



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALASKA DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

CEPOA-DE

10 March 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Assumption of Command

1. Reference: Para 2-8a(1), AR600-20.
2. The undersigned assumes command of the U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska, Corps of Engineers (W2SN04/W07304), as Acting Commander during the temporary absence of the regularly assigned Commander on 10-13 March 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Penny M. Bloedel", is positioned above the typed name.

PENNY M. BLOEDEL
LTC, EN
Commanding

Distribution:
CEPOD-DE
CEPOA-Support Staff
CEPOA-Senior Staff

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Barrow Alaska Coastal Erosion

Barrow, Alaska

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (Corps) has conducted an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended. The final Feasibility Report (FR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) dated October 2019 for the Barrow Alaska Coastal Erosion Feasibility study addresses the erosion and flooding control for an approximate 5-mile stretch of coastline in Barrow, Alaska. The final recommendation is contained in the Director's Report dated **11 December 2019**.

The Final FR and EA, incorporated herein by reference, evaluated various alternatives that would reduce the erosion and flooding events in the study area. The Recommended Plan is Alternative H and includes:

- The Recommended Plan incorporates a 19-foot high rock revetment constructed against the natural bluff in Barrow. The Lagoon area would have a 14.5 foot revetted berm constructed to reduce the risk of saltwater inundation to the community's freshwater source. The areas of Browerville, South and Middle Salt, and the Naval Arctic Research Lab (NARL) would have a 14.5-foot raised and revetted Stevenson Street to reduce the risk of flooding and over topping of the road during offshore storms that cause wave run-up events. The total length of the Recommended Plan is 5 miles. The Recommended Plan is supported by the North Slope Borough, which is the non-Federal sponsor.

In addition to a "No-Action" alternative, eight alternatives were evaluated. Alternatives A through G included protecting different combinations of reach increments along a 5-mile reach of the Barrow coastline; non-structural alternatives were screened out as both an ineffective solution to the coastal erosion, and would impact nearshore habitat. Although several non-structural alternatives were considered, the only one carried forward into the final array of alternatives was join the National Flood Insurance Program. Alternatives and their formulation are considered in-depth in Section 5 of the FR.

For all alternatives, the potential effects were evaluated, as appropriate. A summary assessment of the potential effects of the Recommended Plan are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Recommended Plan

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Insignificant effects	Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*	Resource unaffected by action
Tribal trust resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects were analyzed and incorporated into the Recommended Plan. Mitigation for the Recommended Plan includes salvage archaeology in Reach 1, as discussed in the EA, Section 6.0.

The Recommended Plan will result in unavoidable adverse impacts to a single historical property within the project area explained in Section 3.1. To mitigate for this unavoidable adverse impact, the Corps will be developing a Research Design for a Salvage Excavation of the Utqiagvik Village Site (BAR-002) as outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement developed between the Corps, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the North Slope Borough (EA, Attachment 2).

Public review of the draft FR and EA was completed on 30 October 2018. The comments provided on the draft FR and EA during public review were addressed in the final document.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Corps determined that the Recommended Plan will have no effect on federally listed species or their designated critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps determined that historic properties may be adversely affect by the Recommended Plan. The Corps and the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer entered into a Memorandum of Agreement, dated 7 June 2019. All terms and conditions resulting from the agreement shall be implemented in order to minimize adverse impacts to historic properties.

No in-water placement of material is needed for the Recommended Plan; therefore, a water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act was not requested from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

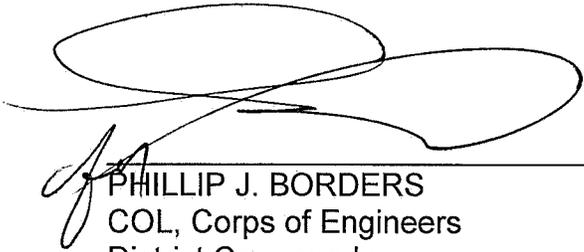
The State of Alaska does not currently have an active Coastal Zone Management Program. As of July 1, 2011, the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Federal consistency provision no longer applies in Alaska. Federal agencies shall no longer provide the State of Alaska with CZMA Consistency Determinations or Negative Determinations pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(1) and (2), and 15 CFR part 930, subpart C.

No in-water fill is planned for this project. The Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, requiring the discharge of dredged or fill material to be compliant with Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230) is not applicable to this project.

All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed.

Technical, environmental, and economic criteria used in the formulation of alternative plans were those specified in the Water Resources Council's 1983 Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies. All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on this report, the reviews by other Federal, state and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the Recommended Plan would not significantly affect the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Date MAR 12 2020



PHILLIP J. BORDERS
COL, Corps of Engineers
District Commander