



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice

Anchorage Field Office
Regulatory Division (1145)
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INCREASE IN FEE IN LIEU OF MITIGATION RATES IN ANCHORAGE

In the Municipality of Anchorage, the Great Land Trust, a non-profit land conservation organization, receives fees from permittees for the discharge of fill in wetlands and other waters of the United States authorized by the Alaska District. The Great Land Trust is one of four recipients of fees from the Alaska District. The Great Land Trust is responsible for providing mitigation credits via preservation, restoration and/or enhancement of waters or wetlands to offset the debits associated with the adverse aquatic and wetland impacts of permittees. The Great Land Trust determines the fee amounts per debit necessary to provide those credits. This responsibility was agreed upon in the July 16, 1998, agreement between the Great Land Trust and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (available upon request from the Alaska District) when the fee-based compensatory mitigation program was established. The debits and credits are determined using "The Anchorage Debit-Credit Method: A Method for Determining Debits and Compensatory Mitigation Credits for Aquatic Areas in Anchorage, Alaska," December 12, 2000 (also available upon request).

On February 1, 2009, the Great Land Trust announced that the fees they charge for fee-based compensatory mitigation within the Municipality of Anchorage have changed. The new fee for the two categories of higher ecological value wetlands and aquatic habitat, **Relative Ecological Value (REV) 1 and REV 2** areas have changed from \$144,316.00 to **\$160,190.00** per debit. The method used by Great Land Trust was to take the past year's REV 1 and REV 2 values and multiply it by the current annual percent change in the average residential lot value within the Municipality of Anchorage. The annual percent change in the residential lot value is determined by the Deputy Assessor for the Municipality of Anchorage Property Appraisal Division. Although the fee for REV 1 and REV 2 areas is the same per debit, projects in the REV 2 areas accrue debits at two-thirds the rate of those in REV 1 areas.

The new fee for the category of lower ecological value wetlands, **REV 3** areas, has been changed from \$16,203.00 to **\$18,244.00**. The method used by the Great Land Trust to update the REV 3 fee was to multiply the previous REV 3 value

Land Trust to update the REV 3 fee was to multiply the previous REV 3 value by the annual percent change in the Consumer Price Index, as determined by the Alaska Department of Labor.

This year, the Great Land Trust recognized the need to increase the administrative fee on all credits sold from 2% to 10% of the cost per credit in order to continue to be able to provide the community with their mitigation services. This increase in administrative fees is reflected in the new 2009 fees.

The REV 1, REV 2, and REV 3 values will be updated each year.

Please contact Dr. Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes or Mr. Hank Baij at 753-2789 or by e-mail at Mary.Plumb-Mentjes@usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice. For additional information about our Regulatory Program, visit our website at www.poa.usace.army.mil/reg.

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