



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

KENAI FIELD OFFICE
Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
44669 Sterling Highway, Suite B
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7915

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	January 6, 2023
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 6, 2023
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2007-01820-M1
WATERWAY:	Sapsuk River

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

All comments regarding this public notice should be sent to the address noted above. If you desire to submit your comments by email, you should send it to the Project Manager's email as listed below or to CEPOA-RD-Kenai@usace.army.mil. All comments should include the public notice reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this public notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Ms. Jen Martin at (907) 753-2730 or by email at Jen.L.Martin@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Rodney Schuh, Hoodoo Sport Fishing Adventures, LLC, 10000 Cobra Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99507

LOCATION: The project site is located within Section 14, T. 50 S., R. 78 W., Seward Meridian; USGS Quad Map Port Moller D-4; Latitude 55.8514° N., Longitude 161.2951° W.; Aleutians East Borough; U.S. Survey #9314, 11 miles southwest of Nelson Lagoon, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to install a cross airstrip to facilitate the safe operating of aircraft associated with the safe transportation of guests to and from the lodge when wind conditions are too extreme and unsafe to utilize the existing airstrips.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant proposes to discharge 7,000 cubic yards of sand/clay/silt, topped by 925 cubic yards of gravel/sand material into 0.8-acre of wetlands for the construction of a cross airstrip at an existing fishing lodge facility. The runway would be underlain by geotextile fabric and have a base width of 70-foot, a crest width of 50-foot and would extend 500 linear foot in wetlands. An 8-inch diameter culvert would be installed every 200-foot to maintain hydrology within the wetland. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-5), dated November 30, 2022.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A Department of the Army permit (POA-2007-01820, Sapsuk River) was issued to Mr. Rodney Schuh on April 22, 2008, which authorized the discharge of 1,650 cubic yards of material into 0.44-acre of wetlands to construct a 24-foot by 800-foot segment of an 1,800-linear-foot landing strip, installation of a 4-foot wide by 120-foot-long floating dock and construction of an 18-foot by 20-foot access ramp to support a sport fishing and hunting lodge.

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: In respect to avoiding any impact, there will be no activities outside of the project area. All activities associated with the project will be conducted in the proposed project area and adjoining area outside of any wetlands on the private parcel site. There will be no impact to any wetland complex other than the proposed 0.8 acre landing strip fill area.
- b. Minimization: There will be no disruption to wetlands outside of the fill area. Measures will be taken to prevent any impacts as noted:
 1. Eight inch culverts will be placed every 200-foot to maintain hydrology.
 2. There will be no excavation of the wetlands, thus eliminating sidecast of excavated material, or unintentional fallback into wetlands.
 3. Geotextile fabric will be placed between existing wetland and the fill to be placed. This installation of geotextile fabric will prevent any downward migration of soils into the existing wetland and will aid in keeping the placed material within the road prism fill area. Additionally, geotextile fabric will be placed between the fill and capping layer to additionally prevent any migration of material outside of its intended location.
- c. Compensatory Mitigation: Compensatory mitigation is not proposed for this project considering any impacts outside of the fill area are avoided by measures taken in project plan as noted.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are cultural resources (XPM-00104 and XPM-00098) in the vicinity of the permit area, however, the sites would be located outside areas to be impacted by the proposed project. The permit area has been determined to be the 4.2-acre area where the new airstrip would be constructed, in addition to the excavation area south of the runway (see Sheet 5 of 6). Consultation of the AHRs constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at this time, and we are otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. The Corps has made a No Historic Properties Affected (No Effect) determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), federally recognized tribes, and other consulting parties. Any comments SHPO, federally recognized tribes, and other consulting parties may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work. The Corps is requesting the SHPO's concurrence with this determination.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

No EFH species are known to use the project area.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Corps fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between federally recognized tribes and the federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This public notice serves as notification to the tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the federal decision-making process regarding the protected tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:
(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States – Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

Project drawings are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps

Enclosures

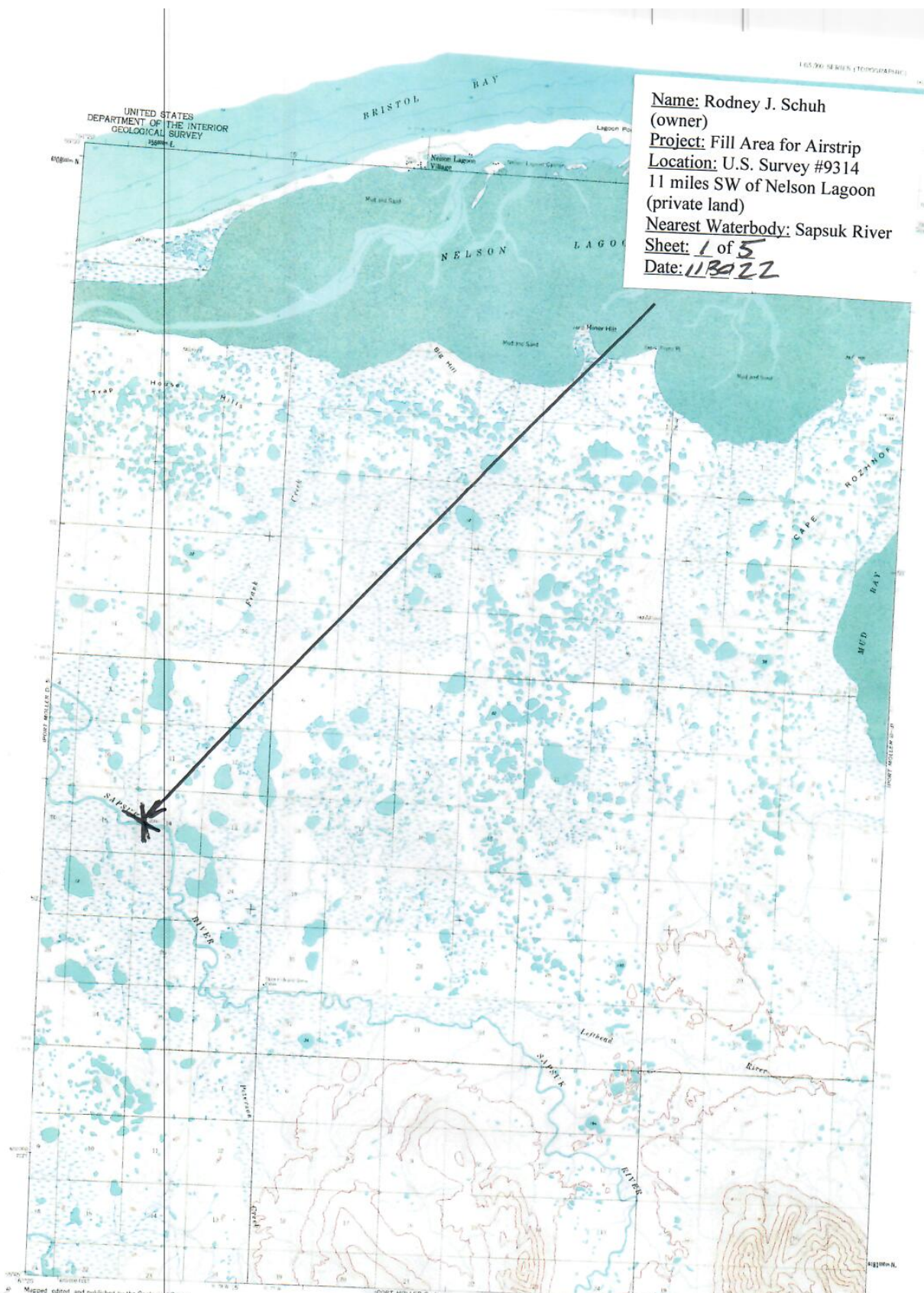
Alaska Peninsula



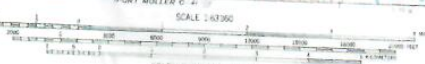
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1:50,000 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Name: Rodney J. Schuh
(owner)
Project: Fill Area for Airstrip
Location: U.S. Survey #9314
11 miles SW of Nelson Lagoon
(private land)
Nearest Waterbody: Sapsuk River
Sheet: 1 of 5
Date: 11/30/22



Mapped, edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by 1956S and 1956CSGS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1957 and 1962, 1:50,000 scale (1963). Map scale 1:50,000
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USCGS charts
from 1864 (1963). Low water datum is used wherever
for navigational purposes.
Vertical datum: Mean Sea Level (MSL) datum
1955 (1955) datum in Alaska coastal waters, 1929
datum elsewhere.
Land use information provided and corrected by the
Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.
Scale: as published, accurate only in the general area.
Units: as published, accurate only in the general area.

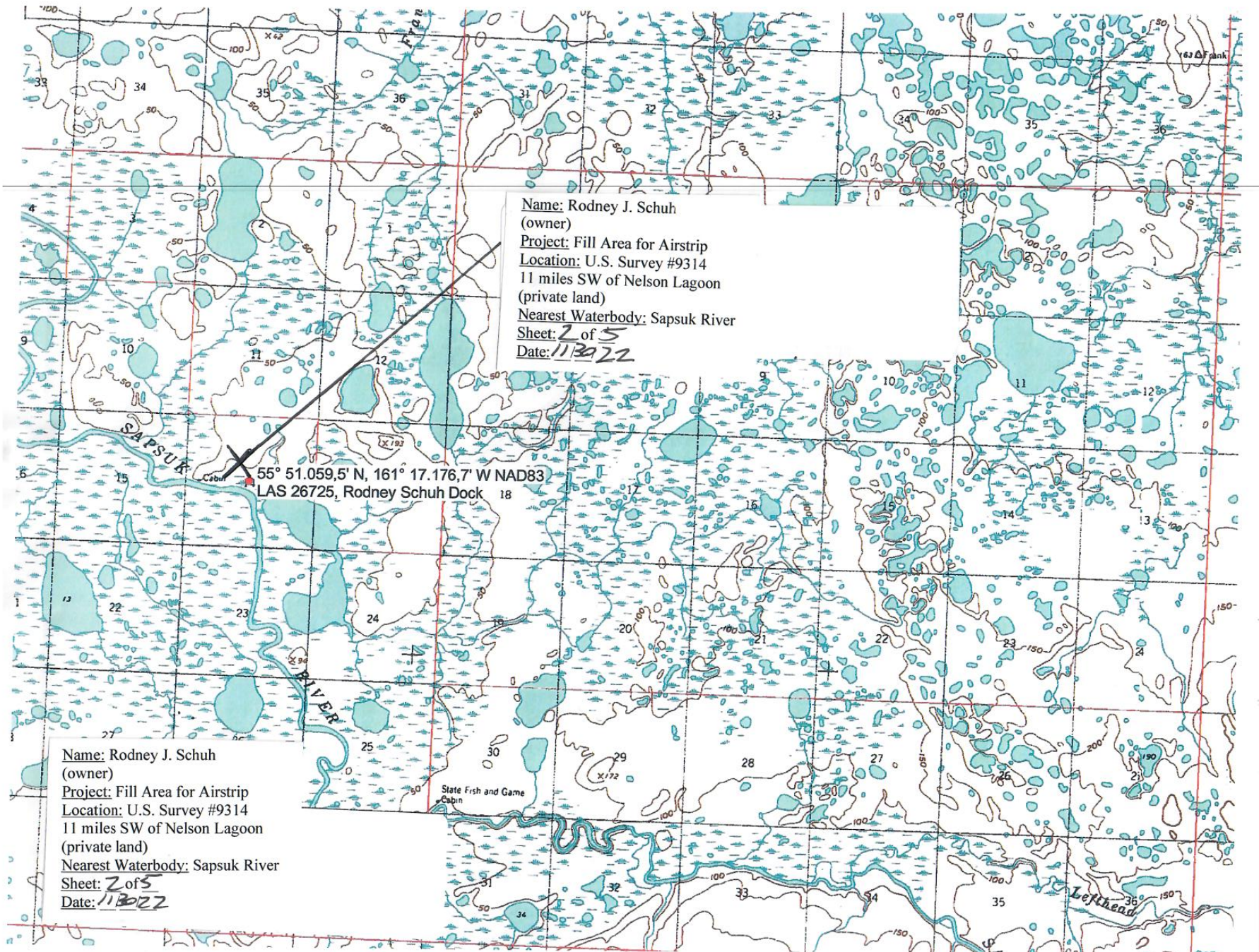


FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701; DENVER, COLORADO 80202; OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

USGS
Historical File
Topographic Division

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Unimproved dirt

PORT MOLLER (D-4), ALASKA
1963

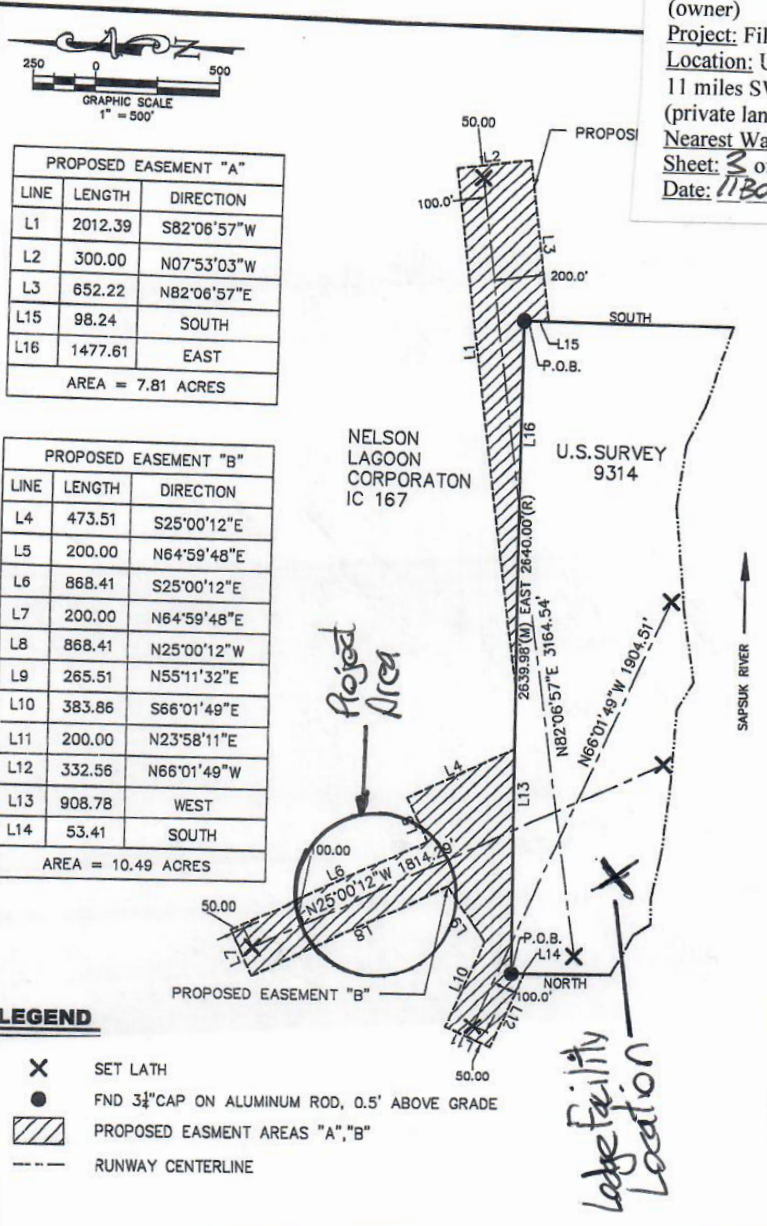


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11 miles SW of Nelson Lagoon
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Sheet: 2 of 5
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55° 51.059,5' N, 161° 17.176,7' W NAD83
LAS 26725, Rodney Schuh Dock

Name: Rodney J. Schuh
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PROPOSED EASEMENT "A"		
LINE	LENGTH	DIRECTION
L1	2012.39	S82°06'57"W
L2	300.00	N07°53'03"W
L3	652.22	N82°06'57"E
L15	98.24	SOUTH
L16	1477.61	EAST
AREA = 7.81 ACRES		

PROPOSED EASEMENT "B"		
LINE	LENGTH	DIRECTION
L4	473.51	S25°00'12"E
L5	200.00	N64°59'48"E
L6	868.41	S25°00'12"E
L7	200.00	N64°59'48"E
L8	868.41	N25°00'12"W
L9	265.51	N55°11'32"E
L10	383.86	S66°01'49"E
L11	200.00	N23°58'11"E
L12	332.56	N66°01'49"W
L13	908.78	WEST
L14	53.41	SOUTH
AREA = 10.49 ACRES		

LEGEND

- X SET LATH
- FND 3/4" CAP ON ALUMINUM ROD, 0.5' ABOVE GRADE
- ▨ PROPOSED EASEMENT AREAS "A", "B"
- RUNWAY CENTERLINE

**engineers
surveyors**
bell
 801 W. FIREWEED LN. #201
 ANCHORAGE, AK 99503
 (907) 274-5257
 CoA: AECC582

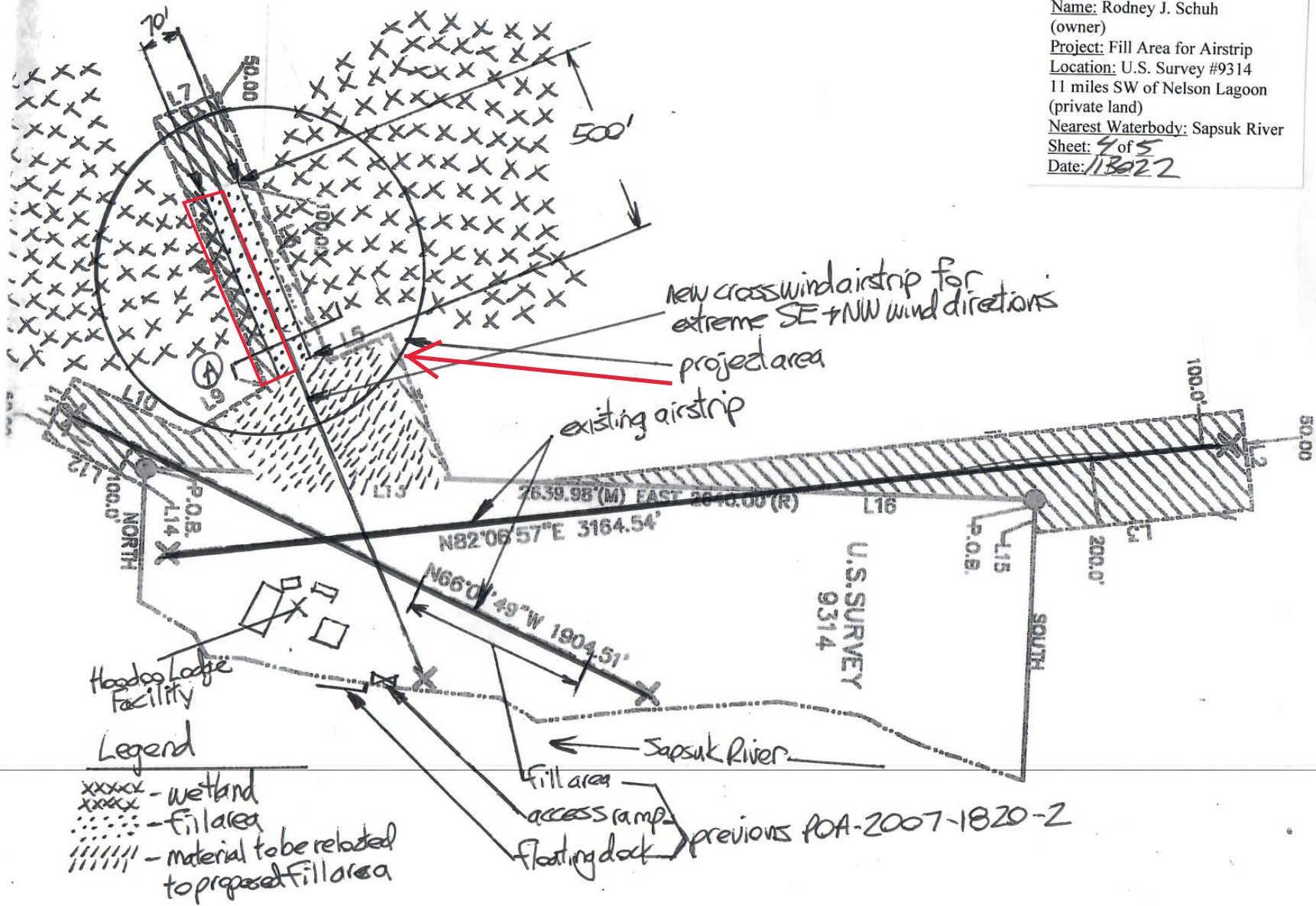
STATE OF ALASKA
 49th
 BRADFORD RINCKEY
 NO. 11299
 Oct. 04, 2019
 REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR

EXHIBIT "A"
 LOCATED WITHIN T50S R78W, SEWARD
 MERIDIAN, ALASKA

DRAWN BY: ACC
 CHECKED BY: BJR
 SCALE: 1"=500'

DATE:
 10/02/2019

Name: Rodney J. Schuh
 (owner)
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 Location: U.S. Survey #9314
 11 miles SW of Nelson Lagoon
 (private land)
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 Sheet: 4 of 5
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Section Plan Airstrip Fill Area

