

## APPENDIX A

### **Preliminary Research Results**

Contaminated Sites, Spills and Underground Storage Tanks: A search at the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) databases found there have not been significant contamination releases, spills or underground storage tank leakage within the proposed development area.

Anadromous Fish Streams: Ruby Airport is adjacent to the Yukon River, which is catalogued as an Anadromous Fish Stream (Stream # 334-40-11000) per ADF&G Anadromous Fish Stream Catalogue, for the presence of Silver (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), King (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Chum (*Oncorhynchus keta*), and for the presence of Shee Fish (*Stenodus leucichthys*) and White fish (*Prosopium cylindraceum*).

The proposed airport improvements are not anticipated to impact the Yukon River directly, however material will be obtained from a material site within the Yukon River, 1-2 miles downstream from the airport. (The material site is across the river, so a winter haul route will be utilized to get material to the airport property). A Title 41 Permit will be obtained by the Department of Natural Resources – Office of Habitat Management and Permitting prior to any work within the Yukon River. Additionally an Essential Fish habitat Assessment will also be prepared and consultation with NMFS in accordance with the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Historical, Archeological and Cultural Properties: The Ophir to Poorman Summer Connecting Trail (RUB-025) and the Poorman-Ruby Summer Connecting Trail (RUB-027) are located somewhere (exact location not indicated on SHPO's maps) south of the end of the runway outside the Runway Safety Area (RSA). Currently no impacts are anticipated to these trails. Should any impacts occur a Section 106 consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office will be coordinated prior to any work on the proposed project.

Coastal Zone Management: The proposed project will not take place within Alaska Coastal Zone boundaries.

Navigability, Flood Plain Management, and Wetlands: The proposed project is adjacent to the Yukon River, which is designated as a navigable water body by the U.S. Corps of Engineers (USCOE) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). Material will be obtained from a material site within the Yukon River, 1-2 miles downstream from the airport. The appropriate permits and agency coordination will take place prior to any dredging.

Ruby does not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program therefore no floodplain maps could be obtained for this location. The COE Floodplain Management database shows that Ruby has never flooded, but that water reportedly reached the level of the boardwalk of the old log store on Front Street due to an ice jam.

DOWL Engineers performed wetland delineations at the proposed project vicinity (September 8 & 9, 2004) and none were identified. However, since material would be obtained from the Yukon River and the material site is located in “Waters of the U.S.” a Section 10 Permit will be required. An existing permit for this material site was issued to the City of Ruby, however it has expired. Efforts to re-activate this permit will be made. If the existing permit cannot be used a new permit will be applied for prior to any material removal from the site.

Threatened and Endangered Species: There are no threatened or endangered species within the proposed project vicinity. There are however Peregrine Falcon nests adjacent to the airport. Peregrine Falcons were delisted from the Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Species in Alaska list on August 25, 1999, but are still protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Peregrine Falcons’ nesting season is April 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> therefore clearing or work within ¼ mile of the nests is not recommended.

Essential Fish Habitat: An Essential Fish Habitat consultation will be initiated with NMFS per the requirements of the Magnuson Stevens Act simultaneously with the Title 41 permit application prior to any work in the Yukon River (Stream # 334-35-11000).

National Wildlife Refuges: The community of Ruby is located within the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge.

State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries: The proposed project is not located with a State Refuge, Critical Habitat or a Sanctuary.

State Land Use Plans, State Parks, and Federal Recreational Areas: There are no state land use plans, state parks, or federal recreational areas that would be affected by the proposed project.

National Parks, Preserves, Monuments and Wild Scenic Rivers: Ruby is not located within any National Parks, Preserves, or Monuments. The Yukon River, which is adjacent to the airport and from which material would be extracted, is not listed as a Wild and Scenic River.

Material Sites / Disposal Sites / Haul Routes: There are several potential material sources for this project (Refer to Figure 3). Possible gravel sources include a gravel bar located 1-2 miles upstream from Ruby across the Yukon River (This material site was permitted during the last project, COE Permit # N-790472 (Yukon River 39)) and a gravel bar located 3-4 miles downstream from Ruby. These sites will be explored as possible gravel material sources. Possible sources of borrow embankment for the project include a site near the north end of the runway as well as tailing piles along the Ruby-Poorman Road.