



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

FAIRBANKS FIELD OFFICE
Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
2175 University Avenue, Suite 201E
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4927

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: June 1, 2018

EXPIRATION DATE: June 30, 2018

REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2018-150

WATERWAY: Moose Creek

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 regpagemaster@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 John Sargent at (907) 474-2166, or by email at John.C.Sargent@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: United States Army Garrison (USAG), Fort Wainwright, Department of Public Works (DPW), Mr. Tim Sponseller, 1046 Marks Street, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

AGENT: USAG Fort Wainwright (DPW), Mr. Daniel Rees, 1046 Marks Street, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703

LOCATION: The project site is located at Fairbanks Meridian; USGS Quad Map Fairbanks D-1; Latitude 64.6768° N., Longitude 146.7624° W.; Yukon Training area at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is to expand the existing Bravo Battery Gravel Pit to meet anticipated needs for gravel and to construct a sediment retention berm downslope of the gravel pit.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant proposes the discharge of fill material in 2.3 acres of wetlands for the expansion of the Bravo Battery Gravel Pit to include removal of the north wall, mechanized land clearing, and construction of a 600-foot long by 20-foot wide by 10-foot tall sediment retention berm downslope of the existing gravel pit. The sediment retention berm would be built using topsoil and woody materials from the land clearing area. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), dated 2/16/2018, 2/22/2018 and May 8, 2018.

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 order to keep the gravel pit operational, wetland avoidance would not be possible. Avoidance of wetlands is not possible because gravel sources are located within the wetland areas, and the retention berm must be directly down-slope of the existing gravel pit to comply with stormwater regulations.

b. Minimization: The proposed sediment retention berm would be built to contain fine sediment from flowing down-slope into the Moose Creek watershed from Bravo Battery Gravel Pit and to comply with stormwater regulations. The applicant stated the footprint of the proposed project has been kept to the minimum necessary while meeting the project purpose.

c. Compensatory Mitigation: Compensatory mitigation for the loss of 2.3 acres of wetlands was not proposed because of the low overall impact from development in the Moose Creek Watershed as a whole and the abundance of similar wetlands in this watershed.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work would 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. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by

the Corps at this time. The State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) had determined the site is not eligible for the National Register as documented in the AHRs. The Corps has made a No Historic Properties Affected (No Effect) determination for the proposed project. This application is being coordinated with SHPO and the Corps is requesting concurrence on this determination. 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.

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

We have determined the described activity would have no effect on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species. Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. However, 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).

No EFH species are known to use the project area. We have determined the described activity would not adversely affect EFH in the project area.

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 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 of Engineers 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 of Engineers 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:

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

(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).

() Transport dredged material for the purpose of dumping it into ocean waters - Section 103 Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1413).

Therefore, our public interest review will consider the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended (40 CFR Parts 220 to 229), as appropriate.

Project drawings and a Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER
401 Certification Program
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

ANCHORAGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WQM/401 CERTIFICATION
555 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617
PHONE: (907) 269-7564/FAX: (907) 334-2415

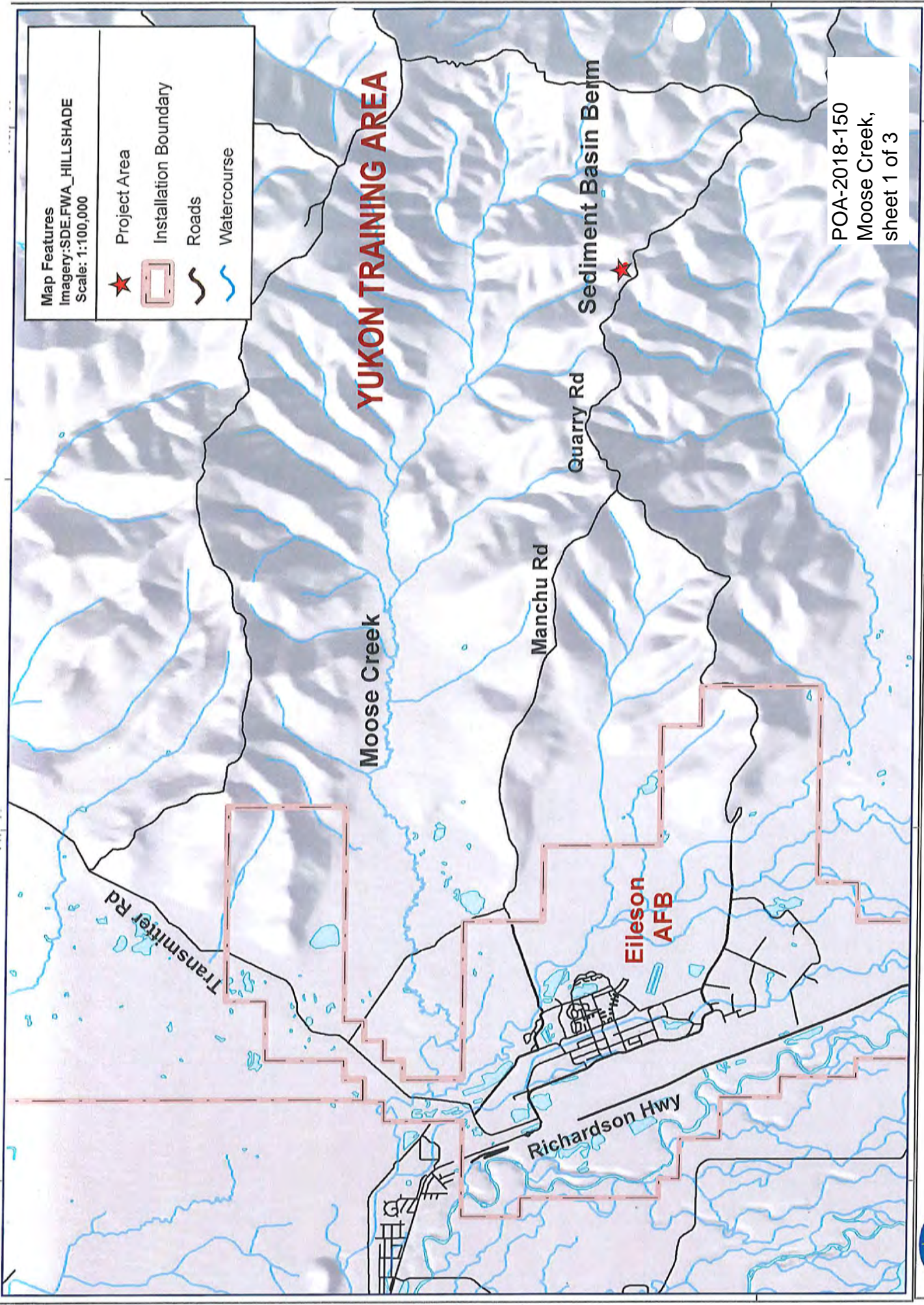
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-2018-150** serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project, with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice.



Map Features
Imagery: SDE.FWA_HILLSHADE
Scale: 1:100,000

- ★ Project Area
- Installation Boundary
- Roads
- Watercourse

YUKON TRAINING AREA

Moose Creek

Manchu Rd

Quarry Rd

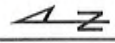
Sediment Basin Berm

Eileson
AFB

Richardson Hwy

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Moose Creek,
sheet 1 of 3

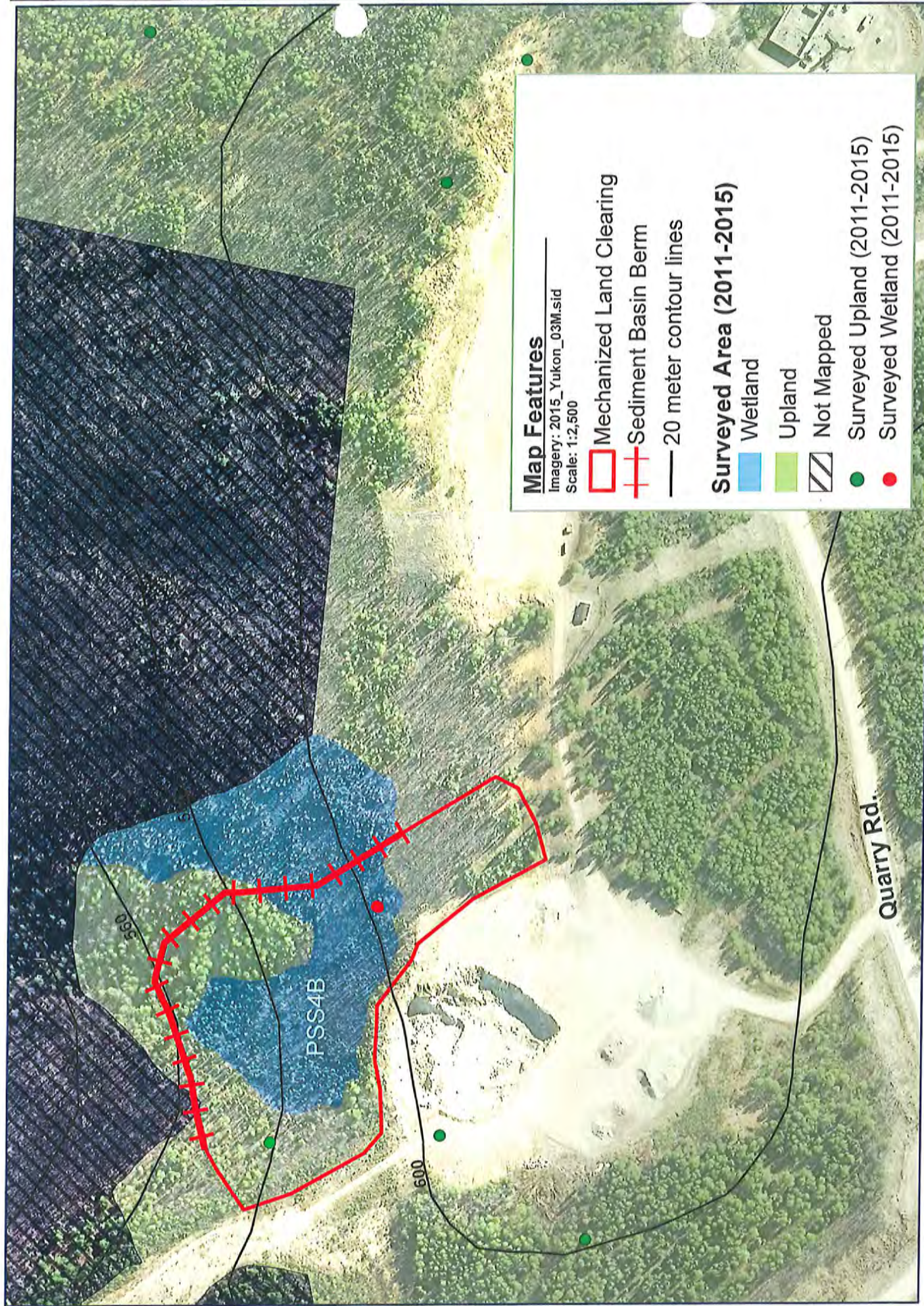
Horizontal Datum: WGS 84
Projection: UTM Zone 6 N



Date: 2/16/2018

Fort Wainwright Yukon Training Area: Bravo Battery
Sediment Basin and Berm





Map Features

Imagery: 2015_Yukon_03M.sid
Scale: 1:2,500

- Mechanized Land Clearing
- Sediment Basin Berm
- 20 meter contour lines

Surveyed Area (2011-2015)

- Wetland
- Upland
- Not Mapped
- Surveyed Upland (2011-2015)
- Surveyed Wetland (2011-2015)



**Fort Wainwright Yukon Training Area: Bravo Battery
Sediment Basin and Berm**

Date: 2/22/2018

Horizontal Datum: WGS 84
Projection: UTM Zone 6 N

Units: Meters

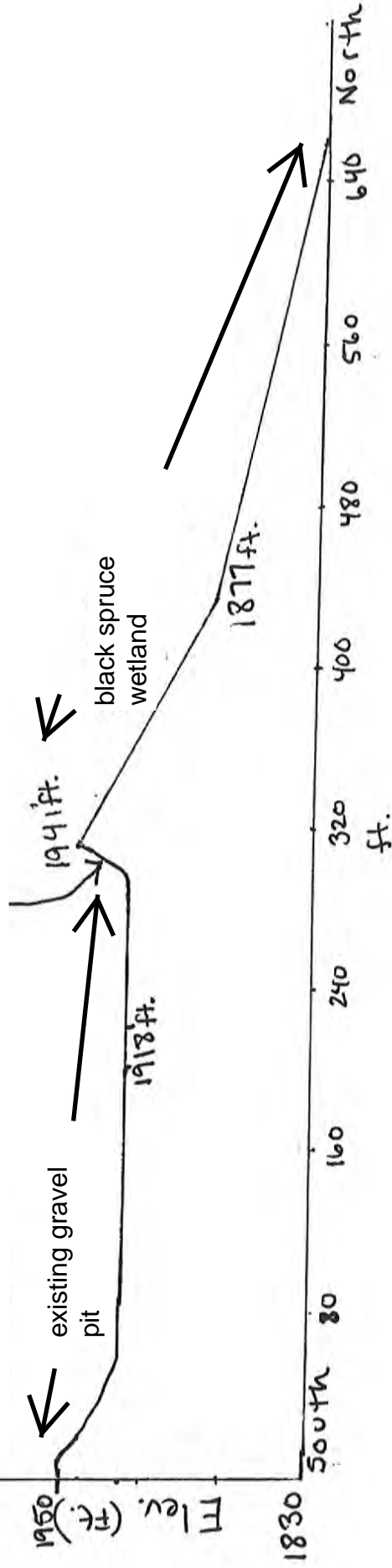
0 0.0125 0.025 0.05 0.075 Miles

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Pre-Project

linch = 80 feet

North Wall 57 % slope



Post-Project

