

US Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District

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

Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	August 26, 2021
EXPIRATION DATE:	September 27, 2021
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2021-00408
WATERWAY:	Atigun 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 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 Nicholas Lucore at (907) 753-5783, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, by fax at (907) 753-5567, or by email at Nicholas.Lucore@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

APPLICANT: Trans Alaska Pipeline System Owners

AGENT: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

<u>LOCATION</u>: The project site is located within Section 16, T. 13 S., R. 12 E., Umiat Meridian; USGS Quad Map Philip Smith Mountains B-4; Latitude 68.319046^o N., Longitude 149.352038^o W.; near Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska.

<u>PURPOSE</u>: The applicant's stated purpose is to prevent further erosion of the river toward the pipeline and restore some of the buffer within the undercut section of bank.

<u>PROPOSED WORK</u>: The applicant has proposed to retain a 280 linear foot bank stabilization completed July 1, 2021 that resulted in the discharge of 3,240 cubic yards of class 4 rip rap and low water crossing rock into 0.2 acres of riverine waters. All work would be performed in accordance with the enclosed plan (sheets 1-3), dated August 13, 2021.

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

a. Avoidance: Avoidance of WOTUS was not possible as the work required discharge of fill into riverine waters.

b. Minimization: The applicants impact to WOTUS were minimized by utilizing the least amount of fill necessary to adequately stabilize the eroding bank.

c. Compensatory Mitigation: Due to the pressing need for the project, the inability of the community to avoid construction in wetlands, and the relatively minimal negative impacts to wetlands the project is expected to have, no compensatory mitigation is proposed.

<u>WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION</u>: 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.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: 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 no cultural resources in the permit area or within the vicinity of the permit area. The permit area has been determined to be 0.2-acre footprint of the installed stabilization. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the 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: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area.

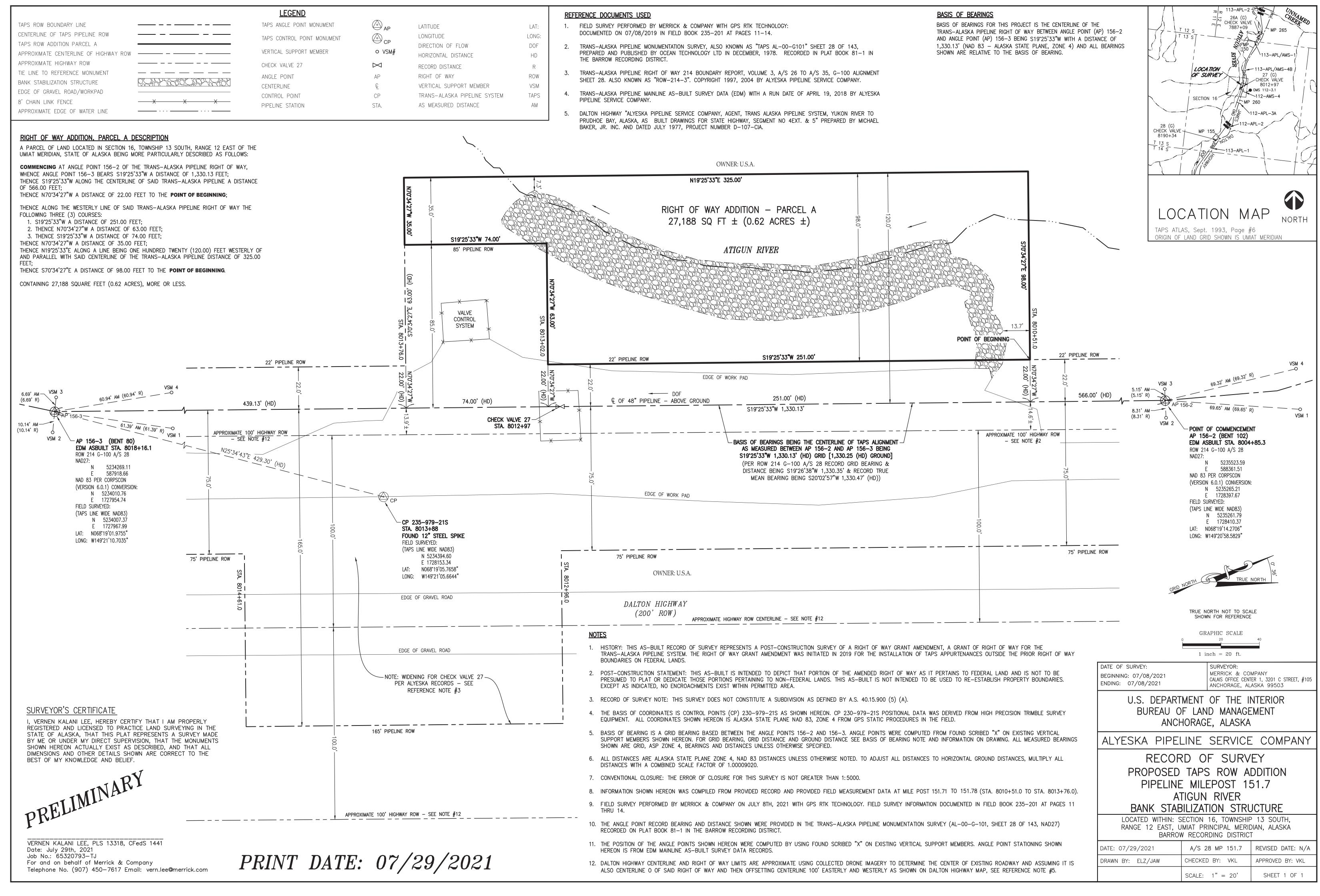
<u>ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT</u>: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). No EFH species are known to use the project area. <u>AUTHORITY</u>: 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 of Engineers

Enclosures





View of completed work looking south.



View of completed work looking north.