

**Deadhorse Airport Improvements
Draft Environmental Assessment**

Government to Government Consultations with Recognized Alaska Tribes

Appendix B Government to Government Consultations with Recognized Alaska Tribes

Project Number: NFAPT00549



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Alaskan Region Airports Division

222 W. 7th Avenue, Box #14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587
Tel. (907) 271-5438
Fax (907) 271-2851

February 2, 2022

George Edwardson
President
Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope
PO Box 934
Utqiagvik, Alaska 99723

Dear Mr. Edwardson;

Deadhorse Airport Improvements (#NFAPT00549), Deadhorse, Alaska, Government-to-Government Consultation Initiation

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in cooperation with the owner and operator of the Deadhorse Airport, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), is initiating an airport improvement project described below at the Deadhorse Airport in Deadhorse, Alaska (Figure 1).

Purpose of Government-to-Government Consultation

The primary purpose of government-to-government consultation as described in Federal Executive Order 13175 “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” and FAA’s Order 1210.20 “American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Consultation Policy and Procedures” is to ensure that Federally Recognized Tribes are given the opportunity to provide meaningful and timely input regarding proposed FAA actions that uniquely or significantly affect Tribes.

Consultation Initiation

With this letter, the FAA is seeking input on concerns that uniquely or significantly affect your Tribe related to the potential Deadhorse Airport Improvements project. Early identification of Tribal concerns will allow the FAA and the airport owner and operator to consider ways to avoid and minimize potential impacts to Tribal resources and practices as project planning and alternatives are developed and refined. We would be pleased to discuss details of the proposed project with you.

Project Information

The proposed project is located at approximately at 70.20° North Latitude and 148.46° West Longitude (Sections 24, 25, 26, and 36, Township 10 N, Range 14 E; and Sections 19, 30, and 31, Township 10 N, Range 15 E; Umiat Meridian; United States Geological Survey Quadrangle

Beechey Point A-3 NE) (Figure 1). The preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) of ground disturbance for the proposed project is provided in Figure 2.

To address existing airport deficiencies and safety concerns as described in the project purpose and need, DOT&PF has considered several project alternatives and determined the Proposed Action would result in the fewest potential environmental and human impacts of alternatives evaluated. The Proposed Action would include the following elements (Figures 3 - 4):

- 1) Construct drainage improvements at Deadhorse Airport and along Deadhorse Way and replace existing airport pavement and taxiway lighting as necessary for culvert replacement.
- 2) Relocate known utilities affected by drainage improvements constructed along Deadhorse Drive.
- 3) Re-grade and/or place fill in select infield locations to aid in drainage and wildlife control.
- 4) Construct an airport perimeter wildlife fence and associated gates for access control, a fence maintenance service road, and fence security features to exclude large mammals from accessing active airport surfaces.

Gravel material for fence maintenance access road construction would be extracted from a commercially available and permitted local material source and hauled to the project on existing roads. The contractor would be responsible for acquiring all necessary permits and clearances for material site use and access. The anticipated material stockpile and staging area is shown on Figure 5.

The Deadhorse Airport Improvements project is in the early stages of the environmental review process, with an anticipated schedule of construction beginning in late 2023 and taking 2-3 years to complete.

Confidentiality

We understand that you may have concerns regarding the confidentiality of information on areas or resources of religious, traditional and cultural importance to the Tribe. We would be happy to discuss these concerns and develop procedures to ensure the confidentiality of such information is maintained.

FAA Contact Information

If you wish to provide comments related to this proposed project, please contact **Jack Gilbertsen, Airports Division Tribal Consultation Official**, at the address above, at 907-271-5453, or by e-mail at AKAirportEnv@faa.gov.

Project Consultation Options Form

Your timely response will assist us in incorporating your concerns into project planning. For that purpose, we respectfully request that you complete the enclosed Project Consultation Options form and forward it to the FAA within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/

Keith Gordon for:
Jack Gilbertsen
FAA Alaska Region, Airports Division
Airports Division Tribal Consultation Official

Enclosures:

Tribal Project Consultation Options Form
Figure 1 – Project Location & Vicinity Map
Figure 2 – Cultural Resources Study Preliminary Area of Effect
Figure 3 – Proposed Perimeter Fence and Fence Service Access Road
Figure 4 – Proposed Culvert Replacements/Infield Drainage Area Fill Placement
Figure 5 – Existing Material Source (Mine Site 3)

Cc:

Margaret Pardue, President, Native Village of Nuiqsut
Edward Rexford Sr., President, Kaktovik Village
Holly McKinney, DOT&PF Northern Region, Cultural Resource Specialist-Archaeologist (PQI)
Keith Gordon, FAA Environmental Protection Specialist
Jonathan Hutchinson, P.E., DOT&PF Northern Region, Project Manager
William Sexton, DOT&PF Northern Region, Environmental Analyst
Brett Nelson, DOT&PF Northern Region, Regional Environmental Manager
Katherine Price, DOT&PF Statewide, Cultural Resource Manager

Tribal Government to Government Consultation Response Form

Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS)
PO Box 934
Utqiagvik, Alaska 99723

Project Name: Deadhorse Airport Improvements
State Project Number: #NFAPT00549

Please check a response, provide contact information, sign and mail, email or fax this form to FAA.

_____ ICAS, a federally recognized Tribe, would like to consult with the FAA in a government-to-government relationship for this proposed project.

_____ ICAS, a federally recognized Tribe, has no interest associated with this proposed project and further consultation is not required.

Tribal Leader (Please print)

Telephone

Tribal Leader (Signature)

Date

If you have decided to consult, please identify a Tribal Representative for the consultation.

Name of Formal Tribal Representative (Please print)

Telephone

Name of Formal Tribal Representative (Signature)

Date

Tribal Contact information:

Phone:

Fax:

e-mail:

Other: (please describe)

Please mail, email, or fax Response Form

FAA Airports Division, ATTN: Jack Gilbertsen
222 W. 7th Avenue, Box 14,
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587
EMAIL: Keith.gordon@FAA.gov2022



U.S. Department
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222 W. 7th Avenue, Box #14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587
Tel. (907) 271-5438
Fax (907) 271-2851

February 2, 2022

Edward Rexford Sr.
President
Kaktovik Village
PO Box 52
Kaktovik, Alaska 99747

Dear Mr. Rexford;

Deadhorse Airport Improvements (#NFAPT00549), Deadhorse, Alaska, Government-to-Government Consultation Initiation

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Beechey Point A-3 NE) (Figure 1). The preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE) of ground disturbance for the proposed project is provided in Figure 2.

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Sincerely,

/s/

Keith Gordon for:
Jack Gilbertsen
FAA Alaska Region, Airports Division
Regional Tribal Consultation Official

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Cc:

George Edwardson, President, Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope
Margaret Pardue, President, Native Village of Nuiqsut
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PO Box 934
Utqiagvik, Alaska 99723

Project Name: Deadhorse Airport Improvements
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222 W. 7th Avenue, Box 14,
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222 W. 7th Avenue, Box #14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587
Tel. (907) 271-5438
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February 2, 2022

Margaret Pardue
President
Native Village of Nuiqsut
PO Box 89169
Nuiqsut, Alaska 99789

Dear Ms. Pardue;

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Jack Gilbertsen
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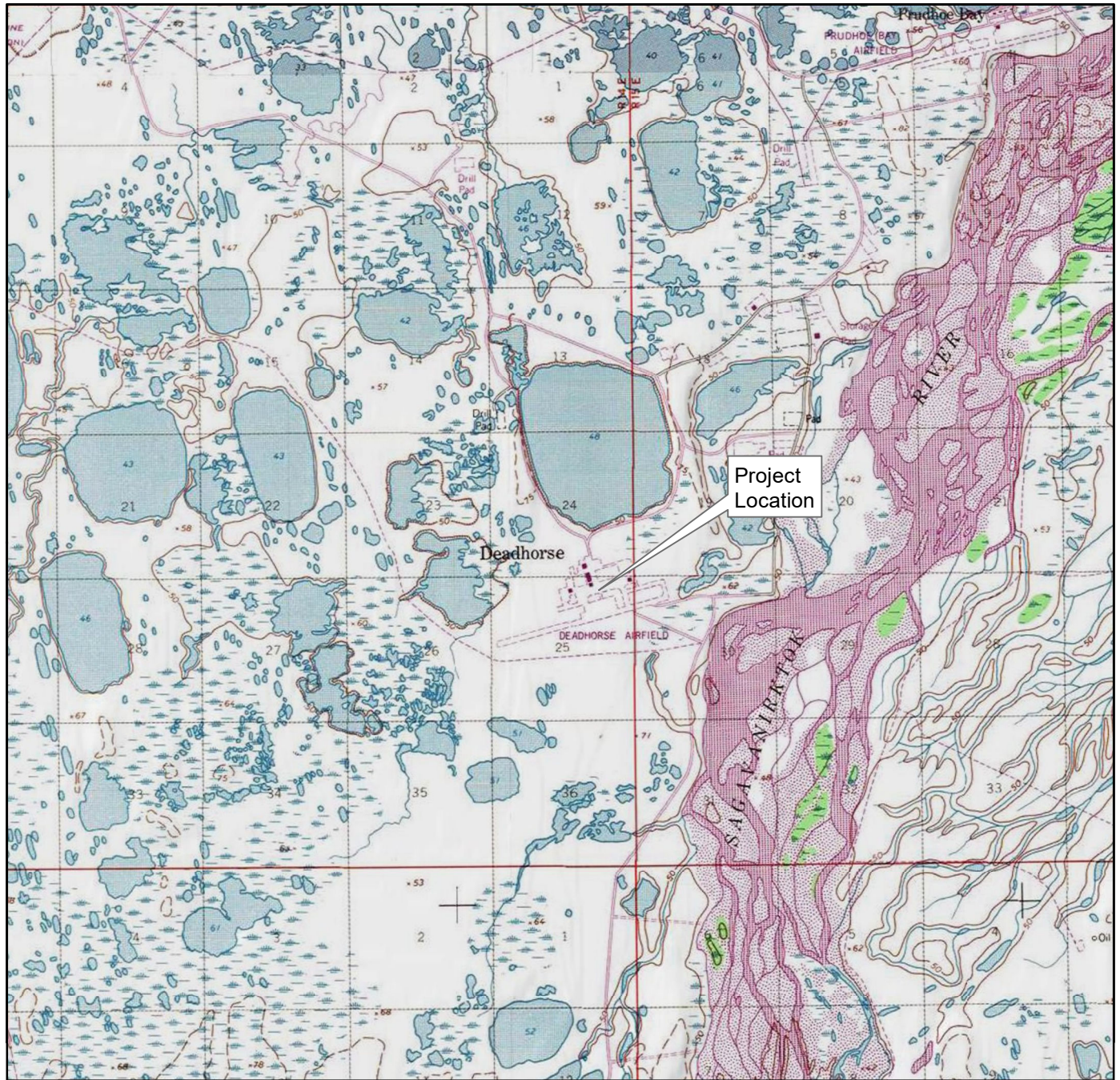
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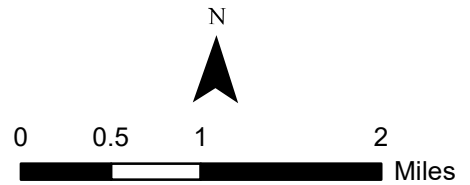
Other: (please describe)

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EMAIL: Keith.gordon@FAA.gov2022



Source USGS QUAD BEECHY POINT (A-3) 1955
 Township 10N, Range 14E, Sections 24, 25
 Township 10N, Range 15E, Sections 30, 19
 UMIAT Meridian, Alaska



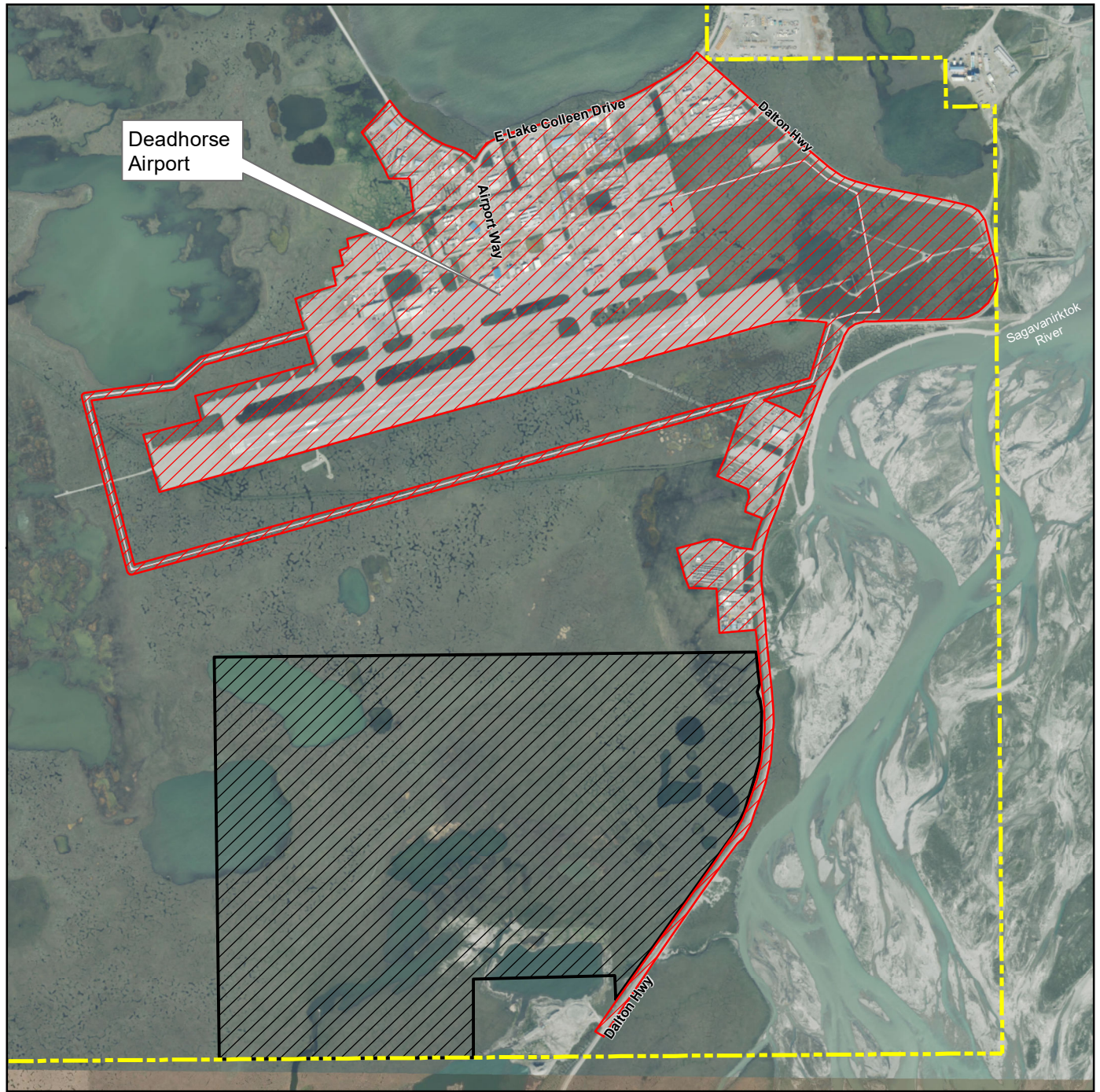
STATE OF ALASKA
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709






Location & Vicinity Map

NFAPT00549
 Deadhorse Airport Improvements

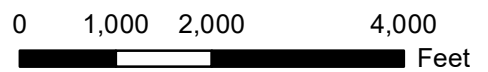
Date:
 January 2022

Figure:
 1



-  Preliminary Area of Potential Effect
-  Available Material Source (Mine Site 3)
-  Service Road / Fence*
-  Airport Property Boundary
-  Proposed Fence

*Service Road APE is 50' wide from each toe of shoulder slope.

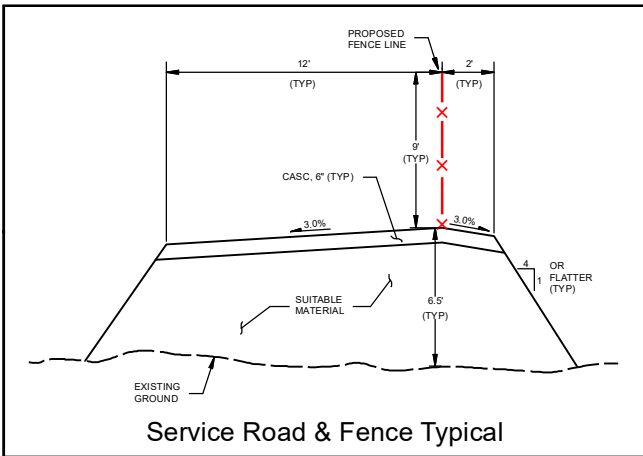


STATE OF ALASKA
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
 Section 106 Preliminary Area of Potential Effect (APE)

NFAPT00549
 Deadhorse Airport Improvements

Date:
 January 2022

Figure:
 2



Service Road & Fence Typical



Deadhorse Airport

Colleen Lake

E Lake Colleen Drive

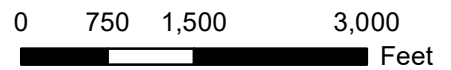
Airport Way

Dalton Hwy

Runway 6-24

Sagavanirktok River

- - - Airport Property Boundary
- - - Proposed Fence
- Proposed Service Road



STATE OF ALASKA
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
Proposed Perimeter Fence and Fence Service Access Road

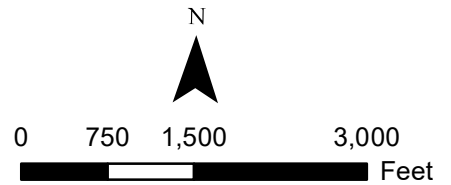
NFAPT00549
 Deadhorse Airport Improvements

Date:
 January 2022

Figure:
 3



- - - Airport Property Boundary
- - - Existing Culverts (Proposed for replacement)
- Infield Drainage Areas (Proposed to be filled)



STATE OF ALASKA
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
 Proposed Culvert Replacement/Infield Drainage Area
 Fill Placement

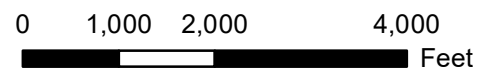
NFAPT00549
 Deadhorse Airport Improvements

Date:
 January 2022

Figure:
 4



- Airport Property Boundary
- Available Material Source (Mine Site 3)



STATE OF ALASKA
 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709
 Available Material Source (Mine Site 3)

NFAPT00549
 Deadhorse Airport Improvements

Date:
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Figure:
 5