



State of Alaska
Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FORM
(NEPA Assignment Program Projects)

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by the applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been carried out by the DOT&PF pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2017, and executed by FHWA and DOT&PF.

I. Project Information

A. Project Name: Chena Ridge Road and Chena Pump Road Resurfacing

B. State Project Number: NFWY00570

C. Federal Project Number: pending

D. Primary/Ancillary Project Connections: N/

E. COA Determination: 23 CFR 771.117(d)(13)

F. Project Scope:

TIP or STIP: STIP

Need ID: 18923

Project Scope:

STIP Need ID 18923 Pavement and Bridge Preservation: Crack sealing, surface treatment drainage, signage, guardrail, illumination, and other refurbishments to prolong the life of road pavement and bridges and their safety related structures. Project includes NHS Lane Delineators, Destination & Distance Signing, Pavement Markings and Signalization, Abandoned Vehicle Program, Road Surfacing and Transfer, Road Surface Treatments, and improve curb ramps to meet ADA standards (in coordination with Need ID 30397). The scope does not include landscaping or other elements inconsistent with a pavement preservation focus.

G. Project Purpose And Need:

H. Project Description:

The project will resurface Chena Ridge and Chena Pump Roads in Fairbanks, Alaska. Additional work includes: reapplication of pavement markings, upgrading approaches, drainage improvements, possible utility relocates, replacement of signs and guardrails, minor repairs to Cripple Creek Bridge (#0721) deck and rails, and vegetation removal to the toe of slope and at guardrail locations.

All material sources will be contractor furnished.

Attachments

Environmental Consequences

Project Plans & Location Information

- Project Plans and Location Info NFHWY00570.pdf

Historic Properties and Cultural Impacts

- NFHWY00570_Chena_Ridge-Chena_Pump_Resurfacing_106_PA_Packet_09242021.pdf
NFHWY00570.pdf

Section 4(f)/6(f) Impacts

- NFHWY00570 Chena Pump & Ridge Resurfacing 4(f) Applicability.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf
- SEO Section 4(f) No Use Determination.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

Floodplain Impacts (23 CFR 650, Subpart A)

- LHS NFHWY00570.pdf
- Public Involvement Documentation NFHWY00570.pdf

Fish and Wildlife Impacts

- Eagle Nesting Data Inquiry.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

Water Quality Impacts

- Drinking Water Sources Chena Pump&Ridge.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

Comments and Coordination

Public Involvement

- OPN.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf
- NR_Public_Comment-Response_Summary_ver5_7_21.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

Agency Involvement

- NFHWY00570 Agency Scoping Letter.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf
- Agency Comment Summary.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

II. Environmental Consequences

A. Land Use and Transportation Plans

Yes No

1. Were land use plans for this area reviewed? If yes, include source, link, and date accessed.

The project is consistent with the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Regional Comprehensive Plan (2005)

<https://www.fnsb.gov/DocumentCenter/View/900/Regional-Comprehensive-Plan-PDF>

a. Is the project consistent with land use plan(s)?

2. Were transportation plans for this area reviewed?

2010 Interior Alaska Transportation Plan

https://dot.alaska.gov/stwdplng/areaplans/area_regional/iatp.shtml

a. Is the project consistent with transportation plan(s)?

3. Would the project induce adverse indirect and cumulative effects on land use or transportation?

Summary

Summarize how the project is consistent or inconsistent with land use and transportation plan(s).

- **The Interior Alaska Transportation Plan**-its goal to support the economy, health, safety, and efficiency of the area's transportation systems.
- **FNSB Regional Comprehensive Plan**- supports Goal 1, Strategy 1 encourage location, design, and maintenance of roads based on their function and community needs.

B. Right-of-Way Impacts

Yes No

1. Are there any temporary right-of-way (ROW) impacts (e.g., Temporary Construction Easements (TCEs), Temporary Construction Permits (TCPs), utility relocations, construction staging area)?

2. Is additional permanent ROW required?

Summary

Summarize ROW impacts, if any. Include any project-specific commitments or mitigative measures in Section V.

No additional ROW will be required for this process. TCE's and/or TCP's will be acquired for utility relocations and approaches.

C. Environmental Justice Impacts (E.O. 12898)

Yes No

1. Is there potential to affect environmental justice (EJ) populations?

Summary

Summarize EJ population impacts and mitigation, if any. Include any project-specific commitments or mitigative measures in Section V.

D. <u>Historic Properties and Cultural Impacts</u>	Yes	No
1. Is a National Register of Historic Places listed or eligible property in the proposed Area of Potential Effect (APE)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Was a programmatic allowance processed for the project under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attachments

- NFWHY00570_Chena_Ridge-Chena_Pump_Resurfacing_106_PA_Packet_09242021.pdf
NFWHY00570.pdf

3. Was Section 106 consultation initiated or a Direct to Findings worksheet completed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Are there any unresolved issues with consulting parties, including project issues or concerns of a federally-recognized Indian Tribe [36 CFR 800.16(m)]?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Summarize impacts to historic properties and mitigation, if any. List affected sites (by AHRS number only) and any commitments or mitigative measures. Also include any project-specific commitments or mitigative measures in Section V.

The Northern Region PQI determined on 09/24/2021 that the project qualifies as Tier 1/Tier 2 Programmatic Allowance as outlined in the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (Appendix B). The Chena Townsite Archaeological District (FAI-0011) is within the project area. Consultation with DNR confirmed no contributing elements to the site's eligibility for the NRHP is within the project Area of Potential Effect. Construction is limited to previously disturbed area (approach apron) and temporary occupancies are very minimal.

E. <u>Section 4(f)/6(f) Impacts</u>	Yes	No
1. Section 4(f) (23 CFR 774)		
a. Was detailed Section 4(f) resource identification conducted for this project, other than that required for Section 106 compliance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Does a Section 4(f) resource exist within or adjacent to the project area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Does an exception listed in 23 CFR 774.13 apply to this project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Does the project result in the “use” of a Section 4(f) property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Section 6(f) (36 CFR 59)		
a. Does a Section 6(f) Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA) resource exist within or adjacent to the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Summarize Section 4(f)/6(f) involvement, if any.

Chena Pump Wayside and Chena Pump Road Bike Path are located adjacent to the project area. The work for this project in these locations is within DOT&PF ROW. Access to these areas will not be impacted during construction and no use of the property is anticipated. The Section 4(f) applicability statement and consultation with the NEPA Program Manager can be found in the attached files. SHPO concurred with DOT&PF's findings of No Historic Properties Affected on 09/24/2021. The two linear historic resources will not be affected as they are no longer extant in the project area. The other historic resource located within the project APE will not be affected as work will remain within

previously disturbed areas.

Attachments

- NFWHY00570 Chena Pump & Ridge Resurfacing 4(f) Applicability.pdf NFWHY00570.pdf
- SEO Section 4(f) No Use Determination.pdf NFWHY00570.pdf

F. Contaminated Sites and Hazardous Materials Impacts

Yes No

1. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=315240bf84aa0b8272ad1cef3cad3>
11/1/2021

2. Are there known or potentially contaminated sites within or adjacent to the existing ROW? Yes No
3. Would a documented hazardous material site be acquired? Yes No
4. Are there contaminated sites within 1,500 feet of where excavation dewatering is anticipated? Yes No

Summary

Summarize the contaminated site impacts and mitigation, if any.

There are 3 closed sites (Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue, M&M Constructors, and Justa Store) and 3 active sites (Chenana Apartments, University Estates Condominiums, and Clarkson Apartments) that are adjacent to the project area. Since this project has no excavation, there are no adverse impacts expected regarding contaminated and hazardous sites.

G. Floodplain Impacts (23 CFR 650, Subpart A)

Yes No

1. Does the project encroach into a mapped base floodplain or a potential unmapped base floodplain? Yes No

Attachments

- LHS NFWHY00570.pdf
- Public Involvement Documentation NFWHY00570.pdf

- a. Does the project encroach into a regulatory floodway? Yes No
- b. Would the proposed action increase the base flood elevation (BFE) one-foot or greater, or any rise in a regulatory floodway? Yes No
- c. Is there a longitudinal encroachment into the 100-year floodplain? Yes No
- d. Is there significant encroachment as defined by 23 CFR 650.105(q)? Yes No
2. Does the project conform to local flood hazard requirements? Yes No
3. Is the project consistent with E.O. 11988 (Floodplain Protection)? Yes No

Summary

Summarize floodplain impacts and describe any temporary encroachment(s) and functionally dependent use(s).

The project will maintain or improve drainage patterns so no adverse floodplain impacts are expected. A Public Notice on the State of Alaska listing E.O. 11988 Floodplain Management, The Location Hydraulic Study was completed for

this project.

H. Wetland and Waterbody Impacts

Yes No

1. Would the project affect wetlands or other Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS), as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (Section 404). Yes No
2. Is a USACE authorization anticipated? Yes No
3. Will the project involve navigable waters as defined by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (Section 9)? Yes No
4. Will the project affect a designated Wild and Scenic River or land adjacent to a Wild and Scenic River, including those on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory? Yes No

a. Estimated fill quantities below:

Summary

Summarize wetland and waterbody impacts and mitigation, if any.

This project will not have any impacts to surrounding wetlands or waterbodies.

I. Fish and Wildlife Impacts

Yes No

1. Anadromous and resident fish habitat.

a. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://adfg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a05883caa7ef4f7ba17c99274f2c198f> 11/1/2021

- b. Is anadromous or resident fish habitat present in project area (Title 16.05.841 and 16.05.871)? Yes No
- c. Are there adverse effects on spawning habitat? Yes No
- d. Are there adverse effects on rearing habitat? Yes No
- e. Are there adverse effects on migration corridors? Yes No
- f. Are there adverse effects on subsistence species? Yes No
- g. Are there temporary impacts to fish habitat? Yes No

2. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

a. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e94af1927a0d43b983a47fd394718fc5> 11/1/2021

b. Is EFH present in project area? Yes No

3. Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species

I. Fish and Wildlife Impacts

Yes No

a. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/location/URM3NDFZLBCQBE6RMYKJGJC3NI/resources> 11/1/2021

b. Are listed threatened or endangered species present in the project area?

4. Marine Mammals.

a. Is the project located in the marine environment?

5. Wildlife Resources:

a. Is the project in an area of high wildlife/vehicle accidents?

b. Would the project bisect migration corridors?

c. Would the project segment habitat?

6. Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Attachments

- Eagle Nesting Data Inquiry.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

a. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/location/URM3NDFZLBCQBE6RMYKJGJC3NI/resources> 11/1/2021

b. Is the project visible from an eagle nesting tree?

c. Is the project within 330 feet of an eagle nesting tree?

d. Is the project within 660 feet of an eagle nesting tree?

e. Will the project require blasting or other activities that produce extreme loud noises within 1/2 a mile from an active nest?

f. Is an eagle permit required?

7. Is the project consistent with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act?

Summary

Summarize fish and wildlife impacts and mitigation, if any.

There will be minor repairs to the Cripple Creek Bridge however no in water work will be done at this time so no impacts to fish habitat are anticipated.

Bald and golden eagles may occur within the project area with the nearest nest located within a mile of the boat launch on Chena Pump Road. Consultation with FWS occurred 11/16/2021 (attached) and found no impacts to occur to eagles within the area given the scope of the project.

Mechanized land/vegetation clearing activities will be avoided during the migratory bird nesting season

(May 1 - July 15) unless a mitigative work plan is submitted by the contractor and approved by DOT&PF.

J. Invasive Species Impacts

Yes No

1. Include source, link, and date accessed of databases used.

<https://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/apps/akepic/#map?lg=f37ef462-d080-11e3-a36b-00219bfe5678&z=16&ll=64.79994%2C-147.98867> 11/1/2021

2. Are invasive species present in project area?

3. Does the project include all practicable measures to minimize the introduction or spread of invasive species, making the project consistent with E.O. 13112 (Invasive Species)?

Summary

Summarize invasive species impacts and mitigation, if any.

The following invasive species are located within the project area; yellow sweetclover, white sweetclover, bird vetch, narrowleaf hawksbeard, common plantain, common dandelion, European bird cherry, foxtail barley, and white clover.

Practicable measures to minimize the introduction or spread of invasive species would include: 1) Avoiding the use of listed noxious species for landscaping and erosion control purposes, 2) Sequencing construction activities to minimize disturbed areas, 3) Timely seeding of project disturbed areas with non-invasive species providing adequate cover. With implementation of these practicable measures, the project is expected to result in no substantial invasive species impacts.

K. Water Quality Impacts

Yes No

1. Will there be temporary degradation of water quality?

2. Is a public or private drinking water source or protection area within or adjacent to the project?

Attachments

- Drinking Water Sources Chena Pump&Ridge.pdf NFWY00570.pdf

3. Would the project result in a discharge of storm water to a WOTUS? [40 CFR 230.3(o)]

4. Would the project discharge storm water into or affect an ADEC-designated Impaired Waterbody?

5. Will the project involve more than one (1) acre of ground-disturbing activities?

6. Is there a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) APDES permit, or will runoff be mixed with discharges from an APDES permitted industrial facility?

a. List APDES permit number and type:

APDES Permit AKS-053414

Summary

Summarize the water quality impacts and mitigation, if any.

Two private drinking water sources overlap the project area however they are located away from the work zone and no adverse impacts are anticipated from this resurfacing project. See attached file for locations of drinking water sources

Project storm water will discharge into the Chena River as well as the Tanana River. Sedimentation is expected to be minimal and best management practices (BMP's) will be implemented for the purpose of meeting state and federal water quality standards. A project-specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) will be developed prior to

construction initiation. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be developed and implemented by the construction contractor. The SWPPP will comply with the Alaska Pollution Discharge Elimination System (ADPES) General Permit for Construction Activities.

L. <u>Air Quality Impacts</u>	Yes	No
1. Will there be temporary degradation of air quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is the project located in an air quality maintenance area or nonattainment area (CO or PM-10 or PM-2.5)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CO• PM-2.5		
3. Is the project exempt from an air quality analysis per 40 CFR 93.126 (Table 2 and Exempt Projects)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Is the project included in a conforming Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Date of FHWA/FTA conformity determination:		
7/8/2021		
5. Has there been a significant change in the scope or the design concept as described in the most recent conforming TIP and LRTP?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Was a project-level analysis (identify below) completed meeting the requirements of Section 93.123 of the conformity rule? The results satisfy the requirements of Section 93.116.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Summarize air quality impacts and mitigation, if any.

Temporary degradation of air quality may occur from the use of the heavy equipment through emissions and airborne particulates. To mitigate for air quality the contractor will provide watering of dust prone areas during construction. The proposed project is within the FNSB PM-2.5 nonattainment area. This project is part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Need ID 18923 for pavement and bridge preservation (approved July 8, 2021).

M. <u>Noise Impacts (23 CFR 772)</u>	Yes	No
1. Will there be temporary noise impacts?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the project involve any of the following Type I project actions listed below (23 CFR 772.5)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Summarize noise impacts and mitigation, if any.

The proposed project is not a Type 1 project; therefore, a noise analysis is not required. Noise impacts during construction of the road will be minimal and temporary.

N. <u>Social and Economic Impacts</u>	Yes	No
1. Would the project affect neighborhoods or community cohesion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

N. Social and Economic Impacts

Yes **No**

2. Would the project affect school boundaries, recreation areas, churches, businesses, police and fire protection, etc.?

3. Would the project affect the elderly, handicapped, non-drivers, transit-dependent, minority and ethnic groups, or the economically disadvantaged?

4. Would the project affect travel patterns and accessibility (e.g., vehicular, commuter, bicycle, or pedestrian)?

a. Would the project include temporary delays and detours of traffic?

5. The project will have adverse economic impacts on the regional and/or local economy, such as effects on development, tax revenues and public expenditures, employment opportunities, accessibility, and retail sales.

6. The project will adversely affect established businesses or business districts.

a. Would the project have temporary impacts on businesses?

Summary

Summarize social and economic impacts and mitigation, if any.

The project will not have adverse social or economic impacts to the surrounding community or businesses. During construction, short term traffic delays and interruptions may occur throughout the project but access to businesses and neighborhoods will remain open. To minimize delays, the contractor will provide DOT&PF with a traffic control plan prior to construction. In the long term, the project will maintain existing travel patterns and improve accessibility by providing an improved roadway surface and associated features that extend the life of the roadway.

III. Comments and Coordination

A. <u>Public Involvement</u>	Yes	No
1. Was public involvement for project completed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Was the project public noticed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Newspaper name and date of notice:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Alaska Online Public Notice date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

An OPN was posted on 9/27/2021.

Attachments

- OPN.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

c. Were public notices completed for specific resource impacts (e.g., floodplain, Section 4(f))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Was a public meeting held?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Date(s), time(s), and location(s):		

A virtual open house was held 09/23/2021 through 10/30/2021.

4. Is there any unresolved controversy on human, natural, or economic grounds?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Summary

Summarize public comments and coordination efforts for this project. Discuss pertinent issues raised.

See above OPN for resource specific impacts. Most comments received from the public were concerning the road surface material and adding a bike path on Chena Ridge, these comments do not fit within the scope of this project. More information on public comments can be found within the attached summary.

Attachments

- NR_Public_Comment-Response_Summary_ver5_7_21.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

B. <u>Agency Involvement</u>	Yes	No
1. Was an agency scoping conducted?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Agency scoping letter was sent 09/28/2021 and comments were due by 10/30/2021.

Attachments

- NFHWY00570 Agency Scoping Letter.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

2. Was an agency scoping meeting held?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Was a field review completed with agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Summarize agency coordination efforts for this project.

Agency scoping letter was sent 09/28/2021. Comments from the agencies were in support of the project with suggestions such as not paving any new or additional driveway aprons and to acquire a flood plain permit from FNSB. More information on the agency comments can be found in the attached comment summary.

Attachments

- Agency Comment Summary.pdf NFHWY00570.pdf

IV. Permits and Authorizations

A. Permits and Authorizations

	Yes	No
1. USACE, Section 404/10 Includes Abbreviated Permit Process, Nationwide Permit, and General Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Coast Guard, Section 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. ADF&G Fish Habitat Permit (Title 16.05.871 and Title 16.05.841)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Flood Hazard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. ADEC Non-domestic Wastewater Plan Approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Requires 401 Cert	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. ADEC APDES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Eagle Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Incidental Take Authorization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Local (Borough or City) permit (e.g., noise)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Other Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Summary

FNSB Title 15 Floodplain Permit will be acquired for this project.

V. Environmental Commitments

A. Environmental Commitments and Mitigation Measures [23 CFR 771.109(b)]

Yes No

1. Are there project-specific environmental commitments for this project?

Summary

DOT&PF and their Contractor(s) shall:

Mechanized land vegetation clearing activities will be avoided during the migratory bird nesting season (May 1 -July 15) unless a mitigative work plan is submitted by the contractor and approved by DOT&PF.

VI. Environmental Documentation Approval

A. Environmental Documentation Approval

Yes No

1. Do any unusual circumstances exist, as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b)?

2. Does the project meet the criteria of one of the following DOT&PF Programmatic Approvals authorized in the Nov. 13, 2017 "Chief Engineer Directive - Programmatic Categorical Exclusions"?

- Programmatic Approval 2

Summary

N/A

Environmental Documentation Approval Signatures

Prepared by:



Date: 1/12/2022

Zoe Petersen

Environmental Impact Analyst I

Reviewed by:



Date: 1/14/2022

John J Netardus

Engineer/Architect II

Approved by:



Date: 1/14/2022

Brett Nelson

Environmental Impact Analysis Manager I

