

APPENDIX A

Preliminary Research Results

Air Quality: Fairbanks is designated as a maintenance area by the EPA for carbon monoxide, meaning that the area previously was classified as a Non-Attainment area, but that it currently meets the health-based national ambient air quality standard (NAAQ) for a pollutant as established by the Clean Air Act and requires continued monitoring and oversight. The Nordale Road project is outside of the FNSB nonattainment area.

Coastal Zone Management: A review of the coastal zone boundaries atlas found that the project is not within Alaska's coastal zone boundaries.

Land Ownership and Use: The area affected is owned by the ADOT&PF and is designated to be used as roadway. Adjacent areas are primarily residential.

Local Land Use Plans, Local Parks: The proposed project is in conformance with local land use plans and will not impact any local parks.

State Land Use Plans, State Parks: The project falls within the ADNDR Tanana Basin Area Plan. The portion of Nordale Road south of the Chena River is within the Greater Fairbanks Unit (1H); north of the river it is within the Little Chena Unit (1W). This project does not conflict with the intended management of either unit.

There are no state parks in the project vicinity.

Federal Recreational Area: The proposed project will not take place within a federal recreational area.

State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries: A review of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game publication *State of Alaska Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas, and Sanctuaries* found that the project is not located within a refuge, critical habitat area or sanctuary.

National Wildlife Refuges: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife website was visited to determine if National Wildlife Refuges exist in the project area and none were present.

National Parks, Preserves, Monuments and Wild and Scenic Rivers: The project is not located within any national parks, preserves, or monuments so there will be no impacts to these resources. Furthermore, the project is not located adjacent to a wild and scenic river.

Historical, Archeological and Cultural Properties: There are no known historic resources in the vicinity of the project based on a review of the records of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). As part of this project, an archeological survey will be performed. The results of that survey will be shared with the SHPO, and FHWA will conduct a formal Section 106 consultation with SHPO and the tribal entities.

Anadromous Fish Streams/Essential Fish Habitat: This project crosses two anadromous fish streams as noted in the ADF&G Atlas to the *Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes*. The Chena River (FDD Code: 3347-40-11000-2490-3301) is a spawning and rearing ground for Chinook salmon and a spawning ground for chum salmon. The Chena Slough (FDD Code: 334-40-11000-2490-3301-4010) is a rearing ground for Chinook salmon. Work below the ordinary high water mark will require an EFH assessment and a Title 41 permit to be obtained from the DNR.

Threatened and Endangered Species: No listed species occur in the project area, and there is no designated or proposed critical habitat near the proposed project. This project is not likely to adversely impact listed species. Preparation of a Biological Assessment or further consultation under section 7 of the Act regarding this project will not be necessary.

Bald Eagles: There is a known Bald Eagle nest approximately 7.3 miles away from the location, at 64°43'58"N and 147°23'32"W. This is outside of both the primary and secondary zones. Therefore, not impacts would occur as a result of this project.

Navigability, Floodplain Management, and Wetlands: Chena River has been determined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to be a navigable waterway for its entire length. Repairing the scour hole between the pier and the abutment will require a Section 10 Permit for navigable waters. Since no work is being done on the bridges themselves, a Section 9 Permit from the U.S. Coast Guard should not be needed.

Portions of this project are located in the 100-year floodplain of the Chena River, Little Chena River and the Chena Slough. A Floodplains Permit from the Fairbanks North Star Borough Department of Community Planning will be obtained.

The project crosses wetlands as determined by the USFWS National Wetland Inventory. In some areas it is expected that fill will be placed in the wetland to rehabilitate the damaged berm. This activity will require a Section 404 CWA Permit from the USACE and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the ADEC. A site-specific wetlands delineation will be performed during the summer of 2006.

Contaminated Sites, Spills and Underground Storage Tanks: A search of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) databases found there have been no documented spills or leaks causing contamination in the near vicinity of the proposed project.

Water Quality: Both the Chena River and the Chena Slough are on the ADEC 303(d) list for petroleum hydrocarbons, oil & grease, and sediment due to urban runoff in the Fairbanks area.

Material, Disposal and Staging Sites: Fill material and waste disposal will be provided by the selected contractor as part of the project contract; fill will be obtained from local commercial fill operations. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and 401 Certification from the DEC will be needed for project construction and materials staging areas.