

Site Visit

FEMA-DR-1669-AK

Site Name: Burma Creek Pit access road

Location: Mile 74.5 Richardson Highway
(61.59428° N, 145.22470° W)

Applicant: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities,
Northern Region

Date: 12 January 2007

Attendees: Applicant: John Pfeffer (Project Engineer), John Hoffman (M&O
Supervisor, Glenallen)
State: Brian Fisher (SPAO)
FEMA: Jim Allen (PO), Terry Simmonds (PO), Gordon Nelson
(MIT), Chuck Ditters (EHP)



Site Description: The Burma Pit is a gravel pit owned by the State of Alaska, and is used by DOT&PF as well as the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. It also provides access to one private residence. The gravel access road leads west from the Richardson Highway, crossing the Little Tonsina River about 500 feet from the Highway. The main channel of the Tonsina River is located to the west of the pit. (See Map 1.) Prior to the storm event, the road was carried over the Little Tonsina on a large metal pipe culvert. There are presently two temporary corrugated metal pipe culverts, placed under the roadway as an emergency measure in the

aftermath of the storm event to provide access to the pit for use in road repairs.

Damage:

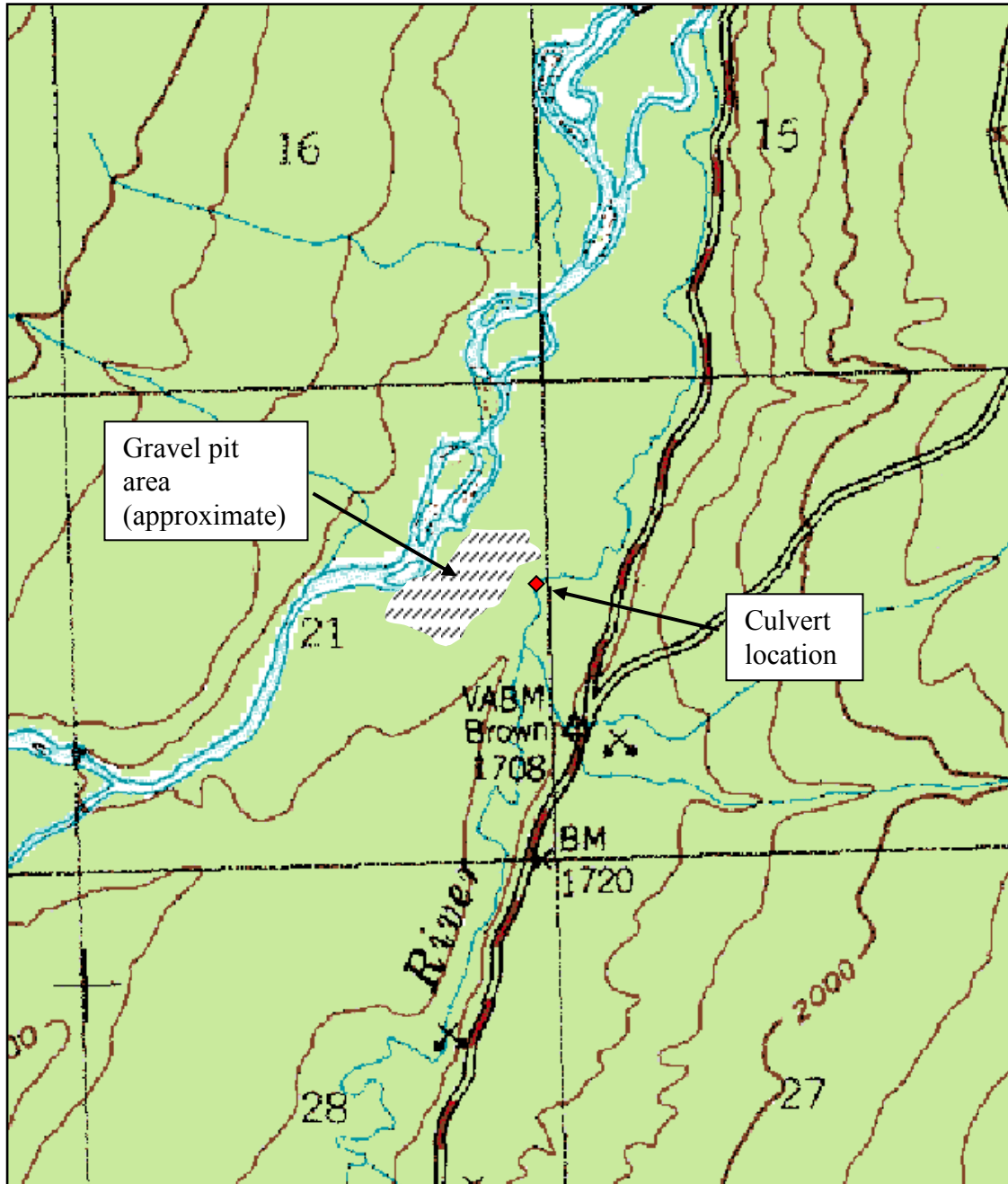
High flows on the Little Tonsina River during the storm event overtopped the road and eroded the fill above and adjacent to the existing culvert. The culvert was washed about 100 yards downstream.



Scope of Work:

DOT&PF proposes to replace the temporary culverts with a bridge, based on their use standards and the high flow rate of the Little Tonsina River ($Q=2800$ cfs). They have requested two PWs, one for engineering design and permitting work, and another for construction once the design is complete (and a thorough site inspection can be conducted). Their total funding request is for approximately \$5M.

Issues and Concerns: The Tonsina River system, tributary to the Copper River, is an anadromous fish stream; work will be conducted in and around a body of water.



Map 1: Project location, Burma Pit Road Culvert