend to increase downstream of the Wasilla Lake outlet.

Figures 3-6 and 3-7 present a monthly distribution of average fecal coliform bacteria observations at each sampling station in Cottonwood Creek. The highest levels of fecal coliform bacteria in Cottonwood Creek were observed during the summer months (July-September) and were likely due to increased rain events and resulting

stormwater runoff. No water quality data were available for the winter months (October through March) because winter conditions typically result in ice cover on the creek that does not allow for sampling. Some high averages of fecal coliform bacteria at the Below Bogard and Fern Crossing stations are likely due to runoff from spring break-up and thaw.

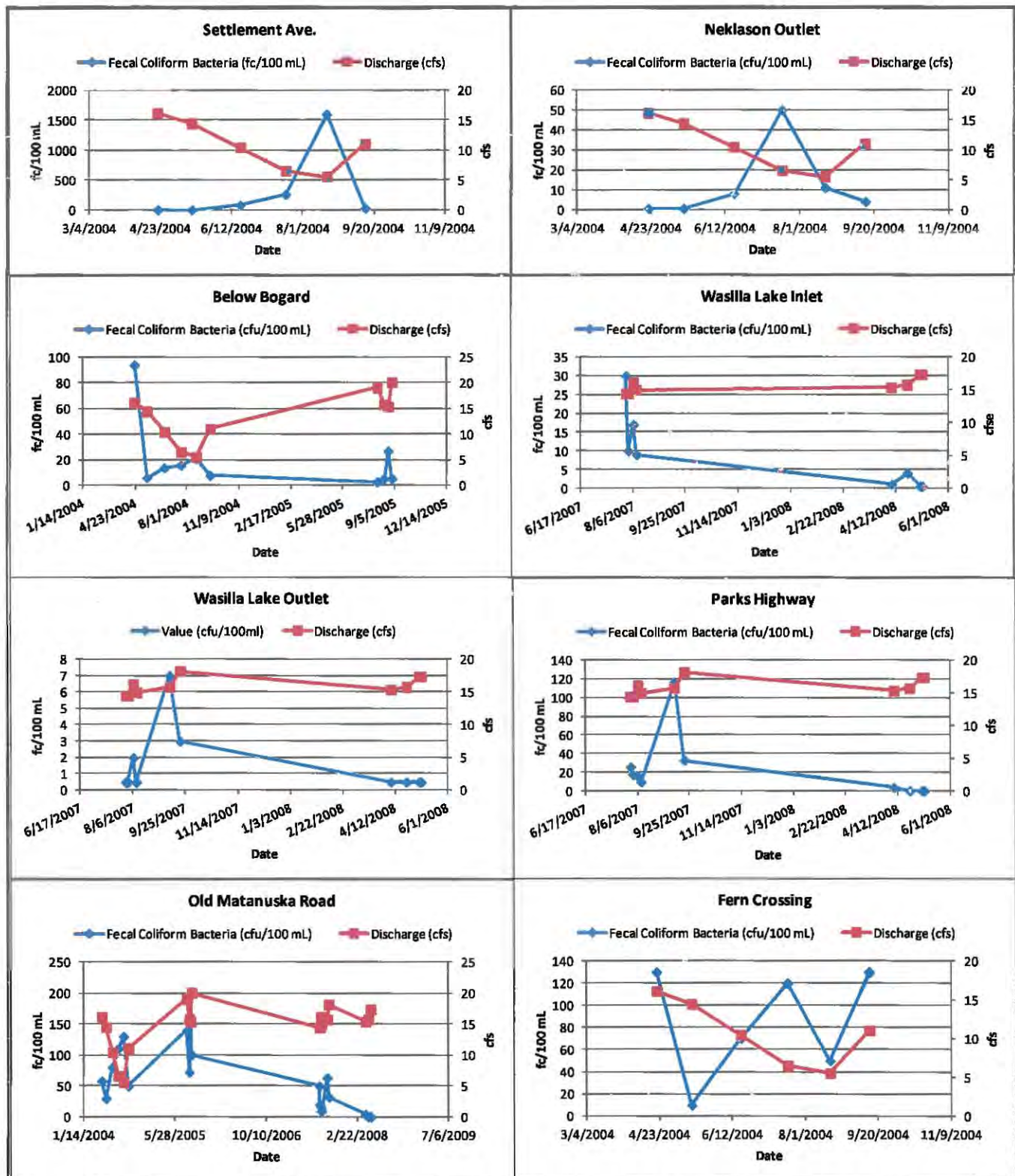


Figure 3-3. Flow versus fecal coliform bacteria observations at each sampling station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Settlement Avenue, Neklason Outlet, Below Bogard, Wasilla Lake Inlet, Wasilla Lake Outlet, Parks Highway, Old Matanuska Road, Fern Crossing).

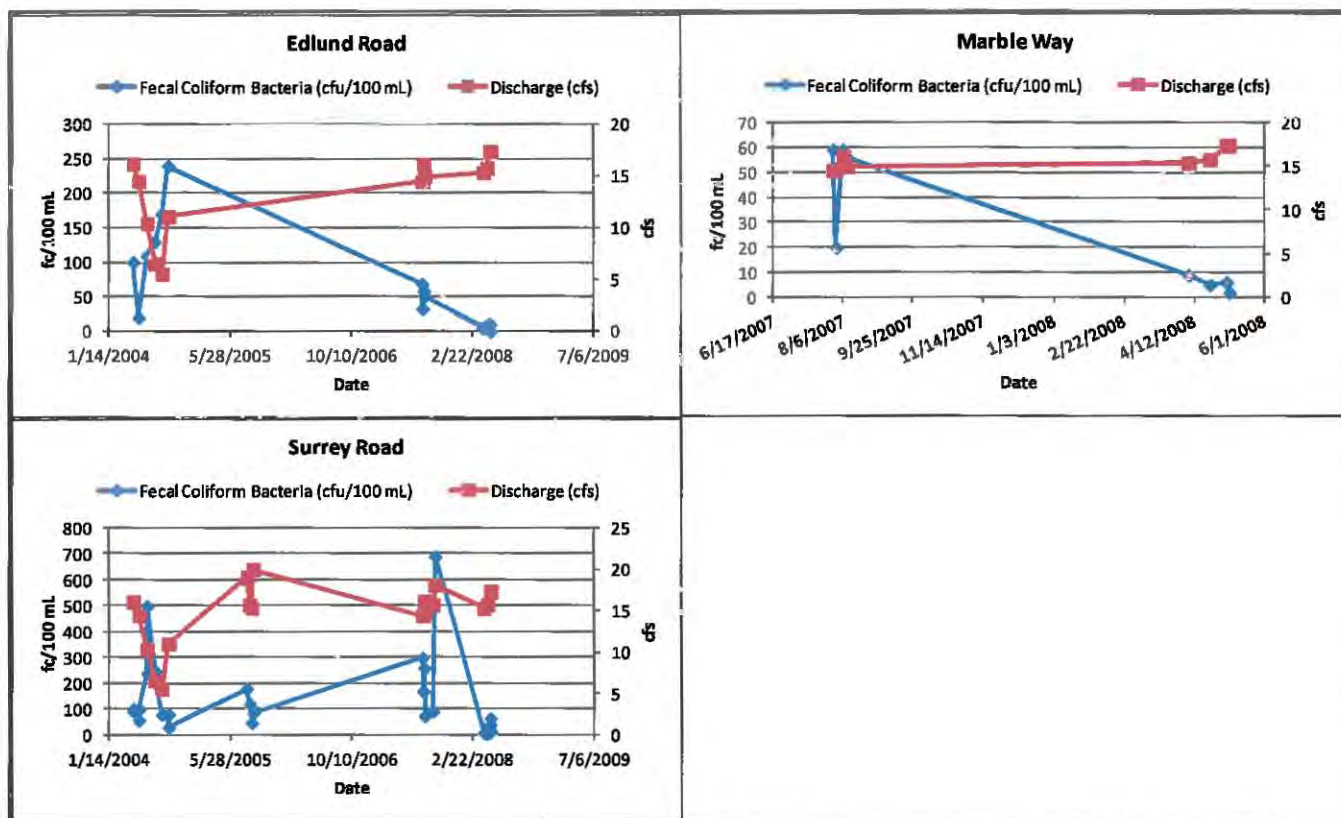


Figure 3-4. Flow versus fecal coliform bacteria observations at each sampling station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Edlund Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road).

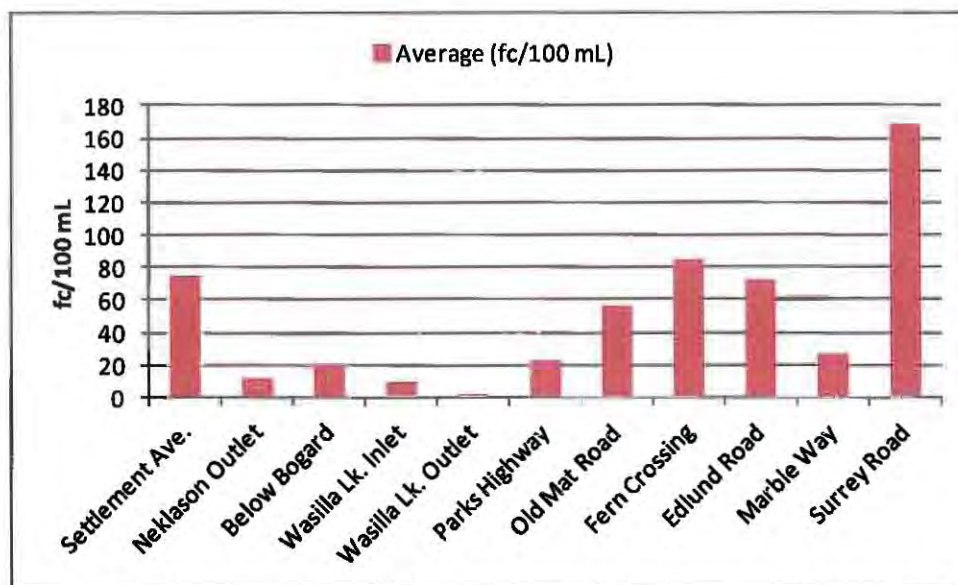


Figure 3-5. Average fecal coliform bacteria observations at the Cottonwood Creek sampling stations.

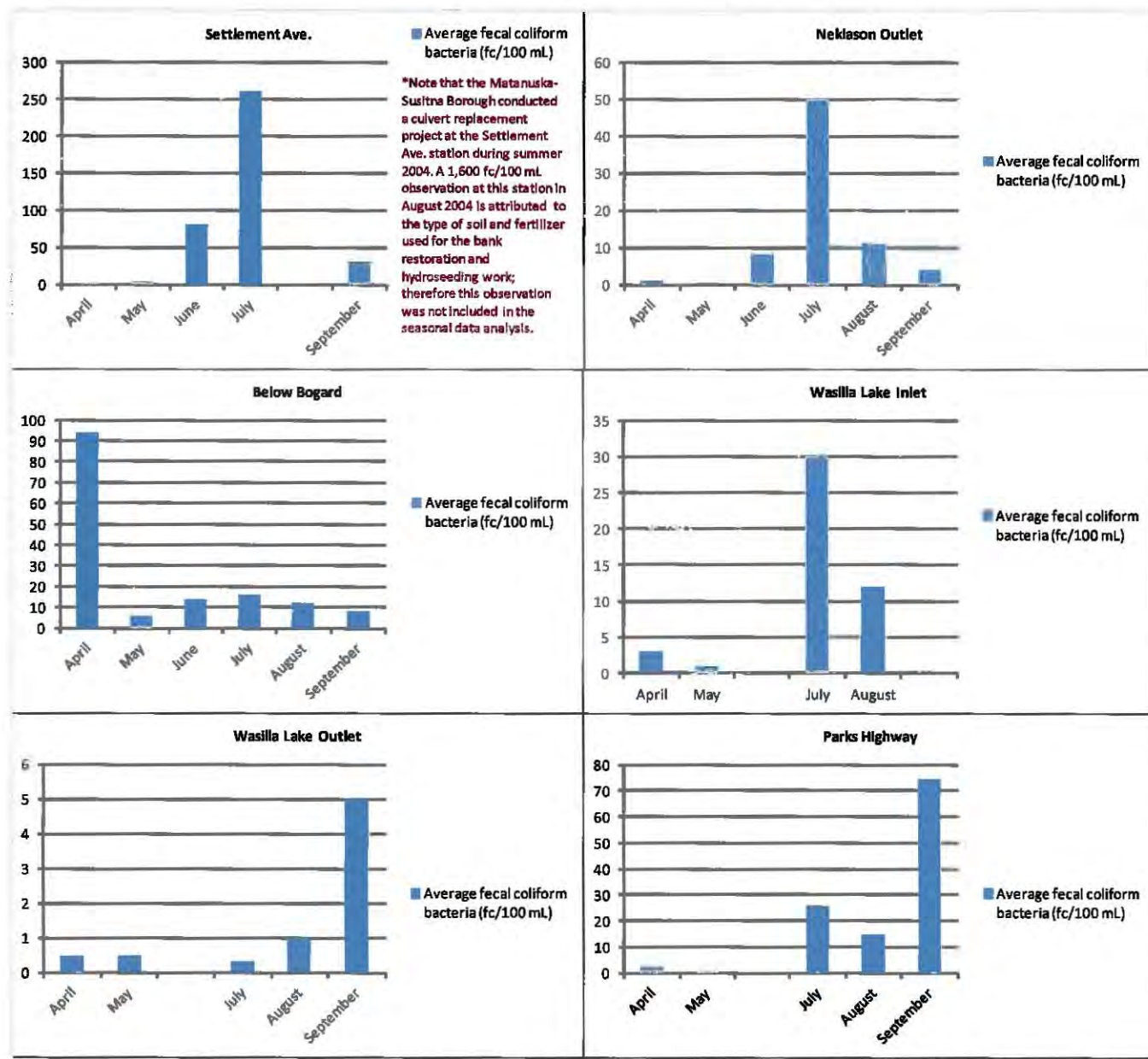


Figure 3-6. Monthly average fecal coliform bacteria observations at each station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Settlement Avenue, Neklason Outlet, Below Bogard, Wasilla Lake Inlet, Wasilla Lake Outlet, and Parks Highway).

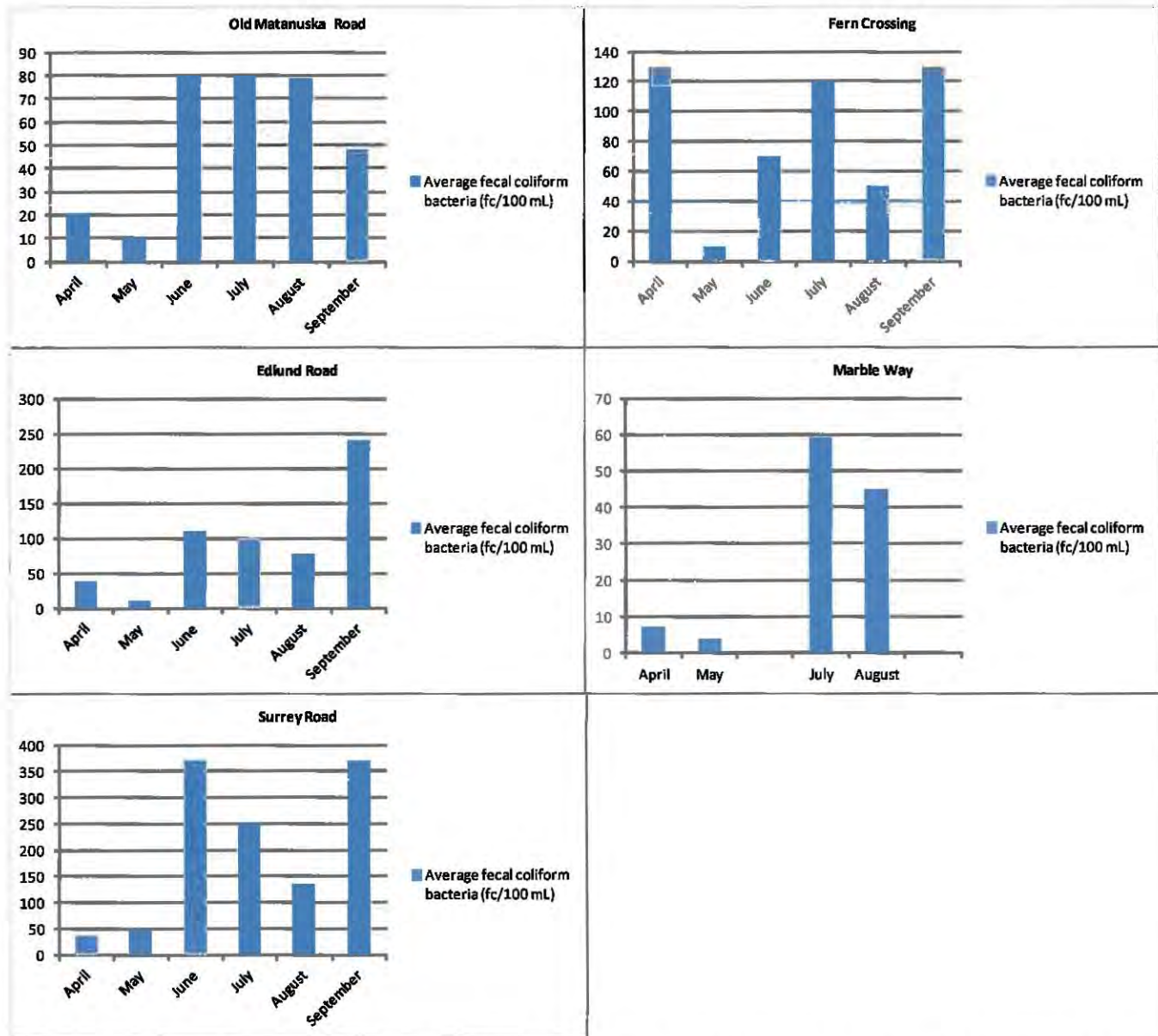


Figure 3-7. Monthly average fecal coliform bacteria observations at each station in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Old Matanuska Road, Fern Crossing, Edlund Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road).

4. Pollutant Sources

This section discusses the potential sources of fecal coliform bacteria to Cottonwood Creek, including point, nonpoint and natural sources. Alaska's 2010 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list identified urban runoff and nonspecific septic sources as the expected sources (ADEC 2012); however, additional potential sources exist as well. Two recent reports that evaluate fecal coliform bacteria in the Cottonwood Creek watershed are: *Cottonwood Creek Fecal Coliform and Temperature Evaluation* (Davis and Davis 2008) and *Fecal Coliform Bacteria Source Assessment in the Waters of Cottonwood Creek, Wasilla, and Little Campbell Creek, Anchorage – Final Report* (MST Report, Davis et al. 2010). The two reports provide much of the pollutant source information for the Cottonwood Creek watershed presented in this section.

Sources of fecal coliform bacteria in waterbodies can be determined through the differences in the populations of the bacteria residing in the digestive system of warm-blooded animals. These isolated groups of bacteria evolve genetically allowing for differentiation based upon deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) analyses (Davis et al. 2010). A project was completed in 2010 that used microbial source tracking (MST) to determine if the fecal coliform bacteria contamination in Cottonwood Creek is due to humans or human related activities (Davis et al. 2010). Water samples were collected at three locations on Cottonwood Creek during spring runoff, summer base flow, and following storm events. The three Cottonwood Creek sampling locations were Old Matanuska Road, Marble Way, and Surrey Road (Figure 3-1). Sampling was conducted on April 12, May 3, May 17, June 22, June 24, August 11, August 30, and September 30, 2010. Water samples from each site on each sampling date were analyzed for fecal coliform bacteria and genetic markers for fecal *Bacteroides* and *Bacteroides* DNA segments specific to humans, dogs, horses, and waterfowl.

As part of the MST study, stream surveys were conducted on Cottonwood Creek to identify land use and potential sources of fecal coliform bacteria contamination. The stream surveys documented the types of development and riparian modifications along Cottonwood Creek from the outlet of Wasilla Lake to Surrey Road. The stream surveys were used to identify any potential sources of fecal coliform bacteria contamination including presence of waterfowl, horses, dog waste, and stormwater or wastewater outfalls.

The primary objective of the MST project was to determine whether fecal coliform bacteria concentrations in Cottonwood Creek were directly or indirectly caused by humans. Results support the conclusion that fecal coliform bacteria from humans are present in Cottonwood Creek following precipitation (Davis et al. 2010).

MST methods can be very useful in identifying fecal coliform bacteria sources in impaired watersheds; however, there are limitations to the use of MST. MST methods should be used only to supplement other identification tools such as traditional monitoring of fecal coliform bacteria indicators, sanitary surveys and watershed tours, and local knowledge. The results are most useful to confirm the presence or absence of a particular bacteria source or to gain a qualitative understanding of the types and relative abundance of different bacteria sources. MST methods lack the accuracy required for quantifying fecal coliform bacteria sources, and the use of MST to quantify source loading estimation or distribution of load allocation is not recommended. MST results can, however, be used to qualitatively identify sources that are likely contributing more bacteria or are more abundant in the watershed and can therefore be prioritized for management or additional characterization (Tetra Tech, Inc. and Herrera Environmental Consultants 2011).

4.1. Point Sources

Stormwater runoff to Cottonwood Creek is one of the likely sources of fecal coliform bacteria. Stormwater carries pollutants to receiving waterbodies through surface runoff, which is generated when precipitation from rain and snowmelt events flows over land or impervious surfaces (paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops) and does not percolate into the ground. As the runoff flows over the land or impervious surfaces, it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment or other pollutants that could adversely affect water quality if the runoff is discharged

untreated. When a community or urbanized area meets the population threshold and population density to be regulated as a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), all stormwater carried through constructed conveyances owned or operated by a public entity become a regulated discharge. The regulated discharge is considered a point source, which requires an MS4 permit issued under the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) program. Current population numbers and density of the urbanized area that contains the Cottonwood Creek watershed will likely meet the criteria to become a regulated MS4 in approximately three years. Unlike most constant point sources (e.g., wastewater treatment plant discharges), stormwater is precipitation-driven.

Currently, an APDES MS4 permit is not required to address stormwater conveying fecal coliform bacteria to Cottonwood Creek. Two stormwater outfalls were identified that discharge to Cottonwood Creek: one just upstream of the Parks Highway and one downstream of the Parks Highway. The outfalls are currently not permitted but their discharge would be assigned a waste load allocation (WLA) and included in the expected MS4 permit. The City of Wasilla, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Department of Transportation, and the City of Palmer are anticipated to apply for an MS4 permit as co-permittees. Therefore, fecal coliform bacteria loads delivered to Cottonwood Creek from the expected MS4 area are given their own load allocation (LA) in this TMDL that will be converted to a WLA in the issued MS4 permit (see Section 6).

Industrial and construction activities can also generate contaminated stormwater. No industrial stormwater permittees discharge directly into Cottonwood Creek; therefore, a WLA for industrial stormwater is not included in this TMDL. Currently, 12 projects authorized under the construction general permit have been issued with the receiving water designated in the impaired reach of Cottonwood Creek (Table 4-1). Authorizations under the construction general permit are temporary with any potential discharges occurring only during the permitted period. Therefore, the total number of permitted construction projects in the Cottonwood Creek watershed will change over time. Any discharges from the permitted construction projects are considered to be an insignificant source of fecal coliform bacteria and establishing WLAs is not necessary.

Figure 4-1 shows the boundary of the expected MS4 area and the locations of the 12 projects authorized under the construction general permit in 2013, the two stormwater outfalls, and two highways in relation to the impaired reach of Cottonwood Creek.

Table 4-1. Construction permits in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

Site Name	Site Owner	Date Issued	Permit ID
Valley Native Primary Care Center 4	Neeser Construction INC	11/22/11	AKR10DX24
Valley Native Primary Care Center 5	Southcentral Foundation	12/5/11	AKR10DY00
Valley Church of Christ	Byler Construction	9/19/12	AKR10EG51
2485 East Zak Circle	Tutka LLC	12/11/12	AKR10EH47
Wasilla Lithia	MCN	7/8/13	AKR10EM16
Wasilla Lithia 2	Lithia Motors	7/9/13	AKR10EM17
Knik-Goose Bay Road and Fern Street Improvements	Granite Construction Inc	7/10/13	AKR10EM24
51896 Knik-Goose Bay Road and Fern Street Improvements	Alaska DOT PF CR	7/10/13	AKR10EM34
Eagle Eye Lot 4	Pacific North Construction Inc	8/15/13	AKR10EN75
Terrace on the Lake 3	Dennis Byler of Byler Contracting Inc.	11/13/13	AKR10EO99
Terrace on the Lake 2	Asbury Moore IV, Manager of Terrace Properties LLC	8/27/13	AKR10EN36
Gemstone Estates Subdivision	Jess Hall, President Selway Corp.	9/18/12	AKR10ED93

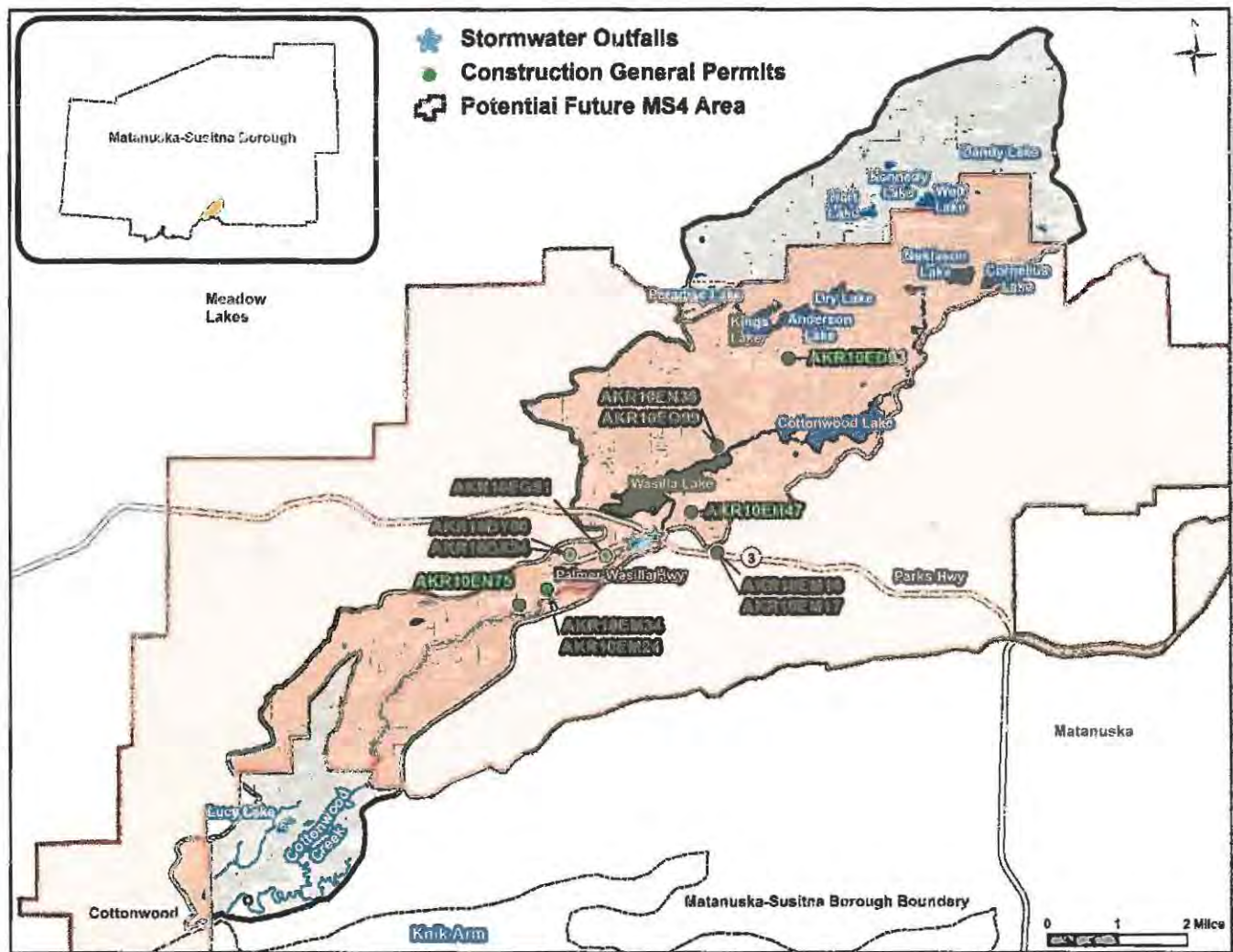


Figure 4-1. Potential point sources in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

4.2. Nonpoint Sources

Based on the results of the data reviewed in Section 3 and the results of the MST report (Davis et al. 2010), the persistence of fecal coliform bacteria in Cottonwood Creek increases downstream from Wasilla Lake to Surrey Road. Likely sources of the fecal coliform bacteria are urban runoff and failing septic systems (ADEC 2010). Failing septic systems are considered to be a potential source of fecal coliform bacteria contamination, since only a small portion of Wasilla is serviced by a municipal wastewater system (Davis and Davis 2008).

The Old Matanuska Road sampling location evaluates potential sources including waterfowl concentrated at Wasilla Lake outlet, runoff from the Parks Highway and shopping areas, and potential discharge from wastewater pipes that cross under Cottonwood Creek. Sampling sites at Marble Way and Surrey Road bracket a section of Cottonwood Creek that has residential development, private duck ponds, and a few horse stables (Davis et al. 2010). Fecal coliform bacteria loading from failing septic systems would most likely occur between Marble Way and Surrey Road as there is a relatively high concentration of homes in this area that are not serviced by a municipal sewer system (Davis and Davis 2008). The exact number of septic systems in the Cottonwood Creek watershed is unknown. However, a map from ADEC's Cottonwood Creek Septic Smart Program (ADEC 2013b) shows parcels along Cottonwood Creek located 500-1,000 feet, 200-499 feet, and less than 200 feet from Cottonwood Creek. The map was used to estimate the number of septic systems adjacent to Cottonwood Creek.

There are 193 parcels located less than 200 feet from the creek; 163 parcels located within 200 – 499 feet from the creek; and 309 parcels located between 500 and 1,000 feet of the creek. While not all of these parcels contain septic systems, the map provides a good estimate of the potential number of septic systems along the stream corridor. The parcels in red will be targeted for participation in the ADEC's Septic Smart Program, which is a septic pumping cost-share and education program. Figure 4-2 shows the locations of the parcels within the three distances from the creek.

Land use in between Wasilla Lake and Old Matanuska Road is primarily commercial. Ducks are often present between the Palmer-Wasilla and Parks Highways, and duck feces are present on rocks and other resting areas (Davis et al. 2010). Land use is primarily residential downstream of the Old Matanuska Road to Surrey Road, with the highest development occurring below Marble Way.

4.2.1. MST Report Results

The MST report found that markers specific for humans, dogs, horses, or waterfowl were detected in 33 percent of samples with greater than 20 fc/100 mL observations and 63 percent of samples with over 100 fc/100 mL observations (Davis et al. 2010). Markers were found at all sites on August 30, 2010 following a rain event and stormwater runoff. Human-specific markers were detected at the two downstream locations (Marble Way and Surrey Road) following a rain event prior to the August 30, 2010 sampling date. Horse and dog markers were found at two locations (Old Matanuska Road and Marble Way, respectively) during base-flow conditions. *Bacteroides* markers were absent from spring samples, which may be due to their inability to survive more than 4 to 5 days in aerobic environments outside of their host species (David et al. 2010).

Old Matanuska Road

Markers for horses and waterfowl were detected at the Old Matanuska Road site. The horse marker was found during base flow conditions in June 2010. However, there was a low abundance of horse markers, which is supported by the low fecal coliform bacteria counts on this date (3 fc/100 mL). The marker for waterfowl was present on August 30, 2010, coinciding with higher flow in the creek and following a rain event.

Marble Way

Markers for dogs, humans, horses, and waterfowl were detected at the Marble Way sampling location. The marker for dogs was found in June 2010 when discharge was low. This coincided with the highest fecal coliform bacteria count for this location. Markers for humans, horses, and waterfowl were detected on August 30, 2010 following a rain event.

Surrey Road

Markers for humans and horses were detected at the Surrey Road site on August 30, 2010 following the rain event.

Overall results indicate that bacteria from humans and human activities are contributing to the exceedances of the fecal coliform bacteria water quality criteria in Cottonwood Creek (Davis et al. 2010). The presence of these markers following storm events indicates that fecal material is being transported to Cottonwood Creek in surface or shallow subsurface flows. The presence of human markers supports the fact that failing septic systems are potential sources of fecal coliform bacteria contamination.

The surface transport of fecal coliform bacteria from humans could be coming from the residential developments adjacent to Cottonwood Creek. However, another potential source was identified through stream surveys on Cottonwood Creek. A camp set up on an island in the stream contained a "Honey Bucket" and toilet paper. Another possible source could be stored garbage containing diapers or other fecal material (Davis et al. 2010).

Species-specific markers for horses, dogs, and waterfowl were found in Cottonwood Creek; however, their presence is infrequent and cannot account for high fecal coliform bacteria counts on other sampling dates. Stables

and gardens are more common in the lower section of the creek and horse fecal material transported in surface flow is reasonable (Davis et al. 2010). A potential source of fecal coliform bacteria from horses includes the use of horse manure as a fertilizer on lawns or gardens. Dogs are common throughout the residential areas. However, markers from dogs were not seen in Cottonwood Creek following rain storms.

Overall, markers were detected at all three Cottonwood Creek sites on August 30, 2010 following a rain event showing that surface transportation of fecal contaminants in storm flows is occurring. Both humans and human-related activities are contributing to the fecal coliform bacteria contamination of Cottonwood Creek from Marble Way to Surrey Road due to surface transport of contaminants following storm events. MST does not provide insight on the sources of high fecal coliform bacteria counts when markers are absent. High fecal coliform bacteria counts in the absence of markers might be due to other sources (i.e., wildlife), or it could be that species-specific markers were present but not detected.

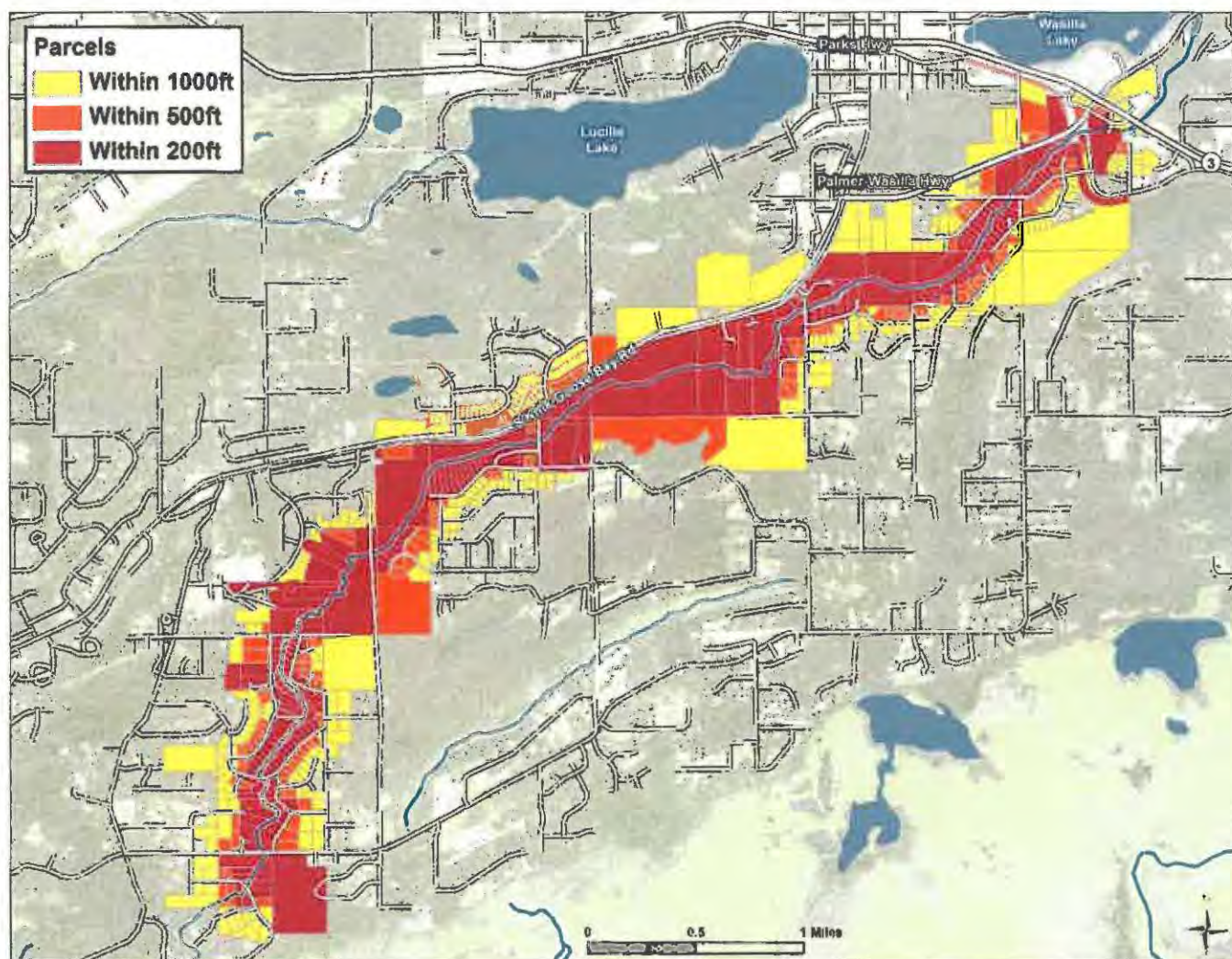


Figure 4-2. Parcels that may contain septic systems within 200, 500 and 1,000 feet of Cottonwood Creek.

4.3. Natural Sources

Fecal coliform bacteria are present in the digestive system of all warm blooded animals. Waterfowl congregations at the Wasilla Lake outlet and downstream from the Palmer Wasilla Highway road crossing may be a source of

bacterial contamination. The lake outlet has open water all year (even in freezing temperatures) and attracts dozens of ducks, particularly during the winter months (Davis and Davis 2008).

Results from the Old Matanuska Road sampling location were used to evaluate waterfowl as a potential source of fecal coliform bacteria. Feces from waterfowl were observed on substrate in or adjacent to the channel on surveys along the entire length of Cottonwood Creek (Davis et al. 2010). Ducks may congregate at the outlet of Wasilla Lake or be present on private ponds adjacent to Cottonwood Creek.

Due to the data results, ADEC considers that waterfowl and wildlife overall contribute little fecal coliform bacteria through most of the watershed, but at some locations may contribute higher amounts at certain times of the year. Domestic and non-domestic waterfowl are present in the watershed; however, it is not possible to differentiate domesticated ducks from the natural waterfowl community.

Note that natural background conditions from non-domestic waterfowl and wildlife are included in the load allocation for this TMDL (see Section 6.2), but implementation practices do not apply to these natural sources since the pollutant loads are not a result of human actions.

5. Technical Approach

A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) represents the total amount of a pollutant that can be assimilated by a receiving waterbody while still achieving water quality standards—also called the *loading capacity*. A TMDL is composed of individual waste load allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and natural background loads. In addition, the TMDL must include a margin of safety (MOS), either implicitly or explicitly, that accounts for the uncertainty in the relationship between pollutant loads and the quality of the receiving waterbody.

The analytical approach used to estimate the loading capacity and allocations for Cottonwood Creek is based on the best available information to represent the impairment and expected sources.

5.1. Analysis Background

Data at all 11 stations were reviewed to characterize the water quality of Cottonwood Creek (see Section 3); however, only the data at the Surrey Road station were used to calculate the TMDL. The Surrey Road station is the most downstream station in the watershed and has the most robust dataset (34 observations).

When developing a TMDL based on in-stream observed data, existing loads can typically be estimated using corresponding observed flow and water quality data. Similarly, allowable loads can be calculated using observed flows and an appropriate TMDL target concentration. For example, a loading capacity curve can be developed by multiplying observed flow values by the water quality criteria and graphing the resulting loads. An existing load curve can be developed by multiplying the observed flow values by the observed water quality data. Existing loads that plot above the TMDL curve therefore represent deviations from the most stringent water quality criterion and those plotting below the curve represent compliance with criteria. The area beneath the TMDL curve represents the loading capacity of the stream.

To conduct a load duration curve analysis, it is necessary to have a continuous flow record or a dataset of flows covering a broad range of flow conditions during times of water quality sampling in the impaired stream. Although Cottonwood Creek has fecal coliform bacteria data from 2004-2008, it does not have continuous flow data corresponding to the time and location of the available fecal coliform bacteria data.

Cottonwood Creek had a continuous U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) flow gage (15286000 Cottonwood C Nr Wasilla AK) from 7/1/1949 – 9/30/1954 and 5/1/1998 – 9/30/2000. Additional flow data were collected by ADEC at the 11 sampling stations on Cottonwood Creek between 2004 and 2008. These are not continuous flow observations, but are considered occasional samples collected at each of the 11 stations with the number of flow observations ranging from 6 to 11 per station. Nearby Wasilla Creek (USGS 15285000 Wasilla C Nr Palmer AK) flow data were reviewed for use as a surrogate for the lack of continuous flow data at Cottonwood Creek. However, it was determined that Wasilla Creek was not an appropriate surrogate because the Wasilla Creek watershed does not contain lakes similar to those in the Cottonwood Creek watershed and differences in hydrology are expected. Therefore, the TMDL development approach was done using a simpler approach that uses an empirical equation to calculate pollutant loading in the absence of continuous flow data.

The Simple Method (Schueler 1987) was used to calculate existing fecal coliform loading based on watershed characteristics and observed fecal coliform bacteria data. The method was also used to calculate loading capacity for the stream, based on in-stream concentrations representing water quality criteria. The Simple Method was used in 2004 and 2006 to develop several fecal coliform bacteria TMDLs for the Anchorage Bowl – Campbell Creek (ADEC 2006), Ship Creek, Fish Creek, Furrow Creek, Little Campbell Creek, Little Rabbit Creek, and Little Survival Creek (ADEC 2004). The Simple Method is described in greater detail in Section 5.2.

Cottonwood Creek experiences seasonal variation in in-stream fecal coliform bacteria levels; therefore, the TMDL analysis calculates loads and reductions on a seasonal basis to isolate times of similar in-stream, weather, and flow conditions. While Alaska's water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria apply year round, the TMDL analysis is conducted only for the spring (April 1 - May 31) and summer (June 1 - September 30) seasons in the watershed. No fecal coliform bacteria data are available for the winter months (October 1 – March 31), because winter conditions do not typically allow for sampling. Therefore, analyses were not conducted for the winter season. During winter months, precipitation falls primarily as snow, resulting in little to no surface runoff. Snow and ice accumulated during winter melts with the increasing temperatures during spring, creating increased surface runoff and steadily increasing in-stream flows. Summer experiences warmer temperatures and summer storms that produce peaks of high in-stream flows. Therefore, fecal coliform loading to the watershed during the winter months is expected to be minimal with most fecal coliform bacteria loading to Cottonwood Creek occurring in the spring and summer.

The following sections discuss the TMDL analysis in more detail, including the data inputs and results.

5.2. Existing Loads

The Simple Method (Schueler 1987) was used to calculate fecal coliform bacteria loading in Cottonwood Creek. The Simple Method is a lumped parameter empirical model to estimate stormwater pollutant loadings under conditions of limited data availability. The approach calculates pollutant loading using drainage area, pollutant concentrations, a runoff coefficient, and precipitation. In the Simple Method, the amount of rainfall runoff is assumed to be a function of the imperviousness of the contributing drainage area. More densely developed areas have more impervious surfaces, such as rooftops and pavement, causing more stormwater to runoff rather than be absorbed into the soil. The Simple Method equation is:

$$L = CF \cdot P \cdot P_j \cdot R_v \cdot C \cdot A$$

where:

L = Pollutant load (fecal coliform bacteria counts per time interval)

CF = Conversion factor (1,028,270 mL/in-acre)

P = Precipitation depth (inches) over desired time interval

P_j = Fraction of rainfall that produces runoff (assumed to be 0.9 [Schueler 1987])

R_v = Runoff coefficient, which expresses the fraction of rainfall that is converted into runoff

C = Pollutant concentration (fc/100 mL)

A = Area of the watershed (acres)

The following sections discuss the identification of the parameters for calculation of fecal coliform bacteria loading in Cottonwood Creek using the Simple Method.

5.2.1. Precipitation (P)

Seasonal precipitation totals for use in the Simple Method were determined based on historical records at the University of Fairbanks's Matanuska Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station (AFES), which is located approximately 3 miles to the east of the Cottonwood Creek watershed (Figure 5-1). Precipitation totals measured at the AFES station represent water-equivalent totals of rain, snow, and other forms of precipitation. Precipitation falling as snow during the winter months accumulates and does not result in surface runoff as rainfall would. Therefore, if precipitation totals from winter months are used in the Simple Method, the calculations result in unrealistic surface runoff and loading to the stream. To account for this, precipitation totals were modified, as discussed in the next paragraph, to more realistically reflect runoff patterns in the area.

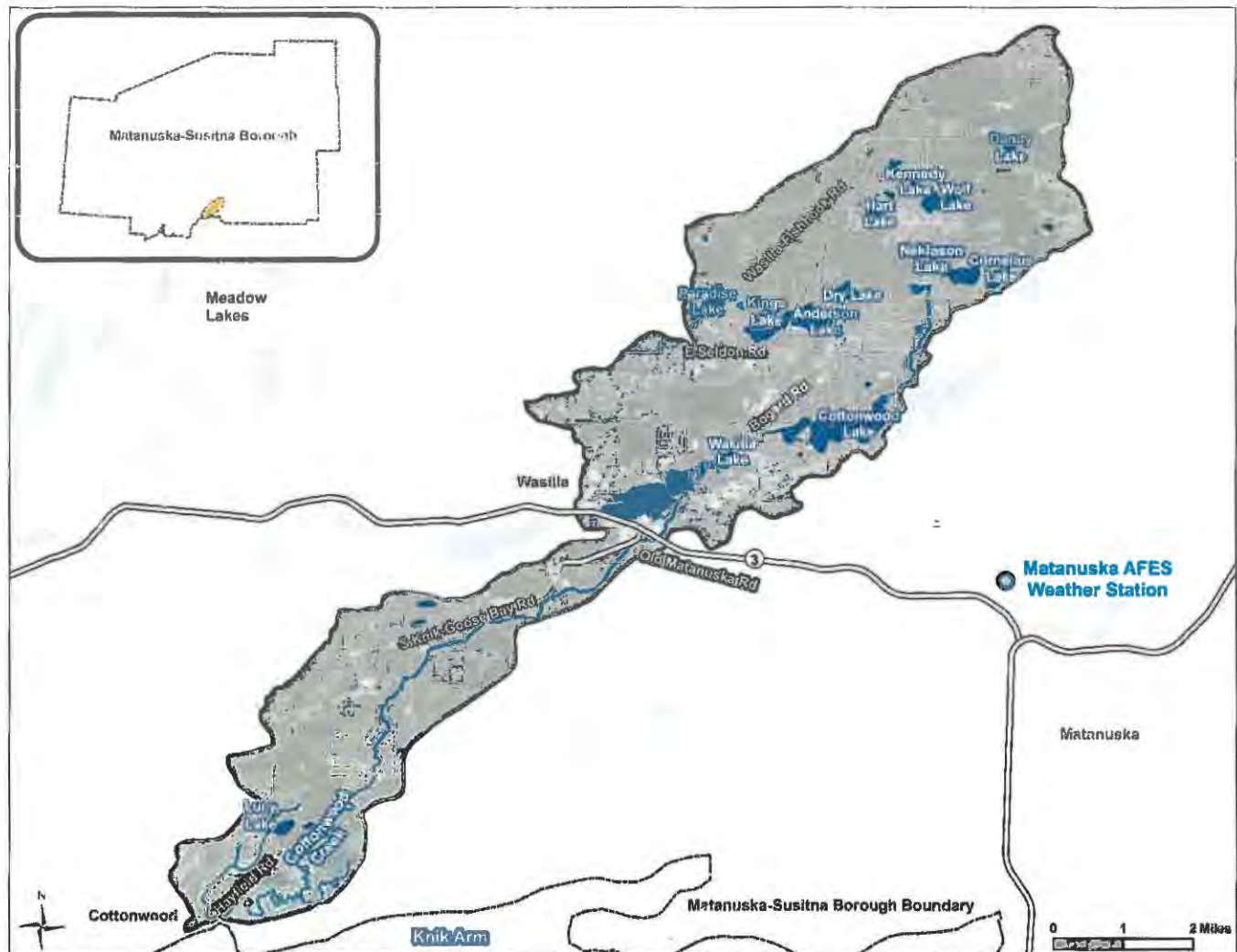


Figure 5-1. Location of Matanuska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station.

Precipitation during the winter months was divided into snow and rainfall to isolate the portion of measured precipitation that would result in runoff (i.e., rainfall) and that portion that would remain frozen on the watershed surface (i.e., snow). The snow portion was then added to the spring precipitation totals to reflect the time period that the accumulated snow would melt and contribute to surface runoff. To divide the precipitation into rainfall and snowfall portions, monthly snowfall totals from the AFES weather station were converted to water-equivalent precipitation and subtracted from the monthly precipitation totals at the AFES weather station.

To convert the snow to water-equivalent precipitation it was necessary to identify a conversion factor relating snow depth to water-equivalent depth. Monthly snowfall and total precipitation depths recorded at the Matanuska AFES weather station for January, February, and December of every year from 1998 through 2012 were evaluated to establish a relationship between the two measures. Note that December 2012 data were not available at the time this report was developed; therefore, 2012 data only include January and February. Monthly totals measured during months with average temperatures below 20° F were used to establish a correlation between snowfall and water-equivalent precipitation, as shown in Figure 5-2. The regression equation representing the relationship between the two parameters (Figure 5-2) was used to convert recorded winter snowfalls to water-equivalent precipitation.

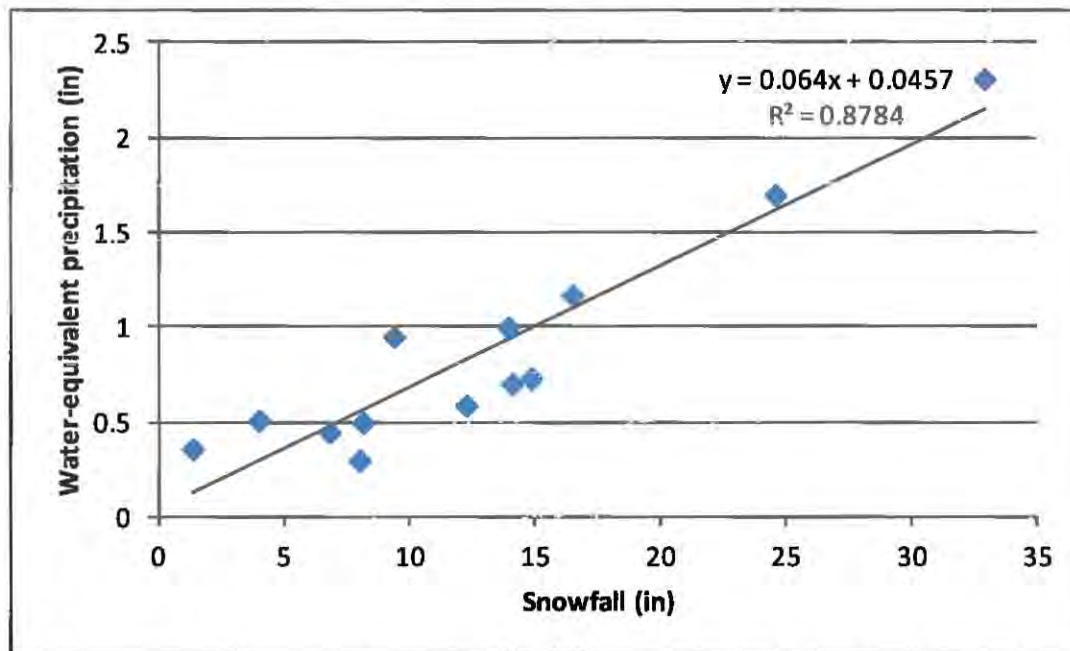


Figure 5-2. Relationship between snowfall and water-equivalent precipitation.

Monthly average snowfall and rainfall precipitation values were then calculated for the period of record used in the TMDL analysis—April 2004 through May 2008, corresponding to available fecal coliform bacteria data. The monthly averages were summed to calculate the corresponding seasonal totals. Additionally, the average monthly snowfall totals for winter were summed and added to the spring totals to account for the effect of runoff during spring melt. Table 5-1 summarizes the seasonal precipitation totals and corrections for snowfall.

Table 5-1. Seasonal precipitation totals.

Season	Total Measured Precipitation (inches)	Snowfall Correction (inches)	Corrected Precipitation (inches)
Winter (October 1 – March 31)	6.30	-2.94	3.36
Spring (April 1 – May 31)	1.09	2.94	4.03
Summer (June 1 – September 30)	9.69	0	9.69

5.2.2. Runoff Coefficient (Rv)

Because site-specific runoff coefficients were not available for the Wasilla area, a relationship between watershed imperviousness and the storm runoff coefficient (Rv) developed by Schueler (1987) was used to determine the runoff coefficient (Rv) for the Cottonwood Creek watershed. Schueler (1987) used nationwide data collected for the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program study (USEPA 1983) with additional data collected from Washington, DC area watersheds to establish the relationship, represented by the following equation:

$$R_v = 0.05 + 0.9(I)$$

where:

I = Impervious fraction of the drainage area

A runoff coefficient for the expected municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permitted area and the area outside of the MS4 permitted area in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (see Figure 4-1) were calculated based on the amount of impervious cover in each area. The impervious areas were determined using the percentage of impervious cover in the Cottonwood Creek watershed provided by The Nature Conservancy (Geist and Smith 2011). This value (I) was used with the Schueler (1987) equation to determine the runoff coefficients (Rv) for the Cottonwood Creek watershed. Table 5-2 presents the total watershed area, total impervious area, percent imperviousness, and the resulting Rv value.

Table 5-2. Runoff coefficient for the Cottonwood Creek watershed

	Area (acres)	Total impervious area (acres)	Overall percent imperviousness ^a	Runoff coefficient (Rv)
Non-MS4 area	8,836	475	5.4	0.10
Expected MS4 area	16,406	2,496	15.2	0.19

^aSource: Geist and Smith (2011)

5.2.3. Pollutant Concentration (C)

Observed fecal coliform bacteria data collected from 2004-2008 were used to calculate the C value for use in the Simple Method. The C value represents the average pollutant concentration, preferably the event mean concentration (EMC), which is a flow-weighted average concentration. Because concentrations of pollutants can widely vary throughout a storm event and between events, a flow-weighted average can account for variability and result in a more representative "average" concentration. The available flow and fecal coliform bacteria data for Cottonwood Creek at Surrey Road are very limited (24 days of observations over 4 years), prohibiting the calculation of EMCs. To be consistent with water quality criteria used for the TMDL target, the 90th percentile of observed fecal coliform bacteria samples is used as the C value. The seasonal C values were calculated as the 90th percentile based on the available data at Surrey Road and were calculated using all observations within a season. For example, the representative 90th percentile of 98 fc/100 mL for spring was calculated using all samples collected in April and May during the period of record (i.e., April 2004 – May 2008). The resulting seasonal C values for Cottonwood Creek are included in Table 5-3.

5.2.4. Calculation of Existing Load

Table 5-3 summarizes the information used to calculate the existing seasonal fecal coliform bacteria loads from the expected MS4 area and outside of the expected MS4 area using the Simple Method and the resulting loads.

Table 5-3. Simple Method values and resulting fecal coliform bacteria loads for Cottonwood Creek.

Season	Expected MS4 Area	P [~] (in)	Pj [^]	Rv ^{^^}	C [†] (fc/100 mL)	A [‡] (acres)	Existing Loading (fc/season)
Spring (April 1 – May 31)	MS4 area	4.03	0.90	0.19	98.4	16,406	1.11×10^{12}
	Non-MS4 area	4.03	0.90	0.10	98.4	8,836	3.08×10^{11}
Summer (June 1 – September 30)	MS4 area	9.69	0.90	0.19	480.0	16,406	1.31×10^{13}
	Non-MS4 area	9.69	0.90	0.10	480.0	8,836	3.61×10^{12}
Total (fc/yr)							1.81×10^{13}

[~] MS4 = municipal separate storm sewer system

[~] P = precipitation depth (inches) over desired time interval

[^] Pj = fraction of rainfall that produces runoff

^{^^} Rv = runoff coefficient, which expresses the fraction of rainfall that is converted into runoff

[†] C = pollutant concentration measured in fecal coliform per 100 milliliters

[‡] A = area of the watershed measured in acres

5.3. Loading Capacity

The loading capacity is equivalent to the TMDL and is the greatest amount of a given pollutant that a waterbody can receive without exceeding the applicable water quality standards, as represented by the TMDL water quality target.

The Simple Method was also used to calculate seasonal loading capacities for the expected MS4 area and the area outside of the expected MS4 area. The parameters representing watershed characteristics (e.g., precipitation, runoff coefficients and area) remain the same for the loading capacity calculation; however, the pollutant concentration (C) is changed to reflect TMDL conditions—conditions meeting water quality criteria. Therefore, the C value for calculation of loading capacities is equal to the not-to-exceed water quality criterion of 40 fc/100 mL. The calculated loading capacities are summarized in Table 5-4, along with the existing loadings and resulting load reductions. Note that precipitation changes seasonally, but the same values are used for both the existing and TMDL conditions.

Table 5-4. Seasonal fecal coliform loading capacities for Cottonwood Creek.

Season	Expected MS4 Area	Existing Loading (fc/season)	Loading Capacity (fc/season)	Percent Reduction
Spring (April 1 – May 31)	MS4 area	1.11×10^{12}	4.53×10^{11}	63%
	Non-MS4 area	3.08×10^{11}	1.25×10^{11}	
Summer (June 1 – September 30)	MS4 area	1.31×10^{13}	1.09×10^{12}	93%
	Non-MS4 area	3.61×10^{12}	3.01×10^{11}	
Total (fc/yr)		1.81×10^{13}	1.97×10^{12}	90%

6. TMDL

A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is composed of the sum of individual waste load allocations (WLAs) for point sources, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and natural background loads, and a margin of safety (MOS) that accounts for the uncertainty in the relationship between pollutant loads and the quality of the receiving waterbody. Conceptually, this definition is denoted by the equation

$$\text{TMDL} = \Sigma \text{WLAs} + \Sigma \text{LAs} + \text{MOS}$$

Table 6-1 summarizes the overall seasonal fecal coliform bacteria TMDL for Cottonwood Creek. The fecal coliform bacteria loads for Cottonwood Creek are broken into daily loads in Table 6-2. As discussed in Section 5.1, the TMDL analysis calculates loads and reductions on a seasonal basis to isolate times of similar in-stream, weather, and flow conditions. Alaska's water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria apply year round; however, the TMDL was only calculated for the spring (April 1 - May 31) and summer (June 1 - September 30) seasons because there are no fecal coliform bacteria data available for the winter months (October 1 - March 31). Winter conditions do not typically allow for sampling due to ice cover. During winter months, precipitation falls primarily as snow, resulting in little to no surface runoff. Snow and ice accumulated during winter melts with the increasing temperatures during spring, creating increased surface runoff and steadily increasing in-stream flows. Summer experiences warmer temperatures and summer storms that produce peaks of high in-stream flows. Therefore, fecal coliform loading to the watershed during the winter months is expected to be minimal with most fecal coliform bacteria loading to Cottonwood Creek occurring in the spring and summer. The bacteria accumulated in the watershed during the winter months are assumed to be washed off during spring runoff.

This TMDL will be implemented using adaptive management and will be revised, as necessary, based on future information on sources and in-stream conditions. Adaptive management is an approach where monitoring and source controls are used to provide more information for future review and revision of a TMDL. This process recognizes that water quality monitoring data and knowledge of watershed dynamics may be insufficient at the time a TMDL is developed, but that the TMDL uses the best information available during its development. An adaptive management strategy seeks to collect additional monitoring data to understand better how systems react to best management practices (BMPs) and reduced pollutant loading into a system. Information from an adaptive management process can then be used to refine a future TMDL, so that the future TMDL and allocations best represent how to improve water quality in a specific watershed.

6.1. Wasteload Allocation

The WLA is the portion of the loading capacity allocated to point source discharges to the waterbody. No point sources of fecal coliform bacteria currently exist in the Cottonwood Creek watershed. However, it is expected that in the near future, stormwater discharges in the Cottonwood Creek watershed will be regulated by an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy and regulation indicate that stormwater runoff regulated by an MS4 permit must be addressed through wasteload allocations in a TMDL (USEPA 2002). Therefore, fecal coliform bacteria loads delivered to Cottonwood Creek from the expected MS4 area are addressed through the future WLA component of this TMDL in anticipation of the issuance of an MS4 permit.

The fecal coliform bacteria WLAs for Cottonwood Creek are provided as seasonal allocations for the area within the expected MS4 boundary (Table 6-1). The loads are also calculated on a daily basis. The daily loads for each season were calculated by dividing the total seasonal load for each season by the number of days in each season, i.e., spring - 61 days; summer - 122 days (Table 6-2). Additionally, if data or information from future monitoring efforts can be used to identify and quantify stormwater or natural loads that are not delivered through the stormwater conveyances, the TMDL and its allocations will be revised accordingly. The future WLA for Cottonwood Creek was calculated by applying the Simple Method (Schueler 1987) to the area of the Cottonwood Creek watershed within the expected MS4 boundary (see Figure 4-1).

6.2. Load Allocation

The LA is the portion of the loading capacity allocated to nonpoint source discharges to the waterbody. Nonpoint sources are typically represented by loads carried to receiving waters through surface runoff resulting from precipitation events. The fecal coliform bacteria load allocations for Cottonwood Creek are provided as seasonal allocations for the area of the watershed outside of the expected MS4 boundary.

As discussed in Section 4, runoff from residential areas and horse pastures are the likely primary sources of fecal coliform bacteria to Cottonwood Creek. However, LAs were not allocated to specific types of nonpoint sources because while source tracking was done, there is no way to determine the amount of fecal coliform bacteria coming from each individual source.

The daily loads for each season were calculated by dividing the total seasonal load for each season by the number of days in each season (i.e., spring – 61 days; summer – 122 days). Table 6-1 summarizes the seasonal allocations for Cottonwood Creek along with the necessary percent reductions of fecal coliform bacteria. The daily allocations are shown in Table 6-2 along with the needed percent reductions of fecal coliform bacteria.

6.3. Margin of Safety

The MOS accounts for any uncertainty concerning the relationship between pollutant loading and receiving water quality. The MOS can be implicit (e.g., incorporated into the TMDL analysis through conservative assumptions) or explicit (e.g., expressed in the TMDL as a portion of the loading) or a combination of both. For the Cottonwood Creek TMDL, the MOS was included explicitly as 10 percent of the loading capacity.

Table 6-1. Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per season.

Season	Existing Load (fc/season)	Loading Capacity (fc/season)	Future Wasteload Allocation (fc/season)	Load Allocation (fc/season)	MOS ^{**} (fc/season)	Percent Reduction (for LA and WLA)
Spring (April 1-May 31)	1.42×10^{12}	5.78×10^{11}	4.08×10^{11}	1.13×10^{11}	5.78×10^{10}	63%
Summer (June 1-Sept 30)	1.67×10^{13}	1.31×10^{12}	9.80×10^{11}	2.71×10^{11}	1.39×10^{11}	93%
Total (fc/yr)	1.81×10^{13}	1.97×10^{12}	1.39×10^{12}	3.84×10^{11}	1.97×10^{11}	90%

^{*} Note that the Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected MS4 permit is issued.

^{**} MOS was included explicitly as 10% of the loading capacity.

Table 6-2. Cottonwood Creek TMDL allocation summary for fecal coliform bacteria per day.

Season	Existing	Loading	Future	Load	MOS ^{**}	Percent
--------	----------	---------	--------	------	-------------------	---------

	Load (fc/day)	Capacity (fc/day)	Wasteload Allocation* (fc/day)	Allocation (fc/day)	(fc/day)	Reduction (for LA and WLA)
Spring (April 1-May 31)	2.33×10^{10}	9.48×10^{09}	6.68×10^{09}	1.85×10^{09}	9.48×10^{08}	63%
Summer (June 1-Sept 30)	1.37×10^{11}	1.14×10^{10}	8.03×10^{09}	2.22×10^{09}	1.14×10^{09}	93%
Total (fc/day)	1.60×10^{11}	2.09×10^{10}	1.47×10^{10}	4.07×10^{09}	2.09×10^{09}	90%

* Note that the Future Wasteload Allocation is currently considered to be part of the Load Allocation until the expected MS4 permit is issued.

** MOS was included explicitly as 10% of the loading capacity.

6.4. Seasonal Variation and Critical Conditions

Seasonal variation and critical conditions associated with pollutant loadings, waterbody response, and impairment conditions can affect the development and expression of a TMDL. Therefore, a TMDL must be developed with consideration of seasonal variation and critical conditions to ensure the waterbody will maintain water quality standards under all expected conditions.

Fecal coliform bacteria concentrations and loading in Cottonwood Creek vary seasonally, likely due to variations in weather and source activity. The time of highest loading for Cottonwood Creek is expected to be during the summer months (July, August and September) when the largest rainfalls occur. Higher amounts of rainfall result in increased runoff, which results in increased loads of fecal coliform bacteria to the creek from the surrounding area. It is important to note that applicable water quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria apply year round in Cottonwood Creek. However, impairment has only been observed during spring and summer months. No known data are available during the fall and winter months; therefore, the extent to which impairments occur during these seasons is unknown. Precipitation falls primarily as snow during winter months, resulting in little to no surface runoff. Fecal coliform bacteria loading to the creek during the winter months is likely minimal. Snow and ice accumulated during winter melts with the increasing temperatures once spring arrives, creating increased surface runoff and steadily increasing in-stream flows. Fecal coliform bacteria accumulated in the watershed during the winter months are assumed to runoff with the spring melt. To account for seasonality, this TMDL establishes seasonal allocations. Seasonal allocations represent loads allocated to time periods of similar weather, runoff, and in-stream conditions and can help to identify times of greatest impairment and focus TMDL implementation efforts by identifying times needing greater load reductions.

Available fecal coliform bacteria data suggest that fecal coliform bacteria loading to Cottonwood Creek during the summer months reflects the critical period. However, conditions during the winter months have not been assessed, and loading reductions should be pursued year-round to address impairments. Using all available fecal coliform bacteria observations to calculate the existing load reflects the worst case scenario and using the not-to-exceed water quality criterion to determine the loading capacity ensures that loading reductions represent levels necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met during all conditions.

6.5. Reasonable Assurance

EPA requires that there is reasonable assurance that a mixed source TMDL can be implemented (USEPA 1991). A mixed source TMDL is developed for waters that are impaired by both point and nonpoint sources. The WLA in a mixed source TMDL is based on the assumption that nonpoint source load reductions will occur. Reasonable assurance is necessary to determine that the combination of a TMDL's WLAs (assigned to point sources) and LAs (assigned to nonpoint sources) are established at levels that provide a high degree of confidence that the goals outlined in the TMDL can be achieved. This TMDL was not developed as a mixed source TMDL to include point source contributions and a WLA because an MS4 permit has not yet been issued. The allocation for the stormwater source is expressed in the TMDL as a "LA" contingent on the source remaining unpermitted;

however, the portion of the "LA" covered by the expected MS4 permit will be deemed a "WLA" once the stormwater discharge from the source is required to obtain an MS4 permit coverage. In anticipation of the issuance of an MS4 permit in approximately the next three years, a description of reasonable assurance has been included.

The Simple Method (Schueler 1987) used the expected MS4 boundary and impervious cover (Geist and Smith 2011) of the Cottonwood Creek watershed to quantify the fecal coliform bacteria loads contributed to the creek by land within and outside of the expected MS4 area. This approach separately characterizes the contribution of fecal coliform bacteria from both nonpoint sources and future point sources to Cottonwood Creek. The future WLA for Cottonwood Creek was allocated for the expected MS4 permit. The determination of the WLA was determined using the same methodology as the LA (the Simple Method, Schueler 1987) but only for the area within the expected MS4 area.

Education, outreach, technical and financial assistance, permit administration, and permit enforcement will all be used to ensure that the goals of this TMDL are met. The following rationale helps provide reasonable assurance that the Cottonwood Creek TMDL goals will be met.

6.5.1. Technically Achievable Load Reductions

ADEC's stormwater permitting regulations require municipalities to obtain permit coverage for all stormwater discharges from regulated MS4s. Due to the variability of storm events and discharges from storm sewer systems, it is difficult to establish numeric limits on stormwater discharges that accurately address projected loadings. As a result, ADEC regulations and EPA guidance recommend expressing APDES permit limitations for MS4s as BMPs and only using numeric limits in unique instances. A BMP plan should accompany monitoring plans that test the performance of BMPs and provide a basis for revised management techniques. This iterative strategy allows for an implementation plan where realistic goals can be set to improve water quality through the use of BMPs throughout the watershed. The intention is to implement BMPs with the ultimate goal of achieving the WLA (USEPA 2002). Recommended BMPs are presented in Section 7 and in the documents described below.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Stormwater Management Plan: *The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Stormwater Management Plan* (November 2013) was developed by the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough to respond to the expected MS4 regulatory requirements (Mat-Su 2013). The plan is intended to provide guidance for managing stormwater in the Mat-Su region. The plan is intended for use by the Mat-Su Borough, as well as the region's cities, agencies, community interests, and citizens. It includes tools for working together regionally on issues such as water quality protection and flood prevention. The plan may also be used as the primary requirement for the expected MS4 permit application when required by ADEC. Additional details about the Stormwater Management Plan are presented in Section 7.

The Alaska Storm Water Guide: The diversity of Alaska's geography, geology and climate can make designing and implementing stormwater controls particularly challenging. The *Alaska Storm Water Guide* (ADEC 2011) provides detailed guidance on the implementation of stormwater BMPs to comply with water quality standards. The *Alaska Storm Water Guide* addresses some of the unique challenges posed by the diversity of Alaska's climate, soils, and terrain and recommends design and selection of stormwater BMPs in an effort to optimize their effectiveness. Chapter 2 of the *Alaska Stormwater Guide* provides stormwater considerations for the various climatic regions in Alaska. Cottonwood Creek is located in the south-central region.

6.5.2. Identified Programs to Achieve the Nonpoint Source Reductions

The load from the area outside of the expected MS4 boundary was assigned to the LA. With regard to LAs for nonpoint sources, programs including CWA Section 319 funded Alaska Clean Water Action (ACWA) grants are available to help achieve fecal coliform bacteria reductions. Section 7 provides more detail on implementation plans for the Cottonwood Creek watershed. The following activities already support this TMDL and add to the assurance that fecal coliform bacteria in the Cottonwood Creek watershed will meet load allocations and water

quality criteria for fecal coliform bacteria (assuming that the activities described below are continued and maintained).

Cottonwood Creek Septic Smart: In 2013 ADEC began supporting a 2-year project called Septic Smart for Cottonwood Creek through the ACWA grant program (ACWA 2013 and ACWA 2014). This project focuses on neighborhood education and maintenance of on-site septic systems along the impaired section of Cottonwood Creek beginning July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015. The goal of the project is to develop and implement a program that reduces the individual cost of maintaining on-site septic systems in subdivisions in the Cottonwood Creek watershed by assisting neighbors to a septic pumping cost-share cooperative. Another project goal is to have a better informed local community about on-site septic system maintenance practices for protecting water quality.

Mat-Su Borough Stormwater Management Program: The Mat-Su Borough *Stormwater Management Plan* (Mat-Su 2013) was mentioned above as a way to reach technically achievable load reductions for the future WLA, but is in place voluntarily until the MS4 permit is issued. Implementing the stormwater management plan now addresses the nonpoint sources and the TMDL's LA throughout the watershed.

National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) Program: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a voluntary program and financial assistance available to livestock owners within the Cottonwood Creek watershed through the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) program. The goal of the NWQI is to implement conservation practices and improve water quality. Eligible landowners or tenants will receive financial assistance from NRCS for installing conservation practices such as nutrient management, cover crops, filter strips, and livestock waste management. The Alaska NRCS is the local lead for the nationwide NWQI program.

6.5.3. Monitoring and Tracking Approach to Evaluate Progress

The Implementation Section (Section 7) includes a description of monitoring recommendations to evaluate progress towards achieving TMDL reductions and to make adjustments, where needed.

6.5.4. Follow-Up Actions

ADEC's legal authorities allow for the possibility of requiring more stringent permit limits or more effective nonpoint controls if there is insufficient progress in the expected nonpoint source control implementation. While ADEC is authorized under Alaska Statutes Chapter 46.03 to impose strict requirements or issue enforcement actions to achieve compliance with state water quality standards, it is the goal of all participants in the Cottonwood Creek TMDL process to achieve clean water through cooperative efforts.

To provide additional assurance beyond existing programs and planned activities, the actions described in the Implementation Section (Section 7) are provided to help permittees and property owners better understand how implementing various BMPs and stormwater management techniques could help towards achieving the WLA and LA goals in the TMDL.

7. Implementation and Monitoring Recommendations

This section of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) presents recommendations for implementation and monitoring to assist in meeting the fecal coliform bacteria waste load allocation (WLA) and load allocation (LA) established for Cottonwood Creek.

7.1. Implementation

The implementation of the Cottonwood Creek TMDL should focus on increased reductions from existing sources of fecal coliform bacteria and prevention of new sources. Establishing and maintaining healthy riparian areas should be encouraged to ensure runoff is filtered prior to reaching the streams. Healthy riparian areas also discourage animals and birds from congregating along streams where they can deposit fecal wastes.

As discussed in section 4, microbial source tracking (MST) was used to determine whether the fecal coliform bacteria found in Cottonwood Creek is from human sources, naturally occurring (wildlife), or caused by human-related activities (pets and horses) (Davis et al. 2010). MST identified species-specific markers for human, horses, dogs, and waterfowl in Cottonwood Creek. Knowing the source(s) of fecal coliform bacteria can help the City of Wasilla and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough determine which best management practices (BMPs) to use to reduce the amount of fecal coliform bacteria reaching the streams.

The MST study showed that fecal coliform bacteria in the Cottonwood Creek watershed primarily enter the creek from the following sources:

- Horse pastures/stables
- Stormwater human sources (direct human input, pet waste, diapers or other fecal matter in trash, and failing septic systems)
- Waterfowl (domestic and non-domestic)

The most effective means of addressing these sources is preventing the fecal coliform bacteria from entering Cottonwood Creek directly and through polluted runoff. The following section describes actions that can be taken to prevent fecal coliform bacteria loadings from the above sources.

7.1.1. Livestock, Horse Pastures/Stables and Dog Yards

The MST study found DNA markers for horses in Cottonwood Creek. There are a few horse stables/pastures in the Cottonwood Creek watershed, as well as other livestock and dogs. It is not known if the fecal coliform bacteria were directly deposited by these animal sources or whether the bacteria were deposited in the creek through stormwater runoff. Fecal material from livestock, horses and dogs should never be directly disposed of in the creek or in any other water sources. The use of horse manure as fertilizer on lawns and gardens is another potential source. Riparian fencing and off-stream watering should always be provided in areas with horses or other livestock. Any manure storage structures or areas should not be near surface waters and should be covered when possible. In areas without riparian vegetation, the planting of vegetated filter strips should be considered. Vegetated filter strips trap sediments, organic wastes and other pollutants in stormwater runoff. The filter strips must be regularly maintained to function effectively. Constructed wetlands in low-lying areas can also serve a similar purpose.

7.1.2. Stormwater

Existing urban land uses can contribute to nonpoint source pollutant loading from a variety of sources and activities, including increased flow and wash-off of accumulated pollutants from impervious surfaces, accelerated upland and channel erosion, pet waste, and failing septic systems. Many best management practices (BMPs) exist to reduce runoff that can transport bacteria to streams via stormwater.

BMPs for urban land uses are designed to reduce the effects of these sources on surface waters. Education focused on urban residents, businesses, and decision makers is essential to the success of BMPs. An effective strategy for public education and outreach regarding urban nonpoint source pollution could include the following:

- Community education programs and outreach events (home shows, fairs)
- School curriculum and community workshops
- Media (TV, radio, videos, and others)
- Fact sheets, guidance documents and other outreach materials
- Outreach to political and policy leaders in the watershed
- A responsible or lead coordinating agency
- Economic incentives for implementing education programs

An important source of bacteria in stormwater can be pet waste that is left on the ground. The MST study identified deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) markers from dogs in Cottonwood Creek (Davis et al. 2010). Educating residents regarding the practice of picking up and properly disposing of pet waste is an important step that can be taken to reduce bacteria in stormwater.

On-site Septic Systems

The MST study did not identify human DNA markers during base flow, which is typically when failing septic systems would be observed (Davis et al. 2010). However, due to the limitations of MST (see Section 4), failing on-site septic systems cannot be completely ruled out since human DNA markers were identified in the creek during higher creek flow and most of the population in the Cottonwood Creek watershed is serviced by on-site septic systems. On-site septic systems effectively remove fecal coliform bacteria when properly installed and maintained. Improperly installed or maintained septic systems can fail and lead to pollutants entering waterways. Failing on-site septic systems can result in a discharge of waste to the soil surface where it is available for wash-off into surface waters. Improperly treated sewage can also leach pollutants into the groundwater, which can travel to nearby streams. Failing on-site septic systems can deliver high bacteria loads to surface waters, depending on the proximity of the discharge to a waterbody and the timing of rainfall events. On-site septic system failures typically occur in older systems that are not adequately maintained with periodic inspections and sewage pump-outs. To avoid failing on-site septic systems, homeowners should be educated about the proper maintenance and inspection of septic systems. Strategies for septic system management include:

- surveying and testing programs to identify failing septic systems
- educating on proper maintenance of septic systems
- encouraging to make repairs through incentives or other programs

ADEC has a current on-site septic system education and incentive project (called Septic Smart) for Cottonwood Creek funded by Alaska's Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grant program (ACWA 2013 and ACWA 2014). Septic Smart addresses septic system education and maintenance along the impaired section of Cottonwood Creek beginning July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 and was funded for a second year running July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. The goal of the project is to investigate, develop, and implement a program that reduces the individual cost of maintaining on-site septic systems in subdivisions along Cottonwood Creek from the Parks Highway downstream to Palmer Hayflats. The program provides cost-sharing for homeowners to have timely and regular septic system pumping and inspection to identify possible needed maintenance. Multiple systems can be planned to be pumped/inspected in the same area, thus reducing individual costs. The program includes educating homeowners on the relationship of water quality and properly installed and maintained septic systems.

Expected Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit

As discussed in Section 6.5, according to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy on addressing regulated stormwater in TMDLs (USEPA 2002), wasteload allocations can be translated to effluent limitations in the applicable permit through the use of BMPs. Appropriate BMPs will be identified for implementation in the Cottonwood Creek watershed in the expected MS4 permit. One such BMP that should be included in the permit is ensuring that any connections to the City of Wasilla's wastewater treatment system are done properly with tight connections and regular inspection for any leaks. Information on the applicability of the BMPs for removal of fecal coliform bacteria and on the feasibility of implementation in the Cottonwood Creek watershed will be taken into account when identifying BMPs.

The following sources should be considered when evaluating BMPs for the expected MS4 permit:

- **Matanuska-Susitna Borough Stormwater Management Plan** (Mat-Su 2013) is described in section 6.5.1.
- **Alaska Storm Water Guide** (ADEC 2011) is also described in section 6.5.1.
- **International Stormwater Best Management Practices Database** (WERF 2014) (<http://www.bmpdatabase.org/>) provides access to BMP performance data in a standardized format for over 500 BMP studies conducted since 1996 through 2014. The database was developed by the Urban Water Resources Research Council of American Society of Civil Engineers under a cooperative agreement with the EPA. Some studies on BMP effectiveness have evaluated the ability of certain BMPs to remove fecal coliform bacteria and other bacteria.
- **Center for Watershed Protection** (CWP 1997) has compiled a stormwater treatment database containing information from studies conducted from 1990 to 2014. CWP discusses the use and effectiveness of BMPs in cold climates.
- **Comparative Pollutant Removal Capability of Urban Stormwater Treatment Practices** (Schueler 2000) provides a summary of the information in the database. The included studies do not provide sufficient fecal coliform bacteria data to statistically evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs in removing bacteria from urban runoff, but Schueler (2000) indicates that mean fecal coliform bacteria removal rates typically range from 65 to 75 percent from ponds and wetlands and 55 percent for filters. Schueler (2000) and SMRC (2000) report that water quality swales (including biofilters and wet and dry swales) consistently exported bacteria. Although it is possible that the bacteria thrive in the warm swale soils, the studies do not account for potential sources of bacteria directly to the swales, such as wildlife and domestic pets.

Table 7-1 provides examples of BMP removal efficiencies for bacteria. Because information on BMP efficiency for fecal coliform bacteria is limited, information in Table 7-1 should be applied with consideration of local knowledge of the environmental conditions and BMP performance in the Wasilla area.

Due to the characteristics such as freezing temperatures and snowmelt events, some BMPs are not appropriate or require modifications for use in cold climates. Table 7-2 provides a summary of the applicability of BMPs to colder climates.

Table 7-1. Fecal coliform bacteria removal efficiency for various BMPs.

BMP Type	Fecal Coliform Bacteria Removal (%)
Detention and Dry Extended Detention Ponds	78
Wet Ponds	70
Constructed Shallow Marsh Wetland	76
Constructed Submerged Gravel Wetland	78
Filters (excluding vertical sand filters)	37
Infiltration Basins	90
Water Quality Swales	-25
Ditches	5

Sources: Schueler (2000) and SMRC (2000)

Table 7-2. Applicability of BMPs to cold climate conditions (CWP 1997).

Type		BMP	Classification	Notes
Constructed Ponds		Wet Pond	□	Can be effective, but needs modifications to prevent freezing of outlet pipes. Limited by reduced treatment volume and biological activity in the permanent pool during ice cover.
		Wet ED Pond	●	Some modifications to conveyance structures needed. Extended detention storage provides treatment during the winter season.
		Dry ED Pond	□	Few modifications needed. Although this practice is easily adapted to cold climates, it is not highly recommended overall because of its relatively poor warm season performance.
Constructed Wetlands		Shallow Marsh	■	In climates where significant ice formation occurs, shallow marshes are not effective winter BMPs. Most of the treatment storage is taken up by ice, and the system is bypassed.
		Pond/Wetland System	□	Pond/Wetland systems can be effective, especially if some ED storage is provided. Modifications for both pond and wetland systems apply to these BMPs. This includes changes in wetland plant selection and planting.
		ED Wetland	●	See Wet ED Pond. Also needs modifications to wetland plant species.
Infiltration		Porous Pavement	■	This practice is restricted in cold climates. It cannot be used on any pavement that is sanded, because the pavement will clog.
		Infiltration Trench	□	Can be effective, but may be restricted by groundwater quality concerns related to infiltrating chlorides. Also, frozen ground conditions may inhibit the infiltration capacity of the ground.
		Infiltration Basin	□	See infiltration trench.
Filtering Systems		Surface Sand Filter	■	Frozen ground considerations, combined with frost heave concerns, make this type of system relatively ineffective during the winter season.
		Underground Sand Filter	●	When placed below the frost line, these systems can function effectively in cold climates.

Type		BMP	Classification	Notes
		Perimeter Sand Filter	■	See Surface Sand Filter.
		Bioretention	□	Problems functioning during the winter season because of reduced infiltration. It has some value for snow storage on parking lots, however.
		Submerged Gravel Wetlands	□	Some concerns of bypass during winter flows. Has been used in relatively cold regions with success, but not tested in a wide range of conditions.
Open Channel Systems		Grassed Channel	□	Reduced effectiveness in the winter season because of dormant vegetation and reduced infiltration. Valuable for snow storage.
		Dry Swale	□	Reduced effectiveness in the winter season because of dormant vegetation and reduced infiltration. Very valuable for snow storage and meltwater infiltration.
		Wet Swale	□	Reduced effectiveness in the winter season because of dormant vegetation. Can be valuable for snow storage.
		Vegetated Filter Strip	□	See Dry Swale.

ED: Extended Detention

- Easily applied to cold climates; can be effective during the winter season.
- Can be used in cold climates with significant modifications; moderately effective during the winter season
- Very difficult to use in cold climates. Generally not recommended.

7.1.3. Waterfowl

Waterfowl can congregate along streams and deposit fecal matter directly to the water or on nearby surfaces that are washed off during storm events. Riparian vegetation should be planted and maintained along Cottonwood Creek to discourage wildlife congregation and filter polluted runoff.

According to ADEC, both wild and loose domestic ducks congregate at the outlet of Wasilla Lake in Cottonwood Creek because it remains open water year round. This is a popular spot for people to feed the ducks. Feeding ducks at this location encourages more ducks to congregate. It is recommended that feeding waterfowl be discouraged at this location through signage as well as riparian vegetation. In addition, any homeowners with duck ponds in the watershed should have the ponds designed so that they are not discharging directly to Cottonwood Creek.

7.2. Monitoring Recommendations

Follow-up monitoring for a TMDL is important in tracking the progress of TMDL implementation and subsequent water quality response, as well as in evaluating any assumptions made during TMDL development. Monitoring results can be used to support any necessary future TMDL revision or to determine whether BMPs should be added or modified.

Currently, no official future monitoring plans are in place for Cottonwood Creek; however, ADEC expects water quality to be monitored after sufficient BMPs have been implemented to determine whether improvements in water quality are observed through a reduction of fecal coliform bacteria.

In addition, ADEC has conducted fecal coliform bacteria sampling over four years at 11 sites in the Cottonwood Creek watershed (ADEC 2010b). The sampling results show increasing exceedances of fecal coliform bacteria water quality criteria downstream of Wasilla Lake. Because much of the available data are distributed over a large number of stations and there are limited data at each station, a goal for future monitoring should be to establish fewer station locations that can be sampled more often during all subsequent sampling efforts in the watershed. This will better allow for evaluation of temporal trends in watershed data. Future sampling events should focus on specific areas or sources of concern and on tracking progress of water quality improvement as BMPs are implemented. Monitoring events should occur during high and low flows.

8. Public Comments

Note that this section of the report will be completed after the public comment period has concluded.

ADEC posted the notice for the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) public review period on [Date], and the review period closed on [Date]. The notice was posted in the local newspaper [name of newspaper], on ADEC's website, and on the State of Alaska's Public Notice Web Site. A fact sheet was also available on ADEC's website. A public meeting regarding the Cottonwood Creek fecal coliform bacteria TMDL was also held on [Date] at [Location].

Comments on the TMDL were received from XXXX. Comments and additional information submitted during this public comment period were used to inform or revise this TMDL document. See Appendix B for detailed information on the response to comments.

9. References

Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA). 2013. Fiscal Year 2014 Grant Solicitation.

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/acwa/onlineACWAapp.htm> Accessed January 25, 2013.

ACWA. 2014. Fiscal Year 2015 Grant Solicitation. <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/acwa/onlineACWAapp.htm>

Accessed September 15, 2014.

ADEC (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation). 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Fish Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Furrow Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Little Campbell Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Little Rabbit Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Little Survival Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform in the Waters of Ship Creek in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2006. Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in the Waters of Campbell Creek and Campbell Lake in Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2010a. *Alaska's Final 2010 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report*, July 15, 2010. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program, Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2010b. Cumulative fecal coliform bacteria and discharge data for Cottonwood Creek. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2013a. *Alaska's Final 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report*, December 13, 2013. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program, Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2011. Alaska Storm Water Guide. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water, Anchorage, AK.

ADEC. 2013b. Septic Smart Cottonwood Creek map.

Davis, J. C., and G. A. Davis. 2005. *Cottonwood Creek TMDL Development—Residue*. Aquatic Restoration and Research Institute. Final Report for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, ACWA 05-02. Talkeetna, Alaska.

Davis, J. C., and G. A. Davis. 2008. *Cottonwood Creek Fecal Coliform and Temperature Evaluation*. Talkeetna, AK.

Davis, J. C., G. A. Davis, and T. Stevens. 2010. *Fecal Coliform Bacteria Source Assessment in the waters of Cottonwood Creek, Wasilla, and Little Campbell Creek, Anchorage*. 18-2011-21-7 Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Talkeetna, AK.

Geist, M. and C. Smith. 2011. *Mapping Impervious Surfaces in the Mat-Su: Measuring Development at the Subwatershed Scale*. The Nature Conservancy. Anchorage, AK.

Schueler, T.R. 1987. *Controlling Urban Runoff: A Practical Manual for Planning and Designing Urban BMPs*. Metropolitan Council of Governments, Washington, DC.

Schueler, T. 2000. Comparative Pollutant Removal Capability of Urban Stormwater Treatment Practices. Article 64 in *The Practice of Watershed Protection*. Technical Note #95 from *Watershed Protection Techniques* 2(4): 515-520. Center for Watershed Protection, Ellicott City, MD.

SMRC. 2000. *Stormwater Management Factsheets*. Stormwater Manager's Resource Center, Center for Watershed Protection, Ellicott City, MD. <http://www.stormwatercenter.net>

Tetra Tech, Inc and Herrera Environmental Consultants. 2011. Using Microbial Source Tracking to Support TMDL Development and Implementation. Fairfax, VA.

UAF (University of Alaska at Fairbanks). 2012. Matanuska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Weather Data. Personal communication with Beth Hall, November 2012.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2012. State & County QuickFacts. Accessed November 2012.
<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/02000.html>

USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency). 1983. Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program. NTIS PB84-185552. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC.

USEPA. 2002. *Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLAs*. Memorandum from Robert H. Wayland, III, Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, and James A. Hanlon, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC.

Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Mat-Su). 2013. Matanuska-Susitna Borough Stormwater Management Plan. Mat-Su Borough Assembly Ordinance #13-137. Prepared by USKH and Tetra Tech.

Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) et al. 2014. International Stormwater Best Management Practices Database. <http://www.bmpdatabase.org/> accessed on September 16, 2014.

Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC). 2013. *Climate of Alaska*.
<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/narratives/ALASKA.htm> Accessed January 9, 2013. Western Regional Climate Center.

Appendix A

Table A-1. Fecal coliform bacteria and flow data for Cottonwood Creek.

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100 mL)	Discharge (cfs)
Settlement Ave.	4/21/2004	0.5	16.1
Settlement Ave.	5/15/2004	3	14.4
Settlement Ave.	6/18/2004	80	10.4
Settlement Ave.	7/20/2004	260	6.5
Settlement Ave.	8/18/2004	1600	5.5
Settlement Ave.	9/14/2004	30	11
Neklason Outlet	4/21/2004	0.5	16.1
Neklason Outlet	5/15/2004	0.5	14.4
Neklason Outlet	6/18/2004	8	10.4
Neklason Outlet	7/20/2004	50	6.5
Neklason Outlet	8/18/2004	11	5.5
Neklason Outlet	9/14/2004	4	11
Below Bogard	4/21/2004	94	16.1
Below Bogard	5/15/2004	6	14.4
Below Bogard	6/18/2004	14	10.4
Below Bogard	7/20/2004	16	6.5
Below Bogard	8/18/2004	21	5.5
Below Bogard	9/14/2004	8	11
Below Bogard	8/2/2005	2.7	19
Below Bogard	8/15/2005	5.3	15.7
Below Bogard	8/23/2005	27	15.3
Below Bogard	8/30/2005	5.3	20
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	7/30/2007	30	14.4
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/1/2007	10	14.4
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/6/2007	17	16.1
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/9/2007	9	14.9
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	4/8/2008	1	15.3
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	4/23/2008	4	15.7
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	5/5/2008	0.5	17.3
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	5/7/2008	0.5	17.3
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	7/30/2007	0.5	14.4
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/1/2007	0.5	14.4
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/6/2007	2	16.1
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/9/2007	0.5	14.9
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	9/10/2007	7	15.7
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	9/20/2007	3	18.1
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	4/8/2008	0.5	15.3
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	4/23/2008	0.5	15.7
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	5/5/2008	0.5	17.3
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	5/7/2008	0.5	17.3
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	7/30/2007	0	
Parks Highway	7/30/2007	26	14.4
Parks Highway	8/1/2007	18	14.4
Parks Highway	8/6/2007	16	16.1

DRAFT Fecal Coliform Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load for Cottonwood Creek, AK

September 2014

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100 mL)	Discharge (cfs)
Parks Highway	8/9/2007	10	14.9
Parks Highway	9/10/2007	116	15.7
Parks Highway	9/20/2007	33	18.1
Parks Highway	4/8/2008	4	15.3
Parks Highway	4/23/2008	0.5	15.7
Parks Highway	5/5/2008	0.5	17.3
Parks Highway	5/7/2008	0.5	17.3
Old Mat Road	4/21/2004	58	16.1
Old Mat Road	5/15/2004	30	14.4
Old Mat Road	6/18/2004	80	10.4
Old Mat Road	7/20/2004	110	6.5
Old Mat Road	8/18/2004	130	5.5
Old Mat Road	9/14/2004	50	11
Old Mat Road	8/2/2005	140	19
Old Mat Road	8/15/2005	72	15.7
Old Mat Road	8/23/2005	197.5	15.3
Old Mat Road	8/30/2005	100	20
Old Mat Road	7/30/2007	50	14.4
Old Mat Road	8/1/2007	20	14.4
Old Mat Road	8/6/2007	16	16.1
Old Mat Road	8/9/2007	10	14.9
Old Mat Road	9/10/2007	63	15.7
Old Mat Road	9/20/2007	32	18.1
Old Mat Road	4/8/2008	4	15.3
Old Mat Road	4/23/2008	0.5	15.7
Old Mat Road	5/5/2008	0.5	17.3
Old Mat Road	5/7/2008	0.5	17.3
Old Mat Road	8/1/2007	24	
Fern Crossing	4/21/2004	130	16.1
Fern Crossing	5/15/2004	10	14.4
Fern Crossing	6/18/2004	70	10.4
Fern Crossing	7/20/2004	120	6.5
Fern Crossing	8/18/2004	50	5.5
Fern Crossing	9/14/2004	130	11
Edlund Road	4/21/2004	100	16.1
Edlund Road	5/15/2004	20	14.4
Edlund Road	6/18/2004	110	10.4
Edlund Road	7/20/2004	130	6.5
Edlund Road	8/18/2004	170	5.5
Edlund Road	9/14/2004	240	11
Edlund Road	7/30/2007	69	14.4
Edlund Road	8/1/2007	33	14.4
Edlund Road	8/6/2007	59	16.1
Edlund Road	8/9/2007	51	14.9
Edlund Road	4/8/2008	5	15.3
Edlund Road	4/23/2008	7	15.7

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100 mL)	Discharge (cfs)
Edlund Road	5/5/2008	10	17.3
Edlund Road	5/7/2008	0.5	17.3
Marble Way	7/30/2007	59	14.4
Marble Way	8/1/2007	20	14.4
Marble Way	8/6/2007	59	16.1
Marble Way	8/9/2007	56	14.9
Marble Way	4/8/2008	9	15.3
Marble Way	4/23/2008	5	15.7
Marble Way	5/5/2008	6	17.3
Marble Way	5/7/2008	2	17.3
Surrey Road	4/21/2004	93	16.1
Surrey Road	5/15/2004	57	14.4
Surrey Road	6/18/2004	240	10.4
Surrey Road	7/20/2004	250	6.5
Surrey Road	8/18/2004	80	5.5
Surrey Road	9/14/2004	80	11
Surrey Replicate	4/21/2004	99	16.1
Surrey Replicate	5/15/2004	100	14.4
Surrey Replicate	6/18/2004	500	10.4
Surrey Replicate	7/20/2004	200	6.5
Surrey Replicate	8/18/2004	80	5.5
Surrey Replicate	9/14/2004	30	11
Surrey Road	8/2/2005	180	19
Surrey Road	8/15/2005	120	15.7
Surrey Road	8/23/2005	48	15.3
Surrey Road	8/30/2005	87	20
Surrey Road	7/30/2007	300	14.4
Surrey Road	8/1/2007	169	14.4
Surrey Road	8/6/2007	260	16.1
Surrey Road	8/9/2007	74	14.9
Surrey Road	9/10/2007	92	15.7
Surrey Road	9/20/2007	690	18.1
Surrey Road Rep	8/6/2007	300	
Surrey Road Rep	8/9/2007	103	
Surrey Road Rep	9/10/2007	135	
Surrey Road Rep	9/20/2007	1200	
Surrey Road	4/8/2008	9	15.3
Surrey Road	4/23/2008	5	15.7
Surrey Road	5/5/2008	65	17.3
Surrey Road	5/7/2008	13	17.3
Surrey Replicate	4/8/2008	10	15.3
Surrey Replicate	4/23/2008	4	15.7
Surrey Replicate	5/5/2008	41	17.3
Surrey Replicate	5/7/2008	13	17.3

^[1] The Mat-Su Borough conducted a culvert replacement project at the Settlement Ave. sample site during the summer of 2004. The high bacteria results are attributed to the type of soil and fertilizer used for the bank restoration and hydroseeding work.

Table A-2. Exceedances of not-to exceed and geometric mean criteria.

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100mL)	Geometric Mean (fc/100 mL) ^a
Settlement Ave.	4/21/2004	0.5	
Settlement Ave.	5/15/2004	3	
Settlement Ave.	6/18/2004	80 ^b	
Settlement Ave.	7/20/2004	200	
Settlement Ave.	8/18/2004	1800	
Settlement Ave.	9/14/2004	30	
Neklason Outlet	4/21/2004	0.5	
Neklason Outlet	5/15/2004	0.5	
Neklason Outlet	6/18/2004	8	
Neklason Outlet	7/20/2004	50	
Neklason Outlet	8/18/2004	11	
Neklason Outlet	9/14/2004	4	4.1
Below Bogard	4/21/2004	94	
Below Bogard	5/15/2004	6	
Below Bogard	6/18/2004	14	
Below Bogard	7/20/2004	16	
Below Bogard	8/18/2004	21	
Below Bogard	9/14/2004	8	
Below Bogard	8/2/2005	2.7	
Below Bogard	8/15/2005	5.3	
Below Bogard	8/23/2005	27	
Below Bogard	8/30/2005	5.3	6.7
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	7/30/2007	30	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/1/2007	10	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/6/2007	17	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	8/9/2007	9	14.6
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	4/8/2008	1	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	4/23/2008	4	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	5/5/2008	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Inlet	5/7/2008	0.5	1.0
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	7/30/2007	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/1/2007	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/6/2007	2	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	8/9/2007	0.5	0.7

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100mL)	Geometric Mean (fc/100 mL) ^a
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	9/10/2007	7	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	9/20/2007	3	4.6
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	4/8/2008	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	4/23/2008	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	5/5/2008	0.5	
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	5/7/2008	0.5	0.5
Wasilla Lk. Outlet	7/30/2007	0	
Parks Highway	7/30/2007	26	
Parks Highway	8/1/2007	18	
Parks Highway	8/6/2007	16	
Parks Highway	8/9/2007	10	16.5
Parks Highway	9/10/2007	116	
Parks Highway	9/20/2007	33	61.9 ^c
Parks Highway	4/8/2008	4	
Parks Highway	4/23/2008	0.5	
Parks Highway	5/5/2008	0.5	
Parks Highway	5/7/2008	0.5	0.8
Old Mat Road	4/21/2004	58	
Old Mat Road	5/15/2004	30	
Old Mat Road	6/18/2004	80	
Old Mat Road	7/20/2004	110	
Old Mat Road	8/18/2004	130	
Old Mat Road	9/14/2004	50	
Old Mat Road	8/2/2005	140	
Old Mat Road	8/15/2005	72	
Old Mat Road	8/23/2005	197.5	
Old Mat Road	8/30/2005	100	118.8
Old Mat Road	7/30/2007	50	
Old Mat Road	8/1/2007	20	
Old Mat Road	8/1/2007	24	
Old Mat Road	8/6/2007	16	
Old Mat Road	8/9/2007	10	20.7
Old Mat Road	9/10/2007	63	
Old Mat Road	9/20/2007	32	44.9
Old Mat Road	4/8/2008	4	
Old Mat Road	4/23/2008	0.5	
Old Mat Road	5/5/2008	0.5	

*DRAFT Fecal Coliform Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load for Cottonwood Creek, AK**September 2014*

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100mL)	Geometric Mean (fc/100 mL) ^a
Old Mat Road	5/7/2008	0.5	0.8
Fern Crossing	4/21/2004	130	
Fern Crossing	5/15/2004	10	
Fern Crossing	6/18/2004	70	
Fern Crossing	7/20/2004	120	
Fern Crossing	8/18/2004	50	
Fern Crossing	9/14/2004	130	
Edlund Road	4/21/2004	100	
Edlund Road	5/15/2004	20	
Edlund Road	6/18/2004	110	
Edlund Road	7/20/2004	130	
Edlund Road	8/18/2004	170	
Edlund Road	9/14/2004	240	
Edlund Road	7/30/2007	66	
Edlund Road	8/1/2007	33	
Edlund Road	8/6/2007	59	
Edlund Road	8/9/2007	51	51.2
Edlund Road	4/8/2008	5	
Edlund Road	4/23/2008	7	
Edlund Road	5/5/2008	10	
Edlund Road	5/7/2008	0.5	3.6
Marble Way	7/30/2007	59	
Marble Way	8/1/2007	20	
Marble Way	8/6/2007	59	
Marble Way	8/9/2007	56	44.4
Marble Way	4/8/2008	9	
Marble Way	4/23/2008	5	
Marble Way	5/5/2008	6	
Marble Way	5/7/2008	2	4.8
Surrey Replicate	4/21/2004	99	
Surrey Replicate	5/15/2004	100	
Surrey Replicate	6/18/2004	300	
Surrey Replicate	7/20/2004	200	
Surrey Replicate	8/18/2004	80	
Surrey Replicate	9/14/2004	30	

Station Name	Date	Fecal coliform bacteria (fc/100mL)	Geometric Mean (fc/100 mL) ^a
Surrey Replicate	8/6/2007	300	
Surrey Replicate	8/9/2007	103	
Surrey Replicate	9/10/2007	135	
Surrey Replicate	9/20/2007	1200	266.0
Surrey Replicate	4/8/2008	10	
Surrey Replicate	4/23/2008	4	
Surrey Replicate	5/5/2008	41	
Surrey Replicate	5/7/2008	13	12.1
Surrey Road	4/21/2004	99	
Surrey Road	5/15/2004	57	
Surrey Road	6/18/2004	240	
Surrey Road	7/20/2004	250	
Surrey Road	8/18/2004	80	
Surrey Road	9/14/2004	80	
Surrey Road	8/2/2005	180	
Surrey Road	8/15/2005	120	
Surrey Road	8/23/2005	48	
Surrey Road	8/30/2005	87	97.5
Surrey Road	7/30/2007	300	
Surrey Road	8/1/2007	189	
Surrey Road	8/6/2007	280	
Surrey Road	8/9/2007	74	176.7
Surrey Road	9/10/2007	92	
Surrey Road	9/20/2007	690	252.0
Surrey Road	4/8/2008	9	
Surrey Road	4/23/2008	5	
Surrey Road	5/5/2008	85	
Surrey Road	5/7/2008	13	14.0

^aGeometric means were calculated for every possible 30-day period included in the dataset, based on all individual observations within that 30-day period.

^bYellow highlight indicates geometric means within a 30-day period that exceed the state water quality criterion of 20 fc/100 mL [18 AAC 70.020(b)(3)(A)(i)]

^cBlue highlight indicates sample exceeds the state water quality criterion of 40 fc/100 mL in >10% of samples [18 AAC 70.020(b)(3)(A)(i)]

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING LEGISLATIVE

Resolution No. 15-11

MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization

(RTPO)

(Page 213 - 234)

INTRODUCTION FOR PUBLIC HEARING

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH****Planning and Land Use Department****Planning Division**

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 745-9833 • Fax (907) 745-9876

www.matsugov.us • planning@matsugov.us**MEMORANDUM**

PUBLIC HEARING: March 23, 2015

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Eileen Probasco, Planning Director *E. Probasco*RE: **Resolution 15-11.** A resolution recommending the Assembly form and fund an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO).

The Transportation Advisory Board has forwarded their Resolution 15-01 to the Planning Commission and Assembly regarding the formation and funding for an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO).

A draft resolution is included for the commission's consideration.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH (MSB) TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB) TO THE MSB PLANNING COMMISSION AND ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RTPO).

WHEREAS, the MSB has exceeded a population of 100,000 residents (up over 10,000 residents in less than five years); and

WHEREAS, the MSB encompasses 24,700 square miles (about the size of West Virginia) and currently has approximately 1,000 lineal miles of developed road system(s); and

WHEREAS, the MSB Planning Department *Build-Out Study* indicates that the Borough's secondary road network has not kept up with the growth over the last few years; and

WHEREAS, a population density of the *Build Out's* magnitude would increase traffic congestion to higher unacceptable levels; and

WHEREAS, planning and development to support transportation requirements of population increases of this nature will require a concentrated effort for expansion into unpopulated areas, or a compression of transportation and land use practices in the areas currently developed in the MSB, or a combination of these two solutions; and

WHEREAS, current federal law requires either the formation of a Metropolitan (Transportation) Planning Organization (MPO) when a municipal area reaches a population density of 50,000 within an urban core, based upon federal decennial census counts, or face incorporation into an existing MPO; and

WHEREAS, MAP 21 (the 2012-2014 federal transportation funding plan) allows for the formation of Regional

Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPO) in anticipation of reaching population density maximums and preparation for the implementation of an MPO; and

WHEREAS, both the Fairbanks and Anchorage municipal areas currently each have an MPO; and

WHEREAS, federal transportation practices allow for a newly qualified region being incorporated into an existing MPO; and

WHEREAS, the MSB has found incorporation into other regions for funding and support to be a less than satisfactory solution, e.g., Aging and Disability Resource Centers and the Anchorage/MSB Regional Transit Plan; and

WHEREAS, the various MSB regional citizenry representative bodies such as the Borough, cities, ADOT&PF, community and tribal councils, road service areas, transit providers and off-road locales should have formal inclusion in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, other transportation system providers such as the Alaska Rail Road Corporation, the Point MacKenzie Port Commission, the airports and the various transit services should have formal inclusion in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the formation of an RTPO would allow for each of these regional transportation governing and transportation service provider bodies to formally participate in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the formation of an RTPO is intended to assist the state in working with the region on local transportation planning and issues, giving the area a greater voice in the decision making process; and

WHEREAS, an RTPO is intended to be a pre-cursor to an MPO, Alaska Statute(s) defining and regulating the formation, duties,

policies, activities, funding, represented area and responsibilities of an Alaskan MPO can be adapted to define and regulate the activities of an MSB RTPO; and

WHEREAS, the existing MSB governmental transportation related bodies, i.e., the Transportation Advisory Board, Aviation Advisory Board, Local Road Service Area Advisory Board, Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Board, Port Commission, and Planning Commission are dedicated to considering, advising and/or taking action regarding existing plans; and

WHEREAS, an RTPO's primary purpose would be to participate in the planning process and provide input into both the MSB's Capital Long Range Transportation Plan and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Long Range Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MSB Transportation Advisory Board recommends the initial funding and formation of a Mat-Su Borough Regional Transportation Planning Organization Core Committee (MSB RTPO CC) to define and work on the formation of the RTPO; and

FURTHERMORE, the RTPO CC shall be comprised of two representatives from each of the above-identified Commissions, Boards, Cities, ADOT&PF, and Councils (or as defined by the MSB Mayor) the purpose of which will be the creation of statute(s) similar to those of an MPO regarding the formation, regulation, duties, policies, activities, represented area and responsibilities of an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization; and

FURTHERMORE, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the initial MSB RTPO CC be charged with meeting a minimum of twice each month for a maximum of six months and utilizing existing State of Alaska and/or Municipality of Anchorage and/or Municipality of

Fairbanks Metropolitan (Transportation) Planning Organization statutes and/or regulations as a guide for the fully identified, organized and formed provisional RTPPO's consideration, modification and approval; and

FURTHERMORE, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the fully formed RTPPO be comprised of the members of the Core Committee and as many members as identified by the Core Committee from the ADOT&PF, Cities, Community and Tribal Councils, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Councils, the Public Transit Coalition, Corporations and/or Committees and/or representatives from the off-road locales and other organizations/entities as identified by the Core Committee; and

FURTHERMORE, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a minimum three-day meeting be held of the full RTPPO to consider, confirm, prepare and present their formative findings in writing to the MSB Assembly for acceptance and/or forwarding to the Alaska State Legislature for consideration and/or funding; and

FURTHERMORE, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the funding for the deliberation, writing and delivery of the statute(s) for the Regional Transportation Planning Organization be formed, allocated and appropriated as outlined in Attachments A and B.

Adopted by the MSB Transportation Advisory Board this 21ST day of January, 2015.



Don Carney, Chairman


Debbie Passmore, Admin. Support

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-01 - ATTACHMENT A

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH (MSB) TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB) TO THE MSB PLANNING COMMISSION AND ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION:

ATTACHMENT A

The approximate costs associated with the Regional Transportation Planning Organization Core Committee (RTPO CC) and the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RPO) includes the following:

RTPO CC - potential requirement for formation expertise consultant to assist the effort is estimated at \$30,000.

RTPO - potential requirement for 3-day meeting to review, revise and finalize formation plan (including potential housing [per diem] for remote participants) is estimated at \$70,000.

NOTE: The total cost estimate for this effort was based upon the \$76,400 expended on the 2014 National Training Institute Transportation and Land Use Workshop.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-01 ATTACHMENT B

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH (MSB) TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB) TO THE MSB PLANNING COMMISSION AND ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION:

ATTACHMENT B - Suggested Membership

RTPO CORE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION RECOMMENDATION (19 members):

The purpose and duties of the RTPO Core Committee shall be the creation of statute(s) similar to those of an MPO to be used in the formation, regulation, definition of duties, policies, activities, represented area(s) and responsibilities of a MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

The initial selection for the roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman of this committee shall be determined by the MSB Mayor.

Planning Commission (2 Members): a Core Area representative and a representative from outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Transportation Advisory Board (2 Members): the At-Large member and a Transportation/ Transit representative

Aviation Advisory Board (2 Members): Airport Owner representative and Air Taxi/Guide representative

Port Commission (2 Members): 1 representative who resides in the Core Area and 1 representative who resides outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Road Service Area Board (2 Members): a Core Area representative and a representative from outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Parks, Recreation and Trails Board (2 Members): 1 representative from the Core Area and 1 member from a District outside the Core Area.

Advisory Members (4 members): 1 Alaska DOT&PF Planner, 1 Alaska DOT&PF Engineer, 1 MSB Planner and 1 MSB Design/Engineer.

Support Staff (3 Staff): Administrative Assistant staff support from each of the Advisory Member departments.

RTPO FULL REPRESENTATION RECOMMENDATION (41 Members):

Members of the RTPO Core Committee: 21 members

Alaska Department of Transportation and Facilities (2 Members):
1 Regional Planner and 1 Design/Engineer as full members.

MSB Capital Projects and Operational Divisions (2 Members): 1
Planner and 1 Design/Engineer as full members.

Incorporated Cities (6 Members): 1 Planning staff or appointed
representative and 1 Administrative or Elected Official each
from Palmer, Wasilla and Houston.

Alaska Rail Road Corporation (2 Members): 1 representative from
the maintenance and operations department/division/section and 1
representative from passenger services.

Mat-Su Borough Transit Coalition (2 Members): 1 transit service
provider and 1 consumer organization representative.

Community and/or Tribal Councils (6 Members): 1 off-road system
representative and 3 representatives from non-Core Area
Community and 2 Tribal council representatives.

By: TAB
Introduced: March 2, 2015
Public Hearing: March 16, 2015
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 15-11**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION TO THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RTPO) .

WHEREAS, the MSB has exceeded a population of 100,000 residents (up over 10,000 residents in less than five years); and

WHEREAS, the MSB encompasses 24,700 square miles (about the size of West Virginia) and currently has approximately 1,000 lineal miles of developed road system(s); and

WHEREAS, the MSB Planning Department *Build-Out Study* indicates that the Borough's secondary road network has not kept up with the growth over the last few years; and

WHEREAS, a population density of the *Build Out's* magnitude would increase traffic congestion to higher unacceptable levels; and

WHEREAS, planning and development to support transportation requirements of population increases of this nature will require a concentrated effort for expansion into unpopulated areas, or a compression of transportation and land use practices in the

areas currently developed in the MSB, or a combination of these two solutions; and

WHEREAS, current federal law requires either the formation of a Metropolitan (Transportation) Planning Organization (MPO) when a municipal area reaches a population density of 50,000 within an urban core, based upon federal decennial census counts, or face incorporation into an existing MPO; and

WHEREAS, MAP 21 (the 2012-2014 federal transportation funding plan) allows for the formation of Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPO) in anticipation of reaching population density maximums and preparation for the implementation of an MPO; and

WHEREAS, both the Fairbanks and Anchorage municipal areas currently each have an MPO; and

WHEREAS, federal transportation practices allow for a newly qualified region being incorporated into an existing MPO; and

WHEREAS, the MSB has found incorporation into other regions for funding and support to be a less than satisfactory solution, e.g., Aging and Disability Resource Centers and the Anchorage/MSB Regional Transit Plan; and

WHEREAS, the various MSB regional citizenry representative bodies such as the Borough, cities, ADOT&PF, community and tribal councils, road service areas, transit providers and off-

road locales should have formal inclusion in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, other transportation system providers such as the Alaska Rail Road Corporation, the Point MacKenzie Port Commission, the airports and the various transit services should have formal inclusion in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the formation of an RTPO would allow for each of these regional transportation governing and transportation service provider bodies to formally participate in the MSB transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, the formation of an RTPO is intended to assist the state in working with the region on local transportation planning and issues, giving the area a greater voice in the decision making process; and

WHEREAS, an RTPO is intended to be a pre-cursor to an MPO, Alaska Statute(s) defining and regulating the formation, duties, policies, activities, funding, represented area and responsibilities of an Alaskan MPO can be adapted to define and regulate the activities of an MSB RTPO; and

WHEREAS, the existing MSB governmental transportation related bodies, i.e., the Planning Commission, Aviation Advisory Board, Local Road Service Area Advisory Board, Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Board, Port Commission, and Planning

Commission are dedicated to considering, advising and/or taking action regarding existing plans; and

WHEREAS, an RTPO's primary purpose would be to participate in the planning process and provide input into both the MSB's Capital Long Range Transportation Plan and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Long Range Transportation Plan;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Advisory Board adopted their Resolution 15-01 on January 21, 2015, recommending planning commission and assembly action on this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MSB Planning Commission recommends the initial funding and formation of a Mat-Su Borough Regional Transportation Planning Organization Core Committee (MSB RTPO CC) to define and work on the formation of the RTPO; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RTPO CC shall be comprised of two representatives from each of the above-identified Commissions, Boards, Cities, ADOT&PF, and Councils (or as defined by the MSB Mayor) the purpose of which will be the creation of statute(s) similar to those of an MPO regarding the formation, regulation, duties, policies, activities, represented area and responsibilities of an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the initial MSB RTPO CC be charged with meeting a minimum of twice each month for a maximum of six months and utilizing existing State of Alaska and/or Municipality of Anchorage and/or Municipality of Fairbanks Metropolitan (Transportation) Planning Organization statutes and/or regulations as a guide for the fully identified, organized and formed provisional RTPO's consideration, modification and approval; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fully formed RTPO be comprised of the members of the Core Committee and as many members as identified by the Core Committee from the ADOT&PF, Cities, Community and Tribal Councils, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Councils, the Public Transit Coalition, Corporations and/or Committees and/or representatives from the off-road locales and other organizations/entities as identified by the Core Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a minimum three-day meeting be held of the full RTPO to consider, confirm, prepare and present their formative findings in writing to the MSB Assembly for acceptance and/or forwarding to the Alaska State Legislature for consideration and/or funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funding for the deliberation, writing and delivery of the statute(s) for the

Regional Transportation Planning Organization be formed, allocated and appropriated as outlined in Attachments A and B.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission this ____ day of ____, 2015.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Chair

ATTEST

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES:

NO:

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-__ - ATTACHMENT A

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION TO THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION:

ATTACHMENT A

The approximate costs associated with the Regional Transportation Planning Organization Core Committee (RTPO CC) and the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RPO) includes the following:

RTPO CC - potential requirement for formation expertise consultant to assist the effort is estimated at \$30,000.

RTPO - potential requirement for 3-day meeting to review, revise and finalize formation plan (including potential housing [per diem] for remote participants) is estimated at \$70,000.

NOTE: The total cost estimate for this effort was based upon the \$76,400 expended on the 2014 National Training Institute Transportation and Land Use Workshop.

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 15-__ ATTACHMENT B

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION TO THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE FORMATION AND FUNDING FOR AN MSB REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION:

ATTACHMENT B - Suggested Membership

RTPO CORE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION RECOMMENDATION (19 members):

The purpose and duties of the RTPO Core Committee shall be the creation of statute(s) similar to those of an MPO to be used in the formation, regulation, definition of duties, policies, activities, represented area(s) and responsibilities of a MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

The initial selection for the roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman of this committee shall be determined by the MSB Mayor.

Planning Commission (2 Members): a Core Area representative and a representative from outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Transportation Advisory Board (2 Members): the At-Large member and a Transportation/ Transit representative

Aviation Advisory Board (2 Members): Airport Owner representative and Air Taxi/Guide representative

Port Commission (2 Members): 1 representative who resides in the Core Area and 1 representative who resides outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Road Service Area Board (2 Members): a Core Area representative and a representative from outside the Greater Palmer & Wasilla areas.

Parks, Recreation and Trails Board (2 Members): 1 representative from the Core Area and 1 member from a District outside the Core Area.

Advisory Members (4 members): 1 Alaska DOT&PF Planner, 1 Alaska DOT&PF Engineer, 1 MSB Planner and 1 MSB Design/Engineer.

Support Staff (3 Staff): Administrative Assistant staff support from each of the Advisory Member departments.

RTPO FULL REPRESENTATION RECOMMENDATION (41 Members):

Members of the RTPO Core Committee: 21 members

Alaska Department of Transportation and Facilities (2 Members): 1 Regional Planner and 1 Design/Engineer as full members.

MSB Capital Projects and Operational Divisions (2 Members): 1 Planner and 1 Design/Engineer as full members.

Incorporated Cities (6 Members): 1 Planning staff or appointed representative and 1 Administrative or Elected Official each from Palmer, Wasilla and Houston.

Alaska Rail Road Corporation (2 Members): 1 representative from the maintenance and operations department/division/section and 1 representative from passenger services.

Mat-Su Borough Transit Coalition (2 Members): 1 transit service provider and 1 consumer organization representative.

Community and/or Tribal Councils (6 Members): 1 off-road system representative and 3 representatives from non-Core Area Community and 2 Tribal council representatives.

**PUBLIC HEARING
LEGISLATIVE**

Resolution No. 15-05

MSB Library Strategic Plan
Update

(Page 235 - 366)

PUBLIC HEARING

By: Hugh Leslie
Introduced: 2/2/2015
Public Hearing: 3/2/2015
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 15-05**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING THE ASSEMBLY ADOPT THE REVISED MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH LIBRARY NETWORK STRATEGIC PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board revised and recommended for adoption the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Network Strategic Plan per the Borough Library Board Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the current Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board sought input from the Borough and City librarians, local Friends of the Library groups, and open public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board has revised the Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan to address the latest technological changes, growth, and other challenges in order to provide the best library services to the residents of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as possible; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board passed Resolution 14-02, recommending the Planning Commission approve of the revised Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission last approved an update to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Comprehensive Plan in June of 2010; and

WHEREAS, per staff recommendation, the Library Board has amended the title to read Library Network Strategic Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby recommend the Assembly adopt the revised Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Network Strategic Plan.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission this __ day of __, 2015.

JOHN KLAPPERICH, Chair

ATTEST

MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES:

NO:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
LIBRARY BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 14-02**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH LIBRARY BOARD RECOMMENDING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPT THE REVISED MATANUSKA-SUSITNA LIBRARY NETWORK STRATEGIC PLAN.

WHEREAS, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board revised and recommended for adoption the Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan per the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the current Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board sought input from the Borough and City librarians, local Friends of the Library groups, and open public meetings; and

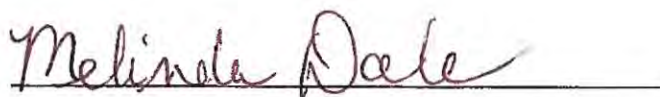
WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Library Board has revised the Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan to address the latest technological changes, growth, and other challenges in order to provide the best library services to the residents of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as possible.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board does hereby recommend that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission adopt the revised Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board this
18th day of October, 2014.


Jeanne Troshynski, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Melinda Dale, Board Secretary

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 10-20**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDING THE ASSEMBLY ADOPT THE REVISED MSB LIBRARY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Advisory Board revised and recommended for adoption the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Comprehensive Plan as per Matanuska-Susitna Borough Code Title Boards and Commissions Chapter 4.40: Library Board and also noted in the Borough Library Advisory Board Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the current Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Advisory Board sought input from the Borough and City librarians, local Friends of the Library groups, and open public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Library Advisory Board has revised the Comprehensive Plan to address the latest technological changes, growth, and other challenges in order to provide the best library services to the residents of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as possible; and

WHEREAS, the library advisory board adopted Resolution 10-01, recommending planning commission and assembly approval of the revised MSB Library Comprehensive Plan.

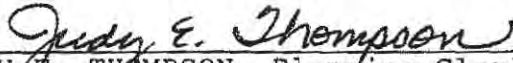
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission does hereby recommend the assembly adopts the 2010 Updated Library Comprehensive Plan.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission
this 21st day of June, 2010.



MARK MASTELLER, Chair

ATTEST:



JUDY E. THOMPSON, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

Matanuska-Susitna Library Network Strategic Plan

Executive Summary.....	2
Background	2
History.....	2
Inventory of Existing Conditions	3
Strategic Plan	4
Operational Issues and Concerns.....	4
Operational Goals	5
Specific Goals	5
Library Funding	7
Facilities	7
Building Survey	8
Capital Projects	9
Recommended Timeline	11

Executive Summary

The Matanuska-Susitna Library Network (MSLN) is comprised of the five borough libraries: Big Lake, Willow, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Sutton; and the two city libraries: Palmer and Wasilla. The libraries work together through the network to provide all residents of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough consistent library services at a lower cost than “stand-alone” libraries would be able to afford.

The purpose of this plan is to provide a tool for planning for the libraries that incorporates community and government support and input supported by professional library practices. The plan replaces the former Library Comprehensive plan and will be reviewed every three years and forwarded to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly.

The overall goal of the Matanuska-Susitna Library Network is support the educational, civic, and cultural services of the community, as well as the intellectual, creative, and inspirational endeavors of the individual. The MSLN combines technology and quality services to enrich lives of those living, working, or visiting within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

The specific goals include encouraging adequate funding, expanding library services, addressing the increased use of the MSLN libraries, promoting public awareness of the services available and the libraries’ needs.

The plan addresses the need for new library facilities for the current libraries and provides criteria for future libraries.

Background

History

As early as 1965, public libraries in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) have been working together. That was the year the Mat-Su Borough Library Association (MSBLA) was formed. It was incorporated in 1967, and dissolved by the Alaska Department of Commerce in 1982.

In large part due to efforts from the MSBLA, in the 1973 regular election, the MSB acquired non-areawide library powers through a non-areawide vote. At that time, the incorporated areas in the Borough were Palmer, Houston, and Long Island in Big Lake. As a result of this vote, library associations in Wasilla, Willow and Talkeetna received funding from the Borough.

The cities of Palmer and Wasilla, by their own ordinances, exercise library powers within their respective boundaries. The city of Houston does not currently exercise library powers.

Shall the Matanuska-Susitna Borough assume and exercise the non-areawide power to provide library facilities and service within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough?

THE FRONTIERSMAN
Voters approved the non-areawide library power by a ballot of 744 to 538.

In 1978 the Mat-Su Borough Library Board (MSBLB) was established to recommend, investigate, and review library functions within the non-areawide boundaries of the Borough. Despite this, the MSBLB is comprised of nine volunteer members who represent the non-areawide, or Borough, libraries, the two city libraries, and the public at large. The MSBLB, in part, was meant to fill a void in the formulation of library policy as the Borough does not maintain a library department or division; therefore, in its advisory capacity, the MSBLB works directly with the MSB department charged with oversight of the MSB Libraries, which is currently the Community Development Department, Recreation and Library Services Division.

In the mid-1980's, the MSB libraries, which were all originally established independently to fulfill the desires of local residents for library services, but had also worked together as a group for over 20 years, focused efforts on acquiring an integrated library automation system for the circulation of library materials and to provide an online catalog collection.

Presently, there are seven public libraries located in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The Mat-Su Library Network (MSLN), officially formed in 1995, is composed of the five Borough libraries, located in Big Lake, Sutton, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, and Willow as well as the city libraries located in Palmer and Wasilla. The network was created to formally share the acquired library automation system and to provide more consistent public library service to MSB library users at a lesser cost. Participating in this network enables automation costs to be lower than would be possible as 'stand-alone' libraries; allows resources and materials to be shared between libraries; and provides collective buying power for online databases and other electronic resources. In 2004, Mat-Su Borough School District libraries also joined with the MSLN and together these libraries converted to the current library automation system.

Through the MSLN, the seven public libraries coordinate efforts to have consistent policies, procedures and fees, thus eliminating duplicate administrative and electronic services. Additionally, this also provides better service to MSB residents while providing cost savings to their respective political entities. In addition to providing for the circulation of library materials and providing an online catalog, today's library automation system enables residents of the borough to request items from any of the participating MSLN libraries and view their account status online. Through other cooperative agreements, Borough residents can also visit the MSLN webpage and through links found there download digital ebooks, audiobooks, or music through ListenAlaska, or search the State Digital Pipeline for a variety of online databases such as Homework Help, etc.

To provide more consistent and faster service for the sharing of resources to the library network's service population, a courier system arrangement was instituted in 1996. This arrangement was recommended by the 1993 Christensen report (see Appendix A), which examined public library services in the MSB and made several recommendations to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Inventory of Existing Conditions

Some of the facilities currently housing libraries of the Mat-Su Library Network are old, outdated, and need to be larger to serve the current and growing populations of their service areas. Capital

improvements for each borough library have been included in the Borough's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding requests since 2006. In June 2012, the Sutton library celebrated the opening of its new library/community resource center. As of this writing, the Talkeetna Public Library is in the design phase of a new library/community resource center project. Estimated start of construction is summer of 2014 with an estimated opening date of summer of 2015. Both libraries went through the Foraker Pre-development process and received funding from the State of Alaska Library Construction and Major Expansion Grant Program. Wasilla also completed Foraker Pre-development and is currently in the design phase of a new 23,500 square foot library building. In October 2013, Wasilla residents passed a 1 cent sales tax increase, effective for 3 years or until \$15 million is raised to build and equip a new library building. Additionally, the Wasilla Public Library is seeking state funding from the capital budget. The remaining libraries all face limitations as a result of inadequately sized buildings and/or buildings that do not meet current building codes or ADA requirements.

Administratively, each borough library maintains a certain amount of autonomy as long as it complies with the policies established by the MSLN and the respective governing bodies. Funds are administered by the MSB, or by the cities of Palmer or Wasilla. All libraries continually seek grants and additional outside funding to supplement programming and other needs.

The MSLN operates cohesively and well together, but as with any group, it can only be as strong and effective as its weakest part. All seven libraries do an incredible service to the community with limited resources. Each year, every library continues to strive to serve more individuals, more families, and more visitors in this place we all call home. These services are hampered in all cases by one or more of several factors which include, but are not limited to: staffing, size and adequacy of facilities, and most importantly, funding. The lack of stable funding affects all the other inadequacies to a large degree. Currently seven library organizations assist the MSBLB with advice on community library functions. These organizations have varying degrees of involvement, for example: fundraising and development of programs to meet the needs within their respective communities. These library organizations are:

- Big Lake Library Advocates
- Friends of the Palmer Library
- Friends of the Sutton Library
- Friends of the Talkeetna Library, Inc.
- Trapper Creek Library Association, Inc.
- Wasilla Library Association (dba Friends of the Wasilla Public Library)
- Willow Library Association

Strategic Plan

Operational Issues and Concerns

A number of issues and concerns face the MSLN libraries in meeting the increasing demands and need for services by the residents of the MSB. Implicit in these issues and concerns is that library service in the 21st Century requires far more than being a repository for books and media, though that service

remains a critical part of services provided. For additional information from recent national studies, see: <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/learning/Documents/OpportunityForAll.pdf> and http://libraries.pewinternet.org/files/legacypdf/LibrariesAndReading_CommunityTypes_12.20.12.pdf.

The overriding issues and concerns are the following:

1. Lack of stable funding
2. Aging and/or inadequate facilities and need for better facilities
3. Need for advocacy, to include not only the education of members of governing bodies but also the general public
4. Exponentially increasing technological requirements
5. Unique character of geographic area and service population

Operational Goals

Summary of Goals

The overall goal of the MSLN is to support the educational, civic, and cultural activities of the community, as well as the intellectual, creative, and inspirational endeavors of the individual. The MSLN combines technology and quality services to enrich the lives of those living, working, or visiting within the MSB.

Strategic library service means a range of library resources – books, magazines, newspapers, Internet access, government publications, historical documents, manuscripts, audio and video recordings, and eBooks, all accessed through a variety of delivery systems, to include digital downloads and service programs.

The components of a strategic service include library materials (whether tangible or intangible), facilities, personnel, services, and management.

Specific Goals

Goal A

Strengthen library services within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough by encouraging adequate funding, clear and consistent policies and procedures, and the ongoing evaluation of the needs of each community as well as the larger MSB community.

Objective 1

Determine a methodology for library standards applicable to the unique factors of library service both in Alaska and in the MSB.

Objective 2

Achieve the library standards determined under Objective 1.

Objective 3

Seek stable funding for providing library services within the MSB, exploring all options including but not limited to the establishment of a MSB Library Foundation, a Library District, impact user fees, or some similar function which can remove some of the instability of political vagaries. The intent of this objective is not to remove the operational funding responsibility from the political entities, but to ensure that the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the Borough community are met. It is particularly important in relation to capital improvements and to maintaining available technology at the highest standard.

Objective 4

Evaluate and update on a regular cycle the policy and procedures manual for the MSLN.

Objective 5

Comply with current Federal, State, and local laws regarding library services.

Goal B

Expand library services beyond the boundaries of the library building through community outreach, using a variety of delivery methods.

Objective 6

Provide appropriate library services to patrons who cannot access the library in a traditional manner. One example of this type of service would be a kiosk located at some designated area such as a Senior Center or other communal area.

Objective 7

Maintain the informational web site for the MSLN.

Objective 8

Continue support of the State-funded Digital Pipeline as well as continued support of digital media downloading services such as ListenAlaska and/or other similar services.

Objective 9

Continue to improve the quantity and quality of library information resources accessible by MSB residents through the Automated Library System.

Objective 10

Continue membership in the Alaska Library Network and actively participate in its programs of service, including reciprocal borrowers' privileges.

Objective 11

Make use of current social networking sites for the benefit of library users, as governing body administrative policies allow.

Objective 12

Ensure that information regarding services is readily and easily available to library patrons.

Goal C

Continue to address the increased use of MSLN public libraries by non-MSB residents/taxpayers, by issuing a non-resident card for a fee.

Objective 13

Offset the additional operational cost during peak seasonal library use by providing to non-MSB residents an annual full service card for \$35 or a limited 4-month card for \$10

Goal D

Ensure that the MSLN remains current and effective.

Objective 15

Promote public and governmental awareness of current library services through advocacy and other means. Library Foundations in other areas often assume the bulk of advocacy efforts, but without such an organization this responsibility falls on the MSBLB, the MSLN libraries, and the various friends and advocates organizations.

Objective 16

Allow libraries to meet the needs of their communities through autonomous book and resource selection and acquisition; however, maintain the option of cooperative selection and acquisition between members of the MSLN if such an option would conserve funds.

Objective 17

Review and update this strategic plan periodically. The MSBLB will work in cooperation with the MSLN, friends and advocates groups, and library patrons to ensure current and up-to-date information. Revisions will be submitted through the MSBLB to the MSB Assembly for approval, and will be submitted to City administrations for informational purposes.

Library Funding

Library funding has been a contentious issue for almost 40 years and no resolution is currently forthcoming. For a detailed discussion of these issues to date, see Appendix B. The end result is that the funding issue continues to exist both for the borough and city libraries within the MSLN, to the detriment of all MSB residents. While development of the MSLN has strengthened operational cohesiveness of all libraries within the Borough, establishing a stable source of funding is imperative for any additional library solutions.

Facilities

Libraries are high-profile buildings and are heavily used by Borough residents. New library facilities must follow a community center concept and provide gathering areas for lectures and events that can increase public use, promote the arts and culture in the community, and enhance economic development of the community.

Building Survey

Big Lake Public Library

The Big Lake Public Library, built in 2002, already requires additional space for expansion to meet the growing population of this community. The *Jordan Lake Parcel Master Plan (adopted 2004)* identified the footprint for a potential library expansion. It is recommended that the expansion of the Big Lake Library include additional space for library services and public meetings. A space needs assessment needs to be conducted as size options for expansion may be limited based on site drainage and septic system limitations.

Palmer Public Library

Constructed in 1984, the 11,500 square foot Palmer Public Library is the largest public library facility in the Borough. However, the current library building is simply not large enough to meet the needs of the population it serves. A needs assessment completed in 2004 demonstrated that the current library is not adequate to house the collections needed to serve its population, or to house the staff and support activities needed to operate the library. Moreover, the internal building layout does not allow for flexibility in adjusting to better meet the needs of the community. The current library site does have limited room for expansion, and the City should consider pursuing an expansion to increase the space by at least 30%.

Sutton Public Library

The community of Sutton celebrated the opening of a new library/community resource center in June of 2012. Located adjacent to the Alpine Historical Park, the 6,250 square foot building includes public meeting room space as well as “typical” library spaces. The current facility has been planned to serve the community for 20 years. The current site has minimal room for expansion but the adjacent lot is owned by the MSB. Retention of this lot by the MSB for future library expansion is desirable.

Talkeetna Public Library/Community Resource Center

Talkeetna’s current library building is simply not large enough to meet the demands of the population of the three communities and remote areas it serves. With MSB funding allocated in FY14, plans for a new library/community resource center are currently in design. Estimated opening date for the new facility is summer of 2015. The new facility has been planned to serve its communities’ for 20 years. The site has minimal room for expansion, but the adjacent lots are owned by the MSB and their retention for future library expansion is desirable.

Trapper Creek Public Library

This library moved to new space in January 2008 and occupies a building shared with the Trapper Creek Emergency Medical Services, with 900 sq ft of common area that is used by both occupants. An addition may be required by 2020 or earlier to house a growing collection and serve the expected growth of the population. Space is available at the current site to allow for expansion of this facility; however, it should be noted that the current facility at which this library is located was primarily built to house Emergency Medical Services, and that collocation with another facility or a stand-alone library facility may best meet the future needs of the Trapper Creek community.

Wasilla Public Library

Wasilla's current library was built in 1978, and the Wasilla Library has been serving the MSB for over 75 years. The library building is simply not large enough to meet the demands of the diverse, rapidly growing population. A space needs assessment done in 1997 showed that the facility was not adequate to house the existing collection and staff or to allow any growth in collection or services. The needs assessment was updated in 2006, and along with the inadequacies noted in the earlier assessment, there were marked deficiencies in parking, collection size, access to technology, reader seating, meeting space and work space. As a result, effective delivery of library services is limited by the availability of resources and space. A larger building would allow the Wasilla library to meet the demands of population by increasing collection size, access to technology, reader seating, meeting space and work space. The City of Wasilla was accepted into the Foraker Group's Pre-Development program in the summer of 2012, and graduated with a Project Development Plan in 2013.

A contract has been awarded to ECI/Hyer for preliminary library design services, which started in the fall of 2013. Additionally, City of Wasilla voters, in October 2013, approved increasing the rate of sales tax by one percent, to three percent, beginning on January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2016, or until \$15 million is collected, whichever is earlier, to construct and equip a new Wasilla Public Library. Moreover, Wasilla's application to the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development's (DCCED) Library Construction and Major Expansion Matching Grant program was ranked first for FY2015; if the appropriation is made through the State Legislature's Capital Budget, these monies will be available effective July 1, 2014. Ground should be broken on the new Wasilla library building in the spring of 2015, and the grand opening will be held the following summer.

Willow Public Library

The current library was constructed in 1992. The long-term goal for the community is to have a larger, more energy-efficient facility that is centrally located in Willow with other compatible community facilities. The Willow Library requires additional space in order to meet current Level of Service standards. As the population of Willow grows, so do the demands to its library. Any future facility must incorporate space for the library's expanding collection and a public meeting area.

Capital Projects

A build-out analysis was completed by the Borough in 2012 which generated locations of possible future libraries/community resource centers based on an "acceptable" level of service for the future population. The density and build-out population projections were a 100+ year forecast of growth for the MSB. General areas about 2x2 miles square were identified where land should be set aside or acquired for these facilities. See Appendix C for the map generated by this study.

In addition, other possible road service area locations for future Borough libraries based on heaviest use of city libraries might be South Colony, Knik, Gold Trail, or Bogard.

All new libraries, particularly those in the smaller communities, need to contain adequate square footage in order to meet their operational goals and function as a library and community resource center. All libraries must include, at minimum, a designated main library area, community meeting/multipurpose rooms, children's program area, dedicated teen areas, staff/administration area, multi-media computers, restrooms, and mechanical space. It is recommended that all new libraries be designed by professionals with expertise in library layout and construction. It is further recommended that designs incorporate room for both library services and community resource services. The design of new or expanded libraries must be customized to fit various communities based on population areas served, unique characteristics of that population base, and need for community resource space.

Other considerations for future libraries are the following:

- a. Future library locations shall be based on and chosen with community support and input, and shall be easily accessible.
- b. In order to receive funding from the MSB, the community must be unincorporated. However, if the community is incorporated, in order to receive funding from the MSB, it must relinquish library powers to the MSB. New libraries are defined as newly created entities in the MSB. New libraries do not refer to existing libraries relocating to new facilities.
- c. A community must have a population of no less than 400 residents.
- d. A community must operate and manage a non-profit library under the guidance of a non-profit library association with the following characteristics:
 - a. Services must be provided free and without discrimination to all residents in the library's legal service area.
 - b. Paid or volunteer staff must be on duty in the library during open hours .
 - c. By Alaska Statute, the library must:
 - i. Purchase, maintain and provide for the circulation of a collection of library books and materials;
 - ii. Provide interlibrary loan service;
 - iii. Provide reference services; and
 - iv. Provide children's programs
 - d. The library must be open regularly scheduled hours a minimum of 48 weeks per year based on the following:

Population Served	Hours
Under 750	10
750-1,500	15
1,500-3,000	25
3,000-10,000	40

- e. Each library must be open at least three (3) days per week.
- f. Each public library outlet must be open at least five (5) hours during evening and weekend hours.

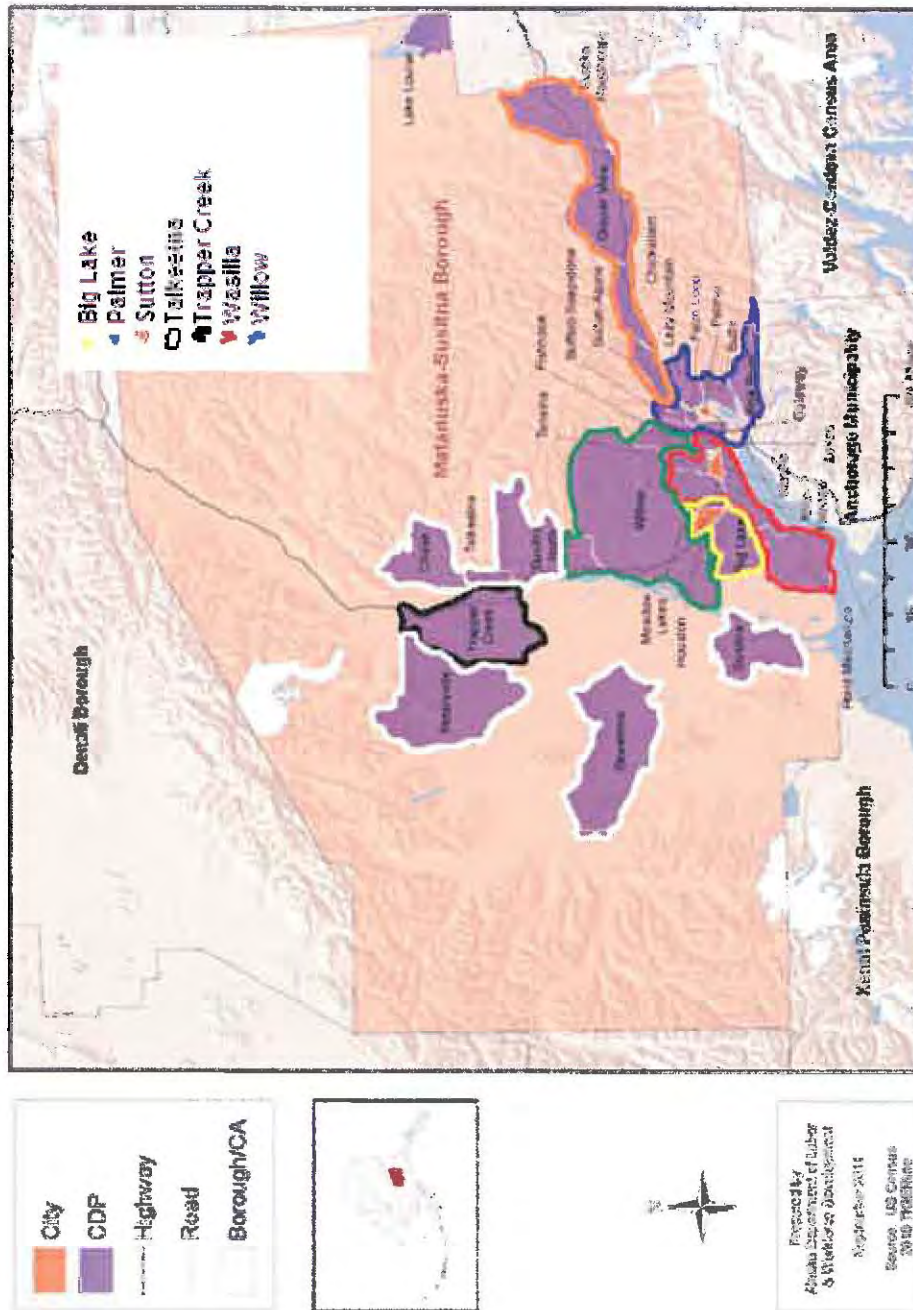
Recommended Timeline

To best provide reasonable library services throughout the MSB, a short and long term timeline for continued library operations and expansion will be developed by the MSBLB with assistance from City and Borough libraries and administrations, library advocates and Friends groups and through public participation. The complete timeline will be presented to the Assembly for its approval. This timeline shall include data collected in the most recent census and other community planning tools available. Potential new community libraries must also be identified. The timeline shall be revisited by the MSBLB for updates as needed. The timeline will develop library services within the MSB following this recommended framework:

- A. **COMMUNITY LIBRARIES:** These libraries are located in smaller population areas. They have access through the library automated system to any material within the MSLN. They will have at least one permanent staff member and established library hours. These community libraries may be located near or with other community services or in existing facilities. Currently, these existing libraries are located in Big Lake, Palmer, Sutton, Talkeetna, Trapper Creek, Wasilla and Willow. Each library is a critical component of their community and the library network as a whole.
- B. **GENERAL ACCESS:** In order to provide access to materials for all populations in the MSB an interactive Internet site shall be maintained for information retrieval, requests and renewals of books and other circulating materials.

Rank - Community	Year Current Building Completed	Project Type	Space Program	Census Designated Place Served Primarily by Library	Design Concept Study	Cost Estimate	Local Funding	State Funding Request	State Funding Received	Comments
1. Talkootna	1950's (FAA building became library in 1982)	New Facility	7,840 sf	Talkootna; Sustina North; Skwentna; Sustina; Petersville; Chase	Entering design phase.	\$5.2M	\$2M	\$2.8M	\$2.8M in FY2013	Total cost estimate from pre-development was \$5.2M. The Borough provided an in-kind donation of property valued at approximately \$250K. Borough Assembly has designated \$1.2M for the project. Friends of the Talkootna Library have given \$30K to the Borough for the project, and are continuing fund raising efforts. \$635K has come from grants from Rasmuson and Mat-Su Health.
2. Wasilla	1978	New Facility	23,500 sf	Wasilla; Lakes; Knik-Fairview; Meadow Lakes; Tanilana; Houston; Point MacKenzie	Design services contract awarded to ECI/Hyer	\$16.4M	\$6.3 - \$15 M	\$8.2M	\$175,000 in FY13 (for new building planning)	Total project cost estimate \$16.4 million. The City has an in-kind contribution of \$1.3 million and is asking the state for \$8.2 million in Library Construction & Major Expansion Matching Grant Funds. At the October 1, 2013 election, voters approved raising the sales tax from 2 cents to 3 cents for two years, or until \$15 million is raised for a new library building, whichever happens first. The remaining \$680,000 is anticipated to be raised through local fundraising, gifts from companies, and grants from foundations.
3. Willow	Expanded in 1993 to accommodate relocation of the library	Expansion or new building (TBD)	TBD	Willow; Sustina North; Fishhook; Skwentna; Pt. MacKenzie						Currently shares building with Willow Area Community Organization (WACO).
4. Palmer	1984	Expansion	TBD	Palmer; Lakes; Butte; Knik River; Chickaloon; Glacierview; Farm Loop; Fishhook; Lazy Mountain; Gateway; Buffalo-Soapstone; Point MacKenzie						Needs assessment completed in 2004 determined that facility needs additional space; however, the current site has limited room for expansion.
5. Big Lake	2002	Expansion	TBD	Big Lake; Houston, Meadow Lakes						Expansion will be needed by 2020.
6. Trapper Creek	2008	New Facility	TBD	Trapper Creek				No state funds requested.	None.	Currently shares a building with EMS.
7. Sutton	2012	New Facility	6,250 sf	Sutton-Alpine, Chickaloon, Glacierview	Completed.	\$3.3M		\$1.5M	\$1.5M in FY2011	Should meet needs of community until 2032.

Matanuska-Susitna Borough



Additionally, the community of Meadow Lakes has expressed an interest in building a library, and the approximate future library sites, as listed on the build-out map, are near Caswell, Houston, Knik, the Hay Flats, Trunk & Pillmer-Wadala, the Butte, Fishhook and Pt. MacKenzie.

When patrons are registered for library cards, the library enters which Road Service Area (RSA) the library cardholder lives in. From this data, a picture can be painted of the geographic area served by each library. Unfortunately, the RSAs do not correspond directly to the Census Designated Places (CDP) so each RSA has been assigned to a corresponding CDP as the CDP map provides a more complete representation of all the areas in the MSB.

**A
PLAN
FOR
COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY SERVICES
IN THE
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ALASKA
1993**

**Christenson Library Council
115 South Broad Street
Mankato, Minnesota**

CONTENTS

I	Introduction	1
II	Standardization	7
III	Automation	11
IV	Structure	13
V	System	27
VI	Proposed Alternative Plans	39
VII	Appendices	47
	A. MSBLB Handbook/Policy Manual (partial)	
	B. <u>Review of Comprehensive Planning for Libraries in the Mat-Su Borough, 1993</u>	
	C. <u>Library Services in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough by Sonya Lyons, 1991</u>	
	D. Suggested New Books for Long Range Planning for Libraries	
	E. Contracts between the Palmer and Wasilla Libraries and the Mat-Su Borough	
	F. Mat-Su Borough Library Statistics, 1993	
	G. Focus Group Summaries	

I INTRODUCTION

Public libraries are possibly the best bargain in the United States. Library support has ranged from one to two percent of U.S. municipal budgets for a century. For that comparative pittance, libraries know they serve about 25 percent of the population on a regular basis, and a much larger percentage less frequently.

Very few agencies, public or private, can claim to provide that much service. We don't know of any that do it on a shoestring and still manage to deliver satisfaction at the rate of 95 percent.

The point is that public libraries do an amazing job for very little money. Rather than apologize for the cost of that service, we should suggest that the cost per user or per taxpayer be compared with any other municipal service.

Those libraries that have faced fiscal crises have learned that the citizens are on their side. The tax revolt is not a library revolt. There is ample evidence that the taxes they pay for libraries are among the few taxes that citizens recognize as valid and necessary.

Public libraries are one of the few bargains left in America, and possibly the only bargain in municipal government.

-- John Berry, editor, Library Journal

*If ever I have a
question or need I go
to the library. It's
opened up a world
for me.*

-- Palmer user

John Berry could have had the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in mind when he penned these words in an editorial in 1991. It was exciting for us to encounter throughout the Borough incredibly strong support for public libraries, even from non- or infrequent library users. Indeed, many expressed willingness to pay more for library services in some way, and to work in support of libraries.

While no studies have been conducted to evaluate what percentage of the Mat-Su population uses the libraries, our guess is that it is well above the 25 percent Berry cites as average. In 1992 the circulation of library materials in the borough was seven items per capita, well above the national average of 5.8. The total library attendance was 132,875, or 3.3 visits per capita.

*If I can't read I can't
live. It's a family
tradition.*

-- User, Big Lake

Everywhere we went enthusiasm for the libraries was unbounded, more than either of us has observed anywhere else. Many people regularly use more than one of the libraries in the Borough, including the Palmer and Wasilla Libraries, and further, many drop in at the Loussac Library when in Anchorage. More than 3,000 Borough residents are registered at the Loussac Library. In fact, there is some confusion from people thinking the local libraries are branches of the Anchorage system. The Anchorage system is not funded to serve nonresidents, but to the benefit of Mat-Su users, it does anyway.

In its public libraries, the Mat-Su Borough has a natural reservoir of good will upon which to build. Furthermore, studies show that active, assertive,

technologically current public libraries are important not just to readers. Libraries are also important amenities in attracting prospective businesses, in providing a cost effective educational supplement and support to people of all ages, and in assisting current business and local government in research and data acquisition.

More people in this country take advantage of cultural opportunities such as art, music, museums and libraries than attend all sporting events put together. Yet the media emphasis on sports leads to a general perception that cultural activities are insignificant. Nothing could be further from the truth, even, or especially, in Alaska.

In the Mat-Su Borough we were repeatedly told of the importance of the libraries for families in getting through the long winter, of how critical the libraries are to the many families opting for home based education, of how the libraries are the salvation for young mothers otherwise isolated from social and intellectual interaction, of how meaningful they are for preschoolers who may not be exposed to reading or books at home, of how helpful they have been to adults pursuing hobbies, in need of business information, or seeking information on do-it-yourself projects, especially homebuilding and remodeling.

Not only are the libraries serving the traditional role of providing recreational and informational reading, they are also satisfying demands for videos, recordings,

*The library has
everything, it's like
a magic store. It
gives access to the
whole damn world.
If the Borough tried
to shut down the
library there'd be a
big revolt. People
love this library —
it's our one link.*

*— Househusband,
Talkeetna*

*Over the long
winters, the libr
are a place to me
people, to get
together — if you
really want to st
sane, you have to
— Chickaloon*

typewriters, computers, copying machines, bulletin boards, adult and children's programming, and interlibrary loan.

The Public Library Association (PLA) has established eight basic roles of public libraries:

*We're pretty lucky
to have the library
we've got. It has
heavy local support.
If you don't have a
lot of bickering and
bitching about
something, then it's
OK.*

— Trapper Creek

- Independent Learning Centers Libraries support individuals of all ages pursuing sustained programs of learning independent of any educational provider.
- Popular Materials Centers Libraries feature current, high demand, high interest materials in a technologically increasing variety of formats for persons of all ages.
- Preschoolers' Door to Learning Libraries encourage young children to develop an interest in reading and learning through services to children, and to parents and infants together.
- Community Information Centers Libraries are clearinghouses for current information on community issues, services and organizations.
- Formal Education Support Centers Libraries assist learners of all ages in meeting objectives for formal courses of study in elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, four-year colleges and universities, and other types of educational opportunities.
- Reference Centers Libraries provide information for residents in the pursuit of job-related, personal, spiritual, travel, avocational and other interests, and for business and government leaders in their pursuit of

information on economic development, services improvements, resources, models and examples, statistics, projections and other tools of sound planning and process.

- Research Centers Libraries assist scholars and researchers in conducting in-depth studies, investigation of specific areas of knowledge, and the creation of new knowledge.

- Community Activities Centers Libraries are central focus points for community services, activities and meetings.

This report will review the extent to which the four Borough libraries and the two City Libraries in the Mat-Su region are fulfilling these roles, how they are perceived in their communities and their present and future needs.

The final chapter of this report provides two alternative recommended courses of action for adequately meeting public demands for library service.

Most recommendations are identical in both plans. These generally are low-expense or non-expense measures that are easily implemented and basic to consistent, high-quality library service. Where the plans diverge, difficult decisions will need to be made in terms of cost effectiveness, political realism and public need.

The library is a hub. There's no place else to go. The how-to books and videos are very popular. They bring lots of people of diverse backgrounds. The copier, tax forms, wood cutting permits, maps and other things bring people into the library.

— Willow

II STANDARDIZATION

The four libraries totally supported by the Mat-Su Borough at present -- Sutton, Big Lake, Talkeetna and Willow -- were originally established independently to fulfill desires of local residents for library service. The libraries developed their own procedures and policies, are named after their communities, and in general meet local needs.

(There is a seventh library in the Borough, the Trapper Creek Library, which is successfully run by volunteers and receives some state aid. The Trapper Creek Library Board has no desire to become a member of the Borough system at this time and it will not be included in this report.)

While a certain amount of local autonomy and decision-making should always be allowed in order to continue to meet local needs effectively, some standardization in libraries should be implemented in order to strengthen services and provide more uniform service to taxpayers. There should also be recognition of the Borough through public relations materials for its financial and administrative support of area library services.

As much as possible, the same standards should apply to the two city libraries as well. We recognize that developing city library policies to be compatible with

*There's a lot of
ridiculous
provincialism here.
The Palmer/Wasilla
thing is really
stupid and counter
productive, but it's
better than it used to
be. Rivalry is great
for high school
sports, but the bottom
line is that Palmer
and Wasilla are more
alike than different.
They impact each
other.
- Palmer*

Borough library policies will require some negotiation and compromise but common policies are not unusual among cooperating libraries.

- Circulation Because of the overlapping service areas and Borough citizen mobility (a large part of the borough population regularly uses more than one of the libraries) circulation policies should be formalized and standardized throughout the Borough to simplify patron use. Length of loan periods, limits on materials, interlibrary loan policies, and fines, if any, should all conform based on consensual agreements among the libraries. Ease of customer use should be the guiding standard for these uniform policies.

- Registration For the same reasons, a single bar-coded, plastic library card for all Borough and City libraries should be implemented, and the registration procedures and policies should be the same for all the libraries. A card holder should be able to register just once, be able to use the card at any of the libraries, and should be able to expect evenly applied rules across the Borough.

The addition of the four Borough libraries to the Dynix automation system will not only make unified procedures easier to manage, it will provide a natural beginning for common registration and cards as libraries are brought on-line.

- Name The four borough libraries should be prominently identified indoors and out as members of a Mat-Su Borough library system. For example: Mat-Su Borough Library, Sutton Branch; or the Talkeetna

The Borough is roundly despised equally. It's seen as incompetent and grossly overpaid. Engineering and road services are horrible, the planning department is a disaster. Library service is one area the Borough has done well in.
— Businessperson

Community Library of the Mat-Su Borough Library System, or Mat-Su Library System, Willow Community Facility.

The libraries are an integral part of their communities but they are funded and administered by the Borough and this should be acknowledged. Public relations materials developed by the libraries and the Borough should also reflect the "wholistic" nature of the libraries' relationships to one another and the Borough. The two city libraries should also publicly acknowledge their participation in a boroughwide system. Flyers or bookmark-size public relations pieces highlighting all six library locations, hours and common services should be available at all libraries and at schools, visitor centers, businesses, churches, city halls, and Borough offices.

Theoretically I'd love to see satellite libraries all over the place with computer networking. Realistically I don't expect to see any expansion because of funding problems. The larger libraries must be maintained as a core so there's no loss of a base of operations.

— Wasilla

III AUTOMATION

Automation is one of the most critical issues facing libraries today. With the rapidly changing communications technology, libraries are hard pressed to keep up, yet public demand for faster, more efficient services fueled by expectations of computers, fax machines, on-line data bases, and other tools of research and information is growing rapidly as users become more computer-literate and technologically sophisticated.

The Borough began steps toward automating certain library services several years ago. The initial purchases of a Dynix computer sited in the Wasilla Library with an on-line connection to the Palmer Library, with plans to eventually extend the system to all the libraries, was funded with state support.

Planned expansion of the system has lagged however, because of uncertain financial resources. The four Borough libraries are projected to be on-line within the next year.

It is important that automated circulation functions for all six libraries be accomplished soon. Libraries are one of the few public entities one can find still keeping track of records by filing, then removing, 3x5 index cards.

I love the computer networking. If the funding isn't there, there's the potential waste of all that's been spent on automation if it all goes down. They have all that money invested and they need to carry it forth and link the rest of the libraries.

*— Wasilla
businessowner*

*The library has
really strong
support. I'd give it
a 10.
- Young mother,
Trapper Creek*

Countless hours can be consumed by this task. Even for the smallest libraries, this method is quickly becoming obsolete.

A common boroughwide automated circulation system will allow library users to easily access all libraries or be blocked boroughwide if they are delinquent. A circulation system linked to the catalog will allow a librarian searching for a needed book in another library to know immediately whether the book is checked out or available for borrowing. With the forthcoming dial-up access available to the Dynix system in Wasilla, a user will be able to search all six library collections from a home or office computer.

The Dynix automation system has been operated as a cooperative function fairly successfully thus far, but its owner, the Borough, should be overseeing its operation and directing expansion of the system.

IV STRUCTURE

The following areas have been identified as in need of attention. Some can be addressed at little or no cost. Others will require substantial funding. Some of the recommendations included here will be reiterated in the final chapter.

Coordination

There is a great deal of cooperative effort being attempted among the libraries, but this cooperation isn't coordinated, it isn't very visible, and it is very fragile. Good cooperative library systems permit a group of libraries to easily share materials, to consult with other librarians, to make joint purchases at a savings, to provide coordinated services and uniform policies to users, and to circulate to their users materials which they could not expect to provide on a single library's budget.

When financial resources are scarce, as they are in the Mat-Su Valley, the most effective money-stretcher is cooperation and coordination. A written plan for coordination responsibilities is needed, identifying all possible areas of cooperation, such as joint purchasing and processing, cooperative collection development, circulation procedures and policies, rotating collections, shared adult and children's programming, in-depth

There's huge support for the library. For many up here, reading is our number one recreation. The library needs a lot of new books, it needs a courier service, and it needs more evening hours, especially in the summer.

— Talkeetna

reference services, transport of materials between sites, formalized interlibrary loan system and others.

Communication

One of the more serious problems we have identified is the communications gap among key stakeholders in the Mat-Su library arena.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board (MSBLB) and the Assembly do not seem to be able to communicate effectively. We heard comments from Assembly members that they are not kept informed about the libraries, and we heard strong remarks from library staff and volunteers that the Assembly members don't seem to pay attention to information that is provided.

The Mat-Su Library Board, the various "little boards," and the six librarians are also not in effective or regular communication. A general feeling of "what's the use" was expressed to us frequently. Likewise, communication between the city councils and the Mat-Su Library Board appears to be practically non-existent.

And we heard many complaints about lack of communications generally between the Borough, both staff and Assembly, and the cities' staff and councils.

Since full and open communication is the most effective way to stop rumors, promote understanding, nurture cooperation, and implement long range planning, we strongly urge all library boards and library staff, City Councils and staff, and Borough Assembly and staff to actively seek a structured approach to

What the Borough needs is a good PR person, but the public won't allow another position on the payroll. . . . I'd have no problem with the Borough taking over the city libraries I'm certainly a supporter of libraries. Library usage is tremendous. I don't use them myself because I don't have time.
- Community activist, Big Lake

communication. All the stakeholders must be willing both to convey information and to pay attention to information received.

Borough credibility among the public in general is distressingly low. There is almost universal cynicism, with very few exceptions, about the capability of either elected or appointed Borough officials. From our own observations, we found that much of the criticism was based on unfounded rumors, misinformation, a lack of understanding of the role of the democratic process in the tasks of local government and no formal process for conveying accurate information. This was true not only regarding libraries, but across the spectrum of government services.

The task of governance for the Borough could be facilitated with improved public relations. The Borough has been remiss in not actively promoting its role in the many positive and effective services it provides. The well used and highly regarded libraries are but one example.

Board Structure

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board (MSBLB a.k.a. "Big Board"), the individual libraries' "little boards," and the various friends of the library groups are a hodgepodge of well meaning but frequently ineffectual organizations. They have no power and little respect. This is not a reflection on the people involved, all of whom appear to be bright, capable, dedicated individuals.

The library should be moved under the Borough but the fear of the community is that the Borough will neglect the library and it would go the way of parks and recreation.

— Wasilla official

The Wasilla library board has no power. Who wants to be on board that doesn't do anything? It's frustrating because there are two levels of bureaucracy above. The Council has a say over the City's portion, the rest is up to the Borough.

— Volunteer

Rather it is a consequence of limited powers, lack of professional direction, murky missions, and ungoverned development.

There is general widespread dissatisfaction with the boards and associations as they presently operate, although some of the librarians find their local association or friends group helpful for small-scale fund raising and as sounding boards for ideas. Frustration with what the Big Board seems capable of achieving was expressed to us both within and without the past and existing Board membership and by library staff.

Our first inclination was to recommend eliminating all present "big" and "little" boards, associations, and friends groups, and beginning again with structured interrelated organizations that have a clearly detailed purpose and process.

However, the current structure, on paper, as detailed in the MSBLB Handbook/Policy Manual, 6/19/93, (Appendix A) contains the basis for a well functioning boroughwide library system board. It would be worthwhile to simplify and clarify some of the terminology and procedures, but most of the basics are there.

The problem is that there are some important pieces missing, and that implementation difficulties are exacerbated by communication, coordination, and funding problems.

A case in point is the Review of Comprehensive Planning for the General Field of Public Library Services in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Appendix B) which

Wages should be more in line with what other people are getting in the area. One librarian might be getting enough to pay three ordinary salaries.

-User, Big Lake

was originally developed in 1986 and *slightly* revised and approved by the MSBLB in June, 1993. It was a good basic blueprint for planning in 1986 but needed massive overhauling in 1993. This overhauling should have directly called on the talents and viewpoints of the six librarians, of users and nonusers, of local officials and little boards. Planning sessions similar to the August focus group meetings might have made the comprehensive plan more relevant.

Many of the recommendations in the 1991 Library Services in the Mat-Su Borough by Sonya Lyon, (Appendix C) interim Mat-Su Library Coordinator, should have been incorporated into the revised plan. Her report contains many specific observations, possibilities and recommendations useful for area library planning.

Missing in the MSBLB Handbook/Policy Manual is a provision for term limitations and term rotations. We recommend that Mat-Su Borough Library Board members be appointed to three-year terms and limited to no more than two terms. Terms should be staggered, with three members rotating off each year. The first year of reorganization, length of terms should be determined by drawing lots.

Consideration should be given to holding MSBLB meetings late afternoon or early evening on a weekday rather than Saturdays. A number of "little board" members and librarians made this request feeling weekdays are more workable for most people, and we agree. Most library boards meet weekday evenings, but where weather may be a consideration, as in Alaska and

The Borough wants people to volunteer but then it makes decisions that ignore volunteer recommendations. Whatever the board, if you have people volunteer you should give them some power of recommending, to look at budgets and make priorities.
— Wasilla teacher, volunteer

Minnesota, many people are able to arrange time in the late afternoon for a meeting, allowing an early return home.

System Coordinator

*All the tax money
goes to the other end
(Palmer/Wasilla).
The library is the
only thing we really
have. If the library
is cut it would hurt a
lot of people.
- Non-user, Willow*

The most important missing piece in the current structure of Mat-Su Valley library services is a Borough Library Coordinator position.

For example, while Sonya Lyon was the interim coordinator (funded by a state grant), several cooperative service programs were developed among the libraries. Now, two years later, most of these cooperative programs are not being carried out because no one has the responsibility or time.

Sonya Lyon also made a number of basic recommendations for cooperative development that were not undertaken because no one had the responsibility for coordinating them.

Many of the MSBLB's current difficulties could be alleviated if there were a coordinator to open and maintain channels of communications.

A permanent, full time library coordinator position should be seriously considered by the Assembly for maximum, efficient utilization of area library resources. Qualifications for this position should include a graduate degree in library science from an ALA-accredited institution, a minimum of five year's experience (including administrative and supervisory experience), preferably in a networked system, experience in public

*The libraries have
become pawns in
games over other
issues.
- Palmer*

relations, automation, budgeting, public policymaking, and oral and written communications.

The responsibilities of the Borough Library Coordinator should include:

1. Acting as a technical advisor to the board and to the Mat-Su Borough Library & Recreation Services Manager.
2. Supervising Borough library personnel.
3. Coordinating an active program of public relations for all the libraries.
4. Preparing an annual budget for the system in consultation with the Board, Librarians, and local funding units.
5. Giving a current report of actual income and expenditures against the budget at each board meeting.
6. Responsibility for coordinating Boroughwide cooperative collection development according to the board's collection development policy, and for joint purchasing arrangements.
7. Attendance at all board meetings and development of the agenda in consultation with the board chair, librarians and the Library & Recreation Services Manager.
8. Scheduling and coordinating regular meetings of borough librarians.
9. Affiliating with state and national professional organizations, and attending professional meetings and workshops.

Libraries provide equal access to information for everybody. We all know education and information are the keys to democracy. Budget cuts should not affect services like libraries or education. If we don't have these foundations, our society suffers. Libraries should be basic right.

— Palmer

The Borough wastes money. If there is a grant, they take a cut off the top for administration. There's a lot of resentment. If they managed their money better there'd be enough.
- Willow

10. Developing and providing continuing education and professional development opportunities for area staff and board members.

11. Developing and coordinating boroughwide library services and programs, including a delivery system.

12. Overseeing the operation of the boroughwide automated circulation and on-line catalog system.

13. Using the services and consultants of the Alaska State Library and representing the Borough in library business related to Borough libraries.

14. Reporting regularly to the Mat-Su Library Board, to the officials of local governments, to Mat-Su Borough officials, and to the general public.

15. Preparing regular reports detailing current progress and future needs of the library system.

16. Coordinating the development and bi-annual review of comprehensive long range planning of borough library services.

The relationship of the Borough Library Coordinator to the Borough librarians will be that of supervisor, but relationship to the Wasilla and Palmer library directors will be by contractual agreement as long as they are city employees.

It is anticipated that an agreement can be developed with Wasilla and Palmer to provide boroughwide services under contract and that the Coordinator would be responsible for the administration of the contracts. The Coordinator would oversee the contracted projects but would not supervise city personnel.

Library Support Groups & Support Group Council.

No individual library funded by the Borough should have its own board, but each should have a single strong support group that can work for more visible libraries, assist the librarians as volunteers, and generally be advocates for quality library service and appropriate funding.

At present, the Wasilla, Willow and Talkeetna libraries have library associations and the Palmer Public Library has a friends organization. The Big Lake Public Library has two support groups and the Sutton Public Library has none.

We strongly recommend that each library have one library support organization. This local association or friends group should be a powerful asset for community library service. It can be a strong advocacy group that can increase the libraries' visibility in its service area. There should be a Boroughwide policy on the establishment, function, and purposes of the associations. The foremost purpose of these local associations would be to assist the libraries in serving their communities through lobbying, fund raising, volunteering, public relations, and programming.

We additionally recommend a Mat-Su Library Support Group Council comprised of two representatives from each local support group. This council's purpose would be for networking, cooperative projects, assisting the individual support groups, developing a commitment to a strong *system* of libraries and promoting library services as a whole Boroughwide.

*Whenever we need
to know something –
dog training,
research, anything –
we use the library.
We use the
typewriter to do our
resumes, we use the
copier, borrow
videos and talking
book tapes and read
fiction constantly.
My husband works
construction and is
often out of town. He
uses the libraries
where he's working.
– Palmer user*

*I think it's sad when
people don't read.
I've been shocked at
lots of people who
don't read, but I've
also met people
living without
electricity who know
absolutely
everything through
reading.*

*— Government
worker, Trapper
Creek*

Librarians should be ex officio members of their individual library support associations, and one librarian should represent all six librarians on the system-wide Mat-Su Library Support Group. The Borough Library Coordinator should also be a member of the council.

One message that came through loud and clear from all the focus groups is that the libraries need to develop a stronger, unified voice to become more visible, especially on the local and borough levels, but also on the state and federal levels. The individual support groups and the proposed Council should be organized with advocacy in mind, not simply as "do-good" organizations.

A surprising number of the people we interviewed expressed willingness to be advocates for libraries.

Librarians' Advisory Committee

Because of mutual or similar opportunities, challenges and problems, the staffs of the libraries, including the two city libraries, need regular interaction and scheduled formal networking. The librarians need to have a voice in decisionmaking, and need to be fully informed on issues affecting them and their libraries.

We propose a Librarians' Advisory Committee that would meet monthly on a rotation between the four borough and two city libraries and the Borough office. Each meeting should have a formal agenda drawn by either the system coordinator (when and if there is one), or by the Manager of Library and Recreational Services, in consultation with the Advisory Committee chair. The agenda should be responsive to requests from any library

staff member. Attendance at these meetings should be considered part of the librarians' job, covered by salary, and including reimbursement for mileage and meals.

Continuing Education

The only local librarians with graduate library degrees are the directors at Wasilla, Palmer and Talkeetna, and the children's librarian at Wasilla. The others have various levels of education and training. All the librarians and staff expressed a need for ongoing education through workshops and inservice training.

With the rapid changes in technology, growth in population, service expectations by the public, and information deluge, such a request is not a frivolous desire, but an essential ingredient to maintaining the present level of service and satisfaction among library users.

As library budgets are drawn, continuing educational opportunities should be included. These can range from workshops provided by the State Library or another library system, to seminars at the annual Alaska Library Association conference, to bringing in a workshop presenter for an annual systemwide "staff day" on a topical subject. Public library workshops and training are not generally high cost, but there are associated expenses such as travel, lodging and meals which should be covered.

We suggest librarians take turns attending workshops, then sharing what they've learned with the others. It would also be appropriate for the librarians'

The Borough is not communicating early enough or directly enough. We want more face-to-face discussions on an administrative level. Stabilize funding. Have a formula. The Borough treats its librarians like clerks.
— Librarian

The staff is really dedicated – it's more than just a job to them. The library is handicapped from lack of funds. They're struggling for existence. That's pitiful.

– Retired Federal employee, Wasilla

advisory committee, the coordinator or the support group council to mount at least one in-house workshop a year for appropriate library staff in the Borough. Well conceived and coordinated workshops open to other library systems or outside librarians for a small fee can often be break-even propositions.

Long Range Planning

At this time there are six public libraries plus the tiny start-up Trapper Creek Library serving the 48,000 citizens of the Mat-Su Borough. Adequate financial support for all these libraries gets more difficult each year.

Trapper Creek has survived through a policy of the State Library that we disagree with (that each library in the state is eligible for the same funding annually, no matter what its size or state of development), and though the people involved in the Trapper Creek Library are not now interested in being affiliated with the Borough, there very well may come a time when they will be.

The determination of the most efficient, economic delivery of service should be based on careful long range planning, including setting standards for public libraries funded by the Borough.

Not only can the Borough not afford to have libraries popping up here and there, but the provision of optimal services to the public needs careful planning and allocation.

A comprehensive five-year plan relating to all library service in the Mat-Su Borough should be developed with a step-by-step outline and timeline for

implementation. The plan should be evaluated in writing bi-annually, detailing what steps have been followed, and for those that have not been followed, an explanation of why not.

The plan should also be updated bi-annually to reflect changing circumstances in the Borough, such as new state library laws, evolving demographics, unanticipated commercial or industrial development, etc. A completely new plan should be developed every five years with input from all stakeholders in the process. (Suggested new books for library planning, Appendix D.)

Delivery Service

A boroughwide library function that would facilitate a high degree of cooperation, efficiency of service and resource sharing would be a regularly scheduled delivery service linking all six public libraries and the Borough office. The Mat-Su Community College Library and selected public school libraries should also be included in the courier delivery service in the future.

The Mat-Su School District at one time delivered some items for the public libraries through a somewhat informal arrangement, but these were primarily school library materials. Last summer the school district eliminated even this rudimentary delivery service. At this time there is no guarantee of timely delivery of materials from one library to another, even though interlibrary loan is one of the most popular and cost

It feels like they're cutting all regional services for people in the outlying area. If libraries are cut, people will realize there's a big gap in the community that's missing.

*— Mother, teacher,
Chickaloon*

effective services the libraries offer. Materials mailed from one post office in the borough to another may travel by way of Anchorage, an unacceptable delay.

A three-day a week scheduled delivery connecting the libraries and the Borough office will literally expand the walls of each individual library to include the assets of all. Library users should be able to check books out at any one library and return them to any other without overdue problems. The Borough offices and departments could utilize the service to deliver information and other items quickly throughout the geographic area.

*The library is an
absolute necessity
and is great. If they
don't have
something they can
get it for you.*

- Non user, Willow

V SYSTEM

The facilities issue was discussed with us almost everywhere we went.

The Palmer Library is in a relatively new, centrally sited, very attractive building that should meet community needs for some time. The Wasilla Library, coping with escalating usage, is badly overcrowded with inadequate parking and no room to grow at its present site.

The Willow, Sutton and Talkeetna Libraries are all adequately housed in buildings accessible to area residents. Willow has a particularly suitable new building integrated with the community center. The Talkeetna and Sutton Libraries effectively function as community information centers. Big Lake, however, has outgrown its present quarters. The planned Big Lake addition will help relieve pressure, but should only be a stopgap measure because of soaring use.

The facilities question that most urgently needs to be addressed is whether there should be a central (core, main) library and if so, where it should be sited and what the relationship to the other libraries should be.

Wasilla would be the logical place to have a main library. It's best to keep central control under the Borough. There shouldn't be a problem having library branches. Personalities come into it. It's a matter of working together.
— Palmer retiree

Unified System, yes or no?

Generally in this country libraries function in one of three basic modes: independently, as part of a consolidated system, or as part of a federated system. (There are further refinements, such as participation in a multitype system that includes school, college and special libraries, but these variations are irrelevant to this report.)

A consolidated system is a number of libraries joined together under a main library with a professional director and any number of branches, book stations, bookmobiles, and other service outlets. This is the most common form and its administration is usually strongly centralized.

A federated system is a number of libraries cooperating together under a director and common set of bylaws or joint powers agreement, but maintaining a certain amount of local autonomy. The system has no direct authority over local functions but can administer specific functions throughout a designated area, such as technical services, delivery, automation and interlibrary loan.

The two methods can be likened to the approach to centralized government the North advocated in the Civil War, and that of the South, which fought for states' rights. Each has strengths and weaknesses.

Consolidated systems are the more efficient and cost effective. Federated systems have greater local support and often more per capita financial support. They are more closely attuned to specific community needs and they provide more individual services. Administrative

If we could get our own basic needs met a central library would be OK, but then they'd get carried away and want a Taj Mahal for a library.

— Trapper Creek

and support functions are often duplicated among members of a federated system causing inefficiencies.

We feel that for the Mat-Su Valley, a modified centralized system would work best.

Central Library, yes or no?

On the question of whether a central library is needed, we believe that, yes, it is. While the Palmer and Wasilla Libraries are providing excellent service and are highly respected beyond their cities, neither has the space nor staff to fulfill all the functions of a main library.

The Dynix Computer's mainframe, for example, is crowded into an inadequate nook in the Wasilla Library basement. There is barely room for the present functions, and certainly not space for the future demands it will need to meet.

None of the libraries has an in-depth reference collection or a specifically trained reference librarian. Questions must frequently be referred to the Mat-Su College Library, the Anchorage Library or even out of state. The better and more immediate the reference service a library system can offer, the more satisfaction it will provide to users, the stronger its reputation will be, and the more patronage it will gain, providing more bang for the Borough's buck. There is no formal reference-referral procedure guaranteeing that a library user will have any question asked, answered.

At this time the four Borough libraries are semi-autonomous branches with some duplication of

I could see a central library for Palmer/Wasilla located between them. Ten to 15 years down the line they won't be separate cities.
— Businessperson

functions. Someone remarked that "the Borough libraries are branches without a trunk."

The four are funded by the Borough and conform to certain common Borough policies and procedures, particularly in the area of personnel rules and purchasing.

Centralized purchasing of materials through a central library system such as is done at the Loussac Library in Anchorage or at the Fairbanks Library would free up considerable time for the librarians. The Borough's purchasing department is not sufficiently attuned to library needs and procedures to handle this process expeditiously and effectively.

Centralized cataloging and processing at one acquisition point would also result in greater efficiencies, particularly when all libraries are on the Dynix automated system.

We recommend that the Borough contract with the Palmer Public Library to establish and operate a Technical Services support unit. In order that the unit have adequate working space and that an efficient system be developed and maintained, the Palmer library would need to reduce its backlog, reconfigure its work area, develop a written procedure and then project per item cost figures for each function (acquisition, cataloging and processing).

The advantage of housing this unit in the Palmer Library is the technical expertise of its current director, its building size, and its location within a few hundred yards of the Borough offices.

The City/Borough thing is a nightmare. There's talk of centralizing all libraries under the Borough with an areawide tax. I'm not sure either city is willing to give up control of its library and I don't trust the Borough assembly. They haven't shown strength since '86. They kowtow to whoever yells the loudest.

The Borough should contract with Wasilla to provide areawide interlibrary loan, reference and backup database search services; and to operate and maintain the Dynix automation system.

The Borough Library Coordinator and a secretary could be housed in the Wasilla Library when a new one is built, or could be housed in the Borough building, or in a separate, centrally located structure. A Coordinator will need space to coordinate the courier delivery functions, administer the contracts with the Palmer and Wasilla libraries, and supervise the four borough libraries.

A central library must be just that -- central. Located not only for the present population, but sited for future population characteristics, it needs to be accessible, visible, and close to other places frequented by the public. Most library users combine visits to the library with other stops, such as shopping malls, post offices and government offices.

A study of the Core Area Comprehensive Plan of June, 1993; the projected patterns of growth of the Department of Labor, 1993, plus personal observation leads us to recommend that a central library be planned to the west of Wasilla, preferably with easy access from the communities along the Parks Highway farther north.

The Core Plan's proposed road and trail improvements lead us to recommend a central library site on the Palmer Wasilla Highway at or very near a major intersection such as the Trunk Road, Four Corners or Seward Meridian, preferably in conjunction with other planned commercial or government development.

*If we lost the library
we'd be bereft. It
was where we first
felt at home and
welcome in the
Borough.*

— Palmer family

Consideration of bike and pedestrian trails near the library is nearly as important as motorway proximity. Trails provide independent access to the library for children and nondrivers, and for the people who enjoy a destination stop on an exercise outing.

Housed in a main library structure, in addition to traditional public library collections of popular materials and staff offices, should be the Dynix mainframe and office for the Dynix administrator; office for a Borough library coordinator and secretary; a reference center; an audio-visual center to serve the system; garaging for system-owned vehicles such as a minivan or courier van; and meeting rooms.

With a new library in preliminary planning stages for Wasilla, we advise the Borough and Wasilla to consider a joint construction project through a joint powers agreement that would provide Wasilla with the size facility it needs, and the Borough with a headquarters that would house auxiliary functions for all the libraries.

There is talk of locating a new Wasilla library at the former airport site. While not the site we consider ideal, in this less than perfect world we can certainly pragmatically accept the former airport location as favorable. It is accessible, in a high growth area where other services are likely to locate, and has the advantage of already being owned by the city. The City of Wasilla is relatively debt-free, enjoying more income than had been anticipated from its sales tax, and conceivably could handle a general obligation bond to fund construction.

Any cuts shouldn't be libraries, but they're probably one of the areas that'll be cut first. There's a great need for the library.

*— Retired Couple,
Big Lake*

Persons interviewed in Wasilla indicated a willingness to discuss a Borough/Wasilla library at that site or elsewhere, provided an agreement could be reached *assuring that library service would be maintained at its present or a higher level.* Details of an agreement could provide a funding formula of mutual benefit, perhaps sparing the Borough the immediate cost of construction, while providing the city with an annual income stream to offset library expenses in its annual budget.

We also encourage Palmer to participate in discussions and explore areas of common interest and needs that would be beneficial to all parties. According to an opinion from Borough Attorney Michael Gatti of April 2, 1992, "it is legitimate for the cities to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements for the joint exercise of a function that each entity has the power to perform," i.e. libraries. He further stated that the Borough has no legal obligation to continue supporting the two city libraries, though to cease doing so would probably have severe political repercussions.

Because efficiencies of scale are more readily achieved with a networked and coordinated library system, we strongly urge the Borough and the two cities to look seriously at forming a coalition of some kind as soon as possible. To safeguard all parties' perceived interests, it would be well to exercise creativity in planning, but beyond that it is time to set turf protection aside and consider the most effective means for providing service to the greatest number.

If it would increase efficiency, let the Borough take over the Palmer Library. What works best for the community should be implemented.

—Palmer user

With a present population of about 48,000, the Mat-Su region enjoyed the greatest annual rate of population growth in Alaska (7.61%) during the 1980-90 decade, almost two and one-half times the state's overall rate (*Alaska Population Overview, 1991 Estimates, Alaska Dept. of Labor*).

Although the growth trend has continued at a somewhat slower pace in the '90s, with a winter ski attraction coming to Hatcher Pass in '95, improved drive time from Anchorage with the completion of the Glenn Highway four-lane, and a Japanese-based steel processing plant proposed at Port MacKenzie by the end of the century, population will undoubtedly continue to be attracted to the Valley, and possibly surge again, and tourism probably will see a dramatic increase.

Libraries will be impacted by the growth as much as any other government service. The Borough and the two Cities will be wise to plan now for the demand on libraries that can be expected with this kind of growth.

Funding

The system of funding public libraries in the Mat-Su Borough, which is unusual, has become more complicated because of the recent budget reductions by the Borough Assembly.

The Borough owns and fully funds four libraries and a percentage of the two city libraries in Palmer and Wasilla. The funding provided by the Borough to the two city libraries was supposed to be based on the percentage of customers from outside the city limits using the library.

*I'd give more money
to the library over
church or anything
else.*

*- Palmer working
mother*

*Why not have some
kind of revenue to
help libraries? How
about \$1 for every
car registration?*

*- Retiree, volunteer
activist, Wasilla*

Until recently 75 percent of the funding for the two city-owned and operated libraries came from the Borough. This was based on the 75 percent use of each library by persons residing outside the two cities. Other than serving the non-residents, the two city libraries had no other legal requirements. In addition, the Wasilla library houses and operates the Borough-owned Dynix automation system which at this time serves only the Palmer and Wasilla libraries. Next year it is expected to be expanded to the four Borough libraries.

The existing Borough contract with the two cities is short and states that a formula involving the number of users will determine the amount of Borough support. (Appendix E) The two cities each built their own building and developed their materials collections which they own. The Borough has not had any input or control over the amount of the cities' annual library budget, no direction over operations, no criteria for expected service levels, and despite its 75 percent funding has no ownership of the materials purchased. However, the 75 percent funding over the years has helped provide good quality service to Borough citizens living outside the two cities' limits.

This funding system, while legal according to the Borough attorney, is not good administrative practice. This year's budget reduction has caused several tears in the fragile fabric of area library cooperation. Despite the fact that the Borough still funds more than half of the City of Palmer's library operating budget, the city library is now charging non-residents for library cards and interlibrary

It would be super hard if the library were cut. I wish the mental health land money could go to the libraries as preventive mental health.

- Sutton user

Stain feels not totally accurate

The Butte area and other areas all depend on the Palmer library. When talking about a non resident fee they're hitting a huge amount of people who have been taxed in the past. It's not fair for those people.

loan. Also, citizens of Houston, which does not have a public library, use libraries throughout the Borough without paying taxes to support those libraries.

A different type of funding system needs to be devised. Alaska Statute Title 29 provides options for several appropriate approaches for acquiring areawide powers in Article 5, AS. 29.35.300. However Article 7, AS. 29.35.450 provides for the establishment of Service Areas, offers a better approach for levying taxes to finance an areawide service basis in a borough.

The borough may include a city in a service area if the city agrees by ordinance, or approval is granted by a majority of voters residing inside the boundaries of the proposed service area but outside the city. The Assembly may authorize the levying of taxes in a service area to finance the special services. The potential "areawide" service area structure as opposed to the current "non-areawide borough revenue" structure would eliminate the many existing problems of formulas, nonresident use, and turf battles.

A similar concept for police protection was described by the Borough Manager at a Borough Assembly meeting on September 7, 1993. The police service area discussed was based on the concept of contracting with the Palmer and Wasilla existing police departments for independent law enforcement service areas that would stretch from Houston to Chickaloon. The Borough would be divided into two central law enforcement service areas with the dividing line running down Trunk Road. The Wasilla service area would not include Willow,

Talkeetna, or Trapper Creek and the Palmer service area would not cover the Butte or Lazy Mountain areas. At present assessed values, one mill of property tax in the Wasilla police service area would generate \$850,000. One and one-half mills in the Palmer police service area would generate \$305,000. The concept would require approval by the voters living in each area.

The Borough Assembly has not taken a position on the issue of law enforcement service areas and currently has no plans to do so until the public initiates an interest in the idea.

The same concept however could be applied to an equivalent library service area which could include the areas of Houston, Willow, Talkeetna, the Butte, Lazy Mountain, Chickaloon and Meadow Lakes areas, all of which have high library user populations (relative to their sizes). In this case, a half mill levy would adequately fund a borough-wide library system and provide a coordinator and contracted services.

The cities of Wasilla and Palmer could retain ownership of their buildings and employment of their staffs but Boroughwide services could be provided.

Law enforcement and library service areas together on a ballot might have enough popular support to pass on a Boroughwide vote.

Tax phobia is driven by a small number of people. The Borough libraries are always crowded. The Borough can afford libraries.

— School administrator

VI PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PLANS

On the surface, the most cost-effective, efficient plan for Borough library service would be a consolidated borough library system with one director, one central library and five branches with areawide funding and termination of the cities' responsibility for libraries. Wasilla and Palmer could transfer library powers to the Borough pursuant to A.S. 29.35.100 and MSB 1.10.090.

However, because of political, financial and geographical ramifications, we recommend a modified consolidated library system.

The first four items recommended may be done without any additional funding. Time from the Borough staff, library staff and volunteers will be required for rewriting bylaws and policies and reorganizing the various organizations mentioned.

Items 5, 6 and 7 may be done with little or no additional cost, but will require cooperative negotiations in good faith on the parts of the Borough and the cities of Palmer and Wasilla to reach contractual agreements.

Items 8, 9, and 10 will require additional funding and careful, cooperative planning, but it is these three additions to the current library structure that are at the heart of making a system work in an efficient, cost-

This country was founded on public libraries. It's a way anyone could get an education. I think people think of libraries as recreational.

They're not perceived as access points to realms of information.

- Palmer

Businessman

*I feel strongly
enough to speak up
about the library, and
I wouldn't object to
paying more for
library service. The
library has a lot of
support.*

— Retiree, Talkeetna

effective manner, providing the kind of library services residents of the Borough seem to require.

Item 11 address funding for Items 8, 9 and 10, and does involve voting and taxing, which we recognize as "hot," unpopular subjects in the Borough.

With the implementation of the items requiring little or no additional cost, a strong public relations effort, and the kinds of responses we got from the public and the focus groups in support of libraries, we believe a library service area with moderate taxing power could become a reality.

Such an area with its own income would free the present library funding budget for other Borough requirements.

Implementation of these recommendations will require time, and without a coordinator or director who is a professional librarian, will require a great deal of effort and "homework" on the part of city councils, MSBLB members, the Assembly and the Manager of Libraries and Recreation. A commitment should be made to implementing those items acceptable, and a time line assigned to each item. Momentum needs to be maintained, and delay will only put off cost savings and service improvements that could be realized.

Alternate Plan A (Preferred)

1. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board's mission statement is fine and the board members are

dedicated, but the board has been operating in relative isolation. It needs to be reorganized with specifics on term lengths and limits and simplification of the "bureaucratese" in the current Policy/Handbook. The MSBLB must work on opening channels of communication, do more long-range planning with all affected stakeholders and address the roles of the board more aggressively and specifically.

There's nothing greater than watching a kid sit down and read a book, to laugh and cry with it. To sit down and read to a kid is so neat.

- Palmer

2. The Librarians need a Librarian's Advisory Committee -- a formal group for networking that should meet once a month, rotating meetings between libraries. A direct connection between this group and the MSBLB needs to be established and formalized. These meetings should be considered an integral part of the librarians' jobs, with mileage and meal reimbursement.

3. Each library should have one (and only one) strong library support organization, such as an association or friends group. These are not boards and should not be called boards. They should be organized with advocacy in mind and be available for lobbying, fund raising, volunteerism and public relations.

4. A Mat-Su Library Support Group Council should be established. It would consist of representatives from the six library support organizations, and one representative from among the six librarians (or a designated staff member). This Council would facilitate networking, assist the individual groups in public relations, programming and fund raising and promote Boroughwide library services. The meetings would provide cross-fertilization of ideas and could help mold a unified sense of "system."

separate for each more like a sss-like friend group

reps from under support groups

5. The steps that have been taken toward automation are appropriate, but have not been carried through. The Dynix automation program needs to be expeditiously expanded to the four Borough libraries. It is our understanding that funds have been designated for this purpose. Completion of the automation system should be done without delay.

Maximum ease of library use would be facilitated by Boroughwide uniform circulation and registration policies and procedures and the issuance of one common Mat-Su Borough library card that can be used in every library. This should be implemented as all Borough library circulation functions go on line.

6. To make the fullest possible use of the Dynix System, and to keep abreast of advancing technology, the Wasilla library should be officially designated to take formal responsibility for operating the system under contract with funding provided for in the contract. Some of this funding could be from monies already allocated to Wasilla, thus formalizing the use and providing the Borough with oversight responsibility that should come with fiscal support.

7. For efficiency and economy the Palmer library should be contracted to provide technical services for all six libraries. The Palmer Library would have to reconfigure its work area, develop a written procedure and project per item cost figures before such a project could successfully commence. This contract should also specify funding methods to offset the cost to Palmer and

Everybody in public service should think real hard about what their jobs are really worth. Business people aren't paid anywhere near what the public sector makes. Put a lot of blood on the floor.
- Businessman

should be negotiated and implemented as soon as possible to get cost savings underway.

8. There needs to be a regularly scheduled three-day-a-week (or more) delivery service to facilitate the highest degree of cooperation and resource sharing.

9. We advocate a central library to be located in the Core Area and to be operated by the Wasilla Library with contracted reference and interlibrary services for all Borough area libraries. The library should be sited with projected population growth and transportation in mind, space for a coordinator's offices, garage space for a delivery van and/or library vehicle, adequate safe parking, room for an expanded mainframe for the automation system, and allowances for future technological advances.

10. A Borough Library Coordinator should be hired for maximum, effective utilization of area library resources. Qualifications and job description were addressed in Chapter IV.

11. A plan for a Library Service Area with at least 1/2 mill funding should be placed on the ballot for public approval as outlined in Chapter V.

Alternate Plan B

The only option we can envision to Plan A is a truncated version of that plan that would involve minimal cost, but would only achieve minimal change and improvements.

I wish they'd raise taxes for library services. People moan and complain about any kind of taxes but expect all kinds of services. I'd vote to cut salaries over reducing services.

- Talkeetna

Funding should be based on supply and demand. I see people going to the library every day. The kids are better off there than on the loose. I don't mind tax money going to libraries.

*— Businessman,
non-user, Sutton*

Frankly, not much more can be accomplished by librarians, volunteers, board members and Borough staff without a professional librarian coordinating Borough-wide functions, and without the amenities, such as a delivery system, that make a system covering a large geographical area workable.

At a minimum, we hope that Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Plan A will be carried out as soon as possible.

Because Items 6 and 7 regarding automation contracted to the Wasilla Library and technical services contracted to the Palmer Library will require more negotiation than additional funding, we hope that those two functions can be worked out expeditiously.

The opportunity to work with Wasilla on a central library will soon pass. City officials are already committed to a new Wasilla Library and will proceed alone, planning only for Wasilla's needs, if serious efforts toward cooperation are not initiated soon.

Without a central library, coordinated services with a library coordinator/director could be undertaken, but at greater expense for the services and with less efficiency. A coordinator/director would have to be housed in a free-standing office structure (or with other government offices) rather than in a central library. This is definitely a less than ideal situation.

If the Borough were to move ahead with hiring a library coordinator/director immediately, temporary housing for that office could serve until a central library is built.

Without a service area for a dedicated library tax, funding for libraries will continue to be a problem. Setting minimum standards for start-up libraries, and lobbying the State Library or State Legislature to do the same, would help stem inappropriate diffusion of resources in support of libraries, would assist start-up volunteers in providing quality services, and would still leave the door open for new libraries in areas of population growth.

We recommend that close attention be paid to the focus groups' summaries. Each group was different, yet all three reflected the input we received from the more than 60 personal interviews we conducted between us.

Support for all libraries in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, including the four Borough-run libraries, the Palmer and Wasilla libraries, and the start-up Trapper Creek library is thriving.

We are confident that with close intergovernmental cooperation and implementation of most, if not all, of our recommendations, the Mat-Su Valley will provide a library system that not only meets its citizen's needs, but will be a model for the state of Alaska.

A users fee is counterproductive terms of the politic landscape. It only gets people mad at the library.

— Wasilla

Most Alaskans are pretty broke by spring. Libraries something they can do — there's equal access, rich or poor. The copy machine used a lot. A lot of people get videos. My husband gets tax papers there. the winter Sutton couldn't live with the library.

— Sutton user

VII APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

MSBLB Policy/Handbook Manual (Partial)

MSBLB HANDBOOK / POLICY MANUAL

6/19/93

A. PURPOSE / MISSION of MSBLB (Borough Code 4.40.040)

The purpose of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board (MSBLB) is to be an advocate for public library programs and public library patrons of the borough by eliciting common needs, proposing plans to meet those needs, and making the prioritized needs and the plans known. The duties of the MSBLB shall include:

1. Act in a advisory capacity to the Manager and the Assembly in the administration of the Borough non-areawide library powers;
2. Initiate and recommend to the Assembly proposed ordinances and regulations pertaining to libraries;
3. Review the budget of the libraries and make recommendations to the Manager with regard to the proposed annual budget to be submitted to the Assembly;
4. Make such investigations and reviews in the general field of libraries as shall be considered beneficial to providing library services within the Borough at the request of the Assembly, Manager or on its own initiative;
5. Receive and consider recommendations from individuals and groups with regard to libraries and evaluate and refer these to the Assembly and Manager;
6. Recommend to the Manager and Assembly needed programs and expenditures for the promotion of library services in connection with any local, state or federal program;
7. Review and make recommendations to the Manager and the Assembly in regards to the long range capital improvement plan.

B. ORGANIZATION AND DUTIES OF MSBLB MEMBERS

1. MEMBERSHIP (Borough Code 4.40.20).

The MSBLB is a 9 member board appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Assembly. The members represent the public libraries and library patrons of the borough with due consideration given to geographical distribution. A majority of the membership shall not be representative of a single profession. Appointments are chronologically staggered to promote continuity.

2. OFFICERS shall include Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary. (Borough Code 4.40.030)

- JOB DESCRIPTIONS: (As appointed board members, Officers have full voting rights, etc.)

CHAIR

- a. see that the purpose and duties of the board are fulfilled
- b. preside at all meetings of the board
- c. plan meetings and prepare agendas
- d. appoint committees/task forces and serve as ex-officio member of them.
- e. organize and supervise elections
- f. receive and handle board correspondence.
- g. *prepare and deliver Agency Report to the MSB Assembly, approx. times: Nov. & March.*
- h. maintain permanent file of pertinent documents pertaining to the MSBLB for 5 years. Earlier records shall be archived.

VICE CHAIR

- a. perform the duties of the chair in his/her absence.
- b. perform such duties as the chair assigns
- c. assist the secretary in writing and send memos and correspondence as needed
- d. serve as Parliamentarian at all meetings
- e. be responsible for maintaining and reviewing the Policy Manual/Table of Contents and Borough Codes. Keep official copy and have duplicated for others as needed.
- g. maintain official roster of board members, of the positions filled and unfilled, and of the expiration date of each member's term.
- h. *Send welcome letter & background info to new members. Introduce to board.*
- i. prepare a telephone tree for emergency communications for board members.

B. ORGANIZATION AND DUTIES OF MSBLB MEMBERS**2. OFFICERS****- JOB DESCRIPTIONS: (Cont.)****SECRETARY**

- a. record minutes and/or proceedings of all meetings (*see procedure in Appendix C*)
- b. report by publication of minutes
 - draft minutes to be put in MSBLB packet
 - approved minutes to go to Mayor/Assembly
- c. write and send memos and correspondence as directed by Board and/or Chair.
- d. Send packet two weeks before next meeting to Borough Clerk for distribution to MSBLB members, Public Libraries, Mayor/Assembly, necessary Borough Officials.
- e. Maintain permanent file of minutes, proceedings, correspondence, and committee/task force reports for 5 years. Earlier records shall be archived with the Borough.

-ELECTION: (Borough Code 4.05.110)

to be elected before Nov. 1st each year. Officers shall be elected by a majority of the board members for a term of one year. Election of officers shall be the first order of business at any time that an officer's seat is not filled.

3. COMMITTEES / TASK FORCES (see adopted policy) (Borough Code 4.40.040 / D)**4. MEETINGS (Borough Code 4.40.030)**

- regularly designated times: *Second Saturday* of each month except July, August, and December.
Meeting dates can be changed by vote of Board members.
- where: Meetings will be held at least once a year at each public library of the borough.
During the winter, the board shall meet at the most conveniently located library which has meeting space they can use.
- Quorum: by majority, which is 5 members of our 9 member board.
- Authority: Parliamentary Procedure (*see Appendix C*)
- Agenda: (*see Appendix C* for adopted format)
- Minutes: as recorded by secretary and approved by board, following samples from Robert's Rules of Order. (*see Appendix C* for samples)

5. COMMUNICATIONS**a. with MSB ASSEMBLY (Borough Code 4:40:040 / A & B)**

- Memo's
 - to Assembly and Mayor via Borough Clerk.
 - to MSB Manager for immediate information, cc to appropriate person.
- Speaking at MSB Assembly Meetings:
 - Placement on MSB Assembly Meeting Agenda for Agency report.
(Procedure: Mayor puts agenda together and would need notification in advance. Contact MSB Clerk for timeline.)
 - "Persons to be Heard" Notify clerk 10 days in advance.
 - Audience participation. No prior notification necessary.
- Regular Agency Reports: delivered & presented to Assembly approx. twice a year by MSB Chair or designee. (*see MSBLB Handbook, B:2 Job Description, Chair)
- Resolutions/Proclamations
 - Developed and written by MSB Library Board
 - Send to MSB Clerk with request to send copies to appropriate Depts, etc.
ie., Mayor, Manager, Appropriate Dept. Chairs.
 - Can ask that it be included in MSB Assembly Packet.
 - Can also ask that a Borough resolution be based on it.
- Approved MSBLB Minutes. Sent to clerk for Assembly Packet.

MSBLB HANDBOOK / POLICY MANUAL. 6/19/93**p. 3****5. COMMUNICATIONS (cont.)**

- b. with MSB Library Board Members
 - PACKETS for next meeting:
 - Agenda (Put on MSBLB Letterhead)
 - Minutes (draft) of prior meeting
 - Copies of other communications
 - PACKETS for new members
(see JOB DESCRIPTION OF VICE CHAIR, MSBLB Handbook sec.B, #2)
- c. with LIAISON: Be sure has info from last meeting BEFORE Assembly Meetings.
- d. OTHER Communications. (ie., Correspondence, Policy statements)

- 6. BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES, monthly, annually, periodically
 - Capital Improvement Program review & update . (annual)
 - Library Budget reviews and recommendations (annual)
 - Comprehensive Plan review & update (annual)
 - Sunset Review (Re-establishment of MSBLB), every 3 years (periodically)
 - Initiating and proposing ordinances and regulations for Libraries (as needed)
 - Review of all proposed ordinance and regulations of the Borough affecting Libraries.
(as needed)

C. BOARD POLICIES

- 1. Budget Review Policies
- 2. Task Force Policies
- 3. Training Policies
- 4. Equipment Policies
- 5. Library Construction, planning new & expansion
- 6. Miscellaneous, to be given date of board approval and kept in chronological order.

(List of Appendices)**APPENDIX A****MATANUSKA SUSITNA BOROUGH CODES THAT ESTABLISH LIBRARY BOARD****1.10.230 LIBRARIES**

The Borough may exercise the power to provide library facilities and services in the area outside of cities as provided by Ordinance 73-52 and approved by the electorate (Ord. 84-34 & 2 (part). 1984)
(Borough Roster of 5/93 says "established by Ordinance 78-60") ???

TITLE 4 - MSB BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**4.05 GENERAL PROCEDURES****4.40 LIBRARY BOARD****4.40.10 Established****4.40.20 Membership****4.40.30 Organization - Meetings****4.40.40 Duties****APPENDIX B****MATANUSKA SUSITNA BOROUGH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART(s)
SHOWING LIBRARY DIVISION PLACEMENT**

-Governance Chart- 4/82, and Personnel Chart- 12/82.

(Summary: The Library Board is in advisory position to the Assembly and the Borough Administration. The Community Services Director - under the direction of the Assembly, Borough Manager and Finance Director - is in charge of the Library Division which includes Librarians at Sutton, Big Lake, Willow and Talkeetna, and which also includes contracted library services at Wasilla and Palmer Public Libraries.)

APPENDIX C**AGENDA FORMAT****Robert's Rules of Order.**

Article X: Officers and Boards. Secretary and the minutes. Sample Minutes

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE. KINDS OF MOTIONS**APPENDIX D****WHAT MAKES A GOOD BOARD MEMBER****APPENDIX E****APPLICATION FORM "MSB Application for appointment to Committees, Boards & Commissions."****APPENDIX F****Milage Form for reimbursement****APPENDIX G****LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS**

APPENDIX B

**Review of Comprehensive Planning for Libraries in the
Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 1993**

**A Review of Comprehensive Planning
for the general field of Public Library Services
in the Matanuska Susitna Borough**

**Revised and Approved by the
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board
June 19, 1993**

**This Report was Originally Presented as a
Report to the Matanuska Susitna Borough Library Board
from the
"Special Library Task Force"
September 20, 1986**

Members:

**Sally Gwin - Palmer Public Library
Pat Jouppi - Mat-Su Community College Library
Judy Monroe - Alaska State Library
Linda Olson - MSBLB
Pat Wamsley - MSBLB
Betty Victors - Wasilla Public Library**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. Goals
- II. Standards
- III. Inventory and Current Status
- IV. Analysis of Needs
- V. Concepts
- VI. Table A: Current Statistics of Present Libraries
- VII. Table B: Current Organization Plans, Governance Chart of MSB
- VIII. Table C: Current Organization Plans, Personnel Chart of MSB

I. GOALS

The overall goal of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library System must be to provide total library service in order to meet the educational, informational, recreational, and cultural needs of all Borough residents in an effective and efficient manner.

Total library service means a full range of library resources - books, magazines, newspapers, government publications, historical documents, manuscripts, sound recordings, video tapes and cassettes, films, etc. -- accessed through a variety of delivery systems and service programs.

The components of a total library service include library materials, facilities, personnel, services, and management.

Goal A

To improve assistance to all public libraries and to communities where there is no local public library.

Objective 1

To implement the State Library Assistance Grants Program and any other grant programs available.

Objective 2

To seek funding for necessary public library construction / remodeling.

Objective 3

To work toward the achievement of the library standards proposed in Section II of this report.

Objective 4

To establish a library system policy and procedure manual that will be available to assist individual borough librarians to develop policies and procedures and to establish guidelines for periodic re-evaluation.

I. GOALS (cont.)

Goal B

To improve special services in accord with the needs of patrons who are unable to use a library or library materials in a conventional manner.

Objective 5

To help public libraries assist persons with visual and physical handicaps, homebound, institutionalized, and persons with limited English so that they truly have access to library services.

Objective 6

To help public libraries assist with the implementation of literacy programs.

Goal C

To improve the quantity and quality of library and information resources accessible to Alaskans through interlibrary cooperation.

Objective 7

To continue implementation of the Borough-wide Automation Plan.

Objective 8

To support at least two staff development activities each year for library staff and trustees through consultants, coordinators, Workshops, Talent Bank, seminars, conferences, staff exchanges, etc., or the Alaska Library Association.

II. STANDARDS

- A. All libraries should eventually contain a collection of at least four books per capita within the area served
- B. All libraries should have a listed phone number
- C. All libraries should cooperate in the Borough-wide Automation Network, and the interlibrary loan program and the Western Library Network (WLN) database.
- D. All libraries should have a basic reference collection.
- E. All libraries should have at least one full-time staff person for each 15,000 annual circulation.
- F. All libraries should have access to professional working tools for materials review and selection.
- G. Library locations should be based on and chosen with community support and input, and should be easily accessible.

III. INVENTORY AND CURRENT STATUS

Library services are provided in the Borough through non-area-wide powers. The cities of Palmer and Wasilla exercise library powers within their respective boundaries. However, in order to eliminate duplicate services, the Borough contracts with each city to provide library service outside its boundaries.

The Borough Library Board was established in 1978 to advise, recommend, investigate and review library functions throughout the Borough. It fills a void in the formulation of library policy as the Borough does not maintain a library department or division. The function of a library administrator is delegated to a member of the Borough staff. The Library Board is supported by local taxes collected outside of cities through an annual operating budget. Some of its annual budget is used to provide in-service and education for library staff and board and local association members.

There are seven non-profit library associations assisting the Borough with advice on community library functions. These organizations have varying degrees of responsibility within their communities. They are:

- Friends of the Palmer Library
- Wasilla Library Association
- Talkeetna Library Association
- Willow Library Association
- Sutton Library Association
- Big Lake Library Association and Big Lake Library Advisory Council

A new library association has been organized in the Trapper Creek area. It is their hope to become the next library in the Borough system.

III. INVENTORY AND CURRENT STATUS (cont.)

Each library maintains a certain amount of autonomy as long as they comply with the policies established by the Assembly. Funds are held and administered by the Borough, or by the cities of Palmer and Wasilla. Use and expenditure of funds are reviewed with each library association, and by the Borough or City administration pursuant to the library powers. Staff at Wasilla and Palmer libraries are responsible to their respective city administrations. Librarians act as local administrators.

The Alaska State Library has been granting the Borough Libraries assistance grants to supplement each library's operating costs. The purpose of the state grant is to continually upgrade library services to the local communities. The amount of such funds is a function of legislative appropriations and have ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per year.

The funding received the cities of Palmer and Wasilla from the Borough to support their libraries was approximately 75% of their budget needs. The percentage was based on patronage from outside city limits. Each city is also entitled to State library assistance grants. The grants account for only a small percentage of their budget needs.

Basic data on each library is summarized in Table A.

The Mat-Su College and District Court libraries are available for research use by the public. Other local library collections include:

Native Heritage Library, located at Palmer Public Library

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Library

Mat-Su Borough School District Libraries

IV. ANALYSIS OF NEEDS

The fragmented jurisdiction, with two city libraries under city management and four operated under the Borough's powers, creates several practical operational problems and requires complicated funding arrangements. If a library system serving the entire Borough is to be developed, the relationships between city and Borough libraries need to be defined, and a way to provide uniform funding and administration should be explored.

There is no full time, professional library assistance available to all of the libraries.

To facilitate shared resource development, the libraries have begun to automate. Two libraries, Wasilla and Palmer are linked through their automated catalog/circulation systems. The remaining public libraries should be linked to this system.

Efforts should be made to explore the role of the Mat-Su Borough School District in borough-wide resource development and co-operation in interlibrary loan.

Generally, Borough library facilities and operations are rudimentary. City libraries are better developed. Wasilla Public Library, despite expansion, is still lacking space for adequate library service. Big Lake Community is urgently requesting a new library facility to serve growing needs. Trapper Creek is working towards becoming a Borough library. Palmer Public Library has reached capacity for storage and workspace.

V. CONCEPTS

Existing and future public libraries in the Borough should be organized into a mutually supporting system. The system should be coordinated, and include a headquarters with a professional library staff which will administer the system. The entire system, with its common automated data base and its electronic linkages among member libraries, will provide coordinated development of a full range of library services for Matanuska-Susitna Borough residents. Participation of special libraries, the Matanuska-Susitna College Library, and school libraries in the interlibrary loan system are important elements of this plan.

The system should recognize local circumstances. Maximum individuality and local control of each library should be maintained in the development of this system. Due to the fast-changing nature of the library-information field, this plan should be reviewed on an annual basis with the assistance of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Library Board.

To best provide library services throughout the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, a five to ten year timeline for library continuation and expansion should be developed. This timeline should develop libraries within the Borough following this recommended framework:

A. CORE AREA LIBRARIES: These libraries would be located central to major population cores within the Borough as Palmer and Wasilla Libraries are today. They would be staffed with expertise, have expanded collections, and house centralized referencing services to be shared throughout the system. Administration office space should also be provided. They would generally be equipped and supplied to meet the highest feasible level of need.

V. CONCEPTS (cont.)

B. COMMUNITY LIBRARIES: These libraries would be located in small population areas of at least 400 persons and be developed along guidelines yet to be established of need and distance to core-area libraries. They could have smaller collections with only basic reference collections but would have access through computer cataloging to any material within the system. They would have at least on staff member, and regular library hours. Ideally, these libraries would be located near / or with other community services.

C. LIBRARY STATIONS: This facility could be located in a school, post office, or other community facility and consist basically of a material ordering station with access to library materials through a printed catalog, microfiche, or computer terminal. It would have supplies for ordering materials and returning them through mail or other transportation means. It would give rural areas with small populations access to the system.

APPENDIX C
Library Services in the
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
by Sonya Lyons, 1991

July 26, 1991

To: Don Moore, Mat-Su Borough Manager
Pat Wamsley, President, Mat-Su Library Advisory Board

From: Sonya Lyon, Mat-Su Library Coordinator

Re: Library services in the Mat-Su Borough

As you are aware, my grant-funded position as Mat-Su Library Coordinator is ending. I have enjoyed working with Mat-Su librarians and their staffs and hope that their cooperative efforts will continue to be supported. In parting, I'd like to share with you a few of my observations concerning current library services in the Mat-Su Borough.

Library materials (books, magazines, videos, etc.): - Overall, the Borough is lacking in both quality and quantity of materials. Several libraries still contain a large percentage of donated items, which are often in poor physical condition with outdated information. The actual number of items is also low and, where worn and dated materials have been withdrawn, the shelves are obviously bare. A library should contain a well-rounded, diverse collection of recent materials, selected with community needs in mind. Adequate book budgets and resource sharing are essential in order to provide sufficient materials.

Staffing and services: With the current, independent mode of providing library services, staffing is minimal at all libraries. Although highly motivated, library employees are often asked to perform duties beyond their abilities (both in time and expertise). Services suffer accordingly. When staffs are overextended dealing with clerical and administrative duties, there is little time left for librarianship - selecting and cataloging materials, providing reference and childrens services - let alone library cooperation and training. A re-evaluation of staff allocation, qualifications and training would result in improved services to Mat-Su residents.

Facilities and equipment: - The physical condition and layout of library structures varies from library to library. Inadequate, sub-standard shelving is a problem at several Borough libraries. Equipment age and condition is also a problem, particularly at Palmer. A long range plan for facilities & equipment is needed.

The lack of automation is a major problem. A Borough-wide, integrated system (circulation, cataloging and public access functions) was initiated several years ago. An example of library cooperation which would vastly improve public access to all library collections. However, this system (Dynix) is currently operational only at Wasilla Library. Funding to bring the other five libraries on-line was pulled by the Borough in 1986 and recent attempts for State funding failed (with a strong hint that this should be locally funded). Continuation of manual sorting and filing systems is very time consuming - an extremely inefficient use of valuable staff time and frustrating for library patrons.

Library organization and utilization: - Currently three governmental units are providing similar services - resulting in wasted, duplication of effort. Each of the six libraries separately selects, orders, catalogs and processes materials. Tasks, which if done centrally, would be much more cost effective.

Utilization of these 6 libraries varies greatly - some are consistently, heavily used while others are underutilized. These use patterns are not taken into consideration when planning staffing and hours of operation - all libraries are open similar numbers of hours.

The two city libraries provide the most cost effective library service to the majority of Borough residents. These libraries are owned and managed by their respective cities, however, they receive the majority of their funding from the Borough government. They are in the difficult, nebulous position of reporting to one governmental unit, yet financially dependent on another. They have no direct input into the Borough budget process.

The four Borough librarians report to the Borough Community Services head, who manages such diverse programs as animal control and parks as well as libraries. With scant time to spend on libraries, he provides little coordination and no professional guidance. As a result, Borough librarians have made decisions about their individual libraries in a vacuum without concern for the long range effects on other libraries. This has created situations that will be difficult and costly to correct in the future.

The Borough librarians do call on the Palmer and Wasilla librarians for professional advise and assistance and city librarians have attempted to fill this leadership void and foster cooperation (such as this inter-library cooperation grant). But, finding time to even advise is increasingly difficult and frustrating considering the city librarians' work loads and minimal staffs. The Coordinator position was a start towards filling the leadership gap, but there has been no governmental support for the continuation of this position.

CONCLUSIONS: Library services in the Mat-Su Borough suffer from lack of materials, inadequate staffing, training and facilities, as well as poor administration. The latter has resulted in duplication of effort, thus wasting the limited funds of all governmental units involved.

I strongly recommend that these governmental units (Borough and cities) review their current method of providing services and consider cooperative efforts. Explore alternative methods that take into consideration the current structure.

A FEW POSSIBILITIES:

Start a courier system to service all the public libraries - ideally, it should be tied into the existing School District Courier system (and also include the Mat-Su College Library).

Fund the automation system (Dynix) for more efficient use of staff time and improved access to all library materials in the Borough.

Contract library services to one governmental unit to facilitate:

--Consolidation of tasks - particularly technical services (selection, ordering, cataloging).

--Review library use patterns. This could result in limiting hours at underutilized facilities and shifting staff hours to more heavily used sites.

--Reorganization of staff to reflect consolidation of tasks. This would allow for the creation of a Borough library coordinator position to provide expertise, direction and leadership.

I am returning to my permanent position at the Alaska Resources Library. Please feel free to contact me regarding this report.

APPENDIX D

Suggested New Books for Long Range Planning for Libraries

SOME RECOMMENDED NEW BOOKS FOR LIBRARY PLANNING

THE RESPONSIVE PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLECTION: How to Develop and Maintain It by Sharon L. Baker. Libraries Unlimited, 1993.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY EFFECTIVENESS STUDY: THE COMPLETE REPORT by Nancy A. Van House and Thomas A. Childers. ALA, 1993. \$22.00

WHAT'S GOOD? DESCRIBING YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY'S EFFECTIVENESS by Thomas A. Childers and Nancy A. Van House. ALA, 1993. \$25.00.

WORKING TOGETHER: A HOW-TO-DO-IT MANUAL FOR TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS by James Swan. Neal-Schuman, 1992.

APPENDIX E

**Recent Contracts Between the Palmer and Wasilla Libraries
and the Mat-Su Borough**

LIBRARY SERVICES AGREEMENT
between
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
and
CITY OF PALMER

THIS AGREEMENT is made between the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, a municipal corporation (hereinafter the Borough) and the City of Palmer, a municipal corporation, (hereinafter the City) for providing library services.

Section 1. Definitions. In this Agreement:

A. The term "Borough" means the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

B. The term "City" means the City of Palmer.

C. The term "Borough Manager" means the Manager of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough or his authorized representative.

D. The term "City Manager" means the Manager of the City of Palmer or his authorized representative.

E. The term "Borough residents" shall mean all residents of the Borough residing outside the Cities of Wasilla, Houston and Palmer who reside within the Borough.

Section 2. Authority. This intergovernmental agreement is authorized pursuant to Alaska State Constitution Article 13 AND A.S. 29.35.010 (13) and is for the joint administration and exercise of library powers by the Borough and the City recognizing that the Borough library powers is a non-areawide power of the Borough.

Section 3. Services. The City shall provide total library services to all Borough residents on the same basis as provided to the residents of the City.

Section 4. Term. This Agreement shall become effective on July 1, 1988 and shall expire on December 31, 1988.

Section 5. Payment.

A. In exchange for the services described in Section 3 above, the Borough shall pay to the City \$ 96,146.50 subject to Section 9 hereafter.

B. Within 15 days following the signing of this Agreement by the Manager, the Borough shall pay the City \$ 64,146.50 of the total sum described in Section 5-A above.

C. Thereafter the Borough shall make equal monthly payments in the amount of \$ 16,000.00 commencing November 1, 1988, which shall be due on the 10th of each month.

D. The Borough shall not provide any additional compensation, payment, use of facilities, service or other thing of value other than the compensation described in Section 5-A above.

Section 6. Relationship of Parties. The City shall perform its obligations under this Agreement as an independent contractor of the Borough. The Borough may administer the contract and monitor the City's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. The Borough shall not supervise or direct the City other than as provided in this section.

Section 7. Non-Discrimination. In performing its duties under this contract, neither party may discriminate against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, or marital status or physical handicap.

Section 8. Indemnification. The City shall save and hold the Borough harmless from any claim, demand, suit or liability, including attorney's fees and costs arising from any loss, damage or injury to persons or property occurring in connection with performance of its duties under this Agreement by its employees, attorney's, officials, agents, contractors, subcontractors or suppliers.

Section 9. Financial Records.

A. The compensation described in Section 5-A above is based on seventy-five percent of all library users of the City's library services who are Borough residents and the Borough agrees to compensate the City seventy-five percent of its actual budgeted library services expenditures.

Actual Budgeted Expenditures X 75% = Borough Cost

The seventy-five percent is based on the following formula:

Total library users divided by Borough residents = % Borough Cost

B. Expenditures of funds under this Agreement shall be made by the City solely for the purpose of fulfilling the City's duties described in Section 3 above.

C. Expenditures and revenues to the same extent as may be required by law governing all other expenditures and revenues of the City, shall be independently audited annually.

D. The City shall furnish the Borough a copy of the annual audit of these funds within thirty days of the City's annual audit.

E. The City shall furnish the Borough within thirty days after the expiration of the term of this Agreement, a record of the number of Borough residents and non-Borough residents to which the City provided library services during the term of this Agreement. Such report shall be certified by the City as true and accurate. Such record shall not contain any confidential information prohibited by AS 09.25.140.

F. The Borough and City shall, within 30 days of the City's final audit and report described in Section 9-D and 9-E above, adjust the compensation described in Section 5-A above in accordance with the formulas described in Section 9-A above.

G. Any funds due the City or due the Borough under Section 9-F above shall be paid to the respective party within 15 days of the final adjustment under Section 9-F above.

Section 10. Integration. This written Agreement and any attachments embody the entire Agreement of the parties. There are no promises, terms, conditions, or obligations other than those contained herein, and this instrument shall supersede all previous communications, representations or agreements, either oral or written between the parties.

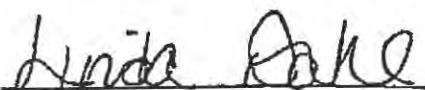
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH


John Dahl, Borough Manager

CITY OF PALMER


David L. Soulak, Manager

ATTEST:


Linda Dahl, Borough Clerk

AMENDMENT NO. 6

to

LIBRARY SERVICES AGREEMENT

between

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

and

CITY OF PALMER

This Amendment No. 6 hereby amends the Library Services Agreement with the effective date of July 1, 1989 between the MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH and the CITY OF PALMER as follows:

Section 4. Term. This agreement shall be for the period beginning July 1, 1992 and ending June 30, 1993.

A. In exchange for the services described in Section 3, the Borough shall pay to the City for the term of this agreement as follows:

(1) For the period July 1, 1992 through June 30, 1993, the total payment amount shall be \$212,500.

Except as herein amended, all other terms, conditions, and specifications remain the same.

Dated:

22 July 92

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

By:

Donald L. Moore
Donald L. Moore
Borough Manager

Dated:

July 10, 1992

CITY OF PALMER

By:

David L. Soulak
David L. Soulak
City Manager

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

APPENDIX F

Mat-Su Borough Library Statistics, 1993

FY 93 MSB STATS									
LIBRARY:	BIG LAKE	SUTTON	TALKEETNA	WILLOW	MSB TOTAL	PALMER	WASILLA	GRAND TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
POPULATION	3,261	750	2,500	1,661	8,172	13,000	23,000	44,172	
CIRC -- JUV BOOKS	18,415	2,979	4,555	6,583	32,532	34,486	80,982	148,000	
% OF CIRC	80.00%	56.17%	46.99%	54.82%	64.95%	43.08%	55.54%	53.63%	
CIRC -- ADULT BOOKS	4,604	2,325	5,200	5,425	17,554	45,558	64,833	127,945	
% OF CIRC	20.00%	43.83%	53.31%	45.18%	35.05%	56.92%	44.46%	46.37%	
CIRC BOOKS TOTAL	23,019	5,304	9,755	12,008	50,085	80,044	145,815	275,945	
PERIODICALS	590	381	328	890	2,189	1,231	3,888	7,308	
AUDIO TOTAL	644	186	516	617	1,963	1,072	3,534	6,569	
VIDEO TOTAL	1,957	1,671	1,668	1,063	6,359	4,672	5,063	16,094	
OTHER	0	204	398	51	653	41	91	785	
TOTAL CIRC	26,210	7,746	12,665	14,629	61,250	87,060	159,391	306,701	
CIRC PER POPULATION	8.04	10.33	5.07	8.81	7.50	6.70	6.89	6.94	
ATTENDANCE	14,805	6,264	10,990	8,864	40,923	41,524	50,428	132,875	
CIRC PER USER	1.77	1.24	1.15	1.65	1.50	2.10	3.14	2.31	
ILLS SENT	33	25	5	34	97	2,827	415	3,339	
ILLS RECEIVED	96	179	398	411	1,084	750	1,946	3,780	
PROGRAMS JUVENILE	68	60	3	59	190	111	109	410	
JUV ATTENDANCE	1,770	720	300	610	3,400	1,899	2,765	8,064	
PROGRAMS ADULT	10	4	0	16	30	7	0	37	
ADULT ATTENDANCE	65	40	0	243	348	700	0	1,048	
TOTAL PROGRAMS	78	64	3	75	220	118	109	447	
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	1,835	760	300	853	3,748	2,599	2,765	9,112	
VOLUMES HELD BOOKS	8,894	7,701	10,790	10,697	38,082	39,000	47,706	124,788	
VOLUMES GOV. DOCS	28	28	0	28	84	75	0	159	
VOLUMES AUDIO	182	173	1,098	484	1,937	85	881	2,903	
VOLUMES VIDEO	324	237	326	184	1,071	383	582	2,036	
SUBSCRIPTIONS	30	28	40	36	134	100	96	330	
TOTAL VOLUMES	9,458	8,167	12,254	11,429	41,308	39,643	49,265	130,216	

LIBRARY REFERENCE QUESTION	BIG LAKE 832	SUTTON 150	TALKEETNA 520	WILLOW 1,716	MSB TOTAL 3,218	PALMER 10,348	WASILLA 2,300	GRAND TOTAL 15,866
TOTAL BUDGET FY 93	94,197	67,079	83,840	87,215	\$332,331.00	301,718	369,565	\$1,003,614.00
STAFF (FTE)	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	5	5	7.5	17.5
VOLUNTEERS	19	10	0	80	89	14	30	133
VOLUNTEER HOURS	525	300	25	458	1,308	1,620	900	3,828
WORKLOAD	18,721,4285	6,455	10,554.17	12,190.83	12,250.00	17,412	21,118.8	17,525.77
COST PER CAPITA	\$28.89	\$89.44	\$33.54	\$52.51	\$40.67	\$23.21	\$16.07	\$22.72
COST PER CIRC	\$3.59	\$8.66	\$6.62	\$5.96	\$5.43	\$3.47	\$2.33	\$3.27
% OF TOTAL CIRC	8.55%	2.53%	4.13%	4.77%	19.97%	28.39%	51.64%	100.00%
POPULAT. BY CIRC %	3,589	1,061	1,734	2,003	8,388	11,922	21,690	42,000
CIRC PER CAPITA MSB					7.30			7.30
COMPILED BY ZAVORTINK	9/15/83							

APPENDIX G
Focus Group Summaries

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

Palmer/Sutton
Wednesday, August 25, 1993

Advisory Board (???)

Detail responsibilities
Technical advisory board
Better representation to Assembly
Be better organized for lobbying
Have clear objectives
Has been a passer of information - trying to coordinate
Agenda has been problem brought to it.
Agonizingly slow
[Get plan from Pat]

A. THE PRESENT

1. What are the strengths and opportunities of the present public library structure?

Strengths	Opportunities
Total delivery to population	Continuing education
Start of automation	To have consistent funding
Cooperation and interaction	To be a model for other areas in State.
Staff - above and beyond	To enlarge where needed (Big Lake, Trapper Creek)
Good group of volunteers - backbone	Book Mobile
Focal point of community	To keep expanding and growing: space to use warm atmosphere
Each represents unique community	Public Relations
Grassroots	

2. What are the obstacles and challenges of the present public library structure?
 - Funding methods
 - MONEY
 - State and federal rules and regulations - mandates
 - Can't have dedicated tax
 - User fees
 - No planning or guidance
 - Duplication
 - DeCentralization

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

B. FUTURE

1. What do you see happening between now and the year 2000 that will probably affect library service?

- User fees
- No more borough funding
- Population growth - more demand for service
- Demand for new services - computer data base searches
- Changes in entire information industry
- More computer linkage with other types of libraries
- Lot more need for re-education and re-training
- Continued federal and state funding reductions
- Trend shift in lifestyles
- More urbanized

2. How will these affect government and library decision makers?

- High user groups - may become more vocal - not vocal now.
Average age 30 - Highest concentration of seniors.
- Growth affects demand
- Pressure to keep taxes down
- More division between those willing to pay and those unwilling
- Have to put up with abuse - destroys leadership.

3. What would your ideal of library services look like?

- Courier Service
- Coordinator
- Library lobby - on all levels
- ID decision makers on state levels
- Immediate supply of services
- Complete computerization
- Decent buildings - especially Big Lake.

C. STRATEGIES

1. What efforts on the part of the libraries will help achieve these results?

- Lobbying all year - not just budget time
- Public Relations - educate public - make sure libraries keep positive feel they have.
- Report to assembly monthly (*in person*) - keep short & simple
- Thank elected officials for what IS given.
- Give staff support
- Use liaison to Assembly
- Invite elected officials to observe library
- Develop support groups at each location.

THERE IS A FEAR OF LOBBYING

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

3. What could/should be done in:
 - a. organizing support services?
 - workshops on lobbying.
 - system for decision making
 - somebody in place to make decisions
 - formalize board
 - b. extending automated systems capabilities?
 - Commitment to upgrade computerization
 - lobby for more state money
 - continue maintenance of system
 - Find matching funds
 - c. initiating cooperative efforts with other types of libraries?
 - Coordinator - really critical
 - Need identified group implementing coordination
 - Advisory board more integrated between borough and cities (government) and more structured.

D. WRAP-UP

1. Any Comments
 - a. What questions did you expect?
 - What other funding sources are there?
 - b. What questions do you have?
2. If you have additional thoughts later, please contact us:

John and Ann Christenson
Christenson Library Counsel
115 Broad Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Phone (507) 345-4034
FAX (507) 345-6267

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

Big Lake, Houston, Willow, Talkeetna
Wednesday, August 25, 1993

A. THE PRESENT

1. What are the strengths and opportunities of the present public library structure?

Strengths	Opportunities
Palmer/Wasilla - mechanism for coordinating	Good start on automation. Opportunity to fully utilize sources.
Pretty good coverage of Borough population	More closely coordinate programs
Networking between the librarians	CIP's
Good rapport between all libraries	Long range planning
Good core groups of supponers	
All try to address needs of communities	

2. What are the obstacles and challenges of the present public library structure?

- MONEY
- No long range planning
- Areawide vs non-areawide
- No uniform payment system or ownership
- Politics
- Demands of growing population
- Public unawareness
- Lack of space
- Lack of warmth - assumption everybody *knows the ropes*.
- Lack of communication between boards/borough and cities
- Need for rules & fines - protect assets

B. FUTURE

1. What do you see happening between now and the year 2000 that will probably affect library service?
- Big Lake will have a new library
 - Local bonding vs State funding for facilities
 - Population growth - increase in demands
 - Changing technologies - information explosion

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

- Total automation
 - Possible core/central library
 - Institution of fees for service
 - Trapper Creek into system
2. How will these affect government and library decision makers?
- Technology requires capital investment
 - Restricted operating budgets
 - Areawide vote on libraries (making power areawide)
 - Too heavy expectations for Palmer/Wasilla (inequitable funding)
 - Make them aware of problems. Don't Assume!
3. What would your ideal of library services look like?
- Standard Operating Policy for all libraries
 - Little data system you can call in from home
 - Adequate facilities
 - Total automation
 - Coordinator
 - Bookmobile
 - Book Planes
 - Space to upgrade
 - Courier
 - Trained staff and continued education
 - School/Public library coordination

C. STRATEGIES

1. What efforts on the part of the libraries will help achieve these results?
- Educate the Assembly
 - Establish funding process - both in and out of cities
 - Educate the public
 - Make facilities welcoming - reach out to adults
 - Public relations
 - Long Range Plan
 - Go to Senior Centers
 - Use volunteers
2. What can the Cities and Borough do to bring about the desired results:
- Encourage more funding from State.
 - More mandates from state
 - Have borough wide funding (referendum has to pass in both cities and borough)
 - Facilitate a long range plan
 - Libraries develop
 - Lobbying on all levels
 - System of standards for libraries (tiered system)
 - Quit fighting and stick to decisions

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

3. What could/should be done in:
- a. organizing support services?
 - Need for coordinator (mending, courier, central purchasing, processing)
 - Big Board be more involved
 - Use of floaters
 - Standardize services
 - b. extending automated systems capabilities?
 - As much as possible
 - Keep it current
 - Money
 - Use one system
 - Commitment to maintain
 - c. initiating cooperative efforts with other types of libraries?
 - Access to University libraries by automation
 - Putting public libraries administration (Dept. of Education [School District])
 - PROTECT THE FUNDING (would this make them secondary?)
 - Historical libraries
 - Coordinator and staff

D. WRAP-UP

- 1. Any Comments
 - Go to Assembly at non-budget time
 - They need to see faces
 - Lobby cities
 - Need teeth to get books returned
 - Need Borough-wide policies
- a. What questions did you expect?
- b. What questions do you have?
- 2. If you have additional thoughts later, please contact us:

John and Ann Christenson
Christenson Library Counsel
115 Broad Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Phone (507) 345-4034
FAX (507) 345-6267

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

Wasilla
Thursday, August 26, 1993

A. THE PRESENT

1. What are the strengths and opportunities of the present public library structure?

Strengths	Opportunities
Heading in the right direction: Cooperation	Opportunity to grow with increased population
Well used	
Community Ownership of Library	
New people really like them	
Really serve their own communities	
ILL's	
Service majority throughout the Borough	
Technology and facilities are good (computer network)	
2 major libraries in retail centers	
Desire among all librarians to work together	
Dedicated staff and knowledgeable	

2. What are the obstacles and challenges of the present public library structure?

- Population increase - \$
- Money
- Operating with restricted budgets
- Community ^{relation} between governing agencies
- Marketing - educating public
- Communication between library and assembly
- Educating assembly
- Lack of policies regarding service and automation
- Long range planning
- Coordination with schools

Christenson Library Council

Focus Group

B. FUTURE

1. What do you see happening between now and the year 2000 that will probably affect library service?
 - Rapid changes in technology - on-line data bases
 - Sharing software
 - How information is delivered
 - Population growth - clash between old/new
 - User fees from Anchorage
 - Facility needs (ADA, space, collection development, staffing)
 - Completion of 4-lane
 - Fastest growth: Average age 30, concentration of seniors
 - Decreased federal and state funding
 - Career changing - re-training, continued education, job search
2. How will these affect government and library decision makers?
 - Vocal minority gets its way (changing)
 - Need mechanism for on-going communication
 - Emphasizes need for long range planning
 - Facilities design
 - More funding needs
 - Increased pressure on funding agencies
3. What would your ideal of library services look like?
 - A long range plan in place
 - Adequate facilities
 - Complete the automating
 - In-service training ongoing
 - Objective formula for funding
 - Self checkout
 - Meeting and program space
 - Home based dial-in access
 - Bookmobile
 - Courier
 - Borough Library Coordinator
 - Data base access for patrons
 - Inter-connectedness between different types
 - Definition of Boards
 - More educational opportunities for general population
 - Bigger periodical collection
 - Sound collection development

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

C. STRATEGIES

1. What efforts on the part of the libraries will help achieve these results?

- Lobbying - local, state, federal
- Reaching a common goal
- Organized support groups
- Education of elected officials and of the public
- Develop a skills inventory among supporters and staff

2. What can the Cities and Borough do to bring about the desired results:

- Provide more money
- Clearly define responsibilities
- Have a fair, equitable funding mechanism
- Areawide? Service areas?
- Build a strong central library
- Communication among all cities and the Borough

3. What could/should be done in:

a. organizing support services?

- Hire a Borough coordinator
- In-service continued education for staff
- Hiring standards (include school district)
- Centralized processing and repairs
- Negotiate with school for courier service
- Coordinate activities (public, schools, college)
- Organize support groups (direction, training, goals)
- Is this a job for Borough Board?
- Shift role of friends groups to advocacy

b. Extending automated systems capabilities?

- Fiberoptic link
- Add lines
- On-going staff training - especially small libraries
- Better facility for system
- Commitment to maintenance

c. Initiating cooperative efforts with other types of libraries?

- Get school, public, and college librarians together to plan
- Enlisting and educating administration
- One coordinator for public and schools

Christenson Library Council Focus Group

D. WRAP-UP

1. Any Comments

- Be sure direction continues to strengthen and improve all the libraries.
- Establishment of service area. ex. Big Lake, Houston, and Wasilla area have assessed valuation of \$860,000,000; Proposed FY 93 budget for Big Lake and Wasilla was \$475,000 which would equal approximately .5 mil levy to fund.

a. What questions did you expect?

- Expected more discussion about facilities
- Need to find a solution for Wasilla NOW
- What, where, how big, what role
- Has to be functional and practical
- Concern about safety at present library

b. What questions do you have?

2. If you have additional thoughts later, please contact us:

John and Ann Christenson
Christenson Library Counsel
115 Broad Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Phone (507) 345-4034
FAX (507) 345-6267

Library funding has been a contentious issue for longer than most residents can remember.

From 1979-1985 a funding agreement between the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Matanuska-Susitna Library Association, which was dissolved in 1982, dictated the level of borough contribution for city libraries at 75% of each library's budget. This was based on the percentage of library patrons who lived in the borough, outside of city limits.

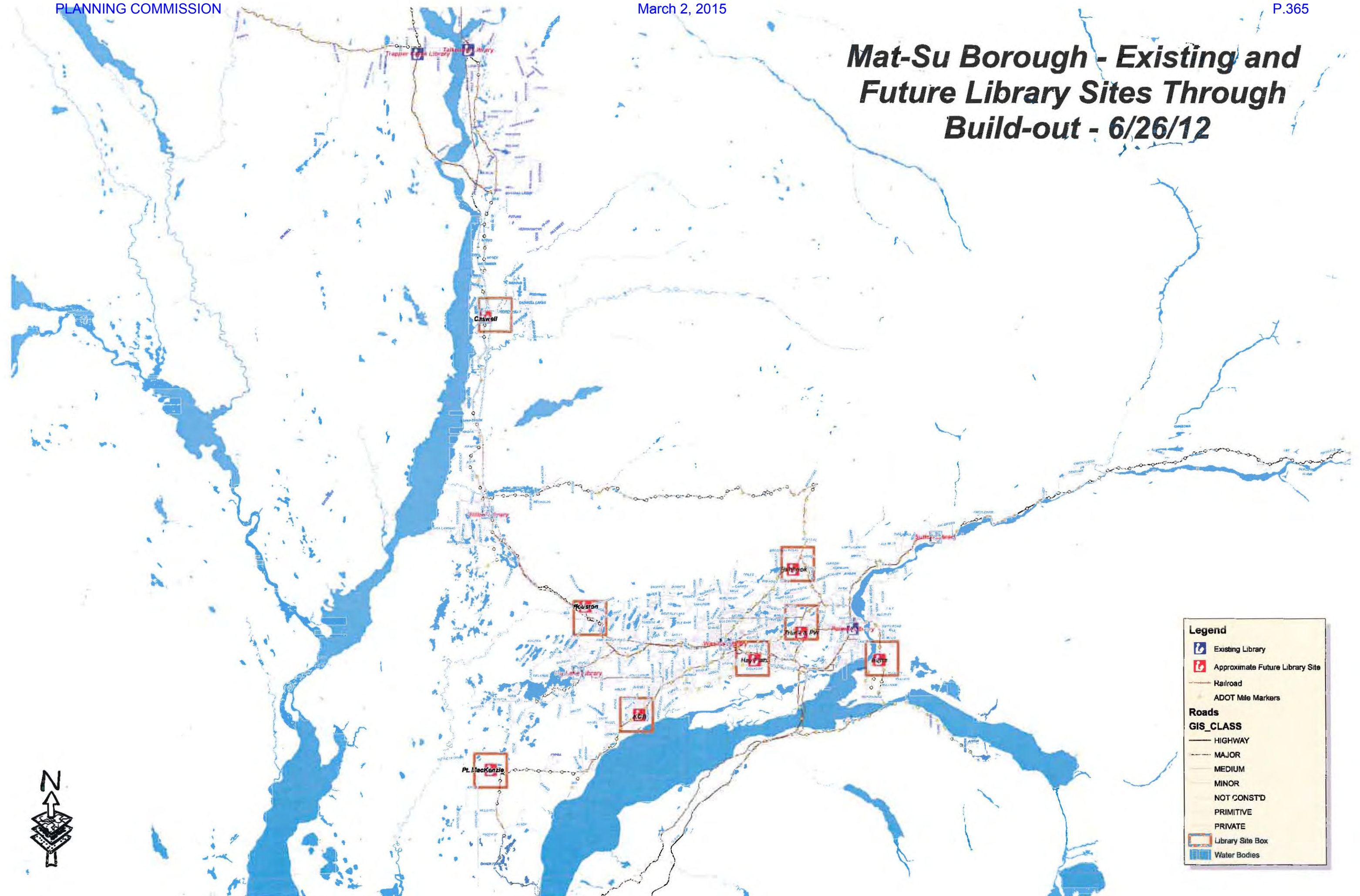
From 1985-1993, the borough funded about 60% of the Wasilla Public Library's budget. In 1993, the borough decreased its contribution by almost half.

In an attempt to resolve the dispute of which entity should pay for what in regards to library service, on October 9, 1999, representatives from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and administration, the Mat-Su Borough Library Board, the Palmer and Wasilla city councils, the Palmer mayor and city manager, the library directors and library advocacy groups attended a library issues workshop to discuss funding, governance, and facility issues. The outcome of this meeting was the decision to establish a formal Borough-City funding formula to allow for better planning and service of library services for all borough residents. Furthermore, the consensus among those assembled was to continue to maintain city operation of the city libraries. Although a funding formula was developed, and agreed upon by all parties, it was only used for two funding cycles. In the third funding cycle, the borough issued block grants to the cities in the same amount as the previous year. In the fourth funding cycle (FY08), the borough reduced each block grant to the cities by 20% and has stated that it will continue to reduce funding by 20% per year until it reaches zero.

In order to make up for the shortfall from the block grant, the cities proposed charging non-city borough residents \$20 per card. Although the idea was proposed, neither city council instituted a non-resident fee for library use.

In an effort to resolve the "funding problem", the cities and the borough, along with interested library supporters, met regularly starting in January 2007. At one point it was suggested that libraries become an areawide power, and the borough lease the two city libraries back to the respective cities. An exhaustive analysis, compiled by a joint City and Borough Libraries Task Force, concluded that additional cost to the borough of taking on the city libraries would be at least \$1.6 million. The cost to the borough to maintain the libraries at the FY08 level would be \$2.6 million. The decision made by the committee was to take this information back to the respective city councils so that they could make an informed decision regarding library funding. As a result, the Wasilla City Council, under Ordinance Serial Number 08-06, embraced the Wasilla Public Library as a

***Mat-Su Borough - Existing and
Future Library Sites Through
Build-out - 6/26/12***



This Page Intentionally Left Blank

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

(Page 367 – 384)

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

Meadow Lakes Community Council, INC,

Minutes – January 15, 2015 - Meeting – Meadow Lakes Elementary School Gym

Six (6) Board Members Required for Quorum: 7 = Yes 8

❖ X Pres: Terry Boyle ❖ X Vice Pres: Heather Heusser ❖ _ Treas: Patti Fisher ❖ X Sec: Kristine Bayne
X Ed Sherri Rusher ❖ X Com: Tim Swezey ❖ X CIP: Maria Victoria Kalmbach
❖ _ Bylaw: Don Stevens X Mem: Holly Gerlach-Grant ❖ X Trail: Lori Benner-Hanson
3 Members of the Meadow Lakes Community: ☒ Yes

Call to order – Meeting call to order by President, Terry Boyle, at 7:00pm in the Meadow Lakes Elementary Gym.

Quorum - A Quorum was determined to be present.

Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

Approval of Minutes- Rae Arno motioned to approve December 11, 2014 minutes as presented. Sherri Rusher seconded motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report - Treasurer's Report is unavailable as the Treasurer is out of state. Report is attached to agenda packet.

Correspondence -

1. MLCC received notice of MEA's application for a utility easement on Mat Su Borough owned property with the intention of constructing overhead power lines. No discussion was held.
2. Information on Herkimer Lake subdivision plat submission to the Mat Su Borough as presented. No discussion was held.

Old Business –

1. **Due to issues and concerns expressed by the community of Meadow Lakes, the Meadow Lakes Community Council, Inc. wishes to withdraw the July 13, 2011 motion to submit the SpUD to the Planning Department.**
 - a. Lauren Driscoll from the Mat Su Borough Planning Department was introduced by MLCC with the intention of conducting a question and answer session on the SpUD prior to a vote.
 - b. Linda Conover asked for an "Out of Order" ruling to Ms. Driscoll's presentation because such a presentation is not on the agenda in regards to the SpUD under Old Business.
 - c. Amanda Browne was asked to determine rules of order, discussing if a motion and related topics need to be listed under Old Business. If topic is not on agenda under Old Business it must be discussed under New Business.
 - d. Tim Swezey, Council Coordinator, stated that the withdrawal of the SpUD needs a motion.
 - e. Linda Conover motioned to rescind all motions pertaining to Meadow Lakes SpUD, including but not limited to the July 13, 2011 motion to accept that moved the SpUD, and specifically the August 13, 2014 motion to accept the amendments as amended, and incorporate them into the SpUD, as adopted by the Meadow Lakes Community Council, and submit the SpUD to the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by Jim Burk.
 - i. Discussion included testimony that emails were sent to the MLCC Council Coordinator to add rescinding the SpUD to the agenda. (Note: after the meeting adjourned it was determined these emails were not sent to the Coordinator, but to the President, and were not interpreted to be a request

for an agenda item, but an inquiry about when the SpUD would be discussed.)

- ii. Discussion was held on the correct way to make this motion.
- iii. Mike Sweeley steps up to the microphone without being recognized and speaks on the SpUD being a United Nations Agenda #21 item. He claims Meadow Lakes Community Council, Inc. is a socialist organization run through an umbrella of the Local and Environmental Initiative with sub units pushing at local levels with the American Planning Association and Professional Planning Group. These are attempts at overthrowing Constitution of the United State of America. He points to Lauren Driscoll and accuses her of participating in this social agenda as a planner educated at Penn State University. The Chair is continually asking him to be seated and telling him his three minutes are up and he is off topic. He yells and gestures to the seated Board. He said Lauren should be considered an agent provocateur. He called the Council traitors, communists, etc. While voicing his opinion to the community members he was very disrespectful and displayed bullying gestures to the Counsel. The Vice-President, Heather Heusser, stepped up and removed the microphone from his hands.
- iv. There was heckling from those in attendance.
- v. Otto Feathers "called for the question".
- vi. Vote was taken with 104 voting in favor of rescinding the SpUD and 15 voting against rescinding the SpUD. Motion passed.
- f. Sharon Peterson motioned to the Meadow Lakes Community Council, Inc. to present the vote count, number in attendance, and the motion that just passed to the Mat Su Borough Planning Commission and the Mat Su Borough Assembly. Bill Farmer seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no objection. Motion passed.

New Business -

1. **Seldon Road Extension Preferred Route**, Sara Doyle of Stantec, Mat Su Transportation Advisory Board is seeking a resolution for the "Fishback" alignment as the preferred alignment.
 - a. Sara Doyle gave a presentation on the Seldon Road Extension to date. She gave a description of the project and held a question and answer session. Several residents said they knew nothing of this project and the community selecting a preferred route. Sara explained that six mailings were sent out along with holding several public hearing in this Meadow Lakes Elementary gym.
 - b. The "Fishback" route was questioned and property owners offered alternative easements for different routes. Sara and parties agreed to get together.
 - c. She had a display which includes maps at the side of the room and would continue to answer questions for anyone who was interested.
 - d. Lane Wraith motioned to have MLCC, Inc. hold off on a resolution for a preferred route today and allow for all questions to be answered. Bill Farmer seconded motion. Motion passed.
2. **Septage & Leachate Treatment Facility Study** Mike Campfield of the Mat Su Borough Planning – Solid Waste gave a presentation on the sites, costs, and feasibility of the two locations being considered for a Mat Su Borough Septage and Leachate Treatment Facility. These sites are 1) Near the Central Landfill off the Palmer Wasilla Highway and 2) At the corner of Pittman and Church by the Fire Station. A question and answer period was held with discussion. No action was taken.

3. **Request for Resolution to upgrade Foothills Blvd to Borough Maintenance Standards to be submitted to the State of Alaska for addition to the State Transportation Plan.** Mr. Berkley Tilton, Knik Community Council, asked for a resolution in support of the State upgrading Foothills Blvd. in the Meadow Lakes Community Council area. Discussion was held on the costs and where the financing would come from. The fish passage at Lucille Creek was also discussed. This would add another route between the Parks Highway and Knik Road in addition to Vine Extension. John Brennen motioned to approve such a resolution. Rae Arno seconded motion. Motion passed.
4. **Project Updates**
 - a. **Visnaw Lake to Bench Lake Trail Project**
 - i. Lori Benner-Hanson gave a description and time line for this trails project per the request of an audience member. The project was first started in 2009 and continues. Trees have been cut and some surveying done. MLCC has been granted \$9,500.00 dedicated to this project.
 - b. **Recycling Dumpsters**
 - i. Tim Swezey explained how MLCD, Inc. is applying for a grant to complete the refit of a used Borough dumpster to handle recycled items.
 - c. **CIP Submissions**
 - i. Submissions are due March 13, 2015. Discussion will be held at the February meeting. Anyone with a suggestion should bring that suggestion forward.

Persons to be Heard –

1. John Katkus – Voiced his opinion on the SpUD and asked for support from the Meadow Lakes Community Council, Inc. in pursuing the exclusion of his property from the Community of Meadow Lakes. Lauren Driscoll will take his request to the Borough.

Next Meeting – The next meeting would be set for Wednesday February 11, 2015 in the Meadow Lakes Senior Housing Commons Room at 1210 N. Kim Drive. The audience was asked if they all planned to attend next month. They answered yes. The Commons Room has a smaller room capacity, so the February meeting will be held in the Meadow Lakes Elementary Gym on Thursday February 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm to 9:00pm.

Adjournment – Lori Benner-Hanson motioned to adjourn. Patton Pettijohn seconded motion. Meeting adjourned.

Terry Boyle, President

Date

Secretary

Date

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

Meadow Lakes Community Council Inc.

1210 N. Kim Drive, Suite B

Wasilla, AK 99623

www.mlccak.orgtcbhunter@gmail.com

February 9, 2015

Planning Commission
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
350 E. Dahlia Ave.
Palmer, AK 99645

Re: Vote Count on Motion to Rescind Meadow Lakes Special Use District

Members of the Planning Commission,

On January 15, 2015 the Meadow Lakes Community Council made a motion to rescind the Meadow Lakes Special Use District.

The vote count is as follows

- Of those attending the meeting, 104 were qualified to vote.
- Because of the lack of prior notification to rescind the SpUD was not given, a 2/3 majority was required and 69 votes or more were needed.
- 104 votes were in favor of the motion
- 15 votes were opposed

The motion passed to rescind the Meadow Lakes Special Use District.

Sincerely,

Terry Boyle
Board President

Meadow Lakes Community Council Inc.
1210 N. Kim Drive, Suite B
Wasilla, AK 99623
www.mlccak.org
tcbhunter@gmail.com

February 9, 2015

Assembly
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
350 E. Dahlia Ave.
Palmer, AK 99645

Re: Vote Count on Motion to Rescind Meadow Lakes Special Use District

Members of the Assembly,

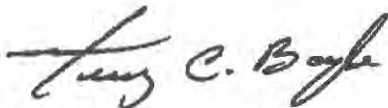
On January 15, 2015 the Meadow Lakes Community Council made a motion to rescind the Meadow Lakes Special Use District.

The vote count is as follows

- Of those attending the meeting, 104 were qualified to vote.
- Because of the lack of prior notification to rescind the SpUD was not given, a 2/3 majority was required and 69 votes or more were needed.
- 104 votes were in favor of the motion
- 15 votes were opposed

The motion passed to rescind the Meadow Lakes Special Use District.

Sincerely,



Terry Boyle
Board President

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

LaMarr Anderson
Dan Elliott
John Moosey

Rick Besse, Vice Chair
Beth Fread
Ken Walch

Don Carney, Chair
David Lundin
Sonya Walden

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING
MSB Assembly Chambers
350 E. Dahlia Avenue
Palmer, AK 99645

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

2:00 – 4:30 pm

Conference Line: (907) 861-7888

Access Code: 67630734, #

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. AUDIENCE INTRODUCTION
- IV. APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA
- V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING
 - A. January 21, 2015
- VII. INFORMATION FROM THE CHAIR
 - A. Affordable Housing Meeting
 - B. Title 43 (Debbie will send Don a copy of the modifications)
- VIII. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS
 - A. Cities
 1. Palmer, 2015 construction projects
 2. Wasilla, 2015 construction projects
 - B. State Agencies
 1. Allen Kemplen, 2015 construction projects (update of Central Region's Projects in the msb:)
 - C. MSB Staff
 1. Mike Brown, update of 2015 construction projects
 2. Mike Campfield, update of Seldon Ext., Phase 2 - route selection update
 - D. Tribal Organizations
 - 1.
 - E. Transit Services
 1. Debbie will ask if they want to give a transit consolidation update

IX. PRESENTATIONS

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*limited to three minutes*)

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discuss and amend TAB Resolution 15-02, recommending the adoption of a policy that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the State Department of Transportation and Public Facilities include separated pathways when constructing or reconstructing any collector or arterial roads within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.
- B. Report on Proposed 2015 Road Bond Package workshop held on 2-17-2015 by Don Carney.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss House Bill No. 21 "An Act relating to regional transit authorities"
- B. TAB Resolution 15-04, House Bill No. 21 (Debbie will invite sponsor/staff to come and discuss)

XIII. UPCOMING MEETING REMINDER(S)

- A. Our next regular TAB meeting will be on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 2:00 - 4:30 pm in the Assembly chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, AK 99645

XIV. MISC. INFORMATIONAL HANDOUTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Next Planning Commission Meeting Information
- B.

XV. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD****REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 21, 2015****I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm.

II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Transportation Advisory Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. LaMarr Anderson
Mr. Rick Besse – by telephone
Mr. Don Carney
Mr. Dan Elliott
Ms. Beth Fread
Mr. David Lundin
Mr. Kenneth Walch – joined us at 1:41
Ms. Sonya Walden - joined us at 1:40

Transportation Advisory Board members absent and excused were:

Staff and Agency Representatives in attendance were:

Mr. Brad Sworts, Transportation Manager
Mr. Mike Weller, Traffic Data Technician
Ms. Debbie Passmore, Administrative Secretary
Mr. Mike Brown, Capital Projects Director
Mr. Terry Dolan, Public Works Director
Ms. Eileen Probasco, Planning Director

III. AUDIENCE INTRODUCTION

Eugene Haberman
Peter Curtis
Bill Klebesadel, City of Wasilla
Dick Plesbey
Peggy Horton, MSB Planning
Paul Hulbert, MSB Planning
Allen Kemplen, ADOT&PF
Gary Stevig, Chickaloon
Lou Friend, Chickaloon
Sharon Scott, Mat-Su Health Foundation
David Levy, Alaska Mobility Coalition
Jennifer Tew, Valley Mover
Rosemary Vavrin
Naomi Nelson, Mat-Su Community Transit
George Hays, MSB Assistant Manager

IV. APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Beth Fread moved to approve today's agenda; Mr. LaMarr Anderson seconded. Discussion of a couple of amendments.

VOTE: Motion to approve the agenda as amended passed without objection.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Allen Kemplen.

VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**A. Chair**

MOTION: Mr. LaMarr Anderson nominated Mr. Don Carney; seconded by Mr. Dan Elliott. No other nominations.

VOTE: no objections and Mr. Don Carney accepted the nomination.

B. Vice Chair

MOTION: Mr. LaMarr Anderson nominated Mr. Rick Besse; seconded by Ms. Sonya Walden. No other nominations.

VOTE: no objections and Mr. Rick Besse accepted the nomination.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**A. December 17, 2014**

MOTION: Ms. Beth Fread moved to accept the minutes of December 17, 2014; Mr. Dan Elliott seconded. No discussion requested.

VOTE: Motion to approve the minutes passed without objection.

VIII. AGENCY AND STAFF REPORTS**A. Cities**

1. Bill Klebesadel, City of Wasilla

B. State Agencies

1. Allen Kemplen, ADOT&PF

C. MSB Staff

1. Mike Brown, MSB Capital Projects: report on Future Road Bond Projects with map and descriptions. Discussion.

MOTION: Mr. LaMarr Anderson moved that we have a TAB work session before the Assembly's 2/21 work session; seconded by Mr. Dan Elliott. Discussion. Debbie will survey the clerk/other places and board/Mike Brown to schedule this.

VOTE: no objections and we will have a three-hour work session before February 21.

2. Paul Hulbert & Peggy Horton, MSB Platting: report on Title 43 Revision Recommendations. Discussion. Allen Kemplen will create a memo outlining

additional items for our consideration.

3. Lauren Driscoll, Planning Chief: 2015/2016 Transportation Planning: Updates on projects and plans

D. Tribal Organizations

none

E. Transit Services

1. Sharon Scott - Mat-Su Transit Coalition: report on general membership meeting held Wednesday, January 7, 2015. Three points of contact: Sharon

Scott, Mat-Su Health Foundation; Naomi Nelson, MASCOT; or Rachel Greenberg, Mat-Su Senior Services.

IX. PRESENTATIONS

none

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*limited to three minutes maximum per meeting*)

Eugene Haberman

Jennifer Tew

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discuss TAB Resolution 15-01 (fka 14-09), Regarding the Formation and Funding for an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

MOTION: Ms. Beth Fread moved that this resolution be accepted and passed; Ms. Sonya Walden seconded. Discussion.

VOTE: no objections (David Lundin abstained due to unfamiliarity) and this resolution is accepted and passed.

- B. Discuss Plans to Form a Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Off Road Vehicle Policies (select two members from the TAB to be on the Task Force).

Ms. Sonya Walden volunteered to be on this Task Force. Mr. David Lundin volunteered to be on this Task Force. Mr. Don Carney volunteered to be an alternate on this Task Force. Mr. Ken Walch volunteered to be an additional alternate on this Task Force.

- C. Discuss TAB Resolution 15-02 (fka 14-12), recommending the adoption of a policy that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the State Department of Transportation and Public Facilities include separated pathways when constructing or reconstructing any collector or arterial roads within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

MOTION: Ms. Beth Fread moved that we accept and adopt this resolution. Ms. Sonya Walden seconded. Discussion.

MOTION: Ms. Beth Fread moved that this resolution be amended to remove "Consider" and substitute "Allocate Right-of-Way for"; Mr. Ken Walch seconded. Discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Ken Walch moved to postpone this until next meeting; Mr. David Lundin seconded.

VOTE: Ms. Beth Fread objected. We took a vote: yeah = we postpone; nay = no, we don't postpone.

Ms. Sonya Walden: no

Mr. Dan Elliott: yes

Mr. Ken Walch: yes

Mr. Rick Besse: yes

Mr. LaMarr Anderson: yes

Mr. David Lundin: yes

Ms. Beth Fread: no

Results: Five votes to postpone, two votes to not postpone; this resolution is postponed until the next meeting.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss TAB Resolution 15-03, in Support of Future Road Bond Projects

MOTION: Mr. Rick Besse moved that we accept and pass this resolution; Ms. Beth Fread seconded. Discussion.

MOTION TO AMEND: Mr. Rick Besse moved that we add "pathways and other transportation infrastructure" in the last sentence of the Now Therefore paragraph on page 2; Mr. Dan Elliott seconded. Discussion.

VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT: yes = add the language; no = don't add the language

Ms. Beth Fread: no

Mr. David Lundin: yes

Mr. LaMarr Anderson: yes

Mr. Ken Walch: no

Mr. Dan Elliott: no

Ms. Sonya Walden: no

Mr. Rick Besse: yes

Mr. Don Carney: yes

Results: Tied without five; this amendment to add the additional wording fails.

VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION: no objection and this resolution is passed without an amendment.

XIII. UPCOMING MEETING REMINDER(S)

- A. Our next regular TAB meeting will be on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 - 4:30 pm in the Assembly chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, AK 99645

XIV. MISC. INFORMATIONAL HANDOUTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Next Planning Commission Meeting Information
B. Final 2016-2021 CIP (Transportation Projects)
C. State of Alaska, House Bill No. 21 "An Act relating to regional transit authorities."
D. Board membership update

XV. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Sonya Walden: Welcome, Dave!

Mr. Dan Elliott: no comment

Mr. Ken Walch: nothing

Ms. Beth Fread: Is there any way to get our Resolution 15-01 to the Planning Commission at their February 2, 2015 meeting? I see that the deadline for the February 2 meeting has ... we've missed that deadline. I would hope that staff could get the RTPO resolution before the Planning Commission prior to February 13 because we've missed the time for the February meeting of the Planning Commission for the RTPO. Today was the deadline for the packet items. The agenda items was two days ago. Would like to put HB21 and a draft resolution on the next TAB meeting's agenda. I don't care if it's in support or against; we can amend it. Other than that, welcome to the board, Dave. And I'm glad to see everybody participating!

Mr. David Lundin: I just wanted to say thank you for having me and that hopefully I can be a useful and positive addition to the Board.

Mr. LaMarr Anderson: I'll just echo the welcome. You're going to bring great expertise and experience to the Board as already evidenced. I would request an update to the TAB on the Glenn Hwy Upgrade from the interchange to Palmer from the ADOT&PF at a future meeting.

Mr. Rick Besse: I just want to reiterate my support of the road bond projects. This community has matured enough to at least contribute part of our transportation infrastructure. I think that's really super important to keep that momentum going. The last one we did was very successful and accepted by the public. And so it's one of those things we need to do as a community is to keep...if nothing else, keep up with it so that

you don't have a major ... the success of the community is really based a lot on transportation. So anyway I just really support that. I was a little confused by that amendment I offered. I didn't intend to confuse anybody by it. I still have that support of the road bond projects and I think it's important that the board keep up with that support, also. Welcome, Dave, we need your expertise so thank you!

Brad: By the next meeting I should have an update for you on all of the construction projects that will be coming up in summer of 2015.

Mr. Don Carney: I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave for not only being our new member but also actively participating today. That's a good sign for me. We have an active member that's going to be a great addition to our team and, again, welcome aboard. I'd like to thank the entire Board for their efforts on these resolutions that we dealt with. These were not easy ones but they were extremely important and I think they could be very effective if we continue to support them through the process. Anytime we get the opportunity to bring a resolution up to people that we are talking to or associating with and keep the subject... you know, keep the pan on the fire, so to speak, and that way maybe we can get results. And again I appreciate everybody's help. I appreciate the people out there for attending and putting your time and efforts into our meeting, also. So we actually are looking at the opportunity to adjourn early. Are there any objections?

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Don Carney, Chair

ATTEST:

Debbie Passmore, Admin. Support

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH****Office of the Borough Clerk**

350 E. Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, Alaska 99645-6488

Phone (907) 745-9683 • Fax (907) 745-9845

MEMORANDUM**DATE:** February 13, 2015**TO:** Larry DeVilbiss, Borough Mayor
Members of the Assembly
Members of the Planning Commission**FROM:** Lonnie R. McKechnie, CMC, Borough Clerk **SUBJECT:** **March 24, 2015, Joint Assembly/Planning Commission Meeting**

As required by MSB 2.12.075(B), March 24, 2015, is scheduled for a joint Assembly/Planning Commission meeting. Please contact me with any agenda items for this meeting no later than March 13, 2015, as this date will facilitate publication of the agenda in the Frontiersman Newspaper in a timely manner. Thank you.

cc: John Moosey, Borough Manager
Nick Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Eileen Probasco, Planning Director
Mary Brodigan, Planning Commission Secretary

This Page
Intentionally
Left Blank

COMMISSION BUSINESS
Upcoming PC Agenda Items

(Page 385 - 390)

COMMISSION BUSINESS

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH****Planning and Land Use Department**

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645

Phone (907) 861-7833 • Fax (907) 861-7876

Email: planning@matsugov.us**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: February 20, 2015

TO: Planning Commissioners

FROM: Eileen Probasco, Director of Planning and Land Use

SUBJECT: Items tentatively scheduled for future PC Meetings or Administrative Actions and Updates on PC items sent to the Assembly

March 16, 2015 (MSB Assembly Chambers)**Introduction for Public Hearing Quasi-Judicial***(None)***Introduction for Public Hearing Legislative***(None)***Agency/Staff Reports***(None)***Land Use Classifications***(None)***Public Hearing Quasi-Judicial**

- **Resolution 15-08**, A conditional use permit under MSB 17.25 – Talkeetna Special Use District to allow for the construction of three additional cabins at Susitna River Lodging. This property is located at 23094 S. Talkeetna Spur Road; within Township 26 North, Range 5 West, Section 25, Seward Meridian, Parcel # D4. (*Applicant: Howard and Darlene Hunter, Staff: Susan Lee*)

Public Hearing Legislative

- **Resolution 15-07**, A resolution recommending approval to name a lake within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough as “Chida/Tsucde Lake. Township 17 North, Range 02 East, Section 17. Seward Meridian. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (*Staff: Eileen Probasco*)

- **Resolution 15-09**, A resolution recommending approval to change the geographic names of two lakes, a creek and a mountain within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough from Deadman's Lake to Kacaagh Lake, from Big Lake to Lowland Kacaagh Lake, from Deadman's Creek to Kacaagh Creek, and from Deadman's Mountain to Kacaagh Mountain. Public Hearing: March 16, 2015. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
- **Resolution 15-10**, A resolution recommending the Assembly request that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) address the issue of identifying the causes of Cottonwood Creek being designated as an impaired waterbody. (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
- **Resolution 15-11**, A resolution recommending the Assembly form and fund an MSB Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO). (Staff: Transportation Advisory Board)

Unfinished Business*(None)*

April 6, 2015 (MSB Assembly Chambers)**Introduction for Public Hearing Quasi-Judicial***(None)***Introduction for Public Hearing Legislative***(None)***Agency/Staff Reports***(None)***Land Use Classifications***(None)***Public Hearing Quasi-Judicial**

- *(None)*

Public Hearing Legislative*(None)***Unfinished Business***(None)*

Upcoming PC ActionsQuasi-Judicial

- Burnett, Lot 12B, Setback Variance (6058000L012B). (Staff: Susan Lee)
- Victor Damyan junkyard CUP, 17N02W27B006. (Staff: Susan Lee)
- B&E Construction, Earth Materials CUP, 18N02W24D001. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)
- BXC Earth Materials Extraction CUP, 17N01E10A013 & 17N01E03D003. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)

- Butte Land Co., Earth Materials Extraction CUP, 17N02E35A024. (Staff: Susan Lee)
- Tews Junkyard CUP, 18N01W31A014. (Staff: Susan Lee)

Legislative

- Denali State Park SpUD (Staff: Eileen Probasco)
- Noise and Sound Code Update (Throughout MSB Code): Amendments will make noise and sound requirements more consistent, enforceable, and reasonable. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)
- Mass Excavation IMD Modification (Staff: Susan Lee)
- Dirt Works IMD, 17N02E26C002. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)

Other Upcoming Administrative Actions (Not going to the PC)

- Alaskan Estates - Multifamily Permit. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)
- Nash/Chijuk Creek NRMU Timber Transportation Permit. (Staff: Susan Lee)
- Donovan Estates - Multifamily Permit. (Staff: Mark Whisenhunt)
- MEA Eklutna Generation Station Public Participation Plan, Segment 2. (Staff: Susan Lee)
- Trapper Creek Bluegrass Festival Special Event Permit. (Staff: Susan Lee)

Updates/Presentations/Work Sessions

- MSB road project update (Staff: Mike Brown, Capital Projects Director)
- Quasi-Judicial Proceedings, Conflicts of Interest, and Ethics, - Schedule through MSB Law.
- Planning Commission Powers (Staff: Lauren Driscoll, Alex Strawn, and Assistant Borough Attorney)

Updates on PC items that have gone to the Assembly (Final)

Planning Commission		Assembly	
Reso		ORD/Reso #	IM
Resolution 14-18 , a resolution recommending Assembly approval of an ordinance amending MSB 17.125, Definitions and MSB 17.60, Conditional Uses, and adopting MSB 17.67, Tall Structures including telecommunication facilities, wind energy conversion systems, and other tall structures. (Staff: Alex Strawn)		ORD # 15-016	IM # 15-024
Actions:	08/21/14 - PC Introduction 09/15/14 - PC Public Hearing - Postponed until 10/06/14 10/06/14 - Unfinished Business - Amended/Approved 01/20/15 - Assembly Introduction 02/03/15 - Assembly Public Hearing - Amended/Adopted		

Planning Commission		Assembly	
Reso		ORD/Reso #	IM
Resolution 14-32 , a resolution recommending the Assembly amend MSB 15.39.010 to add a definition, amending sections MSB 15.39.270; MSB 15.39.300; MSB 15.39.320; MSB 15.39.340; and MSB 15.39.350 and adopting MSB 15.39.360 relating to the appellate process for personal wireless service facilities. (Staff: Shannon Bodolay)		ORD # 15-014	IM # 15-023
Actions:	10/06/14 - PC Introduction 10/20/14 - PC Public Hearing 01/20/15 - Assembly Introduction 02/03/15 - Assembly Public Hearing - Amended/Adopted		

Updates on PC items that have gone to the Assembly (Pending)

Planning Commission		Assembly	
Reso		ORD/Reso #	IM
Resolution 14-23 , a resolution recommending Assembly approval of a land sale by application of a borough-owned parcel identified as lot 1002, Caswell Lakes Subdivision, containing .38 acres, to the adjacent property owner for fair market value. (Staff: Nancy Cameron)		ORD # 14-__	IM # 14-__
Actions:	08/04/14 - PC Introduction 08/18/14 - PC Public Hearing - Amended/Approved		

Planning Commission		Assembly	
Reso		ORD/Reso #	IM
Resolution 14-24 , a resolution recommending Assembly approval to classify lands and approve these lands for inclusion in the 2014 Competitive Bid Land Sale. (MSB006910) (Staff: Nancy Cameron)		ORD # 14-__	IM # 14-__
Actions:	08/04/14 - PC Introduction 08/18/14 - PC Public Hearing - Amended/Approved		

Planning Commission		Assembly	
Reso		ORD/Reso #	IM
Resolution 14-25 , a resolution recommending Assembly adoption of the Jordan Lake Parcel Master Plan Update. (Staff: Hugh Leslie)		ORD # 14-__	IM # 14-__
Actions:	08/18/14 - PC Introduction 09/15/14 - PC Public Hearing - Approved		