

## **U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (USFWS)**

### ***Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)***

A search of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) FUDS website (<http://m1.crrel.usace.army.mil/fuds>) revealed no FUDS in the Chalkyitsik area.

### ***State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries***

A review of the ADFG publication, *State of Alaska Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas and Sanctuaries* found that there are no State Refuges, Critical Habitat Areas, or Sanctuaries in the proposed project area.

### ***Federal Recreation Areas***

The Federal recreation website ([www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov)) was reviewed to determine if any federal recreational areas exist in the proposed project vicinity. No sites were listed.

### ***State Land Use Plans and State Parks***

The village of Chalkyitsik is not within a region of the state for which the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) has prepared a land use plan. No state parks are located in the project area.

### ***National Wildlife Refuges***

The USFWS refuge website ([www.r7.fws.gov/refuges.cfm](http://www.r7.fws.gov/refuges.cfm)) indicates that the village of Chalkyitsik lies within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). The village, as well as the Native regional corporation, Doyon Ltd., owns land within the Yukon Flats Refuge. These lands were conveyed to the Native peoples under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

### ***Threatened and Endangered Species***

The list of federally listed threatened and endangered species maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was consulted to determine if listed species are of concern in the Chalkyitsik area. No species on the list occur within the project area.

### ***Wetlands***

A wetlands survey of the project area was conducted in summer 2004 and a draft report was completed in December 2004 and submitted to ADOT&PF for review. The preliminary results of that survey (see [Figure 2](#)) indicate that wetlands of various types do occur in the project area. Wetlands, dominated by Sedge-Scrub Bob, accounted for 31% of the mapped area, with uplands, primarily white spruce and aspen forests, accounting for the remaining 69%. Although the Black River was not located within the study area for wetlands, it is of high value because it provides anadromous fish habitat. Should any dredge/fill be required in wetlands for this project, the appropriate permits would be acquired before construction.

### ***Coastal Zone Management***

According to the ADNR's Coastal Zone and Coastal District Boundaries Map ([www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/GIS/boundary.htm](http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us/GIS/boundary.htm)), the project area is not located within the coastal zone for Alaska.

### ***Flood Plain Management***

Chalkyitsik does not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, but some flood hazard information is available for the project area from the USACE flood hazard webpage ([www.poa.usace.army.mil/en/cw/fld\\_haz/allakaket.htm](http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/en/cw/fld_haz/allakaket.htm)). That information indicates that the last recorded flood event was in 1997 and that flood events in the area are primarily caused by ice jams. Significant flooding occurred in 1937, 1947 or 1948, and 1967. The 100-year flood level elevation is estimated at 110 ft, which is about 3 ft higher than that recorded for the 1967 flood event. The elevation datum is based on the Bench Mark #1, elevation 100.0 ft, of the NWS slope gage.

### ***Navigable Waters***

The USACE Navigable Waters web page ([www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg/NavWat.htm](http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg/NavWat.htm)) does not list the Black River as a navigable water. The Corps of Engineers defines navigable waters to include "...those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce." The webpage lists waterways considered navigable based upon results of navigability studies.

### ***National Parks, Preserves, Monuments, and Wild and Scenic Rivers***

National Park Services website ([www.nps.gov/carto/PDF/AKPAAMap1.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/carto/PDF/AKPAAMap1.pdf)) was reviewed to determine if any National Parks, Preserves, Monuments, or Wild and Scenic Rivers exist in the proposed project area. No sites were indicated.

### ***Additional Information***

In addition to identifying any concerns and/or issues your agency might have with the proposed project, the following information is requested:

1. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) website was consulted to determine whether any threatened and/or endangered species and their habitats are present in the project area and any findings are identified above. If you have any other information and/or data on threatened and/or endangered species that might potentially be affected by the proposed project please provide that information.
2. The USFW website was consulted to identify National Wildlife Refuge lands in or adjacent to the project area and any findings are identified above. 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.
3. No USFW National Wetlands Inventory Maps were available for the project area, but wetlands were mapped for the project area, and any findings are identified above. If you know of any other wetlands that may be impacted by the project please provide that information.

4. Please provide information or data on important fish and wildlife habitats or migration corridors potentially affected by the proposed project.
5. Please provide information on known active or inactive eagle nests in the project area.
6. Please identify any permits and/or clearances to be obtained from your agency for the proposed project.

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