



# Copper River Watershed Project

*Upriver and down, salmon are common ground*

## Memo

**To:** Contractors interested in RFP EVOSTC-2021

**From:** Copper River Watershed Project

**Date:** January 26, 2021

**Re:** Contract Documents: Copper River Watershed Habitat Enhancement Project, Cordova EVOS Sites COP 20, 22, and 25 (Fish Passage Improvement at Mile 18), Copper River Highway, Cordova, Alaska

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The following are the responses to questions submitted via email by Jan. 21, 2021:

- Special Provisions, section 201-3.01, second paragraph states “Clearing and grubbing is not permitted within the migratory bird window of May 1 to July 15.”, “The Contractor is responsible for completing clearing and grubbing prior to May 1...”.
  - Question: Please confirm that all **grubbing** is to be completed prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>? This would not be typical as the grubbing should happen with the work which would occur during the ADF&G fish habitat permit window. **See Addendum #1.**
  - Question: The *Scope of work* requires that the Contractor shall complete the work no more than 60 working days after commencing operations. Please confirm that the clearing work is not considered in this time window. **The clearing work is not considered in the 60-day time window.**
- Provide culvert gauge thickness requirements for non-culvert bridge structures (ie culverts less than 10’ wide).
  - **COP 20 – 10 gauge**
  - **COP 22 – 10 gauge**
  - **COP 25 - 14 gauge**
- Please provide project limits for the Landowner Special Use Permit.  
From ADOT: **The easiest way to do this is for contractors to ask for what is needed via CRWP who will apply for this permit upon approval of traffic control plans. In the past the “work area” has just been the beginning and end of work associated with the project but if lengthening slightly will add in a pullout or road widening that could be advantageous it would be good to know up front. The 2020 Special Use permit from ADOT is included FYI.**
- Please provide application materials associated with the ACOE Section 404 Wetland Permit. **This permit application is currently being completed using the final**

drawings included with the RFP. Included with this memo is the 2020 ACOE Section 404 application and permit FYI.

- Under the RFP section 3.5 *Fish Passage Culvert Experience*. Can list of fish passage culvert replacement projects be extended from past 5 years to past 7 years? **Yes.**
- As referenced in Special Provisions, section 602-2.02, please provide available geotechnical and hydrology data and reports completed for this project. **Available for download at: <https://copperriver.org/copper-river-watershed-enhancement/>**
- Section 690 provides a gradation for both rounded river rock and waterway bed fill but fails to provide a gradation bands for each sieve. Please provide a gradation band that the Contractor is to meet.
  - **The Rounded River Rock item has been removed. For Waterway Bed Fill the fines will be the minimum. For instance, for the #10 and #4, 7% and 11% are the minimum, for the other ranges the percent passing can be +/- 5%. For instance, the range of 3 inch material can be from 46% to 56%. The formula as shown in the specifications of 45% Porous Backfill and 55% Riprap, Class I has worked on many previous projects.**

Waterway Bed Fill	
Size (inch)	Percent passing
12 in	100%
10 in	95%
8 in	73%
5 in	56%
3 in	51%
1 in	29%
0.75 in	23%
#4	11%
#10 sand	7%

- Are there any known utilities within the work zone? And if so, please provide any as-built information. **No known utilities. Utility Check required by contractor as per RFP.**
- Per the Scope of Work - Road Closures, it references having one lane open for traffic. During the off-shift while having a single lane road, are flaggers/pilot car required for passage through the work zone? **Final traffic plan is to be approved by ADOT. On past projects on the Copper River Highway, a flagger was not required during the off-shifts.**
- Per Section 619 please confirm the addition of additional seed beyond the Sections 618 & 724. **See addendum 1.**



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and  
Public Facilities

NORTHERN REGION  
Design & Engineering Services

2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709-5316  
Main: 907-451-2273  
Fax: 907-451-5126  
TDD: 907-451-2363  
dot.alaska.gov

June 9, 2020

Ms. Lisa Docken  
Copper River Watershed Project  
P.O. Box 1560  
Cordova, AK 99574

Dear Ms. Docken:

RE: MP 24.85 – 25.13 Culvert Replacements  
SUP# 20-02-002

The Copper River Watershed Project intends to contract for the replacement of culverts under the Copper River Highway in Cordova. You have represented to us that you have the funding available to replace this culvert so that passage of fish and aquatic organisms can be improved along with providing additional flood flow capacity within this drainage. This project consists of replacing existing culverts with larger stream simulation aluminum box culverts at 3 locations and extension of one culvert between MP 24.85 - 25.13 on the Copper River Highway. This work is scheduled to be completed from June 1 – August 15, 2020 (removal of shrubs has already happened to avoid nesting birds). This timeframe will allow stream diversion outside the spawning season. All necessary environmental and land owner permits have been obtained, and a NEPA consultation has been completed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

We believe that your project will be beneficial to the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and we will allow it. These culvert replacements aid this department in meeting the Memorandum of Agreement between it and the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game dated August 7, 2001. With regard to limitation of the State's liability for damages or injury arising out of this authorization, this letter shall be considered a Special Use Permit as defined under **AS 44.80.070. Liability of State Under Special Use Permits**, which states:

When the state, or a department or agency of the state that has control over a highway or vehicular way or area, permits a portion of the highway or vehicular way or area, as defined under AS 28.40.100, to be used for a special purpose, the state is not subject to legal action or recovery of damages for injury arising out of, or in any manner connected with the special purpose use.


This Permit issuance is also subject to the following conditions:

1. Permittee is responsible for determining the limits of the ROW and for obtaining any necessary authorizations for work outside the ROW.
2. Permittee shall follow the Traffic Control Plan which is a part of Lane Closure Permit #30130 issued to Wilson Construction on May 26, 2020

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*


3. This culvert replacement project shall be completed per the plans, specifications and estimates provided by Bratslavsky Consulting Engineers, Inc. (BCE) dated December 23, 2019 and reviewed by DOT&PF. These plans include an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan based on the most recent 641 specifications.
4. On-site inspection and testing will be required during the construction and installation of these culverts. Josh Hallquist from Cordova, AK will be on-site inspector and will perform these services for the total construction time period to ensure that the construction activities are completed in accordance with the Alaska DOT&PF Standard Specifications for Highway Construction. He will assist with clarifications to the contractor for any plan questions and coordinate between CRWP, DOT&PF and the contractor. Mark Hansen, P.E. of Palmer, Alaska will complete nuclear densometer compaction and gradation testing for fill.
5. Utility locates are required from all local utilities prior to commencing work. As-built plans for DOT (M&O, Design, Utilities and archives) shall be made of this project upon completion. All utility locations shall be shown on the as-builts whether they are moved or not. Permittee shall be responsible for funding the repair of any damages to utilities caused by their operations. Permittee activities should not hinder the operations of utility companies working on their facility.
6. This Permit is revocable, at our discretion, upon notification to Permittee.
7. Permittee shall comply with all laws, ordinances, regulations, and administrative agency and/or court orders, including those relating to health, safety, noise, environmental protection, waste disposal, hazardous or toxic materials, and water and air quality. Should Permittee's use of the permitted area cause any discharge, leak, spill, emission, or pollution release of any type to occur at any time during this occupancy, Permittee shall immediately notify this state agency and the appropriate federal, state and local authorities. Permittee shall act immediately to contain and/or absorb the release, repair any damages and clean up the release area, and restore the permitted area to compliance with all applicable state, federal and local laws or regulations. Permittee shall be held liable for any and all costs incurred by the State to dispose of cleanup materials or to clean up the permitted area unless otherwise agreed to, in writing, by both parties.

Please call 907-451-2294 or 907-451-5419 if you have any questions about this permit.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry Hooper, P.E.  
Right of Way Chief  
Northern Region

6/11/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Permittee (Copper River Watershed Project) acknowledges the acceptance of this Special Use Permit by signing below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Lisa Docken  
Executive Director

June 10, 2020.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

cc: Dan Adamczak, P.E. ADOT&PF NR, Maintenance & Operations Engineer



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

May 7, 2020

Regulatory Division  
POA-2020-00165

Kate Morse  
Program Director  
Copper River Watershed Project  
PO Box 1560  
Cordova, AK 99574

Dear Ms. Morse:

This is in response to your application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit to discharge 2808 cubic yards of fill and/or dredged material into 427 linear feet of an unnamed stream (AWC #212-20-10110-2101), and 0.5-acre of its adjacent wetlands. This project has been assigned file number POA-2020-00165, which should be referred to in all future correspondence with this office. The project site is located within Section 36, T. 16S., R. 1E., Copper River Meridian; USGS Quad Map Cape Flattery; Latitude 60.44235° N., Longitude 145.13415° W.; on the Copper River Highway, 25 miles east of Cordova, Alaska.

The discharge is for the replacement of three existing undersized culverts with three larger, stream simulation aluminum box culverts. The three culverts, state ID 20100508, 20100510, and 20100511, are located on the Copper River Highway mile post 24.85, 25.05, and 25.09 (respectively). The culvert replacements will restore 2.4 miles of upstream fish habitat in the mile river system. All 3 culverts will be replaced in accordance with a USFWS design plan to optimize aquatic organism passage across a range of flows. Installation of all three culverts will occur from June 1 to July 31, with stream diversions lasting up to 15 days per site.

Based on our review of the information you furnished and available to us, we have preliminarily determined the above project area contains waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, subject to the Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulatory jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. See the attached Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination (PJD) Form. Please sign and return the form to our office. A PJD is not appealable. At any time you have the right to request and obtain an Approved Jurisdictional Determination (JD), which can be appealed. If it is your intent to request an Approved JD, do not begin work until one is obtained.



Based upon the information and plans you provided, we hereby verify that the work described above, which would be performed in accordance with the submitted plan (sheets 1-24), dated December 11, 2019, is authorized by **Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 27, Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Establishment Activities**. NWP No. 27 and its associated Regional and General Conditions can be accessed at our website at: [www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits](http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits). You must comply with all terms and conditions associated with NWP No. 27.

Further, please note General Condition 30 requires that you submit a signed certification to us once work is completed. Enclosed is the form for you to complete and return to us.

Unless this NWP is modified or revoked, it expires on March 18, 2022. It is incumbent upon you to remain informed of the changes to the NWPs. Nothing in this letter excuses you from compliance with other Federal, State, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

Please contact me via email at [Jason.R.Berkner@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jason.R.Berkner@usace.army.mil), by mail at the address above, by phone at (907) 753-5778, or toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, if you have questions or to request paper copies of the regional and/or general conditions. For more information about the Regulatory Program, please visit our website at [www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory](http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Berkner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" and last name "Berkner" clearly distinguishable.

Jason Berkner  
Project Manager

Enclosures

CF:  
[megan.marie@alaska.gov](mailto:megan.marie@alaska.gov)

ENCLOSURE



**US Army Corps of Engineers  
Alaska District**

Permit Number: POA-2020-00165

Name of Permittee: Copper River Watershed Project

Date of Issuance: May 7, 2020

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to Jason Berkner at the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Alaska District  
Regulatory Division  
Post Office Box 6898  
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.

I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above-referenced permit has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the said permit, and required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Amorse".

8/28/20

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Permittee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date