

## **APPENDIX H**

### **SCOPING SUMMARY**

- Mailing List
- Scoping Letter
- Response to Scoping
- Newspaper Affidavits
- Public Meeting Summary and Sign-in-Sheet

## **Mailing List**

**Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border Scoping Mailing List**

Mr./Ms.	First	Last	Title	Division	Organization	Address	City	State	Zip
Ms.	Mary	Figarelle			US Bureau of Land Management	P.O. Box 309	Tok	AK	99780
Mr.	Leroy	Phillips		CEPOA-CO-R Regulatory Branch	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	P.O. Box 6898	Elmendorf AFB	AK	99506-6898
Mr.	Pat	Sousa			U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	101 12th Avenue, Box 19	Fairbanks	AK	99701
Ms.	Jeanne	Hansen			National Marine Fisheries Service	222 West 7th Avenue, Box 43	Anchorage	AK	99513-7577
Ms.	Judith	Leckrone-Lee			U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	1200 6th Avenue (MSECO-088)	Seattle	WA	98101-1128
Mr.	Bill	Smyth			Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation	610 University Avenue	Fairbanks	AK	99709
Mr.	Alan	Wien			Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation	P.O. Box 871064	Wasilla	AK	99687
Mr.	Frank	Maxwell		Division of Mining, Land and Water Management	Alaska Department of Natural Resources	3700 Airport Way	Fairbanks	AK	99709-4699
Ms.	Judith	Bitner		Division of History and Archeology	Alaska Department of Natural Resources	550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1310	Anchorage	AK	99501-3565
Dr.	Al	Ott		Habitat and Restoration Division	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	1300 College Road	Fairbanks	AK	99701-1599
Ms.	Irene	Catalone			Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development	209 Forty Mile Avenue	Fairbanks	AK	99701
Mr.	Norm	Phillips		Lands Department	Doyon, Limited	1 Doyon Place, Suite 300	Fairbanks	AK	99701
Mr.	Jim	Helfinstine		Office of Aids to Navigation	U.S. Coast Guard	P.O. Box 25517	Juneau	AK	99802-5517
Ms.	Bobby	Lounsbury	President		Alaska Women in Mining	P.O. Box 70983	Fairbanks	AK	99707
					Tanacross Village Council	P.O. Box 76009	Tanacross	AK	99776
					Tanacross Village Corporation	P.O. Box 76029	Tanacross	AK	99776

Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border Scoping Mailing List

Mr./Ms.	First	Last	Title	Division	Organization	Address	City	State	Zip
					Tetlin Tribal Council	P.O. Box TTL	Tetlin	AK	99779
					Alaska Gateway Schools	P.O. Box 226	Tok	AK	99780
					Tok Chamber of Commerce	P.O. Box 389	Tok	AK	99780
					Tok Community Umbrella Corp.	P.O. Box 547	Tok	AK	99780
					Tok Native Association	P.O. Box 372	Tok	AK	99780
					United Crow Band, Inc.	P.O. Box 2279	Dot Lake	AK	99737-2279
					Northway Village Council	P.O. Box 516	Northway	AK	99764
Mr.	Steve	Borell	Executive Director		Alaska Miners Association	305 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 20	Anchorage	AK	99503
Mr.	Bill	Jeffress			Alaska Miners Association	P.O. Box 73726	Fairbanks	AK	99707
Mr.	Jeff	Owen	President		40-Mile Miners Association	3000 E. Stillwater Way	Redding	CA	96003
Mr.	David	Likins	past president of 40-mile miners association			P.O. Box 106	Eagle	AK	99738

## **Scoping Letter**

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

*DESIGN & ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION, NORTHERN REGION*

**FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR**

2301 PEGER ROAD  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-5316  
TELEPHONE: (907) 451-5293  
TDD: (907) 451-2363  
FAX: (907) 451-5103

December 4, 2002

Re: Taylor Highway, Milepost 64.5 to  
the Canadian Border  
Project No. 66446

Mr. Donald Adams  
President  
Tetlin Tribal Council  
P. O. Box TTL  
Tetlin, Alaska 99779

Dear Mr. Adams:

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is soliciting comments and information on a proposal to rehabilitate and improve the structural integrity of the Taylor Highway from the Mosquito Fork Bridge (Milepost 64.5) north to the Canadian Border. ASCG, Inc. (ASCG) is assisting ADOT&PF with the preparation of the environmental document.

A number of years have passed since the project was first proposed and varying degrees of coordination have been conducted. At this point, we have decided to avoid confusion by beginning the environmental process as though this were a new project.

## **Proposed Action**

The project begins at the Mosquito Fork Bridge and ends at the Canadian Border. The project is located on the U.S. Geological Survey quad maps Eagle A-1 and A-2. Sections, Townships, Ranges, and Meridian are included in Attachment 1. A location and vicinity map is presented as Figures 1 and 2. The work entails minor road realignments; roadway widening and surface treatment; bridge replacement and repair; drainage improvements; turnout, wayside, and parking area construction; and highway sign installations. Approximately 70.8 kilometers (44 miles) of highway are affected.

The present highway alignment will be maintained except for minor realignments to reduce curvature on corners and shifting the highway away from the Wade Creek floodplain between MP 84 and 85. The proposed highway realignments at corners average 0 to 15 meters (0 to 50 feet) from the existing highway centerline. Along Wade Creek, the maximum shift is 30 meters (0 to 100 feet) from the centerline. The road will be improved by widening the road to 28 feet with two 12-foot lanes and 2-foot shoulders, and surfaced with a "high float asphalt". Drainage will be improved to convey water away from the road by ditching parallel to the road and installing cross-drainage under the road.

Waysides will be constructed at two locations: Walker Fork (MP 82) and Jack Wade Dredge (MP 86). The Jack Wade Dredge wayside will be located on the southeast side of the road and will have parking and interpretive signing. The Walker Fork wayside will also be located on the southeast side of the road and will have outhouses, interpretive signing, and possible picnic tables. Scenic turnouts are planned where the new road will accommodate using the old road for turnouts at MP 77 on the east side of the road and MP 78 on the northwest side of the road. A trailhead parking area is planned for the Mosquito Fork Dredge Hiking Trail (MP 68) on the south side of the highway within ADOT&PF right-of-way. The parking area will have no facilities. See Figures 1 and 2 for the locations of the waysides, turnouts, and parking area. Highway signing will also be installed, including milepost markers and standard highway signs for direction and safety information.


The current one lane bridge over Chicken Creek will be replaced during project construction by a two lane single span bridge. The new bridge will be located at the same location as the current bridge. A temporary crossing will be installed during construction of the new bridge. Bridge approach railing and bridge deck railing will also be installed on the South Fork and Walker Fork bridges. In addition, there will be pier work on the South Fork bridge to repair concrete spalling.

Culverts will also be installed at numerous locations to maintain natural drainage patterns. All culverts will be sized and installed to maintain water flow during high-water conditions and prevent restriction of fish passage. Culvert design and installation will follow guidance outlined in the "Memorandum of Agreement-Design, Permitting and Construction of Culverts for Fish Passage" between the ADOT&PF and ADF&G.

Preliminary research results that will be addressed in our Environmental Assessment document are provided in Appendix A.

If you have any comments regarding this project and the information provided, please submit written comments by **January 6, 2003**, addressed to Melissa Parker, Environmental Analyst, for the ADOT&PF Environmental Section.

If you any questions, please contact Scott Leigh, P.E., ADOT&PF Project Designer at (907) 451-5389 or email [scott\\_leigh@dot.state.ak.us](mailto:scott_leigh@dot.state.ak.us) or Kim Stricklan, ASCG Project Manager, at (907) 339-6500 or [kstricklan@ascg.com](mailto:kstricklan@ascg.com).

Sincerely,  
  
Patricia L. Wightman  
For Environmental Coordinator

KS/MP/dt

Enclosures: Figures 1 and 2  
Attachment 1

cc: Scott Leigh, P.E, Project Designer, DOT&PF, 2301 Peger Rd., Fbks., AK 99709  
Kim Stricklan, P.E., ASCG Project Mgr., 301 Arctic Slope Ave., Anchorage, AK 99518  
Tim Woster, P.E, Engineering Manager, DOT&PF, 2301 Peger Rd., Fbks., AK 99709

## ATTACHMENT 1

The project is located in:

- Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 12, Township 26 North, Range 18 East;
- Sections 31, 32, 33, 34, Township 27 North, Range 18 East;
- Section 6, Township 26 North, Range 19 East;
- Sections 24, 25, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, Township 27 North, Range 19 East;
- Sections 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, Township 27 North, Range 20 East;
- Sections 35 and 36, Township 28 North, Range 20 East;
- Section 31, Township 28 North, Range 21 East;
- Sections 5, 6, 8, 16, 17, 22, 25, 26, 27, Township 27 North, Range 21 East;
- Sections 25, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, Township 27 North, Range 22 East;
- Section 3, Township 26 North, Range 22 East, Fairbanks Meridian.

The project is found on U.S. Geologic Survey quad maps Eagle A-1 and A-2.



## Agency Scoping Questions

### USACE

Do you have any information and/or data with respect to the base floodplains, regulatory floodways, and/or special flood hazard areas of drainages that may be affected by the proposed project?

Are there any navigable waters of the U.S. in the project vicinity over which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has Section 10 authority?

Please identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

### USFWS

We have researched the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) website with respect to known threatened and/or endangered species and their habitat for the project area and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you have any other information and/or data on threatened and/or endangered species in the project area that might potentially be affected by the proposal please provide that information.

Please provide information or data on important fish and wildlife habitats or migration corridors potentially affected by the proposed project.

Please provide information on known active or inactive eagle nests in the project area.

We have researched the USFWS website with respect to identifying National Wildlife Refuge lands in or adjacent to the project area and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you know of any other existing or proposed refuge lands in the vicinity of the project, and can identify any refuge objectives or activities that may conflict with the proposed project please provide that information.

Please identify any permits and or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the project.

### NMFS

We have researched the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) website with respect to known threatened and/or endangered species and their habitat for the project area and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you have any other information and/or data on threatened and/or endangered species in the project area that might potentially be affected by the proposed project please provide that information.

We have researched the NMFS website to determine if essential fish habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Act will be impacted by the proposed project and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you have any other information on EFH species or habitat please provide that information.

## **EPA**

Please identify any sole source or principal drinking water sources that may be affected by the proposed project.

We have researched the ADEC Contaminated Sites, Spills and LUST program databases and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you know of any other confirmed or suspected contaminated sites, spills and any registered underground or above ground fuel storage tanks that may affect or be affected by the proposed project please provide that information.

Please identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

## **ADEC**

We have researched the ADEC Contaminated Sites, Spills and LUST program databases and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you know of any other confirmed or suspected contaminated sites, spills and any registered underground or above ground fuel storage tanks that may affect or be affected by the proposed project please provide that information.

Please identify any water quality concerns.

Please provide information and/or data on existing (permitted or unpermitted) solid waste landfills, dumps, discharges, or sewage lagoons in the project area.

Please provide information and/or data on existing drinking water supplies in the project area.

Please identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

## **ADNR**

We have researched the Draft Upper Yukon Area Plan for the project area and our findings are in Appendix A. If you know of any other existing or proposed land use plans and can identify any land use objectives that may conflict with the proposed project please provide that information.

We have researched the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) for the project area and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you know of any other confirmed or potential archaeological, historical, and/or cultural sites in the vicinity of the proposed project please provide that information.

## **ADFG**

We have researched the ADF&G's An Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes and our findings are identified in Appendix A. If you have any other information and/or data on anadromous or resident fish streams in the vicinity of the proposed project, including spawning/rearing habitat and migration corridors please provide that information.

Please identify any fish species within the project boundaries that may be used for subsistence.

Please provide information on wildlife other than fish in the vicinity of the proposed project.

Would the project affect wildlife migration or bisect/segment wildlife habitat?

Please identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

## Preliminary Research Results

- **Contaminated Sites, Spills and Leaking Underground Storage Tanks** – A search of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) leaking underground storage tank database indicated there were leaking underground storage tanks at Milepost (MP) 74 of the Taylor Highway at the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) South Fork Maintenance and Operation Station (Facility ID No. 1765). The tanks were removed in 1998 and soil was excavated and stockpiled on site, but gasoline range organics contamination remains beneath the dispenser island. This location is outside of the project corridor and will not be affected by the proposed project.

A review of the ADEC contaminated sites database indicated there were no documented contaminated sites in the project corridor.

A review of the ADEC spill database indicated there was one spill in 1994 at MP 92-96. 200 gallons of diesel were spilled during a truck rollover. The case was closed on July 2, 1996.

A 12 foot by 10 foot area of stained soil was observed during the site visit on September 12, 2002 at MP 83.7 on the north side of the road. In addition to the stained soil there were miscellaneous metal debris and partially buried drums. This area is outside of the project corridor and will not be affected by the proposed project.

Along the project corridor there are numerous areas with old mining equipment, miscellaneous metal debris, tires, and old vehicles. There is also metal debris in Wade Creek and ponded areas adjacent to the current road.

- **Landfills** – The ADEC list of *Solid Waste Sites: Interior Region* identifies a closed Class III landfill at MP 77 of the Taylor Highway. No other landfills are identified in the project corridor.
- **Anadromous Fish Streams** – In a search of Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G) *An Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes* no anadromous fish streams were identified in the project area. Resident fish in the project area include arctic grayling, sheefish, longnose sucker, round whitefish, and slimy sculpin.
- **State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries** – A review of the ADF&G publication *State of Alaska Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries* indicated there are no State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas or Sanctuaries in the project area.

- **State Land Use Plans** – The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) has published a *Draft Upper Yukon Area Plan*. There is also a *River Management Plan for the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River* and *Fortymile, A Minimum Personnel Contact Visitor Management Program* both managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The proposed project is consistent with all three plans.
- **Historical, Archeological and Cultural Properties** – A review of the Alaska Heritage Survey in September 2002 identified 17 potential historic sites in the project vicinity. A cultural resource survey is being conducted by the State Historic Preservation Office to determine whether or not the proposed project will affect any historic sites.
- **Coastal Zone Management** – A review of the Coastal Zone Boundaries map showed that the project is not located within a designated Coastal Zone.
- **Federal Recreation Areas** – There are no Federal Recreation Areas in the project area.
- **Navigability**– The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Navigable Waters web page indicates there are no navigable waters within the proposed project area. However, the *Draft Upper Yukon Area Plan* identifies the South Fork, Walker Fork, and Mosquito Fork as navigable waters. It is also likely that Chicken Creek is considered navigable. Approach and bridge railing work will occur at the South Fork (MP 75.3) and Walker Fork (MP 81.9) bridges. In-water work will occur at the South Fork Bridge to repair concrete damage/spalling on the piers. In-water work will occur at Chicken Creek during bridge replacement. A USACE Section 404/10 permit and coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard will be required for work on the South Fork and Chicken Creek bridges.
- **Flood Plain Management** – There are no Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood maps for the project area. The Alaska Community Flood Hazard Information website did not have flood information for Chicken or Boundary. According to a BLM publication *Water Resources of the Fortymile National Wild & Scenic River, Alaska* the Mosquito Fork is subject to flooding during moderate to high water, the South Fork is subject to flooding only during extreme high water, and the Walker Fork is subject to flooding during moderate to high water. During the site visit there was evidence of erosion from high water of the Taylor Highway along Wade Creek at approximately MP 83 and 84. The proposed project will move portions of the Taylor Highway out of the Wade Creek floodplain.
- **Wetlands** – There are no National Wetlands Inventory Maps available for the project area. A wetlands delineation based on aerial photography and field verification was conducted on September 10 to 13, 2002. A wetlands delineation report is currently being prepared. Preliminary information indicates that most

areas with black spruce forest are considered wetlands along the Taylor Highway. Changes in the road footprint will likely result in impacts to the forested spruce wetlands. There are also scrub shrub and emergent wetlands associated with Wade and Walker Creeks along the road right of way. These wetlands have been highly disturbed by mining activities. It is likely that a Section 404 permit would be needed from the USACE for the proposed project.

- **Threatened and Endangered Species** – Neither the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) web sites indicated threatened or endangered species existing in the project area. The USFWS indicated in a letter dated March 27, 2000 that the American peregrine falcon is likely to be present in the project area. The American peregrine falcon was removed from the list of threatened and endangered species in 1999, but could be emergency listed at any time.
- **Eagles** – Although bald eagles are not considered endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act in the State of Alaska, they still benefit from the protection of the Bald Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act. ADOT&PF will coordinate with USFWS to determine if bald eagles are present in the project area.
- **Essential Fish Habitat** – Based on ADF&G Anadromous Fish Stream Maps and the National Marine Fisheries (NMFS) website there is no Essential Fish Habitat in the project area.
- **National Wildlife Refuges** – The USFWS web site indicates there are no National Wildlife Refuges in the project area. The closest National Wildlife Refuge is the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge located approximately 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of the project area near the Alaska Highway.
- **National Parks, Preserves, Monuments and Wild and Scenic Rivers** – The Fortymile River and certain tributaries were designated as part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1980. The Mosquito Fork is designated as Wild north of the Taylor Highway Bridge from Ingle Creek upstream to the confluence of Kechumstuk Creek. Rivers in the project area that are designated as Scenic include the Mosquito Fork north of the Taylor Highway Bridge to Ingle Creek and south of the Taylor Highway Bridge, South Fork, and Walker Fork. Wade Creek is classified as Recreational. The project is within the Wild and Scenic River Corridor for 26.6 kilometers (16.5 miles). For 7.2 kilometers (4.5 miles) the Taylor Highway parallels the Wild and Scenic Boundary between South Fork and Walker Fork.
- **Material and Disposal Sites** – Material for road construction will come from road cuts/unclassified excavation and tailings from Wade Creek. There are also nine state-owned material sites available if they are needed during construction. Figures 1 and 2 shows the locations of material sites. Additional unclassified

excavation will be used as slope flattening in non-wetland areas. Disposal sites have not yet been identified. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and all necessary permits and clearances for material and disposal sites will be obtained prior to construction.

- **Impacts to Waterbodies** – Streams within the project corridor that could be temporarily affected by road rehabilitation include: Chicken Creek, Lost Chicken Creek, South Fork, Walker Fork, Wade Creek, Warner Creek, Gilliland Creek, and several unnamed tributaries to Wade Creek. The Chicken Creek bridge will be replaced with a single span bridge. In-water work will be required at the Chicken Creek bridge for replacement of the old bridge. Approach and bridge railing work will be performed on the South Fork and Walker Fork bridges. In-water work will be required at the South Fork Bridge to repair a concrete pier. Work will be conducted at and below the water line. No reclamation of the Wade Creek floodplain will occur as outlined in previous project plans. An ADF&G habitat permit will be required for work in fish bearing streams including Chicken Creek and South Fork.

Culverts will also be installed at numerous locations to maintain natural drainage patterns. All culverts will be sized and installed to maintain water flow during high-water conditions and prevent restriction of fish passage. Culvert design and installation will follow guidance outlined in the “Memorandum of Agreement – Design, Permitting and Construction of Culverts for Fish Passage” between the ADOT&PF and ADF&G.

- **Right-of-Way** - Right of Way (ROW) status for the Taylor Highway, MP 64 to the Canadian Border project is complex. There are no current ROW Plans for this portion of the Taylor Highway and Boundary Spur. Public Land Orders and Secretarial Orders dating from 1949 and 1951 established a ROW for the Taylor Highway (referred to as the Tok-Eagle Road in historical documents) at 200 feet wide. The Boundary Spur road ROW is 100 feet wide as established by the same Orders. However, these ROWs are subject to valid existing rights, including federal mining claims, homesteads, and trade and manufacturing sites that may predate the establishment of the ROW for the Taylor Highway and Boundary Spur. In such areas, the ROW claim is likely to be limited to "ditch-to-ditch", or the actual prism occupied by the road and necessary for its ongoing maintenance.

Unpatented federal mining claims exist in the area of the Jack Wade dredge, but they appear to be subject to a 200-foot wide ROW along the current alignment of the Taylor Highway. Realignment of the road in a southeasterly direction and construction of a new wayside will likely place the new facility in an unpatented federal mining claim. ROW acquisition would then be required from both the holder of the mineral rights and the BLM.

## **Response to Scoping**



**Miller, Beth**

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**From:** Lawrence R. Peltz [Lawrence.Peltz@noaa.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2002 2:06 PM  
**To:** Melissa Parker  
**Subject:** Taylor Highway Rehabilitation



Card for Lawrence  
Peltz (501 B...

Melissa,

I have reviewed the Agency Scoping Letter for the Taylor Highway Rehabilitation Project from the Mosquito Fork Bridge to the Canadian border. The described action will not result in any adverse effect to EFH. No EFH Assessment is required and NMFS does not offer any EFH Conservation Recommendations. Further EFH consultation is not necessary. NMFS has no objection to the project. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks.



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

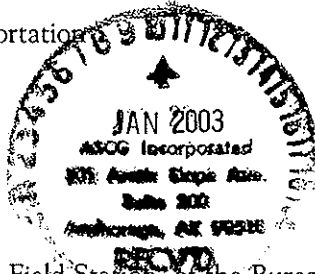
Northern Field Office  
Fortymile Management Team

P.O. Box 309  
Tok, Alaska 99780  
(907) 883-5121  
Fax: (907) 883-5123

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
DOTPF/2800

Ms. Melissa Parker  
Environmental Analyst  
State of Alaska Dept. of Transportation  
and Public Facilities  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5316

JAN 3 2003



Dear Ms. Parker:

The Northern Field Office, Tok Field Station, of the Bureau of Land Management wishes to respond to your scoping letter concerning the Taylor Highway Proposal (Mosquito Fork Bridge to the Canadian Border). As you have noted, the highway that you are proposing work on crosses the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River (NWSR) corridor which BLM manages. The Wild and Scenic River Act declared it a policy of the United States that "selected rivers of the nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be protected in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations."

There are a few specific comments at this time on the brief overview you have presented. Please note the following concerns:

1. Format/editorial:
  - a. Map attachment: The Mosquito Fork Bridge directional arrow should point to the bridge crossing over the Mosquito Fork River, not the creek drainage near the Chicken airport;
  - b. Page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet under "Preliminary Research Results": the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River Management Plan is a federal land use plan operating under federal law and regulations, not a state plan as written; and
  - c. "Turnaout" as indicated on the topographic map near the South Fork would be "turnout" without the "a".
2. Cultural: No additional comment at this time as the SHPO has been contacted and appears to be directly involved in the process.
3. Subsistence: ANILCA requires a finding and evaluation of the impacts of any land use action using federal dollars and/or land. The contractor and DOT&PF will need to research and include an ANILCA 810 Finding and Evaluation in the appendix. If you follow the same CEQ guidelines we do, a subsistence discussion will need to be included in the affected environment and consequences sections.
4. T&E: The proposal letter and Appendix A indicate that you will be within compliance on T&E and the Bald Eagle Protection Act. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act Executive Order (EO) may require additional sections with mitigation. Some agencies are nearing completion on MOUs on how to comply with the EO (including BLM).

5. Signing: If realignment or placement of turnouts and waysides displaces any of the BLM signing indicating that one is entering or leaving the NWSR corridor for the purpose of federal subsistence hunting, then the signs will need replacing at the new crossing points.
6. Visitor Enhancements/Recreation: An updated listing of turnouts/pullouts and waysides will be mailed next week to Jerry Rafson, DOTP&F Planner, with a copy to Scott Leigh, DOTP&PF Project Designer.
7. Lands: It appears that right-of-way authorization may be needed from the BLM for MP 84-85 realignment. The turnouts/pullouts designated for MP 77 and 78 and the site along the Goat Trail above Walker Fork appear to be within the existing road right-of-way at this time.
8. Water: An internal Section 7 (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) analysis must be done by BLM to insure that the free-flowing condition of the watershed within the corridor will not be impacted. The recommendations from this analysis need to be included in your environmental document.

In conclusion, our specialists have indicated a need for additional detailed information before they can make more specific recommendations on the proposed action. This includes specific alignment changes, material pits and crusher sites, construction camp sites, culvert/bridge dimensions and locations, and other structures/facilities that could affect the natural resources. Specifically, any and all technical water channel/flow/quality information is required for us to answer some of our Section 7 questions.

Please contact Nancy Whicker, Realty Specialist, ([nancy\\_whicker@ak.blm.gov](mailto:nancy_whicker@ak.blm.gov)) or myself at (907) 883-5121 for more information.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Figarelle  
Fortymile Team Manager

cc: Kim Stricklan, P.E., ASCG Project Mgr. ✓  
Scott Leigh P.E., Project Designer, DOTP&F  
Tim Woster, P.E., Engineering Manager, DOTP&F

NWhicker: Realty\AK DOTPF\Correspondence\Hwy propose comment ltr 010203.doc

## Miller, Beth

---

**From:** Wien, Alan [Alan\_Wien@envircon.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 03, 2002 3:24 PM  
**To:** 'melissa\_parker@dot.state.ak.us'  
**Subject:** Taylor Highway, Project 66446

> This is in response to the questions to DEC in the scoping letter for  
> the referenced project:  
>  
> 1. Identify any contaminated sites, spills, or registered underground  
> or above ground fuel storage tanks in the project area.  
> The database you have already researched is the best source for the  
> information requested.  
>  
> 2. Identify any water quality concerns.  
> DEC water quality concerns will be addressed in conjunction with COE  
> permitting.  
>  
> 3. Provide info/data on existing solid waste landfills, dumps,  
> discharges, or sewage lagoons in the project area.  
> This level of research is a service this department does not provide.  
> Our facility and property files are available for public review.  
> You or your contractor are welcome to visit the Fairbanks office to  
> review these files. Please have property legal descriptions and/or  
> facility names for the correct files to be located for you.  
>  
> 4. Provide information and/or data on existing drinking water  
> supplies in the project area.  
> This level of research is a service this department does not provide.  
> Our facility and property files are available for public review.  
> You or your contractor are welcome to visit the Fairbanks office to  
> review these files. Please have property legal descriptions and/or  
> facility names for the correct files to be located for you.  
>  
> 5. Identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your  
> agency for the proposed project.  
> To help you determine if any other DEC approvals are needed for your  
> project, please check out our on-line Permit Questionnaire at  
> <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/sps/questionintro.asp>.  
>  
>  
> Alan Wien

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

### HABITAT AND RESTORATION DIVISION

FRANK MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

1300 COLLEGE RD.  
FAIRBANKS, AK 97701  
PHONE: (907) 459-7289  
FAX: (907) 456-3091

December 4, 2002

Ms. Patricia L. Wightman  
Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
2301 Peper Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5399

Dear Ms. Wightman:

RE: Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to Canadian Border; Project No. 66446.

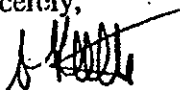
The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has reviewed your November 29, 2002, Agency Scoping Request for the referenced project. We concur with the preliminary findings outlined in the scoping request. For your information, a copy of the fish stream log for the Taylor Highway and Boundary Spur is enclosed.

Within the project reach, the general areas surrounding Chicken and Jack Wade Junction are intensively used caribou, moose and bear hunting areas. Under the current levels of highway use, the proposed road upgrades are not anticipated to affect wildlife migrations or negatively bisect critical wildlife habitats.

An ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit may be required for activities affecting fish-bearing waterbodies if ADF&G determines that the proposed activity could impede the free and efficient passage of fish. ADF&G will make that determination once plans and specifications are available for review.

If there are any additional questions please contact Mac McLean at 907-459-7281.

Sincerely,

  
Alvin G. Ott, Regional Supervisor  
Habitat and Restoration Division

Enclosure (1)

AGO/mac

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	12/11/02	# of pages	5
To	Kim Strickland	From	Tom Woster		
Co./Dept.	ASCG	Co.	DOT/AF		
Phone #	339-6568	Phone #	451-2288		
Fax #	339-5329	Fax #	451-5126		

# Taylor Highway - Fish Stream Log

Y = Yes, field surveys completed  
 P = Professional judgement.. No known fish surveys have been conducted.

Waterbody	Mile Post	STA	Channel Slope	Estimated Upstream Habitat (miles)	Surveyed (Y/P)	Fish Species	NOTES
	27	42+841	3.0%	0.8	P	AG	
	28.5	45+401	11.4%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	30	47+886	17.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	32	50+815	17.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	33.5	52+909	9.5%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	36	57+356	8.5%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	41	64+728	8.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	41.5	65+276	10.4%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	42.5	67+143	3.8%	1.2	P	AG	
	78		7.9%		P	Non-Fish	Channel slope at upper limit for AG (8%) Doesn't cross Taylor Hwy. Enters S.F. immediately south of highway.
Wall Street	76.1		3.8%	2.1	Y	AG	
	76.6		9.5%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	Channel slope steeper than upper limit for AG (8%)
	77.8		12.6%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	Channel slope steeper than upper limit for AG (8%)
	81.7		12.6%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	82.1	27+556		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	82.3	27+800?		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	83.0	28+871		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	83.6	29+850		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	84.3	31+435	35.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	85.4	32+600	18.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	85.9	33+340?	5.4%	1.9	P	AG	
	87.1	35+140	38.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	87.4	35+700	38.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	88.0	36+500	18.9%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	88.4	37+300?	28.4%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	

# Taylor Highway - Fish Stream Log

Y = Yes, field surveys completed  
 P = Professional judgement. No known fish surveys have been conducted.

Waterbody	Mile Post	STA	Channel Slope	Estimated Upstream Habitat (miles)	Surveyed (Y/P)	Fish Species	NOTES
Taylor Creek	88.7		6.3%	0.8	P	AG	Not listed by ADOT&PF.
Jefferson Creek	88.8	37+800?	5.4%	1.1	P	AG	
	89.1	38+270	38.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
Fifteen Gulch	89.3	38+580	38.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	89.3	39+615	38.0%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	90.0	39+630	9.5%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	
Austin Creek	90.0						
Robinson Creek	90.6	40+680	3.2%	2.4	P	AG	
	90.8	40+900		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	90.8	40+980		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.0	41+220		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.1	41+550		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.2	41+730		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.3	41+920		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.5	42+160		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.6	42+960		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	91.6	43+000		N/A	P	Non-Fish	Cross Drainage Structure
	Warner Creek	91.9		4.2%	2.0	P	AG
92.7		44+275	11.3%	N/A	P	Non-Fish	Channel slope steeper than upper limit for AG (8%)
93.3		44+825	6.3%	0.2	P	AG?	Near upper slope limit (8%)
93.4		45+025		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
94.0		46+250		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
94.1		46+530		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
94.3		47+010		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
94.4		47+150		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
94.6		47+630		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
95.0		47+900		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	95.1	48+630		N/A	P	Non-Fish	

# Taylor Highway - Fish Stream Log

Y = Yes, field surveys completed  
 P = Professional judgement. No known fish surveys have been conducted.

Waterbody	Mile Post	STA	Channel Slope	Estimated Upstream Habitat (miles)	Surveyed (Y/P)	Fish Species	NOTES
	95.1	48+670		N/A	P		
	95.2	48+810		N/A	P		
	95.2	48+940		N/A	P		
	95.3	49+175		N/A	P		
	95.7	50+150		N/A	P		
	95.8	50+400		N/A	P		
	95.9	50+650		N/A	P		
<b>Boundary Spur</b>							
	1.3	51+400		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	1.6	51+775		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	1.7	51+920		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	2.1	52+500		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	2.1	52+565		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	2.6	53+200		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	2.7	53+300		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	3.2	54+120		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	3.4	54+425		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	3.7	54+950		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	4.0	55+560		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	4.0	55+600		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	4.6	56+385		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	5.1	57+030		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	5.5	57+630		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	6.0	58+400		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	6.0	58+500		N/A	P	Non-Fish	



### Taylor Highway - Fish Stream Log

Y = Yes, field surveys completed  
 P = Professional judgement. No known fish-surveys have been conducted.

Waterbody	Mile Post	STA	Channel Slope	Estimated Upstream Habitat (miles)	Surveyed (Y/P)	Fish Species	NOTES
	6.2	58+760		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	6.4	59+110		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	6.9	59+985		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	7.2	60+415		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	8.9	62+975		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	9.1	63+440		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	9.4	63+850		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	9.6	64+275		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	9.8	64+480		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	10.0	64+750		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	10.2	65+145		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	10.3	65+350		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	10.5	65+710		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	10.9	66+175		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	11.3	66+960		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	11.5	67+305		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	11.7	67+580		N/A	P	Non-Fish	
	12.0	68+000		N/A	P	Non-Fish	

# ASCG

**INCORPORATED**

## PHONE CONVERSATION LOG

**Job / Task No:**

**Project:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Border

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---

**Time:** 3:20 PM

**Date:** January 31, 2002

**To:** Frank Maxwell

**From:** Beth Miller

**Firm:** DNR

**Firm:** ASCG

**Phone No.:** 451-2740

**Phone No.:**

---

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**Subject:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border

### **Summary of Conversation:**

Called regarding the scoping letter. He gave the letter to another member of his team and that person had just left. He will ask him if he had any comments and call back if they have any comments. He thinks they would have sent a letter if they had any comments.

No comments were received from DNR.

# ASCG

**INCORPORATED**

## PHONE CONVERSATION LOG

**Job / Task No:**

**Project:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Border

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**Time:** 3:30 PM

**Date:** January 31, 2002

**To:** Jim Helfinstine

**From:** Beth Miller

**Firm:** USCG

**Firm:** ASCG

**Phone No.:**

**Phone No.:**

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**Subject:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border

**Summary of Conversation:**

I sent him an email asking if he had any comments regarding the scoping letter.

No comments were received from the USCG.

# ASCG

**INCORPORATED**

## PHONE CONVERSATION LOG

**Job / Task No:**

**Project:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Border

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**Time:** 3:15 PM

**Date:** January 31, 2002

**To:** Pat Sousa

**From:** Beth Miller

**Firm:** USFWS

**Firm:** ASCG

**Phone No.:** 456-0203

**Phone No.:**

---

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**Subject:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border

**Summary of Conversation:**

Called regarding the scoping letter. Left a message asking if he had any comments.

No comments were received from USFWS.

# ASCG

**INCORPORATED**

## PHONE CONVERSATION LOG

**Job / Task No:**

**Project:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Border

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**Time:** 3:12 PM

**Date:** January 31, 2002

**To:** Leroy Philips

**From:** Beth Miller

**Firm:** USACE

**Firm:** ASCG

**Phone No.:** 753-2716

**Phone No.:**

---

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**Subject:** Taylor Highway MP 64.5 to the Canadian Border

**Summary of Conversation:**

Called regarding the scoping letter. Left a message asking if he had any comments.

2/03/03 7:50 am

Leroy returned my call regarding scoping. He never saw the letter, but said that no matter where we are on the Taylor Highway we will need a 404 permit. He said to make sure our material sites are well identified and that a good reclamation plan is written for them. He said that within the last year material sites have become a key issue with the agencies.

**Miller, Beth**

---

**From:** Stricklan, Kim  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 01, 2002 2:39 PM  
**To:** Miller, Beth  
**Subject:** FW: Taylor Highway Reconstruction Inter-agency Scoping

Beth,

Please print this and otherwise log it in as agency comments. Doesn't look like we have a lot of interest so far.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Phillips, G Leroy POA02 [mailto:Gilbert.L.Phillips@poa02.usace.army.mil]  
**Sent:** Wed 11/27/2002 8:49 AM  
**To:** Stricklan, Kim  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Taylor Highway Reconstruction Inter-agency Scoping

I will be the project manager for this one. Due to budget restraints in place at this time I will be unable to attend the scoping meeting. Please send a copy of all related environmental documents as they are completed prior to permit application. Thank You.

Leroy

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Stricklan, Kim [mailto:kstricklan@ascg.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 26, 2002 1:07 PM  
**To:** al\_ott@fishgame.state.ak.us; alan\_wien@envircon.state.ak.us;  
bill\_smyth@envircon.state.ak.us; frank\_maxwell@dnr.state.ak.us;  
Gilbert.L.Phillips@poa02.usace.army.mil; irene\_catalone@dced.state.ak.us;  
jeanne.hanson@noaa.gov; jhelfinstine@cgalaska.uscg.mil; Lee.Judith@epa.gov;  
judy\_bittner@dnr.state.ak.us; mary\_figarelle@ak.blm.gov; Patrick\_Sousa@fws.gov; Tim Woster;  
Melissa Parker; Scott Leigh  
**Cc:** Miller, Beth  
**Subject:** Taylor Highway Reconstruction Inter-agency Scoping

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) is soliciting comments on the proposal to restore and improve the structural integrity of a portion of the Taylor Highway from the Mosquito Fork Bridge (Milepost 64.5) north to the Canadian Border. The work entails minor road realignment, roadway widening and surface treatment, bridge replacement and repair, drainage improvements, turnout construction, and signing. The proposed project is currently scheduled for construction in 2004.

Within the next few days, ADOT&PF will be distributing formal agency scoping letters to solicit information, comments, and recommendations regarding this project. In addition, if you are interested in attending a formal scoping meeting, ADOT&PF staff will be available on Wednesday, December 4, 2002 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the ADOT&PF office located at 2301 Peger Road.

For planning purposes, please RSVP to Kim Stricklan, ASCG Project Manager by Tuesday, December 3, 2002 at (907) 339-6568 or via email at [kstricklan@ascg.com](mailto:kstricklan@ascg.com) if you are interested in attending the formal scoping meeting. If there is no interest in a formal scoping meeting, written comments in response to the letter may also be submitted until

Thursday, December 31, 2002.  
Thank you for your time and consideration.  
Kim Stricklan, P.E.  
ASCG, Inc.  
new phone (907) 339-6568  
new fax (907) 339-5329

## **Newspaper Affidavits**



# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA }  
STATE OF ALASKA } SS.  
FOURTH DISTRICT }

Before me, the undersigned, a notary public, this day personally appeared WENDY M. DAU, who, being first duly sworn, according to law, says that he/she is an Advertising Clerk of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, a newspaper (i) published in newspaper format, (ii) distributed daily more than 50 weeks per year, (iii) with a total circulation of more than 500 and more than 10% of the population of the Fourth Judicial District, (iv) holding a second class mailing permit from the United States Postal Service, (v) not published primarily to distribute advertising, and (vi) not intended for a particular professional or occupational group. The advertisement which is attached is a true copy of the advertisement published in said paper on the following day(s):

11/27/02  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

and that the rate charged thereon is not excess of the rate charged private individuals, with the usual discounts.

Wendy M. Dau

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 30TH day of NOVEMBER, 20 02

[Signature]

Notary Public in and for the State Alaska.

My commission expires JANUARY 21, 2004

69039 Legal  
TAYLOR HIGHWAY  
IMPACT TO THE  
CANADIAN BORDER  
ADOT&PF  
Project No. 66446  
Notice of Intent to  
Begin Engineering and  
Environmental Studies  
Notice of Wetlands  
Involvement E.O. 11990  
Notice of Floodplain  
Involvement E.O. 11988  
and Public Meeting  
The Alaska Department  
of Transportation and  
Public Facilities  
(ADOT&PF) is soliciting  
comments on the  
proposal to restore and  
improve the structural in-  
tegrity of a portion of the  
Taylor Highway from the  
Mosquito Fork Bridge  
(Milepost 64.8) north to  
the Canadian Border.  
The work entails  
minor road realignment,  
roadway widening and  
surface treatment,  
bridge replacement and  
repair, drainage  
improvements, turnout  
construction, and signing.  
The proposed project is  
currently scheduled for  
construction in 2004.  
As presently envisioned,  
ADOT&PF anticipates en-  
vironmental impacts asso-  
ciated with the proposed  
project to include fill in  
wetlands, right-of-way  
acquisition from the  
Fortymile National Wild-  
and Scenic River System,  
and in-water work at  
Chicken Creek and  
South Fork. Pursuant to  
Executive Order 11990,  
Protection of Wetlands,  
and Executive  
Order 11988, Floodplain  
Involvement, notice is  
hereby given that this  
project will likely involve  
fill in wetlands and  
work in the Wade Creek/  
floodplain. A Corps of En-  
gineers' Section 10404  
permit will be required for  
work in the Wade Creek/  
floodplain. The Alaska State  
Coast and Geologic Protection  
will also be contacted for  
work in the South Fork  
broadsheet area. Environ-  
mental and Cultural Chicken  
Creek Group's contribu-  
tion reports are required  
for work in fish-bearing  
streams including  
Chicken Creek  
and South Fork.

A public meeting will be held from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2002 at the Tol Civic Center in Tok, Alaska. Project related information will be on hand for review and project staff will be available to answer your questions. The meeting will be held in open house format and interested individuals may attend at any time. Comments and recommendations may be submitted at the meeting. To ensure that all possible factors are considered in the design of the proposed project, ADOT&PF is requesting public comments and recommendations. Please provide written comments to the following address by Thursday, December 19, 2002.  
Jim Woster, PE  
Design Engineering  
Manager  
Alaska Department  
of Transportation &  
Public Facilities  
Design Section  
Room 311  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
99709-5309  
If you have any questions or require additional information please contact Scott Leigh, PE, ADOT&PF, Project Designer, at 451-5389 or Kim Simcham, ASGG Project Manager, at 339-6600.  
Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact ADOT&PF at our Tele-Phone Device for the Deaf (TDD) number 451-2363 TDD/SLASH.  
November 27, 2002

## **TAYLOR HIGHWAY MP 64 TO THE CANADIAN BORDER**

**ADOT&PF Project No. 66446  
Notice of Intent to Begin Engineering and Environmental Studies  
Notice of Wetlands Involvement E.O. 11990,  
Notice of Floodplain Involvement E.O. 11988 and Public Meeting**

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) is soliciting comments on the proposal to restore and improve the structural integrity of a portion of the Taylor Highway from the Mosquito Fork Bridge (Milepost 64.5) north to the Canadian Border. The work entails minor road realignment, roadway widening and surface treatment, bridge replacement and repair, drainage improvements, turnout construction, and signing. The proposed project is currently scheduled for construction in 2004.

As presently envisioned, ADOT&PF anticipates environmental impacts associated with the proposed project to include fill in wetlands, right-of-way acquisition from the Fortymile National Wild and Scenic River System, and in-water work at Chicken Creek and South Fork. Pursuant to Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands and Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Involvement, notice is hereby given that this project will likely involve fill in wetlands and work in the Wade Creek floodplain. A Corps of Engineers Section 10/404 permit will be required to complete this project. U.S. Coast Guard coordination will also be required for work on the South Fork bridge piers and replacement of the Chicken Creek Bridge. A fish habitat permit will be required for work in fish bearing streams, including Chicken Creek and South Fork.

**A public meeting will be held from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2002 at the Tok Civic Center in Tok, Alaska.** Project related information will be on hand for review and project staff will be available to answer your questions. The meeting will be held in open house format and interested individuals may attend at any time. Comments and recommendations may be submitted at the meeting.

To ensure that all possible factors are considered in the design of the proposed project, ADOT&PF is requesting public comments and recommendations. Please provide written comments to the following address by **Thursday, December 19, 2002.**

Tim Woster, P.E., Design Engineering Manager  
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Design Section, Room 317, 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5399

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Scott Leigh, P.E., ADOT&PF Project Designer, at 451-5389 or Kim Stricklan, ASCG Project Manager at 339-6500. Individuals with a hearing impairment can contact ADOT&PF at our Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) number, 451-2363.

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

FROM: Mukluk News  
PO Box 90  
Tok, AK 99780

TO: Asc M  
3900 C Street Suite 501  
Anchorage, ak 99503

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public this day personally appeared George Jacobs who, being first duly sworn, according to law, says that he is the Advertising Manager of the Mukluk News published at Tok in the state of Alaska and that the advertisement, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in said publication on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of Nov., 1902 and thereafter for 0 consecutive issues, the last publication appearing on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, and that the rate charged thereon is not in excess of the rate charged private individuals.

George Jacobs  
\_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This 21 day of November, ~~19~~ 2002

Kala Palla  
\_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public for State of AK

My Commission Expires 8-30-04

## **Public Meeting Summary**

# ASCG INCORPORATED

## MEMORANDUM

---

**TO:** Tim Woster, Project File  
**FROM:** Beth Miller  
**DATE:** 12/9/02  
**SUBJECT:** Taylor Highway Public Meeting Summary, 12/5/02, Tok, Alaska

A public meeting was held on December 5, 2002 at the Tok Civic Center to collect public comments on a proposed project to rehabilitate the Taylor Highway. The proposed project will rehabilitate and improve the structural integrity of the Taylor Highway from the Mosquito Fork Bridge (Milepost 64.5) north to the Canadian Border. Attendees were: Tim Woster – ADOT, Scott Leigh – ADOT, Kim Stricklan – ASCG, Beth Miller – ASCG. In addition to the project team Jim Fehrenbacher – DOT Maintenance, Nancy Whicher – BLM, Debbie Muir – Tok Community Umbrella Corporation, and several local residents attended the meeting.

Issues discussed during the meeting include:

- A discussion at the beginning of the meeting described the NEPA process and why an Environmental Assessment is being prepared for this project.
- Design speed of the Taylor Hwy will be 40 mph from MP 64.5 to Walker Fork and 50 mph from Walker Fork to the Canadian Border.
- The proposed Walker Fork wayside is being constructed to alleviate the pressure on the Walker Fork Campground from buses using the campground restrooms. It is also difficult for the buses to make the sharp corners in the campground. More information is needed on the flooding potential of the proposed Walker Fork wayside. It was mentioned that the bottom of the Walker Fork Bridge was touching the water a couple of years ago during an especially high water event.
- The local residents at the meeting were concerned about where the money was going to come from to maintain the road after construction and what the cost difference is between maintaining a high-float asphalt road and a gravel road.
- It was mentioned that construction is planned for the Alaska Highway near Northway in 2004. It was suggested that DOT coordinate projects so that construction is not happening on both highways into the state at the same time.
- A temporary culvert will most likely be used during construction of the Chicken Creek Bridge to maintain traffic flow.
- Concern was expressed about areas of the road that have “glaciers” and how the high-float



- asphalt will hold up under these conditions.
- Currently, the project will be constructed in two phases with each phase taking two years. Phase I is from MP 82 to the Border and Phase II is from MP 64 to MP 82. There is a possibility the project will be constructed in three phases.
  - At Jack Wade Dredge, the pullout will be improved and drainage problems will be corrected, but no facilities will be installed. A question was asked about moving the dredge, but the condition is such that it would fall apart. BLM is letting the Jack Wade Dredge die a natural death, with no effort being put to preserve the dredge. The terms wayside and pullout were defined – wayside having restrooms facilities and pullout having no facilities.
  - Residents asked about how the project will affect land use.
  - A Chicken resident has requested an off road walkway from the bridge to the airport road. Scott thinks he will be able to put the walkway in the DOT ROW on the right side of the road. The walkway would be gravel.
  - Residents were concerned about Chicken Creek flooding and the effect of any riprap used during construction of the new bridge and if it could affect residents downstream. Residents mentioned new settling ponds from mining operations upstream that overflow during floods making the flooding on Chicken Creek worse than in the past. They also mentioned the Lost Chicken Creek dam adding to the flooding potential of Chicken Creek.
  - DOT is looking into the possibility of installing snow fences along portions of the highway.
  - Residents also asked about mining claims and how these would affect road construction. They asked if miners would still have the right to mine through the road after the high-float asphalt was laid down. They were told the miners would still have the right and that road construction should not affect the miner's access to their claims. However the road must be placed back as it was prior to the mining activities.
  - A question was asked about the 40-mile caribou herd and the effect of the project on them. It was discussed that a biological assessment is being prepared to evaluate the effects of the project on the herd.
  - The current schedule is to have a Draft EA to ADOT&PF by the end of February.

Jim Fehrenbacher submitted written comments regarding the following at the meeting:

- Mile 80 sink hole
- Need to stabilize base
- Need to armor Wade Creek
- ROW width 100 feet
- Chicken off-road walkway
- Glaciering – pavement
- Drifting on Boundary Road by customs



# Taylor Highway MP 64 to the Canadian Border

# Sign-in

ADOT&PF Project #66446

December 5, 2002

Name Jim Fehrenbacher  
Organization DOT  
(if any)  
Address PO Box 356  
  
Phone 883-5120  
Fax 883-5127  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name Debbie Muir  
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# Taylor Highway MP 64 to the Canadian Border

# Sign-in

ADOT&PF Project #66446

December 5, 2002

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