



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Alaska District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

ANCHORAGE  
Regulatory Division (1145)  
CEPOA-RD  
Post Office Box 6898  
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

<b>PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:</b>	<b>February 18, 2021</b>
<b>EXPIRATION DATE:</b>	<b>March 22, 2021</b>
<b>REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>	<b>POA-2020-00500</b>
<b>WATERWAY:</b>	<b>Tongass Narrows</b>

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

All comments regarding this Public Notice (PN) 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 [regpagemaster@usace.army.mil](mailto:regpagemaster@usace.army.mil). All comments should include the PN reference number listed above.

All comments should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this PN to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Mr. Andrew W Gregory at (907) 753-2791, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at: [Andrew.W.Gregory@usace.army.mil](mailto:Andrew.W.Gregory@usace.army.mil), if further information is desired concerning this notice.

**APPLICANT:** Blarney Stone Enter, LLC, P.O. Box 583, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

**AGENT:** Monrean Eng. & Assoc. Inc, P.O. Box 9343, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

**LOCATION:** The project site is located at Section 6, T. 74 S., R. 95 E., Cooper River Meridian; Latitude 55.3718° N., Longitude 131.7227° W.; 4900 Shoreline Drive in Ketchikan, Alaska.

**PURPOSE:** The applicant's stated purpose is to provide for the loading and unloading of concrete and rock from shore to barge for transport and vessel moorage.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant's proposed work includes discharge of fill material and construction of structures within navigable water. Specifically, the work includes the discharge of 13,400 cubic yards (CY) of clean shot rock and 1,503 CY of large rock into 0.424 acres of tidal waters for the construction of a 150-foot-long by 134-foot-wide fill pad, 28-foot-long driveway, and a rock retaining wall around the fill pad; the construction of a 50-foot-long by 25-foot-wide barge ramp within the footprint of the fill pad; construction of a 60-foot-long by 7-foot-wide aluminum ramp and 80-foot-long by 14-foot-wide ramp; construction of a breakwater system consisting of a 80-foot-long by 30-foot-wide HDG Pipe with 5-foot steel bobber, four (4) 6,000-lb anchors attached by ¾-inch x 4.5-inch chain; and installation of a 30-foot-long, 4-inch diameter outfall.

All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-6), dated November 9, 2020.

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

a. Avoidance: The applicant inquired on alternative sites to avoid discharge of fill material into waters of the U.S. The alternative sites were not practicable due to being unobtainable.

b. Minimization: The fill pad was decided by the applicant as the minimal necessary size to meet the project purpose. The rock wall around the fill pad is to protect against erosion and turbidity to adjacent waters.

c. Compensatory Mitigation: The applicant proposes the purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank and/or in-lieu fee program.

**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 within the vicinity of the permit area: KET-01226 and KET-01227. The permit area has been determined to be area directly impacted by the discharge of fill material and construction of structures including any upland storage areas. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the 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). Any comments SHPO 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: The project area is within the known or historic range of the Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaengliae*) and Fin whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*).

We have determined the described activity may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Humpback whale and Fin whale. We will initiate the appropriate consultation procedures under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

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 NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

The project area is within the known range of the Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), Chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*), Pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*), Sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*), and Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*).

We are currently gathering information regarding these species and have yet to make a determination of effect. Should we find that the described activity may affect the species listed above, we will follow the appropriate course of action under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Any comments the NMFS may have concerning EFH will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District 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 PN 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 authorities:

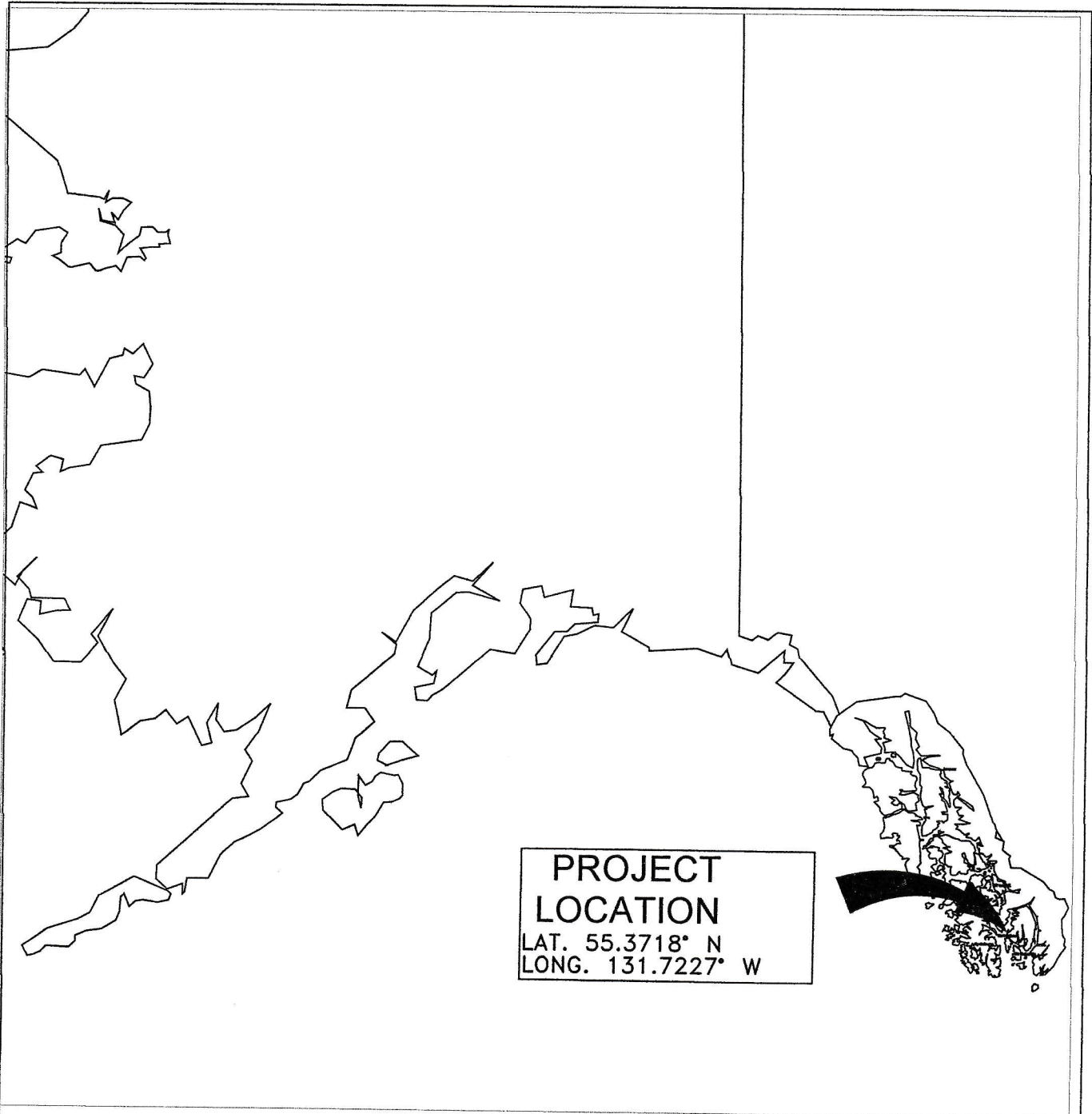
(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. – Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. – 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 of Engineers

Enclosures



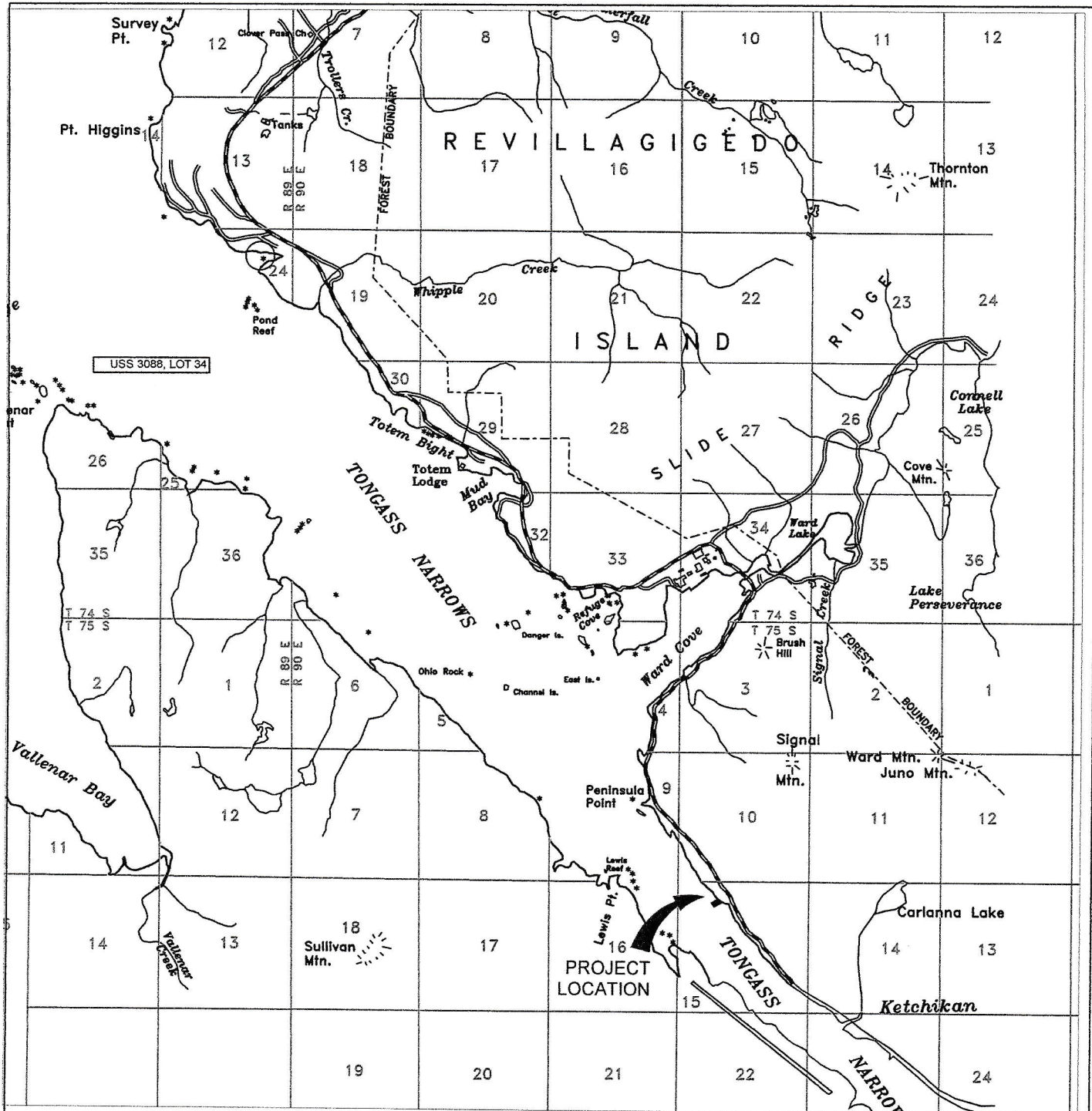
**PROJECT  
LOCATION**  
 LAT. 55.3718° N  
 LONG. 131.7227° W

SCALE NONE

**PURPOSE:**  
 PROVIDE CONCRETE  
 READY MIX & ROCK  
 BARGE LOADING FACILITY  
**DATUM:**  
 HORIZONTAL NAD. 83/91  
 VERTICAL N.G.V.D. 29

**LOCATION MAP**  
**REFERENCE:** POA-2020  
 CLIFF SKILLINGS DBA  
 BLARNEY STONE ENTER. LLC &  
 EDDYSTONE ROCK & READY MIX  
 PO BOX 5831  
 KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901

**PROPOSED:**  
 NEW BARGE TERMINAL & TRANSFER  
 FACILITY  
**CITY OF:** KETCHIKAN **STATE OF:** AK  
**APPLICATION BY:** CLIFF SKILLINGS  
 SHEET 1 of 6 DATE 11-9-2020



FROM: KETCHIKAN B-6 QUADRANGLE

3000 0 3000 6000 FEET

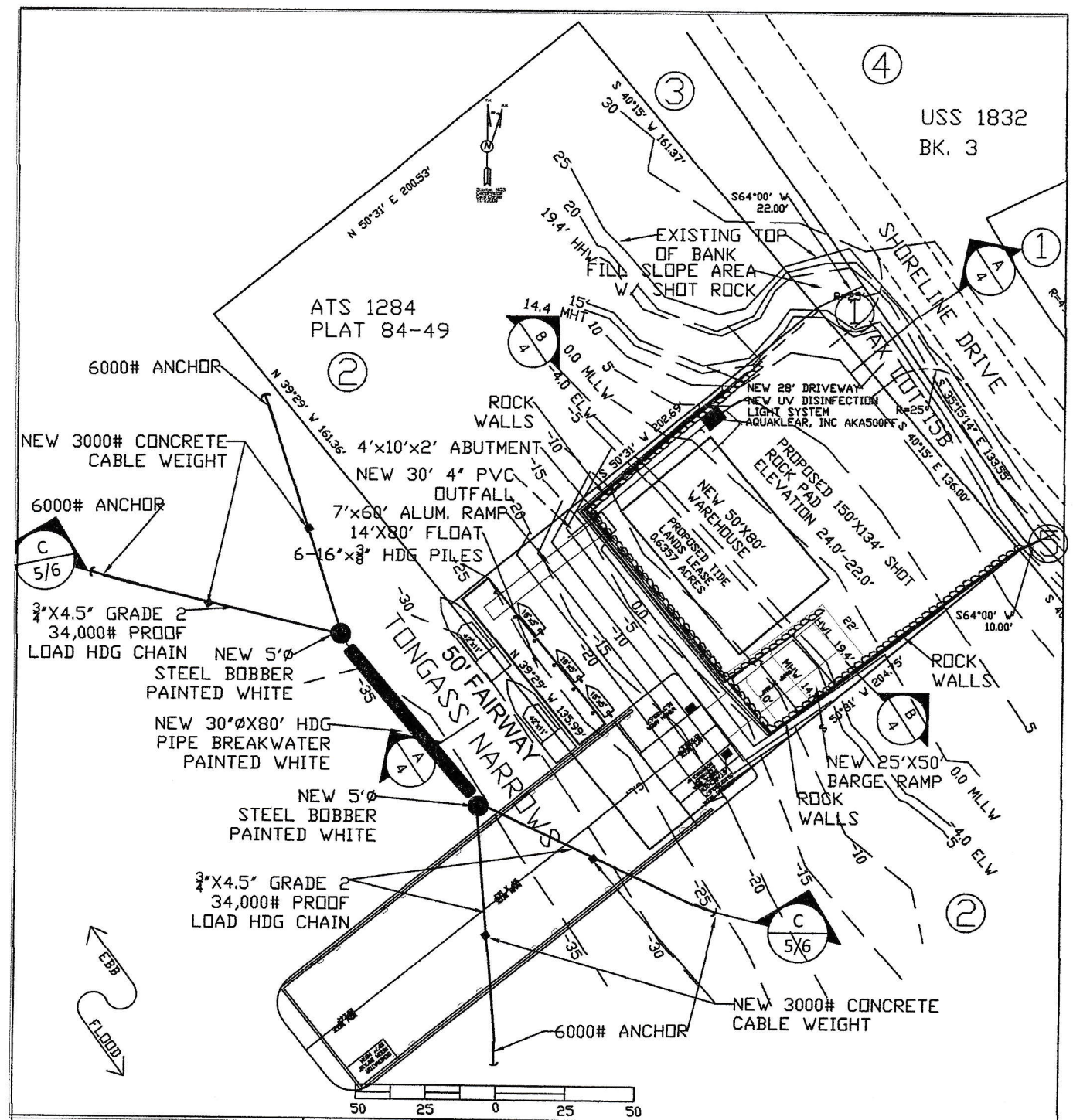
SCALE 1"=1 Mile

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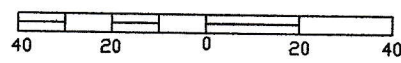
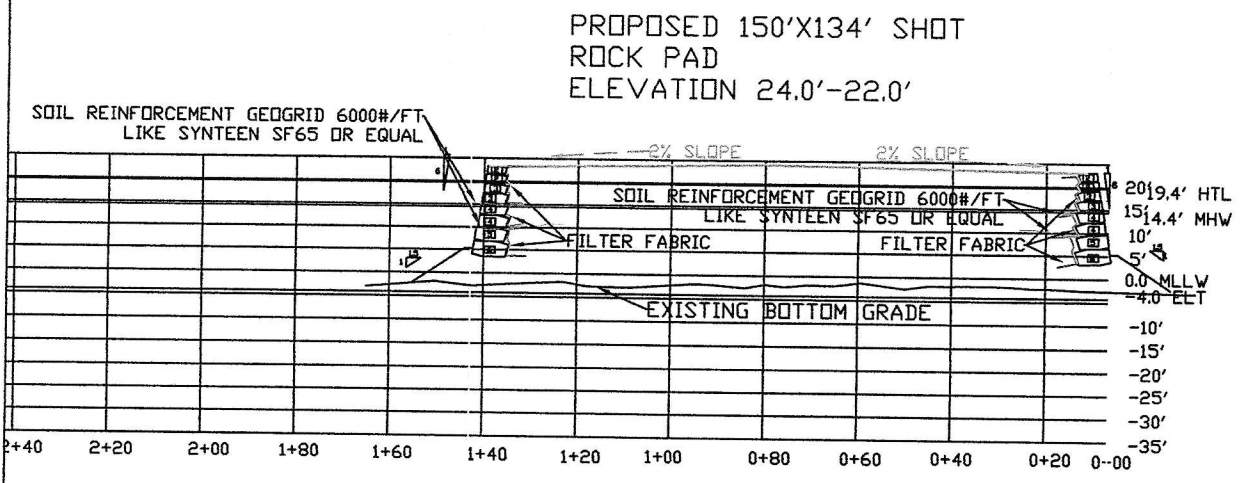
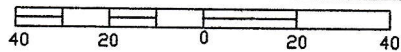
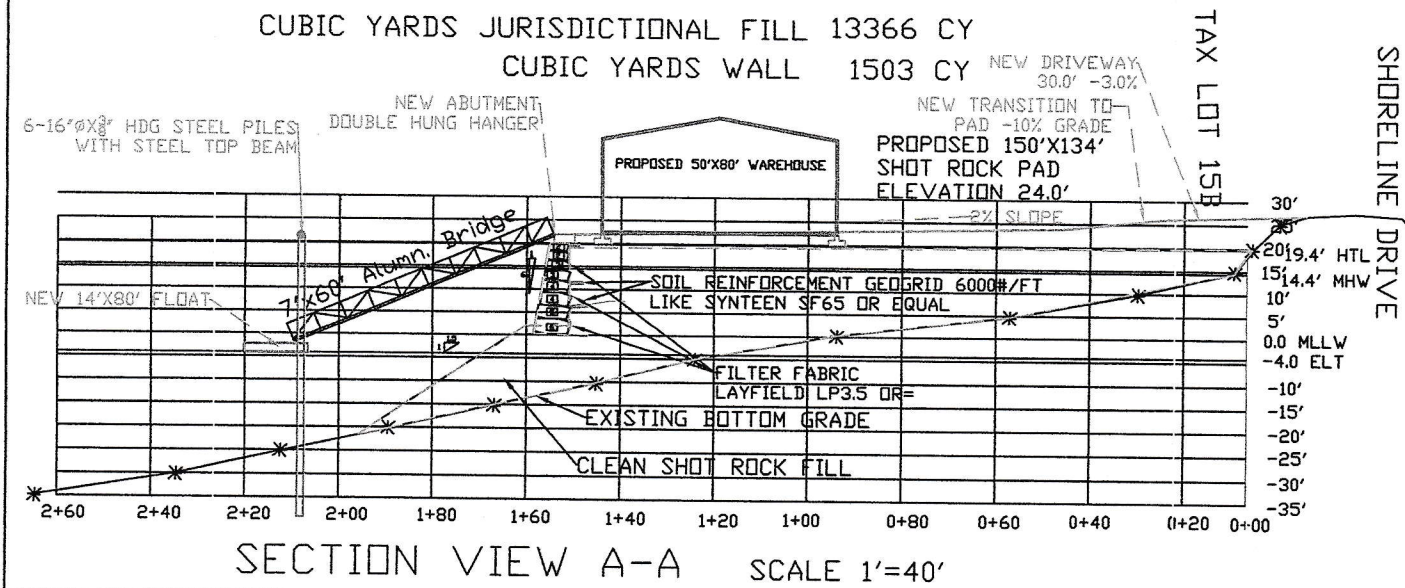
VICINITY MAP  
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 KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901

PROPOSED:  
 NEW BARGE TERMINAL & TRANSFER  
 FACILITY  
 CITY OF: KETCHIKAN STATE OF: AK  
 APPLICATION BY: CLIFF SKILLINGS  
 SHEET 2 of 6 DATE 11-9-2020

USS 1832  
BK. 3



<p>ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CLIFF SKILLINGS</li> <li>2. CITY OF KETCHIKAN</li> <li>3. GREAT AK. LUMBERJACK</li> <li>4. GARY SHORTS</li> <li>5. SNOW MT. ENTER. LLC</li> </ol>	<p>PLAN VIEW POA-2020 CLIFF SKILLINGS DBA BLARNEY STONE ENTER. LLC &amp; EDDYSTONE ROCK &amp; READY MIX PO BOX 5831 KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901</p>	<p>PROPOSED: NEW BARGE TERMINAL &amp; TRANSFER FACILITY CITY OF: KETCHIKAN STATE OF: AK APPLICATION BY: CLIFF SKILLINGS SHEET 3 of 6 DATE 11-9-2020</p>
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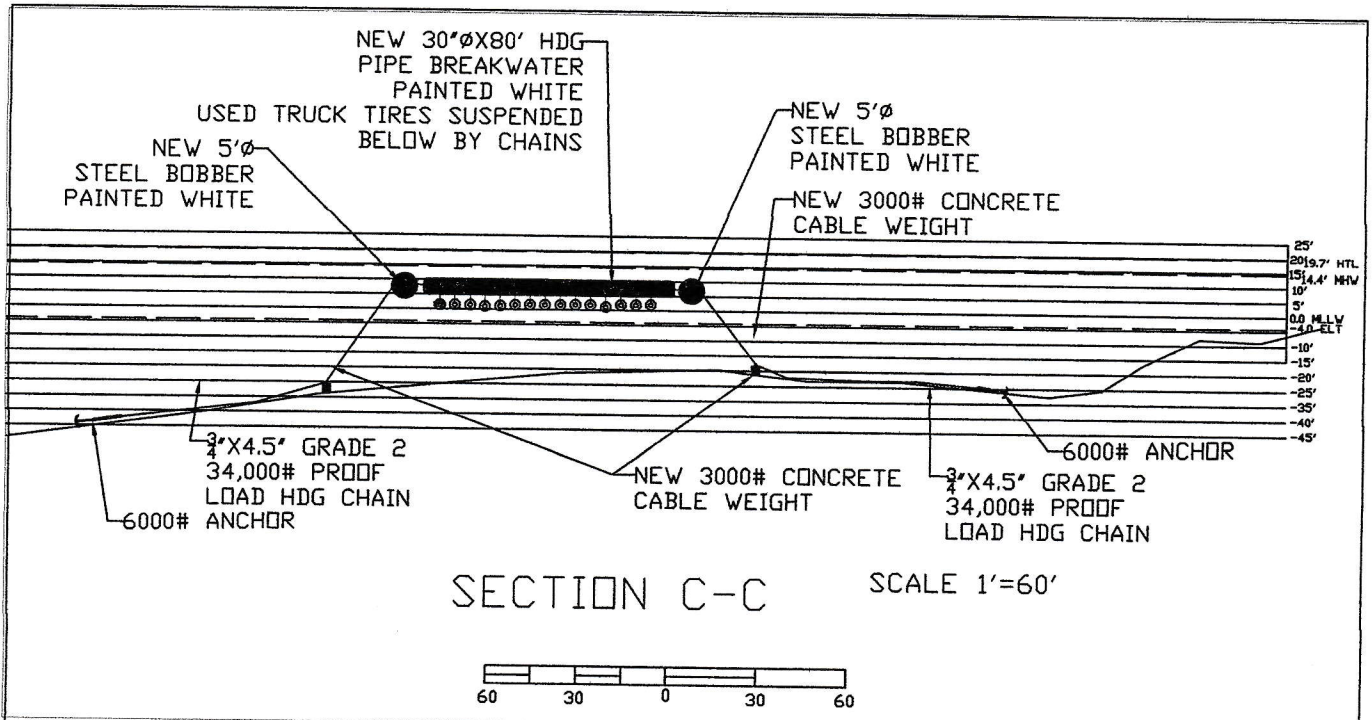


PURPOSE:  
PROVIDE CONCRETE  
READY MIX & ROCK  
BARGE LOADING FACILITY  
DATUM:  
HORIZONTAL NAD. 83/91  
VERTICAL N.G.V.D. 29

SECTIONS  
POA-2020  
CLIFF SKILLINGS DBA  
BLARNEY STONE ENTER. LLC &  
EDDYSTONE ROCK & READY MIX  
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PROPOSED:  
NEW BARGE TERMINAL & TRANSFER  
FACILITY  
CITY OF: KETCHIKAN STATE OF: AK  
APPLICATION BY: CLIFF SKILLINGS  
SHEET 4 of 6 DATE 11-9-2020

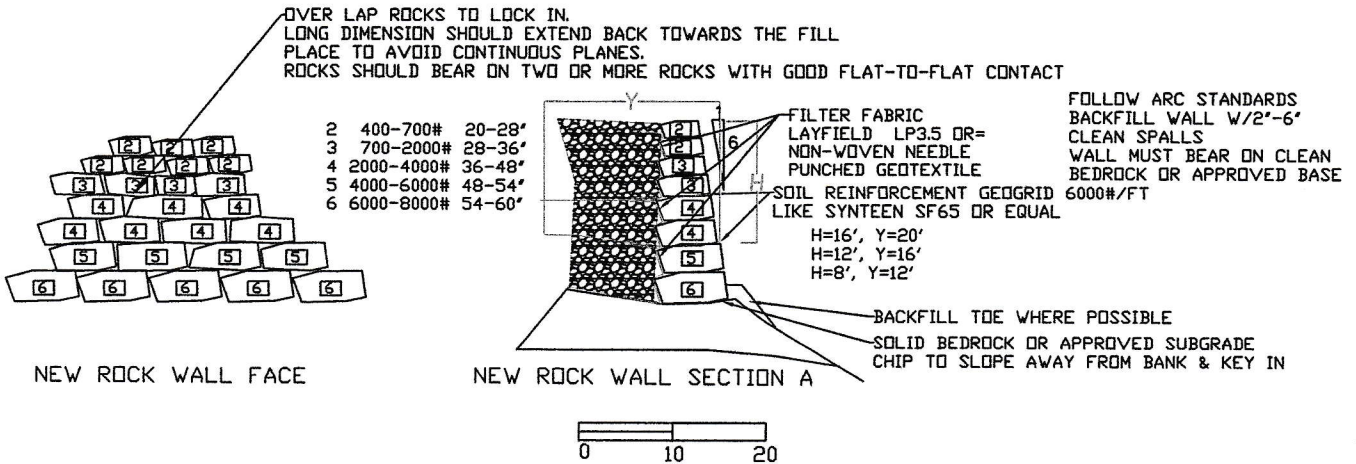




<p>PURPOSE:          PROVIDE CONCRETE          READY MIX &amp; ROCK          BARGE LOADING FACILITY          DATUM:          HORIZONTAL :NAD. 83/91          VERTICAL N.G.V.D. 29</p>	<p>SECTION VIEW          POA-2020          CLIFF SKILLINGS DBA          BLARNEY STONE ENTER. LLC &amp;          EDDYSTONE ROCK &amp; READY MIX          PO BOX 5831          KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901</p>	<p>PROPOSED:          NEW BARGE TERMINAL &amp; TRANSFER          FACILITY          CITY OF: KETCHIKAN STATE OF: AK          APPLICATION BY: CLIFF SKILLINGS          SHEET 5 of 6 DATE 11-9-2020</p>
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**NOTES:**

1. Rock wall construction is a craft and depends largely on the skill and experience of the builder therefore use only experienced skilled operators
2. A rock wall is a protective system which helps retard the weathering and erosion process it is not a designed or engineered system in the sense a reinforced concrete retaining wall is designed.
3. The degree of retention achieved is dependent on the size of the rock used; that is the mass or weight and the height of the wall being constructed. The larger the rock the more competent the rock wall should be.
4. Rock wall should be considered maintenance item that will require periodic inspection and repair. They should be located so that they can be reached by a contractor if repairs become necessary.
5. The maximum inclination of the slopes above and behind the wall should be no more than 2:1 (Horizontal:Vertical)
6. Minimum thickness of rock filter layer 12", Minimum embedment 12" undisturbed native soil or compacted fill. Maximum rock wall height H=16 feet
7. Rock walls over 8 feet should be installed under periodic or full time observation of the engineer
8. Rock should be placed to gradually decrease in size with the rock sizes shown on the attached drawing
9. The minimum width of the keyway excavation should be equal to the thickness of the base rock as determined by the design.
10. The long dimension of the rocks should extend back towards the cut or fill face to provide the maximum stability. Rocks should not be stacked like shoe boxes. They should be placed to avoid continuous joint planes in vertical or lateral directions. Whenever possible each rock should bear on two or more rocks below it, with good flat-to-flat contact.
11. Soil stabilization fabric like Synteen SF65 or equal shall be installed to tie the rock wall back into the bank a minimum of 12'. Orientate fabric for maximum strength transverse to the wall.



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