MEMORANDUM

CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU 155 South Seward Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

DATE:

November 4, 2013

TO:

Board of Adjustment

FROM:

Chrissy A. McNally, Planner

Community Development Department

FILE NO.:

VAR2013 0018

PROPOSAL:

Variance request for AKDOT to conduct road rehabilitation along

Egan Drive within the 330 foot required setback of an eagle nest.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant:

State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Property Owner:

State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Property Address:

10th Street to Mendenhall Loop Road on Egan

Parcel Code Number:

Right-of-way

Site Size:

8.1 miles in length

Zoning:

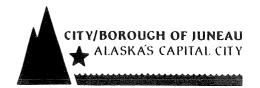
Arterial Road

Utilities:

Public

Existing Land Use:

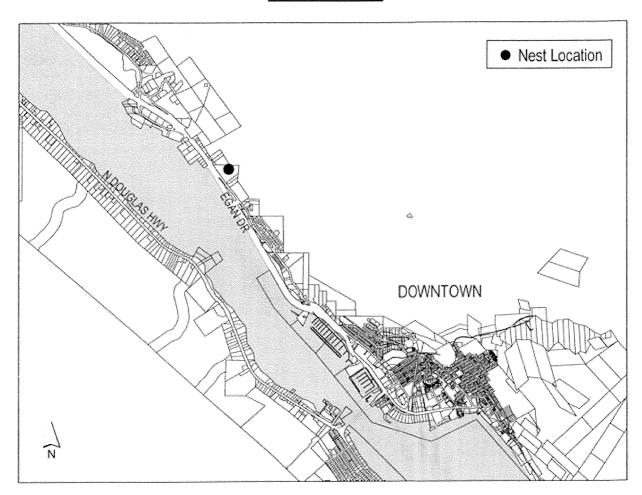
Limited-Access Arterial Highway



Board of Adjustment File No.: VAR2013 0018

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VICINITY MAP



ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A Development Permit Application

Attachment B Variance Application

Attachment C Vicinity Map

Attachment D Applicant aerial survey maps
Attachment E Applicant aerial survey table

Attachment F USFWS Eagle Take Permit Application

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Egan Drive is part of the National Highway System and is classified as an arterial roadway that experiences Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of approximately 20,000 - 25,000 vehicles throughout the project area. This roadway experiences the highest average daily traffic of any in the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ). The applicant, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT&PF), is proposing to conduct preventative maintenance on approximately eight miles of Egan Drive between the 10th Street intersection and Mendenhall Loop Road (see Attachment C). This stretch of roadway is scheduled for resurfacing as well as replacement of

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guardrails and signage, drainage and pedestrian improvements. This project received a local consistency review through CSP2013 0017. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2014 and continue through the end of 2014.

The proposed development requires a Variance for construction within 330 feet of an eagle nest during the construction period. The CBJ Land Use Code states the following:

49.70.310 Habitat

- (a) Development in the following areas is prohibited:
 - (2) Within 330 feet of an eagle nest on public land;
 - (3) Within 50 feet of an eagle nest on private land, provided that there shall be no construction within 330 feet of such nest between March 1 and August 31 if it contains actively nesting eagles;

Aerial surveillance was conducted by DOT&PF in May 2013 along the project area. The survey attempted to distinguish between active nests, non-active nests, and nests observed with incubating adults. The Variance sought in this report is related to Nest #40. This nest was not located during the May 2013 survey, but in a previous survey and so was included in the table (see Attachment D & E).

BACKGROUND

CBJ has traditionally relied on the expertise of the Juneau USFWS field office to evaluate and condition, if necessary, projects within the 330 foot eagle nest buffer. The 2008 Comprehensive Plan acknowledges this relationship under POLICY 7.14.IA4;

"Request that the USFWS evaluate the bald eagle in the CBJ urban area in terms of population, behavior and tolerance of human presence and activity. Consider any new suggestions from USFWS for enhancing the presence and health of eagles in the urban area."

AKDOT&PF applied for an Eagle Permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) which will authorize disturbance of eagles along the project route (see Attachment F). AKDOT&PF anticipates receiving an approved application, but has yet to receive approval at the writing of this staff report.

The application materials required by USFWS provide the CBJ with appropriate information to conduct a thorough review of the proposed variance. While the variance is not contingent upon receiving an approved permit from USFWS, the CBJ variance decision is based upon the design set forth in the USFWS Eagle Take Permit application material. Staff is therefore considering that material as the material on which it can judge if there are sufficient mitigation measures and protective measures in place by AKDOT&PF to meet the variance standards of Title 49.

While bald eagles were removed from the Endangered Species list in 2007, the Bald and Golden

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Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) ensures their continued preservation. In September 2009, USFWS instituted two new permits to allow limited incidental take or disturbance of eagles through public safety activities or other development projects. The Eagle Act defines disturbance as;

"to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior."

If an applicant receives a permit for disturbance, any activity related to the approved project description is allowed except for cutting the tree or killing the eagle. The USFWS permit requires nesting surveys to be conducted prior to construction, to identify all eagle nests within 660 feet of the proposed construction activities as well eagle foraging areas in the vicinity of the construction site. The permit also limits vegetative clearing within a 330' foot radius of the nest site. In some instances, the applicant is required to submit an annual eagle monitoring report for three years following the completion of the activity.

USFWS eagle permits are voluntary, not mandatory. However, issuance of an eagle permit provides the applicant with a guarantee against federal prosecution under the Eagle Act if the project results in disturbance or take. It's up to the applicant to determine whether the risk of disturbance from the project is worth the time and cost of obtaining the federal permit. If an applicant has obtained an eagle permit from USFWS through the federal permit process, CBJ will defer to the USFWS recommendation. CBJ will not, however, repeat federal permit conditions on CBJ authorizations. If the applicant has not obtained a USFWS permit, since the permit is voluntary, CBJ will seek as much information as possible from USFWS about the sensitivity of the particular nest and what modifications may be needed to ensure protection.

ANALYSIS

Variance Requirements

Under CBJ §49.20.250 where hardship and practical difficulties result from an extraordinary situation or unique physical feature affecting only a specific parcel of property or structures lawfully existing thereon and render it difficult to carry out the provisions of Title 49, the Board of Adjustment may grant a Variance in harmony with the general purpose and intent of Title 49. A Variance may vary any requirement or regulation of Title 49 concerning dimensional and other design standards, but not those concerning the use of land or structures, housing density, lot coverage, or those establishing construction standards. A Variance may be granted after the prescribed hearing and after the Board of Adjustment has determined:

1. That the relaxation applied for or a lesser relaxation specified by the Board of Adjustment would give substantial relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with justice to other property owners.

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The relaxation applied for would give substantial relief to the property owner, AKDOT&PF, by allowing maintenance of Egan Drive. A lesser relaxation is not practical because the maintenance must take place on the specified right-of-way within 330' of an existing eagle nest. Failing to maintain the roadway would result in a public safety hazard. The Variance would be consistent with justice to other property owners along the highway by allowing required maintenance to provide safe access to their property.

2. That relief can be granted in such a fashion that the intent of this title will be observed and the public safety and welfare be preserved.

The intent of Title 49 is established in Section 49.05.100 Purpose and Intent. Those sections, which are applicable to the requested variance, are as follows:

- 1) To achieve the goals and objectives and implement the policies of the Juneau Comprehensive Plan...;
- 2) To ensure that future growth and development in the City and Borough is in accord with the values of its residents;
- 3) To identify and secure, for present and future residences, the beneficial impacts of growth while minimizing the negative impacts;
- 4) To ensure that future growth is of the appropriate type, design, and location, and is served by a proper range of public services and facilities such as water, sewage, and electrical distribution systems, transportation, schools, parks and other public requirements, and in general to promote public health, safety and general welfare;
- 6) To recognize the economic value of land and encourage its proper and beneficial use.

A grant of the variance would allow construction in accordance with intent numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 to proceed within the summer building season while minimizing disturbance to eagles by following the requirements of the USFWS Eagle Permit, which includes limited vegetation removal, eagle nest monitoring, and reporting requirements.

This criterion is met.

3. That the authorization of the Variance will not injure nearby property.

Construction within the eagle nest setback would not injure nearby property. All work would be within the right-of-way. While traffic delays can be expected with the duration of the project, a Variance to the eagle nest setback would not further impact delays associated with road construction.

This criterion is met.

4. That the Variance does not authorize uses not allowed in the district involved.

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Road construction is allowed in all zoning districts; therefore the Variance does not authorize uses not allowed in the district involved.

This criterion is met.

- 5. That compliance with the existing standards would:
 - (A) Unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permissible principal use;

Highway maintenance is not identified in the Table of Permissible Uses. However, compliance with the standard would unreasonably prevent the owner, AKDOT&PF, from maintaining Egan Drive. Road construction must take place during the warmer months that coincide with the eagle nesting period.

This sub-criterion is met.

(B) Unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property in a manner which is consistent as to scale, amenities, appearance or features, with existing development in the neighborhood of the subject property;

Compliance with the standard would unreasonably prevent the owner, AKDOT&PF, from maintaining the section of Egan Drive that lies within 330 feet of an eagle nest in a manner which is consistent with the amenities and appearance of the rest of Egan Drive. Allowing the highway to fall into disrepair would create a public safety hazard and be detrimental to the amenities, appearance, and features of existing development in the neighborhood of the subject property. However, comparing Egan Drive to other residential properties or other development in the neighborhood adjacent to the right-of-way is not a relevant comparison.

This sub-criterion is met.

(C) Be unnecessarily burdensome because unique physical features of the property render compliance with the standards unreasonably expensive;

There is no alternative to conducting the necessary maintenance in the developed right-of-way.

This sub-criterion is met.

or

(D) Because of preexisting nonconforming conditions on the subject parcel the grant of the Variance would not result in a net decrease in overall compliance with the Land Use Code, CBJ Title 49, or the building code, CBJ Title 19, or both.

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There are no pre-existing non-conforming conditions within Egan Drive.

This sub-criterion is not met.

6. That a grant of the Variance would result in more benefits than detriments to the neighborhood.

A grant of the Variance would allow Egan Drive from the Juneau-Douglas Bridge intersection to the Mendenhall Loop intersection to be maintained according to current road safety standards, which would provide a significant benefit to the neighborhood. Mitigation measures enforced by the USFWS through the applicant's eagle permit would ensure that detriments to eagle nests and eagle nesting behavior would be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. There is an abundance of eagle nests along Egan Drive, indicating that bald eagles have become habituated to human development. Therefore, the Variance would result in more benefits than detriments to the neighborhood.

This criterion is met.

FINDINGS

1. Is the application for the requested Variance complete?

Yes. Staff finds the application contains the information necessary to conduct full review of the proposed operations. The application submittal by the applicant, including the appropriate fees, substantially conforms to the requirements of CBJ Chapter 49.15.

Per CBJ §49.70.900 (b)(3), General Provisions, the Director makes the following Juneau Coastal Management Program consistency determination:

2. Will the proposed development comply with the Juneau Coastal Management Programs?

Not Applicable.

3. Does the variance as requested, meet the criteria of Section 49.20.250, Grounds for Variances?

Yes. Based on the analysis above, staff finds that the proposal does meet the criteria of CBJ 49.0.250, Grounds for Variances. Specifically, the Variance meets criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5B, and 6.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Adjustment adopt the Director's analysis and findings and approve the requested Variance, VAR2013 0018. The Variance permit would allow for road maintenance within 330 feet of an eagle nest along Egan Drive.

	DEVELOPMENT PERMIT A	PPLIC	CATIC)N				
Project N	umber √AR20139618 CITY and BOROUGH of JL		Date Receiv					
Project N	ame Assign Name)							
	Project Description Egan Drive Pavement Rehabilitation 10th St.	to Mender	nhall Loop	Rd.				
NOI	PROPERTY LOCATION Street Address Egan Drive, 10th St. to Mendenhall Loop Rd. Legal Description(s) of Parcel(s) (Subdivision, Survey, Block, Tract, Lot)	city/Zip 9980	1					
ΑT	Assessor's Parcel Number(s)							
FORMATIO	LANDOWNER/LESSEE Property Owner's Name	Contact Perso	on:	Work Phone:				
N F	State of Alaska, DOT&PF	Jane Gen	dron	465-4499 Fax Number:				
Maria Maria	PO Box 112506, Juneau, AK 99811-2506		Phone Numbe	r(s):				
	E-mail Address jane.gendron@alaska.gov							
	LANDOWNER/ LESSEE CONSENT ****Required for Planning Permits, not	onsent as follows	s.					
 	I am (we are) the owner(s)or lessee(s) of the property subject to this application and I (we) consent as follows: A. This application for a land use or activity review for development on my (our) property is made with my complete understanding and permission. B. I (we) grant permission for officials and employees of the City and Borough of Juneau to inspect my property as needed for purposes of this application.							
APPLICAN	X	described the second of the State of the second of the State of the second of the seco	Date					
7	X							
0.	Landowner/Lessee Signature		Date					
CT / /	NOTICE: The City and Borough of Juneau staff may need access to the subject property dur landowner in addition to the formal consent given above. Further, members of the Planning hearing date.	ing regular busin Commission may	ess hours and v visit the proper	vill attempt to contact the ty before the scheduled public				
EC	APPLICANT: If the same as OWNER, write "SAME" and sign and date at Xbelow Contact Person: Work Phone:							
OJE	Applicant's Name Same.	Home Phone:		Fax Number:				
P.R	Mailing Address		t Phone Numbe	r(s):				
_	E-mail Address	One Contact	er none ruma					
	X JOHN BARNETT FOR JANE GENDALN			14-2013				
	Applicant's Signature OFFICE USE ONLY BELOW THIS L	INE	Date of	Application				
		e Received		plication Number(s)				
	Permit City/State Project Review and City Land Action		A STATE OF THE STA	Per Jean Mary 1				
LS	Inquiry Case (Fee In Lieu, Letter of ZC, Use Not Listed) Mining Case			100 1 5 200				
4	(Small, Large, Rural, Extraction, Exploration)		PERM	IT CENTER/CDD				
0	(If more than one, fill in all applicable permit #'s)			TENNICH CONTRACTOR				
PPROVAL	(Minor, Major, PUD, St. Vacation, St. Name Change) Use Approval (Allowable, Conditional, Cottage Housing, Mobile Home Parks. Accessory Apartment)	1. 1.5	11000	Sep M ² 9				
H A	Wetlands	/16/13	VARde	130018				
AF	Permits Zone Change Application							
ST,	Other (Pageriba)							
	***Public Notice Sign Form filled out	t and in the file		Permit Intake Initials				
1				Mari				

NOTE: DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FORMS MUST ACCOMPANY ALL OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT APPLICATIONS Revised November 2009

I:\FORMS\2010 Applications



Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

SOUTHEAST REGION
DESIGN & ENGINEERING SERVICES
Preconstruction

6860 Glacier Highway PO Box 112506 Juneau, Alaska 99811-2506 Main: 907.465.4444 Toll free: 800.575-4540 Fax: 907.465.4414

August 15, 2013

Borough Assembly City and Borough of Juneau 155 Seward St. Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Juneau Egan Drive Pavement Rehabilitation 10th St. to Mendenhall Loop Rd.

Federal/ State Project Number: NH-0932(049)/68129

Subject: Variance Application

To the Borough Assembly:

AMP90130018

Please accept the attached variance application and supporting material regarding a variance for development activities within 330 feet of an active bald eagle nest. The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is proposing to resurface Egan Drive between 10th Street and Mendenhall Loop Road during the 2014 construction season. Project activities will include guardrail post driving and grind and pave equipment operating within 330 feet of one bald eagle nest. The attached materials give a full description of project location and details, and include a copy of the USFWS eagle permit application.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Hilary Lindh at (907) 465-4645 or by e-mail at hilary.lindh@alaska.gov.

Jøhn Barnett

Sincerely

Acting Regional Environmental Manager

DOT&PF Southeast

RECEIVED

AUG 16 2013

PERMIT GENTER/COU

"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."

Attachment B

Egan Drive Pavement Rehabilitation 10th St to Mendenhall Loop Rd State #68129/Federal # NH-0932(049) Application for Bald Eagle Non-Purposeful Take Permit

Enclosures:

Variance Application Variance Approval Criteria Application for USFWS Eagle Permit Project Description Project Area Maps (Location Map and Nest Locations)

Cc without enclosures:

Chuck Tripp, P.E., DOT&PF Project Manager Amy Sumner, DOT&PF Statewide NEPA Manager Hilary Lindh, DOT&PF Environmental Analyst

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VARIANCE APPLICATION

Project Number	Project Name (15 cl	naracters)		Case Number	Date Received
	-			NAMOORIOOIS	8/16/13
TYPE OF VARIAN	ICE REQUESTI	ĒD:	A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE		
Variance t	to the Sign	(VSG)	9 1	ance to Dimensional tandards	(VDS)
Variance to Setbacks		(VHB)		ance to Parking lequirements	(VPK)
✓ Variance to Require		(VSB)			
DESCRIPTION OF DOT&PF proposes Loop Rd. Activities curb, gutter, and si	s a project to rel s would include	nabilitate paveme grinding and pav	nt on Egan D ing, culvert w	rive from 10th St. t	o Mendenhall f guardrail, signs,
Previous Variance Previous Case Number Was the Variance Gran	e Applications		NO	Date of Filing:	
UNIQUE CHARAC	CTERISTICS OF	LAND OR BUIL	_DING(S): _		
UTILITIES AVAILA	ABLE: W	ATER: Public	On Site	SEWER: Pu	blic On Site
WHY WOULD A VOUNER? Bald eagles nest work and feet of an active commercial and in	vithin 330 feet o	f Egan Drive, and	I project activ	ities would potentia to the high volume	ally occur within
			NAMOE MES	E NOT CRANTED	
WHAT HARDSHIP Juneau residents of further deteriorate.	would suffer if th	ULT IF THE VAR ne main access ro	pad between	downtown and valle	ey were allowed to
Juneau residents v	would suffer if th	e main access ro	pad between	downtown and valle	ey were allowed to
Juneau residents v	n regarding the nd the submittals blete application,	VARIANCE FEES Application Fees	Fees	Check No. Rece	ey were allowed to

NOTE: MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

Revised March 17, 2011- I:\FORMS\Applications

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Attachment B

Page 1 of 3

Variance Approval Criteria

1) The relaxation applied for or a lesser relaxation specified by the board of adjustment would give substantial relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with justice to other property owners;

Relaxation of the CBJ code would give substantial direct relief to the right-of-way (ROW) owner, DOT&PF, to reduce maintenance costs to Egan Drive. The indirect benefit of justice delivered to CBJ residents and visitors would be safe access for all users of the road.

2) Relief can be granted in such a fashion that the intent of this title will be observed and the public safety and welfare preserved;

The purpose of the project is to not only preserve public safety and welfare, but to improve it. A variance can be granted such that the intent of §49.20.200 is observed. Any eagles in the area are already habituated to human activity, which includes commuter, commercial and industrial vehicle traffic on Egan Drive. There would be no direct interference to eagle nests or birds as a result of the project. DOT&PF would adhere to all conditions imposed by USFWS as the federal permitting agency for bald eagle disturbance.

3) The authorization of the variance will not injure nearby property;

A variance that would allow the project to proceed would not cause injuring to nearby properties because all work would be completed within the DOT&PF ROW.

4) The variance does not authorize uses not allowed in the district involved;

All project activities would be performed within the scope of normal road maintenance and construction standards.

- 5) Compliance with the existing standards would:
 - (A) Unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permissible principal use; Unreasonably prevent DOT&PF from providing a safe and efficient roadway.
 - (B) Unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property in a manner which is consistent as to scale, amenities, appearance or features, with existing development in the neighborhood of the subject property;

 Unreasonably prevent DOT&PF from maintaining safe public access on Egan Drive.
 - (C) Be unnecessarily burdensome because unique physical features of the property render compliance with the standards unreasonably expensive; or Not applicable.
 - (D) Because of preexisting nonconforming conditions on the subject parcel, the grant of the variance would not result in a net decrease in overall compliance with the land use code, title 49, or the building code, title 19, or both; and Preexisting conditions include the presence of an eagle nest within 330 feet of Egan Drive. The activities proposed by this project either conform with or do not affect Land Use Code, Title 49, or Building Code 19.
- 6) A grant of the variance would result in more benefits than detriments to the neighborhood.

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Variance Approval Criteria

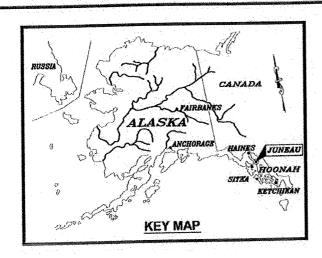
By granting the variance, Juneau residents and visitors would have the benefit of smoother and safer travel on Egan Drive as a result of resurfacing, new signage, road lines, and guardrail, as well as the benefit of improved pedestrian facilities at intersections that would be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

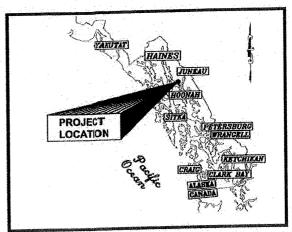
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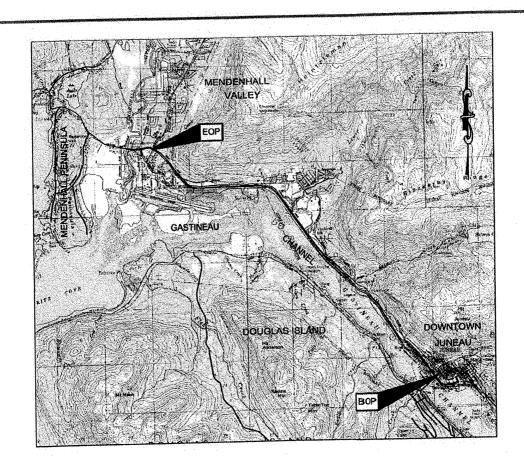
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Attachment B







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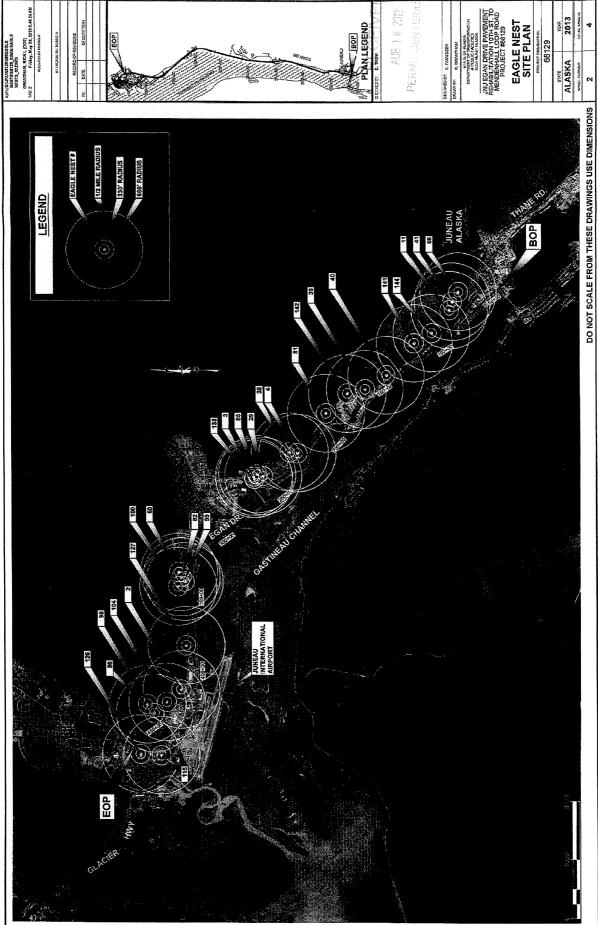
AUG 1 6 2013 PERMIT CENTER/CDD

KEY AND REGIONAL MAPS

ALASKA STATE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES SOUTHEAST REGION EGAN DRIVE: PAVEMENT REHAB FROM 10TH ST. TO MENDENHALL LOOP RD.

T: JUNEAU, ALASKA

DATE: MARCH 2013 SHEET 1 OF 4



Attachment D

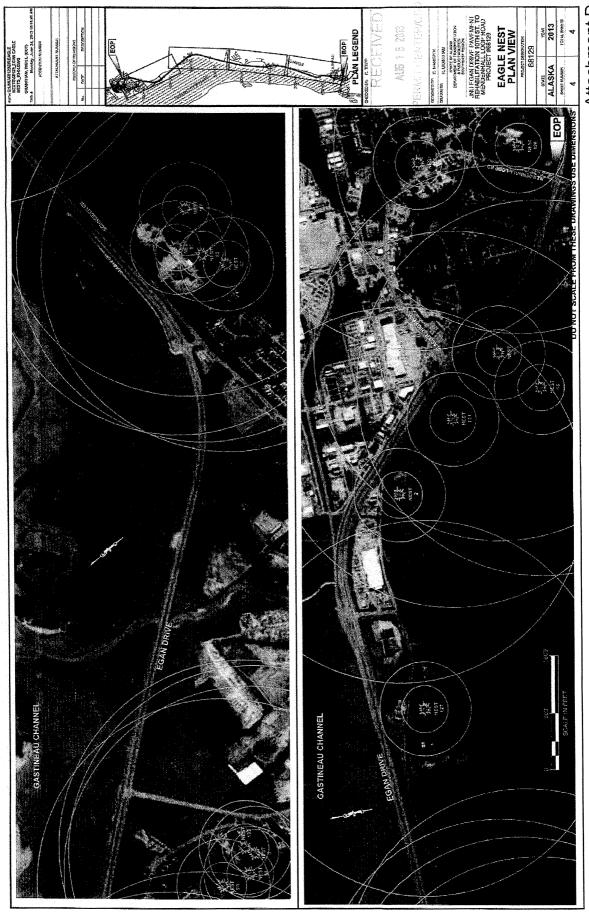


Table 1. Eagle nests near proposed project activities.

Nest	Location	Activity within 330' radius	Activity between 330' to 660' radius	Activity between 660 to ½ mile radius
number	#0.000°			
40	58.323°N	 Mechanized post driving to 	 Mechanized post 	Mechanized post
	134.455° W	install guardrail	driving to install	driving to install
		 grind and pave equipment 	guardrail	guardrail
			 grind and pave 	
			equipment	
39	58.327°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
37	134.460° W		driving to install	driving to install
	134.400 W		guardrail	guardrail
				guararan
			 grind and pave 	
			equipment	
99	58.361°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
	134.528° W		driving to install	driving to install
			guardrail	guardrail
			grind and pave	
			equipment	
127	58.361°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
127			driving to install	driving to install
	134.552° W			guardrail
			guardrail	guardran
			 grind and pave 	
			equipment	
2	58.361°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
	134.567 W		driving to install	driving to install
			guardrail	guardrail
			• grind and pave	
			equipment	
104*	58.364°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
104*			driving to install	
	134.571° W			driving to install
			guardrail	guardrail
			 grind and pave 	
			equipment	
98	58.366°N		 Mechanized post 	 Mechanized post
	134.575° W		driving to install	driving to install
			guardrail	guardrail
			 grind and pave 	8
			equipment	
106	60 260°NI		 Mechanized post 	Machanizad nost
126	58.369°N			Mechanized post driving to install
	134.591° W		driving to install	driving to install
			guardrail	guardrail
			 grind and pave 	
			equipment	
11	58.311N			 Mechanized post
**	134.432W			driving to install
	×=			guardrail
41	50 2100NI			 Mechanized post
41	58.310°N			
	134.429°w	· •••	~-	driving to install
	•			guardrail
68	58.309°N			 Mechanized post
	134.426°w		•	driving to install
				guardrail

Nest number	Location		Activity between 330' to 660' radius	Activity between 660° to ½ mile radius
144	58.314 ⁰ N 134.441 ⁰ W		eli estadigit estadi. Ne bergali	 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
141	58.317 ⁰ N 134.444 ⁰ W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
142	58.330°N 134.462°W		en en grande en 1990 an en	 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
81	58.334°N 134.468°W	n man establica (1) 	o de la compania de l La compania de la co	 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
4	58.339°N 134.482°W		<u>4</u>	 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
38	58.341°N 134.482°W		-	 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
29	58.346°N 134.491°W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
85	58.347 ⁰ N 134.490 ⁰ W	. · ·		 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
3*	58.348 ^o N 134.491 ^o W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
133	58.347°N 134.492°W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
60	58.362°N 134.525°W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
82	58.361 ^o N 134.526 ^o W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
100	58.362°N 134.530°W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
56	58.368°N 134.571°W	-		 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail
115	58.365 ⁰ N 134.590 ⁰ W			 Mechanized post driving to install guardrail

127 Bold Nest Number = Active Nest

*active nest with incubating adult

141Italicized Nest Number = Inactive Nest

40 Normal Text = Previously identified nest not located May 24, 2013

ALCENED

AUG 1 6 2813 PERMIT CENTER/CDD

Department of the Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

OMB Control No. 1018 - 0022 Expires 02/28/2014



Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit Application Form

Click here for addresses.

Return to:	U.S. Fish and Wildl	ife Service (USFW)	S)	,	Type of Ac	tivity: E	agle Take to l	Protect an Interc	est in a Partici	ılar Locality
	Region 7 - Alaska	an Egyan agus ann agus agus an sainm a na chuir dhean dhe bhilligh agus a Thag maigire bhilligh dhe Chuir an Amhain Chuir ag	construction (100 mg/s)		✓ Ne	v Applica	tion			
	1011 E. Tudor Roa Anchorage, AK 995			-				mendment of P	ermit #	
						. ,	it. Ourston C	1 Instructions	Con destrile	
Complete S See attache	ections A or B, and dinstruction page	C, D, and E of this s for information o	application. in how to m	U.S. a ake yo	ddress may our applica	tion comp	lete and help	avoid unnecesse	ry delays.	Action (Section 2018)
A.			Comp	olete i	f applyin		dividual	II.c. Middle name	or initial	Ld. Suffix
1.a. Last name					1.b. First na	ne		1.C. MINUTE HAIR	OI IIIIQA	i.u. Dums
					1.0	water are oppositely seems		5. Affiliation/ Do	ing business as (see instructions)
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C.			All applic	ants	complete	address i	nformation			
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Form 3-200-	-71 Re	ev. 9/2010					. 7	6 2013		

Attachment F

1. (A) A detailed description of the activity that will likely cause the disturbance or other take of eagles;

DOT&PF would resurface Egan Drive with new pavement from 10th Street in downtown Juneau north to Mendenhall Loop Road in the Mendenhall Valley, a distance of about 8.1 miles (Sheets 1 and 2). All project activities would take place within the existing DOT&PF right-of-way. In addition to repaving, DOT&PF would

- replace guardrail
- stripe the new surface
- repair the road base in some locations
- insert liners in deteriorated culverts
- improve pedestrian facilities to meet Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards

ADA improvements consist of

- relocating crossing signal activation buttons
- widening select sidewalks to provide adequate width around utility poles
- removing and resurfacing portions of pedestrian islands to create at-grade crossings
- constructing curb ramps with detectable warning strips

Activities with potential to cause disturbances to eagles would occur along the entire project corridor and include noise associated with:

- guardrail installation with a mechanized post driver
- grind and pave equipment

Eagle Information

DOT&PF staff reviewed USFWS documented nest locations and conducted an aerial nest survey of the project area on May 24, 2013. Previously identified nests were located and observed to determine whether the nest was active in the 2013 breeding season. The area was also searched for new nests that had not been previously identified. Nests were recorded as active if adults were observed incubating at the nest, or were perched on or near the nest tree regardless of nest contents. Sheets 2 to 4 show all previously identified nests within ½ mile of the proposed project activities. Active nests that were located May 24, 2013 are indicated in the table below by bold text (127) and an asterix [*] indicates incubation observed. Inactive nests located May 24, 2013 are indicated in the table below by italicized text (141). Normal text indicates all other previously identified nests that were not located May 24, 2013.

Twenty-six bald eagle nests are documented within ½ mile of proposed project activities that have potential to disturb eagles; one is within 330 feet and another seven are within 660 feet of the edge of pavement (Sheets 3 and 4).

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In addition to nests near the proposed project, bald eagles forage and congregate in the areas presented in Table 2 and shown on Sheet 2. Eagles forage and congregate directly adjacent to Egan Drive in the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge in all seasons, with higher concentrations observed in summer and fall than in winter, especially at the mouths of anadromous streams. Eagles also forage and congregate on the landward side of Egan Drive in the vicinity of the landfill, Lemon Creek, and its associated wetlands.

Area	Activity within 330'				
	radius (and greater)				
Mendenhall	 Mechanized post driving to 				
Wetlands State	install guardrail				
Game Refuge	 grind and pave equipment 				
Lemon Creek,	 Mechanized post driving to 				
wetlands and	install guardrail				
landfill	 grind and pave equipment 				

1. (B) The species and number of eagles that are likely to be taken and the likely form of that take (e.g., disturbance, other take);

The species likely to be "taken" are bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalu*). The most likely form of take is disturbance; however, the eagles that nest, forage, and congregate in and near the project area do so in close proximity to human activity (see 1. (D-3)). As a result, the eagles are likely habituated to the noise associated with daily highway and air traffic, including heavy equipment operation at commercial and industrial sites. For this reason and the measures proposed in 1. (H), we do not expect to take or disturb any eagles.

1. (C) Maps and digital photographs that depict the locations of the proposed activity, including the area where eagles are likely to be taken;

The eagle nest and eagle use locations are shown on Sheets 2 - 4. The locations and radii relative to the proposed construction are also shown on these figures, as well as in the tables above.

- 1. (D) For activities that are likely to disturb eagles (versus other take):
- 1. (D-1) Maps and digital photographs of the eagle nests, foraging areas, and concentration sites where eagles are likely to be disturbed by the proposed activity (including the geographic coordinates of the activity area and important eagle-use area(s) and the distance(s) between those areas);

Tables 1 and 2 above provide the coordinates of the eagle use areas and the distances between these areas and the project activities. Sheet 2 shows an aerial photo of the project vicinity. Nest 40 is located within 330 feet of the edge of pavement on Egan Drive (Sheet 3). Seven other nests are located between 330 and 660 feet from the edge of pavement. Another 18 are located within ½ mile of Egan Drive.

1. (D-2) Whether or not the eagle use area is visible from the activity area, or if screening vegetation or topography blocks the view;

Most of the documented nests are located on forested hillsides above the project area and, because of a vegetated buffer, are not visible from the proposed activity area. This includes Nest 40, which is within 330 feet of the edge of Egan Drive pavement (Sheet 3). Two nests (115 and 126) near the intersection of Mendenhall Loop Road with Egan Drive are also buffered from the project activities by trees. Eagle foraging and congregation areas along the Mendenhall Wetlands, Lemon Creek and its wetlands, or the landfill are visible from the proposed activity area.

1. (D-3) The nature and extent of existing activities in the vicinity similar in nature, size and use to that being proposed, and the distance between those activities and the important eagle use area(s);

Bald eagles that nest, forage, and congregate in the locations described above do so in close proximity to existing human activity. As a result, the eagles are habituated to daily noise generated by vehicle traffic and heavy equipment operation. Human activities include residential uses; commuting traffic; commercial and industrial activities around the Channel Drive/Glacier Highway (Salmon Creek) intersection, in Lemon Creek (landfill, gravel mining, and concrete batch plant), near the Glacier Highway (Nugget) intersection, and Mendenhall Loop intersection; as well as fixed wing aircraft and helicopters approaching and departing the Juneau International Airport (Sheet 2).

1. (E) The date the activity will start and is projected to end;

DOT&PF anticipates construction would start in spring 2014 and continue through the end of 2014.

1. (F) An explanation of what interests(s) in a particular locality will be protected by the take, including any anticipated benefits to the applicant or to the public;

The purpose of this project is to improve transportation safety and ride quality along Egan Drive, and to bring pedestrian facilities at intersections into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. All motorized users of Egan Drive, as well as pedestrians and disabled users are anticipated to benefit from improved safety.

1. (G) An explanation of why avoiding the take is not practicable, or for programmatic take, why it is unavoidable; and

The possibility of eagle disturbances is unavoidable due to the proximity of the nests to the project location. It is not possible to construct outside of the sensitive nest selection/breeding/fledging season due to the need for relatively warm, dry weather to complete the resurfacing activity, and the limited probability of warm, dry weather in Juneau either before or after the sensitive nesting period. This limitation is reflected in DOT&PF Construction Requirements for Southeast Region which requires paving to occur between May 15 and September 15, and prohibits paving unless the temperature of the road surface is 40°F and rising.

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1. (H) A description of measures proposed to offset the detrimental impact of the proposed activity on the regional eagle population.

Existing vegetation buffers will be maintained. The contractor will be required to have standard mufflers on all construction vehicles to minimize noise from machinery.

- 2. Records relating to activities conducted under permit will be kept at ADOT&PF Southeast Region, 6860 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99811
- 3. Section 401 Water Quality Certification, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; federal permits include Department of Army Section 404/10 authorization.