

APPENDIX A

Preliminary Research Results

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. Four sites exist in the town proper, but project activities will take place outside of town.

Anadromous Fish Streams: Marshall is adjacent to Poltes Slough, a side channel of the Yukon River (Stream # 334-20-11000), which are both catalogued as an anadromous fish stream per the ADF&G Atlas to the *Catalog of Waters Important to the Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes*. The new bridge will be constructed across Wilson Creek, and approximately 250 feet of Wilson Creek will be realigned. Wilson Creek is not officially catalogued as an anadromous waterbody, however residents have documented the presence of salmon. Additionally, qualified DOWL Engineers' personnel also observed salmon in Wilson Creek. An ADNR-OHMP Title 41 Fish Habitat permit will be obtained prior to any work on Wilson Creek below ordinary high water (Personal Communication, M. McLean, ADNR-OHMP, August 5, 2005).

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.

State Land Use Plans, State Parks: There are no State Land Use Plans or State Parks in the project vicinity.

Historical, Archaeological and Cultural Properties: A search of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey revealed two sites in the vicinity of the city of Marshall, but none in close proximity to the project. A survey of the area was conducted in 1997 and based on the results of the investigation, no historic properties were found. Ground photos of the area were reviewed by State Historic Preservation Office and it was determined that since work will be within the disturbance footprint, no survey is warranted for this project (Personal Communication, S. Ludwig, 2005).

Coastal Zone Management: A review of the Coastal Zone Boundaries atlas found that portions of the project area are within the Cenaliurriit CRSA Coastal District. A Coastal Project Questionnaire and Certification Statement will be submitted to the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of Project Management and Permitting, and a coastal consistency review will be required.

Federal Recreational Area: The proposed project would not take place within a Federal Recreational Area.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM): The proposed project would take place within DOT right-of-way, therefore no BLM land will be affected. If right-of-way is necessary, it will involve non-BLM land.

Navigability, Floodplain Management, and Wetlands: Neither the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or the U.S. Coast Guard designates Wilson Creek as a navigable waterbody. The Yukon River is designated as a navigable waterbody by the USACE and the U.S. Coast Guard for its entire length. A section 10 permit will be obtained prior to the project for work below ordinary high water.

Marshall does not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, therefore FEMA floodplain maps are not available. The USACE reports that the flood of record took place in 1954, which flooded 15 homes. Significant flooding also occurred in 1937, 1962, 1965 and 1989, but the elevation of these floods is unknown. It is reported that ice-jam floods can raise the water level in the community as much as 50 ft above the normal water level.

The USFWS National Wetland Inventory website indicated that no wetland data is available for the region of Marshall.

A wetland delineation was performed in the summer of 2005 and a report will be available by September 1, 2005.

Threatened and Endangered Species: According to the USFWS, no listed species occur near Marshall and there is no designated or proposed critical habitat in the immediate area. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to adversely affect federally listed or proposed species and/or designated critical habitat.

However, there is one Peregrine Falcon nest (61°44'54" N 161°59'36 W) in the vicinity of Marshall. Peregrine Falcons were delisted in Alaska on August 25, 1999, but are still a species of concern, and are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (Personal Communication, S. Conn, USFWS, April 22, 2005).

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH): Work in the Yukon River will occur below ordinary high water; since ADF&G catalogued the Yukon River as anadromous, the project will require an EFH assessment. Work in Wilson Creek will occur below ordinary high water; although Wilson Creek has not been catalogued as an anadromous waterbody, an EFH assessment will be conducted (see Anadromous Fish Streams).

National Wildlife Refuges: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife website was visited to determine if National Wildlife Refuges exist in the project area. Marshall lies on the northeastern boundary of the Yukon-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and the project area lies within the refuge.

National Parks, Preserves, Monuments and Wild Scenic Rivers: The National Park Service website indicated that Marshall is not located within any National Parks, Preserves, or Monuments; therefore, there will be no impacts to these resources. Additionally, there are no Wild & Scenic Rivers in the project vicinity.